

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 25 PENCE • 7- 20 FEBRUARY 1983

# SOLDIER



- STAFFORDS IN GIBRALTAR
- SINAI PEACEKEEPERS
- THE GIRLS WHO JOINED THE GLOSTERS

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### FRONT COVER

The Band of the Staffordshire Regiment prepares to march off after the Changing of the Guard ceremony outside the Governor's Residence in Gibraltar. A feature on the Staffords and their tour on the Rock appears on page 16.

Picture by Doug Pratt

### BACK COVER

Members of 275 Railway Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport (V) study plans during Exercise Western Waggon on the picturesque Severn Valley Railway. The story of the exercise appears on page 26.

Picture by Paul Haley

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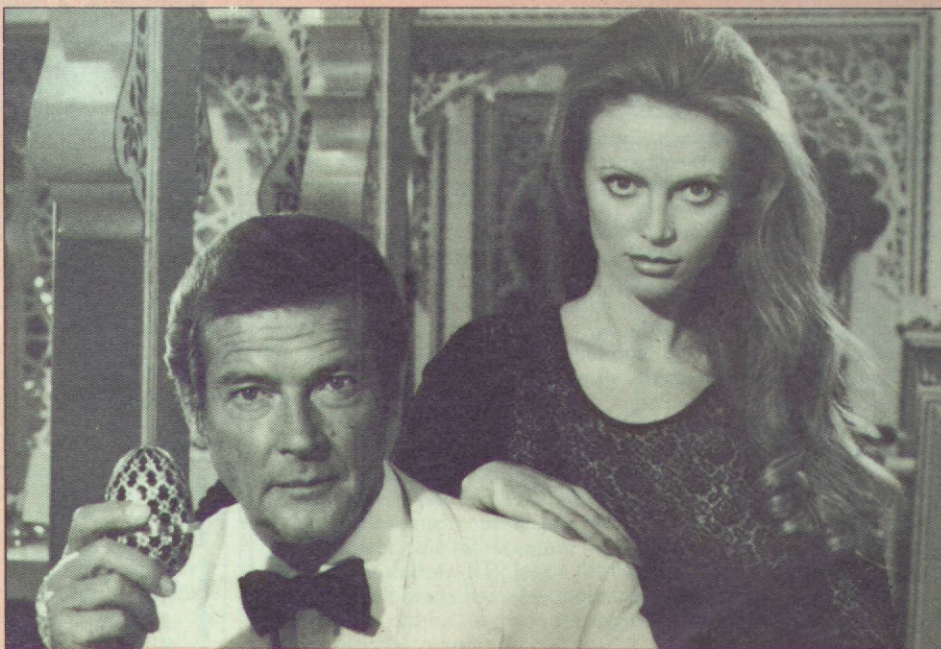
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY



Opening Gibraltar's front door: how much difference is it making to Army life on the Rock? — page 14 ►

James Bond's Army days: candid military memories from Roger Moore — page 19 ▼

◀ British Rail's soldiers: a look at a unique TA unit on exercise — page 26



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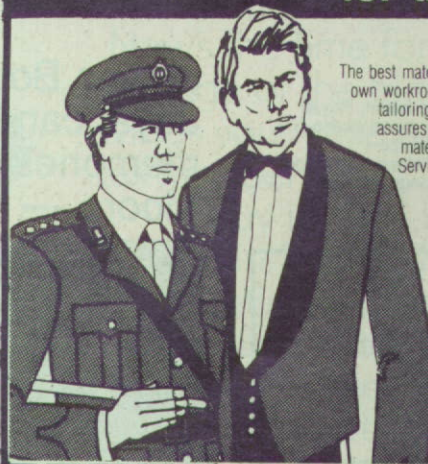
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**UNIFORMAL**

# CAPE TOWN—LONDON RECORD SMASHED

BRIGADIER JOHN HEMSLEY has earned himself — and his Australian-born wife, Lucy — pride of place in the 1984 *Guinness Book of Records* for the best, time-shattering, 12,000-mile drive through 19 countries from Cape Town to London. They did it by Range Rover in just 14 days 19 hours and 26 minutes — beating the existing unofficial record set up in 1974.

And Brigadier Hemsley, 48, Commander 24 Infantry Brigade, BAOR, says their time would have been even better had it not been for lengthy "bureaucratic delays" in Tanzania and Egypt as well as an infuriating 18-hour arrest and detention in Syria.

Wife Lucy, a pilot and parachutist in her spare-time from the world of archaeology, did half of the driving and was the navigator on the high-speed record attempt.

"We were smack on, actually," said Brigadier Hemsley, a veteran of nearly 50 international car rallies.

"There was tremendous help, unofficially, from defence attaches and their staffs, in their own time — particularly, Colonel David Fanshawe in Khartoum, without whose assistance we would not have got through.

"There was also a terrific amount of help given by foreign armies. The Jordanians gave us a 112-mile escort and the Egyptians loaned us two subalterns, Lieutenants Ibrahim and Mahmoud. They were very efficient and very pro-British."

The idea of a crack at the record and the invitation to drive it personally had been extended to the Hemsleys by Mr Ben Hogan, an ex-soldier who now lives in Celle and is the managing director of Soda Stream, West Germany.

## Given no chance

Experts, said Brigadier Hemsley, had "just laughed" at his wife's planning schedule and its original 12-day target.

"People had told us at the outset that they gave us no chance to 30 per cent chance of doing anything under 21 days. We would have to take one to two months," he said. "Most said we'd never do it because of political problems but we rolled up at frontiers and sorted out such problems there and then."

Mrs Hemsley added: "After the 18-hour delay by the Syrians morale went down. We thought we were never going to make a decent record. But, after that passed, we had a wonderful time and we took two-and-a-half days from Damascus to Calais."

The couple, in their sponsored Range Rover — they had only five punctures — also cracked the Cape to Cairo record.

No sooner had the liberally-endorsed Land Rover plastered with ads pulled to a pre-dawn halt at London's Marble Arch than Mrs Hemsley said: "I'd just love to turn round right now and



Brig Hemsley and wife Lucy, at home, re-running their route.

do it all over again. It was really fantastic and I'm only sad it's the end of the journey."

In north Kenya they missed, by ten minutes, a raid by armed bandits; other hazards included snow storms and icy roads in Greece, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

The Sudanese desert and the former Sinai battlefields also lay on the routes traced on their well-thumbed Michelin road maps. Speeds of up to 110 miles-an-hour were reached and part of the trip was achieved along a railway line which saved them three days.

Brigadier Hemsley, who took four weeks' leave to tackle the record attempt, said: "It really went remarkably well. We drove by the sun, stars and even by the wind. The Khamsin is a very steady wind which also kept the dust away from the car."

Registration of their dash into the record books has been ratified by the RAC and, hopefully, the Brigadier and his wife will be recognised for their feat in the next edition of the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Brigadier Hemsley hands over command of 24 Infantry Brigade this month to attend a six months' course at the Nato Defence College in Rome. After that, he takes up a staff appointment at HQ BAOR.

## Bikers going well

ELEVEN punctures later, plus a trailer weld, the Army's two intrepid tandem bikers are pedalling well across the Sahara.

Lieutenant Mandy Dunn and Second Lieutenant Paul Wright, both of 265 (KSY) Signal Squadron (V) are well on their way despite discovering that the weight of supplies stocked up in France made heavy work of towing the 120-lb trailer. But they still managed to average 50-60 miles a day, although it was less when climbing through the Atlas Mountains.

A tandem has proved to be such a novelty in areas more famed for camel-power, that people stopped on the roads to chat and hand out oranges, dates, bread and even the occasional glass of wine.

And the hospitality has been such that, according to Mandy's first despatch to SOLDIER, they have not yet had to pitch their tent — for which they are grateful because nights are freezing.

But there is a plea from Paul: "Can you get some of the girls to write as Miss Dunn is getting a lot of male correspondence and I have none." Come on girls!

## Morale high says Minister

ALTHOUGH it is a tough mission, the disgruntled soldier who sparked a Ministerial investigation into conditions in the Falklands does not have the support of his fellows, Mr Jerry Wiggin, Under Secretary for the Forces, reported when he returned from the islands.

The soldier — a member of the Hampshires detachment at Roy Cove on West Falkland, wrote to the *Sun* newspaper complaining that sanitary arrangements were inadequate and cataloguing his grievances. They ranged from lack of fresh water to not getting a can of beer from a gift supply.

But, said Mr Wiggin when he got back to UK, one particular 'whinger' should not in any way be considered typical.

"The rest of the troops cannot understand why anyone should write in these terms," he added. "Morale in the islands was absolutely first class — it was excellent everywhere."

Men were working "all God's hours," said Mr Wiggin, with a 6½-day working week but many voluntarily went on working the extra half-day. They were living under field conditions, which were often cramped, but whenever he had made a point of seeing where the men actually lived, he had received no complaints.

Everyone at Roy Cove was under a hard roof and the routine lunch offered three choices of main dish, but three lavatories were insufficient for 138 men, he admitted.

But there were no "in-depth" welfare problems.

• Mine clearance operations in the Falklands have been stopped following the latest injury — Major Stephen Hambrook, OC 49 EOD Squadron RE, lost a foot while on a reconnaissance. But all the major areas have been cleared, says the MoD, and for the time being only if there is an urgent civil or military need will operations be resumed.

Still-mined areas have been marked and research into a safe method of clearing plastic mines will continue.



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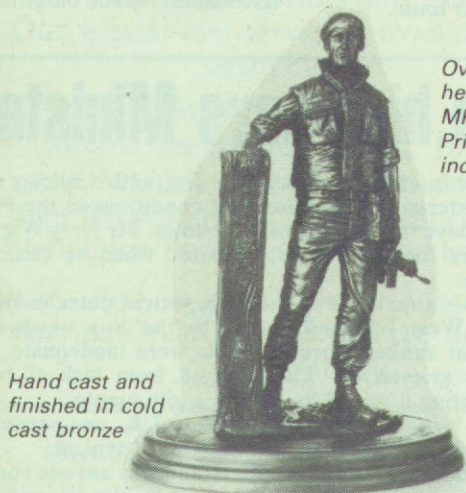
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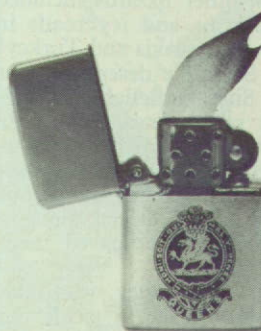


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## 'Spider' wanted a car

AN Intelligence Corps Lance Corporal who wanted to raise enough money to buy a car was sentenced to four years in jail after he had pleaded "Guilty" at the Old Bailey to trying to become a spy.

Lance Corporal Philip Aldridge, 20, was charged under section one of the 1911 Official Secrets Act with doing an act preparatory to the communication of information to an enemy.

The court was told that first he telephoned the Russian Embassy but after deciding it would be too difficult to make contact by telephone, he sent them a photocopy of a confidential file cover with the message: "If this appeals to you, insert a notice in the personal column of The Daily Telegraph on the 4th September 1982 — Spider we like you, Love Mum." The notice did appear but it read "I love you Spider, Love Mum."

Sending him to prison, Mr Justice Mars-Jones told him: "You had access to material which could have caused serious injury and exceptionally grave damage to us all because you were trusted by your superiors and your colleagues."

The judge said he had no doubt that Aldridge saw it as an opportunity to get money for a car. "That was the price you were demanding for betraying us all," he added.

## Jobs still about

DESPITE the recession, ex-Regulars are still in demand by employers, and those mature and with skills continued to hold their own in a highly competitive situation, says the 97th annual report of the Regular Forces Employment Association.

Despite the Services' higher retention rates — releases fell by 21 per cent — there was increased demand for the Association's services. But the percentage of placings to registrations dropped by six per cent.

The need for skilled men continued, particularly in the aircraft, avionic and electronic industries, says the annual report. But with the large pool of experienced redundant workers available there was an increasing need for ex-Regulars to receive additional training to up-date or enhance their skills.



Maj Gen Tomlinson with the first vehicle after acceptance.

## ARMY GETS FIRST TRACKED RAPIER

**THE FIRST** of the new tracked version of the Rapier surface-to-air, low-level air defence missile system has been delivered to the Army. It was accepted at Wellington Barracks, London, by Major General Michael Tomlinson, Director Royal Artillery.

Armoured, amphibious and air-portable, each of the new vehicles mounts eight missiles and can be ready to fire within 30 seconds of coming to a halt. It is designed to accompany battle tanks and troops almost anywhere, to provide rapid defence against low-level air attack.

As well as providing a high level of protection for the crew, Tracked Rapier has an all-round traverse enabling it to operate against aircraft approaching from any direction.

In the Falklands the standard towed version of Rapier downed at least 14 Argentinian aircraft. Now orders have been placed, subject to Government approval, for another 12 towed systems for the RAF Regiment and 12 of the tracked version for the Army.

During acceptance trials in the Hebrides a total of 11 missiles were successfully fired at Rushton targets, using the optical tracking system. One was fired by a British Aerospace engineer and the rest by Royal Artillery personnel.

Two scored direct hits on the tiny targets and all were within "lethal hit distance". Three of the missiles, including one of the direct hits, demonstrated the system's short range performance and the other eight were successful at longer ranges.

Tracked Rapier will be deployed first with 1 (BR) Corps in Germany.

Accepting delivery, Major General Tomlinson said: "The stark reality of the low-level air threat has been dramatically emphasised in the past year."

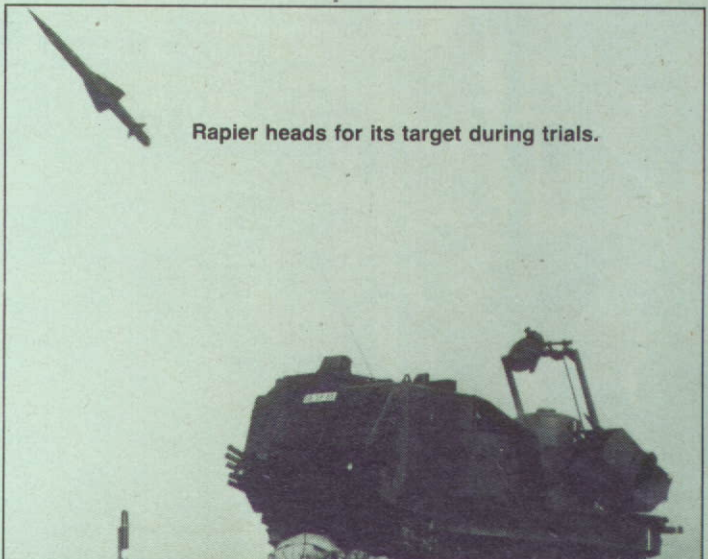
## Briefly

A stained glass window to the memory of Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck will be dedicated at a special service in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, on Sunday 19 June.

The service begins at 11 am and tickets for reserved seats are available from Maj (Retd) N Gulliver at RMA Sandhurst.

Over 10 per cent of the quarter million seats for the 1983 Edinburgh Military Tattoo have already been allocated although bookings only started on 1 January. So far bids have been logged from Australia, Germany, Holland and the USA.

Five Mirror Dinghy kits have been presented to Defence Under Secretary Mr Jerry Wigg for building and recreational use by Servicemen in the Falklands. Two were donated by the Marine Trades Association, two by Mirror Group Newspapers and the other by *Practical Boat Owner*.



Rapier heads for its target during trials.

## Life for next door killer

AFTER a week-long trial it took a jury at Winchester Crown Court only 30 minutes to return a "Guilty" verdict on a soldier accused of murdering his next door neighbour's wife.

Private Robert Scott, 24, a waiter in the Royal Regiment of Wales, had denied killing Mrs Susan Neil at her home in Willems Park, Aldershot, while her husband, Ian, a Royal Army Medical Corps corporal, was away on exercise. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Corporal Neil found his wife's body when he came

back from pre-Falklands training with 5 Infantry Brigade. She had been savagely beaten, stabbed and strangled. They had been married only eight months.

In court Scott claimed to have found Mrs Neil's body when he broke into the flat intending to burgle it. But the prosecution said a bread knife found in Scott's own kitchen had traces of blood, belonging to Mrs Neil's rare group, between the blade and the handle. Bloodstained finger and palm prints belonging to Scott were also found in the Neils' bedroom.

# NEWS VIEW



## Keep Smiling

That had to be the motto for Corporal Ginnette Powell when she arrived in the registry at HQ 3 Armoured Division and Signal Regiment. First to arrive out of a group of nine WRAC to be posted to the Division she had the daunting task of facing the giant 'In' tray. And she dropped a stripe to make the switch from Cyprus to Werl — but then that was where husband Colin had been posted. By the way chaps, Colin is an RMP.



## Early Look

Before becoming Commander British Forces Cyprus in April, Major General H D A Langley, currently GOC London District, had a look at the work of the British contingent in the United Nations Force on the island. Here Lieutenant Harry Sutherland briefs the General during his tour.



## Yomping

With the re-organisation of BAOR, 4 Armoured Brigade at Münster became part of 3rd Armoured Division, and to show that they were fit enough to carry on the Division's tradition members of 204 Signal Squadron decided to hoof it from Münster to Korbecke. Most of them completed the 46 mile slog but then they had clocked up some 500 miles in training. Still the greeting from Lt Col Tim Waugh, front left, was worth it. "In the spirit of the Indian Army," he commented, recalling days when units sometimes spent 18 months on the march between postings.

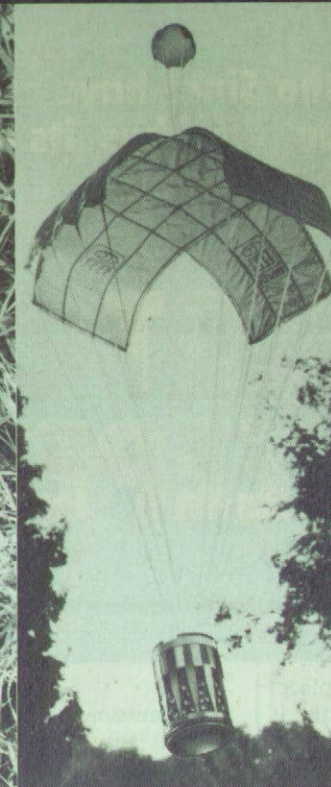
## Rose Returns

The red rose of Lancaster flies bravely in the breeze to mark the inauguration of the latest of the Army's new infantry brigades, this time 42 which is now based at The Castle, Chester. Hoisted by Sergeant John Lorimer, RAOC, to the sound of pipes and bugles, the rose insignia recalls the wartime 42nd (East Lancashire) Division and the later 42 Infantry Division of the TA.



## Rare find

Among 10 tons of ammunition unearthed from the old ranges at Shoebury near Southend-on-Sea were these relics mostly dating from the 1860s and 70s. Included were a lot of cannonballs, some still filled with gunpowder, and even rarer were five incendiary shell carcasses, like the one held here by Major Tony Hill, the man in charge of the clearance operations. One of the shells contained an inflammable mixture which still burned after 120 years.



## Dangerous

This innocent looking canister nestling in the grass is the new HB 876 area denial submunition which forms an important part of the JP 233 airfield attack weapons system with which RAF Tornados are to be equipped. The Weapons Equipment Department of Ferranti Instrumentation has just won a production order for the weapon and its electronic distributor unit. Right, it floats to earth with its tines folded.

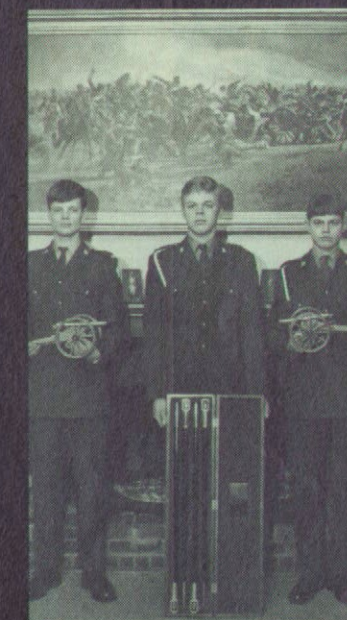
## Nepal Visitor

It was a bit like home for just one day for General Simha Pratap Shah, Chief of the Nepalese Army Staff, when he made a short visit to his countrymen serving with 1/7 Gurkha Rifles at Church Crookham, near Aldershot. General Shah was on an official visit to UK.



## FAMILY

The 13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO) must surely be a real family regiment if these three young troopers are anything to go by. They are brothers Stuart, Robert and Graeme Wiles and the youngest, Graeme, 17, on the right, has just arrived in Germany to complete the trio. Although never in the regiment, their father, Mr Peter Wiles, does have strong links with it. About a year ago he made and presented the case of four drill sticks and more recently he presented the two wood and brass cannon, models of the guns used by the Russians at Balaklava. Appropriately the picture is a scene from that battle.



