

SOLDIER



AUGUST 7 1989

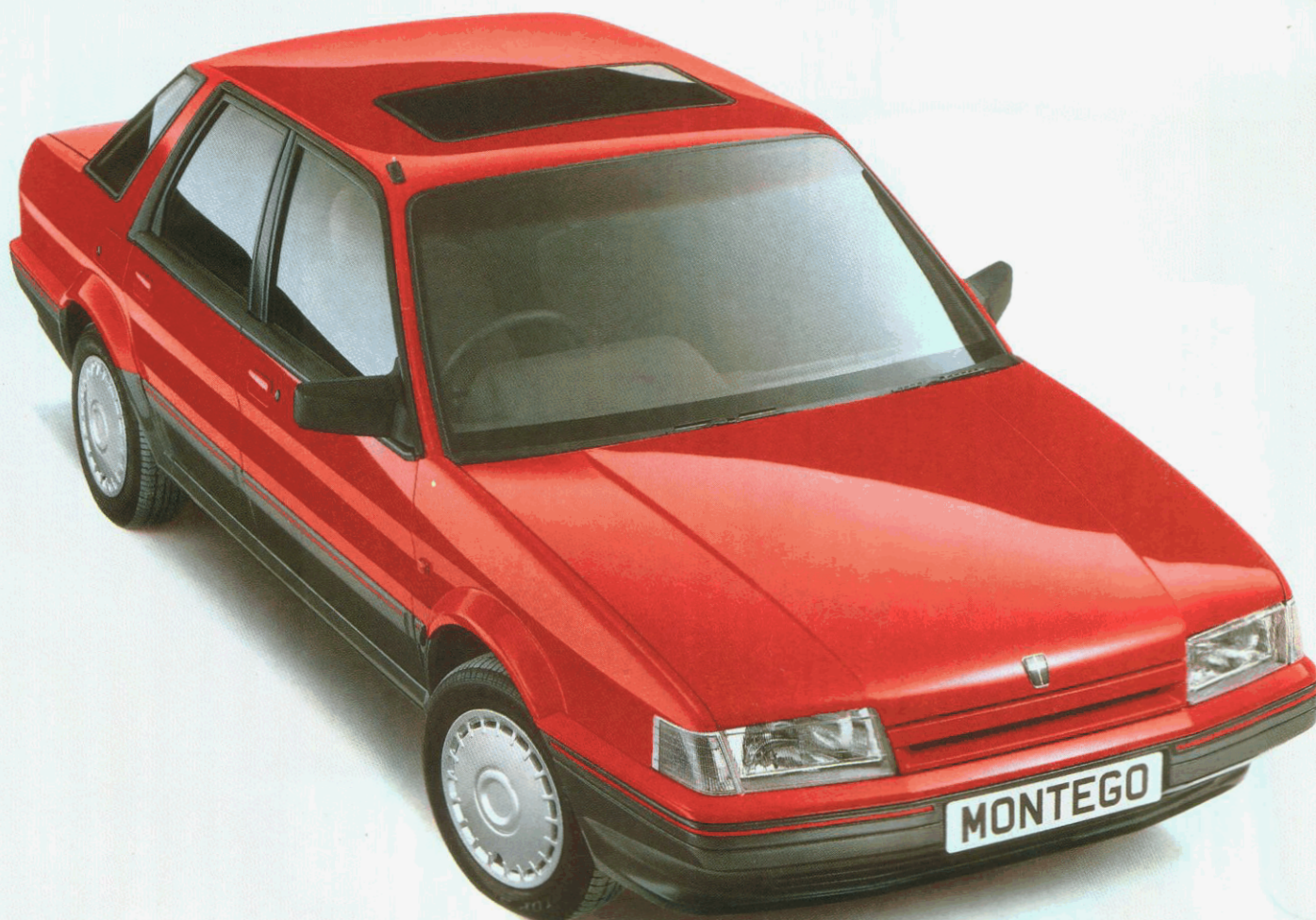
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DUTCH TRIUMPH AT CAT 89

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4 SIGNAL GROUP FEATURE

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FRONT COVER: US Army musicians add Superbowl-style razzmatazz to CAT 89. Despite withdrawing from the competition, the British Army was there in force to provide logistic and manpower support. Full report and pictures in Pages 14, 15 and 17.

Picture: Terry Champion

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

**NEXT
ISSUE
LANCE**



A launcher section of 15 Battery RA in operation during an exercise in West Germany. SOLDIER has been down among the missile men and reports in the next issue. ALSO words and pictures from 5 Airborne Brigade's Exercise Roaring Lion PLUS more pictures of soldiers in Belize. Don't miss it.

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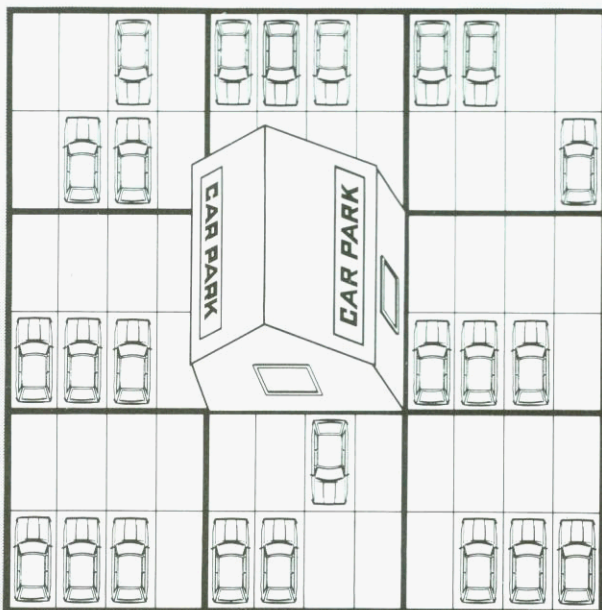
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SPZ/32

Wiltshire tribute

CIVIC honours have been granted by Trowbridge, Wilts to the three squadrons of The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry to mark the long association between the regiment and the county town. The squadrons paraded through the town and were inspected.

New Colours shown

NEW Colours presented to the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards by the regiment's Colonel in Chief, King Olav V of Norway, were paraded for the first time through the Borough of Langbaugh in Redcar during a Freedom march.

Derby Trophy win

WORKINGTON based D Company of the 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment has won the Derby Trophy for the second successive year during a two day test of Territorial Army military skills at Warcop, Cumbria.

Sappers on mine mission

NINE Royal Engineers have flown to Pakistan on a humanitarian mission for the United Nations.

The contingent, led by Lt Col Rob Hyde-Bales, is to assist the UN in training Afghan refugees returning to their homeland in mine awareness and clearance.

Col Hyde-Bales, who will act as operations chief of staff at the Quetta base, has no illusions about the magnitude of the task: "There are millions of refugees and millions of mines," he said.

The sappers, drawn from units in BAOR and the United Kingdom, will instruct refugees in how to recognise mined areas and, since many have been sown indiscriminately around water sources, fields and villages, how to mark and, if necessary, destroy them.

Returning refugees will be issued with simple metal detectors, mine marking insignia and tea towel-style linen strips illustrated with pictures of mines and safety procedures.

Desert trial

CAPT Iain Pickard from the Signal Wing at the School of Infantry, Warminster is leading a team of eight Wiltshire based soldiers on an expedition to a remote area of desert in Jordan to put a disaster relief communications system to the test.

Main aim of the month long trip is to trial a British Telecom system called PAKTEL, currently in use by aid agencies from static sites in the Sudan and Ethiopia. The team will test the system in a mobile mode.



Me and my pal! Ambrose shares his moment of glory with handler LCpl Woody Wood

Superdog Ambrose takes some licking

SNIFFER dog Ambrose, a member of the Arms and Explosives Search Unit in Londonderry, Northern Ireland has been named as one of Britain's top 12 "Superdogs" in a national salute to man's best friend.

The 7½-year-old Labrador and his handler, LCpl Woody Wood, are based at the Army Dog Unit, Ballykelly and have been working together since 1985, frequently in dangerous situations.

On one occasion both Ambrose and LCpl Wood were blown across a road when a car bomb exploded nearby. When LCpl Wood recovered his senses he was amazed to see Ambrose already on his feet and calmly

continuing to work down the street.

Their special rapport has very real advantages. When LCpl Wood noticed Ambrose paying particular attention to one of several spent bullet cases he became suspicious and warned police not to pick it up. The case was subsequently found to be wired to a booby trap explosive device.

When LCpl Wood was attacked during a foot patrol Ambrose intervened, hanging on to the assailant despite kicks and punches, until the police made an arrest.

Ambrose, accompanied by his handler, received his Superdog medallion from author and journalist Jilly Cooper during a ceremony in London.

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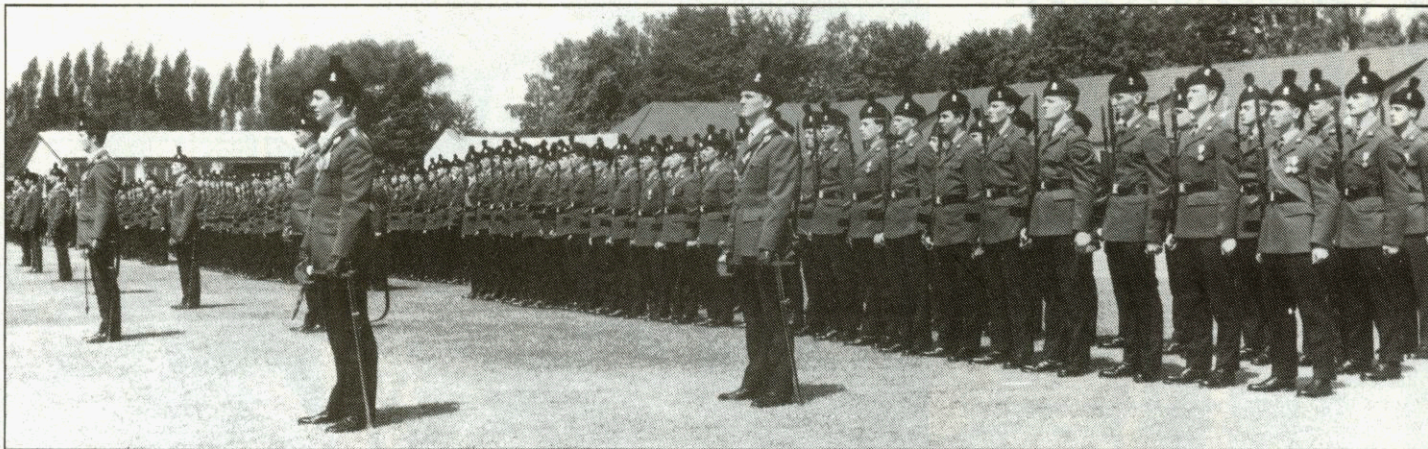
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Contingents from both the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Royal Irish Rangers parade together at Osnabrück for the first time since 1972. See also Page 13.

Yorks Vols pass test

THE 1st Battalion, Yorkshire Volunteers, this year's Major Units (TA) champion at the North East Skill at Arms Meeting, continued its winning ways by romping home in the two-day Exercise Martial Merlin competition run on the North Yorkshire Moors as 15 Infantry Brigade's annual military skills contest.

A Company, Yorks Vols needed to win the final cross country phase and a late burst assured them of victory and of the 44 Parachute Brigade Challenge Cup as best infantry team.

Engineering student Alison Hardman (21) was the lone female competitor among hundreds of Territorial Army troops taking part in Martial Merlin.

She completed the gruelling tests with

flying colours, helping her team mates from 212 (Yorkshire) Field Hospital, RAMC, to within an ace of one of the major prizes.

Her team was pipped in the medical and military police section by Sunderland's 251 Field Ambulance.

The only Regular competitors, 15 Brigade's Signals Troop from York, under the leadership of Yeoman of Signals Ken Sirr (33), took the 8th DLI TA Cup for the best other arms team.

First home in the finale, a mass start three-mile cross-country run in webbing and weapons, was WO1 Alan McLean, senior warrant officer for physical and adventurous training with HQ North East and North West Districts.

Rangers celebrate

THE Royal Irish Rangers received double birthday congratulations from the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir John Chapple, at a parade at Belfast Barracks, Osnabrück, West Germany.

The first was on the regiment's coming of age – it was formed on July 1, 1968 by the amalgamation of The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, The Royal Ulster Rifles and the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

The second was on 300 years continuous service to the Crown by the Inniskillings whose description "27th" along with the word "Inniskilling" is part of the official title of the Rangers. This also includes the figures "83rd and 87th" marking the precedence of the Rifles and Irish Fusiliers.

In his address Sir John said: "There are some who ask what is there left for soldiers to do. Peace, they say, has broken out, and threats disappeared."

The Rangers, however, like their forefathers knew better that no one "could pick or choose who the enemy would be, nor when they would be asked to face them".

On path to US success

SIX members of the Pathfinder Platoon at Aldershot are confident of being in a strong position to compete again next year in an American competition following their successes in an international pathfinding competition in North Carolina, in which their rivals came from France, Australia and the United States.

The Aldershot pathfinders came first in the assault course event, clear by two minutes, and also won the 6.2 mile rucksack race carrying 40lbs.

They also took a fifth and an unfortunate last, due to a disqualification, which cost them victory in the overall competition, finally finishing sixth.



Pathfinders and their trophies. From left they are Lt Rupert Mackenzie-Hill, LCpl Tony McGinty, CSgt Alan McCormick, LCpl Scott Davidson and LCpl Patrick Donnelly. Missing from the picture is LCpl Simon Clarke

Infanteers under sail

Crews of infantrymen have been taking part in the spectacular Tall Ships race on board the sail training yacht *Kukri* under the auspices of the Infantry Sailing Association.

A crew from JIB Shorncliffe picked up the Nicholson 55 yacht from the Joint Services Sailing Centre, Gosport, Hants for passage to Holland where they mingled with young Bulgarian and Russian sailors in the international fleet of 55.

In a race to London *Kukri* achieved fourth place before sailing up the Thames to Tower Bridge where a crew from The Duke of Wellington's Regiment took over in a fleet now swollen to 150 ships.

With passages to Hamburg and Malmo, Sweden following, a crew from The Queen's Regiment was taking a turn at the helm before an experienced infantry team under Col Graham Jefferies, Rear Commodore Offshore Infantry Sailing Association, battens down the *Kukri* hatches for the famous Fastnet Race.

SHIPMATES: The DWR crew joins JSSC skipper Jim Reid (front) on *Kukri* in London. Also in the picture are 2nd Lt Richard Berry, Col Sgt Baz Walker, Cpl Phillip Draper, LCpl Sid Carr and Ptes Steve Douglas, Alan Cammidge, Darren Wild, Mike Alltimes, Steve Canham, Richard Sharpe and Mark Ambler



Picture: Mike Perring

All ready to tackle Alps



The Commandant of the Italian Forces Alpine School, Gen Sterpone (centre), joined British soldiers training in Snowdonia, North Wales for the annual Exercise Monte Bianco climbing expedition to D'Aosta on the Italian Swiss border.

Gen Sterpone's school hosts the British climbers and each year he visits Wales to check their progress.

Cpl Brian Wilkinson (left) of the 7th Signal Regiment based in Herford, West Germany, looks on as Italian instructor Sgt Maj Taufer attaches a climbing rope for the general.



PARTNERS: Mike Hainsworth and SSgt Steve Fisher

OLD PAIS ACT?

A chance meeting between former Dewsbury School pals **Mike Hainsworth** and **SSgt Steve Fisher**, RCT, serving in Soest, West Germany has led to an entertainments business partnership.

Steve started his own agency while in charge of mess entertainments and bumped into

Brothers in arms

When Pte Eddie Laidlaw passed out from training to become a fully fledged member of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards at Catterick he was fulfilling an extraordinary family loyalty to the regiment. He is the youngest of five brothers from Middlesbrough, all of whom have served with the Green Howards.

Eldest brother Totty spent five years with the battalion in the seventies, while the three others - Gary, Donald and Chris - are all corporals currently serving with the 1st Battalion.

And just to round off the family connection, brother-in-law Cpl Ken Rowden is also a Green Howard.

Picture: CPO (Phot) Dick Birrell



Quay sounds

There was a musical welcome for eight men of The Gordon Highlanders when they returned to Rosyth from service in the Falkland Islands on board *HMS York*. On the quayside was Piper Colin Walker from the regiment's base at Fort

George. From left to right are Pte **John Murray**, Pte **Donald Cameron**, Pte **John Calder**, Pte **Robert Christie**, Pte **Edward Murray**, Pte **Steve Peterson**, Cpl **Gordon Clark** and Lt **Neil Buchanan**.

PEOPLE

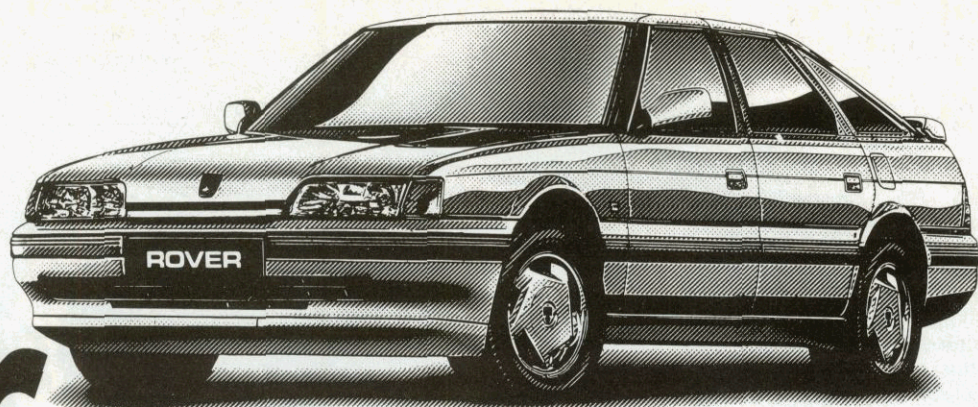
Right - Getting his teeth into the job is Mr Michael Neubert, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, during a visit to a Combined Cadet Force camp at Longmoor, Hants. Serving up the ration pack fare is Cadet Adrian Swift from Ellesmere College, Shropshire.



