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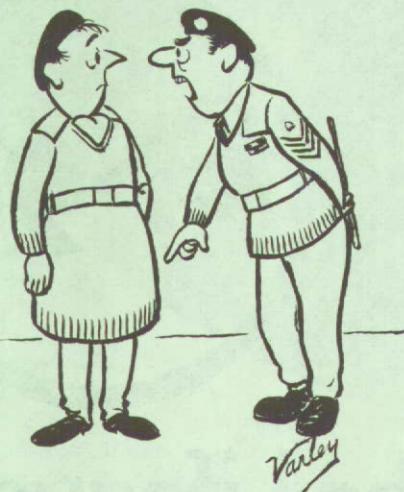
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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

MARCH 1972

200th anniversary, Corps of Royal Engineers.
6 Royal Engineers bi-centenary parade, Gibraltar.

APRIL 1972

22 Perth Festival (bands).
27 Irvine Tattoo.
28 Oxfordshire County Show (band).
29 Army recruiting display, Peterborough (29-30 April).

MAY 1972

6 Army recruiting display, Cardiff (6-7 May).
6 14 Signal Regiment open day, Worcester.
13 Army recruiting display, Swansea (13-14 May).
13 Allied Forces Day, Berlin (bands).
19 Army recruiting display, Bolton/Salford (19-21 May).
20 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade London.
20 Ten Tors expedition, Dartmoor (20-21 May).
24 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (24-25 May).
27 Army recruiting display, Congleton (27-28 May).
27 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
27 Tidworth Tattoo (27-29 May).
29 Hertfordshire County Show (bands).
29 Royal Ulster Agricultural Show, Balmoral, Belfast (29 May-3 June) (bands).
31 Suffolk Show (31 May-1 June) (band).

JUNE 1972

3 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
3 Pipes and drums, Dumfries.
3 Salisbury Hospital Fête (provisional date) (band).
3 Beating Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
3 Devon Traction Rally, Newton Abbot (3-4 June) (motor-cycle display team).
5 Pipes and drums, Dalbeattie.
10 Catterick Open Day.
10 Pipes and drums, Kirkcaldy.
16 Essex County Show (16-17 June) (band).
17 Aldershot Army Display (17-18 June).
17 North Wilts ACF Tattoo, Swindon.
17 Open Day, Army Apprentices College, Harrogate.
24 Dumbarton Tattoo.
24 Lord Mayor's parade, Cardiff (bands, floats).
26 Dover Army Week (26 June-1 July).
30 HQ Yorkshire District, Strensall, closes (massed bands, beating Retreat).
30 Army Display, Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich (30 June, 1-2 July).

JULY 1972

8 Closure ceremonies, HQ Western Command, Chester.
10 Massed bands display, Larkhill (10-11 July).



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DIARY

continued

- 12 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (12-29 July).
- 14 Cheltenham Tattoo (14-15 July).
- 15 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 22 Gloucester Carnival (band).
- 22 Stroud Show (band).
- 26 Inverness Tattoo (26 July-3 August).
- 29 Beating Retreat, 38 Engineer Regiment weekend, Ripon (29-30 July).
- 29 Plymouth Air Show.

AUGUST 1972

- 1 Tyneside Summer Exhibition (1-5 August).
- 2 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (2-5 August).
- 4 Nottingham Army Display (4-6 August).
- 6 Old Contemptibles Association annual parade and service, Aldershot.
- 18 Edinburgh Tattoo (18 August-9 September).
- 18 Reading Show (18-19 August) (band).

SEPTEMBER 1972

- 6 Army recruiting display, Preston (6-9 September).
- 14 Carlisle Tattoo (14-16 September).
- 15 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (15-16 September).
- 16 Army recruiting display, Liverpool (16-17 September).
- 19 Centenary, Roundhay Park, Leeds (or 22 September) (bands).
- 21 Thame Royal British Legion Fete (band).
- 22 Centenary, Roundhay Park, Leeds (if not 19 September) (bands).
- 23 Army recruiting display, Wrexham (23-24 September).

NOVEMBER 1972

- 11 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall, London.
- 11 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 12 Remembrance Sunday.

MAY 1973

- 26 Tidworth Tattoo (26-27 May).

JUNE 1973

- 9 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 16 Aldershot Army display (16-17 or 23-24 June).

JULY 1973

- 11 Royal Tournament (11-28 July).

AUGUST 1973

- 3 Cardiff Tattoo (3-11 August).
- 6 Edinburgh Tattoo (6 August-9 September).

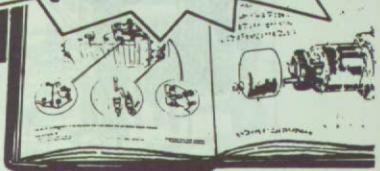
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SOLDIER to Soldier

The Army's "pre-university officer" pilot scheme, designed to give school leavers constructive employment as second-lieutenants in the period before university has been so successful that a second course is being held with an intake of twice the size. Up to 60 young men will enter Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot, next month and later serve as junior officers for several months with Army units worldwide. Many applications have been received and the Army is now considering a more permanent scheme.

This short-service limited commission resulted from a suggestion made at the 1969 headmasters' conference at Sandhurst. The first intake of 24 school leavers joined Mons last February after passing the Regular Commissions Board. After three weeks' introduction to junior command (SOLDIER, May 1971) they were commissioned as second-lieutenants and joined a variety of corps and regiments for further training and later employment under supervision as platoon commanders or troop leaders.

After serving in many parts of the world, from the Hong Kong border to Rhine Army, the young men are now at their universities. One postponed going up until this year to serve on in the Grenadier Guards.

Commanding officers have commented that they were "of very high calibre academically, in intelligence and generally in officer qualities."

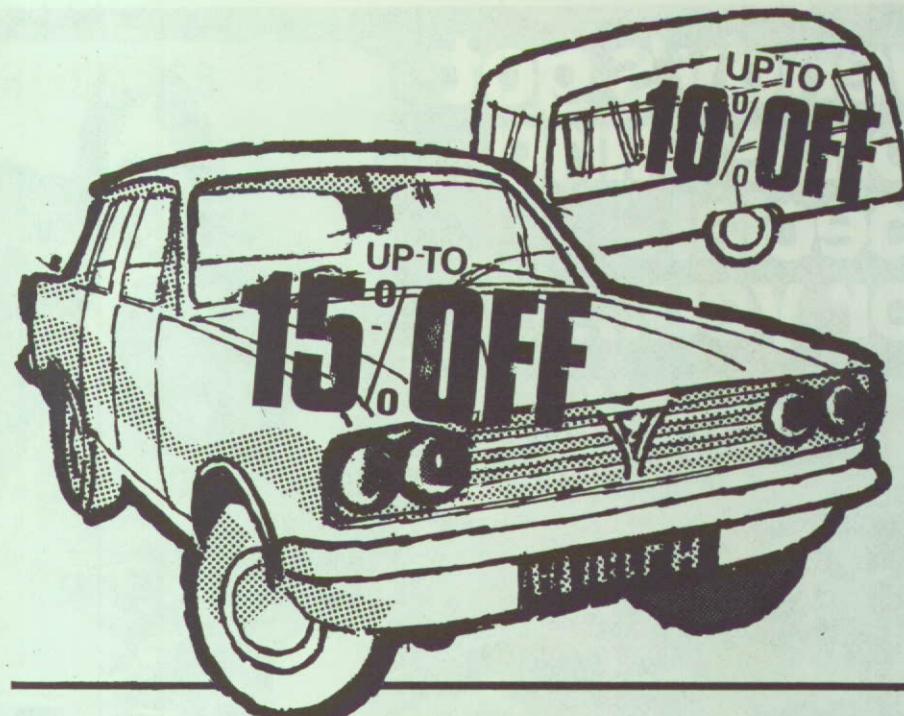
Those of the young men who decided to make a career in the Army have been awarded Army university cadetships and will return to their regiments or corps after graduating. The others have commented generally that their service has been "extremely worthwhile."