Britain's soldiers in the Sinai have a vitally serious job to do, but life has its lighter moments too for our . . .

# DESERT PEACEKEEPERS

**T**HE SINAI is a rugged place. Mountainous in the south, it gradually flattens out to a gravel plain before emerging as sand dunes near the Mediterranean coast. In summer the temperature hits a searing 120 degrees Fahrenheit, yet its winter is often cold enough to bring snow to the taller peaks.

For thousands of years this stark terrain has been home to the Bedouin — those fierce-looking tribesmen in flowing robes who still wander the desert on camels as in Biblical times.

But today it is home to soldiers, too — a unique 11-nation force including a small but essential British contingent.

The Multi-National Force and Observers (MFO) was deployed to the Sinai last March to ensure that the terms of the Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel are fulfilled.

Sgt Stewart Black, 17-21 Lancers, gingerly experiments with Camel Corps role. ▼

led.

Its mission is a peacekeeping one and it reports any violation of the agreement to both sides. And while it is not designed to counter any major incursion it is in a position to defend itself.

The MFO is the first organisation of its type ever to be set up outside the United Nations. It is also significant because it represents the first time that the United States has become involved in a peacekeeping operation of this kind; it provides a major element of the Force.

There are two parts to the MFO — the Military and the Observers. The latter, just over 30-strong and all US civilians, carry out routine and random checks on Israeli and Egyptian forces over the whole of the Sinai to ensure that treaty terms with regard to equipment and force levels are being adhered to.

Hot work on the charity 'fun run'. ▼

Jeeps move out on Exercise 'Desert Rose'. ▲

The Military element, just over 2600 strong, is deployed in Egypt in Zone C (see map) along the Israeli-Egyptian border. They occupy positions on key terrain and on major routes and despite being spread over an area stretching 350 miles from north to south, seem to have been effective so far.

The Fiji battalion is deployed in the north of the zone, the Columbian battalion in the centre and the US battalion in the south. An Italian naval unit equipped with fast patrol boats looks after the Straits of Tiran.

Australians, New Zealanders and French provide the aircraft and crews; the Dutch produce signallers and provost; the Uruguayans provide a transport unit; and the Norwegians contribute a small but important element that includes the Force commander, Lieutenant General Bull Hansen.

"It is quite a mixed bag but despite this the various contingents work well together," says Lieutenant-Colonel David Houlton, RRF, commanding officer of the 37-strong British contingent.

"We basically provide an element of administrative support for the Headquarters," he explains. "This takes the form of an HQ unit, clerks and drivers and we also provide some staff officers."

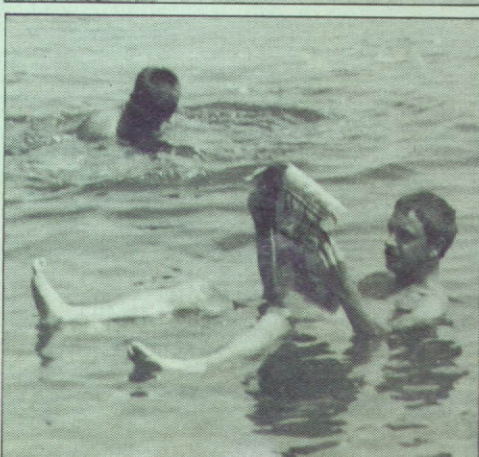
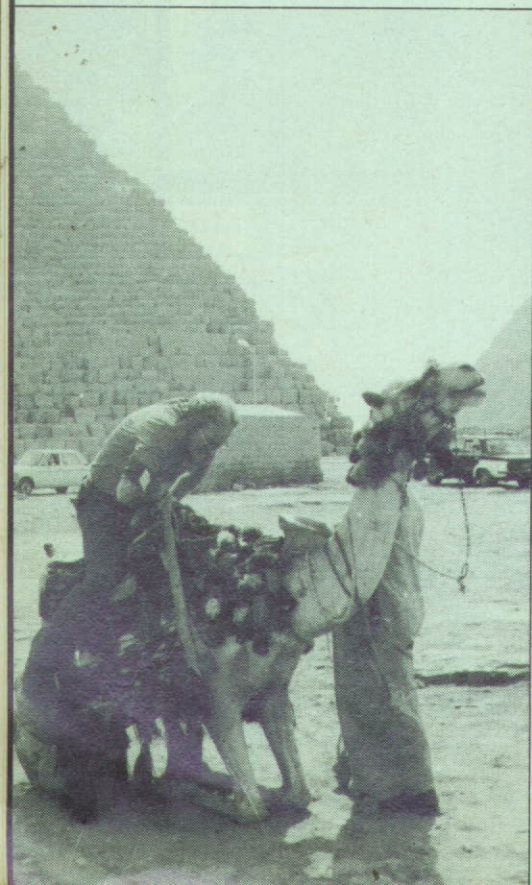
"Our contingent consists of six officers and 31 other ranks drawn from the Royal Marines and some 23 regiments and corps of the Army. Individuals are posted out here on temporary detachment from their units."

Life for the Brits, who are located in a camp site developed from a former Israeli air base, is described as "comfortable and well appointed".

Recreation and opportunities for travel are good too for those with initiative; trips to Cairo's famed Bazaar, the Pyramids, time-machine style visits back into Biblical times and cities like Jerusalem, the Judean Desert, the Dead Sea, Mount Sinai — believed to be the site where Moses received the ten commandments — and St Catherine's Monastery where he was confronted with the burning bush.

One British soldier to take full advantage

◀ Sgt Vic King, 1 RTR, shows you really can't sink in the Dead Sea.



of these adventurous opportunities has been Sergeant Vic King of 1 RTR. He took part in one of a small series of familiarisation exercises organised by the Brits, known as 'Desert Rose'.

His group moved out amid the dunes in four jeeps, loaded with rations and water. Their guide was a Swiss who had lived in the area for 16 years; a man who turned out to be indispensable because of the hazards from minefields.

"We ran across a Bedouin encampment where we stopped and were briefed on the lifestyle of the Bedouin," recalls Vic. "They certainly have a very hard life and live in a residence made of small pieces of shrub or in a tent. Nothing like you may have seen in the movies with a large luxurious tent for the sheikh. Nor, sadly, were there any belly dancers gyrating around in the sand!"

The small expeditionary force with the leisure-bent difference spent a couple of nights in the desert before returning to base, but Vic has made several other excursions into the Lawrence of Arabia terrain.

"Life here on the base can be a bit tedious so you must make the best of your leave and days off," Vic advises any future members of the contingent.

One of his most pleasurable trips was down the Negev Desert to Eilat, a modern resort on the Gulf of Aquaba in the Red Sea which gave the chance to catch some more sun and meet some attractive bikini-clad girls.

Vic was also able to take part in the 40th anniversary remembrance service of the Battle of El Alamein; an event well-patronised by Eighth Army veterans.

"Being a Tankie, I was certainly very well looked after and was plied with the old liquid refreshment. They certainly had some fascinating tales to tell."

His most memorable 'trip' though was yet to come. Lieutenant-Colonel Houlton decided that his contingent would do a charity relay run from Sharm El Sheikh (south base) to El Gorah (north base) — a distance of 320 miles!

Five teams of four runners took part, each running for two hours with every man putting in as much distance as possible in a 15-minute spell.

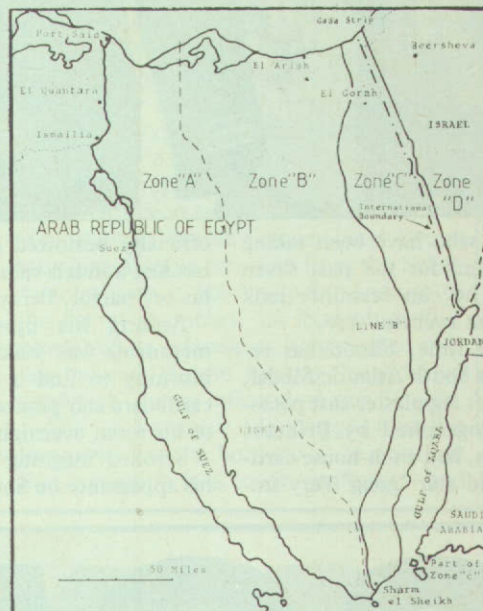
"The other ten contingents began to doubt our sanity when the CO announced the British Contingent (Britcon) would do the run," Vic admits. "The miles ticked away quite quickly though and the run was completed in 40 hours. We managed to raise £716 which was duly forwarded to HRH Princess Anne for the 'Save the Children' Fund."

Colonel Houlton sums up his contingent's stay amid the sand dunes and scorching sun thus: "In case anybody gets the wrong idea, we do actually work as well. Yet it would be more than foolish not to take advantage of being out in such a fascinating part of the world. We are the second contingent to come out here and our tour is now drawing to a close. We all feel that the Force is doing an important job and that the British contingent is worthwhile and appreciated.

"I am sure that most of us have enjoyed it for most of the time. This is a volatile and unstable part of the world and who can tell what the future has to offer? Most of us think that this is a very rewarding tour. I would certainly recommend it." ■



Bedouin tribesmen — their lifestyle has changed little since Biblical days. ▲



The Sinai today, divided into four zones. The MFO military element patrol Zone C. ▲

The Chief of the Defence Staff, General Bramall, meets members of the British contingent at a friendly oasis. ▼



## Why Ward Four's star is getting the bird again



LEG-SHOT victim of a sniper's bullet during an ambush on Mount Longdon just two days before the end of the Falklands conflict, Private Simon Clark, 22, of the 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment is due out of hospital this week. And as he says goodbye to the doctors and nurses at the RAF hospital near

Swindon who have been taking care of him for the past seven months, he can certainly look back on an eventful stay.

In that time, Simon has received his South Atlantic Medal, had his left leg plaster cast personally autographed by Princess Alexandra, had an in-house cardboard gold star 'gong' very un-

officially bestowed on him and has lost a much-valued friend — his toy parrot, Percy!

Among his most pleasant memories was waking up one morning to find a five-pointed cardboard star pinned to the door of his room overnight.

Scrolled 'megastar', it followed his appearance on Southern Tele-

vision during HRH Princess Alexandra's visit and was awarded by nurses on Ward Four "for his cheerfulness".

Veteran of 31 jumps, Simon has been taking everything in his stride. Everything, that is, except the mysterious disappearance of his bright green toy parrot, Percy, who used to live on an improvised perch, an old drip-feed stand — complete with bird seed plastic containers.

The nursing staff were planning to buy him another parrot before he left though.

Flight Lieutenant Susan Dennis (in picture), the Ward Sister, told SOLDIER: 'He has been no bother and we'll miss his raucous laughter coming from his room. It is an incredibly infectious laugh. Simon has been very cheerful with a keen sense of humour. He is very much one of the lads.'

"We shall be sorry to see him go but quite joyous to see him walking properly again."

## SOLDIER to Soldier

SOLDIER's proud claim to be 'The Magazine of the British Army' will be further strengthened from 18 April.

For that issue — and subsequent ones — will see us incorporating *The Territorial Army Magazine* which ceases separate publication the same month.



Saying goodbye to old friends is always sad and we know that many people in the TA will regret the passing of a journal which has served them so well and whose origins go back even further than SOLDIER.

But in recent years the Regular Army has moved much closer to the TA and the idea of one magazine is a logical extension of the 'one Army' concept.

SOLDIER already gives a good deal of space to TA affairs and we are proud to count many TA members among our readers. We look forward to welcoming a lot more from 18 April and hope they will help us in strengthening our coverage of their activities.

Our over-riding aim remains the same though: to go on writing about the Army in all its aspects, Regular and Territorial.

As the Magazine of the British Army, SOLDIER will seek to reflect — as always — the activities, achievements and aspirations of every soldier who wears the Queen's uniform.

☆ ☆ ☆

OH DEAR! The soaraway *Sun* — self-styled 'newspaper that supports our boys' — has been getting in all of a tizzy over conditions for troops in the Falklands.

It all started with a letter to the paper from a disgruntled private complaining about poor food and miserable living standards and corroborated, according to the *Sun*, by a "flood of messages" from soldiers' families.

The twitching tabloid was less than delighted when Armed Forces Under Secretary Jerry Wiggin returned from the South Atlantic with a point-by-point answer to the list of grumbles. "A load of waffle" screamed its editorial as it castigated military powers-that-be for the "scandalous hardships" being inflicted on our Forces.

And all because Mr Wiggin had the temerity — or the honesty — to point out that soldiering is a tough profession and

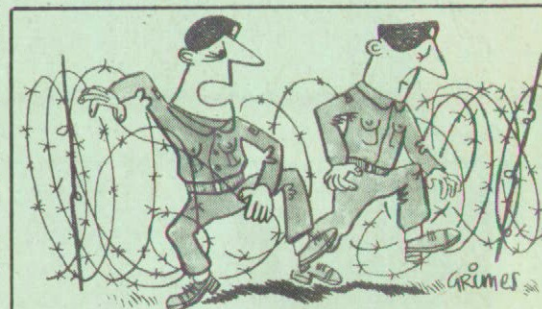
that a posting to the Falklands was bound to involve a certain degree of discomfort.

Of course, there are some grumbles. Soldiers enjoy a moan like everyone else and what better than a letter home to mum to get a few niggles off your chest?

Men on the Falklands do have to work long hours. Their accommodation is pretty basic. Their food isn't always up to cordon bleu standard. And they can't jump into a nice hot bath every day.

But scandalous hardships? Rubbish!

Soldiers posted to the Falklands know they're not heading for an island idyll of wine, women and song. They're being sent on the tough, dirty, difficult — and still dangerous — job of getting the islands back to normal and making them safe from future aggression. That's their priority. That's what they're getting on with. To suggest these superb professionals have got time to waste whingeing about dirty sleeping bags or the occasional less-than-fresh egg is the sort of support 'our boys' can do without.



"Somebody ought to get around to making this stuff without spikes on it."

# GOING PLACES.

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## SOLDIER ON THE ROCK

Stories: John Walton  
Pictures: Doug Pratt

The opening of the border with Spain is already making an important difference to the quality of Service life in Gibraltar.

# A CHINK IN THE GARLIC CURTAIN



AN EXPECTANT CROWD, including British Servicemen and their wives; queued patiently at the border crossing into Spain. A few yards away a trickle of Spaniards were coming the other way.

It was a scene which had long been awaited since the Franco regime closed the border between Spain and Gibraltar some 13½ years earlier.

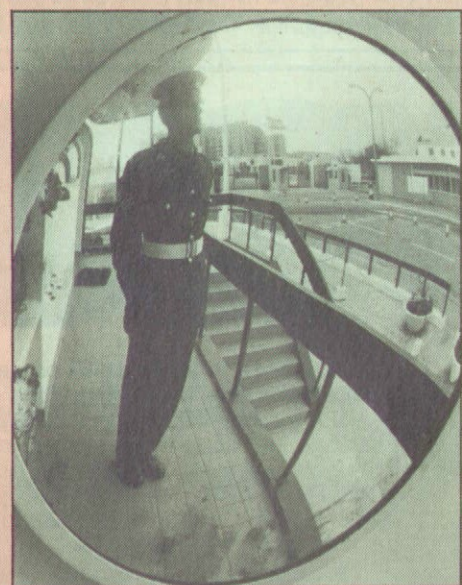
In mid-December the newly elected Socialist Government of Spain had opened the border to pedestrian traffic only and in the first month crossings totalled almost 290,000. The long years of isolation had ended for the Rock after two previous scheduled opening dates in April and June last year had been cancelled following the Falklands flare up.

Soldiers, who have a nickname for everything, used to call the closed border 'The Garlic Curtain'. As in other parts of the world while on guard duty in their sangars they could see their Spanish opposite numbers only a few yards away. But there was no fraternisation.

Since the border opened, soldiers and their families resident on the Rock have been allowed across to the nearby Spanish towns of La Linea and Algeciras although numbers have been carefully controlled in order not to weaken the Gibraltar defences.

To help them with any problems they might face in Spain the Royal Military Police set up an information post at the border. Six extra Redcaps were sent out from England to augment the force in Gibraltar.

At first the information post was manned



Cpl Colin Bell, RMP,  
on duty at the information post.

by two military policemen but this has recently been cut to one as the number of people making maiden crossings dwindles. Corporal Tom Rodger, manning the post on a busy Saturday morning as wives queued to go to the Spanish fruit and vegetable market, reported only a handful of enquiries.

"A few that have not been across before come and ask the procedure and what they will be able to see. They get issued with two passes — one from the unit and one to produce to the Spanish authorities — and we have to make sure they will produce the right one.

"We have a file detailing restaurants and so on and warn them about the dangers such as drugs. We have to tell them to be careful

The border seen from the Spanish side.

not to get into trouble because it may be difficult to get them back. We also tell them to report any difficulties they may experience so that we can warn other people going over."

Brigadier Geoffrey Duckworth, who has just handed over as Deputy Forces Commander, feels that despite that limitation on numbers of soldiers visiting Spain at any one time the opening has been welcome to the Forces on the Rock.

"For thirteen-and-a-half years they have been cooped up in here and unable to go to Spain except for the long way round via Tangier. The single man after the first few months has tended to find things pretty boring apart from drinking in the 200 or so bars. The Army greatly welcomes the opening of the border and the relaxation it brings."

Before the border opening the only way off the Rock was to Tangier and the ferry *Mons Calpe* (see SOLDIER June 1981) used to be crowded with Servicemen and their families at weekends. Now the boat has hardly any — apart from the few Servicemen in the Rock on short detachments who are not allowed into Spain.

In the bustling Casbah, another world from Europe and the Rock, Warrant Officer 1 Gary Gales from Tidworth and Staff-Sergeant Phil Vincent from Catterick were haggling with Arab traders for small presents.

Said WO1 Gales: "We are only in Gibraltar for 17 days as a REME inspection team and are not allowed to go across to Spain. But we



Changing guard at the border. Note the British 'bobby' — actually Gibraltarian.

would have been disappointed not to have visited Tangier — it's well worth the trip."

When the novelty of the border opening wears off, Tangier is likely to recover some of its Service tourist trade — although £15 for a day excursion against a short walk into Spain means that it is likely to be a special

outing only.

Cheaper food, vegetables and restaurants are the main attractions across the border, plus a welcome feeling of space after the Rock's crowded shopping areas. Within the next few months local people expect the gates to open properly to allow vehicles to



WO1 Gary Gales (left) and S/Sgt Phil Vincent sample the grub in Tangiers.

pass. If that comes about, weekends and holidays in Spain will be an attractive proposition.

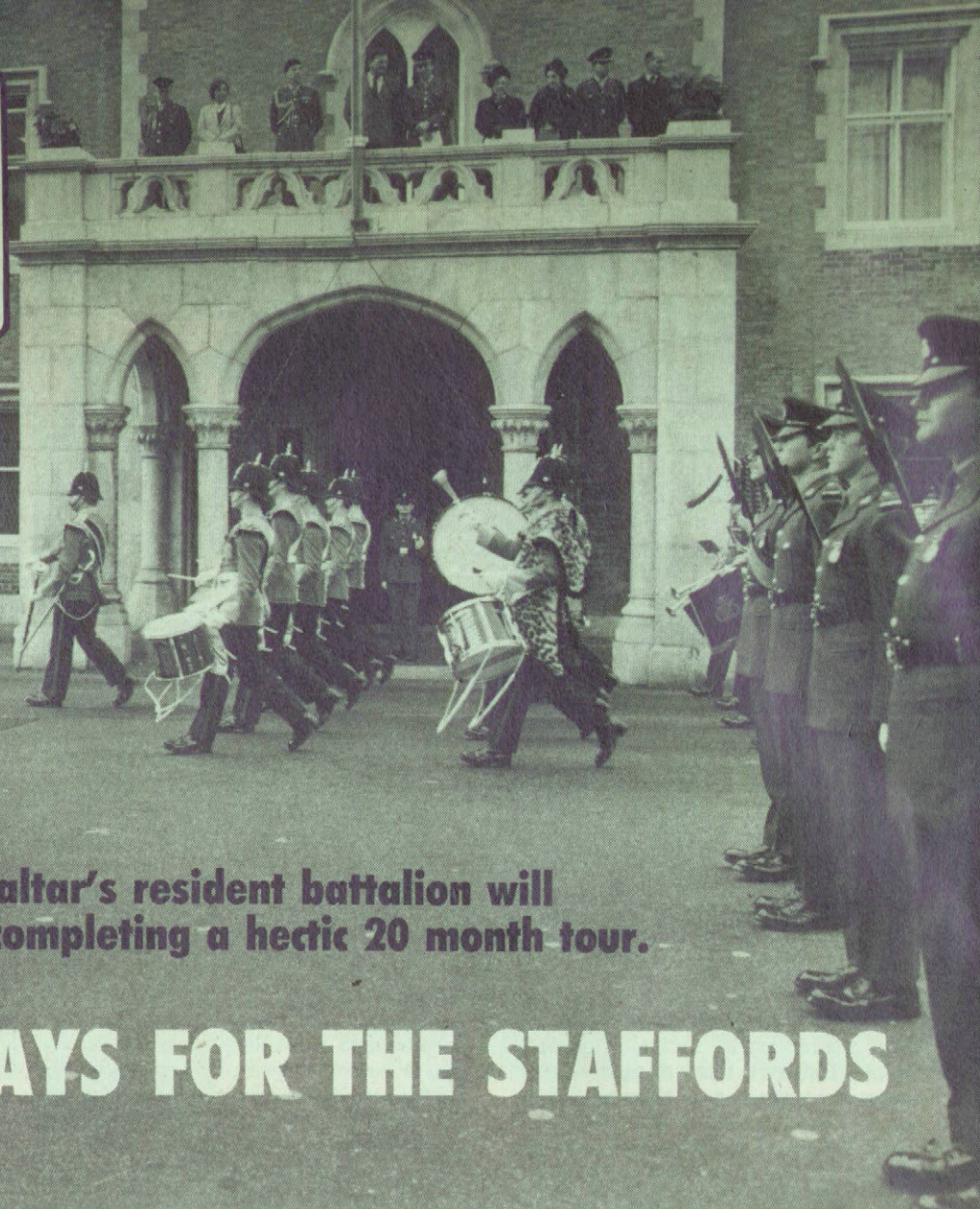
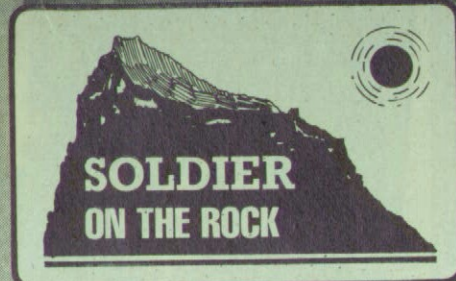
At the same time British Servicemen have to remember that Spain has not abandoned its claim to the Rock. They ruled the barren outpost from 1462, when they ousted the Moors after 700 years, until 1704 when it was captured by the British under Admiral Rooke.

