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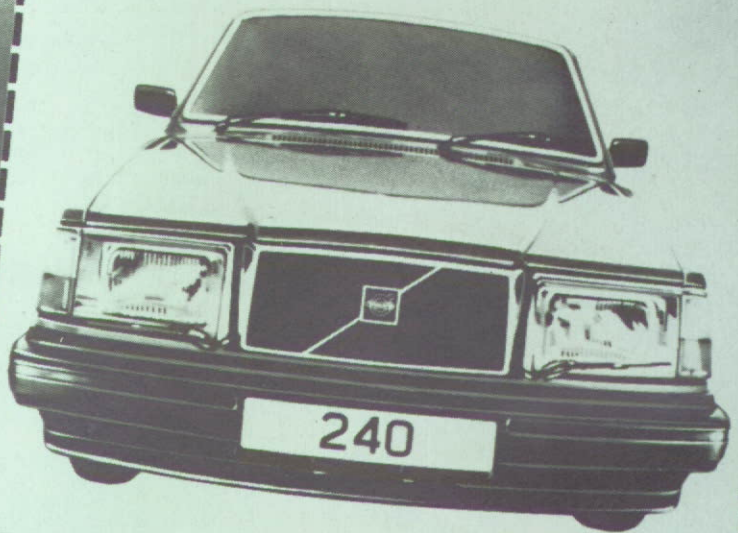
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FRONT COVER: There is still something about a soldier! Admiration for a Blues and Royals man at the Aldershot Army Display. Picture: Paul Haley

BACK COVER: Recreating old rifleman's skills are men of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada — on a visit to Winchester. See page 14. Picture: Les Wiggs

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ABOVE: High flying Anneka Rice, hosted by the Eagles — see page 16.

BELOW: Ground hugging Vikings with mines in Canada — see page 26.



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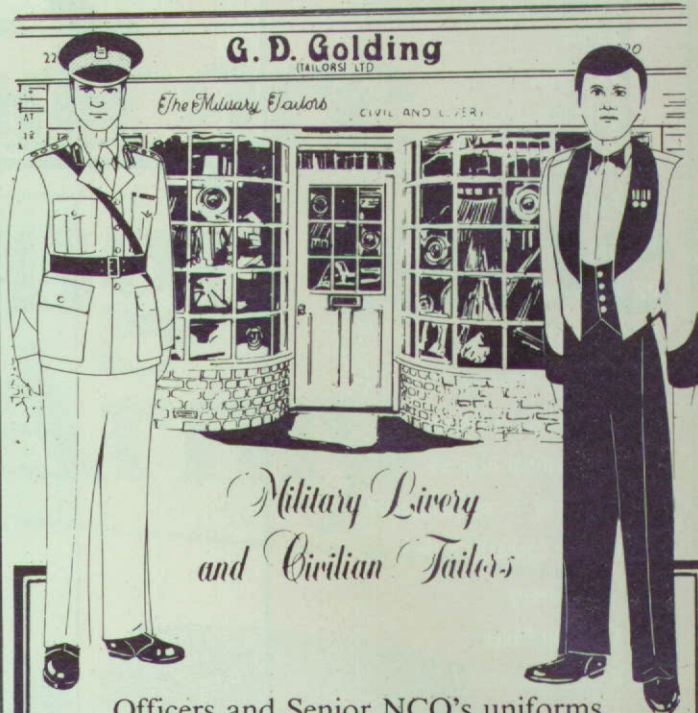
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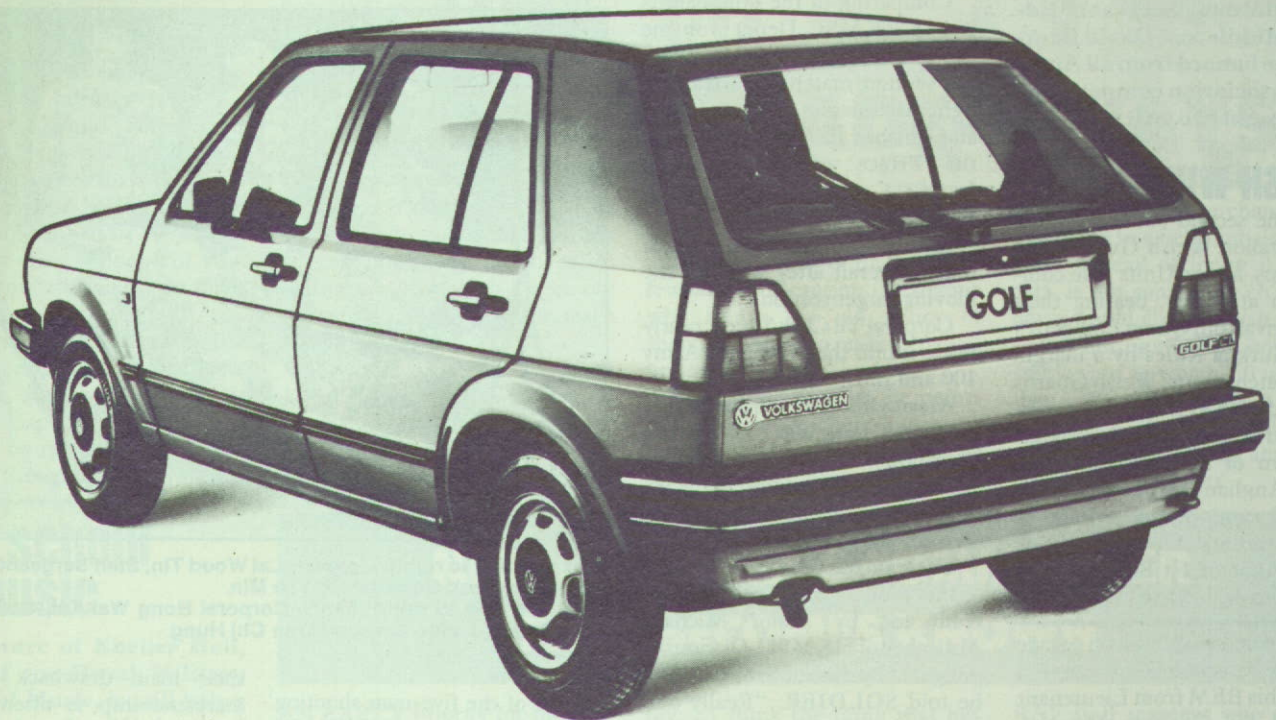
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NEWS

BISLEY SHOCK

AFTER being found with ammunition in their possession which had not been issued for a pistol shooting competition at Bisley, two Army sergeants have been banned for life from Army shooting teams.

In addition, Sergeants Edward Middle and David Bentley were banned from all Army Rifle Association competitions for five and two years respectively.

WELSH WIN

FOR the second successive year 1st Battalion Welsh Guards won the Army Major Units rifle competition at Bisley, beating their closest rivals 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles by a margin of 49 match points. Welsh Guards finished with 871. Twenty-three-year-old Lance Corporal Nigel Scarboro of 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment won the Army Queen's Medal with 890 — just six points clear of Corporal Mick Frappe of 1st Battalion The Royal Green Jackets.

KEN Yeoman was back on parade with The Parachute Regiment — to receive his BEM from Lieutenant General Sir Geoffrey Howlett, GOC South East District and Colonel Commandant of the Regiment.



HONG KONG TEAM DOES WELL ON FIRST BISLEY VISIT

CHINESE soldiers from Hong Kong made an impressive debut at the Regular Army Skill at Arms meeting.

Troops from Hong Kong based units have frequently taken part in the annual Bisley shoot out, but this year, for the first time locally recruited and trained members of the Hong Kong Military Service Corps Depot travelled to the UK for the event.

Competing in the minor units league HKMSC Depot won the sub machine gun team match and the section match for a team of light machinegun and three rifles, and finished third overall behind the Prince of Wales Depot Lichfield and Guards Depot, Pirbright.

In the rifle match they came fourth overall after winning the moving target section.

Corporal Yu Chak Shuen, nearly made it into the prestigious Army 100 and finished 70th.

Meanwhile his comrade, Lance Corporal Hong Wai Kai, was also demanding recognition by shooting his way to 19th position in the list of best individual marksmen with the sub machine gun.

The team has been accompanied to this country by a small support team led by Major Michael Mulcahey of HKMSC. Obviously delighted by this successful debut, he told SOLDIER: "Really our ambition was just to come to Bisley and see what happened. We did win the Skill at Arms meeting in Hong Kong for minor units, so its not really a surprise we've done so well.

"I think the only doubt I had was that they might be overawed by the occasion and get stage fright. The ability is there, but what we were lacking was the sort of match experience and temperament necessary at Bisley. However they've



Back row (left to right): Corporal Lai Wood Tin, Staff Sergeant Lai Wah (team manager), Corporal Ng Yau Min. Front row (left to right): Lance Corporal Hong Wai Kai, Corporal Yu Chak Shuen, Lance Corporal Wan Chi Hung.

shot to form."

Four of the five-man shooting team are instructors at the HKMSC Depot which trains support troops for the British Army. Many of them become drivers for Gurkha units or dog handlers working with British and Gurkha border patrols where the main task is catching illegal immigrants.

Others work in the British Military Hospital, in depots and workshops and with the maritime patrols.

According to Major Mulcahey

their main drawback to good marksmanship is often a little weakness in their arm strength which takes some time to correct.

"Some are good, but I think they have the strongest dedication to learn anything you teach them. They digest what you show them and they go away and practise and work hard to perfect it."

Who knows but after first successful foray the Chinese may join the Gurkhas in providing some of the most formidable competition at Bisley in the years to come.

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Until quite recently the only retirement present that old Royal Military Police horses could look forward to was a bullet through the head and the knackers yard.

But now, in the tradition of old soldiers everywhere, they are being allowed simply to fade away.

The RMP equine retirement scheme is operated through the RSPCA which finds suitable homes for the pensioners. Here Major Alan Pangborn, commanding Mounted Troop, 160 Provost Company, RMP, is officially delivering 15-year-old Jill into the safe-keeping of Mrs Jill MacDonald of Pound Farm, near Aldershot, watched by Warrant Officer 2 Michael Blakey.

Jill, the horse, has a permanent place in the annals of the RMP. She was the model for the equestrian statute which adorns the depot at Chichester.

After a service life of traffic patrols, special duties, ceremonial occasions, and appearances with the "Red Caps" display team, Jill will now be taking it easy in the quiet of the countryside. But at



least her police experience won't be entirely forgotten as one of her future duties will be to escort young, newly broken horses out on the road and, by example, teach them how to behave.

Mounted Troops Sergeant Major, WO Blakey, who accompanied Major Pangborn for the brief ceremony, was the first to ride Jill when he enlisted in 1974.

He will remember her as a good, honest, reliable horse.

Incidentally WO Blakey has a few words of caution for anyone who thinks the old policy of shooting horses on retirement was unduly harsh.

For equine recruits, he points out, service life could hardly be better — warm stables, good meals four times a day, plenty of company

and lots to do. The change to a lonely life in a field, subsisting on grass instead of living it up on oats, is not something an elderly horse would always relish.

But noting the well populated stable yard in which Jill will now live, WO Blakey had every confidence that her retirement would be as happy as any horse could hope to expect.

One school of music

THE future of Kneller Hall, home of the Royal Military School of Music, is still being decided by the Ministry of Defence.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, told the House of Lords during question time:

"We have decided there should be a single Defence School of Music covering musical training of all three Services and at present we are considering where this should be".

Kneller Hall at Twickenham was built in 1709 as the country home of Sir Godfrey Kneller, a court portrait painter in Queen Anne's days.

DRUGS CASES

FOLLOWING a court martial in Verden, eight men of the 14th/20th King's Hussars were sentenced to detention and dismissed the service after pleading guilty to possessing drugs. Drug offences were also responsible for five men of 38 Engineer Regiment being given detention and dismissal by a court martial at Catterick.

CLEARED

TWO Army Lieutenant Colonels, Ernest Parry and Michael Thomas were cleared of charges of theft and corruption following a 10-week trial at the Old Bailey, and awarded costs.

NEW FALKLANDS COMMANDER FAST BECOMES KNOWN

AN EARLY priority for the new Commander of British Forces in the Falklands, Major General Peter de la Billiere, has been meeting both the islanders and the men and women of his command.

The 50-year-old General is rapidly becoming a familiar figure on the islands — a novel experience after a career spent in the anonymity of the SAS.

Of his Command he has this to

say: "I think the thing that has impressed me above all else is the standard of training and morale that exists throughout the three services in the Falkland Islands. I am doubly impressed by the way the concept of joint services operates throughout all walks of life in this command."

One story that the General likes to tell is of visiting a Royal Navy-run cookhouse, being met by an

RAF staff sergeant who showed him a preparation bay where two soldiers were working and then introduced him to two cooks serving the evening meal who were from the Navy and the Army; customers were from all three services.

And to underline the inter-service cooperation in the Falklands the CBF has a Royal Navy ADC, Lieutenant Paul Ashcroft, RN.

Of the islanders he says: "We are their guests and it is vital to our presence here that we should have a very close association with the people both in Stanley and in the 'camp'. At present that relationship is quite outstandingly close.

"But there will have to be sustained effort by the Forces to maintain it as the high activity which followed the conflict draws further into the past."

Which is why General de la Billiere, sporting his sand-coloured SAS beret, is taking such an active lead in cementing even closer contacts with the islanders.

The General joined the SAS in 1956 and commanded 22 SAS before taking charge of the SAS Group, as a brigadier, in 1977. He held this post for six years. He was the SAS officer behind the establishment of the Counter Terrorist Force, used so dramatically to break the Iranian Embassy siege.



General de la Billiere is pictured here being shown over a Phantom at RAF Stanley by Wing Commander Geoffrey Brindle (40) who commands 23 Squadron. In the rear seat is the General's ADC, Lt Paul Ashcroft (25); he is being shown the cockpit by Squadron Leader Bob Crane (36), who is a flight commander.

Cooks to host mystery Olympic star

A top star Olympic athlete — whose identity must remain secret for the time being — has been invited to meet the cooks and chefs at the Army Catering Corps, Aldershot.

"The athlete's name can't be revealed just yet because of contractual obligations," said Colonel Tony Barnett, who gave the invitation.

The Commander of HQ Catering Group and No 5 Catering Region at Aldershot, Colonel Barnett said he wanted to thank his soldiers and their families for raising £1,130 for the Olympic appeal fund.

"The 400 families attending our Families' Day at nearby Hawley — courtesy the REs — sponsored magnificently to raise the cash.

"By inviting a star along



for lunch and a chat with some of the lads, is one way of thanking them for their efforts," said the Colonel.

FAMILIES' DAY AT HAWLEY: cooks in cold water, but they raised some hot cash

Cyprus anti-cancer march raises £200

Fashion tells the story

Should you find yourself in London with a couple of hours to spare, direct your steps towards the National Army Museum.

For there you will find guns, gongs and all things Army from the past 500 years, and an interesting and colourful display of paintings showing 200 years of British military fashion.

The exhibition, which will be open for some months, traces the development of uniforms and compares then with civilian fashion during the same period.

Research scientist Dr Alan Guy said: "We had experts from the Victoria and Albert Museum round to have a look. They went away impressed with the story we are telling."

QUICK

This year's one-day Rheindahlen march attracted nearly 2,000 entrants. With three distances to choose from — 15km, 30km and 40km — this year's participants included General Sir Nigel Bagnall, C-in-C BAOR and General roll Zerling, Chief of Staff NORTHAG.

A sponsored march from Dhekelia to Larnaca, has yielded £200 for the Cyprus Anti-Cancer Society. Organised by Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area personnel. Staff Sergeant

Dave Farnsworth who, with Colonel Johnathon Salusbury-Trelawny and Major Philip Butterworth marched the 15-odd miles for the cash.

Five from the island send a message

Ready to start beaming messages with the 8th Signal Regiment, Catterick are Signalmen Spencer Cave, Gary Cotterill, Darrin Fennell, Lee Cant and Darrin Hayden. All from the Isle of Wight, they joined on the same day, passed out on the same day and, with luck, will complete their training as soldiers and tradesmen on the same day.



SPOT

CAVE, FENNELL, CANT, HAYDEN, COTERRILL: five with a message

Railway eat-in puts Signals on the right lines!

They didn't don 'DJs' and gongs, but they did get busy with the eating irons when 30th Signal Regiment, based at Blandford, held a get-together dinner to celebrate the safe return of all their officers and men from the Lebanon.

And just to be different they held the dinner on a

train, in a coach of the Swanage Light Railway.

They held it there because Corporal Frank Roberts, who was in Beirut with the British Force, first suggested that the regiment should help the little railway with its telephone network.

He and others of the regiment restored the com-

munication and signalling links of the railway and that was how the unit came to hold their get-together eat-in on a train.

Second Lieutenant Wendy Morrison, WRAC writes: At any one time, upwards of 14 men were deployed with the Force from its initiation to the redeployment to Cyprus and

eventual withdrawal, providing communications within the Force and back to the United Kingdom.

Individual men spent up to six months in Beirut and throughout the operation a total of 60 men from 30th Signal Regiment served in the Lebanon.

None were injured, but

there were near misses and several items of equipment were damaged or destroyed.

In April the last of these men returned to the UK and such are the world-wide commitments of the regiment that this is the first opportunity to get everyone together with their wives or girlfriends.

REs pip the Piper revels

When the Pied Piper town of Hamelin celebrated the 700th anniversary in which 130 children went missing with the famed piper, the REs of 65 Corps Support Squadron, were landed with a problem.

How to get Major General C J Waters, GOC 4th Armoured Division, and Brigadier N H Thompson, Commander Engineers 1 (BR) Corps, into the town centre to join 100,000.

But the REs got round it in neat fashion. First they drove the two officers and their wives as far as they could, then they boarded a combat assault boat on the river Weser which took them smack into the town centre to join in the fun.

More than 3,600 people manned the 150 floats which included 40 horses, 41 dogs, six hens and 55 vehicles. And the procession, led by the band of the 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars, stretched nearly five kilometres.

Top man shares time with lads

When a minister calls... everybody wants to see him. And when Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces went to Berlin for two days he shared time — along with others — with the 1st Battalion Royal Hampshire Regiment and D Squadron The Queen's Own Hussars. Here the Minister gets down to the finer points of tank recognition training with the Hampshires.



