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PWO set to take over in Bosnia



Lt Col Alastair Duncan, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, briefs soldiers of his Osnabrück-based battalion on the Operation Grapple situation. The PWO is deploying to Bosnia in mid-May to take over from the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment. An advance party of 115 from 1 PWO arrived at Split by air on April 27

CARNAGE

Cheshire mediation stems slaughter

From Stu Reed, Divulje Barracks, Split

INTER-ETHNIC violence in central Bosnia has waned thanks to the mediation, between Croat and Moslem warlords, carried out by Lt Col Bob Stewart and his staff officers of the 1 Cheshire Battalion in Vitez. But the situation remains acute.

In one incident soldiers were shot at and had to return fire in self-defence. Troops also witnessed horrific scenes of slaughter around the Vitez area and soldiers of 2 R Irish and 1 Cheshire recovered bodies from Ahinici, the town which spawned images of carnage

shocking TV viewers around the world.

Once again, British troops returned fire after being targeted by snipers.

Away from the drama and action, the Transport and Movements staff at British HQ in Divulje Barracks, near Trogir in Croatia, had their hands full with the roulement of troops joining and leaving the operational theatre.

WO2 Gareth Heal, RLC, and his staff of three are moving hundreds of men in and out of Croatia.

"It's hotting up for us now and although we feel we could do with twice as many staff I

know we'll cope," he said.

On April 26 men and women of 35 Engineer Regiment began moving back to their base at Hameln, Germany.

Their commanding officer, Lt Col John Durance, said: "It is sad to be leaving at a time when the conflict between Moslems and Croats has flared up again. I am totally convinced that the presence of British forces has helped to bring aid to a large number of people who otherwise would have suffered even greater deprivation.

"As far as the regiment is concerned we have had a very satisfying and fulfilling tour. The number and variety of tasks we have had to tackle has been enormous.

"We have constructed accommodation and provided essential services such as electricity and water for more than 2,600 men and women. We have driven roads through the mountains of central

FRONT COVER: Main picture – Four smiling instructors pause for a picture in the Bavarian Alps where a new British Arms centre has been established to provide adventurous training facilities all year round. Pictured (from left) are LCpl Tracey Wagstaff, SSgt Caterina Grierson, Lt Amanda Hassell and Lt Angela Tilley. See feature in Pages 26-27. (Picture: Mike Perring.) Inset – Pte David Davis, 3 Platoon, A Coy, 1 LI, keeps a watchful eye on proceedings during Exercise Trumpet Dance in the USA. See Pages 14-15. (Picture: WO2 Arthur Thomson.)

● Turn to Page 5

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PEUGEOT EXPORT

Division gunners out in strength

ONE OF the largest divisional live-firing exercises seen in BAOR for five years took place at Munsterlager when 48 guns from 4 Armoured Division's 4 Regt RA, 26 Regt RA and 40 Regt RA fired 2,500 155mm rounds under the control of their assigned tactical groups and with support from a German observation party of 95 Pzr Lr Arty Bn.

The aim of the exercise, which was organised by Commander Royal Artillery, 4 Armoured Division, Brig Mike Smythe and his staff from Headquarters Royal Artillery, was not only to practise the handling of the Divisional artillery, but to provide an insight into how artillery can be used.

In addition to the 80 visitors provided by units and HQs within 4 Arm'd Div, the exercise was watched by the GOC, Maj Gen Anthony Denison-Smith, the Chief of Staff, Col David Montgomery and the Director Royal Artillery, Maj Gen Mike Tennant.

Loggies exercise in Italy

NATO'S Immediate Reaction Force has flown to southern Italy to exercise its deployment plan. Exercise Arena Exchange involves 3,000 troops of the ACE Mobile Force.

AMF units from the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, the United States of America and Italy are participating, as are elements of a Spanish airborne battalion which is exercising with the AMF for the first time.

The British contribution includes the Logistic Support Battalion AMF(L), a force artillery headquarters provided by 94 Locating Regiment Royal Artillery and a response cell from 5 (Gibraltar) Battery RA.



Capt Rose Ashkenazi (left) and Sgt Alison Jenkins, the Army's first full-time helicopter pilots

Women pilots join units in the front line

THE FIRST two women to qualify as full-time front-line helicopter pilots, Capt Rose Ashkenazi and Sgt Alison Jenkins, passed out from the Army Air Corps Centre at Middle Wallop on April 30.

Capt Ashkenazi was an

administrative officer for the corps at its headquarters until deciding to apply for the rigorous selection course. She kept this secret from her parents, who had a pleasant surprise when they attended the Wings Parade.

Sgt Jenkins is equally adept at jumping from aircraft as flying them. She is joint ladies' world free fall parachuting record holder as well as holding a commercial fixed-wing pilot's licence. After spending 13 years in the TA, she became a Regular soldier last year.

Having completed ten months of intensive training, both women will be posted to Army Air Corps regiments in Germany to full-time duties.

● Maj Allison Barnett, who is also a military helicopter pilot, is primarily a doctor.

Carnage

● From Page 3

Bosnia, cleared mines and explosives and helped escort aid convoys.

"Everyone in the regiment has worked very hard and learnt a great deal. I hope that 1st Field Squadron, who have replaced us in theatre, have an equally successful tour and we wish them the best of luck," said Col Durance.

The following day 130 members of 360 Supply Squadron from Hullavington Barracks in Wiltshire stood on the dockside at Split, slightly self-conscious in their new bright blue berets, and were briefed by their officer commanding, Maj Tim Seymour, before dispersing to hot-spots such as Vitez, Gornji Vakuf, Tuzla and the perilous roads linking these British bases.

Also on April 27, the 115-strong advance party of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire arrived by air from Germany. After being briefed at HQ COMBRITFOR, they left the following day by military convoy for Vitez where they are to begin the hand-over with the Cheshires.

Bridging tendered

FOLLOWING completion of the Anglo-German M3 amphibious bridge development programme, an invitation to tender for the new equipment has been issued. A decision on production will be made in mid-1994, Procurement Minister Jonathan Aitken told the House of Commons.

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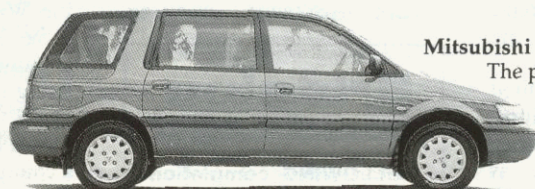
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Yorkies return to Line origins

THE CIRCLE has completed a full turn for the Yorkshire Volunteers, who disbanded in pouring rain at Somme Barracks, Catterick on April 25, and then re-badged to the three Yorkshire regiments of the Line.

A parade and service of rededication was held in the presence of the Duchess of Kent, the regiment's Honorary Colonel.

Twenty-six years ago the Yorkshire Volunteers were formed from eight major TA units within the county.

Now the regiment's three battalions have rejoined the surviving three Yorkshire county regiments, from whose TA battalions the original single Volunteer battalion was raised.

The late 1 Yorks becomes the 4th/5th Battalion, The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment) (Yorkshire Volunteers); the late 2 Yorks becomes the 3rd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire (Yorkshire Volunteers); and the late 3/4 Yorks becomes the 3rd Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) (Yorkshire Volunteers).

The Colours of the three disbanding battalions were marched off before an audience of VIPs and the retiring Honorary Colonel.

BW put up a brave front

SOLDIERS from the Black Watch, medics and physios from British Forces Hong Kong, and bandsmen and pipers from the Black Watch and 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles all combined to assist in the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Bank international sevens tournament.

The recently rebuilt, and as yet incomplete, Government Stadium, presented quite a challenge to the 250 stewards, largely provided by the Black Watch.

New measures to control the largest crowd ever – 33,000 tickets were sold – added to the problems of working in an

unfamiliar environment.

The soldiers came through with flying colours and drew praise from all sectors for their courtesy, diplomacy and general helpfulness. Maj Angus McDonald, who commanded the team, said their aim was to ensure as many as possible had the most enjoyable time as possible. The aim was certainly achieved.

The only action that drew some good natured booing from the capacity crowd was the speed with which the stewards caught and covered the female streakers who entered the arena. Male streakers were left to the Royal Hong Kong Police!



Picture: Hong Kong Daily News

One of the less humdrum duties performed by stewards at the Hong Kong international sevens was chasing half-naked ladies across the pitch. Pte Kiwi McGilp and Pte Stewart Sander-son are pictured in hot pursuit. (This streaker was subsequently fined half as much as a completely naked male colleague on the grounds that she was only half clothed!)



Gen Sir Martin Farndale chats to soldiers of 45 Field Regiment during its final inspection

Services suspended for West Yorkshire Gunners

WEST Yorkshire Gunners old and young said farewell to 45 Field Regiment Royal Artillery when it was placed in suspended animation as part of the Options disbandments.

Veterans such as Chelsea Pensioner WO "Spike" Ellis, Battery Sergeant Major of 176 (Abu-Klea) Battery at the Battle of the Imjin River, heard the Master Gunner, Gen Sir Martin Farndale, highlight its

long and distinguished history during the final parade at Paderborn, which was led by Lt Col John Keeling.

The senior battery, 52 (Niagara) Battery, remains intact and is transferred to Osnabrück to join 4 Regiment Royal Artillery; 94 (New Zealand) Battery is disbanded and the honour title joins HQ Battery, 4 Regt. In June, 170 (Imjin) Battery will merge its

title with 25 Battery of 19 Regiment in Colchester.

Ex-Cpl Norman Rushworth of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers remembers 45 Field Regiment's support at Imjin in preventing the Chinese advance on Seoul. His son, Sgt David Rushworth, serves with 170 (Imjin) Battery and after the parade travelled to Korea to lay the final commemorative wreath at Gloucester Hill.



A proud day for Mr Norman Rushworth, who was at the battle of Imjin, and his son, Sgt David Rushworth of 45 Fd Regt

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Royal Patron visits her Army chaplains



Picture: Chris Fletcher

Clerical circles: the Queen surrounded by military clergy on a visit to the Royal Army Chaplains' Department Centre at Bagshot, Surrey – her first since 1968. Last year, she became patron of the department. On her right is Forces Chaplain General The Rev James Harkness

Three goes into two at Paderborn

THE LIGHT Infantry's three Regular battalions reduced to two when the men of the 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry, who have been based at Paderborn since 1990, marched on to parade at Alanbrooke Barracks as 3 LI and marched off as the retitled 2 LI. The existing 2 LI became the new 1 LI during a similar parade at Tidworth.

During the six months before the merger, manpower from the former 1st Battalion, previously based at Bulford, was dispersed between the 2nd Battalion at Tidworth and the 3rd at Paderborn.

While the regiment escaped amalgamation or disbandment, it was still a poignant moment for Light Infantrymen to see the 3 LI Colours consigned to a noble history.

The final salute at Paderborn was taken by Brig Jim Parker, Deputy Chief of Staff at Headquarters BAOR, a former King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry officer and commanding officer of 2 LI, who exhorted them never to lose their identity and pride as individuals, and never to fight alone.

Commanded by Lt Col Martin Grubb, the new 2nd Battalion is now preparing for a tour of duty in Northern Ireland.



LCpl Andy Tallant puts the finishing touches to the new 2 LI sign in Paderborn

RLC forms with lion

THE Royal Logistic Corps was ushered in at Hong Kong by Lion Dancers, with Commander British Forces, Maj Gen John Foley, "dotting" the lion's eye to bring it long life.

The formation parade was delayed a few days in Hong Kong because April 5 coincided with the Chinese festival of Ching Ming, the traditional occasion for visiting ancestral graves.



Brig Jim Parker chats with soldiers from the new battalion during his inspection



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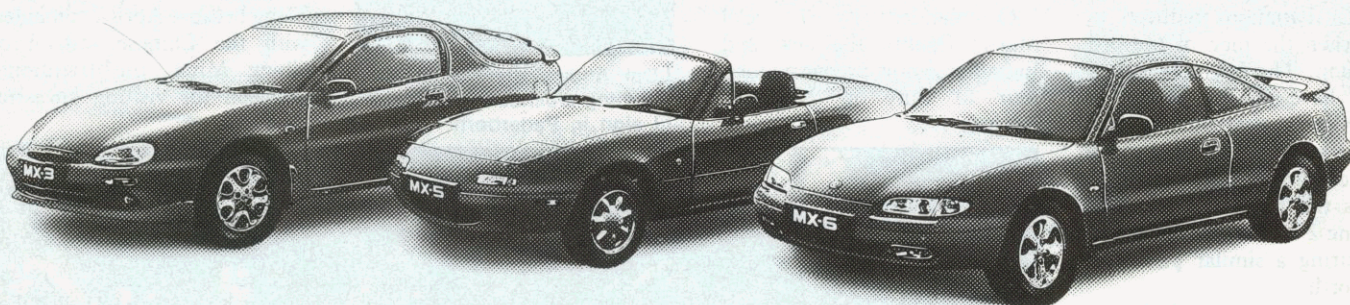
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Borough honours R Irish

FREEDOM of the Borough of Carrickfergus was conferred upon The Royal Irish Regiment on April 17 in the presence of its Colonel-in-Chief, the Duke of York.

This is the first such honour bestowed upon the regiment, which was formed from the merger of The Royal Irish Rangers and The Ulster Defence Regiment.

The Freedom Scroll was presented to Gen Sir Charles Huxtable, Colonel of the Regiment, by the Mayor of Carrickfergus, Councillor Stewart Dickson, who referred to the outstanding traditions and legendary achievements of both regiments, and promised the community's support for a regiment whose members had served others at the cost of their lives.



The Mayor of Carrickfergus, Cllr Stewart Dickson, inspected the R Irish during the freedom ceremony

SA 80 up to scratch

THE standard of the SA 80 is now fully acceptable, Maj Gen Anthony Stone, Director General Land Fighting Systems, has told the Commons Defence Committee. Members heard that the rifle had required 32 modifications since its introduction in 1986.

New name for School of Inf

COMMAND of Warminster Garrison has passed from the Commandant of the School of Infantry to the Commander of the new Combined Arms

Training Centre. Established as a result of changes made to the Army's training organisation under Options, the Centre of Excellence for All Arms training in Warminster will allow a better and more efficient use of the Salisbury Plain Training Area.

At the same time, the move of the Junior Division of the Staff College from Warminster to Camberley, and a reorganisation of the School of Infantry has created space within The Barracks, Warminster for the creation of the Combined Arms Training Centre.

At a simple ceremony in The Barracks on April 1, Brig Dair Farrar-Hockley, Commandant of the School of Infantry, relinquished the command of Warminster Garrison, held by him and his predecessors since the end of the Second World War.

The new Commander will be Brig Doug Cantley, Commander of the Combined Arms Training Centre.

The Barracks, Warminster will be known in future as Warminster Training Centre, comprising the Combined Arms Training Centre and the Infantry Training Centre which is the new name for the School of Infantry, Warminster.

Anzac tribute

THE Band of the Grenadier Guards played at the Anzac Day ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall on April 25.



Maj Gen Anthony Denison-Smith, GOC 4 Armd Div, presents the Other Arms' LSW Trophy to Sig Donna Bick and LCpl Mitch Miller

Donna's a hit with LSW

A NATURAL shot like Sig Donna Bick of 7 Signal Regiment in Herford did not need more than one day firing on the Light Support Weapon before taking part in the Other Arms LSW competition during the 4 Armoured Division Skill at Arms meeting.

Never having fired it before she entered the team as a late

replacement, but still won first place along with teammate LCpl Mich Miller.

Ranger Steve Fletcher also proved his worth by winning the individual rifle shoot with a borrowed weapon after his own had to be taken away for repairs on the morning of the shoot.

Although many good shots were away on operations in

Bosnia, Croatia, Northern Ireland, Belize and Cyprus, there were three days of fierce competition, with the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment narrowly defeating the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the Infantry match. The Other Arms event was won by 4 Armoured Workshop REME.



Catering cream

Overall winners when chefs from nine Scottish Territorial Army units gathered at Barry Buddon to show their culinary and military prowess in Exercise Combat Caterer, the Army's field cookery competition, were Dunfermline-based 527 Squadron RCT (V). Pictured (left to right) are SSgt **Ian Bow** (who led the winning team, 239 Squadron RCT (V) to success in the last three competitions, and won the national finals in 1991), Pte **Gordon Law**, LCpl **John Gourlay** and LCpl **Bert Taylor**.

Museums' Trust librarian moves

Booking out... was former RA major **John Tamplin** (right), librarian and research assistant at the Army Museums Ogilby Trust in Middlesex, pictured with his successor, Maj **James Falkner**.