Since then the Rock has remained under the Union Jack and its inhabitants, many of them descended from the original 200 who opted to stay with Britain in 1704, have indicated consistently that they do not wish to be united with their Spanish neighbours.

Views across the border — see page 18.



Saturday morning queue at the frontier to visit Spain for some shopping.



**Gibraltar's resident battalion will soon be completing a hectic 20 month tour.**

## NO AWAY DAYS FOR THE STAFFORDS

"A BUSY and turbulent year" is how Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Freear, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, describes the unit's 1982 spent on the Rock of Gibraltar.

The battalion on the Rock usually gets away twice — for company exercises and for a battalion exercise. This gives the men the chance to stretch their legs and use full size range facilities. But last year this was not possible at all and the Staffords, who complete a 20 month tour in March, have not been off the Rock for training since November 1981.

Two planned border openings — which came and went without any change in the isolation of the Rock from Spain — together with the Falklands crisis, kept the Staffords busy throughout most of 1982. And after that came the Spanish elections and the opening of the pedestrian gates on the border.

The Falkland invasion blew up while the Staffords were helping with a big naval exercise off Gibraltar. Many of the ships headed straight off to the South Atlantic and the soldiers went on the alert.

"There were obvious analogies between Gibraltar and Spain and the Falklands and Argentina and there was an increased ner-

Top: Monday morning guard changing outside the Governor's Residence.  
Right: Alert on the Beefsteak CQB Range.



A busy time for the Regiment's musicians.

vousness in regard to the situation. Gibraltar suddenly had a great injection of military vigour," commented Colonel Freear.

United Kingdom training was cancelled as was all leave and soldiers were pulled back from courses. Restrictions were imposed while the crisis was on and the battalion took a long look at its defence plans for the Rock.

Unable to get away from Gibraltar, the Staffords have tried to take full advantage of the opportunities available there. Their eight week training cycle consists of two weeks on ceremonial duties, two on normal administration tasks and guards, two weeks hard military training and two weeks adventure training.

For the first time for years a full battalion exercise lasting a week was held on the Rock and the troops have also updated and improved on the Beefsteak Close Quarters Battle Range housed in some of the old World War Two tunnels which honeycomb the Rock.

The range had been in existence for some years but is now equipped with electric pop-up targets as well as more buildings and a lot of cars. Corporal Stephen Miller, of the weapon training wing, explained: "When we came it was a bit dirty and looked like the old Northern Ireland scene with lots of old wrecked cars about. Now the scene has changed and we have put new looking cars in there plus sound effects using a tape recorder."

The urban situation is realistically created and soon closed circuit TV will be added. There is also an air rifle range for people waiting to go through the close quarters facility.

Corporal Miller says that the CQB range is perfectly safe for live firing because the Rock is soft stone and there are no ricochets. Pyrotechnics and thunder flashes can also be used to add to the realism.

A company commander, Major Dick Fenning-Mills, told SOLDIER: "We do quite a lot of training in these tunnels and we do find it very useful. It's one of the best training facilities on the Rock. You can use it for all sorts of training, not just for Northern Ireland but for situations which can occur anywhere."



Instruction on Milan and Combat.

A morning run — final uphill drive.

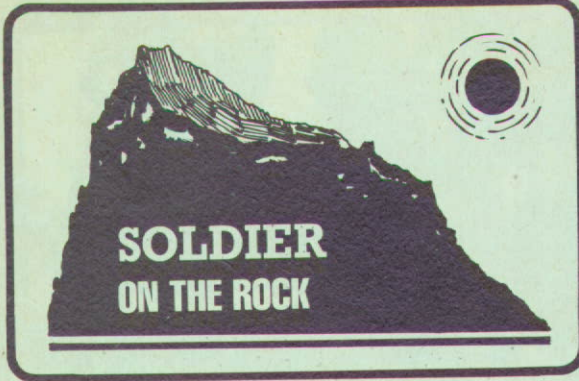
Ceremonial duties have also played an important part in the Staffords' tour — particularly for the band which has taken part in the Monday morning ceremonial Changing of the Guard every week since the battalion arrived in Gibraltar. The musicians have also been kept busy playing in eight different Service messes, at concerts outdoors and in the caves, on visits to local charities and even on a trip to Morocco.

On the frontier with Spain the guard provided by the standby company does a two week duty. It mans three sangars for observation of the border and also provides a ceremonial sentry near the gates. The company is also responsible for guarding the north edge of Gibraltar's airfield and in the event of an air disaster would be on hand to help with the emergency.

In 1981 the Staffords became the first battalion to travel overseas by troopship for 20 years when they left Bootle by LSL for Gibraltar. This Spring they will repeat the voyage in the other direction — bound for Colchester and the chance to get some summer training in wide open spaces. But they will always remember Gibraltar and a momentous year in its history.



Pte Barry Tennant watches passing shipping from his observation post.



## SOLDIER ON THE ROCK

Soldiers and their families in Gibraltar have been quick to take advantage of the frontier opening. Here are just a few typical . . .

# VIEWS ACROSS THE BORDER

**Private Neil Love** and his wife Elizabeth — just back from a trip to market:

"The people are much more friendly than we expected. There is no hassle at all and it's a pity the border didn't open before."

"Things are so much cheaper over there. Eggs are 50p a dozen against 45p for half a dozen and it's 19p for a litre of coke against 38p for an ordinary sized bottle. And you can get really nice bread."

**Private Jeff Pitchford, 1 Staffords:** "I'm going over with my girlfriend who can speak a bit of Spanish. We want to go round to Algeciras and have a meal and a drink. It will make a change from Gibraltar — you can get bored just walking round the same streets." ▼

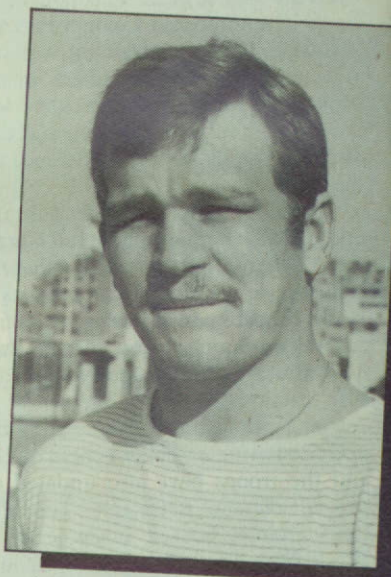


**Corporal Kevin Crabtree** from the Staffords Pay Office: "We have been here for 18 months and it's a bit claustrophobic. It will be nice to go somewhere where you have space and proper pavements to walk on."

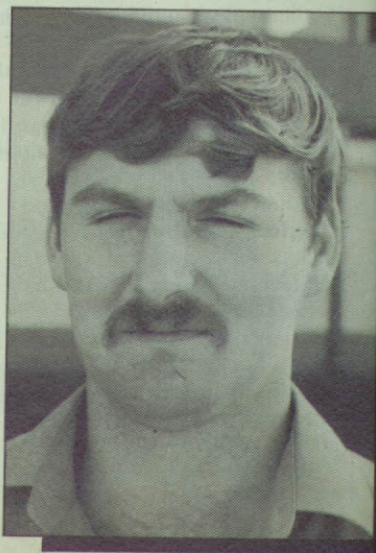
**Mrs Susan Crabtree:** "Our two boys have been so looking forward to going to Spain. Twice before the border was going to open and Paul, who is five, thought he would be going."

"Now we can. It's opened a whole new world for us. It means if we want to go on holiday in Spain we could go over from here." ▼

**Sapper Lee Evans, Royal Engineers:** "I'm just going across for a look around to buy a few trinkets and have a few drinks. Gibraltar is very small and with this border being open it gives you a lot more to do — otherwise you are stuck unless you go to Tangier for the weekend." ▼



**Sapper Gary Turnock, Royal Engineers:** "This is my first time and I want to get a Spanish national costume doll for my mother's collection. We were chuffed when we heard the border was opening because there is not much to do in Gib." ▼



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◀ 007 in unfamiliar garb during the filming of the latest Bond movie, *Octopussy*.

**Millionaire film actor Roger Moore still recalls with wry amusement his escapades as a National Service subaltern. In a rare interview — given during the filming of his latest, and last, James Bond epic — he talked to Graham Smith about his days in khaki.**

## SHOOTING TO THRILL

**B**OND . . . JAMES BOND . . . the world's most famous secret agent had been acting the clown when we met on the Pinewood set. Behind the greasepaint and grotesque red nose was Roger Moore and, quite remarkably, there was not one pouting, pulse-raising playmate in sight!

Roger, as 007 Bond, is playing the super hero character for the sixth — and last — time in the £12 million production of *Octopussy*, six months in the making and with locations in India and West Berlin. The doyen of derring-do just had to save the world yet again — this time from a nuclear device hidden under the Big Top at a US Air Force base somewhere in West Germany.

In all, 13 Bond movies have been made and this one, like its predecessors, is expected to gross £50 million worldwide. Sean Connery has played Commander Bond six times, Roger Moore — a one-time £7-a-week subaltern in the RASC — the same, and Australian, George Lazenby, once.

The series began in 1962 with *Doctor No* and since then the Bond films have been seen by an estimated one quarter of the world's population, well past the billion mark!

Moore's world off screen has taken on some of the trappings and charisma of Ian Fleming's flamboyant character except that Roger does not drink vodka martini (he

prefers Jack Daniels whisky) and is a man who is well aware of his family responsibilities to his Italian-born wife and three children.

He also chain-smokes Davidoff hand-rolled cigars — made, naturally, in Havana but imported from Paris and has homes in Switzerland, the south of France and Los Angeles.

All of which is a far and lucrative cry from the days of the wartime evacuee who was an aspiring animated cartoonist, a frustrated 70 shillings-a-week tracer and tea boy who got the sack, a struggling actor, three-term student at RADA (fees paid by a film director admirer) and postwar subaltern who once ran a supply depot in BAOR.

The son of a Bow Street bobby, Moore was born into a military family — his grandfather, RSM William Pope of The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) was, he says, the Army's senior RSM during World War One.

"My mother was born in barracks in Calcutta and she spent most of World War One on Salisbury Plain at Tidworth," he recalls. "My call-up was in November 1945 and since hostilities had ceased I allowed myself to be dragged away. I was doing a season of Shaw plays at the Cambridge Arts Theatre with a terrible case of yellow jaundice — brought on by too much Guinness. The Army took one look at my urine sample

and passed me A1. Which just goes to show how desperate they were."

It was at Bury St Edmunds in the Christmas of 1945, while doing his basic training with the Beds and Herts Regiment, that a sneak thief stole his wallet on Christmas Eve. In it was ten shillings sent him by an actor pal to buy a Christmas drink.

"It was probably Father Christmas!" he said, re-lighting his cigar, and giving a laconic sideways smile the way only his alter ego, James Bond, can.

Young Moore completed his 'primary training' and it was then that his platoon sergeant suggested he might be interested in a National Service career with the 'I Corps'.

"I thought I was going to some branch of the medical corps dealing with spectacles."

It was in fact to be the RASC for Private Moore after his six weeks' initiation in the ways of the Army — but not quite yet. Most of the mates on his intake moved on but he stayed behind.

While forced marches caused others to grumble about blisters, Roger's problem was more often hoarseness — caused by singing.

He recalled his favourites as 'Colonel Bogey' and the rat-trap encatchment song. That was until the fateful day when his section commander bawled: "We seem to have got a bit of a bleedin' Caruso 'ere! Get

*continued overleaf*

up front lad, and start singing 'Onward Christian Soldiers'." He did just that — for the next 10 miles.

One day his Company Sergeant Major sent for him. "Your papers show that you were a bit of an artist. Go and paint that f\*\*\*\*\* hut!

Moore obliged. He also painted some murals inside and was later asked by the Personnel Recruiting Officer to do some posters pointing out the virtues of various Corps. The artist in him had done well.

"One sunny morning they came to me and said they were sending me to the War Office Selection Board for a commission interview. After three days, I was sent for officer training and to Wrotham in Kent where they taught me to ride a motor cycle and to drive a three-ton Bedford truck. Unfortunately, they didn't teach me how not to break the bloody things! I came out unscathed but not too many of the Matchless motor cycles did."

His career moved to Mons and then Bulker Barracks at Aldershot where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the RASC.

From Aldershot, Moore was posted to Schleswig in Germany in charge of a small supply depot for the Guards Armoured Division.

On his first leave he married a girl he had met at RADA.

The next posting was to Neumunster as the Chief Stores Officer. It was here that he was involved in a serious accident — in a jeep along with his sergeant driver.

Moore said: 'I woke up some time later in the Casualty Reception Station back in Schleswig and was then moved to a small military hospital in Hamburg where I was for three months. I was given leave which I was going to spend in the city.'

Discharged on the Saturday, Moore was back there again on Sunday — with appendicitis!

He recalled: "I had a lot of chums at the hospital who were delighted to see me again and there was an illegal party when bottles were brought in. There was a Captain Hornby in the next room who, at the age of 35, was being circumcised. When I came round I was offering to service the nursing sisters from the matron down to a Scots orderly called 'Jock'. This showed I had a great deal of emotion despite 75 stitches in my abdomen.

"I told the Sister in my haze that she could call Hornby in the next room, 'old cock' no longer. Under pentathol the truth comes out. I have a filthy mind."

The resident psychiatrist recommended 'quite strongly' that Moore should be transferred to entertainment and ENSA. He was, instead, promptly posted as an officer with a training brigade.

Much to his new CO's anger — "he was going puce in the face" — the young subaltern told him he really didn't like the interior of trucks and he was not interested in the world of supplies.

Moore applied to Colonel 'Bunny' Warren of ENSA suggesting that he might arrange an immediate posting. It was fixed.

"I spent the last year of my Army career with ENSA in Hamburg back among many people I'd known at RADA including Bryan Forbes, and was able to tour as an actor. It was very lucky for me. As part of the Rhine

With ex-Miss World Marie Stavin (left) and former Miss UK, Carolyn Seaward on the set of *Octopussy*.



Army responsibility we had to travel around and supply entertainment to Italy and Austria, as well.

"We set up an Officers' Mess and a Sergeants' Mess in Hamburg's Kronprinz Hotel and, while in uniform, were told at least to keep up appearances. I was earning about £7 a week at that time and had already received a reprimand about not saluting or being saluted. One day during a top brass visit from a very smart regiment a sergeant actor called Joey Baker, just back from a trip, rushed across the foyer and shouted: 'Roger, darling!' He gave me a great, big kiss."

Looking back on his time in the Army, which ended in November 1948, Moore

Duke of Wellington's nephew in *The Miracle*, a film made in 1959. He managed, however, to supplement his meagre income by working as a male model during those lean years.

During his basic training in Eastern Command the GOC of the time was General Sir Brian Horrocks. The role of the general was being cast in the film *The Longest Day*. Moore applied but did not get it. The general, he says, said 'No!'.

Filming *Octopussy* meant that he spent some of the six months commuting weekly from his home in Gstaad, Switzerland, to Pinewood. But that is just a fleeting interval compared with his days as TV's *The Saint* which, he claims, "completely dominated

**'When I came round I was offering to service the nursing sisters from the matron down to a Scots orderly called Jock'**

said: "In retrospect, it was all wonderful. I found I thoroughly enjoyed it and the training but I don't think I'd go back to that diet — liver in very watery gravy for breakfast."

Sadly, photographs of his Army days as a subaltern are no longer in his possession.

Thrice-married Roger explained: "Between wives, they have destroyed all my memories. My albums have disappeared."

Demobbed, Roger did not find work easy to get in the theatre though he did try to get a part in the film *Blue Lagoon*. He did not get the part; Donald Houston did. Philosophically, millionaire Moore reflected: "I was too inexperienced to handle it."

Nor did he find any Army parts because he didn't "look the type" until he played the

my life" for seven years.

Now, shooting over, he plans to spend three months skiing and to devote more time to his family. He will also be making some personal appearances to coincide with the film's release in the United States. Its London premiere is in June.

The man who has made 28 films since 1954 and has been involved in four TV series has sworn that *Octopussy* will be his last Bond film and that he is finally turning in his 'licence to kill'.

"I may be allowed to work in September if anyone is foolish enough to offer me a job but this will be my last Bond film," said Roger, 55. "You can't go on being a Commander for ever, you know."

Bdr Steve Scott and Gnr Andy Doyle of 50 Missile Regt push past the Czech border to win the major units' patrol race.



# IRON MEN ON SKIS



**Winter sports may be fun but for soldiers they provide vital training too. Gordon Skilling reports.**

CRISP SNOW; bronzed instructors hurtling down the slopes; the drinks and laughter of the après-ski parties — it's the sort of scene that ski-ing enthusiasts everywhere know and love.

But add a mixture of blizzard, icy rain and slush, and throw in a rugged 12-mile cross-country slog in which you have to break off half way through to fire a rifle accurately, and the picture becomes a trifle less idyllic. Now you are looking at what the Army demands of its skiers.

Just how tough the demands can be was amply demonstrated during Exercise Edel Iron at Zwiesel in Bavaria when the 'Iron' Third Armoured Division went through its paces in preparation for the following Army ski championships.

To qualify there were three main races: a four-man relay over 10 kilometres; an individual race over 15 kms with the best four counting; and a military four-man patrol race over 20 kms.

For all the participants, flexibility was the watchword. "You've got to be flexible when there's no snow," exclaimed Captain Terry Hellicar of HQ 3 Div who was involved in

*continued on page 23*

◀ Shooting and ski-ing is a tough mixture.

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S12



Clearing the range for patrol race.

continued from page 21

setting up the Nordic courses.

He was referring to the exceptionally mild conditions which have meant a dearth of snow for skiers all over Europe this winter. Many of the areas which would normally have been used for Edel Iron had to be ruled out and new rifle ranges constructed from scratch.

A stretch could look perfect the night before, but an overnight thaw would often mean having to build new tracks on a firm foundation of branches with snow packed on top to let newly appeared streams flow underneath.

19 Field Regiment from Dortmund, who won the Combined Alpine and Nordic championship, certainly deserved a trophy for the work done by their 111 'Dragon' Battery in setting up the courses. Often up at five and not getting back till ten at night, they put in Herculean labours.

Atrocious weather did not help and the success of the meet was largely due to co-operation between competitors, administrators and officials.

One happy team was that from 50 Missile Regiment from Menden, near Iserlohn, who



What the well-dressed ski-ing soldier is wearing: 'M' Battery RHA, Divisional patrol race winners, are inspected by Brigadier Jones.

were only second to 45 Commando in the patrol races.