PEOPLE

FACES and PLACES

QUICK

Major General Bill Cornock, new Director of the Royal Artillery, has made his first visit to the 1st Regiment RHA in BAOR since he took up the post earlier this year.

SPOT

PRICELESS TOM COMES HOME

Bobbies score at hit with the Artillery

Twenty-eight bobbies from Kent have spent a week with 94 Locating Regiment Royal Artillery, in Germany.

In a packed schedule the lads in blue learned about life in the Army in Germany, saw the East German border, spent a day with the German civil police and even found time for three football matches against their hosts.

Idea for the trip came from PC Geoff Harrison, now with Gillingham police, when he decided to renew links with his old regiment.

"I served with them for nine years," said Geoff, "and finished up a sergeant in 1982, before settling in Gillingham with my wife, Bridie, and son Brian.

"My Army training stood me in good stead when I joined the police.

"I thought it would be a good idea to arrange a football tour over here, but we have seen and done a lot more than that."

The bobbies also had a chance to swap notes with the West German civil police, who recently had to contend with the kind of crowd control that is run of the mill to Britain's police, when the Queen visited Celle in May.

Surrounded by fascinated locals all wanting to buy their hats they manned traffic points and walked the beat in Celle town centre with their German colleagues.

One of the oldest stuffed cats in the country has returned home after months on display.

Crimea Tom, a tabby with a battered look who survived the battle of Sebastopol of 1855, and who was brought to England soon after, is once again on show at the National Army Museum, London.

Said museum researcher Dr. Alan Guy: "Tom is really the museum's mascot having been here since 1958.

"Visitors, specially kids, love to see him in the Crimea gallery.

"He's been away for the past few months to the Imperial War Museum for their *Animals at War* exhibition, but now he's back on show again.

"He was given to the museum by Lady Compton Mackenzie who found him in a London street market complete with collar and silver nameplate."

Tom first found fame when war artist J D Luard featured him in a painting.

The picture, on show at the NAM, shows Tom warming by a stove with the artist's brother, Captain Richard Luard, and Mr William Gare, an official with the Royal Artillery Field Train and the man who brought Tom to England in 1856.

INTEREST

When the painting was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1857 it caused so much interest crowd barriers had to be erected.

Unable to put a price on Tom, who died on New Year's Eve 1856, Dr Guy said: "Who knows how much a stuffed cat is worth?

"But as a military curio he's irreplaceable. He's probably the only stuffed survivor of the Crimea in existence. We're delighted to have him."



WELCOME HOME: Typists Marsha Morrison and Sharon Turner give Tom a big 'hello'



TOPICS

CRACK SHOTS

The crack shots of 4 (Volunteer) Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Wales, got a rare haul of trophies from the Wales Skill at Arms Meeting (WALSAM).

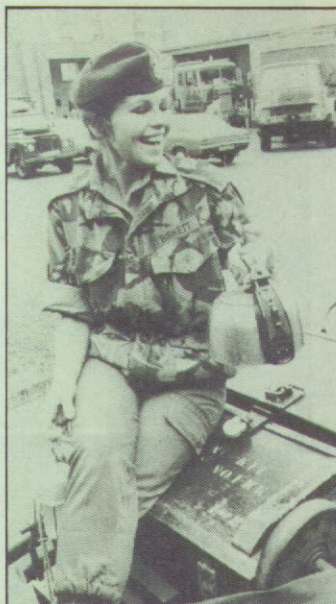
4 RRW emerged number one of this year's top ten TA shooting teams at the event by winning the TA Championship cup, the SMG match, GPMG/LMG Match, the Section Match and the Team Snap Shoot. The battalion also produced the best TA individual shot in Sergeant Evans, and the best young soldier in Private Jones.

DON'T FORGET THE KETTLE

That was the brief to Woman's Royal Army Corps Medical assistant Private Pam Birkett of HQ Squadron, 33 Signal Regiment (V). She's seen here with the precious kettle — about to start on the Regimental route that took the Merseyside Signallers to Hull and thence to Ex 'Calm Fence' in BAOR for their 1984 Annual Camp.

Mains kettles are easily run from the generators of the Regiment, and fresh 'cuppas' form a vital part of the medical section's tender loving care for the Regiment.

Picture was taken at the Alamein TA Centre HQ of 33 Signal Regiment in Liverpool Road, Huyton, Merseyside.



BROTHERS IN ESCORT

The importance of maintaining strong territorial links was emphasised by the Colonel of the Light Infantry (Major General Barry Lane) when representative companies of the 3rd and 5th (Volunteer) battalions exercised the Regiment's Freedom of the City of Hereford.

The King's Shropshire Light Infantry originally obtained the Freedom of the City in April 1960. The courtesy was extended to the Light Infantry in 1972.

Hereford is home of C Company 5LI and two Hereford brothers — Warrant Officers Alan and Brian Cheasley — escorted the colour as it was paraded through the streets of their home city.

TWO OF THE BEST

Tankards for the best trained soldier and for the best recruit were presented at Fusilier House, Balham, south London, by Mr D T B Blanford, Master of the Cordwainers' Company, to two young Territorials of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Fusilier Colin Ashton was

awarded the prize for the best trained soldier and the recruits' tankard went to Fusilier Dominic Hue.

The Cordwainers, one of the oldest of the ancient livery companies of the City of London, adopted the Territorials of the Fusiliers many years ago and are

generous benefactors. Every year after camp the Cordwainers give a full-scale dinner for every member of the "C" Company plus lady guests.

"C" company, which is the London unit of the 5th Battalion RRF, are the descendants of the old Royal Fusiliers.

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A

GREAT double act played out its swansong when the North West's Territorial Army engineer regiment went on annual camp.

With 75 Engineer Regiment's REME detachment was Corporal Jim "Snowy" Fairbrother — 30 years in the TA — and his giant Scammell recovery vehicle.

"Snowy", aged 50 of Oldham, Lancashire, did his National Service as a tank driver in the 17th/21st Lancers before joining the TA's 41st Royal Tank Regiment, later to become the 40/41st Royal Tank Regiment. More changes saw him in the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry before joining the REME in 1967.

A 60 day extension allowed him to go to camp at Cultybraggen — the former prisoner-of-war camp near Perth — and should ensure a third bar to his TA efficiency medal.

What he is going to do with his spare time once he says goodbye to the 40 year old Scammell, "Snowy" admits to being uncertain.

He said: "I really don't know what I'm going to do but I'll think of something. My wife May warned me before I went away not to try and sign on again."

He has certainly noticed the changes over the years. "At one time we would work hard for two or three days and have some time off. Now we work 24 hours a day every day", he added.

While Snowy — who builds

Sergeant Ronnie Hay and Sapper Peter Webster face the camera in Deil's Caldron.



"Snowy" bows out after 30 years

prototypes for a truck firm in Oldham — was busy keeping the regiment's fleet on the road, the sappers were hard at work in the

beautiful Scottish countryside, not that they had much time to admire the view.

They were engaged on Military

A 16th century packhorse bridge, 19th century road bridge — and Sapper Malcom Tipton and Lance Corporal Dave Law.

"Snowy" and his favourite Scammell.

At work in Dollar Glen.



Aid to the Civil Community tasks which meant working up to 18 hour days building bridges, walkways and viewing platforms — 202 Field Squadron at the Deil's Caldron and also at Comrie where they cut up an iron bridge and replaced it with a timber one; 107 Field Squadron at Rumbling Bridge and the sponsored 120 at Dollar Glen overshadowed by Castle Campbell.

Annual camp took 125 Field Support Squadron to a Boys Brigade centre at Dalguise north of Dunkeld where they repaired two ablution blocks, built 200 metres of access road and levelled two carparks and a volley ball pitch.



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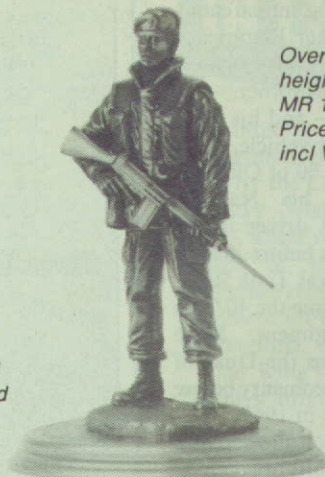
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FORTY years after two British soldiers were killed fighting with partisans in German-occupied Bulgaria, details about them are being sought for an exhibition in Sofia which will commemorate the part played by foreigners who fought with the Bulgarian Resistance.

Sergeants Nick Mervin (nicknamed Monroe) and John McCullen Walker were killed within a month of each other, Sgt Mervin when crossing the River Iskar with fellow partisans on 18 May 1944, and Sgt Walker the following month in an incident in which six Bulgarians also died.

It is known that Sgt Walker was born in November 1916 in Berwick-on-Tweed of Scottish parents, and that he enlisted as a driver in the RASC in January 1940, was posted to the Middle East in 1941 as a Lance Corporal, and served in Egypt as part of the MEF. He was awarded The Africa Star and the Italy Star.

Little is known about Sgt Mervin — his surname may have been Monroe not Mervin — although both men are said to have been members of the British Military Mission attached to the General Staff of the Bulgarian Anti-fascist Movement (the Bulgarian Rebel Army for National Liberation), and they served under Major Mostyn Davies and later under Major William Frank Thompson. They fought with the partisans of the Transki Partisan Detachment which was later transferred into the Second Sofia Brigade for National Liberation.

The exhibition is to be mounted by the Bulgarian National Museum of Revolutionary Movement in Sofia, who have sought British help in tracing any information about the two sergeants such as biographical data, photographs, or documents. SOLDIER will gladly pass on the information.

★ ★ ★

RECENT recipients of the right to use the badge of RAF Germany on their flag, 21st Signal Regiment have commissioned a commemorative plate for their 25th anniversary. On it, the emblem, a silhouette of the WW2 aircraft the Beaufighter appears beneath the Royal Signals Mercury and the plate is banded in Signals colours.

The plate, produced in a limited edition of 200, by Kaiser porcelain, costs £7.50 to applicants living in the UK and £6.57 (DM 23) to European BFPO residents. Cheques should be made payable to: Central Bank, 21 Signal Regiment (AS) and sent to PRI, 21

SOLDIER to Soldier

Signal Regiment (AS), RAF Wildenrath, BFPO 42.

★ ★ ★

THANKS TO the generosity of the family of the late Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Jones — "Colonel H" who won a VC posthumously in the Falklands — the South Devon Coast Path is at last complete 25 years after its designation by the then National Parks Commission.

It is now possible to follow the path from Lyme Regis, west of Plymouth, diverting on to roads for only some half-dozen miles out of its 72-mile total.

A small plaque dedicating the Warren Woods section of the path to the memory of "Colonel H" has been placed beside the path at the Kingswear end.

★ ★ ★

WITH walking in Wales still in mind, the Welsh International Four Days Walks from Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys are being staged 18-21 September.

The organisers belong to the IVV (Great Britain) Federation, which many soldiers who have enjoyed walking on the Continent will have heard about. Indeed, the Welsh International is on the lines of the famous Nijmegen Marches.

Those who are interested can obtain further information from The Secretary, Welsh International Four Days Walks, Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys, Wales. Tel: 059-13-517.

★ ★ ★

MOUNTAIN Express, a 40 mile walk across the rugged terrain of the Brecon Beacons, will again be testing the stamina and endurance of Britain's toughest trekkers over the weekend of 10/12 August.

Equipped with maps and compasses and carrying 40lb survival packs (30lb for ladies), the walkers will leave the Welsh village of Talybont-on-Usk at 7 a.m. on the Saturday morning. Last year a number of HM Forces teams took part and the first team to finish was from RAF Lyneham and their time was only 9½ hours. Last year over £10,000 was raised for ASBAH (the Spina Bifida association).

If you would like further information, contact Jane Hayman, Appeals Co-ordinator (Mountain Express), ASBAH, 22 upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0EP or telephone her on 01-388 1382.

★ ★ ★

A 14-NIGHT holiday in Sardinia — top prize in a Naafi T-shirt design competition — has been awarded to Staff Sergeant Michael Blower of 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment Workshops REME, Munsterlager.

Staff Sergeant Blower, now based at Waterbeach Camp with 39 Engineering Regiment REME, was awarded the prize — plus £500 in Trusthouse Forte leisure cheques for winning the Army category — on the

disqualification of the previously named winner.

★ ★ ★

SPECIALY contoured body armour for women is being produced in America.

With more women coming into the firing line while on security duties, several companies there have designed shaped protective vests.

One firm offers three levels of protection against bullets, the lowest shielding wearers against .22 and .38 rounds, while the heavier protectors guard against .357 Magnum and 9mm.

But while manufacturers in the States continue with the latest line in bullet-proof bras, nothing similar is being specially produced for British servicewomen.

A call to the Stores, Clothing, Research and Development Establishment (SCRDE) at Colchester, revealed they have nothing specially in mind for women in the Forces.

Said an SCRDE spokesman: "Those servicewomen who do have to wear body armour manage with the standard issue without difficulty."

"We have not been asked to design anything special for them since the normal protective clothing is quite big enough for most service girls."

★ ★ ★



THE GEORGE Wimpey Charitable Trust has agreed to donate £3,000 to the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association, the sum to be spread equally over three years.

The first instalment was presented by Mr G A Wright, Finance Director of George Wimpey PLC and a Trustee of the Charitable Trust, to HRH The Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of the Association, accompanied by Sir Austin Bunch, National President.

The occasion was a tea party given by the National Appeal Committee of the Association, in the Grounds of The Royal Hospital Chelsea, where this photograph was taken.

Mr Wright said that Wimpey was proud to be associated with the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association and to give assistance to their magnificent voluntary work in research and care for limbless ex-service men and women.

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CANADIANS RELIVE RIFLE HISTORY



The Canadians in drill posture.

AN ATTENTION-holding and colourful 20-minute excerpt from one of the pages of colonial Canada's military history of nearly 125 years ago marched and ran its way on a Hampshire cathedral city's revered barrack square with impressive red-brick Wren-inspired buildings as a backdrop for the occasion.

For 25 reservists from the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada — that country's oldest continuously existing rifle regiment — had come to Winchester's Light Division Depot to delight thousands of onlookers at the invitation of the resident Royal Green Jackets as part of their regimental display week.

Dressed in £800 worth of 1860 period dark green uniform with leather accoutrements, shakos and clutching 9lb percussion muzzle-loading 1853 Enfield rifled mus-

kets, the two dozen Canadians drilled, yelled and fired their way for the spontaneous approbation of an estimated 3,000 spectators over three nights in a display with

**Story:
Graham Smith**
**Pictures:
Les Wiggs**

a dusk firepower crescendo as a climax.

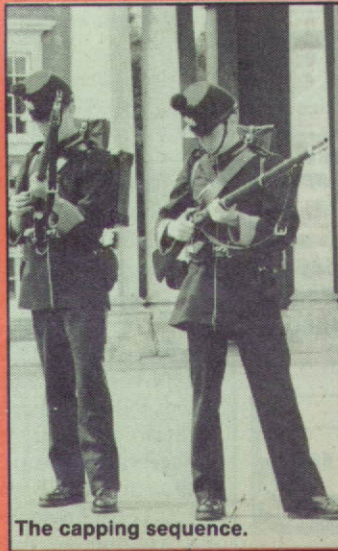
The permission of local police, however, had to be sought — and it was given readily — before the transatlantic visitors could loose off their period weapons which reverberated not only round the magnificent square but the surrounding houses of what some



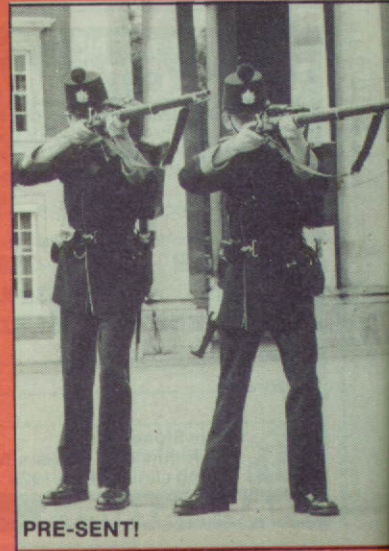
Tear and pull just before loading.



Rods out and ram home the charges.



The capping sequence.



PRE-SENT!



claim to be the Kingdom's most ancient city.

Some 40lbs of black powder for use in the brown paper cartridges and percussion caps had to be purchased locally. The Canadians had also disembarked from their civil flight into Gatwick with their 39-inch-long barrelled muskets passing through as ... hand baggage!

Captain Erik Simundson: 'Drill manuals of the period'.

Described as an "extra curriculum" activity by their Quartermaster of 23 years in the Army, Captain Erik Simundson, 39, the theme of the 20-minute exhibition was a tactical demonstration of the period.

Each man fired his rifled musket on 21 occasions, clouds of smoke



Dual-purpose drummer and bugler.

and the reek of cordite wafting into the evening air, as the company showed off to best effect with enthusiasm manoeuvres like skirmishing drills in pairs sword or bayonet exercises, the forming of squares, preparing to repel cavalry (ostensibly picking off advancing officers) and the pièce de résistance — the volley firing from a square and from kneeling positions.

Back in their native Canada the reservists — 15 of them are committed to their Canadian airborne regiment, the others are involved in anti-armour and logistic roles — put on to 20 shows a year, mainly in the Ontario area — their regimental HQ is in Toronto.

Students, a policeman, a graduate engineer, a clerk, business people and a cook make up some of the trades and professions among the men of No. 4 Company, QOR, taking part in the three tattoos.

Special care is taken by the reservists about their kit. The leather belts and binocular pouches have to be sponged down and the rifle barrels cannot be subjected to pull-throughs but have to be washed inside!

"Such sessions of kit maintenance account for a good four hours' work during an evening," Captain Simundson, of Norwegian ancestry, told me.

"In the period of about 1860 words of command used to be given by bugle. Our demonstration, using a side drum, is a microcosm of battle and all that implies," he

said. "Some of our guys have been into Winchester with some of your buglers to hand out leaflets advertising these three shows.

"The Company is a re-creation of a Volunteer Militia Company of the Canadian Militia as it would have appeared in the year 1860, the year The Queen's Own Rifles was founded.

