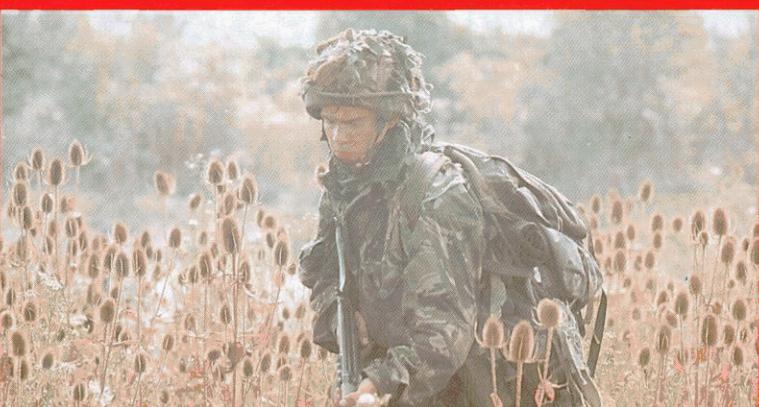
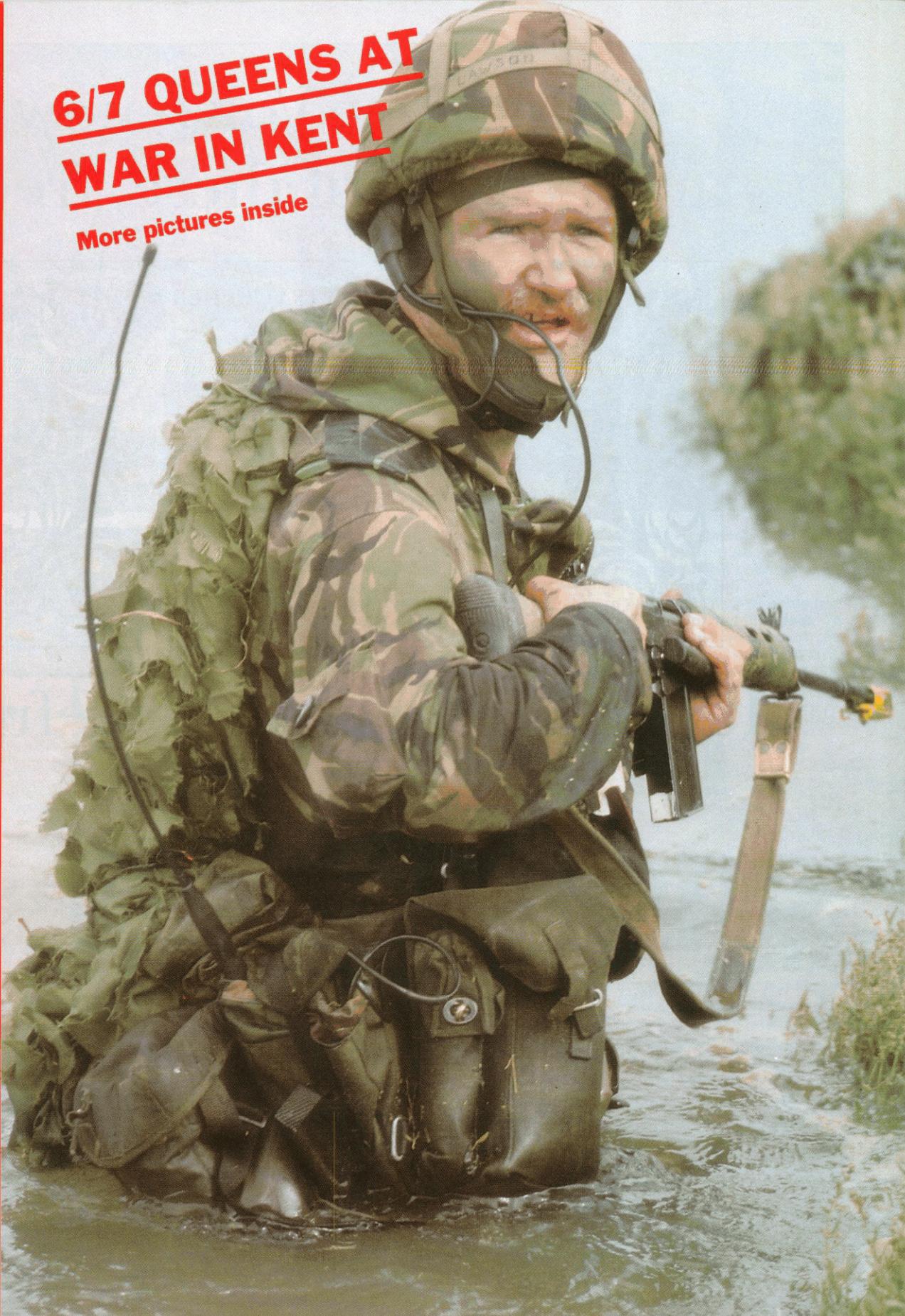


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Picture: Peter Griffiths

## Duke champions Staffords' cause

OCTOBER 14, 1991  
VOL. 47/21

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The Duke of York shares a joke with soldiers of the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment before presenting new Colours to the battalion at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield. The Duke, Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment, told the parade he was aware of the controversy surrounding their impending amalgamation with

The Cheshire Regiment, and was determined to retain in some way the "unique regimental and county identity" of the Staffords.

The 3rd Battalion's new Queen's and Regimental Colours, which bear 74 battle honours, replace those of the 1st Battalion, The Mercian Volunteers, from which it was re-formed in 1988.

# Our role in new Europe

## Gen Inge interview

THE DECISION to create a Nato Rapid Reaction Corps has sealed the fate of the British Army of the Rhine, which has just started to implement a far-reaching series of reductions in personnel and changes of location, says the Nato Commander of the Northern Army Group, Gen Sir Peter Inge.

Once its reorganisation is complete, the remaining British force in Germany will be an enlarged 1st (UK) Armoured Division, so retaining the name of the division that performed with great credit during the Gulf War.

In an interview with SOLDIER, Gen Inge, who is also C-in-C BAOR, spoke of the success of Exercise Certain Shield, in which the Multinational NORTHAG Airmobile Division (MNAD) underwent its first full trial.

He admitted there were difficulties to be faced during the creation of the new Rapid Reaction Corps, but was full of confidence that working

together in Nato with multinational forces was the way ahead.

He said it was still possible to train an Army, despite the current political and environmental pressures.

"We still have a large number of troops involved and a significant number of vehicles, but what we haven't got on the ground are tanks."

"My first aim was to exercise the multinational airmobile division which has done a lot of work-up training over the past two years. What it hadn't done was to go into the field."

"We designed the exercise to

● Turn to Page 15

**FRONT COVER:** WO2 Alan Lawson (main picture) encourages his 6/7 Queens patrol on a watery approach to the old fort on Hoo Island, Medway, while Pte Richard Samuel (lower picture) picks his way through the teasels. Story and more pictures in Pages 18-19

### SOLDIER

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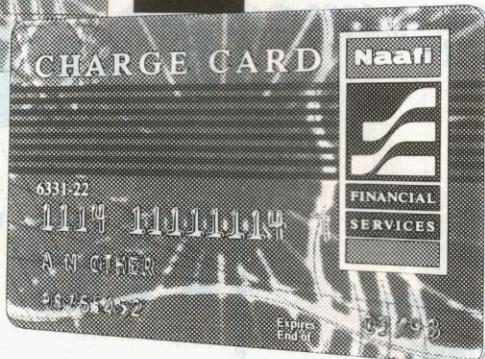
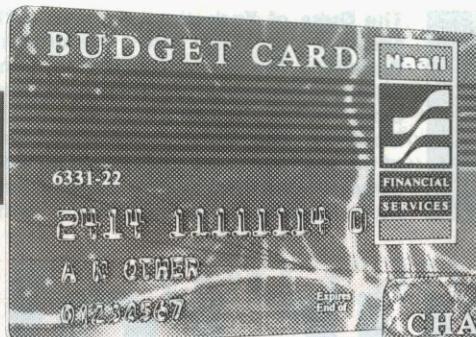
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# Rescue mission praise

LT COL Terry Nixon, commanding officer of 37 Rhine Workshop REME at Monchengladbach, has been formally thanked for the assistance given by his unit when a nearby cellulose factory exploded with the loss of two lives and many serious injuries.

Military and civilian staff from the unit rescued several injured people from the shattered building before emergency services arrived, set up a first aid post with disaster packs and burns blankets rushed from the hospital at RAF Wegberg, supported the rescue services throughout the emergency and, led by two ACC chefs from nearby Ayrshire Barracks, provided hot meals for all involved in the operation.

## Pay off for Pay Office

A BEATING Retreat ceremony marked the closure on September 6 at Fife Barracks, Monchengladbach of the Command Pay Office BAOR.

New technology and communications has enabled much of the Pay Office's work to be transferred to the United Kingdom, and only some functions specifically related to British Forces Germany will remain in BAOR.

The Royal Army Pay Corps' only unit in Germany was due to leave by the end of the month after a close association with a city stretching back 34 years.

Military and civic leaders and local residents were welcomed to the ceremony by Brig John Davis, who commanded the Pay Office, and music was provided by the Duke of Kent's Band of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and 3 RRF's Corps of Drums.



## Troy's a top dog

LCpl Darren Swift reckons Troy is a top dog. And his opinion has been confirmed by judges at this year's Bounce Superdogs Award ceremony in London. The German Shepherd summoned urgently-needed help when his handler was badly hurt in a bomb blast at North Howard Street Mill, Belfast, in May. Darren, a Royal Green Jacket, is attached to the Army Dog Unit in Northern Ireland. Troy picked up his award for bravery and devotion to duty.



Secretary of State for Defence Tom King meets members of the mortar platoon of 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles during his first visit to Hong Kong. Mr King spent two days in the Territory at the start of a Far East tour which included Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

At the Training Depot, Brigade of Gurkhas in the New Territories, the Defence Secretary was shown the whole range of the Brigade's activities, from sport to active service in the Gulf. The previous day he visited Stonecutters Island in Hong Kong Harbour to witness a similar demonstration by the locally-recruited Hong Kong Military Service Corps.

## Greener garrison

MORE THAN 1,000 British soldiers from Paderborn Garrison took part in a nature conservation exercise on the Nato range at Sennelager.

The project was the brainchild of former chief range officer Maj Chris Brown, QLR and involved clearing secondary forest growth to promote heathland and wild flowers, constructing dragonfly and amphibian habitats, and cleaning stream beds and banks.

Sennelager training area has been used by the forces of many nations for almost 100 years and is acknowledged by environmental experts as an area of outstanding interest.

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## New orders for general

Maj Gen Morgan Llewellyn, who is leaving the Army a year early to join the church, ends a 35-year Army career by inspecting soldiers of the Corps of Drums of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers at UKLF Wilton. Gen Llewellyn, Chief of Staff at HQ UKLF and a former GOC Wales, will train at a theological college before being ordained as a minister in Wales. He joined the RWF as a National Serviceman in 1956.

Gen Llewellyn's successor at Wilton is Maj Gen James Gordon, who served as Director of Military Operations during the Gulf War.

# Cyprus sappers reveal war secret

DETAILS of a top security construction project in Cyprus during the early weeks of the Gulf crisis have just been released.

Newspapers reported at the time that the site was a new airfield for planes heading to the Gulf.

In fact it was a rough area of sloping scrubland on which a Royal Air Force aerial farm needed to be extended and modernised. Tasked to carry out the work was 62 Cyprus Support Squadron RE.

The unit's initial appraisal of the site costed the job at £360,000 and the money was immediately made available.

Assisted by a troop of 61 Field Support Squadron RE redeployed from United Nations duties, assault pioneers from 3 Queens and civilian contractors, the sappers dumped 120,000 tons of fill material in a two-week round-the-clock operation, excavated rock and limestone from the elevated end, levelled and paved the area in a mammoth concreting exercise and placed 1,200 concrete bases.

They also demolished and



Lt Gen Sir Richard Swinburn, GOC South East District, inspects a ceremonial quarter guard during his visit to the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles at Church Crookham. The regiment returned from Hong Kong in July. With Gen Swinburn is the commanding officer, Lt Col David Willis.

The GOC presided at the commissioning of Lt (Queen's Gurkha Officer) Amberbahadur Rana, presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to WO2 Debindra Gurung, Sgt Narbahadur Thapa, CSgt Tekbahadur Rai and Sgt Stuart Holmes, REME, and watched soldiers training.

cleared a 10m high reinforced concrete tower from the site.

Settings for the task had to be exact, with the alignments checked by astro survey.

The project, completed in seven weeks, was the biggest undertaken by the squadron for years and allowed 33 Signals Unit RAF to operate successfully throughout the war.

## On parade at TUC congress

TRADE union delegates to the TUC congress in Glasgow were given an insight into the Volunteer Reserve Forces campaign on a stand sponsored by the National Employers' Liaison Committee. Visitors including ex-Royal Marine Ron

Todd, General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, were briefed by a team of Scottish reservists including 2nd Lt Paul Bradley and CSgt John Arrighi of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Lowland Volunteers.

# It's already earned its stripes.



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# Welsh Guards honour Fitzroy fallen

EIGHTY members of the Prince of Wales's Company, Welsh Guards gathered at the Welsh granite memorial at Fitzroy to pay tribute to the men of 1 WG who died in *RFA Sir Galahad* during the Falklands War.

The monument overlooks Pleasant Harbour, where 33 men of the 1st Battalion died when the landing ship and her sister vessel, *Sir Tristram*, were attacked by Argentine aircraft nine years ago.

The Prince of Wales's Company was visiting the Falklands on exercise.

Rev Sqn Ldr Tim Harrison led the service, assisted by CSgt Peter Evans, Sgt Martin Jones and Sgt Byron Cordy, veterans of the Fitzroy engagement. Company commander Maj Rhodri Traherne placed a wreath.

Also at the service were Capt Phil Roberts and Second Officer Andy Gudgeon, now in the Falklands theatre in *RFA*



Fitzroy veteran CSgt Peter Evans reads the Welsh Guards' collect

Grey Rover, who were commanding officer and third officer of the *Sir Galahad* during the action.