★

The Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood has announced a change in the statutes of the Order of the British Empire. In answer to a question in the House of Commons the Prime Minister stated: "The Queen has approved a proposal that the statutes of the Order of the British Empire should be amended so that when a person is promoted in the order from the Military Division to the Civilian Division or vice versa, the insignia of the lower class may be retained and worn together with those of the higher class on the appropriate occasions."

In the past it has been normal on promotion to return the insignia of the lower division. This created an anomaly between the Order of the British Empire and the Order of the Bath in which a person promoted from one division to the other is entitled to retain and wear the insignia of the lower order.

This statute change means also that members of the Order of the British Empire who received the award for gallantry and were subsequently promoted to the Civil Division may now apply to retain and wear the insignia of the Military Division as well as that of the Civil Division. Members of the Order of the British Empire who wish to apply for the return of insignia handed in on promotion should write, stating full forenames and surname, to the Secretary, Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, 8 Buckingham Gate, London SW1.



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British Army HEADDRESS



CAMERONIANS SHAKO 1900

THE shako worn by The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) was introduced in 1892. Previously they had worn the home service helmet (SOLDIER January 1971).

The body was of rifle-green cloth and measured 4½ inches high in the front and 7½ inches high at the back. The top and bottom of the shako were bound in black thistle pattern lace, the top band being ½ of an inch wide and the bottom 1¾ inches wide.

Black twisted cap lines were attached to either side of the headdress, hooked on to small thistle ornaments in bronzed metal and hung down in the front above the black patent leather peak.

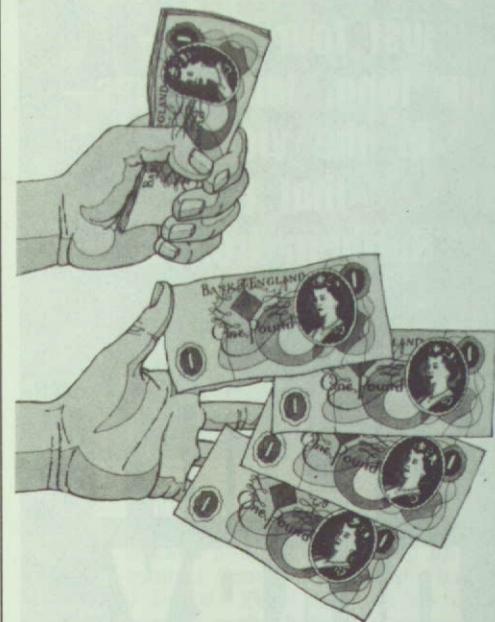
The top front of the shako was ornamented with a black twisted cord boss embellished with the Douglas mullet, in bronze. Below the corded boss was a stringed bugle also in bronze.

Fitting into a socket behind the corded boss, the plume stood seven inches high and was made of black ostrich feathers with a black vulture feather base, the whole fitting into a bronze ball and leaf supporter.

The Cameronians were raised in 1689 and joined the Earl of Angus to preserve the Presbyterian Church. In 1881, under the Cardwell Army Reforms, they were designated a rifle regiment and finally, after nearly 300 years' service, were disbanded on 14 May 1968 as part of the Labour Government defence cuts.

C Wilkinson-Latham

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and gone tonight?



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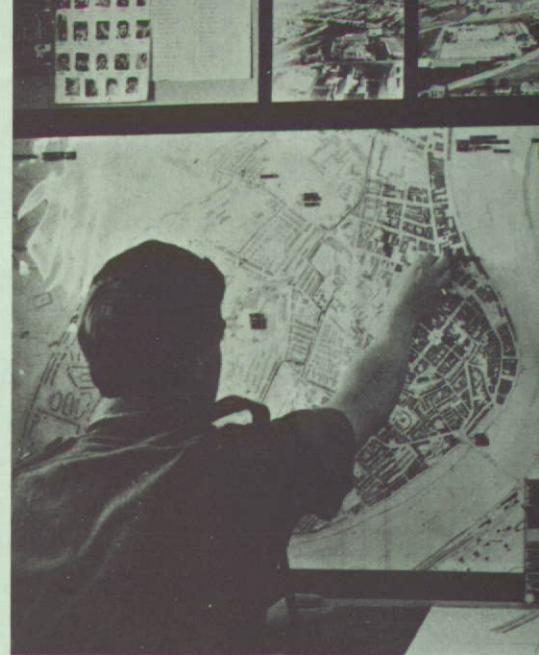
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PAGE 11

SOLDIER
shares with
gunner infantrymen
just four days—
four long, tense days—
in the violence
that is
Northern Ireland
today

'DERRY DIARY





Far left: A gunner takes cover from stone-throwers at Blighs Lane. Left: Sappers of 1 Troop, 8 Field Squadron, blow up an unapproved road at Drumcull near the border with Eire. Below: First they set up three small charges to make holes for charges to crater the road. Above: Lieut John Blanch in the operations room at maintenance base.



SATURDAY MORNING

It is good "aggro" weather. Under a clear blue sky and a warm autumn sun the River Foyle ripples with golden light, giving Londonderry's waterfront a Mediterranean look. But for men of 45 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, good weather is bad news. They know it will bring out the "yobbos" and hooligans to start the mindless fracas for which this pretty little town has become infamous. They are right.

