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FRONT AND BACK COVERS

This month's striking front cover is a colour tone separation by Sergeant Frank Grimwood, of Army Public Relations, HQ Eastern District, Colchester, from his black-and-white photograph taken at Colchester Searchlight Tattoo. The soldier is Lance-Corporal Derek Walker, of 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who made a spotlit appearance at each performance after the other participants had entered the arena for the grand finale.

The back cover, by SOLDIER's Leslie Wiggs, depicts an exciting and colourful display at the Tattoo by the Army School of Physical Training gymnastic team.

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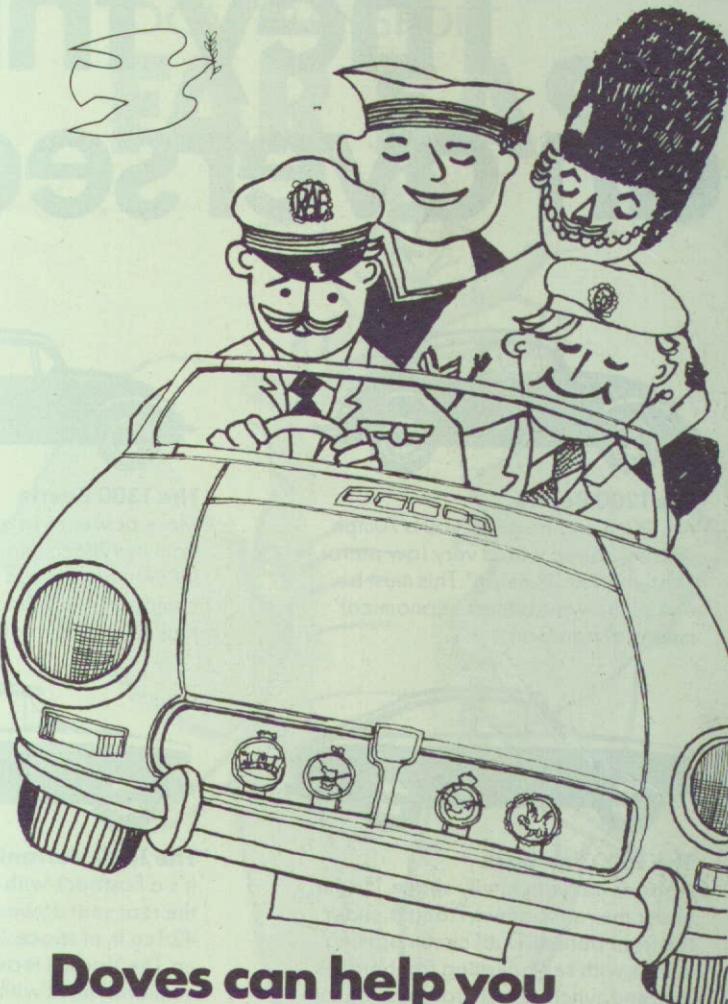
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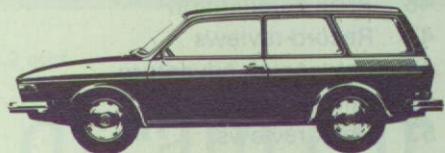
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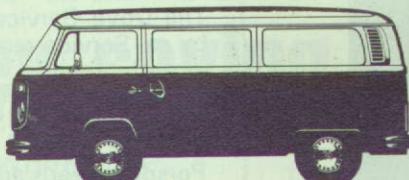
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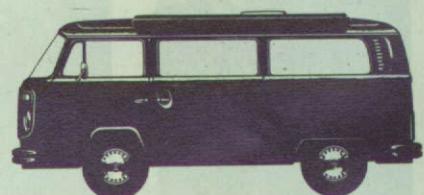
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In this regular feature SOLDIER keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

OCTOBER 1973

- 21 Yorkshire Volunteers receive freedom of York.
- 27 Prince of Wales presents new Colours to 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, Cardiff Castle.

NOVEMBER 1973

- 2 Berlin Tattoo (2-4 November).
- 7 The Royal Welch Fusiliers receive freedom of Cardiff.
- 10 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 10 Festival of Remembrance, Bristol.
- 11 Remembrance Day Parade, Bristol (band).

MAY 1974

- 25 Tidworth Tattoo (25-27 May).

JUNE 1974

- 1 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 8 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 15 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 18 The Light Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (18-20 June).
- 28 Aldershot Army Display (28-30 June).

JULY 1974

- 6 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (6-28 July).
- 28 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (28 July-4 August).

AUGUST 1974

- 23 Edinburgh Tattoo (23 August-14 September).

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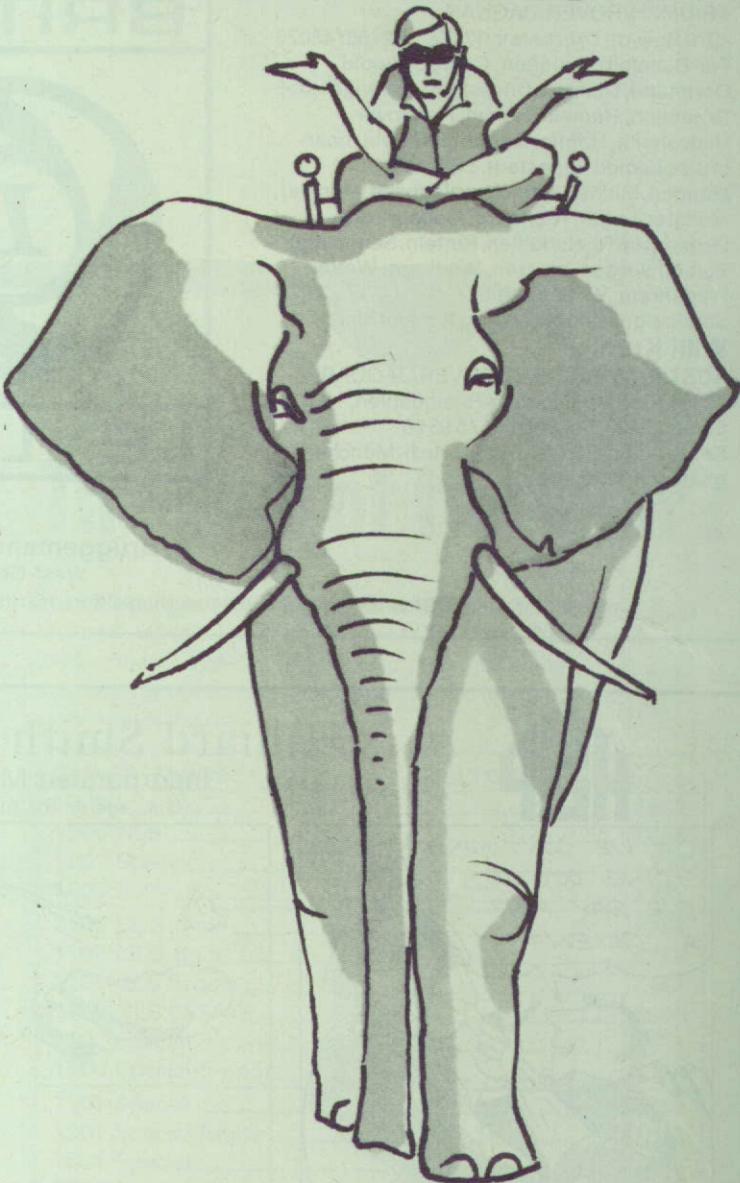
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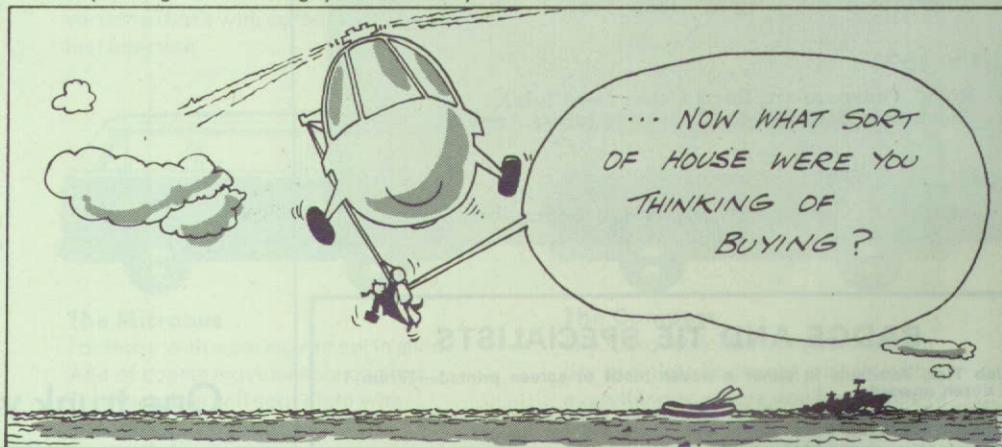
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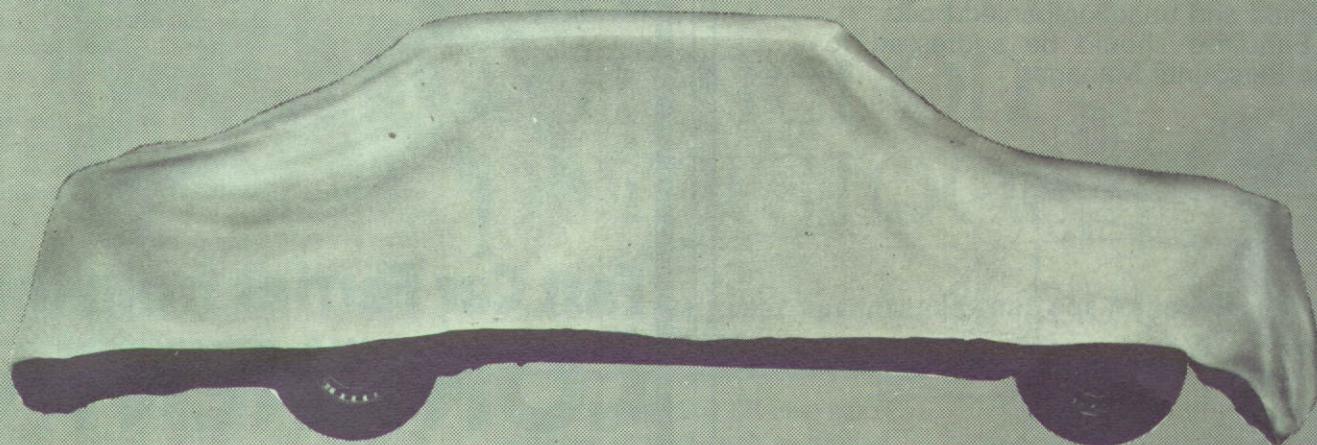
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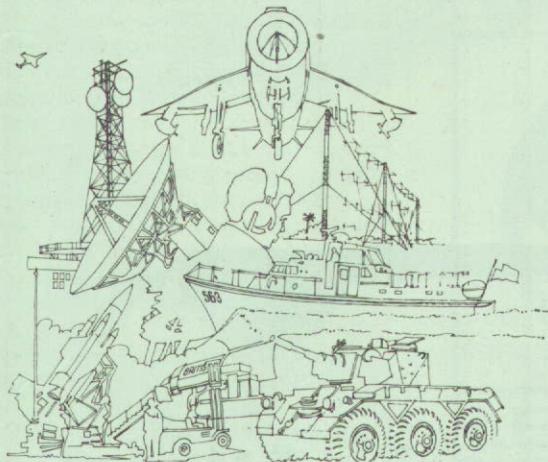


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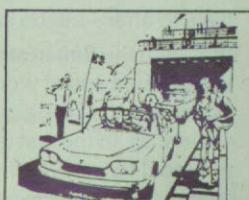
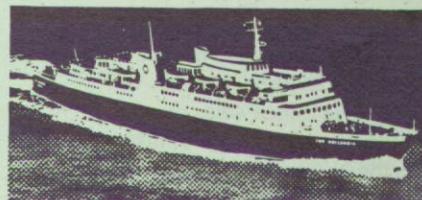
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SOLDIER to soldier

This is your first issue from SOLDIER's new printers, Eden Fisher (Southend) Limited. It is a combined October/November issue. The December number will be published on 20 November and similarly the publication date of future issues will be the third Tuesday of the preceding month.

Because certain advertisements originally scheduled for October and November have had to be included, this issue of SOLDIER runs to an unprecedented 60 pages (still for only 7½ pence!) plus a four-page insert advertising the new insurance scheme for Army dependants which is also described in SOLDIER News.

This October/November issue maintains monthly publication but of course there will be only 11 issues of the magazine in the 1973 bound volume. All individual subscribers affected have had their subscriptions automatically extended by one month.

Sport has come back into SOLDIER and once again its pages are being enlivened by the use of a second colour.

★

The Royal West Kent Regiment, the 50th of Foot, is the appropriate choice of the 50th title in the "Famous Regiments" series of books published by Leo Cooper and marketed by SOLDIER. This popular series is edited by Lieutenant-General Sir Brian Horrocks who, at a celebration party, claimed—and without contradiction—to be the only one present to have read all 50! The series is now on the way to a hundred titles with "Britain's Brigade of Gurkhas" and "The Royal Horse Artillery."

★

Don't miss in next month's issue a list of SOLDIER's reader services which should help to solve quite a few Christmas present problems. The list includes all the designs of regimental drum ice buckets currently available (that for The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment has since been delayed in production). The latest additions are 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment; 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, and 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment.

These very attractive ice buckets are manufactured by a very small firm and new designs are governed by the economies of production.

★

In time for Christmas, and just the right present, is the Army Diary 1974. This, as in previous years, is much more than a desk diary—it is a handsomely bound treasure of military information which will find its way on to the reference shelf. There is a complete page per day for notes, each page embellished with an anecdote, quotation or extract from letters, diaries or old regulations, and the months are separated by eleven eight-page illustrated features on military subjects. Listed too are battle anniversaries, Army museums, ceremonial events, Army sporting fixtures and records, and regimental, corps and battery days.

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The Welch Regiment

A Chelsea Pensioner's scarlet coat and black tricorn hat, inconspicuous in a corner of The Welch Regiment Museum, recall the rather unusual origins of this famous regiment. First known as Colonel Edmund Fielding's Regiment of Invalids, it was formed 254 years ago from the active out-pensioners of The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, for garrison duties at home, thereby releasing other units for service overseas in the wars against the French. In 1751 it became the 41st Regiment of Foot (or Invalids).

This museum is housed in what was once the sergeants mess at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff, former depot of The Welch Regiment before it amalgamated with The South Wales Borderers in 1969 to form The Royal Regiment of Wales.

The entrance hall is dominated by two massive German nine-inch brass shell cases, souvenirs of World War One. Upstairs, in the museum proper, the exhibits are arranged in six rooms—pre-Waterloo; Crimean and South African wars; the two world wars; armoury; and a small but comfortable library which has an unusual low wooden table carved in the shape of a map of Ghana. This was the gift of the 4th Battalion of Infantry, Ghana Army, to commemorate the visit to Ghana in 1968 of 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment.

Noteworthy in the armoury is the collection of pistols and revolvers, a flintlock rifle with bayonet as used in the Zulu War, a German Mauser anti-tank gun and a selection of short Lee-Enfields of more recent date.

Inkerman, which was the last occasion on which the regiment's Colours were carried in battle, is depicted in an interesting series of pictures in the Crimean room in which are also displayed relics and drums used during the battle.

A portrait of Nelson recalls another intriguing piece of regimental history. In 1756 a second battalion of the 24th Regiment, The South Wales Borderers, was raised which two years later became the 69th Regiment of Foot. The 41st and 69th followed separate careers until 1881 when they became respectively 1st and 2nd battalions of The Welch Regiment. During the Napoleonic wars, infantry regiments sometimes served on board ships of the Royal Navy and the 69th saw service in HMS Agamemnon under the personal command of Lord Nelson, then a captain. Finding a detachment of the 69th in another ship which he later commanded, Nelson greeted them as "my old Agamemnons," a nickname which remained with the regiment for many years. Two detachments of the 69th served at the Battle of St Vincent on 14 February 1791 and won for the regiment the unique battle honour of St Vincent and that of the naval crown which was carried on the regimental Colour.

The regimental goat mascot is remembered by the last scarlet coat to be worn by Taffy XII before he joined The Royal Regiment of Wales and donned a new jacket of green.

JOHN JESSE

Curator: Major E D Lloyd-Thomas (Retd)
Address: The Welch Regiment Museum, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff 27611
Telephone: Open: Monday to Friday 1000 to 1200 and 1400 to 1600
Closed: Saturday, Sunday and public holidays
Admission: Free
How to get there: Bus 7 or 8 from Cardiff city centre.

Next month: The Devonshire Regiment



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Forces stationed in N. Ireland can phone us and reverse the charges.

WORLD WAR TWO, now 30 years ago, is history but even now not all its secrets have been revealed. For the first time, **SOLDIER** lifts the veil on a top secret mission to Poland by a small party of Royal Signals. As Hitler's Wehrmacht blasted its way through Poland in September 1939, these British soldiers crossed the Polish border. Their task was to assist Polish communications and send back news to Britain. For 13 days these ten men were harassed by the Luftwaffe, finally escaping by the skin of their teeth from German and Russian forces advancing from west and east

In the path of the BLITZKRIEG

Research and story by John Walton

The date was 23 August 1939. Nazi and Soviet leaders toasted each other and signed a non-aggression pact. World War Two was now a certainty and gathering at Bulford Fields on Salisbury Plain was a small group of men who would be among the first to experience the war—men of the Royal Signals who in two short weeks would be amid the horror of Hitler's blitzkrieg on Poland.

The men were mostly strangers to each other. In charge was a young lieutenant, Christopher Henn-Collins. He had been briefed, but for the rest of the party the destination was a secret.

John Daw, then an unpaid lance-corporal

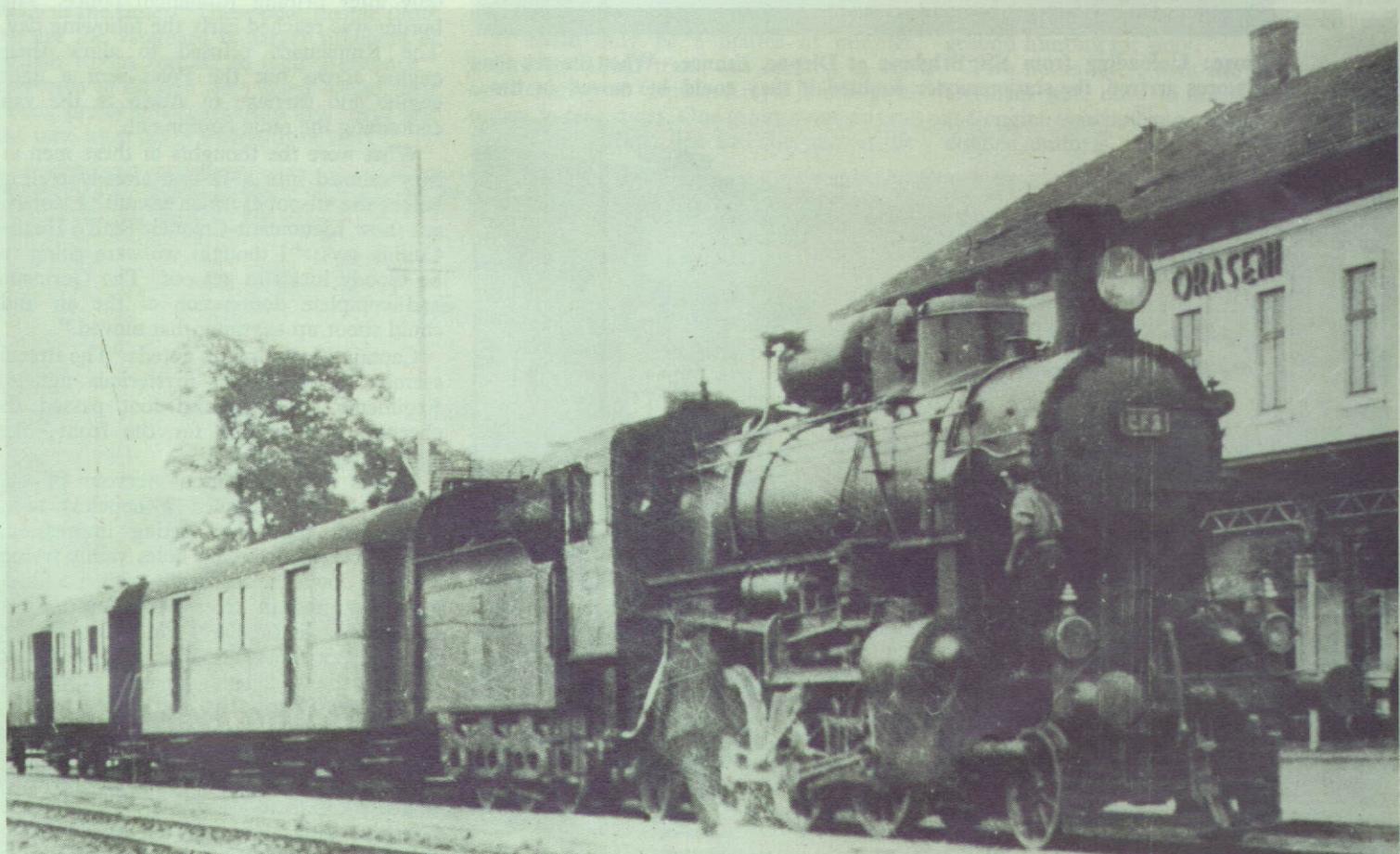
and now a major in the Royal Signals, recalls their mystification. "We did not know where we were going and had no idea that it would be to war. We were issued with civilian clothes as well as new battledress."