In all, 51 died and 46 were injured at Fitzroy on June 8, 1982. Other cairns and memorials nearby pay tribute to Royal Navy, Royal Fleet Auxiliary, 5 Infantry Brigade, Royal Engineers, Royal Army Medical Corps and Army Catering Corps fallen.

## Now Army Fords can join the club

ARMY units operating Ford vehicles can take advantage of a free three-year RAC membership package launched for fleet users two years ago.

A registration scheme has been agreed by the Directorate of Supply Management (Army), the RAC and the Ford Motor Company to allow Ford light commercial vehicles procured by MoD since January 1, 1990 to take advantage of the package.

About 800 vehicles, ranging from Fiestas to Transit variants, will be eligible for

RAC Rescue, Recovery and At Home services. Units wanting more details should contact Fleet Management staff at DSM(A) on Andover Military 2137 or 0264 382137.

## Gone south

AN expedition from The Royal Anglian Regiment is exploring the southern tip of South Georgia by ski and canoe. The 12-man party plans to scale several unclimbed peaks, visit abandoned sealing sites and collect scientific data.

## Kings Own Border on exercise

THERE was a touch of cold steel for soldiers of the 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment from Lancaster when they reported to Sennybridge for their annual camp.

After several days of range work, field firing, patrolling and ambush drills they moved to Nesscliff training area in Shropshire to take part in Exercise Cold Steel, 42 (North West) Brigade's test of its home defence units.

Opposition was provided by the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, and the brigade commander, Brig Ewan Morrison flew into the camp to visit key points.

Later the battalion moved to TA centres in the Chester area to support emergency services taking part in a disaster exercise.

See report - Page 21.

## 16 Sigs make a Swiss patrol

TWO teams from Krefeld-based 16 Signal Regiment took part in the Bischofzell Patrol, the annual international Swiss Militia military skills competition.

Armed with Swiss rifles, 2nd Lt Roo Pennell, Cpl Jayne Marsden and LCpl Gail Armstrong made up the only British female team taking part in the 14km patrol. A men's team from 16 Signals was made up of Cpl Max Hurd, Cpl Craig Silk and LCpl Tucks Tucker.

Teams of three had to complete an assault course, carry out grenade throwing and aircraft recognition.



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# Tank tribute

A captured Iraqi T69 tank has been put on display at Fulwood Barracks, Preston as a tribute to troops from North West England who fought in the Gulf War. Pictured working on the tank, which arrived with battered armour, a box of ammunition and a packet of moulding sandwiches, are WO1 (ASM) **Pip Flynn** and WO2 **Steve Lowe**.

Once restored, the tank will be put on a permanent plinth with a plaque commemorating the North West's contribution, particularly from men serving with the 14/20 King's Hussars, 2nd Field Regiment RA, 12th Air Defence Regiment RA, 32nd Heavy Regiment RA, and the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.



Picture: Mike Perring

# And then there were four!

The Army may be reducing, but the **Richards** family involvement is on the increase. Latest to join is **Gareth** (second from right), pictured shaking hands with Maj **Bob Crabtree**, Army Careers Officer BAOR based at Herford. Looking on are proud father WO2 **Taff Richards** (right) and his OC, Maj **Patrick Curry**, both of 1 (BR) Corps Tps Wksp REME.

Gareth is now at the Army Apprentices' College, Chepstow, training to be a fitter in the Royal Engineers.

In January, Maj Crabtree signed up Gareth's older sister and brother, **Shelley** and **Bryn**, who joined the QARANC and REME.



# PEOPLE



Picture: Mike Perring

Dining out takes on a whole new meaning for Brig **Tank Nash** as he says farewell to HQ ACC Training Centre, Aldershot, where he has been Commandant for the past two years. Following a champagne reception to mark his retirement, he was "chaired" out by his commanding officers, deposited on a flatbed vehicle laid out in the style of the officers' mess and driven to a waiting helicopter.

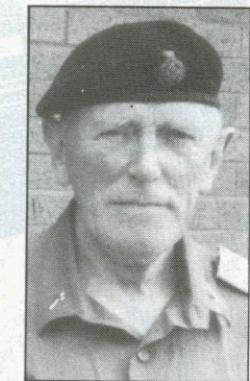
Brig Nash, who is to become bursar of Lorretto School in Edinburgh, wrote humorous articles for a number of publications and contributed the regular Sustainer column in *British Army Review*.

The Tri-Service team serving him are ACW **Carole Searle**, RAF, WO1 **Phil Sims**, LCpl **Adam Douglas**, Assistant Cook **Colin Wheeler-James**, RN and Cpl **Nick Testa**.

# May's

Mrs **May McLean**, who joined Queen Mary's Auxiliary Army Corps in 1917, celebrated her 100th birthday last month. To mark the occasion, she received a bouquet and a bottle of sherry from Capt **Carol Burnell** on behalf of the Women's Royal Army Corps.

# century



The Rev **Kenneth Alton** has completed 50 years in uniform with the Army Cadet Force and Territorial Army. He "joined up" in 1941 in Bishop Auckland at the age of 14 and was given a commission a year after the war ended.

He had to resign his commission to train for ordination, but recommissioned soon afterwards and went on to work with cadets in the North Riding, Durham and Leeds, and more recently with Cleveland County Army Cadet Force.

Mr Alton also served with Darlington-based 50 Div Sigs TA, 201 Gen Hosp at Newcastle, and with the Northumbrian Volunteers.

# 'Royal' audience

There was a musical welcome for the QE2 and her passengers when they berthed at Gibraltar. On the quayside was the Salamanca Band of The Light Infantry. Later the volunteer band of HMS *Rooke* gave an hour-long concert for passengers in the liner's Grand Lounge.



Brig **Vernon Beauchamp**, Commandant of the School of Infantry, exchanges Army 100 badges with Lt Col **Tug Wilson**, Chief Instructor at the Small Arms School Corps, the first corps to receive the new badges for the Army's top marksmen. Looking on is SMI **Chris Hood**. Brig Beauchamp qualified for the 100 at Bisley in 1968 and 1975, Col Wilson in 1967 and 1969.

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Soldiers of 1 Glosters prepare to embark in a German helicopter during Exercise Certain Shield

# THE RIGHT MIX

CERTAIN Shield was remarkable by any standards for it combined live field training with a computer-assisted command post exercise - a mix of training techniques that had never been tried before.

Forming part of the reinforcement of Germany exercise, Reforger 91, in which the 3rd (US) Corps deployed from the United States as the Northern Army Group Reserve, it was also linked with the Second Allied Tactical Air Force's Exercise Cold Fire 91, which provided air support to the land operations of the FTX phase.

Certain Shield encompassed a trial of the Multinational

## Certain Shield breaks new ground

NORTHAG Airmobile Division, which was used to advance the study of aspects of the deployment of multinational military forces.

Because of the uncertainties created by the break-up of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet Union, by the Gulf War and by the current political and environmental constraints in Europe, the exercise was much

reduced from that originally envisaged two years ago. Only 28,000 troops took part and there were no tanks.

The American computer enhancement system known as Corps Battle Simulation (CBS) has been used by the US Forces for more than two years. It is under continuous development and improvement, including the input of new information

drawn from lessons learned in the Gulf War about the performance and capabilities of both Allied and other nations' weapons and equipment. This time British, German, Dutch and Belgian staff took part in the computer battle.

One computer terminal can represent the activities of many battalions, or hundreds of tanks, or powerful air strikes, or air defence.

The exercise was a pointer to the way ahead in Europe, where the multinational Rapid Reaction Corps is being created by Nato. Once established, the new Nato force will be used to

● Turn to next page



Two Wiesel airportable armoured fighting vehicles reverse into the rear of a Luftwaffe CH53G helicopter. The Wiesel can be fitted with TOW missiles or a 25mm cannon

## Right mix

• From Page 13

counter any threat against member countries.

The new Nato set-up effectively means the end of the British Army of the Rhine. The 55,000-strong force is to be reduced by more than 50 per cent. What will remain is an enlarged 1st (UK) Armoured Division forming the backbone of the northern element of the Rapid Reaction Corps.

The multinational airmobile division was spearheaded by 24 Airmobile Brigade from Catterick.

Consisting of British, German, Dutch and Belgian troops, it was airlifted 75 miles across German countryside to confront an imaginary enemy.

The 8,000-strong force practised moving anti-tank troops quickly to a threatened area many miles from the main Nato armoured forces, then holding it with British and German anti-tank helicopters until the main force arrived.

Main elements of 24 Brigade are The Green Howards, the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment and the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment. The three battalions are able to put more than 100 Milan anti-tank missile posts into the field. Air support is provided by 9 Regiment Army Air Corps.



The face of the "enemy". Preparing to move to another location are members of REME LAD attached to the Royal Yeomanry who provided part of the opposing forces during Certain Shield. In front (left to right) are LCpl Mark Batten and Cfn David Robinson; middle, Cfn Peter Maskelly and Sgt Fred Batten (Mark's father); and, on top of the vehicle, Cpl John Murphy

# Our role in new Europe

## ● From Page 3

allow them to deploy as an MNAD and practise all their procedures, while at the same time providing enough of an enemy to make it worthwhile.

"I would be the first to admit that we haven't provided as much of an enemy as we would like, but I have at the same time to take into consideration the environmental and political pressures not to have tanks on exercises and create too much damage."

"I think we have come to a reasonable compromise, and we have got value from the exercise. We have learnt a lot, but I could have made it better if I had had more troops on the ground."

*The break-up of the Warsaw Pact and the lessening of the threat from the Soviet Union had left Nato without a clearly defined threat. Was it difficult to train an Army without an identifiable enemy?*

"No, I don't believe so," said Gen Inge. "Of course, for the past 45 years we had a clearly defined threat. We designed our equipment, and to some extent our tactics and organisation to deal with them. As a result we learned a great deal about them."

"But, if you look at the world now, I don't believe it has

become a safer place. Like a football team or a chess player, an army needs an opponent to train against. Now we have all sorts of enemies and in a way, if you like, the 'enemy' we have on our exercises will have to make us more flexible and think more deeply about some of our tactics and organisation."

Gen Inge is a great fan of computer-simulated war games and believes such training will play a major part in training formation headquarters from brigade level upwards.

"The Corps Battle Simulator is a good thing. Here, we have had an FTX involving the Multinational NORTHAG Air-mobile Division training with a live enemy, and around that, using battle simulators, we were able to exercise the headquarters of the 3rd (US) Corps together with two of its divisions and a number of its brigades, as well as the 1st Netherlands Corps, 1st Belgian Corps and elements of the 1st British Corps.

"What we haven't got right is the relationship between the computer-assisted part of the exercise and the field training exercise, which is of course the live enemy. We must get that balance right. We have learnt a

● Turn to Page 32

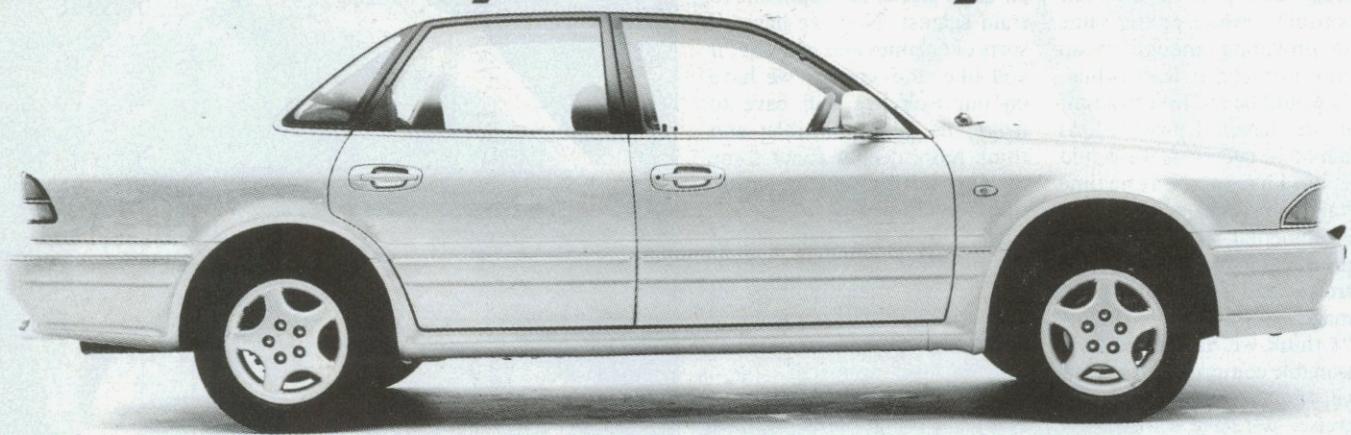


Gen Sir Peter Inge



Men of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment speed into action after being airlifted to the battlefield

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**6/7 Queens keeps  
Regular training  
team on its toes**

A cautious approach by OCdt Andrew Milward



# Boring? You must be joking!

"NOT another boring old exercise" would not have been fair comment during the annual camp of the Sussex and Surrey-based 6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

First week was spent consolidating the year's training and using the field firing facilities at Thetford, before the Territorials moved to Crowborough Camp in East Sussex from where the four companies plus HQ Company were sent throughout Kent to exercise their wartime role of defending their homeland.

Commanded by a Territorial, Lt Col Piers Storie-Pugh, from their Horsham headquarters, the companies are scattered

over various centres from Camberley and Kingston-upon-Thames in the North to Woking and Brighton in the south.

Their role of home defence, however, takes them throughout the South East to guard high-value installations – dock facilities, power stations and the vital infrastructure without which the country cannot function.

Static duties at key points (KPs) mean limited mobility which, without imagination on the part of the Permanent Staff, could easily become mundane.

After their memories had been refreshed on the routine

**Words:**  
**Gordon Skilling**  
**Pictures:**  
**Mike Weston**

for KPs, the Queen's men found their activities were anything but boring. Little was static

except the location of incidents set up by the Regular Army training major, Maj James Mills, who arranged for platoons to act as mobile reaction forces responding to events round the county.

This fairly kept them on their toes, and there was the added incentive of each event being marked to count towards the battalion's infantry skills competition.

At times they were flat on their bellies, sprawling in the Medway mud after paddling

across to pick up an agent from "enemy territory". The landing was slippery if not hostile, said Pte Monk Grayson, relieved that he only had to clean mud from the knees down.