Picture: WO2 Arthur Thomson, UKLF



Cpl Bill Mill shows former Sgt Porky Edwards (83) over an AFV 436 during a visit by members of 3 Division Reunion Club to 3 Armoured Division HQ and Signal Regiment at Korbecke, West Germany. The old soldiers, all veterans of the Second World War, had an average age of 72.



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Water music? Not on your welly!

Stepping out in the rain could have been the fate of British Army bands taking part in the bicentennial celebrations in Paris if the organiser had his way.

It seems the creative Frenchman felt that falling rain best summed up the spirit of Britain and suggested that our contingents march throughout the parade under a simulated shower provided by attendant fire engines.

He cannot have appreciated regimental pride and traditions, or the high cost of replacing ruined uniforms and musical instruments.

After the suggestion met with a resounding *non* from the Director of Music, a compromise was reached. Ethnic dancers from London gyrated in the spray while the bandsmen kept themselves a respectable distance behind the silly goings on!

Below the belt answer

Some of the subjects discussed in the House of Commons make Hansard parliamentary reports exciting reading!

One of the recent questions under the heading "Services (Underwear)" asked how many sets of underwear are issued per week to Armed Services personnel.

Mr Michael Neubert, Under Secretary of State for Defence had the pleasure of answering:

Picture: Capt Leo Callow, 1 R Irish



"Underwear is not issued to Armed Services personnel for normal everyday wear."

But, he added: "Certain items of underwear are issued to personnel engaged in some field training, operational or specialist tasks, but information on the number of issues is not readily available."

The mind boggles.

Calling all old Paras

Have you ever served with the Airborne Forces?

Fd Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs

and Lt Gen Sir Michael Gray are anxious to ensure that all former members get the chance to become involved with next year's PARA 90 50th anniversary celebrations, and are appealing for them to come forward and make themselves known.

Estimating that since its inception in 1940 more than 250,000 Servicemen have served the brotherhood with distinction in every major action of the British Army and as peace keeping forces throughout the world, they ask for names, addresses and Service details to be forwarded to Airborne Forces, PO Box 50, London WC2 8PT.

SOLDIER to Soldier

Pipe Major Jackie Oakes introduces five-year-old Marlene Logie to Charlie, the German-Irish wolfhound during rehearsals for the tercentenary parade of The Royal Irish Rangers at Osnabruck, West Germany. Although born in Ireland, Charlie moved to Germany as a puppy and lives near Belfast Barracks, home of 1 R Irish. The battalion thought Charlie might appreciate a little Irish music and dance so they invited him to join their celebrations.

In fact, the skirl of the pipes made him a little nervous until a few sugar lumps and lots of patting set him at ease.

Out of date masterpieces

Have you been disappointed because your literary masterpiece has not been published in **SOLDIER**?

Time could be the reason. **SOLDIER** frequently receives reports of events that have taken place three months earlier, hopelessly out of date for a fortnightly publication.

So if you have something to send to **SOLDIER**, send it quickly. The earlier it arrives, the more likely it is to be used. Otherwise hot news can turn stale.

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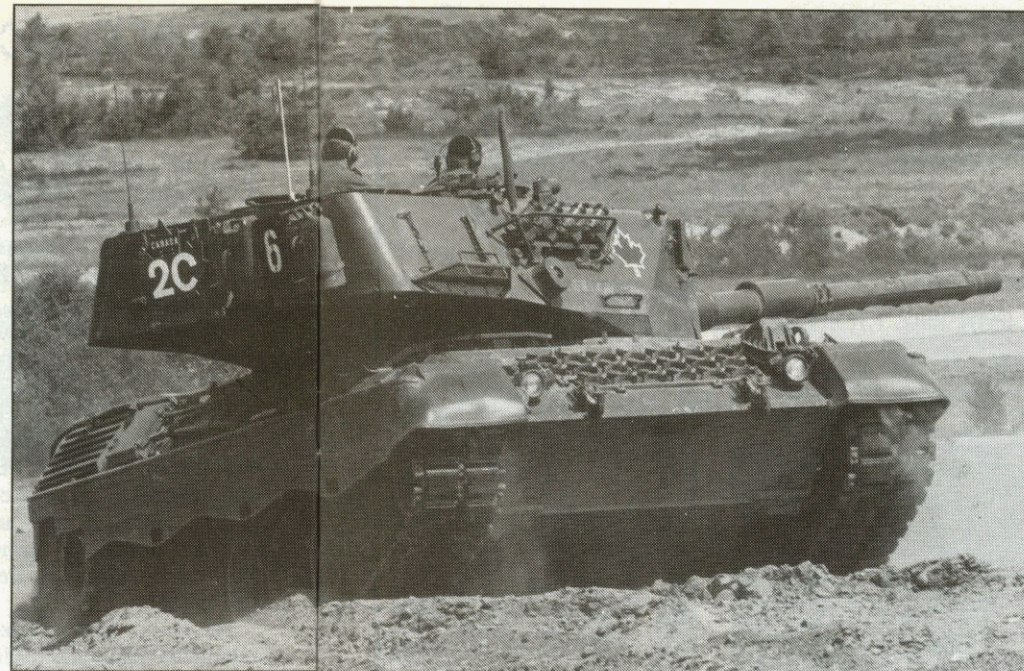
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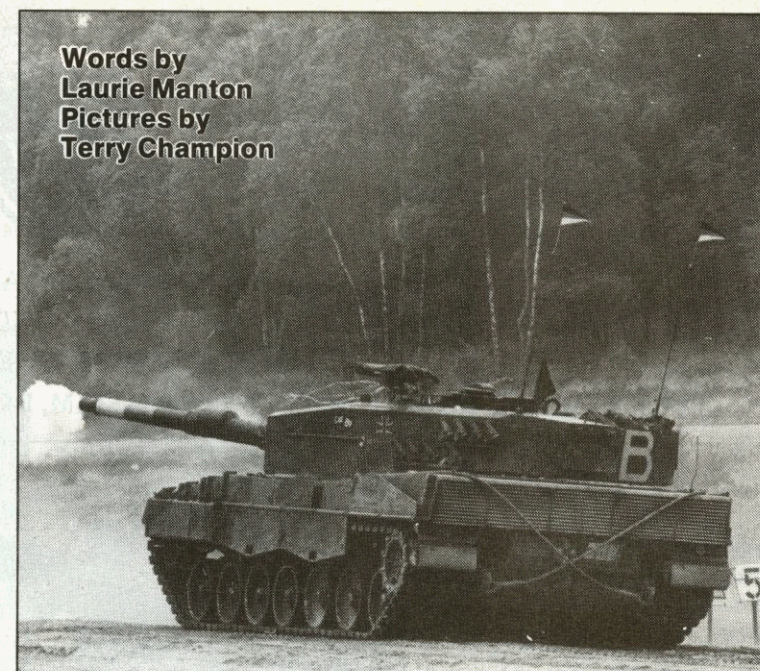
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The US Army's M1A1 Abrams failed to shine against Leopard 2 despite pre-competition confidence



Leopard 1A4 performed creditably for the Canadians against more modern tanks



Leopard 2 outshot the lot with consistently accurate shooting

Words by
Laurie Manton
Pictures by
Terry Champion

British tankies sidelined as Dutch triumph

THERE were some glum faces among British tankies watching the Canadian Army Trophy, for following a disappointing performance in 1987 the British Army decided to withdraw from this year's competition.

For those forced to sit on the sidelines it was a case of wishing and hoping. Wishing they were taking part and hoping it would not be too long before a British team roars back into action.

CAT 89, the biennial tank gunnery contest between the Northern and Central Army Groups (NORTHAG and CENTAG), was held on Range 9 of the massive Nato training area at Bergen-Hohne, West Germany.

Teams from the West German, Netherlands, Belgian, Canadian and American armies competed in a gruelling event described as the Superbowl of tank gunnery.

Taking part proved an ordeal in itself for all involved as CAT coincided with a heatwave. There was just no escape from the sweltering sun. Shoots were

halted frequently as shells repeatedly set fire to the tinder-dry scrubland. This left tank crews baking inside their vehicles while fire-crews drove out to extinguish the flames. At one point helicopters were used to drop water on to the blaze.

VIEW FROM THE TOP — Page 17

Competing nations used Leopard 1A4, Leopard 2 and M1A1 Abrams tanks and there was a surprise in store when the Americans were convincingly beaten by the Dutch and German teams.

Normally confident US Army spectators fell silent as an astonishing display of gunnery left the Netherlands Army in top position, with German Bundeswehr filling the next four places. Significantly all

were using Leopard 2.

Multi-coloured banners and flags fluttered above the stands as national pride featured strongly during the contest. Rousing music was played over the public address system whenever a fresh platoon of tanks entered the arena.

As for previous contests, many months of selection trials and hard training preceded CAT 89.

Media interest was high but pity the poor photographers! They found themselves bucketing down the range in the wake of competing tanks in the back of an open topped truck driven frantically by a Dutch Army Eddie Murphy lookalike.

Battered and choked by the dustcloud, they were last seen staggering away muttering darkly to themselves.

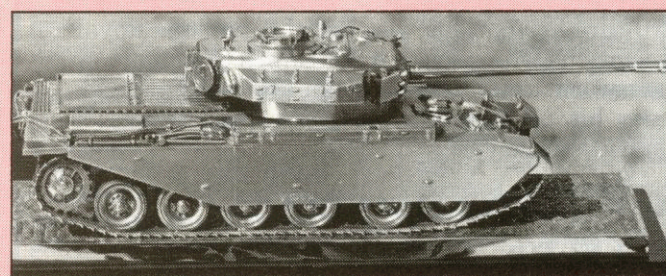
Despite the absence of British tanks, CAT 89 proved to be an exciting and colourful spectacle. Already thoughts are turning to the next one in 1991 and the possible entry by the French Army's new Leclerc main battle tank.



Tank crewmen from Scots DG looked on as the Northern Army Group shot its way to victory over CENTAG, winners in 1987

THE Canadian Army Trophy (CAT) competition started in 1963 when the Canadian Government donated a silver model of a Centurion tank which became known as the Canadian Army Trophy for Nato tank gunnery.

It is competed for by the armoured units from the land forces of Nato member countries stationed in the Central Region and the aims of the competition have remained unchanged: to improve the overall standard of tank gunnery within



the command and enable participating teams to meet in a spirit of fraternity.

A number of changes were introduced this year including the introduction

of night firing, firing with closed hatches, and a reduction in the size of targets.

The British Army won CAT in 1965, 1966 and 1970.

2 RTR joins the band of helpers

NORTHERN Army Group hosted CAT 89 and although no British Army tanks were entered many of the support roles were filled by Servicemen and women from British units.

Radio communications were provided by a detachment from 2 RTR commanded by the assistant adjutant, 2nd Lt Claire Almonds.

Commcen and telephone exchange facilities were the responsibility of 28 (BR) Sig Regt (Northag) which provided a multinational force of signallers made up of communicators from the Royal Signals, and German, Dutch and Belgian Signals units.

One of the more onerous tasks carried out by the regiment was the provision of bars which, because of the hot and humid conditions, were normally packed with troops desperately in need of a cold drink.

During the hottest period of the competition, the bar was selling more than 10,000 cans of cola a day. Keeping enough stock available proved a headache for Sgt Nick Knight and his bar staff.

Equally hard at work at a nearby German training camp was a multinational cooking team led by Capt Jim Chappell



WO2 Paul McCaffrey of the multinational cookery force

and WO2 Paul McCaffrey of the Army Catering Corps.

"The menu as you would expect includes Dutch, German and Belgian dishes but, because Brits are in charge there is a bias towards traditional British meals like roast beef and Yorkshire pudding," admitted WO2 McCaffrey.

The cooks also ran a canteen on Range 9 providing snacks for about 2,000 troops every day.

The British Army provided two judges for the competition, Lt Col Michael Butler, QOH, and Capt Ronnie Whiteside, Scots DG, who spent many hours working in the enormous green observation tower that dominated the range.



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Early in 1990 a magnificent 'Memorial Statue' now being sculptured by a Holder of The Burma Star, Ivor Robert-Jones, CBE MA, will be erected on Rayleigh Green, in Whitehall, London, very near to the Cenotaph. This belated tribute to the British Soldier who became a Field Marshal and who was to prove himself to be the greatest fighting Army Commander the Nation has known since Wellington, will set the seal of recognition on The Fighting Soldiers' General. He was a soldier of the highest ability and his most remarkable quality was the influence he had over the troops under his command, both British and Allies alike. None has so freely admitted his mistakes nor been so generous to his men. None has commanded such affection and respects from all ranks.

More than perhaps any campaign in the Second World War, save the Russian defence of Stalingrad, the Burma campaign has the elements of a Homeric saga. It took place in a fantastic terrain, isolated by great mountains and jungles far from any other theatre. It went on unbroken for three years eight months. It covered vast areas. It sucked into its maelstrom nearly two million men. It encompassed great disaster and ended in great triumphs. It was like no war that had ever been in the history of conflict.

It evolved the 14th (Forgotten) Army, one of the most remarkable armies the world has seen. It spawned General Slim, perhaps the greatest Soldier the British have produced in the 20th Century. Few Englishmen have commanded a bigger army, few have enjoyed a greater victory. Slim will surely hold a unique place in the annals of The Second World War and of the British people.

This "Appeal" is directed to all Regiments, Battalions and Military Formations, also Royal Naval and Royal Air Force, ships and squadrons, Ex-Service Groups and Associations who served under Slim's Command at any time during the War in the Burma theatre. We want every serviceman and woman around the world, who remembers him or had the privilege of serving under his command to have the opportunity of contributing to the foundation of this important and historic statue.

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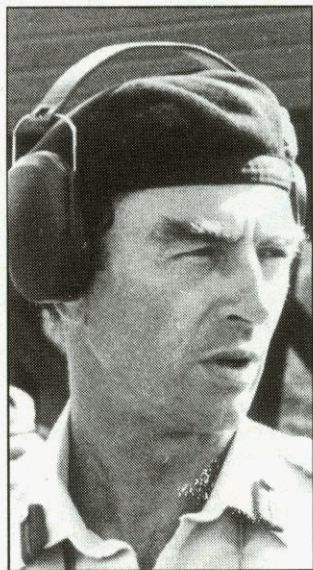
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CAT art is alive and well. The badges pictured above were just a small selection of those adorning the uniforms of competitors in CAT 89 at Bergen-Hohne, West Germany



Gen Sir Brian Kenny – Commander Northern Army Group (CinC BAOR):

'IN watching any competition you learn an enormous amount from those taking part. Having spoken to gunnery experts and crewmen I saw here from The Queen's Own Hussars and The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, I think they have learned a lot in terms of techniques and how other nations go about their gunnery business.

Of course, one would like to be taking part but I think it was quite right we took the decision that we did after the last competition, and hope we will come back when we feel we have as good a chance as anyone else to win it.

The last time we took part we learnt some useful lessons about our equipment, and I am delighted to say I think many of these lessons are now being put into good effect by the Ministry of Defence in improving the equipment we have now.

The Netherlands withdrew before for really the same reasons and they are now back.

But we feel the competition is really only looking at the gunnery side of life. Our tanks are probably better protected than any of the others and you don't measure that in this competition.

It's time to be frank. Like all competitions, every year tanks get more and more competitive and more and more gladiatorial. The time comes when you have to say stop. Let's see if we should adjust the competition and take it on from there.

I personally prefer the Boeselager competition which looks at all of the various crew and individual skills of the recon teams.'



Brig Phil Sanders – Commander Armoured, 1 (BR) Corps:

'THE aim of this competition is to improve the standard of tank gunnery and foster Nato co-operation, and in both respects it has achieved that.

I've seen some superb tank gunnery from Leopard 1s, Leopard 2s and the M1 Abrams. Clearly the crews have put an enormous amount into it and tank gunnery standards are improving every year.

The accuracy figures and hit rates are up on those of two years ago and so the aim of improving tank gunnery has clearly been met.

I think the co-operation between the teams and the two Army Groups has been outstanding. Undoubtedly the discussions here between the senior and junior officers of the various countries will all bear fruit in the future.

They have all shot to their potential – and beyond it in Leopard 1. The Leopard 1 shooting has been amazing!'



Gen Hans-Henning von Sander – Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe:

'THE CAT competition has changed over the years and will probably continue to change. Fortunately the spirit and friendship found here has been one of the most constant and rewarding aspects.

I feel that everybody is the winner and I say this because of the way each team has participated with friendship, professionalism and enthusiasm. The real winners are the citizens who can rely on these professional and dedicated soldiers safeguarding our peace in freedom.

My only sadness is that the UK are not competing this year. I understand their reasons and hope that they will be in a position to compete in CAT 91 in Grafenwoehr.

It would also be nice to see the French there as competitors. I therefore extend a warm invitation to them to enter CAT with their new tank, the Leclerc.'

Brig Gen Dr Dietrich Genschel – Assistant CoS Policy AFCENT and Chairman of the CAT Committee of Control:

'THERE is no doubt that CAT is also a test for the technology acquired and introduced into the armoured force.

