

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 25 PENCE • 19 APR—2 MAY 1982

SOLDIER



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FRONT COVER

Six Red Devils make a fast exit from their Islander 7000 ft above Aldershot. Read more about the famous free-fall team on page 26.
Picture by Andy BurrIDGE

BACK COVER

Men of the 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, exercise their rights to the Freedom of the City of Nottingham by marching past the civic centre with bayonets fixed.
Picture by Doug Pratt

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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

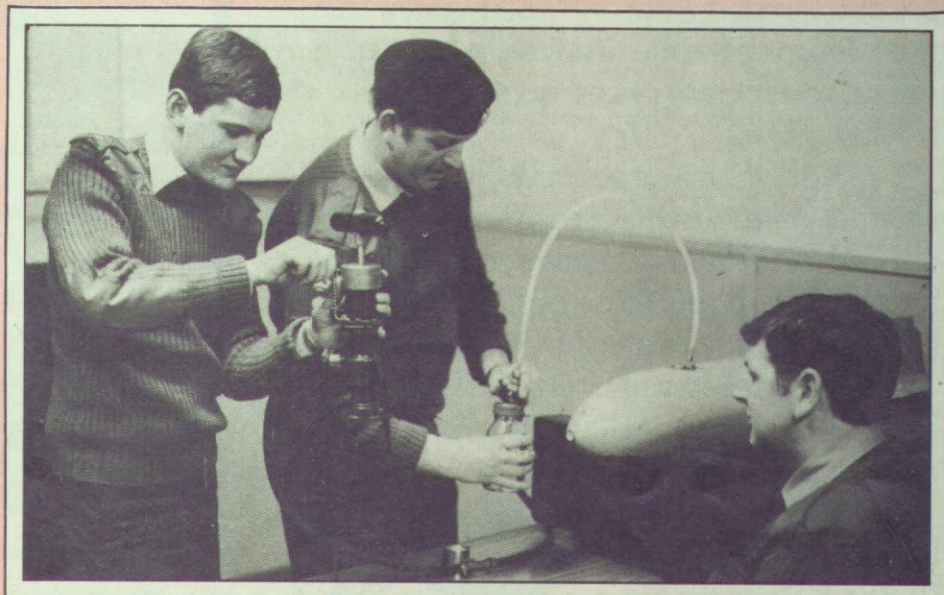


◀ Trying to unravel a mystery in the shadow of Scarborough Castle — page 13

Bomb Disposal. Our special three-part report looks at the experts who are still clearing up after the war . . . page 14 ▼



. . .and at the part-time soldiers who can hardly wait to tackle their next bomb — page 18 ▼



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S 4

SOLDIER to Soldier

TURBULENT SCENES in Parliament, resignations in the Cabinet, the Fleet steaming down the Solent in full battle order and troops and tanks setting sail for war; witnessing the cataclysmic chain of events since the festering sore of the Falklands Islands dispute erupted into an angry wound to British sovereignty has been like watching a re-run of old war-time newsreels — a scenario scarcely conceivable just a matter of days before.

As this issue of **SOLDIER** went to press, urgent diplomatic efforts were in train to avert an armed confrontation between Britain and Argentina. It is profoundly to be hoped that these initiatives are successful in resolving the crisis without bloodshed. But whatever course of events unfolds in the days ahead — diplomatically or militarily — the effects are likely to be far-reaching.

The prospect of Britain joining battle in defence of its subjects and territory 8000 miles away is a timely reminder that our colonial legacy imposes commitments that we cannot lightly dismiss. How to achieve the correct balance between our sea, land and air forces, between conventional and nuclear armaments, between our responsibilities to Nato and our obligations further afield, are questions that have long exercised our political and military leaders. The Falklands emergency will certainly make them no easier to resolve.

At the end of the day, of course, any defence strategy — however sophisticated and flexible — can be only as effective as the men and women who must carry it out. And here Britain can have the highest confidence — and pride.

The handful of Marines who resisted the Argentinian invaders in the Falklands carried on a tradition of courage and resourcefulness that we have long come to expect from our Armed Forces.

As our sailors, soldiers and airmen head off in defence of freedom in the South Atlantic, we can be sure that tradition will be upheld with dignity and honour.

Paras, Marines head for Falklands

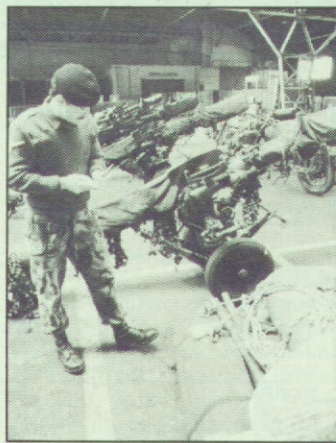
LESS THAN 72 hours after arriving in Southampton from her world cruise the 45,000 ton P and O liner Canberra was on her way back down the Solent — this time as a troopship outward bound to join the Royal Navy task force heading for the the South Atlantic.

As **SOLDIER** went to press intense diplomatic activity was continuing in an effort to avoid a military confrontation with Argentina over the Falkland Islands dispute.

But while the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, discussed Britain's stand with the American Secretary of State, Mr Alexander Haig, Canberra was being quickly converted for her new role. She sailed while Mr Haig was still en route for Buenos Aires on his mission of mediation.

Preparations to take soldiers and marines aboard were already under way as laden, sun-tanned passengers queued for their turn in the customs hall, after Canberra had arrived.

Already huge stacks of stores ranging from barrels of beer and crates of soft drinks to American long grain rice and fresh vegetables were waiting in the sheds. Work started almost immediately on stripping away some of the trappings of luxury which would have no place on a troopship bound for war. Glass windbreak screens on the sun-deck were removed to make way for the helicopter pads.



A final check of essential kit.

By the second morning after Canberra had docked from her round-the-world-cruise, loading was in full swing and the ship was ready to receive her new passengers.

In the early afternoon busload after busload of the Green Berets backed-up by baggage trucks arrived and quickly disgorged their passengers who filed past their documentation counter — the enquiry desk in more peaceable times — and up the gangway.

The last few marines were still filing aboard to the strains of "A Life on the Ocean Waves" played by the band of the Parachute Regiment, when the first



'Here we go lads'. Members of 3 Para boarding Canberra.



Settled in and ready for the cruise with a difference.

buses of the Paras' own convoy swung into the unloading bays, and the band struck up the regimental march.

The mood among the men of 3 Para from Tidworth was cheerful, even lighthearted, but there was an air of quiet efficiency and they were soon on the move. They were allocated cabins as they reached the gangway's head and were stowing their personal kit within minutes.

How did they feel about the prospect of a fight? "That is what we are trained for," was the general response although one or two said, with cheeky grins, that they were quite looking forward to "a real scrap."

"Argentina or bust" was the message on one of the coaches while others carried less erudite slogans.

Two Armoured reconnaissance troops of the Blues and Royals had already boarded the vehicle ferry Elk together with their

Scorpion and Scimitar light armoured vehicles.

Alongside the Canberra were rows of Wombat anti-tank weapons and boxes clearly marked Martell — 3 Para has its own Martell Company.

There was the same air of quiet, practised, activity among the men of the RCT, mostly from 7 Squadron, as truck after truck arrived beside the great ship. Without any apparent fuss they were unloaded and their contents added to the piles of stores waiting to go on board. There were no traffic jams and the fork lift trucks darting like yellow worker ants, never did collide with anything although the possibility seemed ever present.

Once at sea Canberra became less and less like a luxury liner. The open decks were pressed into service for weapon training, there were blackout drills and discipline generally became tighter.



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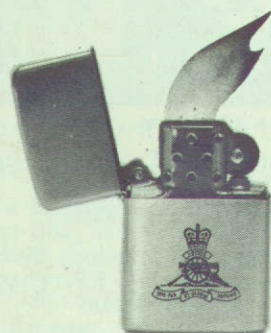
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£200 for best forces artist

THE 51st EXHIBITION of the Armed Forces Art Society is to be held at the National Army Museum from 13 to 21 May.

Anyone who is serving or has ever served in any branch of the Armed Forces, including Territorials and reserves, is eligible to enter.

Works can be in any medium, from oils to sculpture and marquetry.

The Rascal electronics group is sponsoring a £200 award and a trophy for the best painting by a serving member of the forces and there will also be a £50 prize and a medallion for the best work in any medium by a serving member of the forces who is not already a member of the society.

Receiving day is 28 April but work can be submitted in advance to the Central London Recruiting Depot, 5 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1. Entry forms are available from Lt Col CJP Miers, RGJ, 6 Wellington Square, London SW3 and applications should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope measuring 9 ins by 4 ins.

Diving to the top

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ERNIE ARCHER has won the Wilkinson Sword for Diving, the first Serviceman ever to do so.

The award is made annually to the diver who the British Sub Aqua Club consider has performed best in one of their national examinations. Lt-Col Archer only took up diving in 1974 and has rapidly passed every stage of the BSAC's training and qualifications systems.

PENDLE



I WONDER HOW THEY KNOW WE ARE
BRITISH?



Untidy builders' sites are one of the targets of the clean-up campaign.

CORPS DECLARES WAR ON LITTER

THE 1st BRITISH CORPS is about to go to war. And the campaign will not be a strategic raid but a long term offensive. The enemy is litter — as Britain's Germany based troops endeavour to match the cleanliness of their hosts.

Operation Clean-Up was ordered because, according to Major Pat Rendell, project officer: "The standard of cleanliness of the military estate has not always been a great credit to us and on occasion it has been a source of embarrassment."

Some garrisons have even had rat infestation problems and the long term idea behind the 'Environmental Cleanliness Campaign' is to change attitudes and behaviour and so get rid of litter.

The campaign has three stages. A general clean-up through the chain of command will be followed by identification of areas which require a concentrated effort and a programme of education.

From 24 to 30 April a number of showbiz personalities will be visiting the Corps area to help the campaign along. They include Ernie Wise, Windsor Davies and Tommy Vance as well as former England Rugby skipper, Bill Beaumont and cartoonist, Bill Tidy.

A thousand new litter bins are being installed within the Corps area with an additional 200 for Rhine area. And there is to be an annual competition for the best kept garrison.

Seven sources have been earmarked as being responsible for litter and SOLDIER cartoonist, Pendle, has produced a cartoon to illustrate each of them. They are pedestrians, motorists and passengers, barracks waste, badly loaded vehicles, builders' waste and exercise waste. Says Major Rendell: "We have to change the norm which says 'it's not my place to clear it up — it's the Army's'."

Major Rendell went on a 'Keep Britain Tidy' group course last year and it is their system which will be operated. The attack will be made through key leaders in units, parents, teachers, Scout, Guide and youth leaders, foremen of civilian organisations, Naafi managers and voluntary organisations.

A poster competition for schoolchildren attracted 1000 entries. Three designs have been chosen and 15,000 posters will be produced for display throughout the area.

The International 'Tidy Man' symbol is being used and will feature as a special BFPO hand stamp throughout this month.

In addition to reducing litter, more positive ways of improving the environment are to be encouraged such as tree planting and the creation of gardens and adventure playgrounds.

Briefly

Members of 60 Squadron RCT have raised nearly £1400 for a former member of the squadron, Dvr David Dempsey, who is paralysed from the chest down after a motorcycle accident. His ex-colleagues spent £90 to repair David's damaged machine and then sent raffle tickets to every RCT unit at home and abroad and to every unit at Caterick. An RCT man serving in Australia even got tickets.

★ ★ ★

The Changing of the Guard ceremony is to take place at 10.30 am, an hour earlier than usual, on Sunday 9 May so that 1800 competitors in this year's London Marathon can run along The Mall and past Buckingham Palace.

★ ★ ★

Men are to be admitted to Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service for the first time.

★ ★ ★

A company of 150 American infantrymen from Fort Ord, California, are spending a month's exchange visit with 1 Bn The Queen's Regiment at Canterbury. Tangier Company of 1 Queen's have moved to Fort Ord to complete the exchange.

SKC - BFBS merged

THE SERVICES Kinema Corporation and British Forces Broadcasting Service have been merged into one organisation to be known as the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC). The merger, first mooted a year ago, was announced in a written Commons reply by Armed Forces Minister Mr Peter Blaker.

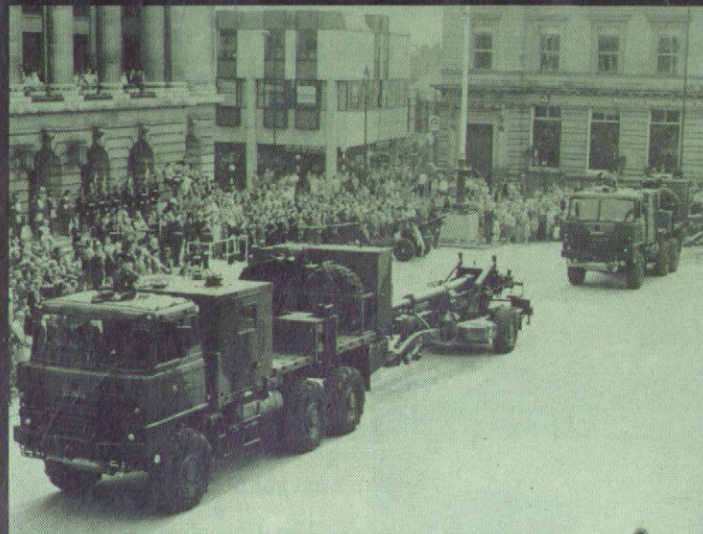
He said that the new corporation would provide radio, TV and cinema entertainment for the serviceman and his family and would supply the Ministry of Defence with films and services in the field of training support. The present high standard of service would be provided at no extra cost.

"Indeed," said Mr Blaker, "the Government see the merger as an opportunity for achieving savings by a rationalisation of related activities."

The new corporation will have a constitution similar to the old SKC. It will be incorporated under the Companies Act and will have charitable status.

BFBS personnel are civil servants and will be loaned to the SSVC at first but will be offered contracts after discussions with staff and unions.

Ex-BBC man Mr John Grist has been appointed managing director.



Free to go ▶

More than 200 soldiers of 1 RHA paraded 18 of their FH 70 guns through the streets of Nottingham in a farewell parade to mark their departure to BAOR later this month. Having been granted the 'Freedom of the City' in 1970, they exercised their rights before the move and were inspected by the Lord Mayor, Councillor John Arnold, and the Master Gunner, Gen Sir Harry Tuzo. Colour picture back page.

Other Side ▶

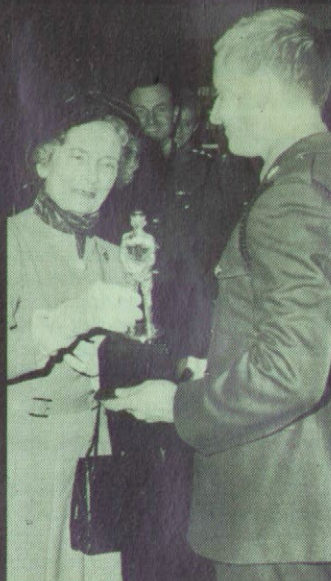
Although the darker side of life in Ulster still remains, the band of the Royal Signals brought a touch of normality to Central Belfast, as well as a splash of colour. It might have been raining but it was a very special occasion for Lt Col Keith Boulding, the director of music — it was his fourth parade through the city and the last before he retires.



NEWS VIEW

Birthday Prize ▶

To mark the 80th birthday of its Colonel-in-Chief, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, the RCT has inaugurated a new award for the Corps' "Young Soldier of the Year." First recipient was Dvr Nicholas Camozzie of 7 Tank Transporter Regiment at Fallingbommel, who received his award from the Duchess personally.



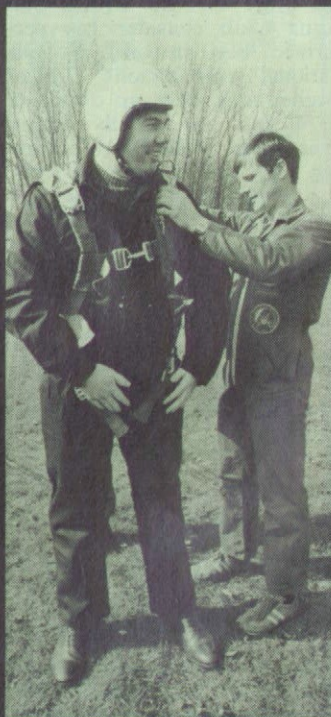
It Ain't Arf 'ot ▶

It was a blisteringly hot day when the ladies of British Forces Belize turned out for the annual Red Cross Fete. But hot or no, they broke all records and at the end of the day handed over £3800 to the Belize Red Cross.



Oh Well! ▶

Getting to know your regiment can sometimes be a bit parlous, as Lt Col Louis Wilkes found when taking over command of 22 Air Defence Regiment, RA at Dortmund. Trouble was that when he visited the regiment's parascending club he found he was supposed to have a go!



This Way

How does one cut a 190lbs Swiss Ementhal Cheese? It seems that familiarity with the Kukri got Maj (QGO) Balbir Thapa the job of guiding the hands of Mrs Gill Gordon, wife of the commander Queen's Gurkha Signals, left, and Mrs RC Wolf, wife of the Swiss Consul General after the annual target match between the Swiss community in Hong Kong and the Queen's Gurkha Signals.

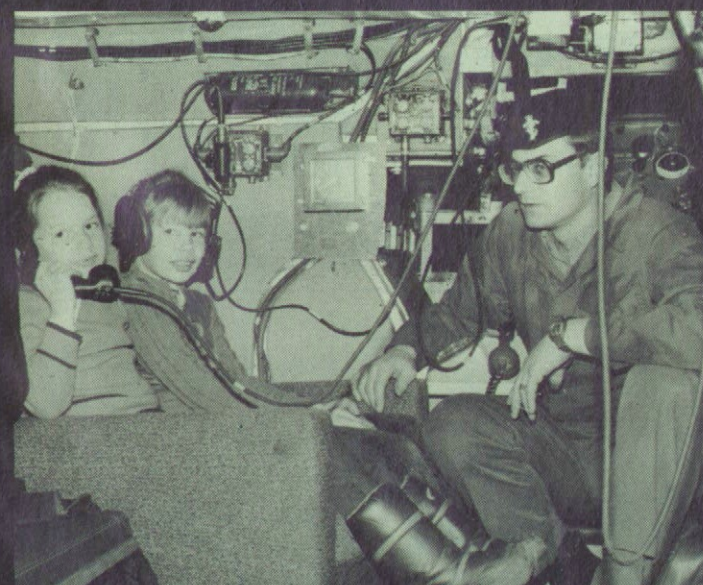


This Way ▶

Milan instructor L/Cpl Robert Samson shows the lads of 5 (V) Bn the Queen's Regiment the way at the battalion's new-style Spring training cadre camp at Crowborough, Sussex. Milan had just been issued to the battalion and was one of seven specialisations which attracted 130 keen volunteers to the extra week's camp.

Reel Good ▶

Without shooting a line Cpl Alan Sadler, right, has a good opportunity to get his 17-year-old son Andrew pulling his weight on the linesman's reel. Both serve with Manchester's 42 Signal Squadron (V) and were on exercise in Delamere Forest, Chester.



Best Dentist ▶

Major Barbara Crinson has won the trophy for the best performance by an Army Dental officer during a four week military training course at RMA Sandhurst. It is only the second time the trophy has been awarded and both winners have been women.



Morocco-Bound ▶

No wonder this group of soldiers from the 14th/20th King's Hussars are smiling as they perch on the turret of a Chieftain at their base in Hohn. They are off to Morocco this month for an adventurous training exercise in the High Atlas Mountains and aim to climb Jebel Toukbal, at 4165 metres the highest mountain in North Africa.



Easy Lift ▶

An RAF Chinook easily picks up a Land Rover before collecting a load of pallets weighing 4900 Kgs from troops of 1 Armd Div Transport Regiment who were getting used to the new aircraft during its first deployment to BAOR from its home base at Odiham, Hants.