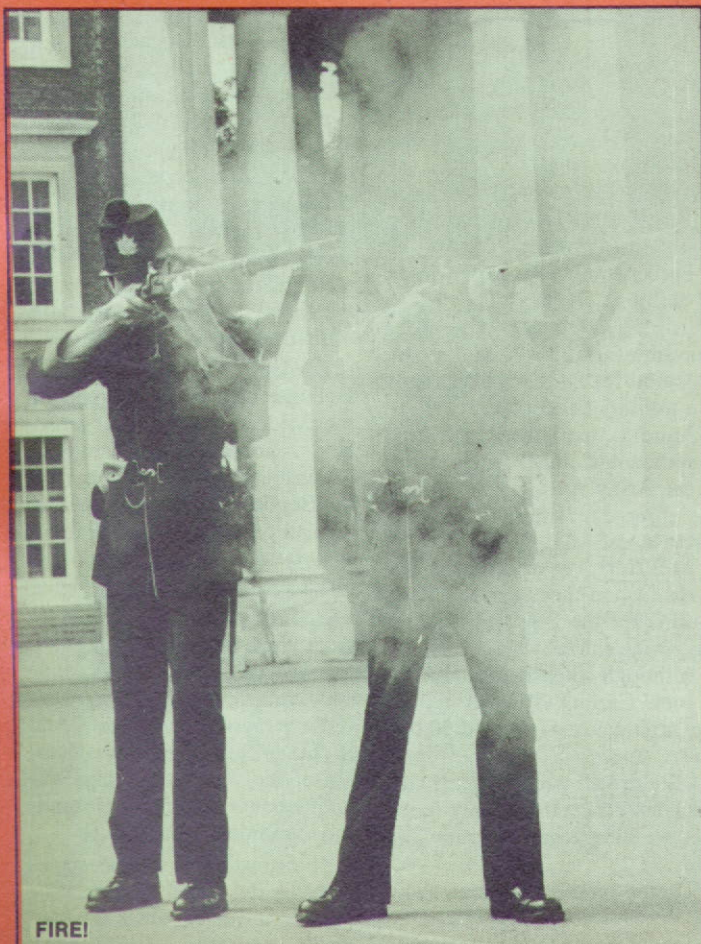
"This Company comprises serving members of the regiment who train in their own time. The drills and musketry displayed are in accordance with drill manuals of the period and the uniforms, equipment and rifles have been re-created after careful research.

"The cloth for the uniforms was found here, in England. So, too, were the muskets and the shakos. The swords or bayonets are original and the leather work comes from Canada.

"Emphasis is placed on accurately depicting the tactics and traditions that make rifle regiments unique and the QOR all our Companies bear the names of allied regiments such as The Buffs, The 60th (King's Royal Rifle Corps). No. 4 Company was given the honour in 1982 of carrying the title Gurkha Company when an alliance with the Gurkha Brigade was authorised."

Founded in Toronto in 1860, the regiment has been service in every major campaign in which Canadian forces have been involved from the Fenian Raids to the Korean War, to peacekeeping missions in the Middle East.

The Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief is Princess Alexandra.



FIRE!

In colour: back cover

WHEN THE EAGLES SWOOPED



and captured the lovely Anneka



The Eagles move in, trailing smoke.

◀ Seen again over the famous Stonehenge.

Anneka Rice and the Eagles: back to earth. . . ▼



WHEN TV's madcap blonde Anneka Rice tumbled out of Major Wiles's helicopter she said: "I'm going to write a song called 'I Left my Stomach at Middle Wallop.'" The pert do-nothing, go-anywhere blonde had just been flying with the Army's crack helicopter display team the Eagles, of whom Major Wiles is the leader.

"It's a lot different to the gentle flying I've done with *Treasure Hunt*," said Anneka, resplendent in her bright yellow overalls and smart blue wellies.

"Although it was all a bit hairy I was terribly disappointed when it all came to an end."

Earlier Anneka spoke glowingly of military flyers. "They're so reassuring with just the right amount of dash," she said as she prepared for her first-ever flight in a military helicopter.

Anneka was there to help Lieutenant Colonel Bill Carling of the Army Air Corps publicise the three-day International Air Show at the ACC Centre.

As a treat, the Eagles took her abroad when they practised their routine for the Press on the first day of the show.

Although without firm figures, Colonel Carling estimated a two-day attendance of around 50,000 plus.

"We're still working it all out, but I don't think there is any doubt that we have made a profit," he said.

Theme of the five-hour show was the 40th anniversary of D-Day and the forthcoming Arnhem date.

To set the scene men of the Parachute Regiment staged a mass para-drop and followed it up with a mock battle involving tanks, helicopters and ground attack aircraft.

There was even a stronger touch of nostalgia when a actor dressed as Monty alighted from an aircraft to drive up and down giving his famous salute.

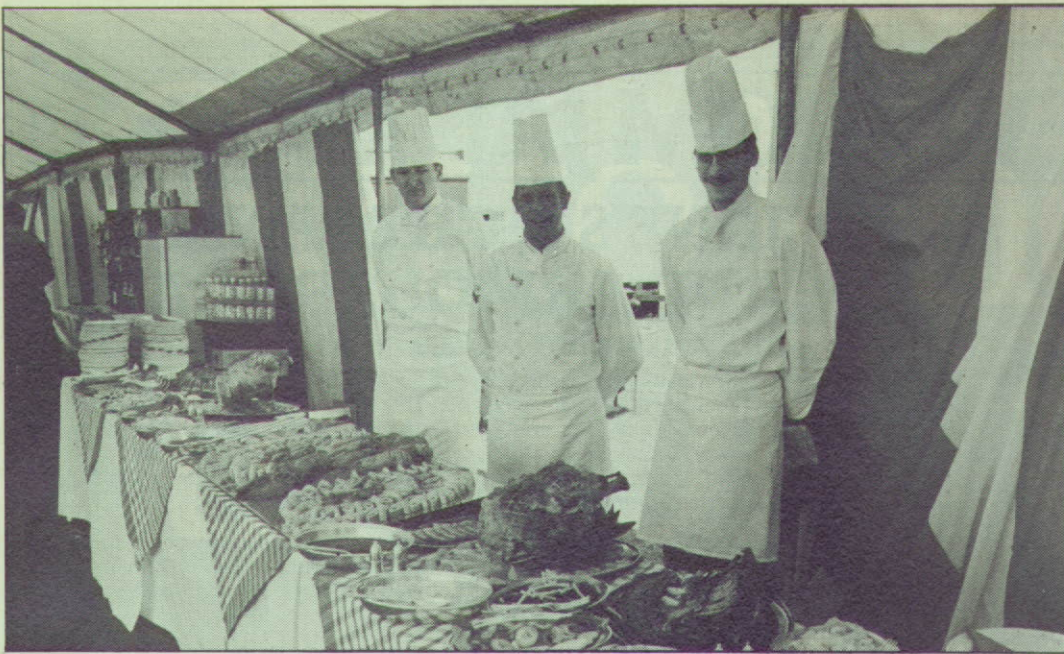
One spectacular came when 65 operational helicopters from Middle Wallop suddenly appeared in front of the watching thousands.

They were hidden within sight of the airfield, yet until their landing lights were switched on all were invisible. Their sudden ascent from behind hedges and trees and their movement towards the crowds was a chilling reminder of their awesome firepower.

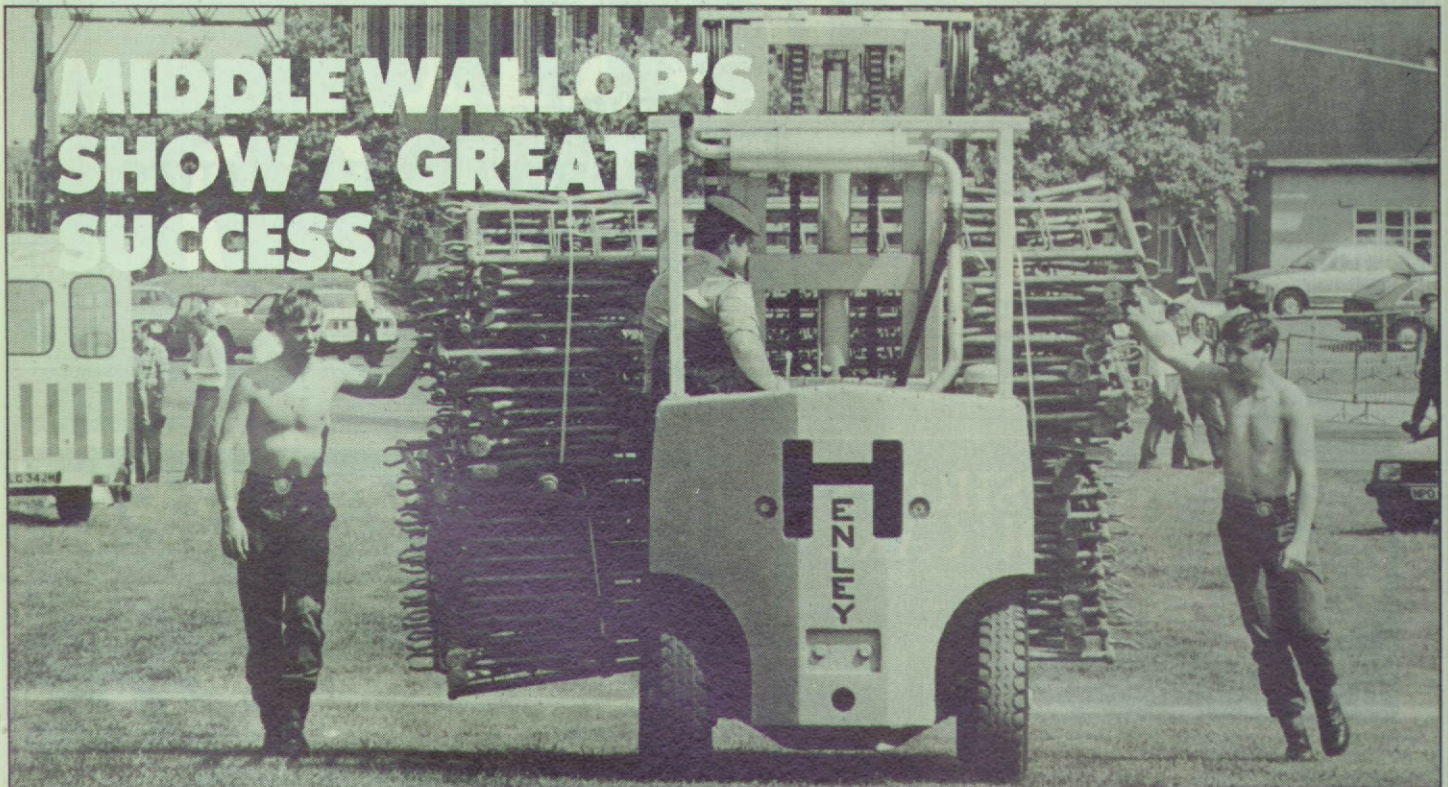
Earlier in the week the popular Helimeet Competition was held at the Middle Wallop and Broadlands, home of the late Earl Mountbatten, when teams from the Services, Nato countries and civilian organisations were tested against a series of tests and obstacles.

In addition to the flying programme artist David Shepherd, well-known for his military paintings, had an exhibition of his work and was there signing prints. And of course there was all the usual fun-of-the-fair with swings and roundabouts and scores of stands and exhibitions to tour.

"Fortunately the weather stayed fine," said Colonel Carling. "We can count our blessings for that. Now we have to count the money."

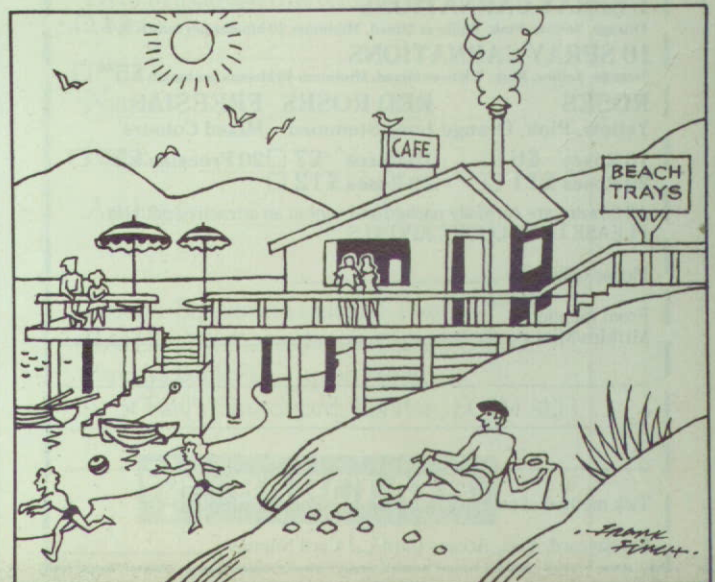
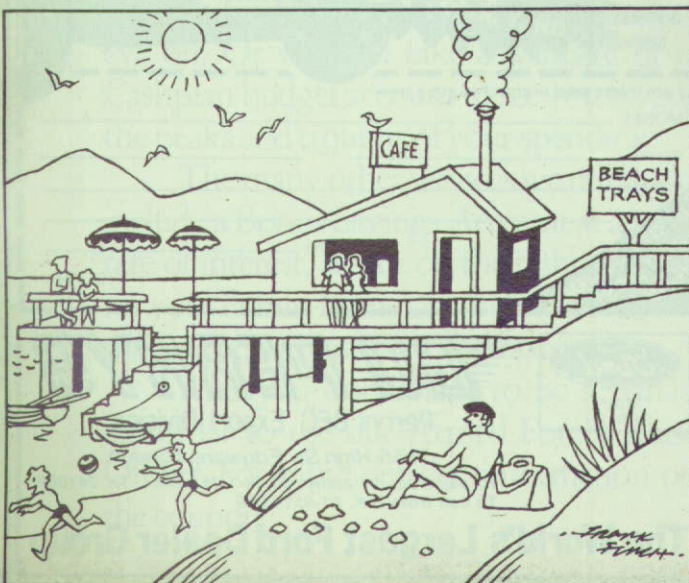


Above: Maj Gen J D W Goodman, Director AAC; left — resident chefs with mouth-watering display; below — REME apprentices from Arborfield, the "backroom" men who helped make it all possible.

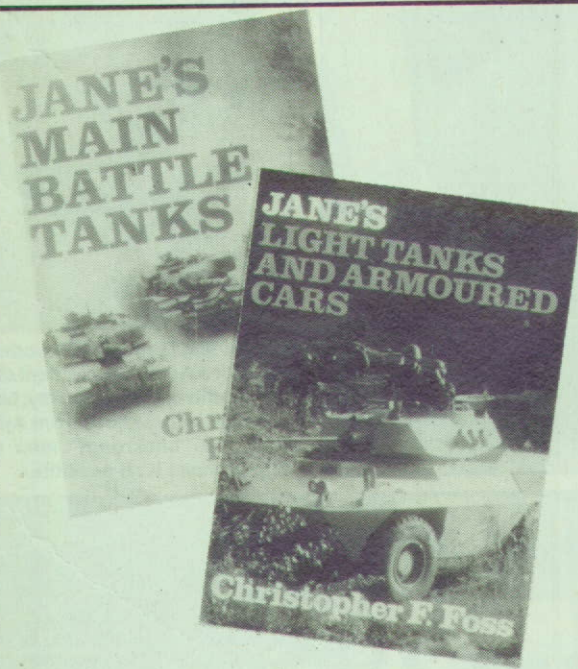


How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 40.



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BARCLAYS

4 August — 70th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 1

THE SHOT THAT BEGAN THE 'WAR TO END ALL WARS'

NEXT MONTH solemnly marks the anniversary of the most indelible date this century in military annals anywhere ... 4 August, 1914, the outbreak of World War 1, the "war to end all wars." A conflict in which the first four months until the end of November saw 9,473 officers and men killed, 39,361 wounded and 41,120 listed as missing.

The biggest total of casualties was among the infantry, an estimated 84,000, from the first seven Divisions of the British Expeditionary Force.

Later next month, parties of 'Old Contemptibles' — there are thought to be just 185 still surviving in the United Kingdom — will be making their last personal pilgrimages to Flanders Field, to "Wipers" and the nightmare trench areas of the Somme of seven decades ago.

Fragile now but still unbowed as they were when fresh-faced youngsters eager to answer their nation's call, the venerable octag-

enarians and a goodly gathering of nonagenarians will probably weep at Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstones in private communion with their pals and none but the callous would chastise them.

Many of these pilgrims of compassion will be casting their thoughts back to Southampton and Portsmouth too, when between August 6 and 10, an army of 80,000 men comprising the British Expeditionary Force, 30,000 horses, 315 field guns and 125 machine guns gathered, ready to cross the Channel to do their bit against the "Hun."

They will recall too, their transport ships leaving at the rate of every ten minutes and the sound of ships' sirens in salute in those harbours.

The Force historian described the BEF as: "The best-trained, best organised and best equipped British Army that ever went forth to war."

The first British troops to gain

10th Cameronians going over the top at Arras, 1917.

immortal glory in the four-year conflict went to C Squadron of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards who drew the "first blood" and fired the first shot for the BEF.

Captain Charles Hornby was the first man to drive his sabre into the chest of a mounted Uhlan while Corporal Ernest E Thomas, was the first British soldier to fire the first shot on 22 August, 1914.

The men of C Squadron had left England on 15 August, 1914, with the regiment which was part of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade. The 4th Dragoon Guards numbered 26 officers, 528 other ranks and 600 horses.

The landed at Boulogne on 16 August and the regiment went into camp for two days until the 2nd Cavalry Brigade was complete with the arrival of The 9th (Queen's Royal) Lancers and The 18th (Queen Mary's Own) Hussars.

Two days later, the Brigade was ordered to move forward to occupy



The effect. The headstones a lasting memorial, the flowers a living one...

a position near Bois La Haut, just to the south-east of Mons. The journey was started by train but C Squadron finished it on horseback and marched to their designated areas.

There had been no contact between the BEF and the enemy and intelligence on the latter's whereabouts had been rather vague.

On 21 August, Major Tom Bridges and his C Squadron were sent ahead of the Brigade to reconnoitre the forward area between Mons and Soignies, on the main route to Brussels.

Despite reports from the locals to the contrary, the squadron had made no sighting by dawn the next day. Major Bridges pushed on to the outskirts of the little commune of Casteau.