First, I must emphasise though that it is not a test bed for experimental equipment. Competitors are only allowed to use equipment that is in normal use.

Of course, this will be the latest state of the art of what the nation has introduced, but it is not to test fancy new stuff. What

you see there is in use in the units as normal equipment.

Secondly, improvements over time have been inspired by results, by failures and by problems during the competition.

One of these – not the only one, but one where there is room for improvement – is probably the British tank force.

They have taken the somewhat unsatisfactory results of the last two competitions as a reason to step out for the moment, and to look for improvements and then come back.'

No decision yet on UK re-entry

NO decision has yet been taken on whether the British Army will re-enter the Canadian Army Trophy but it seems likely it will be some years before British tank crews again take part. And then only with a Super Tank.

The Royal Armoured Corps told SOLDIER a decision to compete in CAT 91 would be taken nearer the time.

It is known that the RAC would like to compete with a tank that will give the Army a good chance of winning.

It had been suggested the British CAT entry reverted to the older Chieftain (which has taken top honours in the past), but bearing in mind Chieftain's fire control system and gun are virtually identical to Challenger, a spokesman for Headquarters, Director Royal Armoured Corps said there was no point in entering Chieftain in the interim.

'The fact that Leopard 2 beat the M1A1 Abrams this year was interesting but it should be borne in mind that Chieftain will be replaced by a tank that must meet a clearly expressed staff requirement,' he said.

'All three MBT contenders will be evaluated on merit against this yardstick and, to meet it, will probably have to be even better than the tanks used in CAT this year.'

A RAC spokesman said it would welcome the addition to the competition of other skills used by tank crews.

'It is extremely difficult if not impossible to test some of the major advantages of Challenger and Chieftain, such as the penetrative power of their ammunition and the first class protection their modern armour provides,' he said.

All sides will be looking forward to the announcement on which Super Tank will lead the British Army into the 21st century . . . and back to CAT honours.

With the introduction of new equipments and major developments in the munitions field, is the Royal Artillery on the threshold of a new era? SOLDIER put the question to Maj Gen David Quayle, MGRA 1 British Corps.

THE CASE FOR MORE CLOUT

IN TWO World Wars the men who held the appointment of Major General Royal Artillery were the right hands of every corps commander and constituted the highpriesthood of gunnery.

Today with only one corps there is only one such appointment, held at the moment by Maj Gen David Quayle, solidly built, 6 ft 3 in tall and a plain speaker.

As MGRA 1 BR Corps he is responsible to the Corps Commander for the technical state of all the RA in Germany and more specifically for the command of the corps field artillery (currently equipped

by
Bill Moore

with guns but about to switch to rockets) and the air defence artillery.

He described the BAOR's battlefield artillery as having three functions.

First the contact battle where armour and infantry engage at close quarters and the ability of our guns to fire as near as possible to our own troops is paramount.

Next the provision of counter-battery shoots in which Nato's 14,000 gun barrels face 43,000 deployed west of the

Urals by the Warsaw Pact nations.

"The Soviets have always seen their artillery as the Mother of the Battlefield and still refer to it as such," said Maj Gen Quayle.

"They have roughly the same proportion of artillery today as at the end of the Second World War - 28 per cent.

"This is roughly what we had in 1945 when the Royal Artillery was bigger than the Royal Navy. Now it is about eight per cent of the Army."

The third function of the artillery is its contribution to the depth battle - the destruction of the follow-on

force. Here the outlook is more optimistic with the development of long range equipments and increasingly powerful shells and warheads.

These give it an impressive indirect attack capability, he said.

However, 1 BR Corps has a veritable "golf bag" of equipments, being the only Nato nation on the Central Front still fielding the 105 mm gun which many consider not man enough for the job, plus two types of 155mm, a 175mm, a 203 mm and the 8-in howitzer.

"It was with great joy," said Maj Gen Quayle, "that I heard of the decision to replace the 105 Abbot with the AS 90, a good gun with enormous stretch capability."

The current mixed-bag of guns in service requires the deployment of enormous logistic tails - spares, ammunition etc - for each one.

"As we move through the next decade, we shall find ourselves in a situation where we have only 155 mm guns, the vast majority of them AS 90s, and the MLRS.

"The efficiency saving available within this scenario, compared to having to run all the different current equipments, is enormous."

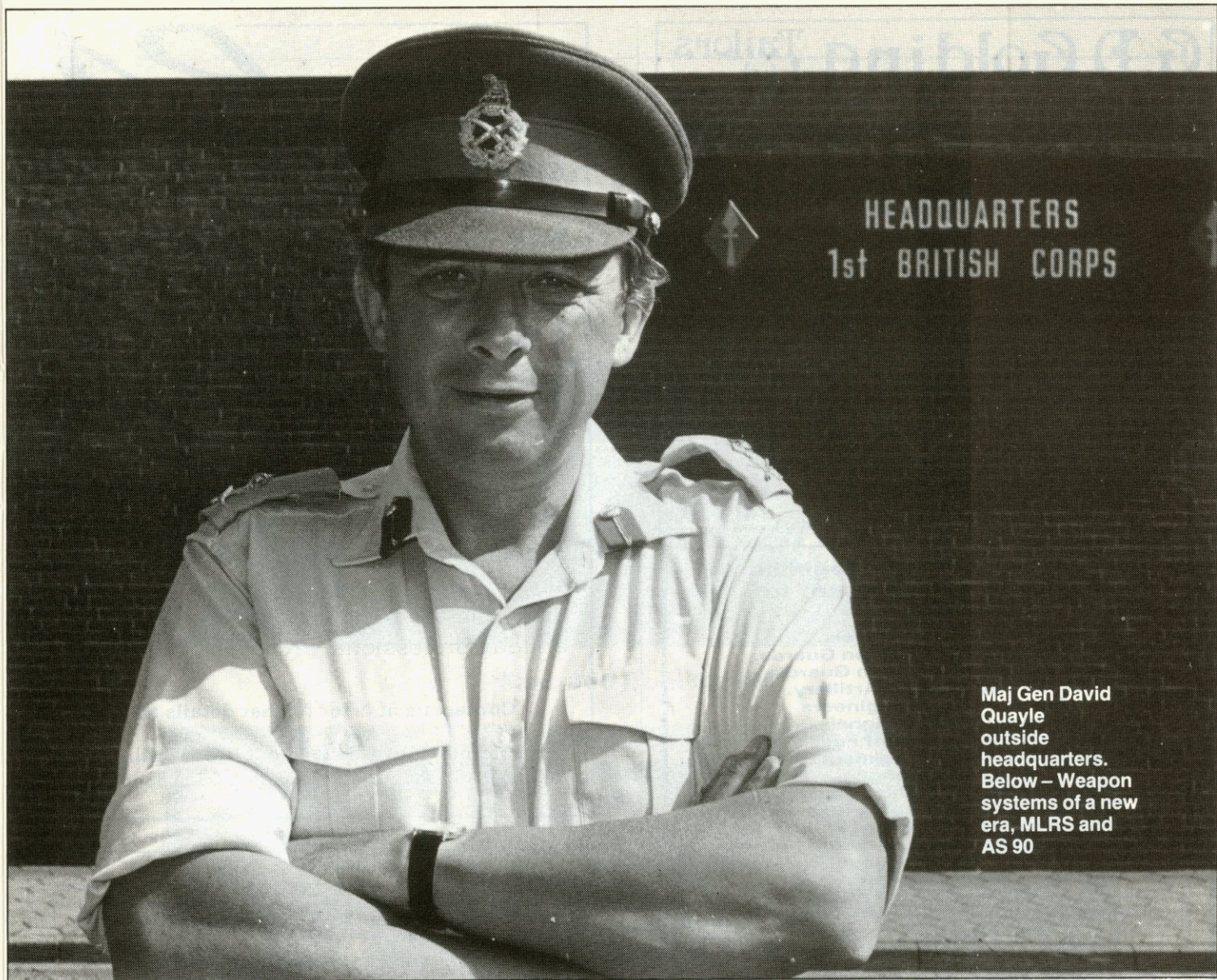
ON AIR DEFENCE

Though some years ago air defence was the poor relation in 1 BR Corps there had been considerable investment in Rapier, tracked and towed, and in Javelin, operated from the shoulder or a stand.

Trials of the latest mark of Rapier, with 16 AD Regt RA in the UK, had gone extremely well.

Most exciting of all was the arrival of the hypervelocity missile (Starstreak) built by Shorts.

A new regiment, 15 AD, will be equipped with it when it comes into service.



Maj Gen David Quayle outside headquarters. Below - Weapon systems of a new era, MLRS and AS 90

Picture Mike Weston

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ON LANCE

"As long as flexible response remains the Nato policy and as long as it is the British government's policy to contribute land-based forces Lance must be kept up to date to be a meaningful deterrent.

"Lance is an old equipment . . . not obsolescent but not far off it."

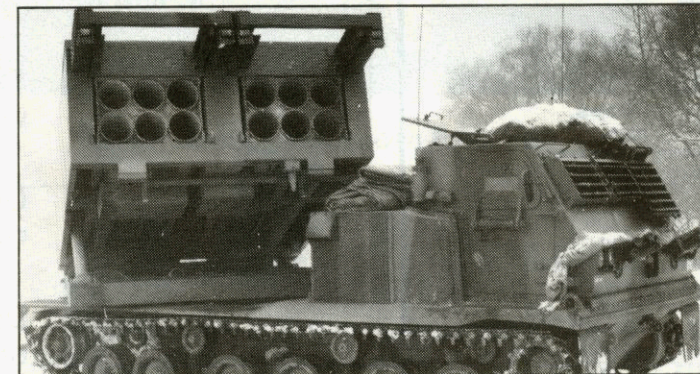
The estimate as to when it will finally cease to function on mechanical grounds was another important factor which had to be taken into consideration.

"As a nation committed to contributing to the Nato philosophy, Lance must - not should - be replaced by a system which does what Lance does and does effectively.

"Only if you have a system that functions effectively, and your soldiers can train on it properly, do you have a meaningful deterrent."

A TOP GUNNER'S PHILOSOPHY

"I think one could have described the Royal Artillery as



a supporting arm in World War I and probably in World War II, but as new munitions come in, as field artillery gets more range, you are talking about an arm in its own right, attacking the enemy as an equal partner in the all arms battle with three

separate battlefield functions to perform.

"And arguably what we need is more artillery to perform this role. It cannot be right that, in numbers, the artillery has fallen off so dramatically.

"In the context of conven-

tional arms discussions now being held by the West and Eastern blocs, if you are going to end up with fewer troops on the ground there are going to be more gaps in defences.

"It is therefore essential to be able to cover these gaps with equipments that can reach rather than having to move.

"I believe we are entering an era in which fire power will become more important than mobility with guns firing up to 30 ks and maybe further and rockets firing 35-45 ks and able to do tasks which cannot be performed by troops on the ground without movement.

"I am not saying for a moment that the tank does not have a role on the battlefield of the future. I am saying that we should be looking at a change in the balance of resources between direct and indirect fire and we've certainly got to look in the same context at the development of the armed helicopter."

NEXT ISSUE: SOLDIER visits the men who man Lance in BAOR.

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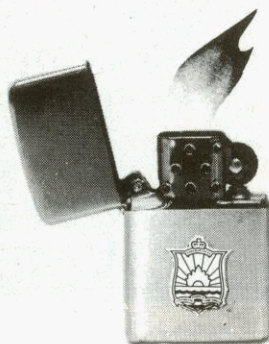
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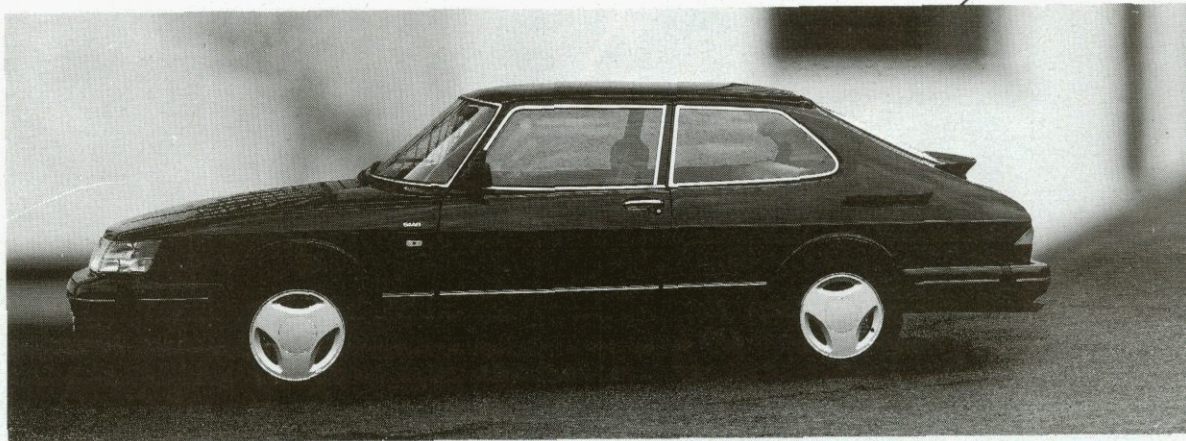
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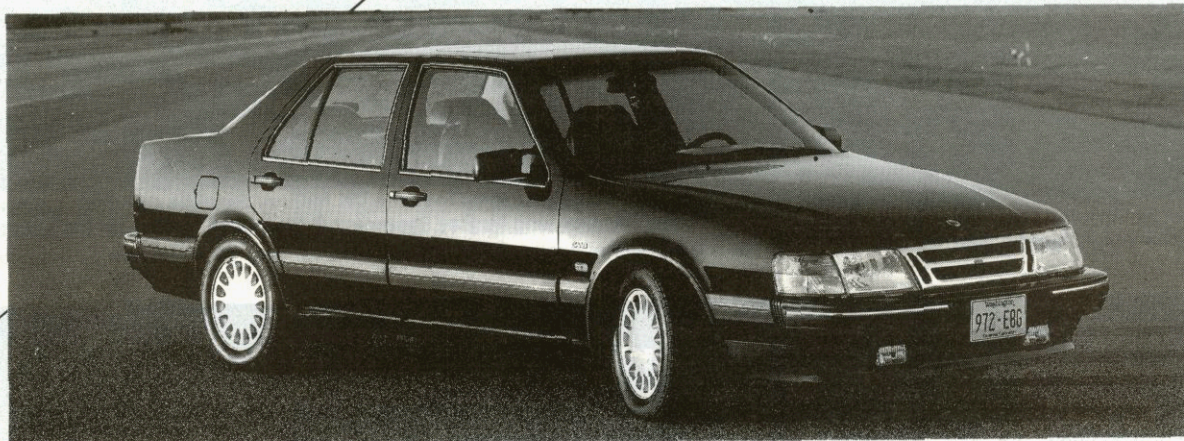
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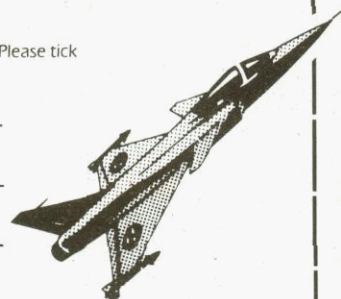
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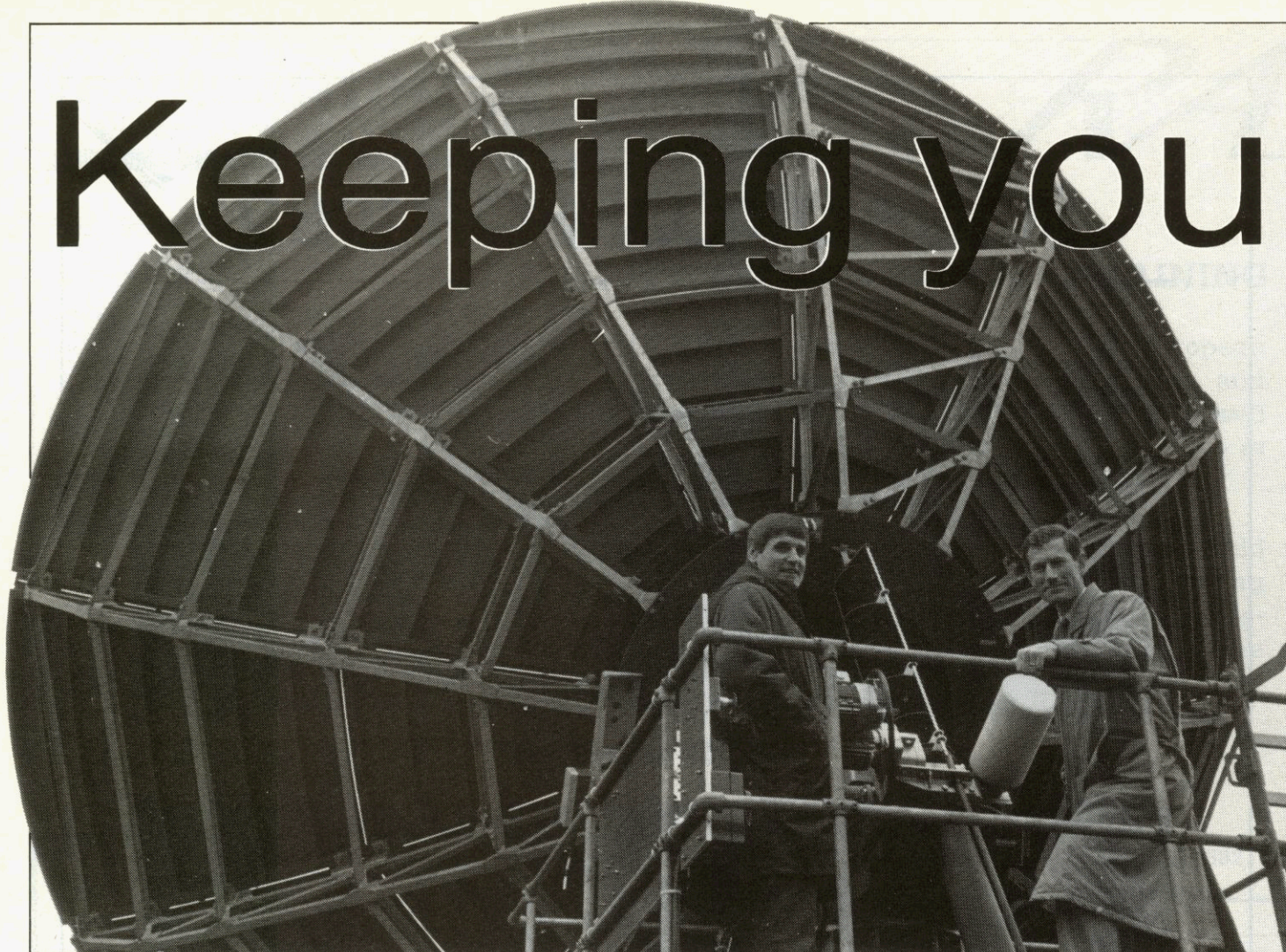
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Keeping you



Big brother of the Land Rover SatCom terminal featured on SOLDIER's cover (April 3) is the UK Military Satellite Communication Station's Satellite Ground Terminal at Birgelen. Mr Bas Hames (ex RAF) left and Mr Ray Storer (ex R Sigs) give it scale. In the event of breakdown a small handle can be cranked to keep it on track

THE UNSUNG heroes who keep the Forces' telephones and television screens in BAOR working are the men of Telecommunications Division, 4 Signal Group. They are responsible for all fixed communications in BFG.

