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FORTNIGHTLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

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May 12, 1997 Vol 53/10

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Army hold off Navy at Twickenham



SPORT LOTTERY PAY-OUT SOARS TO £1 MILLION

SGT Gary Jackson (left), of the Royal Logistic Corps, returned from terminal leave to collect a cheque for £3,000, which brought to more than £1 million the money paid out in prizes by the Army Sports Lottery since it began less than 3½ years ago. Story in Page 7.

First PLA troops arrive in city



Maj Gen Bryan Dutton, Commander British Forces Hong Kong, welcomes Maj Gen Zhou Borong (left), and the People's Liberation Army advance guard which arrived in Hong Kong on April 21 to prepare for the hand-over

Chinese made to feel at home

From Chris Horrocks in Hong Kong

WITH EIGHT historic words spoken in Mandarin, Maj Gen Bryan Dutton greeted the first advance party of the Chinese People's Liberation Army when they arrived by road in Hong Kong on April 21.

"Welcome," the Commander British Forces Hong Kong said to Maj Gen Zhou Borong, a deputy commander of the future garrison. "I hope you had a good journey."

When the party of 40 arrived at HQ British Forces, Prince of Wales Barracks, they were outnumbered by six to one, including Gen Dutton, a handful of other British Garrison personnel . . . and a baying media pack of almost 250.

The Chinese are split into two parties, a liaison group of

28 staying at PoW Barracks and the remaining 12 in military accommodation on Stonecutters Island, current home of the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, last British infantry battalion in Hong Kong.

Duties of the advance party will include making practical preparations for the PLA to assume defensive responsibilities of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region after June 30.

Their work is likely to include familiarisation with the

14 military sites they will be taking over, liaison with the British Garrison and the Hong Kong Government and co-ordination of communications support.

With memories of Tiananmen Square still vivid, the Chinese are determined to use their presence in Hong Kong to present a favourable image to the world. The soldiers are being specially selected for looks and height and will wear bespoke tailored uniforms (said

● Turn to Page 5

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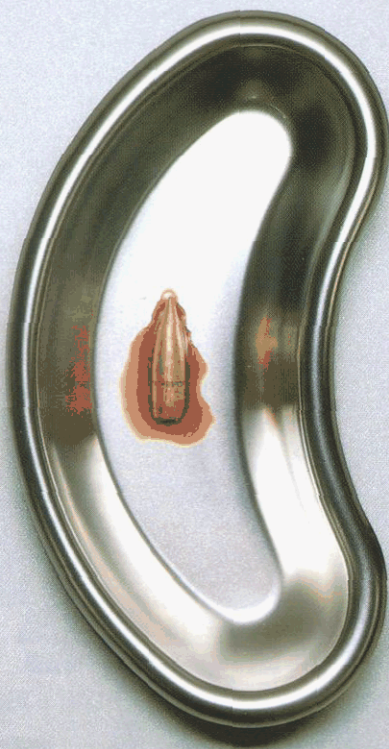
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PLA advance party in Hong Kong

● From Page 3

to be fashioned by Pierre Cardin) bearing a newly-designed badge.

Most of this elite force, expected to equal roughly the size of the 10,000 British force before the drawdown, will probably be based across the present border in Shenzhen, where modern accommodation has been built. Battalions

will serve in the new Hong Kong on a rotation basis.

After welcoming the advance party, led by two Audi staff cars, Maj Gen Dutton said: "This is a historic moment for both British and Chinese Armed Forces."

"We will be working hard to achieve our common purpose, the smooth transfer of defence

responsibility for Hong Kong.

"The British garrison has proudly undertaken that role for the last century and a half and will continue to do so right up until midnight on June 30. The secure environment we have created has been a major factor in the outstanding success story of modern Hong Kong."



Picture: LA(Phot) Craig Leask, JSPRS

Soldiers from C Company, 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, take up positions in the New Territories. They are among the last British troops to take part in a field exercise in Hong Kong

Tears as Queen salutes Korean War veterans

From Chris Horrocks in South Korea

MOVING WORDS from the Queen filled Commonwealth veterans with a pride tinged with sadness as they gathered in South Korea to commemorate the 46th anniversary of historic battles.

The Queen's message was delivered by her cousin, the Duke of Gloucester (Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of the RGBW), who had flown to Korea to join veterans from Britain, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Korea and a supporting party of officers and men from the British Garrison in Hong Kong.

He said: "Her Majesty's thoughts are with you on this, the 46th anniversary of the battles of Solma-Ri and Kapyong,

as you remember particularly those Servicemen who lost their lives in the service of the United Nations Command."

Four Gloucestershire Regiment veterans were among a UK party of nearly 70, including widows, making the pilgrimage for the first time since the end of what many now term "the forgotten war".

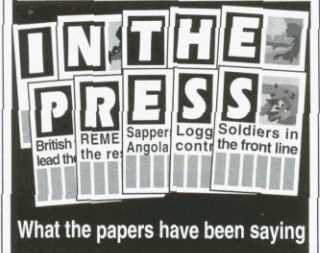
Veterans' pilgrimages have taken place for many years under a sponsored scheme run by the International Federation of Korean War Veterans. In recent years they have been supported by British Forces Hong Kong.

Commander British Forces Hong Kong, Maj Gen Bryan Dutton, took part with the British Ambassador to Seoul, former Royal Artillery officer

Stephen Brown, and Defence Attaché Brig Colin Parr. After emotional ceremonies at Kapyong and the British memorial in Gloster Valley, where British officers formed a guard of honour, the Duke chatted with veterans and their families.

With the handover just weeks away it was the last time that the ceremonies would include a military presence from Hong Kong, but with major events planned for the years 2000 and 2003, the 50th anniversaries of the start and end of the Korean War, it seems unlikely that some British uniformed support will not be forthcoming.

Two Victoria Crosses were awarded during the war, in which British casualties numbered 1,100 killed and 2,674 wounded.



Cyprus tension mounts

BRITISH military bases in Cyprus tightened security after angry Greek Cypriots stormed a police station and freed two detainees. Fifty British soldiers were sworn in as special constables. - *Guardian*

□ Former Cpl David Callaway, RRW, shot after being mistaken for a target while serving in Hong Kong, has won more than £250,000 damages from the MoD because he suffered from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder which was never recognised or properly treated. - *Daily Express*

□ The Royal Navy, instrumental in creating the colony 156 years ago, closed its base on April 12 to make way for China's takeover and end its shore presence in Asia. - *Daily Telegraph*

□ The RUC has seized an armour-penetrating IRA "super-gun" linked to the murder of nine members of the Security Forces in Northern Ireland. - *Observer*

□ A rescue mission involving the RSPB and MoD has been launched to help save the endangered North Pennines black grouse. - *Guardian*

□ Britain is helping to develop a laser gun that can destroy enemy aircraft or missiles at long range, say senior defence experts. - *Sunday Telegraph*

Up to strength

A HANSARD report (quoted in *Soldier*, Feb 3) in which Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames stated that The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, The King's Regiment, The Green Howards, The Light Dragoons and the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment were among the most over-stretched regiments in the Army, contained a misprint. In fact, all are over-strength.

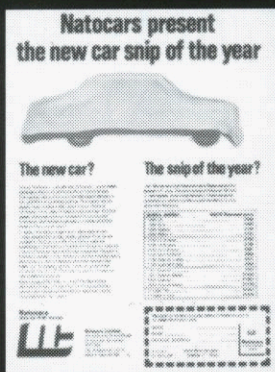


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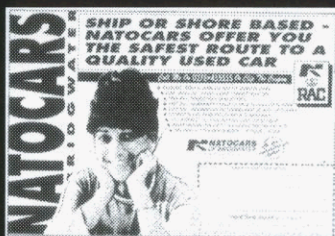
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Soldiers asked to help Gulf health study

SERVING and retired soldiers are being asked by the Ministry of Defence to fill in confidential questionnaires to help with independent research into the health of Gulf War veterans.

Forms will be distributed by researchers involved in three major studies. Two have been commissioned by the Medical Research Council (MRC).

Prof Nicola Cherry, of Manchester University, aims to find out if there is an excess of ill health among Gulf veterans, and whether service in the Gulf is linked with increased longer-term mortality or cancer risk.

Dr Patricia Doyle, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, will examine the reproductive health of veterans and their children's health.

A study comparing health of Gulf veterans with those who have served in Bosnia, and other Service personnel, is being undertaken by Prof Simon Wessely and Prof Tony David, King's College School of Medicine. Approved by the MRC, it is funded by the US Department of Defence.

RANDOM

An equal number of those who did not serve in the Gulf will receive forms. Veterans – who will be asked to fill in two – and personnel who did not go to the region, will be selected at random and not for any reason connected with their health.

The MoD has stressed that receipt of a form should not be regarded as indicating that an individual is sick. If personnel do not wish to take part, they can indicate this by ticking a box or returning it blank.

All responses, says the MoD – including those from individuals who did not deploy to the Gulf – are regarded as very important. The latter will provide an essential comparison with the replies of veterans.

Serving soldiers will receive forms through their units, and some researchers will visit bases to deliver and collect specific questionnaires.

Woolwich lines to take gunner's name

A SMALL military site on Greenhill, to the west of the Royal Artillery Barracks at Woolwich, is to be named after Lt Gen Sir William Congreve who founded the Royal Mili-

tary Repository in 1778. Congreve Lines will be occupied by the London District Accommodation Exchange Stores, HQ 7 AD Brigade vehicles and stores and the RA Display

Troop offices, and takes in Lower Gun Park, Middle Gun Park and the garrison fuel compound. The site of the lines is adjacent to the site of the former repository.

WFR mascot promoted for job well done



Pte Derby 26, mascot of the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, has been promoted lance corporal. Pictured with ram orderly LCpl Robert Slatcher (left) and ram major LCpl Steve Stone, he was presented with his stripe by the Duke of Devonshire at

Chatsworth House. Derby's promotion came at the end of the biggest recruiting drive in the regiment's history. He played a key role, appearing on 12 Freedom parades in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Worcestershire and at more than 30 other public engagements in a three-week period.

Lucky Gary's lovely lottery leaving lolly

ONE MILLION pounds has been paid out by the Army Sports Lottery in the 3½ years since the first draw. And the man who won the millionth pound did so in the nick of time . . . just weeks before he retired from the Army.

Sgt Gary Jackson RLC, who has been a subscriber in the sports lottery since it started in September 1993, also had the good fortune to win a special top prize of £3,000, bumped up from £2,500 to mark the milestone draw.

He was presented with his cheque by Maj Rob Wain-

wright RAMC, the Scotland rugby skipper and Lions tourist, just before the Army-RAF match at Twickenham.

Sgt Jackson had seen his numbers come up once before; he won £233 in April 1996.

Last posted to the Postal and Courier Depot at Mill Hill, North London, he had already started his terminal leave when he was told of his lucky break. He says the money will come in useful when he, wife Tracie, and daughter Sarah buy a house in Warwick.

Since the start of the lottery, about £545,000 has been

ploughed into sports projects and individual grants, and the trust fund set up by the Army Sport Control Board is rapidly approaching £1 million.

Biggest single grant so far – £40,000 – was given to the Army Winter Sports Association to help it stage the successful celebrations of its 50th anniversary.

Currently about 20,500 tickets are entered in the weekly draw. When that figure reaches 21,000 the jackpot will be increased from £6,000 to £7,000, and the top prize will go up to £3,000.

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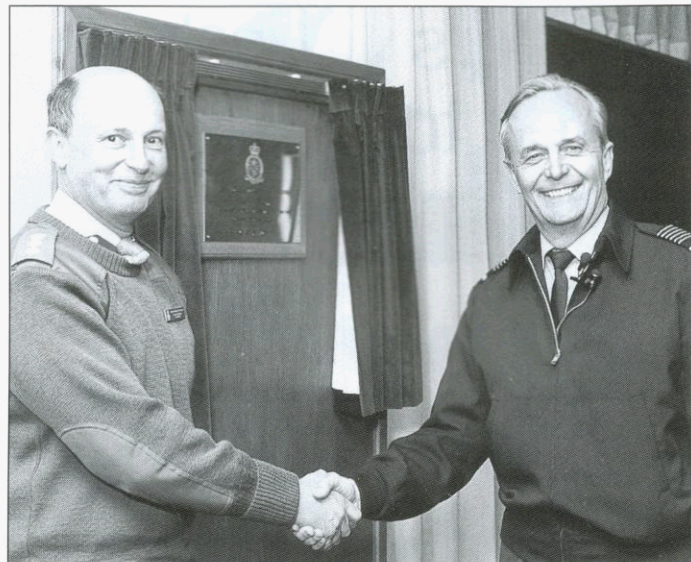
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NEWSLINE



Air Chief Marshal Sir John Willis (right), Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, and the first commandant, Col Michael O'Donoghue, mark the opening of the new tri-Service Defence Helicopter Flying School

Flying school opens for all three Services

FOLLOWING its formation on April 1, the new tri-Service Defence Helicopter Flying School (DHFS) was officially opened during a ceremony at RAF Shawbury.

A plaque marking the occasion was unveiled on April 10 by Air Chief Marshal Sir John Willis, Vice Chief of the

Defence Staff. He and other guests were given a tour of the school's new premises at Shawbury and Tern Hill, from where the single-engine basic training squadron - 660 Squadron - will operate on a daily basis.

First head of the DHFS is Col Michael O'Donoghue, who said the venture represented good value for money and made sense in days of high operating and overhead costs.

Created from a Defence Costs Study initiative, the helicopter flying school will save an estimated £77 million over 15 years.

It will operate contractor-owned single-engine Eurocopter Squirrel helicopters for basic and advanced training of pilots from all three Services.

Royal Air Force pilots, navigators and crewmen will complete their advanced training at Shawbury on the twin-engine Bell 412 Griffin, which will also be used for mountain and search-and-rescue techniques taught on aircraft based at RAF Valley.

FBS Ltd, the contractor, will run the operation at Shawbury, Valley and the Army Air Corps base at Middle Wallop, Hants, and will provide 40 per cent of the instructors. The 15-year contract is worth £400 million.

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A Squadron KOYY(LI) at the double

TPR Sam Tarff of A Squadron, The King's Own Yorkshire Yeomanry (Light Infantry) was named the best Territorial Army recruit on the Royal Armoured Corps course at Bovington in Dorset during March.

It was the second month running that the squadron had provided the best TA recruit, Tpr Mary O'Shea having won the award the previous month.

Tpr Tarff said: "The two weeks were a tremendous challenge, but we all felt a real sense of achievement and pride when we passed off the parade square on the final day."

Back in civvy street Tpr Tarff works for Doncaster Council as the lottery and payments officer.

PAY SCALES

Rent rebates, Reserve and TA pay scales

WEEKLY RENT REBATES England/Scotland/Wales/Overseas

Weekly amount effective from 1/4/97

Type		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
A	F	21.39	19.24	12.83	7.60
	PF	20.14	18.11	12.05	7.09
	UF	18.89	16.99	11.26	6.57
B	F	29.29	26.44	17.82	10.14
	PF	27.74	25.02	16.80	9.55
	UF	26.19	23.60	15.78	8.95
C	F	31.97	28.91	19.47	11.19
	PF	30.13	27.25	18.27	10.50
	UF	28.29	25.58	17.08	9.80
D	F	34.70	31.37	21.34	12.06
	PF	32.54	29.41	19.93	11.24
	UF	30.37	27.45	18.54	10.42
V	F	45.15	40.86	27.22	16.07
	PF	42.04	38.06	25.23	14.84
	UF	38.91	35.28	23.24	13.60

Effective from 1/12/97

Type		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
A	F	21.63	19.46	12.95	7.70
	PF	20.35	18.30	12.15	7.17
	UF	19.07	17.15	11.34	6.64
B	F	29.68	26.81	18.06	10.29
	PF	28.09	25.35	17.01	9.68
	UF	26.50	23.89	15.96	9.06
C	F	32.41	29.33	19.74	11.34
	PF	30.52	27.62	18.51	10.63
	UF	28.63	25.91	17.29	9.91
D	F	35.07	31.71	21.56	12.18
	PF	32.85	29.70	20.12	11.34
	UF	30.63	27.69	18.69	10.51
V	F	45.64	41.30	27.51	16.24
	PF	42.48	38.46	25.49	14.99
	UF	39.31	35.63	23.47	13.73

WEEKLY RENT AND RATE REBATES Northern Ireland

Weekly amount effective from 1/4/97

Type		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
A	F	12.55	10.16	4.51	All rebates for Grade 4 are £0.00
	PF	11.92	9.65	4.27	
	UF	11.29	9.14	4.03	
B	F	16.94	13.76	6.17	Grade 4 are £0.00
	PF	16.17	13.12	5.86	
	UF	15.39	12.48	5.56	
C	F	18.83	15.33	6.86	
	PF	17.90	14.58	6.50	
	UF	16.98	13.83	6.15	
D	F	20.69	16.82	7.62	
	PF	19.60	15.94	7.20	
	UF	18.51	15.05	6.78	
V	F	23.99	19.30	8.02	
	PF	22.58	18.19	7.52	
	UF	21.18	17.07	7.03	

Effective from 1/12/97

Type		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
A	F	12.74	10.31	4.57	All rebates for Grade 4 are £0.00
	PF	12.09	9.79	4.32	
	UF	11.45	9.27	4.08	
B	F	17.30	14.05	6.30	Grade 4 are £0.00
	PF	16.51	13.40	5.98	
	UF	15.71	12.74	5.67	
C	F	19.20	15.64	7.00	
	PF	18.25	14.87	6.63	
	UF	17.31	14.10	6.27	
D	F	21.13	17.19	7.78	
	PF	20.02	16.28	7.35	
	UF	18.91	15.38	6.92	
V	F	24.25	19.51	8.11	
	PF	22.82	18.38	7.60	
	UF	21.40	17.24	7.10	