"Alpine ski-ing is basically going downhill on a wide ski with lots of control," explained Captain Dave Cowgill, who led the team. "In Nordic 'langlauf' ski-ing we are going on a light thin racing ski with something very similar to a running shoe on. Because there is so little control we put wax underneath to help us grip the ice. Instead of just downhill, we go uphill, downhill, round corners — indeed it uses more muscles and energy than swimming: it is very energetic."

Nordic ski-ing has a very definite military application as ski meet chief Brigadier Mike Jones, Commander Royal Artillery in Dortmund, was quick to emphasise: "The Nordic gives us so much that is useful in our normal military training. It takes some skill and a lot of endurance, and I think that every langlaufer covering long distances at speed learns a lot about himself as it is sometimes very tough indeed."

"Living in the snow and fighting in the snow is something we must do in Germany. We get a pretty good snow coverage most years and therefore this training for winter

warfare is very useful, particularly for the kind of battle we may have to fight one day. In addition, the general fitness, guts and determination that langlaufers need is very useful: I think we've seen this in the 'year of the yomp', if I may call it that!"

Yomping their way through Bavaria were two Royal Marine teams as well as langlaufers from UK Land Forces and the RAF. "The Marines are very professional and set a very high standard because of their northern role," said Brigadier Jones, "and it is very good for our teams to compete against them."

And even better when, like 50 Missile and M Battery of the RHA, gunners both, they can actually manage to beat a Commando team! ■



Snow joke! Gunners of 19 Field Regt have fun preparing one of the courses.



Cpl Kevin Randall of 3 Armd Div Sig Regt makes good progress.



**HANDS UP** anyone who has ever made anything that they could honestly say was all their own work...

Yes, I expected there would be a lot of you, from those whose attempt was their first and their last to those who found that they enjoyed handicrafts and have gone on to be highly proficient at whatever took their fancy.

And that can range from painting landscapes, portraits or abstract pictures through needlework, tapestry, knitting and quilting to woodwork, macrame, silk screen printing or candle-making. The list is endless.

The Army has seen the need to foster this fellowship among the artists in its ranks of Servicemen and their wives and so the Army Arts and Crafts Society has been revived to promote all forms of arts and crafts from the well-known to the obscure. The aim is to produce a register of all serving members and their wives with their specialised skills and where they are stationed, so that you can see who in your area has similar interests and hopefully, get together. Perhaps you might be able to run classes, hold exhibitions or find selling outlets.

Linda Kitson, the Falklands war artist, has donated £1000 to encourage this re-launch of the Army Arts and Crafts Society and this money will be invested to sponsor locally run exhibitions in Army areas.

Mrs J Robertson has volunteered to be the Honorary Secretary of the Society so if you are interested in being included in the first register, due out in July, please send your name and address together with a list of your skills and interests to her at 12 Hacketts Lane, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey GU22 8PJ. The subscription will be £3 per annum and this will include a copy of the first register and a newsletter. Any queries should also be addressed to Mrs Robertson and include a stamped addressed envelope for a reply.

*Anne Armstrong*

We have two cats to take back to England with us after our tour here in Germany. I have already written to various establishments which offer quarantine facilities. They all seem very good but are expensive. Is there a list of recommended places which are more reasonably priced?

Also, are we exempt from VAT on these charges while we are living in Germany and what exactly is required in the way of forms and official paperwork to get the animals back to UK?

Mrs S, BFPO 29

All information regarding pets can be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Animal Health Division, Hook Rise South, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7NF or from the Department of the Environment, Room 223, Tolgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol BS2 9DT.

I have no list of quarantine establishments but Service papers and magazines in BFG like 'Sixth Sense' and 'Forces Weekly Echo' carry advertisements.

As regards VAT, you are in general exempt from this while you are abroad with the Services and buy goods in UK which you intend to take back to Germany with you. I suggest you ask the kennels how their charges are affected by VAT if you are paying while still in Germany but, as the service is being provided in UK, I imagine you will have to pay VAT as well as the fees.

We are being posted home from Germany next month. Please can you clarify what I must do before we leave here to make sure that the child benefit payments will be made to me and not to my husband?

My husband's unit has told him that I must get a form from the GPO on our return but I believe I read on your page some time ago that wives should fill in a form before they leave their Germany posting.

Mrs C, BFPO 36

You should ask your husband's unit for Form CH 182 G which you should complete and send to the Child Benefit Centre, Washington, Tyne and Wear. (A free envelope can be obtained from the post office.)

Two points to remember though; you must make sure you put in the address of the post office at which you wish to draw your child benefit in UK before you return the form to Washington, and you must also make sure that YOU (not

your husband) sign the completed form. The MOD has drawn attention to the fact that units are not always aware that it is a Serviceman's wife who must complete the CH 182 G (See Chief Paymasters Instructions 1 Oct 82) or else delays will occur.

If you are posted to Northern Ireland, however, separate rules apply. You should apply for your child benefit as soon as you arrive in the unit. The unit should be able to tell you where you obtain the Northern Ireland Child Benefit forms. Likewise on your return from Northern Ireland, you should apply at your local UK post office for the correct forms.

## ASK ANNE

I have been in Cyprus for the last 18 months with my husband and it has come to my notice through your pages in SOLDIER that I may not be able to claim unemployment benefit when I return to UK because I have not been paying tax or national insurance while I have been in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you could give me an address to write to where I can get it all sorted out. Also would my three years out of the country affect my state pension?

Mrs T, BFPO 57

If you have not been working during your time in Cyprus, it is unlikely that you will be eligible to claim unemployment benefit as it depends on the number of National Insurance Contributions you have paid in the correct benefit year.

To find out how your contributions stand, write to the Overseas Branch DHSS, Newcastle upon Tyne NE98 1YX and ask for your record. You can keep up your eligibility to a State pension by paying NI Voluntary Contributions, as explained in DHSS leaflets FB5, NI42 and NI208 available from your BFPO.

## DID YOU KNOW?

YOU DON'T HAVE to be a top secret spy to make good use of invisible ink.

A scheme launched by the Post Office and supported by both the Police and the Home Office allows you to mark valuable items, invisibly, with your post code.

Every year millions of pounds worth of property is stolen yet even much of what is recovered by the police is never returned to the rightful owner. Sometimes they simply cannot be traced, sometimes they cannot give an accurate description of their property when they claim it. The post code scheme could save everybody — except the thief — a lot of time and trouble in recovering stolen goods and returning them to where they belong.

You can buy invisible marking pens at good stationers or you can get free advice from your local crime prevention officer.

I am writing to ask if you can help trace a German POW who used to work as a nurseryman near Exeter. He was repatriated sometime in 1947 and, although we corresponded for some time, we have now lost touch.

His name is Florian Bundschuh and was quite young when we knew him — possibly about 23 years of age. He returned home to his family in the Western Zone.

We are hoping to visit Germany in the near future and would like to visit him if possible.

Mr Radford, 6a Anne Close, Stoke Hill, Exeter EX4 7DL, Devon.

I have made some enquiries but without more specific details, the agency were unable to help. If you could let me know the name of the nursery where he was working or perhaps his last address in Germany when you lost touch, I might have more luck.

Or does anyone else know Herr Bundschuh? If you do please contact Mr Radford at the above address. Stranger things have happened through these pages!

My little girl will be almost three years old when we are posted to Hong Kong in May. I would like her to start playschool but do not know whether they have one there. Could you send me an address that I could write to for more information?

Mrs S, Herefordshire.

I suggest you contact the Pre-School Playgroup Association, Alford House, Aveline Street, London SE11 5DH.

There are PPA members in many countries outside UK now, including Brazil, Saudi Arabia, the Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea. In fact there are 214 PPA members living in 34 different countries.

There is a branch of the PPA in Hong Kong too and four branches among Service families in Germany. These are in Bielefeld, Hassen, Berlin and Moenchenglbadach.

Please could you give me more information about claiming unemployment benefit when we go to Germany this year?

I have already rung up the office in Havant but was shaken by what they told me, especially with the dole queue being what it is today. I am going to work right up until I go as I only work 25 hours a week but because of this the woman I spoke to said I could not claim anything. If I was already claiming unemployment benefit from them though, they would give me a letter to take with me so that I can claim.

I have never been on the dole before and intend to find work quickly in Germany if I can, but until I do, I would like to think I could claim something after paying a full stamp for a long, long time.

Mrs J, Bordon.

The DHSS Leaflet No. 5 gives the guide lines for those of you in this position.

If you have paid sufficient DHSS Class I contributions for the correct tax year, you can make a claim. But you must sign on at least two days prior to leaving the UK and should ask for the bilingual letter to take with you at least a week before you leave.

# Pack up your Troubles

## ...March-Out 1983-style...

THE PROPOSED DESCALING of quarters brought with it the very real fear that Service wives would be trying to get a quart into a pint pot every time they moved from posting to posting. But this has not proved to be the case.

March-out is usually a time of trauma for families as they pack up their belongings and try to stuff everything into the MFO boxes issued to them, making use of all the cracks and corners between items to fit more belongings down the side and into the small spaces in each box. The idea of having to find the extra room for a full dinner service, cutlery, blankets and towels (not to mention garden tools, pans and clothes baskets) as a result of the descaling, caused many a stout heart to quail.

Of course, there was the breathing space afforded by the increased baggage allowance — 60 cubic feet for soldiers and 75 cubic feet for officers — but it is difficult to imagine cubic feet in terms of cups, saucers and plate drainers.

This concern was voiced at the UKLF Wives Seminar at Bagshot Park in September last year when the descaling came into force and, as a result, two wives were invited to Warminster to see for themselves that it was actually possible to get everything in with room to spare.

Mrs Nash and Mrs Mundy watched as boxes were packed with items from a type IV officer's quarter with sufficient bedding for seven people and from an RSA type D quarter with sufficient bedding for nine people. They can vouch for the fact that the withdrawn items from both do fit the allowance.

The soldiers's items require 39.5 cubic feet and weigh 460lbs



Items withdrawn from RSA Type D Quarter.



The same items packed into MFO boxes with room to spare.

while the officers' 75 cubic feet allowance will cover the 48.25 cubic feet needed for the withdrawn items. This latter includes the tea trolley although it would not fit the largest MFO box provided. The brooms, rake and hoe also needed to be packed separately in both cases.

The spare room in the allowance should be sufficient to take account of the civilian equivalents to the withdrawn articles which might be larger or heavier than the MOD issue.

You will be affected by the descaling (if you have not already been descaled) when you march-out of your present quarter. You should ask for a list of the items you have the option of buying as soon as you know you are being posted. This will give you plenty of time to decide which you would like to buy and to return your completed form.

The descaling means that there will be fewer items already in your new quarter so you will have to take such things as towels, extra bed linen and other essential items with you in case of emergencies. This applies parti-

cularly to families with young children.

There are basic 'get-you-in' packs provided in each quarter to tide you over until your boxes arrive and these cater for most essentials. There should be sufficient bedding, cutlery and crockery for normal requirements and the packs will either be withdrawn when your own belongings arrive or will be retained in the quarter during your occupancy without maintenance or replacement. In any cases of emergency or genuine welfare need, there will be a degree of flexibility on the minimum provision. If you feel you should be considered for more you should put up a case to the new unit.

So when it comes to packing the extra items, fear not — they will go in and you will be looked after until they arrive.

### Unaccompanied Baggage

Of course, if you are trying to move furniture as well, you might have more of a problem — and not just with the packing:

There has been a certain amount of concern that some Service families are moving large items of furniture by way of the unaccompanied baggage system. These include armchairs, sofas, beds and wardrobes which are clearly outside the definition of unaccompanied baggage.

The official view is that "as Treasury approval was obtained for the 1979 increases in unaccompanied baggage scales only after long and difficult negotiations, it is possible that any continued misuse of this concession could very well result in a detailed investigation by the financiers. It follows that a conclusion that could well be drawn is that if

furniture is able to be carried within the entitlement then that entitlement is over-generous.

"Such a conclusion could result in a major 'worsenment' for everyone but especially for those Servicemen using the unaccompanied baggage concession correctly."

Perhaps the high quality of the German furniture is largely to blame for this abuse. It is so tempting to buy a beautiful suite or a magnificent 'schrank' unit during your BFG tour, without considering the trouble it will cause when you want to ship it home or the financial loss you might suffer if you have to sell it at a fraction of the cost. These are important points to take into account before you buy. But do not try to transport it at public expense via the unaccompanied baggage system.

### Insurance

Once your boxes have been packed, the most important thing to organise is insurance cover for your belongings while they are in transit. The sad loss of the cross-channel ferry just outside Harwich proved that accidents can happen and, of the 54 Service families whose belongings sank with the ship, at least two were not insured. They will not be among those compensated for the loss of hundreds of pounds' worth of items.

It makes sense too, to keep a record of the contents of each box as you pack it. Make a list of what goes in and then photocopy this so that you can leave one copy with the box, keep one yourself and have a spare — just in case you do have to send it to an insurance company to prove a claim.

There are various other insurances that you can take out to cover your move, such as a premise damage insurance that many removal companies now offer, but it is up to you to decide exactly what your requirements are.

Remember, insurance is **your** problem when you move. Make sure you are covered.

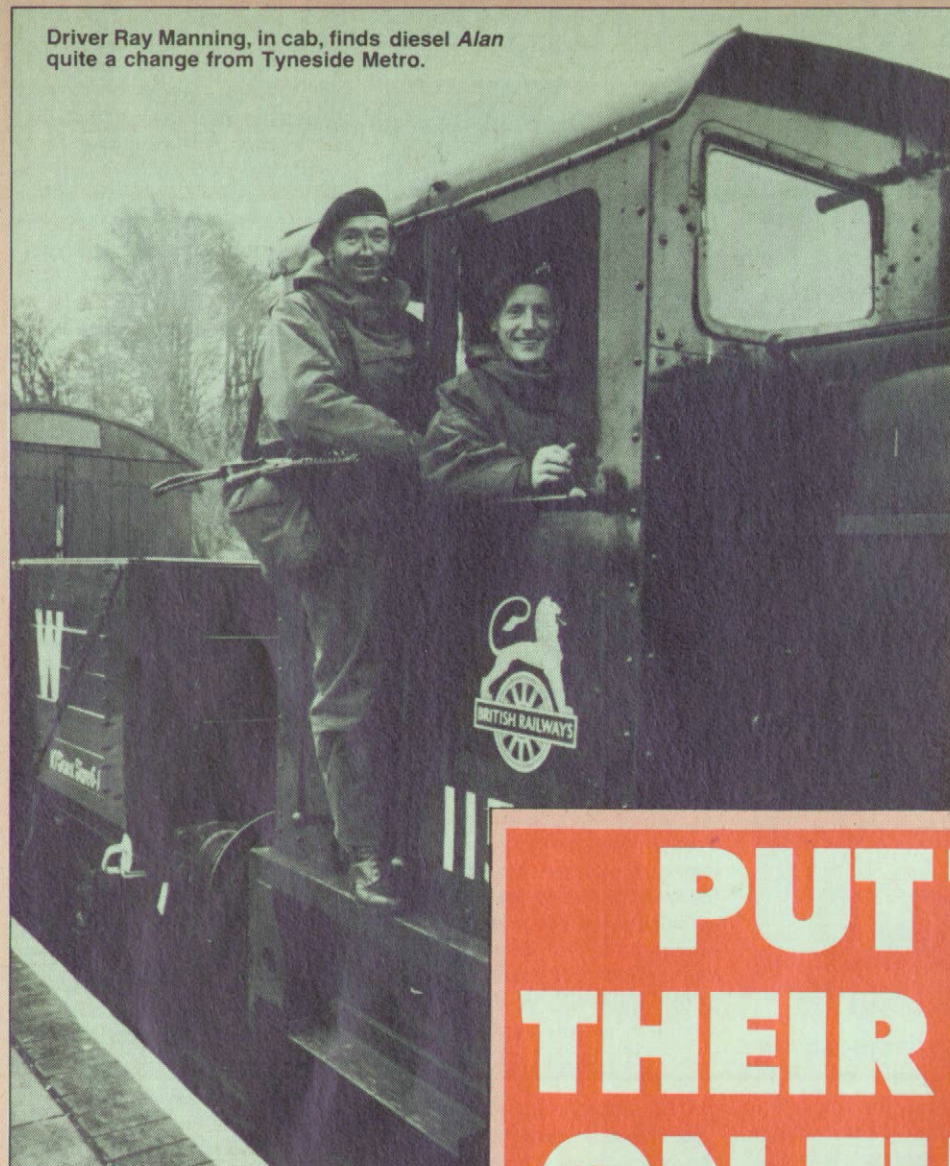
*Pack up your Troubles* will be continued in the next issue of *SOLDIER* as we take a look at a highly successful move. 'Making Tracks' tells of the preparation and planning that went into moving 1 RTR back to Bovington from Germany.



"If it's a burglar, don't let him beat you up over the new carpet."

A few weeks ago **SOLDIER** visited 79 Railway Squadron RCT, Nato's last serving railway unit. Here Graham Smith joins the squadron's TA partners on a rare weekend exercise...

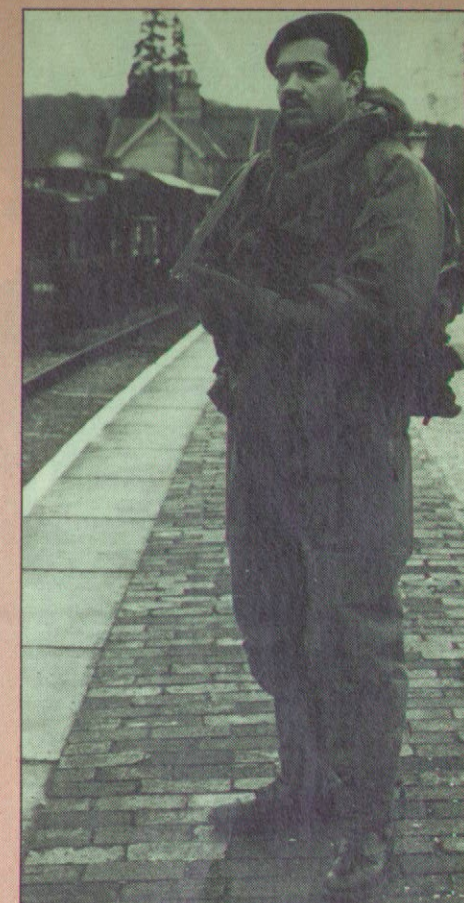
Driver Ray Manning, in cab, finds diesel *Alan* quite a change from Tyneside Metro.



## PUTTING THEIR SKILLS ON THE LINE



All aboard for action down the line.



Above and left: Sentries on bridges and platforms keep a constant lookout for saboteurs at picturesque Arley station.

### Pictures: Paul Haley

fence exercise to sharpen them up for their back-up role to 79 Railway Squadron, RCT, Nato's last serving regular railway unit based in Moenchengladbach (see **SOLDIER** 10 Jan).

The only TA sponsored unit to operate on railways, 275 include two dozen BR drivers in their ranks.

Captain Bob Pearson, the squadron's second in command and Terminals and Systems Assistant at Paddington, explained: "We are professionals in a particular field and transposing it into a military environment as fully-qualified railway operators. We have a wealth of experience to offer and specialist skills that independent TA units would not be able to teach."

"The vast majority of training on railways proper is done for two weeks in Germany under the auspices of our sponsoring unit, 79 Railway Squadron. This exercise is just a bonus really. It was planned well over a year ago."

The Severn Valley Railway is no longer part of the regular British Rail network but is kept open by railway enthusiasts. In summer the line echoes with the delighted laughter of holidaymakers, but on this particular January weekend the calm was punctuated by chattering gunfire as hostile forces sought to ambush trains and cause disruption.

Men from 1 Mercian, the local TA battalion acted as some of the enemy while its B Company provided defence of the line in the

Even on a railway exercise vehicle radio links still play an important part.

joint defence and operational procedures exercise which had its scenario in a 'hostile' setting.

At Arley, once on the Great Western Railway system, Driver Ray Manning, figuratively speaking, brought his coals from Newcastle. Formerly a BR driver for 29 years, Ray is now a driver on the city's Metro.

From the footplate of the 150-hp, 2-10-0 diesel locomotive *Alan*, the veteran driver of 22 years service with 275 Squadron, said:

"It's a good experience working one of the two 8-hour shifts — and I'm still learning."