Hot Seat

Victoria and Natalie Priddice, daughters of Sgt and Mrs Martin Priddice, obviously feel at home in Maj Gen Martin Farndale's 'hot seat'. They were among families of 2 Armd Div HQ and Signal Regiment, Bünde, who were invited to see how husbands and fathers live when on exercise.



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S2-82

**Not only medics
need First Aid
skills in the Army**

'IT WAS AN ACCIDENT...'



**Story: David Prior
Pictures: Ken Webster**

ON A FADED brown lino floor, amid oily rags and packing cartons, sat a shocked and frightened soldier.

Both his hands gripped the fleshy part of his thigh. Between the fingers a rapidly spreading red stain began to appear.

At the sight of his own blood he fainted; the last thought to cross his puzzled mind was the fuzzy realisation that he had been shot.

A short time before, one of the soldier's mates had put his foot through a window frame down in the carpentry shop. The glass had cut through trousers and flesh instantly.

The soldier had felt proud that he had done his bit to patch his friend up — proud, but just a little bit scornful.

Young soldier is treated for burns.

An accidental shooting in the armoury.

"Bloody accidents," he had thought. "People ought to have a bit more care. If you take your time and do things according to the book, nothing can go wrong..."

The 9mm automatic was presented to him, magazine and breach both clear. Replacing the magazine he worked the loading mechanism to close the breach.

"Busy morning," he thought idly. "Some of the lads must be coming back from range practice."

Another 9mm automatic was handed in.

"Ave yer seen Lofty?" a voice boomed out. "No, mate". His finger curled around the trigger. Temporarily distracted from his usual well ordered routine, his finger eased back. The sound of the gun going off

APC is no place to be with a back injury.

seemed a million miles away and for a brief second he looked around to see where it had come from.

Realisation dawned in a clap of thunder that bounced off the walls of the tiny basement armoury...

Did it actually happen? Well, not exactly. But it could easily have done. In fact it was just one of ten scenarios, all different but bearing the same message, to be re-enacted in Roberts Barracks, Osnabrück, as part of a day long medical competition to test non-medical personnel in situations that could arise through accident or carelessness.

Other accident situations included the MT fitter with a crushed chest and carbon monoxide poisoning after his jack gave way and his Land Rover fell on him; battery acid splashing onto a face; falling off an insecure ladder and so on.

Organised by 2 Armoured Division Field Ambulance, 30 four-man teams took part in the Osnabrück Garrison First Aid Competition for the Michael Staff Trophy. They had not only to cope with the different medical situations but answer searching questions on them as well from the instructors.

Michael Staff, after whom the trophy is named, had only been with the Field Ambulance for two weeks after transferring from 1 RTR. On 28 January 1981, while out on a fitness run, he collapsed and died of a heart attack. He was 23 years old.

The unit contributed funds for the trophy — a silver rose bowl — which is presented in his wife's, Shirley's, name. It was won this year by the 'C' team of 25 Engineer Regiment.

Although only in its second year, the competition is keenly looked forward to by all the teams and many of them had been in training for three months. The message they all got is that with a little more thought and care those fateful words "It was an accident..." would be uttered a lot less frequently.

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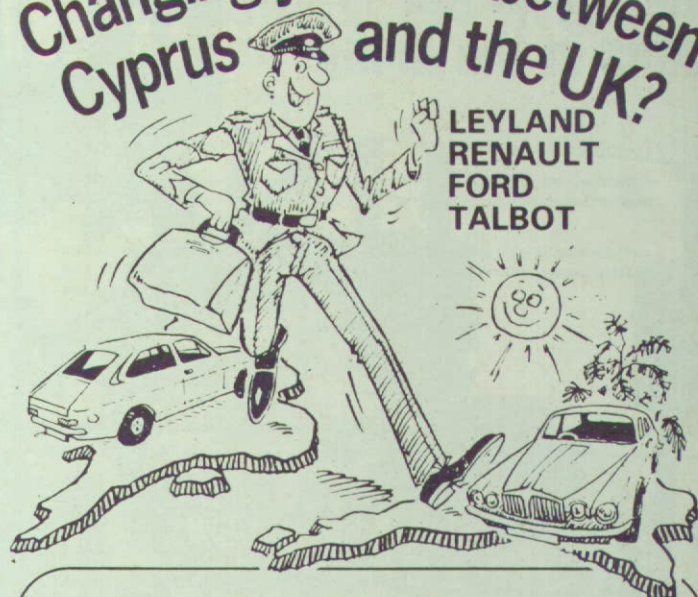
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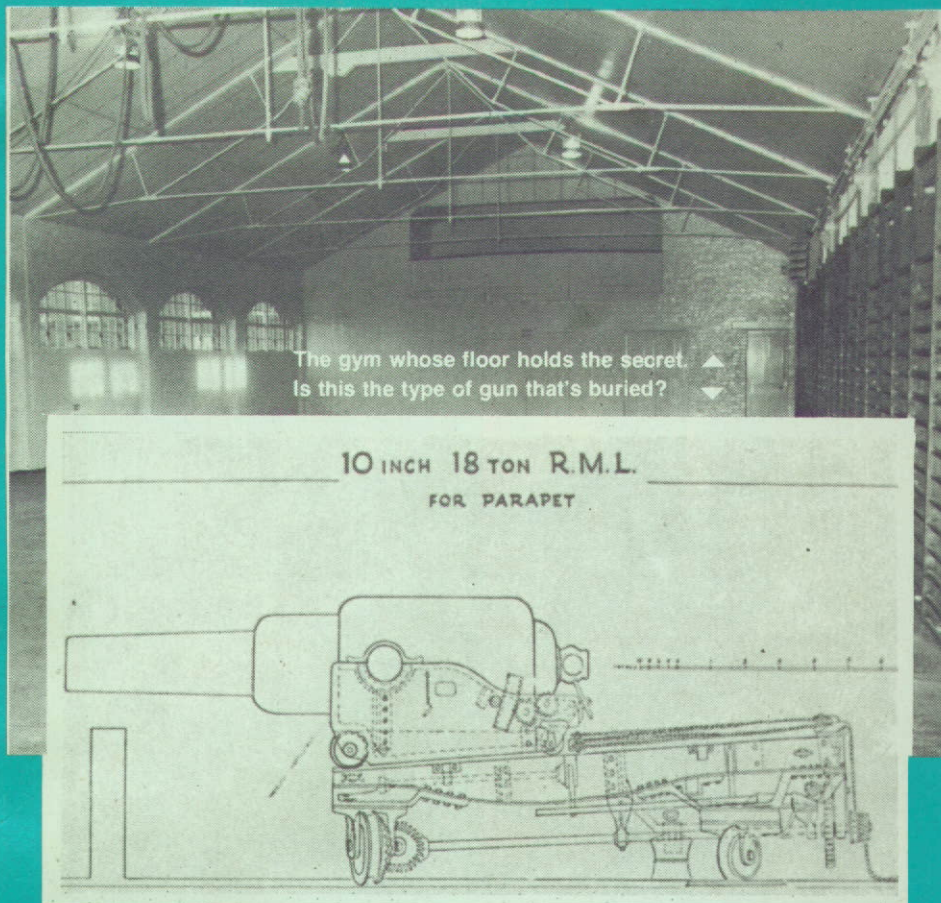
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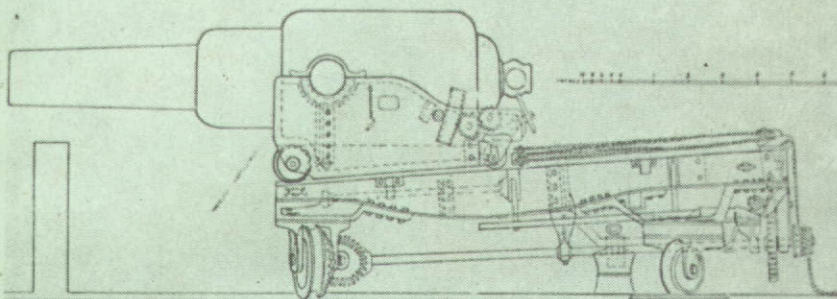
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RIDDLE OF THE SCARBOROUGH GUN

ONLY A FEW FEET below the gymnasium floor where TA signalmen carry out their physical training lies the answer to a mystery which has tantalised the folk of the Yorkshire resort of Scarborough for decades. Is a giant coastal defence gun buried there or are the stories which have been handed down through the generations merely latter day fables?

In recent times there has been an upsurge of interest in the buried gun and local historians armed with metal detectors reckon they have proved there is something buried in the site at Burniston Barracks.

The gun could be worth a fortune in scrap metal or could be of great historic importance. But the problem is that the Signals Training Centre's gymnasium is directly over the top of where it is supposed to be buried and — particularly in the current financial climate — public funds are unlikely to be made available for any operation to dig it up.

Burniston Barracks was built in 1861 and in Coronation Street it has some of the oldest married quarters still in use. The background to the gun story is vague to say the least but it appears that it was one of two which were intended for installation at Scarborough Castle.

The present commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Alfred, who researched the

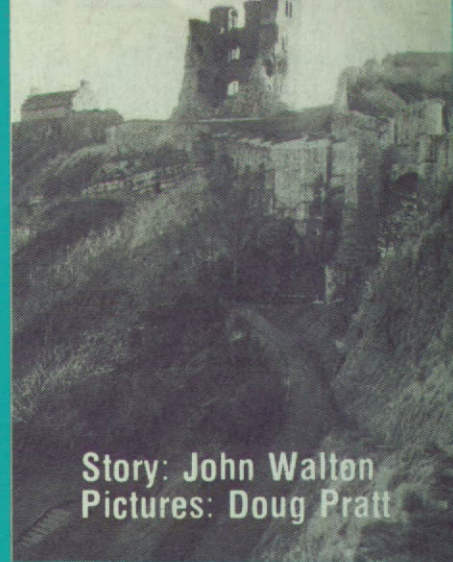
barracks' history in order to be able to enlighten some of the thousands of reservists who visit the camp each year, says that the guns were so heavy and the road to the castle so steep that the teams of horses in use at the time were unable to get them to their destination.

One of the guns is believed to have eventually been broken up but the other was transported to Burniston. Local hearsay has it that this journey, too, proved onerous and at one stage the gun demolished a wooden bridge.

Eventually it arrived outside the barracks but crashed through the limbers. A trench had to be dug and the giant gun was moved inch by inch until it was in the barrack confines.

What sort of gun was it? The feeling at Burniston Barracks is that it was a ten inch revolving muzzle loader weighing something like 18 tons. The Royal Artillery were at the barracks from 1862 right up until 1902 and again from 1903-08.

All of these events took place sometime during that period — except the burial of the gun under a new stable block, eventually to become a gym. That was probably in 1920 when the Armoured Car Company moved in and laid the tarmac square and roads. Evidence of the solid job they did is that it was only last year that the square had to be



Story: John Walton
Pictures: Doug Pratt

Scarborough Castle — is this where the giant gun was destined for?

resurfaced for the first time in 60 years.

Local historians have taken quite an interest in the gun recently and when the local press highlighted the mystery a lot of elderly local residents supplied information. A septuagenarian brother and sister visited the camp for the first time since they had lived in Coronation St. as children — and unerringly went to the gymnasium, where they said the gun was buried.

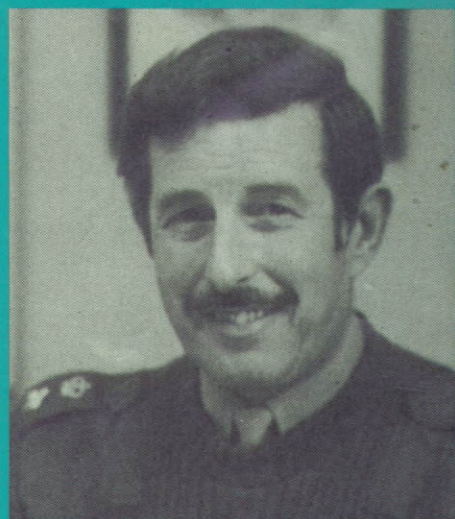
Another man said his father, a former Army PT instructor, had told him that the gun was used as a vaulting horse in the years before the First World War.

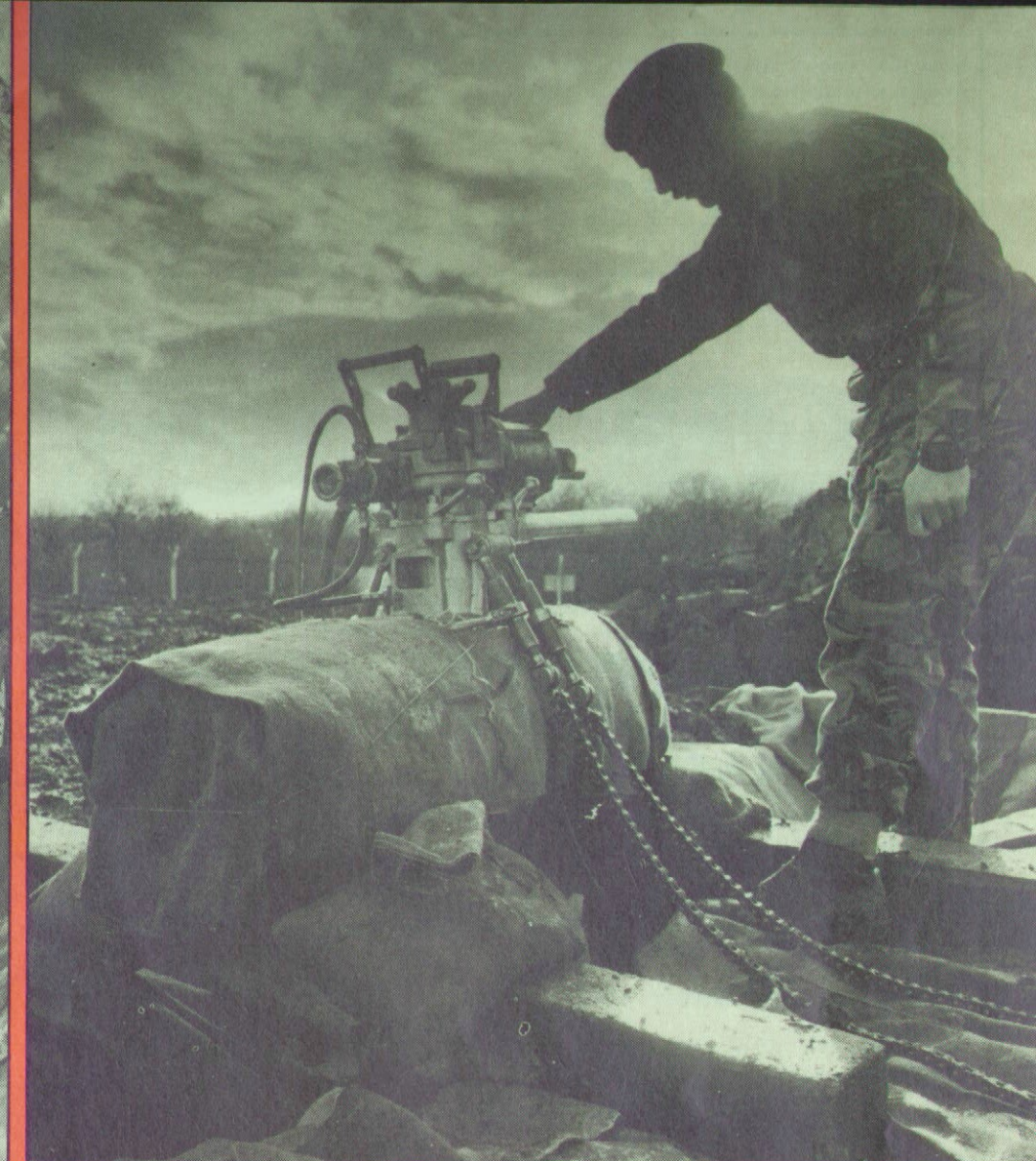
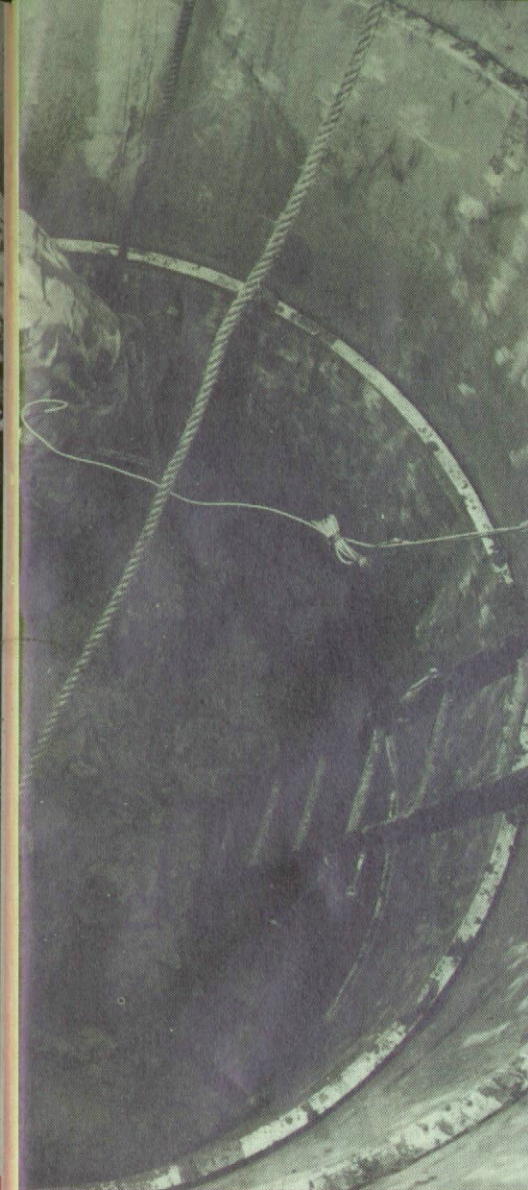
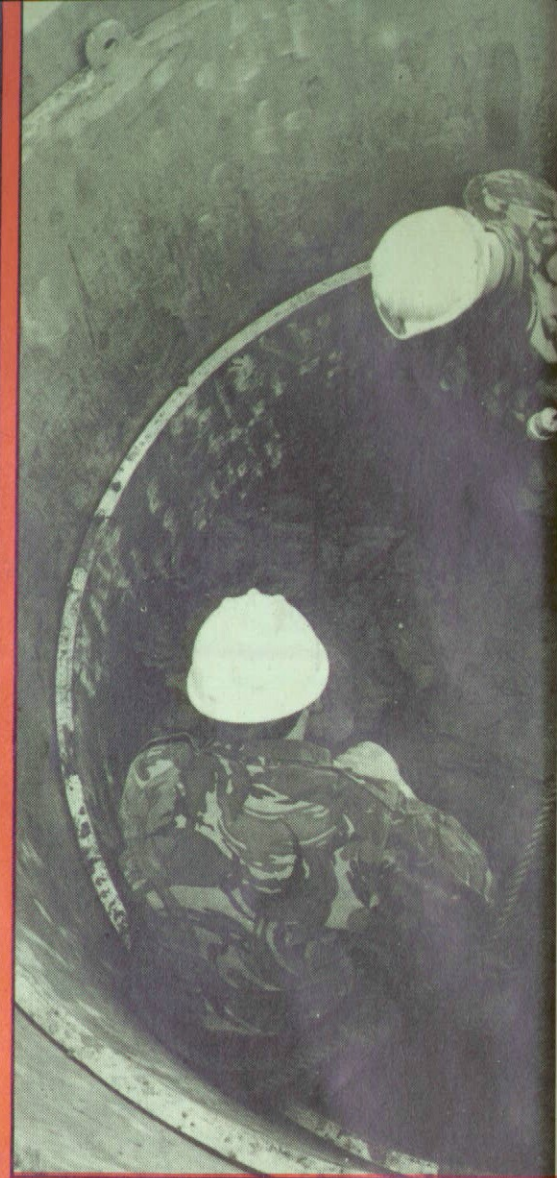
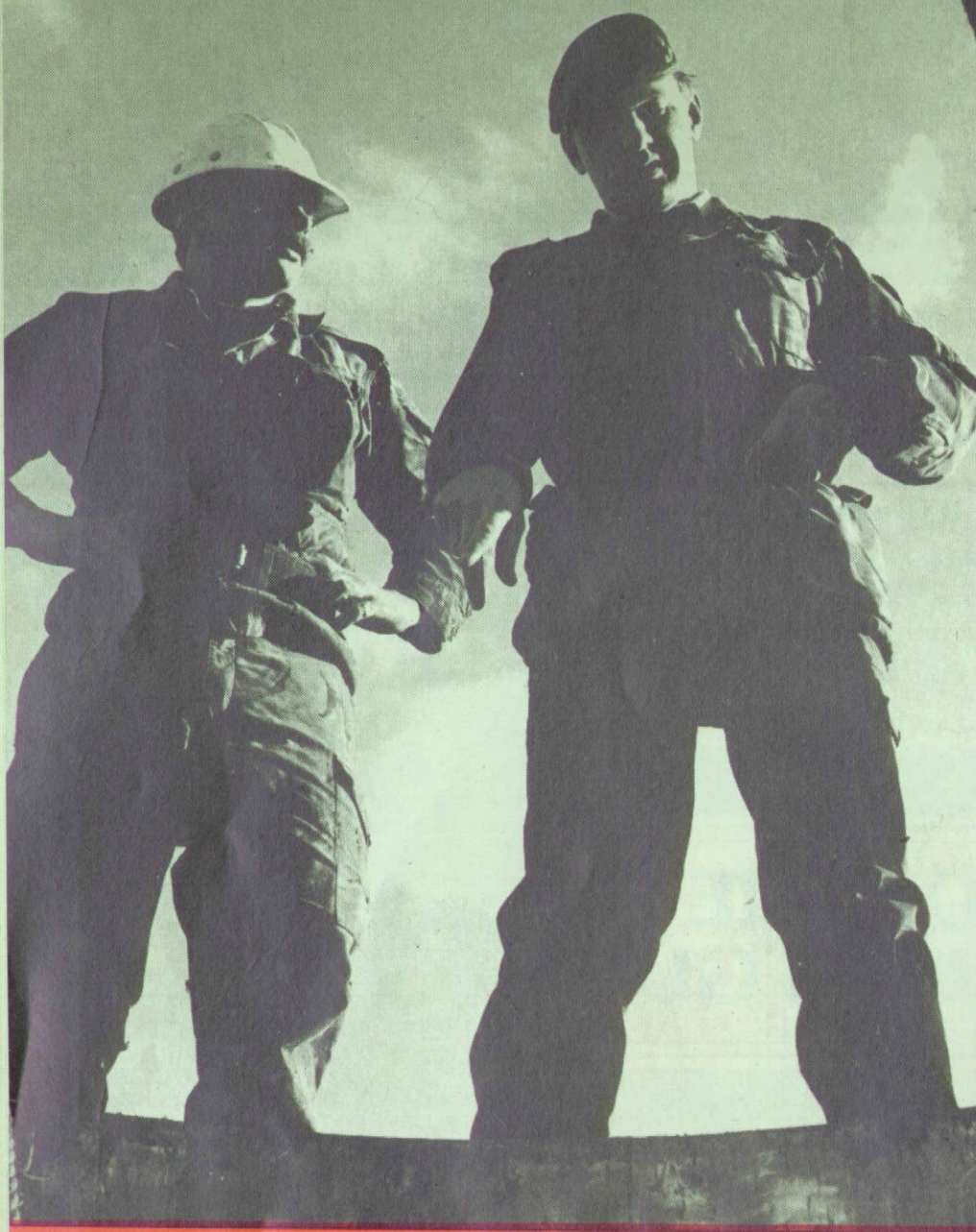
In 1938 another Scarborough man was working for builders making alterations to the stable block when his drill struck what he thought was the buried gun. But all of the tales have one thing in common — they rely a great deal on hearsay passed down by generations now dead. And the local newspaper does not seem to be able to shed any light on the mystery from its archives.