He stopped there and, in the hope of ambushing some enemy patrols fleeing south, took up a concealed position with two troops dismounted and the remaining two mounted in rear. They would be

Men ... horses ... and gun on their way to front.





The plaque at Casteau, unveiled in August 1939.

Bayonet drill in the Parks, Oxford.

ready for any pursuit.

The wait was a short one. At about 0630 hours a patrol of six Uhlans, lances slung, was spotted riding cautiously down the road. They did not suspect an ambush.

The dismounted men of the 4th looked at each other and held their breath. Fingers rested lightly on triggers.

Then, for some reason, the half-dozen Uhlans halted and started to talk among themselves. They turned their horses round and rode in unhurried fashion the way they had come.

Major Bridges turned excitedly to Captain Hornby, who was commanding the two mounted Troops, and said: "Now's your chance, Charles. After them with the sword!"

The two Troops galloped up the road but the Uhlans had a good start.

It was not until the C Squadron mounts were clattering over the pave and tram lines of Casteau's main street did the Captain realise that he was up against more than he had bargained for!

In the street ahead, at least half a squadron of Uhlans and Cuirassiers formed a wedge at its exit.

Some comfort in the haystacks.

The British Troop took on the leading sections.

Hornby plunged his sword into the chest of an Uhlan. His orderly, Private Tinley was close behind him and later remarked: "I found myself kept busy by a big blond German trying to poke his lance into me. I could easily parry his lance but could not reach him."

Realising their lances were no match for sabres in a melee, the Germans retired to the bottom of the street, dismounted and took up firing positions.

Captain Hornby, deciding to avoid unnecessary risk to his weaker units, did likewise.

Corporal Thomas, a former boy-trumpeter and the son of a Captain-Quartermaster in The Durham Light Infantry, was the first British soldier to come into action with his rifle. He felled a mounted officer.

By this time, No 4 Troop had arrived and the enemy, breaking off the action, remounted and disappeared along the Soignies road.

With a force of 60 men now behind him, Hornby gave chase and, after a mile, caught up the rearmost enemy, driving into them with the sword, killing several and capturing five who had tossed away their lances and surrendered.



By now Hornby and his men were coming under fire from a battalion of cyclists on a ridge ahead. Meanwhile, the Uhlans, reinforced by two Troops of Hussars, again dismounted and opened fire.

In timely fashion, Major Bridges galloped up with the rest of C Squadron. They took up dismounted positions alongside Hornby's troops, to return the fire.

In the interim, Bridges had learned from his prisoners that he was facing the advance elements of an entire German cavalry division. He would be outflanked, he decided, and withdrew his squadron back to Casteau.

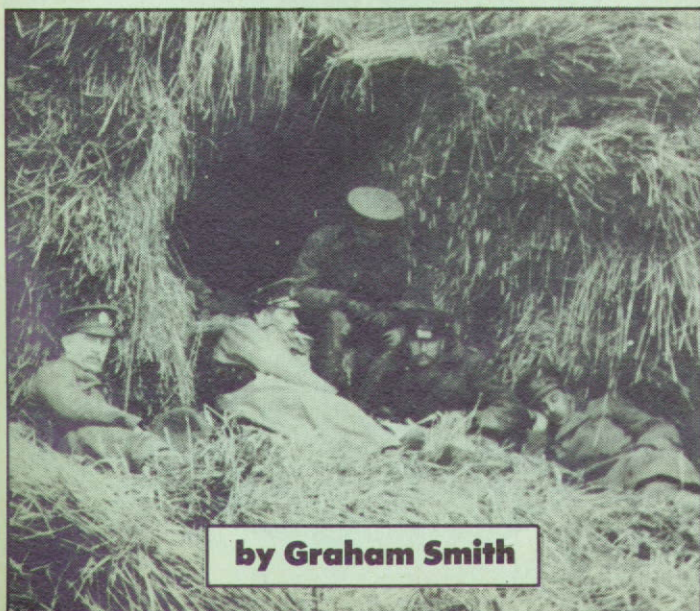
A plaque commemorating the

Is there a better 'ole?

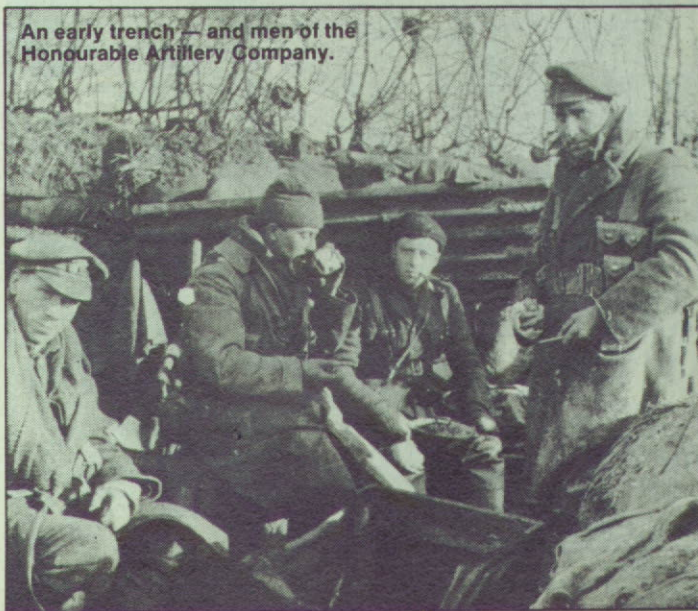
"first blood" action was erected at Casteau and unveiled on 20 August, 1939. Some thirty Old Comrades, including Captain Hornby, were there.

Sadly, Corporal Ernest Thomas was not. The man who fired the first shot had died just six months before in February. But his widow and daughter were at the ceremony.

Next month, those who did survive will doubtless don spectacles to peer at the bi-lingual bronze plaque that told so much; a glorious, opening chapter for the British Expeditionary Force in which the old and bold, served with such distinction and pride.



by Graham Smith



An early trench — and men of the Honourable Artillery Company.

IT WAS too good an opportunity to pass up. Two guaranteed days away from the kids and the married quarter kitchen sinks — with the promise of adventure on land and in the air as 18 wives were determined not to succumb to the title

...



EXERCISE TIRED LADY

IF YOU went down to the woods that day, you would have had a big surprise, too. There was no picnic, though the atmosphere conveyed that impression, but 18 “tankies” wives — one of them eight months pregnant — who had just spent a night out with a difference. Not on the town but under canvas on draughty Salisbury Plain.

The object of the *al fresco* Exercise Tired Lady in charitable temperatures and centred round nine tents pitched in a small copse near Tank Crossing Three was to show the ladies how their husbands operated on 56-tonne Chieftain tanks as part of the Scottish-recruited A Squadron, 4th Royal Tank Regiment.

For one of the highlights of the two-night outdoor stay was a ride

“Now madam, I’m sure we can squeeze you in the hatch!”

in the Commander’s, driver’s and gunner’s seats of the three tanks — Dakeyne, Damnation and Dandy — which had rumbled eight miles across country from their Warminster base as part of the Demonstration Squadron.

Brought to the site the night before in far from Cinderella-like fashion — a canvas-topped four-tonne — the wives, who have 20 children between them, left the dads behind to babysit. One ‘tankie’ was minding four of them!

Timber was cut for the fires that evening. The mood was high. The two-person tents — the girls had paired off by prior arrangement — were ready to be pitched then ... temporary disaster. Somewhere along the line someone had forgotten to include the poles! These were sent for.

In the commander’s seat; trouble with a beret...



Story: GRAHAM SMITH
Pictures: PAUL HALEY

Once pitched, "Kanvas City" was ready for occupation. The ladies, courted in their husbands black overalls and looking quite fetching, set about cooking the evening meal.

Smells of chicken curry and rice, steak and onion casserole wafted from the stand of woods. Tea and coffee bubbled on hexamine blocks. Mess tins stood by for filling. Fruit salad tins had flipped their lids, courtesy of an opener, to round off the meals rustled up from 24-hour ration packs.

The ladies — and even three-year-old black labrador, Ben — looked fresh and ready for action on the first morning despite an early call; an hour too early thanks to the "crazy watch" of Mrs Jackie Lording, wife of Lance Sergeant John Lording, of the Coldstream Guards and a member of the MT Support Weapons Wing at Nether-avon.

The mistake was laughed off in good fashion by the rest of the girls who assumed it must have been Zulu time.

Few of the ladies admitted to putting on make-up at any time of the stay and none confessed to putting in curlers before snuggling down in their sleeping bags.

There were laughs. Lots of those. Some sang. Mostly they talked about their husbands ... or, so they said.

With partisan Scots amid their happy host, some had brought a dram or two for late night aperitifs. Mrs Sheila Crawford, wife of tank commander, Corporal Ian Crawford and mother of two children, Mark, 12 and Rhonda, 10, had brought three litres of home-made white wine.

For her, the occasion added another dimension; it was her wedding anniversary.

Mrs Fiona Walker, whose husband, Corporal Stan Walker, is a tank commander, said: "I think this sort of camp is a good idea. It's good to get away from it all. From the married quarter and Warminster for a couple of days.



You can have a bit of peace."

Dad had been tending son, Darren, two, the night before.

Another rolled over in the night suddenly to feel a lump in her trousers near the groin. "It turned out to be my Mars bar!" she said with a giggle.

Mrs Tracey Orr felt something wet on her face. "I thought my husband, Lance Corporal Alec Orr had developed a wet nose all of a sudden."

It was a wet nose, indeed, belonging to Ben, the labrador, who was checking the tents and belongs to Mrs Jackie Smee, wife of Staff Sergeant Tony Smee, a Troop Leader. Some fantasised it was a prowler.

Standing out amid the ladies was Mrs Sue McCann, wife of Corporal Frank McCann, a tank commander. Eight months pregnant and mother of Danny, two-and-a-half, she had taken part in all the activities apart from the early morning "run" of debatable distance, according to consensus. "If I had done the run I would have given birth," she quipped. "I was brought here by Land Rover and the driver was a bit

Away from the kitchen — but not the cooking.

scared because all he had on board was a First Aid Kit."

Tracey Orr cracked: "That would have been OK. We've got knives and forks. We could have given you a Caesarian!"

Stirring a novel breakfast instead of her usual muesli, Mrs Jane McBean, wife of the Squadron Officer Commanding, Major Charles McBean, dished up bacon-burgers and oatmeal blocks.

"It's amazing how noisy the skylarks are," she observed.

Mrs Irene Thomson, mother of three and wife to Sergeant Major Bob Thomson, had a salutary reminder of her camping expedition during a call of nature. "I stung my bum on some nettles," she admitted.

"I suppose I was lucky then," said Mrs Jackie Smee. "It must be those compo rations. I am sure they put something in them."

And what did the "girl talk" at night comprise?

"We were talking about our

"Smoking on parade! What's your name...?"

husbands. Don't we always?" Mrs Smee suggested. "We are all Army women and we behave ourselves. We are always singing our husbands' praises!"

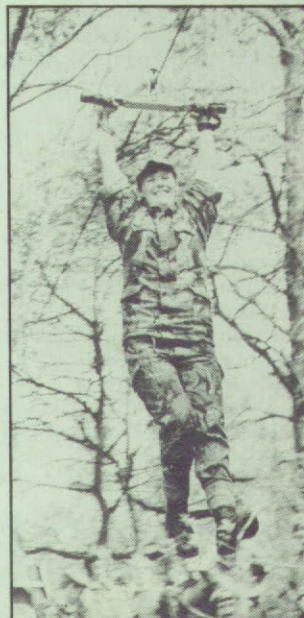
Last word went to Major McBean, OC of the Demonstration Squadron — they put in 24,000 tank man-hours each year in support of armoured and infantry units — said: "They are a good bunch and I see them, from time to time, at social functions."

In addition to learning how to drive the Chieftain Main Battle tank, the ladies carried out certain command tasks within time limits in the afternoon and shifted their camp later. They "yomped" two miles across country.

After an 0600 reveille and another "run", the finale saw the wives "walking on air" in the form of parascending.

Then, it was home for lunch with their hubbies and the kids.

KEEN IN GERMANY TOO!



Gaynor Brown on the death slide.

While the wives were busy on Salisbury Plain, BAOR was carrying out the same manoeuvres as well. The name of their venture: "Trouble and Strife" which not only involved wives but girl friends, too, appertaining to the tankie menfolk of C Squadron, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

The exercise was centred on the Sennelager Training Area and these ladies lobbed drill grenades at imaginary targets — or so they said!

An assault course ... clambering up a fire tower ... 'jungle' patrols ... the death slide ... and the canvas comforts of their camp beds filled their days and nights. And they plan to do it again — in October!





FAMILY Income Supplement (FIS) which is paid over 12 months will in future be paid at the same rate throughout the year, only new claimants will receive the new rate announced for each November.

Service families are eligible and do receive FIS both in UK and overseas. In the UK the Department of Health and Social Security pays.

Overseas MOD, as good employers, pay FIS out of the Defence Budget but with no milk tokens.

Coupled with FIS are fringe benefits, one is free milk tokens to the value of seven pints of milk, or two tins of SMA. Yet these tokens are not available overseas.

Overseas it is likely that SMA will be used, at about £1.50 per tin, £3 a week, £12 a month.

A loss of £144 to that family on FIS. It is cash, it is an entitlement and a financial loss to families.

It matters not whether we have one or 100 families on FIS, this loss must be rectified.

Miss Brodie, Army Welfare Assistant in Chester, raised this issue, prompted by a number of families on FIS due to go overseas.

She asked what provision will be made to cash and milk tokens.

NAAFI have been approached regarding the collection of the tokens. MOD and SSAFA are aware of the problem and are looking into it.

It was not possible to give a figure in answer to a question in the House of Commons regarding Service families receiving FIS in GB, because the numbers are in the overall figures for GB.

However, as FIS is paid by the MOD to those who claim when overseas — 79 families abroad are in receipt of FIS, so 79 families are losing up to £144 a year.

If you think you are eligible read DHSS leaflet FIS1 available overseas in BFPO's.

Anne Armstrong

Home tel: Camberley 29653

REVENUE AID

Income Tax — Leaving the Armed Forces P164 Helpful Information when you Leave the Forces, explains taxing your income, Form P45 and civilian pay.

If the leaflet does not cover your situation write to: Inspector of Taxes, at Government Buildings, Ty-Glas, Llanishen, Cardiff, CF4 5DZ.

GUILD OF ST HELENA ON MOVE

The Guild of St Helena office is moving from the Duke of Yorks Barracks after 26 years.

The Guild will be temporarily housed in an office in Chelsea Hospital. Temporary address: c/o Military Chapel, Chelsea Bks, London, SW1 8RF.

And shortly to retire after a combined service of 19 years are the two Guild Secretaries Mary Rogers and Olive Harding.

June and July are always busy months for the Guild, The Handicapped Children's Holiday and Guild Day, but fund raising carries on throughout the year.

Just one of the many cheques gratefully received (picture right) came from 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, who raised £200 from a band concert held in the Garrison Church, Colchester. The cheque is divided equally



between Helen House and The Guild.

Mother Frances Dominica of the Anglican Society of All Saints, captured the hearts of the many Guild members when she spoke at one of their Guild Days.

Both charities care for the sick and handicapped children. More information from: Helen House, Mother Frances Dominica, All Saints Convent, 36 Leopole St, Oxford, OX4 1RU. Tel: (0865) 40903.

MOD YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

The MOD operate two training schemes for youngsters: one the MOD Apprenticeship Scheme in UK and the Youth Training Schemes run in MOD establishments in UK.

If any youngsters in BAOR, or elsewhere overseas, would like to apply for consideration, they should write to the MOD establishment of their choice, as soon as they know they are returning to UK or have accommodation in the area. The schemes are non-residential.

The MOD Youth Training Scheme List (Industrial) is publicised below: For further advice, write to: MOD Room 404, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, WC1B 4AY.

Craft 'Broadskills'

93 VDW REME, Ashchurch, Nr Tewksbury, Glos.
RNAI Fleetlands, Fleetlands, Gosport, Hants.

ARE Portland, Southwell, Portland, Dorset.

RAE Farnborough, Engineering Training Dept, P68 Bldg, RAE Farnborough, Hants.

RAE West Drayton, Naval Engineering Dept, Warwick Road, West Drayton.

ROF Radway Green, Crewe, Cheshire.

27 Command Wksp REME, Warminster, Wilts.

43 Command Wksp REME, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants.
A&AEE Boscombe Down, Salisbury, Wilts.

35 Central Wksp REME, Old

Mould and condensation seems to attack all kinds of houses both at home and overseas.

For tips to help overcome this problem there is a leaflet called:

"Condensation & Mould

Growth" available at CAB's and Town Halls.

Or, write to: SOLDIER or Individual Copies or to Department of Environment Distribution, Building 3, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0NZ.

Inland Revenue PAYE Have you a query, a problem, but your tax office is miles away? If so, one of the Enquiry Offices, there are 35 in the London area, 25 in other parts of England, 31 in Scotland, 4 in Wales and one in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

You can telephone, or call at any one of these local Enquiry Offices, which are listed under 'Inland Revenue Taxes, HM Inspectors of'.

Last year nearly three million people received free help and advice about PAYE Enquiry Offices.

Dalby, Melton Mowbray, Leics.
ROF Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham.

Catering
COD Donnington, UCSM, Central Ordnance Depot, Donnington,

Telford, Salop.
RSME Chatham, Brompton Bks, Chatham, Kent.

Storekeeping
HMNB Roysth, PSTO (N), HM Naval Base, Rosyth, Fife.

£8,000 MINIBUS FOR SCHOOL

THE ARMY Benevolent Fund has handed over a new £8,000 minibus to the Corsham Lypiatt County Primary School in recognition of the special role of the school in working with the children of

Service families in transit.

A special fund has been set up to finance the running of the bus and some 55 Army units were asked to subscribe towards those costs. To this end, £1,500 has been raised.

Here's proof the Army is truly a family business. . . .

THE FAMILY that soldiers together — sticks together, they might say with every justification up Chorley way in Lancashire.

That is certainly the case on Tuesday drill nights and fortnight-long summer camps for the Bradshaw family — father, mother and daughter — who serve with the TA's Duke of Lancaster's Oen Yeomanry at its £330,000 facelift drill hall regimental headquarters.

The Bradshaws — 24256293 Corporal Tony, WO 463421 Corporal Margaret and WO 468970 Private Karen — all arrive together on drill nights but seldom work together, marching off smartly in different directions across the parquet floor.