This includes STARRNET (the Static Radio Relay Network), the British Forces Germany television system and now satellite communications via SKYNET 4B.

Man in charge is Mr Ben Morgan whose organisation is based at Rheindahlen, with regional offices at Dusseldorf, Bielefeld, Hanover and Berlin, as well as detachments at Emblem (Antwerp) and Celle.

Most of the unit's personnel are MoD civil servants who do three-year tours in BAOR, but such is the specialised nature of their work and the requirement to speak German that many end up serving several tours.

A high proportion of the staff are ex Servicemen, with the Royal Signals to the fore supported by former members of the REME, RE, RAF and the Royal Navy.

At its Rheindahlen headquarters, the Telecommunica-

tions Division has two main departments, Networks and Transmissions.

Management of the network and its future development is carried out by Networks which provides a telephone service for BAOR and RAF(G), as well as for supporting organisations such as the PSA, BFES and SSVc.

The network consists of 86 British owned telephone exchanges interconnected by about 2,000 MoD and Deutsches Bundespost lines.

In addition private lines to the UK provide connections to FASTNET and other systems.

The network is heavily used, for its 20,000 subscribers make more than 100,000 calls each working day.

Exchanges range from electro-mechanical types which have been in service for more than 20 years, to state-of-the-art digital switches which can provide all modern telephone services including voice, data,

facsimile and video conferencing. There are plans to extend these Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN) facilities to the whole network.

The Transmission System Department comprises three distinct sections.

● Projects whose main task is to plan the new digital radio relay system and the satellite

By
Laurie Manton

requirements for the future are also involved in engineering changes to the BFG TV network. Ex Foreman of Signals Alan Harper says this is a far cry from supporting field systems.

● A Long Lines section provides telephone circuits which cross international borders, and arranges for MoD equipment to be tested by Deutsches Bundespost and

other international telephone agencies for type approval and connection to civil lines.

● The Operations and Maintenance section defines the systems maintenance policies and ensures there are resources available to carry this out. Monitoring of the STARRNET and TV systems is carried out by STARRNET Control under the supervision of the O and M Section.

STARRNET Control at Rheindahlen is the operational nerve centre for both STARRNET and TV, and both systems are constantly monitored by watchkeepers.

Said Mr Ray Hill: "When a fault develops anywhere on the system the watchkeeper is alerted by an alarm on a computerised monitor. He can then alert the relevant area engineer to repair the fault."

Many of the STARRNET/TV stations are located in very isolated areas, on top of hills or in forests, which in winter can

in the picture



Watchkeepers at STARRNET Control are provided by 21 Signal Regiment (AS). Sgt Terry Smith (front) and Sig Michael Proctor have the enviable task of monitoring SSVc television signals

It's service as normal — thanks to 4 Sig Gp

make life difficult and hazardous for the maintenance engineers and their specially equipped vehicles.

"Vehicles frequently have to be coaxed both up and down hill, over snow, ice and mud before reaching their destination," he said.

Although SSVc provides the transmitted programme signal for television in Germany, Tels Div is responsible for the transmission system which, in trying to reach some 150,000 British viewers, passes through a series of microwave links before arriving at local transmitters, unlike the UK where a few large power transmitters serve the majority of viewers.

This is because it is an IBA/DBP requirement that where possible the BFG television transmissions are only received by Servicemen and their families.

In North West Germany, this necessitates the use of a series of microwave relays.

Transmission can start in London and be seen in Munsterlager, Rinteln and Berlin after having covered an estimated transmission path of up to 1,300km, passing through 30 radio relay stations in the UK, France, Belgium and Holland.

Said Frank Roberts, a maintenance team leader: "This is a tremendous engineering achievement, for the link which, including the path into Berlin, represents the longest private television microwave link in the world."

For viewers at the end of this system the chance of programme loss is inevitably increased in proportion to the number of radio relay stations between them and the studio.

However, with the present replacement programme with up to date and well proven solid state equipment, the reliability of the system is being greatly improved, and the chance of transmission failure reduced.

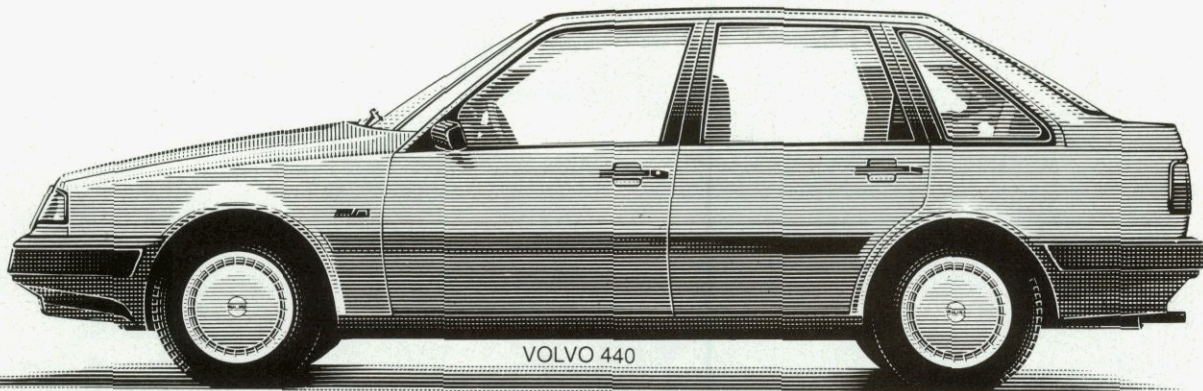


Arthur Potts and Steve Sims check signal output at the base of Birgelen television tower. At 100 metres, it is the tallest tower owned by BFG

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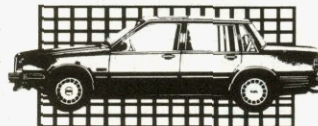
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VOLVO EXPORT



In the last issue **SOLDIER** writer **Jennifer Griffiths** and photographer **Mike Weston** featured the resident British battalion based in Belize, the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards. Now it is the turn of other units serving in Belize to have the spotlight turned on them . . .



Mennonite spokesman, John Heide, and his family and their horse-drawn transport. Motor vehicles are forbidden

All in a day's work

MEMBERS of an obscure religious sect which has worked wonders converting the jungle into massive and successful farms are among the many people in Belize who benefit from the help given by the British Army to the community.

The Field Surgical Team from *Airport Camp* regularly visits a Mennonite settlement.

Mennonite men dress in dungarees and straw hats, the women in dresses and headscarves. Their strict religion decrees that if they want to marry out of it, they have to leave.

Most transport is horse-drawn, but if a member is caught driving a car he may continue to live in the community but will be exiled from the church. He will be re-admitted only if he repents.

The Mennonites moved from Mexico and Canada in 1958, establishing three settlements in Belize. They are self sufficient with their own schools, teachers, preachers, dentist, mechanics, carpenters and so on, selling their produce, which includes fine furniture, to the Belizeans.

Large families are commonplace. They speak a "Low



Large families are the norm among the Mennonites. Not surprisingly "midwife" David Friesen is kept busy. He has brought more than 550 babies into the world since 1983, although someone else delivered his 12 children into the world. His eldest brother has 19 children. Also pictured in the settlement chemist shop is Capt Jonathan Livesey, RAMC, Surgeon OC Field Surgical Team

German" or English and their spokesman, John Heide, 29, a father of nine, said the Field Surgical Team's visits were invaluable.

Capt Jonathan Livesey, RAMC, team OC, said no patient was turned away on their visits to the settlement, where they used a portable operating table in the back room of the chemist shop.

"We are gaining valuable

experience of working as a small team, using the scale of equipment we would have in war. The people we treat and their families are very appreciative."

The team makes weekly visits to Belize's Belmopan Hospital, which does not have a surgeon, but the surgical scope is limited.

The medics also hold dental clinics in Mayan villages.

It's a superb spot for water sports

THE success or otherwise of much in Belize, particularly R and R, depends on the vagaries of the weather.

Belize offers some of the best water sports in the world and is second only to the Australian Barrier Reef for coral formations and fish life in waters that are safe and warm.

The Joint Service Adventure Training Centre at St George's Cay offers 24 places each week for training in a variety of water sports. The aim is that most soldiers will spend a week there.

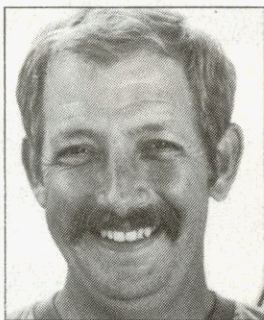
Chief Instructor is WO2 Ray Woodstock, APTC, who is on his fourth tour in Belize.

"The guys work extremely hard in camp and I consider this more an R and R centre than an activity centre," he explained.

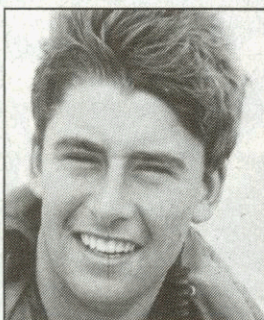
"If people don't want to do the course and simply want to fish or laze in the sun I am quite happy."

But it can be the weather that decides how active they are.

Ray explained: "After one windsurfing course I should have presented certificates to mark the completion of an exercise in patience.



Chief instructor WO2 Ray Woodstock



Lt David Helm, detached from 1 WG

The weather had been poor with very strong winds and they managed about two hours of windsurfing in the whole week."

Lt David Helm has been detached from 1 WG for six months and is the officer in charge of all adventure training. He spends 80 per cent of his time on the island and the rest on various expeditions. He would like to see the centre upgraded to offer higher qualifications.

Open season on hurricanes

IN THE event of a hurricane hitting Belize (the "open" season is June to November) Capt Guy Deacon would be in charge of emergency arrangements for Airport Camp.

Every new building has to be hurricane-proof, and there is a special procedure to follow when danger approaches. Service families would be evacuated to the relative safety of Holdfast Camp.

Inside each shelter is a hurricane pack for 40 people. Each individual is allowed to take a rucksack of belongings, while families are

allocated three MFO boxes.

Brig Dick Lambe, Commander British Forces Belize, is regularly asked to help on local projects, and Capt Deacon is his link man with the community.

"We receive a variety of requests ranging from a local man asking for spare canvas and rope for a boxing club he was trying to set up in a school, to a plea for camp beds and mattresses for a drug rehabilitation centre.

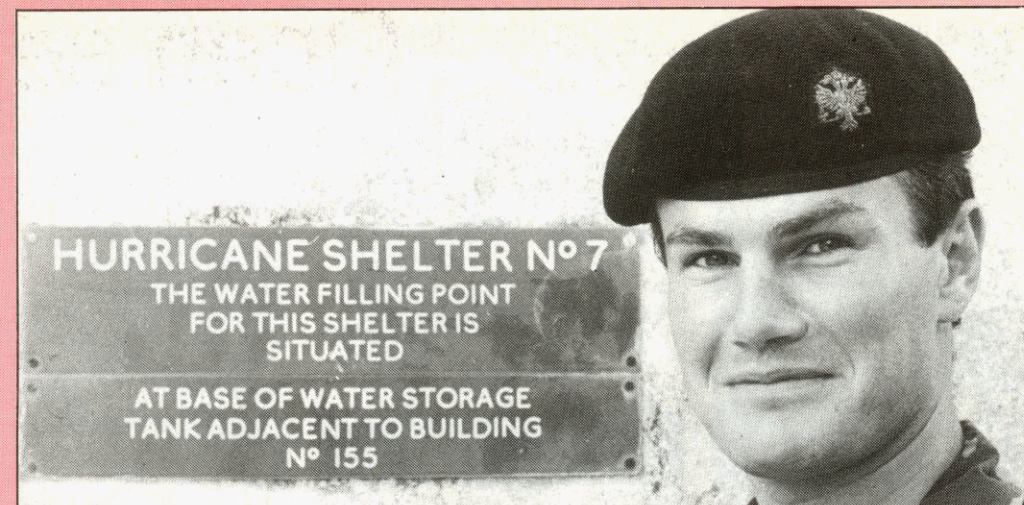
"We didn't have any ropes and canvas but were able to pass on a kit

bag they could fill to use as a punch bag.

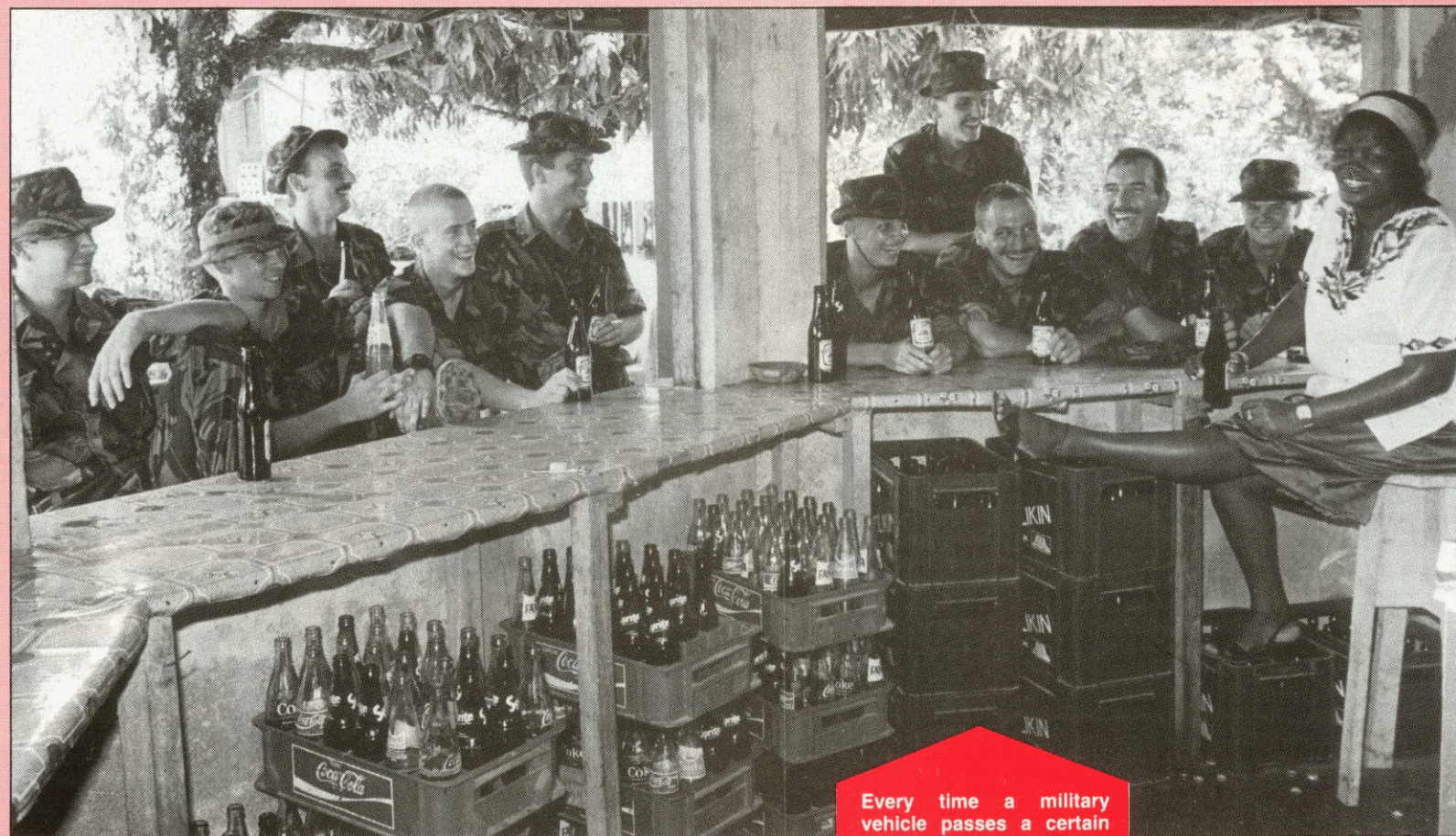
"We also get requests to build bridges, flatten roads, and so on, under Military Aid to the Civil Community, and we are quite happy to do that."