SOLDIER's enquiries at the Royal Artillery Museum at Woolwich drew a blank. They had had people asking before but did not have any records of the gun. A look at Fort Records in the Public Records Office at Kew proved equally unhelpful.

So there the trail goes cold. As Colonel Alfred puts it "this mystery has hung over Scarborough like a cloud for years and years." But it is unlikely to be resolved in the foreseeable future — unless some historically minded person or body decides to finance a big dig under the TA gym. ■

Lt-Col Alfred — still seeking the answer.





PICTURES CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:
Surveying problem from top of ring shaft.
Inside the shaft — excavating suspect bomb.
Adjusting saddle and drilling equipment prior to boring hole in bomb casing.
Drilling rig for uncovering mines or bombs.

DESTROYING THE FORGOTTEN ENEMY

Story: Ann Beecham . Pictures: Doug Pratt

AFTER THE EUPHORIA of the VE-Day celebrations finally abated, Britain breathed a sigh of relief and set about clearing up the rubble and the reminders of the years of horror.

People started to beat their swords back into ploughshares, reshape their spears into pruning hooks and turn their back on war. The streets were cleared, the grass in the fields grew over, and time softened the ragged edges of war.

Nobody wanted to remember the bombs that had rained down from the skies, the minefields that had been planted to protect the coastline and the weapons and ammunition that had been buried for safety. Nobody wanted to remember — and very soon nobody could remember.

Imagine then, the scene nearly 40 years on, as contractors somewhere in the South of England start clearing the area around a small market town for a by-pass. They unearth a rusty, corroded metal object. It could be a bomb so they decide to play safe and call in the Army bomb disposal experts.

The chances are that their call will be answered by 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD) who investigate many of these calls each year. The Regiment is a specialist Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) unit that deals with UXO, or Unexploded Explosive Ordnance. They are primarily concerned with aurally delivered weapons and with general area clearance but there are few demarcation lines in this job and they often deal with

other types of explosives when the need arises.

The Regiment is unique in its composition and role. It is composed of five squadrons, of which four are TA, and it has 150 civilians on its strength, including two German and 27 Ukrainians.

The EHQ is co-located with the EOD School which is tri-Service and the Nato EOD Technical Information Centre. The School is commanded by each Service in rotation and the Centre is British-run.

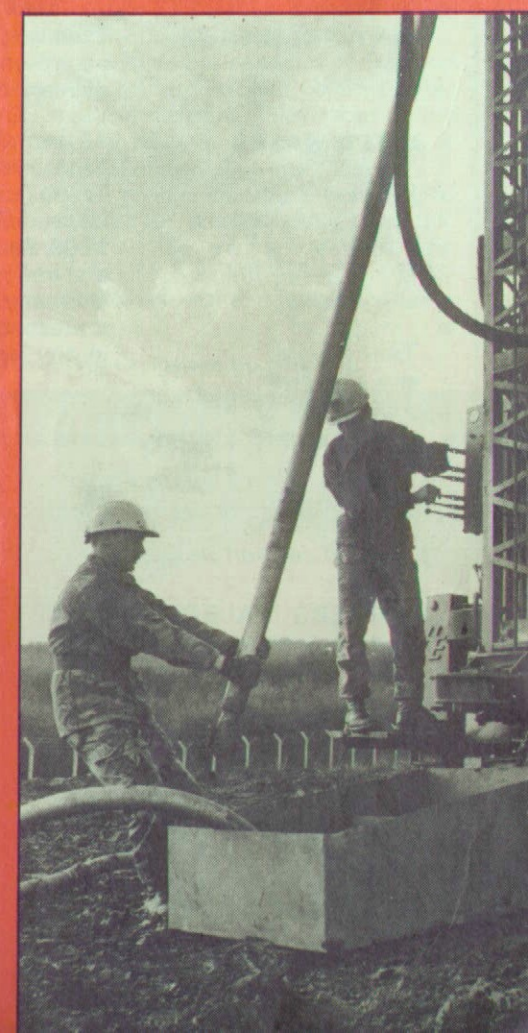
This proximity allows for close co-operation in peace-time in training, field work and research and development. Lieutenant-Colonel Tony Howgate is the Commanding Officer of the Regiment and he appreciates the need to be compact.

"It makes a lot of sense to have it all together," he commented. This is particularly true as the area clearance teams can be hundreds of miles away.

Sappers have been recognised in the field of bomb disposal since the last war. Army Council Instruction No 1562 of 1940 granted them the right to wear a distinctive red and yellow badge on their sleeve while they are serving with the Regiment. This was in recognition of the dangerous work in which they were involved during the war and is generally regarded as a sort of battle honour of which they are very proud.

But their work takes them into the future as well as clearing up the past. Colonel Howgate put their task into perspective.

continued on page 17





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"Our work covers the leftovers from the last war, the next war and post-war. I have had to sit and think what will happen post war. As a soldier I've never had to do that before."

The Regiment has a responsibility to train bomb disposal engineers for any possible future eventualities. They learn how to cope with sophisticated weapons including chemical-filled weapons.

"We are the Army unit trained to dispose of chemical pieces," explained Colonel Howgate. "In war we would have a full range of kit including specialised breathing apparatus and fuel suits as well as the normal NBC suits. We also have chemical field kits so that we can determine what chemical is present."

The Regiment has its particular war role in UK, in the rear combat zone for 1 (BR) Corps and as part of UK Mobile Force, but in peace time they are mostly occupied with search and clearance work.

"Last year we had 36,000 finds of one sort or another," said Colonel Howgate. "Of course, we have better equipment now and are finding more things. We have uncovered a full range of stuff and some amazing dumps. We have been in area clearance since 1945 and at the present rate have still got another 40 years' work outstanding."

An interesting feature of the clearance teams is that they are made up of civilians but commanded by the military members of 33 Engineer Regiment, usually senior NCOs. These teams are deployed around the country — there are two currently operating in Yorkshire and others in the South East. Both areas were heavily hit during the war and have a high concentration of finds.

A report of a suspicious object usually comes in from local people and the teams are sent in to establish whether it really is a bomb and, if so, whether there are others in the vicinity.

Although the Army stresses that it would much rather be called out to a false alarm than not at all, there are chuckles at some of the things that they have investigated. But there is always a bomb disposal crew on standby 24 hours a day to deal with any finds that the teams may make.

These old bombs are still potentially dangerous, and 40 years' deterioration will probably have made them sensitive and

Probe equipment for locating buried bomb.



Monitoring bomb through microphone.

unstable. Any careless handling can disturb the explosive or create friction as the crystals rub against each other.

But members of the Regiment are a modest bunch and play down the dangers in deference to the work done by their predecessors in the war. Today too, they have clear and comprehensive codes of identification and handling which cuts down, if not out, the main risks.

The 33 Engineer Regiment sappers are volunteers and their standards are high. Anyone who does not make the grade at any stage in the training does not continue. The officers also undertake extensive training of which the first four weeks are devoted to theory. "There's no real problem of motivation" said Colonel Howgate "as they are doing a real job".

It was probably inevitable that sappers would become involved in bomb disposal sooner or later, if only by virtue of the amount of engineering required, in particular, for site access and dealing with hazards in the vicinity. Their main aim is to "render safe" and this is mostly achieved by neutralising the bomb. Detonation is an alternative but a messy one, and removal is only possible in certain circumstances.

The first task, of course, is actually finding the bomb. Using special locators, it is possible to determine which way the bomb is lying, its position and its depth underground. Bore holes are drilled on a set pattern and the probes lowered into these to build up a graph.

In surface locations, the locator is moved along a tape laid out at one metre intervals. Captain Stephen Cox, troop commander of 3 Troop, explained why. "We use the same locator as in the bore holes but mounted differently. It's a very versatile bit of machinery. If the area is very heavily contaminated we use a mine detector first, otherwise the machine will go haywire. Most of what we find is inert but there can be as much as 50/50 live."

The locator readings are monitored and once there is a reading, the men dig down fairly carefully.

It can take up to six days to finish a ring shaft over the bomb and to clear the earth. A big fear at this stage is that the movement may disturb the bomb and, if it has a clock fuse, may reactivate the countdown. This is carefully monitored, however, through a

microphone stethoscope which will give warning of any untoward ticking and allow seven seconds to scramble to safety.

The officer in charge then drills a hole into the fuse and, using an "S" set, creates a vacuum into which he pumps an immunising agent. This may be a corrosive substance, a glue-like substance or salt water depending on the type of fuse in the bomb. The method is relatively simple and unsophisticated using a bicycle pump and a series of tubes, but it is none the less effective.

Dry ice is also an effective immunising agent, freezing the fuse mechanism so that it can be moved. And there are also high technology methods that aim to immunise the fuse before the fuse mechanism can detonate the bomb.

Next, the bomb is "trepanned". A large, drill-like machine cuts a hole in it and the explosive is flushed out under pressure with steam or water depending on whether it is cast or powdered explosive. It is caught in hessian and later burnt off harmlessly.

There are variations to the procedures and X-ray techniques are often used to identify the fuse — when there is time. A particular skill which can be brought to bear is that of deflagration. The idea of this is to attack the bomb's warhead and open it up or destroy it without actually detonating the whole bomb.

"If we get it right," explained Colonel Howgate, "we can deal with the explosive in the warhead without detonating it — but at the moment the safest way really is to attack the fuse . . ."

Weapon development was accelerated during the war and there are many different types of bombs to deal with. General purpose bombs could weigh as much as 22,000 lbs and the Grand Slam, mounted nose down outside RHQ, is an imposing reminder of these agents of destruction.

The Regiment has hundreds of examples of aerially delivered weapons housed in the EOD School museum. They range from a V2 rocket, through a kamikaze plane to hundreds of examples of small bombs.

They all provide valuable information to be added to the bomb disposal engineers' handbook — the reference work for the players in the real life "Danger UXB"! series that looks set to run for many years to come.

Removing explosives by steaming.



A DISARMING HOBBY



▲ Breathing apparatus may have to be worn for bomb disposal.

Showing how to neutralise a fuse with ►

LIEUTENANT GRAHAM MANN used to be with the commandos — until he discovered bomb disposal. He was a TA commando gunner but has been on the strength of 590 EOD Squadron (V) for two years now and estimates that he drives around 60,000 miles a year to cope with his profession and his TA commitments.

Graham is a podiatrist (a foot physician) and travels from his practice in Hertfordshire for the weekly meetings in Kent. He is one of the 76-strong squadron, with an average age of 24, that plays a major role in the bomb disposal capability of 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD) and serves alongside officers and men from vastly differing walks of civilian life. Shipwrights, a surveyor, a sales executive for a cosmetics firm, a plant hire company director, and a building foreman are among the squadron personnel.

More familiar TA Duty — magazine loading.



Major Spencer Henry has been in the TA for 18 years. He is the OC of 590 Squadron and is confident that his men are quite capable of doing their job and fulfilling their wartime role in the rear combat zone of HQ Rhine Area if necessary.

"We can deal with everything from large, steaming missiles to little bomblets" he said, "including booby traps and sabotage. In fact, everything that goes bang."

Perhaps it is the excitement and challenge inherent in bomb disposal that accounts for the high level of recruitment into the regiment's TA squadrons. 590 Squadron was the first TA squadron and supplied the officers and men who formed the nucleus of each of the other three.

Amazingly, as some left, others soon brought the squadron back up to strength — and they keep coming. Major Henry makes it clear that he does not want heroes but rather people with an average intelligence and a general military attitude.

To regard the unit as part-time is a big mistake. Officially the individual commitment is one evening a week and one weekend a month as well as attendance at training camps and an exercise in Germany every two years. But in practice it works out at much more than that.

"We try to have lectures during the week and use the weekends to put it all together in exercises," explained Major Henry.

He admits that it is harder to raise enthusiasm for the studying involved. "Getting the chaps down to the theory of calculations is the most difficult thing. Getting them out is no problem; they queue up for live bombs and most of the young officers can't get their hands on a live one quick enough."

There can be problems and most dedi-

cated TA members find that at some point they have to make a sometimes difficult and delicate compromise between their jobs and their soldiering. Many, if forced, prefer to give up their civilian jobs to accommodate the TA.

"If someone stays with us for two years, he will stay for ever. A dedication to bomb disposal is something you get into your system. There's a lot of pride and esprit de corps in the unit. We do it because we completely want to and we are total volunteers although we regard ourselves as members of the Armed Forces," said Major Henry.

And, like all Regulars, they train hard. The recruits undergo their introductory training in small groups and this is followed by two weeks' training with 1 Training Regiment RE at Cove. They spend between six months and a year on the B3 course learning to be a sapper, before they can specialise in bomb disposal training.

Everything, of course, takes longer for the TA and the time scale can mean that a two-month course takes two years to complete. It is also more difficult to make the training realistic, although a little imagination and ingenuity can often overcome this.

They practice using breathing apparatus, learn combat engineering techniques, take a basic signalling course and discuss tactics using a scale model of a town to illustrate bomb disposal and evacuation methods.

Occasionally there are opportunities to tackle a real bomb disposal task and everyone jumps at the chance when it is offered. They usually undertake those that can be given more time or those that need more patient investigation and quite a number of people in the squadron have experience of working on real bombs.

The squadron also has a permanent, full-time staff who keep the daily routine work moving. Q Dave Rosa originates from Fiji and acts as the link between the TA and the Regulars in the Regiment, giving the squadron any guidance they might need. He works weekends when the squadron is working and regards his job as a change that gives him more variety than previous postings.

Sergeant Major Ray Collins is a shipwright. He is busy during the week but his weekends are his own: "Weekends are what you want and I'd sooner be here."

His wife has had 21 years of this but, according to Sergeant Major Collins, "she's got used to it now. She joins in the social side and that keeps her happy. We have a family range day with marquees and so on and everybody enjoys that."

It is undeniably hard for the wives when the allegiance of their menfolk lies with the TA — but they seem to accept it. Staff Sergeant Christopher Witt has never regretted joining the TA, although he has since married. "I joined when I was single. All I was doing was boozing and my brother said 'Let's go up the TA.' It becomes a part of you in the end and when I got married, I told my wife that she took me with it all!"

And Major Henry does not get off lightly even though he is not married — yet. ("My problem is finding a woman who's prepared to go out on Wednesdays . . .") He suffers most on family range days. "The wives



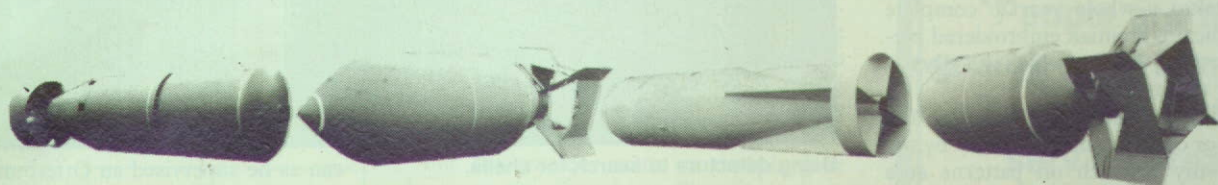
Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Paul Haley

make a beeline for me to complain," he smiles. But he remains unrepentant and devotes the best part of this time to his squadron. As a surveyor for an estate agent, he can arrange his two jobs to fit in with each other, by and large.

Bomb disposal people are special and, while they give no credence to the popular belief that they must be intelligent but totally lacking in imagination, they can look

Evening lecture using scale model.

on the possible dangers of bomb disposal with a wry sense of humour. The proposed addition of a padre to the regiment prompted Captain Norman Jack to comment, "We've never had a padre before — perhaps that's because we're fragmented in action . . ." To which Captain Ian Taylor added the last word; "Perhaps that's because we're nearer to God than most . . .!"



BOMB DISPOSAL SPECIAL REPORT

MEN OF THE UKRAINE



Well muffled figures dig at Otterburn.

THEY ARE UNIQUE among the Army's civilian workers and they work with danger just a footstep away. They are the men from the Ukraine — 27 of them plus one Pole — a band of former war-time refugees who daily search for, and dig up, buried explosives on the vast acreages of the Army's training ranges.

And though the passage of time has thinned their ranks, they have carried out their deadly exhumations without a single fatal injury for nearly 34 years.

