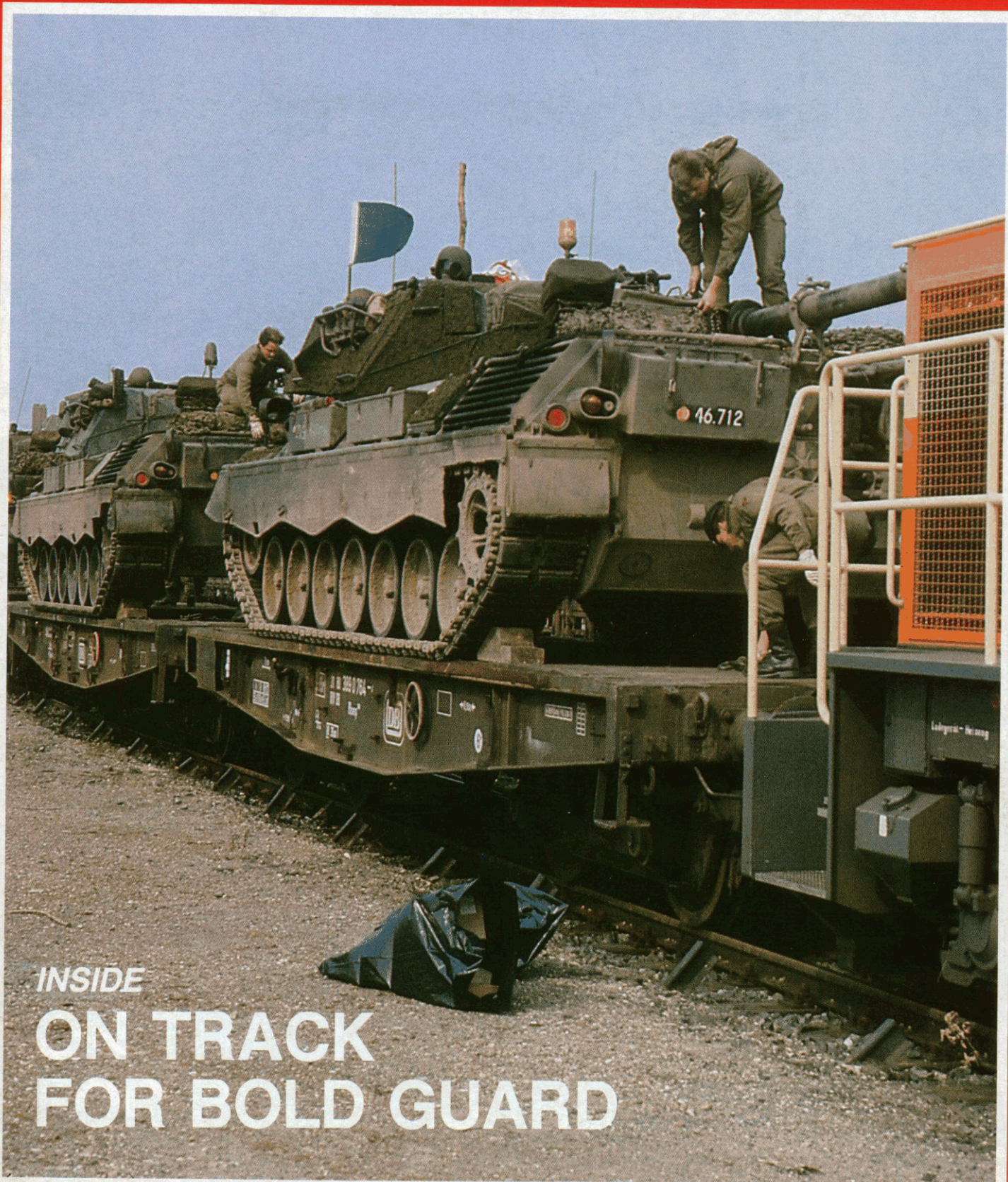


THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 35 PENCE • 20 OCTOBER 1986

SOLDIER



**INSIDE
ON TRACK
FOR BOLD GUARD**



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FRONT COVER – Leopard tanks of the Danish Jutland Dragoon Regiment arriving in Schleswig Holstein for Exercise Bold Guard. See also Pages 26 and 27.

Picture by Terry Champion

The Aldershot Military telephone network's new automatic exchange comes into operation this month. SOLDIER's new extension numbers from October 27 are shown in brackets.

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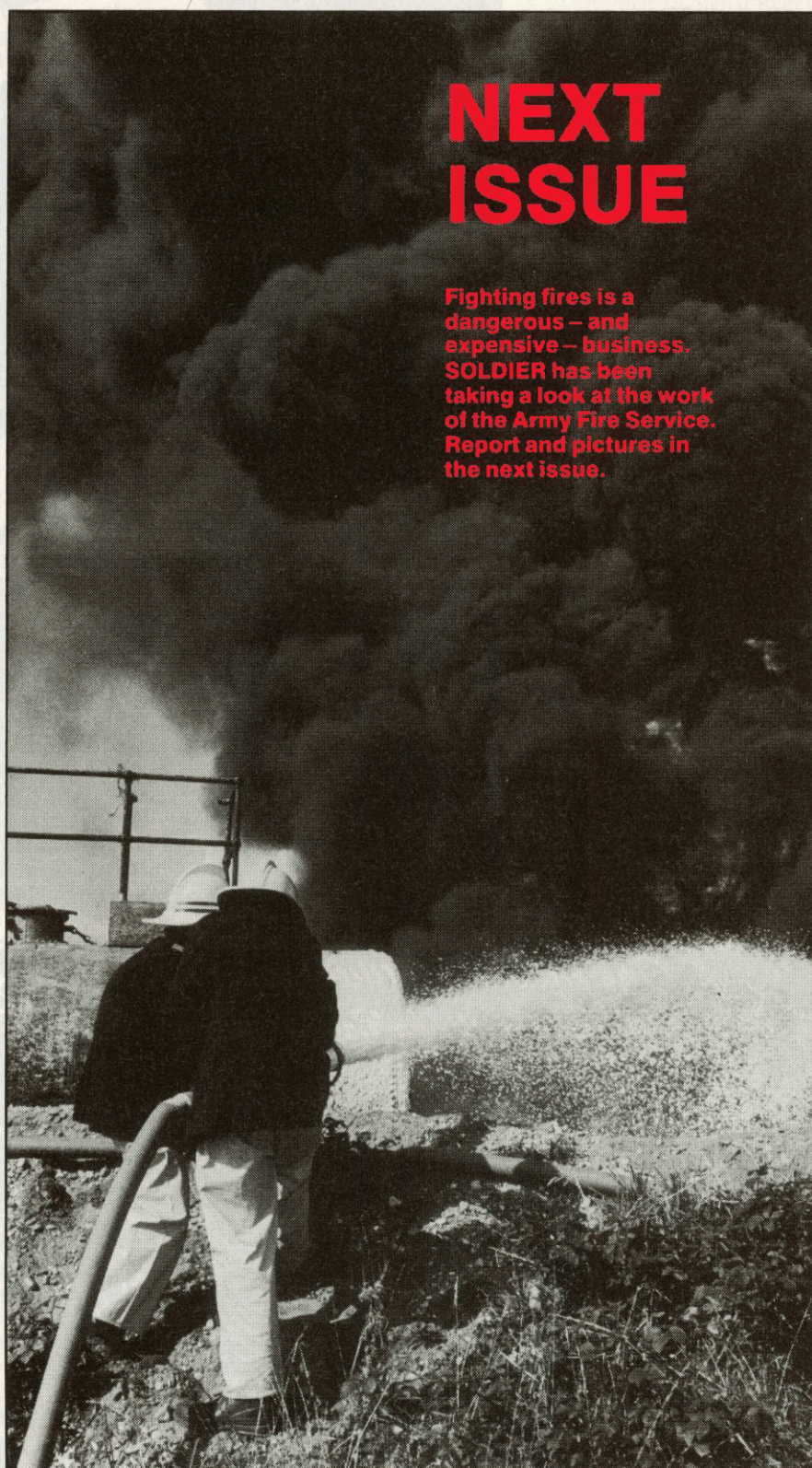
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SOLDIER

**INCORPORATING
THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE**

NEXT ISSUE

Fighting fires is a dangerous – and expensive – business. SOLDIER has been taking a look at the work of the Army Fire Service. Report and pictures in the next issue.



HOAY THERE!

How observant you are, Mr P. Brown of Sally Port Gardens, Brompton, Gillingham, Kent. Mr Brown is the winner of SOLDIER's £50 prize for finding the deliberate alterations in HOAY No 395.

Why not try your powers of observation on this issue's HOAY on page 39.

Reunions

□ The Queen's Own Hussars Midland and Northern Branch reunion dinner takes place on November 8 at the Albany Hotel, Birmingham, 1900 for 2030. Tickets £8 each. "Get Together" West Midlands Police Club, Tally Ho, Birmingham, on November 9 at noon. Lunch tickets £3 each. Tickets available from Maj (ret'd) J. S. Knight, Home Headquarters, The Queen's Own Hussars, 28 Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW.

□ 78 Division Battleaxe Club annual reunion will be held on November 8 at the Carisbrook Hall, Victory Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2. Details from H. E. Rolph, 55 Brighton Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR3 2BE (01-660 2796).

□ Exeter Branch of the Royal Regiment of Artillery Association will hold its annual dinner, dance and social evening on November 29 in the Drill Hall, Barrack Road, Exeter, at 1930. Details from Derek Scholfield, Secretary, 5 Madison Avenue, Heavitree, Exeter EX1 3AH (tel Exeter 58267).

ARNHEM TRIBUTE



Paras from 10th (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment seen boarding the Royal Aircraft Establishment's Dakota for their drop over Arnhem. About 200 from the battalion took part in the 42nd anniversary of the Arnhem drop. With the Dakota, the only one still in MoD service, leading three Hercules, the paras did

their commemorative drop in front of 15,000 spectators from 800ft over the Ginkel Heide dropping zone.

On the extreme left of the picture is CSgt John Donovan who after 24 years in the Regular Army was doing his last jump and his first from the Dakota.

Black Watch in credit

The magnificent turn-out and soldierly bearing of the 42nd Royal Highlanders (1st Bn The Black Watch) as featured in your issue August 25 (Commonwealth Games Special) was an absolute delight to contemplate.

Although a pity that their full-dress uniform no longer includes the scarlet tunic, and that the present "rifle" apparently does not allow for

the "slope" to remain part of infantry arms drill, the whole montage of colourful scenes was a credit to this great regiment and to the Army in general.

Congratulations to all concerned, including your extremely able staff photographer whose skill enabled us to savour this stirring spectacle! — Admiring Sassenach (name and address supplied)

Bowled out

SOLDIER (September 6) carries an account of the passing out parade at Junior Leaders Regiment Bovington, including the list of prizes won. In this list it quotes "L/C Clive Ollis won the Royal Tank Regiment Bowl". This is not correct.

He in fact received the Rose Bowl that has by custom been presented over a number of years by the London Branch Royal Tank Regiment Association. — J. L. Echlin, 10 Copthall Road East, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

Book yourself a space on this page!

HAVE you got something interesting to say on a military subject?

If you have, it could earn you a brand new copy of a recently published book. Every fortnight SOLDIER will reward the writer of the letter which, in the Editor's opinion, is the most interesting letter received, with a surprise title from SOLDIER's bookshelves, worth anything from a few pounds to £10 or £15.

Get writing!

France-Germany Star Association formed

The France and Germany Star Association has recently been formed in Warrington, Cheshire, and as founder I am trying to get this association known.

The association is open to all ex-Service personnel (male or female) who hold the France and Germany Star medal for service in Europe between the dates of June 6, 1944 and May 8, 1945. No matter what branch of service they belonged to, they are entitled to join.

As you will no doubt understand, most of these people will be pensioners or in their early 60s. I felt they would have a little time on their hands and may possibly like the opportunity to meet old friends and comrades who they served with during the war years.

It also helps these people to know that they are not forgotten. We must try to rekindle the spirit of comradeship that existed during those difficult times.

It is hoped through the efforts of members by raffles, socials and so on to form a fund to assist other members of the association, who through sickness or distress are not as well off as some others.

We would also like to see branches formed in other parts of the country, so that a central fund could be started to help subsidise trips to places of remembrance in Europe or to places of interest in the UK.

Further information can be obtained from me. — Mr Frank Mather, 119 Heather Close, Locking Stumps, Warrington WA3 7NZ (tel 0925-819498).



Ex-Tigers on parade

Is this standard procedure right?

I would be very grateful if any SOLDIER reader could help with the following query.

I am a member of the South Devon Branch of the Royal Tank Regiment Association, and I have recently taken the duty of Standard Bearer. On our first parade I noticed that all HQ Standard Bearers, British Legion and Regimental Associations wore the sling over the right shoulder.

If you note, on any photo of a military parade the sling is worn over the left shoulder. An example of the difference is also shown in SOLDIER, August 25 at the presentation of new colours to the 1st Bn Royal Hampshire Regiment by Princess Diana.

As an ex-soldier, I say that I should still wear the sling from the left.

I would be very pleased if anyone can tell me if there is a reason for this, and which is the correct position. — P. Wilborne, ex 1st RTR.

On the march in Berlin

An article in SOLDIER (June 2) says that 29 Signal Regt and Royal Highland Fusiliers had marched through Berlin with fixed bayonets, for the first time since the end of the war except for Armed Forces Day.

I would just like to correct that as the regiment I served in, 1st Bn York and Lancaster Regt, C Company, marched from Tiergarten to the main barracks in Spandau in May 1947.

The company was on detachment in Tiergarten and when the tour ended it was decided we should march all the way with fixed bayonets.

As proof I enclose photocopies of photographs taken at the time. The war memorial can be seen in the background, and the exact date was, I believe, Empire Day. CSM Jack Sheldon MM is right-hand man in the photo. — Geoff Fickling, 10 William Hovell Drive, Endeavour Hills, Victoria 3802, Australia.

● The photocopies were, unfortunately unsuitable for reproduction. — Editor

Swear words

In the SOLDIER article "They Came, They Swore, They Conquered" (September 22), you published a picture showing a "drill sergeant" coaching a National Service lance corporal and named the regiment of the drill sergeant as Coldstream Guards instead of Irish Guards and the barracks as Chatham instead of Caterham.

I joined the Coldstream in 1947 and know both the drill sergeant and the lance corporal under instruction.

It's a good job they didn't meet you, as the lance corporal, Arthur Saunby, would have put you straight "inside" and the drill sergeant, Mick Moran, would have had your "guts for garters". — Lt Col (QM) N. Welch, Royal Hospital Chelsea, London SW3 4SR.