John, who had been with the Trust for 27 years, has built up a large research collection of pictorial and other information on regimental and corps uniforms and personalities during that time – and edited the Yeomanry series of books.

He now plans to concentrate on his passion for orders and medals.

As James, a watchkeeper and 2iC of 2nd Battalion, The Wessex Regiment, whose two main immediate headaches will be editing a book on next year's 200th anniversary of the Yeomanry movement – and making sure the Trust's move to Winchester this summer goes without a hitch – says: "Matching John's expertise will be quite a challenge, but it can be done, in time."

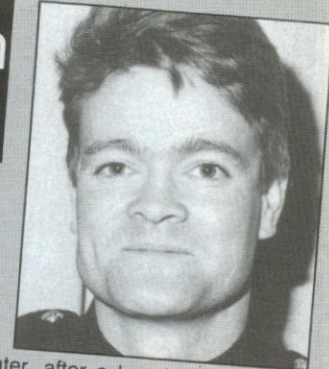


Best of buglers



A special silver badge for Kgn **Lee Vipond** (left) and a gold one for fellow Kingsman **Steve Miller**, appointed as adjutant's bugler and commanding officer's bugler respectively after a close competition by the drummers of 1 Kings. Also presented with a badge by CO Lt Col **Robin Hodges** (centre) was best all-round drummer LCpl **Neil Hayes** (on his left), nominated by Drum Maj **Brian Harrison** (right).

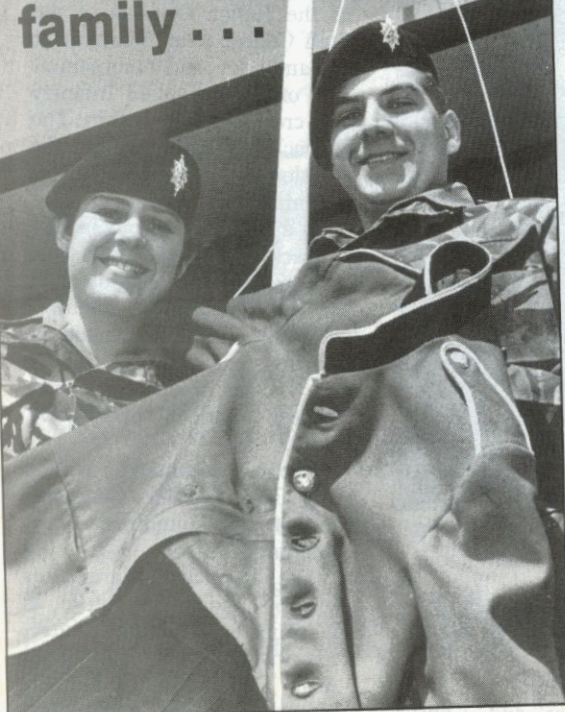
Golden fusilier



Back in 1985, Lt **David Natusch** of 1st Battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers, gained his first qualification for a Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. Eight years later, after a lengthy interruption during which he notched up several thousand miles of world travel, he finally found time to qualify, having successfully completed the unit expedition leader course at Tywyn in Wales.

PEOPLE

Woofers keep it in the family...

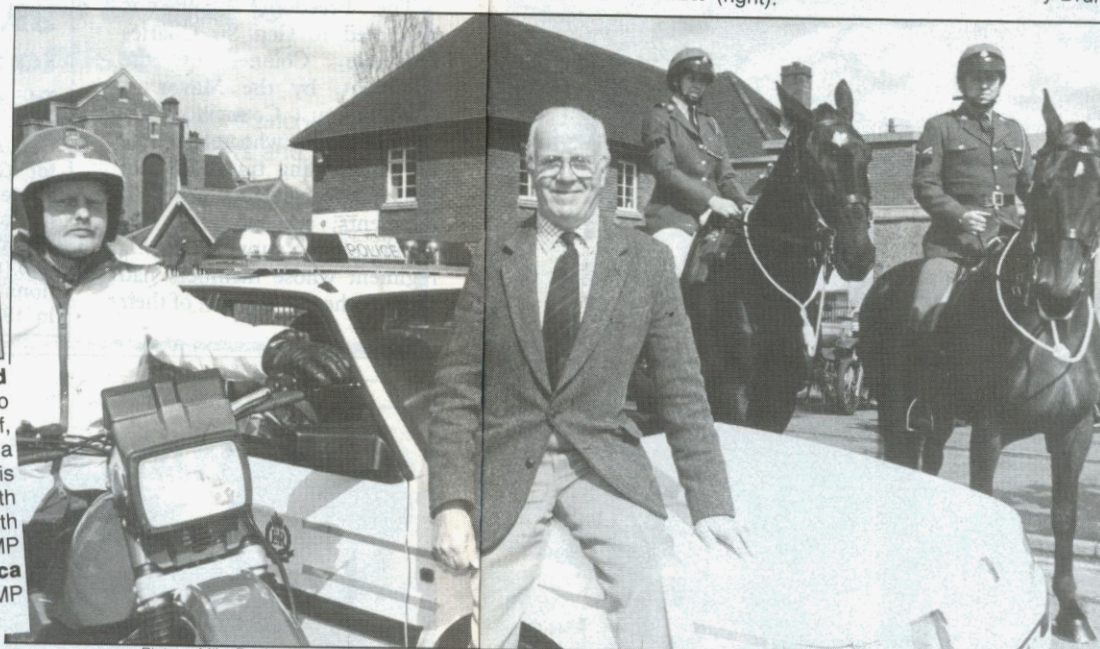


Brother and sister **Alex** and **Jane Roulstone**, both privates in the 3rd Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, made history when they hoisted aloft a red jacket at the battalion's Beeston headquarters.

It was the first time the traditional ceremony – held to mark the bravery of a young Nottinghamshire lieutenant who fought with Wellington at the siege of Badajoz in Spain – had been performed either at the new HQ or by a brother and sister.

LAST DAY ESCORT

Contrary to appearances, Maj (Retd) **Fred Chipperfield** is not being taken into custody. He was being given a send-off, after 47 years' service in the Army – a great deal of them with the RMP – on his final day as an administrative officer with 160 Provost Company, Aldershot. With him are Cpl **'Daz' Coster** of the RMP motor cycle display team, with Cpls **Erica Rhodes** and **Andy Bowes** of the RMP mounted troop.



Picture: Mike Perring

First Ladies

Passing out with a smile at the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot, were (standing, left to right) Sgts (SI) **Ann Adams** (née **Lewis-Williams**) and **Jackie Gilchrist**, and **Una Russell** who, with Sgt (SI) **Tina Edwards**, were the first girls to attend and pass Army Physical Training Corps selection, junior and senior probationers' courses and transfer into the APTC.

It was an extra special occasion for Ann, who was married later in the day. All four were formerly in the WRAC.



Picture: Terry Champion

Eyes right...



Little and large: Guardsman LCpl **Duane Ashworth** with some of the 4,000 lead figures featured in the Coronation 40th anniversary exhibition, currently being held at the Guards Museum in London.

RSM Scott 'bounces' out

Lt Col **Tudor Quare**, CO ASPT, and Brig **Gael Ramsey**, Commander Aldershot Garrison (front row, third and fourth from left) had the ground swept from under them when a dubious character strolled into the gym during a passing out parade at the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot. Having completed his "chore" the cleaner sauntered over to a trampoline – and proceeded to give a dazzling display.

He was none other than WO1 (RSM) **Dave Scott**, a former international gymnast, who was marking his last day in the Army before retirement. He has been succeeded as RSM at the school by WO1 **Gerry Dolan** APTC.



Picture: Terry Champion

Newest Yeomen

A wee bit of history, as representatives from all elements of the Scottish Yeomanry come together for the first time, on a study day designed to outline the role of Scotland's newest regiment – now ready to embark on its initial training programme. Pictured (left to right) are Maj **Christopher Roads**, OC C Sqn, Maj **Chris Harrison**, OC A Sqn, Maj **Colin Mitchell-Rose**, 2iC, Maj **Magnus Cormack**, OC B Sqn and Maj **Robin MacLean**, OC HQ Sqn.





Above - Milans come ashore at Solo Point after a beach assault in US Engineer boats

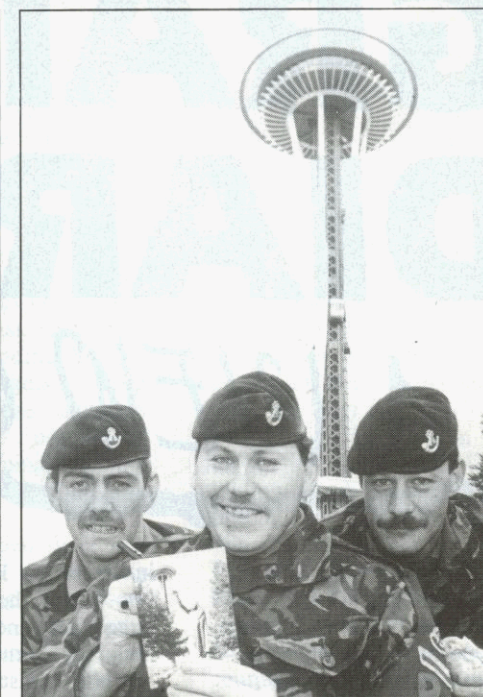
Below - Three Light Infantry cooks get their teeth into action. From left are Cpl Mark Graham, LCpl Colin Osborne and Pte Clint Homes



Above - The Light Infantry storms ashore during the beach landing

Left - 2nd Lt Nicholas Andrew holds the last round to be fired by 13 (Martinique) Battery

Right - Members of B Coy, 1 LI pose for a team picture on one of the vast Fort Lewis ranges. In their midst are two men from Recon Troop, 2 Armd Cavalry Regt who assisted with training



Postcards from the Needle. Three Geordies (from left) Cpl David Bramley, LCpl Gary Parkin and LCpl Robert Mackett in front of Seattle's Space Needle

Dancing through rain and snow

SNOWSTORMS and lots of rain, more typical of British weather, greeted soldiers of the newly-amalgamated 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry as they went through their paces on Exercise Trumpet Dance 2 in the Seattle area of Washington State.

Based in the Fort Lewis and Yakima training areas, the battalion used the exercise as preparation for its new role with 24 Airmobile Brigade.

As a new unit, there was a great deal to learn. As well as

training to fight, soldiers from the former 1 and 2 LI battalions were in at the deep end and were left to get acquainted as quickly as possible.

The commanding officer, Lt Col Tim Weekes, said: "This is an extremely busy and challenging time for us. A new battalion, new personnel, and a new role - all of these have fallen together at once, so the pressure is really on us to make things work."

"This exercise is a good environment in which this

can happen." Working closely with American soldiers from 104 Training Regiment National Guard and 9 Chemical Company, the battalion was quick to make friends and enjoyed unrivalled American hospitality.

Training facilities at Fort Lewis and Yakima were described by many soldiers as "second to none".

"There's nothing that can compare with this in England," said LCpl Martin Stephenson of B Company. "We just don't

get the size of training area or such good facilities. With all this space, there are no firing restrictions and we can really go to town."

The exercise began in early March with individual weapon training and low-level live attacks designed to re-acquaint soldiers with basic tactics.

From then on, the pressure increased as soldiers fought at platoon then company level. The final exercise, Bugle Forge, was a battalion-level FTX involving use of US

engineer assault craft and USAF Chinook helicopters.

Co-operation with the Americans at all levels was extremely close, and the battalion learned a great deal about the American way of doing things.

Giving fire support to the battalion throughout the exercise was 13 (Martinique 1809) Field Battery RA, which has sadly now become 13 Headquarter Battery under Options for Change. The last round to be fired by the battery was shot at Yakima firing centre and

marked by a small ceremony.

"It's obviously a very sad time for us, but reassuring to know that at least 13 Battery will survive in another form," said BSM Yule Lightbody.

One of the highlights of the exercise was the enormous American following gained by the Light Infantry's Salamanca Band, which accompanied the battalion throughout the stay in America.

Using instruments as diverse as kettles and tubular folding chairs, they really went down a

storm wherever they played.

"Although we have had a very hectic concert schedule, the band have enjoyed themselves - particularly the schools concerts," said WO1 (Bandmaster) Mark Taylor.

R and R locations were, by tradition, very widespread.

"I never cease to be amazed by how resourceful the British squaddie can be when it comes to getting away on leave," said Col Weekes.

"We have had soldiers skiing in Canada, playing the

machines in Las Vegas and sunning themselves in San Francisco."

The battalion is due to move this month to Colchester, where it will assume its new role in support of 24 Airmobile Brigade, working alongside other Nato armies as part of the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps.

The 1st Battalion's soldiers were given a unique opportunity in America to bind together and get themselves fit for the task. All credit to 1 LI for making the most of it.

GRAPPLE DIARY

A VIEW OF BOSNIA

Stu Reed is the Ministry of Defence's Chief Public Information Officer assigned to Operation Grapple. His reports filed to HQ UKLF, Wilton from Split paint a vivid picture of conditions in the war-ravaged zones in which the British Army is supporting United Nations humanitarian operations

The dust

Zagreb, Feb 23

IN ZAGREB, the capital of Croatia, the dust gets everywhere. It's a problem for the British Army medics. Blown from the icy heart of Russia by the chilling Bora wind, the fine grey powder settles on tents, desks, beds and buildings at the UN's main medical centre near the city's drab airport.

There is not much snow but temperatures regularly drop to minus 30C. Even when the wintry sun filters through the leafless birch trees, the place, once a Yugoslav Army barracks, has a gloomy air.

Further to the south and the west are the UN Protected Areas – often the scenes of bitter fighting between Serb and Croat. These are danger areas where soldiers of the UN multi-national force risk their necks every day to arrest the twin diseases of ethnic cleansing and war.

There is concern that the fighting could get worse. So the 250-strong British Medical Battalion and the American MASH next to it in Zagreb stand ready to take care of the sick and wounded from the UNPAs.

Mercifully, casualties handled by the men of the Royal Army Medical Corps involved

in Operation Hanwood have not been heavy so far. Tragedies none the less, but none has been British.

UNPA East is renowned for landmine casualties and a United Nations Military Observer has been shot.

Two French soldiers have been killed and three injured in UNPA South. There has been a helicopter crash in UNPA North.

But there also is the predictable list of less serious cases – a suspected appendicitis, frostbitten feet, sprains and fractures – ailments which a Scottish Highland GP might encounter.

The battalion deals with secondary medical care – evacuating casualties, stabilising them and passing on those needing specialist treatment or surgery to the American MASH, a vast tented city.

For the brave Army medics, helicoptering in and out of the danger zones, "mercy dash" is no mere cliché. Several have been shot at.

They plan for the worst but hope for the best. Meanwhile, the Croatian cleaners silently swab the floors and wipe the desk tops and cabinets – keeping down the ever-present dust.

The police

Split, March 1

DISTURBED by the persistent knocking on the door the Public Information Officer crawls drowsily from his sleeping bag. It is 1.30 in the morning. Through the window he can make out two shadowy figures outside.

The knocking is loud and authoritative. Orders are shouted in Croatian. They



Notepad at the ready, helmet doubling as a desk, Stu Reed puts together another report from Bosnia

include the word *policia*. One of the figures holds a police badge up to the window. It is a flashy enamel-and-brass affair which would have done justice to any Chicago cop.

The Public Information Officer slips on his combat trousers and T-shirt and shuffles barefoot to the front door. Outside are two policemen wearing black leather bomber jackets and casual shirts. They glance at his clothes and ask "UNPRO-FOR?". The PIO confirms that he is indeed part of the UN Protection Force and shows his identity card.

The policemen apologise for disturbing him. "We look for men from the war," says the thin one. Breathing a sigh of relief, the PIO says "OK, no problem", closes the door and heads back to his bedroom to dream of Eng-

land. The knocking can be heard further up the street. The Croatian secret police are searching the area for deserters.

The Rangers

Gornji Vakuf, March 5

IT IS NOON. The tannoy on the minaret of the mosque calls the faithful to prayer as the Irish Rangers move through Gornji Vakuf.

Their helmets, flak jackets and SA 80 rifles do not seem out of place against the backdrop of destruction: bullet-riddled walls, smashed shop windows with Venetian blinds trailing out into the street, roofless houses – the lingering legacy of the bitter fighting of mid-January.

The sun makes the snow dazzle. The Rangers mingle

The flight

Sarajevo, March 10

IT IS 0730. The French C160 Transal crew spot the girl passengers in the departure lounge at Split. "Fly with us," they chorus, "We're the best."