Only recently, they turned up 28 mines from an area near Potters Bar. Two of the mines were booby-trapped and one of these was double-stacked with anti-tank and anti-personnel mines in deadly partnership.

The Ukrainians and their Polish comrades belong to one of six civilian range clearing sections attached to 49 EOD Squadron, 33 Engineer Regiment — the other sections are wholly British manned.

Most of them came to this country in about 1947 from prisoner-of-war camps in Rimini, Italy, preferring to seek refuge in British agriculture or various Central Ordnance Depots rather than face Russian

oppression in their homeland — even though this meant permanent separation from their families and loved ones, including wives.

Today, when they are not out range clearing, their home is a neat, white-painted barracks not far from the sea on the east coast of England.

But their work takes them all over Britain — from areas as large as 20,000 acres to others as small as a copse and ranging in terrain from rugged moorland beauty spots to wild, shingle beaches.

Gum-booted and duffel-coated the men operate in teams of three kitted out with proboscis-type metal detectors and shovels. Their basic pay is £76 a week, plus appropriate subsistence allowances, and they work hard for their money.

In one location, for example, they uncovered 3655 items over an area of 12 acres in just four weeks.

And it is not all modern pyrotechnics that are turned up by the efforts of detector and shovel. A Hunstanton beach area search revealed an 18th century cannon ball. And another recent 'combing' operation by the

continued on page 20

Ukrainian experts involved a 5000-acre reforestation area which was once used as a military training range two hundred years ago.

There will never be a shortage of unexcavated ordnance, say the men in the know, and it will go on being dug up well beyond the turn of the century. By then though the men from the Ukraine will all have retired from range clearing. Their average age is 60 and the last three are due to finish in 1992.

Linked by such strong ties of language and heritage — and working and travelling together all over the country — the Ukrainians are a very close-knit group as their 'spokesman', Operations Officer Mr Jaroslav 'Steve' Maryniuk, explained: "Their life is really very secluded because they don't go on holiday. People spend hundreds of pounds to go to places like Otterburn in Northumberland and Salisbury Plain to enjoy their beauty spots. Our men are already working there and in many other areas of natural beauty round the country.

"They take their break at your Christmas time when the weather is bad and their own Christmas time — the Ukrainian celebration is on January 7 — and they stay in their barracks which are extremely comfortable and homely for them."

Clerical officer Roman Dubnyiuk, a keen stamp collector and embroidery expert agreed with him.

Roman takes a whole year to complete just one typical Ukrainian embroidered picture on cloth, a hobby which he says is "guided by the hand of God."

"Normally, embroidery is done by the women in our country and woodwork by the men. I do my research on patterns at a London reference library and through our cultural associations. Embroidery relaxes me and keeps me calm. I do it in my spare time under the drawing office lamp."

The Ukrainians still keep in touch with their loved ones and friends back in the Old Country — but often at a price.

'Steve' Maryniuk explained: "They send home parcels, mostly clothing, but this can be extremely expensive, involving a 120 per cent tax. A £100 suit, for example, is liable to £120 tax!"

"Life has got harder for some of them. They've become older and, therefore, life can be lonely when they leave us or retire. Three of them have bought a five-bedroomed house in Reading and we all still keep in touch. It must be remembered that we are perhaps the smallest minority group in this country, some 40,000 to 60,000 Ukrainians. Even so, we remain a very close-knit community."

He added: "They don't look upon their work as dangerous. Our men have been searching and digging like this for a very long time. They are very sensible about it. Sure, ordnance items could be lethal when found in clay and look like new and in tip-top condition. If immersed in water then rust gets to them."

Sergeant Chris Duncan, RE, the NCO in charge of No 2 Section, told SOLDIER: "The Ukrainians — just like the other five teams — search for and dig out the ordnance. Then I, and my SNCO colleagues, identify and dispose of it. Sometimes we have to blow the items up. Phosphorous is dangerous, particularly with contamination



Using detectors to search for shells.

where livestock is concerned. Everything is potentially dangerous and nothing is given preferential treatment in a job which is never-ending."

Sgt Duncan has to know all about ordnance from both world wars — mines, mortars, grenades, rockets, aerial dropped items and incendiaries.

Safety distances are always well-defined by his three-men Ukrainian teams as they prod, listen and probe in 50 metre-square 'boxes', along one-metre wide cordoned-off channels.

"It minimises the risks for the others and they are all well spread out," said Sgt Dun-

can as he supervised an Otterburn training range operation. "There are lots of safety factors involved and these men have been doing this for nearly 34 years without fatal incident though there have been four or five collapses which proved terminal."

Captain Brian Lloyd, the Troop Commander, said: "All my Ukrainian boys are so skilled that they can tell you what is under the ground — but I insist that it is the SNCO who recognises it. Their whole lives seem to be motivated by their work. They are very, very dedicated men, perhaps because of the deprivations they suffered in their early lives."

Some of the ordnance found at Otterburn.





Paderborn's picturesque Schloss Neuhaus.

'GOTT SCHUF in Seinem Zorn Sennelager bei Paderborn' is what the Kaiser's troops used to say about the training area which has now become one of the biggest British Army garrisons in Western Germany. Roughly translated, the old soldiers were saying that God was in a rage when he made the area.

But today things are very much different and there are many among the 4500 troops serving in Paderborn and Sennelager who

PLENTY OF VARIETY

think it is one of the best postings in Germany.

One of them is Major Philip Cottam, chief administrative staff officer for the garrison, who instances the great variety of sporting, cultural and social life which is available.

Attractions include the best Army golf course in Germany, a sports centre which takes in all the usual outdoor sports, and facilities for parachuting and fishing which draw soldiers from all over Rhine Army.

There are also unrivalled facilities for the horseman or woman — lots of good stabling, unspoilt country rides and even a polo ground. While just a short drive away are beautiful hillsides and rock climbs and to the south the start of the German ski-ing areas.

The Rhine Army School of PT runs courses in anything from fencing to judo. The only slight deficiency on the sporting side is in swimming where there is only an outdoor pool, although just down the road in Paderborn town there are first class indoor facilities.

For the amateur actor or the playgoer there are the Sennelager Players, current Rhine Army champions, who put on performances in an old SKC cinema. The SKC still has two cinemas in operation — although the advent of BFBS Television has seen a change in social habits.

Social problems too have abated as families and even single soldiers stay in to watch the box. Station Staff Officer, Major John Bent, says the arrival of TV has been particularly helpful for wives left behind while their husbands go on tours to Northern Ireland or elsewhere. "It has helped to overcome the problems of loneliness," he says.

There are 2151 married quarters in the

garrison area, including hirings, but there is a shortage and soldiers who have to find private accommodation on the German market get an overseas rent allowance. There is a waiting list for quarters with points being allocated on such things as service, rank, size of family and actual current living conditions. Longest wait is reckoned to be about nine months.

Paderborn garrison boasts nine kindergartens, three primary schools and a middle school. At the age of 13 children have to take a three-quarters of an hour bus ride to school at Gütersloh or go off to boarding school.

There are two community centres and garrison officials are particularly keen in attempting to overcome the social problems which are caused by living in high rise flats. Says the housing manager, Major James Bertrand: "People are not geared to live in high rise with a limited surface area and we do get more problems in those blocks."

Sennelager is a Nato training area and soldiers from other Allied countries visit on exercise. This occasionally causes friction but relationships with the local German community are good and there is a thriving Anglo-German Society.

'People are not geared to live in high rise with a limited service area'

Today too, the soldier based at Paderborn/Sennelager is more likely to venture out and enjoy the local facilities. Gone are the days when all his shopping was done in the Naafi — German supermarkets produce advertising leaflets in English and deliver them round the married quarters.

The highlight of each year is the Rhine Army summer show which attracts more than 100,000 people over three days. That is perhaps the occasion on which the two communities mingle most — but throughout the year there is more contact today than ever before. ■

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ANNE ARMSTRONG



Those of you familiar with these pages will know of my concern for the interests of young people from Service families.

For years now I have been asking for money to be made available from the Defence Budget for Service youth projects. Always I am told that it can't be and that funds must be found from other sources.

Knowing this, I wondered how our young people in Germany and other overseas stations would fare under the new MOD-funded arrangement for 7000 youngsters to go on outward bound and adventure training schemes under the guidance of trained military personnel.

Recently I was able to put this to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, Mr Jerry Wiggin. He explained that there are many groups wanting to take up the scheme, each of whom think they are a special case. Because of this he could not give special consideration to Service school leavers and unemployed youth in Germany.

However, there is good news for cadets: priority will be given to cadets in the UK and this will also apply to Germany-based cadets, providing they follow the same application procedure for UK.

Let us hope this excellent pilot scheme will soon be extended and opened up to Service children wherever they happen to be. Meanwhile does anyone have any ideas for providing similar facilities in Germany?

And now back to the troops. Godspeed those who have gone to the Falkland Islands and God bless their families.

I have had two letters from wives in Gibraltar who are concerned about their National Insurance Benefits now that they are unemployed. Gibraltar does not come under the rules of Reciprocal Agreements like other European postings so the situation for these wives is different from wives in BAOR, for example.

I have so far been unable to find a job in Gibraltar. I have been told that my credits are being paid but I don't know if I'm covered.

It is some time since I worked and I cannot even remember whether I paid reduced or full stamp. I have also forgotten my National Insurance number. What should I do?

Mrs P, BFPO 52

Your credits will not be paid unless you have children of school age in which case you will be covered automatically by Home Responsibility credits.

The Overseas Branch of the DHSS in Newcastle will be able to help sort out the other problems. Send them details of your date of birth, christian name, maiden name and married name, together with your last employer's name and address. This will help them to trace your NI number. If you ask them to send your contribution record you will be able to see how you stand and whether you should pay voluntary contributions.

Prior to getting married in June 1981, I was in full employment as an SRN for an unbroken period of 20 years. I then accompanied my husband to Gibraltar where he is serving.

I then sought to draw unemployment benefit but have been informed that, because I had not been unemployed in UK for a minimum period of four weeks, I am not eligible.

I fail to see the logic in this and would be most grateful if you could advise me.

Mrs S, BFPO 52

The rule for Forces dependants is that you must sign on between four weeks and two days prior to your departure overseas. You must then sign on within seven days of your arrival in your overseas station at the Unemployment Benefit office of that country — the PCLU or Civil Labour Office does not count.

Write to the Overseas Branch of

the DHSS in Newcastle and ask them how to go about safeguarding your contribution record. After 20 years it is vital that you don't lose out on your State pension. It does look though as if you will lose out on all your unemployment benefit for the year.

Have you any details on the changes in the Maternity Grants? I have heard that the regulations are to be changed and would like to know if this affects Service mothers-to-be?

Mrs V, BFPO 48

There will be no difference felt at the receiving end by wives of Servicemen. You should receive your Non-Contributory Maternity Grant in cash from the unit imprest account as you do now.

But the claim form will be different. Wives who expect to be confined on or before 3 July 82 should receive old type forms (F INS 98 (Rev) or F INS 98A). After 4 July 82, claims should be made on F INS 98 (Rev 11/81) which may be brought into use on 18 April 82 as NCMG can be claimed 11 weeks before the confinement date.

Make sure that you get the correct form when you submit your application.

ASK ANNE

We are due to return to UK in July. I have been fortunate enough to remain in full employment during our years in Germany and have continued to pay full rate National Insurance contributions. If I cannot find employment at home, I presume that I would be entitled to claim unemployment benefits.

I should be grateful if you could explain the procedure for claiming this — benefits due, earnings related and so on if still applicable.

I did make enquiries during our last trip home but our DHSS office seemed rather vague and reluctant to offer advice.

Mrs L, BFPO 36

The earnings-related supplement to sickness benefit, unemployment benefit and maternity allowance ceased to be payable from 3 January 82.

If you were in receipt of the supplement before that date you will continue to receive it until your entitlement ceases but not after 30 June 82. This also applies if the benefit is claimed after 3 January but is linked to an earlier claim which started before then. (Periods link if there are not more than eight weeks between the last day of one period and the first day of the next.)

Incidentally, the earnings-related addition to widow's allowance also ends on 3 January 82 but a widow whose husband died before that date will get her full entitlement.

To ensure receipt of your entitlement you should sign on at a local Employment Office within 7 days of your return to UK even if it means giving a temporary address.

Naafi points

As I was unable to attend the recent Naafi AGM I submitted some written questions based on the points you have raised in your letters. I have now received Naafi's replies:

Some repairs to Naafi-bought videos and televisions which are still under guarantee, have been taking six months or more. Surely in these circumstances the article should be replaced? The Managing Director has promised to look into this unsatisfactory state of affairs. The aim, wherever possible, will be to restrict the waiting period to one month after which a replacement should be provided.

Under what consumer legislation, English or German, should a customer seek protection regarding electrical items imported from UK or other EEC countries? Likewise, what protection is there in cases where a customer orders a car through Naafi and the manufacturer fails to deliver the goods? English law does not always apply in Scotland or Northern Ireland and never in Germany. Under the Nato Status of Forces Agreement, British Forces and Naafi were exempted from German legislation. Thus, Naafi cannot do anything but act responsibly by attempting to reach a solution on the lines of UK law.

Does Naafi pay National Insurance Class 1 contributions for part-time employees?

Yes: except for those earning less than £27 per week (or the equivalent) and a few who were employed before April 5 1978 after which date married women could not elect to pay the reduced rate of contributions. The reduced rate continues for those who are eligible at 5 April 1978 but renders them ineligible to claim sickness pay even in Germany.

DID YOU KNOW?

TRAVEL BY AIR for pregnant women is subject to certain rules and regulations. You must produce a certificate, signed by your doctor and dated not more than seven days before the flight date, which states that there are no objections to your travelling by air. It should also state the expected date of your confinement.

Expectant mothers will not normally be accepted for air travel within four weeks of the expected date of birth nor until two weeks after the birth. Babies under the age of two weeks are not normally accepted either, with or without their mother.

Anne Armstrong



There is a lot that women and children can do to protect themselves. I don't want to frighten people into not going out but to make them aware. Criminals need your help to operate successfully so don't give them the opportunity. Here are a few do's and don'ts:

WHEN WALKING OUT ALONE

Don't walk alone after dark if you can possibly avoid it; **Always** be alert; **Avoid** short cuts and dark deserted areas; **Walk** near the kerb away from bushes or buildings; **Walk** facing the traffic; **Don't** hitch-hike; **Carry** a torch and whistle and if possible a personal attack alarm; **Keep** your keys in your hand when approaching the car or home to



If you're out at night, stay in the light.

avoid delay; **Avoid** unlit or deserted car parks or areas.

WHEN ALONE AT HOME

Secure all windows and doors; **Fit** and use a door chain/viewer; **Use** only your initials and surnames in name plates and directories if you live alone; **Don't** admit strangers to your home; **When** answering the telephone don't let strangers know you are alone; **Report** all suspicious incidents to the Police immediately.

BABYSITTING

Let friends and parents know where you can be reached; **Make** sure you know where the children's parents can be contacted; **Keep** a list of emergency numbers; **Arrange** for 'safe' transportation home;

SHOPPING

Carry your handbag close to you and beware of people approaching from front and rear; **Don't** put your handbag down where it can be easily stolen; **Don't** fight if someone snatches your bag (they may turn on you) but get a good description and inform the Police immediately; **Keep** your keys in your pocket. If your bag is stolen you can at least get into your house or car; **Don't** leave your purse on top of your shopping bag or pram; **Don't** carry your credit cards and cheque book in the same bag; **Remember**, protect yourself first — then your belongings.

DRIVING ALONE

Always travel where possible on main or well used roads; **Always** lock your car after entering it or when leaving it; **Check** the interior of your car before entering it especially the back seat. At night, carry and use a torch; **Keep** all valuables out of sight; **Park** in well lit areas; **Always** tell your family or a friend your estimated time of return and the route you will take — and keep to it. If you have car trouble, stay in the car and wait for help; **Don't** get out of the car if you are followed home — make sure the doors are locked, sound the horn or flash your lights to attract attention or drive on to the nearest police station; **Don't** stop to help others — drive on and report it by telephone; **Never** ever pick up hitch hikers — even female ones.

TRAVELLING BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Avoid isolated bus stops; **Sit** near the driver, conductor or another woman; **Complain** to the driver, conductor or guard if pestered; **Avoid** empty compartments or those with just one male occupant.

LOOK AFTER YOURSELF!

WHILE SSAFA AND UNIT families officers are there to take care of the welfare problems which arise when wives and children are left behind by soldiers of today's highly mobile, go-anywhere Army, there is a more sinister trend in society which only personal security can really combat.

Military families are probably less at risk than the general public from the mugger, the rapist and the burglar. But the risk is still there and the military and civilian police cannot hope to be on the spot every time.

MUMS TO-BE are very special people." That is the message from the Health Education Council in its new 'freepack' called *Guide to Healthy Pregnancy*.

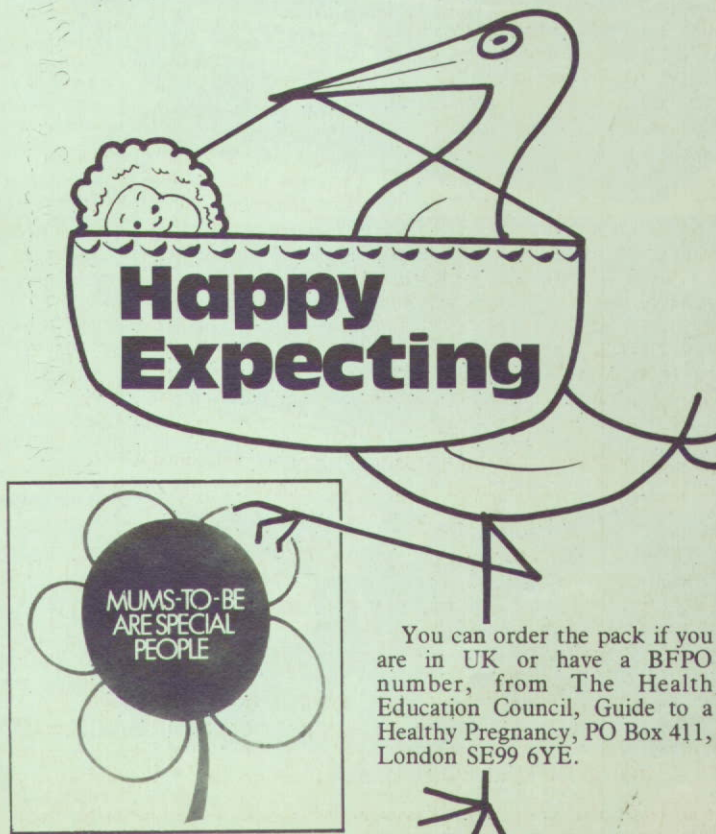
Through leaflets, booklets and even a record, the Guide seeks to tell you everything you ever wanted to know about pregnancy but were afraid to ask. There are some expectant mothers who are shy of asking questions in case they meet with a rebuff or are made to feel stupid. For these the Guide is especially helpful.

Early and regular attendance at ante-natal clinics, adopting a healthy diet without eating for two, giving up smoking and keeping alcohol to a minimum are just some of the things recommended, but the Guide also puts emphasis on the mental approach to pregnancy and the need for support from family and friends. Partners are particularly important at this time, too, and are encouraged to share in the joys and problems of pregnancy.

The record which comes with the pack, features a number of women talking about their experiences of pregnancy with valuable comments from Dr Miriam Stoppard. A mixture of

advice and information, the Guide encourages questions and gives confidence to the nervous.

Even if you think you are already well-informed, it's well worth writing off for your free copy.