● Quite right too! Never trust faded writing on the back of an old photograph. — Editor

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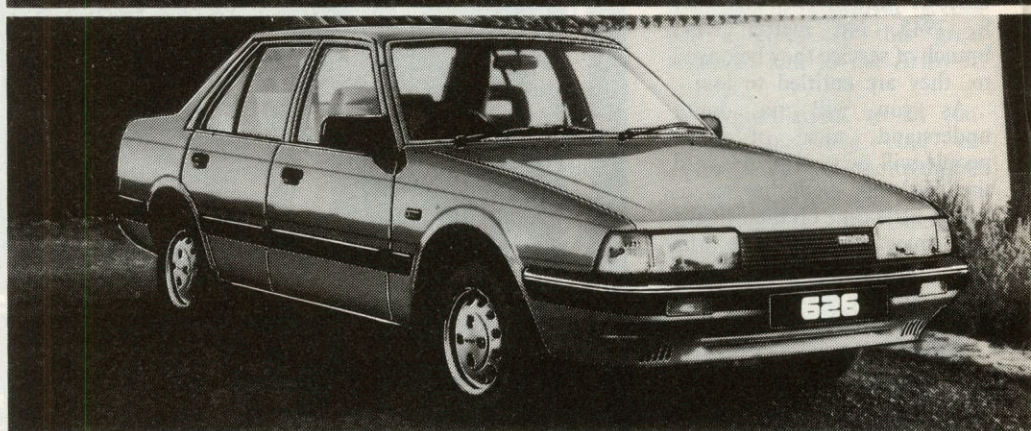
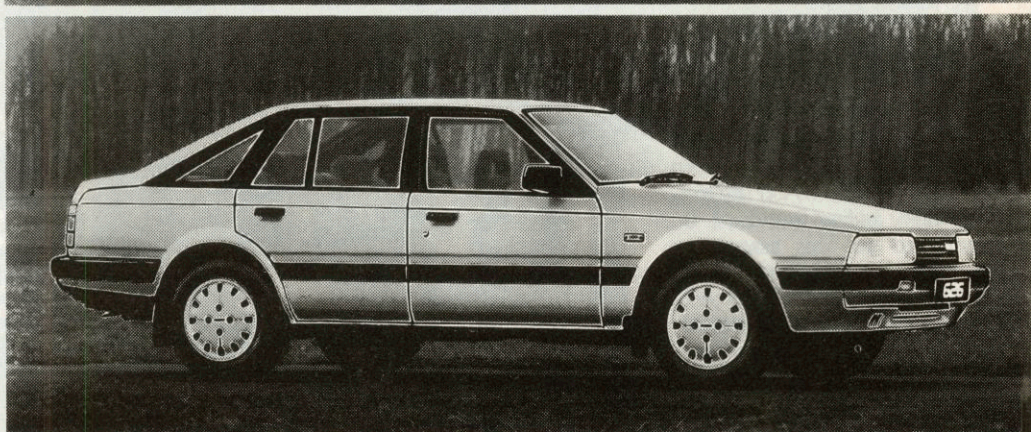
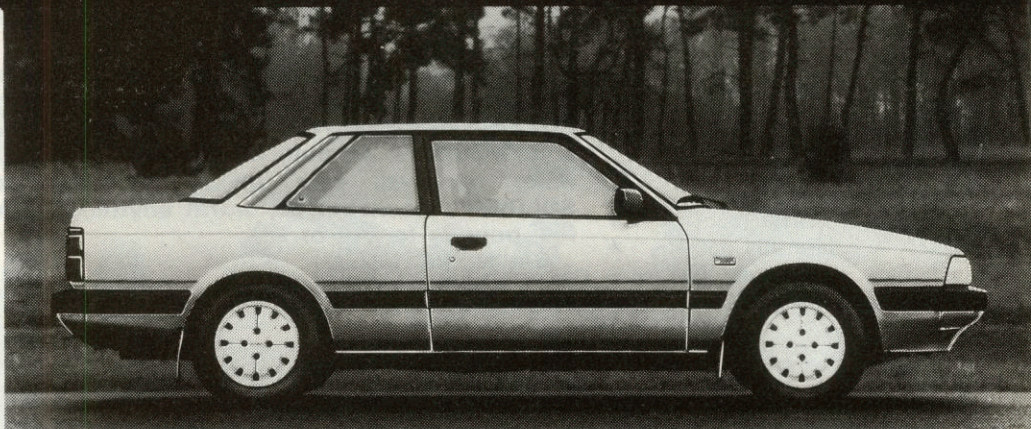
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You'll also find the 626 hard to beat in terms of value for money. For instance, the 2-litre GLX models have a long list of standard equipment including power steering, central locking, electric windows and a stereo radio cassette.

While the fuel injected models have the added attraction of an electric sunroof fitted as standard. Another reason



why the 626 is such amazing value is, of course, Mazda's special tax-free prices that are available for both U.K. and U.S. specification 626 models.

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VICARS SNAP INTO ACTION

TWO DOZEN clergy have just "joined" the Army for a week on Salisbury Plain . . . with the paras!

The visiting vicars who temporarily ditched their "dog collars" for disruptive pattern combat kit were put through some of the rigorous training that new recruits undertake.

Hosts for Exercise Vicar Elastic at Bulford, Wilts, were the men of 1 Para.

But the initiation into tactical Army ways did not stop there. Map reading, night survival on exercise, driver training, abseiling and the inevitable assault course were all built in to their khaki-clad surrounds.

The vicars - aged between 25 and 40 - observed how Army padres would operate in time of war during an exercise in which a medical post came under attack. Discussion was also held on the pastoral work of their Army colleagues.

Putting the clergy through their speeded up paces was Capt Edwin Starkey, Ops



Revising the finer points of the SMG with Lt Fiona Farquharson (right) are (from left) Pte Heather Robertson, Pte Janice Fraser and Sgt Audrey Farquharson, who were among 200 part-time soldiers from Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Northern Ireland who converged on remote Strathconon in the Highlands of mid-Ross, Scotland for Exercise Culley's Caper. The weekend's evolutions were named after 32 Scottish Signal Regiment's Regular CO, Lt Col Howard Culley.

Officer of 1 Para.

Regimental Chaplain, the Rev Carson Nicholson, said: "The aim of the course was to enable the civilian clergy to experience, at first hand, some of the stresses inherent in a military environment and to discuss with soldiers the implications of their duties in peace and war and for the soldiers to learn more about the ideas, lives and parochial duties of a civilian clergyman.

"The course was regarded as a very much two-way matter, sharing experiences and learning from each other."

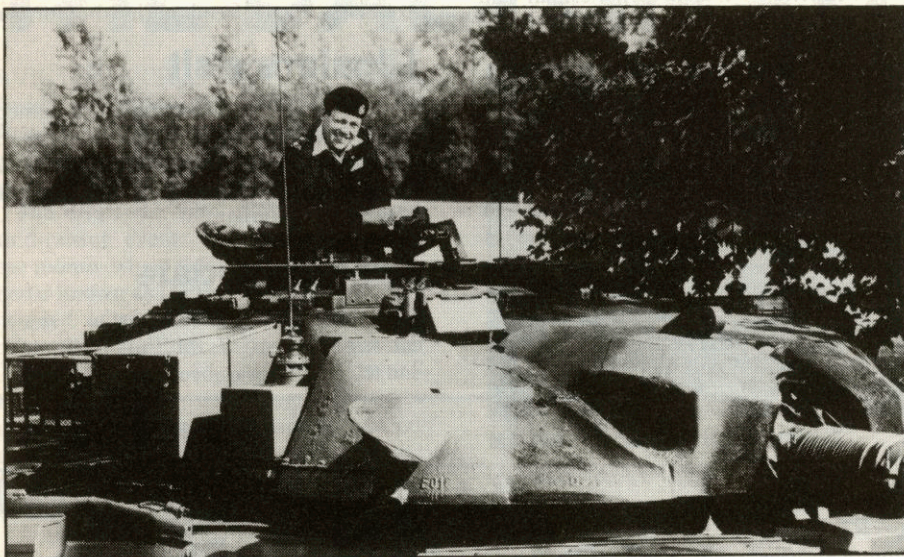
RAOC freedom

THE RAOC has just marked two military milestones in its illustrious history.

The Deepcut-based Corps has exercised its Freedom of the Borough of Surrey Heath and is a third of the way through its prestigious turn of ceremonial public duties at Windsor Castle.

It is the first time the Corps has undertaken public duties, having taken over from the REME. Such tasks are usually the prerogative of the Household Division.

Now Chieftain's a tougher nut



THERE IS a new species of Chieftain prowling around Paderborn and the tank ranges these days. One that is easily spotted by the sharp of eye. It is an up-armoured version dubbed Stillbrew with enhanced front turret protection which has entered service with 3 RTR whose CO, Lt Col Mike Napper (pictured with Stillbrew Chieftain), had the task of starting the project two years ago at MoD.

His remit, as a major, was to improve the tank's turret armour against ever improving battlefield anti-tank weapons.

He says: "Stillbrew up-armouring has been achieved at negligible cost and with no degradation of Chieftain's performance."

Gibraltar celebration

THE Gibraltar Regiment, whose roots date back to the outbreak of war in 1914, held a drumhead service to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the presentation of Colours and the Freedom of the City of Gibraltar.

The salute was taken by the Governor and C-in-C Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Terry and music was provided by the band, bugles, pipes and drums of the 2nd Bn The Royal Irish Rangers and the corps of drums of the Gibraltar Regiment.

TA face-lift

A FACE LIFT for the Leros TA Centre at Canterbury has been given the official seal of approval by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, at a reception. The refurbishment of old buildings and the opening of new ones at the Leros TAC was part of the current enhancement of the Territorial Army.

Fastnet to pull plug on 'phone exchanges

A NEW Army telephone network costing more than £20 million is being introduced throughout Britain to replace the existing outdated system which has its roots in the early days of the telephone during the last century.

Need for a new system was highlighted during recent home defence exercises when it was realised that the present network would be unable to cope with the increased volume of communications traffic in time of war.

The new Fastnet system, work on which has already started, is hailed as being more efficient and effective and better able to survive and overcome the breakdown of exchange links when under attack.

The days of cumbersome phone exchanges and radio operators surrounded by a spaghetti-like mire of wires and plugs are numbered and the latest high-tech, push-button Fastnet system – which is being installed by British Telecom using equipment supplied by Plessey – is likely to have been completely phased in by late 1988.

The Fastnet network countrywide will be similar in layout to the present Strouger system with six main exchanges – now to be known as transit switches – linked into a complex mesh of lesser exchanges.

Six transit switches will become operational on November 14 and in the meantime training courses are being held to introduce operators and receptionists among the 40,000 subscribers to the digital technology of Fastnet.

● Lt Col David Innes, who has been charged with setting up a new TA infantry battalion in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the 5th Bn The Royal Green Jackets, turned the first sod at a ceremony on the site of the TA Centre to be built off Yeoman's Drive, Blakelands.



Army orders drug testers

THE ARMY has ordered £50,000 worth of drugs testing machines to help in drugs investigations. The machine can detect the presence of drugs in urine.

Trials on the ten machines will begin in the new year and though they are intended as an aid to investigation of suspects, the provisions of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act state that no one is obliged to provide a urine sample for examination against their will.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that both the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force would be monitoring Army trials of the ten machines.

Ash Range fence

A FENCE is being erected around the Ash Range complex near Aldershot to emphasise to the public the dangers of entering while firing is in progress. Pedestrians have not been banned though and dozens of gaps will be left for walkers, horse riders and vehicles to enter when the ranges are not in use.

Return of the Virgin Soldiers

On the march

MEN of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, both Regulars and TA, marched through their home towns of Blackburn and Bolton this month, exercising their freedom in the former.

Glosters visit

1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regiment showed their Colonel in Chief, the Duke of Gloucester, a display of urban tactics in the purpose built training aid, the 'fighting city' near Spandau.

Spartan update

THE FIRST Alvis Spartan vehicle converted to carry the Milan Compact Turret (MCT) has been accepted.



Above right – Little did former Sgt Bernard Blackton realise when he replied to SOLDIER's plea for drill sergeants to put ex-National Servicemen through their paces that he would end up bending the ear of CND's Monsignor Bruce Kent. Former 2nd Lt Kent of the Royal Tank Regiment was among a brace of celebrities at the opening of a new exhibition in the Imperial War Museum

recalling the days of National Service between 1945 and 1963. Above left – Sgt Peter Rixon, a Royal Signals instructor at the Army Apprentice College, Harrogate, also answered the call – and found himself putting newscaster Gordon Honeycombe, ex Royal Artillery, and Virgin Soldiers author Leslie Thomas through their paces.

Anyone for a byte to eat?

ARMY COOKS will soon be talking a jargon other than kitchen French. For within a year or so they will all be using computers in their everyday work.

No longer will chefs have to handle masses of paperwork. They will have instant access to recipes, food stocks, suppliers, costs, in fact everything a caterer needs to know to feed soldiers in the best and most efficient manner.

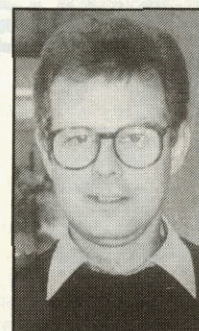
And it's all thanks to Maj Peter Jones (right) of the ACC who, while studying for a BSc degree at Surrey University, hit upon the ideal of catering by computer.

His system, called CATPAC – catering, planning, accounting and control – is to be introduced throughout the Army within the next year of two.

The first computers will be installed early next year and will be followed by training courses on how to use the technology. The system will save countless man hours and millions of pounds. It will reduce form-filling which in turn will reduce printing costs.

In recognition of his scheme, he was presented with £200 by Brig Michael Paterson, Director ACC, under the MoD ideas award scheme.

"What will I do with the money?" he echoed. "Put it towards buying a computer of my own."



RCT WINS BACK THE DALTON VC

A VICTORIA CROSS won at the battle of Rorke's Drift has been bought by the Royal Corps of Transport for £62,000 – every penny raised by and donated to the corps in a year-long medal appeal.

The effort put into endless sponsored fund-raising events was finally rewarded last month when the hammer fell on the medal known as Dalton's VC, the only VC awarded as a result of public pressure.

It was won at Rorke's Drift by Assistant Commissary James Langley Dalton of the then Commissariat and Transport Department, but was only awarded several months later after a public outcry over the omission of Dalton's name from the original list of ten VCs won at the battle.

The RCT had bought or acquired on trust the other four VCs won by men of the corps for display in their museum at Buller Barracks, Aldershot, and badly wanted the fifth, Dalton's VC, to complete the collection.

Fund raising by the corps meant they had upwards of £80,000 with which to bid for the medal. Bidding was brisk and at one point the medal was about to be



Maj Gen Bill Bate holds Dalton's VC

declared theirs when a mystery bidder stepped in forcing the price up by £20,000 before dropping out.

Maj Gen Bill Bate, Representative Colonel Commandant of the RCT, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have got the medal. We are grateful to everyone who has helped us achieve this."

The medal will now do the rounds of RCT units in the UK and BAOR before returning to Buller Barracks where it will be displayed with the medal collection.

MOBB

by Mouse



George scales the heights for tip-top switch

ONE MAN who enjoys life at the top is Lt Col George Smythe of the Royal Green Jackets and the departing commandant of the NCOs' Tactical Wing of the School of Infantry in the Brecon Beacons.

So much did he enjoy pounding about the mountains that he insisted on handing over his command to Lt Col John Hunt, RRF, on top of Pen-Y-Fan, nearly 3,000ft up!

STEEP RISE

Col Smythe was a sergeant at 22, a WO2 at 24 and commissioned at 30 – a rise through the ranks almost as steep as his beloved Brecons.

His next job takes him from the coolness of the Welsh mountains to the heat of the Nigerian School of Infantry at Kaduna in northern Nigeria.



MOUNTAIN MAN: Lt Col George Smythe (centre right) toasts successor Lt Col John Hunt

**COOL
CLEAR
COURAGE**



ACTION-MAN AWARDED

A PROUD little family... and they've every right to be. For smart work by Cpl Ian Rogers saved a nasty situation from developing when petrol spilt on a hot exhaust pipe and set fire to a vehicle.

A high wind sent the flames sweeping over the vehicle within seconds, engulfing the driver who had to jump clear.

The incident happened when the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales was on exercise in Germany.

Ian, at considerable danger to himself, grabbed a fire extinguisher and fought the blaze until the appliance was empty, then beat out the remaining sparks.

Ian is pictured with his wife, Debbie, baby daughter Heidi and a commendation which says: "Corporal Rogers' actions demonstrated considerable courage and cool thinking... Many other soldiers might have abandoned the scene, but Cpl Rogers acted in a most commendable manner."

Said Ian: "It might sound corny, but it's just part of the job."