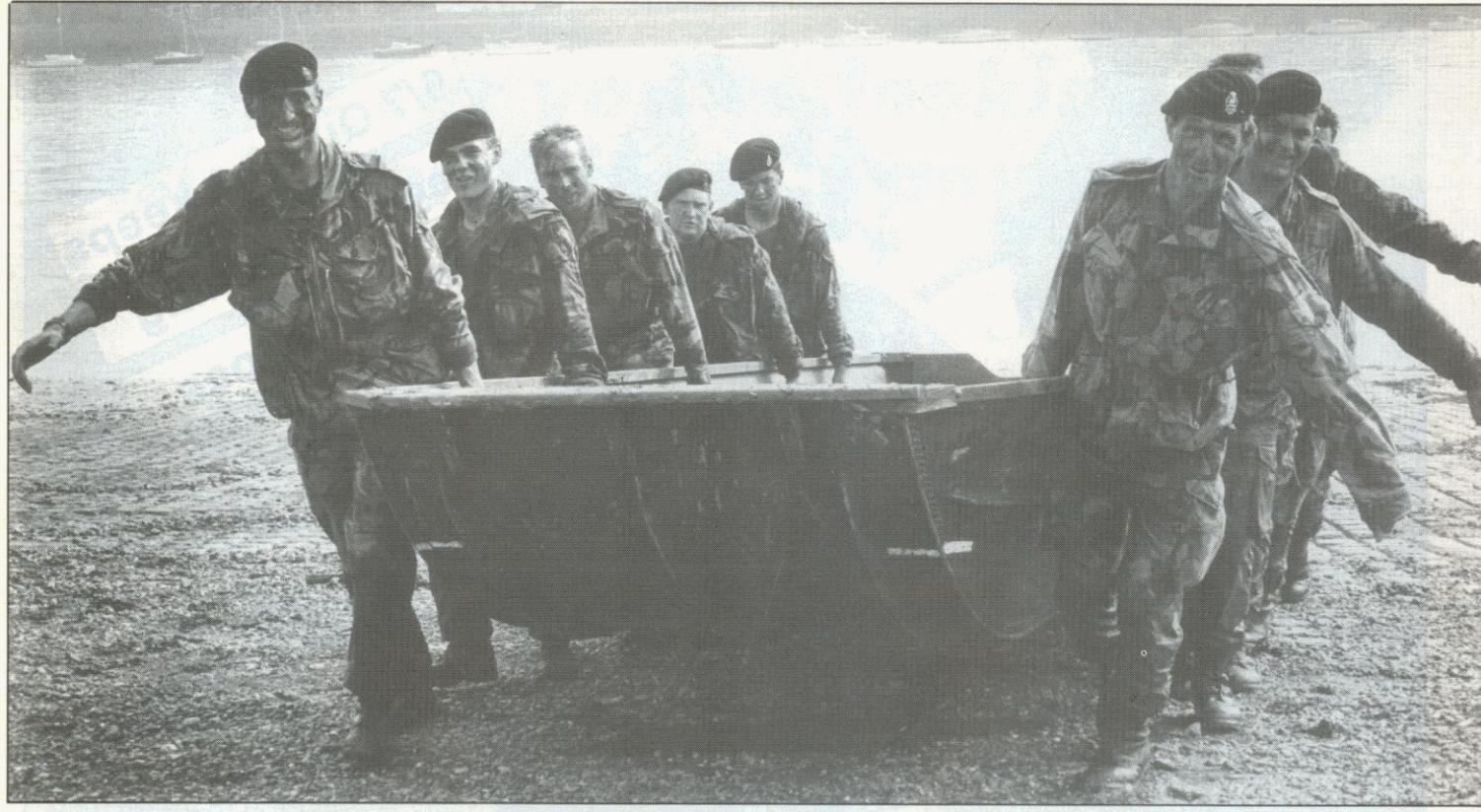
"I was mild compared with some," he declared.

And face down was the only way to deal with a minefield, with the soldiers patiently probing for obstacles on the way to an objective.

Different problems needed different approaches. Carrying out a chemical recce was the only way to establish the extent of a contaminated area.

Probably the most demanding task was to clear out an unknown number of insurgents

● Turn to next page



## We're not bored

• From Page 17

attack from the rear. The scenario called for a prisoner to be taken. There is a natural tendency to "switch off" on the way back, and to emphasise the point the Queensmen were ambushed on the home run. Pte Richard Napier accounted for the enemy after an heroic assault – neck deep through the water.

They were lucky in having the help of Royal Engineers from 12 Royal School of Military Engineering Regiment at Chattenden, who eased their approach to Hoo Island by providing powered rigid raiders.

The camouflaged face of WO2 Alan Lawson lit up when he heard it would not be necessary to paddle to the island. Not that he would baulk at whatever was required. As commander of the Recce Platoon he is used to doing what has to be done.

The Ministry of Defence gets double value from him: several years ago he left 1 Queens after nine years' service, and is now with that department of the MoD dealing with the use of land and property.

His own use of the ground assured a fairly dry approach to the desired property, an old fort at the far end of the island, until he decided to follow a waterlogged channel.

Behind him, OCdt Andrew Milward was learning the art of leadership, and would not have dreamt of not following him in.

Assaulting the blockhouse itself was a difficult task in the face of booby traps and an enemy quick to slip out and

attack from the rear. The scenario called for a prisoner to be taken. There is a natural tendency to "switch off" on the way back, and to emphasise the point the Queensmen were ambushed on the home run. Pte Richard Napier accounted for the enemy after an heroic assault – neck deep through the water.

As if they were not tired enough, the directing staff then declared a wounded casualty, who had to be carried back. Pte Allan Stevenson drew the long straw for the bumpy ride home.

The patrol, drawn from the Recce Platoon and HQ Company, gave one of the better efforts, and despite being exhausted, WO2 Lawson's verdict was "Brilliant! Very, very good."

Territorials seem to thrive the harder they are pushed. Considering they train only at weekends and on Wednesdays, they don't do too badly, said CSgt John Fleming, one of the Regular PSIs posted for a tour to set standards for the Territorials.

"They like getting wet and dirty. Because they only have a two-week camp they put everything into it. So we do too." He admits, though, that he'll be glad to get back to the 1st Battalion where, even during an exercise, he can get a couple of hours of decent sleep!

Another PSI, CSgt Tom Reddick, enjoys their enthusiasm unsullied by constant moaning. "You've got to find



WO2 Alan Lawson in command

interesting and new ways of doing things realistically so that they keep coming back for more. Just before camp we did cheap parachuting with the regimental parachute team, so now they can carry on at their own expense if they want to," he said.

The camp was particularly interesting for one of the boys



OCdt Andrew Milward, Ptes Richard Napier, Danile Makinde and Leigh Short struggle back with "casualty" Pte Allan Stevenson

in blue attached to the battalion. Inspector John Heseltine of the Metropolitan Police had not just come along for the ride. The role of home defence battalions involves much liaison with local constabularies in situations requiring the military helping the civil power.

If soldiers are, for example, confronted by civilian demon-

## Spirit of the old Sussex, Surrey regiments lives on

THEY might think they are last on the list for modern equipment, but the old spirit of the Queen's Royal (West Surrey) Regiment, the East Surrey Regiment and the Royal Sussex Regiment also lives on in the 6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

One of three Territorial battalions in England's oldest Infantry regiment of the Line, it was formed in 1975 through the amalgamation of the 6th and 7th Battalions first raised in 1971.

It draws its strength of more than 500 from the counties of Surrey and West Sussex and the Greater Brighton area of East Sussex, and proudly

names its companies after some of its many battle honours, including the first ever awarded, Tangier 1662-80.

A TA commanding officer is less unusual in this battalion than many others: in its 16 years' service the proportion of Regulars to Territorials has been the same. Lt Col Piers Storie-Pugh reflects the increasing professionalism of Territorials, having taken a Short Service Volunteer Commission with 1 Queens and commanded a platoon in West Belfast.

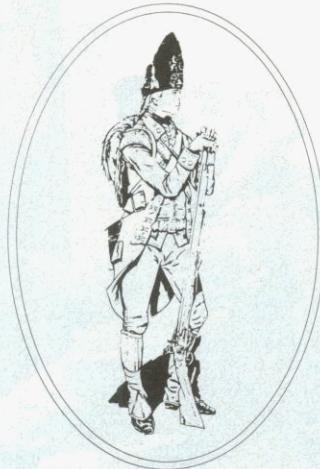
A soldier must be able to hit the target, and 6/7 Queens have proved they can by being in the top five teams at TA Bisley for the past ten years.



Panzer Grenadier Reinhard Kruegar was good value



It could have been worse, says Pte Monk Grayson



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# Disaster at Chester



The "victims" came from Blackburn-based 93 Signal Squadron

## Army lends a hand at Saighton 'eruption'

CRASHING helicopters, hostages, terrorists, burning buildings and kidnapped firemen were among the ingredients for simulated mayhem to test the Army and civil emergency services in Chester, writes Lynn Pegler.

This was the climax to Exercise Cold Steel, a six-day exercise run by 42 (North West) Brigade, when more than 1,000 Regular and TA soldiers practised home defence and military aid to the civil community.

Cheshire's police, fire and ambulance services joined forces with the Army for this final phase in a rare practical exercise to test military support in a major civil emergency.

Saighton Army Medical Services Field Training Centre in Chester became "Saighton New Village", whose inhabitants had the misfortune to endure a major hostage incident, two fires and a simulated helicopter crash on to a convoy of vehicles, causing

many casualties. A real hoax bomb incident in Chester delayed the start of the emergency phase by half an hour but when it did get under way it proved valuable training for everybody involved.

Great clouds of smoke and 2lb of explosives simulated the helicopter crashing on to a convoy of vehicles. Realistic cuts, bruises and gashes were provided courtesy of 207 and 208 General Hospitals, who also acted as first aiders.

The Regulars of the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment played the terrorists and Special Forces, while the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry and the 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment assisted with military aid to the civil powers by capturing the terrorists and helping with casualties.

Blackburn-based 93 Signal Squadron, whose soldiers acted as the long-suffering Saighton villagers, gave Oscar-winning performances.



Men of 4 Kings Own Border carry away a casualty for treatment



Involved in treating the casualties were medics from Liverpool-based 208 General Hospital

# DAWN CHORUS

Early start at riding school as King's Troop pulls the reins....

STARTING work at the crack of dawn might not be everyone's idea of fun but for 12 officers from a variety of units (including two from the RAF) on the Army Saddle Club Association's annual officers' riding course, run by the King's Troop RHA at their St John's Wood HQ in London, it soon became the order of the day.

In mid-August, the King's Troop took over the duties of the Queen's Life Guard for three weeks, while the Household Cavalry were away on their annual summer camp at Thetford.

"The course," explained Capt Simon Robinson, "coincides with this period to help look after the horses."

Sure enough, brooms, pitchforks and shovels were shared out, and the pupils were put to

work. Mucking out and endless sweeping were soon standard features ... to the ever-present accompaniment of Capital Radio.

**Words:**  
**Sarah Shepherd**  
**Pictures:**  
**Terry Champion**

brooms that they had to demonstrate a more efficient sweeping technique.

Closely supervised by LBdr Darren Dady, it soon became apparent to the course members that horses come first at "The Wood".

A daily routine developed, timed to the trumpet calls of Gnr Sean Bentley. Mucking out was at 6am, when the smell of ammonia soon cleared the head. By 8am the horses had been tacked up, with blankets folded in the correct King's Troop way, ready for inspection

Gnrs Nick Morgan, Rob Walker and Steve Price were so amazed at the tardiness of the officers with their

before the morning ride.

Later came a lecture and grooming, followed by lunch and a chance for Lt Lindsay Gowland to catch up on some sleep. After an afternoon ride came the "bliffing" of the tack under the watchful eye of Gnr Ian Brown.

It is doubtful whether the tack would have met the standard set by Sgt Andy Knight for the Queen's Life Guard.

Course instructors, LBdrs Wayne Cunniff and Ian Maxwell, started with the basics and within two weeks had everyone jumping a triple without reins or stirrups while singing *Like a Rhinestone Cowboy*.

One officer at the course needed to get in some practice

Gnr Jason Clarkson sounds one of many bugle calls

before next summer's Trooping the Colour ceremony, but for most of the 12 students, the ASCA "school" was an opportunity to learn to ride for fun.

LBdr Maxwell ensured that everyone knew the King's Troop method of mounting without stirrups. At the shout of "Quickset and Best" by LBdr Cunniff, riders had to leap aboard, emulating their instructors with varying degrees of success. For some it was a mad scramble before the horse wandered off.

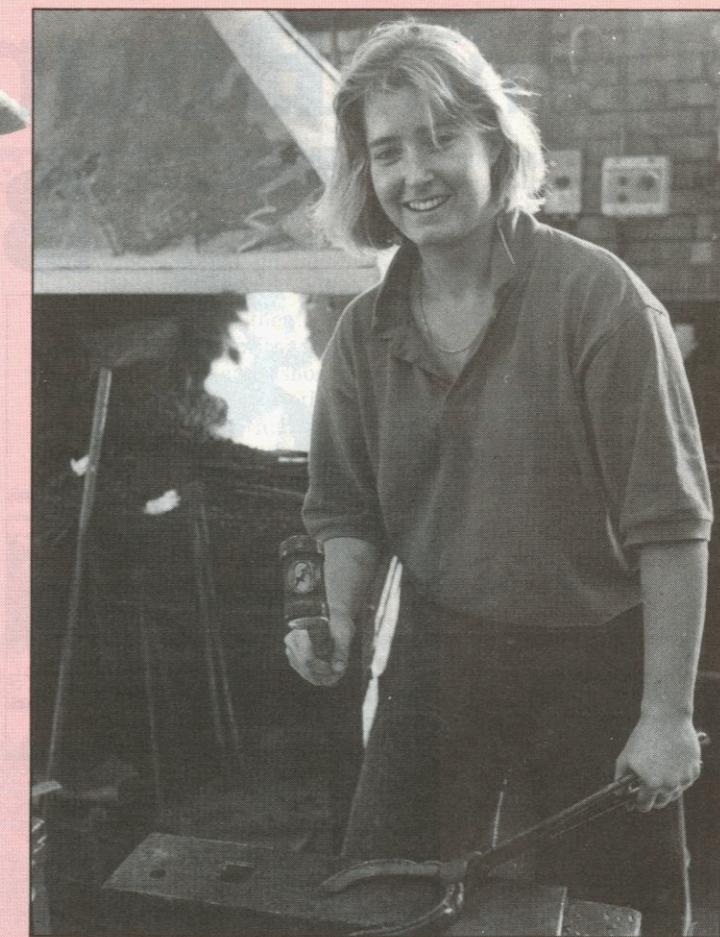
Captains Debbie Fox and Sarah Licence soon learned that by volunteering to take their

horses to the farriers, a cup of tea would be forthcoming from LBdr Chris Kelly. This was better than grooming.