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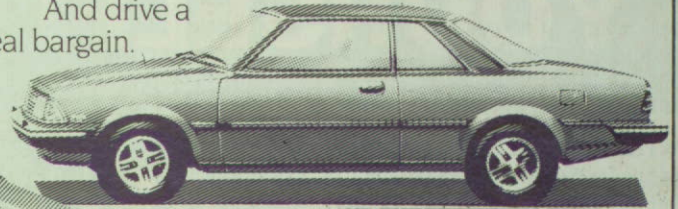
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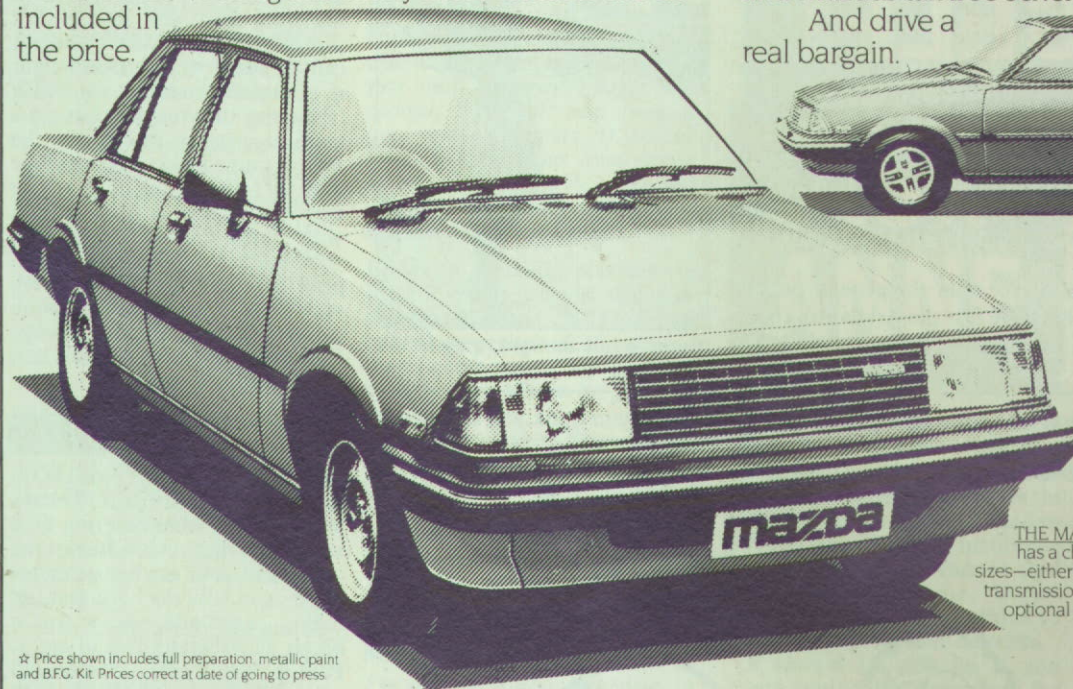
You'll find the same incredible value for money with the 2.0 SDX Coupe. At only £4,644* it's got the same luxurious features as the Saloon plus, as a built in extra, a distinctly sporty feel.

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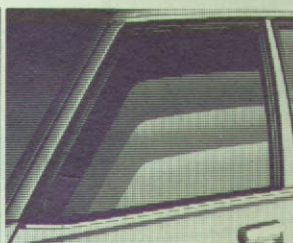
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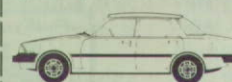
The individual drop rear seats give the added versatility of being able to carry awkward loads like golf clubs or skis.



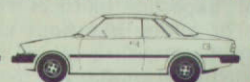
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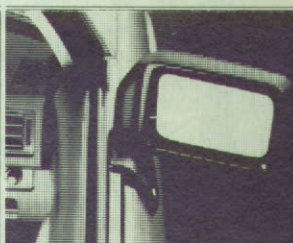
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STIRRING MEMORIES IN THE VILLAGE THAT DIED



Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Les Wiggs

Tyneham Church — now restored as a museum. ▲

THE VILLAGE of Tyneham, near Lulworth in Dorset — which once boasted its own squire — has been unoccupied since 1943 when it was evacuated in favour of the Army and its nearby gunnery training ranges.

Chronicled in the Domesday Book, Tyneham was "once quite a happy community" says 81-year-old Miss Helen Taylor, a former resident, who earlier this month re-visited the scene of her childhood and, in particular, her old schoolroom.

Miss Taylor and her sister, Miss Elizabeth, 90, who now live at Corfe Castle, were the guests of the Army who gave a lunch for a handful of former villagers who lived there up until 1943.

The occasion was to mark the second stage of restoration in the village — this time the school — which will house artefacts of archaeology, natural history and geology from the area.

The work was carried out by three Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School range wardens led by Mr Roy Cobb, who has 35 years' experience as a stone mason.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Barrington, GI Training at the School of Gunnery said: "As neither the Army nor the County Council had the funds for such work it had to be paid for out of public donations from visitors to Tyneham since the Lulworth Walks were opened up in 1975. The work itself was done by the Army and other agencies as part of the responsibility on their part to maintain public access.

"It was never practical either from a financial or technical point of view to do more than render the buildings safe and cap them. Due to the ravages of time and neglect — but never shellfire — the village fell into a state of decay. There were a few possible exceptions, among them four cottages in Post Office Row where we have restored two

Miss Elizabeth Taylor (top) and sister Helen. ▲

roofs."

Lt-Col Barrington said that the Army and the County Council had tried hard to find funds together for more restoration work but these were just not available.

The single-roomed schoolhouse — it is not a listed building — was intact. The church has already been turned into a museum housing historical items from the village.

When Miss Helen Taylor was a pupil at the school there were, she says, "24 youngsters on the books". When elder sister Elizabeth was taught there, the number was nearly 60, swelled by the local coastguard and local farmers' offspring.

"It was quite a happy community of sorts," said Miss Helen. "All the cottages were full because the farmers in those days used to employ more men before the industry became mechanised.

"Everybody had their job to do. We entertained ourselves on the winter evenings. I used to do dressmaking, and dancing was introduced to the village hall — a hut which we bought from the army during the First World War. I think we bought it at Wareham."

She recalled that there was a local farmer who employed a couple of labourers and a carter who looked after the horses. The squire was a Mr William Bond and his daughter, 89-year-old Miss Margaret Bond performed the opening of the restored school accompanied by her nephew, Major-General Mark Bond.

Everyone who went back received a warm welcome — literally. A fire was already lit in the schoolroom with, above it, a huge lintel made from a giant cast of a dinosaur's footprint recovered jointly by the Army and Royal Navy from nearby Worbarrow Bay.

And there was another bit of fascinating restoration on view in the shape of a vintage telephone box, a genuine example of the

The old schoolroom brought back to life. ▲

first standard kiosk to be introduced into the UK. This particular model, only the second in the country of its type known to have survived, is made from concrete although the handset in the box is from a different era. The search for an original proved to be too elusive. ■

Miss Margaret Bond and her nephew, Maj-Gen Mark Bond, chat with Col McCarthy of the Gunnery School, old 'phone box in background. ▼





Canopy Relative Work — the tri-plane.

IT WAS THAT very ingenious and inventive Italian gentleman, Leonardo da Vinci, who started it all when he came up with the concept of the parachute as a novel method of transportation from one point to another.

But it is doubtful whether Leonardo ever envisaged his idea being taken to quite the lengths practised by the Red Devils, the Army's free-fall parachute display team who have held millions spell-bound over the past 18 years by the ease with which they twist, turn, glide and manoeuvre beneath their cavernous mushroom-like canopies.

During the last five years alone, the Army's premier peers of display parachuting have been regularly 'dropping in' at some 200 shows a year world-wide in venues ranging from Berkamstead to Bulgaria, from Hove to far-off Hong Kong.

And as another season of displays gets under way, the international, neck-craning appeal of the Army's elite aerial circus shows no sign of diminishing.

The Red Devils jump in 'sticks' of eight, one-and-a-half-miles aloft. For 12 seconds after parting company with their twin-engined Islander they hurtle earthwards at 120 miles-an-hour before suddenly deploying their red-white-and-blue chutes at 2000 feet for a slower but none the less spectacular descent, their progress traced by heel-strapped coloured smoke canisters.

Recent months have, literally, added impetus to the team's efforts with the introduction into service of 30 brand-new, 200-square-foot surface area parachutes of lightweight material (costing £1000 each) readily given free to the Red Devils with the commercial blessing of a Woking firm.

These new ram-air, aerofoil-section 'chutes which work on similar principles to an aircraft wing should have a life of about four years allowing for some 300 individual jumps each year.

As reported in **SOLDIER** earlier this year, the Red Devils — all serving members of the Parachute Regiment — want to extend their airborne boundaries of operation in this country with the help of friendly sponsors.

Until now, the team has tended to exit from their venerable red Islander south of an imaginary line linking Manchester to Hull and no farther west than the Severn Bridge and another notional line drawn directly southwards.

But Captain Mickey Munn, 46, the team's sixth commander in post since the Red Devils' formation in 1964, wants to take his talented free-fall artists farther north to venues like Carlisle, Newcastle and Scotland and deeper into the west, to shows in Cornwall.

Mickey, one of ten pilots who fly the 14-year-old Islander — the others are part-time and include a Concorde pilot and a senior officer on a 'Jumbo' — said: "I'm sure there must be an enterprising sponsor who would like to see the name of his firm or product splashed across our display programmes."

Certainly any sponsor would get plenty of mileage from the Red Devils. Once, they did nine shows in a single day at five different venues.

Preparation is thorough. DZs (Drop Zones) have to be checked out. Lectures have to be given. New routines practised and perfected.

One showpiece manoeuvre by the team, for instance, involves Canopy Relative Work (CRW) where two jumpers — or more — are 'stacked' in close formation to achieve a bi-plane, tri-plane or even, quadri-plane effect.

In 1980, some of the team joined forces with other experienced parachutists to challenge the American-dominated world record for CRW. Thirteen men were 'stacked' into a meticulously-positioned tower of parachutes to land safely on a Netheravon DZ.

Aspirants for the Red Devils team are drawn mostly from the regular battalions of The Parachute Regiment and then, says Mickey Munn, on the personal recommendation of former team members.

They have their failures. Men who might not fall short on parachuting techniques but rather on 'bottle', or courage, when quick-thinking is needed in an emergency.

Mickey, himself a veteran of some 900 jumps who still manages to get in 175 descents a year — when he is not flying the Islander on which he has clocked up 800 hours — explained: "Potential candidates are usually very keen on free-falling as a hobby within their battalions and when they get here they must have attained what we call the 'magic 200', a carefully-monitored minimum of 200 descents which earns them the coveted Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) 'D' licence qualification to make display descents. Then they will join one of the three teams — Black, Red or Competition.

"When they are here we have a look at them to see if they will fit in. They're not just judged on their parachuting skills but also for their 'bottle' during a four months' course with us. They will be here for a minimum of three years and spend the first year on such duties as driving the vehicles, giving commentaries at the shows and acting as safety officers.

"The really great quality comes out in a

Five in a line say 'cheese' for the camera.



The Army's most famous free-fall parachute team will be dropping in at over 200 different events this year. Graham Smith has been finding out the secrets of . . .

RED DEVILRY



An aerial salute from Captain Mickey Munn.

Seconds after exiting from the Islander with Aldershot 7000 ft below.

guy when he is under pressure — and we do get problems during descents. You've got to act immediately and rectify the fault quickly and calmly. It's no use flapping like a budgie."

The score or so of Red Devils team members complete around 2000 public display descents in a year and perhaps twice as many in training.

But it is not all glamour. Like any other military unit, they do the customary back-room chores, equipment checks, vehicle cleaning, packing and re-packing of chutes and even the daily road runs.

And, during their stay with the Aldershot-based team, the mens' military qualifications are not overlooked, either, when it comes to participating in skill-at-arms, drill, training cadres and so on.

Mickey Munn, who heads up four SNCOs, five NCOs and 14 soldiers, said: "Though some may disagree with me, one thing I am convinced about and know, for sure, is that when my men go back to their battalions they are just not the same. Their self-confidence has gone up 200 per cent."

Travel, he readily agrees, certainly broadens the minds of his jumpers, whether they are performing at the opening of a village fête, a ploughing competition or prestigious venues over north-west Europe, the Balkans, Australia, the Middle East or North and South America.

The team's four distinctive vehicles — a team car and three crew-carrier/DZ vans on loan from their last sponsor — travelled 80,000 miles last year.

Founded essentially as a recruiting aid for the Parachute Regiment, the Red Devils

continued on page 28

The Red Devils with Islander and vans.



pride themselves on representing the very best in international parachuting skills and expertise. They are reckoned to currently hold more team championships and individual trophies for free-fall than any other team in the world.

Two years ago they claimed two of the four places in a British team performing in Bulgaria during the world championship Team Classic Parachuting. Sergeant 'Scottie' Milne (the British Free Fall champion) took the bronze medal for target accuracy as well as becoming the first Briton to hold a world championship medal. Corporal Dougie Young attained the best-ever overall placing by a British team member with his seventh place in the combined individual style and accuracy class.

And the Red Devils, also supplied two members of the six-man British Forces team that made the fastest-ever, non-powered crossing of the English Channel. They leapt from an aircraft at 26,000 feet over Dover Castle and 'flew' the 30-kilometre trip to success and France in just 26 minutes.

For all their self-generated achievements though, the Red Devils need cash support. Former sponsors Lucas (UK) were forced to withdraw their backing due to the recession, and Mickey Munn is looking for a "minimum £25,000" a year, mainly to cover the costs of the team's four vehicles.

He explained: "We need that kind of money to buy the existing team cars from Lucas for £8000. One vehicle, which we have had since 1977, has done 110,000 miles and will cost £10,000 to replace. Taxation, insurance and maintenance costs account for another £5000. There's £23,000 of it already. In addition, some £2000 is needed for printing, brochures and the like.

"The Red Devils are a self-supporting unit, financing their activities from display revenue. Salaries and our premises are provided by the Ministry of Defence but most of the additional costs — aircraft, parachutes, vehicles and equipment — must be borne by the team itself. Luckily, generous help from friends and sponsors have, up to now, continued to guarantee a high standard of team proficiency."

Red Devil Pte Neil Dixon packs 'chute.

"With our present scale of operations, total costs amount to £80,000 a year, half of which is normally financed from team activities. That is why we are asking for a sponsorship package of around £25,000 a year. Most of this is absorbed by the supply and operation of the four team vehicles.

"Our presence is a powerful one. Each year we make about 220 public display appearances throughout the country and, two years ago, our estimated live audience was three-and-a-half-million which did not include the many TV shows we took part in.

"All our team helmets and jump suits carry our sponsor's name. So do the vehicles, posters, tee-shirts and various giveaway 'goodies' like badges, leaflets and stickers that can carry whatever message is required. The same goes for headed notepaper, calendars and even flags which carry sponsorship slogans from the relevant promoters."

Putting on one of the Red Devils' displays

is far from cheap.

The Islander costs about £120-an-hour to fly. Its part-time pilots are paid £15 an-hour towards their food and accommodation needs.

And getting the aircraft to Scotland, for example, could cost about £800 before a single parachute has even opened. Add in the display costs as well and the bill is about £1200 for a 10-12 minute show.

Before the close of the current season in October, the Red Devils will have had at least three overseas outings — one to France for a ceremony involving a Forces' memorial, another to RAF Laarbruch in Germany for its Open Day, and the third to Hong Kong. And nearer home, they will have thrilled millions at fêtes and shows up and down the country.

No wonder the indefatigable Captain Mickey Munn enthuses: "Any sponsor would make a lot of money out of us in sheer advertising value."



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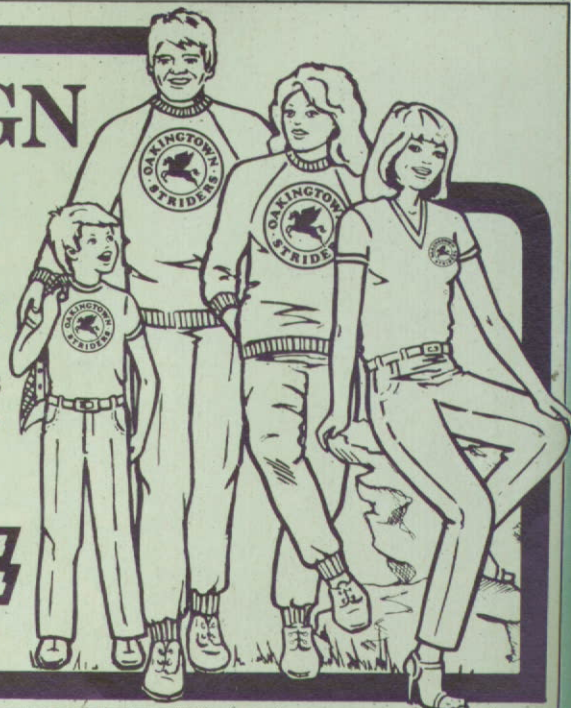
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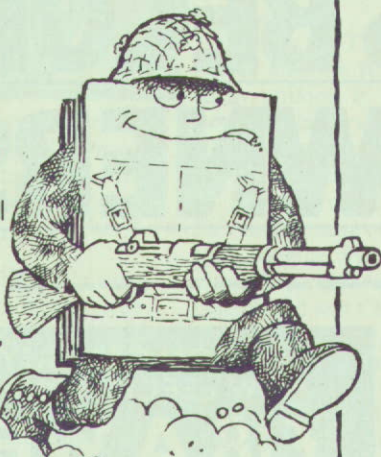
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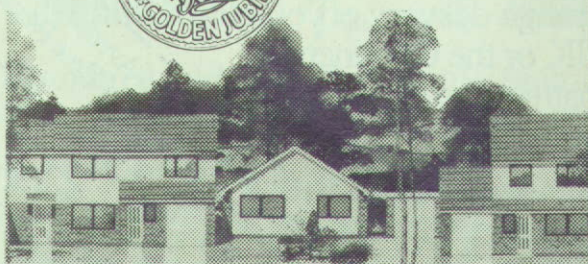
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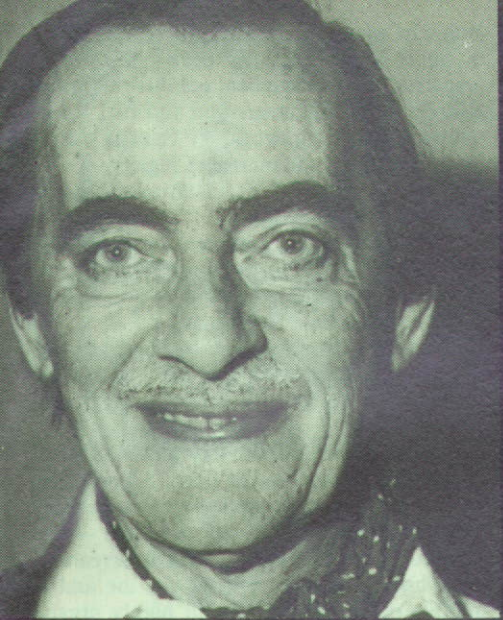
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THE MAN FROM OROMOCTO

◀ Roy today — the successful businessman. ▶

Captain de Stecher 40 years ago. ▶

wouldn't do myself," said the former soldier, property management consultant and surveyor.

Born by the Thames at Hampton Wick of Alsace forbears Roy got the urge to don an Army uniform in 1937 when he joined the London University Officer Training Corps while studying technical engineering at Battersea Polytechnic.

"I cannot recall what I wanted to do in life. At the time of the Munich Crisis there were four or five of us young men and I remember very well the day we went to the cinema and saw Chamberlain after his meeting with Hitler. We just didn't believe in his confidence. We knew the whole thing was phoney."

Nobody wanted to employ him because most knew he would soon be called up — though they did not say as much.

"If you signed up then, you were there for 40 years, almost unthinkable today. It was not a transitory world and I got by doing odd jobs like a petrol pump attendant and a census form enumerator. And there were big gaps of depression," Roy remembers.

"All the time the over-riding thing in my mind was the conviction, as 1939 went on its way, that there was no sort of civilian future for a young fellow. The reaction on my part was a mixture of feelings, one of excitement, the other of apprehension for my family — mother, father and two sisters."

A few days later he 'signed on' applying for the Royal Artillery but receiving, instead, an invitation to join the infantry.