SUNSHINE VISIT FOR THE REV



TA padre Douglas Wilson of 225 Fd Ambulance, Dundee, exchanged the vagaries of Scottish weather for Mediterranean sun when he visited British Forces Cyprus.

He met the men of the 15/19th King's Royal Hussars, the resident armoured car squadron, and 1 RRF, based in Episkopi.

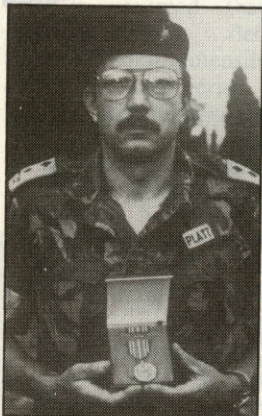
Douglas, whose normal surroundings are those of St Colomba's Church of Scotland at the Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, has served in Aden and BAOR and played rugby for the Army.

Showing him the ropes are (left to right) 2nd Lt Shirley, Fus Tranter, Fus Robinson and Fus Osburn.

A WARTIME drawing by an Australian artist of a cook bellowing "Come ngetit" inspired the casting of a foot-high solid bronze statuette.

US 'gong' for road crash aid

Peter, who back home in Nottingham is second in



command of D Company 3WFR, was one of the first to arrive at the scene of a road accident.

His prompt application of first aid techniques earned him the US Army Achievement Medal and a citation.

His fortnight with 3D Brigade, 26th Infantry Division in Virginia also earned him a Certificate of Training from the US Department of the Army.

A new record to help old people has just been released by the band of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers.

Recorded on the Spartan label HA0001, it's an extended-play seven-inch disc of rousing and relaxing music.

It was recorded especially by the band to mark the silver jubilee of Help the Aged charity and is entitled *Silver Serenade*.

The disc is available at all record shops and all major events where Help the Aged is represented. The charity is aiming to raise £10 million.



MAJ GEN DEREK DEIGHTON, BRIG MICHAEL PATERSON: inspired casting

PEOPLE

If you consider 22 years a lifetime of service, how about 35 years – 30 of them with the same squadron? German clerk Bernie Backhaus has just signed off after this time span with 44 Field Support Squadron RE in BAOR. To make it a memorable event Lt Gen Sir Martin Farndale sent his best wishes and the sappers raised their glasses.

PM takes charge



MRS THATCHER

You'll have to look closely, but beneath those goggles and headscarf is Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

She was proving yet again that, like everything else requiring authority, she can command a tank as well as any man.

She was visiting the Army at Fallingbostal and Sennelager when she accepted a ride in a Challenger of the Royal Hussars.

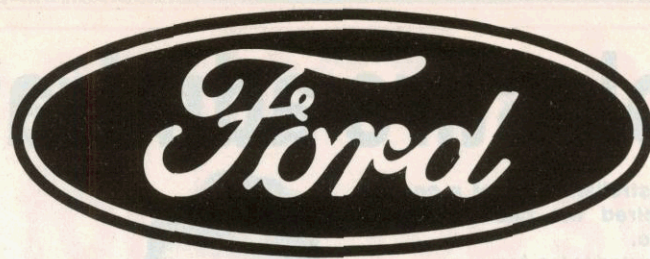
Did she tell the driver to keep to the right!



★ ENJOYING a taste of Continental
★ atmosphere in the picturesque
★ town of Monschau are Pte Kim
★ Cork (left) and LCpl Karen Smith,
★ stewardesses serving with 5

Queens during the TA battalion's visit to the Belgian-run Vogelsang battle camp on the German border. See report and pictures on Pages 30 and 31.

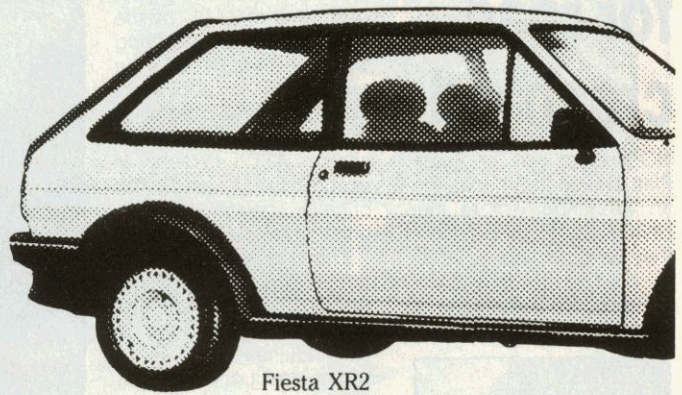
Oh ja-ja say Kim and Karen



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Fords have come a long way since Henry offered 'any colour you like so long as it's black'. Now you have more choice than ever before.

Take sporting hatchbacks. The new, aerodynamic Escort XR3i and the best-selling Fiesta XR2 both share Ford's latest, high-efficiency 1.6-litre overhead-camshaft engines, combining sparkling power with remarkable economy. In the XR2, 96bhp gives a top speed of 112mph and 0-60mph in just 8.7 seconds. Its bigger brother, the 105bhp fuel-injected XR3i will hit 115mph, or reach 60 in a blink over 9.5 seconds. Yet both cars, with their sleek, aerodynamic styling and slick five-speed gearboxes, will return more than 37mpg at a steady 75mph!

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Führer found!

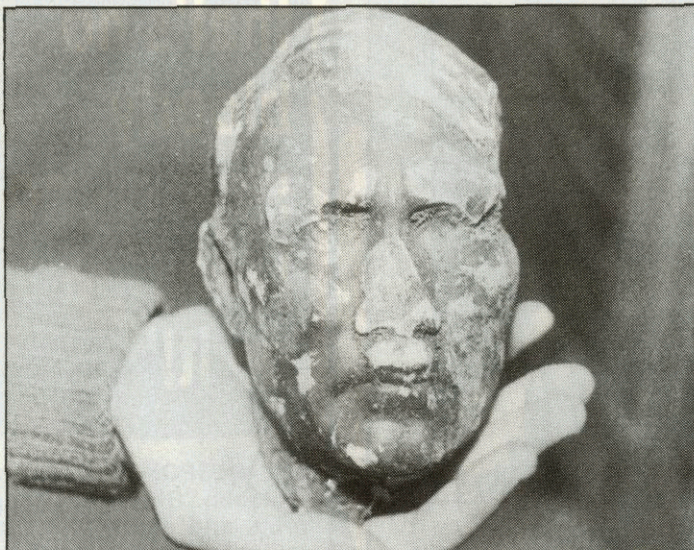
Adolf Hitler has been found buried under Brooke Barracks in Berlin. Not your genuine Führer, of course, but a bust of the Nazi leader.

Lots more was found too. German workmen made the finds when they were digging foundations for a new building at the barracks, now occupied by 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.

First the rusted remains of two Second World War German Army steel helmets were found. Then the workmen began to uncover live ammunition from the Hitler war. When ATO was called in, he found four bazookas with live rounds, grenades and a rifle. And then Hitler glared up at him from the earth.

It is assumed that the position had been a defensive trench - cooking utensils were among the discoveries - that had remained undisturbed for

SOLDIER to Soldier



The bust of Hitler

the past 40 years.

How Hitler came to be abandoned in such a place can only be conjecture. But perhaps it was an appropriate place as he was under what is now 1 D

and D's guardroom.

The bust has now been removed to the battalion's Sergeants' Mess where it no doubt receives a few ribald comments.

Berlin triumph

The eighth British Berlin Tattoo was a triumph of military pageantry - brilliantly produced and orchestrated in the divided city's Deutschlandhalle.

Maj Mike Parker's spectacular shows have earned a high reputation, but nothing he has done before has earned such gasps of admiration from the Berliners as did his unveiling of the great Crystal Palace.

Hundreds of lights were switched on simultaneously to reveal a glittering palace. Backdrop was a massive Tower Bridge and there were also other well known features of the London skyline.

More than 70,000 spectators over eight days confirmed the stature of the event.

Once upon a time in East Berlin . . .

It's amazing what interesting facts you can stumble across in the most innocent of text books. Families' page writer Anne Armstrong was browsing in an East German bookshop when she turned up a delightfully unsubtle bit of propaganda.

East German students of *English For You* - a cheap softback guide to everyday English - who read Chapter 9 are given a map and timetable on how to protest against

nuclear bases in Scotland!

Entitled 'A Boat Trip to Dunoon', the chapter begins: "On Jerry's last day in Glasgow they all took part in an interesting trip. It was a boat trip to Dunoon to protest against nuclear bases in Scotland."

An accompanying illustration reveals ferry timetables and a call for solidarity against nuclear weapons. Life was never so interesting for Janet and John!

Anne will be reporting on her visit to the Army and Army families in West Berlin in forthcoming issues of SOLDIER.

A Boat Trip to Dunoon

CLOSE
THE
NUCLEAR
BASES

Dunoon

DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE NUCLEAR BASES:

Boat Trip:

To Dunoon from Glasgow
Leaves Glasgow
from Anderston Quay
at 10 a m
Returns to Glasgow
at 6 p m

Demonstration:
To the Holy Loch
nuclear base

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

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NEW VEHICLE REQUIRED.....



Pte John Patterson tucks into a monkey morsel

KOSB exped find has scientists on the hop

SIX JOCKS, a sergeant and their platoon commander from 1 Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers, have just returned from an adventure training expedition in Brunei during which they made a bit of zoological history.

While helping scientists who accompanied the party, LCpl Billy King discovered what are believed to be the first terrestrial frogs eggs of their kind to be found in South East Asia.

Led by 2nd Lt Mark Aichroth and Sgt Jackie Galloway, the team from A Coy 1 KOSB were joined by four zoologists from Leeds University keen to study the rain forests of Brunei.

Zoologist Paul Walker, leader of the scientific team, said that LCpl King's find would cause the odd chapter in a few textbooks to become obsolete.

After acclimatising in Hong Kong, the party spent seven weeks based near a beautiful waterfall on the Sarawak border – a site found for them during an obliging helicopter recce of the area by 660 Squadron AAC. Men of 2 GR helped them build the camp.

Lengthy patrols were made into the jungle by foot and boat, and the team also flew to neighbouring Sabah to climb Mount Kinabalu (13,900ft), the highest mountain in South East Asia.



On top of Lion Rock: LCpl Smith, Pte Straub, Pt McLeod, Pte Patterson, 2nd Lt Aichroth and Pte Tomson. In front is LCpl King

'I thought that's no bloody sheep – so I jumped on it!'

THE RESPONSE was predictable. Blood curdling grins and expressions of delight greeted the news that a hunting party was needed for an escape and evasion exercise.

The fugitives were a bunch of ragtag dog-tired RAF aircrew. "I need a dozen volunteers, that's all," the officer told the two platoons of eager young Jocks. "We won't be back much before 0200 hours and you've a long day ahead of you tomorrow."

Each man put his hand up. None of the 1st Bn The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders was going to miss the opportunity of ruffling a few feathers among the flyers who had spent four bleak days living rough on the cold and wind-swept Otterburn training area.

Fired with the same enthusiasm that no doubt contributed to the nearby Scots victory of 1388, the odds would have been too stacked had both platoons been unleashed across the moors that night. So it was that just 25 men scuttled off to prepare their war paint.

Faces streaked with cam cream were soon peering out from one-tonners and Land-Rovers. Broad accents rang through the gloom hinting at dire consequences for any captured aircrew.

An amnesty was announced, assorted weapons confiscated, torches distributed and cap badges removed. The

Jocks were on their way. Their mood was one of good humour.

The men waiting on the moor were at their lowest ebb.

If the RAF survival course instructor was pleased to see the Argylls at his briefing he did his best to hide it. Gleeful mutterings greeted his pronouncement that there was to be no violence but that they were to "let prisoners know that they had been captured."

Story: Mervyn Wynne Jones

Picture: Terry Champion



THE NOBLE ART OF CRAB-BASHING

The heavens opened as the patrol split into three to comb the tussocky moorland, criss-crossed with waterlogged ditches and barbed wire fences.

It poured – but nothing was going to dampen the spirits of the pursuers, even an hour-long ambush of an empty ammo box which turned out to be litter from a previous RAF exercise and nothing to do with that night's escape and evasion RVs.

Midnight came and went and even the most ambitious Jock – boots full of water and soaked to the skin – agreed that half an hour until endex had been too optimistic an expectation. Had the RAF done the sensible thing and gone home?

Even the bats had stayed indoors. Ears strained to hear the slightest sound in the darkness. Shouts of "ham sandwich" and "bacon and eggs" failed to lure

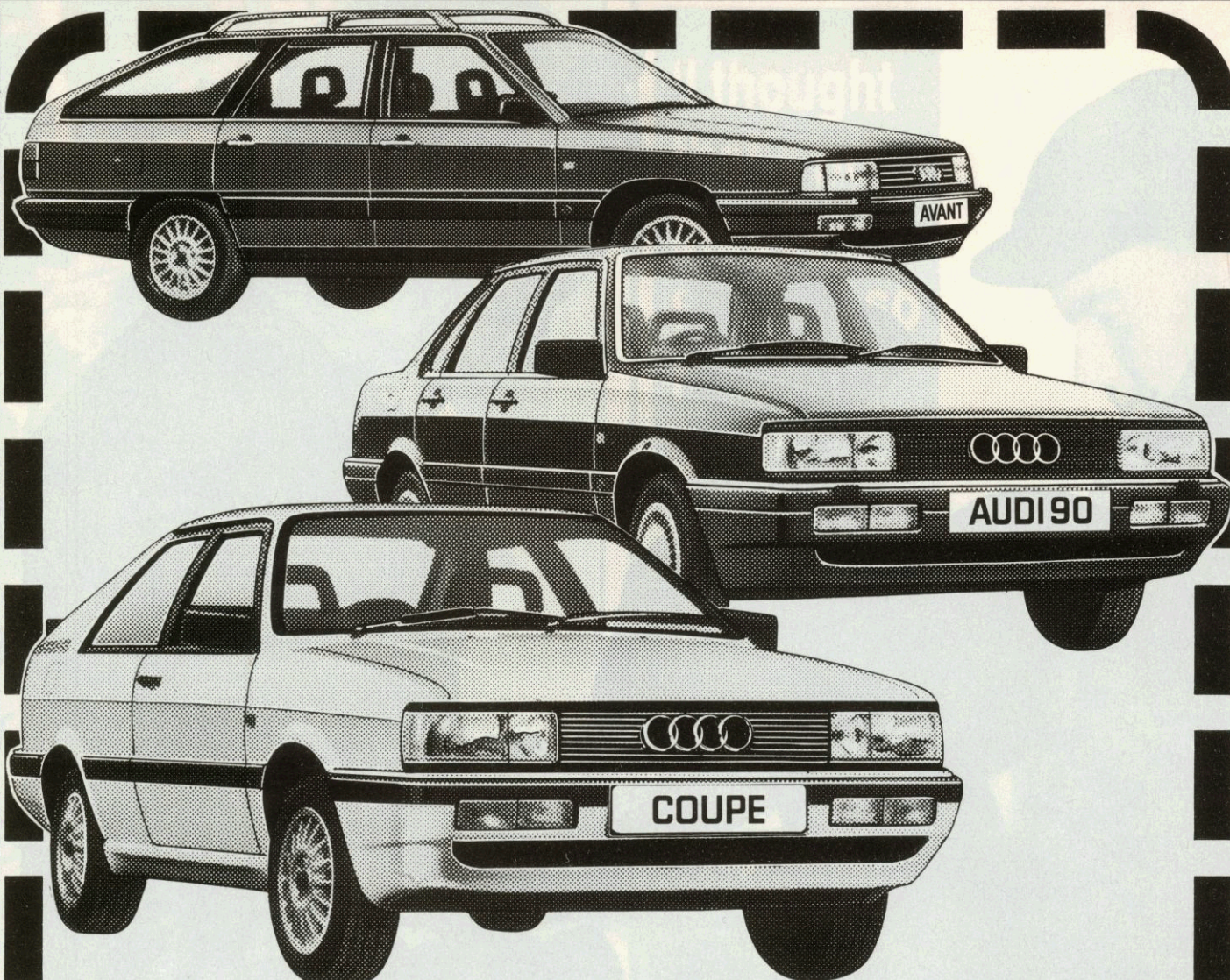
the hungry fugitives from behind wall and tree.