For these men the journey to Poland was to be devious. Leaving Victoria Station, London, they travelled by express train through France to Marseilles, where they boarded HMS Shropshire. The signalmen were dubbed "The mystery squad" by Navy ratings as they steamed down to Alexandria in Egypt. Here they were told their destination and their task—to provide communication within sections of the

British Military Mission in Poland and to and from England.

All were issued with false passports, crediting them with such unlikely occupations as valet and cotton operative. Captain Herbert Lloyd-Johnes, a Polish-speaking officer who took charge at this stage, was furious—"my passport described me as a musician and I could not play a note."

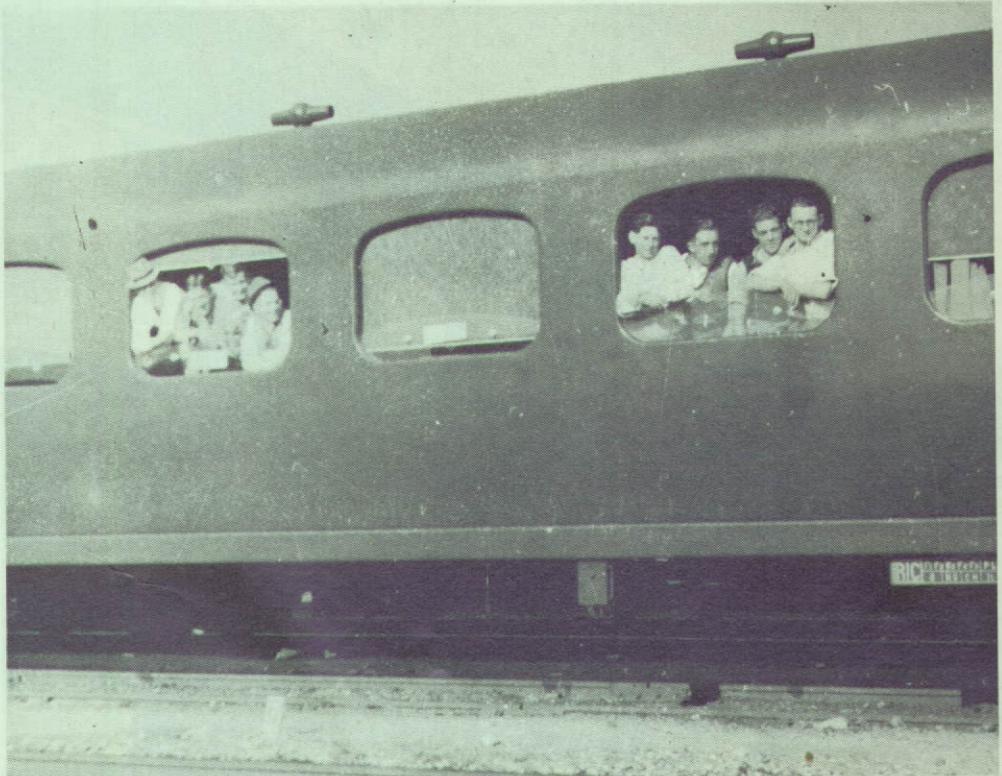
The party, its stores and equipment, including a massive transmitter, flew to Athens to board a Rumanian steamship bound for Constanza. Others, including three of the original signals detachment, headed straight for Warsaw. The date was 1 September—the day that German troops



The train carrying the Royal Signals party prepares to leave Oraseni for the Rumanian/Polish border.



Above: Unloading from SS Brighton at Dieppe, France. When the six tons of stores arrived, the stationmaster doubted if they could be moved in time.



Above: On their way the train stopped near Paris. Looking out of the window on the left are: John Daw, Huggett, Seal and Fred Sims. Barry is on the left of the other window.

poured across the frontier into Poland.

On the boat the men attracted the attentions of a young woman passenger. She seems not to have been in the classical Mata Hari mould (Herbert Lloyd-Johnes remembers her as "short and fat") but her questions were a little too searching. Fred Sims, a corporal with the party, recalls: "She asked who we were so I said we were a team of footballers. To which she replied 'I'm sorry, Fred, but you are on the losing side.'"

Then the long arm of coincidence reached out to unmask the girl spy. Lieutenant Henn-Collins took one look and immediately recognised her. "When I was a cadet at Woolwich I had been to Austria on a ski-ing holiday and while I was there I met a colonel who had been in Austro-Hungarian intelligence during World War One. He had his daughter with him and I recognised her as the same girl who had been vamping the men."

By means of a bribe the Britons examined the girl's passport and found that she was posing as a Rumanian with a German-Transylvanian name and passport. The officers discussed what should be done (Captain Lloyd-Johnes favoured quietly tipping her over the side) and decided to telegraph ahead warning of her presence. Later the Rumanian police told Captain Lloyd-Johnes that there had been several German spies on board, including one sitting at the next table to the "footballers."

When the British ultimatum expired on 3 September and Britain and Germany were at war, the signals party was in Rumania, heading for the frontier in a train acquired only after bribing Rumanian police. The border was reached early the following day. The Rumanians refused to allow their engine across but the Poles sent a light engine and carriage to attach to the van containing the radio equipment.

What were the thoughts of these men as they crossed into a Poland already reeling before the all-out German assault? Lieutenant (now Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd)) Henn-Collins says: "I thought we were going to be bloody lucky to get out. The Germans had complete domination of the air and could shoot up anything that moved."

Captain Lloyd-Johnes noted: "The streets seemed to be full of mysterious figures. Regiments of horse and foot passed us cheering and singing for the front—like a great horde of ghosts."

It was this tremendous fervour of the Poles, as they pursued a hopeless task, which left the most lasting impression. John Daw recalls seeing Poles vainly trying to bring down the Luftwaffe with machine-guns mounted in trees while Fred Sims remembers thousands of Poles heading for the front without arms of any kind but determined to defend Poland with their bare hands if necessary.

Herbert Lloyd-Johnes, who had spent a considerable time in Poland before the war, feels that only the Russian intervention ensured complete conquest. "I think the Germans would have run out of steam and the Poles could have carried out guerrilla warfare in the mountains."

RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA MINISTERSTWO SPRAW ZAGRANICZNYCH POSLSTWO REPUBLIQUE DE POLOGNE MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES WĘGRY ALBANIA	REPUBLIQUE DE POLOGNE MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE POLOGNE à Athènes									
SERVICE DIPLOMATIQUE List kurierski – 7/1/39 – Lettre de courrier <i>Numerus Registri</i>										
<p>Podaję się niniejszym do wiadomości wszystkim komu o tym wiedzieć należy, że:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Henryk Tollins</i></p> <p>pośolstwem <i>były polski</i> Nr. C. 110089 numer paszportu <i>brak</i></p> <p>udając się na stanowisko jako kurier dyplomatyczny Ministerstwa Spraw Zagranicznych Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej – wieczę ze sobą:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> podległość opieki dyplomatycznej podległość opieki dyplomatycznej podległość opieki dyplomatycznej dyplomatyczna </p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">polityki dyplomatycznej</td> <td style="width: 10%;">N.</td> <td rowspan="4" style="width: 80%; vertical-align: middle; text-align: center;">81 pièces Nr. 1150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>polityki dyplomatycznej</td> <td>N.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>polityki dyplomatycznej</td> <td>N.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>polityki dyplomatycznej</td> <td>N.</td> </tr> </table> <p>se rend à l'étranger en qualité de courrier diplomatique du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de la République de Pologne – étant porteur de:</p> <p>à l'adresse: <i>Ministère des Affaires étrangères de la République de Pologne Athènes Varsovie</i></p> <p>Wszystkie właściwe władze proszone są o okazanie wszelkiej wymaganej pomocy: opieki w razie potrzeby.</p> <p>im. <i>Henryk Tollins</i> dnia <i>1. 7. 1939</i> (v) <i>Athènes</i> le, <i>1 septembre 1939</i></p> <p>Z polecenia Ministra Spraw Zagranicznych</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Henryk Tollins</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">D'ordre du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères</p>		polityki dyplomatycznej	N.	81 pièces Nr. 1150	polityki dyplomatycznej	N.	polityki dyplomatycznej	N.	polityki dyplomatycznej	N.
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2		3	
DESCRIPTION SIGNALEMENT		PHOTOGRAPH OF EX-DEALER	
Profession Profession	Vaat	Wife-Femme	
Date of birth Date de naissance	Dudley 2 Nov. 1919		
Place of birth Lieu de naissance	England		
Residence Résidence			
Height Taille	5 ft 9 in		
Colour of eyes Couleur des yeux	Hazel		
Colour of hair Couleur des cheveux	Brown		
Special peculiarities Signes particuliers			
CHILDREN - ENFANTS			
Name Nom	Date of birth Date de naissance	Sex Sexe	
			(photo)

If this had happened the Royal Signals party might have spent months or even years in Poland—as it was, their adventure was to last less than two weeks.

As the train rumbled into stations the Britons were greeted with tumultuous welcomes and Captain Lloyd-Johnes was forced to make many speeches. He recorded sadly at the time: "These poor people think we are the vanguard of larger numbers of British troops coming to their assistance." Garlands of flowers were hung round their necks, pretty girls rushed to kiss them and the men were laden with gifts of food.

But within hours they came under fire for the first time. Two aircraft were seen over a village a quarter of a mile away, machine-gunning the villagers. Fred Sims recalls the scene with horror: "Women in brightly coloured clothes were gathered in the churchyard and the aircraft were flying at tree-top height and shooting at them. It was a foretaste of the ruthlessness to come."

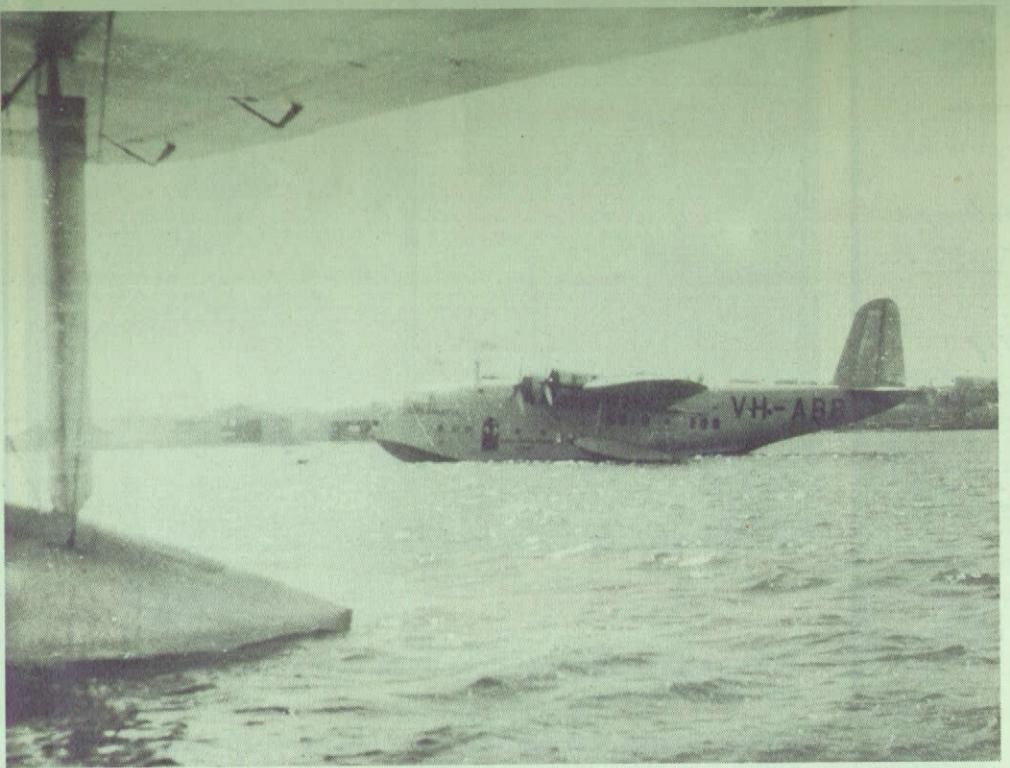
It could only be a matter of minutes before the small train was spotted in the open country so Captain Lloyd-Johnes gave orders to take cover. One group went on one side of the railway line and the rest on the

other. "We had just time to lie in the ditch when an aircraft passed over. I heard a plank on the other side of the line and earth flew up in the air but there was no explosion. The bomb dropped about 20 yards from our party but failed to burst. This sort of thing was very demoralising. We felt like hunted rabbits while grim machines like great wasps quartered the ground hunting for prey."

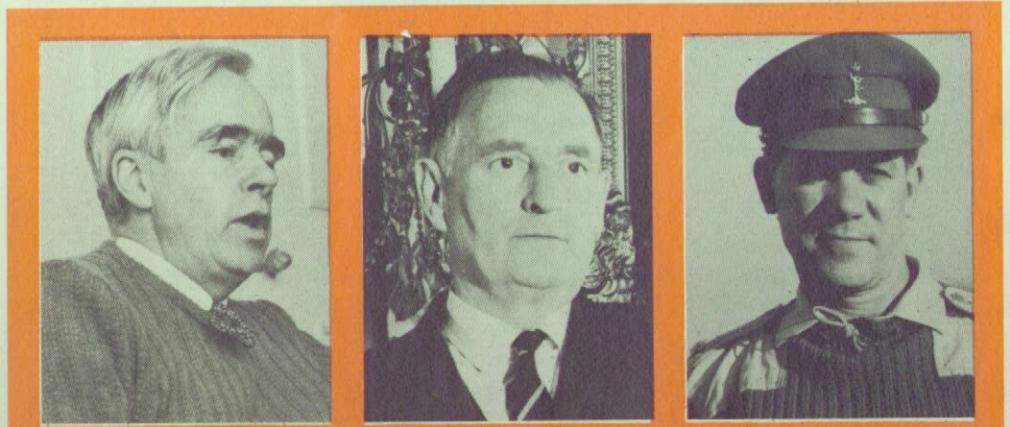
Two hours later, with the news that the Germans were only 50 miles from Warsaw, the engine was put in a siding and the men donned uniform. A radio receiving set was



Above: It could almost be a pleasure cruise. The baggy-shorted party relaxes aboard HMS Shropshire as she moves out from Malta.



Above: A shot of Alexandria Harbour showing one of the flying boats used to take the men on the next stage of their journey. Below: The harbour at Valletta as it was then.



Christopher Henn-Collins.

Ex-sergeant Fred Sims.

Major John Daw, today.

In charge of the small party of men of the Royal Signals who were sent into Poland as part of the British Military Mission was Captain (later Major) Herbert Lloyd-Johnes, a Reserve officer with the Pembroke and Cardigan Yeomanry. Polish-speaking, he spent the rest of the war as senior liaison officer to the Polish Forces. Now 72, he lives near Cirencester. Heading the signals section was Lieutenant (later Lieutenant-Colonel) Christopher Henn-Collins, now living in Guernsey. Other members were Corporal Fred Sims (now a civilian instructor with the Junior Tradesmen's Regiment, Troon), Lance-Corporal (now Major) John Daw, Lance-Corporals F Huggett, A Shannon and R Barry, Signalmen J Seal, W H Griffin and H J Barnes.

soon operating and the men heard the BBC news from England. It was 6 September and Warsaw was being evacuated.

That day the party had a strange and unpleasant experience. A single German aircraft overhead appeared to be spraying a cloud of vapour. There was a rush for gas masks but, despite their protection, both Captain Lloyd-Johnes and Lieutenant Henn-Collins were coughing and had smarting eyes. Civilians and children without gas masks were vomiting but as farmyard animals were still alive after the attack, Lieutenant Henn-Collins concludes: "The most benign explanation I can give is that it was a smoke marker."

With Warsaw evacuated, the party received orders to move south again and the van was attached to a public train. Constantly harassed by the Germans (several times their overnight resting places were bombed soon after they moved on), they headed for a rendezvous with the members of the mission from the capital.

All this time the big transmitter had remained unused in its packing case. But by using a small radio transmitter with an ordinary antenna poked into a tree or on a roof, the party had made contact with Britain. John Daw had even used the batteries from the train on one occasion to get the set working.

On 13 September the party joined up with one of the most remarkable figures in 20th century British military history—General Adrian Carton de Wiart. He had started his Army career in the Boer War, lost an eye in Somaliland and won the Victoria Cross in 1918. He had been wounded many times and lost a hand and had retired to live in Poland. Recalled as head of the British Military Mission in Poland only two months before war broke out, he immediately brought to the job his larger-than-life style.

The general at once took charge and was soon amazing the signalmen with his iron nerve. When aircraft flew low overhead and everyone dived for cover he stood in the open and shook his fist at them. When a battle was taking place, the general got his driver to take him to a vantage point where he watched as though it was a training exercise. He returned with bullet holes in his car and a very frightened driver.

Fred Sims adds another story: "The Germans bombed us one day and everyone ran to the fields for cover. I then saw the general calmly writing letters on a garden seat. Later he told me that one should 'never run—just find yourself a job to do.'"

Meanwhile the Russians were pressing in from the east and the Nazis from the west. General Carton de Wiart declared that it was every man for himself and that they should split into groups and head for the Rumanian border. Captain Lloyd-Johnes, Corporal Sims and a young signalman called Seal travelled by train with the equipment and the other parties by road.

By this time all were tired and hungry. They had lived off their wits, catching chicken by the side of the railway line and depending on gifts from local people. Herbert Lloyd-Johnes, in particular, had hardly slept for days because he was the only one who could speak Polish.

The roads to the border were a solid mass of refugees. These long columns of pitiful

humanity were to be repeated in country after country over the next few years but for the Britons it was an awesome and depressing first sight.

Four days later, only a few miles from the border, the groups met again. The decision was made to destroy the massive transmitter which had been carried all the way but never once used. The job fell to Corporal Sims, who set about it with sledgehammer, petrol and fire. Any other equipment which might have aided the enemy was also destroyed while Lieutenant Henn-Collins struck a bargain with a local fruit pedlar. He exchanged his own small radio receiver for a juicy pear!

The lieutenant was the only member of the party actually to see the rapidly advancing Russians. Sent on a reconnaissance, he rounded a corner in his vehicle and saw two Russian soldiers sitting with a machine-gun on a tripod, guarding a bridge. "Mercifully they were not behind the gun and I turned round and got out of the way as quickly as I could."

At the border, still caught up in the midst of thousands of Polish refugees, some had a more difficult passage than others. The Rumanian border guards confiscated John Daw's pistol and when the car containing the Lloyd-Johnes party broke down on the border bridge they had to push it (pedestrians were not allowed across).

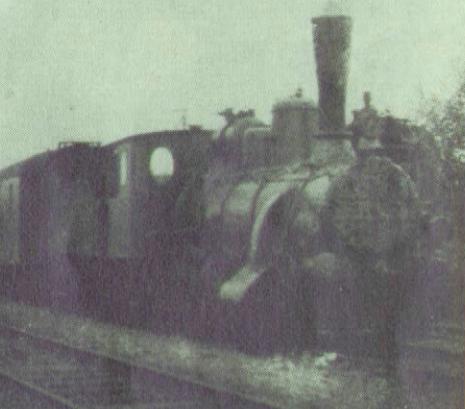
Even in Rumania the danger was not over. The country was alive with German agents and supporters and a lorry containing several of the party was told by Rumanian police to turn into a field as the guide was "lost." Suspicious that they were about to be interned, Captain Lloyd-Johnes ordered the lorry to take off at full speed in the opposite direction and succeeded in eluding the "guides." Later he bluffed his way through police checks by putting in a monocle and posing as the British Ambassador!

Eventually the men trickled by ones and twos into Bucharest where they were



Above: Safely back in Rumania at last. Barry (right) relaxes with two other Signals men who had come from Warsaw.

Below: The mission's "home from home" leaves Brzesc in Poland. The radio aerials are not visible in the damaged picture.