All is activity at the regiment's tactical headquarters in the well-protected maintenance base, an old wartime submarine depot on the Foyle. The Blighs Lane supply column is readying itself for its ten-minute run of violence and abuse. Stones, bricks, bottles—filled or not with petrol—and foul-mouthed abuse will come from the gun-law area of the Creggan. No "soft-topped" vehicle can make this

run and survive the battering so the supplies upon which the Blighs Lane men of 176 (Abu Klea) Battery entirely depend are being loaded on to "pigs" (armoured vehicles). Ammunition, riot guns, rubber bullets, food and not least the flak-vested men ready and willing to protect the vehicles.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

It is 1400 hours and time for the column to make its dash up to Blighs Lane. We climb into the "pigs" and with deafening roaring engines leave what now seems the very desirable security of the maintenance base. We move quickly. As a sergeant does his radio checks he raises and lowers the door visor, watching for the inevitable barrage. It is not long in coming. One moment a sanity of sorts, the next all hell breaks loose. The inside of the armour-

plated "pig" booms like a bass drum every time a brick hits it—and there are an incredible number. Youths and children have appeared from thin air. Riot guns blast out their rubber bullets. Cordite fumes sting the nostrils and the eyes; the incessant clatter is almost unbearable. Although half-an-inch or more of armour separates us from the stone-throwers each missile striking the "pig" makes one duck instinctively and unreasonably—but reason has no place in this situation. At last we reach the heavily guarded gates of Blighs Lane. Out from cover to open them come men protected only by fibre-glass shields. The mob turns its attention to the "softer" target and the soldiers brave a hail of hate. We roar in at speed and the gates are locked behind us. The tension eases but we stay inside the "pig" until we are clear of possible sniper fire.



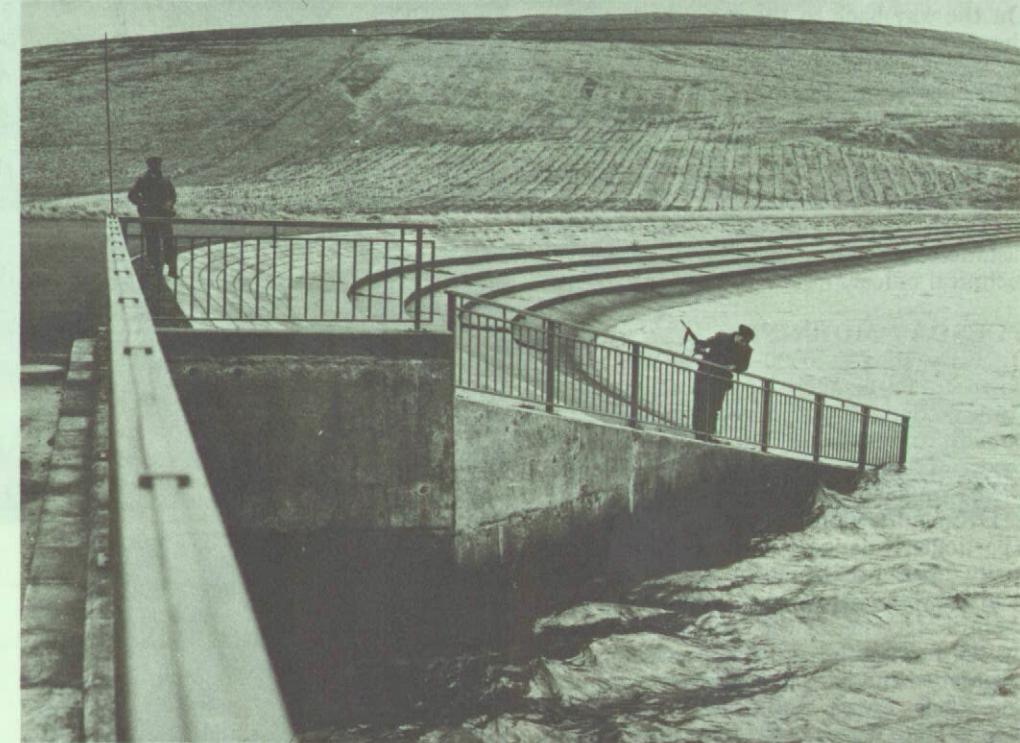
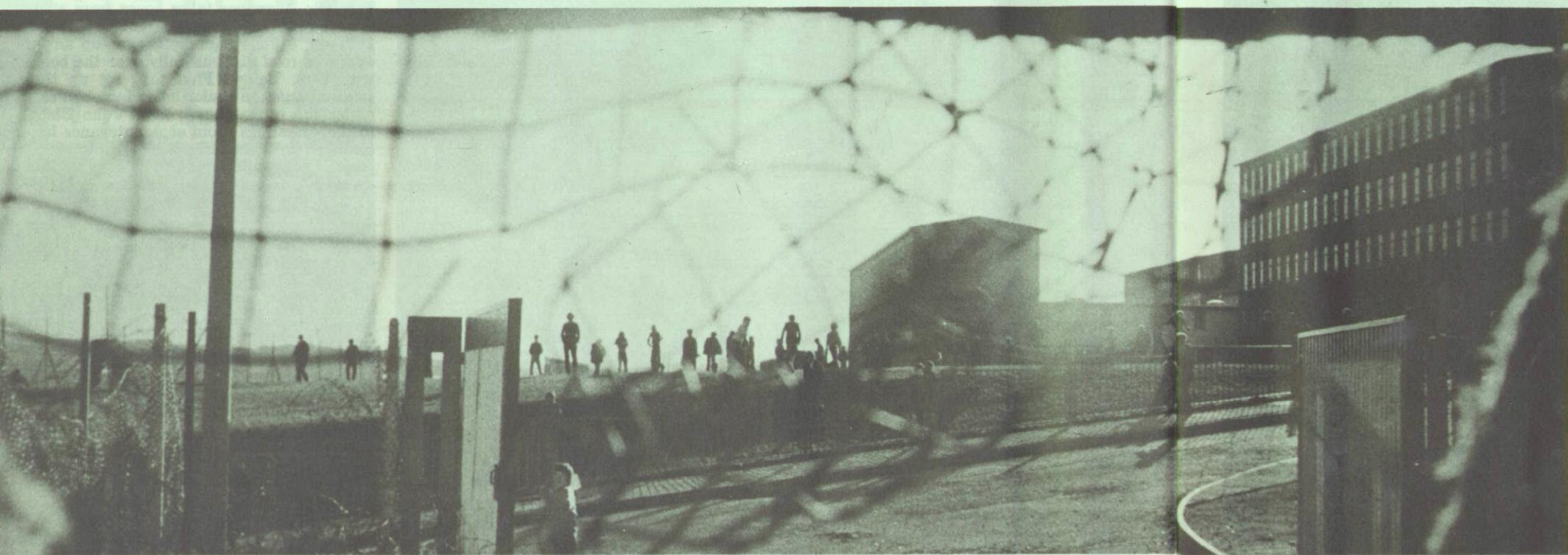
Left: Heavily sandbagged barrier built across the road approaching the Royal Ulster Constabulary station, Rosemount.

Right: Taking a risk, a kindly villager lady living right on the border, makes a welcome "cuppa" for a patrol.

Far right: Gunners of 170 (Imjin) Battery making a patrol on Lough Erne in their outboard-motored assault craft.