"They didn't somehow feel my qualifications were particularly good so I ended up in the infantry. I have never regretted their decision for one minute because I believe the infantry is the backbone of the Army. Certainly one thing I learned was, and it applies even today, that it doesn't matter how many sophisticated weapons anybody can produce, the only way anyone is going to win a battle is by occupying the land. The only people who can do that is the PBI — the Poor Bloody Infantry," he averred.

While still at the University OTC, Roy had read a book by General de Gaulle on tactics and promptly written to the War Office setting out his ideas on the lines of more modern mechanisation.

"The youth in the Army has a lot to contribute. We were very, very keen in that junior organisation even to the point of deep thought," he admits.

His first war posting was to Canterbury in January 1940 and the Royal East Kent Regiment Depot for four months of basic training while living in a condemned barrack block.

"I remember we had a Sergeant Day who has been my admiration to this second. He



left a great impression on me. Discipline, pride in appearance — I never knew how much one could endure physically. I was a bit of a thinker and used to analyse what was going on. Until you are pushed to the limits you haven't the faintest concept of what you can really do, leaving, as I did, a very soft job for a hard one."

I even learned to be very proud in the way my bed was made. I can still remember it was done to the Royal East Kent Regiment's own tune with the words... 'Knife! ... Fork! ... Spoon!; razor, comb ... and lather brush!' From there I was posted to the Artists Rifles OCTU at Shorncliffe. This was the turning point in my life for certain."

Roy carried out his training at the time of Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain defending Folkestone harbour and watching the "toy aeroplanes in the sky" from a slit trench.

Even when he went to the local cinema his trusty .303 Lee Enfield went too. Back at the harbour a Lewis gun defiantly perched on the pier and some Mills grenades and barbed wire formed the line of defence against any would-be invasion from the sea.

"Discipline was so very high to the extent I was given seven days' CB for a speck in my rifle barrel."

His military career moved on to the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment as a subaltern and the Manchester Regiment as a signals officer (complete with pigeons) but he really wanted to see active service in the Indian Army as a basis for a future career in khaki.

He got his wish, along with 600 others — the only female aboard was the ship's cat — as a troopship steamed out of Greenock

continued on page 32

ROY de STECHER of Oromocto, Canada, was in a punt on the Thames near Richmond with a "very charming" young lady at the very moment that England declared war on Germany on Sunday morning, September 3, 1939.

Forty-two years later and 3000 miles away in the Canadian maritime province of New Brunswick, Roy — who once was tasked with the re-valuation of a whole city and later with a survey of Alberta's vast Suffield training area's "future requirements" — firmly believes to this day that it was his British Army experience that instilled the "concept of discipline and duty" into him making him the success he is in business.

Roy, now 61, is owner with his Italian-born wife, of a 50-bedroom hotel worth an estimated one million dollars. For the past two years many of his clientele have been sappers from numbers 53 and 50 Field Squadrons, Royal Engineers, who were engaged on sizeable construction projects (see SOLDIER October 19) at the nearby 427-square-mile Canadian Forces Base at Gagetown, a Combat Training Centre, said to be the second largest of its kind in the Commonwealth.

"I've never asked anyone to do anything I

Scene of Roy's flourishing enterprise. ▼



bound for Bombay via Durban. Among the motley number, a former British brigadier, in silk shirt, who had fought in the Spanish Civil War.

Sadly, off Dakar, Roy saw one of the convoy sunk by a German U-boat.

"We were given a tremendous reception in Durban and to this day, I have never experienced such a warm welcome. We were there for four days. Everyone was whisked away into homes. It was indescribable. There was not one man who did not have a marvellous time there. Everything he wanted."

The troopship sailed and Roy eventually reached a training camp at Bangalore in southern India where they did bicycle drill in cavalry fashion, the spoked machines being used as horses during the acclimatisation period.

They were "utterly stupefied" and got a reputation, according to one senior officer, as "the cream of the scum of the British Army."

Subaltern de Stecher was posted to The Royal Garhwal Rifles depot in the Himalayan foothills.

He says now: "There was an incredible novelty of an entirely different environment, a different kind of people and an astonishing challenge for a young man. I grew to love these people so much and even at the age of 21 or 22 it imbued in me a feeling of responsibility and admiration for them. It has been said that anyone who has done his service in India will always want to return. Before the end of my life I intend to re-visit India."

Roy's job was to guard the rail links between Calcutta and the Burma border as a company commander in charge of about 100 men.

His next move was to airfield defence for a squadron of RAF fighters in Burma and then back to Europe and Italy with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Garhwal Rifles, firstly south of Bologna and then northwards, to the Venice-Trieste triangle.

Finally, he returned to England and a posting to a Devon camp for German POWs.

"Those fellows were bloody marvellously

disciplined. Their barrack rooms, their kitchens were spotless. Even at that time in their defeat they were in excellent shape."

The same, alas, could not be said of Roy for he spent a month in hospital "almost at death's door" from recurring malaria.

Recovered and unable to stay in the Indian Army he was demobbed and summered in his "happy hunting grounds" of Folkestone, a prelude to the pursuit of as varied a career through civilian life as he had enjoyed in the Army.

He applied for a grant, and got it, to take a two-year course as an articled pupil with a Bournemouth branch office of a national

‘Until you’re
pushed to the limits
you haven’t the
faintest concept of
what you can do’

land agents. Then, he joined the Ministry of Works in property management.

Eventually, he left and, although not trained by the Army in trade or profession, decided to utilise the principles of life he had learned while in khaki — and still uses — employing procedures taken from the acronym OCCP — Object, Considerations, Courses open, Plan.

Meanwhile, he had successfully completed exams for the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and for the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Association — at the same time.

He wanted, above all, a partnership. But that needed money and Roy didn't have any. The Commonwealth beckoned. Australia and New Zealand were too far. Africa even then, he says, was "hazardous". So Roy chose Canada. With just 600 dollars to his

name he arrived in Montreal via New York.

Short of cash by now he got a job as a construction management engineer with the US Corps of Engineers and finished up in Newfoundland to work on Canada's first radar spanning the maritime regions.

Next job was with a consulting engineering firm in Montreal.

"I had to make a complete survey of the Suffield area and its requirements for the future. It was supposed to take a month. I was there for six," he recalls.

Sensing the "alienation" of French and English-speaking peoples in Quebec he "emigrated" to New Brunswick to set up his own office.

"I remember that first day very clearly. A bare room. Phone on the floor. A borrowed table and chair. I landed an interesting contract with the city of St John — to re-value the whole city. It took two years. I now had 20 people working for me and a mobile office van. It was all highly organised."

Roy de Stecher was on his way. With his 21-year-old son by a former marriage and his young Italian wife he would soon be heading for Oromocto.

By chance one day he was passing the settlement, near Gagetown, and stopped to collect an outstanding agent's fee from the owner who told him he was thinking of selling out anyway. Three days later Roy had negotiated to buy the property.

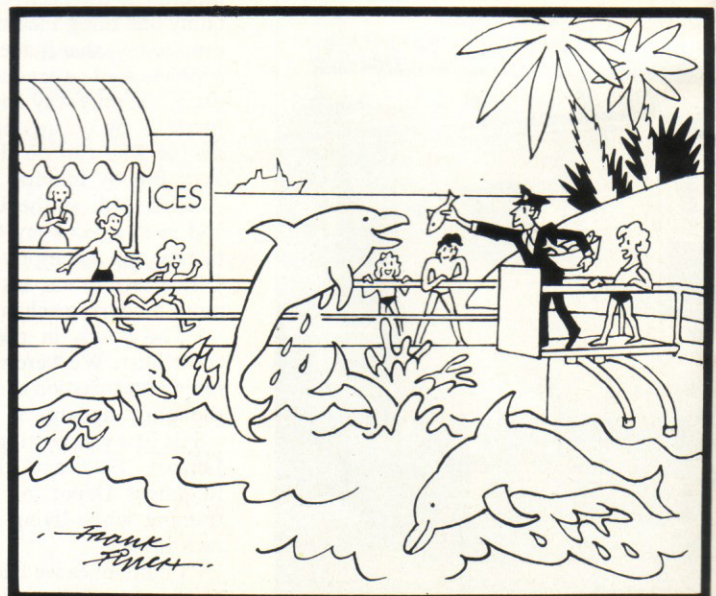
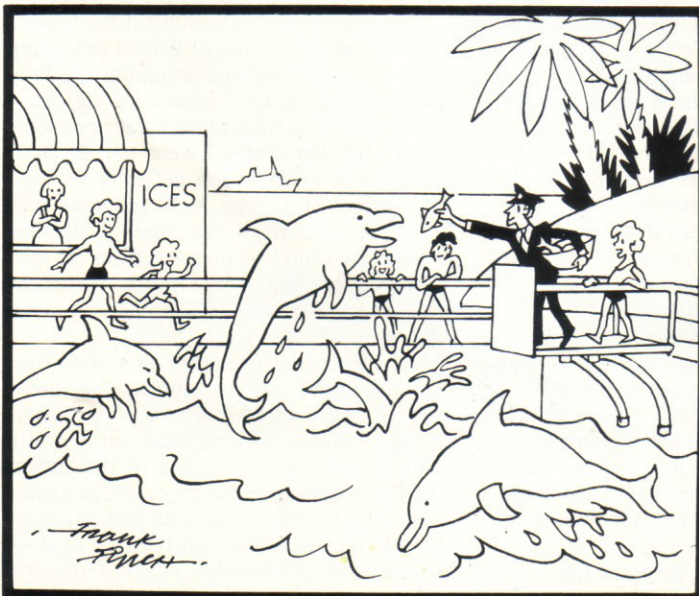
Now a counsellor and Director of the 100-strong Chamber of Commerce, Roy said: "I'm far from being a millionaire. I am, in fact, trying to further a community college here with the idea of providing study facilities for ex-servicemen coming out into civilian life, rather like your own British Army re-settlement courses."

Owner of a 150-year-old farm in a 30-acre spread, Roy de Stecher is also an avid SOLDIER reader. "The magazine is extremely good. It keeps me up to date with all kinds of things which I would never read in a normal paper. I haven't got to travel 3000 miles to feel pretty well still a part of the British Army. I was introduced to SOLDIER by a Canadian who was here at Gagetown on a course!"

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 37.





Your Cap Badge

No 14

15TH/19TH KING'S ROYAL HUSSARS

THE SENIOR PARTNER of this happy combination was raised in 1759 and popularly known as Elliot's Light Horse after their Colonel who later carved his place in history as the gallant defender of Gibraltar. Being cast early into the fray earned them the singular battle honour of Emsdorf, to be followed in the fullness of time by many others. After service on the Continent they returned to England and in 1807, being known as the 15th (or the King's) Light Dragoons

(Hussars), the officers and men were ordered to wear "moustachios on the upper lip". The following year they joined Sir John Moore in Spain to earn the honour 'Sahagun' and a return to England. They went back to Spain for the last years of the Peninsular War and then to Waterloo.

Peace time duties in the British Isles were followed by periods of service in India, including the Afghan War of 1878-80. The Great War and the Second World War saw them add many more honours to their growing list and the motto of the Regiment *Merebimur* (We shall be worthy) is still carried on the head-dress badge to this day. The first cap badge worn in the new style head-dress adopted just before the turn of the last century was "The Royal Crest with the Victorian crown within the Garter. Below the Garter 'XVKH' resting on a scroll inscribed 'Merebimur'. The Royal Crest in white metal, remainder in gilding metal." In 1902 the Imperial crown replaced the Victorian.

The junior partner in the amalgamation was also born in 1759 and had a much interrupted life. Thrice disbanded and reformed, they underwent various changes in title ranging

from Light Dragoons, Lancers, Bengal European Cavalry and finally Hussars. Their battle honours were not as numerous as the 15th's but included the unusual Seringapatam, Niagara and Abu-Klea to name a few. The later changes in regimental title were reflected in the cap badges worn and resulted in the distinction of their wearing both the largest and the smallest cap badges among the cavalry during the first two decades of this century. The first cap badge was a large elephant standing on a scroll inscribed '19th PWO Hussars', in white metal. The second produced a more realistic Indian elephant standing on a double scroll, the top inscribed '19th Alexandra' and the bottom 'PWO Hussars', also in white metal. The third and last pattern had up to that time served as the collar badge but was now adopted as the cap badge and therefore quite small, being the letter 'A', cypher of the late Queen Alexandra, ensigned with a crown. Interwoven with the cypher was the Dannebrog and in the centre of this the date 1885, in white metal.

Although amalgamation took place in 1922, it was not until 10th September 1929 that the new pattern bearing the dual designation was sealed. This



pattern closely followed the design of the old 15th but in place of the letters 'KH' stood the numerals XIX. The St. Edward's crown replaced the Imperial crown and finally, on 8th September 1959, an anodised version was sealed.

By Arthur L Kipling and
Hugh L King

Next issue: 16th/5th
The Queen's Royal Lancers

BOOKS

A Historical Sketch of the Campaign of 1815: Captain Batty

This account of the Campaign of 1815, which includes plans of the operations and of the battles of Quatre Bras, Ligny and Waterloo, was written by one of the participants and first published in 1820. It is now reproduced in a limited edition of 200 numbered copies for sale and includes six detached hand-coloured maps retained in a pocket for easy reference. There are also large appendices detailing all units of the Allies and the French, showing strengths even down to battalions.

The author was then a captain who had been commissioned as an ensign into the First or Grenadier Guards in 1813. He served in the Western Pyrenees campaign and at Waterloo, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant on 29 June 1815 — just eleven days after the battle — and was placed on half pay as a lieutenant-colonel in 1828.

This first-hand account of a century and a half ago makes interesting reading, especially as it is contemporary and the author went to great pains to get details of the troops and dispositions of all the armies of both sides. When Napoleon returned from exile in 1815, Frenchmen, almost to a man, rallied to his support excited at the expectations of renewed glory. The old Colours were enthusiastically brought out and the army numbered some 730,000 effective men. The Allies meanwhile had mustered armies in Belgium, on the Rhine and the Italian frontier and formed an almost unbroken chain from the

coast of Flanders to the shores of the Mediterranean.

It all ended, of course, at Waterloo, but the previous day Wellington had been forced to retire when the Prussians suffered a bad reverse. The French then had the opportunity to divide the Allied armies and deal with them separately, but "unaccountably great delays took place in the corps under Marshal Grouchy and in that under Marshal Ney". So the chance was lost and next day Waterloo finally decided the fate of Europe and of Napoleon.

Ken Trotman, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3 1QQ — £20

GRH

Operation Jupiter: Dorothy Baden-Powell

One of Hitler's major misjudgments in World War Two was his advance into Norway, by which he intended to secure the supply of Swedish crude

iron ore that passed through Norwegian ports. First he found that the people, although without an army, were not a simple pushover and jack-boot methods alienated them. The Norwegian merchant fleet trading around the world sailed for British ports to augment the Allies. All kinds of sabotage occurred and necessitated an ever-increasing army of occupation, while the nuisance of British raids and the threat of a full scale attempt to re-take Northern Norway tied up a German fleet.

Operation Jupiter was Churchill's planned invasion, but it never took place. Yet it helped to shorten the war by its mere menace. Up to half a million German troops were eventually needed in Norway. Their presence there eased the pressure on Russia, while the fleet patrolling the fiords lessened the naval dangers to the Allies in the Atlantic.

The author of this exciting and dramatic record was one of the founders of Churchill's Special Operations Executive (SOE) which did so much to rouse and foster the spirit of resistance throughout Europe. Her inside knowledge of the Norwegian section of SOE, the training, organisation and operations, and her close association with the individuals, has enabled her to produce the real inside story. A thrilling tale of heroes and martyrs, of tyrants and traitors, complete with photographs and maps.

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GRH

World War II Photo Intelligence: Col Roy M Stanley

Intelligence about the enemy and the terrain is vital to the winning of

battles and, therefore, wars. Written and radioed information are among the essentials, but photographs can show concisely the possibilities, the difficulties, the weaknesses and the strengths before action, and the effects after the combat arms have passed through, or the bombers struck. In World War Two the interception of signals by the Allies' Ultra disclosed much about Axis intentions and troop and ship locations and movements. Yet it was agreed by many commanders that more than 80 per cent of vital intelligence came from aerial photographs.

In the United States in 1975 the author of this book was given the task of reducing, to save costs, some 30 million British and American aerial photographs of World War Two, plus thousands of boxes of German and Japanese film. Going through the negatives one by one he quickly realised that much history was available here for future generations, but to properly sort and understand it he needed more knowledge. He therefore sought data on cameras, aircraft of the period, equipment, installations, events and other supporting information.

The result is recorded in this book which is a mass of photographs and diagrams showing not only interesting and historical aerial pictures but the cameras that took them, the planes used and the techniques adopted, the men who interpreted the film and their methods of interpretation. More than 500 photographs are used in this first comprehensive history of aerial photo intelligence operations of World War Two.

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CAR NEWS FROM NATOCARS

NEW AMBASSADOR ARRIVES AT NATOCARS

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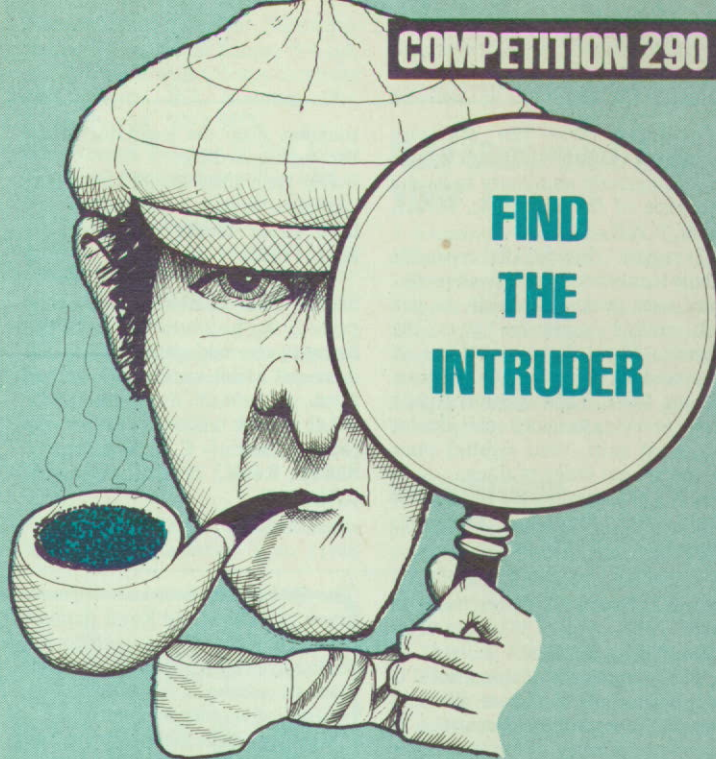
The Talbot Samba will come with a choice of three engine sizes - 954cc, 1124cc and 1360cc and four levels of interior trim - LS, GL, GLS and later, a cabriolet version styled by Pinin Farina.

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COMPETITION 290



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- 5) Bird v
- 6) Boxer d
- 7) Carman
- 8) Cleaner K
- 9) Comedian n
- 10) Composer c
- 11) Conductor
- 12) Crew member
- 13) Drink
- 14) Entangle
- 15) Essayist e
- 16) Ex US President f
- 17) Field Marshal
- 18) Footballer
- 19) Footwear t
- 20) Foreign currency
- 21) Forest
- 22) Fortified house
- 23) Haymaker
- 24) Labour politician b
- 25) Metalworker s
- 26) Open country
- 27) Painter c
- 28) Poet
- 29) Policeman
- 30) Rider
- 31) River crossing
- 32) Saint g
- 33) Seaside town
- 34) Slender
- 35) Soldier/ politician p
- 36) Spans
- 37) Tennis player e
- 38) Top airman r
- 39) Top policeman m
- 40) Tory politician j

BELOW LEFT are the surnames of 21 well known people; and below right a list of 40 descriptive clues, two of which must be linked to each name. One describes the person's role or job, the other is a clue to an alternative meaning of the word, eg THATCHER might link with PRIME MINISTER and ROOFER.