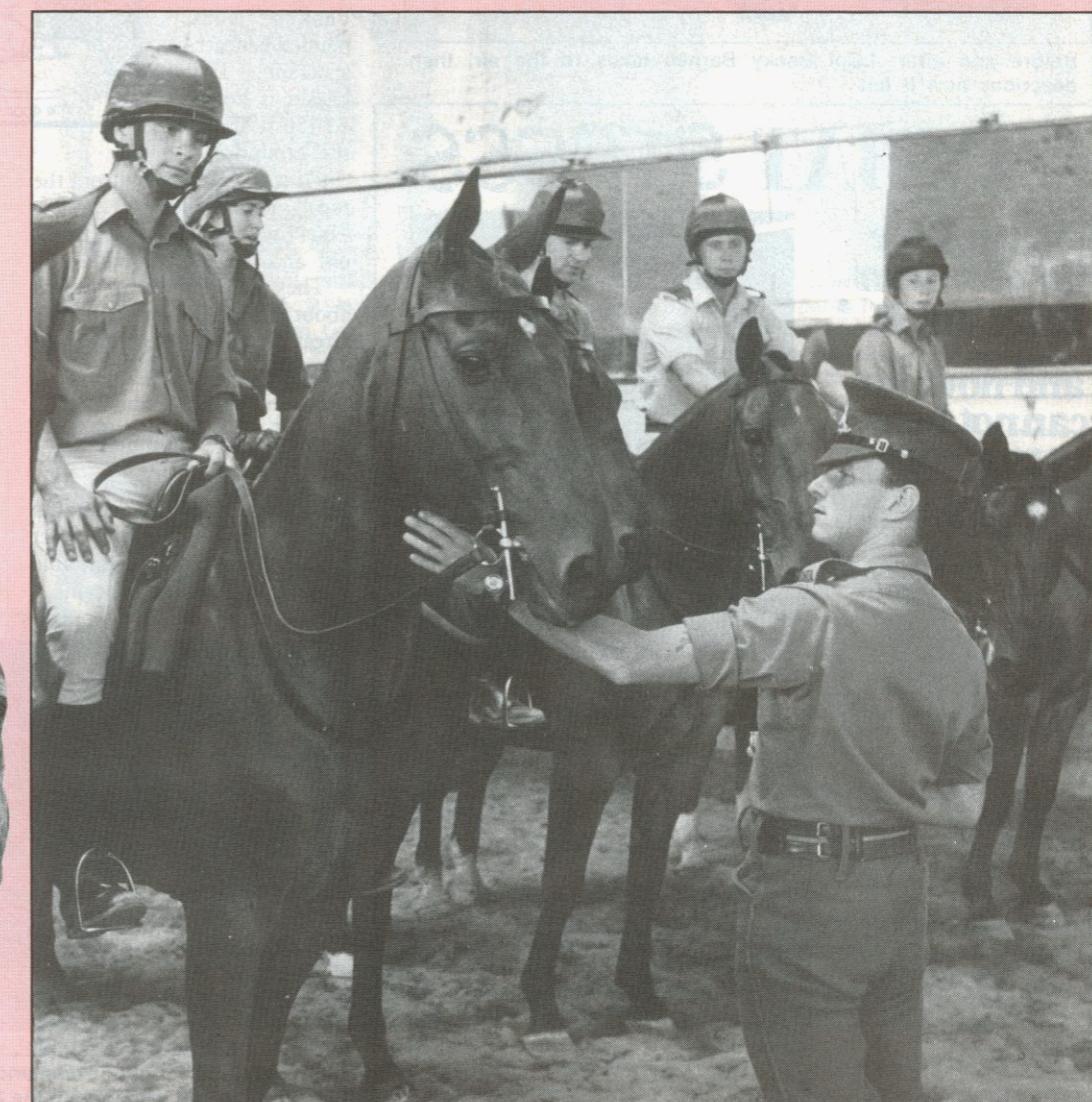
Despite the tendency for horses and riders to be easily separated, course OC Capt Robinson allowed his learners onto the streets of London for a morning hack. He demonstrated that even on Hyde Park Corner, horses come first, with motorists forced to concede right of passage.

In the mess on the final night champagne had to be bought for each fall. It developed into a memorable occasion with only one snag. The stables had to be

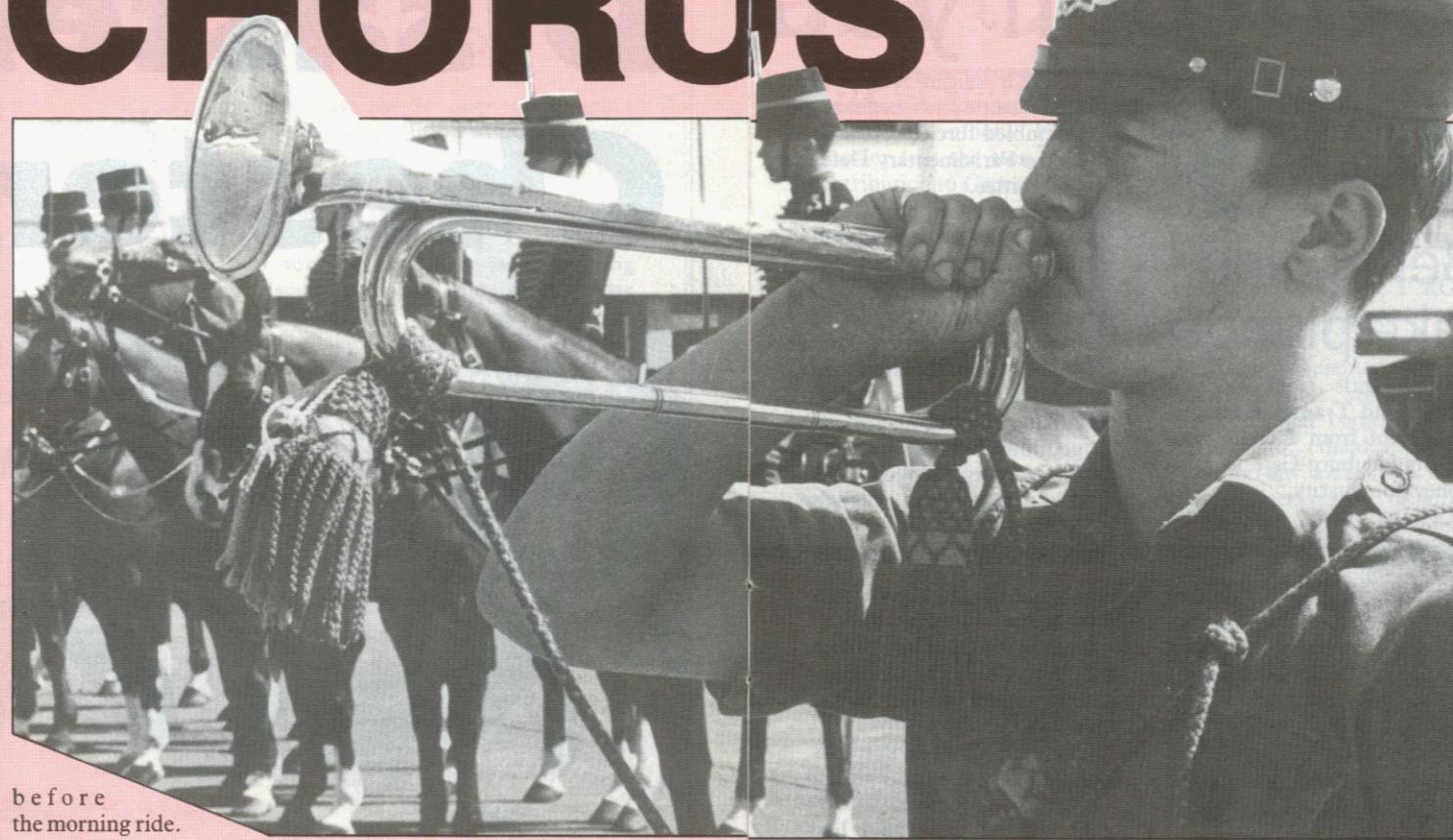
mucked out at 6am.



Capt Sarah Licence, RAEC with hammer and tongs



Capt Andy Bartlett, RA (left) listens to advice from course instructor LBdr Wayne Cunniff



Gnr Jason Clarkson sounds one of many bugle calls



Capt Mark Wood, KOSB checks a shoe



Lt Lindsay Gowland, WRAC picks out a hoof

  
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# Bouncing Becky



## Berlin girls take plunge

THREE girls from Berlin's Signals and Transport contingents leapt from a crane near the Brandenburg Gate to raise money for charity.

Lt Liz Wise, OC Radio Troop, 229 Signals Squadron, found that she had been "volunteered" for her bungee jump by LCpls Becky Barnes and Sue Lyall who are both attached to Berlin's 62 Transport and Movement Squadron RCT.

Their leap took place on Potsdamer Platz where a bungee-jumping firm tempts the temporarily insane into a basket suspended beneath a crane. The basket is hoisted 150 ft above the ground.



"It was a great view from the top," commented Lt Wise, "but I was only too keen to get out and get it over with."

They hope to have raised about DM2,300 for London's Great Ormond Street Hospital Appeal.

★ ★ ★

Six soldiers from HQ Transport and Movements Branch, HQ London District have completed a remarkable relay run around Britain — calling at all the Army's UK

Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G\*\*rre, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

But now, after seeing service in Aden, after being booby-trapped and ambushed in Northern Ireland, Sergeant 'Tiny' cannot bear to turn a corner. For fear of what is on the other side.

It is the bravest men and women from the Services that suffer most from mental breakdown. For they have tried, each one of them, to give more, much more, than they could in the service of our Country.

We look after these brave men and women. We help them at home, and in hospital. We run our own Convalescent Homes and, for the old, there is our Veterans' Home where they can see out their days in peace.

These men and women have given their minds to their Country. If we are to help them, we must have funds. Do please help us with a donation, and with a legacy too, perhaps. The debt is owed by all of us.

**"They've given more than they could — please give as much as you can."**

To protect those concerned, this is an amalgam of several such case histories of Patients in our care.

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Col Nigel Gilbert (right), Commander Transport and Movements SE District, presents a cheque to the Fleet Mover runners at Aldershot. From left are WO2 Martin Bailey, WO2 Dave Rice, LCpl Darren Knight, WO1 Martin Bendall, Sgt Robbie Blakeman and Sgt Martin Smith

11 Sep 1991

BARCLAYS

# If you are Churchill, I'm Rommel!

## Brass laughs boost Army Benevolent Fund

Gen Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley tells the story as his contribution to *General Salute* — *A Laugh with Senior Army Brass*, produced as a Christmas stocking gift by and on behalf of the Army Benevolent Fund.

The editor, Brig (Retd) Charles Millman, has gathered more than 100 light-hearted anecdotes provided by some of the most distinguished serving and retired Army figures.

Most of the stories are

designed to draw a smile from the reader at the gentle expense of the teller.

Gen Sir Robert Pascoe, the former Adjutant General, relates his experience on leaving A Company, 1 RGJ after a happy two years in command.

On being presented with an inscribed silver salver from the assembled company, he started to thank them, pointing out along the way that the acceptance of gifts was strictly against the rules.

"Before I could continue," writes Gen Pascoe, "a cheeky rifleman from the back rows shouted: 'Well give the so-and-so thing back then!'"

Many of the stories are cartoon-illustrated and a short concluding section uses the art-form to blow a musical raspberry at the other sort of Army brass — the regimental and corps bands.

If the experience of this reviewer is anything to go by this chuckleful paperback is not so much unputdownable

as compellingly-pickable.

And it proves beyond doubt that at every level the British Army's sense of humour — particularly the self-deprecating kind — is alive and kicking. — CH

**General Salute** costs £2.95 plus 60p packing and postage (UK only — overseas extra) and can be ordered from ABF Project General Salute, c/o HQ 2nd Infantry Brigade, Risborough Barracks, Shorncliffe, Kent CT20 3HR (tel: Folkestone 49541 ext 2049). Cheques and POs payable to Army Benevolent Fund.



WO1 (ASM) Pete Graves, REME of 10 AB Wksp REME leads a team of 12 parades from his unit, 63 AB Sqn RCT and 82 AB Ord Coy out of 5 Airborne Brigade Logistic Battalion's Montgomery Lines, Aldershot at the start of a 209-mile speed march to Arnhem in Holland. The march takes place every two years to commemorate Operation Market-Garden and this year the marchers hope to raise more than £2,500 for the Airborne Forces Security Fund



LCpl Tony Johns gets a push start as he and colleagues from HQ Coy, 7 R Anglian leave Leicester TA Centre to begin their sponsored cycle ride from Land's End to John o'Groats. They averaged nearly 100 miles a day and, with money still coming in, have so far raised £1,650 for SSAFA and the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation. From left to right are ex-Viking Wilson Lawrence of main sponsors Laurentian Life, LCpl Gavin Grey, Sgt Paul Wells, LCpl Dave Whittall, LCpl Johns, Cpl Andy Hirst, Pte Nigel Drake, Pte Lee Mumford and Mr Kim Salt of Laurentian Life

Picture: Mike Perrin

## COMBAT STRESS

**'Perhaps the bravest man I ever knew... and now, he cannot bear to turn a corner'**



Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G\*\*rre, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

But now, after seeing service in Aden, after being booby-trapped and ambushed in Northern Ireland, Sergeant 'Tiny' cannot bear to turn a corner. For fear of what is on the other side.