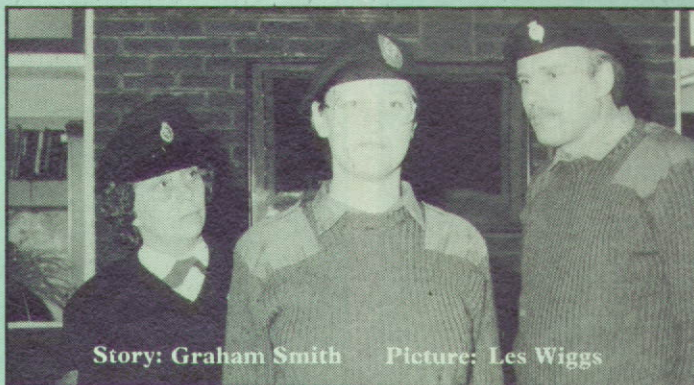
Tom, in the TA for eight years, is an MT driver with the DLOY; wife, Margaret in the TA for five years is a pay clerk; 20-year-old daughter, Karen, a regimental signaller.

Contrary to expectations among the status conscious neither Corporal Bradshaw, A. nor Corporal Bradshaw, M. try to pull rank on each other.

"I've got the seniority," says a grinning Tom, a driver by civilian occupation. "Seniority by four years," he said.

"But I've got the edge," countered Margaret, a corporal of 12 months, a housewife and former shop worker. "I tell him he'll get paid last each month if he has not done something in the house. He's building kitchen cabinets at the moment and he likes doing it."

THE BRADSHAWS LOVE THE TA



Story: Graham Smith

Picture: Les Wiggs

The Bradshaws: from left — Corporal Margaret, Private Karen, Corporal Tony.

Both Bradshaws senior met during their DLOY service. She had joined the regiment because people had continually extolled its virtues.

Ironically, Margaret still has the chance to pip hubby Tom in the promotion stakes. "I could make sergeant if I attend a certain course and there is a particular vacancy, but I don't think that is likely."

Then, with an ever-widening smile, she said: "I wouldn't want to be a sergeant."

Crack-shot daughter, Karen — she was the top womens' shot

among a dozen contenders at last summer's annual camp — has been itching to get into the TA for years; five years, to be exact.

So keen was she to join that she unofficially attended Army Cadet Force drill nights to be among the lads in khaki. She had, in the event, to wait two years before enlisting in the DLOY.

A student of French and English at a Tertiary College, Karen said: "I suppose it was mum who persuaded me to join the TA and this unit, in particular. She was always talking about it and how

good it all was. Now, I'll stay as long as possible.

"I enjoy training with the signals section and in the new voice procedures. It's all very interesting and friendly."

Karen's 19-year-old boyfriend is bent on an Army career as well — with The Queen's Lancashire Regiment as a Regular.

And what of future generations of Bradshaws who, in military style of discipline, might still expect seniority in the bathroom as they prepare for drill nights?

"If I have any children in years to come then I would definitely try to maintain the family connection and get them enrolled," said Karen.

Meanwhile, there are already two more Bradshaws on the sidelines at home, Paul, 14 and Phillip, nine.

"We are not sure yet if they are going to be interested in joining the TA," said Tony winking at wife, Margaret.

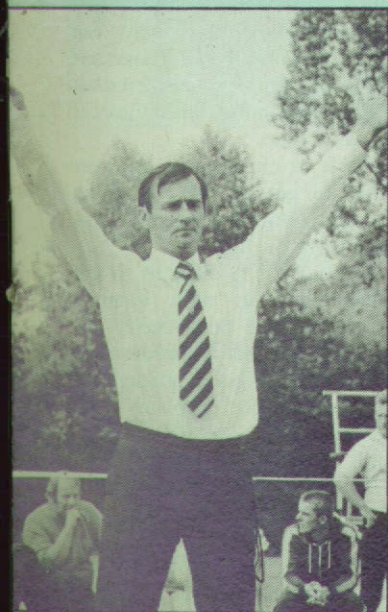
The Lancashire family that soldiers together, camps together, too, in civvy life.

For Cpl Bradshaw, A. and Cpl Bradshaw, M. will be holidaying under canvas this year using all of their military expertise gained over the years — but as plain Mr and Mrs.

Margaret quipped: "Reveille will mean absolutely nothing. We will be able to get up when we want!"

● Special feature on the Duke of Lancaster's own Yeomanry — p 34.

THE ROUSELLS ALL PULL THEIR WEIGHT!



Russ Rousell, above and his son Tony, right.

The 1984 Army Tug-of-War championships were quite a family occasion.

While Staff Sergeant Russ Rousell, a permanent staff instructor with 257 General Hospital RAMC (V) in Chelsea, was acting as one of several judges, his son, Craftsman Ian Rousell, REME, was digging in his heels and pulling his heart out for 50 Missile Regiment, RA, in pool "A" of the heavyweight division.

At the same time, Staff Sergeant Rousell's wife, Jill, was in the official tent acting as recorder.

Obviously tug-of-war runs in the Rousell family blood. Staff Sergeant Rousell has been at it for 20 years, as a competitor and now as an official. Perhaps Ian, whose team came third equal with 1 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC in pool "A", will follow in his father's footsteps.

● Tug of war report — p 50.



Story: Robert Higson

Pictures: Doug Pratt

Writer John Walton and photographer Paul Haley
continue their travels in Canada and see...

THE VIKINGS GET A VIKING WELCOME!

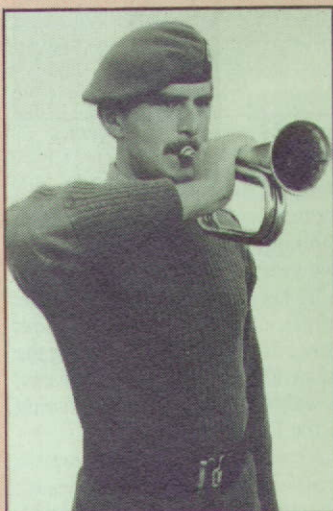
TAKING their last opportunity to train as a battle group with their own integral gun battery before departing for Northern Ireland, 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment winged their way to Camp Wainwright in Alberta for the first of this summer's three Pond Jump West exercises.

Luck was not with them. As they moved into the final week-long battalion exercise of their one-month visit the heavens opened and the worst local summer weather in living memory swamped their manoeuvres.

Second-in-command, Major Richard Haes said: "For four days it poured down like a monsoon. We had about 40 men with trench foot.

"Their feet got soaking wet even with the new combat high boot. It made life unpleasant and there was nothing you could do about it."

Despite the hardships the

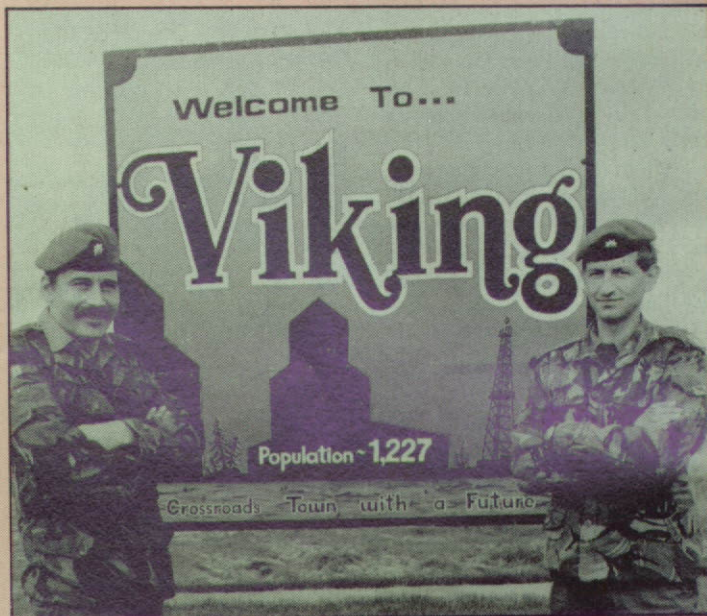


Drummer Kevin Barber sounds a call...

Vikings were convinced they got their money's worth from the exercise. After a lengthy build up through selection and company phases the battalion exercise began with a river crossing on foot at night.

After attacking the 'enemy' defences the 'Vikings' continued to advance over some 12 kilometres

Lieutenant Colonel Tony Calder, Commanding Officer.



and then went into a defensive phase just about the time the rain did its worst.

Despite the weather most of the targets, which had been set up by the Anglians' own safety control team, worked well. Tank targets were made out of hardboard, balloons were used for sniper practice and loudspeakers to simulate tank noises and encourage realism.

Wainwright has many advantages over training areas in Britain and Germany — the most important being its size and the reduced restrictions on live firing.

Unlike Suffield, the tank train-

Corporal Nigel Benner, left, and **Private Philip Frost** by the welcome sign...

ing area further south, it has lots of woodland and scrub, including the wild rose for which Alberta is famous.

Map reading skills are put to the test, however, for the terrain is all very similar. Said Major Haes: "It is really making us map read. We have been on Salisbury Plain and Stanford so frequently that we can navigate without a compass."

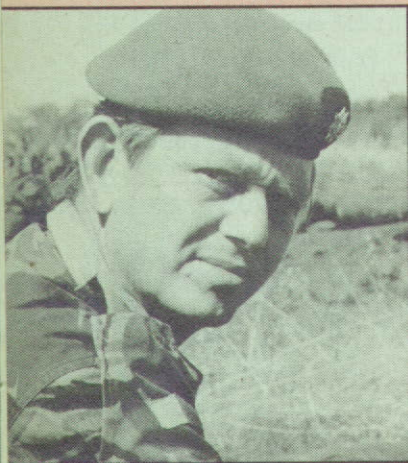
During the final exercise the battalion was able to fire together as a group with weapons including artillery and mortars in support at the same time.

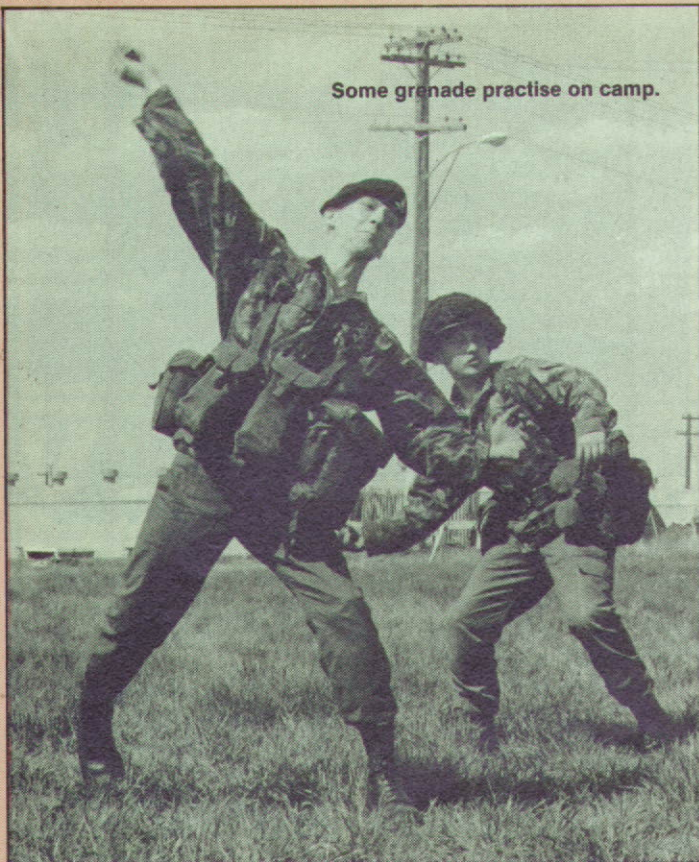
"It is as close as we are ever going to get to the real thing without having live enemy," was the Viking verdict.

Normally it is difficult to get Milan sited in with infantry because of the huge safety arc required, but this was achieved at Wainwright and good shooting was reported despite problems with moving targets because of clogging mud.

More than 600 men were in the battalion group. They included 34 TA members from the Anglian's 5th, 6th and 7th battalions as well as three members of the Bermuda Regiment including the new

A 105 mm light gun being brought into action.

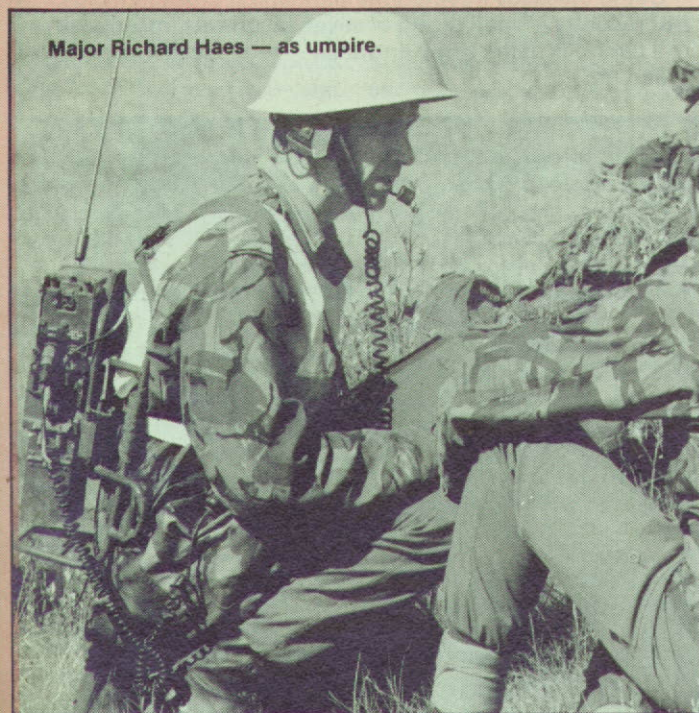




Some grenade practise on camp.



Time for a breather in testing exercise.



Major Richard Haes — as umpire.



Corporal Paul Crowley, REME: marathon winner.

BRITISH TROOPS have been training at Camp Wainwright for almost 20 years but it was only last October that a permanent British Army establishment was set up on the Canadian base there.

BATSU (British Army Training and Support Unit) is headed by Lieutenant Colonel Tony James and has a staff of two warrant officers and 15 soldiers — all specialists in trades like ordnance, ammunition, postal service and movements.

Housed in a brand new building BATSU spends the summer at Wainwright and in the winter moves down to Washington State in the United States for the 'Trumpet Dance' exercise.

Already the British units training at Wainwright or Fort Lewis use British vehicles and stores supplied by BATSU. Eventually, says Colonel James, the aim is to enable visiting battalions to travel as lightly as possible with only personal weapons and webbing.



Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Gavin Shorto.

He told SOLDIER: "This is the first time Bermudan soldiers have been out this far west. The big advantage for us is training with a regular battalion.

"Their knowledge is so much more encyclopaedic than ours and exposure to that kind of skill cannot help but increase personal skills. We have no training area for this

kind of thing in Bermuda — in fact this training area is big enough to 'lose' Bermuda in it easily!"

Artillery support came from 28 Field Battery (Skeddy's Company) from 19 Field Regiment, Dortmund. They are the first Germany based gunner battery to train at Wainwright and were making their third visit to Canada in recent years.

Captain Ian Bowater, Battery captain, told SOLDIER that they had jumped at the opportunity when they heard there was no UK based battery available. Equipped with Abbot in Germany they had to adjust to firing six 105 mm light guns and found the experience exciting. "You get so much more scope because you are not tied down to gun positions as you are in Germany" said Captain Bowater.

Also in support were two helicopters from 7 Regiment, Army Air Corps at Topcliffe and a group of seven sappers from 39 Engineer Regiment, who assisted with

minefield breaching and barbed wire.

The Vikings' Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Tony Calder, told his men that he had never done a hand breaching of a minefield at battalion level.

"It is a particularly dangerous task which may require flexible plans. It is a very difficult operation of war and regrettably many people who tried it have come unstuck in the past. But it will give you an idea of how much confidence you can have in your own obstacles — because if you find this operation difficult, just think how others will find it."

One of the problems of Wainwright is that a lot of firing is done in the winter onto snow and there are large quantities of unexploded rounds out on the range.

There were no casualties although a heavily 'made-up' medic fooled the troops for some minutes into thinking he had stepped on something. Several 84 mm rounds were disposed of by the safety team before the exercise began but another 25 were found and reported during the action.

The month long exercise was not all work and the troops found time to visit the little town of Wainwright. For the first time on a 'Pond Jump West' four military policemen accompanied Canadian military police on their patrols. There were few problems for them apart from pointing hitch-hiking soldiers out the correct road back to camp!

Five Vikings took part in a half marathon at Bonnyville, 120 miles to the north. They took the first three places in the charity event, the winner being Corporal Paul Crowley of REME.

After the exercise was over the group scattered throughout Canada



ALMOST EXTINCT — NOW THRIVING

THE 250 square miles of Camp Wainwright was once famous for being the home of North America's largest bison herd. After the bison had been reduced almost to extinction the Buffalo National Park was set up at Wainwright in 1906 with 700 head.

The herd multiplied rapidly to many thousands, was used for early Western film footage, and was also used for experiments involving the crossing of bison, yak and cattle.

A giant beast, the cattalo, was created but the males proved sterile. The head of one of these creatures is mounted on the wall of the Canadian Officers' Mess at Wainwright.

Cattle diseases infected the park and it closed in 1939. But recently a small group of seven bison was introduced to a paddock at the camp entrance — they are thriving and breeding.



Bayonet drill, above and a Milan team ready for the air.



and North America for a few days relaxation. Colonel Calder and Major Haes went to British Columbia gold panning in an 1860's gold rush town.

Many took the opportunity of living and working on Canadian ranches where they were able to pretend they were cowhands for a few days — while others went to the Grand Canyon or Las Vegas.

At the end of a half year in which they had fired not far short of a million rounds of 7.62 ammunition the Vikings left the wide open spaces of Canada to prepare for life in Northern Ireland.

Major Haes said the last big battalion exercise for some years had gone well: "They showed bags of guts and aggression and it really brought the best out in all ranks."

Milan team dug in for action.



A town in Canada where
former British soldiers found
life to their liking and where...

MEDICINE HAT PROVES A TONIC

VERA LYNN sang wistfully of those 'White Cliffs', Andy Stewart lauded the 'Scottish Soldier' and the melodic strains of 'Danny Boy' recalled the Emerald Isle.