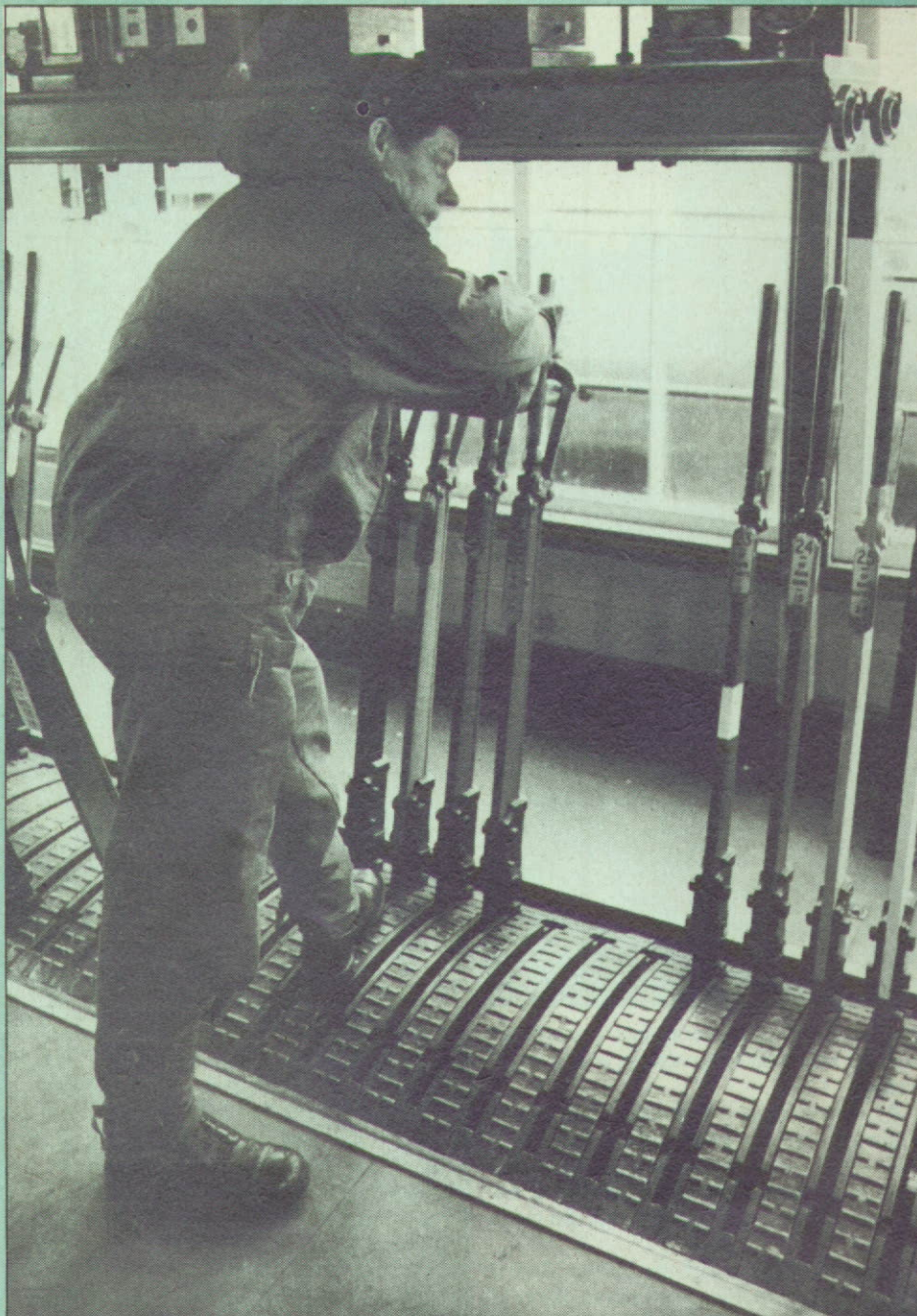
Seconds later, smoke thrust from the loco's stack and Ray took out, in tow, a 10-ton wagon, 12-ton van and 20-ton brake van for the 12-minute trip to Highley.

The running and co-ordinating of the train's 47 movements that day was the responsibility of Lieutenant Brian Wade, BR's Area Operations Manager at Northwich, Cheshire.

Stressing the safety aspects, he said: "The effect of a collision involving a loaded

continued on page 28





The signal box at Arley was kept busy with nearly 50 exercise train movements.

through defended territory, subject to infiltration and under the watchful eyes of the Mercians."

Each train move in the hostile area was preceded by a Wickham Trolley filled with soldiers which gave ultimate clearance for the trains to leave the stations en route to the next.

Sergeant Alan Roe, a BR inspector at Battersea, said: "While we often go to Germany for camp we rarely get the chance to meet and work with the infantry. Working with the Mercians has enabled us to improve our military skills and awareness to a considerable extent."

Meanwhile, at the other end of the line at Bridgnorth, the squadron's workshop section under Captain David Kitchings, a BR engineer in London, was carrying out repairs to World War Two veteran steam loco, 2-10-0, *Gordon*. The loco, in famous blue livery of the Longmoor Military Railway, is on long term loan to the Severn Valley Railway.

Two-thirds of the currently 80-strong squadron were, in fact, participants in similar track-side manoeuvres five years ago during Exercise Railflash; that one, held on the Nene Valley Railway.

Corporal Roger Price, who works with the Chief Engineer's Department, British Rail at Croydon, said: "One railway is the same as another as far as operations go but we've got infantry acting as enemy for the first time which gives it a more realistic effect."

The difference between the independent TA unit formation and a sponsored TA unit is that, with the latter, rail tradesmen from all over the country meet at one centre — Grantham — to form 275 Railway Squadron. They carry out an annual training commitment of a 15-day annual summer camp and a long winter weekend (four days) which means that squadron members do not see a great deal of each other.

Major Bob Lattimer, 275's CO, who is a planning officer with BR explained: "The low training obligation makes the squadron particularly attractive to railwaymen serving in independent TA units, men who can no longer afford the time involved. We are always interested in hearing from officers and soldiers who come into this category." ■

continued from page 27

ammunition train would be disastrous so we have many rules and regulations to apply even though the trains we are running here

Watching and waiting — rifle at the ready.

are merely token ones with a diesel loco and three wagons."

WO1 Geoff Andrews, his assistant and a BR train crew manager, emphasised: "It is the practising of procedures that is so important. Here, the trains are travelling



When's the next train coming? Not the Severn Valley Railway's usual visitors.

**A two year trial to integrate WRAC soldiers more closely with the daily life of an infantry battalion is just coming to an end. SOLDIER sought the views of those taking part and discovered some . . .**

# MIXED REACTIONS

THE 'GLORIOUS GLOSTERS', heroes of the Imjin and many other battle-honours, will shortly complete another chapter in their illustrious history — the temporary admission of girls to their ranks.

As part of a 'wider employment' training experiment, fourteen WRAC girls joined the Gloucestershire Regiment's 1st Battalion two years ago and donned the famous back-badge beret. At that time recruiting was low and the Ministry of Defence was following up an earlier decision to see if the additional feminine touch would enhance the workings of an all-male, front line unit.

Ten other girls also took part in the scheme with a gunner unit in the North of England.

The Glosters' girls began arriving in February 1981 when the battalion was based at Münster in Germany and will be ending their two year stint back in England — at Tidworth. But they can also

**Wearing famed Glosters back badge. ▼**



look back on a six-month tour of Cyprus. Seven of them got United Nations medals and were the first WRAC girls to wear the unique blue beret.

Reactions from the girls to the wider employment trial were markedly mixed. Some did not enjoy their roles. Some, even, did not like Cyprus. And the ordeal of mingling with male soldiers on a tented exercise on Salisbury Plain with only rudimentary toilet facilities was an experience few savoured with relish.

Others, however, loved the social life and the company of the men they were working with. So much so, that six of them are — or are about to be — married to men serving in the Glosters. Six others are also bonded matrimonially with the Army.

Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Rostrom, The 1st Battalion's CO for the past seven months who "inherited" the girls in BAOR, was glowing in his praise for their value amid the unit.

"The Ministry of Defence prefers to call the scheme 'wider employment' rather than integration and I think it's worked extremely well. The object of the experiment was to see if it is possible to use women in an infantry battalion in many ways in addition to the men. One expected to find there were certain limitations in the way they could be used but there was no question of them staying with us.

"In some jobs they are better than male soldiers. But they are not competing against men for the jobs. We are in a lucky position that the girls were given to us as an increase to our establishment. They are extra."

*continued on page 30*



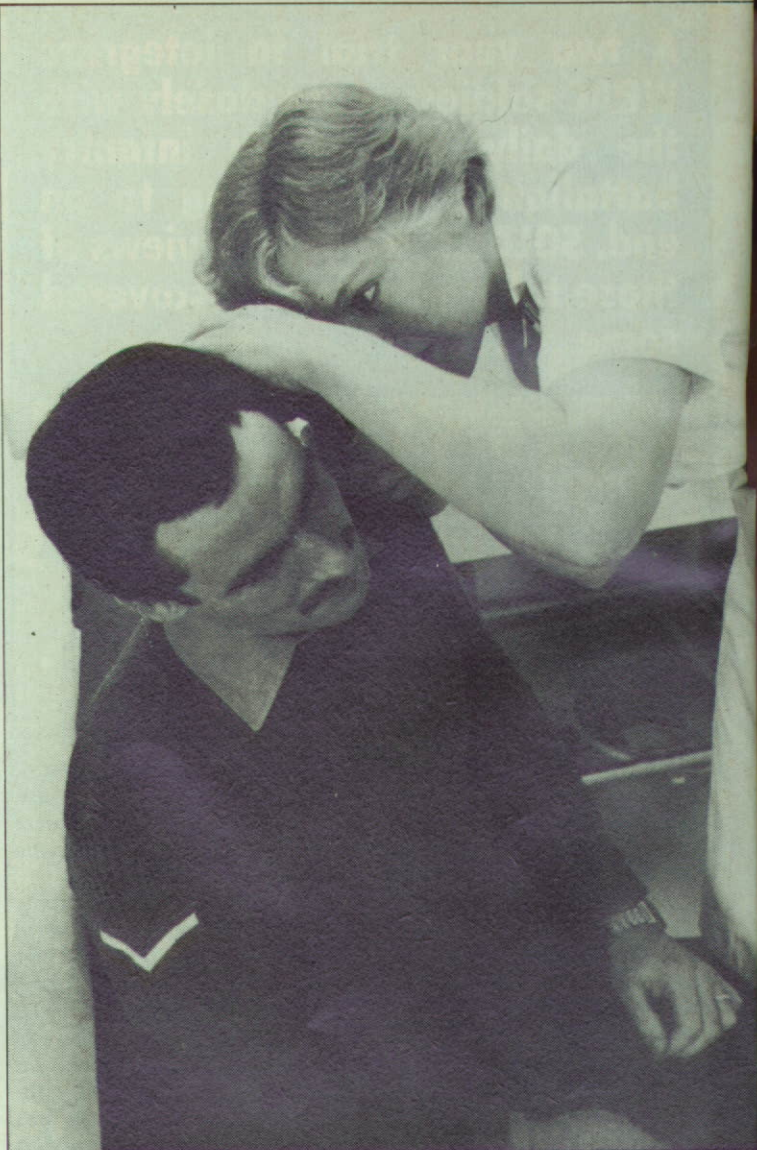
**L/Cpl Carol O'Connor on UN hospital duty: "Cyprus was hectic . . ."**

**L/Cpl Anne Burman: "We seem to be a bit softer than the men."**



**Story by  
Graham Smith  
Pictures by  
Les Wiggs**

L/Cpl Jackie Hewitt: "... good relationships with the people I worked with."



Cpl Diane Green: "The infantry are more down to earth..."



Pte Linda Keenan: "I'd rather be back with the WRAC."

With one of the original fourteen already departed, the battalion will, over the next couple of months, be losing four clerks, three drivers, three stewardesses and three regimental medical assistants.

So just what has life with an infantry regiment been like for them?

According to one of the clerks, Lance Corporal Jackie Hewitt, 20: "Some of it has been good, some of it has been bad."

"I've had good relationships with the people I worked with. Bad points were being on infantry exercises out in the field sleeping in tents for two weeks on end. But I've had a reasonable social life. I didn't like Cyprus. Once the novelty of the sun, sea and sand had worn off the first month, it was just a boring routine. I'm going to Bovington next and I think it's going to be a very new experience."

Lance Corporal Karen Webster, 24, a families clerk and one of the girls scheduled to marry a Gloster — Sergeant Roy Wilkes of the anti-tank platoon — said: "I was the last one to arrive in March 1981 and I've enjoyed it, especially the job I've been

doing. It's hard to say if the experiment was a good idea but it was certainly different. The bad points have been so minor, you just forget about them."

But Heavy Goods Vehicle driver, Private Linda Keenan, 20, though conceding that the integration was "a pretty good idea" still had a few reservations.

"Some of my time was good, some of it not. I'd rather be back with the WRAC. They don't flap so much. Cyprus was hot and the weather didn't agree with me — I can't take salt in my food. A very desolate place, Cyprus is. Otherwise, I get on great with the blokes. It would work if we could take over the blokes' jobs. That would be a change."

Another clerk, Lance Corporal Anne Burman, 20, commented: "I've learnt an awful lot about the Army, the infantry in particular, about fighting, preparations for Spearhead — being called out at different times of the night in combat kit and webbing — and going out on exercise. These were a bit uncomfortable because you could not find any flat ground to sleep on with your sleeping bag or camp bed. You were unable to have a bath each

night. But I've had a lot more experience than the average girls in the WRAC.

"It would help the Army, I think, if we could fill in the mens' jobs. It would help a lot. When we went on exercise it was a hard life which I don't think we're used to. We seem to be a bit softer than the men."

Corporal Lorraine Debnam, 24, HQ Company clerk and soon to be the wife of Lance Corporal Bob Halls of Support Company, the Glosters — acknowledged: "I've learnt a hell of a lot since being here, like how to survive for three weeks in the field at Sennelager, what goes into Spearhead and the actual moving of a whole battalion from Munster to Tidworth."

"Cyprus was unique because we had two of everything — 'plastic COs' as we called them — one in Dhekelia and the other with the UN in Nicosia, two chains of command."

"I think the blokes in the L/Cpl Karen Webster: "... bad points have been so minor." ▼



battalion, in general, accepted us. The younger ones did more easily and the 'old sweats' not so easily because the Glosters is a regiment of tradition and the older men found it more difficult to accept the girls.

"Another thing is that in the infantry they will tell you to do something — in a corps, you are asked. The infantry approach can be a little bit off-putting, but I think all the girls will go away from here saying they've learned a lot, whether it's been a good or bad experience. They learned how to handle weapons — some are fairly good shots — and they are probably more capable of mixing with other people now."

Now bound for "normal life again" with the REME at Middle Wallop, Corporal Debnam added: "It's been hard work and I don't think I'll ever work as hard again as I have with the Glosters. We got a lot of fast balls with the infantry whereas, with a corps, everything is planned."

Regimental medical assistant, Lance Corporal Carol O'Connor, 20, said: "I've enjoyed some of it and I've learnt quite a bit about medical centres, the Army and the infantry. But I hated going out on Salisbury Plain on exercise without toilets and soldiers sitting nearby in ditches. Cyprus was hectic and the night life was good when we met a lot of different people away from the Glosters. I also enjoyed Germany."

But medical assistant colleague, Corporal Diane Green, 23, was less enthusiastic. "I've not enjoyed the experience; there have been too many chiefs and not enough indians. They tried to treat you like the average infantryman, but it's an experience which gives you an insight into what fellows have to put up with."

Cpl Lorraine Debnam: "I've learnt a hell of a lot..."



Workwise I've learnt quite a bit and it tends to give you more confidence. The infantry are more down to earth in their approach to medical treatment. They'll readily drop their kecks or say 'I've got a dose' straight out."

She added: "I think the battalion should have explained to the girls what is required of them. Luckily, I've not been on exercise. I would rather work in a hospital."

There were no such reservations though from Corporal Tina Morgan, 22, a first aid instructor and issuer of stores — another Gloster bride, wife of Lance Cor-

poral Mike Morgan of the Signals Section.

"I've enjoyed it, especially out in the field, but I'll still be glad to go to a unit — Middle Wallop — where you've only got one boss. Workwise I've learned a lot."

From the men's point of view, Lieutenant Colonel Rostron had no doubt that the WRAC presence would be missed.

"We've had some delightful girls. I only wish they could stay on. The battalion will not be the same without them," he admitted. But he added, with a wry grin: "I'm sure they will have something to remember us by when they go."

## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details.

Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 39.

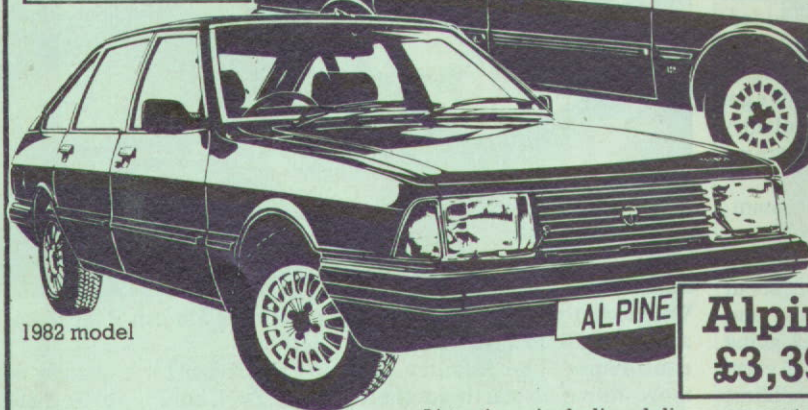


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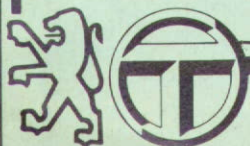
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**FIRST FOR EXPORT**



## PEN PALS WANTED

My name is Fiona and I am a 35-year-old divorcee. I am 5ft 5ins tall with fair hair and blue eyes. I enjoy cooking, walking, wine making and the cinema. I would like to write to someone between the ages of 36 and 40. — *Fiona Charles, 10 Pengegon Moor, Camborne, Cornwall.*

I am 5ft 9ins with brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are listening to music, swimming, badminton and tennis. I would like a penpal in the British or US Armies aged 16-19 if possible. — *Joanna Elgar, 126 Railey Road, Northgate, Crawley, Sussex RH10 2DD.*

My name is Susan and I am 22 years old. I am 5ft 6ins tall with fair hair and blue eyes, and am separated. I like most kinds of music especially futuristic. I would like penpals aged between 18-26. All letters answered. — *Susan Knight, 36 Laurel Close, Mayfields, Redditch, Worcs.*

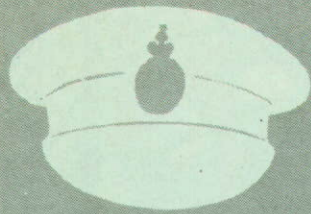
My name is Anne and I am 46 years old. I am 5ft 5ins tall. My interests are dancing, music, dining out, driving and home life. I would like to write to someone, preferably in the 40-50 age group, perhaps who is divorced or widowed and would appreciate a friend. — *Anne Lattimer, 91 Acomb Court, Harlow Green, Low Fell, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE9 7AG.*

My name is Tracy and I am 16 years old. I like most music and dancing and I would like a penpal between the ages of 16 to 25. All letters answered. — *Tracy Atkinson, 22 Duchess Drive, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8AQ.*

My name is Kim and I am twenty three years old and divorced. I am 5ft 1in with blonde hair and blue eyes. My hobbies include hiking, cooking, music and gardening. — *Kim Ordibehesht, 89 Nursery Hill, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.*

I am 32 years old and 5ft 8ins with brown hair and blue eyes. I have one daughter and am single. My hobbies are swimming, keep fit, knitting and cooking. — *Jean Ricketts, 37 Chace Avenue, Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 5LZ.*

continued on page 39



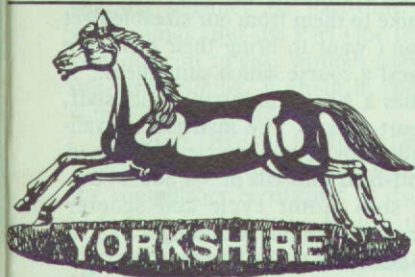
## Your Cap Badge

No 34

### THE PRINCE OF WALES'S OWN REGIMENT OF YORKSHIRE

"UPON A MOUNT inscribed 'Yorkshire' a Horse Courant, worn by officers in silver plate, by others in silver anodised finish."

The description is brief, the badge small, but the history that lies behind them long and glorious. The two regiments from which the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire was formed in 1958, the 14th Regiment and the 15th Regiment of Foot, raised their men for over a century from the same county and were placed side by side in the Army list for well over twice that time.



The White Horse of Hanover has had a long association with the 14th Regiment. First, by the warrant of 14 September 1743, it was in common with the 15th Foot and other regiments worn on the mitre caps of the Grenadiers and Drummers.

The special connection with the 14th Foot began in 1765. The Regiment had done duty at Hampton Court and Windsor and their good conduct had attracted the notice of King George III. In 1765 a new pattern of clothing was being introduced including a bearskin cap for the Grenadiers and Drummers in place of the mitre cap. The new cap was to bear a black japanned plate with on it a lion in silver. As a mark of favour King George III decreed that the 14th Foot would wear on their new bearskin caps the

old White Horse badge.