The aircraft on the tarmac is ready for take-off – loaded with a couple of girls working

for the UN High Commissioner For Relief, a British Army padre, a few soldiers and pallets stacked with aid for the besieged city of Sarajevo.

The sound of what seems to be a thousand loose rivets vibrating builds to a crescendo as the aircraft leaves the ground, climbing steeply to high altitude above the calm Adriatic before turning inland to go straight and level for the former capital of the former

Yugoslavia. The journey is not long – about three-quarters of an hour.

Ten minutes before landing, the aircrew get their flak jackets on. These are heavy-weight affairs with metal plates sewn into them. The passengers had them on before take-off.

At 33,000ft the pilot cuts the engines so as not to alert the Serb, Bosnian or Muslim gunners surrounding the city. The aircraft begins to drop like a stone. The silence is alarming. The passengers' ears are popping as the Transal plunges through the cloudless sky.

All of a sudden there is a fierce revving, a braking sensation, tilting the passengers towards the front of the plane. The Transal lands as soft as a feather.

The rear ramp is lowered and a fork-lift vehicle stands by to unload the aid as the blue-helmeted passengers emerge from the forward side door.

They file off across the tarmac carrying their Bergens towards the damaged building bearing the sign "Aerodrom Sarajevo".

The party

Tuzla airfield, March 24

IT'S BEEN A busy day for Maj Alan Abraham, the soldiers of the 9/12 Lancers, Cheshires, REME and 2 R Irish who make up B Company at Tuzla airfield.

In-coming artillery punctuated a day of frenzied activity. The French Pumas of the DETALAT and the Sea Kings of 845 Naval Air Squadron had intrepidly flown in and out of the Srebrenica pocket.

The Landing Zone was attacked during this hazardous mission and two wounded Canadian soldiers had been evacuated with 21 Muslim casualties and a group of women and small children.

It is almost 2000 hours and everyone is drained by the events of the day. But the top-drawer cavalry officers had planned a cocktail party that night and good form must be maintained.

"The invitations have gone out," said David Bennett, a 31-year-old captain from Hampshire. "One simply can't let one's guests down, can one?"

The officers share their

mess with the senior NCOs in Tuzla. It's a plain room with some tired-looking armchairs. A couple of coffee tables have been set with packets of crisps, bits of quiche and nuts.

Slabs of beer in cans are being brought in and placed strategically around the room. There is only one bottle of whisky for the 25 hosts and guests. Some local wine in litre bottles has been purchased and Coke is available for those on duty.

"Ah, our friends from the Royal Navy," said Capt Bennett as a brace of aviators in flying suits enter the mess. "Sorry there's no pink gin. Defence cuts, you know," he jokes. "Do have a beer."

Near the door, Army senior NCOs welcome their naval counterparts and guide them to the beer.

"Bon soir, mon Colonel. Comment ca va?" says Capt Bennett, greeting Lt Col Jean-Robert Richard, CO of the DETALAT. "Vin du pays, peut-etre?" The French colonel, politely, does not wince at Bennett's accent.

More French drift in, army, airmen and signallers from the Deuxieme Regiment d'Etrangers Para. With well-bred charm they are made to feel at home by the Lancers.

French sergeants, all of whom seem to speak passable English, chat amiably to British petty officers and Army warrant officers; majors and lieutenant-commanders hob-nob together as like gravitates towards like.

"A truly international, inter-Services party," says Bennett, beaming.

The Int

Split, April 10

"BRITISH Army information on Bosnia is much in demand by the intelligence community of Europe," says the 39-year-old Intelligence Corps major from Ashford.

He cannot be named for reasons of personal security, but he is in charge of a small team of two officers and five NCOs who make up the military information cell at the British Headquarters in Divulje Barracks near Split.

The major, who has served in Northern Ireland, Turkey and Iraq, has spent most of his career assessing the threat from former Warsaw pact

● Turn to next page

GRAPPLE DIARY

● From Page 17

countries during the Cold War.

"I've never done anything quite like this before," he says. "Rightly, the UN uses the term 'military information' and not 'intelligence' because of our neutrality in this conflict.

"It's quite different," he emphasises. "For a start all the warring factions are very open with us. They talk to us a lot, giving their own views of what they are doing and what they think their enemies may do.

"Naturally their views are coloured. But it provides us with two parts of an overlapping picture. We examine this picture carefully, looking for any evidence of threat to British troops in UNPROFOR.

"We also provide Bosnia-Herzegovina Command at UN HQ Kiseljak with information which helps them to plan their operations for maximum effectiveness.

The MILINFO cell in the British HQ is a partitioned-off section of a room which also contains engineer map makers and other staff. The walls are covered with large-scale maps giving troop dispositions, supply routes and so forth.

It's not unusual for either the major or his warrant officer to brief national journalists before they go up country to cover the war.

"Three months before we came out here, we knew our knowledge of the country was limited," says the major.

"We had to start somewhere. So, in August 1991 at our base in 7 Intelligence Company, Germany, we assigned a corporal to glean information from open sources like newspaper reports and media broadcasts.

"Media reporting provided a mass of useful information which helped us to identify the areas of conflict and produce an information summary as a basis for making intelligent comments.

"We have a secondary role too - training. We produce recognition guides for units deployed here. The main one is called 'The RAT' - nothing to do with 7 Armoured Brigade but an

anagram of a Cold War publication called 'The Threat' - which has illustrations and pictures of armaments and weapons used by the warring factions.

"If soldiers see any of this kit, they log it down and produce situation reports indicating where and when the equipment was seen. These reports provide a substantial input to our whole operation.

"We are learning as we go along, getting to grips with finer and finer detail. It's complex. There are six different armies fighting here, each with their own aims and political direction.

"However, they all interrelate with each other. For example, it took us months before we understood the differences between the Bosnian Croats and the Dalmatian Croats."

The children

Kastel Luksic, near Split, April 10

THE ROYAL Engineers stand back to admire their handiwork. The job is finished. The adventure playground is erected and the children from the orphanage at Kastel Luksic are climbing excitedly all over it.

The more daring are jumping from the suspension bridges to the soft earth below. Others clamber up the wooden towers, explore nooks and crannies or whizz down the slide.

There are shrieks of delight from the Croatian, Muslim and Serbian kids. The engineers beam.

Capt Bill Soper stands with his arms folded smiling as SSgt Stuart Crossland from 35 Engineer Regiment relates the playground's chequered history.

"We got it from the American forces near our base at Hameln in Germany, four months ago. We had some spare capacity in one of the ISO containers coming out here, so we brought it along."

"We were stationed at Tomislavgrad in Bosnia before Christmas. During the shelling of the base the playground was damaged so we had to patch it up before



REME fit power pack in Sarajevo

First Warrior into Sarajevo was taken by the Recovery Mechanics of a 7 Armoured Workshop REME Forward Repair and Recovery Group when a detachment went to fit a K60 power pack to a FV434. Despite a background of shelling and shooting this

we moved to the coast.

"Father Stephen Alker, the RC padre, told us about the orphanage so we thought it would be a good idea to erect it there, if they wanted it," he explains.

The orphanage director, Titjana Vukman, a handsome woman, nods and smiles as he tells the story although she understands little English.

"It only took us three hours to erect it. Now the kids are playing on it, it's wonderful," says SSgt Crossland.

LCpl Simon Kettleborough and Spr Tony Drury chip in. "They've got a few swings. Now they've got something else," they say modestly.

The men of 35 Engineer Regiment are due to leave theatre in a couple of weeks. They've supplied materials for roads, bridges and Army camps up country.

They've been under fire like everybody else. Their good deed gives them a warm feeling at the end of a successful tour.

The Specials

Divulje Barracks, Trogir, Croatia, April 13

BRITISH Army engineers are to return to their Nottingham depot within the next two weeks after six months' service in war-torn Bosnia.

Maj Stephen Perkins (37), who commands the specialist Royal Engineer team of ten Servicemen and women, spoke of the vital role his staff had performed during months of sub-zero temperatures and sporadic fighting in the former Yugoslavia.

"Our principal task is to plan and design accommodation and services for the 2,500 British troops serving with the UN here. We also supervise the construction and see that all essential services - electricity, water, waste disposal and sewerage - are installed and work properly," he explained.

"Although they are scat-

tered throughout their theatre of operations, it's been like setting up a small town."

The men and women of 519 Specialist Team Royal Engineers (Works) come from the Central Ordnance Depot at Chilwell, Nottingham. They are highly qualified for the task.

"Collectively, our qualifications range from chartered engineers, associate members of professional institutes, clerks of works to garrison engineers. We also have drivers, a clerk, surveyors and draughtsmen," said Maj Perkins.

"The challenges have been enormous. It is 300km from here to Vitez, but the severe, adverse weather of the Balkan winter made it feel like 3,000 miles at times. Water for washing or drinking regularly froze, but so did the waste pipes. They were blocked solid."

The specialist engineers have not been desk-bound during their tour. Many have

mechanics have helped all parts of the group and anybody else in need - aid vehicles, Canadian APCs, coal trucks and foreign correspondents having difficulty adjusting to the terrain.

Pictured are Cfn Gourdy, Cpl Fraser and SSgt Stanley.

been sniped at up country but none have been injured. LCpl Ian Hick was shot at and mortared within 48 hours of arriving in Bosnia. LCpls Lisa Exley and Julie Thomas have travelled extensively throughout the battle zones.



Capt Bill Soper (above) and LCpl Simon Kettleborough (inset) of 35 Engr Regt helped to build a playground for children

"We'd do it again if we had to, but we're not volunteering for a second tour," they said.

Buildings in danger of being attacked had to be fortified - "hardened" in Army language. The engineers have produced an aide memoire on the subject so that units far afield can build their own protection.

Without doubt, these knowledgeable specialists have helped save British lives in the war zones of Bosnia.

The briefing

Divulje Barracks, Trogir, April 16

CAPT SAM Mattock, the operations room watchkeeper, announces that the evening brief will be delayed by 30 minutes. "I could tell you why, but it's so sensitive I'd have to shred you afterwards," he jokes.

At 1730 the rows of chairs in the briefing room are full. The brigadier sits to one side with the Chief of Staff. The heads of departments sit in the front row, RN and RAF liaison officers, CO 845 Naval Air Squadron, Civil Advisor, Chief Public Information Officer and so forth.

The rear seats hold other key members of the headquarters, people responsible for pay, food, medical matters, equipment, transport. The HQ supports and monitors the activities of more than 2,600 British troops spread throughout Croatia and Bosnia.

A tall captain from the Royal Signals points with a stick to the large maps on the wall. "Srebrenica is near to

falling. It is not yet clear whether this will be a negotiated surrender or a collapse. We have very little information but there are reports of multi-barrelled rocket attacks around the town.

"There has been shelling and small arms fire all along the eastern front, south of Tuzla, at Olovo, Goradze, Zivinice, Kledanj, keeping the front active while the Serbs concentrate on Srebrenica," he says.

The pointer moves to the west and hovers over Novi Travnik. "There has been a kidnapping here and the Croatian HVO are arresting Muslims. Five EC monitors were arrested but have now been released," he reports.

"At Vitez there have been more abductions which may be the cause of the current flare-up."

The pointer moves to Zenica. "A local commander of the Croatian HVO has been kidnapped here and his bodyguards killed. There has been shelling at Jablanica. Sixty-five shells were reported. Possibly, the target was the ammunition factory. In Gornji Vakuf people are boarding up their houses."

He leaves the conclusion unsaid.

Now it is the Chief of Staff's turn. He is a young-looking Royal Artillery major.

"There could be between 35,000 and 50,000 refugees in the Srebrenica pocket. This may represent an opportunity for the UN to review its policy. UK ministers are considering their view," he says.

He sketches the big picture - moves in New York, Washington, Moscow and London. He spells out the possible implications for the headquarters and for troops on the ground.

The Chief of Staff points with his pen to staff officers in the front row. Heads of departments give short accounts of what is going on in their own areas.

The last man to speak is the Superintending Clerk. He reports that the ops room vacuum cleaner has gone missing yet again. Dire retribution is threatened if this piece of kit is not returned immediately.

The brigadier thanks the staff for their efforts. The daily brief is over.

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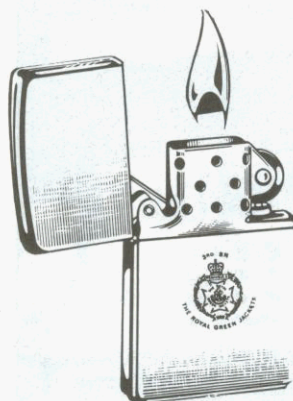
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New head of Naafi in office

COLIN CULLIMORE, former managing director of Dewhurst, is the new chairman of Naafi. He has taken over from Sir Malcolm Field, Group Managing Director, WH Smith PLC, who retires after 20 years on the Naafi board, the last seven as chairman.



Mr Colin Cullimore

Mr Cullimore, a former member of The Parachute Regiment, joined the board of Naafi in 1984. He now has the task of guiding Naafi through its greatest period of change since the Second World War. The current defence cuts, and especially the withdrawal of troops from Germany, strike at the core of Naafi's customer base.

Mr Cullimore sees Naafi surviving change by making services even more available to the Armed Forces: "As Service numbers get smaller, and their work load increases as a result, it is important that Naafi provides the essential support that they can't supply themselves. Customers should recognise that Naafi is not just a welfare organisation.

"You only need look at the Falklands and Gulf wars, on-going duties in Northern Ireland, and Bosnia, as evidence of the vital Service role Naafi has to play."

Mr Cullimore is no newcomer to Naafi or its facilities. He first came into contact as a recruit at Shorncliffe in 1950. Commissioned into the Royal Scots Fusiliers in 1951 he served in The Parachute Regiment in Cyprus and the Canal Zone. Promoted to major in 1956, he served in 10 Para until 1960.

It was not until 1984, though, that he became re-acquainted with the corporation on joining the board as a non-executive director.

Following his military service, the chairman joined the family meat trade business in Bayswater and by 1969 – just 12 years later – was general manager of Dewhurst.

He was appointed managing director of Dewhurst in 1976, retiring in 1990.



Fine weather helped during the 7 Signal Regiment team's training period before they tackled Norway's Hardanger Vidde in white-out conditions

Arctic training saves signallers

ARCTIC training paid off for six members of 7 Signal Regiment from Herford during a 150km mountain ski touring expedition across the Hardanger Vidde in Norway, Europe's largest upland plateau.

Led by Maj Simon Purser, the team of Sgt Nick Bell, Cpls Chris Symonds and Sean Fairfield, LCpl Simon Nice and Sig Andy Mayne hit some of the worst weather they had ever encountered and spent most of the third day roped together in white-out conditions.

They were forced to dig a survival snow hole and the next day had to navigate with compass bearings on timed legs with just an altimeter to help.

As Norwegian maps have contours at 100ft, some fairly steep drops are not indicated, and in the toneless white Maj Purser fell through a cornice and down a 40ft drop,



Maj Simon Purser enjoys a brew in a snow cave

fortunately landing upright in soft snow.

Their final half mile had to

be negotiated in total darkness and it was two days before they could drive back to Germany.

WHEN TRAUMA RETURNS

Hollybush: A haven of respite against the ravages of stress

IN THE Great War it was known as shell shock.

Twenty-odd years later, during the Second World War, the description had changed to lack of moral fibre.

Nowadays, the official term is post-traumatic stress.

Call it what you will, the effects of, for example, seeing one's friends shot, or of having nightmares, years after the event, about harrowing experiences in Japanese prisoner-of-war camps, are still very much part of many former soldiers' lives.

Not only that, but it goes without saying that the wives and other carers of those involved have their share of problems too.

Two miles from the village of Dalrymple in Ayrshire, in 37 acres which include salmon and trout fishing on the River Doon, lies a temporary respite from day-to-day domestic turmoil for ex-members of all three Services.

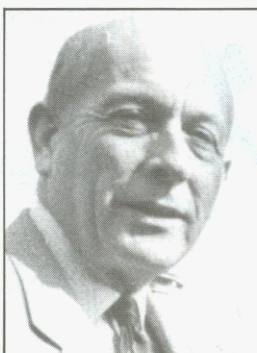
Rounding the drive, one sets eyes upon the imposing

frontage of Hollybush House, a former hotel on a site which dates back to the 13th century.

Run by Combat Stress, the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, the home – open all year round to provide short breaks for ex-Service personnel – is sister to Tyrwhitt House in Surrey.