For the 200 people gathered in the Royal Canadian Legion hall out on the Canadian prairie it was an evening of nostalgia for the homes they had left more than 5,000 miles away in the British Isles.

Most of the men who gathered for the inaugural get together of the Medicine Hat British-Canadian Club were former British soldiers.

In 1972 the British Army set up its training unit at Suffield just 28 miles from Medicine Hat — and

over the years there has been a steady trickle of men who have stayed on or returned to Canada.

No-one has kept records of just how many have married local girls or who have been attracted by the wide open spaces of Alberta. The British-Canadian club intends to bring them together to create a little bit of Britain in the New World.

It is the brainchild of two former RAOC colleagues, Brendan McLoughlan and John Orr, who have taken on the roles of President and Vice-President. Brendan's Canadian wife, Gloria, is treasurer and John's wife, Elaine, secretary.

Irish-born Brendan went out to Suffield on a nine month posting ten years ago, met his wife and



decided to stay. He now works at a local glass works.

'Every year a few more soldiers decide to stay on and the small British community is really starting to grow,' he told me. 'At first I missed the British Army because it was so secure but as time went on the feeling lessened, but I still do miss British beer and watching good soccer.'

One time corporal John Orr took up an apprenticeship in Medicine Hat and became a carpenter.

Left: Paul and Carol Ottey, left, and John and Sandy Lavery. Below: dancing helps reunion.

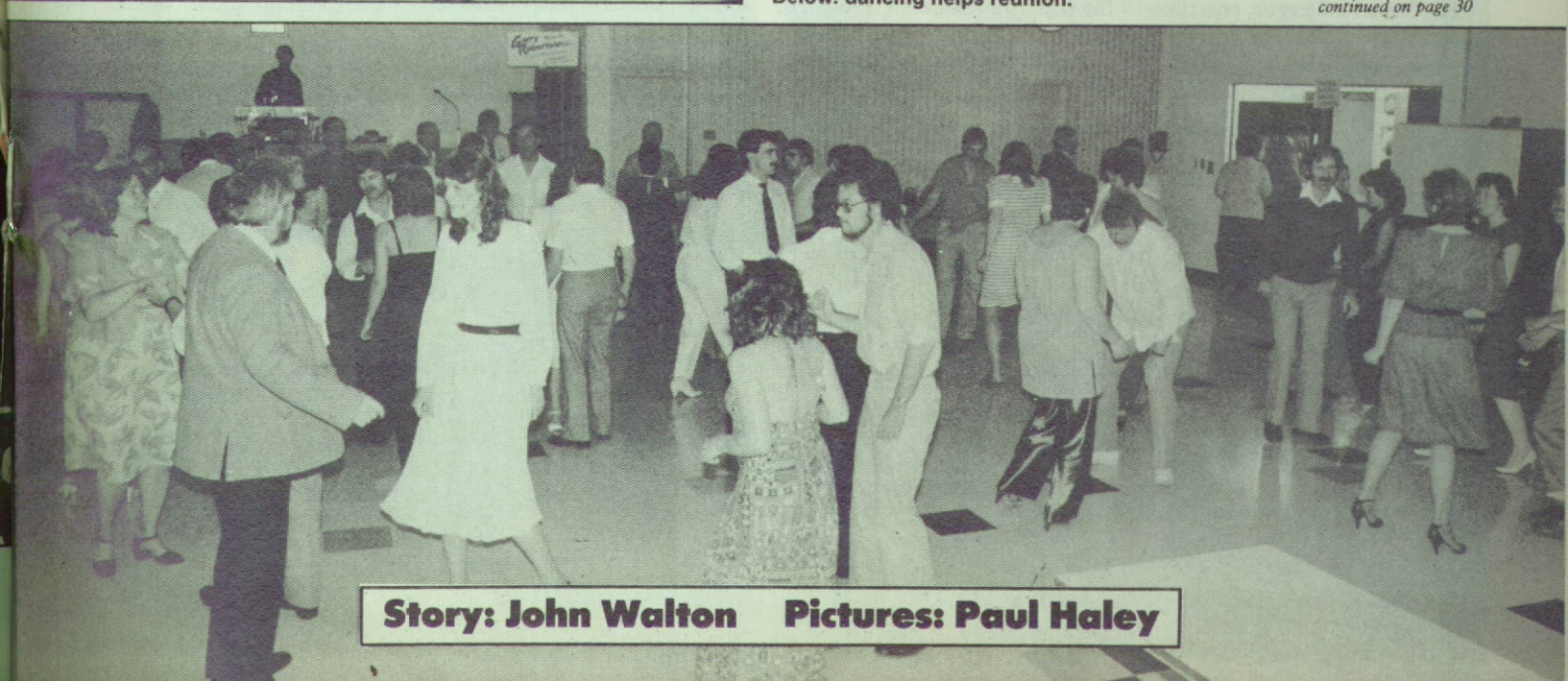
John Reynolds: big steaks and husky pet.

'That's the good thing about Canada — you can take up an apprenticeship at any age.'

Now he knows more about history of Medicine Hat than his wife but still retains his Scottish identity like so many Canadians: 'I work with a fellow carpenter who is more Scottish than me. He wears shirts with thistles on the pockets and even has a kilt — although he was born here.'

Bill Stone, 33 years in the Grenadier Guards, came out to

continued on page 30



Story: John Walton Pictures: Paul Haley



John Orr counts the application forms.

BATUS in 1978 as Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant. A widower, he married a local girl and became a prison guard at Drumheller some 140 miles away.

Bill, who celebrated his birthday at the reunion, said: "This club is an excellent idea because you get to know other British people in the area and get to see people you have not seen for some time. I will never forgo my English citizenship but will take out Canadian as well."

Three other ex-BATUS soldiers work at the same prison — an ex-Scots Guardsman, an ex-Redcap sergeant and a former REME fitter.

Two former Royal Corps of Transport friends who now live eight hours journey apart at Calgary and Saskatoon made the trip to Medicine Hat to meet and look for old friends.

Ex-Corporal John Lavery is now a Greyhound bus driver in Calgary. He was one of the few soldiers who met his wife during a one month battle group visit.

While on his rest and recuperation trip to Las Vegas in 1979, he met Sandy and they were married and lived in Germany before he came out of the Army and moved to Canada at the end of 1982.

His former colleague, one-time Lance Corporal Paul Ottey is now

Business time at the big reunion.



Husbands and wives from left: Chris and Annabelle Hullah, Dave and Renee Jones, Mike and Teri Amos.

an outboard marine mechanic. He met his wife, Carol, while adventure training in the Rockies in 1978 and returned to BATUS in 1979 before leaving the Army in 1980.

Both said they missed popping into the British local for a pint and the social life of the Army. Said Paul: "It takes a lot of time to make friends out here whereas in the Army you are thrown together and make good friends."

But there are reunions during the summer when the battle groups come over. Said John: "A lot of old mates come on battle groups and they come and see us on their r and r."

Three members of the original BATUS advance party in 1972 now live in Medicine Hat with their Canadian wives. Chris Hullah, a former REME corporal now a carpenter, recalled: "My first impressions were of the cold and the wide open spaces. As we made the trip from Calgary I thought it was definitely not for me."

But within four months he had

married his wife Annabelle and after a spell with Rhine Army they returned: "It was the work opportunities at the time. You could virtually name your own job."

Said Annabelle: "Nearly all of the first batch married Canadians. They were more mature than the local guys and more polite."

Lance-Corporal Dave Jones also went back to Germany with his wife Renee. Now he works for the Medicine Hat council and is a keen ice hockey player. And former Royal Signals Lance-Corporal Mike Amos works in a local greenhouse. His wife Teri declares: "Most of the British guys are happy. They seem to fit in."

Being quartermaster at Suffield appears to lead to a high risk of settling in Medicine Hat. Three of the first four emigrated and two of them, ex-Major John Reynolds and former Blues & Royals officer, Jim Heath, work together on a community activity programme for deprived children under the care of social workers.

Major Reynolds returned to England after his posting and went as quartermaster to the Recruit Selection Centre, Sutton Coldfield: "I decided I could not really hack the English climate. We had made a lot of friends who wanted us to come back. I like the town of Medicine Hat — it's just the right size."

A spin off from the new club, which collected 100 members on its inaugural night, may be that an even warmer welcome will be given to future British soldiers posted to Suffield.

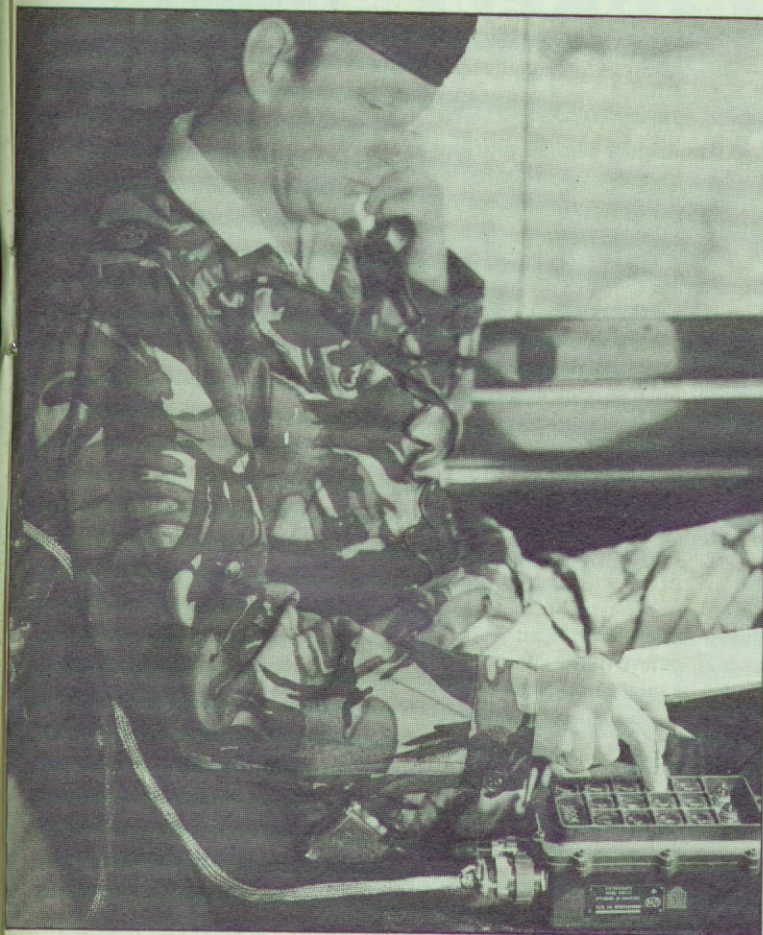
Says Brendan McLoughlan: "What we would like to do is to provide a means for the British soldier to come and meet people perhaps in their homes."

"I know what it is like to be up there twiddling your thumbs." ■



ARMY OF THE FUTURE

PTARMIGAN: ALL-BRITISH AND THE VERY BEST!



Commander using extension keyboard in the mobile terminal.

Lance Corporal Peter Wood operates a teleprinter in a mobile subscriber terminal.



AT THE end of this year, BAOR's 1st Armoured Division HQ at Verden will be setting up shop with 42 Army personnel who will be the tutorial nucleus for the world's most sophisticated battlefield comms link to date — the all-British Ptarmigan — which will equip all three Divisional HQs and their Brigades within 1 (BR) Corps by 1 April, 1986, replacing the 16-year-old BRUIN system. (See SOLDIER 16 July).

User trials in the field involving 180 Royal Signals and a dozen TA personnel have recently been completed on Salisbury Plain.

Nerve centres for each of the Ptarmigan networks will be the £1.5 million stored programme control Switch — rather like a master telephone exchange — with its sophistication switching matrix housed within a four-tonne chassis and the costly 'innards' all computer-assisted allowing Divisional commanders to hold secure conversations with several conferees simultaneously, even while on the move.

Plessey's Ptarmigan system now entering its management phase of evaluation is described by Major

Alan McVittie, of the Blandford School of Signals Planning Wing as a "building block" for complementary systems such as BATES (Battlefield Artillery Target Engagement System) and wavell. It is designed to provide a mobile, highly flexible, all-digital area network to meet all tactical comms needs.

Built to operate in harsh weather elements and within the NBC setting, too, Ptarmigan offers a wider range of facilities than any other systems currently in use, it is claimed by Plessey.

And its emergence into BAOR service — delivery to 1st Armoured Division is scheduled by the end of this year — is the result of detailed studies and intensive trials carried out jointly by the Ministry of Defence, the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment (RSRE), the School of Signals at Blandford, and industry.

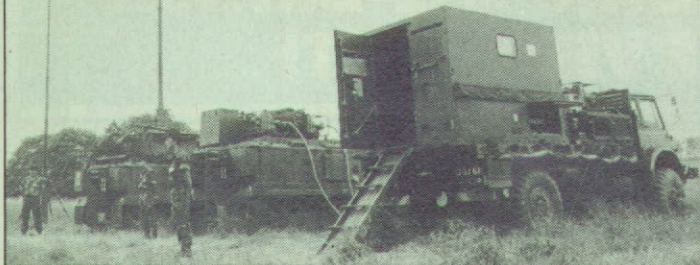
Ptarmigan, say Plessey, gives interface to and is inter-operable with strategic, tactical and civil systems — it has direct trunk dialling for both static and mobile subscribers — as well as combat net radio such as Clansman and Larkspur.

One of the Ptarmigan trucks under the influence of a cam net in a hide.



Report: Graham Smith

Pictures: Les Wiggs



Three of the Ptarmigan system trucks deploy in the field.

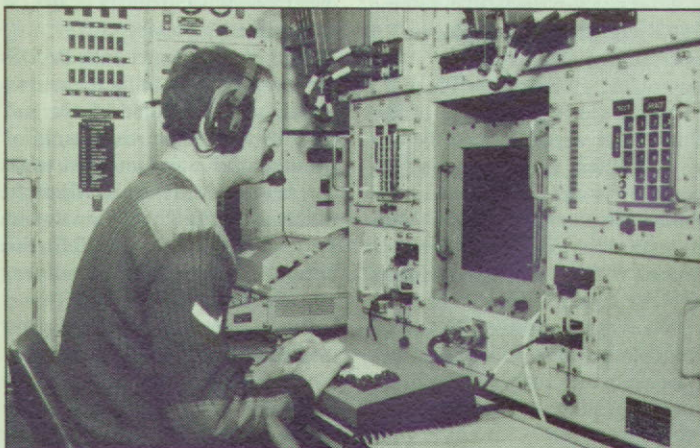
Incidental damage to a trunk node or a radio relay installation will not knock out HQ comms. Nor does the location of a trunk node compromise the whereabouts of an HQ.

This asset, in turn, leads to a

reduction in the number of HQ comms vehicles and improved HQ mobility.

Each Switch vehicle costs as much as a Challenger Main Battle Tank, can handle 15 traffic groups, each of 16 or 32 channels and can

The operator control position in a Trunk Switch.



cater for some 400 subscribers of which, half may be mobile.

Another important aspect of Ptarmigan is that a mobile subscriber equipped with a Single Channel Radio Access (SCRA) terminal has the same service features as a static subscriber, including secure comms in all modes of voice, telegraph, facsimile — this, as fast as 50 seconds for a map — and data with conference and pre-emption facilities.

A commander who is away from his HQ can make calls to that HQ or to any other subscriber anywhere on the system.

Major John Doody, OC of the 2 Squadron (Trials), School of Signals, who had just finished eight weeks in the field on user trials, said: "The essential requirement for Ptarmigan is to meet the Army and RAF operational needs for command and control comms in north-west Europe through all stages of deployment.

"Any communications system is obviously an important target for an enemy and, therefore, the system must have a high degree of survivability. Ptarmigan has this and to achieve it, the components had to be small enough to be easily hidden, be capable of fast movement to avoid detection and be physically well-protected. Additionally, the system must be resistant to enemy electronic

warfare efforts.

He added: "The essential feature of Ptarmigan is that is an area system. This implies that the system will be deployed in the operational area in such a way that little or no restriction will be placed on the siting of formation HQ by the comms system.

"Any group of subscribers will always be able to gain access to the system regardless of where they are geographically situated.

"Flexibility is a major requirement in a fast developing and moving battlefield situation and flexible comms require components that are interchangeable with sufficient alternate routings to ensure satisfactory comms when part of the system is damaged."

Other important needs were, he said, access for mobile users, full security by encryption, efficient use of manpower and ease of maintenance.

"To achieve all of this, the operational area will be covered with a grid or network of mobile inter-connected switching centres or Trunk Nodes," he explained. "The trunk network thus formed will provide the communications paths between various subscribers.

"The trunk switches have the function of switching traffic channels between subscribers in a similar way to the exchanges on the British Telecom system."

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IN THE North-West there is a unique TA unit which has seen many roles during its long, illustrious history; a unit which has recently been re-roled as the eyes and ears of the region. Writer GRAHAM SMITH and photographer, LES WIGGS visited their HQ to see ...

The men and women who await the unexpected

RE-ROLED last year as a Home Defence recce regiment with specific quick reaction alert responsibilities in their 70 Land Rovers equipped with Clansman radios, life has taken on a vibrant turn for the TA's 387-strong Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry.

Under Royal patronage for 150 years exactly and still the only Yeomanry regiment to be stationed in its own county under one title, the DLOY hold drill nights once a week in common with other TA units and they go to annual summer camp, too.

But they are training with the aim of dealing with the unexpected from external sources.

The DLOY area of responsibility as part of the Royal Armoured Corps covers the North West of England and Scotland. Up until April last year they had been a Home Defence infantry regiment since 1971, those particular skills still not being lost on them. Among their current number are 23 women, all of whom are being "groomed" in regimental communications.

Since its continuous separate identity in regimental history the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry has been cavalry, infantry, artillery, armoured recce and, once, just a cadre of eight men.

The Regimental HQ and HQ Squadron of 30 personnel are located in a £330,000 face-lifted drill hall complex in Chorley, administering three Sabre recce squadrons — 'A' at Wigan, 'B' at Clifton, Manchester and 'D' split between Blackpool and Preston. There is also a 16-strong Support Troop and the usual admin and fitter sections.

Commanding Officer of the DLOY is Lieutenant-Colonel David Corbin, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, and formerly in an armoured cell staff job with 1 (BR) Corps at Bielefeld, BAOR.