Air crews log wildlife, particularly the rare scarlet macaws and manatees.

Capt Deacon and Lt David Helm were involved in a conservation project, putting in marker buoys on the coral reef to prevent anchors breaking it up.



Capt Guy Deacon, in charge of emergency arrangements in the event of a hurricane



Every time a military vehicle passes a certain clearing in the jungle near Rideau Camp, a loud cry of "Waa Ha" is heard. That's the inevitable greeting from Ordella Porter, the owner of the Round House Bar, a popular stop off for off-duty soldiers. Ordella, a young widow and mother of three is noted for her raunchy banter with her customers, and is pictured with soldiers from 1 WG

Saturday night's a bit different!

WHEN you are a military policeman working on a patch known as the Caribbean Precinct, it is certain a Saturday night downtown is going to be different. In Belize it includes a look in at Raoul's Rose Garden, a legal brothel.

Cpl Gary Carter, RMP, said the brothel, out of bounds to the Royal Air Force but not to British soldiers, is on their list of calls "to make sure the guys are behaving."

"One of the reasons they go there is because it stays open late and they can get a drink."

There are also various bars to visit and eating places proscribed on hygiene grounds. The RMP, as well as patrolling married quarters, deal mainly with minor assaults, thefts, drunkenness and drink-related crimes.

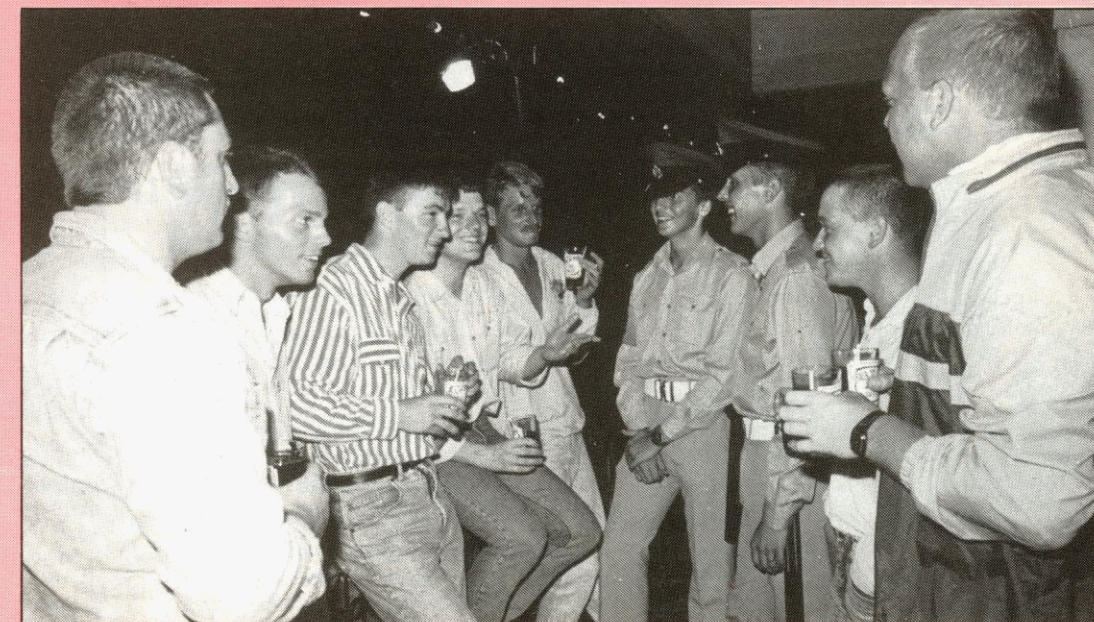
Cpl Gary Carter said: "It is

different here, compared with Germany and the UK, because soldiers rely on us a lot more. We are all stranded here together. We are out here to protect and help them.

"If we find a soldier in a no go area, we point out its dangers. If they are lost, we will give them a lift into camp or a safe area."

When soldiers go out after 6pm they have to wear long sleeves and trousers to prevent insect bites. It is also against Standing Orders to go out alone at night - on safety grounds.

In Belize, drugs are more readily available than in the UK, but a Special Investigation Branch spokesman said: "Even though they are easier to get hold of, especially cannabis, there is no greater a problem with the military in Belize than anywhere else."



Right - It's Saturday night in Belize City and the RMP calls at various bars to make sure all is well. At the Upstairs Cafe there was time for a chat and a joke. Pictured are (from left) LCpl Nigel Williams, LCpl Mark Parkin, Dvr Stuart Vernon, Dvr Gaz Power, LCpl Ian Nicol, Cply Windy Miller, RMP, Cpl Gary Carter, RMP, Dvr Andrew Morgan and Cpl Paul Oxford



25 Flt AAC back-up team. They are (from left): Cpl 'Mac' McKinn, First Aid Aircraft Outfit storeman; Gnr Phil Sibbons, RA aircraft ground handler; Sgt Les Gill, REME avionics technician; Cpl Steve Hawkins, REME storeman; Cpl Nick Francis, REME aircraft technician; and Sgt George Poppowicz, REME aircraft technician

BUSY TOUR

HELICOPTER pilots on a four month tour of Belize can expect to do as much flying as they would during a whole year in the UK.

25 Flight AAC is an independent flight of three Gazelles operating in support of British Forces Belize.

At present it has a detachment from 3 Commando Brigade Royal Marines, who pick up one of the three roulement tours each year. The Marines are from Yeovilton, Somerset and are due to be replaced by members of 7 Regiment AAC.

Sgt Alan Osmond, REME, attached to 25 Flt, said: "It is good training and flying for them, a change from their usual visits to Norway, giving them another concept of operations."

"The flying is very concentrated. For instance the road journey from Airport Camp to Rideau would take up to eight hours in the dry season, and about 12 in the rainy season. A helicopter takes 50 minutes, so it is a tremendous asset."



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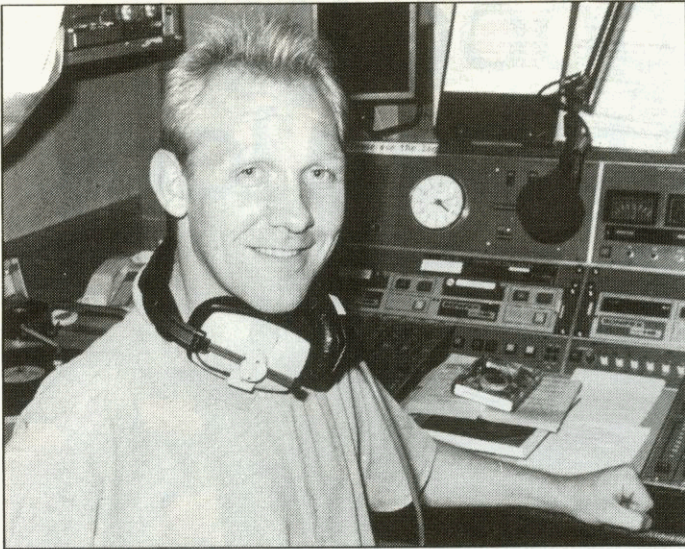
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THE dulcet tones of LCpl Nobby Clarke (above) give a distinctive Welsh flavour to the radio waves of BFBS Belize. He is employed full time as a DJ during 1 WG's Central American tour.

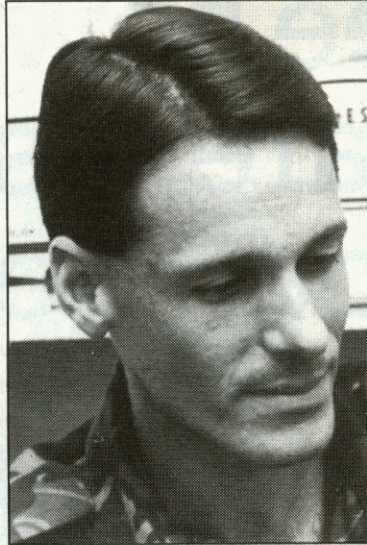
Nobby, 25, used to be a scaffolder and sang on the club circuit as a hobby. But, after being made redundant five times before he was 23, he decided to enlist.

He said: "There is a lot more to the job than just being on air playing records. There are hours of behind-the-scenes preparation and other station duties. I love the

Sounds Welsh

work, but I am a soldier first."

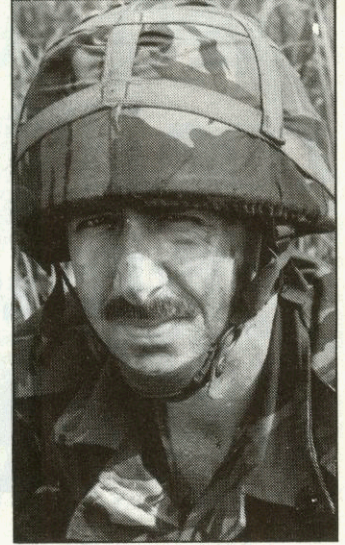
His own music taste? "Before I joined up I used to have a pink Mohican haircut and was a punk fan. But my music taste has always been varied. There isn't much I don't like. I would like to be a full-time DJ, but it's a competitive world."



THE most common injuries to soldiers in Belize are caused by machetes (nicknamed machete "bites") and by falling trees.

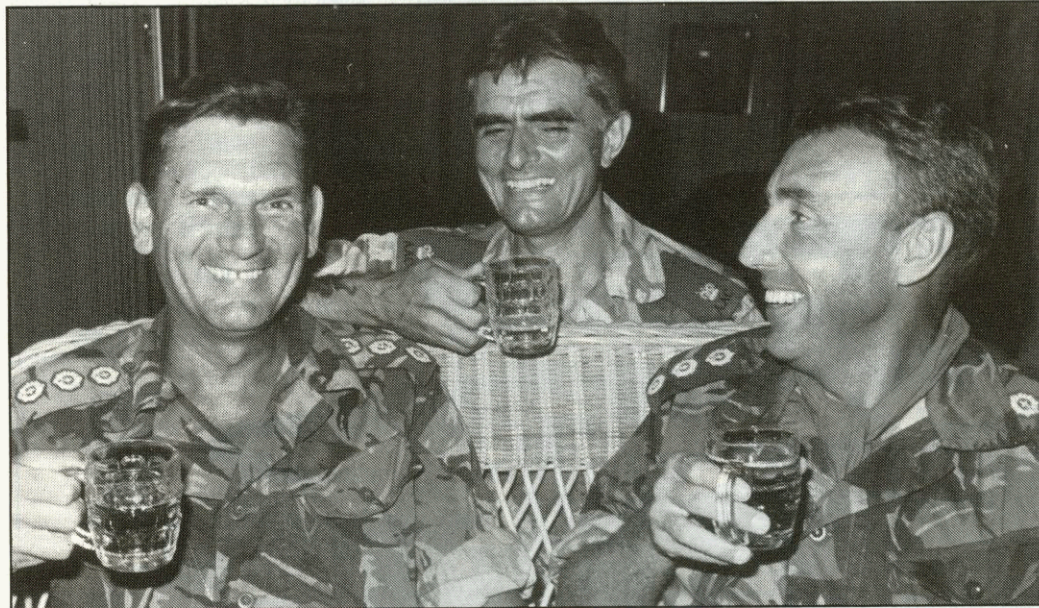
Regimental Medical Officer Maj David Woods (above) has treated numerous cuts sustained by soldiers slashing their way through dense jungle.

Maj Woods has identified cases of tropical skin conditions and fungal infections among soldiers, including leishmaniasis, a non-healing tropical ulcer. The patient had to return to the UK for special treatment.



CSM Tony Downes (above) endured something right out of the horror movies when he had to dress in the dark during exercises in Belize.

"I took the right precautions, tipping up my boots and helmet to make sure there was nothing in them. Later I felt something crawling on my head, under my helmet. Inside was a scorpion! They aren't killers, but it's nasty if you get bitten. I think I had trapped it upside down in the helmet so it could not sting me. It is not an experience I want to repeat."



Class of 64 meets again

BELIZE brought about a reunion for three Welsh Guardsmen (left), who jokingly refer to themselves as the Class of 64. They are (from the left) Capt Tony Davies, Maj David Woods and Capt Tony Bowen.

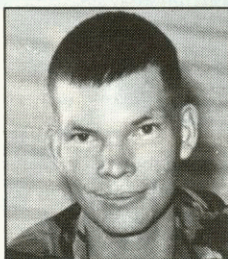
It was in 1964 that they became corporals together in the Mortar Platoon, but Maj Woods left a year later to become a physical training instructor. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1973.

During 1 WG's six month tour in Central America, Capt Davies has been based at Airport Camp, and Capt Bowen at Rideau. Maj Woods, who is OC 25 Flt AAC, is on a two year posting at Airport Camp

Name game

CPL Simon Cullen (right) is hoping months of work during his Belize posting will culminate in his getting a book published. He is compiling a list of nicknames of regiments and corps in the British Army and researching their origin.

Cpl Cullen, driver to Brig Dick Lambe, Commander British Forces Belize, said: "Finding out why these names were given is the most time-consuming part." He is interested in contemporary and historic nicknames and has traced about 200.



Gucci-goo!

GUCCI, the crocodile is 14 months old and a manageable 13 inches long from snout to tail end, but by the time he reaches his teens he will be a whopping eight foot.

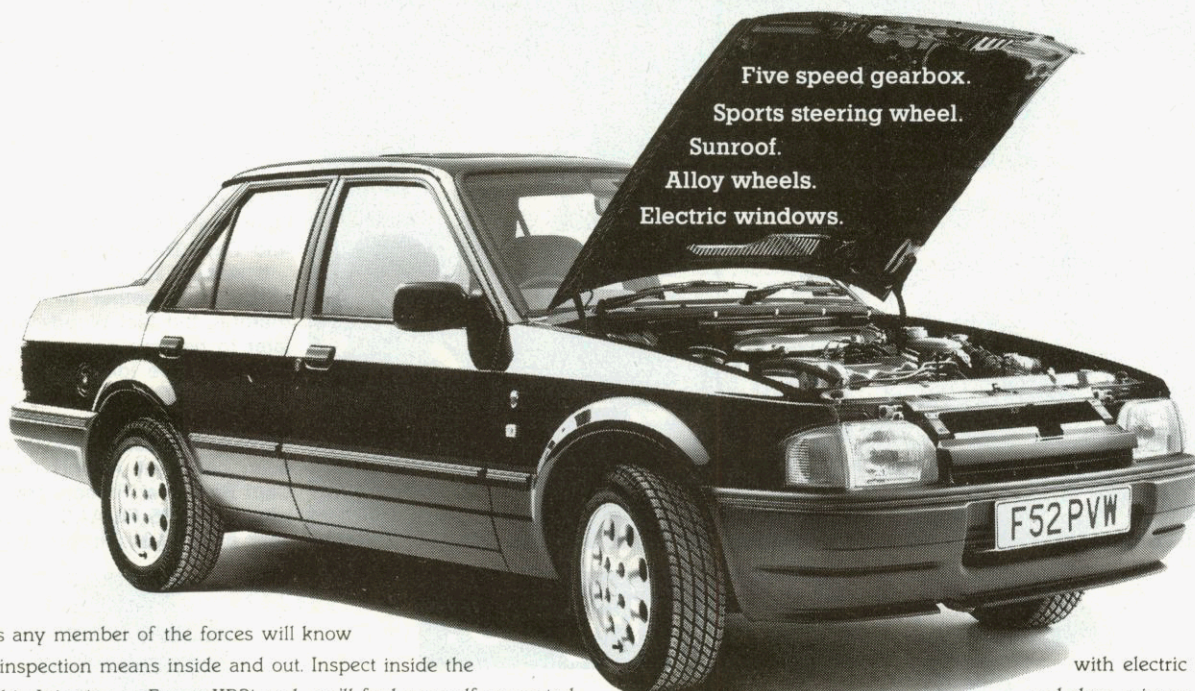
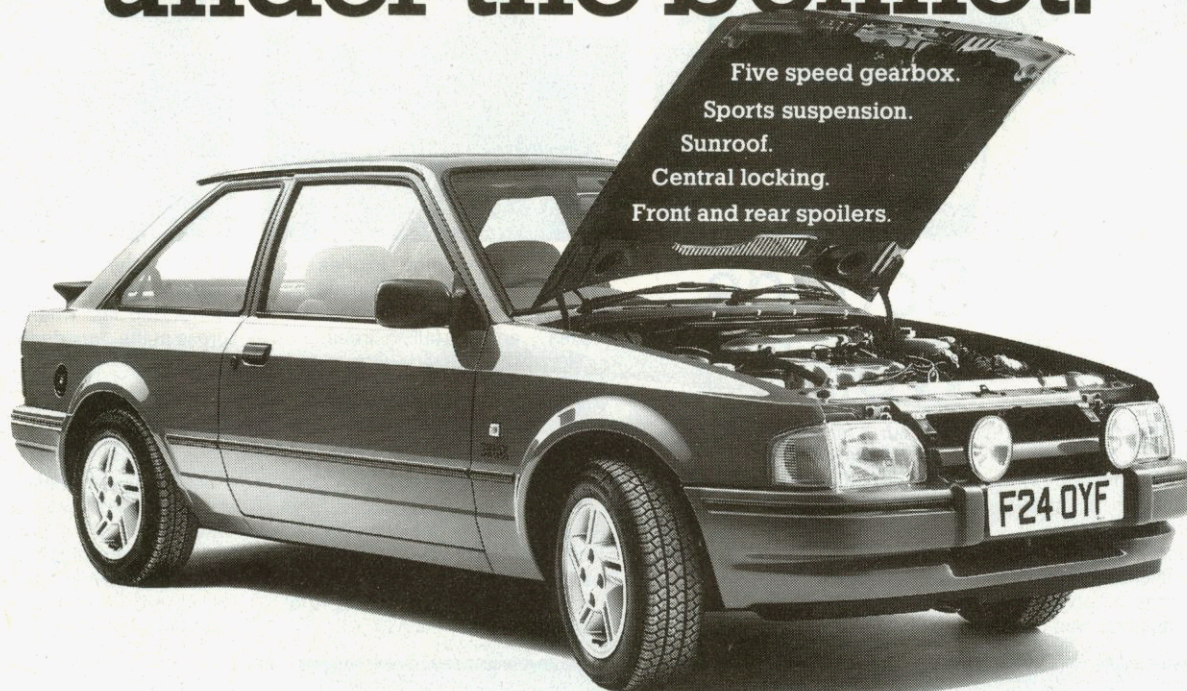
He is the pet of Bdr Darren Cooney (right), who is on the domestic staff of Brig Dick Lambe, Commander British Forces Belize.