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# Gulf badges tell their own story

Drawing on the researches of **Don Blevin** and his own collection of Gulf memorabilia, **Laurie Manton** reveals some of the formation and unit insignia that appeared during the Gulf War.

BRITISH ARMY formation badges have their origins in the First World War. In 1914, all vehicles and directional signs carried unit identities in clear.

When these were removed to confuse enemy intelligence, it became apparent that there was a necessity for some form of distinguishing mark to enable recognition of corps and divisional vehicles and personnel.

Formation signs provided an easily recognisable mark for each formation, and at the same time introduced a measure of security.

By 1920 woven badges ceased to be worn except in a number of territorial divisions. In 1940 divisional signs were reintroduced and in December 1941 orders were given that they were to be known as "formation badges".

Mr Blevin is not the first to show an interest in this aspect of military history. The late Lt Col Howard Cole did much to further its cause, spending years collecting formation badges and gathering information on their origins.

More than 500 badges are reproduced in his book describing the different types worn during the Second World War. He was for many years president of the Military Heraldry Society which numbers many soldiers among its members.

Categorising the various types of badges produced during the Gulf War is difficult, but they can be broken down – roughly – into formation and unit badges (official, semi-official and unofficial).

The red and black jerboas of 7 and 4 Armoured Brigades (figures 1 and 2), and now the famous black adder (fig 3) worn by members of the Headquarters Force Maintenance Area were official formation badges. Entitlement, certainly in the case of HQ FMA, was strictly controlled.

The first "black rat" to be worn in the

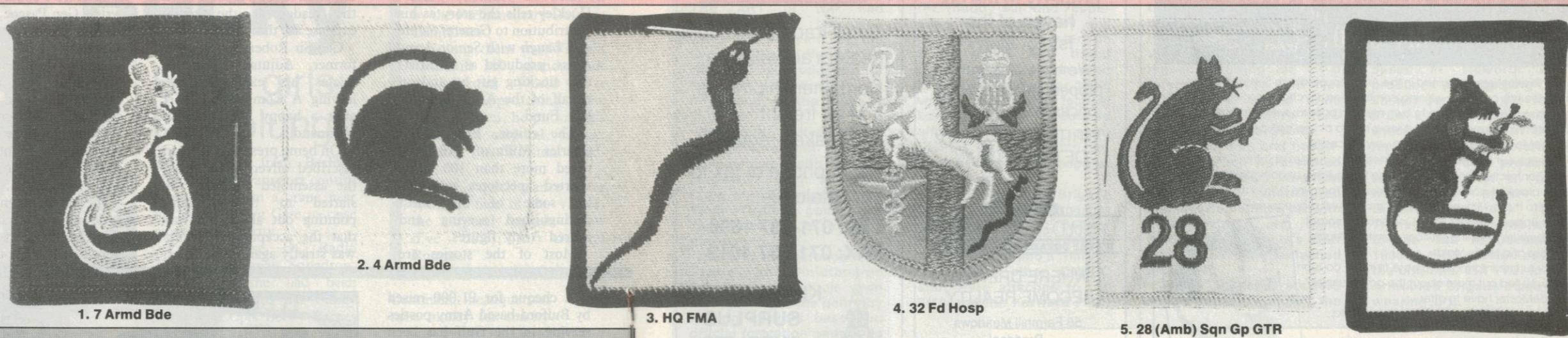
First 'black rat' was cut from wartime uniform of the father of a staff officer

Gulf is said to have been cut from the wartime uniform of the father of one of Brig Christopher Hammerbeck's staff officers. It was worn by the brigadier during a reconnaissance mission to the Gulf in November 1990, and then used as the model for new flashes purchased by the brigade.

The background colour was changed from white to sand to blend with the desert uniform.

The 1st Armoured Division decided not to produce white rhino badges for its headquarters staff and divisional troops.

Members of Headquarters British Forces Middle East wore a Combined



## Now the hunt is on



THE GULF War was responsible for a resurgence of interest in military heraldry. Now the hunt is on to compile a definitive record of all the different types of formation badges and unit insignia worn by British troops during the conflict.

Following a report in **SOLDIER** (February 18) ab-

out Gulf badges, Ministry of Defence civil servant Don Blevin decided to compile a register.

"It seemed to me they were vital to unit morale, and an important part of military history, so I wrote to all the units involved asking for details," he explained.

"I thought it might prevent Gulf veterans from arguing over their beer from now to the middle of the 21st century over who wore what."

An appeal in **SOLDIER** led to a number of units contacting Mr Blevin with details of their badges. Any not mentioned in this article might care to do so via the Editor.

Operations badge which combined emblems of the three Services: a naval anchor, a tommy gun and an RAF albatross in red on a dark blue background.

ing the Royal Marines medical squadron attached to the hospital, a lyre with sprigs of leaves to signify the three attached military bands acting as stretcher bearers, and a miniature black adder to indicate they were all considered as "Force" troops (HQ FMA).

The 28th Ambulance Squadron Group of the Gurkha Transport Regiment wore a dark blue desert rat (fig 5) brandishing a kukri set over the figure 28, while 205 (Scottish) General Hospital RAMC(V) had a rat (fig 6) holding the Rod of Aesculapius (the God of medicine and healing) with a serpent twined around it.

One of the bands attached to 32 Field Hospital, 1 R Irish, wore a green shamrock on the right arm below the standard black adder badge.

It appears that this non-standard uniform embellishment was sent to the bandsmen by one of the regiment's company commanders as a good luck charm.

The material used was cut from old

On the medical side, 32 Field Hospital, RAMC, had perhaps the most ornate unit badge (fig 4), worn on the left shoulder. The shield of fabric was embroidered with a central red cross alluding to the Army Medical Services. Over this was laid a White Horse of Hanover – BMH Hanover was the parent unit upon which the hospital was based.

Around this a fouled anchor represent-

uniforms and sewn up by the regimental tailor before despatch to the Gulf.

The gunners favoured wearing brassards carrying a variety of insignia. Particularly modest were 26 Field Regiment, RA who uniquely among RA units wore them on the left arm. The brassard was made from temperate region disruptive pattern material worn with its paler reverse side out. Upon this was sewn a red over blue Royal Artillery service marking.

The men of 40 Field Regiment managed to sew an enormous amount of markings on their brassards. Each battery had its own individual badge which held pride of place at the top of the brassard. Below this came a 7 Brigade rat, the RA service marking and then rank chevrons.

The 32nd and 39th Heavy Regiments and 12 Air Defence Regiment wore the 1st Artillery Brigade's ram's head formation badge above the RA service marking on their brassards, while 74 (Battleaxe) Heavy Battery, RA, wore an axe marked with 74 above it and BAC below.

Sappers of 32 Armoured Engineer

Regiment adopted a colourful bull's head representing the old 79th Armoured Division (Hobo's Funnies) to which one of its squadrons was attached during the Second World War.

The REME's 11th Armoured Workshop had a dual personality. Members of its major sub-unit, MRG 11, wore a black rhino on a blue and white background, this being the badge adopted by 6 Armoured Brigade, to which the unit is affiliated in BAOR.

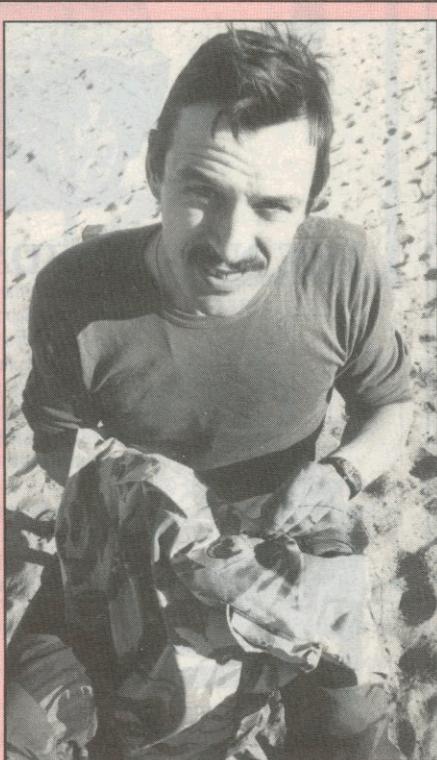
The workshop's Forward Recovery Group was affiliated to 4 Brigade and wore the black rat.

Maj Jonathon Mewis-Edwards and his troops of 3 Tank Transporter

Squadron, RCT, heavily involved in moving "in-theatre replacement" armoured vehicles, wore the squadron's "tank-in-hand" badge. A main battle tank rests in the palm of a hand above a Malayan kris.

Among the more unusual badges produced was one for chemical survey troops (fig 7) with the various NBC cells.

● Turn to Page 29



Cpl Neil Marshall of RHQ Troop, 14/20 H, wears on his badge in the desert

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# War art with a purpose

THE ART of war can manifest itself in many ways. Reminiscent of the Second World War period was the reintroduction of "nose-art", painting pin-ups or cartoons on the noses of aircraft.

Although British Army units in the Gulf adorned their vehicles with cartoon characters such as Andy Capp and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, some war "art" served a military purpose.

Staff at the Defence NBC Centre at Winterbourne Gunner made their own contribution to the genre by issuing stickers based on official formation badges to specialists from various units whose NBC skills had been updated by them in the Gulf.

The stickers were put on vehicles to denote NBC-trained personnel and on NBC equipment which had been checked for serviceability.

The original red rat in full

IPE (noddy suit and respirator) was drawn by the unit's graphic officer Mr Tim Neate for a NBC threat presentation to 7 Armoured Brigade in September 1990, with sticky-backed tactical badges being produced shortly afterwards when DNBCC training teams deployed to the Gulf in support of the brigade.

When 4 Armoured Brigade and 1 Armoured Division were deployed, further badges were printed depicting a black rat and a rhino in IPE. When other DNBCC staff were attached to the FMA and the Forward FMA,

two more designs were created showing a masked-up black adder. The Forward FMA badge bore the legend "Sniffing Sid" – a reference to the sniff test that is one of the drills carried out before NBC stand-down is ordered.

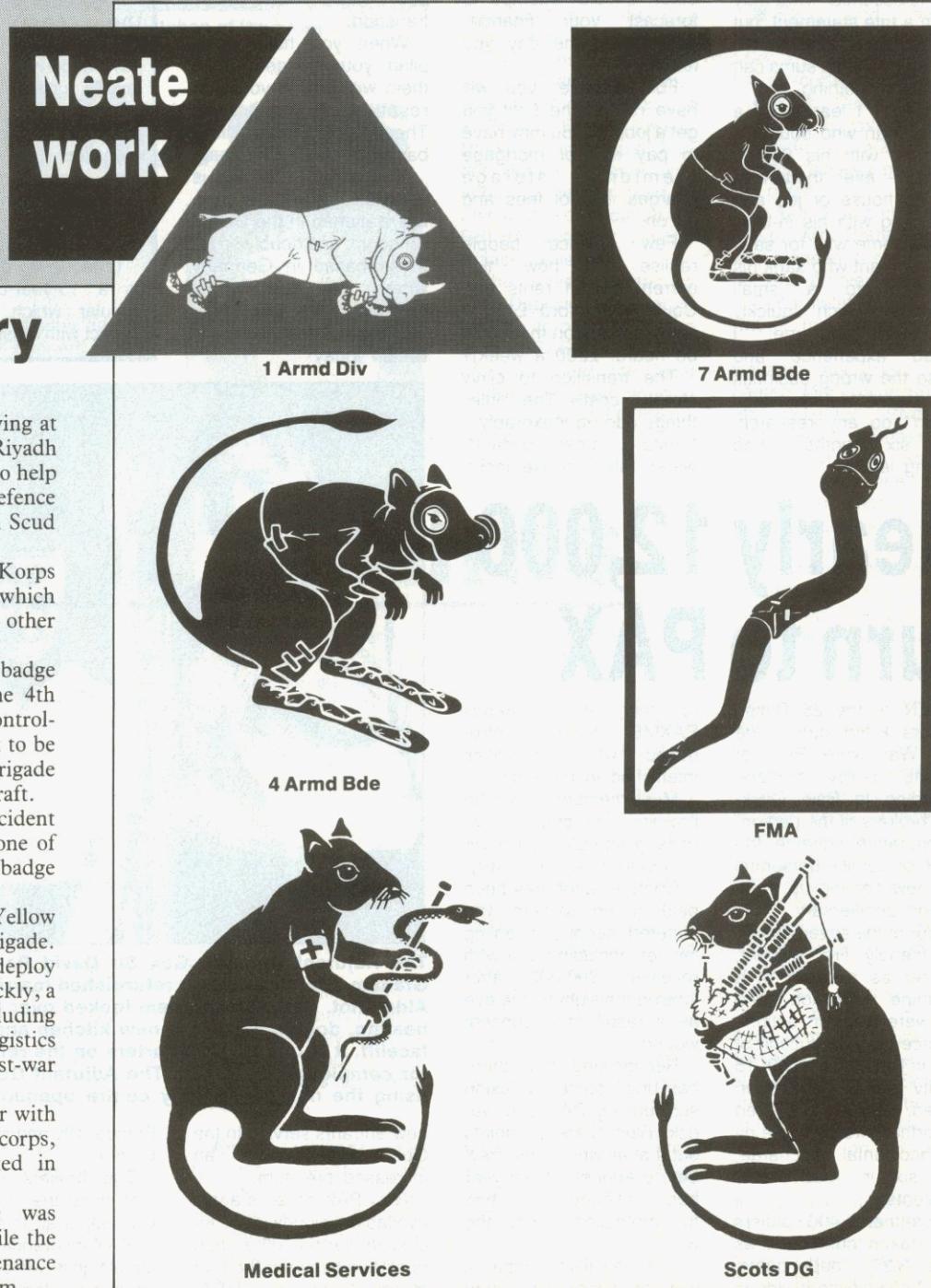
Medical units and hospitals in the Gulf were visited by the DNBCC medical officer who distributed stickers depicting a rat with a Red Cross arm band holding Aesculapius's staff with a serpent entwined around it.

These medical stickers were printed in crimson, the

RAMC colour, and red.

Mr Neate had got to know the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards when they were based at Tidworth and produced a "bagpiping" rat sticker for them. He later drew a full colour version which now hangs in their regimental headquarters.