The Official Army Lists from the year 1814 under the 14th Regiment were annotated "permitted to wear the White Horse and motto on a red ground in front of their caps".

There were no cap badges other than these in the days of the tricorne and bicorne hats. The first three shakos bore the regimental numeral on them but no badge, but with the introduction of the second Regency Shako in 1822 the officers of the 14th Foot wore a silver star surmounted with a gilt crown and garter with 'Corunna' and 'Waterloo' and, centrally, the White Horse of Hanover and the Roman numerals XIV.

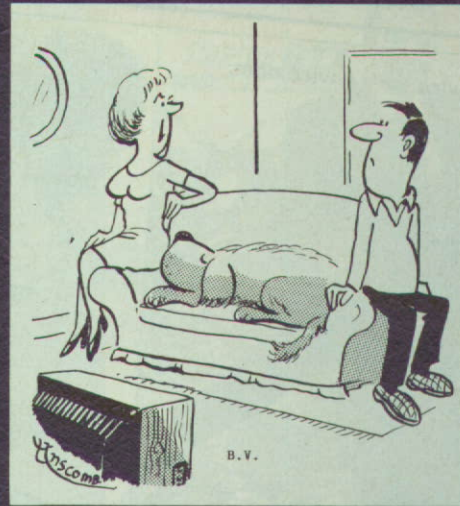
This star was also mounted upon the universal shako plate of the Bell top shako from 1829 to 1845. When the new universal pattern of shako star was introduced for the Albert Shako (1844-55) the White Horse was worn just below the crown of the plate. The "French" Shako of 1855-61 with its smaller universal plate showed only the regimental number, but with the new Shako of 1861 the White Horse appeared again on the officers' badge.

In 1874 authority was given for this badge in silver to be worn over the number on the forage caps of the officers as it was already on the shako badge. It soon appeared on the glengarry cap for officers and men of the 14th Regiment, and was worn on the helmet plate of the blue cloth helmet when that was taken into use. It continued as the regimental badge when the old 14th Prince of Wales's Own (Buckinghamshire) Regiment became the Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire) Regiment in July 1881. The White Horse and motto is borne on the Regimental Colour of the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire and upon its buttons.

The Brunswick star with the White Rose of York centred upon a black background continues as the collar badge of the Regiment, a visual reminder of the old 15th Regiment of Foot and the East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own).

On 25 April 1958 the old 14th and 15th Regiments were amalgamated under the present title and became part of the Yorkshire Brigade. For ten years the head-dress badge of that Brigade was worn — the White Rose of York ensigned with the St Edward's crown — before giving way to the current design of long associations.

Next issue:  
The Green Howards



"We spoil this dog."

# Humour



"I think they're trying to tell you something about your cooking."



"All those against introducing the new robot machines."

Some expert advice for a novice rider.



# CRASH COURSE TO SAFETY

IT'S A PRETTY safe bet that there are some soldiers around — especially those home on leave from overseas — who are now riding motor bikes illegally on UK roads because they are unaware of new road traffic legislation.

Since 1st February, it is an offence to ride a machine of more than 125cc, 12 brake horsepower on a provisional licence as in the past; their riders must now be in possession of certificates for the Part One and Part Two test introduced last October.

And even riders of machines of 125cc or less must — from last October — pass both parts of the new test within two years. Failure to do so means that their provisional licence will automatically be revoked for 12 months — equivalent to a typical drunken driving ban.

But not all off-duty soldiers can spare eight weekends — two hours per weekend — to brush up and pass this new dual requirement. And that is just where the Bristol Motor Cycle Centre (seven miles north of the city and one mile from the M4) would seem to have the answer.

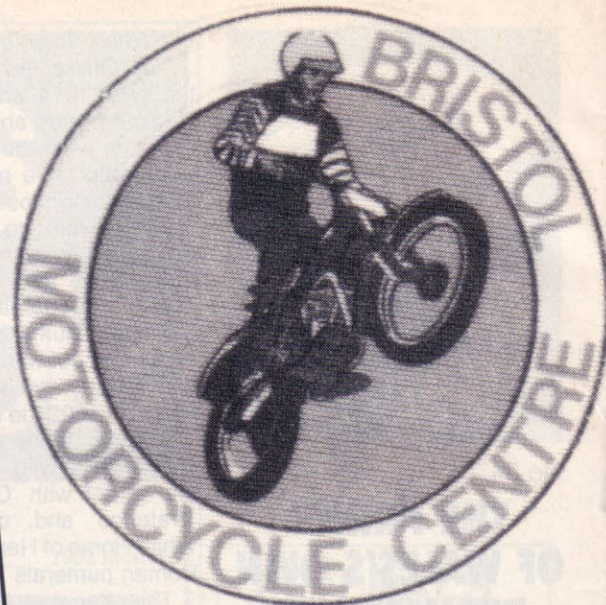
Founded by “self-made millionaire”, Mr Terry Phillips, 37, the purpose-built Department of Transport approved test centre on its 10-acre site runs concentrated courses to get trainees through the tests — fast!

It is the only centre of its kind in the UK and even the Australian Government has been to look at it and seek advice on how to start one Down Under.

The courses are open to anyone but are particularly useful for Servicemen who need to get in a lot of hours quickly.

Terry, formerly in the construction business when he made his magic million ten years ago, opened what he terms his “motorcycle mecca” in 1978. He told SOLDIER: “Most soldiers who come here do not have the time to take part in eight-week courses. Here, they can pass in a couple of days. Often, wives ring up on their behalf, telling us when their husbands are going on leave and asking if we can fit them in. Usually, we can.”

“We will pick them up, if need be, at Parkway station, about a mile away, book them into local guest house accommodation



**Soldiers who enjoy riding motor bikes in their spare time may now be breaking the law if they haven't passed the new two-part test. But a special centre in Bristol could be the answer to their problems.**

at their own expense and hire out the relevant bike to them from our sizeable fleet if they don't want to bring their own. We even suggest a course which suits them.”

Terry has a 30-strong instructional staff, plus 21 part-timers. The instruction available includes novice motorcycle and moped courses; off-road tutorials of 3-4 hours costing £15; solo motor cycle and scooter courses, costing £40 but including a £12.50 test fee, a preamble to the Part One test; and another course of 12-14 hours costing £30 designed to prepare the biker to an on-road ability “well in advance” of the standard needed for the Part Two test.

All of the courses are run from Tuesday to Sunday inclusively from 0900-1800 hours.

Since the Centre started five years ago an estimated 100,000 students have passed through on courses and individual lessons — around 25 per cent of them women.

Terry pointed out: “A lot of people in the Forces are not up to standard and they take longer to train. This may boil down to not being in this country, leaving their machines at home, and not using their bikes like the everyday commuter. Or perhaps they ride their motorcycles only a few weeks of the year.”

“The other problem arises from their having too few weekends available to go on a long term scheme where they will do only two hours a week. Here, they could pass their tests in two to five days. The other part-time way they could end up, through no fault of their own, with no driving licence under the latest regulations.



A learner practises handling skills on the centre's small-coned training circuit.

"We don't charge soldiers cancellation fees if they have a good reason for not turning up. They forfeit nothing. They just re-book. On any one day a soldier would put in six hours' practical riding. Part-time it would take him three weeks to do the same.

"We have a 98 per cent first time pass rate on the Part One test and most other training schemes cannot cater for the Forces. Most training schemes are part-time in school playgrounds. But the Part One test is very, very difficult to pass without some form of full-time training. Without it, the pass rate is minute, abysmal."

Training, Bristol fashion, means that riders can take their own time to success and the compulsory certificates of the two-part test. Nor do they have to wait to sign on

### Story: Graham Smith Pictures: Paul Haley

weeks ahead for a course.

The Centre — a mile off the M4's exit 19 — has facilities for trials and motocross riding. There is also a large cafe with TV and inevitable Space Invaders machine, motor cycle showroom, spares and accessories store and comprehensive workshop.

Terry, who invested £1 million of his own money in the Centre as a private enterprise with no other backing, says: "Soldiers coming here as private individuals learn a lot as well as getting a lot of enjoyment out of it all. They need 100 per cent concentration



Mr Terry Phillips: "Most soldiers who come here can pass in a couple of days."

and they are going to be far, far safer motorcyclists when they leave. That must save their lives one day. We are very, very enthusiastic here and we are not in it just for the money."

Located at Hambrook, the Centre's phone number for those who want to follow the speedy route to success and meet the legal requirements is 0454 (Winterbourne, Avon) 776333.

Terry's ash-blond wife, Molly-Anne, customer relations co-ordinator — their son is 19-year-old Kevin Phillips the reigning ATC (All-Terrain Cycling) champion — summed up: "Terry is really dedicated to motorcycle training done properly by full-time professional staff. He does not have the military approach — though soldiers are good listeners — because it puts people off.

"If Terry was in the Army, he'd be a general — he's a very good administrator!"

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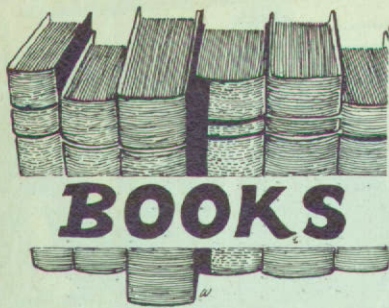


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## BOOKS

### The Campaign of 1815: General Gourgaud

General Baron Gaspard Gourgaud served on Napoleon's staff during the Russian campaign and after, rejoined him for the Waterloo campaign and spent three years as his secretary in exile in St Helena. His account of the hundred days in 1815 is based, he says, on opinions expressed to him by Napoleon as well as on his own recollections. Most of the other authors he had read on the subject, he claimed were governed by anger, animosity or national partialities; his own style however in no way conceals his own loyal partiality.

He describes the astonishing build-up of Napoleon's new armies, "done as it were by enchantment", and the options open to the Emperor. "The plan fixed upon," he concludes, "was so perfectly conformable to all military rules that in spite of its failure . . . it was the only one that ought to have been adopted."

Among reasons for failure, he makes much of the shortcomings of Marshal Ney, whom he accuses of mental derangement, but adds that the other generals had lost their energy and spirit of brilliant enterprise; he also blames traitors and alarmists. Napoleon, he reports, blamed defeat on poor intelligence and communications which stopped Marshal Grouchy's corps from playing a full part in the fighting; and Ney's ill-timed attack with the cavalry.

General Gourgaud laments, "All the probabilities of victory were in favour of the French. The combinations were excellent, and every event appeared to have been provided for; but what can the greatest genius perform against destiny? Napoleon was conquered . . . Melancholy example of human vicissitude!"

This edition of his book, a facsimile of that of 1818, is limited to 200 copies.

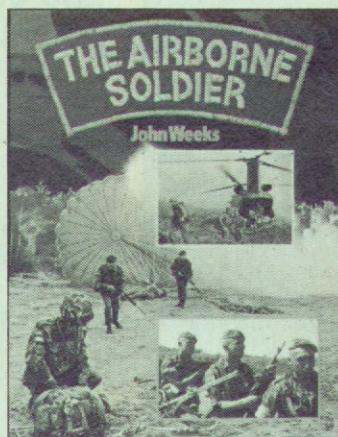
Ken Trotman, 2-6 Hampstead High St, London NW3 1QQ — £20. **RLE**

### The Airborne Soldier: John Weeks

In the year 1772, Joseph Montgolfier parachuted a sheep safely from a tower at Avignon. Just twenty years later a man named Garnerin made the first human parachute jump from a balloon which had ascended to a height of 3000 feet.

The idea of groups or individuals gifted with the power of flight making surprise attacks upon an enemy has its origins in the Greek myths. But it was not until the late eighteenth century, with the invention of the hot-air balloon, that the idea became a reality. The first really prac-

tical plan, however, did not materialise until 1918. Colonel W (Billy) Mitchell of the American army suggested parachuting a full division behind the German lines at Metz. He hoped that the plan would end the stalemate of trench warfare, but peace broke out before the plan could be implemented.



It was Germany who made the first actual use of airborne troops when she overran Norway and the Low Countries. By the end of the Second World War, all the major powers had highly trained airborne troops, although only Germany, Britain and America had used them to any extent.

John Weeks' book traces the history of airborne warfare from the early ideas to the use of helicopters. Succeeding chapters describe aircraft, gliders, helicopters, heavy equipment, weapons and vehicles used by airborne troops of various countries as well as the planning of airborne operations. There are numerous illustrations of both equipment and the major operations which have taken place. An appendix gives details of the airborne capabilities of over sixty countries.

This is an excellent buy for anyone interested in the history of airborne warfare.

Blandford Press, Poole, Dorset — £8.95. **DM**

### A Policy For Peace: Field Marshal Lord Carver

Since they were made public some three years ago, Lord Carver's views on the nuclear debate have created something of a stir. Not necessarily what one might expect of a former Chief of Defence Staff — "Throughout my military service, I have been accustomed to being out of step," he wryly admits — they have been prone to misrepresentation, and the desire to explain them fully was an important motive for his writing this slim but important book.

Lord Carver unfurls his arguments by tracing the strategic theory which has governed the conduct of war in Europe in the last two hundred years, beginning with the concepts of 'absolute war' outlined by Clausewitz early in the last century, and mis-applied with disastrous results in the First World War. He charts how the subsequent reaction to this encouraged Liddell-Hart and others to advocate direct, massive strikes against enemy nerve-centres, which in turn led to the bombing of civilian targets in World War Two and the use of the

atom bomb against the Japanese.

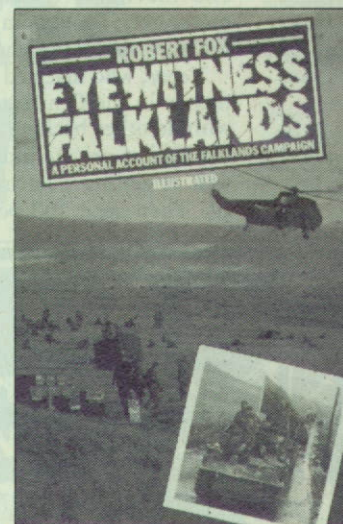
With the arrival of the Bomb, Lord Carver argues, world strategy was profoundly changed because of the capacity of destruction made available. The attempts by the Western Powers and Soviet Union to resolve the resulting conundrums have led to a situation which many consider has 'brought the world to the brink of the final abyss'. Lord Carver believes that the sole value of nuclear weapons lies in their deterrent value as a means of averting a nuclear war; so long as the balance remains, neither side will dare employ them for fear of the consequences. To consider their use in a tactical situation is essentially fallacious, as the risks of escalation are too great; at the same time, neither side is likely to resort to them to resolve a minor conventional conflict, so the need to retain a strong conventional force remains.

Lord Carver's policy is eloquent and persuasive, and his account of how it might be achieved within the framework of Britain's role in Nato is thoughtful and balanced. His book makes an important contribution to a debate which must be resolved effectively, for the sake of us all.

Faber and Faber, 3 Queen Street, London WC1N 3AU — £2.50 (paperback), £5.95 (hardback). **IJK**

### Eyewitness Falklands — a personal account of the Falklands Campaign: Robert Fox

The title of this book accurately describes what it is — an absorbing first hand account by the 'hack' (media correspondent) who saw more of the action in the Falklands than any other, who was with Lt-Col H Jones, VC and 2 Para during the attack on



Goose Green and helped to negotiate its surrender, who joined 45 Commando for the attacks on Two Sisters and Mount Tumbledown and was almost the first reporter into Port Stanley. He also obtained unique interviews with some 4000 Argentinian prisoners with whom he sailed to Patagonia. It is not surprising that he was subsequently awarded the MBE for all his endeavours.

This book is more like a diary recording his impressions and thoughts from the moment he went to watch the fleet leave Portsmouth, to his unexpected diversion to join the *Canberra* as one of the BBC team,

through the tedium and uncertainties which surrounded the voyage south and the fears and dangers of the ensuing battle. He was probably more prepared than he had realised for the yomping (cross country marching) having been to Blundells and taken part in the notorious Jack Russell cross-country races over Dartmoor, as well as having been brought up on a farm in Somerset; it was thus that he was able to tell a soldier of 2 Para that the noise in the night was a cow and not an Argie!

The problems which the 'hacks' had over censorship with their 'ministers' (Defence press officers) is very fairly told, considering that "from the outset the information and press policy was chaotic, as it appeared to come from at least four different sources at once". Being with 2 Para, he was intimately involved in the repercussions of the news release from London about the attack on the Darwin Isthmus thirty-six hours before it happened, which, of course, was nothing to do with him; it is a great pity that the one tape 'missing' from his rucksack, from which he became separated, was his final interview with Lt-Col H Jones. His conclusion that "the real muddle over censorship and press policy was caused by lack of practice and sheer confusion, rather than human perfidy" is very fair and is reflected in The Defence White Paper recommending more extensive training opportunities for public relations officers.

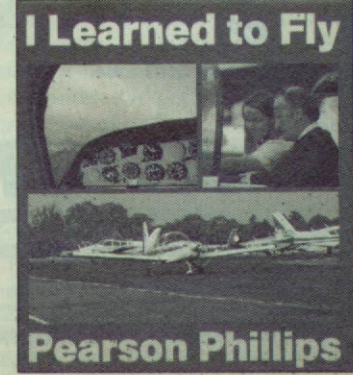
His comments on his own reactions and of others are honest and revealing — "Our curious isolation made us do things I would not normally have contemplated and I think for a time it made me shed the selfishness which many of us hacks wear like a carapace. For me, it was an existential dream. For others, the victims, the terribly injured mentally and physically, their families and the families of the dead, it was a nightmare". **PSN**

### I Learned to Fly: Pearson Phillips

Not a 'military' book of the type usually reviewed on these pages but one that may appeal to more adventurous readers tired of terra firma.

A journalist learns to fly and describes it, step by step, with illustrations. The result is a good introduction to the subject for anyone contemplating flying lessons and a convenient reference for anyone embarked on them, or who wants to brush up his flying.

Frederick Warne, 40 Bedford Sq, London WC1B 4HE — £7.95 **RLE**





# STILLWATER

COMPETITION 310

## ACADEMY

normally — in each class. All we want to know is the answer to each of four questions: 1, 2 and 3 above and (4) How many boys were in each class originally?

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 11 March 1983. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 4 April 1983 and no correspondence can be entered into. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 310' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answer by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 310' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants. GU11 2DU.

KENT, Angus, Clare, Douglas and Powys are the names of five of the masters at Stillwater Academy and they each teach one subject, viz English, History, Mathematics, Biology and Geography — though not respectively. Strangely enough, the masters were born in Kent, Angus, Clare, Douglas and Powys — again not respectively.

Kent, the master, comes from Douglas and has had tea with the master from Wales (who, by the way, doesn't teach Mathematics), while Clare, who comes from Kent and teaches neither Geography nor Mathematics has had tea with the masters who teach English and Biology.

So: (1) If Douglas comes from Ireland and

Powys teaches Biology, what is the Scottish master's name? And (2): Who teaches English? And (3) Where was Angus born?

But, there were more than five masters at Stillwater Academy for there was a master to each class. Recently, however, three of the masters were taken ill so the renowned Professor Quantum distributed the boys of these three classes equally among the remaining classes.

Before the illness of the masters each class contained as many boys as there were classes in the school but after the re-arrangement each class had one-third as many boys again.

So now we have to find the number of boys at the academy and the number —

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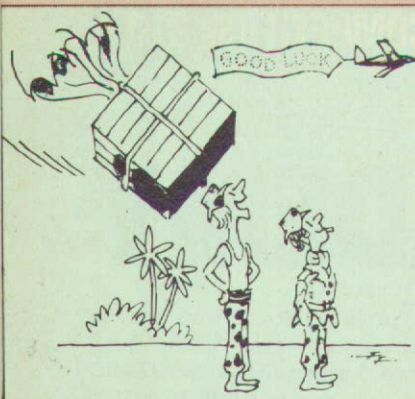
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## NOT SUCH RUBBISH

Mr Kirby doesn't waste words, just 44 to tell you "no family rubbish" (10 Jan), but I suspect that he wrote with tongue-in-cheek and is now waiting for the reaction you have called for.

What can be wrong with a few penpal requests? We who served in the '20s would have welcomed a magazine with this feature when we were banished to Tientsin, The North West Frontier of India and stations north, south, east and west for a minimum period of six years. We didn't have an Anne Armstrong to air our views and find the answer to complex problems — and we had plenty; and our families had no chance to play a role in Service life unless the husband was the Colonel or RSM. No family clubs for them.

Some of the grouses nowadays may seem frivolous to your older readers, but no less interesting, and certainly you do seem to report results which lead to a better life for our Servicemen and their families — and why not?

I am sure many of your more mature readers would also welcome items on interesting old soldiers and even serving soldiers would see that there is an exciting new life to be found after their service is completed.