Gucci belongs to the rare Morelets species found only in Belize. Bdr Cooney keeps him in a tank in the brigadier's kitchen. "The brigadier says I'm mad," he says.

Bdr Cooney also has parrots called Basil and Sybil. At various times he has kept fish, lizards, snakes, scorpions, tarantulas, an iguana and a praying mantis.



To see how good they really are, just take a look under the bonnet.



As any member of the forces will know a close inspection means inside and out. Inspect inside the Orion Ghia Injection or Escort XR3i and you'll find yourself presented with their 1.6 fuel injected engines complemented by five-speed gearboxes.

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And to make sure your manoeuvres run smoothly the Escort has road hugging sports suspension.

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with electric front windows and door mirrors. And for short sleeve order days tilting/sliding sunroofs. The security minded (not that you could be anything else) will be pleased to know they both have central locking.

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Soldiers from the 7th (Durham) Battalion, The Light Infantry raised £700 for the Army Benevolent Fund by completing the Great North Run. Pictured (from left) are Cpl Paul Blaney, CSgt Bob Read, CSgt Pete Knight,

WO2 Ian Barlow, WO2 Billy Bertram, Lt Col Ian Sawers, Cpl David Smith, Capt Christopher Gwinn and WO1 Keith Tregidgo. Absent are Maj The Viscount George Morpeth, Capt Ted Darwin and Sgt Joe Wray



Capt Peter Philpott who took to the saddle in Norway's toughest cycle race to raise money to buy a pony for disabled riders at Fallingbostel, West Germany

ON HIS BIKE!

CAPT Peter Philpott used a two wheeled mount to raise about £500 to buy a pony for a Riding for the Disabled Club.

Peter, Ammunition Technical Officer for the **Ammunition Inspectorate, RAOC** Walsrode, near Hanover, in West Germany, competed in Norway's gruelling Test of Strength cycle race, one of the longer one-stage events in the

world. The pony will be bought for Fallingbostel Army station Riding for the Disabled Club.

In February, Peter is to take up a Loan Service appointment in Dubai. What price camel racing?

★ ★ ★

The **Army Apprentices College Chepstow** rugby team completed a 15 mile leg in the

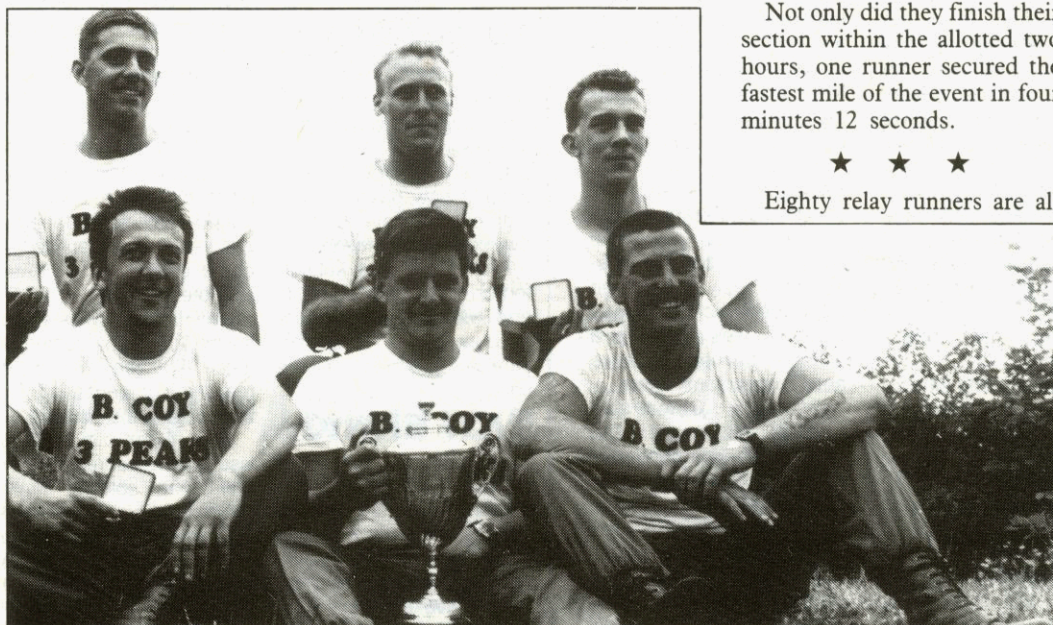


Heineken Longest Try event, which is expected to raise more than a quarter of a million pounds and open a new category in the Guinness Book of Records.

Not only did they finish their section within the allotted two hours, one runner secured the fastest mile of the event in four minutes 12 seconds.

★ ★ ★

Eighty relay runners are all



B Company of the 1st Battalion, Yorkshire Volunteers provided the admin support for the annual SSAFA challenge 25 mile race along the Cleveland Way, and won the cup for the fastest time in the three peaks section. The team of part time soldiers are (from left and front to rear) Officer Cadet Lawrence Cox, Sgt Billy Swales, Cpl Tim Booth, Pte Peter Walker, Pte Robert Smith and Pte Michael Drury

set to take part in an 800 mile run to mark the 800th anniversary of a Royal Charter being granted by Richard the Lionheart to Colchester, Britain's oldest garrison town.

The event is being organised by **8 Field Workshop REME**, who became permanently based there in the 1950s. Sponsorship will raise cash for the World War Benevolent Fund, the Army Benevolent Fund, Turner Village Hospital and a local handicapped residents' home.

★ ★ ★

Soldiers serving in **Belize** endured temperatures of up to 100°F to take part in a sponsored run which raised more than £1,500 for the Hillsborough Disaster Appeal.

The gruelling 263 miles between Airport and Rideau Camps was run in pairs of five mile stints.

Taking part were LBdrs Eddie McIlvenna and Mark Morrison, Bdrs Paddy Ryan, Russ Jarman, Gibson Barclay, and Gnrs Steve Turner, Taff Lloyd, Mark Slaiter, Mark Hughes, Simon Hughes, Dick Underwood and Bas Barratt.

Members of the Caterers' Arms' Club at Airport Camp held a games night to raise £195 for the same charity.

Field marshals keep pressure on home front

FIELD MARSHAL Lord Bramall, a former Chief of the Defence Staff and an ex Chief of the General Staff, resumed his battle for a better housing deal for Service personnel when the Lords debated the Defence Estimates.

Perhaps the most serious weakness in the Ministry of Defence's stance as an employer "and the one I still submit has the great influence on the premature voluntary release figures" was the disadvantage at which Servicemen and their families found themselves in relation to the housing market, he said.

For the second time in a few weeks he pressed for the introduction of "a proper house purchase scheme".

It would, he urged, have to be one which would allow individuals towards the end of their service to save for a house "in a tax effective way without having to buy one prematurely".

Because of service abroad it was not possible to look after such property satisfactorily.

The field marshal, who is 65, pointed out that Service personnel were "rightly being encouraged to live in Government accommodation near their place of work".

In answering a question put by Lord Bramall in May, the Minister had "made much play of the steps that the Government were taking to sell surplus married quarters to Service people".

However, after "considerable research" the field marshal had found that "at best" it was only a peripheral measure and "it is not really working".

He went on: "Certainly it is not working to the extent of housing the considerable number of Service people who find themselves homeless at the end of their service and yet cannot be accommodated by local authorities."

"Such homelessness at the end of faithful service is hardly an incentive to stay in the Service in the first place."



Lord Bramall... before his peerage

There were many other examples, he said, where "the erosion of allowances and lack of proper employer measures are encouraging good men to leave the Services."

He found it sad that "this Government, having done so much for defence - and for whom incidentally the Services themselves had done so much - seem to have lost interest in taking on the Treasury to achieve the comparatively small amount of resources that are needed to establish their position as good employers."

If they did not do better they would "soon be unable to man all the volunteer forces required by our current commitments, let alone by emergencies."

This situation would arise even with the maximum help of the Brigade of Gurkhas and not the minimum of 4,000 recently proposed, and of the Women's Royal Army

"In the infantry alone we are the equivalent of two battalions short on current requirements, to say nothing of the acute shortage of every kind of specialist."

Battalions with an establishment of only three companies and a total of 650 men were "totally inadequate".

He recalled that one of the main reasons that the German general staff advised the Kaiser to sue for peace in the First World War was that battalions had sunk to the strength of 650 men.

Lord Bramall concluded: "Without the men, any discussion on strategy becomes academic, for the only alternative to volunteer service is some form of compulsory national ser-

vice and I think that most of your Lordships will agree that is hardly a political option."

Another broadside came from 74-year-old Fd Marshal Lord Carver, also a previous CGS and CDS.

On the domestic front he asked in connection with the Community Charge (Poll Tax) "whether the arrangements that have been made are regarded by members of the Armed Forces as equitable?"

Later in his speech he raised the importance of the part "modern electronic devices" might play in any conflict and called for a serious study of the subject.

Consideration "should then be given to the highly controversial question as to whether we should continue to maintain a separate air force, with all its overheads and the complications in command which it involves."

Technology could help in replacing manpower but "new ways of making better use of human power must be examined yet again," said Lord Carver.

"A great use of womanpower is certainly one of them."

He had in mind a greater use of both the individual and of sub-units of volunteer reserves to train with and reinforce regular units in an emergency, rather than laying all the emphasis on trying to make TA units viable in themselves.

In his reply Lord Trefgarne, for the Government, said that Lord Bramall's call for a house purchase scheme had been discussed previously. Since then it had been acknowledged that there was a need for a dialogue between Defence and Treasury ministers.

Of the Community Charge he said: "In general, Service personnel would be liable for it in respect of their sole or main residence like the rest of the population."

A limited number of people in short stay accommodation or "whose registration would not be in the national interest" would be subject to special arrangements.

GARAGES FOR ALL PLEASE

THE LATEST terrorist car bomb which killed a soldier and seriously injured his wife and children in a quiet Hanover street, brought the usual Press questions and criticisms.

There were suggestions for moving families into barracks or behind a fence - but how do you fence in Aldershot, Catterick and all the other garrisons?

Mark time rates - step in right direction

THE NEW boarding school allowances rules which came into effect last year raised worries over the transitional arrangements.

The BSA paid for the 1988 autumn term was classed as the mark-time rate, but it did not take into account increased fees or admissible extras which, in the past, could have been claimed but were not allowed for the spring or summer terms this year.

As a result of tri-Service representations the Treasury have now agreed to revise the mark-time rate.

Parents who have been advised by pay offices that they have been overpaid for the spring term 1989 and had their summer term fees reduced, may now be able to claim some or all of the disallowed amounts.

Anyone concerned should check at the unit pay office.

10 out of 10

GOOD news concerning school children overseas who have stayed behind to take exams.

Local Overseas Allowance is now payable after their parents have left their overseas duty station.

Claims are to be submitted on an individuals basis and will be paid into the account of the temporary service guardian of the child.

NEW ERNIC

MOST Service personnel will be better off by a few pounds after October 5 1989 when the new ERNIC rates come into force.

This does not mean they will receive different rates of any DSS benefits they might apply for when they leave i.e. Unemployment Benefit, Statutory Sick Pay.

STATUS STAMPS

Many barracks do not have space for more building let alone quarters for families and the cost would be prohibitive and unrealistic.

Number plates have been changed for families in Germany but status stamps in passports remain.

Surely it would be far better to have a policy of a garage for every married quarter and flat, at least on every newly-built estate.

Right-hand drive cars in Hanover streets are just as conspicuous as left-hand drive cars in Canterbury.

The slogan "Stay Alert" is a constant reminder for everyone to be vigilant.

Families have booklets and receive constant reminders from TV and BFBS.

Wives know the dangers but what many find hard to accept is the penny-pinching attitude of those who hold the purse strings.

On top of terrorism they have constant worries from an even more persistent source - problems resulting from the drastic Review of Allowances.

ACCEPTED

If some of these and other difficulties could be ironed out the dangers encountered by Service life could be far better accepted.

No family wishes to spend 22 years behind a fence but they do want realistic compensation for the dangers they may face.

It is about time these issues were addressed for I feel that solving them would help and indeed compensate those Service families who live under the constant threat of terrorist attack.

Why should Service families continue, in some respects, to be treated as second class citizens?



WITH FAMILIES IN MIND Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

KIDS ARE STU POTTY

MAJ STUART Thornborough, RAEC, is setting up a primary school for children of Service families in Belize. It should be ready to open next month.

In the meantime, he is helping keep the youngsters amused with his "Uncle Stu Will Fix It" scheme, trying to fulfil their wildest dreams during the summer holidays.

Maj Thornborough is the anchor man of the education service in Belize. To help him run the education side of promotion courses for corporals and sergeants, he has an officer, posted from the UK for five weeks.

She is Capt Kirstie Ogden-Swift, who, though her work is often classroom-based, finds herself taking helicopter flights to the remote parts of the jungle.



Maj Stu Thornborough (centre) with some of his admirers and helpers

SAINTS GO MARCHING ON...

THE PROGRAMME for this year's "Bagshot Day" held by the Guild of St Helena at the Royal Army Chaplains' Department Surrey headquarters concentrated on "Problems of Medical Care."

Dr Alison Graham, whose husband is a serving officer, gave a vivid account of her experiences in an Ethiopian refugee camp.

Alison has managed to practise her profession during most of the postings on which she has accompanied her husband but



Dr Alison Graham

when he was sent to the Canadian National Defence College it looked as though she was going to be unlucky.

The Canadians did not

recognise her medical qualifications.

She was accepted however as part of a medical planning team and later accompanied them when they set up facilities in a camp for 7,000 people.

Now her husband is back in this country Alison is working in a practice at Camberley but her experiences will remain with her.

From one type of stress to another.

Surgeon Commander Morgan O'Connell, the Royal Navy's senior psychiatrist at Hounslow, described how the Falklands War had highlighted combat stress and resulted in the Navy changing the way in which psychiatric illness was treated. The Navy is now much more understanding, he said.

It was recognised that stress could affect all ranks - from captains of ships to junior ratings.

The caring aspect of the problem were explained by

Surgeon Commander O'Connell and illustrated with a video "Battle Stress".

I asked him what the Navy did about the provision of cars for their Community Psychiatric Nurses (CPNs) and learned they have dedicated cars.

I wonder why the Army CPNs don't have the same

facilities.

The Guild of St Helena may not be widely known but with its Christian base it helps wives and families of Servicemen and ex Servicemen.

Special emphasis is placed on helping children with special needs. More than £20,000 was raised last year for various charities.

TROUBLE WITH the small print

A Serviceman received a shock when he made a claim for stolen goods after a burglary from a property which he had been letting. It was rejected because of an exclusion clause in the policy which said "that if the property was unoccupied for more than 24 hours the owner was not covered".

In this case the Serviceman's house was unoccupied between lettings.

But it does open up other

areas - holidays, absence to attend courses etc.

If any insurance company which is a member of the Armed Forces Insurance and Brokers' Committee (AFIBC) has such a clause the policyholder should write to AFIBC and ask why.

Obviously this type of policy is not suitable for such householders.

All unit pay offices hold the list of companies who are members of the AFIBC.

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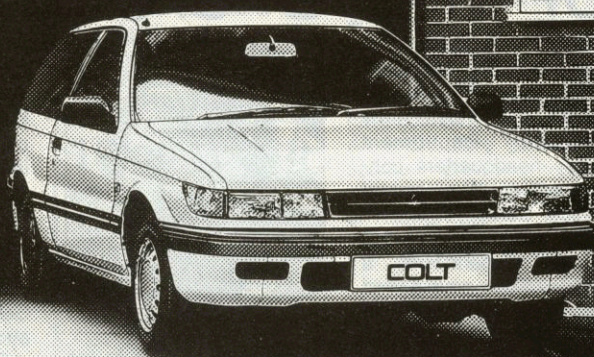
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Leading the way



Pipers from the 4th and 5th (Volunteer) Battalions, the Royal Irish Rangers play a lament from the battlements of the Ulster

War Memorial Tower overlooking Thiepval wood and the British front line of 1916. The tower is built on the site of a former

German strongpoint. The distance between the British and German lines at this point was only a matter of yards

TOWER TRIBUTE

UNDER a grey Picardy sky in Northern France more than 600 Ulster men and women remembered the Battle of the Somme. On July 1, 1916, thousands of young Ulster men lost their lives when the 36th Ulster Division went over the top.

The occasion was the re-dedication of the Ulster War Memorial Tower at Thiepval in the presence of Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.

It has been refurbished by youngsters employed by the Farset organisation set up in West Belfast to foster cross community relationships.