Mr Neate also produced two versions of a "tank transporting" sticker for Bulford-based 414 Tank Transporter Unit, who went to the Gulf in December 1990. A third version added the unit title, 414 TTU, to a 4 Armoured Brigade black rat wearing IPE.



## Badges' story

• From Page 27

It was designed by an officer serving at HQ British Forces Middle East in Riyadh who was tasked to produce a badge to help teams get through Saudi Civil Defence road blocks to make tests after each Scud missile attack.

It was loosely based on the Afrika Korps badge, with crossed chemical retorts which are common to chemical units in other countries.

A good example of an unofficial badge (fig 9) is that manufactured for the 4th Armoured Brigade Forward Air Controllers. Designed as a souvenir and not to be worn on uniform, it depicts the 4 Brigade rat with an A10 Thunderbolt aircraft.

The tragic friendly fire incident involving that type of aircraft and one of the brigade's battlegroups made the badge unpopular and few were sold.

Also seen in the Gulf was the Yellow Halberd of 11 Armoured Brigade. Although the brigade did not fully deploy because the land war was over so quickly, a number of personnel did go, including elements of 5 Innis DG and logistics troops, and were involved in the post-war clean-up.

Although the badges were popular with troops and encouraged esprit de corps, military humour was soon reflected in inter-formation rivalries.

The black rat of 4 Brigade was nicknamed the Desert Monkey, while the black adder of the Force Maintenance Area was dubbed the Desert Sperm.

## REDUNDANT?

There's so much to plan

SOLDIERS facing redundancy are likely to have at least two years' notice, but even with half that time to prepare themselves, there is a tremendous amount they can do.

Pay offices have received instructions on how to calculate an individual's entitlement, and all potential applicants for redundancy have to complete a form requesting this information.

Once you have that assessment, financial planning is essential. That may seem a trite statement, but past experience has shown how quickly lump sums can dwindle to nothing.

Recently I learned of a Serviceman who bought a new car with his £5,000 gratuity – even though he had no house or job and was living with his in-laws whose home was for sale.

A sergeant who sank his gratuity into a small business which quickly went bust told me: "I lacked experience and chose the wrong business for the area. Unfortunately, I didn't do any research. After six months I had nothing left."

## Nearly 12,000 turn to PAX

SEVEN of the 28 British soldiers killed during the Gulf War were PAX or PAXME policy holders, according to Bain Clarkson, brokers of the personal insurance scheme tailored for Service personnel and now coming up to its second anniversary.

Four of the seven died in the friendly fire incident, another as a result of a landmine explosion, and two were killed in action.

Since the introduction of PAX in December 1989, 16 fatality claims have been settled, including one killed in Northern Ireland, one by an accidental discharge, and six in road traffic accidents.

More than 8,400 soldiers have taken out cover, as have 3,277 dependants, and 2,405 soldiers signed

I would advise those considering redundancy to draw up TWO budgets as soon as they receive their financial assessment.

One should show what you are earning and spending in the Army, the other should attempt to forecast your financial position on the day you leave.

For example, you will have no income until you get a job, but you may have to pay rent or mortgage premiums, storage charges, school fees and so on.

Few Service people realise just how high current civilian rents are. Could you afford £115 a week (in London that could be nearer £200 a week)?

The transition to civvy street is costly. The "little" things add up inexorably – furniture, carpets, curtains, water rates, house insur-

ance, electricity bills. The list sometimes seems endless.

You need to ask yourself: *How long can I manage on my redundancy money if I have no job?*

The Office of Fair Trading has an excellent free leaflet called *Debt* which includes a statement that would help you draw up your budget. It lists all the expenses which might slip your mind, things such as the cost of credit cards, pub meals and public transport.

When you have compiled your budgets, take them with you to your first resettlement interview. They will provide a realistic basis for you to plan ahead.

This sort of planning is essential for Service families stationed in the United Kingdom, and doubly so for those based in Germany where they will almost certainly have lost touch with the true cost of living in Britain today.

### IN MY VIEW

I AM extremely disappointed by the three paragraphs relating to ex-Service families in the new Code of Guidance on homelessness brought out by the Department of the Environment, the Department of Health and the Welsh Office.

Most constructive paragraph in the document says:

"The MoD recognises that local housing authorities will often require proof that entitlement to occupy Service quarters is coming to an end before considering an application for accommodation to rent. Local authorities should never insist upon a court order for possession and should accept certificates from the local Service authorities. These certificates are usually issued six months before discharge."

In fact, with its referral to a 15-year-old DOE circular which had no impact with most councils

Just as well – the court order costs tenants £125.



The Adjutant General, Gen Sir David Ramsbotham, with Sgt Ann and Cpl Graham Priestley at their refurbished married quarter in Redvers Buller Road, Aldershot. Gen Ramsbotham looked over the quarter, which has had central heating, double glazing, a new kitchen and new wiring installed in a £33,000 facelift. It is one of 130 quarters on the refurbishment programme scheduled for completion by March. The Adjutant General also spoke to Army families using the new community centre opened in Aldershot North.

new entrants serving in the Gulf fully without an increased premium.

Now PAX cover is again available worldwide, including war risk other than hostilities between the four major powers (USA,

## Homeless code so disappointing

and was in any case forgotten ten years ago, it is a sad day for the Services.

Most constructive paragraph in the document says:

"The MoD recognises that local housing authorities will often require proof that entitlement to occupy Service quarters is coming to an end before considering an application for accommodation to rent. Local authorities should never insist upon a court order for possession and should accept certificates from the local Service authorities. These certificates are usually issued six months before discharge."

In fact, with its referral to a 15-year-old DOE circular which had no impact with most councils

Just as well – the court order costs tenants £125.

Despite the many hardships they have faced – and in some cases continue to face – they are united in their concern for the future of The Queen's Regiment and its soldiers.

Not long before the reunion, many of these proud old men had marched down Whitehall to register their protest at how the cuts would affect the regiment.

The reunion has for years been arranged by 76-year-old Stan Jupe. On Remembrance Day he and his colleagues will be on parade at Kingston, perhaps for the last time.

As we were previously MoD tenants, we have become assured tenants.

There are several differences – we didn't get a decoration allowance when we moved in and we don't have the "right to buy" so presumably won't qualify for a grant if and when we buy our own house.

He has just turned 76, author, recounting his life in the Army and his years as a prisoner of the Japanese. Proceeds from the book\* will be given to Hamilton



Paul and Nicky Badgery with daughter Chelsea in the kitchen of their new home in Plymouth

## It's magic to Patriot families

DREAMS can come true, sometimes with the help of SOLDIER!

Ask six ex-Army families who were "hanging on" as irregular occupants in married quarters in the Plymouth area.

Their housing commandant, Brian Cumming, spotted in these pages that a Royal British Legion Housing Association Patriot Homes scheme was about to be launched in Plymouth, so he contacted RBLHA assistant director Frances Kneller.

The wheels started to turn. Deposits were found with the co-operation of the local SSAFA and RBL branches, and the local authority enabled Housing Benefit to be paid to the six families.

A magic wand was

waved and they found themselves in two and three-bedroom semi-detached houses on the private Crownhill estate.

Everyone was happy.

• Paul and Nicola Badgery were ecstatic to have a house and garden for 18-month-old Chelsea;

• Brian Cumming was delighted to have six MQs available to allocate to Service families posted to his patch;

• And Plymouth's Lord Mayor, Mrs Betty Easton, was pleased to see a local housing problem solved.

Congratulating RBLHA, Patriot managing director Paul Stephens and the welfare agencies concerned, Mrs Easton said: "I am delighted Plymouth was able to pioneer this type of initiative and to enable those in need to be housed in decent properties built by a local builder."

"I hope it will be the start of other such projects for the Armed Forces."

Mr Malcolm Lindo, of the RBL Housing Association, was thrilled with the success of the scheme and wants to help Service families before they become irregular occupants.

Let the last word belong to Mrs Linda Middleton-Jones, mother of three children and an irregular occupant for nearly two years. Her family was on the point of being moved to bed-and-breakfast accommodation.

"It was a nightmare. Now I have a modern three-bedroom house. My 15-year-old son (the piper at Gordon Boys School) and daughters are thrilled. At last we can live like any other family on a modern estate."

• If you want details about Patriot, write to the RBLHA, PO Box 32, St John's Road, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8JF.

## Rent 'victims'

Dear Anne,

I've been meaning to write to you to tell you how we've found the Government's new Rent Act has worked against us. Hearing about the proposed cutbacks has spurred me on to put pen to paper.

If, when we moved into this house we had been an existing housing association tenant or a council tenant, we would now be a secure tenant.

They may be getting on in years, but their spirit remains indomitable.

David Clemens started running marathons at the age of 67 and only now, at the age of 75, has he called it a day.

He has just turned 76, author, recounting his life in the Army and his years as a prisoner of the Japanese. Proceeds from the book\* will be given to Hamilton

and this year it has gone up to £63.74. Our neighbour is a secure tenant and her rent went up to £40 last year and can't be increased again until next year.

This seems very unfair. Not only did my husband's gratuity drop in value while he was serving, but we're now being penalised for being MoD tenants rather than council tenants for the 25 plus years that we were married.

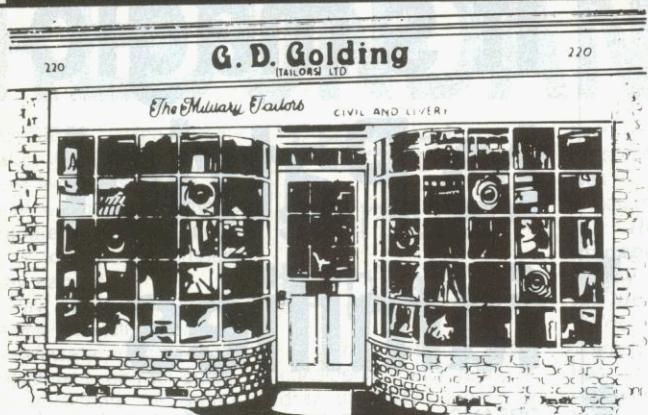
Can you confirm that the housing association were correct when they made us assured and not secure tenants. – Mrs L, Romford, Essex.

Anne writes: Far reaching changes were brought in when the Housing Act 1988 came into force on January 15, 1989. Our rent when we moved in in August 1989 was £46.56 a week. Last year it went up to £55.39 a week. If Mrs L had moved in

30

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# Our role in new Europe

## From Page 15

lot about it and we will get better at it in the future."

The General was well pleased with the performance of MNAD, which was commanded by the Headquarters of the 2nd (UK) Infantry Division under Maj Gen Michael Rose, a former Director Special Forces who commanded the SAS during the Falklands War.

## Remarkable

"MNAD has done very well and what it achieved under the enthusiastic leadership of Gen Rose has been remarkable, but there are a number of points to be made.

"If it is really going to operate as a division in the future, then nations will have to recognise that certain changes must be made. They have got to make some of the equipment more interoperable, or the division will not be as effective as it should be.

"There is also a price to pay in terms of training, for multinational forces require more training than national forces. In straight military terms, a national formation will always tend to be more efficient than a multinational formation, but there are very good political and military reasons why we need to use multinational forces.

"There is also a penalty in logistics and doctrines, and we have got to try and bring them together. The division has achieved a great deal in two years and I am a tremendous supporter of it. I just hope that nations will continue to support it and make it viable."

## Signals

One of the first needs of MNAD, said Gen Inge, was a signal regiment to handle communications. A British Army signal unit would be ideally suited for the task because during the trial, the signal regiment of the 2nd (UK) Infantry Division proved it could cope with the job. There were no problems with comms because the language of Nato is English.

Although it is only four months since Nato countries agreed on the new rapid



Gen Sir Peter Inge

reaction forces, some progress has already been made on interoperability and a paper detailing the suggested new doctrines has been produced and circulated.

"In the past, we have had national corps who were able to have their own equipment. What we need to do now is to concentrate on a selection of equipments, including ammunition whose interoperability should be made a priority."

## Reserve

When the idea for creating the MNAD was first mooted, the perceived threat from the Warsaw Pact still influenced the political and military situation in Europe. Originally it was to be a reserve for the Northern Army Group, but over the past two years, during which the threat has decreased considerably, the division was designated as an AFCENT reserve.

With the creation of the Rapid Reaction Corps, Nato felt MNAD would be better placed within the RRC, but it would still have a clear role within the Central Region for the foreseeable future, said Gen Inge.

"There is great enthusiasm among the nations contributing to MNAD and there is clear recognition of the need for this division, and for it to be multinational. Money for defence is short and I hope that people will not only sign up for it, but also give it the assets to make it viable. And that, of course, is a challenge."

# LETTERS

Write to:  
SOLDIER,  
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## General's odd DSO

ON the subject of rare DSOs (Letters, September 16) one of the strangest awards in recent times was the one given to the Director of Operations during the Borneo Confrontation, Maj Gen (later Gen Sir) Walter Walker.

In 1965, when due to hand over to Gen George Lea, Walter Walker was given a DSO (his third) instead of the KBE, which was certainly his due.

Unfortunately he had fallen out with the Chief of General Staff while fighting to retain the Brigade of Gurkhas in the British Army.

I doubt whether any other commander-in-chief or director of operations has ever won a bar to the DSO.