Good work SOLDIER, including the so-called rubbish. Like wine you mature with age and give your readers good value. — A V Andrews, 37 Picquets Way, Banstead, Surrey.

## UNDERSTANDING

Contrary to the recently published letter from S J J Kirby (10 Jan) I write in support of the present mix of reading matter.

One has to remember that this magazine is read by a wide spectrum of people, not only present serving soldiers and their families, old soldiers, both ex-regular and wartime, but in addition people whose links are very tenuous indeed. One has only to look at the names appended to letters which are published to note the spread of interests and backgrounds. In recent weeks I have seen correspondence from people I personally know including a retired

# MAIL DROP

Lieutenant Colonel, US Army who would be classified a mature university student in the UK; another mentioned is a teacher, whilst I am an accountant, albeit an ex-Yeomanry trooper of 39/45 vintage.

It would be interesting to have an analysis of the readership of SOLDIER, viz soldiers as opposed to civilians. As for pen pals, well SJK is entitled to his opinion, but if a healthy correspondence ensues, leading to an interest in the Service and the disciplines it embodies and generating a better understanding of the different ways of life, can that be a bad thing? In fact 'understanding' may well be the criterion which he has not applied when penning his letter. — W C Hunt FAIA, 5 Cranstock Drive, Heald Green, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 3EX.

## KEEP IT UP

As an ex-regular and a TA member, and a regular reader, I think SOLDIER is a splendid magazine and very good value for money. As for the pen pal column it's a very good idea, please keep it up. — R A Purchase, 37 St Michael's Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 5AG.

## GURKHA TRIBUTE

Please accept my own personal and sincere congratulations for the splendid work done by all the staff on SOLDIER magazine — so very welcome always.

Though my own soldiering days ended some 30 years ago, your excellent publication retains for me a feeling of belonging — I still march with great pride with my Chindit comrades every November in Armistice Parade.

And now another tribute, this time to those wonderful men of Nepal — the Gurkhas. We who were privileged to have had them alongside us in our soldiering days of long ago, remember their devotion to duty, their cheerfulness in the face of adversity and their giving the ultimate sacrifice in the desire simply to serve.

Towards the evening of my own life, I thank God I once had the honour of having them as both my comrades and my friends. — Major Frank Turner, Indian Army (Retd), 16 The Woodlands, Salisbury Road, Downend, Bristol BS16 5RJ.

## AFRICA STAR

I refer to recent letters regarding qualifications for war stars and medal awards.

There were three different clasps obtainable for the Africa Star: First Army, 8th Army and North Africa 1941-43. The 1st Army clasp is represented on the ribbon by a figure '1' and is less conspicuous than the figure '8' representing the 8th Army clasp. No clasp was granted with the Africa Stars awarded to GHQ in Egypt or Malta Defenders. The Royal Navy who did not go ashore were awarded the Africa Star minus clasp.

British troops, including the De-

sert Rats who were involved in the first battles against the Italian and German forces in North Africa and who did not survive or stay for later battles, received the Star minus any clasp, although they fought well with a shortage of tanks, transport and other much needed supplies. It is a fact that Auchinleck's army who 'carried the can' before Monty, got no Africa Star clasp.

Many concerned were of the opinion that the Africa Star could have been more fairly awarded without any clasp as the war was in progress at the time of the award.

A 14th Army clasp was suggested many years ago for those of Burma fame to be worn on the ribbon of the Burma Star. The reply was to the effect that all Burma Veterans would receive it. But it appears that they are still the Forgotten Army since, because of incompetence on someone's part, the promise has not been kept. — Mr J J Stokes, 13b Common Way, Stoke Heath, Coventry CV2 3JA.

## FAMILIAR FACE?

I have just finished reading your 14 June 82 issue which was of great interest to me as I have not seen a copy since I left the British Army in



January 1970. (I became redundant on amalgamation of the Fusilier Brigade and emigrated to Australia in April 1970).

A photo in this edition caught my eye as I believe it to be a friend of mine who I served with at the Fusilier Brigade Depot, Sutton Coldfield in 1966. The photo is on page 13 in the bottom right hand corner, and contains two members of 2 RRF at an open day in Berlin. Could the corporal in the photo be a John Martin who was a Drill and Weapon Training Instructor with myself at Sutton Coldfield? He was at the time a member of The Royal Fusiliers and I a member of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Through your excellent magazine could you please pass on my regards to all my friends of the Old Fusilier Brigade; it would be good to hear from any of them who are still serving.

Finally, I wish to say that SOLDIER Magazine has, like wine, greatly improved with age. — Sgt H Street, A47701 CLKA, Base Sqn, RAAF Base, Williamstown, NSW 2314, Australia.

The photograph in question was not taken by SOLDIER staff so we are unable to help you, Sgt Street. But perhaps members of 2 RRF will be able to identify the man (pictured above.) — Ed.

## WAHN MEMORIES

I was delighted to read Mr L W Jones letter (4 Oct) which brought back memories of my home city Cologne.

He was perfectly correct about the location of the German artillery range at Wahn. It was a big army training centre and artillery range just outside Cologne until 1918. (My grandfather was stationed there during the Great War.) As part of the Treaty of Versailles, the left bank of the Rhine was under Allied occupation with three bridgeheads on the other side. The British Army HQ was at Cologne and Mr Jones was stationed on their bridgehead at Wahn.

It is true that all members of the occupation forces were entitled to free transport. The Opera House was on the corner of Ring and Aachener Streets and was bombed on 30 May 1940. It is remarkable to recall that the price of half a litre of beer was, as Mr Jones found, only 10 pfennigs — today you would pay about £1.

In March 1935 Hitler ordered his troops to take over the range at Wahn. In 1938 it was converted into an aerodrome and was important to Hitler's western campaign of May 1940. In 1941 it housed the night-fighters of the Luftwaffe. After the war the RAF took over for a few years and then when, in 1956, the Federal Republic of Germany and the new Bundes-Luftwaffe were formed, the airfield became part of the German defence plan. Today it is used as a commercial airstrip — the only military force being the Wachtbattalion on ceremonial duties. — Manfred P Heller, 141 East Tee, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia.

## SCRAPBOOK

We have compiled and distributed a scrapbook relating to the Battle of the Falklands to those brave regiments or ships involved (that we know of). We have several more we would be pleased to forward to any regiment who might require them — free of charge. — T T Lovesey, Hon Secretary, Civil Service Amateur Boxing Club, Civil Service Staff College, 11 Belgrave Road, London SW1.

## Can You Help?

I have a set of 76 photographic cards showing the German Army and Hitler, mentioned by Major D Williams (4 Oct). They are in mint condition and I would like to know the value of them. — F Parsons, 25 Briton Road, Northampton.

I am writing on behalf of my mother, an Army widow who has lost touch with her friends, Alec and Mary Cuckoo RAMC. Could they please contact Sylvia Lewis, 32 Palmerston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

I have a picture of a badge/crest showing the figure of Mercury (R Signals Jimmy) over a scroll reading 'Signal Service' and entitled 'Signal Service Yeomanry'. The picture is taken from a whole series of badges/

## Pen Pals

I am June and I am 23 years old, 5ft 6ins tall with fair hair and green eyes. My hobbies are reading, music, discos etc. I work as an auxiliary nurse. I'd like to write to someone between the ages of 25 and 30. All letters answered. Photos if possible. — *June Shannon, 16 Kingston Place, Dalmeir West Clydebank, Dunbartonshire, Scotland.*

My name is Fiona and I am 16 years old. My hobbies include ballet and disco dancing and I like Madness, Duran Duran and Modern Romance. All letters answered. Photos if possible. — *Fiona George, 28 Buxton Road, Walthamstow, London E17.*

Is there a soldier any age or rank who would like to write to us? We would love to be a friend to a lonely soldier. — *Margaret and Roland Hammer, 31 School Road, Charlton King's, Cheltenham, Glos.*

We are two friends who would like penfriends anywhere. Elaine Henshaw is 21, likes cars, disco dancing, keeping fit and writing, Sharon Priestley is 22, and likes reading, writing, and dancing. — *13 Marlowe Drive, St Giles, Lincoln, Lincs.*

## Collectors' Corner

A S Muir, 56 Wimborne Road, Fallings Park, Wolverhampton, WV10 0NS. Would like to swap staybrite and brass cap badges. All letters answered. N J Fisher, 52 The Croft, Barnet, Herts, EN5 2TL. Wants large nylon Bergen for cash or any DPM clothing from Arctic windproofs to tropical suits. Ian Tindall, 86 Hencroft St. Slough, Berks, SL1 1RE. Wishes to contact collectors and others interested in Royal Bucks Hussars (Bucks Yeo.) Also wants medals, militaria and info on same.

Arthur Laycock, 4 Alderney Road, Dewsbury, West Yorks, WF12 7ET. Has for sale Egypt Star (Khednes) 1884-86, complete with medal ribbon £25.

J. M. Brereton, Painscastle, Powys, LD2 3JW. Seeks copies of Army lists from 1980 to date. Condition immaterial so long as text complete.

D A Young, 105 Perrycroft, Windsor, Berks, SL4 4HB. Wishes to obtain US Army cloth insignia, all modern, of the following: 101st Abn

VN; 82nd Abn VN, 188th Abn Inf Regt, 508th DIB; 29th Art Regt Cavalry, FA Bde; 1st Div Corps; US Army VN; Mil, Asst, and VN; Engr and VN; also senior para, master para, para ranger and US Army ranks offfrs and NCOs from WW2 to date. Plus any modern US Army uniforms. Will pay a reasonable price.

J Reeney, 87 Shipbrook Road, Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 7HG. Has the following books for sale: 'Phantom Major' by Virginia Cowles (WWII SAS history) £3; 'Winged Dagger: Adventures on Special Service' by Roy Farran (memoir of SAS service) £3; 'Valiant Men' (Canada's VC and GC winners) by John Swettenham, £5; 'The Soldiers' (an anatomy of the British Army) by Henry Stanhope, £5; 'Soldiers in the Air' (the development of Army flying) by Peter Mead, £2; 'Army Life in the 1890's' by Philip Warner, £3; Young Winston's Wars (the original despatches of Churchill 1897-1900) by Frederick Woods, £3; 'Collectors Guide to Militaria' by Derek Johnson, £3. 50p postage and packing on books plus SAE for reply. Wants: 'Cordon and Search' by R D Wilson (6th Airborne Division in Palestine).

R Moorgoaker, 66 Hayhurst St. Clithero, Lancs, BB7 1ND. Wishes to obtain an Army issue book on field survival/map reading and any useful books on backpacking. Also wants DPM size 42in chest combat jacket or para/SAS smock and lightweights 36-38 waist, leg 29-30 and boots. Must be in excellent condition.

## Reunions

The Queen's Own Hussars reunion dinner. Saturday 30 April 1983 at the Baronial Hall, Mincing Lane, London, EC3R 7DP. Tickets £8.50, optional dress. Contact Major J S Knight (Retd), Home HQ The Queen's Own Hussars, 28 Jury St, Warwick, CV34 4EW.

2nd Bn Beds & Herts Regt annual reunion. Saturday 26 Feb 83 at the Victory Club, Seymour St, London WC2. Contact G Austin, 63 Redwood Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. Tel: Hemel Hempstead 0442.

The Royal Hussars (PWO) annual reunion. Saturday 30 April 83 at the Porter Tun Room, Whitbread Brewery, Chiswell St, London at 7.30pm. Tickets from Home HQ, The Royal Hussars (PWO), Lower Bks, Winchester.

'Fiddlers' pre-1939 Trumpeters Royal Artillery. The annual reunion of the pre-1939 trumpeters RA will be held on 29/30 July 83 in the RA Mess, Larkhill. Contact Major J J Dobbs, 5 Glynswood, Portsmouth Road, Camberley, Surrey.

The Devonshire & Dorset Regiment Association reunion. Saturday 14 May 83, St George's Hall, Exeter, Devon; doors open 7pm. Tickets from RHQ The Devonshire & Dorset Regt, Wyvern Bks, Exeter, the advance £1 per person. Wives and lady friends welcome.

RAF Halton Aircraft Apprentices Association reunion will be held on 15th Oct 1983. SAE for details to: The Secretary, RAF Halton Aircraft Apprentices Association, RAF Halton, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 5PG.

The Rothsay 1940-1945 Reunion will take place between 25 April and 7 May 1983. A comprehensive programme of events and entertainments has been arranged for the entire 12 day period. For details contact A Hatfield, 40 East Princess Street, Rothsay, Isle of Bute.

ramme of events and entertainments has been arranged for the entire 12 day period. For details contact A Hatfield, 40 East Princess Street, Rothsay, Isle of Bute.

## Competition

Not only did you need a patient, persistent mind to do Competition 306, Diamonds and Squares, but a literary one as well. After finding the hidden answers to all the clues, you then had to sort the remaining jumble of letters out into the titles of four novels. These were *Ivanhoe*, *Red Gauntlet*, *The Fair Maid of Perth* and *The Heart of Midlothian*. The author of all four was of course Sir Walter Scott. Prizewinners were:— 1st L M Grant, 11 Shore Road, South Queensferry, West Lothian; 2nd Mrs

E Sheppard, Kilbronnogue, Schull, Co Cork, Eire; 3rd Mr A Hendstock, 60 Williams Crescent, Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs; 4th F J Spooner, Physics Branch, RMCS Shrivenham, Swindon, Wilts SN6 8LA; 5th Mrs P R Rossiter, Catering Branch, HQ 3 Armd Div, BFPO 106.

## How Observant Are You?

(See page 31)

1 Top of second 'N' in 'FENTONS'; 2 Door handle of coach; 3 Figures in toy-seller's tray; 4 Mudguard of near bicycle; 5 Direction of walking doll fourth from left; 6 'Y' in 'CITY'; 7 Number of fruits in left box; 8 Hub of coach's rear wheel; 9 Dog's tail; 10 Star fourth from right.



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crests entitled *Badges and Crests of the Yeomanry* printed by Gale and Polden of Aldershot before the 1914-18 war. Any help your readers are able to give will be greatly appreciated by myself and the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford Camp. — *WO2 D Smart, 67 (QOWWY) Sig Sqn, TA Centre, New Broad St, Stratford upon Avon, Warks, CS37 6HW.*

A friend of mine is trying to trace the action in which his father won the MM in the First World War. He was 280378 Sgt V A Sandy of the 4th Hampshires. — *Mr C S Darling, 24 Abraham Close, Botley, Hants, SO3 2RQ.*

Does anyone remember Hubert Don who drove tanks in the Battle of Cambrai? — *L G Weston, Ridge-wood Rise, High View Lane, Uckfield, E Sussex, TN22 5SY.*

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Tel: Stourbridge 70025 or 4648.**



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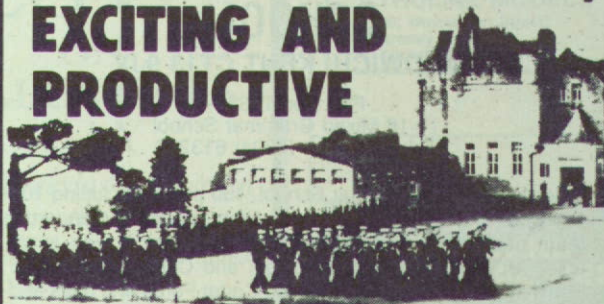
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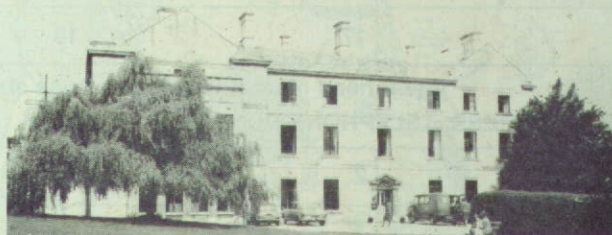
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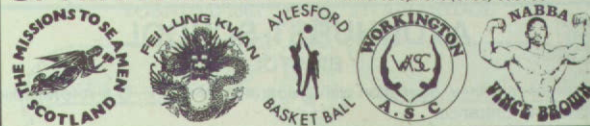


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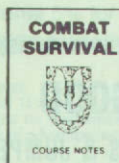
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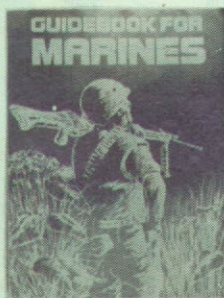
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Del Pontin Apologises to any readers who phoned offering caps, etc., for sale and asks that they write to: C/O 11 Hannover Court, Wellington Road, Brighton, as he has been overseas.

# AIR FORCE GROUNDED now for the Navy!

**WATCH OUT NAVY** — the Army's boxers are out to sink you! They fired a thundering warning shot across the Senior Service's bows by downing the Royal Air Force 10-0 in the first of this year's Inter Services contests and now visit Portsmouth with every hope of scuppering the champions.

Navy 'spies' in the audience at Aldershot must have felt more than a slight shivering in their timbers as the new-look Army squad blitzed the boys in light blue with all the finesse of a Sidewinder missile. Coach Colour-Sergeant 'Smokey' Lloyd had predicted big things for his fighters this year but even his expectations were surpassed. "I'd have reckoned on maybe winning eight," he admitted, "But to take all ten is tremendous."

He was particularly pleased with the two men making their debut in an Army vest, Craftsman Dave Oag, SEME, at Featherweight and Fusilier Robert Rossi, 1 RWF, at Middle.

Oag showed no sign of nerves as he quickly drew blood from J/T Reilly's nose and then saw the referee step in to halt the contest in round two.

Rossi faced a sterner test against the experienced SAC Morley but he scored well in the first two rounds, frequently leaving his opponent scything the air. It was a different story in the third round though as Morley's windmilling fists put Rossi on the seat of his pants and he had to defend desperately as his opponent moved in for the kill. But the onslaught seemed to have exhausted the RAF boxer and Rossi held on to take the decision after a tremendous scrap that brought an ovation for both men and a special pat on the back from Smokey Lloyd.

"I was very impressed," he said later. "Rossi is only a novice

but he got through on sheer guts."

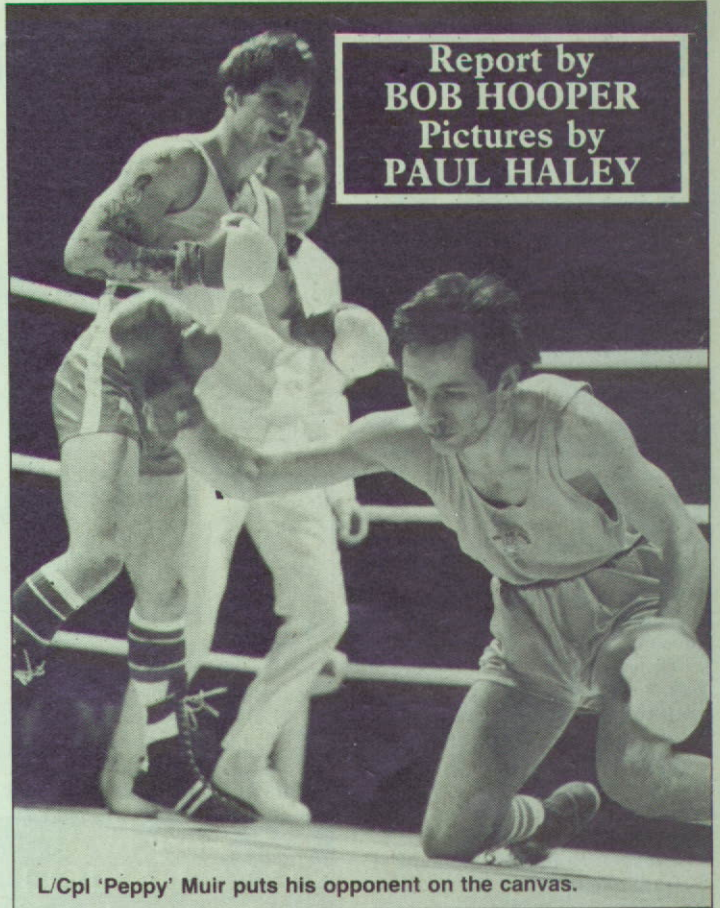
Guts and determination were certainly not found wanting on either side and the RAF, though generally shaded for punching power, put up a strong show in several bouts. There was particular sympathy for SAC Jupp, at Light Middleweight, who had a terrific scrap with Lance Corporal Peter Kearney, 1 IG. The stocky coloured boxer downed his Army opponent in the second round to spark hopes of an Air Force victory, but then had the chagrin of being stopped on doctor's orders with an ugly lump over one eye.

There were keen contests too at Flyweight and Bantam with Fusilier Michael Ullah, 1 RWF, and Lance Corporal Steve Johnson, 10 Tpt Regt RCT, both being taken the full distance by plucky opponents, and also at Light Middleweight where Guardsman Dennis Bailey, 1 IG, had a close win over SAC McNamee.