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE OFFICERS – NORMAL RATES

Rank	Service	Daily rates					
		Full Commitment – 12% X-factor		Limited Commitment – 5% X-factor		Home Commitment – 0% X-factor	
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		£	£	£	£	£	£
2nd Lt	On appointment	39.69	40.08	37.21	37.58	35.44	35.79
	+1 year	52.46	52.99	49.18	49.68	46.84	47.31
	+2 years	53.84	54.38	50.48	50.98	48.07	48.55
	+3 years	55.22	55.77	51.77	52.28	49.30	49.79
	+4 years	56.60	57.16	53.06	53.59	50.54	51.04
Capt	On appointment	57.98	58.55	54.36	54.89	51.77	52.28
	+1 year	66.85	67.56	62.67	63.34	59.69	60.32
	+2 years	68.65	69.39	64.36	65.05	61.29	61.96
	+3 years	70.45	71.22	66.05	66.77	62.90	63.59
	+4 years	72.25	73.05	67.73	68.48	64.51	65.22
Maj	On appointment	74.06	74.88	69.43	70.20	66.12	66.86
	+1 year	75.86	76.71	71.12	71.92	67.73	68.49
	+2 years	77.66	78.54	72.81	73.63	69.34	70.12
	+3 years	84.81	85.67	79.51	80.32	75.72	76.49
	+4 years	86.91	87.79	81.48	82.30	77.60	78.38
Lt Col	On appointment	89.01	89.91	83.45	84.29	79.47	80.28
	+1 year	91.11	92.03	85.42	86.28	81.35	82.17
	+2 years	93.22	94.15	87.39	88.27	83.23	84.06
	+3 years	95.32	96.27	89.36	90.25	85.11	85.96
	+4 years	97.42	98.39	91.33	92.24	86.98	87.85
Col	On appointment	99.52	100.51	93.30	94.23	88.86	89.74
	+1 year	101.62	102.63	95.27	96.22	90.73	91.63
	+2 years	119.32	120.86	111.86	113.31	106.54	107.91
	+3 years	122.46	124.04	114.81	116.29	109.34	110.75
	+4 years	125.60	127.22	117.75	119.27	112.14	113.59
Brig	On appointment	128.74	130.40	123.51	125.10	119.77	121.31
	+1 year	131.88	133.58	126.65	128.28	122.91	124.49
	+2 years	138.69	140.47	133.46	135.17	129.72	131.38
	+3 years	142.34	144.17	137.11	138.87	133.37	135.08
	+4 years	145.98	147.87	140.75	142.57	137.01	138.78
	+5 years	149.63	151.57	147.01	148.92	145.14	147.03
	+6 years	153.27	155.27	150.65	152.62	148.78	150.73
	+7 years	157.04	159.14	154.30	156.40	152.42	154.52

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Rank	Service	Daily rates					
		Full Commitment – 12% X-factor		Limited Commitment – 5% X-factor		Home Commitment – 0% X-factor	
		1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Chaplains Class 4 (Capt), Class 3 (Maj)							
	On appointment	66.85	67.56	62.67	63.34	59.69	60.32
	+2 years	71.74	72.53	67.26	68.00	64.05	64.76
	+4 years	76.63	77.50	71.84	72.66	68.42	69.20
	+6 years	81.52	82.47	76.42	77.32	72.79	73.63
	+8 years	86.42	87.44	81.02	81.98	77.16	78.07
	+10 years	91.31	92.41	85.60	86.63	81.53	82.51
	+12 years	96.20	97.38	90.19	91.29	85.89	86.95
	+14 years	101.09	102.35	94.77	95.95	90.26	91.38
	+16 years	105.99	107.32	99.37	100.61	94.63	95.82
	+18 years	110.88	112.29	103.95	105.27	99.00	100.26
	+20 years	115.77	117.26	108.53	109.93	103.37	104.70
	+22 years	120.66	122.23	113.12	114.59	107.73	109.13
	+24 years	125.60	127.22	117.75	119.27	112.14	113.59
	+26 years	130.49	132.19	122.33	123.93	116.51	118.03

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE OFFICERS – QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

Rank	Service	Daily rates					
		Full Commitment – 12% X-factor		Limited Commitment – 5% X-factor		Home Commitment – 0% X-factor	
		1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Lt/Capt/Maj	On appointment	81.42	82.22	76.33	77.08	72.70	73.41
	+1 year	82.67	83.49	77.50	78.27	73.81	74.54
	+2 years	83.89	84.73	78.65	79.43	74.90	75.65
	+3 years	85.12	85.97	79.80	80.60	76.00	76.76
	+4 years	86.34	87.21	80.94	81.76	77.09	77.87
	+5 years	87.57	88.45	82.10	82.92	78.19	78.97
	+6 years	88.80	89.69	83.25	84.08	79.29	80.08
	+8 years	90.02	90.93	84.39	85.25	80.38	81.19
	+10 years	91.37	92.29	85.66	86.53	81.59	82.41
	+12 years	92.74	93.67	86.94	87.83	82.81	83.65
	+14 years	94.13	95.08	88.24	89.15	84.05	84.90
	+16 years	95.54	96.51	89.56	90.49	85.31	86.17
Lt Col	On appointment	107.67	108.77	100.93	101.98	96.14	97.11
	+3 years	109.19	110.30	102.35	103.42	97.50	98.48

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE – VETERINARY OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Daily rates					
		Full Commitment – 12% X-factor		Limited Commitment – 5% X-factor		Home Commitment – 0% X-factor	
		1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97	1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Capt/Maj	On appointment	66.85	67.56	62.67	63.34	59.69	60.32
	+1 year	71.57	72.35	67.10	67.83	63.90	64.60
	+3 years	76.30	77.14	71.53	72.32	68.12	68.88
	+5 years	81.03	81.93	75.97	76.81	72.35	73.15
	+7 years	85.76	86.72	80.40	81.30	76.57	77.43
	+9 years	90.49	91.51	84.83	85.79	80.79	81.71
	+11 years	95.22	96.27	89.27	90.25	85.02	85.96
	+13 years	100.23	101.23	93.97	94.90	89.49	90.38
	+15 years	105.19	106.24	98.62	99.60	93.92	94.86
	+17 years	110.16	111.25	103.28	104.30	98.36	99.33
	+19 years	115.12	116.26	107.92	108.99	102.79	103.80
	+21 years	120.08	121.28	112.58	113.70	107.21	108.29
Lt Col	On appointment*	123.94	125.54	116.19	117.69	110.66	112.09
	+2 years*	127.91	129.56	119.92	121.46	114.21	115.68
	+4 years*	131.88	133.58	123.64	125.23	117.75	119.27
Col	On appointment	138.69	140.47	130.02	131.69	123.83	125.42
	+2 years	142.34	144.17	133.44	135.16	127.09	128.72

*Captains and Majors who on 31/3/94 were paid at the former "after 23, 25, and 27 years' service" points will remain at these points on reserved rights.

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE SOLDIERS SCALE RATES Full Commitment – 12% X-factor Effective from April 1, 1997					
Rank	Class	Band	A	Scale B	C
			£	£	£
Pte	4	Band 1	24.87		
	3	Band 1	27.86	28.16	28.61
		Band 2	32.34	32.64	33.09
		Band 3	37.32	37.62	38.07
	2	Band 1	31.15	31.45	31.90
		Band 2	35.67	35.97	36.42
		Band 3	40.64	40.94	41.39
	1	Band 1	33.88	34.18	34.63
		Band 2	38.39	38.69	39.14
LCpl		Band 3	43.35	43.65	44.10
	3	Band 1	33.88	34.18	34.63
		Band 2	38.39	38.69	39.14
		Band 3	43.35	43.65	44.10
	2	Band 1	36.18	36.48	36.93
		Band 2	40.70	41.00	41.45
		Band 3	46.08	46.38	46.83
	1	Band 1	38.92	39.22	39.67
		Band 2	43.44	43.74	44.19
Cpl		Band 3	48.82	49.12	49.57
	2	Band 1	41.63	41.93	42.38
		Band 2	46.13	46.43	46.88
		Band 3	51.51	51.81	52.26
	1	Band 1	44.69	44.99	45.44
		Band 2	49.18	49.48	49.93
		Band 3	54.56	54.86	55.31
	Sgt	Band 4	49.24	49.54	49.99
		Band 5	54.15	54.45	54.90
SSgt		Band 6	59.49	59.79	60.24
		Band 4	52.08	52.38	52.83
		Band 5	56.96	57.26	57.71
		Band 6	62.33	62.63	63.08
		Band 7	68.79	69.09	69.54
	WO2	Band 4	55.68	55.98	56.43
		Band 5	60.58	60.88	61.33
		Band 6	67.18	67.48	67.93
	WO1	Band 7	73.78	74.08	74.53
		Band 4	59.38	59.68	60.13
		Band 5	64.26	64.56	65.01
		Band 6	70.96	71.26	71.71
		Band 7	77.54	77.84	78.29
Effective from December 1, 1997					
Pte	4	Band 1	25.15		
	3	Band 1	28.17	28.47	28.92
		Band 2	32.70	33.00	33.45
		Band 3	37.73	38.03	38.48
	2	Band 1	31.49	31.79	32.24
		Band 2	36.06	36.36	36.81
		Band 3	41.09	41.39	41.84
	1	Band 1	34.25	34.55	35.00
		Band 2	38.81	39.11	39.56
LCpl		Band 3	43.83	44.13	44.58
	3	Band 1	34.25	34.55	35.00
		Band 2	38.81	39.11	39.56
		Band 3	43.83	44.13	44.58
	2	Band 1	36.62	36.92	37.37
		Band 2	41.19	41.49	41.94
		Band 3	46.64	46.94	47.39
	1	Band 1	39.39	39.69	40.14
		Band 2	43.97	44.27	44.72
Cpl		Band 3	49.41	49.71	50.16
	2	Band 1	42.13	42.43	42.88
		Band 2	46.69	46.99	47.44
		Band 3	52.13	52.43	52.88
	1	Band 1	45.23	45.53	45.98
		Band 2	49.77	50.07	50.52
		Band 3	55.21	55.51	55.96
	Sgt	Band 4	49.74	50.04	50.49
		Band 5	54.69	54.99	55.44
SSgt		Band 6	60.09	60.39	60.84
		Band 4	52.60	52.90	53.35
		Band 5	57.53	57.83	58.28
		Band 6	62.96	63.26	63.71
		Band 7	69.48	69.78	70.23
	WO2	Band 4	56.24	56.54	56.99
		Band 5	61.19	61.49	61.94
		Band 6	67.85	68.15	68.60
	WO1	Band 7	74.52	74.82	75.27
		Band 4	59.97	60.27	60.72
		Band 5	64.91	65.21	65.66
		Band 6	71.67	71.97	72.42
		Band 7	78.32	78.62	79.07

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE SOLDIERS SCALE RATES Limited Commitment – 5% X-factor Effective from April 1, 1997					
Rank	Class	Band	A	Scale B	C
			£	£	£
Pte	4	Band 1	23.30		
	3	Band 1	26.10	26.40	26.85
		Band 2	30.30	30.60	31.05
		Band 3	34.97	35.27	35.72
	2	Band 1	29.18	29.48	29.93
		Band 2	33.42	33.72	34.17
		Band 3	38.08	38.38	38.83
	1	Band 1	31.74	32.04	32.49
		Band 2	35.97	36.27	36.72
LCpl		Band 3	40.62	40.92	41.37
	3	Band 1	31.74	32.04	32.49
		Band 2	35.97	36.27	36.72
		Band 3	40.62	40.92	41.37
	2	Band 1	33.90	34.20	34.65
		Band 2	38.14	38.44	38.89
		Band 3	43.18	43.48	43.93
	1	Band 1	36.47	36.77	37.22
		Band 2	40.71	41.01	41.46
Cpl		Band 3	45.75	46.05	46.50
	2	Band 1	39.01	39.31	39.76
		Band 2	43.23	43.53	43.98
		Band 3	48.27	48.57	49.02
	1	Band 1	41.88	42.18	42.63
		Band 2	46.09	46.39	46.84
		Band 3	51.13	51.43	51.88
	Sgt	Band 4	46.14	46.44	46.89
		Band 5	50.75	51.05	51.50
SSgt		Band 6	55.75	56.05	56.50
		Band 4	48.81	49.11	49.56
		Band 5	53.38	53.68	54.13
		Band 6	58.42	58.72	59.17
		Band 7	64.47	64.77	65.22
	WO2	Band 4	52.18	52.48	52.93
		Band 5	56.78	57.08	57.53
		Band 6	62.96	63.26	63.71
	WO1	Band 7	69.15	69.45	69.90
		Band 4	55.65	55.95	56.40
		Band 5	60.23	60.53	60.98
		Band 6	66.51	66.81	67.26
		Band 7	72.68	72.98	73.43
Effective from December 1, 1997					
Pte	4	Band 1	23.56		
	3	Band 1	26.39	26.69	27.14
		Band 2	30.64	30.94	31.39
		Band 3	35.35	35.65	36.10
	2	Band 1	29.50	29.80	30.25
		Band 2	33.79	34.09	34.54
		Band 3	38.50	38.80	39.25
	1	Band 1	32.09	32.39	32.84
		Band 2	36.37	36.67	37.12
LCpl		Band 3	41.07	41.37	41.82
	3	Band 1	32.09	32.39	32.84
		Band 2	36.37	36.67	37.12
		Band 3	41.07	41.37	41.82
	2	Band 1	34.31	34.61	35.06
		Band 2	38.60	38.90	39.35
		Band 3	43.71	44.01	44.46
	1	Band 1	36.91	37.21	37.66
		Band 2	41.20	41.50	41.95
Cpl		Band 3	46.30	46.60	47.05
	2	Band 1	39.48	39.78	40.23
		Band 2	43.75	44.05	44.50
		Band 3	48.85	49.15	49.60
	1	Band 1	42.38	42.68	43.13
		Band 2	46.64	46.94	47.39
		Band 3	51.74	52.04	52.49
	Sgt	Band 4	46.61	46.91	47.36
		Band 5	51.25	51.55	52.00
SSgt		Band 6	56.32	56.62	57.07
		Band 4	49.29	49.59	50.04
		Band 5	53.92	54.22	54.67
		Band 6	59.01	59.31	59.76
		Band 7	65.12	65.42	65.87
	WO2	Band 4	52.71	53.01	53.46
		Band 5	57.35	57.65	58.10
		Band 6	63.59	63.89	64.34
	WO1	Band 7	69.84	70.14	70.59
		Band 4	56.20	56.50	56.95
		Band 5	60.83	61.13	61.58
		Band 6	67.17	67.47	67.92
		Band 7	73.41	73.71	74.16

FULL-TIME RESERVE SERVICE SOLDIERS SCALE RATES

Home Commitment – 0% X-factor

Effective from April 1, 1997

Rank	Class	Band	A	Scale B	C
			£	£	£
Pte	4	Band 1	22.17		
	3	Band 1	24.84	25.14	25.59
		Band 2	28.84	29.14	29.59
		Band 3	33.29	33.59	34.04
	2	Band 1	27.78	28.08	28.53
		Band 2	31.82	32.12	32.57
		Band 3	36.25	36.55	37.00
	1	Band 1	30.22	30.52	30.97
		Band 2	34.24	34.54	34.99
LCpl		Band 3	38.67	38.97	39.42
	3	Band 1	30.22	30.52	30.97
		Band 2	34.24	34.54	34.99
		Band 3	38.67	38.97	39.42
	2	Band 1	32.27	32.57	33.02
		Band 2	36.31	36.61	37.06
		Band 3	41.11	41.41	41.86
	1	Band 1	34.72	35.02	35.47
		Band 2	38.75	39.05	39.50
Cpl		Band 3	43.56	43.86	44.31
	2	Band 1	37.14	37.44	37.89
		Band 2	41.16	41.46	41.91
		Band 3	45.96	46.26	46.71
	1	Band 1	39.87	40.17	40.62
		Band 2	43.88	44.18	44.63
		Band 3	48.68	48.98	49.43
	Sgt	Band 4	43.93	44.23	44.68
		Band 5	48.32	48.62	49.07
SSgt		Band 6	53.08	53.38	53.83
		Band 4	46.47	46.77	47.22
		Band 5	50.82	51.12	51.57
		Band 6	55.62	55.92	56.37
WO2		Band 7	61.39	61.69	62.14
		Band 4	49.68	49.98	50.43
		Band 5	54.06	54.36	54.81
		Band 6	59.95	60.25	60.70
WO1		Band 7	65.84	66.14	66.59
		Band 4	52.99	53.29	53.74
		Band 5	57.34	57.64	58.09
		Band 6	63.33	63.63	64.08
		Band 7	69.20	69.50	69.95

Effective from December 1, 1997

Pte	4	Band 1	22.42		
	3	Band 1	25.12	25.42	25.87
		Band 2	29.16	29.46	29.91
LCpl	2	Band 3	33.66	33.96	34.41
		Band 1	28.08	28.38	28.83
		Band 2	32.16	32.46	32.91
	1	Band 3	36.66	36.96	37.41
		Band 1	30.55	30.85	31.30
		Band 2	34.62	34.92	35.37
	3	Band 3	39.10	39.40	39.85
		Band 1	30.55	30.85	31.30
		Band 2	34.62	34.92	35.37
Cpl	2	Band 3	39.10	39.40	39.85
		Band 1	32.66	32.96	33.41
		Band 2	36.74	37.04	37.49
	1	Band 3	41.61	41.91	42.36
		Band 1	35.14	35.44	35.89
		Band 2	39.23	39.53	39.98
	2	Band 3	44.08	44.38	44.83
		Band 1	37.58	37.88	38.33
		Band 2	41.66	41.96	42.41
Sgt	1	Band 3	46.51	46.81	47.26
		Band 1	40.35	40.65	41.10
		Band 2	44.41	44.71	45.16
		Band 3	49.26	49.56	50.01
		Band 4	44.38	44.68	45.13
		Band 5	48.80	49.10	49.55
	SSgt	Band 6	53.62	53.92	54.37
		Band 4	46.93	47.23	47.68
		Band 5	51.33	51.63	52.08
WO2	Band 6	56.18	56.48	56.93	
	Band 7	62.00	62.30	62.75	
	Band 4	50.18	50.48	50.93	
	Band 5	54.60	54.90	55.35	
	Band 6	60.55	60.85	61.30	
WO1	Band 7	66.50	66.80	67.25	
	Band 4	53.51	53.81	54.26	
	Band 5	57.92	58.22	58.67	
	Band 6	63.96	64.26	64.71	
	Band 7	69.90	70.20	70.65	

TA OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Daily rates	
		1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£
2nd Lt	On appointment	37.21	37.58
	+1 year	49.18	49.68
	+2 years	50.48	50.98
	+3 years	51.77	52.28
	+4 years	53.06	53.59
Capt	On appointment	54.36	54.89
	+1 year	62.67	63.34
	+2 years	64.36	65.05
	+3 years	66.05	66.77
	+4 years	67.73	68.48
Maj	On appointment	69.43	70.20
	+1 year	71.12	71.92
	+2 years	72.81	73.63
	+3 years	79.51	80.32
	+4 years	81.48	82.30
Lt Col	On appointment	83.45	84.29
	+1 year	85.42	86.28
	+2 years	87.39	88.27
	+3 years	89.36	90.25
	+4 years	91.33	92.24
Col	On appointment	93.30	94.23
	+1 year	95.27	96.22
	+2 years	111.86	113.31
	+3 years	114.81	116.29
	+4 years	117.75	119.27
Brig	On appointment	123.51	125.10
	+1 year	126.65	128.28
	+2 years	133.46	135.17
	+3 years	137.11	138.87
	+4 years	140.75	142.57
	On appointment	147.01	148.92
	+1 year	150.65	152.62
	+2 years	167.42	169.76
	+3 years		
	+4 years		

OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL CHAPLAINS DEPARTMENT

Rank	Service	Daily rates	
		1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£
Chaplains Class 4 (Capt), Class 3 (Maj)	On appointment	62.67	63.34
	+2 years	67.26	68.00
	+4 years	71.84	72.66
	+6 years	76.42	77.32
	+8 years	81.02	81.98
	+10 years	85.60	86.63
	+12 years	90.19	91.29
	+14 years	94.77	95.95
	+16 years	99.37	100.61
	+18 years	103.95	105.27
	+20 years	108.53	109.93
	+22 years	113.12	114.59
	+24 years	117.75	119.27
	+26 years	122.33	123.93

OFFICERS OF THE QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

Rank	Service	Daily rates	
		1/4/97	1/12/97
		£	£
Lt/Capt/Maj	On appointment	76.33	77.08
	+1 year	77.50	78.27
	+2 years	78.65	79.43
	+3 years	79.80	80.60
	+4 years	80.94	81.76
	+5 years	82.10	82.92
	+6 years	83.25	84.08
	+7 years	84.39	85.25
	+8 years	85.66	86.53
	+9 years	86.94	87.83
Lt Col	On appointment	88.24	89.15
	+1 year	89.56	90.49
	+2 years	100.93	101.98
	+3 years	102.35	103.42

TA VETERINARY OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Daily rates	
		1/4/97	1/12/97
Capt/Maj		£	£
	On appointment	62.67	63.34
	+1 year	67.10	67.83
	+3 years	71.53	72.32
	+5 years	75.97	76.81
	+7 years	80.40	81.30
	+9 years	84.83	85.79
	+11 years	89.27	90.25
	+13 years	93.97	94.90
	+15 years	98.62	99.60
	+17 years	103.28	104.30
	+19 years	107.92	108.99
	+21 years	112.58	113.70
	On appointment	116.19	117.69
Lt Col	+2 years	119.92	121.46
	+4 years	123.64	125.23
Col	On appointment	130.02	131.69
	+2 years	133.44	135.16

TA OFFICER CADETS AND JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Rank	Daily rates	
	1/4/97	1/12/97
	£	£
Cadet on entry	26.11	26.37
Junior Soldier	14.52	14.69
Young Soldier	17.63	17.82

TA SOLDIERS – SCALE RATES

Effective from April 1, 1997

Rank	Class	Band	Scale		
			A	B	C
			£	£	£
Pte	4	Band 1	23.30		
		Band 1	26.10	26.40	26.85
		Band 2	30.30	30.60	31.05
	2	Band 3	34.97	35.27	35.72
		Band 1	29.18	29.48	29.93
		Band 2	33.42	33.72	34.17
	1	Band 3	38.08	38.38	38.83
		Band 1	31.74	32.04	32.49
		Band 2	35.97	36.27	36.72
		Band 3	40.62	40.92	41.37
LCpl	3	Band 1	31.74	32.04	32.49
		Band 2	35.97	36.27	36.72
		Band 3	40.62	40.92	41.37
	2	Band 1	33.90	34.20	34.65
		Band 2	38.14	38.44	38.89
		Band 3	43.18	43.48	43.93
	1	Band 1	36.47	36.77	37.22
		Band 2	40.71	41.01	41.46
		Band 3	45.75	46.05	46.50
	Cpl	Band 1	39.01	39.31	39.76
		Band 2	43.23	43.53	43.98
		Band 3	48.27	48.57	49.02
	1	Band 1	41.88	42.18	42.63
		Band 2	46.09	46.39	46.84
		Band 3	51.13	51.43	51.88
Sgt		Band 4	46.14	46.44	46.89
		Band 5	50.75	51.05	51.50
		Band 6	55.75	56.05	56.50
		Band 4	48.81	49.11	49.56
SSgt		Band 5	53.38	53.68	54.13
		Band 6	58.42	58.72	59.17
		Band 7	64.47	64.77	65.22
		Band 4	52.18	52.48	52.93
		Band 5	56.78	57.08	57.53
		Band 6	62.96	63.26	63.71
		Band 7	69.15	69.45	69.90
WO2		Band 4	55.65	55.95	56.40
		Band 5	60.23	60.53	60.98
		Band 6	66.51	66.81	67.26
		Band 7	72.68	72.98	73.43

Effective from December 1, 1997

Pte	4	Band 1	23.56		
		Band 1	26.39	26.69	27.14
		Band 2	30.64	30.94	31.39
	2	Band 3	35.35	35.65	36.10
		Band 1	29.50	29.80	30.25
		Band 2	33.79	34.09	34.54
	1	Band 3	38.50	38.80	39.25
		Band 1	32.09	32.39	32.84
		Band 2	36.37	36.67	37.12
		Band 3	41.07	41.37	41.82
LCpl	3	Band 1	32.09	32.39	32.84
		Band 2	36.37	36.67	37.12
		Band 3	41.07	41.37	41.82
	2	Band 1	34.31	34.61	35.06
		Band 2	38.60	38.90	39.35
		Band 3	43.71	44.01	44.46
	1	Band 1	36.91	37.21	37.66
		Band 2	41.20	41.50	41.95
		Band 3	46.30	46.60	47.05
	Cpl	Band 1	39.48	39.78	40.23
		Band 2	43.75	44.05	44.50
		Band 3	48.85	49.15	49.60
		Band 1	42.38	42.68	43.13
Sgt	1	Band 2	46.64	46.94	47.39
		Band 3	51.74	52.04	52.49
		Band 4	46.61	46.91	47.36
		Band 5	51.25	51.55	52.00
	SSgt	Band 6	56.32	56.62	57.07
		Band 4	49.29	49.59	50.04
		Band 5	53.92	54.22	54.67
		Band 6	59.01	59.31	59.76
	WO2	Band 7	65.12	65.42	65.87
		Band 4	52.71	53.01	53.46
		Band 5	57.35	57.65	58.10
		Band 6	63.59	63.89	64.34
WO1		Band 7	69.84	70.14	70.59
		Band 4	56.20	56.50	56.95
		Band 5	60.83	61.13	61.58
		Band 6	67.17	67.47	67.92
		Band 7	73.41	73.71	74.16

GROUP A NRPS – SOLDIERS' NORMAL RATES

Effective from April 1, 1997

Rank	On appt	After 3 yrs	6 yrs	9 yrs
	£	£	£	£
Pte	30.49	30.59	30.69	30.79
LCpl	35.03	35.13	35.23	35.33
Cpl Class 2	42.19	42.29	42.39	42.49
Cpl Class 1	44.94	45.04	45.14	45.24
Sgt	49.41	49.51	49.61	49.71
SSgt	51.94	52.04	52.14	52.24
WO2	61.14	61.24	61.34	61.44
WO1	70.46	70.56	70.66	70.76

Effective from December 1, 1997

Pte	30.83	30.93	31.03	31.13
LCpl	35.45	35.55	35.65	35.75
Cpl Class 2	42.70	42.80	42.90	43.00
Cpl Class 1	45.47	45.57	45.67	45.77
Sgt	49.90	50.00	50.10	50.20
SSgt	52.45	52.55	52.65	52.75
WO2	61.74	61.84	61.94	62.04
WO1	71.16	71.26	71.36	71.46

GROUP B NRPS – SOLDIERS' NORMAL RATES

Effective from April 1, 1997

Rank	On appt	After 3 yrs	6 yrs	9 yrs
	£	£	£	£
Pte	30.49	30.59	30.69	30.79
LCpl	35.03	35.13	35.23	35.33
Cpl Class 2	42.19	42.29	42.39	42.49

Effective from December 1, 1997

Pte	30.83	30.93	31.03	31.13
LCpl	35.45	35.55	35.65	35.75
Cpl Class 2	42.70	42.80	42.90	43.00

Royal pedigree

WO **Richard Waygood** receives his awards from Mr and Mrs **David Robinson** of the sponsors after winning the novice class of the Pedigree Chum Belton Horse Trials at Belton Park, Grantham. Richard, serving with The Life Guards and based at Melton Mowbray, where he trains instructors, was riding the Queen's horse, **Joust**.

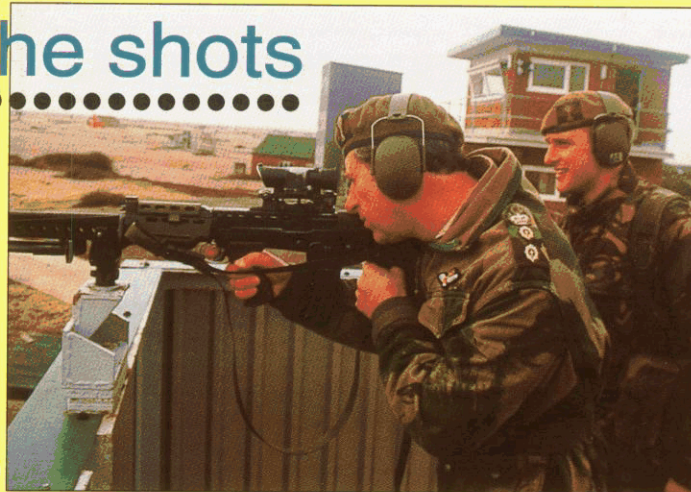
It is his second victory on Joust, which was bred by the Queen from one of her racing mares, **Courtyard**.



Prince calls the shots

Under the guidance of Sgt **Conrad Price**, of No 3 Company, the **Prince of Wales** fires a weapon from a pintle mount on Lydd Ranges in Kent. The Prince, who is Colonel of the Welsh Guards, was visiting the 1st Battalion as it prepared for a tour of duty in Northern Ireland as the Armagh Roulement Battalion.

Prince Charles was met by the commanding officer, Lt Col **Sandy Malcolm**, and the sergeant major, WO1 **Keith Oultram**. He also spoke to officers, NCOs and guardsmen of The Prince of Wales's Company (commanded by Maj **Robert Talbot-Rice**) and No 3 Coy (Maj **Ben Bathurst**).



Ken canes the opposition

Rfn **Ken Edge** (left) receives the JNCO cane from Brig **John McColl**, Commander 1 Mechanised Brigade, for finishing top of the class. He emerged as the best candidate after nearly 70 soldiers had set out on a gruelling Royal Green Jackets' course to select junior non-commissioned officers.

Half the intake failed to finish the tough six-week programme of exercises and assessments.

Brig McColl presented stripes to 24 other riflemen and six privates who also passed the course.

On their return to the relative calm of Bulford Camp, the entrants faced a final week of learning other aspects of junior command, including subjects as diverse as pay and combat situations.



Spicier and spicier...

Colchester Garrison units, especially 1 LI – in the process of deploying to Cyprus – and the **Gurkhas**, bent over backwards to be helpful when the DCTA (that's the Defence Clothing and Textiles Agency) **Spicier Girls** went collecting on Red Nose Day. With help from Maj **Nigel Benwell** from Garrison HQ, they raised £642. From left to right are **Helen, Helen, Sharon, Louise, Tina** and **Emma**.



Double take

Maj Gen **Geoff Field** (right), last Colonel Commandant of The Royal Pioneer Corps, stands beside his portrait, painted by artist **Keith Breen**, after unveiling it in the Officers' Mess of 23 Pioneer Regiment RLC at Bicester. Gen Field, now Resident Keeper of The Jewel House at the Tower of London, was

Colonel Commandant until the Pioneers were amalgamated into the Royal Logistic Corps. The portrait was commissioned by the RPC Association.

PEOPLE

Hair-raising moment

It is always a nervous moment for an officer cadet on the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst when the Academy Sergeant Major does his inspection. WO1 (AcSM) **Dick McCormack**, Coldm Gds, is pictured carrying out his final inspection before relinquishing the appointment. Now Capt McCormack, he has taken over as families' officer with the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards in Munster, and is believed to be only the second Academy Sergeant Major to be commissioned.



Le visit
Entente cordiale at Aldershot as **Chris Horrocks**, *Soldier's* Managing Editor, welcomes French Army officers 2nd Lts **Bertrand Lodde** and **Frédéric Jordan** to Parsons House. The visitors, both studying at Saint-Cyr, the French military academy, were in the United Kingdom to complete their research for a dissertation on the communication policy of the British Army. They were able to watch magazine staff putting the finishing touches to the latest edition.



Col **Neil Sutherland** (right), Commandant, and Spr **Martyn Kenyon**, one of the first sappers to pass through the re-named Combat Engineer School at Minley, Surrey, are pictured in front of the establishment's new sign.

It changed its title from Headquarters Royal School of Military Engineering (Minley) to reflect its training function. The name-change will also avoid confusion

SIGN-ED UP

with the HQ Royal School of Military Engineering (Chatham), which becomes the Construction Engineer School.

At Minley, sappers are trained in skills required on the battlefield, such as mine-warfare, demolitions and bridging. At Chatham they learn the trade, including carpentry and joinery, concreting and bricklaying, and plumbing and pipe-fitting.

Rock and (midwife) role . . .

IN GIBRALTAR, families are experiencing changes in the medical service similar to those which have happened in Germany. Among the people most concerned about the future are expectant women.

It is this group who voiced the most anxiety at the beginning of the new system in Germany.

There are many reasons for this – some technical and some emotional – and it is not something which should be taken lightly. Away from home at a time when they are at their most vulnerable, it's quite natural that women should feel worried.

However, it seems that fears should have been allayed by recent developments in Germany, where midwives have built a highly successful relationship with their local counterparts.

The role of the midwife in childbirth in Germany differs considerably from that of the midwife in the United Kingdom.

In Germany, the doctor has a much more prominent role. In the UK the situation is reversed, with midwives having considerable responsibility for the on-going care of women and children.

Through working together, these professionals have been able to learn from each other and to see how things are managed in another country. They are not the only ones to benefit. Their experience will inform their future work and enrich the service.

Financial health has also been on the *Counterpoint* agenda over the last couple of weeks.

We have started a new series looking at the basics of financial management, supported by a collection of fact sheets. These have

been prepared by the Money Management Council – a completely independent organisation dedicated to money education.

For Service people and, more importantly, their partners, saving is essential.

Constant moving disrupts any occupation-related saving or pension scheme. This means that partners of soldiers should be thinking about saving in a way that best suits them.

One factor to be considered, among many, is that of risk.

Any scheme which promises high returns is bound to involve some element of risk. Another consideration is that of accessibility.

Some schemes will penalise you for withdrawing money outside specific time

limits. These are just two of the many questions which you have to ask yourself.

As far as serving personnel are concerned, the advice from an expert – Marie Jennings – is to look at all the special schemes available to soldiers. Schemes which, she says, represent a good variety of options.

For Service partners the choices are even broader, and this is just the right time of year to review your financial planning.

If you would like to see the savings fact sheet, drop me a line and I'll send you one.

And this doesn't just apply to the young among us. There are so many schemes on offer that it really is never too late to make a start – so don't put it off any longer.

● **Cari Roberts presents** *Counterpoint* on BFBS radio. Write to her at BFBS, BFPO 786 or c/o Soldier.



Cari's column

Warrior targets Services

NAAFI has taken a significant shareholding in Warrior Group Ltd, which will provide financial services to the Armed Forces.

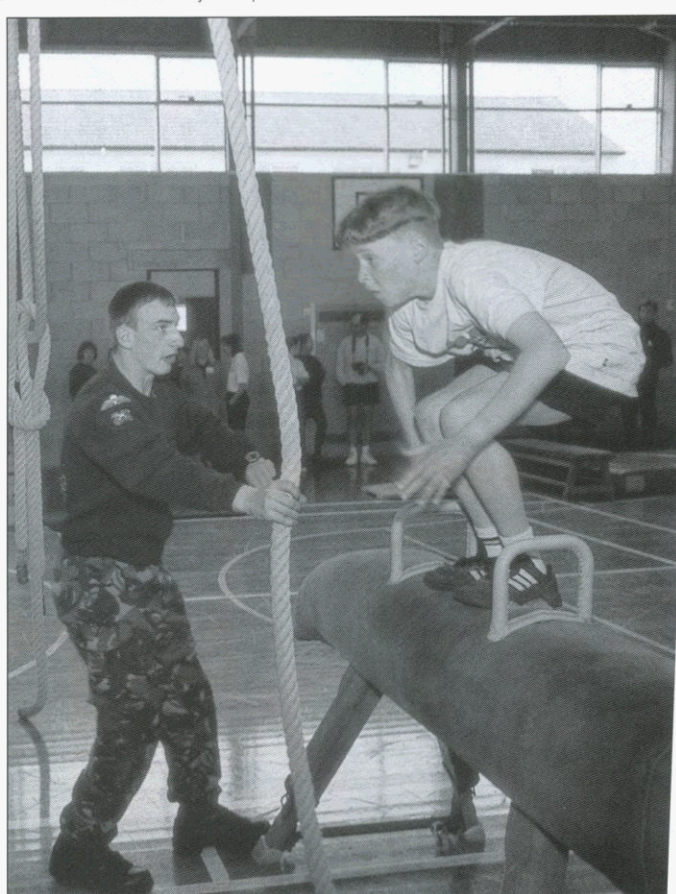
A joint venture between the Institute and HSBC Private Equity, the new company takes over from Naafi Financial Services (NFS), which has provided a range of

products including loans, credit cards, insurance and investments.

Under the new arrangement, products will extend for the first time to ex-Armed Forces personnel.

Servicemen and women who have existing financial agreements with NFS will not be affected by the switch.

Pictures: Terry Champion



Prepare to launch: Pte Noel Gambling holds the rope steady for a Chipping Sodbury pupil during an assault course competition

Paras jump at chance to teach

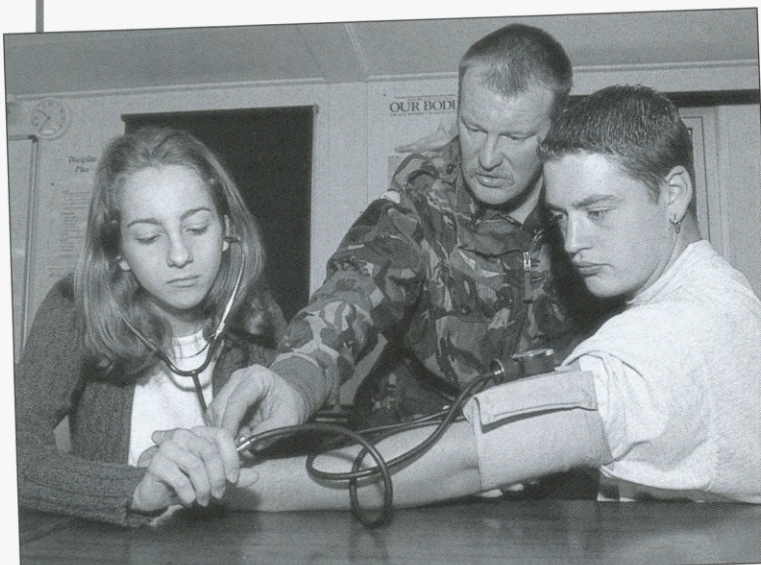
IT was an occasion to remember for the pupils at Chipping Sodbury School near Bristol.