Each squadron had an established strength of 109 plus eight attached personnel from the RAMC, REME and ACC.

Additionally, each Sabre squadron has four Sabre Troops with one officer and 19 men mounted



Plotting the action.

in four ¾-tonne Land Rovers. They are armed with SLRs, LMGs, 84 mm Carl Gustav anti-tank systems and 51 mm mortars.

The recce regiment from the "red rose" county also boasts 63 Clansman PRC 320 HF radio sets with world-wide comms potential and 20 Pye Pegasus Mould VHF sets, as used by yachtsmen, as hill-top command posts.

DLOY's fleet of 70 Land Rovers, a dozen four-tonne lorries and 15 trailers, are maintained under contract and covered a total 238,461 miles in the year ending last March.

Although officially established for 357 personnel, DLOY currently has a shortfall of just ... two.

This, the senior Yeomanry regiment at the Cavalry Memorial Parade, is a unit so well-subscribed it has 23 officers (three of them WRAC), 30 senior NCOs (one from the WRAC) and 221 soldiers (19 of them from the WRAC).

And, last year, the keenness showed through with 66 per cent of all the officers carrying out over

42 days' annual training and 68 per cent of the remainder of the unit putting in more than 27 days.

The regiment was recently involved in Exercise Northern Venture on the Stanford PTA giving all the squadrons a first big work-out, independently, alongside the Regulars in TAORs or Tactical Areas of Responsibility, since the DLOY recce role designation of 14 months ago.

Lieutenant Colonel Corbin told me: "Our role is to provide the District Commander with a small reaction force capable of acquiring and reporting accurate information. This will allow my squadrons to be deployed throughout the North-West of England and Scotland.

"In times of national emergency, many troops are tied down defending vital installations. Civilian police and Services with

whom we have liaison are similarly tied up.

"If an incident occurs in some area, remote from other forces, it may be the military has to sort it out. Perhaps the GOC may be concerned it could threaten a vital installation. A recce Troop is sent to the area and it may move in the last few kilometres by foot to identify a small armed group. The Squadron Leader then moves up with other Forces or elements of the squadron to put in an attack to restore the situation."

He went on: "We have 23 girls in the regiment wearing DLOY cap badges and I'm grooming them to be my absolute nerve centre in the regimental HQ comms link. The appeal of the DLOY, I think, is that there is enormous scope for independent operations for this regiment and for far-flung training.

"The training we have done has included moving into areas covertly at night, setting up Troop hides, and dispersing on foot into OPs to await the dawn and the monitoring of likely enemy routes.

"We are developing expertise



In days of old...

in the use of house searches, woods clearance and we now have several search advisers in the regiment which increases our capability. We would also expect to assist the civilian authorities in the identification of certain explosive devices

though the EOD boys would deal with them. We would also expect to do escort duties, traffic control and will eventually develop our NBC recce capability."

Recruiting for the DLOY, an exacting regiment of fine tradition and selection processes — the late Arthur Lowe, the dithering Captain Mainwaring of TV's 'Dad's Army'



The MT scene.

was once a member — is not slow.

Last year, for instance, out of an initial application from 212 aspiring members, 50 were turned down on medical, entry test failure and civilian conviction grounds. Of the remaining number, 162

were chosen for four selection weekends. Of these 15 failed to attend, 16 failed the selection but 131 were attested for acceptance into the DLOY.

On the training side, the regiment last year trained 17 Class One RAC signallers, 101 Class Three signallers, seven Class One drivers and 169 Class Three drivers. By contrast, the regiment lost only eight members.

At Clifton's 'B' Squadron which has six girl members, three were on duty in the HQ signals section, cramped along a six-foot-long bench to simulate field conditions in a vehicle. Their radio training included new voice procedures. Among the trio, a PA to the managing director of a supermarket chain, the caretaker wife of a 'Terrier', (both custodians of a TA drill hall) and a market stall-holder.


Captain Terry Lovell, a former RSM with the Queen's Own Hussars, and now the squadron's Permanent Admin Officer, said: "The girls have raised the standards of the male soldiers because they compete very hard. The lads don't want to be shown up. The girls make a very good addition to the HQ and are more sincere about their work once they get involved. They just don't like to let people down."



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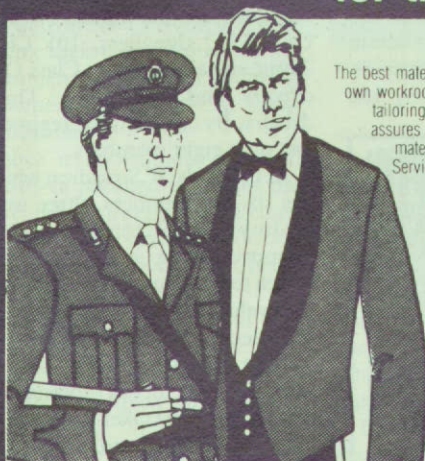
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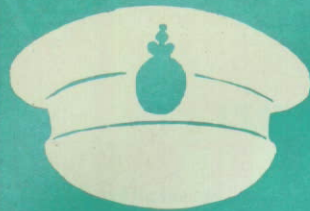
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Officers wear an embroidered badge in silver wire on a dark blue felt backing which is sewn onto the beret with the lower edge flush with the beret head band.

The former rank and file badge design in silver plate was approved by the Army Dress Committee but was not taken

into use. The Corps was formed on 1 September 1957 by Army Order 582/57 from the Artillery Air Observation Post Squadrons (until then RAF units) and the Light Liaison Flights of the Glider Pilot Regiment, the latter having been trained to fly powered light aircraft when

gliders were withdrawn from service.

When British Army airborne forces came into being early in the last global conflict the Corps embraced parachutists and glider pilots, not to mention the Special Air Service, and the original Army Air Corps badge

consisted, as you look at it, of an eagle facing right, resting on the letters AAC within bars, enclosed in a laurel wreath ensigned with the Imperial crown, all in white metal.

When the Parachute Regiment adopted their own individual badge, leaving the other components of the Corps to continue wearing the eagle badge. It must be stated that the S.A.S. had not wholeheartedly accepted the badge, preferring their own, and now well known, design.

When in 1950 the AAC disbanded, the Glider Pilot Regiment was formed as a separate regiment and the badge created for their wear consisted of an eagle facing the opposite direction within a scroll inscribed "Glider Pilot Regiment" and ensigned by the Imperial crown (Sealed 10 November, 1950).

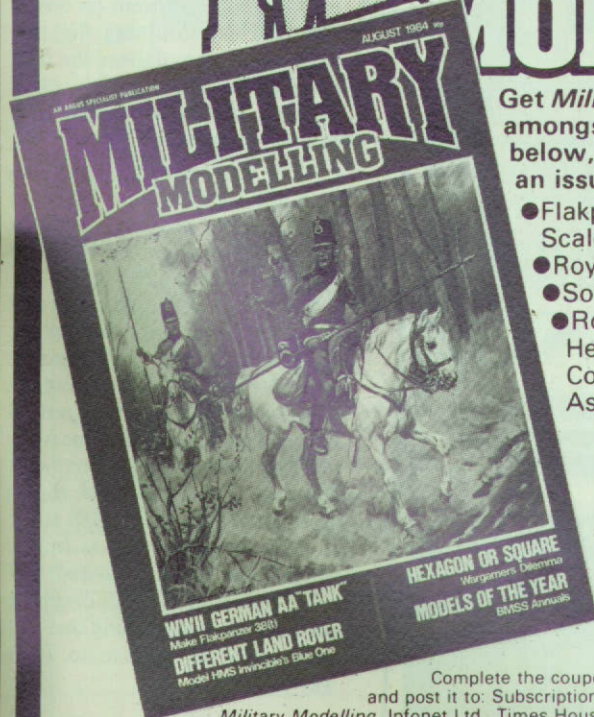
This was replaced in due time (Sealed 12 October, 1955) by a similar badge ensigned by the St. Edward's crown.

It is wholly fitting the principal feature of the badge should remain the Eagle, lord of the air, in the act of alighting to represent the operational purpose of The Army Air Corps.

HUGH L. KING



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WHILE other soldiers in the crowded Nissen hut sat and wrote letters to their wives one young gunner had a more long-term aim to his scribbling. Hammond Innes was writing a novel as night after night he sat at a trestle table by the light of a hurricane lamp, and waited his turn to go on guard.

Each night Gunner Hammond Innes would gladly take the unpopular two to four o'clock stint guarding two concrete towers with a Bofors gun on top at a Surrey airfield. During the early part of the evening he would scribble more of his novel then post it to his wife Dorothy for typing.

After three months the book was finished. Looking back at it now Hammond says: "It's incredible how well it stands up considering how it was written. I was sending two scribbled pages at a time and I was having to remember everything I had written."

Soon afterwards a message arrived from regimental headquarters — the Saturday Evening Post, then a 23 million circulation American institution, had bought the serial rights for the then vast sum of \$10,000 (£2,000).

The book 'Attack Alarm' was a great success. "What is surprising is that the regimental commander

let it go and as a result I suppose I could have written my ticket in America. I got an ecstatic letter from the Head of Information in Washington saying that it was the first real account of the Battle of Britain that the Americans had read and what a marvellous job I had done for the country."

Before the war Hammond Innes had been on the staff of the Financial News in London and within three years he had carried out every task on the paper, including sub-editing. By the time he went to war he had already had several books published.

After the Battle of Britain he

was commissioned and joined the Eighth Army as a captain. He went to Sicily and eventually joined the staff of Union Jack, being published in five different centres in Italy.

When he was released in 1946 he decided to take the plunge and become a full-time novelist. "Books were bubbling out of me. In immediate retrospect I thought of wartime as a complete void in my life. I had lost six of my best and most productive years.

"What I didn't realise until some months later was that I was building my name on the experience I had had during the war and

using characters and identities from the war. With hindsight the war was certainly not wasted. I had amassed quite a lot of background at His Majesty's expense."

Hammond Innes has now published 24 novels — each of them in a setting which he has personally researched. He is currently working on the Yukon and British Columbia and recently went on an exploration trip.

"I have been around the world to get my background material. My books continue to be popular because anyone who picks up a new Hammond Innes knows they are going into a world I haven't taken them into before — and it will be almost inevitably off the beaten track."

His last real contact with the Army was when he wrote a book called 'Atlantic Fury' — set in a rocky outpost based on St Kilda. "I called it something else as I was dealing with a fairly tricky thing in cannibalism. I stayed at the mess in Benbecula and went on one of the most extraordinary flights I have ever had to deliver the mail to St Kilda. We were shovelling mail out of the door and did five runs up the glen.

"The first time I tried to get to St Kilda by LCT it was a Force Eight and we had to return. But the second time we were able to land and I spent a day there."

Flickering hurricane lamps and crowded Nissen huts are a far cry from the Suffolk Tudor house where he now does his writing. At an age when most men have retired he is still working at the same pace.

"You don't retire as a writer. I suppose you could take things easier but I have not thought about it. The danger is that as in any other career if you try to do it half cock you would be better dropping out and doing something that you enthusiastically want to do. It's a way of life."

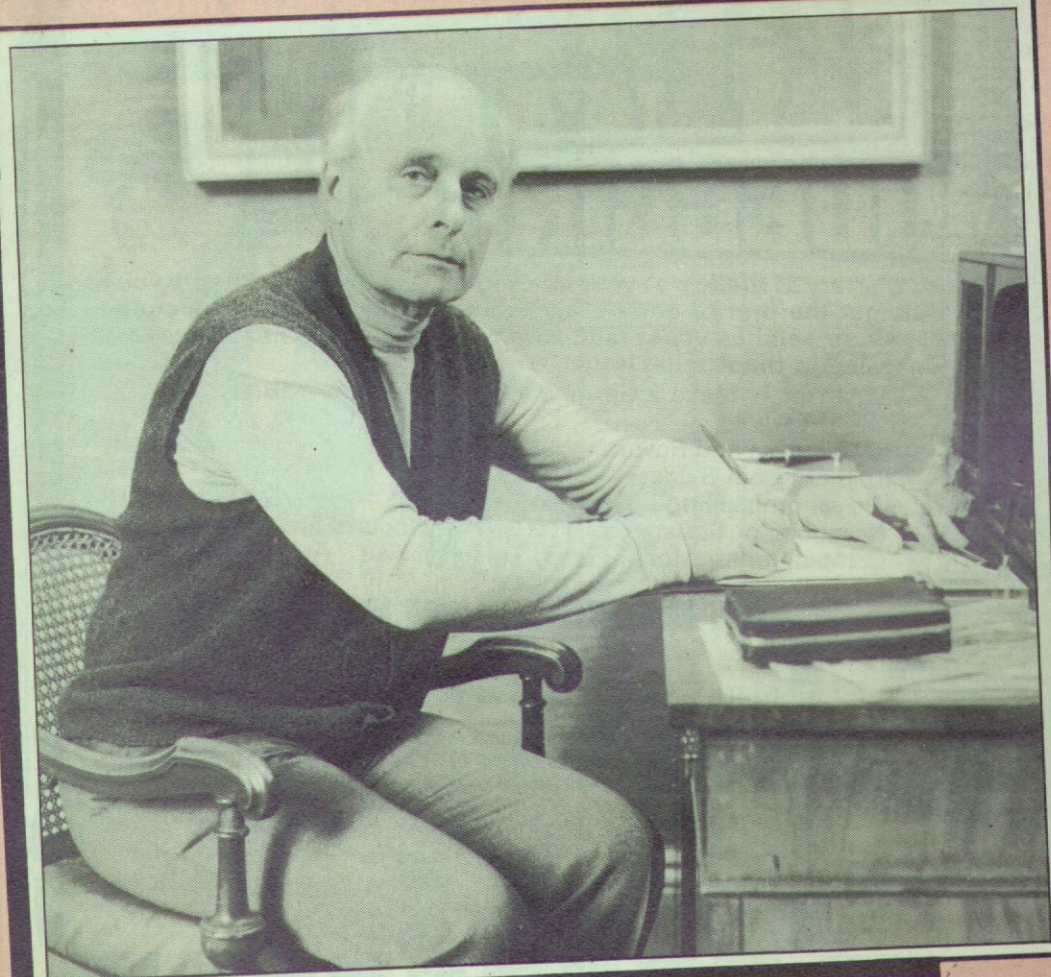
GUARD DUTY

path to fame for Hammond Innes

One man for whom war was not a waste

Interview: John Walton

Picture: Paul Haley

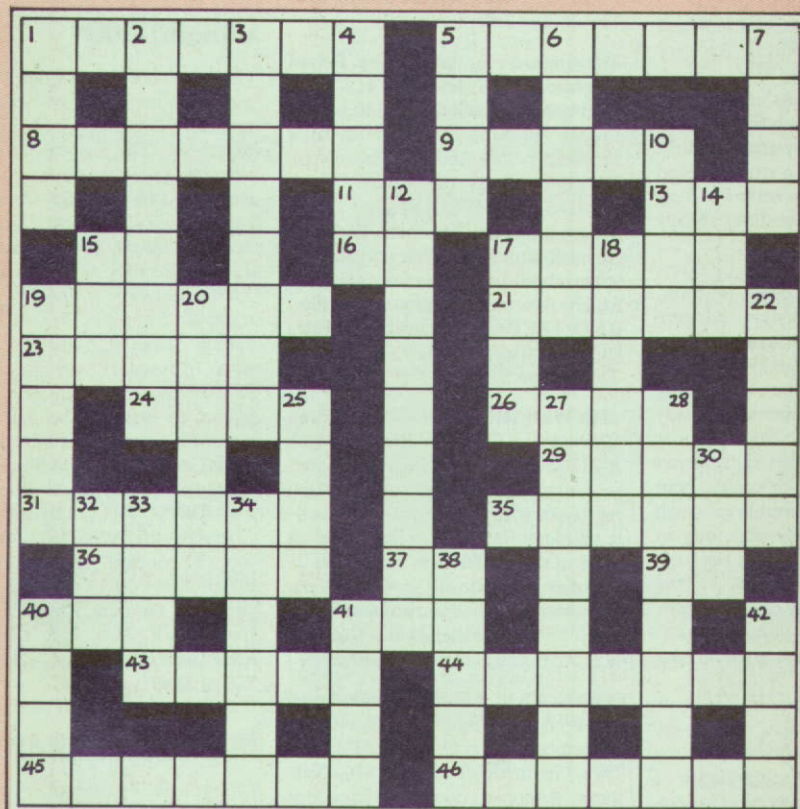


CLUES ACROSS

1. Lucky charms
5. Crowded together
8. Cricket ground
9. A short bolt
11. Possess
13. Male animal
15. Car company
16. Italian river
17. Part of target
19. Brags
21. Part of gun
23. Weapon
24. School furniture
26. Volcano
29. Skaters use them
31. Thin candles
35. Chess piece
36. Flowers
37. Negative
39. Printer's measure
40. Information
41. Rhodesia made it
43. Long
44. Satire
45. Cheap ornament
46. Retire

CLUES DOWN

1. Ship's officer
2. Scottish Isles
3. Overcomes
4. Shropshire
5. Part of 40 down
6. Consume
7. Tympanum
10. Woody plant
12. Large powerful dog
14. Part of circle
15. Large serpent
17. Musical instrument
18. Game
19. Without edge
20. Parts of a play
22. Quadraped
25. Show affection
27. Send out
28. Relation of 40 down
30. Dutch Airline
32. Exists
33. Small 22
34. Comment
38. He lubricates
40. Bearded mammal
41. Just one
42. Insect



Complete the crossword puzzle. Study the solution and you should see eight words which are linked together by a ninth.

The question is: — what is the link word, and to whom do they belong? Words can be used more than once.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is 31 August. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 24 September. More than one entry may be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 343' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots and no correspondence can be entered into. Send your answers in by letter or postcard with the 'Competition 343' label to Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

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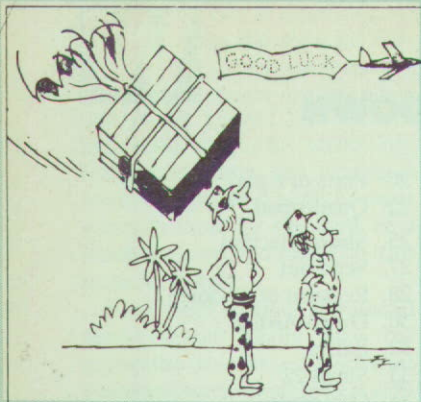
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ERSATZ RUBBISH!