Simple addition will already have told you that 40 clues is not enough for 21 names — your task is to link them up, find the intruder, then send us your list of paired clues.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 21 May. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 14 June. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 290' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or pre-paid labels will be disqualified. Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 290' label from this page and your name and address to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

MAIL DROP

of tidiness into the seniority sequence. Certainly it would appear to be singularly unimilitary to have a sequence of 0.57D, 0.75L, 0.72H, 0.7H, 0.79H, 3.2L, etc.

I suggest that in the re-shuffle whole numbers must be given preference over decimals, which, as you will readily appreciate gives the Director Royal Armoured Corps an unprecedented opportunity to secure for the Royal Tank Regiment, who have never entertained the idea of fractional units, their rightful place in the natural order of things. — Lt Col B J N Coombes RTR, Chief of Staff, HQ Aldershot Garrison, Aldershot, GU11 2LQ.

With reference to your article volume 38/6 22 March 1982 (or for our Nato Allies Vol 6.333 recurring) 'Cavalry gets the Point'.

The temperature of disapproval is very high among us all here. We were appalled to read of the destruction of the names of some of our most famous cavalry regiments. How anyone can take two whole-numbered regiments, put them together and make a fraction defies all logic.

To carry this logic further, why not change the name of the 1st Battalion The Staffordshire Regiment (a name no doubt which is just as difficult and illogical for Nato countries to accept and understand). They are, of course the 98th of Foot (a foot — 12 inches), which would make them the 98/12 = 8.1666 recurring regiment. And what about those poor girls on page 45, the winning hockey team of 16/28 Signal Regiment, are they to be called the 0.571 Signal Regiment?

We can hardly wait for the day when we enlist a young man into the Nought Point Five Seven Dragoons, and explain his new regiment's history. — WO1 R J Durston REME, ACIO, 36-38 Old Hall St, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST1 3AP.

Having read 'Cavalry gets the Point', I just am not able to see if this is fact or fiction.

In fact, it is incredible to think that the craze to decimalize everything has influenced those who have authorised this.

As cavalry is now all 'Armoured Corps' why not instead number 1st, 2nd, 3rd Regt of Armoured Corps or 1st Dragoons, 2nd Hussars, 3rd Lancers etc, subtitled with their original titles?

It would appear that individual regiments and members have not been consulted on this subject — if they had I think there could have been a different answer! — F A G Kimble, 84 Mountearl Gardens, Streatham Hill, London, SW16 2NP.

Reference your article 'Cavalry gets the point'. The person who thought up this idea is a crank in my opinion. Everyone knows, including our allies, that the numbers in the title of 16/5th Lancers, and the numbers in the titles of other amalgamated regiments, have nothing whatever to do with fractions or decimals.

In the case of the 16/5th Lancers we all know that it means that two regiments, the 5th and the 16th Lancers have been amalgamated, and the

numbers keep the traditions of the two regiments alive.

Our Nato allies should know these combined cavalry regiments as they have either fought with them or against them.

Regiments have more pride in names than numbers. Regimental pride is the backbone of the British Army system and creates the 'esprit de corps' which impels regiments to excel.

Let us hope it is not too late to stop this nonsense. — C W Bloxham, 52 Alder Road, Poole, Dorset, BH12 2AE.

POSED PIC

The SOLDIER front cover photograph (8 Feb) of the Royal Artillery crewmen, aided by laser rangefinder, during live firing at Suffield, Canada made us wonder is this a safety competition? If so, can we enter?

Here are some obvious mistakes: what photographer would take a photograph of a laser firing, stood to the front of it?; driver is sat in front of the laser; driver is using binoculars, which, by the way, require repair, as part of the hinge assembly is missing, these can magnify any reflected beam; front right flap on laser not in position; using sunglasses to view through optical system?

After some deliberation amongst myself and the technicians in the section we have agreed that this is obviously a posed photograph and such a professional Corps as the Royal Artillery would not make so many safety mistakes. — S/Sgt S F Portman, Artificer Instruments, BATUS, Workshop REME, BFPO 14.

The vehicle in question was a safety vehicle being used by observers and was not engaged in live firing. — Ed

ROCK GUN

George Drake's letter on the 9.2 Pieces is really something (Mail Drop 8 Mar).

I served in 5th Coy RGA at Moorish Castle 1923-26 and again in 4 Heavy Bty at Europa Point 1933-36. At no time were 9.2 pieces (not barrels as George calls them) taken up the upper rock by cable car. There was no cable car until a few years ago.

Furthermore, as each piece weighs 28 tons, that would not be possible.

For George's information, the Galleries he mentioned have no 9.2" but muzzle loaders from 1779-83 siege. Again, there was only one 9.2 at the North End of the Upper Rock. It was 'Gooners Lookout' and was a Mk V. The other 9.2s were at the Europa end.

There was also one very old Mk I at Rock Battery which has been dismantled — the piece lies partly buried and has 'Rock Gun' painted on the side.

I cannot think where George Drake got his story from, there is hardly one truth in it except that the pieces did get to Gibraltar. — W Poulton, 12/18 Ward, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3.

SELECTION

The article on the RCB Westbury (22 Feb) brought to mind my similar ordeal at a GHQ Selection Board at Jubbulpore, India, in 1944.

Looking back at the events of those crowded three days, and relating them to the modern counterpart, it is apparent that the selection system has not altered very much in the 37 years which have elapsed. I am also very struck by the similarity of the purpose of the selection board, to the system used by the civilian (insurance) firm for which I have worked since school days. They use the Hay — MSL system of job evaluation and personnel selection, based on three concepts — know-how, problem solving and accountability. Each of these is very much the requirement of the young executive or officer of today.

In brief, we are looking for the knowledge to bring to the job; the ability to apply that knowledge to the solving of the problems as they arise — and fast (that's where I first heard the phrase about "thinking on one's feet") and finally, accountability to those for whom you are responsible, and those to whom you owe responsibility.

Perhaps that is one of the reasons why Commerce and Industry are so eager to snap up former officers and NCOs. — Peter G Redman, 46 Sunningdale Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 2NH.



Got something to say, a point to make or a story to tell? This is your page to exchange your news, views, comments and opinions. We're offering £5 for the best letter we publish every fortnight. All we ask is that you keep it brief and include your full name and address. Write to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

FOOLISH JOKE

As I sit here on the evening of March 0.85, in the year 198.2, I am thinking of Britain's wondrous new 'Metricated Military Might'. I refer to the new-sound cavalry units — Decimalised Dragoons, Logarithmed Lancers, and Heptahedroned Hussars! (SOLDIER 22 March).

This could have put a whole new language into battle-orders of the past: "With weapons at the ready, the British Cavalry were poised for battle — the order was given! Forward, the 2.7033 recurring Dragoons!"

But what, sir, of the infantry? Are their names to be up-dated? Being a chap who likes to make useful suggestions, may I suggest that their names be more personalised by being happily rhymed. Such as: The Jolly Green Jackets, Chirpy Cheshires, Happy Hampshires, and the Dittying Devon and Dorsets!

Colonel Legge-Poole is well known for his broad-minded outlook, so I'm told, by a couple of his compatriots, Major Jock Ular-Jape, and General Leigh-Hadd!

Nice one, SOLDIER! — John Billingsley, 2 Locombe Place, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 7HZ.

As announced in our last issue, Colonel Legge-Poole and the IAPR have had second thoughts about decimalising the cavalry, but we shall see that your proposals concerning the infantry are passed on to them, Mr Billingsley. Meanwhile, we're sending you £5 for your perfectly silly suggestions. — Ed.

Although the policy of having cavalry regiments stationed in Aldershot changed when the decision was made to mechanise we retain a keen interest in their fortunes. It was therefore refreshing to read that, for the second time in this century they propose to introduce an improving measure, this time by adopting decimalisation.

It was regrettable that the article — perhaps for lack of space — failed to deal adequately with the inevitable changes of seniority arising from the new titles. Presumably there will be a need to introduce at least a semblance

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Reunions

29/95 Commando Regt RA WOs/SNCOs Reunion 1982. The dinner will be held in 326 Station WOs & SNCOs Mess, The Royal Citadel on Sat 13 Nov 1982. All serving and ex-members are asked to come along and make the evening a success. There will be a ladies night on Fri 12 Nov 82 so the wives can renew acquaintances, also a lunch on Sunday 14 Nov if anyone requires it. Accommodation will be made available for anyone who needs it. Will those interested please write to: WO2 (BSM) R Hanking, 79 (Kirkee) Cdo Bty RA, 29 Cdo Regt RA, The Royal Citadel, Plymouth, Devon. Further details will be sent to all who reply.

Royal Pioneer Corps Association Annual Reunion will be held at

Simpson Bks, Wootton, Northampton on Saturday and Sunday 3/4 July 1982. Details from: Corps Secretary RPC, Corps HQ, Simpson Bks, Northampton, NN4 0HX.

The Annual Reunion of The Loyal Regiment Association will be held in the Masonic Hall, Saul St, Preston, Lancs on Saturday, 5 June 1982. Details from: The Secretary, The Loyal Regiment Association, Fulwood Bks, Preston, PR2 4AA. Tel: Preston 709846.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Ceylon and Pack Artillery Association Reunion. The Marine Pub, Eastbourne on 18 September. Details from: D A Knight ERD, 7 Jutland House, Woolwich, SE18 5HZ. (01-854 7376).

74th Medium Regiment Royal Artillery Annual Reunion. 6 to 11pm

Saturday 1 May at Bligh's Hotel, Sevenoaks, Kent. Details from: R. Somers, 104a Lee Road, Blackheath, London, SE3 9DE (01-852 6716).

How Observant Are You?

(See page 32)

1 Shopkeeper's shoulderstrap; 2 Body shape of left dolphin; 3 Palm frond above keeper's head; 4 Fish at right of keeper's basket; 5 Fin of fish in keeper's hand; 6 Front foot of girl behind keeper; 7 Lower fin of right dolphin; 8 Shape of splash below left dolphin; 9 Length of ship on horizon; 10 Bathing trunks of boy left of keeper.

Competition

Judging from the response to Competition 286, 'Faraway Places', many

readers wiled away the hours puzzling over the world's cities and towns. There were several cases where there was more than one answer and credit was given for all possible variations that met the conditions. The twenty names that most frequently occurred were Adelaide; Toulouse; Warsaw; Los Angeles; Dundee; New Orleans; Newquay; Swansea; Lille; Ottawa; Aberdare; Nuneaton; Eastbourne; Omaha; Batavia; Yokohama; Lahore; Dunedin; Santiago; and Miami. Prizewinners were: 1st M J Stokes, 87 Parkeston Cres, Kingstanding, Birmingham, B44 0PD. 2nd R Joyce, 14 The Oval, St Giles, Lincoln. 3rd Mrs M Hendstock, 60 Williams Cres, Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs. 4th Mrs D Hook, 28 Rochford Ave, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex. 5th Sgt F Embury, Depot Regt RA, RA Bks, Woolwich, London SE18.

See-the-Army

DIARY

This month we welcome back our popular feature that keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, parades, displays and similar occasions on which the public are welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. We shall be adding more events and more details in the months ahead. Events are sometimes altered, postponed or cancelled however so please check with local organisers before setting out. We hope too that organisers will advise us of any changes so that we can keep readers fully in the picture.

MAY 1982

- 1 Herts County Scouts Camp, Knebworth Park (Silver Stars RCT) (1-3 May).
- 2 Tulip Festival, Birmingham (1 QLR Band).
- 7 Newark and Notts Show (King's Tp RHA) (7-8 May).
- 14 Royal Windsor Horse Show (King's Tp RHA) (14-16 May).
- 15 Long Eaton Carnival, Derbyshire (White Helmets) (15-16 May).
- 19 West Midlands Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury (LI Depot, Arena Party, Flying Bugles) (19-20 May).
- 18 Chelsea Flower Show (Gren Gds Band) (18-21 May).
- 20 Devon County Show (Irish Gds Band) (20-22 May).
- 23 Brentwood Tattoo, Essex (3 R Anglian Band).
- 23 Harpenden Carnival, Herts (White Helmets).
- 23 Bedford River Carnival (1 R Anglian and Junior Regt Bands, R Signals Display Team) (23-30 May).
- 26 Beating Retreat Rehearsals (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division) (26, 27 and 31 May).
- 29 Congleton Carnival & Tattoo (Red Devils; Red Caps; Junior Leaders RA; Blue Arrows; RN Display Team; Queen's Colour Sqn RAF; RAF Police Dogs) (29-31 May).
- 29 Abbey Park Centenary, Leicester (3 R Anglian Band) (29-30 May).
- 29 1st rehearsal The Queen's Birthday Parade (Massed Bands, Pipes and Drums Household Division).
- 29 National Leisure Festival, Loughborough. (Kings Tp RHA) (29-31 May).

JUNE 1982

- 1 Beating Retreat, Horse Guards (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division) (1-3 June).
- 5 Bury Services Tattoo (RA Woolwich, 1 Green Howards, 1 DWR, 1 Cheshire, Red Caps, Red Devils, RAF Flying Display, RAF Police Dogs) (5-6 June).
- 5 2nd Rehearsal The Queen's Birthday Parade.
- 6 ABF Spectacular, Molineux Park (POW Div Depot (Lichfield) Band.)
- 6 Nottingham Festival (Coldstrm Gds Band) (6-11 June).
- 10 Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge (LI Depot, Arena, Flying Bugles) (10-12 June).
- 10 South of England Show (1 Queen's) (10-12 June).
- 12 Nottingham Festival Water Spectacular (1 WFR Band; White Helmets) (12-13 June).

- 12 The Queen's Birthday Parade (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division).
- 13 Duxford Air Display, Cambs (1 R Anglian Band).
- 17 Northampton Carnival (2 R Anglian Band).
- 18 Essex Show (1 R Anglian band; White Helmets, Red Devils) (18-19 June).
- 18 LI Regimental Retreat, Tidworth (2 & 3 LI Bands, LI Depot Band; Flying Bugles).
- 19 Ashford Extravaganza (19-20 June).
- 23 Aldershot Army Display 1982 (Massed Bands; White Helmets; Red Devils; Junior Leaders RA, RE, RCT; Princess Marina College; ASPT; King's Tp RHA; RMP; PCS; RAVC; Silver Stars; Flying Bugles) (23-27 June).
- 26 Gren Gds Association (Cambs) Golden Jubilee, Longstowe Park, Royston, Herts (Gren Gds band; Guards Freefall).
- 28 Airborne Forces Day (1 Para Band; displays) (28 Jun-5 July).
- 30 Royal Norfolk Show (RHG/D Mtd Band; H Cav Quadrille) (30 June-1 July).

JULY 1982

- 3 Army Open Day, Simpson Bks, Northampton (Coldm Gds, Junior Mus POW Div bands; Flying Bugles, RA MC JLR RE).
- 4 Royal Signals at Home, Catterick. Signals Band; White Helmets, JRRS Display team).
- 5 HM The Queen's Official Visit to Scotland 1982 (1 Gordons and 1 Para bands) (5-12 July).
- 7 Larkhill Massed Bands (RA Woolwich, RA Mounted, Band of Junior Leaders Regt RA, Band of Junior Musicians RA, R Signals Bands).
- 12 HM The Queen's Official Birthday Joint Services Beating Retreat.
- 12 Great Yorkshire Show (Massed bands, White Helmets) (12-16 July).
- 12 Basingstoke Carnival (POW Div band, Red Devils) (13-17 July).
- 14 The Royal Tournament (Massed bands; RN Fd Gun, RM Display, The King's Tp, RAF Police Dogs, Household Cavalry Display; Display by Rutgers Univ New Jersey, RAF Motor Cycle race) (14-31 July).
- 15 Kent City Show (15-17 July).
- 18 Royal International Horse Show, Wembley (RHG/D band) (18-24 July).
- 19 Royal Welsh Show (Junior gymnasts, RM helicopter display and bands) (19-22 July).
- 21 East of England Show, Peterborough (LI Depot bands; White Helmets, RGJ freefall) (21-22 July).
- 23 Middle Wallop Army Air Display (JLRRRA PT display team) (23-25 July).
- 23 Musical Extravaganza, Inglis Bks (RE Band).
- 23 Army Air Day (RA Mounted, 3 Para and Junior Leaders bands; RA M/C Junior, RA gymnastic) (23-25 July).
- 29 St Helens Show Tattoo (Irish Gds, 2 Royal Anglian, 2 LI, 1 QLR; RA M/C DT, Red Devils, Junior Leaders RA, RN Display team, RAF flying display) (29-31 July).

AUGUST 1982

- 4 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (Massed Bands; RAF Flypast and Falcons, RPC MHE display, Redcaps, White Helmets) (4-7 August).
- 7 Newport Spectacular (RA Mounted, RA Woolwich, 3 RRW, R MON RE(M), 157 Regt RCT bands; RA MC, freefall and junior PT, AA College Chepstow PT, RM helicopter display) (7-8 August).
- 11 Luton Musical Pageant (4/7 DG band).
- 13 Shrewsbury Flower Show (Coldm Gds and Welsh Guards Bands) (13-14 August).
- 14 Loughborough Tattoo, Leics (Queen's Div band; JRRS display) (14-15 August).
- 20 Edinburgh Military Tattoo (Massed Bands; Highland Dancers, RAF Queen's Colour Sqn; HM Kongens Garde, Norway; Fanfara dei Bersaglieri, Italy) (20 Aug-11 Sep).
- 28 South Tyneside Military Tattoo (2 LI and 3 LI bands; Flying Bugles) (28-29 August).
- 30 St Albans Carnival, Herts (Red Devils).

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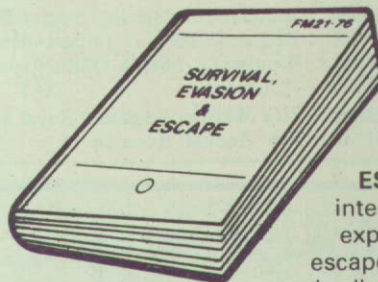
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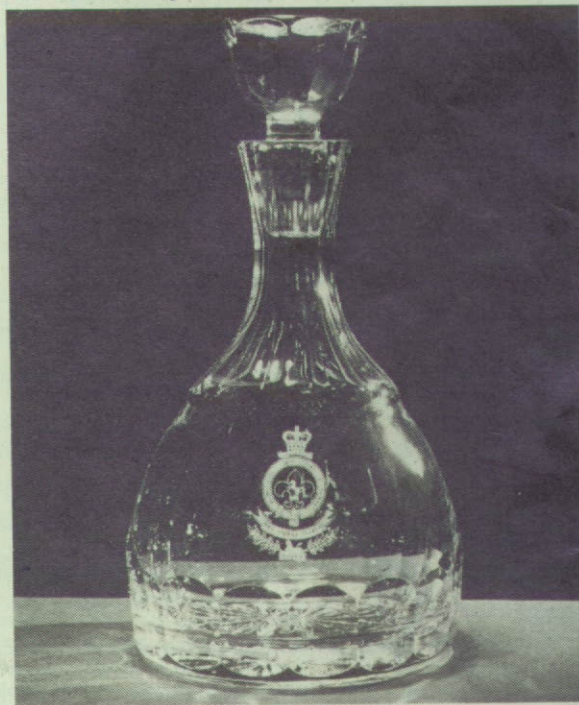
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How a brave man's wartime hobby is being brought to light again

TOOTHPASTE TUBE ARMY

Guard, approached the British Embassy in Copenhagen. She said: "My mother is still alive and we wanted to find a good home for the soldiers where they can be seen by as many people as possible."

In turn the Embassy offered examples to the National Army Museum in London and the Danish Resistance Museum in Copenhagen, as well as other military museums, including those of the Royal Artillery, the Parachute Regiment, the Royal Marines, and others which have long associations with Denmark such as the Green Howards and the Queen's Regiment.

The Queen's Regiment's connection with Denmark dates back three centuries via The Buffs, and the Danish Queen Margrethe is their Allied Colonel-in-Chief. Many Danes served with The Buffs in World War Two.

Their models, a typical wartime infantry section, have just arrived and are being prepared for display at the Queen's Regimental Museum at Howe Barracks, Canterbury.