The day when, for a few brief hours, they were "invaded" by members of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

All with a strictly peaceable aim, of course: to emphasise the importance of education, not only

in a school environment, but in working life.

That was how unit education officer Capt Mike Atkinson, AGC (ETS), found himself back in the establishment where not only had he himself been taught but, five years ago, before he joined the Army, had returned to as a physical training teacher. This time



Finger on the pulse: John Mattingley's heart skips a beat as his blood pressure is taken by classmate Rosemary Wicks during a biology class supervised by 2 Para's Cpl Mick Howe



Centre of attention: former Foreign Legionnaire LCpl Andy Cuerden conducts a French lesson

round, his subject (for the A Level students) was general national vocational qualifications: planning and organisation and group leadership – offered from a military perspective.

Another of the battalion's assets, keeping the pupils (who ranged from 11 to 18 years old) mesmerised for the day, was ex-Foreign Legionnaire LCpl Andy Cuerden, who, naturally, taught them – French.

Chefs set up a food kitchen to give the children practical demonstrations of food technology – or, to the Army, cookery.

The battalion's REME representatives unravelled the mysteries of craft design technology, explaining why vehicles are built in a particular way, while other pupils concentrated on physical training, Parachute Regiment-style.

Should there have been any casualties, the lessons which the school's students picked up from the visiting medics on, among other topics, blood circulation, breaks and fractures would probably have come in useful.

"The school has invited us back, any time we can make it, so I think we can take it that the venture was a success," said Capt Atkinson.



Cutting edge: Sherrie Scammell, in DPM and beret, takes instruction from Cpl Phil Manley during a food technology demonstration

Hat trick for BFBS?

A NOMINATION has been made for BFBS for an award in this year's Sony Radio Awards – the radio industry's equivalent of the Oscars.

The nomination, in the 'On Air Branding of Station Image' category, follows last year's success at the New York Radio Festival, where BFBS picked up both the gold and grand award for jingles and promotions.

Nominee Andy Wright said: "The most important thing in getting the nomination is knowing that we are projecting a strong image for Forces Radio." Awards will be announced on May 12.

Konver-sation piece . . .

A TRAINING project to help Service personnel wishing to return to civilian life is being run by the City of Sunderland College – with the help of the European Community.

The Konver II Project, backed by the European Social Fund, aims to enhance the skills of those who are eligible, helping them to obtain places on NVQ programmes at all levels, HNC courses and short courses and workshops.

More information, and details of a special induction/introductory session from Teresa Fundudis, City of Sunderland College, tel 0191-5116000.

Garner gifts

THE ROYAL Star and Garner Home in Richmond, Surrey, has been presented with equipment worth more than £2,000, including video recorders, tapes and microwave ovens by Naafi.

David Roberts, the Naafi chairman, said that, in making the presentation, his organisation was "reinforcing its commitment to provide help and welfare support to veterans."

In a class of its own?

LATEST version of *ISBI – The Database*, on CD-ROM, and full of information on the 3,000 independent schools and special needs residential schools in Britain, has been released.

Designed and published by Which School Limited (01980-621090), the database, updated twice a year, is relevant to Army families, having been used by Service Children's Education (UK) for several years. The CD-ROM is available to Army Education Centres around the world.

● Ancient Rome's wall newspaper, *Acta Diurna*, was displayed in the Forum. It was the world's first "newspaper".

● *Acta Diurna* was actually little more than a list of official notices, but it appeared daily and was scanned eagerly by all who could read.

● Ancient China had its newspaper,

Acta Diurna
(Daily Happenings)

too - *The Peking Gazette*, but that did not appear until the Tang Dynasty (AD 618).

● The passing on of news in pictorial form goes back to pre-history, when man drew on the walls of his caves, illustrating his prowess at killing wild beasts.

(W)ALL THE NEWS

SOLDIERS crave news, wherever they are serving. Today, television uses satellite communications to bring "instant" pictures from the latest war zone direct to the viewers' homes, writes **Laurie Manton**.

There was no television service during the Second World War and not everyone had access to a wireless set. The soldier wanted, above all, to know what was going on beyond his bit of the war, but where was he going to find out?

When Prime Minister Winston Churchill visited the Eighth Army in North Africa, his attention was drawn to the hunger of the soldier in the field for reliable information.

With his backing, the London News Issuing Service (later renamed the British Army News Service) was inaugurated on August 23, 1943 to provide news items about events at home, articles, sports features, parliamentary reports, pictures and cartoons to Army newspapers published in overseas theatres.

Units at home and overseas were encouraged to produce a news-sheet of their own which could be pinned up on the wall of Naafi canteens and recreation rooms.

In 1943, Headquarters Middle East Forces produced a booklet giving advice on how to run what became known as the "wall newspaper".

It advised that "every base depot, transit camp, workshop, hospital, ordnance depot or other large centre should always have at least one publication.

"It is true to say that there is scarcely ever a time when a unit cannot run a wall newspaper if it is minded so to do. The Red Army has shown this to be so during the siege of Stalingrad," it encouraged.

British Army wall newspapers received official approval and encouragement, and were considered an important element in the maintenance of morale.

Editors were told to remember that the publication had to be read by people standing up - and by several of them at a time - and should follow a "short and snappy

style which can be easily digested rather than the more staid pattern which is suitable for armchair reading".

Army Education recommended using a 10ft by 4ft base board, suggesting a tactful approach to the quartermaster might result in the donation of old wooden packing cases, which could be thoroughly sand-

SOUTHERN STAR

ISSUE N° 9

In 1944? New Wonders for the New World...

Although War is always a major tragedy in contemporary history the drive it gives to research work of all kinds advances knowledge at great speed. It is true, though, perhaps a sad reflection on our civilization, that in 4 years of War we learn more about many scientific possibilities than in say, 20 years of peace.

What has this War taught us? What benefits are we going to get when we return to Civvy-Street?

Everyone, of course, can visualise a trans-Atlantic Air Service. It is operating now - for the Services. Weather predicting will be far more accurate after the War than in peace time.

War has also brought about advance after advance in our knowledge of electronics - a word used for the multiplicity of the vacuum tube or wireless value. A lot of its war time work is Secret. But we have been told that electronics is behind radio location. When we start to rebuild this shaken world of ours, we shall find, so the experts tell us, that electronics will provide -

Startlingly better radio reception and cheap television on a 25" x 15" screen.

Big decrease in the number of collisions and other accidents in the air, at sea, and on the land, for "electronics" will locate moving objects as it now locates planes. "log will accordingly lose many of its terrors particularly at sea. (Will we have "electronic lighthouses"?)

Unparalleled developments in medicine. There must arise, though no one is prepared to indicate in what direction. But the new electronic microscope magnified 10,000 times - ten times more than the finest light microscopes. It cannot be imagined that scientists will not benefit enormously from the powers of this instrument.

And the housewife too will thank electronics for "they" can apply heat uniformly in 2 or 3 minutes! So it looks as if she will have a kitchen oven to cook the joint in 2 or 3 minutes!

Food, a weapon of magnitude in wartime, is getting more and more scientific attention. Working on the contention that fish population and the size of fish is limited by the amount of marine food in any area of the sea. Zoologists have turned Loch Craigin in Scotland into a 20 acres aquarium - feeding the fishes. Already flat fish in one year have increased in size 20 times more rapidly than in the open seas. In other words scientists are "stock-breeding" fish.

What is the future of this? Will one get bigger and better fish, cheaper and fresher than we did before the War? For it will surely be cheaper to feed fish artificially and haul them in with nets, than it will be to pay for ships and tackle and men to face the hazards of the sea around Ireland, Scotland and Newfoundland. There must be hundreds more such examples. LET US KNOW ABOUT THEM.



The Aims of The H

The issue of the *Southern Star* wall newspaper reproduced above was sold at auction earlier this year. It was formerly in the library of the London Press Club,

which once held a large collection of wartime Service newspapers. It was produced by a unit of the ATS based on Salisbury Plain in 1944 and utilises a



War Office architectural plan for an Army gymnasium as backing.

A description of a cycle-ride along the Woodford Plain in 1944 and utilises a

hand-drawn map, while another article recounts the experiences of a female soldier based in Iraq. She found life thrilling but expensive.



National and world news was gleaned from radio broadcasts, while for more extensive and thorough coverage of events, signals personnel took down British Official Wireless Press messages which were transmitted in Morse.

A sense of humour was important, too. One publication, *Southern Star*, gave details of funny-but-true anti-air raid mea-

Diary of a Disgruntled Cyclist

Cynara and I decided, after reading of the delights of cycle tours from Salisbury, to explore the Woodford Valley.

She took a bit of persuading did Cynara but after got her well oiled I found her more willing. Yes, the cycles can be as temperamental as women hence the christening. So flexing our muscles and perching the christening. Its most rakish angle, we set off along Castle Street bound for Avon Valley, that jewel set amid the sylvan splendour of Wiltshire's Downs, that haven of tranquillity and all that, to breathe the pure air of the country and listen to the shrill cries of the Spitfire as it wings its way home to its nest.

We bowled along merrily and took the hill up to Victoria Park in style. Now I don't know if its Cynara's fault or mine. Here I, a strapping lad full of Army stew and N.A.A.F.I. tea, thrusting away at the pedals and making nice progress when whoosh - a nasty wrothin on a decrepit steed pedalling with one leg through the frame, passes me at several knots. Now I don't mind being passed by one of those wavy-haired Apollos of the Road, sweater-clad athlete - white machine, who carelessly flings the pedals around and discuss airily over a lemonade "spins" of 100 miles. Not by the way that I've any objection to lemonade - provided its got something else in it.

But as I say, to feel the alip-stream of air from a passing lad whom you would not normally notice until he pipes "got any badges Mister" (and if you offer him an R.A. or R.A.S.C. says "huh ain't you got any decent ones like the Gordon Highlanders") is, I repeat, a bit thick.

Bowling along sweetly - yes I know its downhill just there - we ponder whether we would have liked some female company or not. Now if you take one along (or should I say if one graciously consents to allow you to back in the presence of her charms, there are certain advantages. You can say "lovely view isn't it?" which is much more satisfactory than saying it to oneself; and you can dismount on the hill early saying "you don't want to get hot pedalling up hill do you?" There are too, I understand certain other advantages which need not be particularised or enumerated. Still, gnats are a nuisance aren't they?

On the other hand the disadvantages are many. Your choice of a resting place will be wrong. When you want the cloistered calm of the wood she will desire the

sures submitted by inventors. Anti-aircraft guns, it was proposed by one boffin, should be replaced by giant vacuum cleaners which would suck the enemy bombers out of the sky. Another suggested freezing clouds above vulnerable towns and mounting machine-guns on them. Perhaps the brightest idea was to impregnate the upper layers of air with chloroform which would send German bomber crews to sleep.

Unfortunately for the authorities, all suggestions had to be investigated in case there was "something in it".

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Canada	24p	16p	The Netherlands	28p	20p
Cyprus	39p	34p	Saudi Arabia	£1.02	70p
The Falklands	£1.35	£1.00	Singapore	69p	38p
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Child's play

A happy-ending story, by Phil Wilcox

ONCE upon a time there was a troop sergeant major in the Royal Artillery who took a huge gamble.

His name was Bob, and he was on a posting with something called 45 Field Regiment in a place called Paderborn in Germany.

Bob, whose second name was Speed, was the sergeant major in what soldiers call the rear party, and one of his jobs was to entertain the boys and girls while their daddies were far away.

"I know what will keep them happy," said Bob. "I will make a theatre out of old target boards and Army curtains, and I will put on a show with some puppets left over from when my children were very small."

To his amazement, he found that he was very clever at doing it.

Then one day Bob heard that, not long after his regiment had finished a tour of a place across the Irish Sea, it was to be placed in suspended animation, which means that it would disappear for a long long time and he would not have a job.

"What shall I do?" Bob asked himself, and then he thought of an idea. "If I am made redundant (which means that, like some other daddies, he would not be in the Army any more), I am going to work in a theatre with puppets."

So Bob practised and practised and he went on what is called a business course until, one day, in October 1993, three days after he had stopped being a soldier, he began a new job in a puppet theatre at a big theme park in the middle of England called Alton Towers.

He was using glove puppets which he had bought in a toy shop in Germany. They had funny wooden heads.

When 1994 arrived, Bob became what grown-ups call a professional entertainer, and the people at the theme park employed him for two of their seasons.

One day, he was just going to start the show when a young man came up to Bob and said: "Sir, what are you doing here?"

It was a soldier who had been in his troop, who had left the Army before Bob had. They both had a good laugh.



Gunning for glory: Bob with Stone the Crow, George and other friends in his new profession



Sgt Maj Bob Speed in uniform

Then Bob decided that he wanted to do bigger shows, and so he bought some other puppets which were worked with things called rods and built a special theatre for them which measured 5½ft by 6½ft, with a big curtain, and his wife, who is called Frances, helps him.

Soon, his company, which he called Fantastic Puppet Stories, was appearing in front of lots and lots of children and their mummies and daddies at big holiday centres called Butlins and Haven.

Bob invented a big black bird, whose name was Stone the Crow, who was very popular. He had 20 friends, like George, the old knight, Vestas, the dragon who can't breathe fire, Leap the frog and a witch with a green face who

comes on to the stage with a bang. All the time, Bob was writing the stories for the show. He says they are for children, but he makes sure that they are strong enough for grown-ups, too.

Once, when he was in Germany, he put on a show for one of his friends. He was a captain in a part of the Army called 12 Regiment in a place called Sennelager, and it was his 50th birthday party.

The puppet's face looked just like Bob's friend, and the show was not for small children.

Bob, who lives by the sea in Wallasey, told a man from a magazine called *Soldier* who was asking him questions that he does not know how he had the nerve to start the business in the first place, but he thinks that he is going to make a good living.

At first, he had to find work and get known by the people who deal with things like puppets. It was a hard slog.

He is never going to be a big TV star, Bob said to the man, but he enjoys the job and if it wasn't for his puppets he would probably be a security guard now.

Then he said that he would like to say a big thank-you to a man called Major Tom Hughes, who was the soldier in charge of the rear party, who helped to point him in the right direction.

Now Bob and a friend have written a book which they think will be called *The Crimson Mountain*. It is a fantasy adventure story which started off as a puppet story, and someone called a publisher is interested in it.

And the sergeant major and his family lived happily ever after.

● Bob Speed's Wrexham-based agent, Paul Bridson, who has a long professional association with The King's Regiment, told *Soldier*: "I think he is a very enterprising chap and, with his imagination, a true success story. He has made quite a wedge into the business and will make a good living."

"I admire Bob and people like him, well-qualified guys whose life and family was the Army, and who are now making a go of it after stepping into unknown territory. It's down to his talents. He's improving all the time, and is an asset to us."

Falklands: From humiliation to triumph

THE WAR that caught Britain by surprise broke out on April 2 1982, when Argentina's military junta attempted to unite its troubled country by invading the islands that they had always considered their own and called the "Malvinas".

It was a rash gamble for which they would ultimately pay dearly.

Elite troops stormed ashore on the beaches near Stanley and blasted the barracks and defensive sangars of the lightly-armed Royal Marines based there. The Bootnecks fought back furiously, but the force, which was never meant to be a serious deterrent, was overwhelmed within hours and Rex Hunt, Whitehall's man in Port Stanley, ordered his troops to surrender.

Britain was shocked and humiliated by newspaper photos of the Marines being led away as prisoners, and by the sight of armoured personnel carriers rumbling down village streets which were more used to prams and Morris Minors.

For the first time in more than 40 years, British subjects were being ruled by a foreign dictatorship. It made not a jot of difference that this piece of British territory was 8,000 miles away in the South Atlantic.

The Argentines might as well have planted their flag in Hyde Park.

MOBILISATION

While the United Nations demanded an Argentine withdrawal, and diplomats struggled to devise a strategy to avoid war, Britain mobilised.

Troops were recalled from leave and civilian ships were commandeered by the Royal Navy at an hour's notice. Within

three days, the first frigates and destroyers of the task force were sailing from Southampton. Meanwhile, men worked around the clock on the huge cruise liner *Canberra*, transforming her into the troop ship which would take the first units of Royal Marines and The Parachute Regiment to the South Atlantic and become known as the *Great White Whale*.

Soon she would be joined by Britain's most famous ship, the *Queen Elizabeth II*, packed with the men of the 5th Infantry Brigade whose boots pounded the decks where elegant ladies and gentlemen once sipped cocktails.

Added to these graceful greyhounds of the sea were a motley mix of cross-channel ferries, trawlers and container ships. Each was essential to the effort, and all were sailing into battle and history.

The diplomatic effort faltered, stalled and, in the face of Argentine intransigence, died completely. Full-scale war was inevitable, and it came on May 1, when the RAF bombed Stanley Airport and Goose Green. Thereafter, the action developed at a breathtaking pace.

EXOCET

The Argentine cruiser *General Belgrano* was sunk by a British submarine, and the Argentine Air Force responded with ferocious attacks on the task force.

An Exocet missile sank Britain's most modern missile destroyer, HMS *Sheffield*, and Britain was stunned. Many asked whether the task force, so far from home, and facing a sub-Antarctic winter, could maintain its momentum.

The answer came on



The long march to Stanley across the Falkland moors

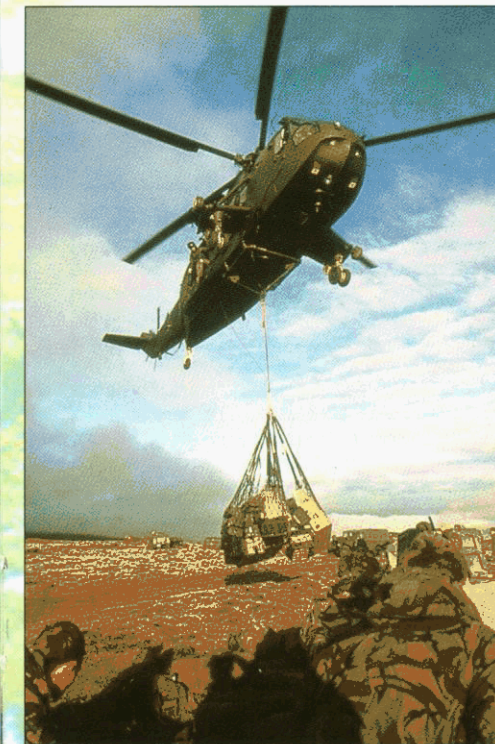
May 21, when a full-scale amphibious landing began at San Carlos on East Falkland.

As the Argentine Air Force launched wave after wave of attacks against the fleet and the men on the beaches, four British ships were sunk, and many sailors died with them.

But the Argentines paid a heavy price in aircraft shot down by ground fire and the frighteningly efficient Harriers. To the British, San Carlos was known as Bomb Alley, but the Argentines gave it an even more chilling name: Death Valley.