The main difference is that, at Hollybush, one is likely to find Northern Ireland residents sharing a couple of weeks' recuperation with new-found friends from the north west and north east of England, the Isle of Man – and from all over Scotland.

Three welfare officers, based in Belfast, Edinburgh and Carlisle, ensure that their widely-spread quota of clients



Capt Owen Light

regularly fill the 27 vacancies normally available at the home.

They are former majors, Gordon Dodds and Joe Roynon-Jones, and erstwhile flight lieutenant, Gary Lowe, respectively.

The man they report to at Hollybush – himself not exactly lacking in experience when it comes to dealing with mental welfare cases – is Capt Owen Light, assistant director of welfare in Scotland.

A former Argyll and Sutherland Highlander who saw action in Korea and Aden, his services were recently acknowledged by the award of an MBE.

"I think it is true to say that

ex-Service personnel who have suffered mental trauma while in service soldier on until they reach about the age of 50, and then the stress begins to tell," Owen Light said.

"One of the triggers at the moment is the spate of Second World War anniversaries."

But it is not just that era which has taken its toll on many of the clients referred to the welfare officers by, for instance, social workers, GPs or indeed the persons themselves.

Alongside former prisoners-of-war whose capture left an indelible mental impression, there is a new breed of patient.

Men in their forties, hardened and seasoned from several years of patrolling the streets of Northern Ireland, have found themselves severely affected by having the misfortune of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Schizophrenia, clinical depression and agoraphobia are all common side-effects.

As Capt Light put it: "It doesn't matter who you are, a bullet pays no respect to rank or class."

Neither, for that matter, does it necessarily follow that post-traumatic stress should occur as a direct result of involvement in conflict.

Past cases have included clients who could not take the strain of being on guard duty in a battle zone, an RAF employee who had seen a friend decapitated by the propeller of an aircraft, and a storeman given too much responsibility.

"You couldn't do this job if you don't like people," said Joe Roynon-Jones, who, like all the welfare officers, is an ex-Regular: in his case, more than 32 years on the ordnance side.

The job did not just involve visiting clients, he explained.

"In between times, we try to help out by liaising with local war pensions departments,



social services departments and county psychiatric nurses.

"Or we might run clients to see their doctors, or help them to obtain money from their regiment to buy furniture, or pay off a debt."

Ovens, microwaves, fridges, spectacles and dentures are among essential items which, under supervision, clients have been able to purchase from a limited amount of money provided by the society.

Joe's fellow welfare officer, Gordon Dodds, now in his fifth year in the job, was taught the basics by Gary Lowe, a comparative veteran with seven years' experience.

Gordon finds himself in the perhaps somewhat unusual position of being a Welshman (ex-RWF and RAPC) living for some years in Northern Ireland who provides 'places for clients in Scotland.

Compassion, logic and common sense are 90 per cent of the job, combined with the ability to be a good listener, he maintains.

"It's mutually satisfying to visit a client and be able to let them talk about their problems and, in the majority of cases, find some way of resolving them.

Above – Enjoying the break: Mick McGuire, John Burns and Jim McFarlane

Right – Hollybush employee Rosemary Yuille and the home's food hygiene award



"You have got to be sympathetic. If someone bursts into tears, I generally encourage them to keep on crying."

Gordon, whose territory covers the whole of Ireland, has sometimes had to deal with severe cases of post-traumatic stress such as the man who, by sheer circumstance, was not on duty when the two 18-year-old youths he should have been with were murdered.

Before now, he admitted, after visiting some of his clients he has sat in his car and cried.

"If I did that too often, I would be the one in need of help," Gordon said.

He concentrates on giving his protégés a welcome change from routine by "booking them in" for a stint at Hollybush.

"What is important," he said, "is that when we take

someone to the home, it is not just a break for the client, it is a break for the carer as well. So many of the men are reliant on their wives and families."

Outings to the ex-Servicesmen's Club in Ayr, theatre and cinema trips, excursions to Largs and Dumfries, not to mention the occasional foray to a whisky factory, complement the occupational therapy activities found in any home.

Taken out of their usual environment, albeit for a short time, residents seem on the whole to enjoy their stay at Hollybush, for which no charge is made to individuals.

Residents such as the dapper former RASC corporal from Stirling, on his fourth visit to the home, who had been the victim of an unprovoked attack in the street – ending

up through a plate glass shop window.

He had ultimately received compensation, but still bore the physical and mental scars several years after the event.

The community life at the home – and the standard of the food – were highlights of his year.

Or the tank driver, a native of Falkirk, who had been medically discharged after receiving a head injury in action.

Five years ago, after a visit from Joe Roynon-Jones, the first of several subsequent stays, at nine or ten-month intervals, was arranged.

His only real gripe was that there was too much smoking at the home!

Another resident at the time of SOLDIER's tour of Hollybush was one-time Yeoman of Signals and ex-Royal Navy veteran William Climie.

He was on board HMS Exeter in the Far East when it was sunk by three Japanese destroyers in 1942.

One warship had stopped to pick up survivors and, after he and his colleagues had been taken prisoners-of-war, their



Relaxation in the great hall

Words: Phil Wilcox
Pictures: Mike Weston

● Turn to page 35

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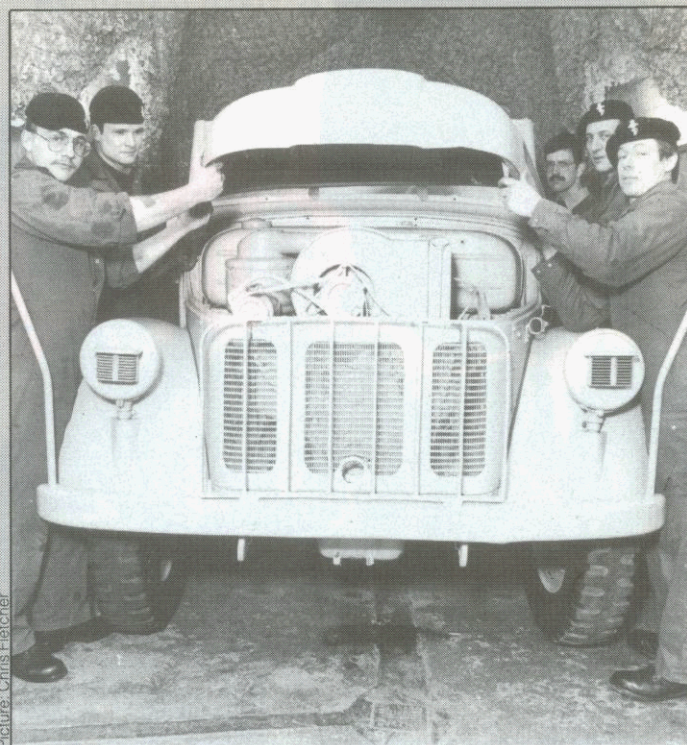
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The 133 Wksp Coy team with the staff car they took apart to get through the doors of The Royal Sussex Regiment museum

ASHFORD's 133 Workshop Company REME (V) has put the Afrika Korps commander's staff car through the mill – and a 2ft 10in door – to get it on display in The Royal Sussex Regiment Museum in Redoubt, Eastbourne.

The car belonged to Gen Jurgen von Arnim, who replaced Rommel towards the end of the North African campaign, and the 1st Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment captured it in 1943 when fighting ended in Tunisia.

Sgt Dave Whitehouse, permanent staff instructor at 133 Wksp Coy, and Mr

Godfrey Taylor stripped it down and had it refurbished by 44 District Workshop, then during their annual camp six Territorials squeezed the parts through the museum door. The museum team was SSgt Steve Weedon, Cpl Simon Tovey, LCpl Nigel Gwilliam, Cfn Rob Cowtan and Pete Kirchel.

Staff car squeezed through the door



Gen von Arnim's car, on display at a Royal Sussex Regiment Quebec Day gathering in Chichester in 1959

Guards' model of service

THE letter from H E G Wallace (May 3) once more raises the question of the oldest regiment in the British Army.

The Honourable Artillery Company is indeed the oldest regiment in the Territorial Army.

However, the Coldstream Guards are the oldest regiment by continuous service in the Regular Army. This is well chronicled by the military historian, John Fortescue.

Formed by Col George Monck in August 1650 in Cromwell's New Model Army, following the Restoration the regiment took post in King Charles II's Army on November 23, 1660.

On Monck's death in 1670, the name was changed from The Lord General's Regiment to His Majesty's Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards.

The Royal Scots served under the French kings, including Henry IV of Navarre, from 1633 and were not appointed to the English Army until 1661. — **R H Tatham** (formerly Capt, Coldm Gds), Twickenham, Middx.

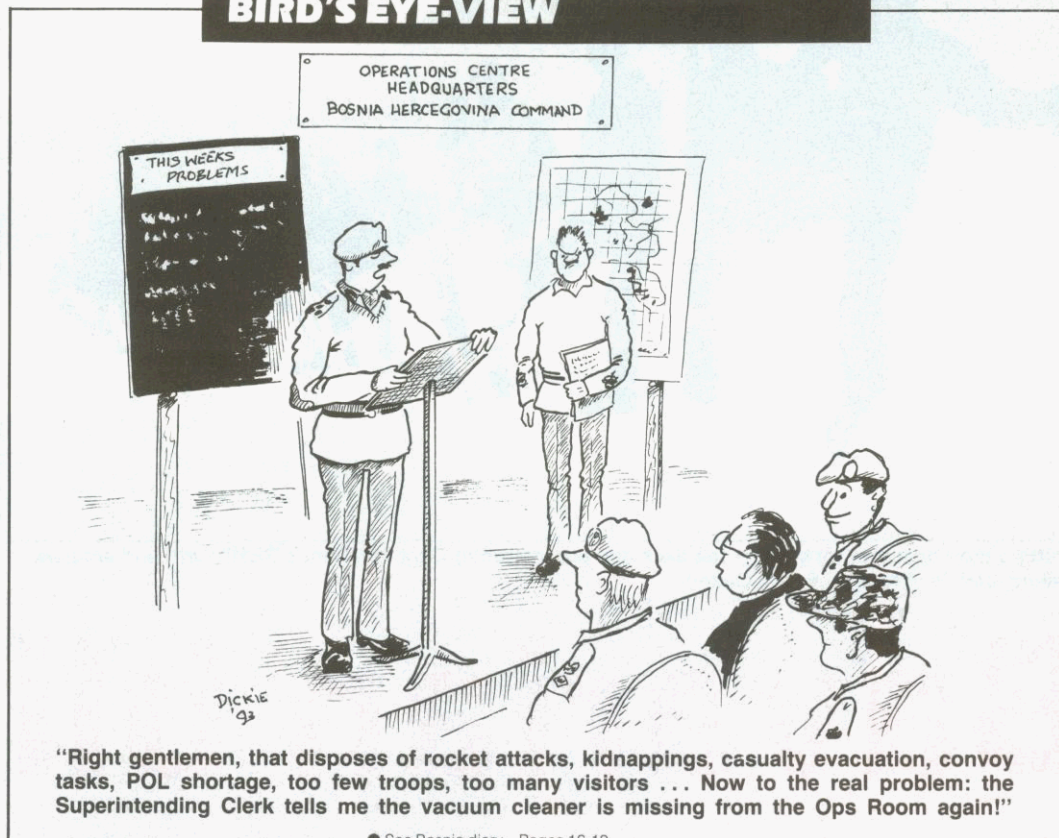
Not fair to Legion

UNDER the heading "Secret of Giap's success" (April 5) your book reviewer describes him as "the man who crushed the elite battalions of the French Foreign Legion" at Dien Bien Phu.

At Dien Bien Phu there were, I believe, 15,000 troops but the Legion provided only six battalions, totalling 4,500 men.

I initially read **SOLDIER** in the early 50s but lost contact until my son joined the Army four years ago and have read it regularly since. — **T Tacchi** (ex-Legionnaire, Indo China, pre Dien Bien Phu; RASC Para Regt (V), PWO (V), R Signals (V)), Bexhill, E Sussex.

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



● See Bosnia diary — Pages 16-19

War widows' plea

The following is an open letter from a founder member of the War Widows Association of Great Britain to the younger generation of war widows:

WHEN we started the War Widows Association of Great Britain we were a small group of women — 14 in all — smarting under a great sense of injustice.

Our pension was fully taken into account by the Inland Revenue when assessing us for tax purposes and clawed back from our wages and we had decided that enough was enough.

From that tiny and frail

beginning we have become a national association, recognised, respected and with quite a bit of clout.

But — and it is a big but — those of us widowed by the Second World War are all becoming old and we need you, with your youth and vigour, if our association, founded with so much effort, is to survive to serve your generation as well as it has now served mine.

Remember, our present chairman is a younger widow and is fully aware of your problems and determined to help you overcome them.

If we are to continue as a national association of some importance with the influence and know-how to put **your** wishes and views across, she and we need your support on our committee and as our regional officers, able and eager to take over the reins when we lay them down.

Will you do that? Please. — **Joyce Maxwell**, Hampstead, London.

Don't forget the RAF

I READ with interest your article (April 5) headlined "Battered media turn to MST Bravo medics".

One of the people mentioned in the caption to the accompanying photograph is Sgt Rick Bowman RAF, although there is no mention of him or the RAF in the written breakdown of the Medical Support Team. I took over from Sgt Bowman in

February. The RAF strength in Vitez numbers just one — that's me! — and is assigned to the MST.

The RAF provides Aeromed (in-flight nursing) cover for injured soldiers who may need to be flown straight back to the UK. We have already been involved in this role. — **Sgt(W) Denise Quinton**, PMRAFNS, MST, Vitez, Op Grapple.

FRIEND OR FOE?

THE unit in which I served during the Second World War fought (on active service, mark you) the Australians at Tidworth, the Newfoundlanders at Tonbridge and the Canadians everywhere.

But we only got the same medal as the APC and ATS in rear areas (we fought them, too).

Shouldn't we get a special medal? — **F McLellan**, Warrington.



Putting their best foot forward on the ski slope are instructor Capt Tim Sands REME (left) and soldiers taking part in Exercise Snow Queen

Bavarian bliss — but it's no holiday

THE VIEW from the top of the Fellhorn peak in the Bavarian Alps is stunning. It has been enjoyed by thousands of British soldiers taking part in Exercise Snow Queen over the past 20 years.

This annual skiing holiday has permitted troops to experience the excitement of the piste as they ski down some of the finest mountain slopes in Germany.

Unfortunately, in recent years, adventurous training in the Army has itself been in steady decline. The British Mountain Training Centre in Norway has disbanded, the Joint Services Training Centre in Wales is about to close and another in Scotland has decreased in size.

Now, despite the BAOR drawdown, the slide has been halted and adventurous training in Germany is undergoing changes that have led to the creation of an alpine centre which is to provide the focal point of all future training in the region.

The British Alpine Centre (Bavaria), which came into being last January, aims to gear adventurous training more

towards the Army's combat requirements. An element of every course will cover military skills.

For years, thousands of troops serving in Germany devoted two weeks of their time each winter to Snow Queen.

Now the exercise will cost the soldier nothing because the course has become more military-orientated. What he will learn in Bavaria will stand him in good stead should he find himself deployed to serve in mountainous regions like Norway or Bosnia.

Part of the course will include a survival exercise where soldiers are taken up into the mountains to an off-piste area to practise skills including blizzard survival techniques such as the construction of igloos, snow shelters and snow graves. Soldiers will also be taught how to hunt for comrades buried in an avalanche.

According to the centre's Commandant, Lt Col Graeme Cooper, Green Howards, this should dispel the soldier's "holiday" perception of adventurous training.

"You cannot blame him



because he has been badly briefed in the past," he said. "If the training is exciting and imaginative enough, he will actually come out of himself and appreciate its worth."

"Here we teach a soldier self-reliance, how to look after

himself and his kit. He has to manage himself efficiently and quickly so he'll end up a better soldier."

"Despite the introduction of this small Army training element, potential students need not fear courses have

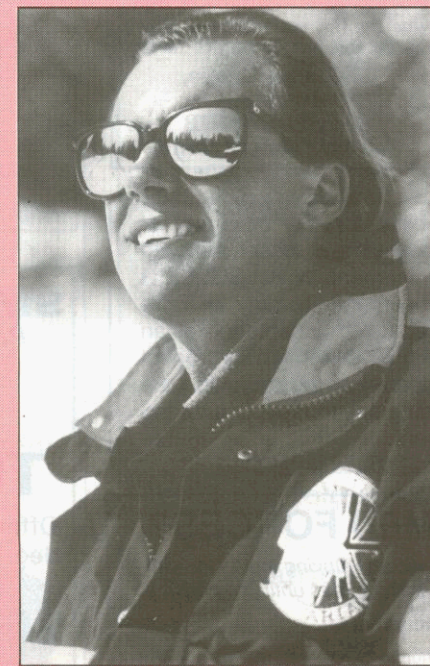
become totally military-orientated. Soldiers will still have plenty of time to enjoy themselves.