Then suddenly the radio crackled into life. A group of three had been captured near the road and soon contacts were being made in each corner of the search area. It was all happening at last and there was no holding back the jubilant hunters.

The spirit of his warlike ancestors aroused, one muddy and very happy Jock described the moment of capture thus: "I

heard this squelch, squelch, squelch in a ditch and I thought that's no bloody sheep so I jumped on it." Similar tales laced with generous sprinklings of expletives echoed in the torchlight.

More than half the hapless aircrew were captured, bundled into the back of transport and ferried to a drop off point and the tender attentions of their instructors. For them the night was by no means over.



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BOLD GUARD

The 14,000 strong United Kingdom Mobile Force joined more than 50,000 servicemen of other Nato countries last month in an exercise designed to test their defence of the strategically important Baltic approaches.

Exercise Bold Guard took place in the north German state

of Schleswig Holstein where UKMF and others from Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and the USA would play a major role in the defence of Danish Zealand and the Jutland Peninsula in time of war.

UKMF, currently commanded by Brig John Wilsey, is an

independent expeditionary force earmarked specifically for this task and is made up of the 1st Infantry Brigade based at Tidworth, Hampshire, a 4,500-strong logistic support group and a Royal Air Force helicopter support force.

● See Pages 18-21, 25-27

Stories: Mervyn Wynne Jones

Pictures: Terry Champion

AIR BRIDGE



How 656 Squadron tank busters plug the gap

CO-OPERATION is the key-word among the forces defending the Baltic approaches – and joint Anglo-German helicopter operations featured prominently during Exercise Bold Guard.

Observers were delighted at the success of helicopter units escorting each other across the airspace of a different brigade to engage a target.

It was the first time that 656 Squadron, AAC, had practised cross-boundary operations with their German counterparts, Heeresflieger Regiment 6, to cater for the eventuality of one brigade needing additional anti-tank helicopter support from another.

The Lynx and Gazelle helicopters of 656 Sqn sped across the countryside at tree-top height to rendezvous with the German BO 105s at the brigade boundary.

Once there they were led to their firing positions by the German crews who gave them a situation report and told them their arcs of fire.

As soon as the "enemy" had been engaged the helicopters of 656 Sqn were shepherd back to the boundary contact point and

the two units parted. Then the procedure was repeated with 656 as the guides.

Maj John Stirk, OC 656 Sqn, told SOLDIER: "Today was the first time we had tried this type of operation and it clearly worked. We put vehicles out to represent the enemy and they were spotted and engaged."

"The concept is based on positive control, simplicity and speed. If we are needed it could be because that sector is in danger of collapse. We would win time while the ground forces were mustered to plug the gap."

"Anti-tank helarm as a concept is still evolving and cross-training is valuable for getting a feel for each other's methods. As helicopter units we have collective problems and it is interesting to see how other armies tackle them."

"One of the big problems is that of communications and control in someone else's area. There is the prospect of being shot down by units of our own side who do not know that we are there and so the shepherding serves the purpose too of clearing a corridor along our route over a

neighbouring brigade," said Maj Stirk.

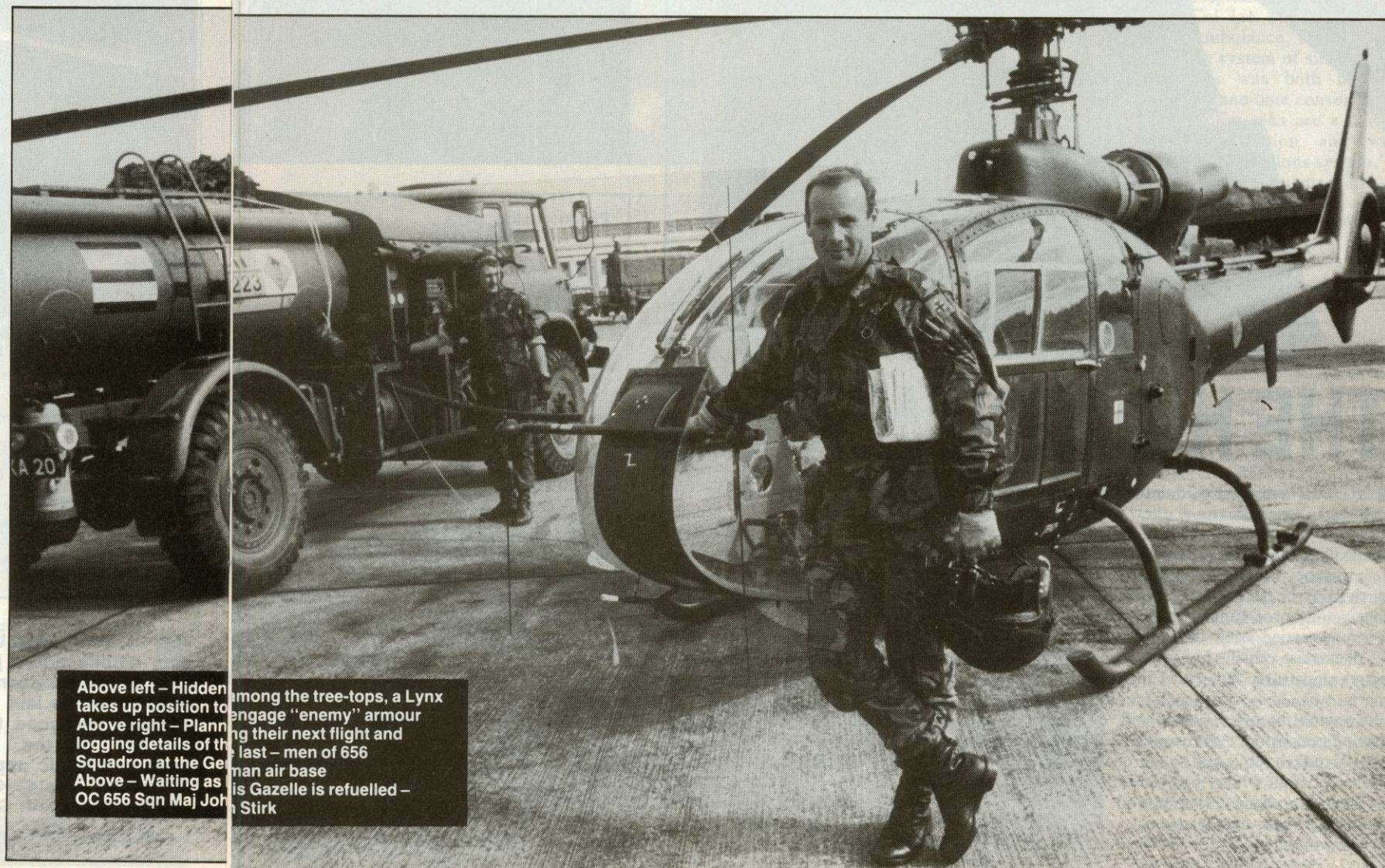
656 Sqn, who are based at Netheravon, took their full complement of six Lynx and six Gazelle helicopters with them on Exercise Bold Guard.

While there they practised helarm, observation and reconnaissance, artillery fire support and direct close air support direction, and the movement of personnel in their UKMF role as an independent squadron working under the command of 1 Brigade.

Attached to them during the fortnight exercise was Capt Fred Pidcock of the AAC Territorial Army pool, a 47-year old director of an Aberdeen-based North Sea oil service company.

Capt Pidcock has been in the TA since leaving the Regular Army in 1970 and became attached to 656 Sqn in 1981. He now spends two weeks flying with the unit each year.

Exercise Bold Guard was the continuation of a busy year for 656 who have spent four months in the Falkland Islands and sent detachments to Kenya, Belize and Northern Ireland.



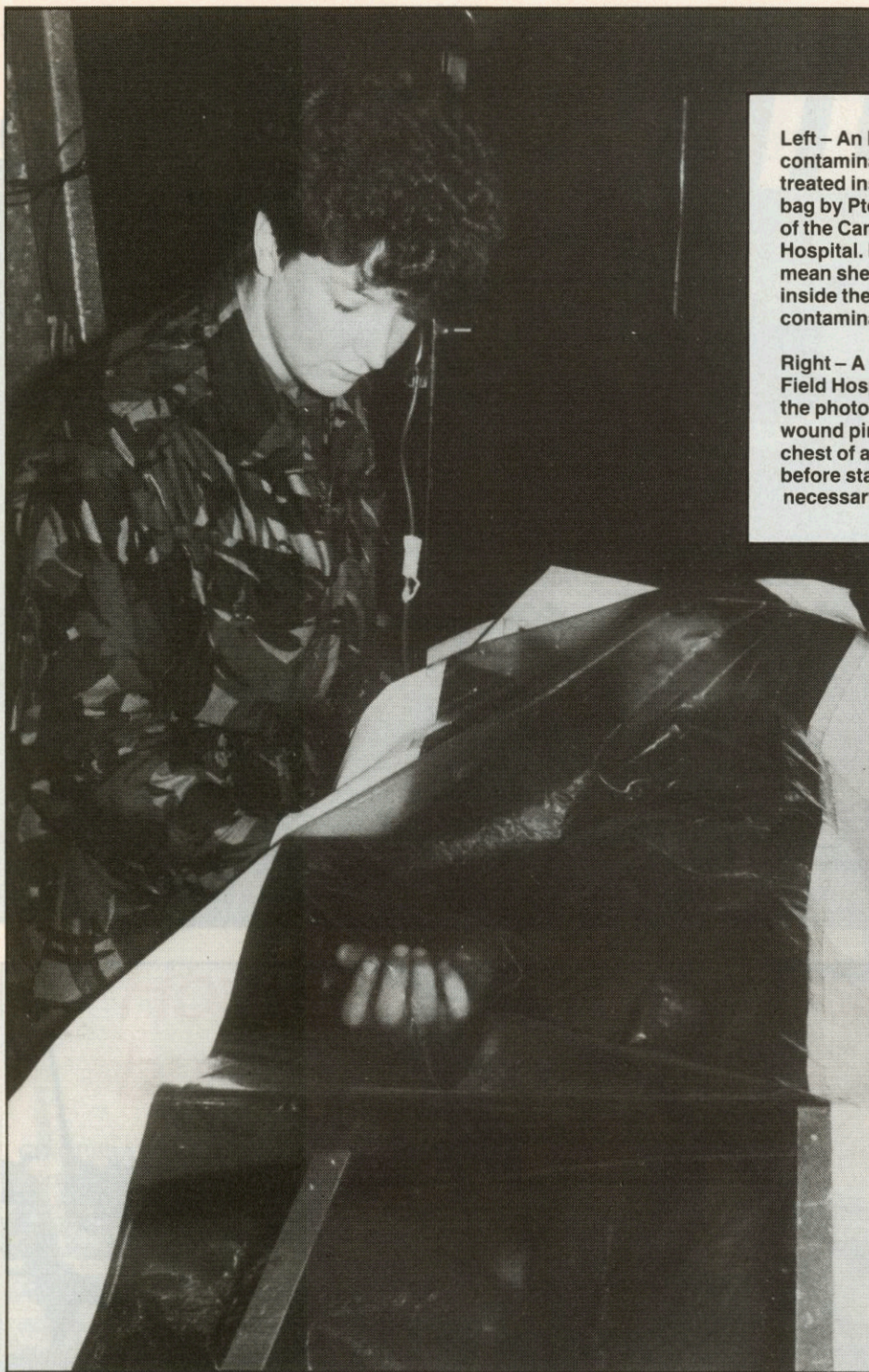
Above left – Hidden among the tree-tops, a Lynx takes up position to engage "enemy" armour
Above right – Planning their next flight and logging details of the last – men of 656
Above – Waiting as the Gazelle is refuelled – OC 656 Sqn Maj John Stirk

Every picture tells a story



Left – An NBC contaminated patient is treated inside a special bag by Pte Gina Crawley of the Cambridge Military Hospital. Integral gloves mean she can work inside the bag without contaminating herself

Right – A medic at 22 Field Hospital looks at the photograph of a wound pinned to the chest of a casualty before starting the necessary treatment



THE UGLY face of war took on a new and more realistic look during Bold Guard with the use of photographs instead of ketchup to mock-up casualties.

Wardrobes of torn and burnt clothing and gallons of imitation blood were dropped by the Army in favour of combat wound photographs which were pinned to men by umpires with the minimum of time and fuss.

Introduced in smaller exercises at home during recent months, the photographs were an idea brought back to Britain by an officer of the RAMC after an exchange visit to Canada.

It was the first time they had been used by UK troops on an exercise of the scale of Bold Guard and they superseded the time consuming and often unrealistic theatrical makeup more commonly used until now.

Mostly of real wounds, the photographs pull no punches

and officers of 16 Field Ambulance said they were useful in helping to condition medics to the horrors of battle injuries.

The pictures are approximately six inches by four inches in size and on the back of each is a full clinical background of how it might have happened and instructions to the casualty on how to behave and where he would feel most pain on being handled by the medics.

They are pinned to the casualty in the field and the wound then has to be treated accordingly through every stage of medical care from the regimental aid post to the field ambulance and onwards to the field hospital.

Lt Col Ian Strain, CO 16 Field Ambulance, said: "The common system of simulating casualties was both labour intensive and time consuming. The photographs are a fairly recent innovation and we think it a marvellous system."

16 Field Ambulance are a self-contained unit made up of men from the RAMC, RADC, RCT, RAPC, REME, ACC and RE – "We've always had a sapper with us," said Col Strain, "He's a useful guy to have around."

In peacetime they are made up of 130 personnel but in wartime they would have a band attached and a troop from 245 Ambulance Squadron RCT (V).

Exercise Bold Guard tested them in all aspects of their role from assessing casualties and sorting out treatment priorities to working in a decontaminated, sealed tent which would enable doctors to treat casualties without the need for respirators and NBC suits.

16 Field Ambulance set themselves up about half an hour away from the exercise front line, a position they would establish themselves in during war. They aim to ensure that a casualty waits no longer than six hours to receive surgical treatment at 22 Field Hospital.

THE HIDDEN MENACE

A HIDDEN enemy lurked underfoot in the Bold Guard exercise area and few were more aware of that than the men of A Sqn, 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.

It was they who had to dig out the clods of earth from the tracks of their tanks to ensure that a soil-borne fungus called rhizomania was not carried back to Britain.

All exercise vehicles had to be hosed down before departure, but with Chieftain tanks there was the additional problem of unscrewing bazooka plates and cleaning driving gear before even turning on the tap. "It's quite a job," said squadron 2ic Capt Richard Eaton, whose men were digging in at their woodland location and draping camouflage nets overhead.