There was pressure to break out from San Carlos and achieve success on land. The Argentine base at Goose Green, just across the mountains from San Carlos, was both a threat and an opportunity for the British to show what they could do. The 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment was tasked to take the settlement, and what followed was a classic infantry battle, the like of which had not been seen since the Second World War.

It was here that the first Victoria Cross of



the campaign was won. Lt Col H Jones, 2 Para's CO, died while charging a heavy machine-gun that had held up the advance.

Goose Green fell and a hundred Islanders who had been imprisoned in the community hall for a month were released.

The cost, though, was high: 17 Paras died.

But Stanley was the goal that could win the war. The men of 5th Infantry Brigade,

Above - A Guardsman defends the San Carlos beach-head

Left - Helicopters were the work-horses of the campaign

the Guards and the Gurkhas, were moved to the other side of East Falkland, from where they could join the Paras and Marines in a final assault.

The move was not as straightforward as everyone had hoped it would be. The Argentine Air Force, dismissed by some as a spent force, made its last deadly foray, bombing the landing ships RFA *Sir Galahad* and *Sir Tristram*, and killing 43 men, mainly Welsh Guards.

It was a severe blow, but not enough to stop the advance.

BATTLE FOR STANLEY

As the war reached its climactic last few days, Marines, Paras, Gurkhas and Guards stormed the hill-top defences of Longdon, Tumbledown, Harriet, Two Sisters, William and Wireless Ridge. On Longdon, Sgt Ian McKay was posthumously awarded the second VC of the campaign.

On the morning of June 14, a totally demoralised Argentine army poured back into Stanley, and their commander, Maj Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez, ordered that the white flag be raised.

This massive and successful tri-Service effort justified acres of news print and dozens of books, and it received both.

But the scale and meaning of the victory was conveyed in a brief signal sent to London by the Commander of British Land Forces, Maj Gen Jeremy Moore:

"In Port Stanley at 9.00pm tonight, 14th

CRISIS IN THE FALKLANDS
FIFTEEN YEARS ON



Above - An Argentine mass grave

Below - A shell-damaged Stanley home



June 1982, Major General Menendez surrendered to me all Argentinean Forces in East and West Falkland together with their impedimenta. The Falkland Islands are once again under the Government desired by their inhabitants. God save the Queen"

In all, 253 British Servicemen died in the Falklands. Approximately 1,000 Argentines were killed and three local civilians also died. The two posthumous VCs represented the ultimate in bravery, but Lt Col Jones and Sgt McKay were not alone. Hundreds of other Servicemen were decorated or mentioned in dispatches for courage or outstanding devotion to duty.

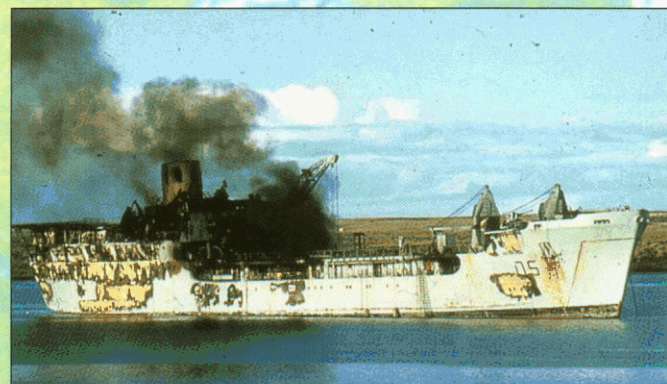
FIRST MODERN WAR

The Falklands conflict seemed a curious aberration of history; a colonial war long after the sun had set on the British empire.

But, in a sense, it was a very modern war. Within ten years of the British victory, the Cold War was over, and, free of "the balance of terror", the world became a much more volatile place. Britain and its allies had to think globally, redirecting their efforts towards peace enforcement and short, sharp wars, such as the Gulf.

The new military credo was "Expect the unexpected and be versatile enough to handle it".

Conflict in the South Atlantic, although not related to the end of the Cold War, proved that Britain was more than up to the challenge of the changing times.



Sir Galahad, bombed at Fitzroy

The victors, then and now

THIS image sums up the war more than any other photograph taken in the Falklands. A platoon of Scots Guards, grimy and battle-worn, but elated at the news that the Argentines had surrendered. Riflemen and junior NCOs, they were typical of the men who made victory possible.

Appearing first on the cover of *Soldier* in

The photographer

PAUL Haley was 32 when he joined the task force to record the war in the Falklands for *Soldier*. He has clear memories of taking the famous Scots Guards photo.

"It had been a traumatic night, with incoming shells exploding nearby.

"I ran into that platoon just as one of the guys with a radio heard that the ceasefire had come through.

"There was disbelief everywhere, and I thought that the best way to record this was with a group photo. I had to grab these Guards and push them into some kind of order, which seemed pretty funny to me, because I'm a little guy, and these huge soldiers had just come out of a battle.

"I do think about the Falklands quite a lot, for all sort of reasons. I still have dreams about some of it, although not necessarily the horrible things. I can understand it when people say it has affected their lives."

Paul Haley left *Soldier* in 1987 and moved to Yorkshire, where he works as a freelance photographer.



July 1982, the photo has since been reproduced in dozens of newspapers, magazines and books. The men of 7 Platoon, G Company of the 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards were pictured near the summit of Mt Tumbledown. Only hours before, they had been fighting a well-dug-in and determined battalion of Argentine Marine Infantry.

The Guards were ordinary men (some, only a few weeks into their 18th year, barely men) from ordinary backgrounds.

DAVID WARD

GDSM David Ward had just celebrated his 18th birthday when he went to war. Apart from his personal weapon, he carried a 66mm rocket launcher as he went into action on Tumbledown.

"The worst part of that battle was being pinned down by a sniper. We could hear the constant shouting and screaming all around us. We didn't know if they were our guys or theirs.

"Later, as we went through the Argentine positions, we realised what great natural defences they had. The prisoners had gone, but there were a lot of Argentine dead there. Not a pleasant memory."

David Ward is still in the Scots Guards. He was promoted to colour sergeant in 1996, and is hoping to be a drill and weapons instructor at Sandhurst.

JOHN McWILLIAMS

EVEN when the battalion was picked to go to the South Atlantic, Piper John McWilliams thought it was unlikely that he and his friends would see action in the Falklands.

"We were rehearsing for a parade when they told us we would be going. Our first reaction was one of relief that we wouldn't have to go through with the parade. We also felt proud that we'd been picked in spite of the fact that we'd spent the last few months on public duties.

"Of the battle itself, I particularly remember hearing over the net that Left Flank was pinned down, and our sniper, Roy Tatchpole, went up ahead to see what he could do to help. But Right Flank was coming through, and they must have thought Roy was an Argentine, because they opened up on him.

"Fortunately their marksmanship wasn't that good, but I've never seen anyone move so fast.

"The whole thing seemed like total chaos,

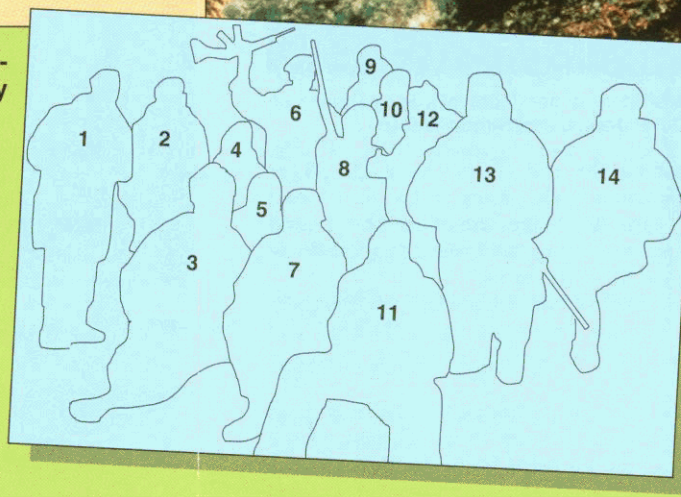
Yet they were typical of those who fought.

How did they cope with the experience of fighting in one of the most ferocious British infantry engagements since the Second World War? And what has happened to them in the 15 years since their moment of glory and pride? Did they remain soldiers, or did the Falklands give them an appetite for civilian life?

Soldier traced six of the men of 7 Platoon, and found out.

The Soldiers in the Photo - with the ranks that they held in June 1982

1. Gdsm Alan Glover
2. Gdsm Hector MacAskill
3. Sgt George Anderson
4. Gdsm David Ward
5. Gdsm Donald McKay
6. LSgt Wayne Hanson
7. Gdsm Eddie Flynn
8. LCpl Alan Bunyan
9. Gdsm Gerry McGhee
10. LCpl John Gott
11. Gdsm John Mitchell
12. Piper John McWilliams
13. Gdsm Willie Baxter
14. LSgt "Mac" MacKenzie



and it was hard to believe that anyone was following a plan.

"I left the Guards in 1986 and joined the Royal Corps of Transport. They sent me to the Gulf, where we spent the war moving tanks around the desert. Surprisingly enough, it got very cold there, and it reminded me a bit of the Falklands. But, I don't think about the Falklands much. I've put it in the past where it belongs."

John McWilliams left the army in 1994, and lives in Glasgow. He drives his own refrigerated lorry for a living.

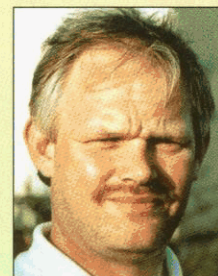
JOHN MITCHELL

GDSM John Mitchell, then 27, enjoyed the voyage south on the QE2, but the fun did not last for long.

"It was a good laugh, because we all thought that peace would be declared before we got there. But we were wrong, and in the end we had to be the point platoon on Tumbledown, holding a ridge so that the other platoons from our company could come through us.

"It was a great feeling when we saw all of the Argies pouring back into Stanley.

After that we were moved to Hill Cove on West Falklands, where we waited for weeks before



going home. The locals really made us feel at home. In fact, Wayne Hanson is the godfather of a little boy who lived there. Our padre christened him.

"I'll never be able to forget the war, and I don't want to. I'd like to go back to Hill Cove to see if there is still anyone there that I know."

John Mitchell was married in 1984 and left the Army ten years later. He now works for a brewery in East Lothian, Scotland.

HECTOR MacASKILL

IT was a parachuting course, not the imminent threat of combat, that was preoccupying Gdsm MacAskill in April 1982.

"We were just about to do our first free-fall jump when we were told that we were on Operation Corporate. I was quite pleased because it was what we'd always trained for. A bit of action. But later, when we were in the Falklands and saw the bombing of the Sir Galahad and the Sir Tristram, I realised that not everything was going our way.

"I never doubted that we would win, but I remember being surprised that they were fighting back.

"Tumbledown was really going into the



unknown. The briefing was the worst that I'd ever had. They just said we were going to advance to a certain point, and that was it.

"I don't think about the Falklands much at all. I have a new career now, and that's what I think about."

As a member of the Thames Valley Police Protection Group, Hector MacAskill still carries a weapon. He is now 33 years old and married for a second time.

ALAN BUNYON

ALAN Bunyan was an 18-year-old lance corporal, and had been in the regiment for just a year. He was second in command of the point section - the eight men equipped with rifles and one general purpose machine-gun who would spearhead the platoon attack.

"Our mission was to take out two heavy machine-guns on the side of the mountain. As the Argentines saw us advancing, they moved back into more protected positions within the rocks and began putting continuous mortar and sniper fire into us. Fortunately, none of the platoon was hit.

"Apart from the surrender on Tumbledown, my most vivid memory of the war is the Argentine Skyhawk attack at Bluff Cove, when the Sir Galahad and the Sir Tristram were bombed. After they'd bombed the ships, they came back very low over us, and we opened up. The sky just lit up, and we shot down five of the planes.

"Feelings? Excitement and aggression. We saw a lot of dead and injured. I don't think you can be fully trained for it. The war is constantly at the back of my mind, but, fortunately, I've coped with it."

Since 1982 Alan Bunyan has been promoted



to colour sergeant. He is happily married with two children, and the family lives near the Scots Guards barracks in Windsor.

WAYNE HANSON

THE Scots Guards had featured prominently in the family of Wayne Hanson. His father, uncle and brother had all been in the regiment. His memories of the Falklands are bitter-sweet.

"When we went there it was like an adventure. It sounded great and grand, but in the end I wondered whether it had all been worth it.

"I wanted a souvenir when I was walking through the wounded and dead. I took a bayonet and a helmet, and I still have them in the loft.

"But later when I saw the row of dead Scots Guards, I realised that these souvenirs didn't mean a thing.

"Guards humour kept us going. At one point I was taking cover with John Mitchell and some of the others when our CO, Lt Col Scott, and RSM McKenzie arrived to talk to us. There were grenades and bullets flying about everywhere, and the Sergeant Major turns around to old Mitchell and barks 'get your beret on straight!' Typical Guards - had to be neat even when all hell was breaking loose. We just fell about laughing.

"I have a large photo of the cross on the top of Tumbledown, and the plaque with the names of the men who died. These are things I'll never forget, and I don't want to forget."

Wayne Hanson left the Guards in 1988 as a sergeant. His marriage had broken down, and he believes this personal crisis had caused him to fail a promotion course. He joined the Prison Service, in which he still serves.



WHAT OF THE VICTORIOUS BATTALION?

GLORY on the crags of Tumbledown could not save the 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards from redundancy at the end of the Cold War. In November 1993 it was disbanded, and the men were dispersed to other battalions. Just one company remains, tasked to hold the Colours.

However, with a history that pre-dates the Falklands to include Waterloo and the battle of Alma during the Crimean War, there is a good chance that, in any future crisis, the 2nd Battalion would be reactivated and again called upon to do its duty.

Meanwhile, the battalion is not forgotten. On June 14, the 15th anniversary of the Argentine surrender, the battalion Colours will be trooped on Horseguards in the presence of the Queen.

We'll take care of each other — South Atlantic veterans

VETERANS of the Falklands War – there are 29,000 of them – now have a dedicated association which will promote their interests and foster the spirit that led to victory in 1982.

The South Atlantic Medal Association (1982), known as SAMA(82), will also extend a comradely hand to veterans who have fallen on hard times or are suffering the mental anguish of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

SAMA(82) was launched at Falkland House in London on April 2, 15 years to the day after Argentine forces invaded Britain's South Atlantic territory.

The throng of familiar figures from that time made it seem as though the clock had been briefly turned back. Sir Rex Hunt, who was in command of the tiny garrison at the time of the invasion, stood alongside Sir Jeremy Moore, the Royal Marines general who took the Argentine surrender on June 14. Lt Gen Sir Hew Pike, now Deputy C-in-C Land Command, but then 3 Para's CO during the battle for Mt Longdon, swapped memories with Surgeon Cdr Rick Jolly, who ran the field hospital at Ajax Bay.

One of Cdr (now Dr) Jolly's patients was also there, former Welsh Guardsman Simon Weston, who recovered from horrific burns to become perhaps the war's most famous veteran.

But SAMA(82) was the idea of a relatively unknown ex-combatant, LCpl Denzil Connack.

The quietly-spoken ex-Para, who had a leg blown off by Argentine artillery during the battle for Mt Longdon, said that he was "chuffed to bits" with the response from fellow veterans.

One hundred members, representing the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, had joined on the first day.

"SAMA(82) is there for comradeship, first and foremost," said Denzil Connack, now a civilian working as a SSAFA case officer in his native Wales. "But we are par-



With Denzil Connack, who holds a SAMA(82) membership card, are (from left) Tony Davies of the Royal British Legion, Sarah Jones, widow of Lt Col H Jones, and Simon Weston

ticularly keen that it should benefit those who may have fallen on hard times because of their physical and mental wounds."

SAMA(82) also welcomes some civilians as members. The next-of-kin of those who died are encouraged to join, as are Falkland Islanders, especially those who were there during the war. The founders believe that by establishing relationships with islanders, the veterans will appreciate that there was an important human side to the principle for which they fought.

It seems that islanders are happy to accept the invitation. During the launch, the islands' government representative, Sukey Cameron, presented the chairman, Rick Jolly, with a cheque for £4,000; the first instalment of £12,000 that will cover the membership fees of all islanders.

Denzil Connack said that, civilian involvement apart, the association will be similar to other groups that care for the veterans of specific military campaigns. "We are like the Burma Star Association, which because its members are getting old, is now

reaching the end of its useful life. "Our association is also going to last for at least 50 years. We'll take care of each other, and our comradeship will grow. It's going to be a good 50 years for us."

SAMA(82) will encourage its members to visit the Falklands again. Not all will want to, but Denzil Connack certainly does.

A keen fly fisherman, he remembers crossing the Murrel River at night on the way to the start-line for the battle for Longdon, and being told that the river was full of trout. "For 15 years I've dreamed of fishing from the banks of that river on a quiet summer evening.

"I'll look back over my shoulder and see the slopes of Longdon and know that it was all worth-while."

All holders of the South Atlantic Medal, families of those who died and all Falkland Islanders are welcome to join the association. Further details can be obtained from SAMA(82), PO Box 82, Blackwood, Gwent, NP2 0YE.

Picture: Terry Champion

Falklands War chronology

April 2: Argentine forces land near Port Stanley and overwhelm Royal Marines defenders. A foreign flag flies over British territory.

April 3: The United Nations demands an immediate Argentine withdrawal, but the Argentines refuse. British Government makes clear its intention to re-take the islands, by force if necessary.

April 5: Several British warships, the vanguard of a powerful task force that would range from aircraft carriers to British Rail ferries, sail for the South Atlantic.

April 9: *Canberra* leaves Portsmouth with the Paras and the Marines.

May 1: Enemy engaged. An RAF Vulcan bomber attacks Stanley Airport, and the Royal Navy follows with raids on Stanley and Goose Green.

May 2: Argentine cruiser, *General Belgrano* torpedoed and sunk.

May 4: HMS *Sheffield* sunk by an Exocet missile.

May 12: *QE2* leaves Southampton with 5 Infantry Brigade on board.

May 14: SAS destroy Argentine air base on Pebble Island.

May 21: San Carlos landings.

May 25: HMS *Coventry* and *Atlantic Conveyor* sunk.

May 29: 2 Para takes Goose Green.

June 8: 51 soldiers, mostly Welsh Guards, die when their landing ships are bombed at Fitzroy.

June 11-13: The Battle for Port Stanley. Guards, Marines, Paras and Gurkhas go into action on the mountain-tops.

June 14: Stanley falls and the Union Flag once again flies over the Falkland Islands.



Argentine troops appear on the road outside Stanley's Upland Goose Hotel on the first morning of the invasion. This photograph, and the one below, are published for the first time

Islander's view

Soldier writer **Graham Bound**, who prepared this feature, is a Falkland Islander. He was in Stanley when the Argentines invaded and remained there throughout the occupation.

Under the regime of the Argentines, he whiled away the long hours of curfew in Stanley by tuning in to the signals flashing between British Army units on East Falkland. Snippets of conversation before the operators switched frequencies were reassuring – there really *were* British troops out there.