"The lodges will continue to cater for the welfare of soldiers and their families at certain times of the year."

Above — The Commandant, Lt Col Graeme Cooper, Green Howards is flanked by more than 70 instructors from the British Alpine Centre (Bavaria)

Left — Alpine trekking is a great confidence builder for these soldiers negotiating a cliff edge route

Right — QMSI Henry Branigan is chief instructor at the British Alpine Centre and a mountain guide



The centre runs 29 courses during the year, mostly alpine, and has room for 30 trainee instructors. The remaining participants are accommodated at the various corps and regimental lodges scattered throughout the area.

Once the winter snows have melted, Snow Queen becomes Exercise Sun King and among four new courses introduced is one for alpine trekking leaders.

This qualification allows soldiers to lead colleagues on a ridge walk with a sheer drop

each side. The students are clipped to a safety cable at the narrowest points.

"It's very exhilarating," said Col Cooper.

The centre is in the throes of adopting a corporate image. All its 90-plus instructors are kitted out with distinctive red ski suits emblazoned with the centre's new badge — a linked Union and Bavarian flag superimposed on an edelweiss.

Canoeing, too, will be a feature and, such is the expertise of instructor SSgt Zeb Spring, the unit is hosting two five-day symposiums on behalf of the European Canoe Union, which is looking to introduce new safety measures similar to those existing in the United Kingdom.

Thanks to the British Alpine Centre, Bavaria, adventurous training facilities for soldiers serving in Germany are much improved and a new generation of Servicemen and women will have an opportunity to develop their personal character at the same time as gaining a healthy respect for the mountains.

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Perring

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FULL details of all briefings and training courses organised by the **Tri-Service Resettlement Organisation (TSRO)** 22 are clearly set out in the latest 236-page handbook.

The 1993 Briefings and Training Guide (SRB 1B) covers everything from the initial briefings to post-release training.

TSRO is seeking feedback

from its "customers" on the effectiveness of briefings and courses.

Those attending a MoD-sponsored course will be able to complete the course report form they are given on joining.

Those with comments about the briefings should send their opinions in writing to: TDA, TSRO/B&T, St George's Court, 14 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1EJ.

RBL CENTRES

Most people in this country associate the Royal British Legion with the sale of poppies and the annual Festival of Remembrance. In fact, these events form only a part of the Legion's activities.

The RBL provides employment for disabled people, sheltered housing, residential and convalescent care, professional security services - and even training for one third of taxi drivers in London and the Home Counties.

The Royal British Legion Training Company was estab-

lished and developed at Ellesmere Port in Cheshire with the financial aid and support of the RBL.

In the early years it provided training and employment opportunities for local ex-Service personnel. Its range of services developed considerably and a new centre was opened to provide quality training services tailored to the needs of local industry and the community.

Ellesmere Port now operates a successful Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) contract for the benefit of the long-term unemployed and returners to the labour market.

It also offers a range of training and guidance services through civilian attachments to those leaving the Services.

The success of the Cheshire project resulted in a new centre being established at Tidworth in Wiltshire. This initiative was approved in January 1992 by the Adjutant General, who recognised that the wives of Service personnel might need

to supplement the family's income during the period of resettlement.

For those leaving the Services, the Tidworth centre will provide training and career guidance to support ex-Service personnel, their wives and dependants during an important transitional period in their lives.

A range of MoD-sponsored courses are offered in addition to vocational evening classes and workshops for all Servicemen and women.

Phase 2 of the development will be the establishment of a purpose-built head office for the RBL Training Company.

Contacts for the RBL centres are: **Tidworth** - Katharine Johnson on 0980 43674; **Ellesmere Port** - Katrina Millar on 051-357 2938.

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● From Page 29

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I Can Do That, by Malcolm Hornby, is a work book for jobsearchers. It is specifically aimed at those made redundant and those returning to work.

Described as a "personal training course or self-development programme", the 234-page publication, produced in a high-quality A4 ring-binder, is a mine of information. It is published by Delta Management and costs £29.99 plus £4.35 p&p.

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FEDERATION OF ARMY WIVES (UK)

The Federation of Army Wives (UK) is looking for a full-time Manager to administer their training centre, FOCUS, at Bulford Camp on Salisbury Plain.

As head of a small team, the Manager brings together the diverse activities of FOCUS into a cohesive operation as well as holding budget responsibility for the Centre. Sensitive to the needs of service dependants, the Manager also liaises and co-ordinates activities between Colleges, Educational Authorities and the Ministry of Defence. The candidate must reside within reasonable travelling distance of Bulford and be prepared to use own transport. The applicant has also to be a convincing communicator and presenter as some tutoring is required. Experience in double entry book-keeping is essential as well as being flexible, adaptable and most importantly having a good sense of humour!

The job is rewarding and challenging to the successful candidate, who must be a service dependant, and who will be required to join the FOCUS staff from mid-June to take up the appointment from 1 July 1993. As well as being salaried, there is an annual leave entitlement of 22 days.

For further information, or if you would like to apply for this appointment, please write, enclosing a copy of your CV to:

**The Manager, FOCUS, 8 Kandy Road,
Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9AA**

Applications close on Tuesday, 18 May for interviews to take place on Monday, 24 May at Bulford.

D3/NS/RF



IN MY...

FREEDOM of information, as championed by the Government, is a topic I have raised before in my "View" column.

Cases have been brought to my attention recently in which the deaths of Servicemen and women, while not involving criminal acts, appear also not to have been due to natural causes.

Although internal investigations were undertaken, the results were not released, even though requested by the next-of-kin and other interested parties.

Many may not be aware that if a Service man or woman dies and is buried overseas, there is no inquest, even if the death is apparently not due to natural causes or occurred in unusual circumstances.

However, if the next-of-kin or those responsible for the person request that the body be returned to the UK, a coroner's inquest will take place. It will be held in the area in which the body arrives in the UK.

An inquest gives an opportunity for questions to be asked. It is up to the coroner to decide whether they will be answered.

In the cases to which I refer it appears that even after a considerable time, the circumstances surrounding the deaths have not been made known.

This causes unnecessary anguish among relatives who are not allowed to know how their loved ones died.

Possible breach of security is the only possible reason for not revealing the details surrounding a death.

In the cases in question, the official silence has led the interested parties to feel there has been a "cover-up", which only adds to their torment.

I hope the freedom of information principle which the Government is seeking to uphold will be followed in cases such as these – or if the Army Act overrules civil law, then it is seen to do so.

The best course with all deaths occurring overseas in unusual circumstances would be for the body to be brought home so that an inquest can be held.

...VIEW

How to share your MQ with invading workers

MARRIED quarters modernisation programmes often leave families in a state of turmoil.

Even if they are found a surplus quarter to move into while the work is going on, some families are unable to do so because of new rules under which many schools will not take children temporarily for a few weeks.

The alternative, it would seem, is to stay put, with no water, heating or cooking facilities, sometimes for as long as eight weeks.

However, the Army's Southern District has come up with a novel way of helping families facing an invasion of workmen.

As Lt Col John Coombes, the District's Principal Housing Commandant, explained, a rent

review is conducted and in most cases the quarter will be downgraded to "sub-standard".

A Portakabin is moved on site which contains a cooker, tumble-drier, washing machine and other facilities to help families through this difficult period.

Another major problem for the resident families arises when the contractor needs to use the quarter's electricity supply for power tools or to keep driers running permanently for a number of days.

This sends bills soaring – but there is a method of reclaiming the excess through the unit.

Individual households will need to produce a "normal" bill for comparison. This should be at least

for the last quarter, but preferably for the last year or the previous equivalent quarter.

In some instances, I am told, the contractors install a bridging meter.

Families are advised to raise any queries they may have about a major modernisation programme with their housing commandant before the work starts so they are left in no doubt where they stand, especially over the financial situation.

They should not become directly involved in discussions with contractors. The procedure is, through your unit, to contact the Property Services Manager who in conjunction with the Work Services Manager will negotiate with the contractor on your behalf.

Pictures: Terry Champion



Busy ladies: FOCUS manager Sandy Pepperhill (left) and administrator Irene McCall, two members of the small team at Bulford

Bulford course puts wives back in FOCUS

ARMY WIVES who feel that they are getting left behind as office technology develops apace have a group of allies at Bulford Camp in Salisbury, writes **Phil Wilcox**.

That is where the staff at FOCUS – Army wives themselves – are based.

The Federation Office and Computer Update of

Skills, to give it its full title, was formed seven years ago to help train women who want to return to work, or update those who have been working, in skills such as word and data processing.

Wives with small children have not been overlooked: a crèche is provided.

Aim of the courses – which vary from five weeks, mornings or afternoons only, to three weeks full time, or longer in some cases – is to provide women with a launching pad into employment.

The main computer courses are free. Charges for other courses vary.

After being tutored in the basics of computer operation, interview techniques, confidence building and liaison, as well as word and data processing, each trainee leaves with a professionally designed curriculum vitae.

Book-keeping, shorthand and childcare are also on offer.

Although previous knowledge of computers is not a prerequisite, an ability to type is required – not to mention a 100 per cent commitment to the course by students when they have been offered a place.

"Because our classes are small (on average seven or eight), we find that everyone learns from each other," says FOCUS manager Sandy Pepperhill.

Sandy's colleague, FOCUS administrator Irene McCall, acknowledges the debt which FOCUS owes to, among others, local garrisons and units for donations to the maintenance of the crèche.

"Companies have also been very generous to us. We have had to rely on them to provide the computers and furniture – and, since we are bursting at the seams, we were very fortunate to obtain a pre-fabricated cabin to use as another classroom."

Job placements as a result of FOCUS courses have had a fairly high rate of success in the past, according to Sandy.

"We normally find that if a Service wife gets a job, when she has to leave she says to her employer: 'There are another half-a-dozen girls at Bulford ready to fill my shoes.'"

"It gives me a great sense of satisfaction to think that we are educating the wives to educate the employers."

● Two-day office skills courses are also held in Aldershot, backed up by work at home, and beginners' typing classes have been taking place twice a week at Larkhill.

Further information on all courses from: FOCUS, 8 Kandy Road, Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wilts, tel: 0980 32800 or Bulford Mil (732) 2981.

SOLDIER to Soldier

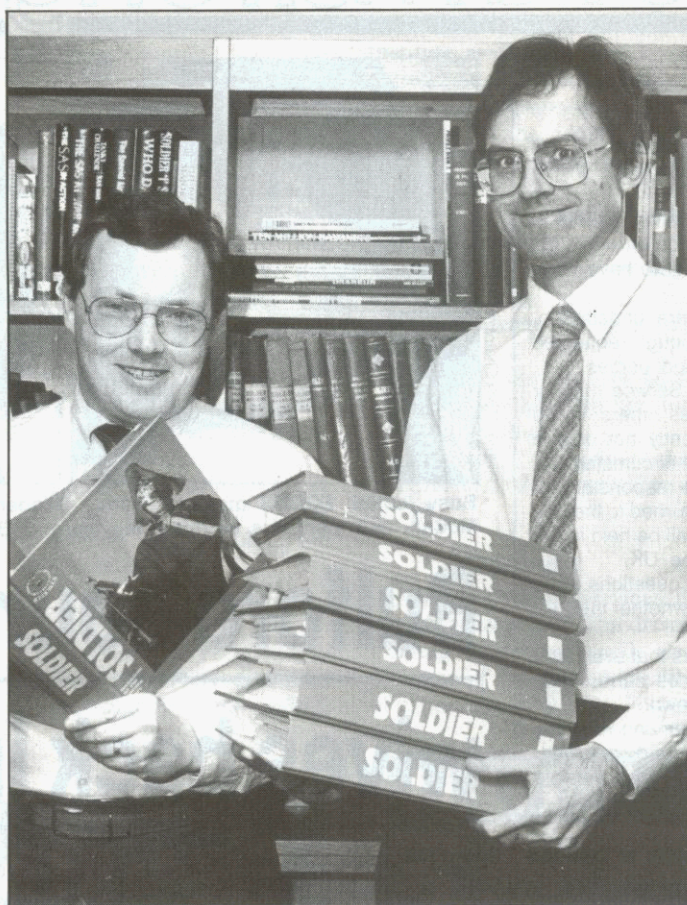
Bill hands over library

SOLDIER Magazine's unrivalled record of British Army life since the Second World War has been handed over to a new librarian, Gerard Sutton (left), by Bill Stroud, who has left on promotion to become Command librarian in Cyprus.

Mr Stroud worked in the Public Library Service before joining SOLDIER in 1983 and for ten years was a willing point of contact for myriad questions from the public on military history.

He reorganised the SOLDIER photographic library and introduced a cross-referencing system which has allowed access to many unique prints.

Mr Sutton, a Territorial Army Royal Artillery meteorologist with the Central Volunteer HQ RA, previously worked at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Foulness and the Royal Artillery Library, Woolwich.



Over to you: Bill Stroud (right) makes way for Gerard Sutton

defeats in the "Black Week" of December 1899, Brighton-born Mr Ives volunteered for the Imperial Yeomanry at the age of 18 "to do something for Queen and country".

He eventually served as a mounted trooper in the 1st Wiltshire Battalion, suffering only a grazed cheek from a Boer bullet. Only 27 of the 109 men in his unit survived the war, most dying from disease.

He emigrated to Canada in

1902 and was too old at 36 to enlist in the First World War.

Some attributed his longevity to a lifetime spent in the open air but he once pointed out that he had smoked until the age of 75.

OBE chapel fund gifts

LAUNCHED last year, the 75th Anniversary Appeal of the Order

of the British Empire is already well on the way to its £750,000 target.

Designed specially to renovate the Chapel of the Order in St Paul's Cathedral, the appeal fund has already attracted individual donations totalling almost £300,000.

This figure has been boosted by the introduction of a unique range of gifts on sale to members of the Order.

With the approval of the Queen as Sovereign of the Order, a handcrafted enamel box commemorates the 75th anniversary, while a tie, cufflinks and lady's scarf provide members with an accessory for those occasions when the Order's Insignia is not worn.

The chapel has been the spiritual home of the Order since 1960. Official services are held every three or four years for members, who are entitled to hold private services such as marriage or baptism there.

The address for donations and orders for commemorative gifts is The 75th Anniversary Appeal, Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, St James's Palace, London SW1A 1BH.

Tyneside opportunity

MILITARY related organisations are being offered free stands at the annual Men at Arms display being staged this summer by the Newcastle Upon Tyne Military Vehicle Museum.

The display, in the Recreation Park at Seaburn on August 7 and 8, will bring together many military organisations, including Regular and Reserve forces, cadets, veterans, vehicle preservationists and re-enactment groups, with

exhibits ranging from "Roman soldiers" to Scud missiles.

Further information can be obtained by sending an s.a.e. to the Military Vehicle Museum, Exhibition Park Pavilion, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE2 4PZ.



Maj Gen Ticehurst

General surprise

EXPECTING only to present medals to 16 Field Ambulance RAMC at Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth, Maj Gen Chris Ticehurst QHS, Commander Medical UKLF, found representatives from 16, 19 and 24 Field Ambulances, Cambridge and Queen Elizabeth Military Hospitals, 23 Para Field Ambulance, HQ and Cent GP and 3 Dental Group plus the band of the 17th/21st Lancers waiting to mark his retirement after 34 years' service. Gen Ticehurst, who was Director Medical Operations and Plans during operations Granby and Desert Shield, was presented with porcelain vases and a model of an armoured AFV 432.



As well as a 100th birthday telegram from the Queen, Mrs Faith Llewellyn received a frame print of the 24th Regiment from Maj Bob Smith, Assistant Regimental Secretary of the Royal Regiment of Wales. Mrs Llewellyn is the grand-daughter of Maj Gen Richard Glyn, who commanded the first 24th Regiment during the Zulu War of 1879. Her husband and brother, Maj Cradoc Llewellyn and Maj Glyn de Winton, also served with the regiment as South Wales Borderers

DIARY

UNTIL MAY 26: Wednesday lunchtime lectures on military nursing history, Florence Nightingale Museum, 2 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EW.

UNTIL OCTOBER 15: Forces Sweethearts Exhibition, Imperial War Museum.