A Sqn, equipped with 14 Chieftains, one Ferret, three REME vehicles, a tracked

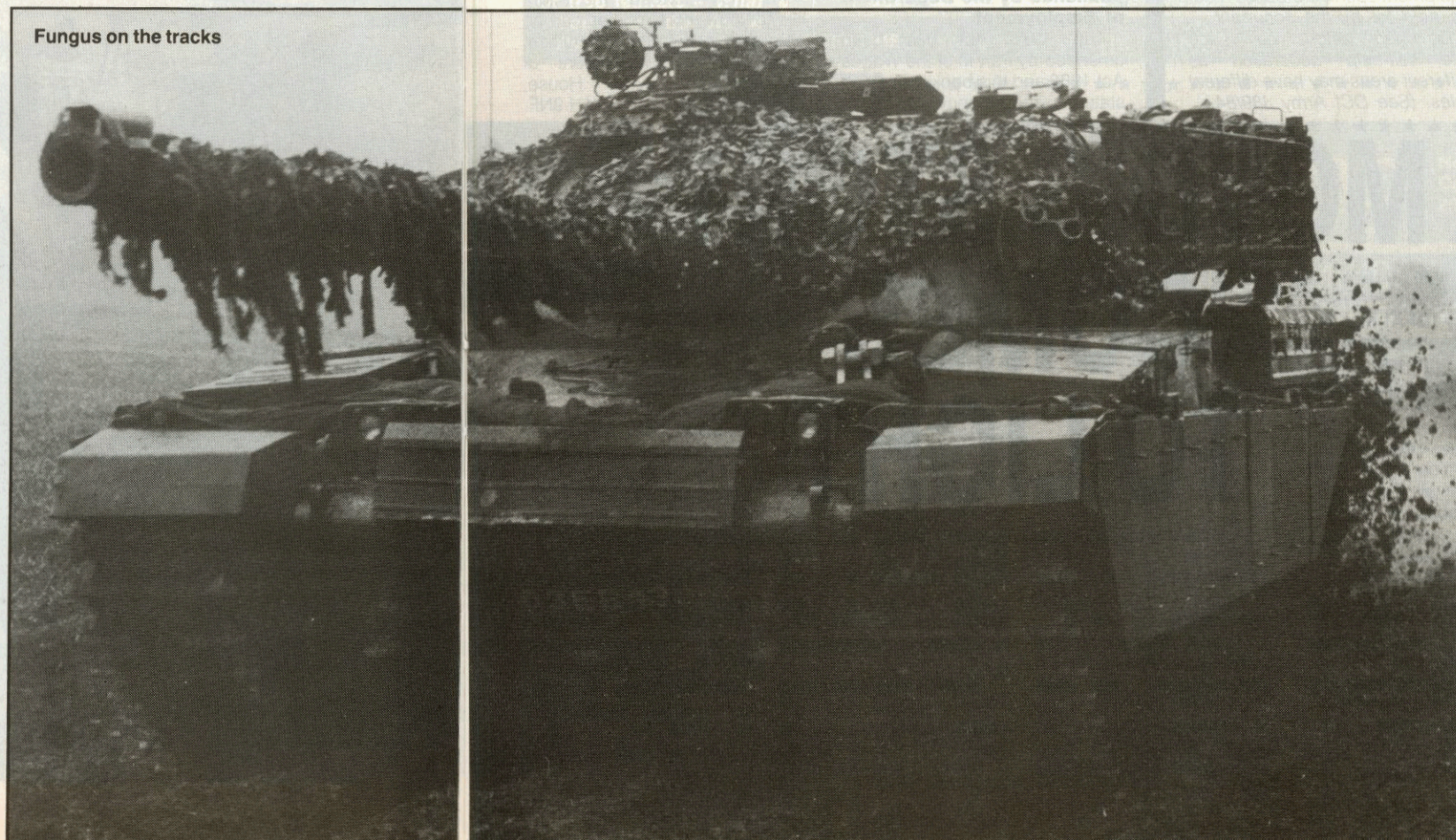
ambulance and replenishment trucks, are based at Tidworth and are the only armour in the UKLF.

Accustomed to the more traditional tank terrain of rolling hills and open country, Capt Eaton described the problems they had encountered in Schleswig Holstein as similar to those faced by tank crews in Normandy in 1944 – dozens of hedgerows and trees limiting visibility.

There was considerable movement by road during the exercise and Tpr Tony Gladman, while describing it as "great fun", told SOLDIER about the need for vigilance on the open road.

The squadron, under the command of Maj David Bone, leaves Tidworth and the UKLF next month to start a tour in Paderborn, Germany.

Fungus on the tracks



YOU WRITE...

Flight plan grounded by MoD rules

A SERVICE wife (now back in the UK) applied for a flight for her daughter to visit her parents under the School Children's Visits (SCV) scheme.

But the flight was refused because they were returning to the UK less than 21 days before the girl's flight home. So they had to pay for the flight themselves. They weren't too pleased.

According to the Director General of

Personal Services (Army), SCVs are subject to a minimum of 21 days duration except when a

school holiday is less; or to a minimum duration of ten days when the children of divorced or legally

separated parents, where the father has care and control and they visit him overseas; and when

children take part in school-sponsored or Cadet Force activities at the start or end of a school holiday. The 21-day rule can be reduced providing MoD approves.

The DGPS office also points out that further exceptions to the general rule can be made by first applying to command and, if necessary, to MoD. Each case is treated on its merits.

■ Maybe. But I would question the wisdom of this MoD rule and would advise every family faced with this problem to submit an appeal against flight refusal through their unit.

Who pays when a hero dies?

AN old soldier asks... A fellow member of my club swears that when a war disability pensioner dies the State pays for his funeral. Is this so?

I am a pensioner with a 70 per cent disability pension and think he is talking rot.

A reply from you should shut

him up and please us all. By the way, I'm 81.

G. H. Newland, Basingstoke, Hants.

■ A war disabled pensioner can have his funeral paid for by the DHSS if they are informed immediately he dies. They will

make all arrangements for the funeral. But if any arrangements have already been made they will not pay.

So it looks as if those who want a DHSS funeral must leave instructions for their next of kin to make immediate contact with the DHSS.

WIFE POINTS THE FINGER!

A SOLDIER's wife writes: I am about to move back to UK and have been thinking about the redecoration of my quarter.

I have two small children and there are a lot of finger marks in the bedroom and the passage. Should I redecorate as I don't want a large hand over bill?

and bathrooms.

Self-help is a supplement to the routine not a substitute.

If you do decide on DIY, paint is available in a wide range of colours free of charge, other equipment such as brushes must be paid for by the occupant.

Do check before you launch into self-help decoration as different areas may have different rules. (See DCI Army J89/84.)

■ First check when your married quarter was last decorated. You may find it's due for full or part decoration. If so, ask your ASU, estate warden, station staff officer or unit families officer for advice.

The usual rule is: married quarters are normally decorated by PSA at intervals of not more than four years and three years for kitchens

A MOVING STORY COMES TO LIGHT

FOR 116 years the Government Freight Agency (GFA) has been moving soldiers and their families around the world.

And they have been doing it without a formal contract and without competition from other firms for all that time.

A House of Commons Report reveals that in 1984-85 the Government spent £50 million on freight costs alone and more than £200 million shifting stores, equipment and personnel.

Such is the staggering cost of transferring soldiers, sailors, airmen and their families around the globe.

For most families GFA is a byword, for through this organisation all their baggage and personal belongings are moved.

It was this side of the GFA's work that featured in the report and was defended by Sir Clive Whitmore, Permanent Under Secretary of State, who told the Committee of

Public Accounts: "In peacetime, when we are talking about moving units and individuals around the world in a routine way, different considerations apply.

"There we are seeking to move people in as cost-effective a way as we can.

"The range of

movements is greater than it is in an operational situation because, for example, we are moving families as well as Servicemen."

The committee chairman, questioning Sir Clive further, said there has been nine reports in 12 years, most in-house, indicating resistance by all three Services to a standard movements system. Seemingly they all want to do it their own way!

"Can you really afford to continue the duplication?" he asked.

But the fact is the movement of personnel,

HOW TO GET A PAY-OFF

SERVICE wives made redundant from jobs in the UK or overseas and who would like to know more about redundancy payments, should get the new free guide published by the Department of Employment.

The 1978 Act has been amended by Part III of the Wages Act 1986 and this book tells of the statutory redundancy payments

scheme. It lists those who qualify for a pay-off; payments employers are obliged to pay; disputes and much more.

The booklet, No. 16 Redundancy Payments, is free from redundancy payment offices, job centres and unemployment benefit offices.

For those abroad who might like to know more, copies can be obtained from General Office, Information 4, Department of Employment, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NF.

Anne

HERE TO HELP



Armstrong

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

Home tel: Camberley 29653

IN MY VIEW

"On the movement of personnel between the UK and NW Europe, there is a great deal of movement by air, but there is also some surface movement where individuals are travelling under their own steam as individuals, or when they go on a warrant or a ticket is provided in some other way from official sources.

"We do not run troopships between UK and NW Europe, people go in effect as individuals.

"Most Servicemen and MoD civilians travel on official duty by chartered commercial aircraft under contracts, let after competitive tender."

But no mention is made in the report concerning the costs saved by Servicemen who take their cars to and from Europe at their own expense.

If there were no private cars in NW Europe and a policy stipulated private cars were only to be used

for personal reasons, then I would suggest that the whole Rhine Army would come to a near grinding halt. For I would say every Serviceman during his time in NW Europe has to use his car on official business.

So if your car is used for military business or for Service welfare because there is no military transport available, then at least the cost of taking your car over should be paid.

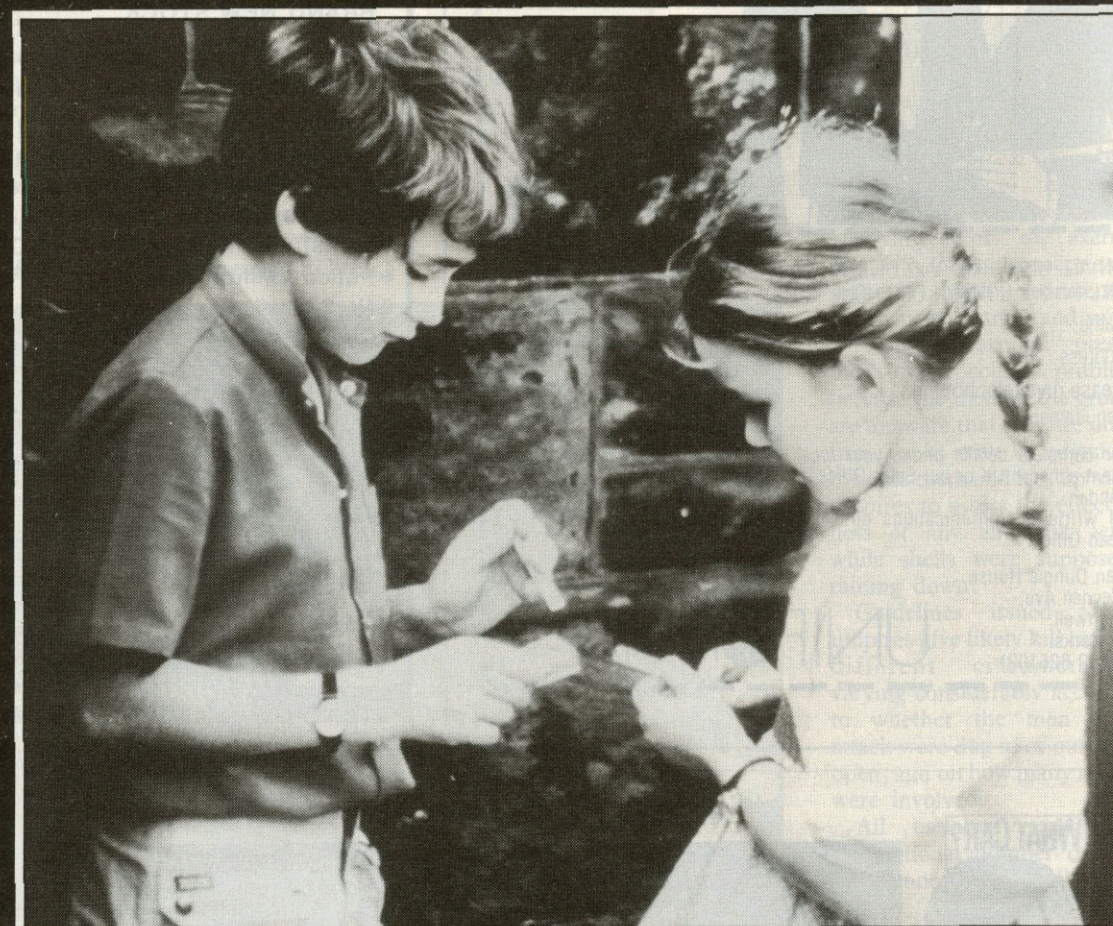
For that is one way the Government saves huge sums.

Perhaps this is the cost effectiveness Sir Clive Whitmore is talking about?

Latest figures show that in 1985-86 MoD paid GFA £32.1 million; covering the main agreement with GFA and the baggage system agreement.

★ 49th Report from Committee of Public Accounts, MoD Service Movements, HMSO £4.

CHILDREN AT RISK



A nationwide drive warning primary school children about drugs and glue sniffing, recognises this age range as a potential market for drug pushers.

The campaign is being run by the Health Education Council and the Teachers' Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Education who have produced information packs with colour slides aimed at pupils, teachers and parents.

The distressing fact is that drugs have now reached the primary school age child and this excellent hard-cover info-pack covers heroin, cocaine, cannabis and solvents. It also warns of the dangers of smoking and alcohol.

The pack encourages free discussion among pupils and parents which, it claims, minimises the dangers facing these young children.

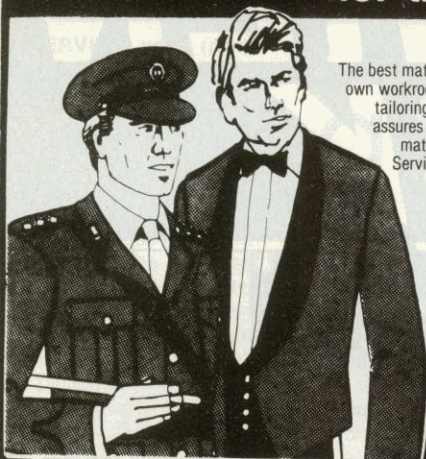
If you have children check with the school to see how you can help prevent them being tempted to take drugs.

The campaign pack is available from Tacade, Furness House, Trafford Rd, Salford M5 2XJ. It costs £33.95.

Or free leaflets - What You Can Do As A Parent, from DHSS.

DANGER TIME: parental ignorance can lead to tragedy as this picture from the campaign pack suggests

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The umpire's decision is not quite final . . .



THE UMPIRE was dubious about the attack. Men in NBC suits had hastily donned respirators, chalk-filled water was raining on the trees around them, the roar of the aircraft could still be heard in the distance – but would those aircraft have penetrated the air defences in the first place?

Was the attack a success or not? Just one of the decisions

made daily by umpires during an exercise and yet another that would inevitably leave someone's nose out of joint regardless of the logic behind it.

"There is always controversy over certain decisions," said Maj John Pullinger, 1 Para, "and there will invariably be an argument over how long it takes, for example, to breach a

minefield and how many casualties would be sustained."

1 Para, under their former CO Col Mike Jackson, were tasked with providing the umpire net for 1 Brigade during Exercise Bold Guard, with other teams including the 14th/20th King's Hussars, the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, 7 Regt Army Air Corps and several from BAOR

to cope with the armour, artillery, engineering and air umpiring.

UKMF were playing the logistic back-up for real and there were umpires in the forward and rear maintenance areas to ensure that procedures were followed to the letter. Lorries and helicopters were scurrying across the exercise area with loads of concrete and slips of paper representing shells, petrol, stores and so on.

Artillery "barrages" present their own peculiar problems because the men on the ground are unaware that they are under fire. Tanks may be advancing towards them and it is up to the umpires to assess the effectiveness of any anti-tank action while shells were supposedly raining down.

Guidelines issued to all umpires give likely kill ratios in different circumstances, varying considerably according to whether the men under attack were dug in or out in the open, and on how many aircraft were involved.

All battalion areas have international number designations understood by all participating forces and indicating obstacles such as minefields.

Responsibility for this within 1 Brigade fell on Lt Col Bruce Hawken, Royal Engineers, whose men laid thousands of mines and other obstacles during the exercise.