Later, there were clear signs that the Army was on its way. Stanley was within range of the Royal Artillery's guns, and day after day, the gunners duelled with the large Argentine howitzers, some of them hidden between houses.

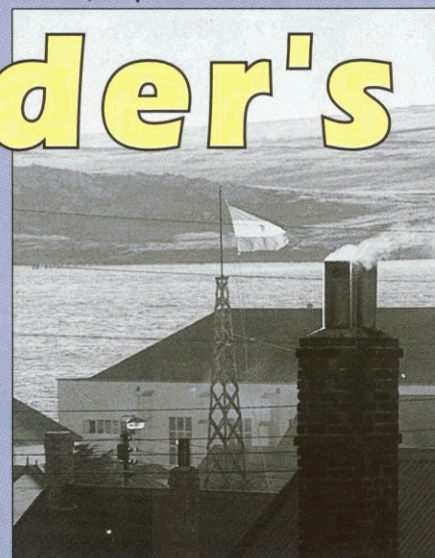
But it was a dawn helicopter attack that gave Bound his closest call. He saw a helicopter pop up from behind the ridge on the north side of Stanley Harbour and realised that it had fired a missile . . . in his direction. He crouched behind a wall as the rocket exploded into the police station 150 yards away.

It was a satisfying moment. With others, he had been subjected to arbitrary arrest and questioning in the police building. Bound had developed a particular dislike for a fat NCO with a "Pancho Villa" moustache and a large chip on his shoulder.

"Pancho" was blown out of his bed in the attack, and medivaced back to Argentina. Arbitrary arrests ceased.

Ironically, it was another Argentine who

Picture: Graham Bound



Another defining moment in Stanley: the Argentine flag appears over the police station

brought the best news of the war. Vice-Comodoro Bloomer Reive had lived in the Islands and made many friends. He had returned to lead the administrators who usurped the island's civil servants. But he regularly intervened to defend local people.

In the early hours of June 14, when power and water supplies had been cut, and the battle was reaching its climax, Bloomer Reive appeared in the building where Bound and others were sheltering. He recalls: "To this day I can see him silhouetted in the doorway. He was, he told us, retreating from Stanley with the rest of the Argentines. 'In two hours,' he said, 'you will be free.' We wished him luck, and he left."

As the sun rose over a town now eerily quiet, Bound and a friend walked up the road towards the west, where they knew the British must be. They passed the bodies of two Argentines, perhaps the last to die in Stanley. Minutes later they encountered Paras, some of them perched on the armoured recce vehicles of the Blues and Royals, others resting in the weak winter sun.

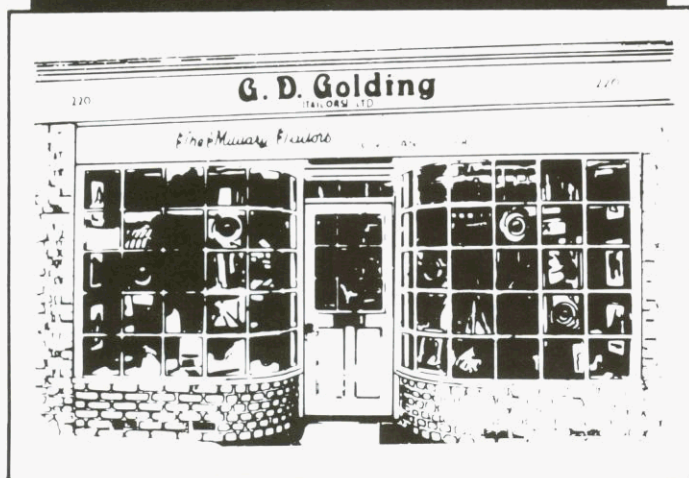


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Pioneer Army flyers still keep in touch

BELIEVE it or not, some fighter pilots of the 1914-18 war are still around to tell the tale of what it was like to fly and maintain those stringbag kites.

According to Bruce Lewis, author of *A Few of the First*, 13 of these old-timers still chat to each other and meet once a year at RAF Lyneham.

All are approaching, or have already passed, the 100 mark and their stories, aided by research at numerous museums, have been compiled by Mr Lewis, himself a 1939-45 wartime flyer who undertook 36 operational missions over Germany, as a tribute to them in their own lifetime.

Their air time started well before the RAF was formed in 1918, which means they were either soldiers in the Royal Flying Corps or sailors in the Royal Naval Air Service.

They were a mixed bunch from a variety of backgrounds; some working-class lads with special skills, others having enjoyed the customary good life those times provided for those with money, influence and therefore privilege.

Such a character was Archibald William Henry

James, later to become Sir Archibald James. Educated at Eton and Cambridge, he was wealthy, young and therefore able to do whatever he chose.

When war came in 1914 he left his country pursuits to join the 3rd Hussars as a subaltern. But disenchantment with the trenches and with the misuse of horses soon set in and he volunteered to switch to the RFC.

Accepted for training, he pompously declared that a man who could handle a horse properly would have no trouble

flying a plane. But like some horses, the aircraft of the time were unpredictable, as were the tactics of some enemy air aces.

However, he and his fellow flying soldiers survived everything to have their stories of early combat aviation recorded for posterity. —JM

Two other new titles with an aviation theme:

Tumult In The Clouds by Nigel Steel and Peter Hart. The British experience of the war in the air, 1914-1918. Includes previously unseen material from the Imperial War



A Bristol Scout D flies over a military unit under canvas in the Middle East. The Royal Flying Corps pioneered the air-dropping of food in Mesopotamia (Iraq) in 1916 when it went to the relief of 14,000 British troops of the besieged Kut garrison sur-

rounded by Turkish forces. In all, 19,000lb of supplies were dropped to the garrison, which was eventually forced to surrender.

Turkish gunfire meant the air-lifts had to be delivered from between 5,000 and 7,000ft.

Museum archives and draws on diaries and letters to bring the period to life. Hodder & Stoughton, hardback, £20.

Fire By Order by E W Maslen-Jones. Recollections by the author, a pilot, of service with 656 Air Observation Post Squadron in Burma

1943-47, where this comparatively small unit provided the air "eyes" for the whole of the 14th Army.

Given the hostile terrain and tropical climate, the aircraft performed remarkably well. Foreword by Gen Sir Martin Farndale. Pen & Sword Books, hardback, £19.95.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The British Army: A Pocket Guide 1997/98 edited by Charles Heyman. Sixth edition of this invaluable publication which has gone from strength to strength since it first appeared in 1984.

This new edition reflects the situation in a Service which has changed dramatically in the past three years.

The chapter headings include Army organisation, NATO, RAC, infantry, artillery, engineers, communications, combat support, Regular Army units, recruiting and reserve forces. Statistics, defence roles, rank structures, and rates of pay are also covered.

Weapons, artillery and missile systems, fighting and engineer vehicles and military aircraft are illustrated in silhouette. Pen & Sword Books, paperback, £4.95.

Fighting Skills of the SAS and Special Forces by Terry White. Revised edition of book first published in 1993, with illustrations and new material. Robinson Publishing, paperback, £6.99. Also **Handbook of the SAS and Elite Forces** by Jon E Lewis. Robinson Publishing, paperback, £6.99.

La Boisselle: Ovillers and Contalmaison by Michael Stedman. Fourth book in the Battleground Europe series to cover a part of the old July 1, 1916 front line. Pen & Sword Books, £9.95.

The Western Front 1915: VCs of the First World War by Peter F Batchelor and Christopher Matson. Latest title in VCs of the First World War series details 72 winners of the medal on the Western

Front. Illustrated. Sutton Publishing, hardback, £17.99.

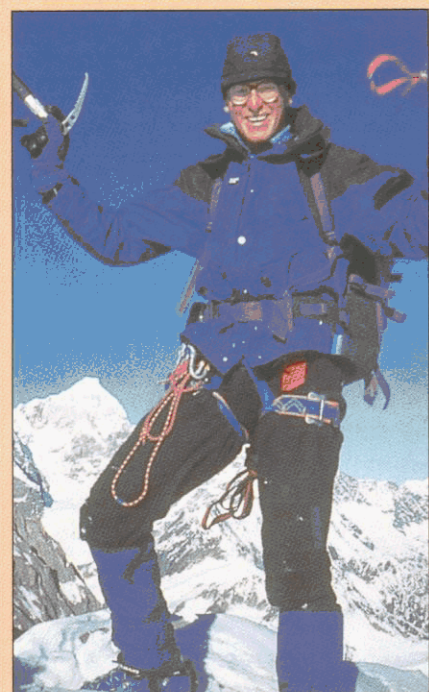
Summon up the Blood. The war diary of Cpl James Albert Womack RE, edited by his daughter, Celia Wolfe. Covers D-Day and the North West Europe campaign, May 1944-February 1945. Pen & Sword Books, hardback, £16.95.

The Setting Sun by W S Mitchell. An account of life in captivity under the Japanese, compiled by the author's younger brother. Mitchell was a second lieutenant in the RASC when he was captured in June 1942. He worked on the Death Railway and was one of those responsible for building flaws into the structure so that it would never function properly. Minerva Press, paperback, £5.99.

Free to Fight Again by Alan W Cooper. Royal Air Force escapees and evasions, 1940-45, first published in 1988. Airlife Publishing, paperback, £12.95.

The US Army Today: From the end of the Cold War to the present day by Christopher J Anderson. Illustrated history of the American soldier, his uniform and his equipment. Greenhill Books, paperback, £6.99.

Poems and Pieces for All by Ray Chaplin. Collection of poetry and prose which includes bits and pieces on the military and the RAF. Available direct from Cow and Calf Press, Sloe Farm, Straight Road, Battisford, Suffolk IP14 2HR, paperback, £5.95. Some proceeds to charity.



Top man

Capt Tarquin Shipley stands triumphant on the summit of Mt Paldor (19,450ft) in the Ganesh Himal region of Nepal. He was one of two members of a 12-man adventurous training expedition from 107 (Ulster) Brigade to reach the top.

Split into three main phases, Exercise Alpine Albert consisted of ten days of acclimatisation while crossing the Gosain Kund Pass at the Lauribena La, eight days of climbing, and a final five-day trek back to civilisation along the spectacular Tiru Danda ridge.

It was led by Maj Peter Holliday, the Chief of Staff of 107 Bde.

After treacherous snow conditions defeated the expedition's first attempt to climb Mt Paldor by the popular Tilman's Ridge, a two-man assault from the lesser-known south-west buttress turned out to be the season's final successful climb to the summit.

Other parties made it to the top of Paldor West Peak and Phuta's Peak.

The title of the exercise commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Albert, first of the Somme battles, in which the 36th Ulster Division, including the volunteer force of 107 Brigade, fought.

Sydney-side Poms give Oz the thumbs up

A VOICE on the radio announced cheerfully: "... on the Old Coathanger a double semi-trailer, one of those really big ones, has been in an ackso, blocking all the lanes northbound, so watch out for that, okay."

Early morning Sydney traffic was being told of a truck crash on the Harbour Bridge. Even the bad news on MIX 106.5 was upbeat and friendly.

Destination: Victoria Barracks, minutes from the landmark Opera House and surrounded by places with familiar names ... Oxford Street, Paddington, and Kings Cross.

Bush-hatted guards at the gate smiled and pointed beyond the swaying palm trees to the interior of the elegant barracks, a stunning testament to the eye of a Victorian military architect.

Maj Juliet Foster ALC, SO2 Legal at the Australian Army Land Headquarters in New South Wales, is a member of an

exclusive group generally considered fortunate – the British Army's exchange officers in Australia.

Of the 34 exchangers, 13 were based in NSW and were within one day's drive. In a land that covers three time zones, map appreciation becomes more than useful.

Maj Foster pointed out that the British and Australian Army legal systems were more than compatible and her work had taken her all over Australia.

"There is a pace of life that appeals to a lot of people," she explained. Did that mean that she was taking it easy? "Not at all, in fact, I have just got married."

As if on cue, Capt Andrew Bartlett, an Australian Army Engineer, and husband, appeared.

"We were engaged in Devon when we went back to England for Christmas. When we returned to Sydney Juliet had to arrange everything as I was in Melbourne

Report: Chris Kinsville-Heyne
Pictures: Rhylla Morgan



Newlyweds in Sydney: Maj Juliet Foster ALC and Capt Andrew Bartlett, Australian Army Engineers

up until two days before the wedding, which was held in the Edwardian chapel here at Victoria Barracks," he said.

Although Capt Bartlett was originally from New Zealand the couple are looking to make England their home.

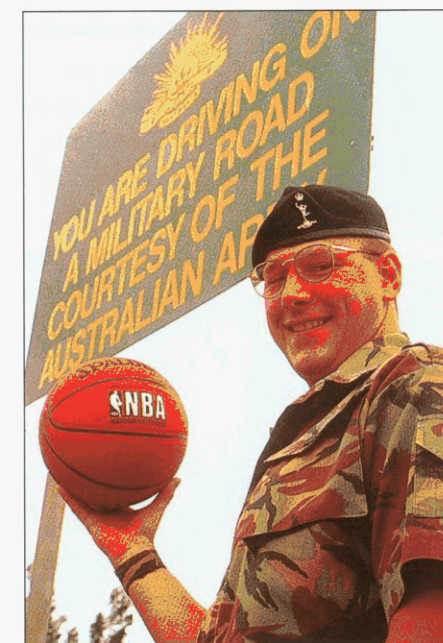
Down at the harbourside, Maj Stuart Seabrook RA, lecturer in ammunition design at the Defence Force Academy in Canberra and Senior Instructor of Gunnery at the School of Artillery in Manly, talked about his exchange.

Having driven over the famous bridge from the North Shore on a hot summer day, he explained the pull of "Oz".

"It is an incredible place and not just when I look out of my office window at the view of Sydney Harbour. When you have children you look at the opportunities for them. Sports are encouraged and because



Maj Stuart Seabrook RA



WO2 Kev Moir, R Signals, playing basketball down under

of the climate the kids really go for it. I would say that Australia has brought out the best in them. That is one of the reasons we are looking to make Sydney our home in the near future," he said.

Basketball has a mass following in Aus-

tralia and WO2 Foreman of Signals Kev Moir, R Signals, has been playing at the most competitive level with the NSW Army team. He was selected for the Combined Services in a recent tournament.

Standing at 6ft 6in in his stockinged feet at his ranch-style Army house in Holsworthy, South Sydney, 35-year-old WO2 Moir is the only Brit in 145 Signal Squadron. He coached basketball in the British Army and is now coaching in Australia.

"Things are different here but you soon get used to it," he said. "Our daughter, Emma, has settled in very quickly in year three at Holesworthy High.

"We have a regular arrangement to take out horses from a local stables. There are two outdoor pools nearby and she is rarely out of them. The fact that she is happy is reassuring from our point of view.

"We are here for another year and we just want to make the best of it. It is a great experience."

Back in the car, the radio announced that a recent study showed British society was changing its speaking patterns. Constant exposure to Aussie soaps such as *Neighbours* and *Home and Away* has resulted in people speaking with an antipodean accent and using Aussie expressions.

Strewth. That's a beauty. What screaming gallah thought that one up?



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COMBAT STRESS

From earlier wars we had 'Shell Shock'. Today they call it 'Combat Stress'. What Corporal Alan Young saw and heard in Sarajevo left him cowering in a corner. And he still can't leave his room.

For many veterans, not just from Bosnia but from the Falklands, Korea, and especially the Second World War, the story is the same. 'Combat Stress' can shatter a life forever.

Today Alan is looked after by the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society. With over 4,000 men and women to care for and who knows how many more, we need every penny you can spare. Psychiatric care, nursing and the management of our homes costs money that will only come from people like you, people who care about those who gave more than they could spare.

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To protect those concerned this is an amalgam of case histories in our care.



Courtesy of Soldier Magazine



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Soldiers are there when you need them...



Courtesy of Soldier Magazine

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The Army Benevolent Fund provides help to any man or woman and their families if they are serving or have served in the British Army and are in real need. This help is given in two ways: through grants to supplement Corps or Regimental aid and by financial support to over 70 national charities providing for the special needs of those in distress.

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THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND



Guarding against Euro change

AS a potential officer hoping to join the Guards, I was disgusted to read (April 14) about Brussels' wish to Europeanise military dress. I agree with the anonymous regimental colonel who obviously shares my displeasure at the situation.

The Euro-approved "onion seller" mode of wearing the beret is an absolute joke.

The British Army is fiercely proud of its history and traditions and should not have to come into line with armies which cannot boast such a proud history. This is another example of Europe's attempts to change not only the British Army, but this great country we live in. — **Ross Burrows-Irvine, West Lothian.**

SURELY you are pulling my leg, or has Brussels declared a new April Fools' Day? Have those in charge nothing better to do? — **H G Bowyer, Dorset.**

● *It's a fair cop . . . in this instance Brussels is blameless. The fault lies with Soldier. We had hoped the "introductory" date of April 1 would give the game away.*

Maj (Retd) John Statham of Launceston, Cornwall, was not fooled. He sent us a West Country newspaper cutting showing an ostrich wearing a military beret. He asked if it was (a) an example of Europeanisation; (b) the recruiting of a new mascot; or (c) the Army's first Ostrich Major. — Editor

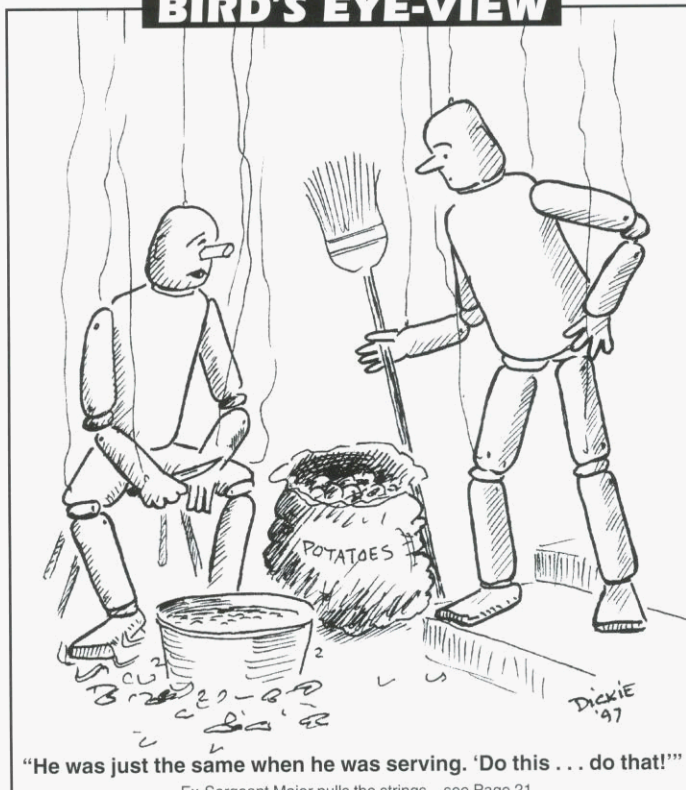
POINTS IN QUESTION

Service numbers

Was there a link between Service numbers and National Insurance numbers allocated to ex-Servicemen in 1948?