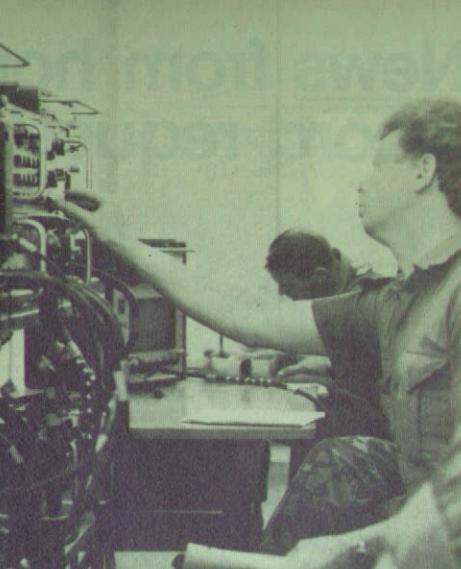
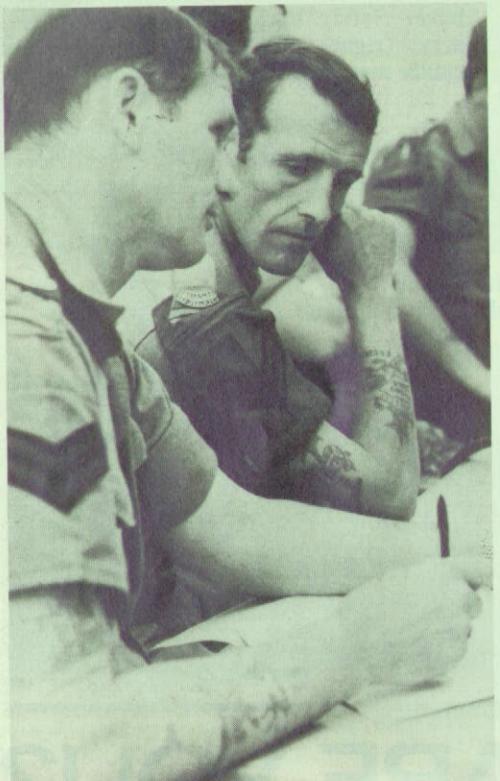
World copyright SOLDIER

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences, see page 42.



Instruments monitor students' progress on the simulator and electronically fix the conditions and the target being "fired at."



There's more to a simulator than pretending to fire—this is electronic wizardry.

Left: The separated sight demonstrated as it would be used, remote from the FV438.

Below: A lesson on the separated sight (on table in background) in progress outdoors.



SWINGFIRE joins the infantry

A NEW generation of infantry support weapons comes into service as mechanised battalions begin to train with the wire-guided anti-tank missile, Swingfire.

A new custom-built complex has been erected on Salisbury Plain to house the instruction facilities needed to convert infantry battalions to the new role. This complex houses five instruction classrooms, five vehicle/instruction hangars and three simulator rooms as well as offices, stores and a workshop. The building is specially sited to give panoramic views of the ranges which experts claim are "perfect for target definition."

The anti-tank sections which train at the complex will familiarise themselves with a modified version of the FV 432 armoured personnel carrier which is a mobile firing platform for Swingfire.

The FV 438—no stranger to the Royal Armoured Corps, which has used it since 1968—has a fixed turret and Swingfire launching bins on top. Inside, the operator can sit to aim, arm, fire and guide his

missiles using a periscope sighting device.

Swingfire elements from two battalions at a time can train at the complex with an eight-week course for platoon commanders, their second-in-commands and detachment commanders and a six-week course for second controllers. An extra week, when vehicles are issued to units, ends the cycle.

Electronic simulation superimposed on the actual range and targets overlooked by the complex and operated from vehicles in their glass-backed training hangars, give a high degree of realism to the courses as well as saving the expense of firing real missiles every time.

When Swingfire itself is used in the training, closed-circuit television can follow its flight on the ranges to give an added visual aid for students back in the complex's classrooms.

A pilot course has been taken by 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers, the School of Infantry's demonstration battalion, and Small Arms School Corps instructors. The first courses for the programme in earnest started in mid-October.



Front view of the FV438. The sighting periscope and missile bins can be seen.

News from home, record requests...



It's Radio Gurkhali!

Since World War Two the British Forces Broadcasting Service has broadcast in many different languages besides the mother tongue—for example, Arabic, Greek, Turkish and Swahili. Hong Kong's radio station is probably the last of the breed—it goes on the air for three hours every night in Gurkhali.

The station, which serves 9000 Gurkha soldiers and families in Hong Kong, was launched two years ago. With the exception of a few minutes each week supplied by the British Broadcasting Corporation and a six-minute news tape from the Gurkha battalion based in Britain at Church Crookham, all of its programmes are self-originated.

A full news service is provided, including both Army news and news from Nepal. For many families this provides their only link with the homeland. Mr John Campbell, station controller and a man with 21 years' BFBS experience, says: "Our purpose, like any other forces' station, is to provide a link

with home—but in this case the home is different."

He is assisted by a small staff of Gurkha soldiers and civilians. Much of their time is spent translating from English into Gurkhali or recording entertainment by local Gurkhas. Says Mr Campbell: "We have no shortage of artistes. Most Gurkhas sing or play an instrument."

Record request shows consist mainly of Nepalese or Indian music. Cliff Richard is the most popular Western star. The programmes are interspersed with jingles in Gurkhali on such things as road safety, child-care and family planning.

Programme tapes are sent to Church Crookham and to the Gurkha battalion and its families in Brunei, where the Sultan allows them to be broadcast over the local radio. Biggest project for the future is a teach-yourself-English course which is being translated in the Nepalese language and has been specially adapted with Gurkha names and locations.

Top left: John Campbell oversees a Gurkha operator on BFBS programmes.

Top right: Mrs Chandraput Tamang, an officer's wife, busy in the control room.

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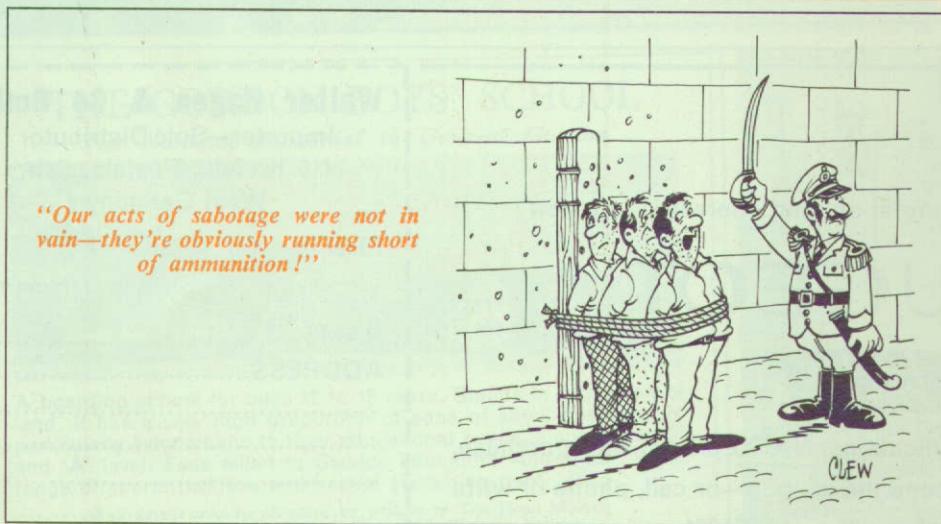
enquiries are advised to be made now!

Brochure and application forms are available from the Registrar, (Dept. PA5.)

T.S. Indefatigable, Room 22, 14 Water Street, Liverpool L2 8TD. Tel: 051-227 3417



HUMOUR



"Warm-up" for Everest

TWO new names have been added to the map as a result of the Army's Himalayan expedition—a "warm-up" for the planned assault on Everest in 1976.

The leader of the 27-man expedition, Major Jon Fleming, of 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, explained modestly: "We had no plans to tackle new peaks but we were misled by the map and a previous expedition report. We were going for a mountain called Baihai Jot but ended up climbing two new peaks."

The taller of the two, at 20,100 feet, has been named Bahuguna. The other, at 19,500 feet, has been called Gurkha Parbat—the Gurkha's Mountain—in honour of the Gurkha soldiers who were members of the expedition.

Exercise Himalayan Venture was a dress rehearsal for Everest. The world's highest mountain attracts climbers from all corners of the globe and has to be "booked" from the Nepalese government. The waiting list stretches years ahead but the British bid was helped by the fact that the Services team will be combining with the Nepalese

Army for the 1976 assault. The object of Himalayan Venture was to test equipment as well as men. Another team will go to Nepal in 1975 to acclimatise climbers to conditions at 26,000 to 27,000 feet.

As Major Fleming put it: "A lot of good kit was tested." This included pile undergarments, windproofs, waterproofs, quilted trousers and the Clansman radio—"this gave a pretty impressive performance." Crucial oxygen equipment, vital near the summit of Everest, was also put through its paces.

Next year it is hoped to carry out a mountaineering fitness expedition in the Alps—this will be more a test of men than equipment.

The 1976 Everest party may well be led by Major Fleming and will probably be some 25-strong including Gurkhas, sherpas and a representative from both the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force as this year.

One of Himalayan Venture's first obstacles cropped up when the team landed in Delhi. Major Fleming said: "We spent a week getting things through customs—they

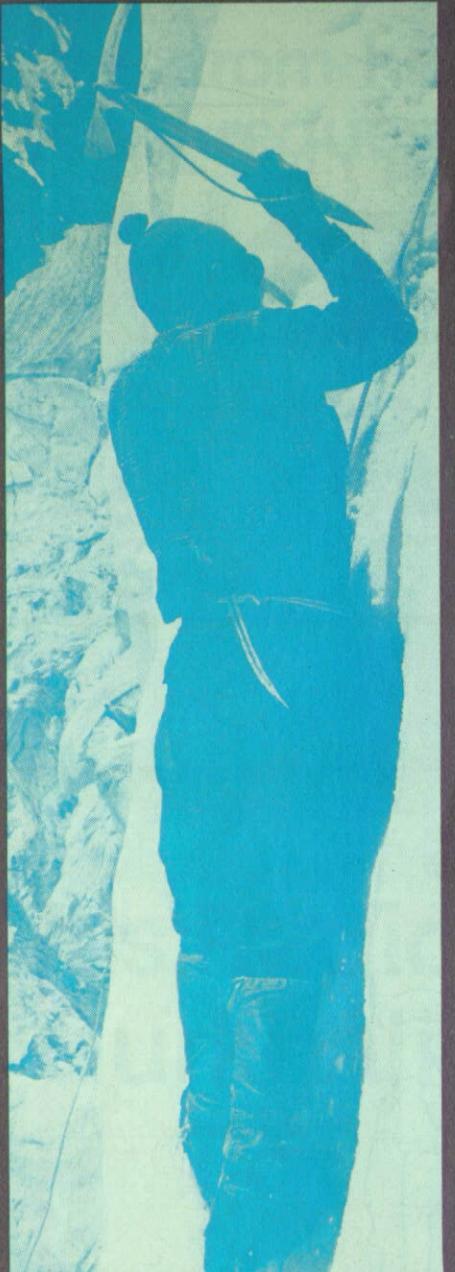
were asking £2500 duty on our food. That would have made it the most expensive compo in the business!"

The climbers drove north in a hired bus. The team was then split in two. Ten people set off to climb Indrasan and Deo Tibba while the remaining 18 (the extra man was a liaison officer) went on to the 13,050-foot-high Chumba area of the Himalayas to climb Meathosa and Baihai Jot. Indrasan was technically the most difficult task and was climbed by a new East Ridge route. It was only the third time the peak had been conquered.

The unintentional climb up two new peaks was not a wasted effort in the search for Baihai Jot. Major Fleming said: "If nothing else, it was useful to the Indians who now know they have to resurvey the area."

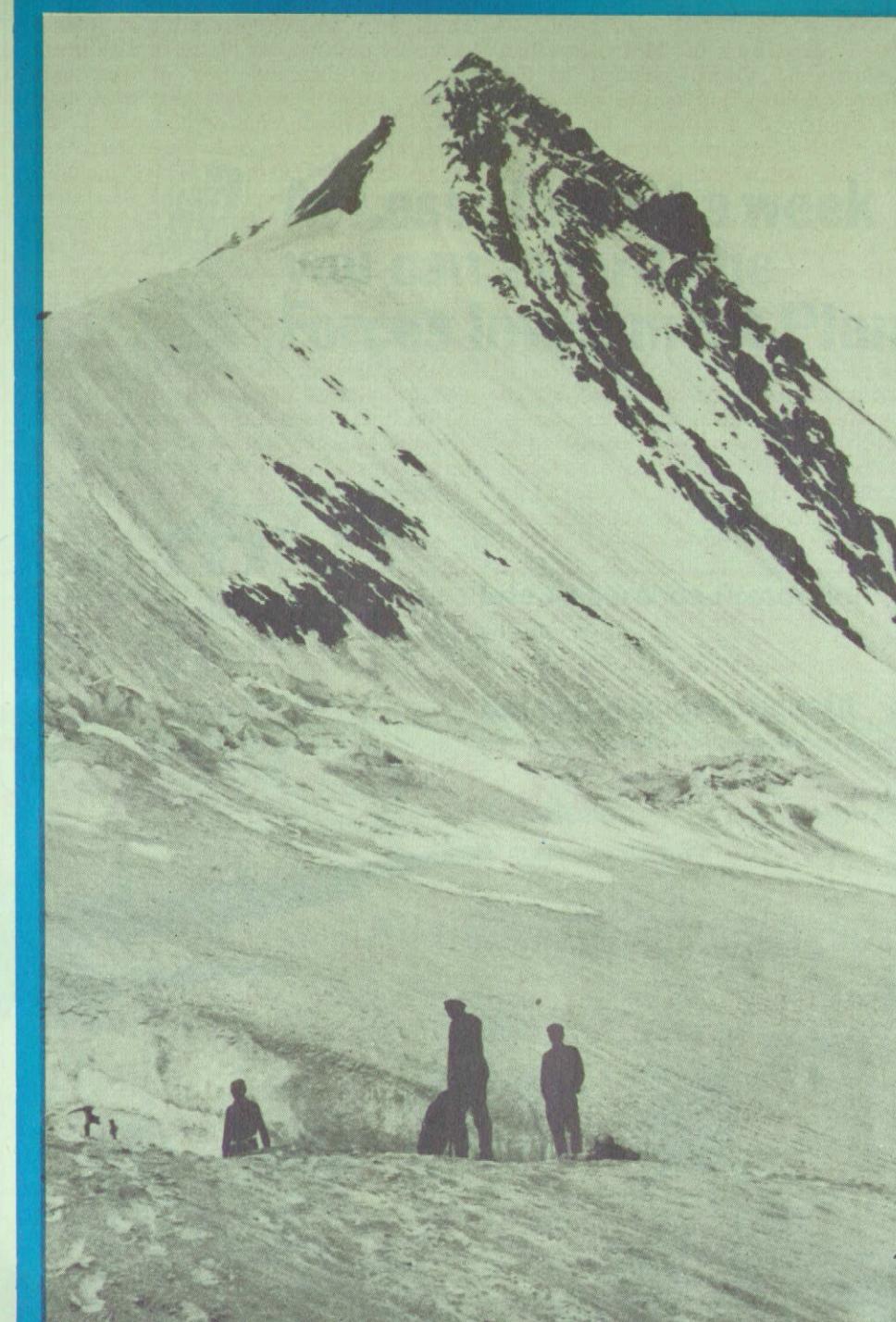
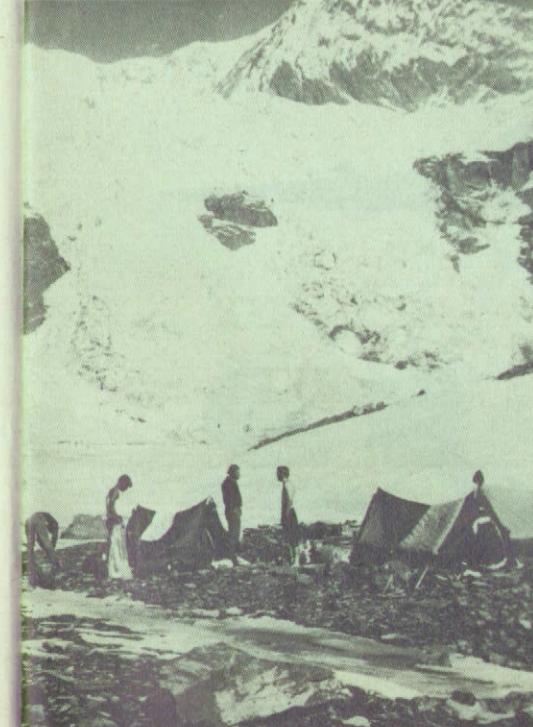
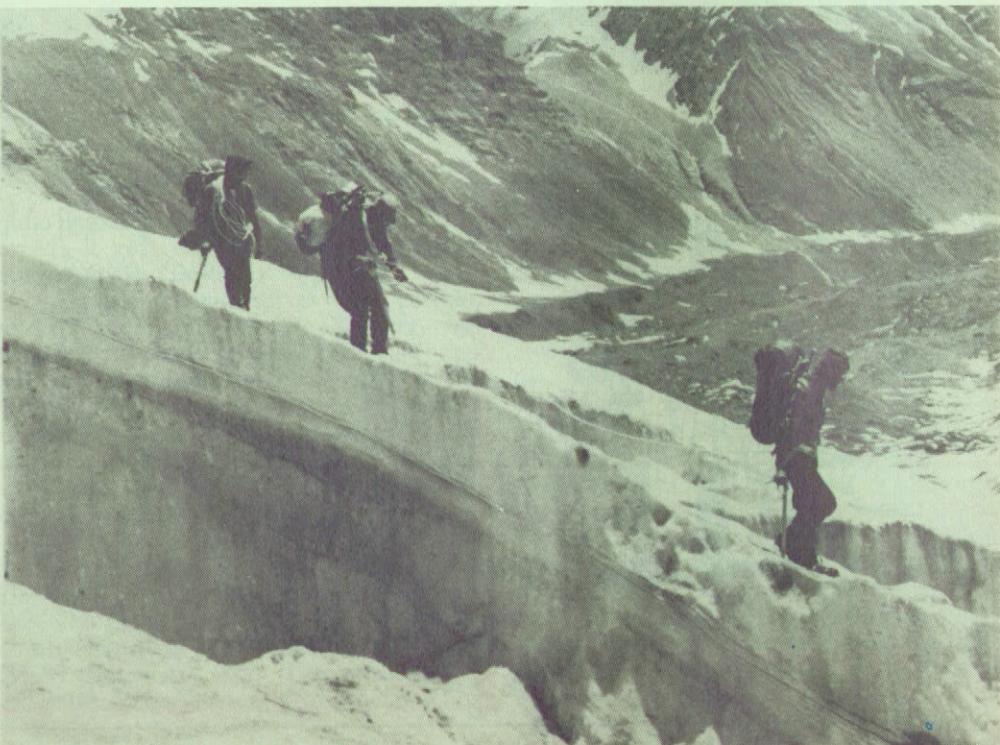
What draws climbers to the severe conditions of the highest mountain in the world? Major Fleming declared: "Everest accrues its own aura—that it is the highest mountain in the world. For that reason, every mountaineer wants to climb it."

The Army's attempt in 1976 will have a good measure of determination added to this drive. He added: "We haven't decided the route yet. The most important thing is that we get to the top."



Rfn Pasang Tamang, 7 DEO Gurkha Rifles, on vertical ice pitch, Bahuguna.

Right: Negotiating icefall crevasses on Bahuguna are Rfn Basantakumar Rai, L/Cpl Khagendrabahadur Limbu and Capt Mike Kefford, all 7 DEO Rifles.



Left: Advance base camp at 14,100 feet on Bahuguna Peak. Beyond is the icefall
Above: Establishing Camp 1 (16,400 feet) on Bahuguna. Beyond is Gurkha Parbat.

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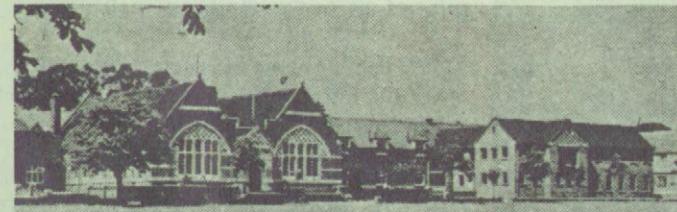
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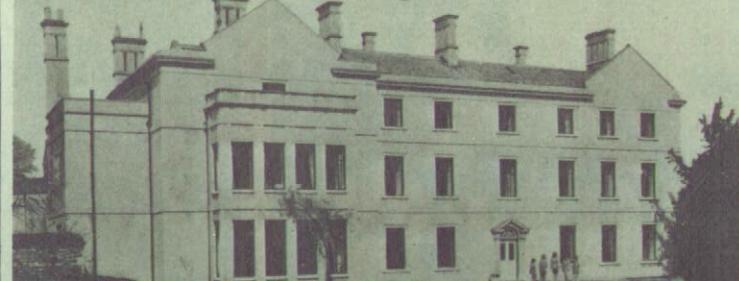
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THE dark hull of HM Australian submarine Ovens gleamed in the tropical moonlight as it broke surface in the lagoon. In the dimly lit interior Captain Bob Stewart, Royal Artillery, checked his watch and gave last-minute instructions to his two jungle-green-clad soldiers. Sweat glistened on the bronzed faces as the three paddled a Gemini boat towards the shore. The trio represented more than half of the only Commando specialist unit in the Far East—4 Commando Forward Observation Troop, Royal Artillery.