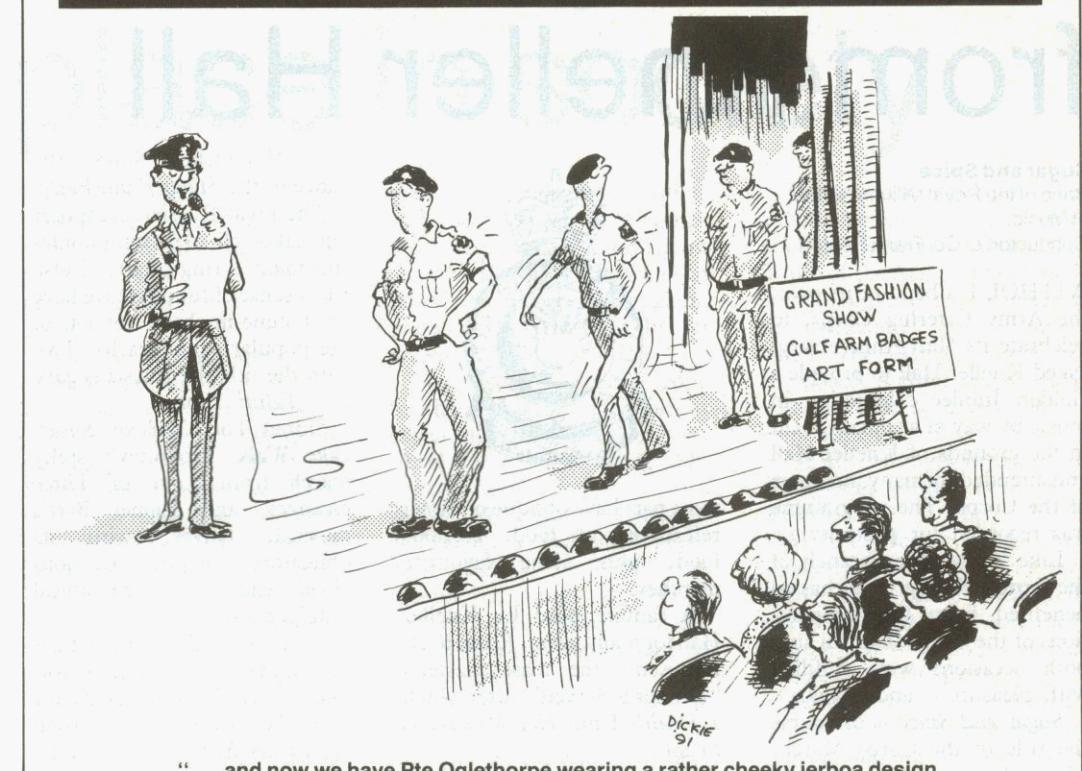
Young DSO winners? There were several in the Second World War – including the writer of this letter! – **Brig (Retd) E D (Birdie) Smith, Sidmouth, Devon.**

## Buffs are even older

TO correct your article "Holding the Historical Line" (September 16) the oldest "ancestor" of the Queen's Regiment was The Buffs, with a history dating back to 1572 in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

Hence the Tudor Dragon worn in the centre of The

## BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"... and now we have Pte Oglethorpe wearing a rather cheeky jerboa design in jade and aquamarine with just a subtle hint of tangerine, all attractively woven on to the finest khaki serge . . ." Gulf badges – See Pages 26-29

Queen's Regiment cap badge.

The Queen's Royal Regiment was raised in 1661 for the defence of Tangier, part of the dowry of Queen Catherine of Braganza, wife of King Charles II.

These two facts make The Queen's Regiment the oldest and senior English Infantry Regiment of the Line. – **Lt Col J J White, Regimental Headquarters, The Queen's Regiment, Canterbury, Kent.**

## Mauritius alliance

WHILE on holiday in Mauritius, a former British colony in the Indian Ocean, I visited the Mauritius Special Mobile Force, with whom my former regiment, the 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry (now, as 3 LI, part of the Light Division) had an

alliance. The link was formed during the colony's independence troubles of 1968 when detachments of the KSLI were sent from Malacca in Malaysia to assist the police and Special Mobile Force in maintaining civil order.

A board records members of the British Army Training Team as well as Loan Service officers. – **Ex-LCpl Patrick Warren, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall, West Midlands.**

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# Scrumptious treat from Kneller Hall

**Sugar and Spice**  
Band of the Royal Military School of Music  
Conductor: Lt Col Frank Renton

WITHOUT a band of its own, the Army Catering Corps, to celebrate its 50th Anniversary, asked Kneller Hall to provide a Golden Jubilee celebration in music by way of a concert, held in the grounds of Kneller Hall and attended by many members of the Corps. The programme was recorded for posterity.

Like every other branch of the Army, Kneller Hall has so benefited from the ministrations of the Corps that I'm sure both occasions were fulfilled with pleasure – and thanks.

*Sugar and Spice* is of course the title of the Corps March, which begins and ends the programme, and Col Renton has chosen items which for the



most part have oblique or direct references to food, glorious food, plus some favourite marches.

A fanfare used by Kneller Hall for many years, *Roast Beef*, represents the toast master's "Dinner is Served", after which a *Health Unto Her Majesty* is drunk.

A new march aptly named *First Course* leads straight to dessert with an excerpt from

The Nutcracker Suite, the dance of the *Sugar Plum Fairy*.

The great Russian composer Shostakovich, of 15 symphonies and many string quartets, also had a sense of fun; here we have his tongue-in-cheek version of the popular tune *Tea for Two* with the title the Russians gave it – *Tahiti Trot*.

Sidney Torch's clever *Shortcake Walk*, Prokofiev's spiky march from *Love of Three Oranges*, and Lionel Bart's musical, *Oliver*, with its obligatory *Food, Glorious Food*, end the gastronomical indulgences.

As an old soldier one notices how many young soldiers ask, like Oliver Twist himself, for more. Not so in my day, when the letters ACC meant nothing more than Aldershot Cricket Club.

Perhaps the next two items both have relevance here, the first one certainly, in a slow march by Bandmaster D Burton called *In Celebration*, followed by *New Horizons*, a trumpet solo ably performed by Student Bandmaster L Sharpe.

And at least one of the quick marches has a food connection. Dick Tulip was bandmaster of the Royal Fusiliers before becoming professor of piano-forte at Kneller Hall; he also wrote the very first Evening Hymn and Last Post which has spawned so many imitations.

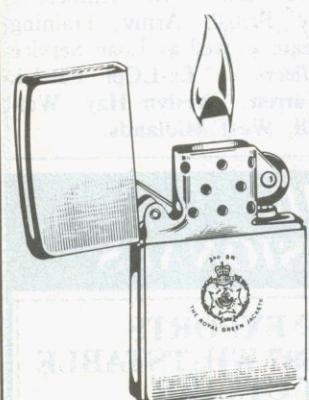
He owned the cafe which stands 100 yards from Kneller Hall's main gate, where generations of pupils have had their teas and wads – and still do, with his son as proprietor.

All of which is to mention Dick's fine march *The Prince*, followed by *The Staffordshire Knot*, *Children of the Regiment*, *Through Night to Light* (a collector's item), *Julaopas*, written by a Thai student at Kneller Hall, Alford's *The Vedette*, and finally Albert Elms's *The Champions*.

I will shun all tempting clichés save one, and merely advise you to buy this meal. A bargain at £10.50, not including the wine you should enjoy while listening.

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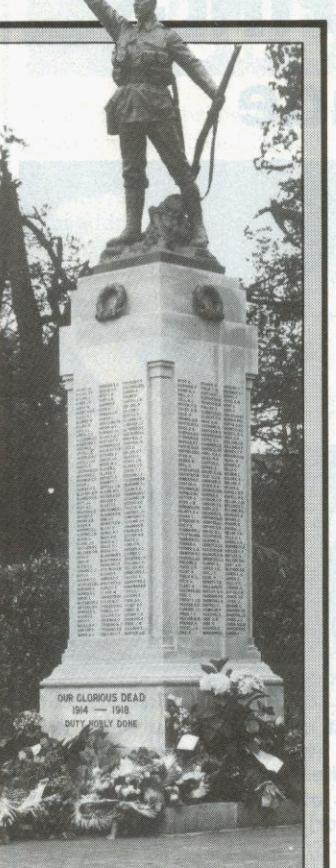
# New Army and its place in society

PERHAPS there is no really appropriate time to make forecasts about the armed forces. Almost invariably prophecies are overtaken by events.

In a wide-ranging survey, *No Reward but Honour*, Lt Col Sir John Baynes poses the vital question of whether the Army can adapt to serve both the nation and its personnel. The book was completed in 1990 and Sir John did not have the benefit of knowing what the latest defence cuts would involve. Even so, his forecasts are not all that far out and his warnings are just as valid.

Basic questions are asked: "What is war?" and "What is the purpose of war?", going back to classical times in order to find an answer by quoting Aristotle's assertion that we are busy that we may have leisure, and make war that we may have peace! "... the average British soldier has one definite idea about war, which is that he does not want one", is a comment that defies contradiction.

The author's main theme is an emphasis on the relationship between the Army and the society of which it is part, "... with the social aspects of Army life and its personnel, rather



The striking war memorial at Worthing

Waterloo Station each morning, they are actually walking through a war memorial, or know why a naked and shapely young lady holds a sword aloft at Finchley.

This book should awaken in the dullest spirit an awareness of this part of our heritage, so easily explored yet so regularly bypassed. – LM

**War Memorials** by Alan Borg, Leo Cooper, casebound, £24.95.

## A walk through Britain's heritage of war

WAR memorials are found in every town and almost every village in Britain, but who ever pauses to look at them or ask who designed them or why they look the way they do?

"Probably very few," suggests the Director General of the Imperial War Museum, Dr Alan Borg, in his fascinating study of the war memorial as a distinctive art form.

The custom of building monuments to commemorate battles goes back to the earliest days of recorded history.

But it was the unprecedented slaughter of the First World War that led to the greatest period of memorial building in Britain. The cream of the country's architects and sculptors were involved.

How many people realise that when they walk out of

## The complete Somme

THE Somme has been the scene of suffering for centuries and perhaps at no time more so than during the First World War, when more than 400,000 soldiers died there, about half of them British.

The bodies of thousands of "Tommy" were never found. The remainder lie in the 242 British war cemeteries scattered throughout the Somme. The massive multi-arched Thiepval memorial to the missing is inscribed with the names of 73,000 who are "known only unto God".

Devastation was enormous. By the end of the war, a third of the area – 700 square miles – had no building intact.

*The Somme Battlefields* is a

comprehensive guide to this department of France from Creasy to the two world wars. It describes every part of the Somme that has seen battle, from a spot near Delville Wood where Julius Caesar is supposed to have addressed one of his legions, to the memorials of the Liberation in September 1944.

Co-author Martin Middlebrook was a Lincolnshire poultry farmer who visited the First World War battlefields in 1967. He was so moved by the graves that he set out to describe one day in that war in as detailed a manner as possible and through the eyes of ordinary soldiers. The result was the internationally acclaimed book, *The First Day*

on the Somme (1971). He became a full-time writer and his 12 books on battles or campaigns in the two world wars and the Falklands War have earned him an international reputation.

This new work, written in collaboration with his wife Mary, sets out to detail every military cemetery, memorial, preserved trench and crater.

*The Somme Battlefields* is an encyclopaedic tour de force that will serve not only as the standard work of reference to the area, but also as a memorial to those who died. – LM

**The Somme Battlefields** by Martin and Mary Middlebrook, Viking, casebound, £18.99.

than its strategy and tactics, and the weapons and equipment required to carry them out... Knowing just when to renew a family of ageing weapons or vehicles is by no means easy."

Not that Sir John has gone for the easy issues. He looks at expenditure cuts in a far from simplistic way: "Much has already been heard... of a 'peace dividend'. Certainly defence cuts will yield some extra money... but the amount becoming available will not be an exact reflection of the size of the cut in the strength of armed forces.

"Because the Army is reduced by over one third... the cost of running it is not automatically going to come down in proportion.

"A saving of £1,000 million is likely to be difficult enough to achieve as a start, unless a totally irresponsible attitude is adopted by the Government and the Army is deprived of all support."

It is ironic at this time, when the Army is faced with cuts in manpower, there should be concern about the problems of recruiting, but as the so-called MARILYN report of 1988 stated: "By the year 2003 there will have been a reduction of about 20 per cent of those aged between 15 and 29 compared with 1987."

It appears the Army will not be able to afford to be ultra-selective, even with fewer requirements.

Written as it was before the announcement of cuts, the book is pessimistic about the future of the Army's regimental system, and the author offers a reconstruction plan under which the Army would be composed of three corps, each with its own separate role in commitments.

He also strongly favours the 'permanent cadres' as recommended in the 1987 MARILYN report. Under this arrangement, members of the cadres could serve until well past normal retiring age, they could live at home and so would not need Army quarters.

As an ex-battalion commander, it is not surprising that Sir John has gone for the easy issues. He looks at expenditure cuts in a far from simplistic way: "Much has already been heard... of a 'peace dividend'. Certainly defence cuts will yield some extra money... but the amount becoming available will not be an exact reflection of the size of the cut in the strength of armed forces.

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## SOLDIER to Soldier

### Nijmegen Marches

More than 1,500 British Service personnel are expected to take part in the 76th international Nijmegen four-day marches in Holland from July 17 to 25 next year.

Military teams must consist of 12 marchers, but individual entries from sergeants or above who have completed the marches in the past may be accepted. They should write to the UK Co-ordinating Officer, Nijmegen Marches, G3 Trg, HQ UKLF.

Units and individuals are being urged to consider their ability to train for the event before submitting an entry. A number dropped out at short notice last year leaving no time for reserves to prepare.

Details of travel arrangements, costs and allowances are published in UKLFO 105 to 109, dated September 9.

### The Log War

The remarkable story of how the British Army co-ordinated its logistics operation for the Gulf War will be told at a special charity presentation in London on October 24.

The presentation, supported by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply, will take place at the Gloucester Hotel, starting at 6pm. Delegates are invited to attend at a cost of £30 plus VAT, with proceeds going to the Army Benevolent Fund.

Details are available from the IPS Conference Department (tel: 0780 567777).

### Gulf nurses exhibition

Personal photographs and accounts of life at British field hospitals in Saudi Arabia go on show at the Florence Nightingale Museum, London, in a special exhibition entitled "Nursing in the Gulf War".

Much of the material has been provided by members of the QARANC. The exhibition is open from October 9 to March 15 at the museum in the grounds of St Thomas's Hospital, 2 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EW. Entrance fee is £2.50 adults, £1.50 children, £5 families. There is a concession for Service personnel.

The museum is closed on Mondays. Further details from the curator on 071 620 0374.

## DCM heroes on parade



Holders of the Distinguished Conduct Medal are inspected by the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, Mr Bromley Davenport, escorted by Maj James Cowley DCM, during a celebration in Chester to mark the 60th anniversary of the DCM League. More than 180 holders of the

medal, the highest military honour other than the Victoria Cross awarded to rank and file for gallantry on the field of battle, attended the reunion. Members of the DCM Legion include veterans of two world wars, the Falklands War and the Gulf War.