Below: Looking out from the main gate sangar at Blighs Lane. The sangar is a target of incessant stone-throwing.

Below right: 11 Platoon of H Battery (Ramsays Troop), 39 Missile Regiment, checking Altanahinch Dam, Ballymoney.



from the Creggan houses overlooking most of the complex that is Blighs Lane. A first impression is of a corporation tip. The place is feet deep in rubble, dead trees, burned-out lorries, barrels, old iron, anything and everything that will make a barricade which in turn the sappers have bulldozed inside the compound to prevent its further use. The aim of the barricades is to isolate Blighs Lane, "home" of two Royal Ulster Constabulary men, a small detachment of Royal Military Police and 115 officers and men of 176 Battery whose task is to protect and maintain the presence of the policemen.

At the rear of the compound is the notorious Creggan from which come the "bombers" and gunmen, a constant threat to life and limb. On the left front is Stones Corner, scene of many a riot; to the right, the main gate and entrance to a factory still working in a half-hearted way. At this gate the stone-throwers are gathered. The atmosphere is one of watchful alertness inside the compound; tension is ever-present here. Flak vests are worn constantly.

In the "ops" room Major John Harman, commanding 176 Battery, and his team are analysing information coming in from the sangars that are the many eyes of the compound. He breaks off to talk with justifiable pride about "my soldiers" who have to take this hammering for two weeks, their stint in Blighs Lane. He talks about the seven weeks out of three months which the gunners had to prepare themselves for an infantry role. Weapon training, rifle classification, riot control practice (including throwing stones and real petrol bombs at each other) and all other aspects of internal security culminated in a four-day battery exercise.

Major Harman talks about the way his soldiers stood up to their baptism of fire during a petrol bomb attack of considerable ferocity on the very day they arrived in Northern Ireland. While he talks, radio sets crackle out messages reporting an incessant attack on a "pig" placed across a gap in the compound wire; the noise of riot guns punctuates his sentences.

SATURDAY NIGHT/SUNDAY MORNING

The stone-throwers went home some hours ago; it is relatively quiet now. Only the occasional brick is heaved by a passing boy or man at the "pig" or at the main gate sangar.

A meal, then a beer and a seat by the television seem to be the best way to await further action. The restraint shown by the soldiers enduring mob violence—of which their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Ellwood, "stands in awe"—is there too in their off-duty time. No drunkenness and not one soldier has "blown his top."

It is now 0400 hours and it is Sunday. Oscar 9, the sangar facing the Creggan, reports that four rounds have struck the banking just below the sangar. The bombardier in charge looks in the direction from which the fire came, into what appears to be total darkness, but he uses a starlight scope, an image-intensifying device giving a clear view of what is happening. He sees a man emerging from a back road garage.

The man moves into light from a street lamp. The bombardier now picks up his rifle—the man is carrying an American M1 high-velocity rifle at the hip. The bombardier knows from an earlier report that possibly three gunmen are liable to appear. Delay may be fatal. He shoots. The bullet appears to go through the man's shoulder and hit the wall behind him. He falls, crawls into the garage on hands and knees and is not seen again. Oscar 8 reports seeing another man going into the garage. Over at Oscar 5 a man is spotted in trees on the corner of Demesne Gardens and Beechwood Avenue. This one is wasting no time. He raises his high-powered rifle to his shoulder but an alert gunner quickly shoots him. He falls into a hedge. Some people lift what looks like a body and carry it away.

All is now quiet again. It is 0550 hours. At the ops room the log shows it has been a lively night all over 'Derry. Thankfully, for the men of 176 Battery, it has passed without any casualties.

It is 1000 hours and time to leave this

isolated outpost. Once more we face the barrage and this time crash our way through two smallish barriers, obviously not completed but big enough to jolt all of us in the "pig." We roar down to the maintenance area and comparative safety.

Now 1030 hours and we are patrolling the enclave with men of 52 (Niagara) Battery in Land-Rovers and a "pig." The Land-Rover protection, although designed to stop low-velocity bullets, seems very inadequate after the "pig." The bombardier sitting in the back is appropriately "riding shotgun" to Sheriff's Mountain, site of a BBC TV mast. The mast is checked, the staff feels reassured that the Army is keeping an eye on them, and we go on to the next point. This is an unapproved road leading from Coshquin to the frontier with the south. Large concrete blocks have to be checked. All is well. On the way back we are pleasantly surprised by a lady who brings tea and brown bread-and-butter for the patrol. Then off to the Buncrana Road customs point, blown up in July and scene of a

later gun battle. A customs officer reports all well and after a thorough check we move off again. On the Ballynagard road the patrol throws up a quick road block and for some 20 minutes checks cars coming and going.

Then back to base after an exhausting and somewhat tense morning.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Now to 6 Medium Battery, temporarily attached to 45 Medium Regiment from 27 Medium Regiment. Its task is to protect the Rosemount RUC station, scene of a recent savage bomb attack in which two gunners were killed. The bitterness of their comrades is natural but controlled. Since they arrived in Northern Ireland the gunners have been subjected to almost non-stop attack. On their first day they were guarding the Mex petrol station and in 36 hours had 13 gelignite bombs (one of which blew a 16-foot hole in a wall), nine acid bombs, more than 100 petrol bombs and hundredweights of stones thrown at them. In the six weeks since they had not had

one day off. The strain was there, but so too was a determination to "see the job through."

MONDAY

At 0900 hours we are off to visit H Battery (Ramsays Troop) of 39 Missile Regiment, attached to 45 Medium Regiment for this tour. At Magherafelt, Major Martin Scicluna, a Maltese officer, briefs us on his battery's role. With a bombardier of 11 Platoon (infantry terms, but not ranks, have been adopted by the gunners) we patrol an area, keeping an eye on key points. In the afternoon we visit 10 Platoon, operating in inaccessible areas of the Sperrin Mountains with RAF Wessex helicopters which enable them to drop suddenly on to a mountain road and set up a road block.