My Army number was 14911467 until commissioning and, on release, I was given NI 114617D, which resembles my Army number apart from the insertion of a 1 between the final two digits. The DHSS told me this was a coincidence, but I wonder? — **J D Williamson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.**

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



Ex-Sergeant Major pulls the strings — see Page 21

Stripe meant so much to Rhea gunner

WITH reference to Charles Meacher's story (March 3) about a Mr Rear and a very considerate recruiting officer. Alas, 'twas not always so.

Towards the end of the Second World War a number of ack ack batteries in India were disbanded and their members dispersed to other units, not all of them Royal Artillery.

Several were posted to me, and good lads they were. They remained badged as gunners.

One was named Rhea and (you've guessed it) he was a gunner and had never been more than a gunner.

When I gave him one stripe his obvious gratitude was a joy to behold. — **Pat Strump, Ontario, Canada.**

Woolly shoulder panel separated Signals twins

FOLLOWING items in the March 17 and April 14 issues, I wonder if the question of identical twins serving in the Army since National Service ended refers to just females or both sexes?

If it is the latter, I and my twin brother, Alan, enlisted in

the Royal Corps of Signals in June 1963 at Roper Road, Canterbury. His regimental number was 23975054, mine 23975055.

We served in the same units: 11 Signal Regiment, 22 Signal Squadron, 24 Signal Regiment, and 2 Signal Regiment. I

demobbed in February 1967, my brother some months later.

I don't recall any special treatment, only that at 2 Signals we had our names and squadron numbers written on our heavy wool pullover shoulder panels in letters and numbers about 3in high.

We are both members of the East Kent branch of the Royal Signals Association. — **John Oram, Dover.**

● *We have received photos of three sets of serving identical twins — Cpls Alan and Ian Stoker (both RDG), Sgt Martin and Cpl Marcus Tudge (KOYY(LI)) and WO2s Neil and John Hinchcliffe (3 DWR). Watch out for a special feature. If there are any others out there, please contact the Editor as soon as possible.*

For the record

Cavalry editor

WE ARE grateful to you for your splendid review of Lord Anglesey's final volume of *The History of the British Cavalry* (April 14).

Might I point out that the editor of the whole series is Tom Hartman (not Mrs Pat Brayne, who was responsible for the typing). We thought you would like to have this set straight. — **Georgina Harris, Pen & Sword Books Ltd, London.**



Sig Alan (left) and John Oram pictured while serving with the Royal Signals in Bünde, Germany between 1964 and 1966

Soldier welcomes letters for publication from all readers, whatever their status. Letters must be brief, typed or written clearly and include the correspondent's name and address in block capitals, not necessarily for publication. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Acceptance or rejection of letters is the decision of the Editor, who reserves the right to edit for length, clarity or style.

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DIARY

Speedy marchers revive a commando tradition

THE seven-mile Highland road from Spean Bridge railway station to Achnacarry Castle, wartime training headquarters of the commandos, forms the course for a speed march which it is hoped will become an annual event.

With the support of the Army Commando Association and Airborne Forces, the 1998 event is to be staged on March 14.

During the Second World War, would-be commandos arrived by train at Spean Bridge, where they were met by a piper – and a vehicle on which they loaded their kit.

As the lorry and piper disappeared into the distance, the volunteers – more than 25,000 of them by the end of the war – formed up with 60lb packs on their backs and marched the hilly high road to Achnacarry Castle.

Anyone who did not complete the trip in an hour was returned to his unit on the next train. Those that made it, and stayed the six-week course, were entitled to wear the coveted green beret.

Event details from former RCT soldier Bob Ellis at 15 Ann Street, Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH10 6EF (01738 873899). He was one of 27 who recently completed the march in times ranging from 56 to 67 minutes, and raised more than £2,000 for commando and airborne forces' charities.

Veterans of the 52nd return to the Rhine

FIFTY-TWO years to the day, 40 veterans of the 2nd (Airborne) Battalion, The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry – appropriately, The 52nd – revisited the site of their historic crossing of the Rhine on March 24, 1945.

The old soldiers, average age 74, recalled that they landed in gliders north of Hamminkeln on the east bank of the Rhine before capturing two vital bridges over the River Issel on the north-east edge of the village.

Many had already taken part in airborne landings in Normandy and in the raid on Pegasus Bridge.

They paid a high price on the Rhine: of 630 men in the battalion, 110 were killed and more than 300 wounded in and around Ham-

50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, May 1947

COLD COMFORT

The four coldest members of the British Army just now are one Signals officer and three RE officers.

They are members of the Graham Land-based Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, which is mapping parts of the Antarctic, collecting geological and biological specimens and doing meteorological work.

A relief ship arrives once a year with stores and books.

25 YEARS AGO

MALTA MOVE

As the Anglo-Maltese defence talks reached deadlock, the British Services prepared to leave the George Cross island after a stay of 170 years.

At the last minute, agreement was reached on a further seven-year presence, but by then the Army had held its final parade...



County style: Cadet Ann Cox (15) models the new headdress worn by Sussex Army Cadet Force's Corps of Drums. It consists of a dark blue beret and a hackle in the county colours of royal blue and orange. The corps is available to perform at parades, fetes, formal dinners and carnivals.

minkeln. After a service at the 52nd memorial stone outside the old town railway station, their HQ during the fighting, the veterans toured the landing site and battlefields, and later visited the graves of fallen colleagues in the nearby Reichswald military cemetery.

Local civic leaders took part in the ceremonies and hosted a reception and dinner for the returning soldiers.



RGBW Museum: An historical branch has been formed within the **Society of Friends of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment Museum** at Salisbury.

It hopes to encourage members to take a greater interest in the history of the new enlarged regiment, and to link up with other historical societies.

Point of contact is The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury SP1 2EX (01722 414536).

Seaghan Maynes, who, as a Reuters correspondent, landed on Utah Beach on D-Day, picks himself out in a photograph in the Cornelius Ryan exhibition at the National Army Museum.

Also in the picture are Gen George S Patton and Cornelius Ryan, war correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* and author of *The Longest Day* and *A Bridge Too Far*. Ryan's extensive research notes, held by Ohio University, USA, are on loan to the NAM until May 18.

After the Normandy landings in June 1944, Seaghan Maynes

Me and Gen Patton

covered the progress of Gen Patton's Third Army.

A friend of the late Cornelius Ryan (he died in 1974), Mr Maynes was guest of honour at a reception to mark the opening of the special exhibition.

REUNIONS

Army HQ (India) Association: Reunion on May 10 at Commonwealth Institute, Kensington. Welcome extended to all IACC, IAOC, IEME and RAF Wing personnel. Details: Mrs P K Massingham, 27 Salmons Road, Chessington KT9 2JE (tel 0181 397-3398).

RGJ Association (London): Reunion at Davies Street, London W1 on May 17. Doors open 1900 hours, entrance £3. No overnight accommodation. RGJ membership only.

Italy Star Association: Annual luncheon and parade, Sunday May 18, Westgate Hall, Canterbury. Details from Maurice Cheadle (01425 620578) or Graham Swain (01425 614884).

National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association: New Lincoln and Districts Branch opening at Post Office Club, Dunkirk Road, Lincoln, on May 22.

43rd (Wessex) Recce Regt OCA:

Second Patchway, Bristol, reunion on May 31. Details: Alan Dracup, 26 The Meads, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6RQ (tel 0117 976-1980).

Hong Kong: Reunion on July 5 at the Sailors' Rest, Portsmouth, has been confirmed. Anyone who served in Hong Kong in recent years welcome. Cheques for £12 payable to M L Rutley and forwarded to him at 36 Albermarle Avenue, Elson, Gosport, Hants PO12 4HU before June 15. Details on 01705 501083.

64 Sig Sqn (V), Sheffield: 30th birthday party on July 12 at Manor TA Centre, Hurlfield Road, Sheffield to celebrate anniversary of TA and squadron. Details from Kath Howse on 0114 2396979.

Staffordshire Regiment: Annual reunion to be held at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield on Sept 13. Details: RHQ, The Staffordshire Regiment, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs WS14 9PY (please enclose stamped, addressed envelope).

SEARCHLINE

Miss L Williams wishes to contact RAOOC survivors of ss *Anselm*, torpedoed July 5, 1941 off the Azores bound for Tokoradi. Her brother, serving in the RAF, was lost when the ship went down. Replies to 48 Heol Preseli, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire SA65 9JG (01348 872953).

Former pupils of **Archbishop Holgate's (Grammar) School,**

York who would like to attend the annual dinner in November should contact Miss E J Taylor, 14 Broughton Way, Osbaldwick, York YO1 3BG (tel 01914 416512).

L P Anderson has in his possession a First World War medal inscribed "53197 Cpl W J Bibby RAMC 1914-1919" which he wishes to pass on to a member of Cpl Bibby's family. He may be con-

DATES

MAY

(until May 18): Cornelius Ryan archive exhibition, National Army Museum, Chelsea.

JUNE

4-5: Floodlit Beating Retreat by Massed Bands of Household Division, Horse Guards, 9.30pm. Tickets on 0171 839-5323.

14: Queen's Birthday Parade, F Coy Scots Guards, Horse Guards (Major General's Review, May 31; Colonel's Review, June 7).

21: Sherborne Military Tattoo, Sherborne Castle, Dorset, in aid of Poppy Appeal and Army Benevolent Fund. Features displays by White Helmets, PWRR free-fall team, D and D Band, RGR Pipes and Drums, 9 Para Sqn RE, AAC helicopters.

28-29: Victorian Military Society celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, Historic Dockyard, Chatham.

29: Colchester Garrison County Day, Fingringhoe, including Red Devils and Army tug-of-war.

JULY

6: 30 Signal Regiment, open day, Bramcote, nr Nuneaton, featuring White Helmets, R Signals and Brigade of Gurkhas bands, APTC display team (01455 222551).

15-27: Royal Tournament, Earls Court. Tickets: 0171 244-0244.

27: Middle Wallop Challenge 97 air show. Tickets: 01980 674421.

SEPTEMBER

6-7: Berwick Military Tattoo, The Barracks, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

13-15: Military Survey 250th anniversary, Hermitage.

OCTOBER

7-8: Cyprus Walkabout.

24: Isle of Thanet Festival of Remembrance. Tickets: 01843 292882.

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

The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) is returning to South Africa – scene of its big fixture at Rorke's Drift – to play rugby in Natal and coach Zulu youngsters. Kick-off is in August.

It needs to raise £10,000 to pay its way and buy kit which will be given to local communities. If you can help, ring Capt Mark Pritchard on 0181 818-6601.

tacted at 22 Field Way, Aldershot, Hants GU12 4UG.

Paul Simons, Windfall Films Ltd, 22-24 Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HJ seeks eye-witness accounts of heroic animals of the World Wars. Examples are GI Joe, a pigeon which saved dozens of British soldiers at Colviveccio, Italy, by delivering an urgent message to call off a bombing raid.

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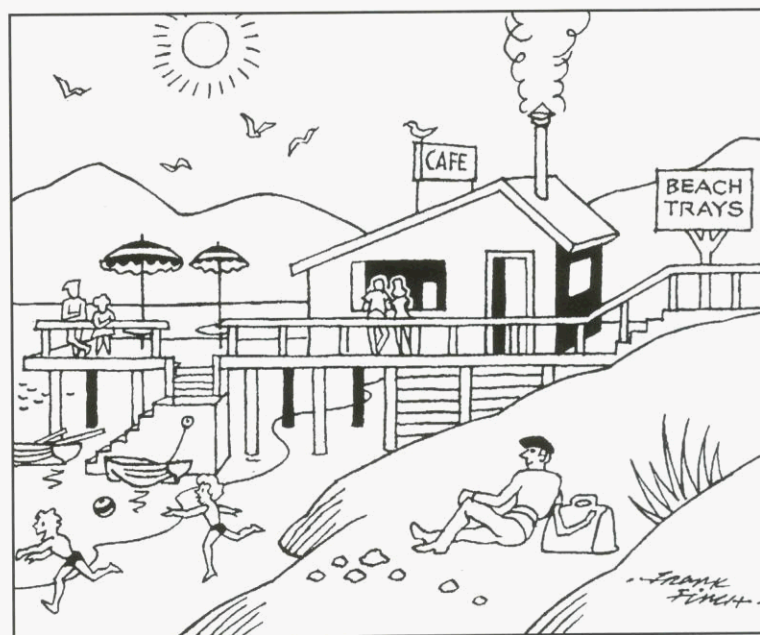
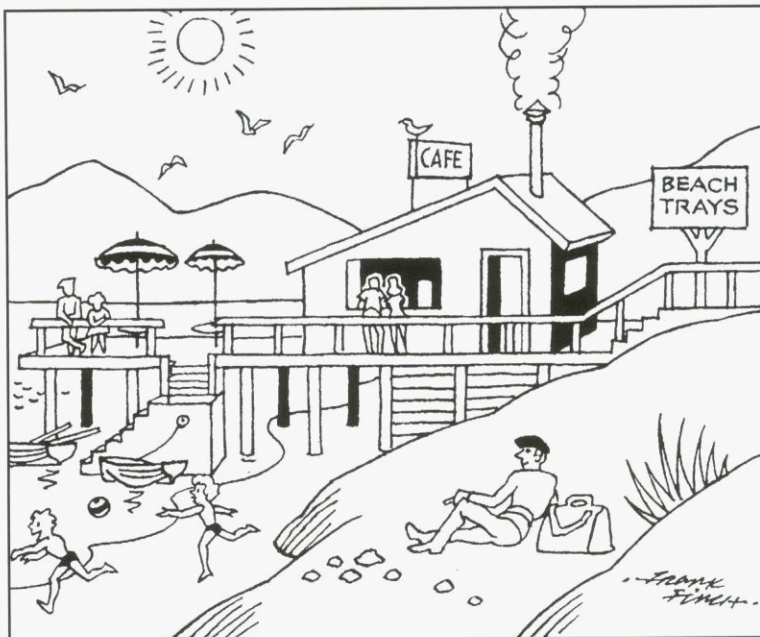
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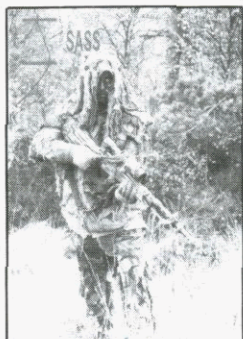
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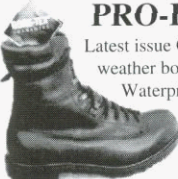

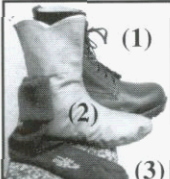





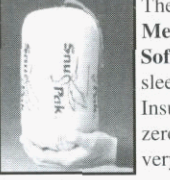

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Notices

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity: **The British Army of the Rhine Welfare Fund** to be known as The United Kingdom Support Command (Germany) Welfare Fund.

Scheme varying the Charity
Reference: **RM/14881/SC**

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at Headquarters United Kingdom Support Command (G) or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

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Wanted: Urgently require male REME No 1 Dress Uniform to hire or buy. 44" chest, 38" waist, 34" inside leg. Tel: 01895 467620 eve. 10/97

Wanted - early Soldier magazines 1948, 1949, 1951, 1953. Windmill Cottage, Hookerton Road, Upton, Newark. Tel: 01636 814890. 16/97

ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

APRIL 12, 1997

First prize (20 goals, £3,000): Sgt GC Jackson, PCD RLC, Mill Hill.

THREE-way tie for second prize (19 goals, £1,000): Capt JJ de Quincey-Adams, CATC BG, Warminster; SSgt PJ Green, 1 (UK) ADSR, BFPO 15; Lt Col N Moore, Army Apprentice College, Arborfield.

FIFTEEN-way tie for fifth prize (18 goals, £100 each): SSgt CL Anderson, 220 Fd Amb (V), Aylesford; Capt G Bennett, 216 Para Signal Sqn, Aldershot; Tpr SM Brown, KRH, BFPO 17; Spr J Draper, 33 Engr Regt (EOD), Wimlish; Maj DCA Ellis, 251 Signal Sqn, Aldershot; Capt MJ Hanby, 220 Signal Sqn, BFPO 25; SSgt RA McConnell, Upavon Sp Unit; Sgt PA Moran, Cdo Log Regt RM, Chivenor; Tpr RA Perry, 2 RTR, BFPO 38; Lt Col AJ

Pickford, HQ QMG, Andover; Capt RA Scott, 1 Signal Sqn (V), Bletchley; SSgt M Wallace, 158 Regt RLC (V), Peterborough; Sig CA White, 7 Signal Regt, BFPO 35; WO1 D Whiting, Royal School of Signals, Blandford.

APRIL 19, 1997 TWELVE-way tie for first prize (17 goals, £500 each): WO1 PR Atkinson, 7 Armcd Bde HQ & Signal Sqn, BFPO 30; Maj RH Bodington, HQ LANDCENT, BFPO 115; Maj CG Clayton, HQ RSME, Chatham; WO2 AJ Garton, Cyprus Engineering Unit, BFPO 57; Cpl K Goodwin, Hussars Band, BFPO 17; Cpl MC Hallyburton, 8 Inf Bde HQ & Signals Sqn, BFPO 807; Sgt AM Holmes, 24 Regt RLC, BFPO 39; Capt AG Hutchinson, ASPT, Aldershot; Cpl AJP Kerr, BAD Longtown; WO2 JD Masters, BATUS, BFPO 14; Sgt CD Pierce, 35 Signal Regt (V), Sutton Coldfield; SSgt DJ Ralphs, HQ York Garrison.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Lotteries for May 3 onwards will be based on county cricket scores, in accordance with the rules. In the case of the May 3 lottery itself, the results will be based on the scores in matches played with the following priority:

- First: Benson and Hedges Cup ties Fri May 2
- Second: Benson and Hedges Cup ties Wed Apr 30
- Third: Benson and Hedges Cup ties Mon Apr 28
- Fourth: Sunday League matches Sun May 4.

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Close call as Reds lose plot

Army 18, Royal Navy 16

THE Army fielded two Scottish internationals, Maj Rob Wainwright (RAMC) and LCpl Matt Stewart (PWRR), and England A winger Lt Brian Johnson (R Signals) against the Royal Navy at Twickenham. They were supported by talent from the Development XV in a contest first played in 1920 and, until the Second World War, invariably attended by the Monarch, writes **Roger Thompson**.

The Army were odds-on favourites having lost only to Bath in the final game of their 1997 club campaign. In bright sunshine the Band of the Royal Marines warmed up 25,000 partisan and vocal supporters.

From the first whistle the Army had the Royal Navy by

the throat and cruised into a 15-0 lead. Stewart made sustained forward pressure count with a bludgeoning try.