MAY

16: Austin Champ rally, Crossborough Hill Park, Basingstoke.

18: Public displays and beach assault by Commachio Gp RM, Combined Ops Museum, Cherry Park, Inveraray, Argyll.

29-31: Military Vehicle Trust "Overlord 93" rally on Southsea Common, Portsmouth.

30: Winchester Militaria Society exhibition and fair, The Guildhall, Winchester.

JUNE

8-10: Massed Bands of The Light Division Sound Retreat on Horse Guards Parade, London. Seats £3, £6, £8 from Horse Guards Project Office, HQ The Light Division, Sir John Moore Barracks, Winchester, Hants SO22 6HQ (tel: 0962 888220).

JULY

3: 1 Kings host Open Day to mark bicentenary of Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow (2pm to 6pm) with military music and displays, following presentation of Colours to 1 Kings the previous day.

10-16: Stoke Mandeville Challenge 93, first international ex-Service wheelchair games. Contact Jonathan Powell 071-973 0633.

20-31: 103rd Royal Tournament, Earls Court, hosted by the Royal Navy. Tickets available from box office on 071-373 0100.

AUGUST

1: Military Vehicle rally, Imperial War Museum, Duxford.

6-28: Edinburgh Military Tattoo (credit card and postal bookings from Booking Office, 22 Market Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QB (tel: 031-225 1188)).

● To include public events in this diary, contact the Editor.

REUNIONS

● Armourers and Artificers

Weapon: The annual reunion of the Armourers Association will be held on June 26 at the Victory Services Club, London. Details from W J Thorne, 33 Hereford Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2AT.

● St Boniface, Rheindahlen:

All former St Boniface choir and congregation welcome to 1993 reunion on June 27 at Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 (choir assemblies 2pm). Details from A P M Hole, 39 Vogan Close, Reigate, Surrey RH2 8AT (tel: 0737 244001).

● Grenadier Guards Association:

Shropshire Branch lunch party at The Palms Tropical Oasis, Stapeley Water Gardens, nr Nantwich, Cheshire on June 27, followed by Beating Retreat. Ex-drummers particularly welcome. Details from R Woodfield on 0743 363688.

● Army Catering Corps Association:

Reunion on July 11 in the form of a memorial service at the Memorial Hall, Aldershot. Social gathering followed by lunch in various messes. Details from Mr B Dyson (tel: 0252 340893).

● Royal Regiment of Wales

(24th/41st Foot): Regimental reunion dinner at City Hall, Cardiff on July 31 followed next day by parade and service at Llandaff Cathedral. Details and tickets from RHQ, The Barracks, Cardiff CF4 3YE (tel: 0222 227611 ext 8215/8202).

● Hong Kong, Singapore, Ceylon and Pack Artillery

SEARCHLINE

● Junior Leaders' Regiment

Royal Armoured Corps: The WO's and Sgts' Mess wishes to invite all ex-JRSMs to the final Pass Off of the JLR RAC at Bovington on June 18. Contact WO2 (SSM) R C Titchener, JLR RAC, Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset BH20 6JB (tel: 0929 403355).

● E A G Croucher wishes to

contact any ex-PSIs and cadets of B Coy, 9 Bn, Middlesex (C) Regt 1947-50; A Bty, 1st City of London (C) Regt RA (RF) 1950-55 with a view to a reunion. Replies to Fen Cottage, South Lopham, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2JN.

● Cpl Sam Storr:

16 (Lincoln) Det 4 Para has a pewter plate engraved "Presented to Cpl Sam Storr by 3 Troop B Squadron QRIH". It came into this unit's possession from a garage where it was discovered under the seat of a vehicle. If Cpl Storr or any person with sufficient information would contact the Admin Officer, 16 (Lincoln) Coy, 4 Para, TA Centre, Newport, Lincoln LN1 3DT (tel: 0522 524389), the plate will be returned to its owner.

● Associations:

Combined reunion September 11 in Terminus Hotel, Eastbourne. Details from Cpl D A Knight, Ward 23, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3 4SR.

● ATS Dinner Club:

Annual luncheon on October 2 at Forte Crest Hotel, Bloomsbury, London. For membership details Mrs Marguerite Fellows, 20 Mount Nod Way, Coventry CV5 7GX, enclosing s.a.e.

● Ex-POWs:

National Ex-Prisoner-of-War Association reunion takes place at Warners Lakeside Holiday Village, Hayling Island from October 22-25. Ex-PoWs and supporters requiring details should send s.a.e. to Charles Jago, 74 Norfolk Road, West Harnham, Salisbury SP2 8HG (tel: 0722 333599).

● 4 Company, 3 Battalion,

Coldstream Guards (1950-55): Second reunion dinner in Birmingham, October 23. Details from Harry Westgarth, 49 Rokeby Park, Hull HU4 7QE (tel: 0482 503649).

● Regimental Band Fifth

Fusiliers: The inaugural reunion of the Fifth Fusiliers Band is planned for late October/early November. Details from WO1 J A Robinson (tel: 0752 669881) or WO2 D Birch (tel: 091-232 7238).



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THE NEW COROLLA. THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

In these times of rapid change SOLDIER Magazine salutes the British Army of 1993 and is proud to announce the launch of its "1993 British Army Souvenir Collection".

Don't miss this exciting offer from SOLDIER Magazine



Illustration larger than actual size

The Collection

Each collection consists of 24 superb full colour collectors' cards in the traditional "cigarette card" size and a specially designed album in which to house them. The number of collections to be printed and distributed will be limited. Thus in years to come they are destined to become much sought after collectors' items.

The Collectors' Cards

12 of the 24 collectors' cards will depict modern-day uniforms while the other 12 will show in-service vehicles and equipment. The original paintings from which the cards have been reproduced were commissioned from top military artists. They were carefully created several times larger than the cards to ensure that the maximum amount of detail could be included.

The Souvenir Album

The souvenir album has been designed so that each card fits on to a separate page. A marked area shows where the card is to be mounted and an explanatory text gives invaluable background information on the subject illustrated. Thus this souvenir collection is not only a

fine collectors' item, it is also an important source of reference material.

An Essential Acquisition

The 1993 British Army Souvenir Collection has been designed specifically to appeal to SOLDIER readers. If you are a serving or retired soldier, a military collector, a military enthusiast, or just interested in the traditions and development of our modern Army, you will wish to own this historic collection and will be proud to be able to pass it on to future generations.

Make sure that you do not miss this chance of getting your '1993 British Army Souvenir Collection'. Remember only a limited number is being produced.

Ordering the Collection

As a regular SOLDIER reader in the UK or BFPO you are being given the opportunity to purchase this important collection at the very much reduced price of £6.85 rather than its normal retail price of £14.50. Overseas readers are also able to purchase the collection at a reduced price: see below for full details of cost.

In order to take advantage of this exciting SOLDIER offer you will need to collect just five of the special tokens in this and the next four issues of SOLDIER (see the SOLDIER MART pages in this issue). Make sure that you do not miss these tokens by ordering your future copies of SOLDIER now.

Sample Cards

Extra copies of each of four of the collectors' cards are being printed as samples. These will be clearly marked SAMPLE and will be in addition to the complete limited edition collections. Any reader who would like to receive these four free sample cards should cut out the SAMPLE CARDS token in the SOLDIER MART section of this magazine and send it together with a stamped self-addressed envelope to: SOLDIER, PO Box 1039, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 3AW.

You do not need to send for the sample cards in order to qualify for the SOLDIER offer.

Location	Soldier Offer	Normal Retail
UK	£6.85	£14.50
Europe	£7.45	£15.10
USA, Canada, etc	£7.85	£15.50
Australia & NZ	£8.25	£15.90

Step in time was key to catastrophe

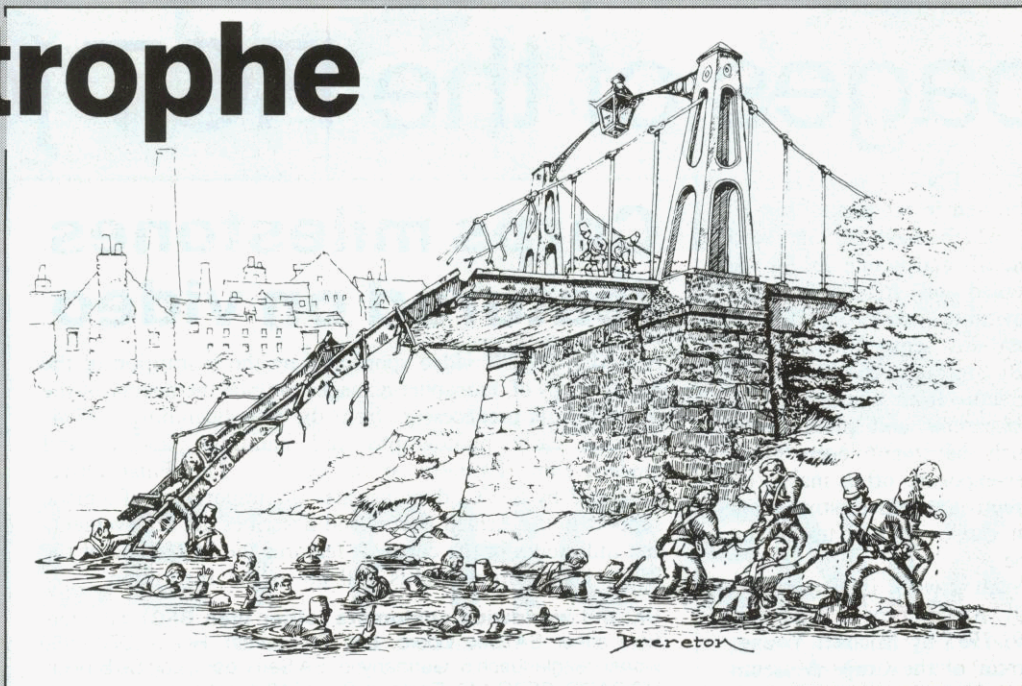
ONE OF the enduring memories of my days as a green recruit in 1939 was the marching. While drilling on the barrack square was – to say the least – tedious, I quite enjoyed going out into the countryside for a lengthy route march.

I recall that curious custom of “breaking the step” when crossing bridges. It was explained that sometime in the past a bridge had collapsed due to the steady pounding of marching feet. We regarded this as something of a joke but we duly obeyed the order.

Did a bridge really collapse? If it did where and when did it happen? Or was it a pessimistic prediction by some boffin who had calculated the stresses on his slide rule?

Many years later while researching local history I was amazed to find that the legendary bridge had existed within two miles of my birthplace.

On April 12, 1831, a detachment of the 60th Rifle



A sketch by the author depicting the collapse of Broughton suspension bridge in 1831

Corps was crossing the Broughton Suspension Bridge in Salford, Lancashire after carrying out exercises on nearby Kersal Moor.

The soldiers were in good spirits as they crossed the bridge, and when they felt the structure vibrate, they mischievously began to exaggerate their step. To their surprise and horror, a loud crack was heard, as though a

bomb had exploded, and the bridge split apart.

Many of the gallant riflemen were thrown into the cold waters of the River Irwell.

Fortunately, there were no fatalities, just bruises and a couple of broken bones. The incident startled the Army authorities and the order was given that henceforth troops would “break step” when

crossing a bridge. And so Broughton Suspension Bridge became a part of military history.

The stone piers still remain but are spanned by a modest footbridge known locally as Gerald Road bridge. The present Broughton Bridge is about a mile downstream on the site of an old toll bridge.

Wallace Brereton

Hollybush House

● From Page 23

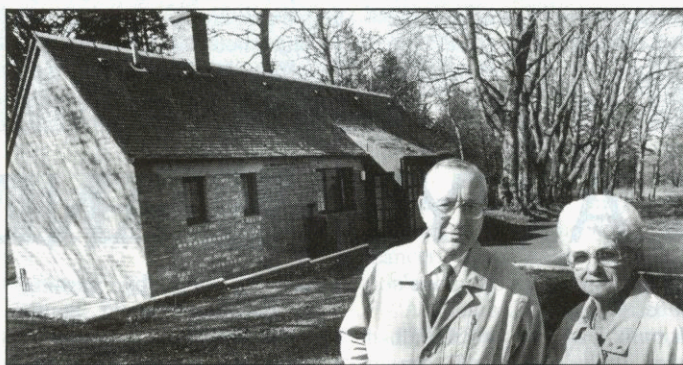
names had been broadcast by the Japanese to prove they had sunk the ship.

He suffers badly from migraines and, though he never mentions it to his (grown-up) children, pictures or films of Japanese wartime exploits still bring the memories flooding back.

Now, fortified by one of Hollybush's endless pots of tea, he was enjoying what he described as a “bachelor holiday”, which was serving the dual purpose of enabling his wife to take a much-needed break in Portugal.

John Burns was no less fulsome in his praise for the society and the home.

Following an abortive attempt to enlist in the Seaforth Highlanders as a drummer



Joe Buttery (ex-Royal Navy) and wife Wynne outside The Bothy, a new two-bedroomed cottage in Hollybush's grounds where, exceptionally, a client and carer can stay for up to two weeks. Joe, from Stoke on Trent, was discharged, injured, from the Navy in 1941 and has been in ill health for several years. “It's absolutely wonderful here, nothing is too much trouble for the staff. I feel like Snow White and the 27 Dwarfs,” said Wynne

when he was under 16, he subsequently went into the RAF, and he served in the North Africa campaign.

At the end of the war, he ended up in a hospital in Cairo with a nervous breakdown.

Now 71, and having had the strain of working in the hotel

and catering trade and running his own haulage business to contend with in the meantime, he suffers from anxiety neurosis.

Add to that a heart by-pass eight years ago and a mild heart attack three days before he was due to go to Hollybush, and

one can understand his enthusiasm.

“This is a marvellous place. I have never experienced anything like this before: it's a free holiday,” said John, who was referred to Hollybush by a day centre in Inverness.

“You don't realise what things exist for you. When you are well, you don't ask about them. It is amazing what they can do for treating stress these days.”

Quite a tribute to the society which, while relying on charitable contributions, helped 3,000 men and women last year who were suffering from the effects of Service-related experiences which proved more than they could bear.

As Capt Light commented: “Different people come to Hollybush House each day – but every one is an individual.”

● For more information on Combat Stress, telephone 081-543 6333.

Historic meander through pages of the RCT journal

FREQUENTLY we have been subjected to regimental histories which have to be read carefully and in one go, for the detailed and, it must be said, sometimes ponderous text to make any sense.

By contrast, a combination of extracts from contemporary publications and photographs which have not been given over-exposure often makes an attractive and interesting book that can be picked up at any time.

Such a work is *Waggoner's Way: Royal Corps of Transport 1891-1991* by Michael Young, curator of the Corps Museum after 33 commissioned years with the RASC and RCT. Latterly editor of the corps' journal and now involved with the new journal of the Royal Logistic Corps.

The author has drawn from RCT journals, published continuously since 1891, and the corps' photographic archives, resulting in a highly-readable, informative, and sometimes humorous account of Army life over a 100-year period.

Its timeliness is explained in the introduction: "In 1993 the Royal Logistic Corps inherits the tasks and traditions of the Royal Corps of Transport, which evolved from the Royal Army Service Corps, and the

Corps milestones featured on video

A HALF-HOUR video sponsored by the Institution of the Royal Corps of Transport manages to trace the history of the corps and its predecessors from the very beginning – 1794.

Using early photographs and paintings, archive and modern film, *Farewell to the RCT – The Final Drive*, produced by SSVIC, demonstrates the importance of logistic support to the Armed Forces and describes the achievements and milestones of the corps. It features the Staff Band of the RCT. Distribution profits will go to the Institution.

UK and worldwide customers (other than BFG) can order from either SA Sec Coord, Log Sp Branch, HQ BAOR, 4050 Moenchengladbach 5, Germany; or SA Sec Coord, Log Sp Branch, HQ BAOR, BFPO 140, England. Send £10 donation to corps' funds (UK cheques made payable to "Commander Tpt & Mov BAOR Fund"), p&p inclusive.

Customers in British Forces Germany should order through SA Sec Coord, Log Sp Branch, HQ BAOR, BFPO 140, sending DM20 (cheques also made payable to "Commander Tpt & Mov BAOR Fund"), p&p inclusive.

Military units in both UK and Germany may order in bulk by contacting SA Org on JHQ 22217 (Mil) or Moenchengladbach (02161) 4722217.

Army Service Corps before that, not to mention other predecessors in the 18th and 19th centuries."