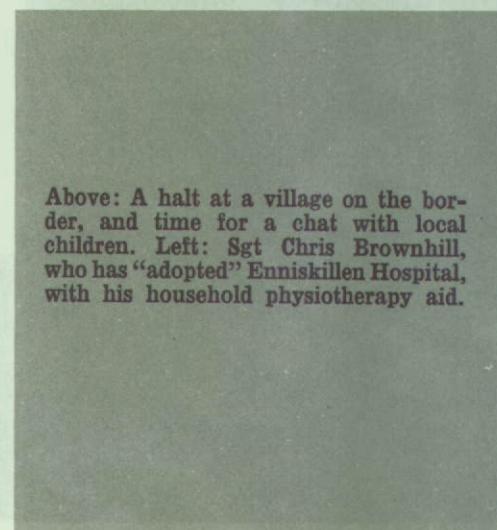
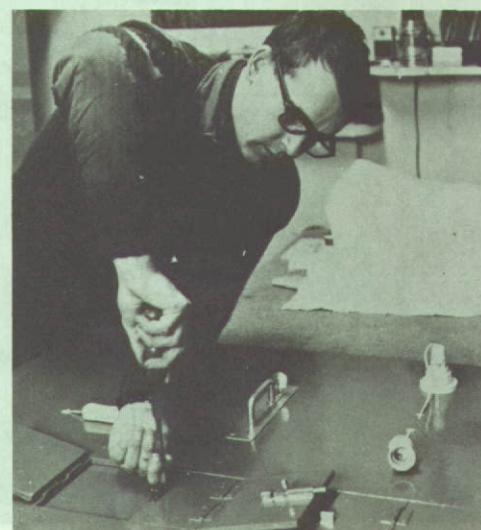
On the way back to the maintenance base the Royal Ulster Constabulary stops us at Ballymena—they would like Major Tony Weston, our guide, to check a vehicle they think may be booby-trapped. A pale-blue Ford Thames van is parked on the pavement in Glenorm Road. Major Weston takes a careful look, advises the police to keep a guard on it from a safe distance and radios base for an explosives technical officer.

TUESDAY MORNING

An early start at 0500 on the long drive down to Fermanagh County to visit 170 (Imjin) Battery at Lisgoole School just outside Enniskillen. The first job is to escort and protect sappers of 1 Troop, 8 Field Squadron, to an unapproved road at Drumcully which they will blow. This is a particularly dangerous task as gunmen can easily open fire from the safety of Eire. And they do. After two very tense hours there is a crater in the road 30 feet wide by 25 feet deep. With a precision born of practice and hard experience the sappers and their escort withdraw, covered by men of 170 Battery. No time is wasted in "getting the hell outa here."

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

The energy and stamina of these young gunners is amazing. Guards, patrols, stand-by, hour after hour, week after week, month after month. Yet in their precious quiet moments they think of others even less fortunate than themselves. Sergeant Chris Brownhill has "adopted" Enniskillen Hospital. To help physiotherapists restore the use of patients' limbs he has made several equipments, one of them named by a physiotherapist the Integral Motivation Judgement Index Numerator—IMJIN, the name of the battery. Sergeant Brownhill is already working on another—a panel of light switches, door locks and other household items. The rain buckets down and we are off from Lisgoole School to see another of the battery's tasks, a boat patrol on Lough Erne. We climb into their outboard motor assault craft and in a soaking spray, academic in this weather, we put out. The soldiers are wet to the skin but they keep their humour dry—"it's not much like



Above: A halt at a village on the border, and time for a chat with local children. Left: Sgt Chris Brownhill, who has "adopted" Enniskillen Hospital, with his household physiotherapy aid.

b----y Brighton."

We head back to 'Derry soaked, cold and conscious that this is an everyday chore for the lads of 170 Battery.

TUESDAY NIGHT

It is dance night at Drumahoe, the one bright spot in a thoroughly miserable and tense day. Local girls come into the camp,

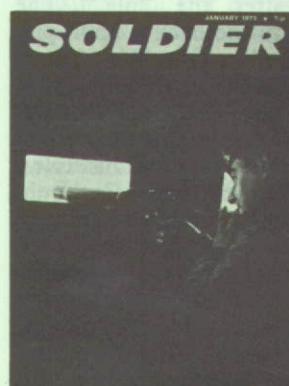
after being checked, and help to make the evening enjoyable. They even help to decorate the room. Two girls think so highly of the gunners that they intend to visit the regiment in Germany.

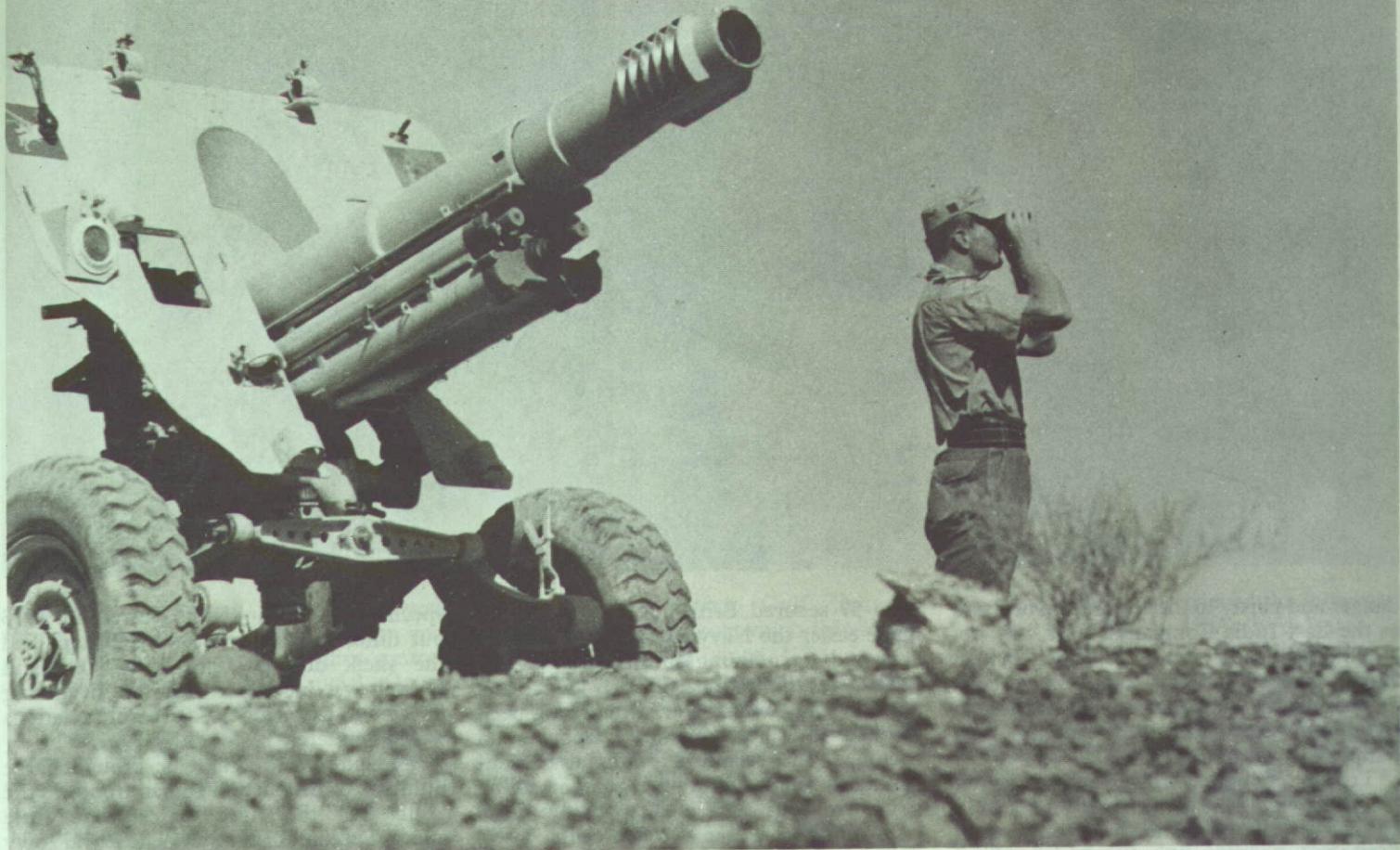
Tomorrow we leave Londonderry—with a lasting admiration for these gunner infantrymen. Thanks, lads, it was a privilege to spend these few days with you.