Receiving an almost limitless supply of ball from scrum, line-out and ruck, the guile of Howard Graham (22 Regt RA) and Rory Jones (7 RHA) committed the naval backs and loose forwards to desperate tackling, releasing Rob Abernethy, Steve Bartliff (2 Sig Regt) and Brian Johnson to strike for the line.

SHORT OF WORK

While Abernethy rounded off scintillating play with two excellent tries, the Army's accomplished wingers, Bartliff and Johnson, were left distinctly short of work. A penalty from Paul Knowles against two from the Navy's Simon Green-

ing gave the Army an 18-6 lead at half time.

The Army had been firing on all cylinders for 40 minutes. The front row of Matt Stewart, Julian Brammer (RE) and Seb Stewart (DWR) were in rampant form. Dave Dahinten (19 Regt RA) and Andy Newsham (1 RHA) took ball off the top at every opportunity while Rob Wainwright, Peter Curtis and Lee Denham had rampaged, driving the ball deep into blue territory.

Whether individuals had "tries in their eyes" or failed to re-commit themselves to the second half battle, the wheels came off the Army's game in no uncertain fashion. The Navy reverted to type, hurling salvo after salvo at the thinning red line.

Ferocious, fearless and almost famous, the Navy launched waves of blue shirts, skilfully retaining possession and bringing Richmond back Spencer Brown into action. On occasion he cut the Army's final defensive line to ribbons.

At that stage quirky refereeing and successive short penalties, allowed for by the new laws, enabled the Navy to retain the ball for long periods.

Paul Livingstone, the RN scrum half, who had scored a short-range try, kept the blue pack edging forward with towering box kicks, only to be driven back by excellent Army defence.

Army control around the break-down was watertight, but with the score at 18-13, the uncommitted were treated to an exciting spectacle. The unthinkable was certainly not impossible when the RN slotted their third penalty to make it 18-16, the final score.

The Army managed to convert a near massacre into a close-run thing: tantamount to Crazy Horse allowing Custer off the hook at the Little Big Horn.

Spencer Brown made his mark on a great game, but Rob Abernethy, with two sparkling tries, proved to be a match-winner.

Biathletes do it in summer

FIRST they did it in winter, now they want to try it in summer. The Army's biathletes hope to establish a summer version of the discipline as a military sport in its own right.

Capt Graeme Ferguson, director of Army biathlon, said it is an ideal outlet for multi-talented sportsmen and women, involving shooting, running and mountain-biking.

"Unit team training and coaching sessions can be arranged by myself or one of the other regional coaches and coordinators," he said.

This season's programme of races starts with regional or divisional championships in Aldershot and Bulford in June and in Catterick and Sennelager in July, culminating in the Army, inter-Services and national championships in Scotland in September.

Contacts are Capt G Ferguson (Aldershot and Bulford, Hawley Mil 3563); Capt J Wood (Catterick, Catterick Mil 2693); and WO1 (SMI) Dornig (Germany, Sennelager Mil 2514).

Old 'uns in charge

A TEAM of retired soldiers beat the current Army badminton team for the second year in succession in the annual challenge match at Arborfield.

The Army Old Boys have won dozens of championship titles in the past and showed today's players that they still had the competitive edge.

Most heavily-titled pairing was that of former medics, Maj (Retd) Roger Green and ex-WO1 Mick Feehily, who had won 47 titles between them while serving. They easily won all their games.

Graham Orszewski (ex-WO1 RAOC) and Robert Troup (ex-Pte RAMC) also played well.

Only success for the Army came against Lt Col (Retd) Alan Lees and ex-Sgt George Frith (both RAPC/AGC) who were beaten by number one pair SSgt Adrian Quinney (AGC (SPS)) and Sgt Ian O'Hara (RE).

Following a £500,000 refit, the Aldershot Military Stadium was reopened at a ceremony before the 97th Army Football Cup Final, played between the Camberley-based Royal School of Military Engineering Regiment and 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Report and pictures in the next issue.



Where did that shot go? Frantic goal-mouth action from the Army Challenge Cup Major Units hockey semi-final between 26 Regiment RA and 11 Signal Regiment at Aldershot. The signallers won the match but lost 1-0 in the final to Arborfield-based SEAE



Reach for the sky: Cpl Christine Ward (AGC) has been named as the Army's best netball player of the year, selected for Combined Services and presented with full Army colours. But despite Ward's performances, the Army trailed to both the

Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force at the inter-Services championships. Before joining the Army she played for Greater Manchester and the North West of England. She is currently based at the School of Employment Training, Worthy Down.

Alan is top man, again

CPL Alan Shepherd (24 Armd Fd Amb) and Sgt Sue Sharp (RMA Sandhurst) are the Army's runners of the year.

For Shepherd it was a second successive accolade, earned by consistent performances in major Service and national championships.

He was also the fastest soldier in the inter-Services

marathon, run in conjunction with the London classic, finishing in 2hr 23min 12sec. Sixteen soldiers competed.

The Army's scoring trio of Shepherd, Cpl Andy Arrand (2:24.30) and Cpl Paul Harwood (2:30.18) were second in an aggregate time of 7hr 18min, just 47 seconds behind the Royal Air Force.

This sport is not for faint hearts

THE ARMY women's Nordic ski team is looking for new members. Team captain Capt Rachel Grimes describes life on the road with the squad, which spends up to four months in competition, as adventurous training in the truest sense.

"I am looking for fit, determined young women who never give up and who are willing to push themselves to the limits of their endurance.

"The sport is not for the faint-hearted. Cross-country skiing is incredibly arduous. As you gasp in freezing air while trying to take in enough oxygen to get you round the gruelling 15km course, you can't help but feel exhausted. Your saliva freezes to your chin, while the Lycra ski suit you are wearing does little to combat the sub-zero temperatures.

"On top of all this you are carrying a rifle and are expected to hit a target the size of a 50p piece during the shooting phase of the races," she said.

This summer, there will be several biathlon training camps at Aldershot. Details from Capt Grimes on Aldershot Mil 3883.



Capt Dave Dahinten in action

Services snatch bruising win over London and SE

CS U-21 9, London and SE 8

COMBINED Services Under-21s earned themselves the narrowest of victories over the London and South East development side at Aldershot, writes **Nick Cooke**.

Despite powerful forward play from the backrow of Cpl Mat Price, AB Jeff Annal and SAC Nick Burnett, the Services were unable to cross the try-line, while the London backs were prevented from scoring only by stalwart tackling from Mne Nathan Evans and Gnr Leyton Davies in the centre.

London took the lead with a penalty, after which some rather unpleasant battles took place. Soon afterwards Price fell awkwardly and had to leave the field.

Fullback Mne Gareth Williams was kept busy under a deluge of high kicks, and was well supported by his wingers, LAC Jason Beattie and Spr Bruno Green.

After 20 minutes Services

drew level when Spr Mat Chalmers was on target with a penalty after London had killed the ball.

Services went further ahead with a second penalty after 34 minutes when London went over the top and Chalmers slotted the kick between the posts.

London made several changes to their team and began the second half strongly, scoring a good try. With London Division in the lead, the tempo increased and the final ten minutes produced some enthralling rugby.

In the final moments, Services coach WO Mick O'Shea sent on Spr Pete Griffiths who promptly converted the match-winning penalty with the final kick of the game.

CS U-21 25, Devon U-21 16

Devon U-21s capitalised on a complacent start by Combined Service U-21s at RNAS Yeovilton and went into an early lead with a penalty, quickly followed by a try.

Eight points down after ten

minutes, Services buckled down and eventually broke through Devon's defences when SAC Nick Burnett crashed over in the corner following a well-won lineout five metres from the try-line.

Devon responded with a penalty, before close support play by Services resulted in SAC Pete Bates crossing the line.

With the young Servicemen threatening to take control, the back row of Cpl Mat Price, AB Jeff Annal and SAC Burnett played their part for Burnett to score in the corner.

Half-time prompted the customary changes, Spr Mat Chalmers going on as stand-off and Spr Pete Griffiths taking over at fullback.

In the second period Spr Pete Griffiths converted a penalty, OM Neil Evans was injured while scoring in the 75th minute and Griffiths converted from wide out.

Devon Under-21s completed the scoring with a try.

Double helping of titles for the loggies

ALDERSHOT'S 27 Transport Regiment RLC won two of the three titles on offer at the Army basketball championships.

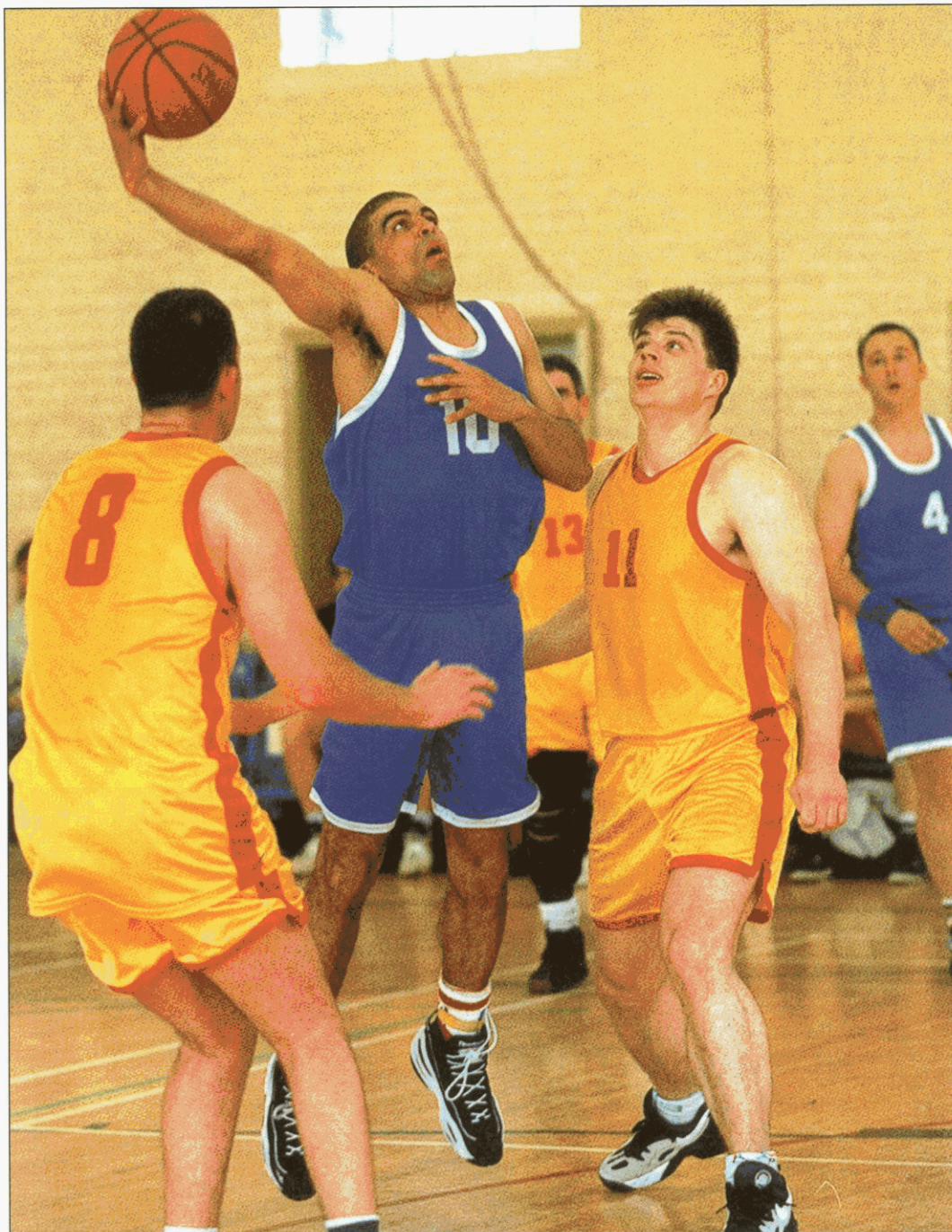
In the battle between 27 Regt and 14 Signal Regiment (EW) for honours in the Major Units competition, a large crowd watched the loggies dominate the match, despite a spirited defence by the signallers, to win 85-38.

There was a much closer contest in the women's final, where 27 Regt ground out a narrow 52-49 over the combined 15 Signal Regiment and HQ Northern Ireland side.

The Minor Units final between 3 Armoured Field Ambulance and ATR Pirbright was won convincingly by the medics, 72-47.

LCpl Paul Blake, Cfn Storm Alexander and LCpl Carl Black received most valuable player awards.

Sgt Rod O'Regan (RLC) was awarded the Fullbrook Trophy for services to officiating and Army coach Capt Tim Brown (RLC) received the Bunnett Trophy for services to basketball.



Picture: Mike Weston

Towering performance: LCpl Paul Blake (27 Regiment RLC) scores against 14 Signal Regiment in the Major Units basketball final at Aldershot. He received an award for most valuable player of the tournament

Braddock's troops take command

Civil Service 14, Army 46

FIRST Army Rugby League game of the new summer season, against the Civil Service at Bath, ended with a large victory for the Servicemen, **writes Steve Tranter.**

But the soldiers did not have it all their own way and the Civil Service scored a converted try in the tenth minute.

Unforced errors at this stage meant the Army had yet to complete a set of six tackles. Civil Service continued to make the hard yards and were unlucky to be held up after crossing in the 21st minute.

This set the alarm bells ringing, and after enterprising play down the flank by Tpr Mark Wilson (RDG) and Cpl Mark Denton (1 Para), scrum half Cpl Tony West (1 QLR) powered through to score under the posts. Sgt Tony Thornhill (RAMC) converted.

When the Service forwards began to dominate, the ball was released to Thornhill on the right wing and he squeezed in at the corner. Two more tries, from Sgt Paul Roberts (REME) and LCpl Dougie Ives (RE), made it 20-6 at half-time.

Pte Paul Buckley (1 QLR) scored the try of the match shortly after the interval. Racing down the left wing, he took a superb pass from Denton, handed off two defenders and stepped inside two more before sprinting in underneath the posts.

Civil Service fought back and, after ten consecutive tackles on the Army line, finally broke through for a well-deserved try.

Team captain Cpl Wayne Braddock (1 Para), SSgt Tim White (REME), Cpl Paul Jones (R Sigs) and Sgt Richard

Nelson (RE) pressured the tiring CS defence and Buckley scored on the left wing. Roberts stormed through to make it 36-10 after another conversion from Thornhill.

Although Civil Service scored again, the Army were far from finished and tries from Denton and substitute Cfn Ritchie Yeomans (REME) made the game safe.

With a final score of 46-14 it might have seemed a walkover for the Army, but they made more of their chances and the contest was closer than the scoreline suggested.



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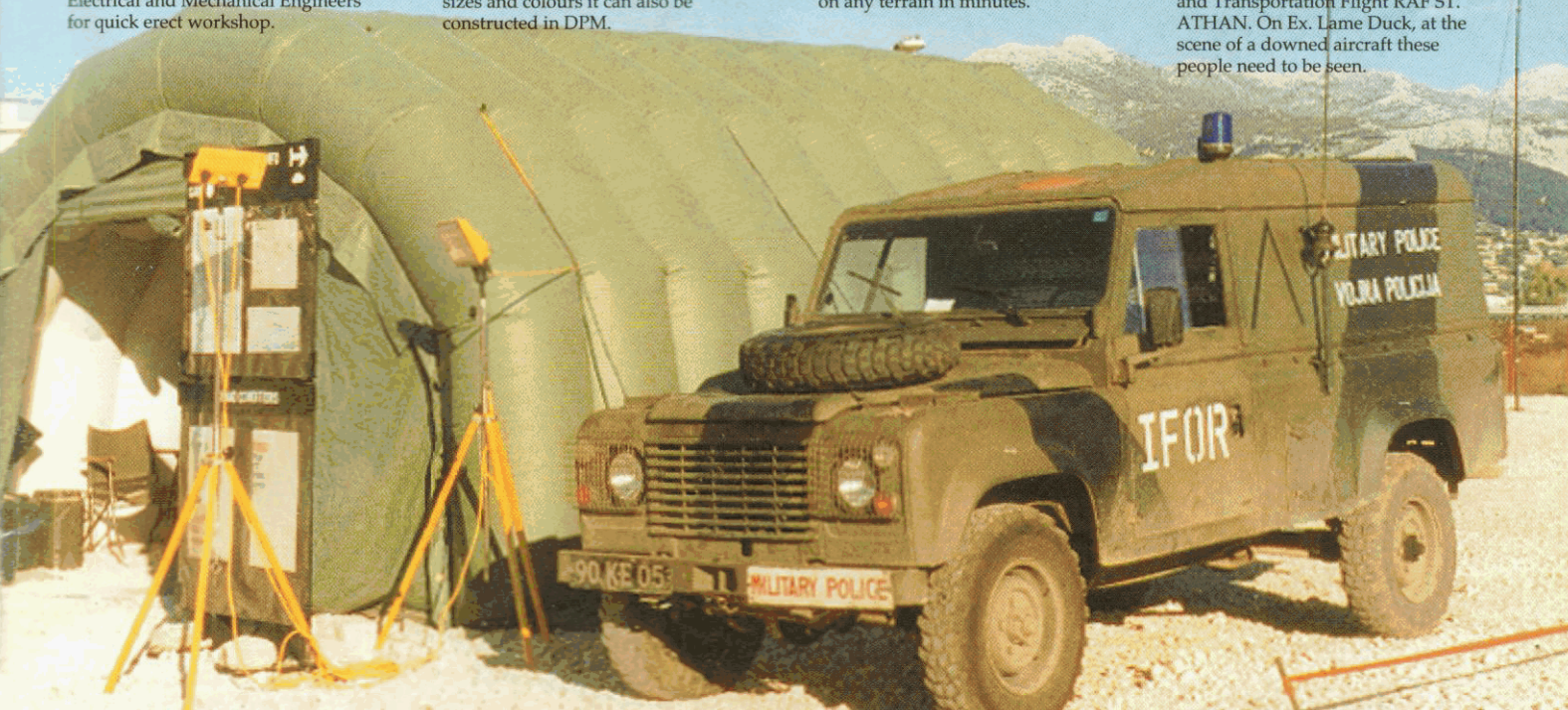
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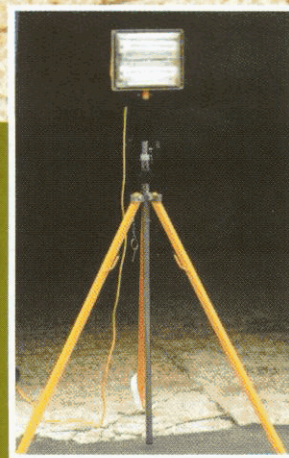
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Sig Lee Denham attacks the Royal Navy centres at Twickenham, with Sgt Pete Curtis, Capt Howard Graham, Capt Paul Knowles and Gnr Rory Jones in support. Match report in Sports pages.

Picture: Mike Weston