It is a book for soldiers and ex-soldiers. Civilians could be puzzled to read that in February 1967 it was noticed "that empty housewives are being put up for disposal by unit Quartermasters ... Only

housewives which are unserviceable will be submitted on Boards for Survey in future".

Motorisation naturally forms a large part of the book. Under *Automobile Notes, March 1906*, we read: "Two 15 hp motor cars are shortly expected at Aldershot from the makers, The Wolseley Tool and Motor Car Company, and will be

taken over by the ASC ..."

There are references to the Second World War ten-ton Mack trucks carrying bridging equipment, and how the "Jerrican" – the Army's new Petrol Container – was of German design that had been observed in the Middle East.

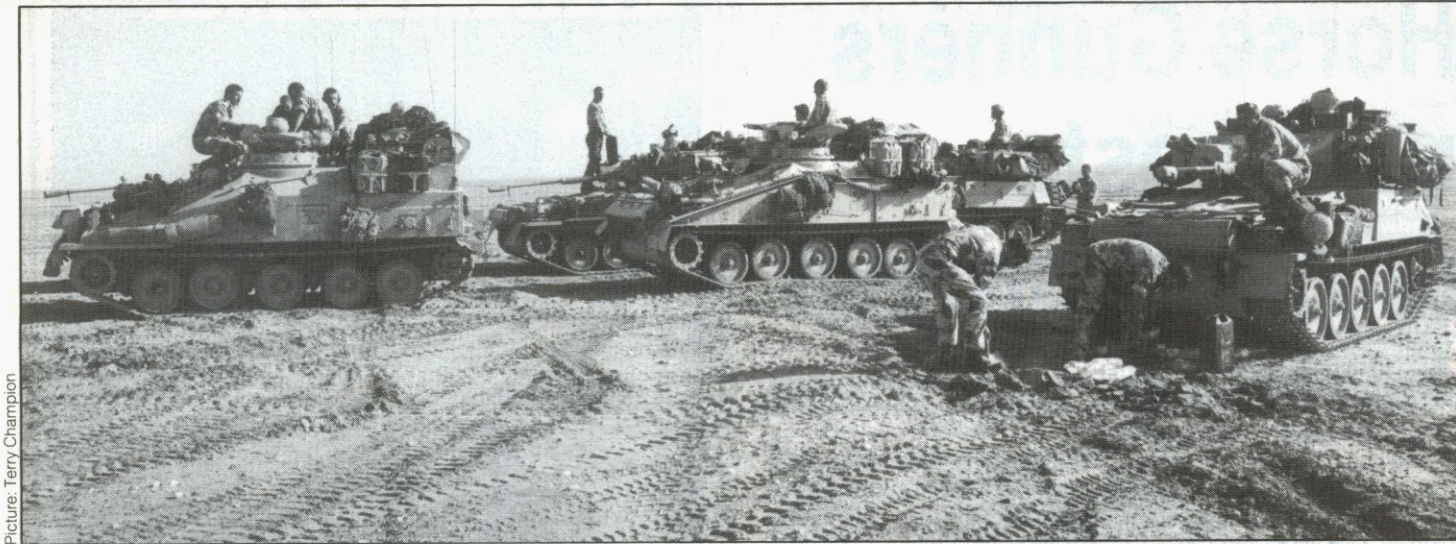
A minor criticism of the book could be that not all the extracts from the corps' journals are dated. For instance, we learn that the first meeting of the Army Service Corps branch of the Army Temperance Association was held in the Theatre at Aldershot on June 19, but no year is mentioned.

Nearly 200 pledges were taken, "so the society may be said to have made a very respectable start in the ASC here".

Michael Young modestly declares: "*Waggoner's Way* is not a history book but it does reflect, in good times and bad, something of the everyday experiences of officers and men in the last 100 years."

Quite so, and it does it very well indeed. – BJ

Waggoner's Way: Royal Corps of Transport 1891-1991 by Michael Young. Published by Baron Birch for Quotes Limited, The Book Barn, Church Way, Witlebury, Northants NN12 8SX, hardback, £18.50.



Men and Scimitars of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers pictured in the desert not long before the start of the Gulf War

SCARLET PHOENIX

WHY THE 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers should be so designated instead of 5th/16th when the components were merged in 1922 has often perplexed outsiders.

The explanation is: "Since the older of the two regiments of this union, the 5th Royal Irish Lancers, had a somewhat chequered career, having been disbanded in 1799 and re-formed in 1858, it ranked junior to the 16th The Queen's Lancers."

This is one of the historical facts to emerge from *The Scarlet Lancers* by James Lunt, who commanded the 16th/5th from 1957 to 1959 and who was Colonel of the Regiment between 1975 and 1980.

The author admits that it would be wrong to pretend that

everything has gone well for the regiment through the 300 years of its existence, particularly for the 5th.

This was raised as a regiment of dragoons in 1689 in Enniskillen by James Wynne, who had previously been a captain in Col Stuart's Regiment.

It was Charles Ross, successor of Col Wynne who died of wounds in Flanders, who petitioned that his regiment should be known as The Royal Dragoons of Ireland – later retitled 5th Royal Regiment of Dragoons.

It was as such that it was disbanded in 1799 following accusations of irregularities and indiscipline. It seems the Army takes a long time to forgive and forget, as it was not until 1858

that the regiment was restored, this time as the 5th (Royal Irish) Lancers.

The second component of the present regiment was raised in 1759 by John Burgoyne as the 16th Light Dragoons. We are taken through the campaigns in Portugal and Flanders, and how the 16th distinguished itself in the Peninsular War. There is a detailed account of its part in the Battle of Waterloo.

The regiment was redesignated as "Lancers" in 1816 and, in 1830, the uniform colour was changed from blue to scarlet because "William IV had a penchant for this colour".

When, in 1846, all Lancers were ordered to wear blue, the Colonel of the Regiment successfully petitioned the Queen for the 16th to retain its scarlet. Hence the nickname. The "shotgun marriage" between the 16th and 5th Lancers in 1922 was, initially, not a happy union.

"Although the two regiments had been brigaded together for many years, they were very different in character ... it required another world war to knock senses into people's heads ..."

James Lunt wonders how long it would have taken to mechanise the British Army if it had not been for Hitler. It was in 1940 at Risalpur, in what is now Pakistan, that the 16th/5th Lancers lost their horses before returning to England to be issued with tanks – "five Great War veterans not notable for their mechanical efficiency".

In November 1942 the

regiment was shipped to North Africa. In Tunisia, the CO, Lt Col John Lovejoy, had a miraculous escape. Captured by the enemy, he was about to be shot.

The colonel managed to fall before a bullet hit him and he feigned death. Although he rejoined his regiment, he was destined to be killed at Cassino.

The author gives a detailed account of the regiment's activities from 1964 to 1991, which brings the story to the Gulf War, in which the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers was the reconnaissance regiment of the 1st (UK) Armoured Division, leading the way through Iraqi defences and taking on main battle tanks with its Scimitars.

Since then the Government has announced the amalgamation of the regiment with the 17th/21st Lancers to form what is to be known as The Queen's Royal Lancers.

The merger, which will take place this year, naturally causes James Lunt sadness and some apprehension.

Nevertheless, he expects The Queen's Royal Lancers to uphold and build on the distinguished records of its predecessors.

"I am sure that the phoenix which will arise from our ashes will preserve all our traditions and in the course of time create its own." – BJ

The Scarlet Lancers: The Story of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers 1689-1992 by James Lunt. Published by Leo Cooper/Pen and Sword Books, hardback, £18.95.

DEVILS, LAWYERS AND SAWN-OFF DAIMLERS

ORIGINS of regimental nicknames are always fascinating. Most of us have been vaguely aware that the Inns of Court Regiment's sobriquet "The Devil's Own" was bestowed by George III.

We now have details of its origin: "... His Majesty asked Erskine, who commanded them as Lieutenant-Colonel, what was the composition of that Corps. 'They are all lawyers, Sir', said Erskine. 'What! What!' exclaimed the King, 'All lawyers? All lawyers? Call them The Devil's Own! ...'"

So writes Maj D M Hatton in *The Devil's Own*, a history of the Inns of Court Regiment,

quoting from Earl Stanhope's *Life of Pitt* (1861).

It must have been a difficult history to research and compile, going back to November 1584 when Inns of Court formed associations in defence of the country against the threatened Spanish Armada.

The virtually unbroken lineage of the present Territorial unit goes back to 1859, when the 23rd Middlesex (Inns of Court) Rifle Volunteer Corps was formed.

It was the Boer War that gave the lawyer-soldiers their first chance to fight for their country overseas by providing sections of Mounted Infantry and Cyclists for the City Imperial

Volunteers, thereby earning their first battle honour, South Africa 1900-01.

With the formation of the Territorial Force in 1908, what was by then a battalion was redesignated The Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps, a role it was to keep until the early part of the Second World War.

What the general reader may find of most interest concerning this period is the "unofficial" conversion in the 1930s of five bull-nosed Morris cars into machinegun carriers, work carried out by members and paid for out of regimental private funds. They even made their own wireless equipment.

"I have always thought that

the regiment might well have ceased to exist but for the unofficial motorisation which took place from 1931 onwards.

"Probably it was partly as a result of this enthusiasm for mobility that the Inns of Court Regiment was re-formed as an armoured car unit on December 1, 1940."

C Squadron landed near Graye-sur-Mer, Juno Beach, on D-Day. "By the end of the first day we had lost three armoured cars, three scout cars and two half-tracks."

The remainder of the regiment followed on June 27 and there is a detailed account of the Inns' part in the fighting through north-west Europe.

It was in Normandy that they developed their own version of a fighting vehicle, the SOD, or "Sawn-off Daimler" – an armoured car with turret and wings removed to reduce its target profile.

In 1987 The Inns of Court Regiment was merged with The City of London Yeomanry (Rough Riders).

In the context of the British Army, "rough riders" were NCOs and men with an ability to ride unbroken or rough horses, but as Maj Hatton explains, there was a body of volunteer horsemen, cowboys, Indians, rangers and college students, who fought in the Spanish-American war of 1898.

A CIV unit in the Boer War was called the "Rough Riders" and it is up to the reader to decide which is the correct version of this secondary title.

The book is a good regimental history aimed at members of The Inns of Court Regiment, past and present, and is also an excellent source reference for those with Volunteer movement and Territorial Army interests.

For others it is hardly light bed-time reading but it is still an important record. – BJ

The Devil's Own: A History of the Inns of Court Regiment by Maj D M Hatton TD. J A Allen and Company, casebound, £27.50.

Horse Gunners run boosts museum project

COMPLETION of a six month tour in Northern Ireland was celebrated in somewhat unconventional style by 12 soldiers from 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.

Led by Maj Tim Gibson, they ran the 270 miles from County Armagh to their home base in Colchester.

Four days after their departure, having taken in stops at Liverpool, Nuneaton and Cambridge en route, the doughty dozen – gathered from all over the Drumadd Reinforcement Battalion – were cheered over the final 150m by the rest of the regiment.

Contributions from sponsors Wellington Holdings Limited, Dolphin Computers, David Brown and Eastern National went towards the £2,000 which the regiment hopes to raise from the venture for the Royal Artillery Museum project.

★ ★ ★

Caring recruiters from Newcastle's Army Careers In-

formation Office gave Maj Harry Faulkner-Brown, Northumbria chairman of the Army Benevolent Fund, a surprise when he attended a function in the Officers' Mess at 201 (Northern) General Hospital, Fenham Barracks, Newcastle.

They handed over £250, part of the proceeds of a charity walk from Edinburgh to Tynemouth made by the eight-person staff, for the fund.

★ ★ ★

A joint charity concert, featuring the bands of 1 Kings Own Border and the RUC, has been held at Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry. The evening of popular and classical music, which also featured the RUC choir, raised well over £1,000 for military and police charities.



Flanked by Miss Diane Stalker and Mr William McCabe, Mrs McAleese completes packing six boxes of clothes and baby products, for which her firm also paid the postage to Mill Hill

GLASGOW HEEDS SAPPER APPEAL

WITHIN a week of reading in SOLDIER of the appeal by Capt Dick Green and 42 Field Squadron RE for clothes to give to children near Vitez, Mrs Sheina McAleese and her husband, Alex, had collected £810 from her firm, Barr and

Stroud of Glasgow.

Mrs McAleese is also a QARANC captain, who served in the Gulf with 205 Field Hospital, and her husband is a sergeant in the former Army Catering Corps; both are members of the Ambulance Train Squadron, from whom they raised a further £280.

Guards set for peak performance



The six-man team (in climbing gear) from the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, who are attempting to scale all the major Alpine peaks between May and October, to raise money for cot death research. With them (left to right) are Charles de Selincourt, chairman of the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths (FSID), TV personality Anne Diamond, FSID founder Mrs John Hunter-Gray, the Duke of Kent and Lt Col Tim Spicer, CO 1 SG. The guardsmen hope to collect £1,000 for each of the 67 mountains they plan to climb

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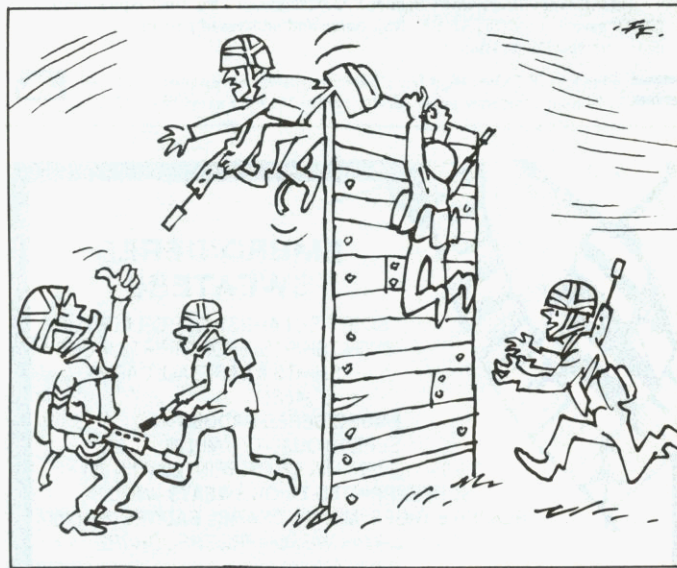
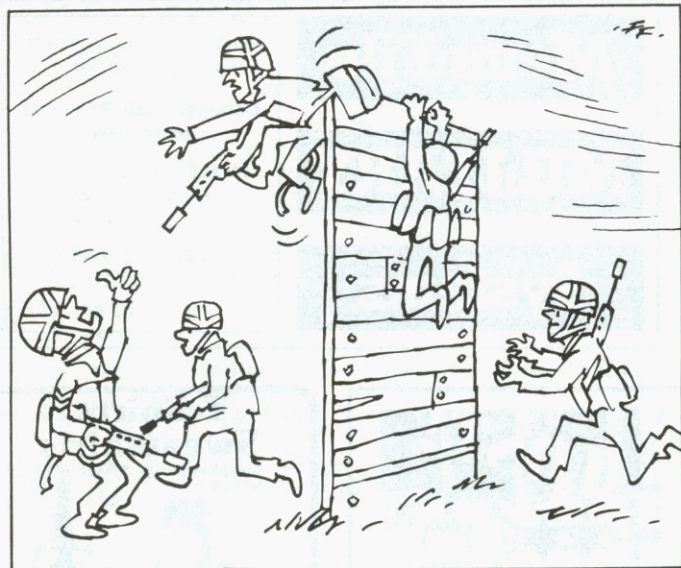
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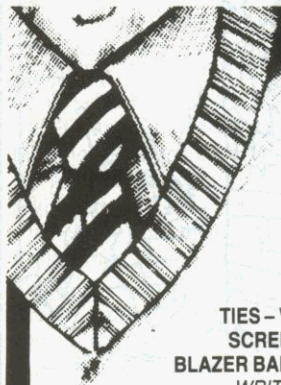
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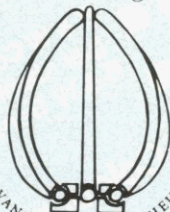
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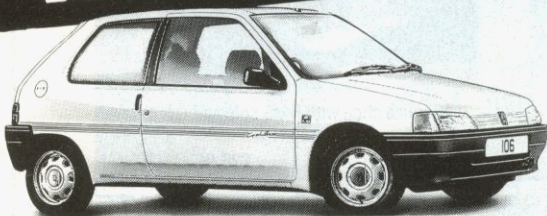
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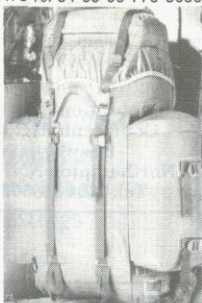
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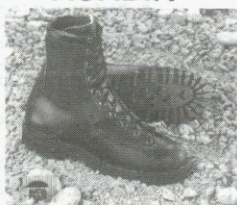
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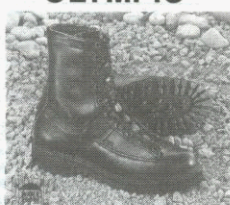
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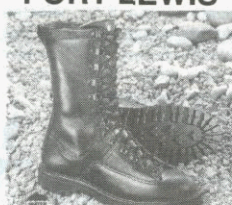
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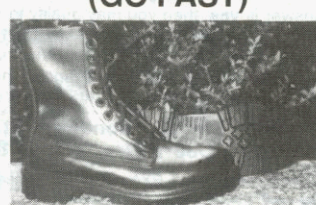
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Charities: (1) Charities for the benefit of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own)

(2) Charities for the benefit of the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars Scheme for the regulation of the charities

The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: BWG-155743-SC) at Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL. Objections and suggestions may be sent to the Commissioners within one month from today. D3NS

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charities: (1) Charities for the benefit of the 14th/20th King's Hussars

(2) Charities for the benefit of the Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) Scheme for the amalgamation of the charities

Ref: RLB-155781-SC(RB18)

The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: RLB-155781-SC(RB18)) at Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, and may be seen at the Regimental Headquarters. Objections and suggestions may be sent to the Commissioners within one month from today. D3NS

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CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity: 3rd Royal Tank Regiment
2nd Royal Tank Regiment
Scheme for the amalgamation of
the Charities and the regulation of
the Charity.