Once on dry land, the men—each loaded with some 70 pounds of equipment—marched up the steep slope of the island of Pulau Aur in the South China Sea. Dawn found their observation post established on a rocky promontory 700 feet above the sea. Some nine miles to the south-east HMAS Torrens carved a course through the sun-splashed sea.

Crisp orders from the radio at the observation post gave details of range and line of fire to waiting gun crews aboard the vessel. Soon the sea below the post was

pocked with the spray of dropping shells and a buoy target representing an infantry company position was plastered with fire.

The fire-directing task of the naval gunfire support unit was part of a major ANZUK Brigade exercise. Each of the five men who make up the whole team says he has "the best job in the Army," including radio operator Peter Williams who is the only serving naval member of the team.

Every man is a trained parachutist and trained in watermanship. Two of the five are also qualified divers. The oldest and best qualified man in the troop is 31-year-old Bombardier Benny Benfield who has only recently arrived. Having joined the Navy and completed commissions in two ships, he became a volunteer radio operator with 20 and 148 amphibious observation batteries, Royal Artillery, for nine years. He then decided to change uniforms and has worn the khaki of a gunner for two years.

Apart from being a parachutist and shallow-water diver, he was trained as a freefall demolition expert at Pau in France on one of the toughest courses in the world of parachuting. His course ended with a 15,000-foot drop by night with enough explosive strapped to the body to complete

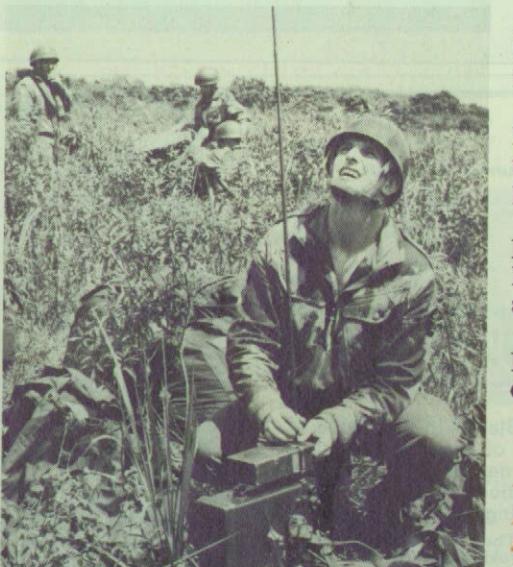
a demolition task on landing. Bombardier Benfield is also trained as an air contact officer capable of directing fighter aircraft in a ground attack.

Moving into its varied observation post positions, the troop may parachute, fly in by helicopter, sail aboard a ship or submarine or get there just by foot-slogging. This year alone it has worked with some 25 ships of the British, New Zealand, Australian, Singapore and Thai navies. Its men have visited 26 countries including the Philippines, Canada and India.

During the last 18 months the troop has trained 36 communicators for Singapore's Maritime Command in naval gunfire support procedures and had the pleasure of seeing these men control the first, almost faultless, indirect bombardment carried out by their patrol boats. The troop has also acted as forward air controllers for dummy strike runs by the Singapore Air Force.

The troop is based on Singapore Island and lives (on the rare occasions it is there) in the same barracks as 28 ANZUK Field Regiment. Its peace-time task is mainly naval gunfire support. In war it could also direct land-based artillery units and support units of the infantry.

Far East Commando Gunners



Above: Members of the troop watching a Royal Air Force Hercules aircraft running in low to free-drop stores into Malaysia.

Far left: Bombardier Benny Benfield gives the lowdown to Captain John Lyde, British pilot of an Australian Sioux helicopter.

Left: Radio operator Peter Williams, a Navy man, prepares to contact the aircraft after a parachute jump into a clearing.

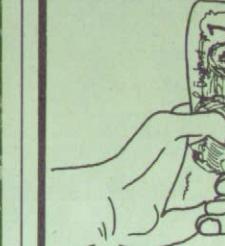
Right: Gunner David Gregge grins as he descends the conning tower of Ovens.

From a report by ANZUK Public Relations staff (Story: K J T Hoile / Pictures: M C Butler)

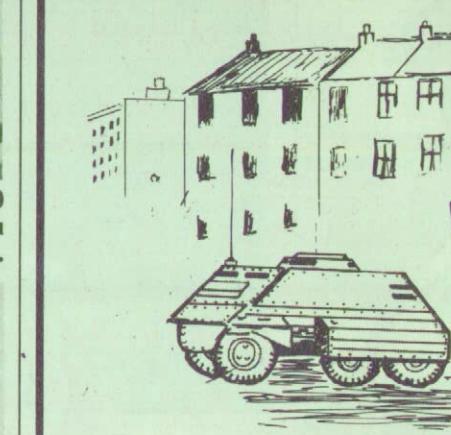


In action on a rocky promontory some 600 feet up the mountainous slopes of Pulau Aur, an island set in the South China Sea.





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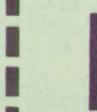
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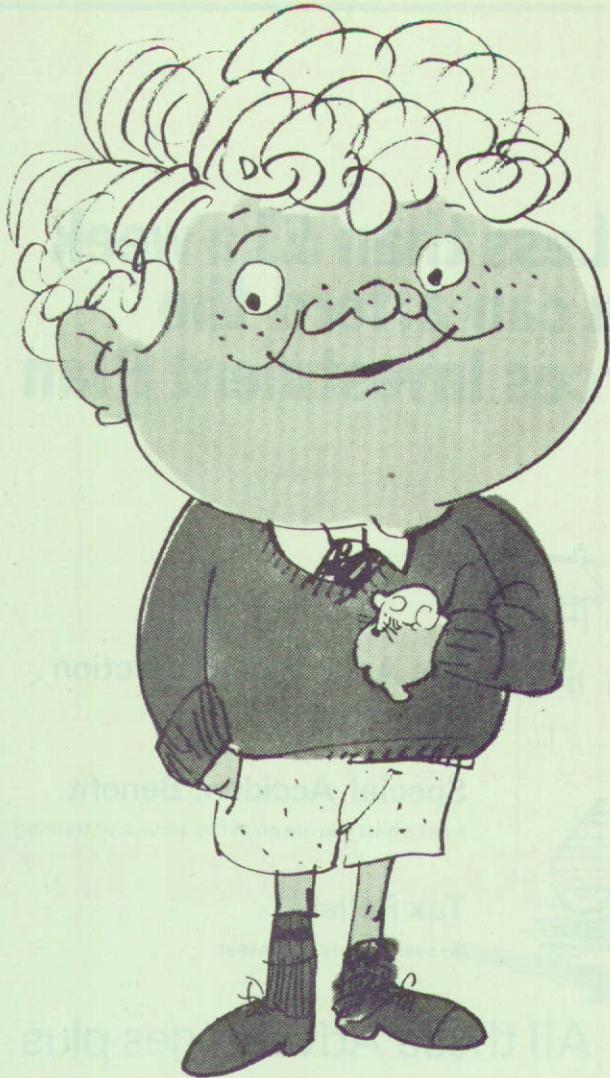
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Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Craddock, Colonel of The Queen's Regiment has a farewell retirement chat with young "diehards."

They die hard

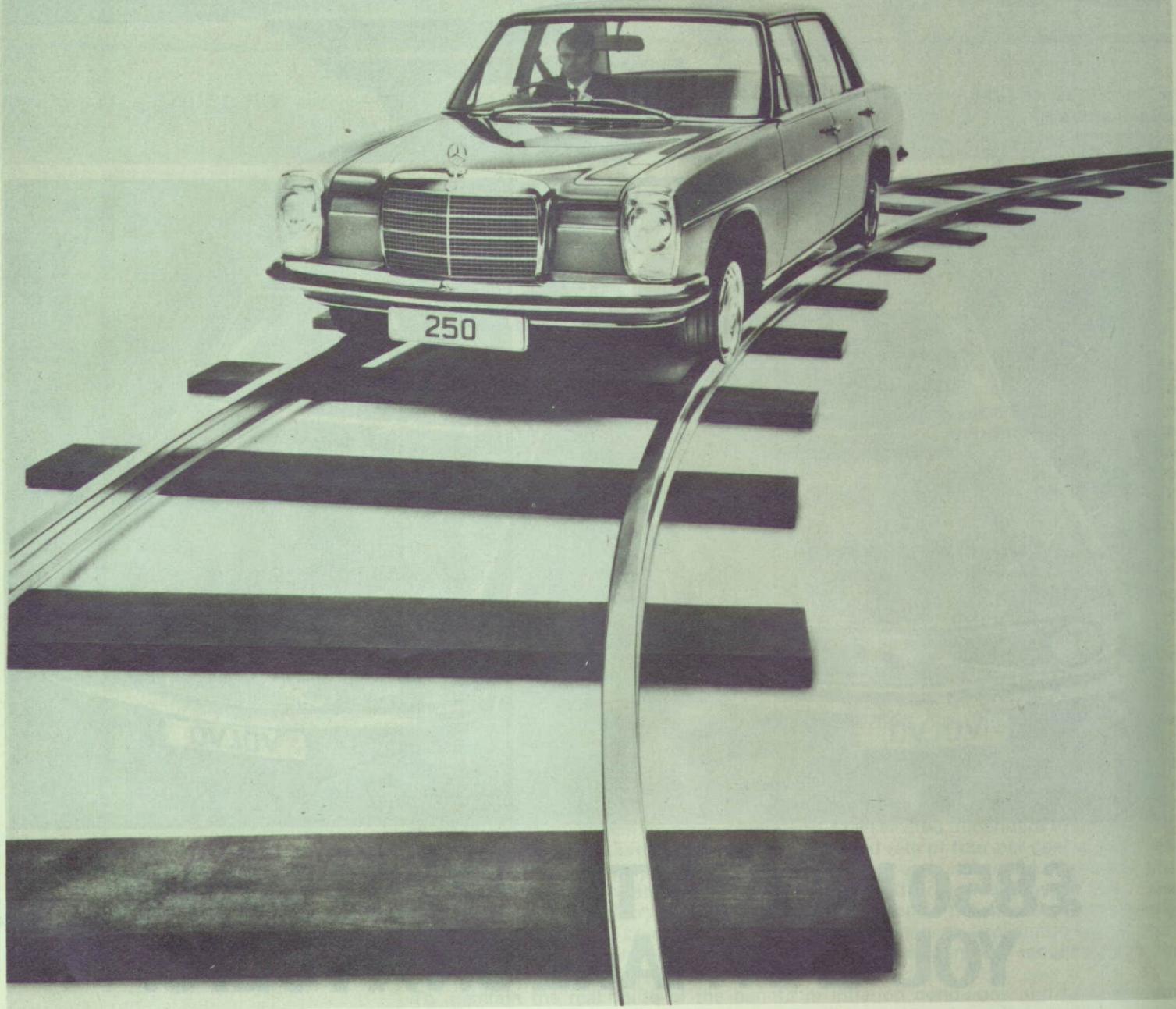
IT was a day of farewells at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, when Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Craddock, Colonel of The Queen's Regiment, visited 4th Battalion Albuhera Company before his retirement.

Albuhera Company is all that directly remains of The Middlesex Regiment—The "Diehards"—which in an amalgamation in 1966 became 4th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment. Four years later the battalion was disbanded but a representative unit with the title 4th Battalion Albuhera Company remained, at first in a recruiting role, more recently as part of the training staff of the Junior Infantrymen's Wing at Howe Barracks.

Now its days are numbered for, on 1 November, 4th Battalion Albuhera Company, which had kept alive the proud traditions of a famous regiment, is to be disbanded following a decision by the Army Council.

Truly it can be said that the "Diehards" died hard. It was in 1811 that the 57th Regiment of Foot earned undying fame, and its nickname, at the battle of Albuhera. This bloody battle of the Peninsular War brought great distinction to the regiment, commanded by Colonel Inglis who, as he lay grievously wounded, shouted the immortal words to his hard-pressed troops, "Die hard, my men, die hard!" And they did, as they stood unflinching against a murderous fire and overwhelming odds.

The last officer to command Albuhera Company is Major George Goring, who joined The Middlesex Regiment in 1958 and served with 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.



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SOLDIER

NEWS

Pull-out supplement SOLDIER October/November 1973

SEE NOW, JOIN LATER SCHEME

In the year ending last April, more than 7000 boys of 15 joined the Army as apprentice tradesmen or junior soldiers. With the raising of the school leaving age schoolmates who would have followed them must now wait until they are 16. For these boys the Army has introduced a "see now, join later" scheme. The young would-be soldiers spend a couple of days at a selection centre then if they decide they like the idea of a Service career—and if they are fit and bright—places are booked for them for when they are old enough. There are no strings attached. A boy does not commit himself to eventual enlistment and is free to get a job elsewhere if he changes his mind.

The scheme is especially important for youngsters who want to learn a skilled trade in the Army. In some trades there are more applicants than places. But a 15-year-old can be guaranteed a vacancy at an apprentice college or other trade training establishment if during his visit he shows he matches up to the Army entry standards. Headmasters are being invited to co-operate by allowing boys time off to visit one of the two Army youth selection centres at Harrogate and Corsham, or a selection centre to be set up in Scotland. The Army pays expenses. Experience at selection centres shows that in two days a would-be recruit gets a sound notion of what the Army offers and demands. And in this time selection officers can decide his suitability for a job. When a boy has returned home from the centre with a place booked, the Army will keep in touch and invite him to visit local units and military displays. (DAR)

ARMY DEPENDANTS ASSURANCE TRUST

A new scheme, the Army Dependents Assurance Trust, which will provide Regular Army dependants with an income additional to any official benefits for which they might be eligible on a soldier's death, has been launched by the Army with the backing of a consortium of leading insurance companies. ADAT is open to all ranks, men and women, of the Regular Army and membership of the scheme is voluntary. Contributions will be deducted from pay and rank for income tax relief. Application to join can be made with effect from 1 October 1973. Full details are held by unit pay offices. A 30p weekly premium assures £10 a week for the dependant from the time a soldier is killed or dies, on or off duty, anywhere in the world, until the soldier would have reached the age of 55. A higher premium of 50p continues the income for a further five years to age 60. This income can be increased by purchasing additional units (up to a maximum of eight) of income benefit but the total benefit cannot exceed a member's annual salary. One unit of benefit provides a minimum guaranteed income of £520 a year payable in monthly instalments to a selected dependant or dependants. The amount of benefit will increase at a guaranteed rate of four per cent a year compound—after ten years the £10 payment a week from one unit would rise to £14.80. Dependents must be related to the member by blood or by marriage, or have been supported by the member, or be engaged to be married to the member at the time of death. Dependents will be covered for benefit immediately an application for membership is submitted to a unit pay office or, if medical evidence is required, from the date of acceptance by the underwriting consortium.

To maintain the real value of the benefit in inflation conditions and to reflect pay increases, the weekly contribution per unit will be reviewed regularly by the board of the Army Dependents Assurance Trust. A member will then be able to take up a cost of living adjustment. The underwriting consortium will not review premium rates before 1 October 1977.

A member can apply at any time to increase or reduce the number of his contribution units or cancel his membership. Membership of the fund ceases on leaving the Regular Army or on reaching the age of 55 or 60 but the member will then have the right, regardless of his state of health, to convert his cover to an individual policy granting similar cover or to a whole life assurance or endowment policy with any one of the three underwriting companies.

ADAT offers uniquely favourable terms—higher guaranteed benefits and lower premiums than available from similar policies—because it is a group assurance scheme open to the entire Regular Army of some 180,000 men and women. Membership is available to every serving soldier irrespective of job or posting and there is no policy charge.

The scheme was negotiated by Stewart Wrightson Assurance Consultants Ltd, of Kingston-upon-Thames, and this firm will be responsible, as manager, for day-to-day administration of the fund. Lloyds Bank Ltd is the custodian trustee and the three insurance companies in the underwriting consortium are Crusader Insurance Company Ltd, Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association and Scottish Equitable Life

**ARMY DEPENDANTS
ASSURANCE TRUST***continued from previous page*

Assurance Society. The board of directors responsible for supervising the work of the manager of the fund comprises two representatives each of the Army Benevolent Fund, Lloyds Bank Ltd (Cox's and King's Branch) and Stewart Wrightson Assurance Consultants Ltd.

An advisory committee will ensure that the manager is given advice and information to enable the fund to be run in the best interests of the Army and individual members of ADAT. Members of this committee are Director of Personal Services (Army), Assistant Under-Secretary of State (AQ) (Army), Paymaster-in-Chief (Army) and Assistant Adjutant-General PS4 (Army). (DPS)

CIVILIAN HOUSING

Concern about the difficulties of finding a house when a member of the Armed Forces leaves the Service was behind a question in Parliament from the Hon C M Woodhouse (Conservative, Oxford) who asked the Minister of State for Defence, Mr Ian Gilmour, if he would instruct commanding officers to arrange that servicemen leaving the forces should get advice in advance regarding civilian accommodation for themselves and their families.

Mr Gilmour replied: "It is already standard procedure for all servicemen leaving the forces to be given such advice well in advance of their discharge. Many servicemen will already have bought their own homes during their service."

A suggestion for a house-purchase scheme—possibly Treasury-sponsored—for retiring servicemen met with sympathy from Mr Gilmour during an oral question-and-answer session in the House.

The Liberal leader, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, asked Mr Gilmour for his policy regarding giving financial assistance to Service personnel before they retired to enable them to buy their own homes. Mr Gilmour pointed out that the existing scheme allows an advance of "terminal benefits" to those due to retire to help meet the deposit and professional fees involved in house buying. The advance is available during the last year of service and is made interest-free.

Mr Thorpe pressed the point and went on to question: "Does Mr Gilmour accept that people in the Armed Forces are not among the highest paid in the country? No-one can say they are overpaid. Is he aware that they have a particular problem in that they have to live in Service-provided accommodation and move into their own accommodation on the date of retirement, and that if they have to provide themselves with accommodation this presents them with a particular problem, which is different from that of ordinary civilians?"

"Knowing that Mr Gilmour wishes to do what he can to help civilian personnel, may I ask whether the Government will consider this again to see whether we cannot get a house-purchase scheme going for Service personnel, subsidised if necessary by the Treasury?" Mr Gilmour replied: "I have great sympathy with what Mr Thorpe says... But we are short of money. We are considering ways of improving things, but I cannot promise that we will be able to come up with something very drastic in the immediate future."

This reply provoked a sharp response from Mr Frank Judd (Labour, Portsmouth West) who asked: "At a time when the Government has found it possible to find £15 million for the building societies, is it aware that the Opposition would like to see assistance of this kind given to Service families with their special problems and extended to them irrespective of their service and rank?" Mr Gilmour retorted that the Opposition "did not make great progress in this matter when it was in power" and asserted that everybody wants to do a great deal for the Services.

**MENTIONED IN
PARLIAMENT**

● The policy on firearms regulations for civilians differs significantly between mainland United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, it was revealed in Parliament recently. Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Conservative, Tiverton) asked whether a statement of policy in the Green Paper on Firearms Control stating that "personal protection should not be regarded as a good reason for a private person to possess a Section 1 firearm" applies to the granting of a certificate in Northern Ireland. Mr Peter Mills, Under-Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, replied: "No. In Northern Ireland a person may be permitted to hold a hand weapon for his personal protection if the police are satisfied that his life is in danger."

● Evidence was put before MPs at another question time to show that "incidents" in the province were down on last year in the spring and early summer of this year. Mr Michael McNair Wilson (Conservative, Walthamstow East) asked the Northern Ireland Minister, Mr William Whitelaw, for comparative figures for the months of April, May and June and further asked for a definition of an "incident."

Mr Whitelaw reported 749 incidents in April this year against 959 for the same month last year, 770 against 831 for May and 612 against 694 for June. He added: "There is no official definition of an incident. But the term includes any significant occurrence affecting the security situation in Northern Ireland."

● In a statement to the House of Commons on another occasion, Mr Whitelaw drew attention to the successes scored by the security forces in the province. He

said: "Unfortunately some violence continues; mainly explosions, although there have been recently some clearly sectarian murders."

"At the same time, the security forces are achieving important captures of illegal arms, ammunition and explosives. So far this year, 732 terrorists have been charged with security offences. The security forces will continue to combat violence, whatever its source, and seek to protect the lives and property of the community."

● The Northern Ireland firm of Short Brothers and Harland came into the limelight with a question from Mr S R McMaster (Ulster Unionist, Belfast East) about two of the company's developments, the Blowpipe infantry anti-tank missile and the Skyvan



The Skyvan at Farnborough Air Show last year.

short-take-off-and-landing aircraft. Mr Peter Blaker, Under-Secretary of State for the Army, told him evaluation flight and ground trials of Blowpipe were "well under way." He added: "A contract for the supply of a substantial quantity of Blowpipe missiles and associated equipment for our armed forces was placed with Short Brothers and Harland last September."