COVER PICTURES

Front cover: In the confined space of an armour-plated wheeled Humber "pig" Lance-Bombardier Pagett is ready to fire rubber bullets from a riot gun during an incident in Blighs Lane, Londonderry. His unit is H Battery, 39 Missile Regiment, attached to 45 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery.
Picture by Leslie Wiggs

Back cover: The Londonderry scene—a dump of rubble bulldozed from barricades and behind it the bullet-holed windows of a factory power station in Blighs Lane.
Picture by Leslie Wiggs





GOODBYE TO THE GULF

A BRITISH military presence spanning two centuries in the Persian Gulf ended last month when Headquarters British Forces Gulf withdrew from Bahrain. A month earlier the last major unit, 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, had left Sharjah for home.

The Gulf command had increased in strength and importance after the withdrawal from Aden and units of the British Army were stationed in Bahrain and Sharjah. The British Government's decision to withdraw led to the creation of the Union of Arab Emirates and to the centralised defence and security of the Trucial States being undertaken by local forces.

The origin of a British military presence is obscure and the first record is from "The Story of Kuwait" published by the Kuwait Oil Company.

"At the end of the 18th century Kuwait had a stroke of good fortune which stimulated its prosperity. In a sudden flare-up of the rivalry of Persia and Turkey in 1776 over the possession of Iraq, the Persians invaded the extreme south of the country and after a siege took Basra, which they held till 1779. During this period the East India Company made Kuwait instead of Basra the southern terminal of their overland mail route to Turkey and much of the trade of Basra was diverted to Kuwait.

"It was at this time that the first British contact was established with Kuwait. In

1778 the Shaikh (Abdullah al Subah) was reported to have become very attached to the British who, in their turn, held him in high regard as a man of his word. In 1792 the East India Company again temporarily transferred its agency from Basra to Kuwait because of trouble with the Turkish authorities.

"Towards the end of the 18th century the Wahhabi movement, which preached a return to the primitive simplicity of Islam, was gaining strength in Arabia and spreading its doctrines by militant means such as raiding settled communities and harrying the pilgrim routes to Mecca. Becoming increasingly bold the Wahhabis engaged in raids on towns such as Basra and Kuwait but they generally failed against defended cities as they knew little of regular warfare.

"From accounts of life in Kuwait in 1791-2 we learn that the town was subject to almost daily alarm and to a water shortage because wells were cut off, but supplies by sea saved the town. The presence of British Indian troops and an East Indian frigate helped to protect the town, which was fortunate not to succumb to the attacks of the ferocious fanatics. The prosperity of Kuwait seems to have declined somewhat at the beginning of the 19th century when its population is mentioned as only 4000. This decrease may have been partly due to the Wahhabi



danger and partly to the restoration of Basra as the East India Company's port."

No other history refers to these "British Indian troops" and they cannot have been anything more than a small contingent sent to guard the company's trading post temporarily located at Kuwait.

Troops of both Crown and company took part in operations in 1809 and 1819 against what is now known as the Trucial States to suppress piratical activities of local sheiks and their Wahhabi associates. This was not the case, however, with the Sultanate of Muscat which lies to the south of the Trucial States, outside the Persian Gulf. The ruler of Muscat co-operated with the British forces in both 1809 and 1819 and also in 1820 and 1821 when expeditions were sent against Bani-bu-Ali Arabs on the south-east coast of Arabia.

During the rest of the 19th century and the early 20th century maintenance of British authority in the Gulf was the Royal Navy's responsibility. The success of British arms during the Persian War of

1856-57 secured British paramountcy and made easier the Navy's task of policing the area and maintaining the integrity of the Arab states. Bahrain particularly gained as a result of the Persian War. It had long been claimed by Persia whose troops had occupied the island at intervals. Independence from Persia was guaranteed by Britain in 1861 and safeguarded ten years later when the Turks also laid claim.

Qatar, Bahrain's neighbour, was able to keep its autonomy through British support and finally secured independence as a result of the Anglo-Turkish Convention of 1913.

After the East India Company's withdrawal from Kuwait at the beginning of the 19th century the sheikdom fell under Turkish influence and the Turks threatened annexation in 1898. The sheik turned to Britain for support and British naval forces were sent to defend the capital in 1901 when a Turkish attack seemed imminent and again in 1902 when an attempt to seize it was made by the ruler of a Central Arabian state. Turkey recognised Britain's

special relationship with Kuwait in 1913 but differences arose between Britain and the sheik during World War One and Kuwait was blockaded from the beginning of 1918 to the armistice. Friendly relations were completely restored by 1921.

Though World War One brought large numbers of British and Indian troops to the Gulf area the Arab states were little affected except for Kuwait. The Royal Navy later resumed its pre-war role with the aid of the RAF and Bahrain became the strategic centre with both a naval base and an RAF station when Basra base was abandoned on Iraqi independence in 1930.

British and Indian troops returned to the Gulf during World War Two but operations in Persia again had little effect on Arab states.

The granting of Pakistan and Indian independence caused important changes in that direction of political affairs passed from the Indian to the Home Government. Local political officers could no longer look to the Indian Army for support if necessary.





In 1951 the Trucial Oman Levies were formed under Foreign Office direction and in 1956 they passed to War Office control and were renamed the Trucial Oman Scouts. By then they had become a substantial force with 20 British officers. From its early days the force was called upon to safeguard the Trucial States from Saudi encroachments. The Saudis invaded the Trucial State of Abu Dhabi in both 1952 and 1955 but were made to withdraw by the Trucial Oman Levies. The King's Royal Rifle Corps was posted to the neighbouring state of Sharjah in 1955 to give support and prevent Saudi incursion on the coast.

In 1956 the Army joined the Royal Navy and RAF at Bahrain and in the same year these troops helped to suppress a movement against the sheik's rule. In 1961 troops from Bahrain and elsewhere went to the aid of the Kuwait Army when that sheikdom was threatened by Iraqi forces. (Among regiments represented were the 3rd Dragoon Guards, Royal Artillery, King's, Royal Inniskillings and Parachute Regiment.)

Above: Men of 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment training at Sharjah last year.

Top left: An anti-tank detachment of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers, Sharjah.

Top right: The Staffords lower the flag as they become the last major unit to leave.

Left: Abu Dhabi Defence Force soldiers like this one will now be taking a bigger role.