Our ref: RLB-155749-SC(RB94)

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Martin coasts home to fifth triumph

SSGT JEFF Martin (2 Sig Regt) won the Inter-Services and Army marathon titles for the fifth consecutive year while finishing second overall in the South Coast marathon at Portsmouth on April 25.

In doing so he also helped the Army to its eighth successive win in the Inter-Services team event.

With three runners scoring in each team category, Martin was followed in by WO2 Chris Starbuck (14 Regt RLC) and

Cpl John Castle (2 Sig Regt). Martin crossed the line in 2hr 26min 4sec, 17 seconds ahead of Starbuck. Castle ran an excellent tactical race to finish third in 2.29.03 in his first attempt at the distance.

First veteran in was Maj Colin Walker (3 RSME Regt) in 2.49.35.

Martin, Castle and Sig Kev Conlon (2.46.02) gave the 2 Signal Regiment team victory in the Major Units competition, although their overall time was

several minutes slower than the winners of the Minor Units race, 14 Regt RLC (Starbuck, WO1 Steve Lonnen and LCpl Paddy Malone).

Lonnen, incidentally, went straight on to Blackdown to receive his commission.

Second and third in the Major placings were SEME and 3 RSME Regt, while 264 Sig Sqn and NCOs Tac Wing filled the silver and bronze medal positions in the Minor category.

Kings of the ring

KINGSMEN contested eight of the 11 bouts at the Army novices individual boxing championships at Aldershot – and won five of them.

It was a tremendous performance by the Hounslow-based 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, who have already clinched the UKLF and Army novice Grade 3 team championships this season.

The standard of the 1 Kings' boxers caught the eye of no less a judge than Army coach WO2 (QMSI) Mick Gannon.

"I was very impressed with their basic skills," he said.

"All of them are genuine novices, yet they were throwing punches – uppercuts and combinations – which you don't usually associate with novices.

"And the fact that they threw them so naturally says a lot for their coaches. They had obviously worked hard on the skills."

The team is coached by CSgt Tom O'Connor and Sgt Andy Edwards ATPC, and managed by Maj David Richardson.

Having beaten 2 PWRR in the UKLF team final, 1 Kings easily won the Army title by overcoming BAOR champions 1 D and D by eight bouts to one at Cavalry Barracks.

Their five heroes at the Army



Kgn Steve McDermott (1 Kings) on his way to a points victory over LCpl Campbell (28 Sig Regt) in the novice individual championships at the Army Boxing Centre, Aldershot

novices individual championships were Kgn Neil Rudge, Kgn Brian Williams, Kgn Steve McDermott, Kgn Kevin King and Cpl Eric Tomlinson.

Also well presented in the finals were 2 PWRR with three boxers and 28 Signals and 1 D and D with two apiece.

From an impressive display of novice talent, WO2 Gannon made a note of two boxers in particular, Spr James of 38 Engr Regt and Pte Quirey of 2 PWRR.

James had a spell in the Army squad before Christmas but looked to have soaked up the advice and worked hard after rejoining his regiment. He beat Kgn Mick Pentith on points.

Quirey, a heavyweight,

looked a class or two better than novice level, disposing of Dvr Billy Bessey (27 Regt RLC), brother of ABA finalist Chris Bessey, in the first round.

Although his technique requires a lot of work, his strength and attitude points to potential of the highest level, perhaps at light heavyweight.

Novices details:

Flyweight – Kgn Kinsley (1 Kings), wo: **bantam** – Fus Davies (1 RRF) bt Kgn Rudge (1 Kings), pts m; **feather** – Kgn Williams (1 Kings) bt Cpl Burgo (3 Para), pts u; **light** – Kgn McDermott (1 Kings) bt LCpl Campbell (28 Sig Regt), pts u; **light-welter** – Kgn King (1 Kings) bt LCpl King (1 D and D), rsc 2. **Welter** – Pte Meech (2 PWRR) bt Kgn Pottinger (1 Kings), res 2; **light-middle** – Pte Roach (2 PWRR) bt Cpl Finch (1 D and D), rsc 3; **middle** – Spr James (38 Engr Regt) bt Kgn Pentith (1 Kings), pts u; **light-heavy** – Cpl Tomlinson (1 Kings) bt Sig War (28 Sig Regt), rsc 3; **heavy** – Pte Quirey (2 PWRR) bt Dvr Bessey (27 Regt RLC), rsc 1; **super-heavy** – Rfn Brooks (2 RGJ) bt Gdsm Hunns (1 Coldm Gds), rsc 1.

Great Gordons

THE GORDONS ended 2 R Irish's three-year reign as BAOR infantry hockey kings with a 1-0 defeat of the defending champions in a hard-fought final at Lemgo.

Capt Simon West scored the only goal of the game after being put through by Capt John Ogilvie.

The Irish looked sharper at the start of the second half and would have equalised but for a stunning save by Cpl Gus Macey.

In a tense finish, the defending champions forced seven short corners but could not get a shot off at goal.



On their way to the ABA finals: Clockwise from bottom left are Army coach WO2 Mick Gannon, LCpl Steve Burford (REME), Cpl Chris Bessey (27 Regt RLC) and LCpl Vinny Powell (59 Ind Cdo Sqn RE)

POSTIES DELIVER

3 P & C Depot RE 5, CAD Kineton 4

MUNSTER-based 3 Postal and Courier Depot RE lifted the Army Minor Units Challenge Cup at Bracht despite reaching half-time trailing 2-3 to UKLF champions CAD Kineton, writes Derrick Bly.

It was a case of third time lucky for the posties who had twice before been disappointed in this final.

Kineton, the favourites, got off to a perfect start in the fourth minute when Cpl Taff Edwards smashed the ball past BAOR 'keeper Sgt Ian Booth.

That advantage was cancelled six minutes later when Sgt

Kenny Steele took a pass from Cpl Paul Hegarty and powered in a shot which gave LCpl Phil Bunt no chance in the P and C Depot goal.

LCpl Jabba Tweddle, who had a hand in creating Edwards's goal, scored himself with a volley, and CAD went further ahead when Sgt Ian Rutherford converted a corner.

Steele reduced the arrears just before the end of a breathtaking half.

Steele struck again in the 55th minute after good work by Pte Rob Williams.

The next decisive action took place from the penalty spot when skipper Sgt Steve

Saunders blasted the posties ahead after Maj Eric Tren-grove, refereeing his last major final before retirement, ruled that Kineton central defender Rutherford had handled.

The visitors fought back ferociously, but Booth was in inspired form for 3 P and C.

LCpl Jon Peden scored the posties' fifth, and Cpl Barney Metcalfe pulled one back for Kineton.

Brig Andy Massey, vice-chairman of the AFA, presented the Challenge Cup to 3 P and C Depot skipper Saunders at the end of a superb advertisement for Army football at Minor Units level.

Islands fall to Army

Jersey 1, The Army 2

THE ARMY recorded their first ever victory on the island of Jersey after adapting better than the home side to the uneven surface of a Springfield Stadium pitch bearing an end-of-season look, writes Derrick Bly.

Cfn Mickey Taylor made a brilliant one-handed save to deny the islanders in the first minute of the Servicemen's opening match of their Easter tour.

The first half was goalless, although Sig Paul Brown, Sig Jim Strouts, SSgt Kevin Parkins, Cpl Dave Maynard and Sig Joe Collins had efforts saved as the Army adjusted to the tricky surface.

Substitute Cpl Jamie Smith broke the deadlock in the 65th minute when he headed home a cross from Strouts who had beaten two men.

Three minutes later the Army scored again after Sgt Alan Higgins had made an interception and run 40 yards before finding Maynard. The striker's pass to Sgt Garry Williams was blasted home.

Jersey got a goal back two minutes from the final whistle.

Guernsey 0, The Army 4

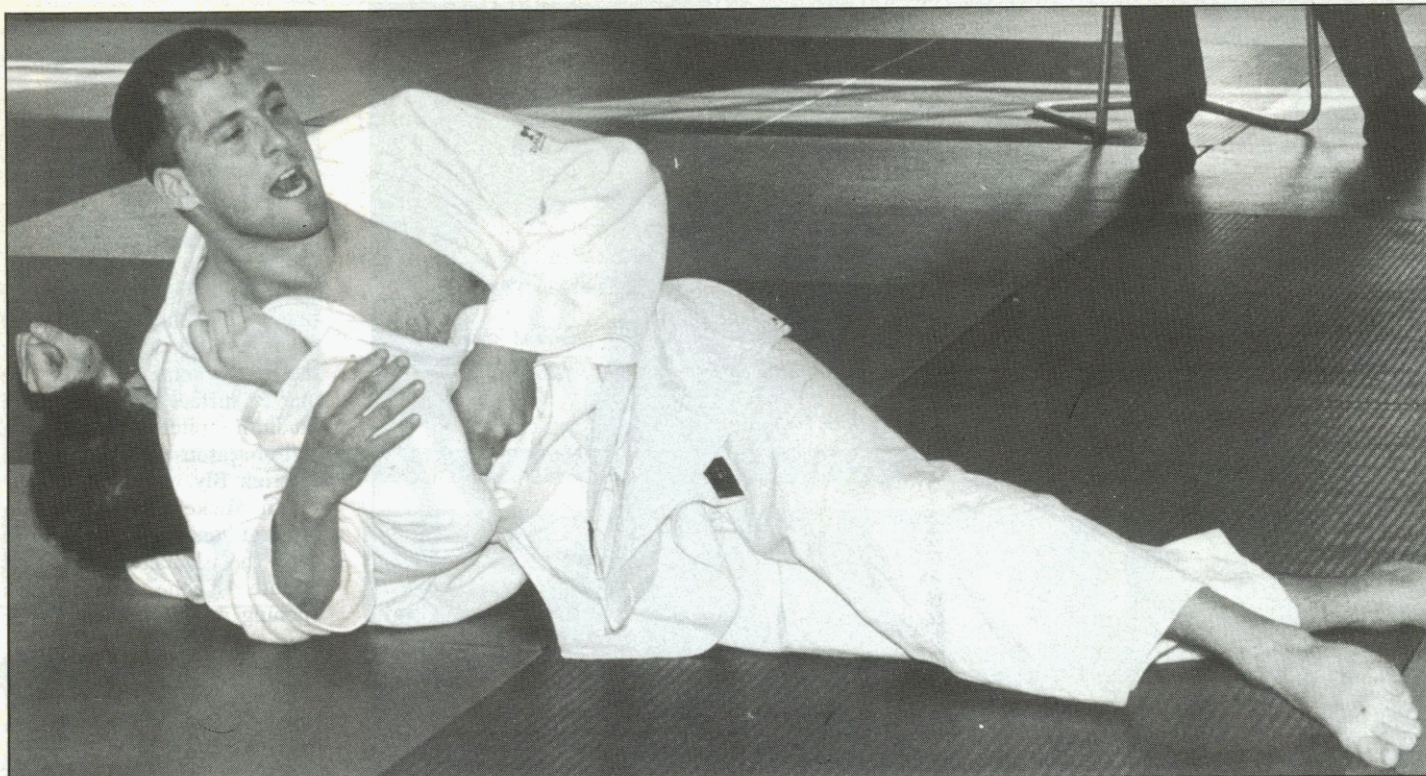
The Army overwhelmed an injury-weakened Guernsey side at The Track, St Peter Port to regain the Victory Cup last contested in 1966.

It was another convincing performance by an Army team playing at its best.

Skipper Parkins opened the scoring, and Williams and Maynard added two more before the interval. A superb effort by Bdr Steve Bates produced the fourth.

He chipped the Guernsey back four before racing through, rounding the goal-keeper and crossing for substitute Cpl Bob Corner to volley in.

● In a hard-fought game played in heavy rain at Barron's Court, Chelsea, 1 Kings beat Depot Regiment RE 3-0 to win the London District football championship. Tomlinson scored a hat-trick for the Hounslow-based Kingsmen.



Picture: Mike Weston

LCpl Kevin Clarke (5 Armd Wksp REME) in action against SSgt Mike Sawyer (RAF) in the Under 95kg competition at the Inter-Services judo championships. He won a silver medal

Wallop! Army regains title

THE ARMY School of Physical Training reverberated to the thump and smack of bodies being thrown on to mats as the Army regained the Inter-Services open judo title in a nail-biting finale.

The Royal Air Force, the

defending champions, scored a 5-2 win over the Royal Navy, while the Army gained a slight psychological advantage by beating the sailors by five wins to one, with one draw.

As anticipated, the final clash between Army and RAF was a

titanic battle, with the result in the balance until the final contest.

With the match standing 3-2 and a draw in favour of the Army, SSgt John Morton (APTC) sealed victory by winning his contest in 20 seconds.

The men's B team event, restricted to brown belts, was won by the RAF who beat the Navy 5-2 and the Army 4-3. Army B beat the RN second string 4-3.

Representing the Army in the open grade were SSgt Morton (AA Coll Aldershot), SSgt Armstrong (HQNI), LCpl Clarke (5 Armd Wksp REME), LCpl O'Loughlin (1 Para), LCpl Hill (RSA), Gnr Mills (2 Fd Regt RA) and Spr Edmondson (39 Engr Regt).

Under 60kg – gold medal, SSgt Morton; silver, Pte Hockley (2 PWRR). **U-71kg** – bronze, LCpl Nicholls (1 Cheshire). **U-78kg** – gold, Lt Platt (Cambridge UOTC); bronze SSgt Kubeath (ASPT) and LCpl O'Loughlin. **U-86kg** – silver, Maj Joyce (HQNI ETS). **U-95kg** – gold, SSgt Chapman (ASPT); silver, LCpl Clarke; bronze, Spr Crabbe (22 Engr Regt). **Open** – silver, LCpl Clarke.

the final two matches.

It has been a very successful season for 42 Svy, who have also reached the semi-finals of the Southern Cup competition, and hold the Newbury-based Kennet and Downs League Division 2 shield.

The team is fortunate to be led by WO2 Derek Hatton, one of the few SRA Part 2 coaches in the Army, and to have the services of Spr Scott McInnes, the reigning Army Under 25 champion.

Mapmakers win SOLDIER trophy

ARMY squash champions are 42 Survey Engineer Group, who travelled from Hermitage near Newbury to Sennelager to take on BAOR champions 2 Royal Tank Regiment in the Major Units final for the SOLDIER Magazine Cup.

The mapmakers ensured they would return to the UK with the trophy by winning the first three matches through Andy Howe, Paul Seager and Derek Hatton. With the pressure off, the tankies won



Cpl David Hay

Argyll is top referee

CPL DAVID Hay of the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, has been voted the most promising BAOR football referee of the year.

He received the West Falm Trophy at the BAOR referees' annual dinner on March 3.

The whistle is a change of instrument for David – he is more often to be found playing the clarinet in the A and SH's regimental band. When he leaves the Army later this year he intends to referee in the West Yorkshire leagues.

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