## DIARY

### Open until at least October

**31:** Gulf War Exhibition, Tank Museum, Bovington.

**Open until October 20:** Battle for Crete 50th anniversary exhibition, National Army Museum, London.

**October 13:** Miniature Armoured Fighting Vehicles Association national competitions at the Tank Museum, Bovington. Details from Peter Brown, 8 Saddle Close, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 2UN (tel 0202 883939).

**November 1-17:** The Great War, a third exhibition of paintings, drawings and sculpture presented by David

Cohen Fine Art at the King Street Galleries, 17 King Street, St James's, London SW1 6QU.

**November 9:** Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall.

**November 20-26:** Armed Forces Art Society annual exhibition at National Army Museum, Chelsea. (Handing-in days Nov 9 and 11. For entry forms send SAE to Capt W Blake, D Block, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3 4SE.)

● To include events in this diary contact the Editor.

## Signals' stamps

As part of a fund-raising campaign for the Royal Signals Museum, a series of commemorative philatelic covers starts this month under the title Army Communications.

The series will depict signal equipment from the Peninsular War to the present day and is designed to appeal to general collectors.

Three or four covers a year will be issued until 1995.

The first, on the theme of the 180th anniversary of the battle of Arroyo Dos Molinos in Spain, will

be date-stamped by BFPO October 28, 1991.

The following covers will be available: Standard envelope, £2.50 each; envelope flown over the battle site by the RAF and signed by the pilot, £3.50; special envelope in a limited edition of 1,000, each signed by a VIP (the Master of Signals in the case of the first issue) as well as the pilot, £5.

Orders should be placed with the Royal Signals Museum Shop, School of Signals, Blandford Camp, Dorset DT11 8RH. All profits go to the Royal Signals Museum of Army Communications Appeal Fund. The series is sponsored by the Royal Air Forces Association.

## REUNIONS

● **Ghana 1957-70:** Possible reunion or visits to Ghana in 1992 or 1993 for those who served as seconded personnel, as members of BJSTT or on contract. Details from Peter King, 12 Orpwood Way, Abingdon OX14 5PX (sae please) or tel 0235 527167 (evenings, weekends).

● **50th Anniversary of the Raid on Bruneval** is being commemorated on Monday June 15, 1992 in France. Any survivor of the battle, Navy, Army or RAF, anyone knowing of a survivor, or any interested individuals wishing to attend are asked to forward details to Maj (Retd) C M Steggles, Controller, Airborne Forces Security Fund, Browning Barracks, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2BN (tel: 0252 20772).

## SEARCHLINE

● **Christmas Island 1961-62:** Former colleagues of George Snell, who as a corporal was i/c RAOC Laundry attached to 73 Squadron RE, are asked to contact him at 99a Allerford Road, West Derby, Liverpool L12 4XP.

● **J Chambers:** Information sought about PAP(o) J Chambers, L/FX 933 621, possibly an Army Commando 1942-46. Contact Ian Sadler (tel: 0602 232987 after 6 pm).

● **Middlesex OCA:** Branch being formed in Enfield. Contact Jack Warner, 2 Albuhera Close, Enfield, Middx EN2 8NR (081 367 0737).

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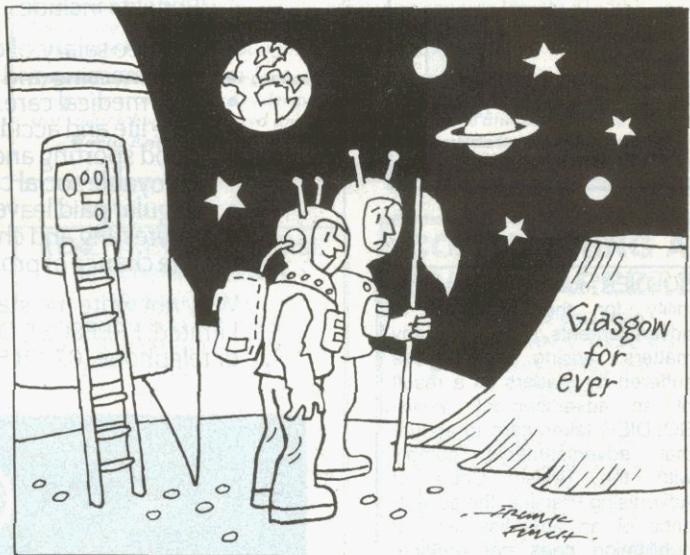
More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

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The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up will be announced in the November 25 issue.

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**Competition No 520:**  
Congratulations to Mr P J Carver, of Lowestoft, Suffolk, who wins the £50 first prize. Book prizes go to runners-up Mr T W Lane, of Torquay, and Mr K Davis, of Peterborough.



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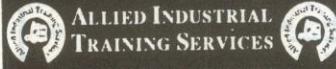
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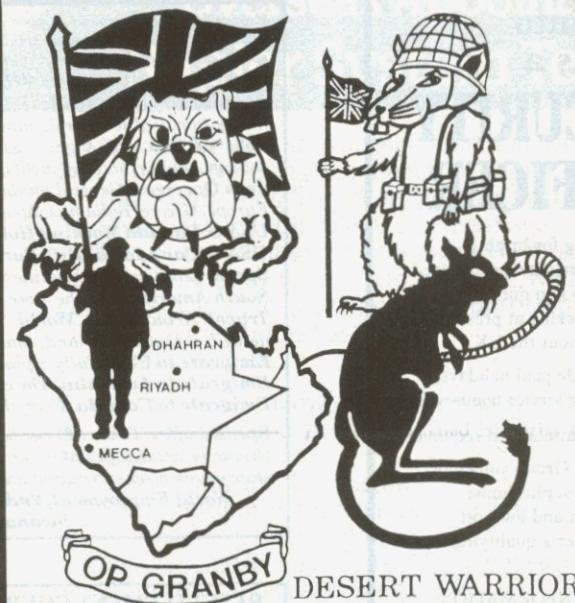


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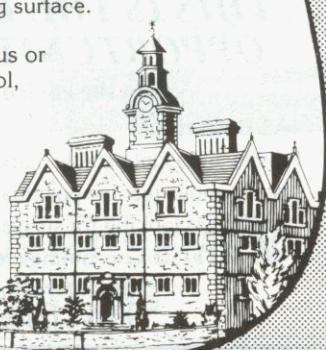
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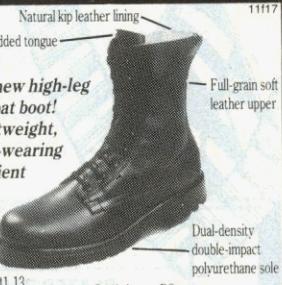
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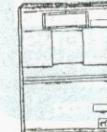


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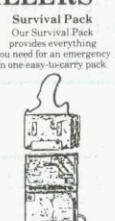
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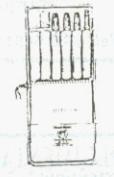
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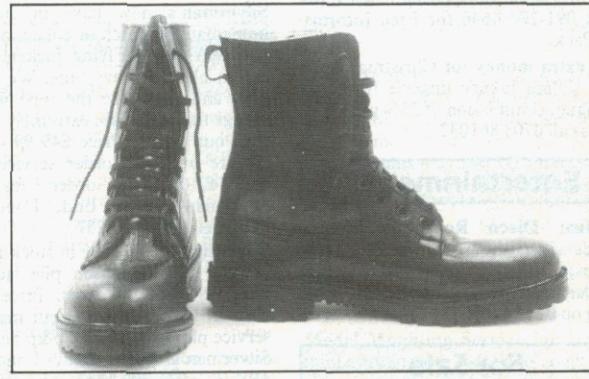
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# Darwood's double does it

Army XI 3,  
Carshalton AFC 2

A 12-year ambition has been achieved by Lt Giles Inglis-Jones (pictured above). He swam the English Channel after training for the event for eight months. The 24-year-old officer, serving in Germany with 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, crossed the 21-mile stretch of water in just under 16 hours.

Through sponsorship Lt Inglis-Jones aims to raise about £2,000 to donate to charity.



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HM Prison Services 1,  
Army XI 0

Last of the Army's four trial games was against the Prison Services at Rugby. Traditionally a close game, this encounter was no exception, with the prison officers winning by virtue of a first half goal that should probably have been saved.

After the interval the Army beefed up their team and had by far the better second half. Darwood went on for the final 15 minutes and would have given the Army an equaliser but for a tremendous save by the Prison Services goalkeeper.

### Bicester rugby

WINNERS of the Bicester Garrison rugby sevens were the computer buffs from D Log IS(A) who beat 518 Coy RPC in the final. The Garrison Catering Staff won the plate final, beating C Coy, 16 Bn RAOC.

The resulting free kick was touched off to Beste who scored, but Darwood equalised when he drilled in a shot through a crowded penalty area.

SI Alex Armstrong (APTC) fired in a superb free kick from 30 yards midway through the half. His shot smashed into the top left hand corner, giving the 'keeper no chance.

Five minutes from the interval Darwood put the home side further ahead when he held off a tackle outside the penalty area before lobbing the goalkeeper from 20 yards.

During the break the Army replaced strikers Darwood and Cpl Dave Maynard with Sgt Terry O'Brien (R Irish) and Cpl Sean Gilman (RAOC), and although both went close near the end they were not as effective.

Carshalton pulled a goal back and just about took the second half honours.

## Flying start for a free fall novice

ARMY parachute instructors are using a revolutionary new free fall teaching technique called accelerated free fall (AFF).

After ground training the student makes his or her first jump from 12,000ft with an instructor "flying" alongside to provide in-flight instruction as they fall to earth at 120mph.

The more conventional method involves students jumping at much lower altitudes using static line parachutes which open automatically.

So far the REME free fall team has used the technique successfully to train young soldiers. But when 50-year-old Brig Bob Cooper expressed an interest in learning to free fall he joined an exercise in Dhekelia and jumped with instructor Capt John Horne, REME from 10,000ft over Larnaca Bay.



Brig Bob Cooper (left) and Capt John Horne at 10,000ft over Larnaca Bay, Cyprus during accelerated free fall parachute training



Cpl Paul Hodgkins refits a front wheel at the end of the third day of the motor cycle enduro "Olympics" in Czechoslovakia

## Enduro trio in medals

A TEAM of three Army riders won a silver and two bronze medals at the international six-day motor cycle enduro championships - the Olympics of the enduro calendar - staged last month at Povazska Bystrica in Czechoslovakia.

Cpl Paul Hodgkins from 27 Regt RCT returned with the silver, and there were bronze medals from OCdt David Luedicke of Southampton UOTC and WO2 Leon Green from 118 Rec Coy REME (V).

All three completed the six-day event and the Army MCA team finished 23rd out of 71 and second of the 12 British club teams taking part.

With temperatures hovering between 86 and 94 degrees F, there was a high attrition rate among the 360 competitors from 21 countries. Riders averaged 224km a day for six days, 90 per cent of it across extremely rough terrain.

## Sappers return in style at Bielefeld

Tpt Wksp, 54 Sqn RCT, 4 AAC and RAF Gutersloh, 21 Engr Regt met 7 Signal Regiment in a very close final.

The signallers scored first, 21 Engineers replied with a try by Cpl Scouse Murray and the sides were locked at 4-4 when

the whistle blew at the end of normal time. A penalty kick gave 7 Signals a chance to take the title in the sudden-death play-off, but it missed and Spr Johnny Hand ran in a winning try for the sappers after some fine passing and support play.

# Marathon man Martin seeks Services hat trick

MORE THAN half the 200 runners entered for the Inter-Services marathon at RAF Swinderby on October 11 are from the Army, with Sgt Jeff Martin (School of Signals, Blandford) intent on winning his third successive individual title. The Army has claimed the Services' title for the past five years.

The fleet-footed Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire squad are again favourites to take the major units' trophy, with FOD Dulmen looking the team to beat in the minor competition.

The three Services run their own domestic and unit championships concurrently with the main race, and this year will be joined by the Civil Service.

## Corps run considered

A NEW fixture is being considered for the Army cross country diary. It is an inter-corps match which, if enough interest is shown, will be run in conjunction with the Army unit team finals at Longmoor on February 5.

The plan is to score the first ten or so runners from each corps, regardless of which vest they are wearing on the day. So a chef running for, say the PWO, would count towards the ACC in the corps match.

Eventually the corps championship would become a fixture in its own right.

Cross country secretaries are being asked to take soundings before reporting back next month to the Longmoor championships' organising committee.



Army forwards (right) provide scrummaging opposition for the Fijian World Cup squad at the Military Stadium in Aldershot

# Here we go!

THE NEW rugby season is upon us and already many units and corps have started to make it one to remember, writes John Quin.

The Royal Regiment of Artillery went back to the States while their old rivals, the Royal Engineers, toured Wales to get in some useful team training with games against Llandovery and Brecon.

The sappers were well beaten by Llandovery but learnt many a good lesson which will stand them in good stead in the coming months. Against Brecon, in not the prettiest of matches, some of the youngsters found out what it was all about at this competitive level.

The Army U21s also went to the Principality to sharpen their talents for the gruelling matches ahead.

However, it was off the field that the Army Rugby Union members have seen most recent activity - all of it tied up with the current World Cup. The international teams arriving for this rugby showcase need to be



Lt Col Mike Dickinson

hosted. This is done by representatives of the constituent bodies of the Five Nations unions giving up their time to look after their guests.

The ARU were asked to host the Fijian squad because of its

strong links with Fijian soldiers who served until recently in the British Army.

Lt Col Mike Dickinson ACC, took on this task and was responsible for putting together a package to please the tourists and to help them in their preparations to win the World Cup.

The Fijians are in the French section of the competition and after their initial period in Aldershot will only reappear in England during the final stages.

However, it meant a great deal of diplomatic persuasion by Col Dickinson to keep everyone happy, as he strived to get the best deal that the Army can offer for the tourists.

Meanwhile, the Army are already planning the downfall of the other two Services in the 1992 championships. For your diaries, the dates to get yourselves to Twickenham on are March 21 for the Royal Navy game and April 11 for the match against the current champions, the Royal Air Force.



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# SOLDIER



Capt Debbie Payne from the Army School of Mechanical Transport at Leconfield, North Humberside, makes friends with Ching during the ASCA's annual officers' riding course run by the King's Troop at St John's Wood in London. Full story in Pages 22-23.

Picture: Terry Champion