A spokesman said: "The models are a fascinating tribute to a brave friend of Britain."

Now Mrs Hansen is trying to identify what she calls "the pearl of the collection" — a complete Scottish pipe band.

Mr George Randall, curator of the Queen's Regiment Museum, with one of the models.

Mogens Porst — model maker extraordinary.

IN THE DARK days of World War Two a member of the Danish Resistance took up an unusual and potentially dangerous hobby.

Under the noses of the Nazi occupation forces he set out to make model soldiers representing all arms of the British Army.

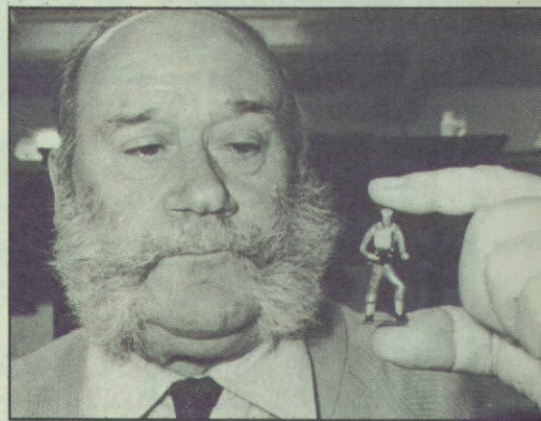
Materials were scarce, but after experimenting he found that by melting down old toothpaste tubes he could obtain enough metal to make an Army of more than 500 two-inch high models in home-made plaster moulds.

The models were based on the infantry, artillery and airborne divisions of the British Army of the 1940s — accurate in scale, equipment and weaponry.

Now, forty years later, small groups of this miniature Army are on their way to Britain to go on display at military museums.

The Danish Resistance man who made the models was Mogens Porst, a lawyer who lived in the Copenhagen suburb of Glostrup, and each one was carefully painted by his wife, Hanne.

He survived the war but died in the 1960s and recently his daughter, Mrs Lise Hansen, wife of a Royal Danish Air Force officer and herself an officer in the Danish Home



Story: David McDine

Close-up of a typical infantry section, now in the Queen's Museum at Canterbury.



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WHERE THE TALL SHIPS SAIL

The famous "Tall Ships Race" will attract thousands of international visitors to Falmouth this year. But for the locals the race will be just another attraction for the visitors. It seems the locals have come to terms with being in the path of the hordes of tourists who head for Cornwall's beauty spots each Spring and Summer.

The tourists and the influx of retired couples from London and the Midlands tends to push up house prices in Falmouth and other coastal centres. But there are still bungalows and houses galore that "Mr. Average" can afford. In places like Redruth there are small terraced properties on the market at prices as low as £9,500. But in Falmouth itself, there is not a great deal around at anything below £14,000. Semis start about £17,000. In Redruth detached bungalows are priced from £18,000 and detached houses from £20,000. In Falmouth similar properties are £6,000 to £8,000 more expensive.

Anyone with a bent to work in the tourist industry or who is a self-starter will find Cornwall to their liking. Be warned however, unemployment is high and many hotel and catering jobs tend to be seasonal. Motorways may bring greater prosperity to the region in the 80s. Well worth investigating now.

Pass Barton & Co, 15 Killigrew Street, Falmouth 0326-315809

Kerry Stephenson 01-439 3611/2.

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John Walton talks to the former Pay Corps corporal who won Olympic bronze in Moscow.

Memories of Mat man Mapp

THE MAN SITTING at the other side of the desk is big and powerful. Yet as he searches for just the right words to describe his Army experiences and the achievements which took him to the pinnacle of his sport the overall impression is that of a softly spoken, gentle man who knows that a careless word can unintentionally wound when it appears in cold print.

Arthur Mapp is the 18 stone Army pay clerk who won a bronze medal in the 1980 Olympics in the open judo class. Today he is out of the Army and assistant manager of Britain's national judo team.

Arthur was already a leading British judo star when he joined the Army in 1977 hoping that he could combine a career with sufficient time off to reach the top. But things didn't quite work out that way as he is to explain.

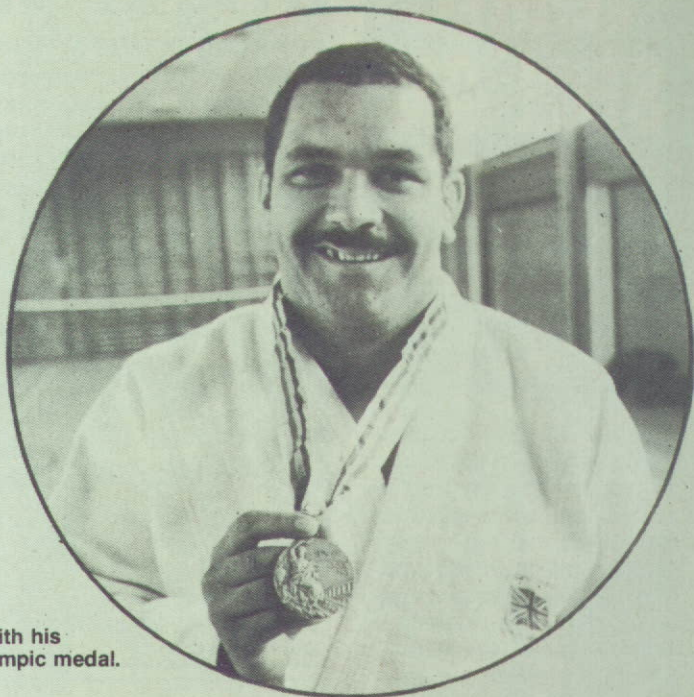
He reaches back to his teenage days when first his mother, then his brother, took up judo. "While we were play fighting at home my brother used to easily throw me on the ground and tie me up in knots. I thought there must be something in judo because I was bigger and stronger than he was."

Learning the basics of judo proved boring and repetitive however and the 15-year-old Arthur gave up after three months. But six months later he went back with his brother to the club in Leyton, East London, was persuaded to have a go, and — to his surprise — found that he was throwing other beginners easily.

"I realised that I must have some ability for it so I started going once or twice a week. And I soon discovered that there is a mystic bond between people who do judo."

After attaining his blue belt Arthur entered his first district competition and won. At the time he was a keen footballer and in Orient's youth team. But that win ended the football and spurred him on to greater heights in judo.

He began to teach judo to youngsters at his brother's club and as he moved into national prominence started his own club at Redbridge. "I enjoyed teaching and wanted to teach people my way. At this stage I had reached the number four spot in the national team and I put this down to teaching. You have to be able to know the techniques properly to be able to pass them on to the juniors."



Arthur with his 1980 Olympic medal.

In early 1975 he received a setback when he damaged a knee which he had previously injured at football. He was told he would never take part in sport again but a top knee specialist operated and stitched back the ligaments. After nine months lay-off he re-entered the sport and regained his Number Four slot. In the meantime his club of juniors had become acknowledged as the best in England.

In 1976 he was second reserve for the Olympics and decided to set his sights on the 1980 games. "My difficulty at this stage was employment. I had to train every evening plus go away with the national squad for week-end training sessions and international matches.

"Firms were reluctant to allow me time off work so I decided to combine a career with my sport and join the Army. I joined the RAPC because I had an 'O' level in accountancy and liked working with figures — not just female ones!"

He was posted to Woolwich, which was near the big judo clubs, and was told there that work came first and sport second. "But the paymaster said he would do his best to allow me time off to attend the training sessions and international matches for which I was picked."

In 1978 he had a good year and won several titles but in 1979 his work commitments increased considerably and he did not get enough time off to train and prepare for tournaments. "That was a lean year for me as regards international recognition."

Early in Olympic year he tore the ligaments in his knee again and was told that nothing could be done. But this time it was the Army who stepped in to help — with intensive physiotherapy at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich, they were able to build up the muscle around the knee joint so that he could continue with his Olympic preparations.

Then the political storm burst over the Moscow Olympics. Arthur was asked not to go — although no strong pressure was brought to bear. "I felt politics should not be involved in sport and this was my golden and only chance seeing that I was 26, which is reputedly the peak of everyone's sporting career."

Saving up his leave for the Olympics Arthur returned with his bronze medal — only to find that the Army could not even congratulate him because of the political situation. "I was a little bit upset with the fact that recognition of my achievements had to be muted," he admits.

After that Arthur decided to join the APTC so that he could take over the Army judo team and train them. But in the world championships in Holland last year he dislocated his knee again.

"After this disappointing performance I definitely decided to retire. The post of assistant national team manager became vacant and this was my ultimate aim for the future — to train the national team."

Able to comment on Army judo freely at last, Arthur says it is at a standstill. He feels that the people in charge of the sport have good ideas but are hindered by excess paper work and red tape.

"With the cutbacks the Army has suffered it just cannot afford to give players the time off they need to train and become world champions despite having the facilities on hand. You have Armstrong and Travis and some good up and coming youngsters but they all have to do their work first."

Arthur Mapp was at the recent Army judo championships. That was because, despite any disappointments he may have felt in his own Army career, "I want to help them in whatever way I can because they have players who can become future Olympic champions."

VEHRTE STILL ON TARGET

THINGS ARE REALLY hot-ting up in our darts contest and the top marksmen have been producing some great throwing.

Vehrte CC, who marked themselves as front-runners with some fine finishing in Round Two, confirmed their class with the best three-game total of the third round. None of their players scored less than 55 in a single turn and their scores of 23-24-27 were just a shade too good for the Ore Place Social Club. Spare a thought though for Ore who notched up 12 tons and totalled only 81 darts — good enough to have won several ties.

There was a magnificent match between The Hawks of Hohne and Band 1RRF from Minden. The bandsmen won the first leg 27-29, lost the second 28-26 and tied the third 27 each — so Hawks squeezed through by a single dart on aggregate, notching up thirteen tons in the process including five from L/Cpl Geoff Duxbury.

Glen Parva Sgts Mess needed only 77 darts to dispose of the Ant Hill Mob 2-1 and the Nomads from Cyprus only two more to beat TRRE REME Wksp. The Muppets proved too strong for Stampers and the Kolsas Killers despatched Cpls Mess R Irish 3-0, WO1 Sid Noble weighing in with three tons plus a 140.

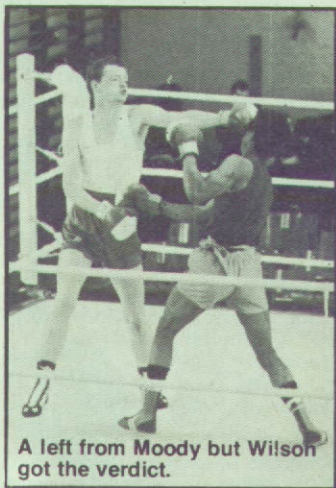
Draw for the fourth round is: Kolsas Killers v Muppets; CPO BAOR Sgts Mess v The Hawks; Nomads v Eskmeal Owls; Vehrte CC v Glen Parva Sgts Mess.



4th ROUND

Bright prospects for boxing

FEARING CONTAGION from an outbreak of meningitis at Shorncliffe, this year's Army Junior Individual Boxing Championships were switched



A left from Moody but Wilson got the verdict.

at the eleventh hour to Connaught Barracks, Dover. It was a dramatic start to an exciting three day event during which young boxers from Junior Leaders Regiments and Apprentices Colleges gave their best hoping to make a name for themselves in Army boxing.

Out of eight bouts, each of three two-minute rounds, in the class C finals (age 17 and over) three fights received the praise of the referee. Only one contest was stopped — the relentless JGnr Wayne Marshall hammering his unfortunate opponent into dazed defencelessness.

Highlight of the morning programme was a light heavyweight contest between JSgt Colin Chase, RAC and JCpl Neil Roome, R Sigs. Despite

starting confidently Chase was soon on the receiving end of a sustained onslaught and was desperately defending his head from the blows. The first round bell came to his rescue though and by the third round the issue was still wide open, Chase proving his skill as a tactician and Roome showing a fine aggressive spirit.

Just before time Chase paid his opponent back for the bombardment he suffered in the first round and poured in a broadside on the exhausted Roome. Both lads were congratulated by the referee and a majority decision gave the title to Chase.

The Class B finals (under 17) also saw some promising young boxers in action and there was a good fight in the light middleweight contest between J Sig Martin Moody, R Sigs and JInf Orlando Wilson, Depot Para. Wilson's long swinging lefts gave him the edge but his temper got the better of him at times and he had to withstand a fierce counter-attack by Moody before gaining a majority decision.

Officials agreed that the standard this year was consistently high, with competitors coming from more units than ever before.

Full results (Class C): Bantam — JGnr Topping Dept LI; Feather — JPte Angus Depot LI; Light — JTpr Rossiter JLR RAC; Light Welter — JInf Dobson Depot PARA; Welter — JInf Spencer Depot PARA; Light Middle — JGnr Marshall JLR RA; Middle — JLCpl Hammond Depot QUEENS; Light Heavy — JSgt Chase JLR RAC. (Class B): Fly — JPte Howells Depot LI; Bantam — JDvr Ingram JLR RCT; Feather — JFus Marshall Depot QUEENS; Light — JDvr Harrison FLR RCT; Light Welter — JDvr Howe JLR RCT; Welter — JGnr Scrimshaw Depot QUEENS; Light Middle — JInf Wilson Depot PARA.

SANDHURST HAVE TO WORK

RMA SANDHURST predictably won the *Soldier Magazine* Cup for major units in the Army squash finals but Rhine Army champions, 4 Armoured Division Regiment RCT put up a spirited defence.

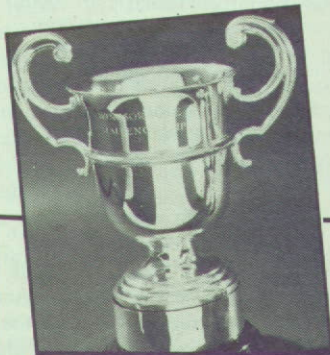
In the UK finals Sandhurst made a complete whitewash of their opponents, Depot Regiment RE, winning all five matches 3-0. But against the RCT only three of their team managed clean sheets with one

contest going to Sandhurst 3-2 and the fifth 3-1.

9 Ordnance Battalion from Devizes were also strongly fancied to win the *Soldier News* Cup for minor units. They took the UK title easily enough with a 5-0 win over the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate.

However, their star player and Army champion, WO2 Robbie Robinson, was absent for the Army final and this almost cost them the title. The BAOR winners, 22 Armoured Brigade, appeared to be heading for an upset when their fourth and fifth strings, Captain Ces Swindon and Major Mike Raworth, had convincing wins.

Tension ran high during the third string match when WO1 Mansel Thomas raced to an 8-0 lead in the first game only to lose his concentration and the match to Major Stuart Champion. Corporal Clark Adam and Lt-Col Ted Champion wrapped it all up.



The Royal Air Force became the first winners of the new Windsor Life Challenge Cup given for the annual Rugby match between the RAF and the Army at Twickenham.

The Air Force finally emerged in front by ten points to six in a scrappy game watched by a disappointingly small crowd. The Army had much of the play but their only score was a try by Williams in the first quarter of an hour which was converted by Abbott.



Arborfield come from behind to take title

A FINE SECOND HALF comeback saw Princess Marina College, Arborfield, emerge as this year's Army basketball champions when they beat the Rhine Army winners, Dusseldorf Station by 67 points to 56.

After a nervous start Captain Terry Goulding (see picture) opened the scoring for Arborfield with a short jump shot. Eventually the height of 6ft 7ins tall WO1 Eric Ricketts overpowered the Princess Marina team and Dusseldorf crept ahead. The fast break techniques of Sergeant Ken Smith helped them maintain a 38-23 lead at half time.

But in the second half it was a different story. Sharp defensive work by the Arborfield forwards and timely rebounding by the backs stifled Dusseldorf. Goulding used his wily experience to draw players out of position which allowed Lieutenant Mike Smith to score seven baskets in a row to draw level. Craftsman 'Manny' Emmanuel added some timely baskets and Corporal Frank Pask put in two fine outside jump shots.

Dusseldorf looked completely demoralised at this stage although WO1 Mike Stevens tried desperately to level the scores. But Sergeant 'Mac' McCracken for Princess Marina College came back with strong under-the-basket scoring and the final seconds ticked away with freeze ball tactics from Arborfield.

Voted outstanding player of the match was Mike Smith. In the UKLF championships earlier Sergeant Davie Stewart of 39 Engineer Regiment had taken the most valuable player award.

Princess Marina won the UKLF major units title and the minor units crown went to the Apprentice College ACC. Junior winners were: major units — Apprentice College, Harrogate; minor units — Princess Marina College.



VOLLEYBALL LANCERS GET THEIR REVENGE

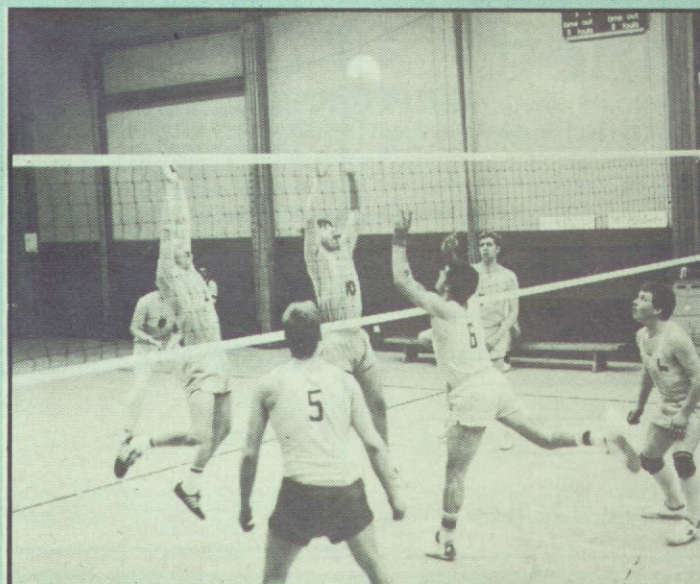
VICTORY WENT to the 9th/12th Lancers in a decisive win against the Army Catering Corps Training Centre in the Army Inter-unit Volleyball Championships played in Aldershot.

The Lancers took an early lead in the first set to win 15-4 with the Chefs never hanging on to the ball long enough to make an impact. There was a close-fought start to the second set with ACC fighting all the way. But they still lost as the Lancers proved themselves slightly superior in tactics.

By the third set both sides were showing signs of fatigue which was not surprising since each had won their place in the final after a whole day's play. The weary Chefs now put up only a token resistance to the cavalrymen who took the set 15-4 to ensure their grasp of the spectacular Wilkinson Sword Trophy. They were BAOR champions

last year as well — but narrowly lost the Army final.

A tense rally in the 2nd set. ▼



SPORTS SHORTS

The Junior Regiment, Royal Signals won the Army junior inter-unit boxing championship, beating the Queen's Division Depot by seven bouts to four in the final.

The sharpshooters from 4th

Armoured Division in Germany beat the UKLF winners, South East District by ten points in a close final of the Army District/Division Small Bore Target Rifle Championships at Bordon.

The British Army finished second in the inter-nation military team race held in conjunction with the Open International Cross-country race at Brunssum, Holland. The Belgian Armed Forces were the winners with the RAF third. Top Army runner was Corporal Andy Robertson of AAC Harrogate, who finished 13th in a field which was won by world class athlete Emil Puttemans. Other Army placings were Captain Glen Grant RA (17th), Pte Tony Barlow 3 Para (20th), Sgt Billy Cain R Sigs (21st), Cpl Norman Wilson 1 PWO (26th), WO2 Taffy Davies 8 Cadet Training Team (27th). Individual runners were Pte Mark Lassister Mill Hill (31st) and L/Cpl Tony Collins RE (41st).

Scottish lads of the Army Cadet Force took the top five places in this winter's ACF postal small bore competition against teams from all over the United Kingdom. The winning team came from 'C' Troop, Caledonian Cadets, Royal Artillery, based in Glasgow.

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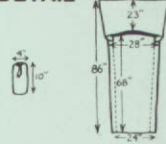
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