Lt Col Hawken said: "We try to be as fair as we can and we have a lot of engineering umpires because the sappers have been going pretty flat out preparing for the exercise and so deserve some recognition for their work.

"Minefields that have not been mined have been fenced and these are well umpired so that timed procedures for breaching them can be observed. There is a great tendency by the armour to ignore minefields completely – especially if they are not being blown up by them," added Col Hawken.

Maj Pullinger said: "We are supposed to mark tanks with a red flare if they have been hit but it would take a brave or very stupid man to run over to a tank which is hurtling across a field and throw a flare at it."



Caught in the act! Sgt Jim Crook of the field postal service tries out the German postal system to see how it compares with his own. The 30 posties on exercise were shifting more than 3,000 letters a day from men of UKMF

Big boost needed to get the message across

A BIGGER than usual signals squadron was needed to cope with the radio traffic of one of the Army's largest brigades.

The 1st Brigade headquarters signals squadron was boosted by various attachments to more than 300 and at the helm was Maj Martin Stretch.

His squadron's responsibilities were many and varied and included providing a radio combat net, command links forward to battle groups, a

trunk radio relay system and telephone links for headquarters staff and a message centre facility to cope with reams of paper traffic.

Maj Stretch was assisted in his communications planning by traffic officer Capt Ray Papworth and WO2 Yeoman of Signals Dave Turner.

Two other communications

units exercising as part of UKMF were 244 Signals Squadron based at Brize Norton who provided communications for air support, both fast jet and helicopter, and 3 Squadron 30 Signals based at Blandford who provided communications for the rear maintenance area and a satellite link to Britain.

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Does your bank manager look like this? WO2 Paul Heywood tots up the cash at his field pay office during Exercise Bold Guard

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Danish Leopard 1A3s arrive for Bold Guard clad in their new carpet covering

THIS TANK'S WEARING A CARPET!

DANISH designers have been giving their tanks the green carpet treatment in a bid to minimise detection.

The matt-green material, very similar to a rough pile carpet, is stuck on to the glacis, upper tank and turret armour as an aid to camouflage.

It also suppresses some of the heat given off by the tank thereby reducing its thermal image.

Specially produced by a Danish company, the "carpet" has been on trial for less than a year and was being tested on Exercise Bold Guard by the 2nd Bn Jutland Dragoon Regiment who are equipped with Leopard 1A3s.

"It works very well," said squadron commander Capt Peter Nissen, 34, who - wearing overalls as oily as those of his men - was overseeing the unloading of his tanks at a Schleswig Holstein railhead.

In common with soldiers the world over Capt Nissen was

proud of the traditions of a regiment more than 300 years old and was especially full of praise for the tanks with which they are now equipped.

Weighing 42 tons combat ready, the Leopard 1A3 can reach speeds of 80 kilometres per hour - considerably faster than the Chieftain.

"This is the most marvellous vehicle, I love it," grinned Capt Nissen as the tanks moved in convoy across the German countryside. "This tank has speed as an advantage whereas the Chieftain has the advantage of more armour."

The Leopard was introduced into the Danish army in 1976 as a replacement for the Centurion which has been retained by many of their units for use in a secondary artillery role.

The 2nd Bn Jutland Dragoon Regiment is made up of a headquarters company, with recce, supply, administrative staff and maintenance platoons, two tank companies or squadrons, a mechanised infantry company equipped with APCs and a motorised infantry company. It is the proud claim of the engineers of the HQ maintenance section that they have changed a complete Leopard engine in nine minutes.

Each tank squadron has three tank troops and each troop has three Leopards. The tank platoon, or troop, has its own light vehicle used by the platoon commander for reconnaissance and for fetching supplies.

Capt Nissen said: "It is a good regiment to be in because we have different kinds of units and all sorts of different jobs for people. Tanks, of course, are always popular with those joining the army."

Danish volunteers - every one

THE DANISH tank soldier is always a volunteer. He can apply at 17 or 18, the age when the Danish infantryman is conscripted for duty. Conscripts serve for nine months - shortly to be extended to a year under new legislation - before becoming a reserve.

As a reserve soldier the former conscript can be summoned to duty at a moment's notice in time of war and continues training once a year attending refresher courses in basic military skills.

The CO of the 2nd Bn Jutland Dragoon Regiment, Lt Col Gunnar Lange, told SOLDIER: "The infantry with us now were with us two years ago as a fresh intake of conscripts, so in this exercise we are also testing the recall system for our reserves."

With new defence legislation due to come into effect in April 1987, conscripts will be contracted for their period of

service and infantry regiments will be a mixture of conscripts and volunteers. Most conscripts are volunteers already, in fact, because of the unemployment problem in Denmark and the need for an occupation.

Officers and NCOs can spend all their working lives in the army and are its backbone. Officers attend a special academy from which they graduate after two years as a squadron 2 i/c.

All officers speak English as a matter of course. Said Lt Alex Wurtz: "We are a small country and if we are to do business we have to learn English which is the language used most in Nato. Just ten years ago our briefings would have had to be first in English and then in German to make sure that everyone understood but now they are just in English which means that everyone has learnt it."

The Jutland Dragoon Regiment has associations with Britain going back to the early years of its 307 year history. Capt Gert Miller, a reservist who now teaches English and History, explained that a Danish corps of 6,000 men served in Ireland under William III and on their return at the end of the 17th century were hired out to Marlborough and served with distinction throughout the Netherlands and at the Battle of Blenheim.

Today the regiment is part of the Danish Jutland Division, who with the German 6th Panzer Grenadier Division are tasked with defending the Baltic approaches backed up by UKMF, the German 11th Armoured Infantry Division, a UK and Netherlands amphibious force, the 4th US Marine Amphibious Brigade and the 9th US Infantry Division.



Lt Col Gunnar Lange, OC 2nd Bn Jutland Dragoon Regiment



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*Ford computed figs.



Live bullets and threatening tanks at Vogelsang battle camp teach 5 QUEENS to adopt a low profile . . .

KEEP YOUR HEADS DOWN!



AS HE slithered into a trench after a long crawl under live machine gun fire, Capt Duncan Milne confessed: "Usually at this time on a Monday morning I'd be in court prosecuting a food and drugs case for the council."

Normally Pte Chris Hulks would have been driving a commuter train to London. Pte Richard Miller would have been studying politics and history at the University of Kent, and LCpl Chris Wallace would have been delivering mail as a Surrey postman.

But instead they and 450 other members of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, were polishing up their military skills in Germany.

They had seized the opportunity – rare for a TA battalion – of an action-packed two-week battle camp at Vogelsang on the German-Belgian border. The Belgian-run camp in Germany's mountainous Eifel region has a lot to offer with its great variety of ranges and dry training areas set in thousands of acres.

It is also a great stepping-off point for R and R trips to lovely old towns like Monschau and to the Mosel grape region, Cologne and Phantasialand, billed as Europe's answer to Disneyland.

But the volunteer Queensmen, recruited from Kent, Sussex, Surrey and part of London, enthused most about the chance to live-fire all their weapons, from 9mm SMG to 81mm mortars and all of their anti-tank weapons except Milan.

Most of all they enjoyed the confidence-building ranges – crawling under that live machine gun fire and learning how to survive being run over by a tank by getting between the tracks or ducking into a coffin-shaped hole or manhole at the last split-second.

With Flemish and French speaking Belgians running the ranges there were bound to be minor language problems. When Maj Steve Thompson asked the Belgian tank driver: "How are you this morning?", the Belgian replied: "Forty, sir!"

Slightly nonplussed, Maj Thompson asked the man to run over a few more of the Queensmen. "They're really enjoying it," he explained.

Another man with a language problem



Machine gun fire and explosive charges keep these Queensmen well and truly flattened

was LCpl Patrick Marr, of the Recce Platoon. He had a fall from a vehicle the day after arriving in the exercise area and badly injured his hand. He ended up in the local German Krankenhaus and spent five days in intensive care.

Patrick, from Canterbury where the 5th Battalion has its headquarters, could not speak German and no one at the hospital appeared to speak much English. But as soon as he could be visited, queues of Kentish-speaking Queensmen formed to cheer him up.

The Vogelsang training package

climaxed with a testing patrol exercise that made the opening sequence of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* seem tame and ended with an opposed river crossing at night.

At the end of the hectic fortnight the CO, Lt Col Charles Joint, said he was confident the aim had been achieved and the battalion was fit for its Nato role alongside Regular troops in 4 Div. The volunteers had been forged into a formidable team capable of soldiering in the very different German environment with confidence.

"There's no doubt about it," he said,



Get ready to duck! Capt Mike Pilkington is the instructor as a tank rumbles forward in this confidence-building exercise



Could you kindly run over a few more of my men – they're really enjoying it! Maj Steve Thompson briefs a Belgian tank driver

"Vogelsang is somewhat different from Pippingford Park or Acrise."

A pat on the back for the Queensmen came from Brig Michael Lee after he had visited them at Vogelsang. He commands 2 Infantry Brigade and the Dover/Shorncliffe Garrison, which includes their Canterbury base.

He said: "This rare opportunity to train at a camp like Vogelsang has been grabbed by the 5th Battalion with commendable enthusiasm."

Col Joint, himself a Regular, is proud of his Territorials.

"The majority of the Regular Army does not understand the capabilities of the TA soldier or what he is required to do. The TA, despite its limited training, is professional and Regulars need educating about it," he said.

He also said the TA needed more ex-Regulars to give it the depth of experience which was otherwise difficult to acquire. "If you have enjoyed soldiering, the TA is a very worthwhile way to continue on a part-time basis – but we don't want wasters," he said.

Battle camp over, the Queensmen

returned to driving trains, selling computers, farming, tree surgery, banking, mining, building and a hundred other occupations.

D Company Commander, Maj Graham Gibson, confessed to going back to his normal job with added confidence. "Being a tax inspector in civilian life, I find infantry training invaluable!" he said.

Story by David McDine
Pictures by WO2 Peter Stratham, UKLF

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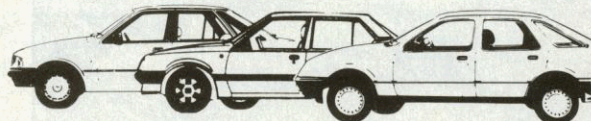
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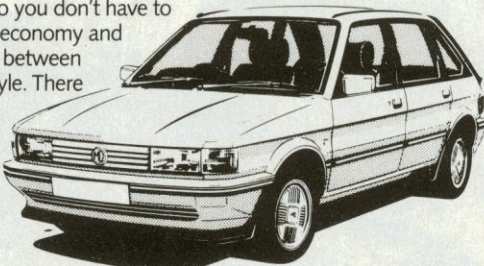
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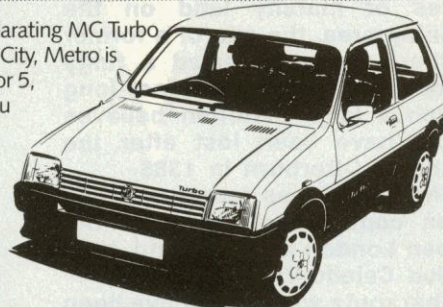
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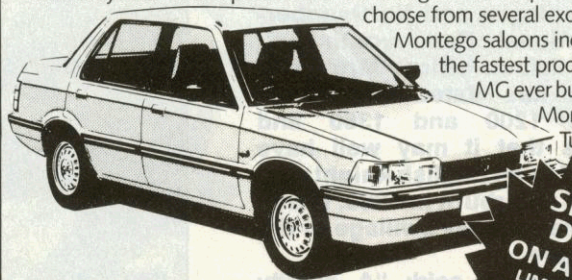
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SWORD FROM THE BOG

METAL detectors plied across heath and hillside by men of 49 Explosive Ordnance Disposal have unearthed some peculiar items in the past but never a rare historical find such as that just discovered on the Otterburn training area in Northumberland.

A routine survey of several acres of marshy land on the training area, the site of a former artillery range, revealed a rusty sword more than three feet long which a local historian believes could have been lost after the battle of Otterburn in 1388.

The sword was found near the main communications route between London and Scotland, then called Caledonia.

That route would still have been in use at the time of the battle and was probably trodden by the victorious Scots led by the 2nd Earl of Douglas when they returned home after beating a superior English force under Henry Percy a few miles distant.

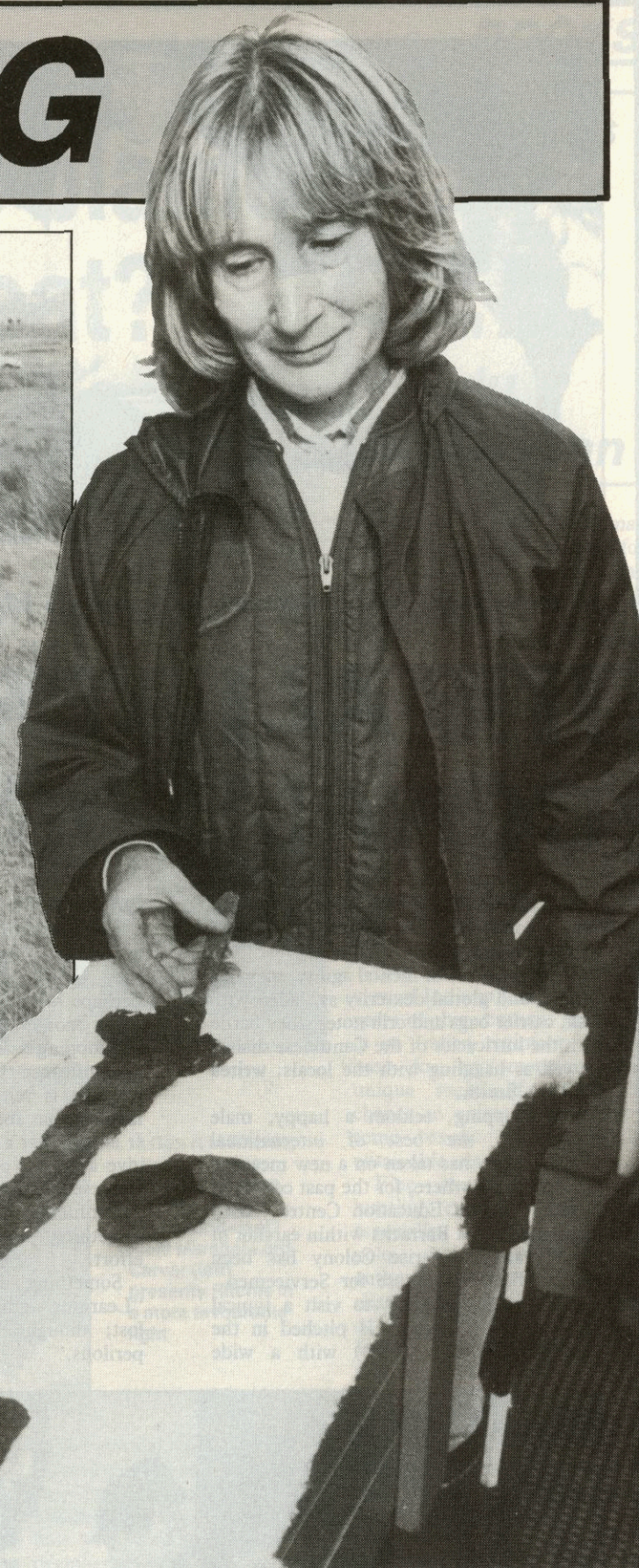
Archaeologist and Northumberland National Park youth and schools liaison officer Mrs Beryl Charlton has dated the sword between 1200 and 1350 and suggests that it may well have belonged to an English knight who fought at Otterburn in 1388, within half a mile of today's village of the same name.

Mrs Charlton said: "A quality sword of this kind would not have been parted with easily. It is not unlikely that it was being carried away from the battle as booty when it was lost or discarded by its Scots captors."