It was in that month that Blowpipe was on show to both buyers and public at the Farnborough Air Show. Put through its paces at the same show was the Skyvan, already in service with some overseas forces including Oman and Thailand. But the British Ministry of Defence has decided, after trials, not to order it. Mr Ian Gilmour, Minister of State for Defence, told Mr McMaster: "It is an excellent and versatile aircraft but the Services have no current requirement for this type of aircraft."

● Britain's contribution to NATO, in cash terms, is well below average, it was revealed in another question time. Mr Ted Leadbitter (Labour, Hartlepool) asked Mr Blaker what would be the reduction in defence expenditure if the percentage rate of gross national product on defence was pegged to the present NATO member states' average. Mr Blaker replied "Nil" and added: "United Kingdom defence expenditure would have to be increased by some £110,000,000 (almost one-third of this year's budget) to reach the NATO member states' average."

● Another defence cost interested Mr J H Cordle (Conservative, Bournemouth East and Christchurch) who wanted to know the bill for this year's Trooping the Colour. Mr Blaker told him: "Most of the costs resulting from the ceremony are recovered through the sale of tickets. Some £660 was spent on hiring transport."

COMPUTER BRINGS CHANGES

Noticeable changes have been made in the last two years to the layout of Part 2/3 Orders. Quite a few changes have also been made to Army forms and methods of reporting occurrences. The reason is that the records of service of Army personnel are to be held on computer files.

This is not such a big change as it may seem. The Army's officer documentation office and manning and records offices have been using punched card machines since the 1950s. This equipment is now being replaced by the Royal Army Pay Corps computers at Worthy Down which have handled the Army's pay since 1960. Holding both the manning and the pay records in the same establishment will avoid a lot of duplication of recording. Conversion to a computer system will also mean that records do not have to be hand-written.

Most of the computer output will be for Ministry of Defence (Army) personnel branches and for manning and record offices. It is planned to replace certain records now kept in units by documents produced by computer to reduce clerical work in the orderly room. Details will be announced later, but this will not be before 1975. Much effort has gone into preventing the computer from making the mistakes that hit the headlines. The computer as such can make few mistakes. But if incorrect information is fed to it by unit orderly rooms some of this may get through. The computer is being programmed to recognise and reject errors that can be detected. All postings and promotions will continue to be done by the same selection boards and the same officers who do it now. The computer will make no decisions but it will provide management aids for the officers who have to make them.

Progress so far is that the soldier records for the Regular Army have just been transferred to the computer. Those for the Reserves will be completed by the end of this

COMPUTER BRINGS CHANGES

continued from previous page

year and for the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve and Ulster Defence Regiment by 1974. All officer records will be converted by mid-1974.

The Royal Navy and Royal Air Force have also decided that computers are to be used to help with the issue of pay and in the manning of their Services. (DM(A))

STAY IN UNIFORM IN CIVVY STREET

People leaving the Forces can stay in uniform . . . by joining the police, prison, fire or ambulance services. In many cases special age concessions are made to retiring servicemen and accommodation, or allowances in lieu, are also available. Full details about second careers in uniform are given in the latest Services Resettlement Bulletin, No. 4 of 1973. This issue also gives details of jobs with Naafi, working for charitable organisations, professional and executive recruitment, the new discharge documents and regional opportunities in the Midlands. In addition there are tables of resettlement courses and 15 pages of "situations vacant." Copies of the bulletin can be obtained from unit resettlement officers and Army education centres.

AIRCREW INSURANCE

A recently announced scheme enables aircrew in all three Services to insure against loss of flying pay on medical grounds. Failure to achieve the required medical standard through accident or illness results in being grounded with subsequent loss of flying pay.

Announcing the "HM Forces Flying Pay Scheme," Mr J. A. Shaljean, managing director of the National Employers' Life Assurance Company Ltd, said it was negotiated by Professional and General Insurance Brokers Ltd on behalf of Lloyds Bank, Cox's and King's Branch, as the result of a substantial demand from Services aircrews. He added: "The purpose of this insurance is to enable all aircrew to draw a fixed monthly benefit during any period in which the flying pay is withdrawn. Benefit starts as soon as flying pay stops."

Mr Shaljean said that for many years civilian pilots had insured against loss of licence. This was possible because complete statistics were available from which premiums could be calculated. But comparative statistics for the armed forces were not released so the scheme had been thought impracticable in the past. "It is the first policy providing these benefits to the United Kingdom armed forces and it is therefore unique," claimed Mr Shaljean.

Benefits will be paid so long as the claimant remains a member of the forces and flying pay is withheld and would continue for a maximum of five years if the claimant were discharged and unfit for civilian work. But no benefit is payable in respect of injuries received as a result of active service in any war—declared or not. Claims arising from self-inflicted injuries or intemperance will not be admitted.

The policies will be offered to Servicemen by Lloyds Bank, Cox's and King's Branch—the Army and RAF agents.

LOAN SERVICE

Officers and senior non-commissioned officers have a chance to widen their military experience by applying for periods of loan service with foreign forces. There are still some 200 posts for officers and 200 for sergeants and warrant officers in some 20 different countries where the British Army does not normally serve.

Most of these appointments carry more responsibility than normal and at any one time 36 per cent of the officers and 30 per cent of the NCOs are given higher acting ranks. Rank, of course, increases the scale of loan service pay and some allowances. The generous guaranteed periods of mid-tour and end-of-tour leave are also an attraction.

Defence Council Instructions are published about loan service and list typical vacancies. All personnel branches and manning and records offices hold copies of the terms and conditions of service applicable to each country.

Loan service is the responsibility of a loan service branch in the Ministry of Defence's Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA. Those interested in finding out more about loan service opportunities are invited to telephone or make an appointment to visit one of the branch officers. The number is: 01-499 8040 extension 48.

(AG LSP & Mob)

TELEVISION FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

A recent addition to the long list of welfare benefits provided for troops from the Daily Telegraph Ulster Television Fund is the provision of 62 bedside portable television sets with earphones for use by the more seriously wounded soldiers in Northern Ireland hospitals and other parts of the United Kingdom. These soldiers are confined to bed and are unable to watch television available to walking patients. Cash for the maintenance of these sets has also been arranged. (DPS)

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Room for manoeuvre

AS the part-time soldiers of The Gibraltar Regiment aimed their general-purpose machine-guns at targets 600 yards away there was an excited glint in each eye—such a distance is impossible for them at home on the Rock.

An escape from the confines and claustrophobia of the Rock to the open spaces and ranges of Britain has become an annual event for the regiment since the first camp four years ago.

In the autumn of 1971, conscription was abolished on the Rock and the 300-strong regiment converted to a part-time unit with exactly the same conditions and requirements as a Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve unit in the United Kingdom. Company commander Captain Joe Rosado feels that the regiment has benefited: "We now have chaps who are with us because they like Army life and we can push them a bit harder and get more out of them."

This year 49 men from the Rock went to the Mercian Depot at Lichfield for their annual camp. Arriving on a Saturday they began work straight away and trained continuously for the next ten days, working through both weekends. Captain Fofi

Casciaro, who organised the visit, told SOLDIER: "We have had really good weather and everyone is happy. In fact some of them have complained of the heat!"

During the short period of that rare luxury, the British heat wave, the Gibraltarians were training at Sennybridge in Wales. They had sustained fire machine-gun practice and during a two-day Exercise Rock Ape combated a team of wily instructors under Lieutenant David Baldwyn from the Mercian Depot. The exercise took in day and night patrolling, a night ambush and considerable use of maps—another impossibility in Gibraltar.

Said Captain Rosado: "When we were ambushed we had everything going— Verey pistols, thunderflashes and trip flares. It was a terrific experience for every man. Army life in Gibraltar tends to be in a slit hole and the idea of being able to see a platoon spread out properly, with one or two sections up, is something you just cannot envisage. Also, here our men have been able to use fields and ditches as cover."

Winner of the platoon's rifle shooting contest was Corporal Bernard Graffione, a young government clerk. And the overall



The chores are the same wherever you are—cleaning a general-purpose machine gun.

standard (75 per cent passed in rifle fire) impressed the seasoned instructors and Major Chris Vitali, officer commanding the training company at the Mercian Depot, who presented the medal to the winner at a last-night party.

First tour in Japan

EARLIER this month Japan took on the might of the Welsh national rugby team at the International Stadium in Cardiff. But this is not the first time that the Japanese have sampled Welsh rugby. In 1928 the first foreign side to tour Japan consisted mainly of players from 2nd Battalion, The Welch Regiment.

The tour was organised and captained by Captain B U S Cripps, of The Welch Regiment, now a retired brigadier living in Devon. He recalls it as a highlight of his Army rugby career. The idea was conceived when the Meiji University rugby team visited Shanghai in 1927.

Captain Cripps decided to take the first all-Welsh team to Japan but he was thwarted by the daunting cost. He recruited a few players from other regiments serving in the Shanghai Defence Force and christened his team "The British Army (Shanghai)." He then approached General Duncan, the commander, for assistance and

got £210 and the party set sail for Japan on 26 January 1928 in the Shanghai Maru.

The Japanese Rugby Union had been formed only in the previous season although the game had been introduced to Japan by Mr E B Clark and Mr Ginnosuke Tonake (both of Cambridge) in 1898.

The first port of call was Nagasaki and it was here that the ship was invaded by the press and Rugby Union officials. Photographs were taken and rushed to Tokyo to herald the arrival of the tourists. After travelling for three days and being confronted by a fantastic reception in Tokyo, the team was quietly informed that next day, a Sunday, it would be playing a side representing Japan.

This was because the union wanted to capture a large crowd as the Crown Prince, Prince Chichibu, would be present. It was therefore impossible to delay the game.

The contest, a cliffhanger, ended in a 13-13 draw. The Prince was delighted and

expressed a wish to Sir John Tilley, the British Ambassador, to watch all the games. The Welsh players in the team were all tough competitors. The 2nd Battalion, The Welch Regiment, had won the Army Challenge Cup four times out of five before moving to Shanghai and had played and defeated top teams of the time. The final results were: Japanese All Stars, draw 13-13; Keio University, won 22-0; Meiji University, won 29-0; Waseda University, won 8-0; Kobe Foreigners, won 8-3. The hardest game was against the Waseda side.

Although the Japanese are naturally small, they combat this disadvantage in play by keeping moving. They tend to run the ball from almost any position and try to maintain the same tremendous pace throughout. They do not have locks with the physique of Delme Thomas or Mike Roberts but are not short of courage. Their combination of French-cum-Fijian type rugby has surely won them a lot of friends in Wales.

Hong Kong landslide awards

For their gallantry in rescue work after last year's landslides in Hong Kong (SOLDIER, August 1972), awards have been made to a padre, a subaltern and guardsman of the Irish Guards and to two sappers.

During a three-day 30-inch deluge of rain, a 12-storey block of flats collapsed. The Reverend Frederick John Preston, Royal Army Chaplains Department, promptly took command of a party of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, and with only one short break worked waist-deep in a sea of mud for 15 hours in a hunt for survivors. He has been made a Member of the Order of the British Empire. The citation says of Padre Preston, who is a qualified parachutist, "his knowledge of the problems involved and his sheer physical strength were an inspiration. His performance was beyond the normal call of duty and undoubtedly was responsible for the maintenance of morale."

Second-Lieutenant John Gorman, of 1st

Battalion, Irish Guards, wins the George Medal. Lance-Corporal Jack Cavie and Sapper Anthony Roger Prowse, both Royal Engineers, receive the British Empire Medal. Lieutenant Gorman, who was only 19 at the time, directed a 13-hour operation to rescue a buried survivor. He, Corporal Cavie and Sapper Prowse worked turn and turn about to make an unshored two-foot-wide tunnel for 30 feet under debris and each spent more than seven hours in this tunnel, fully aware that there was little chance of survival if the rubble moved or there was a further slide. The citation says that each of the three displayed courage of a high order and complete disregard for their own safety. Guardsman Paul Kennedy, also of 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, earned the Queen's Commendation for his work during the rescue operations.

The Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct has been awarded to Warrant Officer 1 Ronald Sargent, Royal Artillery, and Warrant Officer

2 Terence Pemberton, both Royal Military Police. While serving in Germany they disarmed a distraught soldier threatening them with a loaded pistol.

For "exceptional courage and devotion to duty" the captains of three Royal Air Force Hercules aircraft which dropped supplies to famine-stricken Nepalese in Operation Khana Cascade (SOLDIER, May 1973) have been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air. They are Flight-Lieutenants Anthony George Mahon, Michael Vernon Titterton and Colin John Andrew Williams. Sergeant Terry Warner, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, has been awarded the Army Air Corps "Tie of Merit" for outstanding flying. When his Beaver engine seized at 7000 feet over Denmark and forward vision was obscured by oil from the engine, he landed the aircraft in cornfield without injury to his three passengers or damage to the Beaver.

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SWIMMING

Four Army records were broken at this year's Army swimming, diving and water polo championships. In the 400 yards freestyle, Trooper Heron, Queen's Dragoon Guards, clocked a new time of four minutes 21.3 seconds—a clear five seconds ahead of the runner-up, Lance-Corporal Birley, School of Electronic Engineering, whose honour was appeased when he snatched a new record himself in the 800 yards freestyle in nine minutes 19.6 seconds.

Dominating the women's swimming was Private Lane-Joyn, Army School of Physical Training. She won all five individual races and set a new record of one minute 15.3 seconds in the 100 yards backstroke. The women's inter-command freestyle relay saw South East (West) achieve a new record of one minute 17.2 seconds. Individual men's results:

Freestyle, 100 yards: 1 L/Sgt Gibson (36 Engr Regt), 2 Gdsrn Clayden (1 Coldm Gds), 3 Sigm Pua (21 Sig Regt). 200 yards: 1 Tpr Heron, 2 L/Cpl Birley, 3 Gdsrn Clayden. 400 yards: 1 Tpr Heron, 2 L/Cpl Birley, 3 Sigm Wright (16 Sig Regt). 800 yards: 1 L/Cpl Birley, 2 Tpr Heron, 3 Sigm Sandford (229 Sig Sqn).

Backstroke, 100 yards: L/Cpl Goodall (36 Engr Regt), 2 Gdsrn Clayden, 3 L/Cpl Birley.

Butterfly, 100 yards: 1 SI Cherriman (AAC Harrogate), 2 Sigm Sandford, 3 A/T Eyre (AAC Harrogate).

Breast stroke, 100 yards: 1 Pte Vincent (1 QLR), 2 Gdsrn Jones (1 Coldm Gds), 3 Tpr Beard (QDG). 200 yards: 1 Pte Vincent, 2 Gdsrn Jones, 3 Gnr Pelling (4 Fd Regt).

Medley: 1 L/Cpl Birley, 2 Sigm Sandford, 3 L/Sgt Harvey (36 Engr Regt).

Individual women's results:

Freestyle, 100 yards: 1 Pte Lane-Joyn, 2 Q/Cpl Ball (Cambridge Mil Hosp), 3 Capt Jarman (10 Sig Regt).

Backstroke, 100 yards: 1 Pte Lane-Joyn, 2 Q/Cpl Ball, 3 Q/Pte S Maisey (BMH Munster).

Butterfly, 100 yards: 1 Pte Lane-Joyn, 2 Q/Pte S Maisey, 3 Q/Pte J Maisey (BMH Munster).

Breast stroke, 100 yards: 1 Pte Lane-Joyn, 2 2/Lieut Hamer (QARANC Trg Cen), 3 Cpl Hinton (12 Trg Regt RCT).

Medley: 1 Pte Lane-Joyn, 2 Q/Cpl Ball, 3 Capt Hooker (WSLO Colchester).

Women's inter-command freestyle relay: 1 South East (West), 2 BAOR, 3 South East (East).

First of the major units teams was 36 Engineer Regiment with 50 points, well clear of the runners-up, Queen's Dragoon Guards, with 29 points. Third was the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, with 26 points. Minor units team winner was 5th Airportable Brigade HQ and Signal Squadron (48 points) with 229 Signal Squadron (46 points) a close second. Third was 20th Arm-

oured Brigade HQ and Signal Squadron (30 points). The Sir Richard Butler Trophy for the freestyle relay went to the Guards Depot with a time of three minutes 52.8 seconds. The Army Apprentices College, Arborfield, came second and 8 Signal Regiment third. Men's diving results:

Three-metre spring board: 1 SI D Bellamy (APTC), 2 Gnr M Kempson (RA).

Five-metre firm board: 1 SI Bellamy (APTC), 2 Gnr M Kempson (RA).

Women's diving results:

One-metre spring board: 1 Cpl Rosewall (WRAC), 2 Cpl Northcote (WRAC).

Five-metre firm board: 1 Cpl Rosewall, 2 Pte Palmer (WRAC).

In the semi-finals of the water polo, 36 Engr Regt beat 8 Sig Regt and 2 Coldm Gds beat 3 RRF. In the match between the losing semi-finalists, 3 RRF beat 8 Sig Regt 8-6. In the match between the winning pair of teams, 36 Engr Regt scored 12 against 1 Coldm Gds' 6. Overall winners were 36 Engr Regt.

The Army swimmers were in fine fettle for the inter-Services swimming, diving and water polo championships a week later and for the first time in ten years won the men's swimming prize with 81 points, just ahead of the Royal Navy with 80 points. The RAF came third with 66 points.

Records toppled to Army competitors in the inter-Services swimming. A new 100 yards butterfly record of 57.8 seconds was swum by Corporal E Martin, 36 Engineer Regiment. The previous inter-Services record of 58.4 was set in 1966. A new inter-Services 400 yards freestyle record went to Trooper Heron with a time of four minutes 13.4 seconds. In the 100 yards freestyle, Lance-Sergeant Gibson, who knocked down Army records like ninepins last year, clocked 51.7 seconds—good enough to capture the inter-Services record but still a fraction of a second outside his 51.2 second Army record in this event.

Back in National Service days in 1955, an international swimmer set up a one minute 1.7 second record for the inter-Services 100 yards backstroke. This long-standing record too fell to an Army swimmer, Lance-Corporal Goodall, who clipped nearly a second off the time to return one minute 0.8 seconds.

An exciting finish in the 200 yards free-freestyle featured the ubiquitous Lance-Sergeant Gibson and Naval Airman Boothby whose times were given as identical by the clock—a new record of one minute 59 seconds they will share when ratified—although judges gave the win to Boothby by a touch.

Both the men's and women's diving events were won by the Army but for the first time ever, the Navy won the water polo. The RAF won one match and the Army none.

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The combined skills of sappers and signallers, working only from a photograph, went into making this wooden replica of the Kohima war memorial. The replica gave a fitting touch to this year's commemoration service at Headquarters 2nd Division in Germany. The lesson was read by Major-General John Grove who commanded 2nd Division at the time of the 1944 battle.



After more than 100 parachute descents with the Red Devils freefall team, Corporal Jackie Smith, of the Women's Royal Army Corps, was considered well qualified to become an honorary member of The Parachute Regiment and receive a coveted red beret. So, at a special display—including Jackie—the presentation was made. Once she had her feet firmly back on the ground General Sir Richard Gale, Colonel

Commandant of The Parachute Regiment from 1956 to 1961, presented her with her new headgear. Jackie is the only woman in the Red Devils team. She was spotted by team-leader Major Peter Schofield after she won the Army novices championship in 1971. Intensive training brought her up to the team's high standard and she was officially posted to the Red Devils in February 1972.



The tables were turned on a VIP at the evening meal during a visit to 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, in Colchester. Mr Peter Blaker, Army Under-Secretary of State, found himself in the cookhouse serving out hot dishes. A share of the fry-up went to the GOC Eastern District, Major-General Peter Hudson, while the expert, Army Catering Corps cook, Corporal John Scarry, looked on. Mr Blaker also visited the Military Hospital and talked to wives in the Garrison Families Centre.



The "honey bunny" of 32 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, comes in the shapely form of Frances Sinclair (20), a Playboy Club Bunny otherwise known as "Miss 32."

If total sales were laid side-by-side they would stretch from Edinburgh to London; if laid one on top of the other the pile would be higher than Mount Everest . . . Which are unlikely alternative statistics for the down-to-earth sales of 4,000,000 copies of that top-of-the-pops "Amazing Grace," recorded by the pipes and drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. These sales, in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Japan and 13 other countries, have earned for the regiment five gold discs, presented by singer Moira Anderson at Redford Barracks. This arrangement of the old hymn tune was conceived by the regiment's bandmaster, Warrant Officer 1 Colin Fairbairn, and former Pipe-Major Jimmy Pryde for the amalgamation of The Royal Scots Greys and 3rd Carabiniers in July 1971. The present pipe-major, then Pipe-Sergeant Tony Crease, played the solo. Since then the regiment has reached No. 30 in the lists with Heykens' "Serenade"/"The Day is Ended" and No. 6 with "Little Drummer Boy." Current release is "The Water is Wide." And "Amazing Grace," says RCA, the recording company, is now an evergreen that should sell steadily for several years.

Left, right and centre



Always willing to help out, men of The King's Division Depot at Strensall, Yorkshire, offered to run a joint course for children's cycling proficiency. More than 40 youngsters from the area between the ages of seven and 11 attended six classes.