Right: Abu Dhabi Defence Force sea wing has anti-smuggler patrol and oil rig guard role.

Outside the Persian Gulf lies the Sultanate of Muscat with which Britain has had treaty relations since 1798. In the early 19th century a great part of Muscat was overrun by Wahhabis and it was to aid its ruler as well as to suppress piracy by rulers of what later became the Trucial States that the 1809 and 1819 expeditions from India were undertaken. The 1809 campaign included the capture of the Muscat fortress of Shanas by a force which included the 65th Regiment. The forces despatched for the 1819 expedition comprised the 47th and 65th regiments and a number of sepoy battalions. Joined by the Ruler of Muscat's forces they stormed the pirate stronghold of Ras-al-Khaiman, thus ending large-scale piracy in the Gulf and securing Muscat from Wahhabi incursions.

Two expeditions took place in 1820 and 1821 against the Bani-bu-Ali tribesmen in the southern territories of Muscat who had thrown off the rule of Muscat and were attacking the East India Company's shipping. The 1820 operations ended in failure



but the disaster was retrieved the following year and the Bani-bu-Ali Arabs defeated.

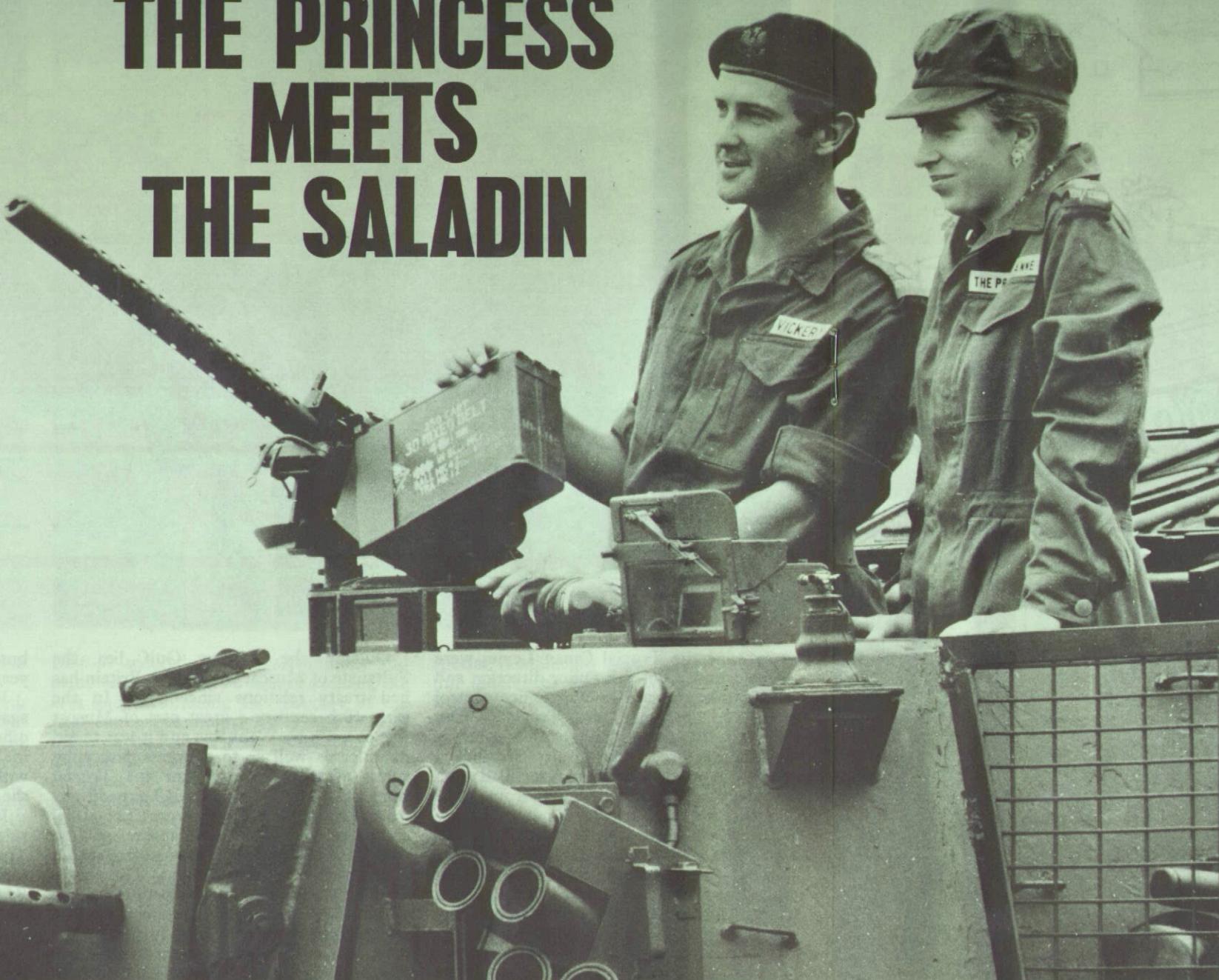
It was not until 1957 that British troops again served in Muscat though British officers had served alongside Muscat troops in 1952 and 1955 when they co-operated with the Trucial Oman Levies in defence of the Buraimi oasis.

In June 1957 a revolt against the sultan's rule, inspired by a Saudi agent named Talib, broke out and initially met with some success. An appeal was made to the British Government for aid and 1st Battalion, The Cameronians, was despatched. Operations against the rebels by Muscat, British and Trucial Oman forces continued at intervals until January 1959 when Talib and his supporters were finally defeated. During these operations detachments from the Life Guards, 13th/18th Hussars, 15th/19th Hussars and 22nd Special Air Service Regiment also saw service in Muscat.

From a report by Joint Public Relations, Persian Gulf.



THE PRINCESS MEETS THE SALADIN



Left: Captain Vickery helps the Princess to mount Quicksilver for the "peek into China" ride.

Above: Six hits with six high explosive shells from the Saladin's main gun (just visible, left) earned the Princess the Press title "Dead-shot Anne." Below: Drive past of armoured vehicles of B Squadron on a dull drizzly day at Sek Kong Camp.

Right: In the tank park Lance-Corporal John Young introduces four troopers from Lancashire.



WHEN Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief of the 14th/20th King's Hussars, arrived in Hong Kong for a seven-day visit her regimental band played her in with "Thoroughly Modern Millie." No 1 Company, 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, mounted a guard of honour, Irish Guards pipers were on parade and the people of the colony turned out to cheer.

During an inspection of B Squadron, 14th/20th King's Hussars, at their Sek Kong camp, Princess Anne thanked the soldiers of her regiment for providing her with the opportunity to visit them in such "a fascinating part of the world." The Princess was received by a fanfare of trumpets and the band played "Raindrops keep falling on my head" as the inspection took place in a heavy drizzle.