Story by Mervyn Wynne Jones
Pictures by Terry Champion



Above - The old artillery range site on which the sword was found
Right - Archaeologist Beryl Charlton with the fragile remains of the sword



Weapon could have been used at the battle of Otterburn

THE Silloans sword, named after old farm land on which it was found, may well have been lying in its boggy tomb for the past 600 years.

The field in which it was discovered was last under the plough in the 18th century, which may explain why the hilt was bent and the pommel fell off as the workmen lifted the sword out of the ground.

No other material was found with or near to the Silloans sword.

According to archaeologists John Sadler and Beryl Charlton the weapon is very fragile. The blade, which appears to be of tempered steel, has suffered badly from corrosion and only a single section of the iron crossguard survives. No armorial

devices or smiths' marks were immediately detectable, they say in their report.

Part of the leather scabbard remains attached to the lower section of the blade.

The iron pommel provides the best evidence of dating. It is of the chamfered disc type which developed from the earlier "Viking" types and was probably made in the period 1200-1350 AD.

These pommels were much heavier so bringing the balance of the weapon nearer the cross guard and allowing the grip to sit well back in the hand.

The style of pommel varied with the maker. Gilding, in this instance with copper, was the usual form of decoration applied in early mediaeval times. The depressed area in the centre of the pommel would have been inlaid with a coin, gem or holy relic.

The tang has survived though considerably bent and corroded. The grip was probably of wood covered with leather which may have been decorated or "garnished" with the owners coat-of-arms. Alternatively it may have been overlaid

with a spirally wound cord or thong which would have improved the grip.

The central part of the pommel disc may have been enamelled though the cross was probably left plain. The few surviving fragments of crossguard suggest that it was of a type in common use during the period; the upper edge curves in a single regular arc, the lower edge is a drop-centred arch.

Of particular interest is the "chappe" or flap of leather located at the bottom of the grip. It would have overlain the central portion of the crossguard, thus covering

the top of the scabbard. This may have been pure embellishment but its purpose is more likely to have been functional, presumably to prevent water running down into the scabbard. Survivals of this feature are extremely rare.

The poor condition of the blade makes it difficult to reach any firm conclusions. Earlier swords were primarily for cutting and hacking; the weight tended to be further back as the blade tapered, so adding force to a blow from the centre.

The construction was normally pattern-

welded - the two components, iron and steel, were twisted together and hammered under heat to create the desired shape.

Diamond section blades were also produced and were extremely effective in searing through mail and plate armour.

Since the blade of the thrusting sword was wide at the crossguard, and tapered to a sharp point it would not be too unreasonable to assume that the Silloans blade was intended more for thrusting than cutting and it may well have had a diamond section, says the report.



Cpl Tony So tries to keep a customer satisfied

For the British Serviceman in Hong Kong...

IT'S ALL VERY CONFUCIUSING!

THE CHINESE, like the Greeks, probably have a word for it. The British Serviceman, very likely, another!

Thirty minutes of mental agility, memory tapping and glottal dexterity as, laden with cash, carrier bags and crib notes, they battle with the intricacies of the Cantonese dialect as well as haggling with the locals, writes **Graham Smith**.

For shopping, seldom a happy, male domain in the best of international supermarkets, has taken on a new meaning in Hong Kong where, for the past couple of years, 75 Army Education Centre (AEC) based in Osborn Barracks within earshot of the teeming, high-rise Colony has been running basic Cantonese for Servicemen.

Part of the course is to visit a typical market. This "market" is pitched in the Supply Sub-Depot (SSD) with a wide

variety of Hong Kong foodstuffs on offer.

The test for the uniformed barterers is not easy. They have to buy as many items as they can in half-an-hour while trying, perhaps with greater success, to save as much money as possible.

Shopping lists pale into relative insignificance for the punters, however, when it is remembered that the Chinese language has about 7,500 written characters. It is said that a 2,400-word vocabulary will give a 97 per cent working knowledge for Chinese literature.

Confucius would probably have had something profound to say on the SSD effort.

Something on the lines, perhaps, of "Learning undigested by thought is labour lost; thought unassisted by learning is perilous."



Eeh... Ummm... Ahhh...

Bayonet is still at the sharp end

DESPITE the extensive development of the armaments of war into this era of nuclear technology, one simple weapon is still carried by the soldier more than 300 years after its origin – the bayonet.

Although exactly when and where the bayonet first made its appearance is now obscure, historians believe it was probably invented by the Basque people of Spain in the 1570s.

Since then it has survived the era of horse mounted cavalry and pikemen, the advent of cartridge ammunition and machine pistols, and still exists in today's advanced technology.

The history and evolution of the weapon is traced through the centuries by Roger D C Evans – who has studied and collected it for more than 20 years – and Frederick J Stephens.

● **The Bayonet** by Roger D C Evans and Frederick J Stephens, published by Militaria Publications. Price £15.

In brief

● **In the Ruins of the Reich** by Douglas Botting. Re-issue in paperback of the story of Germany after its surrender in 1945 until the Berlin airlift three years later. Published by Grafton Books. Price £3.50.

● **For Valour** by John Percival. Re-issue in paperback of the history of the Victoria Cross and the stories of some of the men who have won it. Published by Thames Methuen. Price £4.95.

● **Burma, the Longest War** by Louis Allen. Re-issue in paperback of the story of the war in Burma, the longest campaign fought by the British in the Second World War, from 1941-45. Published by J M Dent and Sons Ltd. Price £8.95.

● **The Secret Hunters** by Anthony Kemp. Based on a television documentary which told the story of how a special team investigated what had happened to 31 SAS men missing from a behind-the-enemy-lines operation in France in 1944. Published by Michael O'Mara Books Ltd. Price £9.95.

Was Ritchie to blame for desert defeat?

DID THE supreme commander fail, were his generals hesitant or negligent, or were the lower leaders lacking in agility, determination and the interpretation of information at critical times? Was Rommel really so brilliant or just militarily persevering? He was certainly lucky and British intelligence was lax.

On December 8, 1940 Wavell's desert army moved westward from Mersa Matruh under the field command of General O'Connor with the object of driving the large Italian force out of Egypt. They succeeded brilliantly and did not stop until they had finally routed the Italians at Beda Fomm.

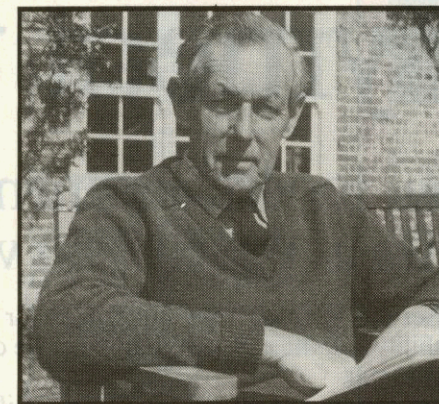
O'Connor wanted to go on to Tripoli but there were overpowering reasons in the Middle East why Wavell called "Halt!" A pity, perhaps, for five days after Beda Fomm, on February 12, 1941, Rommel landed with German troops and, in due time O'Connor was cornered and captured in Tobruk.

Field Marshal Lord Carver has been taking a new look at the Desert Army commanders, particularly at Lt Gen Ritchie, who has been widely blamed for the defeat that sent the 8th Army back almost to the Nile. After O'Connor, Wavell appointed Cunningham, who had done well in East Africa, but he failed to inspire the troops, probably through tiredness and a pessimistic attitude.

Wavell himself was superceded by Auchinleck, who appointed Ritchie to command the 8th. Ritchie suggested that Auchinleck himself should take over but was overruled.

He served loyally and kept Auchinleck informed, considered his suggestions and was optimistically keen to advance.

Most historians have blamed Ritchie for the reverses that turned the 8th Army and forced the withdrawal right back to Alamein. Field Marshal Carver, who was a staff officer in the desert, has had access to many documents and unit war diaries that were not previously available



Lt Gen N M Ritchie, pictured above during the desert war. Was he to blame for defeat? Field Marshal Lord Carver (left) presents Ritchie in a more favourable light

and presents Ritchie in a much more favourable light.

There were certainly occasions when Rommel might have been halted, even soundly defeated, but the failure to do so was not Ritchie's. Ritchie had the ability, the will and the optimism to inspire his troops and plan their forward movement, but somewhere along the descending line of command things went wrong.

There were delays in the movement of formations in the field, misinterpretation of intelligence, failure immediately to follow enemy withdrawals, long delays in deciphering messages and heavy sandstorms that added

to the normal "fog of war."

Lord Carver has produced a very interesting account of the Desert War. He was there and he has painstakingly discovered, deciphered and pieced together a whole jigsaw of situation reports, letters between commanders, signals and other material, that normally make up the jumble of intelligence in the field. It helps to clear the name of Lt Gen Ritchie – who always remained silent. – GRH

● **Dilemmas of the Desert War** by Field Marshal Lord Carver, published by B T Batsford Ltd. Price £14.95.

Memories of old India from a Hindu Horseman

THE TITLE *Hindu Horseman* is somewhat misleading today for a book which is an autobiography of an Englishman who went to India to earn his living as a soldier. Lt Col Denzil Holder considers himself a Hindu Horseman because most of his long Army service was with that famous Indian cavalry regiment Skinner's Horse.

In India, of course, the British Cavalry always referred to the Indian Cavalry as Hindu Horse.

Skinner's is mentioned time and again as, too, are many aspects of soldiering, but this is no war book nor history, regimental or otherwise.

It is rather a British officer's view of India in the first 40 or so years of this century. Army life in an Indian regiment was the base for an interesting and unique social life, with the chance to enjoy to the utmost some exotic sports hardly obtainable elsewhere.

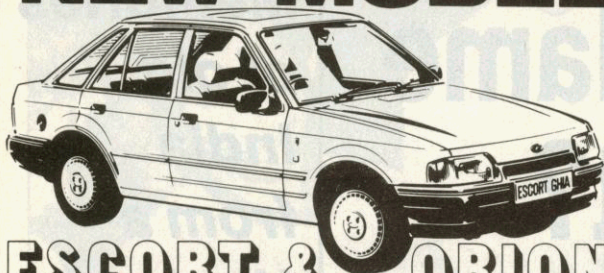
Fine shooting, big game hunting, excellent fishing and, especially, energetic high class polo, occupied much of the author's time. He was a champion player, in great demand, even among the aristocracy of Europe during his periods of home leave.

Veterans of British regiments who served in the old India, in the Punjab, the Central Provinces, the North West Frontier, will find much here to produce nostalgic memories.

Those who have not known the "heat of the midday sun," the smell of spices and of chapatties cooking on burning coddung, may here get a glimpse of a "romantic" era when the Sahib was accorded a loyalty and devotion that could not be understood today. – GRH

● **Hindu Horsemen** by Lieutenant Colonel Denzil Holder, published by Picton Publishing (Chippendale) Ltd. Price £12.95.

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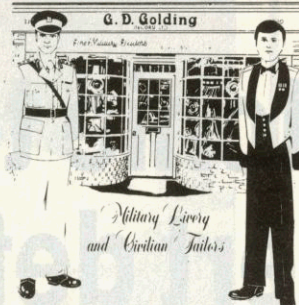
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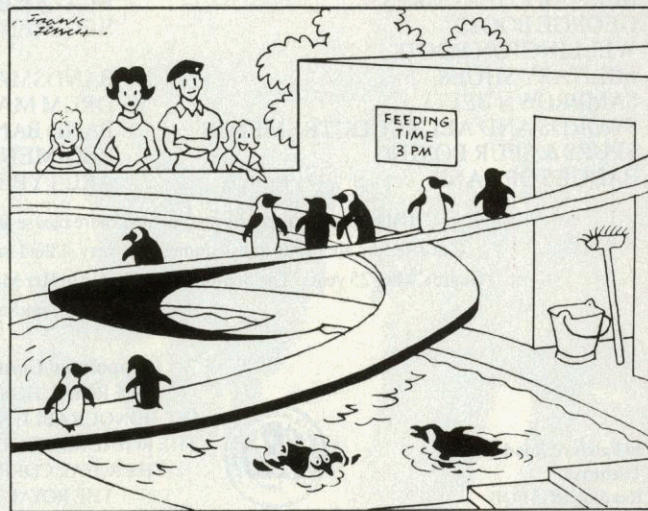
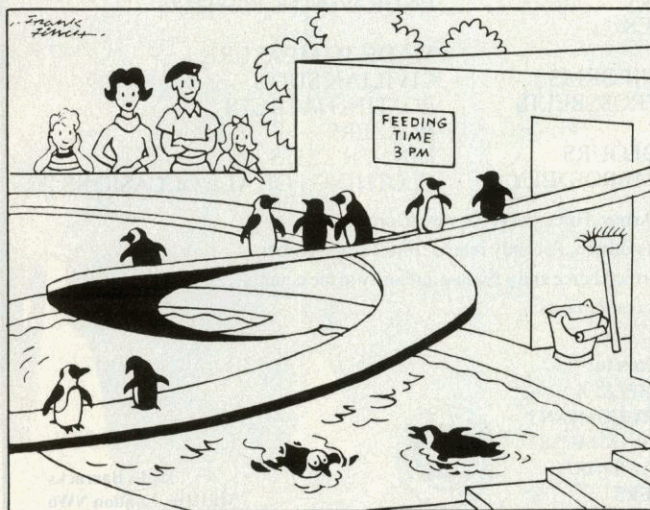
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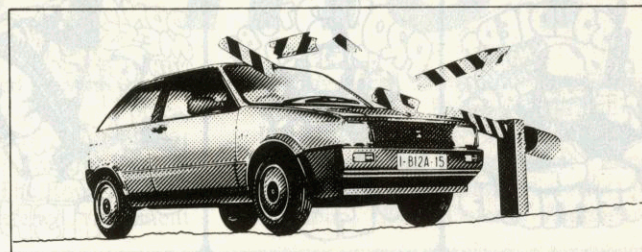
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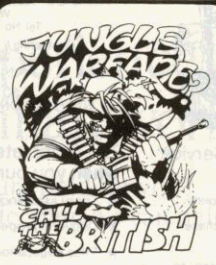
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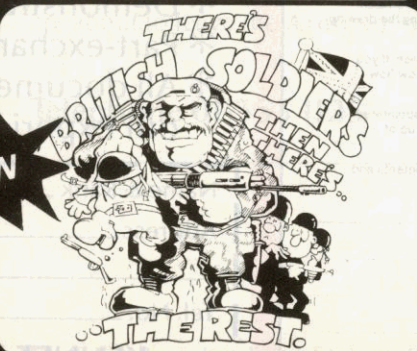
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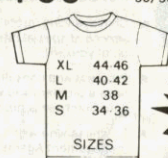
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Sam of the Somme back in action

OLDEST "participant" in the Northern Ireland first aid competition was 89-year-old Somme veteran Mr Sam Neill. As a member of the RAMC he was attached to 36 Ulster Division as a stretcher bearer during the Somme offensive and helped to recover many wounded men. Sam was subsequently awarded the Military Medal. He now lives in a British Legion home in Belfast and was invited by the organisers to watch the first aid competition

LADIES FIRST

AN ALL-FEMALE team from 7/10 Battalion of the Ulster Defence Regiment, Malone, Belfast, defeated 29 other teams to win the Northern Ireland first aid competition at Ballykinler for the first time.

As well as taking the overall title, they also won The Female Trophy too.

The competition, organised by 253 (North Irish) Field Ambulance RAMC (V) and open to all non-medical units in Northern Ireland, was aimed at improving first aid standards within the Province.

"The standard overall was exceptionally high," said Capt Noel Nash, the event organiser. "It was a very full day with an early morning start and I'm delighted to report that standards were maintained throughout the day until the early evening conclusion."

Included in the competition were a written first aid test, practical resuscitation, a major casualty incident involving multiple casualties, a vehicles incident, and a physically demanding forced march of 12 miles.