The Ulster Tower, first dedicated on November 19, 1921, is a replica of Helen's Tower on the Clondeboy Estate near Bangor, home of

the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava.

It was at a camp situated in the wooded estate that the 36th Division's 108 Ulster Infantry Brigade trained before going to France. The Marchioness is patron of Farset Youth and Community Development Limited.

The event began with a procession of standard bearers of the Royal British Legion, the Old Comrades Associations of the Irish infantry regiments and French veterans organisations.

Princess Alice inspected a guard of honour of one officer and 12 men drawn from the 4th and 5th (Volunteer) Battalions of The Royal Irish Rangers.

Both infantry battalions form part of 107 Ulster Brigade, which takes its name from the



The Ulster Tower at Thiepval

original First World War 107 Ulster Infantry Brigade, senior brigade of the 36th Ulster Division.

Other units which form part of 107 Ulster Brigade were represented by officers and men who acted as ushers, car attendants, escorts and route liners. Like their forefathers,

they were recruited from towns and villages across Northern Ireland.

The service of re-dedication followed the format of the original service held in 1921. The Union flag was lowered to half mast, the Last Post was sounded by a bugler of The Queen's Dragoon Guards and the exhortation "They shall grow not old" was said by Sir Robin Kinahan, HM Lord Lieutenant for the City of Belfast.

Wreaths were then laid including two by Brig Clive Wilkinson, Commander of 107 Ulster Brigade and Maj Gen Norman Wheeler, President of The Royal Ulster Rifles Association on behalf of the Old Comrades Association of the 36th (Ulster) Division.

● The Battle of the Somme in the First World War and the part played in it by the Ulster Division has been commemorated by the unveiling of a mural at Movilla Camp, Newtownards, home of B Company, 5 R Irish (V).

The mural was inspired by J P Beadle's famous painting of the attack by the Ulster Division.

A young officer depicted in the painting leading his men into battle that day was Lt Francis Bodenham Thornley, of the 11th (Service) Battalion, The Royal Irish Rifles (South Antrim) Volunteers who advised the painter as he was recovering from his wounds after the battle.

His widow, 77-year-old Mrs Ruth Thornley, unveiled the mural.



Standard bearers of the Royal British Legion, Old Comrades Associations and French veterans organisations lead the procession

Heartfelt homage to Royal Irish Rangers

300 YEARS OF SERVICE
Bands, Pipes, Bugles and
Drums of the 1st and 2nd Bns
The Royal Irish Rangers



AMONG the many regiments celebrating their tercentenaries in the latter half of the 20th century is Tiffin's Regiment, formed at the castle of Enniskillen on June 20, 1689, later to become the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and still later to form the Royal Irish Rangers along with the Royal Ulster Rifles and the Royal Irish Fusiliers. These amalgamations allow the regiment four contrasting musical sections – bands, pipes, bugles and drums – a variety enjoyed by no other regiment.

All are displayed to fine effect in a Retreat Beating ceremony on side one and less formal programme on side two. A fanfare and the Advance lead

into the march-on, with the first march suitably entitled *Faugh-A-Ballagh*, the regimental motto meaning Clear the Way. After that it's *Back to Donegal* and a series of popular Irish tunes in *Kerry March*, *If You're Irish*, *Endearing Young Charms*, and the beautiful troop *Eileen Allannah*, interspersed with a five-tune set from the pipes and drums.

In a medley of our regimental marches all elements get together for a rousing tribute to ages-past and former glories. *Bard of Armagh* is a slow air on pipes and band leading to the finale. *Rake of Mallow*, *Sunset*, and the *Regimental March*, *Killaloe*, with its famous shout which always seems to me a snook being cocked at the inspecting officer, which I once was, as the troops leave the parade.

It would have a very different effect on the enemy if bands still played in battle.

A march *The Ulster Division* by an ex bandmaster of the regiment, the bugle troop *Bugler in Vienna*, *Sunset Salute*, the *Ranger's Lament*, and a *Tercentenary March* by the present bandmaster of the 1st Bn, Mr D McL Clarke, complete side two except for the *Folk Group* we have heard before in disc.

They are in mostly wistful mood this time, as befits their contribution to this heartfelt homage in music to all the men who have served in the regiment since Col Tiffin raised those original few three centuries ago.

● From PRI, Royal Irish Rangers, St Patrick's Bks, BFO 808. Record or cassette £6 each.

Corsica's secret sea taxis

THE FIRST thing that comes to mind in thinking of Corsica – apart from holidays – is that the island was the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte. It is an unlikely setting for a book on the Second World War.

Yet the little harbour of Bastia was the base for irregular and regular marine authorities, among them the ACF (African Coastal Flotilla) which provided transport for clandestine operations.

The ACF's activities out of Bastia are the subject of *Corsican Command*, by the station's CO, Patrick Whinney, who ran a clandestine "water-taxi" service.

He tells a fascinating story, not so much of battle but about the characters involved.

Whinney's wartime fleet included American crewed ARBs (Air Rescue Boats) and a number of MAS boats, the Italian equivalent to the Allied Motor Torpedo Boats, which retained their original crews.

"It would be doing far less than justice to the officers and men of the MAS boats to remain silent about the importance of the part they played.

A highly readable and atmospheric book. – BJ

● *Corsican Command* by Patrick Whinney. Published by William Kimber/Patrick Stephens. Price £12.95.



A packhorse carrying medical supplies. They also did invaluable work in the field of communications

Animals in war

THE VALUABLE work carried out by animals in wartime is the subject of *Pigeon to Packhorse*, an illustrated story of how they have been used in military communications.

The horse obviously springs to mind when thinking of animals in warfare in this century, but author Maj Alan Harfield, 36 years in the Royal Signals, also writes of dogs and pigeons, elephants, mules, camels and even yaks.

Although animals had earlier been used as mounts for the passing of messages in the field, it was not until the Crimea,

when visual signalling changed to the electric telegraph, that animals became part of the military communications network.

The Royal Sappers and Miners (later to become the Corps of Royal Engineers) was formed, equipped with two horse-drawn telegraph office wagons, a cable cart, plough and 24 miles of copper wire. One of the unit's problems was caused by animals – field mice which ate through the gutta-percha insulation of the cables and broke the wire!

Over the years, many

thousands of animals have, of course, died during their use in warfare, a fact that is naturally abhorrent, especially to the animal-loving British.

But sometimes man's affection for animals has aborted their wartime usefulness. During the First World War, dogs were specially trained to be messengers, ignoring battlefield gunfire. Unfortunately, their good record was marred by the kindness of British front-line troops who were inclined to treat them as pets rather than as a means of passing messages!

● *Pigeon to Packhorse* by Maj Alan Harfield. Published by Picton. Price £14.95.

Luck – the vital ingredient

THE BETRAYAL of the king by the Earl of Northumberland and the Stanley brothers at Bosworth, the impetuosity of Prince Rupert at Naseby, political ineptitude and interference that caused the British to lose the Saratoga campaign, incompetent Russian leadership at the Alma, British complacency in the Battle of Isandhlwana...

These are factors that led to defeat for one side and victory for the other, and in some instances changed the course of history, according to William Seymour's assessments in *Decisive Factors in Twenty Great*

Battles of the World, which analyses battles ranging from Zama in 202 BC to Dien Bien Phu in 1954 "in which there were one or more easily recognisable factors that had a definite bearing on the outcome of the battle."

The author holds luck as of considerable importance in battle. "No matter how great the general, he sometimes needs luck. In Hannibal's last battle it deserted him...", he writes. Luck is cited many times after that particular case history.

At Waterloo for example: "On the evening of the 17th

Napoleon might have caught Wellington's withdrawal from Quatre Bras but for an unexpected flash storm, and this could have had an important bearing on the day."

The sole example of a First World War battle given is the early confrontation at Tannenberg, but perhaps even more surprising is that the Second World War is missed out completely.

The author leaps from the Battle of Warsaw in August 1920 to the Siege of Dien Bien Phu in 1954.

In contrast, the American Civil War is given a good deal

of attention with long accounts of the Seven Days Battle at Richmond, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and the Chickamauga-Chatanooga campaigns.

There is an excellent concise history of the English Civil War in the chapter on the Battle of Naseby, but then every battle included in the book has been set in its historical context and background before the action is evaluated. – BJ

● *Decisive Factors in Twenty Great Battles of the World* by William Seymour. Published by Sidgwick and Jackson. Price £16.95.

In brief

● *Jackboot, the Story of the German Soldier* by John Laffin. Reprint in paperback of military historian Laffin's study of the influences that have shaped the German army from the time of Frederick the Great to the end of the Second World War. Published by David and Charles. Price £4.95.

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● *Villiers-Stuart On the Frontier* by Robert Maxwell. Told through his diaries, the experiences of Brig Gen W D Villiers-Stuart – "VS" – with 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles (FF) in India. Published by Pentland Press. Price £10.

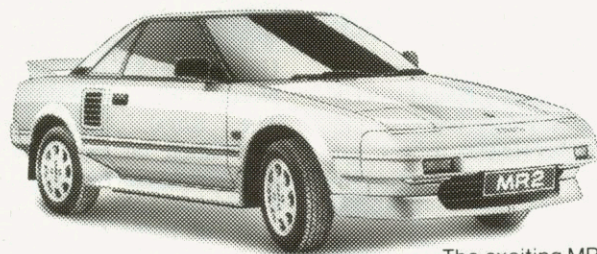
● *Victoria's Enemies* by Donald Featherstone. An A-Z of British colonial warfare, the book describes the campaigns and battles of the Victorian period, and the weapons, fighting styles, dress and equipment of the combatants. Published by Blandford. Price £14.95.

● *The Hell They Called High Wood* by Terry Norman. Republication of the story of High Wood, fiercely fought over focal point of the bloody Somme battle in the First World War. Published by Patrick Stephens. Price £12.95.

● *Diary of a D Day Dodger* by William I McKenzie. The author's experiences in Italy during the Second World War. From Clackmannan District Libraries, 17 Mar St, Alloa FK10 1HT. Price £2.50 plus 32p p and p.

● *The Old Contemptibles* by Michael Barthrop. No 24 in the Elite series published by Osprey. Price £5.95.

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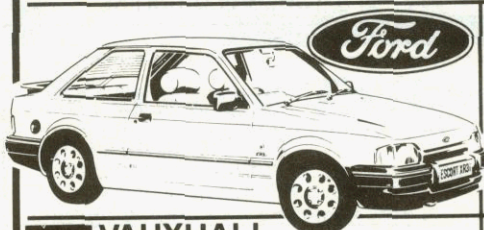
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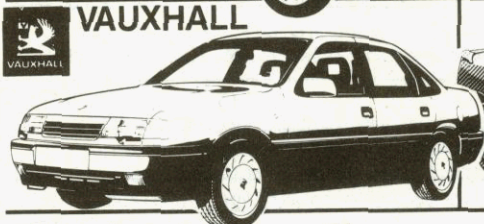
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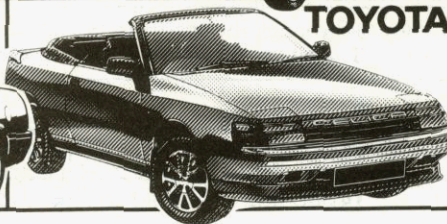
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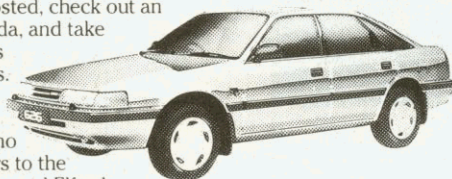
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Perhaps the biggest single improvement is fast release black plastic buckles with the standard military nylon strap material. You can click these shut with the roll still partly open and then just pull the strap to tighten.

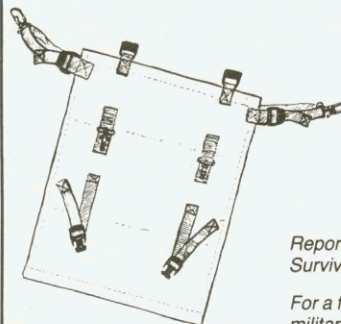
On the inside are two pieces of nylon, a bit like mini-bashas, which you close in the centre with tape and a fixlock. This completes the package, making a waterproof pouch, closed at both ends. To open, just press the quick release buckle catches and shake.

About the only negative point I can make is that there is no device for attaching a pickhead, as on the original '58 poncho roll. As the NBC kit roll is obviously designed to replace the poncho roll as an NBC kit carrier, this pouch would have been useful.

Full marks to SASS: they have designed a simple, effective

solution to one of life's great frustrations. Available in DPM camo or olive drab at £19.95 plus £2.50 p&p from Special Air Sea Services, St George's Quay, Lancaster, Lancs LA1 5QJ.

Oliver Sotherby



Report reprinted from May 1989 "Combat and Survival" Magazine.

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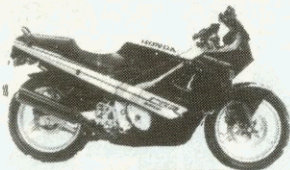
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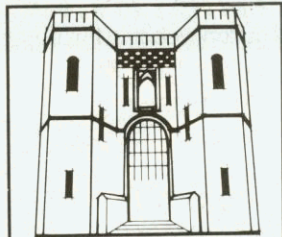
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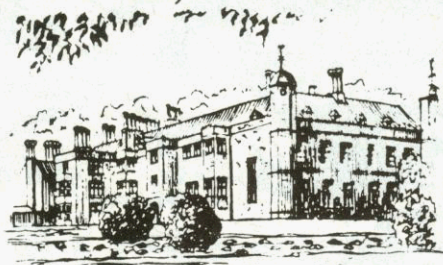


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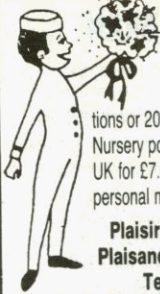
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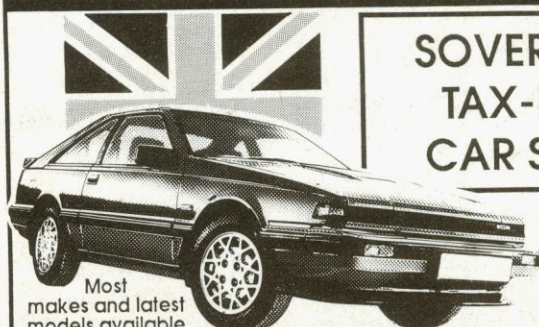
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Missing buoy puts the fleet off course

THE 1989 Army Sailing Association Offshore Regatta was sailed in the Solent in near perfect weather, in complete contrast to last year's gale force winds. The main hazard was from sunburn rather than the sea as 28 yachts took part in the two inshore races over the weekend and the passage race on the Monday.

The first turned out to be testing in a way not envisaged by the regatta committee. The last mark of the course, a racing buoy near the site of the Mary Rose, was seen to be missing, but not until after the race had started. A committee boat was dispatched to the estimated location, but despite flying the appropriate flag signal it was ignored by most of the fleet.

Consequently there was no result for yachts of Divisions 2 and 3. The Division 1 yachts

spotted the committee boat and completed the correct course, with an entry by the Army Catering Corps on the Sigma 38 *Cumara IV* forcing the ASA racing yacht *Redcoat* into second place.

All Division 2 and 3 yachts, including the Contessa 32s and the Halcyon fleet, were disqualified, but one yacht in the Cruiser Division, Lt Col Rob Yeomans' Sadler 29 *Kitty Hawk*, also sailed the right course and took the Cruiser Division prize.

The second inshore race started well with a good breeze getting most of the yachts across the Solent towards the first mark off Ryde. But the wind died and the leaders had the frustration of watching the back markers sailing round the "hole" and off towards the next mark to the east.

Three rounds of the course were sailed, and at the finish, *Redcoat* had revenge on *Cumara IV* in Division 1, *Ilex of Upnor*, the REYC Contessa skippered by Lt Col Andrew Douglas took the Division 2 prize, and *Lancer*, skippered by Maj Graham Lewis-Taylor for the R Signals, was the winning Halcyon in Division 4.

Next day the wind increased in strength and a good south westerly Force 5 helped the yachts sail a fast passage race, overcoming a foul tide at Bembridge Ledge, and finishing off Fort Gilkicker in the early hours of Tuesday morning as the wind got up more and the rain started.

The Division 1 yachts were sent out to the Nab Tower and the Owers Light, before turning down Channel to the Poole Fairway buoy and back across Poole Bay to the Needles Channel and into the Solent, a distance of about 90 miles.

Once again, *Redcoat*, skippered by Maj Bob Hill, was victorious, leaving *Cumara IV* in second place.

In Division 2, *Fluter*, skippered by Maj David Peerless for the RAPC team entry, managed to hold off a determined challenge by *Ilex of Upnor* for most of the course round the Nab, Isle of Wight and Poole Fairway buoy to take first place in the division. Meanwhile, the Halcyon fleet, sailing a shorter course round the island, were once again led across the line by *Lancer*.

Before the prizegiving the committee was faced with a dilemma in deciding between *Redcoat* and *Cumara IV* for the inshore race series as both yachts had a first and second place.

After much searching of the rule book, it was finally decided that a tie would be declared and prizes awarded equally; and that the committee would revise the racing instructions for next year to include tie-break procedure.

There was much interest in the points for the Dolphin Trophy team competition, the trophy being awarded to the

winning corps or regimental team of a Sadler 34 or Contessa 32, and a Halcyon, calculated over the three race series.

With all Division 2 and 4 yachts disqualified in the first race the competition was wide open to the end. The holders of the trophy, the REME team, were in strong contention again, as were the sappers.