Private Carl Crook, 1 Para, looked sharp at Lightweight, moving well against a taller opponent and quickly drawing blood. With the claret spattering arms and vests it was no surprise when the referee called a halt in round two. And for Lance Corporal 'Peppy' Muir, Depot Royal Irish, just one round of hard punching was enough to bring matters to a conclusion.

Easiest 'victory' went to Private Pete Crook, 1 Para, who had a walkover at Welterweight when the RAF could not make the

Report by  
**BOB HOOPER**  
Pictures by  
**PAUL HALEY**



L/Cpl 'Peppy' Muir puts his opponent on the canvas.

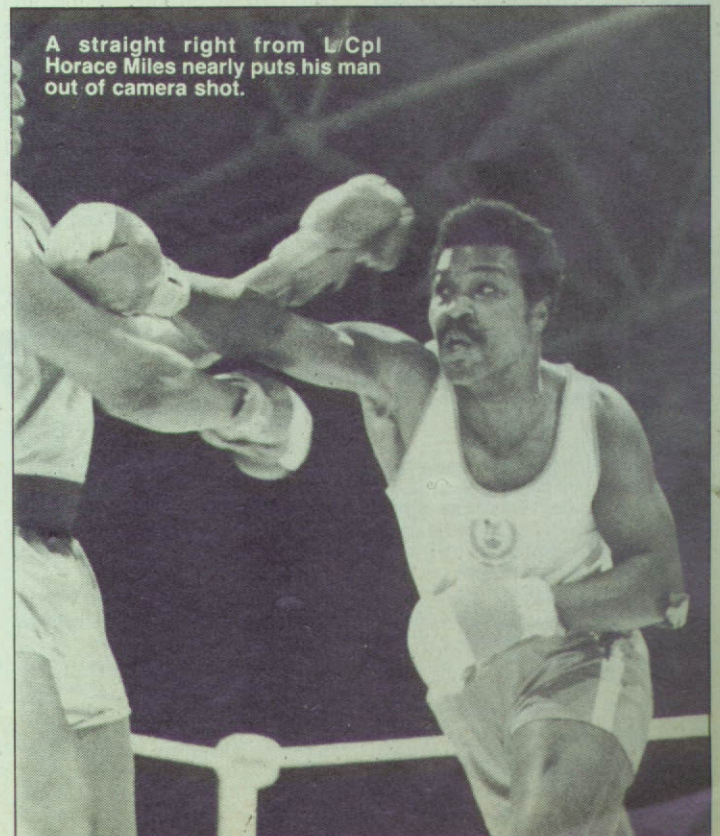
match, and it was left to Lance Corporal Horace Miles, 1 RGJ, to complete the whitewash with a second round knock-out against Corporal Smith. The two big coloured men spent more time dancing than punching in the first round, but then a fierce flurry of blows put Smith on the canvas and although he tottered to his feet on rubber legs it was

clear he could no longer defend himself.

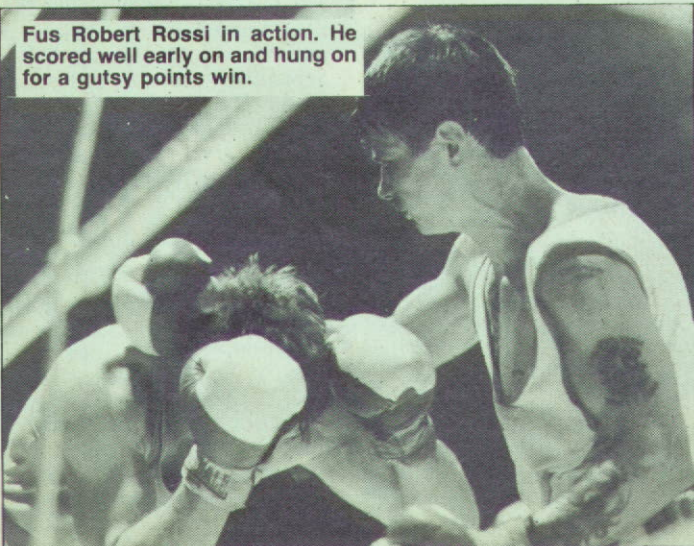
A great start for the Army then in their bid to capture the Inter Services crown, and coach Smokey Lloyd aims to put out an even stronger line-up for the Navy clash.

"We didn't show all our big guns tonight," he grinned. "I think we'll take the Navy."

A straight right from L/Cpl Horace Miles nearly puts his man out of camera shot.



Fus Robert Rossi in action. He scored well early on and hung on for a gutsy points win.



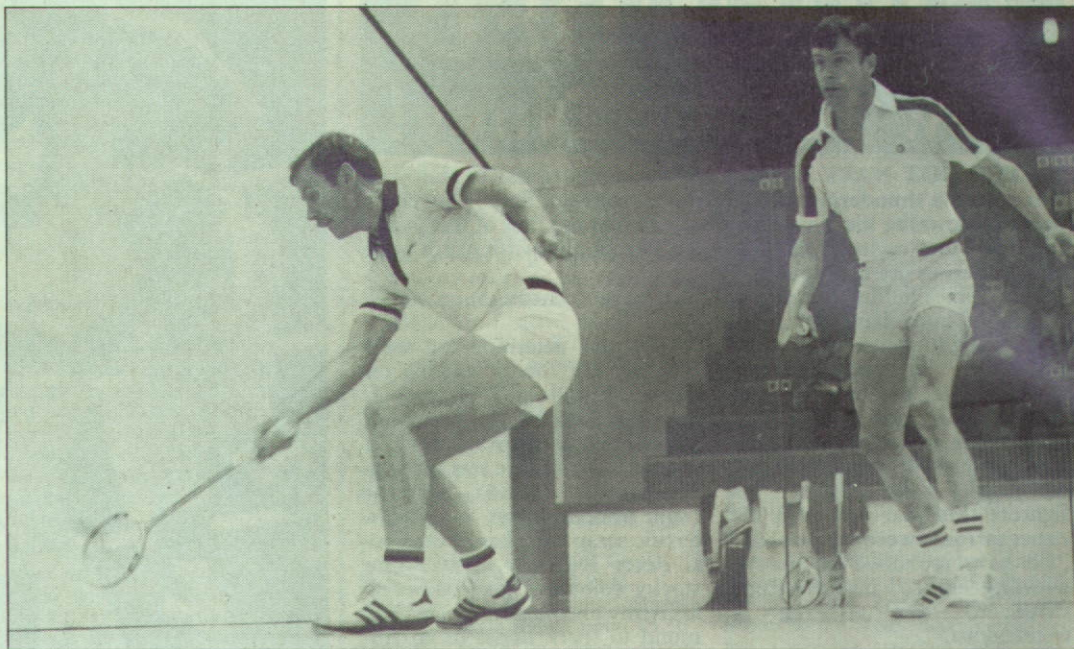
# Champagne win for Robinson

RETAINING HIS title as champion, WO1 Robbie Robinson RAOC despatched his opponent Captain Chris Wilson RA in three straight games in this year's final of the Army Squash Open Championships. But the 9-2, 9-3, 9-4 scoreline belied a fierce battle that was full of punishing rallies.

The sponsors, wine merchants Saccone & Speed of London, did the Army proud in arranging for the use of the up-market courts at Woking Leisure Centre. The good surface and clean corners ensured that any dead balls were due to the players' skill alone. The players worked up a fine lather but sips of champagne, provided by the sponsors, helped to slake their thirsts.

Both players fought every point with vigour and tenacity with unforced errors few and far between. In the first game each struggled to gain a purchase on the points and it was almost seven minutes before either managed to score.

But then Robinson went ahead 3-0 and having made his mark he was fully in control for the rest of the game. He forced Wilson to come across the court and play the ball close to the wall time and



Robinson plays a deft drop shot to the corner.

Story by  
**SALLY DANIELL**  
Pictures by  
**ANDY BURRIDGE**

time again and then wrong footed him either with a drop shot or with a screaming ball to the other side of court.

Now warmed up and used to the clear perspex back wall through which the substantial crowd of spectators could see all the action, the protagonists battled fiercely in the second and longest game, some rallies going to 30 or 40 strokes. Robinson quickly got into his stride, the variety of his shots keeping the pressure on Wilson.

The Gunner showed tremendous stamina and retrieving power but he remained on the defensive, often forced to the back of the court and having to stretch to reach the ball. Even so, the score of 9-3 was no reflection

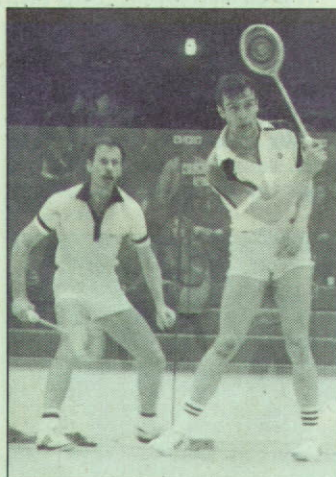
of the dogged struggle.

At 4-0 to Robinson in the third game the ball perished and it was to Wilson's credit that he did not let this unsettle him. Instead he pulled up to trail by only 4-6. Service then went back and forth with the score remaining static for five or six minutes, but Wilson was now showing signs of tiredness and Robinson went on to take the game 9-4.

Afterwards, the champion paid tribute to the gallant loser, saying at no time could he relax. "I knew I had to keep the pressure on him. Even though I had the advantage I couldn't let up because Chris always gets back and I had to keep the points up."

Winners in the other categories were:

**Plate** — Staff Sergeant Ray Surgeon APTC; **Superplate** — Major Nick Coombs RTR; **Under 25s** — Corporal Tom Pollard R Sigs; **Veterans** — WO1 Brian Barnes APTC; **Veterans plate** — Major Tony Marley R Sigs.



Wilson in command during one of the many long rallies.

## SOCCER ROUND-UP

### Win in Wind Combined Services 2 An FA XI 0

A BLUSTERY WIND made ball control very difficult in this match against a select side from some of the strongest non-League clubs in the South of England. But the Services opened with a bang when LMEM Kevin Maddocks of the Navy got clear of the defence and lashed in a left foot shot which the visiting keeper just managed to scoop away.

There was another near miss by Lance-Corporal Sandy Brown then, just before the interval, the Services almost suffered a setback. A bad pass back by Lance-Corporal Steve Butler went straight to an attacker who

rounded keeper, Lance-Corporal 'Spider' Lomas, and shot at goal. Only a last ditch clearance saved the situation.

In the second half the visitors set the pace but the competent Service defence coped well under pressure. In the 68th minute, against the run of play, Butler broke on the left and sent across a deadly centre which Maddocks steered home.

Maddocks started the move which led to the second goal. He passed to Lance-Corporal George Torrance who was unlucky to see the visiting keeper palm his shot for a corner. But the short corner landed flush on the forehead of skipper, Sergeant Dave Dodds RAF,

who made no mistake

### Much Binding in the Marsh Gloucestershire FA 2 Army 0

THE ARMY'S HOPES of winning the South West Championships were almost wrecked when they visited the talented Gloucestershire side at Moreton-in-the-Marsh. They went down 2-0 in a game in which they promised much but failed in front of goal.

The home side went in front in the first half after a defensive mix-up and the Army were never able to convert long periods of pressure into goals — eventually conceding a second themselves.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### RUGBY

The Army rugby team gave by far their best performance this season in their match against Oxford University at Iffley Road, Oxford with a final score of 22-13. Sergeant Gareth Davies celebrated his recent selection as the new team captain by getting the first of the three tries against the University. The other tries were scored by Lieutenant Mike Noel-Smith and Corporal Dave Johnson. Captain Ian Hitchcock scored two penalty goals and converted two tries.

★ ★ ★

The Army Colts beat London Welsh 20-14 and after a spirited second half fight back were edged out by Blackheath by 22 points to 21.

★ ★ ★

### ANGLING

Fly fishermen should note that the Army and Inter-Services matches will take place on 13-14 September, probably at Rutland Water. Match secretary, Major E J K O'Brien will be moving to c/o QDG, Carver Barracks, Wimbish, Saffron Walden, Essex, in March.

★ ★ ★

### BOXING

For the seventh time in the last eight years 59 Commando Squadron, Royal Engineers, based at Plymouth, have won the UKLF Minor Units Novice Team Boxing Championships. In this season's final, which gave them their fourth successive title, the Commando Sappers beat 521 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, Bicester, by five bouts to two.

## KENTISH CUP

# No goals — so unlucky

BRITISH FORCES 0 BELGIAN FORCES 0

FOR THE THIRD YEAR in succession the Combined Services held the Belgian Armed Forces team of professional footballers to a draw when the teams met in the first match of this year's tri-nation Kentish Cup competition at Aldershot. The British team stuck to their task doggedly but lacked penetration throughout and the Belgians went home with the point which they evidently considered satisfactory.

But the British team still have a chance to win the trophy for the first time since 1969-70. They travel to Chartres to meet the French holders on 23 February and will know the result of the Belgian-French game by then.

The British Forces almost took a shock early lead when they were awarded a penalty after only four minutes. Goalkeeper Kerremans brought down Lance-Corporal Phil White and French referee Bacon pointed to the spot amid a storm of arm waving and shouting from the Belgian defenders.

But penalty taker, Lance-Corporal Steve Butler sent a tame shot along the ground into the waiting hands of Kerremans, a Belgian under-23 cap. Seconds later, at the other end, Lance-Corporal Mark Atkinson did well to divert a blasting shot from way out for an unproductive corner.

Play was brisk and full of incident with the Belgians showing their class with fast breaks and deft touches but never looking like a team. They included four Belgian First Division players, two of them under-23 internationals, and were skippered by Alex Czerniatynski with 22 full

international caps and an appearance in the World Cup finals to his name.

The Belgians were fleetier and their passes lower and more accurate. But the Britons ran and ran and covered well though they never looked effective in front of goal. Midway through the first half the British Forces pressed hard but pushed the ball too far forward time and time again.

A late clearance prevented the home side scoring then the Belgians, having weathered the storm, moved into the attack again. In a few seconds of frantic pressure they rapped in two hard shots and a header from two corners only for Atkinson, who was having a fine game, to finally harvest the ball safely.

But the British side was far from out of the picture and also went close twice before the Belgians in a flurry just before the whistle sent in a low rasping shot

Belgian goalie, Kerremans punches the ball in a desperate goalmouth flurry which came to naught.



The miss of the match. British striker, Butler (left) sees his penalty kick easily saved.

which Atkinson only just managed to hold.

With the wind behind them in the second half the British side began to get more and more of the play but still lacked that vital penetration. A free kick from Staff-Sergeant Mickey Doig, (who later got the British man of the match award), and a shot from skipper, Dave Dodds, both found Kerremans.

Story by  
**JOHN WALTON**  
Pictures by  
**DOUG PRATT**

In the 61st minute hearts were in mouths as the Services withstood another furious assault with the ball passing twice across the face of the goal. But the home team, still fighting hard for every ball, swept back into attack for three more luckless attempts at goal.

Goals were looking increasingly unlikely as the Belgians tried to smother the game. They had one last crack at goal when Atkinson dived to save from Claeson.

Then White was pulled down by a defender. Referee Bacon had obviously not heard of the sending off for professional fouls campaign — or if he had, was having no part of it. A wagging finger was the only reprimand and the free kick was successfully parried by Kerremans.

Corporal George Torrance,

## Judo battle

The Army's top two judo stars, Corporal Stuart Travis and Corporal Richard Armstrong, met for the fourth time ever in the Army Judo Championships at Bulford. What happened in their close encounter will be told in the next issue of SOLDIER complete with a full story and pictures of the championships in this fast growing Army sport.

who had earlier had the unenviable distinction of getting the only yellow card of the match, almost retrieved the situation when he raced virtually the entire length of the field, shrugging off Belgians en route and let fly — only for Kerremans to save.

Belgian timewasting was now developing into an art form with a second substitute being sent on with only 60 seconds to go and a British corner about to be taken. The match finally petered out with the second half not living up to the promise of the first.

Afterwards coach, QMSI Alfie Coulton, declared: "Of all the games we have played this was the unluckiest. We deserved a far better result than we got but the penalty miss was incidental and did not upset the lads."

"They worked hard to get back into the game and showed a good blend and balance with a very good performance by the keeper. The Belgians played an absolutely tactical game in a three way tournament — just looking for a point from the first game."

"I still think the tournament is well open to us if we can just carry forward the same spirit and commitment to the game in France."

Two years ago a draw against a team of National Service professionals, including internationals, was regarded as a magnificent result. The fact that this year there was a tinge of disappointment that the British side had not actually won, is a measure of the improvement since Coulton took over.

## Bobbing bronze

Major Jonathan Woodall, of the Royal Dragoon Guards, was driver of the British four man bob who took a bronze medal in the bobsleigh World Cup at Cervinia, Italy. It was the first British success for 18 years. Other members of the team were Major Tony Wallington (2 RTR), Peter Lund and Bob Watton.

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and now,  
he cannot  
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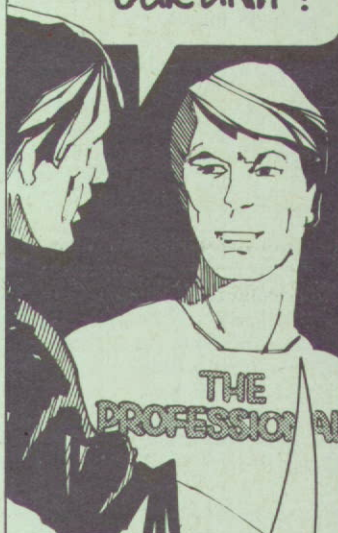
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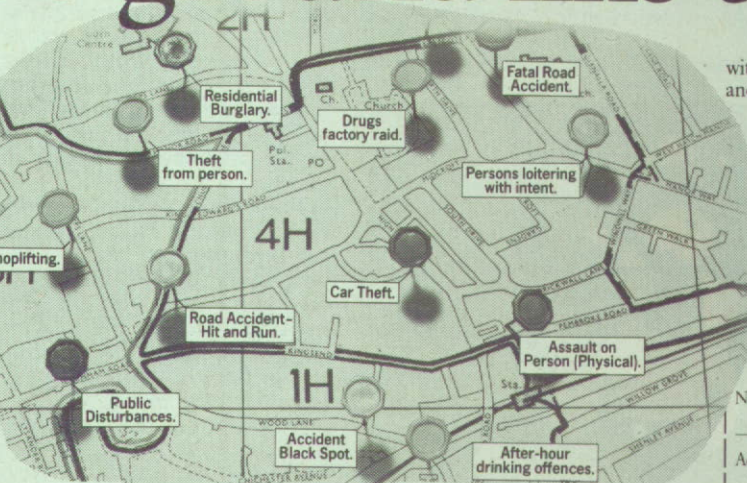
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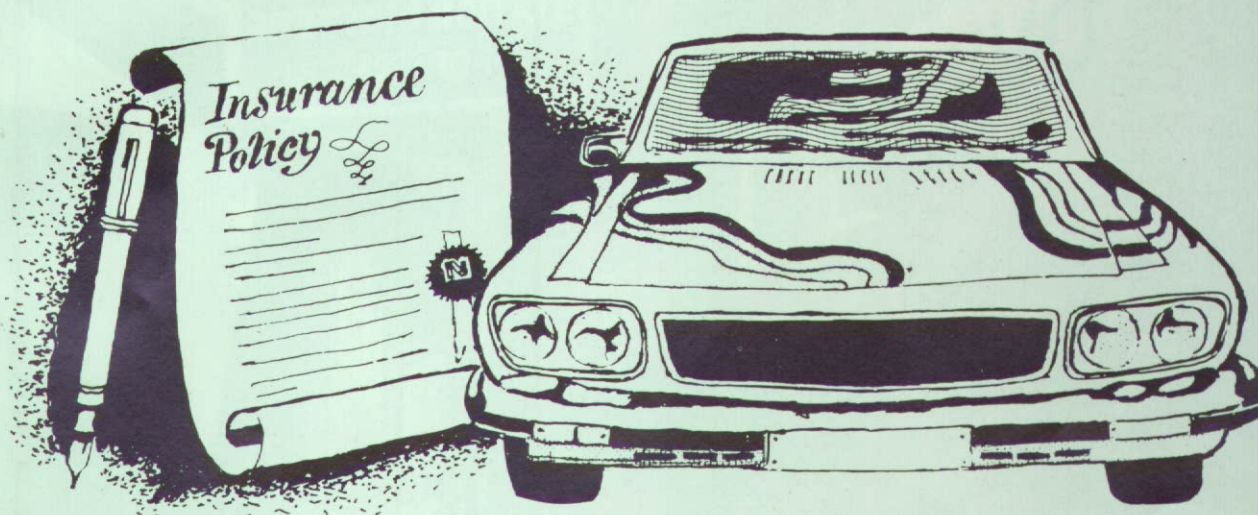
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