The modern facilities of the gymnasium of the Royal Artillery Depot at Woolwich were given to the Swedish National Youth Squash Team on a tour of this country. The team—aged between 14 and 17—trained under the eye of Warrant Officer 2 Brian Barnes, of the Army Physical Training Corps.



Ever willing to recognise a contemporary, SOLDIER touches its forelock to the attractive new Editor of The Lion, the Services weekly newspaper in Cyprus. She is Lieutenant Pamela Brennan who joined the Women's Royal Army Corps three years ago after taking a degree in fine arts and English literature at Leeds University. (A picture of SOLDIER's Editor is not being offered to The Lion).



The pied piper of Rhine Army leading children a merry dance at a charity fair at Ripon Barracks, in North Rhine Westphalia, helped towards efforts by the wives of Bielefeld Garrison who organised the fair—one of two major fund-raising events they put on this year which netted more than £5000 for charity. The piper is Sergeant Colin Odle, of 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers.



Chay Blyth's yacht British Steel has been renamed British Soldier (see SOLDIER, September) for its round-the-world trip with an Army crew. The official renaming was by Lady Carver, wife of Field-Marshal Sir Michael Carver. Chay Blyth is also in the race, leading a Parachute Regiment crew in Great Britain II.



NEW BALLATER COLOUR

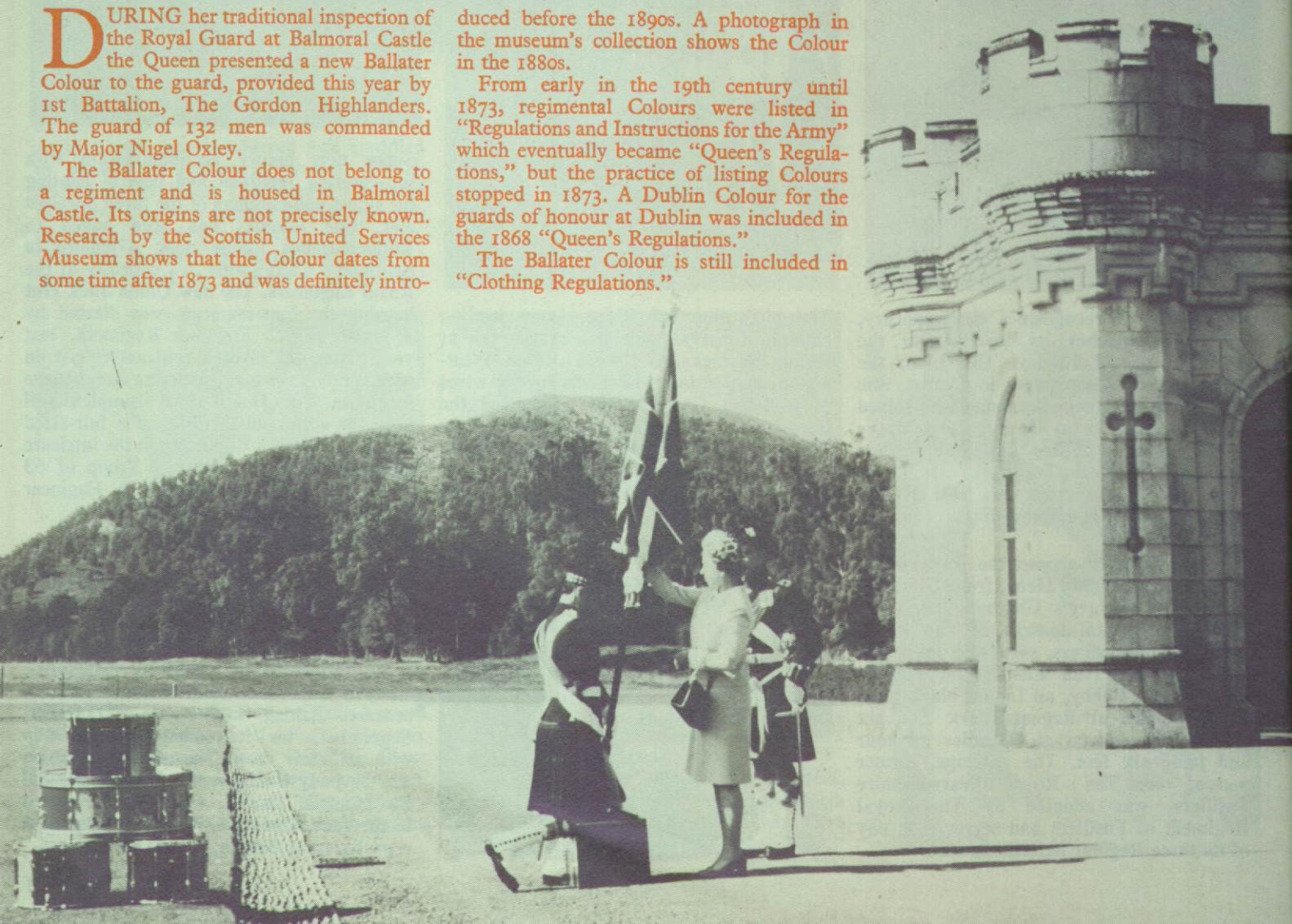
DURING her traditional inspection of the Royal Guard at Balmoral Castle the Queen presented a new Ballater Colour to the guard, provided this year by 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders. The guard of 132 men was commanded by Major Nigel Oxley.

The Ballater Colour does not belong to a regiment and is housed in Balmoral Castle. Its origins are not precisely known. Research by the Scottish United Services Museum shows that the Colour dates from some time after 1873 and was definitely intro-

duced before the 1890s. A photograph in the museum's collection shows the Colour in the 1880s.

From early in the 19th century until 1873, regimental Colours were listed in "Regulations and Instructions for the Army" which eventually became "Queen's Regulations," but the practice of listing Colours stopped in 1873. A Dublin Colour for the guards of honour at Dublin was included in the 1868 "Queen's Regulations."

The Ballater Colour is still included in "Clothing Regulations."



Military Medal for WRAC girl

FOR showing "a high sense of duty and bravery going far beyond the normal scope of her duties" during an undercover intelligence operation in Belfast, Lance-Corporal Jane Warke, of the Women's Royal Army Corps, has been awarded the Military Medal. She is the first servicewoman to win the medal since World War Two when six awards were made to members of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. The Military Medal has not previously been awarded to a member of the Women's Royal Army Corps or to the corps' predecessor, the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

Awards for service in Northern Ireland between 1 February and 30 April 1973 are:

Officer of the Order of the British Empire: Lieutenant-Colonel I R Cartwright, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Lieutenant-Colonel D W Hanson, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire; Lieutenant-Colonel J T Southgate, Royal Artillery.

Member of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service: Major D A Betley, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Major G H Bradshaw, The Royal Anglian Regiment; Warrant Officer 2 D A Brook, Women's Royal Army Corps; Major A A Denison-Smith, Grenadier Guards; Major H A J Jordan, Royal Corps of Transport; Major T Nolan, Royal Artillery; Captain G C Van-Orden, Intelligence Corps; Major J A Wright, 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers.

Military Cross: Lieutenant F R Dannatt, The Green Howards; Lieutenant C A Downward, The Light Infantry; Lieutenant S J A Flanagan, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment.

George Medal: Sergeant K Callaghan, Warrant Officer 1 F H Eldred, Captain J N Gunson, all Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Military Medal: Staff-Sergeant L McL Boyes, Corporal H Shingleston, both The King's Own Scottish Borderers; Sergeant G H Clarke, The Green Howards; Lance-Corporal K M Cross, Corporal W J Monks, both The Queen's Lancashire Regiment; Guardsman J Falconer, Coldstream Guards; Corporal J Laker, The Queen's Regiment; Lance-Corporal W Stuart, 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars; Lance-Corporal S J Warke, Women's Royal Army Corps; Corporal R G Wootten, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

British Empire Medal for Gallantry: Sergeant A Anfield, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Warrant Officer 2 J S Clark, Royal Engineers; Sergeant A R Leak, The Light Infantry.

British Empire Medal for Meritorious Service: Lance-Corporal J Edwards, Intelligence Corps; Sergeant D T Gibb, Army Air Corps; Sergeant C N Mears, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Mentioned in Despatches: Major J A Barr, Royal Army Medical Corps; Corporal L N Barras, Royal Military Police; Captain Lord Richard Cecil, Major P H Cordle, both Grenadier Guards; Corporal M A Christy, Staff-Sergeant R J Palmer, both Royal Engineers; Corporal G A Coney, Captain N C Legh, both The Royal Green Jackets; Major A J B Egremont-Lee, Corporal M T Hall, Lieutenant-Colonel B J Lowe, all The Light Infantry; Sergeant A R R Ferguson, Lieutenant-Colonel L M Halfpenny, both Royal Artillery; Lieutenant M J Findlay, Fusilier C Hobbs, Staff-Sergeant E G Hughes, Major J G Humphrey-Evans, all The Royal Welch Fusiliers.

Lance-Corporal T W George, Private T G Metcalfe, both Ulster Defence Regiment; Major H R Goble, Major M H Sharpe, both The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire; Captain J J Gordon, Sergeant M Morrison, Staff-Sergeant D J Varney, all Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Lieutenant C M F Hampton, 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers; Lieutenant D A C Hannah, The Royal Hampshire Regiment; Major P V Hervey, Trooper A Jones, both 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars; Major M B N Howard, Coldstream Guards; Captain R A Hulif, Major M J Reynolds, both The King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Sergeant R M Judd, Corporal D Parker, both The Queen's Lancashire Regiment; Captain J W Kewley, The King's Regiment; Colonel E B Madson, Brigadier D L Ormerod, both Staff; Major J M F Martin, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment; Corporal I A C Mowat, Royal Air Force; Staff-Sergeant G Robinson, Corporal R A Weatheritt, both The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Warrant Officer 1 J F Thornton, Royal Signals; Reverend J B Wright, Royal Army Chaplains Department.

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Tidworth Tattoo

What memories were stirred when I read the article on the Tidworth Tattoo (July). In remembering the 1923 tattoo it is surprising that no mention was made of the part played by the Royal Engineers in providing the electric lighting without which it would not have been possible for the show to function. In 1926 I was a member of the team which provided the lighting. Stationed in Gosport with 4th (Fortress) Company, of the School of Electric Lighting, we proceeded by road to Tidworth in Tilling-Steven petrol-electric lorries which had no gear boxes but whose movement (and speed) was controlled by electrical resistance boxes. The prime purpose of these lorries was to provide electric power for the operation of anti-aircraft searchlights.

In the tattoo arena, searchlights and switchboards were housed on separate platforms built by 56th (Field) Company from Bulford and made up of timber poles with wooden boards for the platform flooring and mounted by ladder (this was before the days of tubular scaffolding!) The Royal Signals installed telephones connecting each searchlight with the control room. In later years permanent platforms were erected, electric power was generated from static machinery and permanently

The Lost Battalion

Recently in our local newspaper, the Evening Chronicle, there was a letter about UFOs (unidentified flying objects) which went on to mention the disappearance of a large number of men of The Norfolk Regiment in strange circumstances during the Dardanelles campaign. The passage which aroused my interest read: "The regiment was seen by about 60 witnesses to march into an 'unnatural cloud of fog.' After the last person entered the fog the regiment disappeared, and no trace has yet been found of it." Not having heard or read of this incident before I wonder if any SOLDIER reader could give any information.—C W Blenkinsop, 48 Queens Crescent, Wallsend, Northumberland, NE28 8DW.

★ Here's a start, Mr. Blenkinsop, with a full explanation supplied by The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association. The 1st/5th Battalion, The Norfolk Regiment, sailed from Liverpool on 30 July 1915, landed at Suvla Bay on 11 August and within a matter

of 24 hours had lost 22 officers and about 350 men.

Sir Ian Hamilton's despatch of 11 December 1915 said: "The 1/5th Norfolk were on the right of the line and found themselves for a moment less strongly opposed than the rest of the brigade. Against the yielding forces of the enemy Colonel Sir H Beauchamp, a bold, self-confident officer, eagerly pressed forward, followed by the best part of the battalion. The fighting grew hotter, and the ground became more wooded and broken. At this stage many men were wounded, or grew exhausted with thirst. These found their way back to camp during the night. But the Colonel, with 16 officers and 250 men, still kept pushing on, driving the enemy before them. Nothing more was ever seen or heard of any of them. They charged into the forest and were lost to sight or sound. Not one of them ever came back."

It was not until four years later that any trace was discovered of the fate of these men. Writing on 23 September 1919 the officer command-

ing the graves registration unit in Gallipoli said:

"We have found the 5th Norfolks—there were 180 in all: 122 Norfolk and a few Hants and Suffolks with 2/4th Cheshires. We could only identify two—Privates Barnaby and Cotter. They were scattered over an area of about one square mile, at a distance of at least 800 yards behind the Turkish front line. Many of them had evidently been killed in a farm, as a local Turk, who owns the place, told us that when he came back he found the farm covered with the decomposing bodies of British soldiers which he threw into a small ravine. The whole thing quite bears out the original theory that they did not go very far on, but got mopped up one by one, all except the ones who got into the farm."

It may also be of interest to know that in World War Two the 5th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, was captured by the Japanese in Malaya soon after landing at Singapore as part of the ill-fated 18th Division.

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public as evidenced by the increasing "business" at the RE Club during tattoo week!—Capt Henry W Corke, 249 Marlborough Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5HS.

March King

My attention has been drawn to "The March King—Sousa or Alford?" (Records, April). To use the word "undisputed" in associating Sousa's name with the title most certainly is in order.

In the selection of 15 Sousa marches which is compared to Alford's almost entire output, "RB" has mentioned but one march Sousa wrote in the last 30 years of his life. Incredible! In that period he wrote some of his finest works. To say that Sousa usually wrote in too much of a hurry to give of his best is at best a fabrication. I say this because for the past decade I have engaged in exhaustive research on Sousa and his music and can say that RB obviously has an in-



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Black Rhino

A black rhino on a white oval against a blue background is the new sign of 6th Armoured Brigade. More appropriate to the brigade's armoured role, it replaces the famous crossed bayonet and key sign surmounted by the figure "6" which the formation used when it was 6th Infantry Brigade.

The new badge has never been a formation sign before but the rhino has. The white rhino was the formation sign of 1st Armoured Division; 2nd Armoured Brigade in Italy used the rhino for its sign until 1946.

complete conception of Sousa's personal composing process. And to make the broad statement that Sousa wrote no more than 15 "great" marches is both an insult and a consummate joke. It is also incorrect to state that he wrote in brighter keys than Alford.

I am sometimes amazed at the average British bandmaster's lack of knowledge of American—and other—march composers. For example, how many of the really fine marches of King, Goldman or Fillmore have you been exposed to? There are some 300. Throw these names into the pot with Alford, Sousa, Blankenburg, Teike, and Fuckik, stir it up a bit and smell its broth and then you'll have a much better idea of who's who in the march world. There is some relief, however. People like Sir Vivian Dunn and Major James Howe have recently been more objective, as seen in their recordings and concert programmes. The march cupboard would not be bare without Sousa and Alford, despite what RB says.

Incidentally, RB remarked that he hadn't heard an all-Alford album, but I recall Vivian Dunn's all-Alford Royal Marines album of 1959, "Colonel Bogeys Marches On." Except for some ill-advised comments on the jacket cover (which Sir Vivian would not be making today), this is an excellent album. It filled a need.

I have just completed two thoroughly researched books about the real "March King"—"John Philip Sousa: A Descriptive Catalog of his Works" (University of Illinois Press) and "John Philip Sousa: American Phenomenon" (Appleton-Century-Crofts). I'm not attempting to promote the sale of my books; borrow them from the library if you like. But by all means have a look-see at Sousa's accomplishments and



MILITARY POSTCARDS

Three more coloured postcards are now available at 4p each from the National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London, SW3 4HT. Two of these feature five miniature oval portraits. One portrays Captain Edward Fleming, 57th Foot, 1812, and an unidentified officer of the 13th Light Dragoons, 1810, both by Samuel John Stump. The other shows an unidentified officer of the

101st Foot, circa 1795, by Frederick Buck; Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton, circa 1777, by John Smart; and Captain W W Hammer, East Suffolk Militia, circa 1810, by an unknown artist. The third card illustrates some 19th century head-dresses, swords and accoutrements. The museum now has on sale about 60 of its own and some 40 other military postcards.

learn something of his output. More importantly, it would be nice if you could have the opportunity to hear more of his truly great marches which British bandmasters have not played for you—apparently because they themselves do not know of their existence.

Now about Alford/Ricketts. I could not possibly lower myself to belittle his music because he wrote a number of fine marches and I love them dearly. His output was small but very good and I am happy to say that some of his marches are played regularly in the USA. Were this man alive today he would probably be embarrassed at outcries such as that in your April issue. Why doesn't some scholar do some basic research for a good book about Alford's life and music? Then one could compare this book with what I have written and see for himself that to suggest that the title "March King" belongs to any other than Sousa is absolute nonsense. There are many factors, other than the composition of a few good marches, to be considered.

I will reply to any of your readers who wish to take issue with me, but only if they can truly state that they have heard at least 100 of Sousa's

Marches, 100 of Blankenberg's, 50 of King's, 50 of Goldman's, 25 of Fuckik's, 20 of Teike's and 15 of Fillmore's. If I don't receive many letters, this should tell you something.—Paul E Bierley, 3888 Morse Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219, USA.

Sporting prowess

Captain D B Thomas RCT (Letters, June) may be interested to know that success in more than one Army sport is perhaps more frequent than is generally supposed. The Army Physical Training Corps can quote many such achievements. For example, on a certain day in 1965 Staff-Sergeant Instructor G Fuller, APTC, an Army and national basket-ball player of distinction, took part in a very stiff representative match at the Army School of Physical Training and, with barely time to recover his breath, hurried over to the boxing centre to win the Army heavyweight title. An unusual combination of top-level Army sporting success. SSI Fuller is a long-serving Regular who is still soldiering, playing and fighting. In lighter vein Mrs Sheila Fuller, as

a Service wife tired of being a basketball widow, joined the "Breakaways" and represented England on a number of occasions in women's basketball.

Space does not permit more, but the APTC is always deeply interested in the sporting achievements of its members and the outstanding success of SSI E Green, APTC attached RCT, in winning three soccer cup winners medals has not passed unnoticed. Our thanks are due to the Royal Corps of Transport for giving him the opportunity and to SOLDIER for the welcome publicity.—Maj T L Fletcher (Retd), Honorary Curator APTC Museum, Army School of Physical Training, HQ & Depot APTC, Queen's Avenue, Aldershot, Hants.

I have just read with great interest Captain D B Thomas's letter. I have in my possession the five small replicas of the Army hockey cup won by my late father while serving with 2nd Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry. The battalion team won the cup five years running from 1926-27 until 1930-31.

I do not know how much hockey is played in the Army these days but I think that this must be something of a record to win five times in a row.—G Davies, 43 Steyning Road, South Yardley, Birmingham 26.

Crimean auxiliaries

During the Crimean War the British Government raised a number of auxiliary units to supplement its meagre Regular forces—German, Swiss and Italian (or Polish?) legions. In addition, a number of British officers, mainly from the Indian Army, commanded or served with irregular units such as Beatson's Horse or Bashi-Bazouks, the Turkish levies etc. Could any reader help me with information on the organisation, service and uniforms of these units?—R A Hamilton, 142 Jubilee Drive, Kensington Fields, Liverpool, L7 8SW.

Fabulous uniforms

As someone who has made a study of uniforms I must say how right is your correspondent Corporal Tawse (June). The older type of uniform



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with breeches, spurs etc was very smart and cannot be matched by the modern uniform.

In the old style a soldier looked a soldier and, apart from being very smart, he looked like a man as well. I remember, when I lived in Hounslow, a Redcap on duty at HQ Eastern Command with the inside leg of his breeches blanched white. No other Army could have produced a smarter soldier.

The Legion of Frontiersmen still shows how smart one can be in this type of dress.—W G Fleckney, 14 Buckland Path, Buckland, Portsmouth, PO2 7DB.

UNIFORMS ON STAMPS

The Gibraltar Post Office has issued another set of four stamps in the military uniforms series in values of 1p, 4p, 6p and 10p.

The one-penny depicts a fifer of 1770 of The King's Own Scottish Borderers, which was one of the regiments which defended the Rock during the siege of 1727 and the Great Siege of 1782-83. The 4p shows an officer of The Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1800 and the 6p features a soldier of the 5th Foot, about 1736. The 5th, later The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, gained 12 battle honours in the Peninsular War and was in the 1727 Gibraltar siege. Finally, the 10p. This stamp pictures a Grenadier guardsman of 1898 in marching order. The regiment's battle honours include Tangier 1680 and Gibraltar 1704-05.



Military uniforms are again featured on the latest issue of Antigua postage stamps in denominations of half a cent, ten, 20, 35 and 75 cents and a souvenir sheet containing all five values.