The apparently puzzling term "Boots Ammunition" (Mail Drop 2 July) is easily understood if one remembers that, in the past, the term "Ammunition" was used to describe all military stores and equipment, only later to be confined within the present accepted meaning (explosives, projectiles etc.)

As regards the second point, I would draw the writer's attention to the fact that the Brigade of Guards are definitely not the only troops still to wear these splendid boots. Ammunition boots continue to be issued to all Royal Marines, most (if not all) infantry Corps of Drums wear them and I believe that Sandhurst Cadets are issued with this type of boot for the duration of their course at RMA.

Some of the shortcomings of Boots DMS must have been apparent from the start, after the Army had decided to substitute this ersatz rubbish for the tried and tested Ammunition Boot, for initially the moulded sole boot had a detachable, harsh nylon-mesh sock (inner sole) which was supposed, to a certain extent, to soak up any moisture and cushion the foot from direct contact with the leather-board (cardboard) insole. This sock was then supposed to be removed "at frequent intervals" for "washing and drying"! The impracticalities of this ridiculous innovation must have been apparent to all but those who consider the distance to their garage a stiff walk!

That the DMS Boot has been up to the demands made upon it by

"Corpsdom" comes as no surprise but it is difficult to understand how the infantry failed to discover its failings before the Falklands War despite the fact that "infantry" at the moment, rely mainly on wheels and tracks for movement and thus have little opportunity to put their pedal extremities to a severe test.

The introduction of the High Boot has been greeted with great interest but it does seem to incorporate many of the faults of the Boot DMS and one really wonders if this can be the answer to a problem of the Army's own making. — R Travers-Bogusz, 77 St Thomas's Road, Hardway, Gosport, Hants.

PROTECTION

I understand that Boots Ammo were introduced in the Royal Artillery around the time of Boer War when we changed from our 'dress' uniforms to khaki — the riding boot being replaced by the ankle boot with puttees. Unlike the riding boot it had a strong toecap and gave better protection to the foot, particularly when handling heavy ammunition boxes.

I also understand that the infantry, in what you may call 'dress' uniform, wore a high boot, the style changing from regiment to regiment, and that they went over to the ankle boot and puttees at the same time. The riding boot and high boot was never really very good for marching long distances as they chafe the legs especially round the ankle. The ankle or ammo boot was much more comfortable although it has the disadvantage of letting in water. Now the trend is for the high boot again although it has all the disadvantages of all the old high boots — still uncomfortable about the front of the ankle when worn for a long period.

To confuse the issue, the ankle or ammo boots were also known as Cossacks, so named when first introduced because of the resemblance of the boot to that worn by Cossack Cavalry. The words of the British Cavalry Reveille start "Rise, Soldiers, rise and put your Cossacks on." — Major HT McCormack RA (Ret'd), 16 Dukes Meadow, Pendine, Carmarthen, Dyfed.

MISSING WORD

While serving in Berlin with the 7th

Armoured Division just after the war, I distinctly remember every man in the British Army being docked one day's pay for *****. I just cannot remember what the missing word is. Does any reader recollect? — Roger May, 27 Fortescue Road, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 8XF.

Reunions

Leeds University OTC 75th Anniversary Dinner. To mark the 75th Anniversary of the Officers Training Corps it is intended to hold a dinner at Leeds University for all members past and present on Thursday 8 November 84. Those interested are invited to contact the CO, Leeds University OTC, Carlton Bks, Carlton Gate, Leeds, or telephone: (0532) 453560 or 454608 by 17 September 84.

The annual reunion of The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) Regimental Association will be held in Brecon on the weekend of 1/2 September 1984. Accommodation free. Ex-members of the South Wales Borderers, The Welch Regiment, The Monmouthshire Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Wales wishing to attend should write now for particulars to: The Assistant Regimental Secretary, RHQ The Royal Regiment of Wales (Brecon Office), The Barracks, Brecon. Tel: Brecon 3111 ext 310.

49th West Riding Division. Mr Van Wassenhove Guido of Brekelen, 15A B 2170, Wuustwezel, Belgium wishes to contact members of the following regiments with the intention of unveiling a memorial stone in honour of all units of the Division, to be held on 21 October 1984: Royal Scots Fusiliers, Leicesters, Essex, South Wales Borderers, KOYLI, Hallamshires, Glosters, RA, RAC and Recce of the 49th.

South East London Wargames Group Annual Open Day. Sunday 23 September 1984 at Greenwich Borough Hall, Greenwich London SE10. Wargame demonstrations, participations and military modelling competitions (17 classes). For further information please contact George Willoughby on 01-698-9486 or send SAE to SEL WG, 172 Minard Road, Catford, London SE6 1NJ.

An association of ex-REME SNCOs

is being formed in the Northampton area based on the WO's and Sgts' Mess of 118 Rec Coy, REMETA, Drill Hall, Clare Street, Northampton. Meeting first Wednesday of each month at 8.30 p.m. For membership apply to the Association Secretary: Mr Colin Hindmarsh, c/o Sgts' Mess, at the above address.

Burma Star Association Annual Conference will be hosted by the Bristol branch during the weekend of 21-23 September. Accommodation will be arranged for some 700 members and their wives in the Bristol University Halls of Residence. For further details contact: John Shopland, 1 Springville Close, Longwell Green, Bristol, BS15 6UG. Telephone: Bittou 4799.

Competition

Our crossword Competition 339 proved popular among a cross-section of our readers, particularly with its military overtones. The answers to the clues were as follows: Across 1 tracer, 4 magazine, 10 upgrade, 11 recipes, 12 pole, 13 alive, 14 frog, 17 terrier, 18 stress, 20 square, 23 shamble, 26 Ivan, 27 depot, 28 king, 31 patriot, 32 militia, 33 Dortmund, 34 ferret. Down 1 trumpets, 2 angular, 3 exam, 5 arrives, 6 arch, 7 imparts, 8 ensign, 9 teller, 15 rival, 16 broad, 19 sergeant, 21 quarter, 22 Everton, 23 storms, 24 blisters, 25 pipped, 29 firm, 30 glue. Prizewinners were: 1st Capt (QM) I Beck, 1st Bn Scots Guards, Elizabeth Bks, Pirbright, Surrey. 2nd WO1 T M Weston, 3rd Bn RWF, TAC, Glyndwr Road, Aberystwyth, Dyfed. 3rd WO1 Anderson, 5 Morton Hall, Park Bank, Edinburgh. 4th Capt PF Cooper (Retd), 9 Dunkirk Road, Southport, Lancs. 5th Mrs DE Clifton, 19 Ravenswood Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

How Observant Are You?

1 Right arm of soldier at end of pier; 2 Length of black pier-support below couple at cafe; 3 Mooring rope of right boat; 4 Right leg of woman at cafe; 5 Reflection below left boat; 6 Bottom step between boats; 7 Window on right of cafe; 8 Left heel of foreground soldier; 9 Running girl's right arm; 10 Stone below soldier's left foot.

Collectors Corner

I Goode, 39 Allerton Lane, West Bromwich, W Midlands, B71 2HR. Seeks DPM brassard with rank flap and dark blue beret. Cheap please, only 13.

J Howarth, 69 Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 3RX. Has 237 old cap badges etc for sale or swap for wants. Some scarce. 25p for list.

C Lord, 92 Union Road, Howick, Auckland, New Zealand. Wishes to purchase Hadrami Bedouin Legion cap badge and other Aden forces badges. Will swap for NZ badges if required.

D Burke, 96 Bowleymead, Eldene, Swindon, Wilts, SN3 3TE. Wishes to start a collection of Russian (Soviet) badges and medals etc. Can anyone help?

P Noon, 135 Saughall Road, Blacon, Chester, CH1 5HG. Has for sale or exchange military formation signs, cloth shoulder titles, swap for similar; also requires WW1, WW2 postcards.

S M Jardine, 66 Hayhurst St, Clitheroe, Lancs, BB7 1ND. Has 125 cap badges, plastic issue KC QVC, all genuine, also shoulder titles, flashes. Swap for combat jacket, lightweight velcro fastening (4) jumpers, size 4. Lightweight Queen combat's size 10 jungle hat.

DA Spearow, Sunnyside, Rayham Road, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 3DY. Requires urgently to complete collection of women's nursing services, enamel badge of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, 2nd World War. Will buy or exchange.

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Derek Hayles, 35 St Marks Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6DJ. Tel: 0628 39535.

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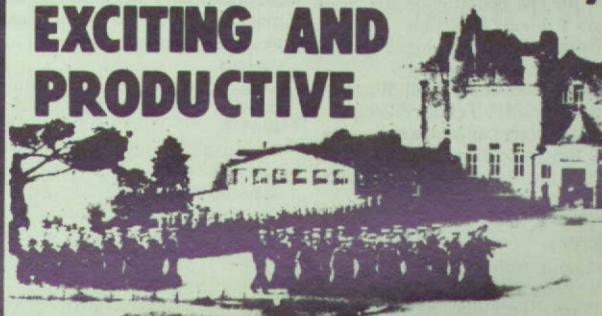
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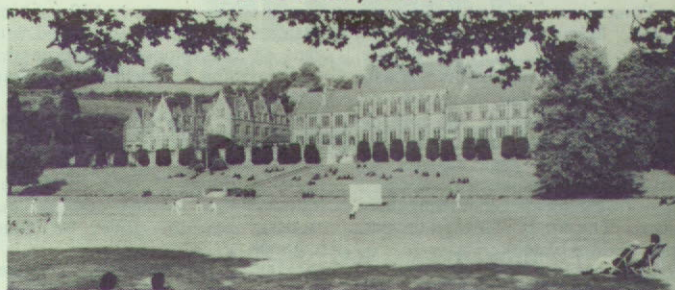
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The Bulletin was distributed on 27 June 1984. Further information can be obtained from DCI Army J255/83. Applications forms will be available through your Unit Orderly Room.

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Kriss Akabusi: I owe everything to the Army

KRISS AKABUSI, a 25-year-old sergeant in the Army Physical Training Corps, will next month become the first British soldier to take part in an Olympic track event for 20 years.

Akabusi, who has shot to international prominence in a little over a year, will be part of the men's 4 x 400 metres relay team and, following his United Kingdom championship win at the end of May, will also take part in the individual 400 metres.

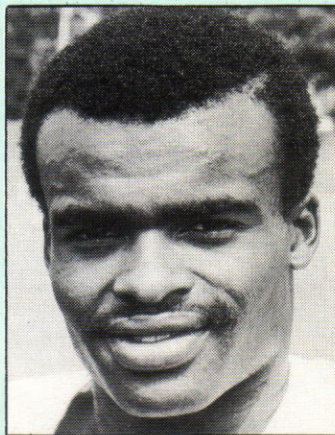
It has been a memorable year for Kriss, for in June his wife presented him with their first child — a daughter. After a spell in Berlin he returned to England in the Spring.

The Paddington-born runner

took part in both the Army and Inter-services championships this summer despite his hectic training schedule. "I am in the Army and I would not shun them," he told **SOLDIER**. "I owe everything to the Army."

His running career began when he was a junior soldier with the Royal Signals. "I started running for fun round the hangars and I showed a bit of flair. Then they told me about the Army Junior Championships and I have never looked back since."

A transfer to the APTC gave him more time for athletics but he still had to put his Army duties



Sgt Kriss Akabusi

first. Then last year he broke the Army 400 metres record and got his first international vest in the Great Britain versus Russia match. Later in the season he smashed the Inter-Services record at Cosford.

This season his all out effort has seen success beyond his wildest dreams: "At the beginning of the year my main aim was to get into the relay team because last year in the World Cup I ran in the heats and semis but did not make the finals. Now I have the eighth fastest time of all time for the United Kingdom."

Realistically Kriss says that he would love to reach the individual 400 metres semi-finals but his best hope for a final appearance will be in the relay team.

At Gateshead recently he finished only fifth to the disappointment of Army viewers but he says: "My peak is aimed for the Olympics. There is nothing wrong with me and when I get to the Olympics I will do my best again."

"It has got to be the ultimate aim for any athlete and I have done it in my second season of international running."

Army athletics officials and the APTC are highly pleased with his selection. Said Lieutenant Colonel Alan Payne, Commandant of the Army School of Physical Training: "We are delighted that Sergeant Akabusi has been selected. He is the first member of the Corps to take part in an Olympics track event since 1948."

"We all wish him the best of luck and will be watching on 4 August when he runs his first heat."

SERGEANT STEVE JACKSON, Royal Signals, has been selected to carry British hopes in the K1 1000 metre sprint canoe event.

Steve enjoyed many successes last year in international competition, the highlight being his clinching the World Championship K2 10,000 metres.

CORPORAL STUART TRAVIS, Royal Pioneer Corps, has been named as a reserve in the middle weight (under 85 kilos) and light heavy weight (under 95 kilos) divisions for judo.

Stuart, who is an assistant PT instructor at the RPC Depot in Northampton, has 14 Army judo titles and is combined services light heavy weight champion.

He's been in the squad training for four Olympics and never yet made it to the Games themselves.

UNITS DIG DEEP TO HELP THE BRITISH EFFORT

ARMY units all over the world have been putting their hands deep into their pockets to help Britain's Olympic efforts in Los Angeles.

So far cheques and money orders worth a total of nearly £16,000 have poured into the offices of the Army Sport Control Board at Aldershot.

And there seems no sign yet that the supply is running dry.

A target of £20,000 was originally set by the Board's Director, Brigadier Pat Thursby, for the Army's Olympic Appeal. At the

present rate of progress it may not be too much to hope that the target will be achieved, if not exceeded.

Some recent donations are £1,000 from the Army Catering Corps Training School, £600 from the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, in Northern Ireland, and another £1,000 from London District.

They join such notable contributions as the £2,500 from 9 Signal

Regiment (Radio), the £1,153 from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and £1,316 from HQ British Forces in Belize.

It will be Brigadier Thursby's task to decide what percentage of the final tally should be donated to the coffers of the British Olympic Committee and what should go towards helping Army members of the Olympic team directly.

'UNLIKELY COMBINATION' WINS!

A **COOK**, a retired officer and WRAC subaltern... might sound an unlikely combination to some but it proved a winning one for 1st Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment when they won the BAOR team show jumping competition sponsored by Horse and Hound at the Rhine Army Summer Show.

Pictured right with Chef D'Equipe Lieutenant Colonel Danny Fisher are the successful riders Lieutenant Suzy Reed, WRAC, Lieutenant Colonel David Rousse and Lance Corporal Harry Lomas, ACC.

Their mounts were Nelson, Blackie and Plessey Douglas.

The last named horse is owned by the Royal Signals, sponsored by Plessey.



MCTC OUT-TUG THE REST

The Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester has hauled itself up to become heavyweight tug-of-war champions of the British Army.

Last year MCTC were runners up. This year they beat the defending champions 26 Field Regiment, RA, by two pulls to nil in the final which decided the 640 kilo title. (For the uninitiated 640 kilos equals about 104 stone and is the maximum total weight permitted of the eight man team).

But 26 Field Regiment were by no means disgraced. At the finals, held by courtesy of 7 RHA at Lille Barracks, Aldershot, they retained the lightweight (560 kilo) title they won last year by beating 1 Armoured Field Ambulance, RAMC.

The Royal Artillery has a particularly strong tradition in tug-of-war, perhaps due to the fact that gunners were once called upon to manhandle field guns. In fact half the teams taking part in the finals were representing Artillery units.

But when it came to the



Taking the strain . . . MCTC on their way to victory.

Picture: Doug Pratt.

heavyweight final, MCTC were just too strong or perhaps more experienced. For since they became runners-up last year, MCTC have evidently taken tug-of-war very seriously.

They've been winning trophies both in army and civilian competition, and are now the official East of England champions.

Their opponents in the heavyweight final, 26 Field Regiment,

had no such pre-match training. Out in BAOR where 26 are stationed the competition is limited virtually to tugging between themselves.

Fourteen units took part in the finals including 4 UDR the Northern Ireland champions.

Cricketers come unstuck

The Army came unstuck in their cricket match against the Civil Service at Teddington, losing by 123 runs.

Civil Service were all out for 208, a figure they wouldn't have managed but for a splendid 44 by McIlroy, who went in seventh wicket down and scored 144 — including eight fours.

Burnett, 40 and Burridge, 39, also gave the Army bowlers headaches. The most economical bowling was provided by Render, who took four for 30 from 12 overs, four of them maidens.

Army batsmen just couldn't get going and half the side had gone with just 33 on the board. There was some resistance from Shanks, 21 and Moore 29 and they helped to push the score along to 86 all out.

Best of the Civil Service bowlers were Wilson (4-27) and McIlroy, who capped a fine all-round performance with 3-10.

ARMY LOOSEN RAF GRIP



Sailing in the Solent. Action from the offshore regatta.

The Army won this year's Grant's Regatta at the British Kiel Yacht Club, breaking a Royal Air Force stranglehold.

The Army team which ended a run of two successive RAF triumphs was Lieutenant Colonel Mike Brown, RA (skipper), Major William Cook, RA, WO2 Malcolm Strickland, REME, and Corporal Theo Caderius Van Veen, RE.

Results of the Army Sailing Associations offshore regatta sailed in the Solent from the Joint Services Sailing Centre, were:

Div 1: Winner: Redcoat (Skipper: WO2 Colin Edge), Second: Boadicea of the Iceni (Lt Col Kit

Dark).

Div 2: Piper (Lt Col John Hope), Ilex of Upnor (Lt Col M Mounde).

Div 3: Liselle II (Lt R Elliott RN), Sneezewort (Maj Alan Emmett).

Div 4: Rampart (Sgt Sawyer RE), Lancer (Capt Nigel Josling RAOC).

PASSAGE RACE

Div 1: Redcoat (WO2 Colin Edge), Kukri (Brig Neil Carlier).

Div 2: Seahorse (Capt Hugh Hinde), Congreve II (Maj P B Williams).

Div 3: Sneezewort (Maj Alan Emmett).

Div 4: Lancer (RAOC) (Capt Nigel Josling), Attacker (RE Dover) (Maj Bob Leaver).

CHALLENGE TROPHY

Best Overall Contessa: Ilex of Upnor.

Dolphin Team Trophy: (Best results from Contessa and Halcyon combined) RAOC Thunderer Lancer.

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