However, the trophy finally went to *Fluter* and *Attacker*, to the obvious delight of Maj David Peerless and the RAPC team.

Full results of the ASA Offshore Regatta:

Inshore race series
Div 1 - ASA Division 1 Cup: *Redcoat* (ASA) and *Cumara IV* (ACC).
Div 2 - ASA Offshore Cup: 1, *Ilex of Upnor* (RE); 2, *Scalor in Law* (REME); 3, *Seahorse of REME III* (REME).
Div 4 - Halcyon Cup: 1, *Lancer* (R Signals); 2, *Rampart* (ACC).
Cruiser Div (Sat race only): 1, *Kitty Hawk*.

Passage race
Div 1 - Watney Challenge Trophy: 1, *Redcoat* (ASA); 2, *Cumara IV* (ACC).
Div 2 - Suggen Cup: 1, *Fluter* (RAPC); 2, *Ilex of Upnor* (RE); 3, *Drummer* (ACC).
Div 4 - Passage Race Cup: 1, *Lancer* (R Signals); 2, *Gallop* (REME).
Sabre Bowl (Best in Div 1): *Redcoat* (ASA).
Sadler Trophy (Best Sadler 34): *Seahorse of REME III* (REME).
Foster Cup (Best Contessa 32): *Ilex of Upnor* (RE).
Committee Cup (most deserving crew): *Cumara IV* (ACC).
Dolphin Trophy: *Fluter/Attacker* (RAPC).



Members of the Army historic motor racing team pictured with their recently acquired 1971 Formula 2 March. From left to right are Majors Peter Everingham, Fred Boothby, Peter Campbell and Bob Birrell, with Mrs Suzi Everingham in the driving seat.

The team, sponsored by Sealink British Ferries, competes at international meetings all over the United Kingdom and the Continent. Last summer they achieved

STARTING LINE

nine first places, seven seconds and 15 thirds. They run three 1963 MGBs and a 1954 Triumph TR2.

Peter Everingham is 2ic 29 Tpt and Mov Regt RCT at South Cerney. His wife Suzi began racing last year. Bob Birrell, OC Movements Wing JSATC at Stanbridge, has raced since 1968, graduat-

ing from Formula Ford to the European Super Vee Championship and the cut throat Formula 3.

Fred Boothby is OC Initial Training Wing at RMP Depot Chichester and Peter Campbell is 2ic 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and is the team's BAOR representative.

Sappers foil RAC Bisley bid

THE Royal Engineers took the 17th Inter-Corps target rifle championship fired at Bisley after establishing a five point lead over REME during the shoots at 300 and 600 yards. Royal Signals were a further eight points adrift.

Over the longer ranges of 900 and 1,000 yards the RAC put up the best performances but could not do quite enough to overhaul the sappers.

Winners of the Royal Artillery Skill at Arms Meeting on Bulford Ranges were 47 Field Regiment who fought

back from a mediocre first day to overtake 27 Fd Regt and 94 Locating Regt.

1 QLR take Rhine Shield

THE shooting team of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment have once again taken the Rhine Army Shield at the Army Skill At Arms Meeting, Bisley.

Although placed fourth overall in the Army, 1 QLR went away with a number of

trophies. Cpl Martin Metcalfe won the IWS night shoot and Pte Andy Hawksworth won the Roberts Cup. The team won Match 23, the Rifle Championship, were runners up in the FIBUA rifle concurrent team match, and third in the section night shoot.

In the LMG match, the team achieved 7th, 9th and 16th places. All nine team members qualified for the Army 100, the "Top Guns" of the British Army and in the FIBUA match the team had four team members place in the top 30.

Rain robs U-25s of big chance

THE Royal Air Force retained the Inter-Service Under 25 cricket championship at Vine Lane by default. After both they and the Army had beaten the Royal Navy on the first two days of the tournament a rain sodden ground prevented the most powerful Army side for years putting the champions to the test.

On the first day the Army-Navy match was reduced to 30 overs by weather and the Army won by 29 runs.

Lt Jimmy Cotterill (49), Pte John Storey (55) and Gdsmn Andrew Boxall (26) eased the Army to a 30-over total of 182 for four. Three run outs undermined the Navy reply.

There was not much to shout about in the Army camp after a side containing just four full caps was walloped by British Police at Imber Court by seven wickets.

Former Surrey 2nd XI player John Storey scored 27 but the eventual Army total of 194 owed much to a seventh wicket partnership of 84 between Capt Peter Germain (37) and Cpl Andy Taylor (44).

Cotterill made 78 and Storey 24 in the annual Combined Services U-25 fixture against ESCA at Beckenham. Boxall and Lt Charlie Redmayne were also selected.

Tug triumph for gunners

THE Junior Leaders' Regiment Royal Artillery completed a clean sweep in all weights at the Army junior and national youth tug of war championships held at the Army Apprentices College ACC, Aldershot.

JLR RA won the Army junior 420, 560, 600 and 640 kilo events, with Princess Marina College, Arborfield second in the two lighter weights and Army Apprentices College Harrogate the runners up in the heavier divisions.

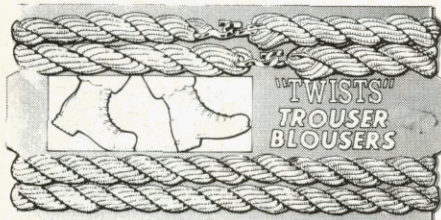
And in the national event JLR RA took the 420 and 560 kilo classes ahead of Uppertown of Yorkshire, and the 600 kilo championship ahead of PMC Arborfield.

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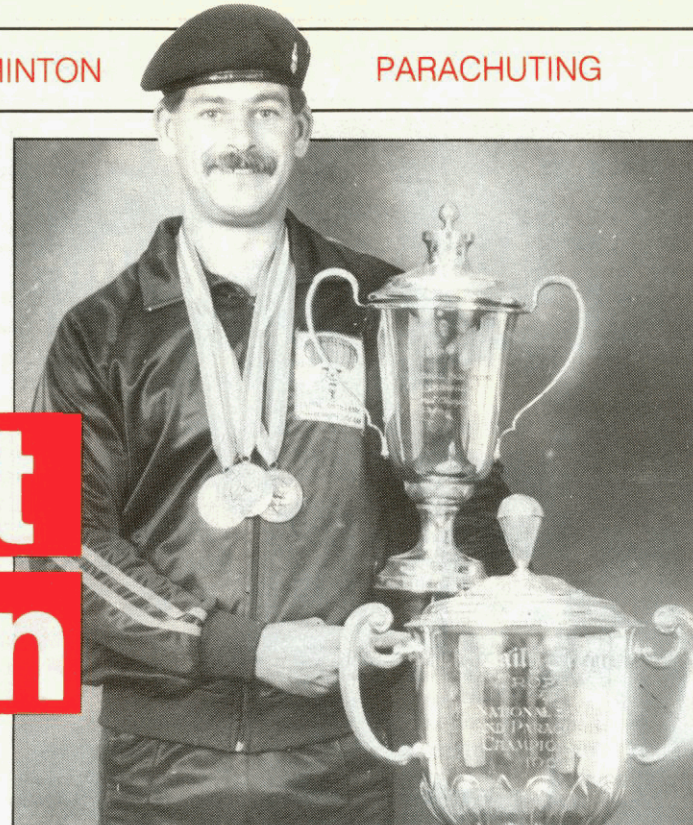
Point taken

THERE were many heroes and heroines as the Army men's and women's teams swept to victory in the Inter-Service athletic championships at RAF Cosford, but few will quibble with pride of place going to Welsh international WO2 Malcolm Edwards.

He arrived at the track in agony from food poisoning and although he scratched from the 1,500m he bravely opted to run in the 800m. It was a crucial decision because Edwards won the race and, with team mate Sgt Steve Poulson in second place, earned desperately needed points for the Army.

Just how important Edwards's effort was became apparent at the end of the day when the men's team clinched the championship by a single point. It was the Army's third consecutive success (the first time a hat trick has been achieved by the Army since 1935-37), and with the women winning by a clear 18 points also meant a second successive double triumph for the Army.

Again it was the Army men's



Picture: LBar Nick Mitchell

British champion Bdr Les Carroll poses with the trophies he won at the national parachute championships at Bridlington. Bdr Carroll was third in the accuracy event and second in the style category to achieve overall first place in the men's competition. As the British 1989 champion he will be representing Great Britain at the European Cup event in Yugoslavia next month. Les, a member of the Royal Artillery Parachute Team, is also training hard to defend his title at the forthcoming Army championships at Netheravon.

strength on the track that set up their victory, with Sgt Lenny Paul dominating the sprints and WO2 Kris Akabusi winning the 400m flat and hurdles (the latter in a record 51.8sec). Akabusi also pulled out a second place in the 200m when Cpl Clarence Callender withdrew after tweaking a hamstring in the 100m.

LCpl Bob Lyons broke the Army pole vault record in winning with a clearance of 4.50m, just ahead of SSgt Neil Killen, and there was a new Army javelin record for Cpl Bob Mullen who took second place with a throw of 60.60m. Gnr Mark Stirling won the

hammer competition.

There was tension to the end as the RAF led by seven points going into the final relays. But Sgt Lenny Paul, LCps Vince Henry and John Holliday and Cpl Clarence Callender set up a great 400m relay finale by winning the 4x100m event with some comfort.

And in the longer race LCpls Colin Anderson and Vince Henry and Cpls Darryl Maynard and Paul Beaumont judged it perfectly, Beaumont delaying his final killing sprint until the RAF runner had almost reached his shoulder.

The women's success was based on their established stars

Tourists win in Colony

HIGH spot of the Army badminton team's Hong Kong tour was a fine 8-7 victory over the Colony's junior side, with WO1 Alan Dixon and LCpl Kaye Rowley clinching the result in the final game.

The squad of 12 notched up some notable successes beating the Hong Kong Chairman's Select, the Training Depot Brigade of Gurkhas and British Forces Hong Kong.

Also in the touring team were Capt Margaret Roberts, Sgt Adrian Quinney, Cpls Chris Sturdy, Mark James and Dixie Peach, LCpls Tony Black, Karen Townsend and Ros Stanners, Spr Gary Jones and Ptes Jenny Ure and Dianne Foreman.

doing the business and receiving quite exceptional support from the Army second string performers.

Cpl Jackie Gilchrist won the 100m hurdles and the high and long jumps, and SSgt Maggie Smith was far too good for the rest of the 3,000m field. But there were also excellent wins for the Army in the 1,500m, with Pte Kelly Holmes leaving everyone for dead on the final lap, in the shot, discus and 4x400m relay.

Lt Fiona Thompson did exceptionally well to chase international sprinter Joan Baptiste of the RAF home in the 100m.

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Army placings

Men

100m - 1, Sgt Paul, 10.6sec; 2, Cpl Callender, 10.6sec. 200m - 1, Sgt Paul, 21.01sec; 2, WO2 Akabusi, 21.25sec. 400m - 1, WO2 Akabusi, 48.4sec. 800m - 1, WO2 Edwards, 1min 53.4sec; 2, Sgt Poulson, 1:54.7. 1,500m - 2, Maj Grant, 3:46.9; 3, Cpl Finch, 3:49.5. 5,000m - 4, Sgt Keeney, 14:48.2; 5, Cpl Overton, 15:51.2.

110m hurdles - 3, Cpl Anderson, 14.8sec; 4, SSgt Killen, 15.1sec. 400m hurdles - 1, WO2 Akabusi, 51.8sec (new record); 3, Cpl Beaumont, 52.7sec. 3,000m steeplechase - 3, SSgt Lassetter, 9:08.6; 5, SSgt Dupree, 9:46.1. 4x100m - 1, Army, 41.7sec. 4x400m - 1, Army, 3:15.4.

Shot - 3, Gnr McKay, 15.18m; 5, Bdr Caines, 13.27m. Discus - 3, Gnr McKay, 39.44m; 4, SSgt Killen, 38.62. Javelin - 2, Cpl Mullen, 60.60m; 4, Cpl Stewart, 58.74m. Hammer - 1, Gnr Stirling, 57.16m; 4, Bdr Caines, 47.84m. High jump - 2, Capt Coker, 1.95m; 4, Pte Williams, 1.90m. Long jump - 3, LCpl Fogg, 6.79m; 4, Lt Györfy, 6.46m. Triple jump - 2, LCpl Bulmer, 13.89m; 3, Cfn Walker, 13.86m. Pole vault - 1, LCpl Lyons,

4.50m; 2, SSgt Killen, 4.00m. Team result - 1, Army, 161; 2, RAF 160; 3, RN 63.

Women

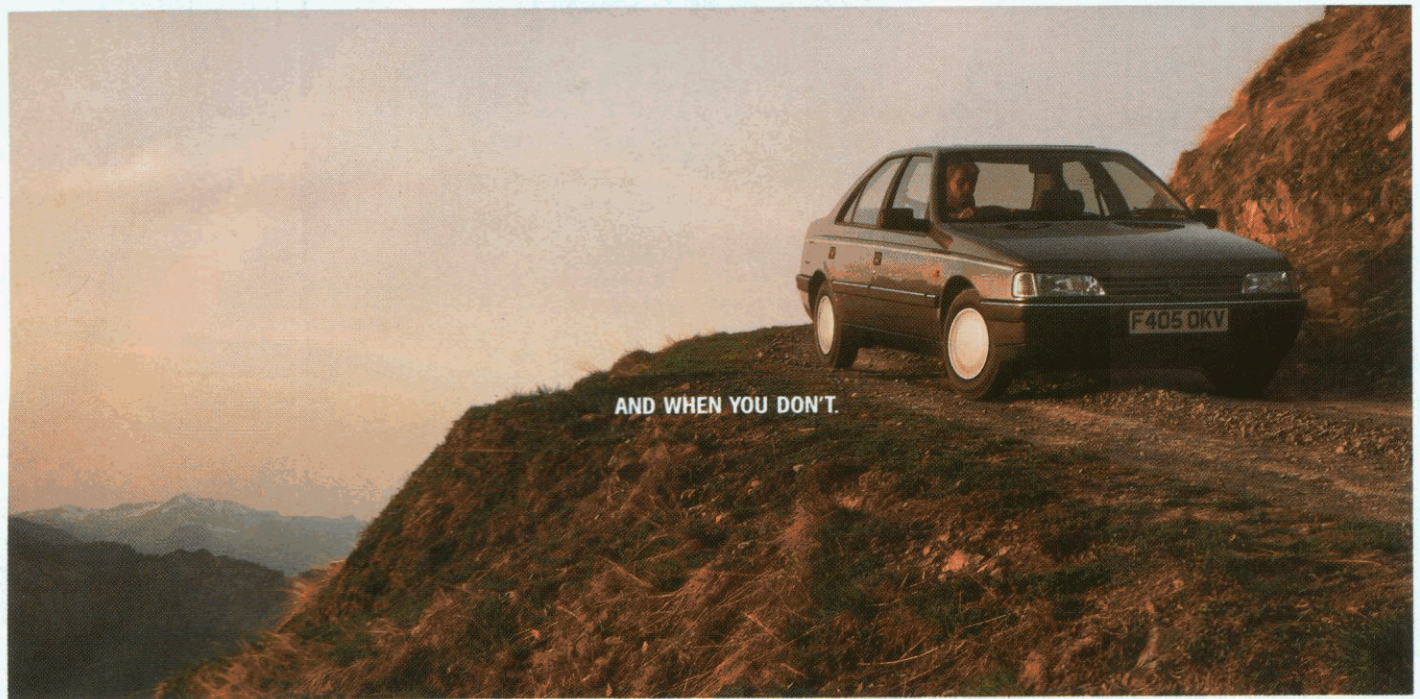
100m - 2, Lt Thompson, 13.1sec; 5, LCpl Hodgeson, 13.8sec. 200m - 2, Cpl Gilchrist, 26.25sec; 3, Lt Thompson, 26.3sec. 400m - 3, Cpl Chalton, 60.5sec; 4, Pte Cross, 61.3sec. 800m - 2, Pte Holmes, 2:12.1; 4, Sgt O'Pray, 2:17.3. 1,500m - 1, Pte Holmes, 4:38.7; 4, LCpl Sharpe, 4:49.1. 3,000m - 1, SSgt Smith, 10:18.3; 3, Capt Tindall, 10:53.5. 100m hurdles - 1, Cpl Gilchrist, 15.9sec; 4, Cpl Churchley, 18.6sec.

Shot - 1, Cpl Jenkins, 10.18m; 4, WO2 Bowers, 9.42m. Discus - 1, Lt Osterburg, 30.04m; 3, LCpl Kernaghan, 28.96m. Javelin - 2, LCpl Kernaghan, 35.48m; 3, Cpl Jenkins, 34.66m. High jump - 1, Cpl Gilchrist, 1.70m; 3, Cpl Paul, 1.60m. Long jump - 1, Cpl Gilchrist, 5.42m; 4, Cpl Churchley, 4.93m. 4x100m - 3, Army, 51.0sec. 4x400m - 1, Army, 4:00.1.

Team result - 1, Army 118 points; 2, RAF 100; 3, RN 70.



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A full-page photograph of a man sailing a small boat. The sail is large and features a vibrant design with horizontal stripes of orange, yellow, and light blue. The man, wearing a life vest and dark shorts, is leaning over the side of the boat, holding onto the sail. The boat is moving quickly across the water, leaving a white wake. The background is a clear, light blue sky.

Lt Jon Bryant, RA, discovers a windsurfers' paradise in the Caribbean waters off St George's Cay, Belize. The cay is used for R and R breaks by British Forces serving in Belize. More pictures and stories in Pages 25-29.

Picture: Mike Weston