The blue half cent shows a private of the late Colonel Zacharia Tiffin's Regiment of Foot, 1701; the lilac ten cent a private in the 63rd Regiment of Foot, 1759; the grey 20 cent a Light Company officer of the 35th (Sussex) Regiment of Foot, 1828; the green 35 cent a private of the 2nd West India Regiment, 1853; and the brick 75 cent a sergeant of the 49th (Hertfordshire, Princess of Wales's) Regiment, 1858.

Collectors should be able to obtain these stamps from their usual dealers.

Since publication of my letter in the June SOLDIER I have received 279 letters from soldiers in London, Colchester, Windsor, Camberley, Chester, Portsmouth and as far afield as British Columbia, Canada, Arizona, Finland and Germany, all concurring with my idea of what constitutes smart kit.

The most enthusiastic correspondence, however, has come from the Household Cavalry and the Royal Military Police, which is even more heartening.—Cpl Bill Tawse, Flat 14, Elm Park House, Fulham Road, London, SW10.

Born in York Castle

I read with great interest the article on the Castle Museum, York (Military Museums, March). I say with "great interest" because I was born in the castle in 1913 in a room

above Dick Turpin's cell. I wonder how many other people can say they were born in York Castle?

In those days I believe the whole of the first floor was married quarters, of which my parents occupied one, my father, then a staff-sergeant, being in the Military Provost Staff Corps.—Mrs N E Murray, 2 Pembroke Avenue, Sale, Cheshire, M33 5GJ.

Regiment and was in action on the ground covered by the picture. I was captured in the building shown on the right.—Colin Hall, 14 Malden Park, New Malden, Surrey.

DO OR DIE

Theoretically there could have been 62 incorrect answers to Competition 180 (May) which asked readers to find the "odd man out" after pairing 62 words with an "or" link. In fact, only 13 wrong words were offered, with a strong preference for hindrance, butter or guns. The pairings were: Base or apex, black or white, common or garden, death or glory, either or both, fair or foul, give or take, great or small, guns or butter, hot or cold, laugh or cry, left or right, let or hindrance, life or death, lost or found, love or hate, make or break,

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promotion prospects. And on top of your salary, you get a free house or generous rent allowance.

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Prizewinners:

- 1 N W Jenkins, 380 London Road, Portsmouth, Hants, PO2 9JY.
- 2 H Merritt, 1 Westbrook Farm Cottage, Elstead, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 6LJ.
- 3 A V Middleton, Pierre Samson, Rue de la Bouverie, Cobo, Castel, Guernsey.
- 4 R U Merritt, 30A Wellington Road, Wanstead, London, E11 2AU.
- 5 Lieut-Col L C Sharpe, HQ RAOC, Nearelf, BFPO 53.
- 6 ASM B Stacey, 32 Engr Regt Wksp, BFPO 30.
- 7 Sgt A P Rogers RAE, HQ Eastern Comnd (CE's Branch),

Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW 2021, Australia.

8 Miss J M W Bird, RHQ The York & Lancaster Regt, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

9 Mrs P S Newton, 1 The Glebe, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 5PX.

10 S Roberts, 3 Clevedon House, Prince of Wales Road, Cromer, Norfolk.

11 Sgt G Puffet R Sigs, ACIO, 49 Fishergate, Preston, Lancs, PR1 8AR.

12 Nicholas Best, 3 Cedar Close, Teddington, Basingstoke, Hants.

SQUARE - EYED

The first and second prizewinners in Competition 177 (February) were listed in the July SOLDIER.

Other competitors near the mark were invited to take part in an eliminating contest for the remaining ten prizes.

These prizewinners are:

- 3 Capt M G Fossey, 23 Engr Regt, BFPO 36.
- 4 Sgt N Miller, ACIO, 43A Queen Street, Wolverhampton.
- 5 G A Gladman, 33 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0AQ.
- 6 Nicholas Jefferies, 31 Gloucester Road, Upper Ventnor, Isle of Wight.
- 7 Sgt J Curley, ACIO, 43A Queen Street, Wolverhampton.
- 8 Sgt R Sumner, ACIO, 43A Queen Street, Wolverhampton.
- 9 L/Cpl D J Salmon, A Sqn, 9/12 Royal Lancers, BFPO 41.
- 10 WO1 Walter, Warcop Training Centre, Appleby, Westmorland.

11 Col P S Newton, 1 The Glebe, Manor Park Road, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 5PX.

12 Sgt D Ashdown, Comp Ord Depot, BFPO 1.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 17)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Car's nearside headlamp. 2 Number of windows in hut. 3 Letter on broom. 4 Number of leaves below wheelbarrow. 5 Left branch of left tree. 6 Length of helicopter's right rotor blade. 7 Spokes of wheelbarrow wheel. 8 Crossbar of A in COMPANY. 9 Chimney of hut. 10 Lower right end of soldier's scarf.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

W Martin, 7 Druids Way, Arrowe Park, Woodchurch, Birkenhead, Cheshire.—Requires naval cap ribbons, Army cap badges and militaria for exchange or will buy.

B W Forster, 7 Victoria Park Road East, Cardiff.—Desperately wishes purchase hard cover copy of "The Greatest Raid of All."

Raymond Dunn, 29 Pinehurst Estates, Petewawa, Ontario, K8H 2H2, Canada.—Collects Canadian, British, Commonwealth badges and insignia. Has some Canadian militaria for exchange, mainly Queen's crown.

Per Thornit, Hasselvæj 36, 2830 Virum, Denmark.—Requires old photographs of Highland soldiers. Will buy or exchange for Scandinavian regimental badges.

A Wyatt, 44 Clougha Avenue, Halton-on-Lune, Lancs.—Requires worldwide parachute troops insignia, wings, badges etc. Will buy or exchange for British badges. All letters answered.

A Masterson, SAS Wingfield (GNW), Private Bag, Goodwood, Cape Town, RSA.—Wishes exchange East Lancs, Suffolk, Devonshire, South Staffs regts (all B/M & QVC), 6th DG Carabiniers (B/M & QVC), General Service, RAMC, ASC, KRRC (all B & QVC), 4/5 Commando (dagger) (B), Royal Guernsey (B), V Force, tri-metal padre (QC) Rhodesia, and few S African badges for pre-Republic—only S African badges.

Danny Marlow, 24 Whitewell Road, Colcot, Barry, Glamorgan, CF6 7TU.—Wishes exchange oil paintings of war landscapes, ships, Churchill etc for size Super 8 film of military or prize fights, or regimental cap badges. Will also paint picture to suit exchanger's choice.

REUNIONS

Staffordshire Regimental Association. London and Home Counties Branch annual dinner and dance, Blatchford Hall, St Albans, Saturday 17 November. Tickets £2.20 each from secretary, Mr B J Harris, 15 Harold Close, Pevensey Bay, Sussex.

The King's Regiment Comrades Association. Liverpool Branch reunion dinner at Drill Hall, Townsend Avenue, Liverpool, Saturday, 20 October. Tickets £1.50 each from Secretary, c/o RHQ, The King's Regiment, TAVR Centre, Townsend Avenue, Liverpool, L11 5AF. All ex-Kingsmen and serving soldiers of regiment eligible to attend.

Middlesex Regiment. Remembrance services. Field of remembrance: Assemble old Middlesex Guildhall 10.45am, 10 November; Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London NW7: Assemble 10am, 11 November. Details from Secretary, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex (Tel 01-952 2625).



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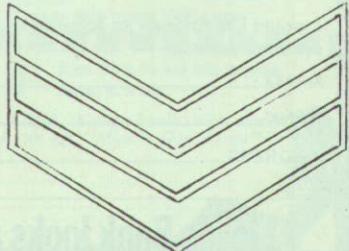


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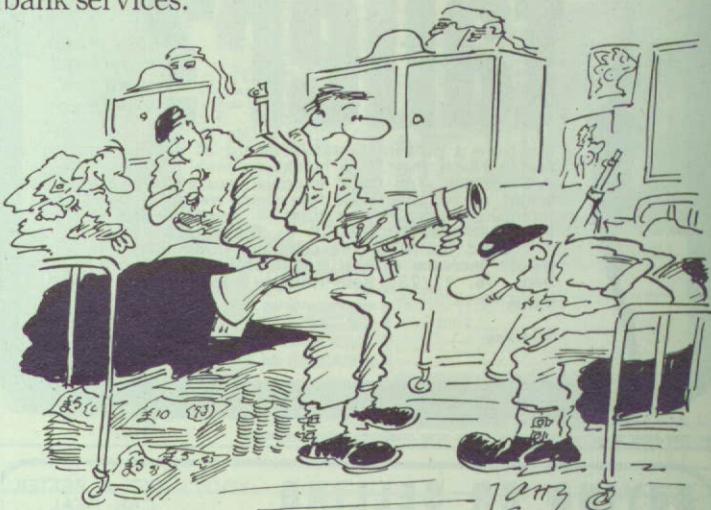
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Send your one-word answer, with the

"Competition 185" label from this page and your name and address, on a postcard or by letter, to:

Editor (Comp 185)

SOLDIER

Clayton Barracks

Aldershot

Hants

GU11 2BG.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas. Closing date is Monday, 14 January 1974. The answer and winners' names will appear in the March

1974 **SOLDIER**. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 185" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

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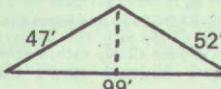
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QUESTION 4	King John signed Magna Carta "John Rex"	True	False	True	He signed it "John R"

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"The World of the Grenadier Guards"
(The Band of the Grenadier Guards conducted by Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Bashford and by Captain Peter Parkes) (Decca SPA 248)

This LP reaches me at the same time as the monsoon and, as I sit watching the long-awaited rain pouring from the heavens, I am indeed reminded of those wonderful Grenadier Guards marching from your Queen's palace in all weathers. I spent many happy hours watching them while I was in your great city failing my BA at the university. All the music is on other records but is a very welcome picking of some of the best by Rodney Bashford. This Peter Parkes I no hear of.

The first piece is a march "The White Plume" by this Parkes then two items from the Changing of the Guard, "The March in Scipio" and Zehle's "Wellington." Under the title Old London we have an excerpt from the record "Visit Britain" which includes a fine potpourri of London tunes and ends with "The Incredible Adventures of the British Grenadiers," by Raymond Agoult, in which the Grenadiers are heard at work and play, in camp and in battle and in what sounds to me like a Calcutta bar.

The remaining items are all marches from the LPs "Sousa Marches," "Sounds of Victory," "Tattoo in Berlin," "Marches from the Movies" and "March in Review." They are "The Thunderer" (Sousa), "Le Régiment de Sambre et Meuse" (Rauski), "Conquest" (from the film "Captain from Castille"), "When Johnnie Comes Marching Home" (Bashford), "Guadalcanal" (Rodgers), "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon," "Steadfast and True" (Teike) and "The Stars and Stripes For Ever" (Sousa).

This record is pleasing me very much. (RB is on holiday. The above was received from our Calcutta correspondent, Ranjit Bannerjee).

"Red Hackle in Concert" (Red Hackle Pipes & Drums directed by Pipe-Major John Weatherston) (Waverley SZLP/2135) One of the great pipe bands of Scotland gives us a further "dollop" of "commercial music" to the accompaniment of the Scottish Concert Brass, two organs and a fiddle.

This record begins with a conventional group of five 6/8s. The bagpipes have a softer tone than most, are excellently in unison and the sound is clear and distinct. This group features two small tunes by the veteran piper Hamish McColl—"Major May" and "Major Bobbie"—as well as three other popular marches. The second band is a group of slow airs, with the accompaniment of the other instruments, and if the fiddle is played with this group it is not discernible. The ensemble makes a very pleasant sound with all the music being skilfully blended. The slow

Gaelic air is a perfect foil for the follow-up of the waltzes—"Hector the Hero," "Mary Darrock" and "Mrs Elder's Welcome."

In the later group of polkas I find the drums and pipes in sound apart; not "out of time" but the mixture has not been so thorough, so that I hear pipes and drums and not a pipe band. Also the playing of "Jim Tweedie's Sea-Legs" tends to be on the heavy side.

The inclusion of "Try to Remember" from "The Fantasticks" is for me a disaster. The bagpipe must in my book stick to melodious music; when it tries other musical compositions the piper must make sure his notes are in tune. Here both the F and top A are too flat and grate.

Sanity reigns again in a group of real marching tunes. This is where the fiddle is clearly heard and with great success. A little more "spunk" in the tempo and expression would have made it truly a great selection. The drums drag here although their beatings are imaginative.

Side one ends with two modern tunes, "My Land," a fine melodious piece by Norman MacLean, who apart from being a good piper, was a gold medalist in Gaelic singing and the Mod Bard in the same year. "Intercontinental" by George McIlwham,

still is, considered the Devil's own instrument and here, played beautifully on well-set instruments, are three favourite old hymns, "Martyrdom," "Belmont" and "Land of my Fathers." This is a most impressive combination of sounds with bagpipes, drums, organ and brass all blending well together. For some reason this latter effect is not always sustained. In "The Son of the Scottish Soldier" the accompaniment is so loud that it is a relief to hear the "Green Hills of Tyrol" played by pipes and drums alone.

The record continues with a fine group of strathspeys and reels, with the fiddle once more brought in with great success, particularly in "Dancing Feet," and closes with a group of Scottish song airs—"Scotland the Brave," "Will Ye No' Come Back Again," which is the only melody not played by the pipers, and finally "Were No' Awa' to Bide Awa'" by all the instrumentalists.

This is a well-conceived record, with good imaginative playing for the most part which will provide lots of entertainment for many listeners.

JM

Also on this LP are—Side One: 6/8 marches "Rab's Wedding," "MacLeod of Mull," "Lily Christie;" polkas "Faded Cabbage;" "Banana Fingers;" 2/4 marches "The Sweet Maid of Glendaruel," "Campbell's Farewell to Redcastle,"

On Record

who is principal piccolo player with the BBC Scottish Orchestra and pipe-major of the Milngavie (pronounced Mulguy) Pipe Band to boot, is a really modern tone with many unexpected twists of melody.

Side two, just as interesting, begins a group of Retreat airs with "The Argylls Crossing the River Po" and George MacLennan's evergreen "Loch Maree," surely one of the most melodious tunes ever composed and to which full justice is done on this record although once again there is a general dullness due to playing that is too "nice." Following are "The Banks o' Allan Water" and again another MacLennan tune, "The Kilworth Hills," broadened in resonance by the organ accompaniment which is such an attractive feature of this record.

Now comes plenty of fire. "The Cockney Jocks" and the "Bonnie Lass O' Fyvie" both get the full treatment and what a most exhilarating group these two marches make with the brass keeping up the vitality.

The pipe was once, and in some places

"MacKenzie Highlanders," "Earl of Mansfield," "MacKay's Farewell to the 71st." Side two: Strathspeys and reels "Because He Was a Bonnie Lad," "Lady MacKenzie of Fairburn," "Cowal Gathering," "MacPhedran's Strategy," "The Kilt is My Delight," "Jock Wilson," "The De'il Among the Tailors."

"Marching With The Pipers" (City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band under the direction of Pipe-Major A MacDonald) (Talisman STAL 5030)

This is a re-issue of the 1966 Waverley record and comprises a varied selection of pipe band music ranging from slow marches to jigs. Many of the old favourites are here such as the dancing airs "Lady Madeline Sinclair," "Lord Blantyre," "Balmoral Castle," "The Devil in the Kitchen" and the accompanying reels "Mrs MacLeod of Raasay," "The High Road to Linton," "Sandy Duff" and the spirited "Reel of Tulloch."

Also on side one is the competition set of "Balmoral Highlanders," "Athole Cumers" and "Pretty Marion," all well played; this "heavy" set is matched on side two by "Donald Shaw SSC," "Blair Drummond" and "John MacKchnie." On the lighter side are such tunes as "Lord Panmure's March," "Lochanside," "Glasgow Highland Club," "Finlay MacKenzie," "The Maids of Kintail" and "The Liberton Pipe Band."

A good buy, and the quality of the recording is equally as good as the original which was one of this band's best records.

JM

Also on this record: Side one—2/4 marches "Rhodesian Regiment," "Australian Ladies;" marches "John Bain Mackenzie," "Memorial Bells of Inverary," "Dornoch Links," "72nd's Farewell to Aberdeen." Side two—6/8 marches "Cuil House," "Kilaran Bay;" Retreat airs "My Faithful Fair One," "Loch Maree;" jig "David Ross."



Patagonia trail-blazers



An eleven-man team of Joint Service explorers blazed new trails in a hitherto uncharted tract of Chilean Patagonia, notorious for its rugged terrain and treacherous weather, on an expedition that took five months.

The team fought the elements in the Hielo Patagonia del Norte—Chile's northern ice-cap some 500 miles north of Cape Horn—which sprawls across 2700 miles. Heavily crevassed glaciers from the ice-cap push through very thick jungle to reach the Pacific. Almost continuous rain, mist and gales lash the hostile environment. This wild tract of land is the home of the giant condor—the massive bird of prey which rides the air currents on wings up to 12 feet in span.

This first scientific expedition to spend any length of time in the area had three main tasks. First was to produce an accurate map of the district. Second was to carry out scientific research into the geology, glaciology and natural history of a part of Patagonia never before studied in any depth—several earlier theories were disproved by the explorers. The third task was to attempt the first British ascent of Mount San Valentin, at 14,000 feet the highest peak on the ice-cap, and to make the first north-to-south crossing of the cap, a journey of some 160 miles which took nearly three weeks.

At the start of the adventure, the Chilean warship Aquilla landed the party in the Kelly Inlet with eight tons of stores. After spending three days hacking a camp site out of the raw jungle, small groups probed the surrounding area for routes to the ice-cap. It took two weeks to find the way to an objective only ten miles away.

Once the route was found by boat trip up-river, through dense jungle and on to a glacier via a deep river of melt-water, it took a week to clear the way for equipment to be carried along the track.

That final obstacle, Andree Glacier, is one of the main streams of living ice relentlessly flowing out from the ice-cap. Only six miles long, it is so very heavily crevassed that first attempts to cross it

Left: Capt Agnew, firmly roped to fellow explorers, scales the icy side of a crevasse.

Right: The snow on the ice-cap below Cerro Arenales glares in the bright sun.

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were defeated. A route was eventually found across the two mile-wide glacier. It took about eight hours to cross with packs, but one party struggled for 30 hours before getting across. After the route to the ice-cap had been established, HMS Endurance, the Royal Navy's Antarctic patrol ship, arrived to fly food and stores on to the ice-cap by helicopter.

The expedition now started on the survey. Equipment for each survey station had to be packed by hand and weighed 200lbs. In addition, each man had 70lbs of personal food and stores. It took eight men at least a day to shift each station. After a month of gruelling work in terrible weather with gales that ripped a tent to shreds, the party eventually placed the first survey station 3000 feet up the ice-cap. Then followed 46 days of atrocious weather which brought all work to a halt.

In the new year the expedition attempted to climb Mount San Valentin. This meant sledging across the 20 miles of ice-cap in "white-out" conditions navigating by compass only. After four days a camp was set

up at the foot of the mountain. From here two attempts were made on the peak. The first was abandoned in a very complex ice-fall during a blizzard; the second route proved unsafe as the new snow from the blizzard was in danger of avalanching.

At the end of January most of the party returned to the Kelly Inlet leaving the leader, Captain Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw Yr, Sergeant Peter Breadmore and Corporal John Banks to do the first north-to-south crossing.

The trio spent four days sledging across the ice-cap before finding a steep 7000-foot col through the 10,000-foot-high ridge which divides the two halves of the region. It took another two days to cross the col with the sledge loads having to be relayed up a route running below hanging "seracs"—blocks of ice—which crashed down across the path. They reached the upper part of the Steffen Glacier next. From here, three days of difficult route-finding through ice-falls led the party to the glacier snout where they were greeted by a giant condor circling overhead.

The trip onwards to the Kelly Inlet was by a different route down on to the Benito Glacier and then a swim over the 100-yard-wide melt-water river. They celebrated their return with a belated Christmas dinner from a surprise pack of food given by the victualling department.

In the remaining weeks the scientists completed their research programmes and the expedition was evacuated by HMS Endurance in a two-day gale so severe that the ship's sea boats could not be launched.

The team was: Captain Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw Yr, The Royal Highland Fusiliers (leader); Lieutenant Chris Gobey, Royal Navy (deputy leader and hydrographer); Lieutenant Martin Sessions, Royal Navy (glaciologist); Surgeon-Lieutenant Angus Hoppe, Royal Navy (doctor and botanist); REA 2 Neil Francis, Royal Navy (photographer); Captain Jon Zorick, Royal Engineers (surveyor); Lieutenant Stuart Harron, Royal Army Educational Corps (geologist); Sergeant Peter Breadmore, Army Physical Training Corps (cine-photographer); Sergeant John Brewer, Royal Air Force (quartermaster); Corporal John Banks, Royal Air Force (climber); Junior Technician Bill Skelson, Royal Air Force (meteorologist).