Main awards, presented by Maj Gen A S Jeapes, Commander Land Forces, Northern Ireland, were: Lieutenant General Sir Frank King Trophy (Regular Army) – 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; Ulster Defence Regiment

Trophy (UDR battalions) – 2nd Battalion, Ulster Defence Regiment; Brigadier Sir Ian Fraser Trophy (TA units) – 5th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers; Female Trophy (Women's Services) – 7/10 Battalion, Ulster Defence Regiment.



The all-woman team from 2UDR complete a test

Sinai's a hot tip for travel

ONE OF the most rewarding aspects of serving with the peace-keeping Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai is the opportunity to visit an area of immense historical, religious, archaeological and geological interest.

Most members of the 38-strong British contingent in the 11-nation force take time off to explore – with the active encouragement of the Force Commander. Free use of MFO vehicles helps.

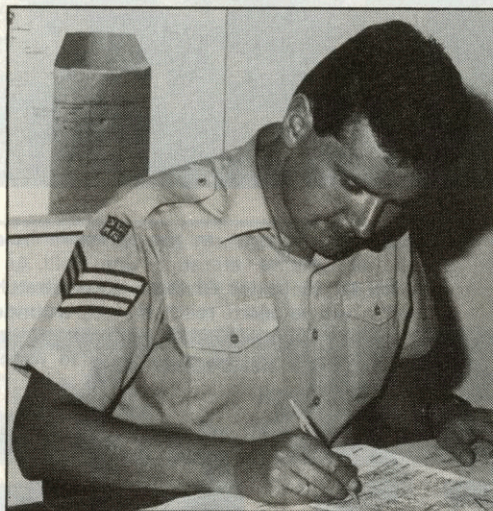
Three hundred miles to the west of El Gorah, desert headquarters of MFO Sinai, are Cairo, the Nile and the pyramids. To the east is the Holy Land.

Sinai itself is a fascinating place with ever-changing desert scenery in the north and the rugged mountain wilderness in the south – through which Moses led his followers to the Promised Land.

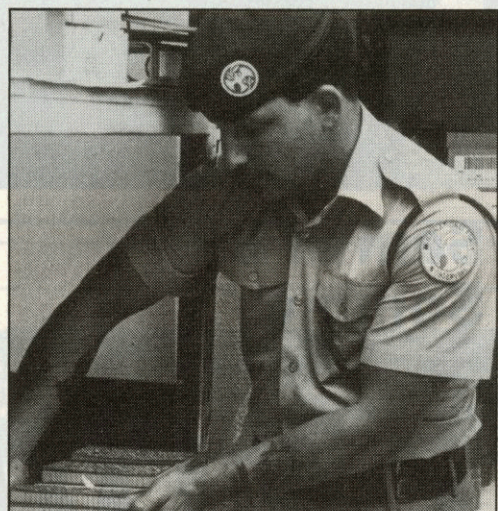
Britcon personnel get three weeks leave during their six month unaccompanied tours with the force. Food and accommodation are free, while separation allowance and a small Local Overseas Allowance are received.



Brig D Shaw, Chief of Staff, G1/G4 with Col WR Barker, Senior British Officer in the MFO, being escorted by members of the Fijian Battalion through Moses Valley



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INVICTA EXPORT

SALUTE TO THE COMMONWEALTH

Band of the Scots Guards
Conductor: Major D. Carson
Polyphonic 108d

A MUSICAL trip around the British Commonwealth is not an easy thing to achieve, as becomes evident from the programme chosen by the Scots Guards. The reason is of course that such places as Swaziland, Fiji, Tristan da Cunha and many others are not exactly swarming with Mozarts, Wagners, or even folk-song collectors.

So here we have 12 items of which five have their origins in the British Isles. Never mind though, for the disc's title is as good a peg on which to hang a programme as any, and record titles are now in short supply.

For England we have Percy Fletcher's great evocation of the English pastoral and ceremonial scene in *The Spirit of Pageantry*, though why he chose to end it with the Dresden Amen I have never discovered.

Clare Grundman is an American musician of no great imagination who takes pleasure in arranging British folk music for high school bands; his *English Suite* and *Welsh Rhapsody* are fine for the purpose but in this country must needs bear comparison with the works of Percy Grainger, Vaughan Williams, Gordon Jacob, Edward German and a few others.

The ITMA arrangement by Clive Richardson of *The Irish Washerwoman*, Duncan Beat's medley *Highland Gathering*, and Major Carson's march *Highland Rose* complete the home stretch, the latter using the Scottish Soldier tune.

Home grown too, in a sense, are Terry Kenny's arrangement of the French-Canadian tune *Allouette*, Jimmy Howe's of Australian *Waltzing Matilda*, and Trevor Sharpe's *Carnival* on West Indian tunes. David Jackson is a member of the band and supplies a neat if eclectic *Wellington Waltz* for New Zealand while Bert Kaempfert's long-lasting *Swinging Safari* serves for part of Africa.

The Falklands is the inspiration and title of a miniature overture by John Perkins, though one familiar harmonic progression places it firmly in Prague for me.

A very attractive and cost-effective tour though, for all those who cannot afford the real thing, and at £5.60 inclusive a happy 45-minute release from the rigours of our weather.

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On the record



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The Drums and Pipes and Band of The Gordon Highlanders
Bandmaster: D. Knox
Pipe Major: R. Henderson
Drum Major: H. Tomkins

ALTHOUGH I have never been a great enthusiast for pipes and drums records (drums and pipes in the Gordons' case) this one is what it's all about - variety. Variety of music, tempos, volume, ensemble, and the whole thing done with forethought and imagination.

So many over the years have neglected we sassenachs, who tend to think of the Highland pipes as monotonous, with risible upward whinnies at the start of a tune and a downward groan at the end. It is allowed just once in this programme, to delightful effect.

The recording studio, and I must modestly admit myself, have encouraged beneficial improvements in recording techni-

ques and programme building so that the results are attractive to all record buyers, and that too is what it's all about.

Here the drums, and especially the pipes, are accompanied by the band in much of the music, which includes traditional Scottish tunes of course, and a couple of pop tunes with pipes, fanfares for band and drums, solo piper, massed pipes, modern electronics, and the stereophonic possibilities explored where suitable.

I cannot mention all the music but it is mostly unhackneyed. The title tune, believe it or not, was composed by a German who has much admired what he has heard from various regiments stationed there.

It is preceded with a band fanfare by Bandsman Abernethy (what a name for a Highlander), then three tunes for solo piper, pipes and band followed by the obligatory medley of six tunes for the drums and pipes alone.

Thenceforth the band is involved in everything to beneficial effect. The modern tune *I Know Him So Well* is on band alone, and *Cameron MacFadyen* on solo piper, massed pipes and band. Side one ends with a band fanfare into a highly skilled drum salute by the Drum Major.

Carillon is another pop tune on pipes and band, as is a trio of tunes *Soldier's Return*, *Crusaders' March* and *Bonnie Lass O'Fyvie*. Mr Knox provides a medley of the best known of Scottish ballads for the band, and there is a lyrical finale of *Loch Maree*, *Ballad for Adeline* (the piece Richard Claydeman has made famous) and *The Dark Island*.

● Altogether a very fine achievement by all concerned. From PRI, 1st Bn Gordon Highlanders, BFPO 24, price £5.50 inclusive.

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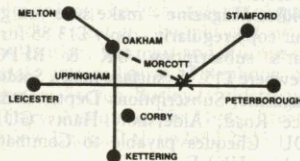
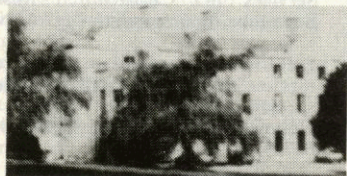
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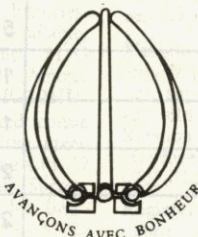
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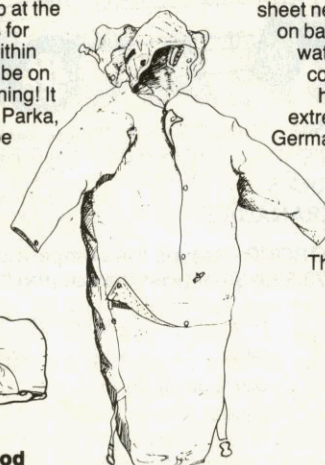


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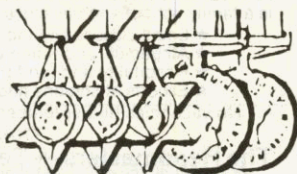


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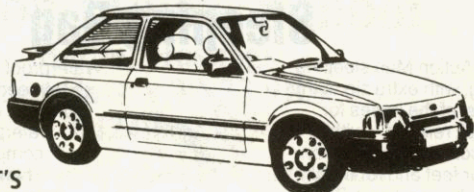
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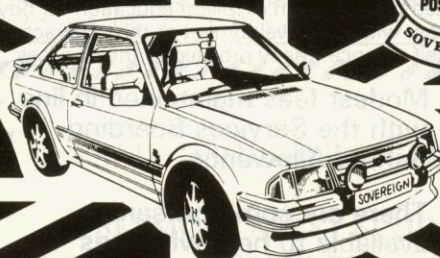
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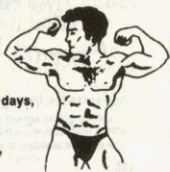
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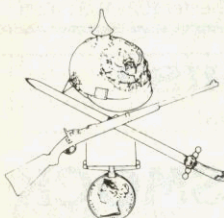
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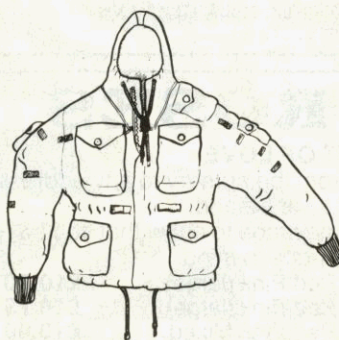
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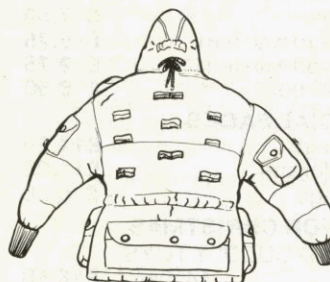
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A WIN over Carshalton, a draw against the Amateur Football Alliance, and defeats by Uxbridge and HM Prison Services have put numbers of potential Army players under the microscope during early season trials.

Three second half goals sunk the Army's first trial XI when they met Uxbridge at the Military Stadium, Aldershot. The first came when they were looking good. To make matters worse, the goal looked distinctly off-side as did a second which followed five minutes later.

There was nothing suspicious about the final counter. It resulted from a confusion of defenders which left an Uxbridge striker with little to do but slot the ball home.

The first of this season's representative games, against the AFA, albeit played by a team drawn from Army trialists, was a disjointed and untidy draw. Played on the Fulham Rugby League ground, there were times when the game resembled that of the pro-rugby code.

After a goalless opening half, the Army XI went ahead when Spr Dave McCauley, RE, set up a chance for LCpl Paul Salako, Queens, who swivelled and shot home from close in.

AFA got an equaliser, which they richly deserved, ten minutes from the end.

For the first time in 11 meetings HM Prison Services got

the better of the Army, winning comfortably by three goals to one.

Two goals in four minutes midway through the opening half were a just reward for a spell of fine football by the prison officers, and although Spr Dave McCauley converted a penalty in the 70th minute, Prison Services scored again to put the result beyond doubt.

CARSHALTON

Total commitment and not a little skill were at the heart of a much improved Army XI performance the following evening at Carshalton, where Pte Michael Ure, 1 QO HLDERS, made a magnificent save in the opening minutes to deny the home side.

Sgt Mick Sampson, REME, opened the scoring, Cfn Mickey Nelson, REME, added a second, and Gnr Matthew Carmichael, RA, who had an outstanding game, added a third from a free kick. LCpl Trevor Keen, RE, grafted hard in midfield.

The Army defend their Inter-Services championship against the Royal Air Force at Aldershot on March 18 and the Royal Navy at Portsmouth on March 25.

Team manager Maj Jim Geoghegan, RE, and coach WO2 (QMSI) Derek Old, APTC, will be hoping to finalise their squad by the beginning of November.

Combined Services, meanwhile, were kicking off their season with a special match against Notts County to mark the opening of a new sports ground and complex in Nottingham.

After touring Gibraltar in the last week of October they prepare to meet Southampton at Aldershot on November 4 and Wimbledon on December 1 in their build up to the Kentish Cup tournament against the French and Belgian Combined Services.

Become a Crusader

OFFICERS interested in joining the Army Crusaders Football Club will be sure of a warm welcome, strong social and touring traditions, and a wide selection of matches against other Services officers' teams, public schools and Corps sides.

Details about the club can be obtained from Capt N.T. Moore, R Signals, 10th Sig Regt (HQ UKLF), Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Wiltshire (tel Salisbury Mil ext 2548).

Ian's a splash hit in para victory

DEPOT Para beat 1PWO by seven wickets in the final of the Infantry Cricket Cup at Tidworth.

The match will live in the memory of those who played or watched as one of the wettest in history! 1PWO had flown from Northern Ireland to take part in the final and there was no way it could be postponed.

So when the heavens opened both teams agreed to carry on.

1PWO scored 157 for eight in their 40 overs and Depot Para replied with 158 for three.

Wearing a helmet to keep the rain out of his eyes, LCpl Ian Jennings hit a magnificent 101 not out to lead the paras to victory. Earlier in the season he hit an amazing 238 not out.

For Depot Para skipper Maj Tony Snook it was a dream come true. This was the only trophy that eluded his team last year and it was his last chance to make amends before a posting to RMA Sandhurst.

Youths kick off against Aldershot

THE Army Youth football season was kicking off with trials at Harrogate and Aldershot, followed by friendly matches against Hampshire, Aldershot FC and a Sussex FA side.

Major dates on the youth fixture list include the Inter-Services clash with the Royal Navy at Aldershot on March 7 and friendlies against the Association of Scottish Youth FCs (Tidworth, March 28) and the Boys Club of Wales (April 4).

On the domestic front, the Army Apprentice Cup final is scheduled to take place in Aldershot on December 13, the Army Youth U17½ Cup final on March 28, and the Army Youth Challenge Cup final on April 11.

End of season reward for the youth squad is a week-long tour of Scotland.



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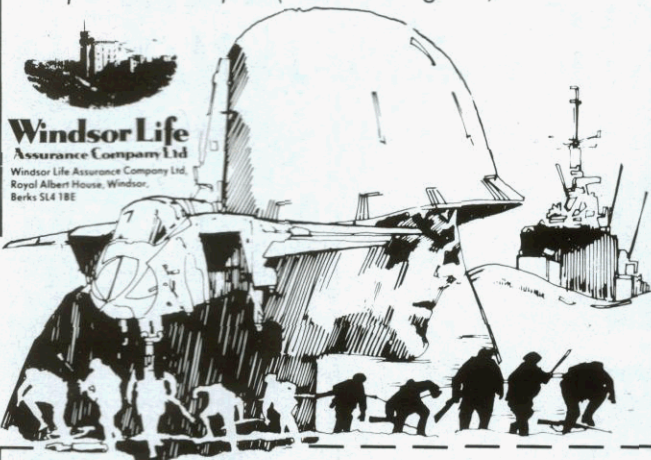
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Soviet Maj Gen Ivan Cherjomuchin (centre, wearing cape) joins other observers from the East and West at a tactical demonstration during Exercise Bold Guard. It was the first time that Warsaw Pact officers had attended a NATO exercise since the recent Stockholm agreement limiting secrecy on military manoeuvres.

Picture: Terry Champion