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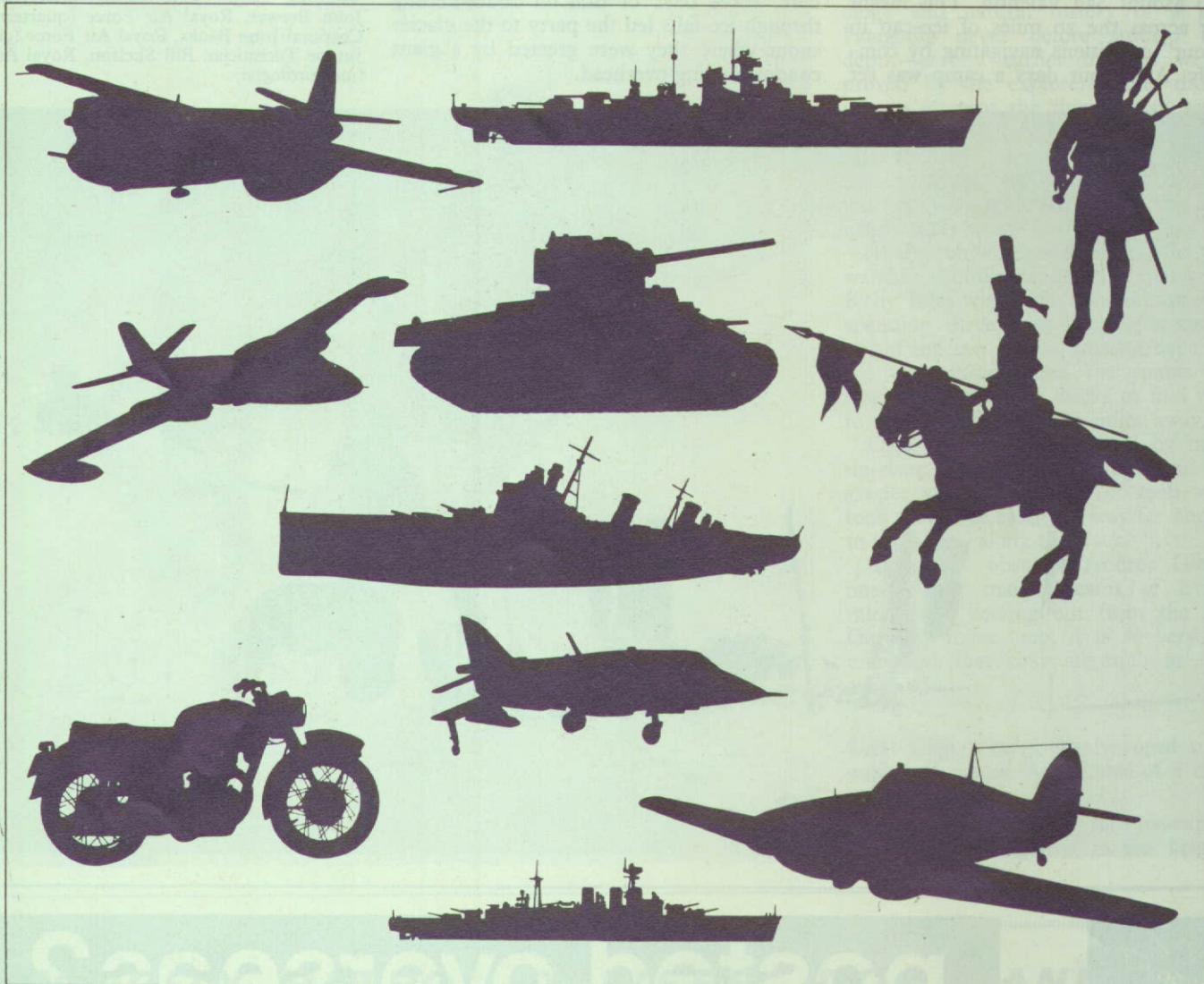
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Battle of the Bulge



IT was an appropriate Christmas landscape. Snow fell gently to lay a virginal white carpet at the foot of the tall fir trees. But that scene—in the Ardennes in December 1944—was to be the bloody battlefield of Hitler's last abortive attempt to beat back the allies in World War Two.

The "Battle of the Bulge" is the first of a series of diorama sets by the Japanese firm of Fujimi, marketed in this country by A A Hales Ltd of PO Box 33, Harrowbrook Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire. For £1.95 you get plastic kits of the mighty King Tiger and doughty Sherman, a full set of transfer decals, ten German infantry figures complete with a mortar, machine-guns, small arms and *panzerfaust*, and even an earth mound and three miniature fir trees. As the scale is a tiny 1:76 the detail is somewhat simplified, but with a whole tank and infantry action raging over just a couple of square feet who would complain!

It was in this battle that another new release, the United States M36 tank destroyer, earned a reputation for knocking out the heaviest German tanks at impressively long range. This model comes as a 1:35 scale plastic kit at £1.99 from Tamiya whose United Kingdom distributors are Riko of 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. The M36 is one of Tamiya's earlier models which has been refurbished. Although a good model it is not quite up to the excellent standard of the firm's newest tank kits. Tools, such as a spade and sledgehammer, are moulded on to the hull

and not cast separately, the retaining catches have been omitted from the front towing lugs (but can be simply made from wire or brass rod) and the muzzle brake is incorrect for the initial production M36 represented. The commander figure included wears a baseball-type helmet—since the turret is open-topped, he would have used a steel helmet had he had any sense!

Tamiya's M36 American tank and crew.

HH Below Left: Nazi half-track and crew.



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Books

HISTORY IN MEDALS

British Orders, Decorations and Medals (Donald Hall, in association with Christopher Wingate)

In recent years there has been a spate of books on medals and decorations but this beautifully illustrated volume compiled by experts has outstanding merit. It covers 200 years of British history and, as Sir John Smyth VC says in his foreword, is "highly educational and interesting from that point of view alone."

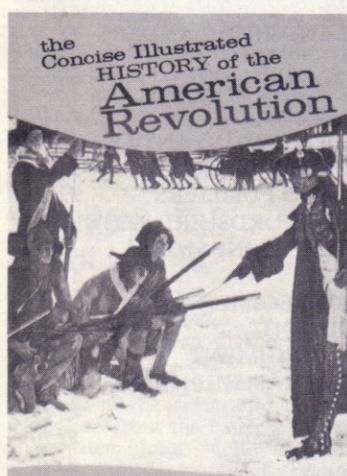
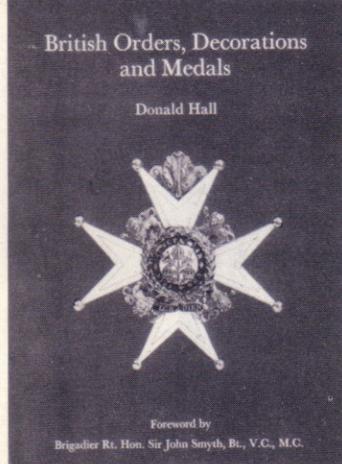
Virtually every British order, decoration and medal is covered. Each is illustrated with its regalia or ribbon accompanied by an authoritative description, making the book attractive both to youngsters and the non-expert about to embark on the absorbing hobby of medal collecting.

It is divided into four parts—orders of chivalry, decorations, medals for gallantry and distinguished conduct, and campaign medals, each section being preceded by a full-page colour illustration showing a battle scene and, in the case of part one, the Garter procession at Windsor Castle.

The book is well indexed, has a useful bibliography, an appendix with information on the order of wearing medals and an interesting note on mentions-in-despatches.

JFPJ

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a National Historical Society book

BICENTENNIAL

The Concise Illustrated History of the American Revolution (Joseph P. Cullen)

We are currently in the run-up to the 200th anniversary of the American Revolution from which the United States of America were born. This was a period in which this reviewer never had much interest (being a bad loser) but Mr Cullen's proudly written account can be said to "concentrate the mind."

He sets the scene and off march the patriots on their road to sovereignty. The milestones are the victories and defeats, the plans that worked and those that didn't. Not the least of those victories was the Americans' incredible war at sea when, in eight years, their privateers captured some 600 British ships and took property estimated to be worth 18 million dollars.

And, while still at sea, it is worth noting that Saratoga, Lexington, Valley Forge and Yorktown—all high peaks in the War of Independence—were names given to US aircraft carriers. One would like to think it was in tribute to their privateers.

Distributed by Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3, £1.80

JCW

GERMAN ARMY

The Other Side of the Hill (Sir Basil Liddell Hart)

A student of the German Army between the wars, and the inspiration of its armoured tactics through his writings, Sir Basil Liddell Hart was a certainty for an interesting study of it when World War Two ended. He had conversations with

surviving German generals and produced his book in 1948 and an enlarged edition of it, now republished, in 1951.

He was not, he said, writing history. It was too early for that. He was merely assembling material for history.

One conclusion it was not too early to reach was on the importance of the split in the higher direction of the German war. On one side were Hitler and the younger generals, intuitive amateurs supported by Hitler's early success in demonstrating the fallacy of orthodoxy; on the other side were the professionals, mathematically calculating and more often right in the long run. It was, says the author, the jealousy between the two sides which proved "more fatal" to Germany than the actual errors.

Cassell & Co Ltd, 35 Red Lion Square, London WC1, £3.00 RLE

COMMUNIST BID

Riot and Revolution in Singapore and Malaya 1945-1963 (Richard Clutterbuck)

Dr Clutterbuck, who retired last year as a major-general after 35 years in the British Army, is one of our foremost experts on guerrilla warfare and counter-insurgency techniques. In this excellent book he examines in detail the means whereby Communist terrorists sought to take over Malaya and Singapore and the means by which their bid was defeated.

Readers of his impressive book on the Malayan Emergency, "The Long, Long War," will find here a

complementary volume of matching importance and one which no soldier likely to be engaged in internal security operations can ignore.

Dr Clutterbuck focuses on the point of contact between the people and the revolutionaries. It is on this point that the degree of revolutionary success ultimately depends. He describes how the Communists made a two-pronged attack—urban and rural—and we see how they went underground to organise the trade unions and control Chinese students. In the rural field, Dr Clutterbuck describes the Communists' "parallel hierarchy" of clandestine government through which they aimed to intimidate the country and supplant its legal government.

He describes the methods used by the security forces, the Briggs plan, supercharged by Templer, and the close working arrangements of military and police.

The defeat of the Reds in Malaya and Singapore was a feat of tremendous significance; Dr Clutterbuck does full justice to it.

Faber & Faber Ltd, 3 Queen Square, London, £3.95

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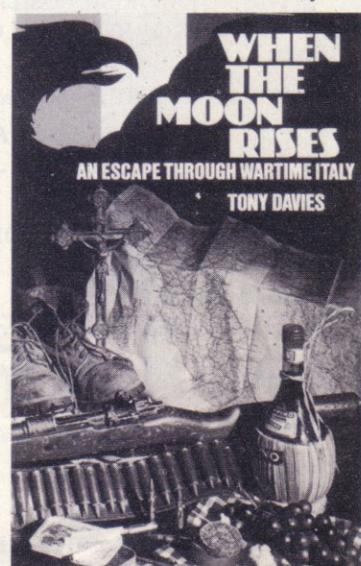
ESCAPE IN ITALY

When the Moon Rises (Tony Davies)

Dr Davies was a young subaltern in the Honourable Artillery Company when he was captured by German parachute troops in Tunisia in January 1943. He qualified in medicine after the war.

As was usual in North Africa, prisoners taken by the Germans were handed over to Italian custody and taken to Campos in Italy. Dr Davies made his first escape bid by leaping from a train. It seems a whole Italian division turned out to search for him and his companion; after evading them he had the bad luck to walk into a company of German soldiers whose *Feldwebel* took him for a deserter.

Handed back to the Italians, he was taken to Campo PG.421 not far from the River Po. It remained his ambition to escape and before long he was off again. This time he covered some 700 miles of German-occupied Italy, heading for the advancing allied armies in Calabria. It was his extreme misfortune to jump into a German weapons pit when on the threshold of safety.



Dr Davies tells his story with humour and modesty, carrying his readers along with him almost as if they were his companions. It is as good an escape story as any to come out of World War Two.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8FL, £2.75

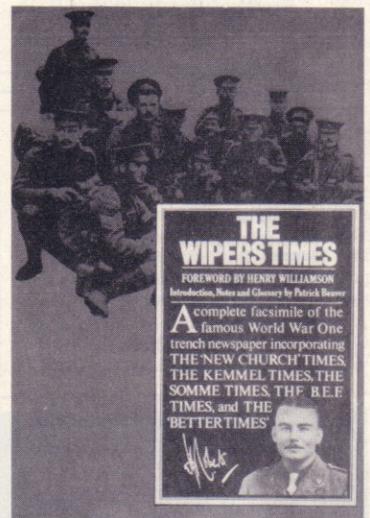
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FRONT-LINE NEWS

The Wipers Times (Introduction, Patrick Beaver)

A Sherwood Forester officer's discovery of a ruined printing press at Ypres in 1916 led to the production of *The Wipers Times*, a publication which printed in hundreds rather than thousands but whose fame grew to rival that of the Army's best-seller of all time, the AB 64.

The *Wipers Times* was published for 24th Division and changed its



name whenever the division moved until, for security reasons, it became the BEF Times. But it went into history under its original name.

Its humour, and it was almost all humour, was very much of its time and place, and to this facsimile of all its issues Mr Beaver has added a glossary and explanatory notes which are very welcome.

The paper took the mickey out of the pundits who wrote about the war for the newspapers, out of the ladies who wrote social gossip, and out of divisional personalities and institutions. Like Army papers ever since soldiers learned to read and write, it received floods of poetry and was lucky to have one regular versifier of quality in Gilbert Frankau, then a gunner officer with his literary reputation still to make.

The editor, a mining engineer called F J Roberts, was a captain when he started the paper and a lieutenant-colonel commanding his battalion when the war ended. He won the Military Cross and two mentions-in-despatches but his name failed to get into the Army List through some editorial or printer's error which must have delighted him.

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CONFUSING CONFLICT

"The Concise Illustrated History of the Civil War" (James I Robertson) To the layman the American Civil War is a somewhat confusing conflict. Not least of the problems is that many battles have two names, one given by the Union, the other by the Confederates. The Union, for instance, usually referred to a battle by the nearest stream—Bull Run or Stone's River. On the other hand the South named engagements after the nearest community—like Manassas or Murfreesboro.

It would appear that even Americans find it confusing, too. The US National Historical Society conceived this book as a once-and-for-all effort to simplify a very complex subject. Mr Robertson succeeds in this aim, producing an excellent, lucid summary of the causes of the war and its progress.

It was a war involving some 3,000,000 men in 2,200 engagements. Set out like a diary, this book chronicles the events of each year of the conflict in the East and the West and traces the pattern of bitter fighting through Antietam, Fredericksburg, Nashville, New Orleans, Chancellorsville, Murfreesboro, Gettysburg, Atlanta and so to Lee's surrender in April 1865. It was a watershed in American history and this little book gives a firm foundation for further detailed study.

Distributed by: Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3, £1.80 JCW

UNDER HITLER'S SPELL

"Mussolini" (Christopher Hibbert) "What judgement will history pass on me?" asked Benito Mussolini after his dismissal by the King of Italy. The Duce had been toppled from power as Italian will to fight crumbled and as the allies prepared to invade the mainland from Sicily.

It was a good question in the circumstances. Mr Hibbert, in War Leader Book 8 of the Pan/Ballantine "Illustrated History of World War Two," gives the answer with a fascinating study of this tragic-comic, bombastic, over-ambitious, selfish bully who dragged his generous, warm-hearted, easy-going people into a war they did not want and had not the means to win.

We see him as an uncontrollable bully at school, we follow his forays into teaching, journalism and politics, his service in the Bersaglieri. We see the founding of the Fascist Party, the march on Rome, the great benefits of his programme of public works and far-sighted improvement projects—the period "when Italy's trains ran to time." If his foreign policy had matched Italy's domestic one, Mussolini might have been Duce today (with a Libyan oil empire). But he fell under Hitler's spell. After showing the Führer

the Concise **ILLUSTRATED HISTORY** of the **CIVIL WAR**

a National Historical Society book

the way, he had to be content with second place, the poor relation consumed with jealousy in a love-hate alliance.

Pan/Ballantine, 33 Tothill Street, London SW1, 50p JCW

BEFORE DRESS REGULATIONS

"Waterloo Uniforms 1: British Cavalry" (John Mollo)

Waterloo has been discussed from almost every angle—from the Duchess of Richmond's ball in Brussels to the defeat and flight of Napoleon from the battlefield three days later. John Mollo strikes a new note in his study of the uniforms, equipment and arms of the British regiments which fought at Waterloo. First in a series, this scholarly, carefully researched book deals with the British cavalry regiments, describing their uniforms, weapons and equipment, formations and movements.

In 1815 there were no written dress regulations, an omission which Mr Mollo, an internationally recognised expert on military dress, has sought to remedy by assembling in the format used in later dress regulations the detailed information which he has sifted from contemporary orders and inspection reports, letters, diaries, paintings, and prints. The many illustrations, some reproduced from the royal collection of military drawings and paintings, are alas in black-and-white. What a feast had they been in colour.

The strictly factual accounts of the parts played in the battle by the participating mounted regiments, their clothing, arms and accoutrements and the dress of regimental staff, non-commissioned officers and trumpeters should be of value to the student of military history.

Historical Research Unit, 27 Emperor's Gate, London, SW7, £4.00 JFPJ

MADE OF STEEL

"Eisenhower" (Martin Blumenson)

Eisenhower's superb accomplishment in World War Two was his management of the complex establishment that won the war in North-West Europe, says Mr Blumenson. At first sight this verdict looks like a rehash of the old yarn that Ike was a good manager but no soldier. Not a bit of it. Mr Blumenson points out that Ike, like Foch in 1918, was to a large extent a co-ordinator but received far more than co-operation (which was all Foch could expect). Ike "commanded and directed supremely, and he was obeyed."

That sums up Eisenhower's command—he was obeyed. No other commander in history has shouldered such responsibilities and that he mastered his difficulties was due in no small part to his development as a leader, manager and director. As his tasks broadened so did his experience; his capacities reflected, finally, the mature poise of the seasoned campaigner.

Mr Blumenson adds: "Underneath the mild-mannered, likeable personality, the man with the smile, was a soldier made of steel." Elsewhere he comments: "Not a Patton, a Bradley or a Montgomery, Eisenhower directed them and engineered victory in Europe. In so doing he became a hero worthy of praise and adulation."

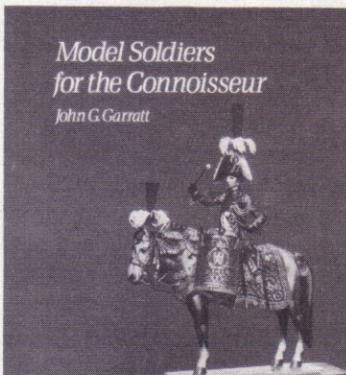
This War Leader Book 7 in the Pan/Ballantine "Illustrated History of World War Two" is an objective and well-balanced view of a truly great soldier.

Pan/Ballantine, 33 Tothill Street, London SW1, 50p JCW

In brief

"Model Soldiers for the Connoisseur" (John G Garratt)

Mr Garratt tackles his subject with the reverence of a professor of fine arts assessing Sèvres or Wedgwood china. He gives succinct sketches of master modellers such as Charles Stadden, Russell Gammage, Edward



Surén, John Tassell and P H S Birp of England; William Imrie and Clyde Risley of the United States; Eugene Lelièvre and General Angenot of France; and connoisseur collectors Major Henry Harris and Brigadier Peter Young of England, and Peter Blum of the USA.

However, scant attention is paid to the actual production and painting of model soldiers. And anyway his claim that "There is no logical reason . . . why eyes should be painted in detail at all" is highly debatable.

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 5 Winsley Street, London W1, £4.75

"Famous Feats of Espionage" (Leonard Gribble)

This is an essentially lightweight foray into the world of espionage touching on the exploits of, among others, that femme fatale of the Restoration, Louise de Keroualle and an American waxworks operator, Patience Wright, who, as a friend of George III, was a secret agent working for Benjamin Franklin.

The plum is left for the final chapter. The redoubtable Richard Sorge is possibly the only spy in this diverse selection who can be said to have really pulled off a feat. His activities in Tokio give one the impression that here at last is a master agent. It is the re-telling of Sorge's story which makes Mr Gribble's effort worth while.

Arthur Barker Ltd, 11 St John's Hill, London, SW1, £1.95 JCW

"Scottish Regimental Badges 1793-1971" (W H and K D Bloomer)

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Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London, NW3, 1PR, £1.80

"Discovering British Cavalry Regiments" (Arthur Taylor)

Ex-cavalry himself, Mr Taylor traces the history of British cavalry in his latest contribution to this popular series. Regiments are reviewed, customs and traditions recorded and there are potted biographies of some of the great commanders of mounted troops. Two cavalry actions, both typical of their time, Chalgrove Field in 1643 and Audregnies in 1914, are factually described. Three appendices deal with Standards, Guidons and drum banners; regimental nicknames; titles and composition of amalgamated regiments; and a fourth lists cavalry museums.

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