But the weather had cleared when the Princess went shooting on Ha Tsuen range and delighted the experts with her marksmanship. Six targets at ranges varying from 400 to 800 yards disintegrated when she fired six shots from a Saladin's main 76mm gun. "Fantastic," said her firing instructor, Captain Peter Vickery, who explained that the Princess laid the gun herself and that such accuracy needed a steady hand.

He added: "Being on target from the outset was obviously a tremendous morale booster. After the Princess had hit the first target, not really knowing what to expect, she turned around with a look of triumph on her face when she realised she was on top of the situation."

Princess Anne also laid a smoke screen with five smoke shells and fired a .30-inch Browning machine-gun from the top of the Saladin turret. Journalists in a large international Press party watching from a nearby hillside were quick to name the Princess "Dead-eye Annie" and "Dead-shot Anne." While with the regiment, Princess Anne also drove a Ferret scout car, attended divine service at the garrison

church of St Martin and met soldiers and their wives at a garden party.

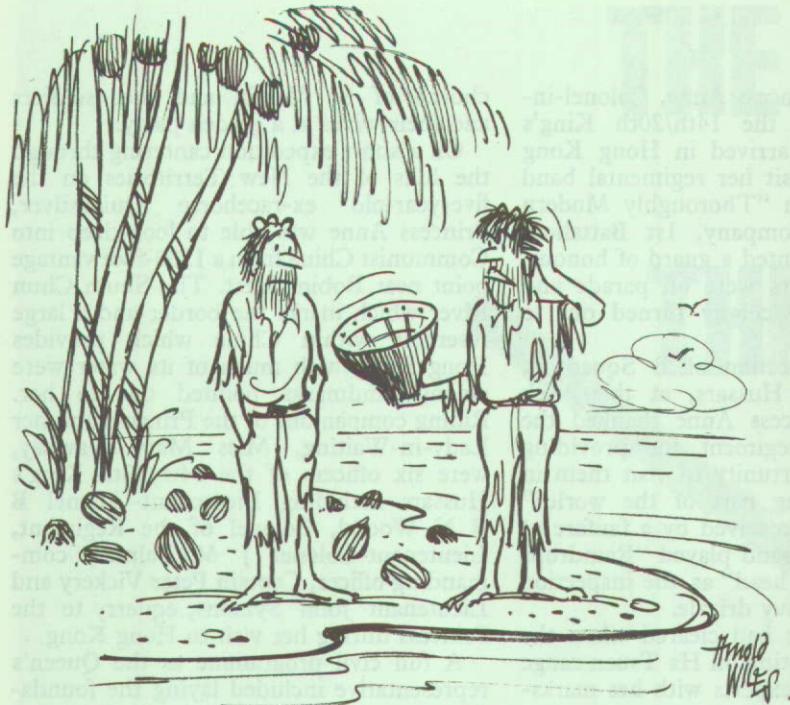
On a short expedition cantering through the hills of the New Territories on the five-year-old ex-racehorse Quicksilver, Princess Anne was able to look deep into Communist China from a 1200-foot vantage point near Robins Nest. The Shum Chun River which marks the border and a large reservoir within China which provides Hong Kong with much of its water were among landmarks pointed out to her. Riding companions of the Princess and her Lady-in-Waiting, Miss Mary Dawnay, were six officers of the 14th/20th King's Hussars including Lieutenant-Colonel B B N Woodd, Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel J M Palmer, commanding officer, Captain Peter Vickery and Lieutenant John Symons, equerry to the Princess during her visit to Hong Kong.

A full civil programme as the Queen's representative included laying the foundation stone of a 1320-bed hospital, paying calls at children's centres—the Princess is president of the Save the Children Fund—and a visit to Man Mo Temple featured in the story "The World of Suzie Wong." There was also a tour of sampans in Hong Kong harbour and of other homes of the poor on land, a visit to a resettlement estate for refugees from China, as well as time for shopping and sightseeing.

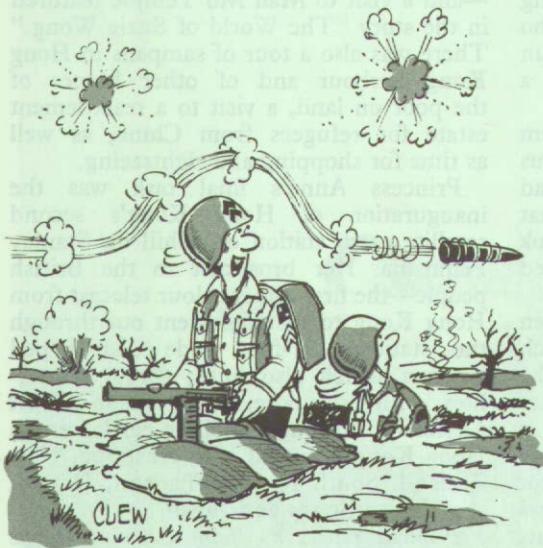
Princess Anne's final task was the inauguration of Hong Kong's second satellite earth station on a hill on Stanley Peninsula. Her broadcast to the British people—the first direct colour telecast from Hong Kong to Britain—went out through the station's 97-foot wide dish-shaped antenna which also links, through satellites, with Singapore, Indonesia and West Germany. Through another earth station Hong Kong is linked with Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, Hawaii, the United States and Japan.

From a report by Joint Services Public Relations, Hong Kong.



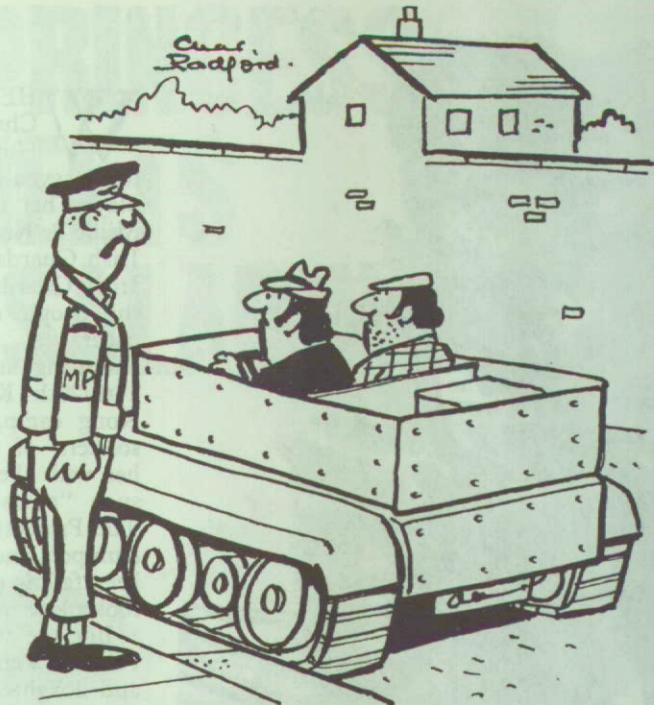


"If it isn't coconuts it's re-entering nose cones."



"I guess it just didn't have my name on it."

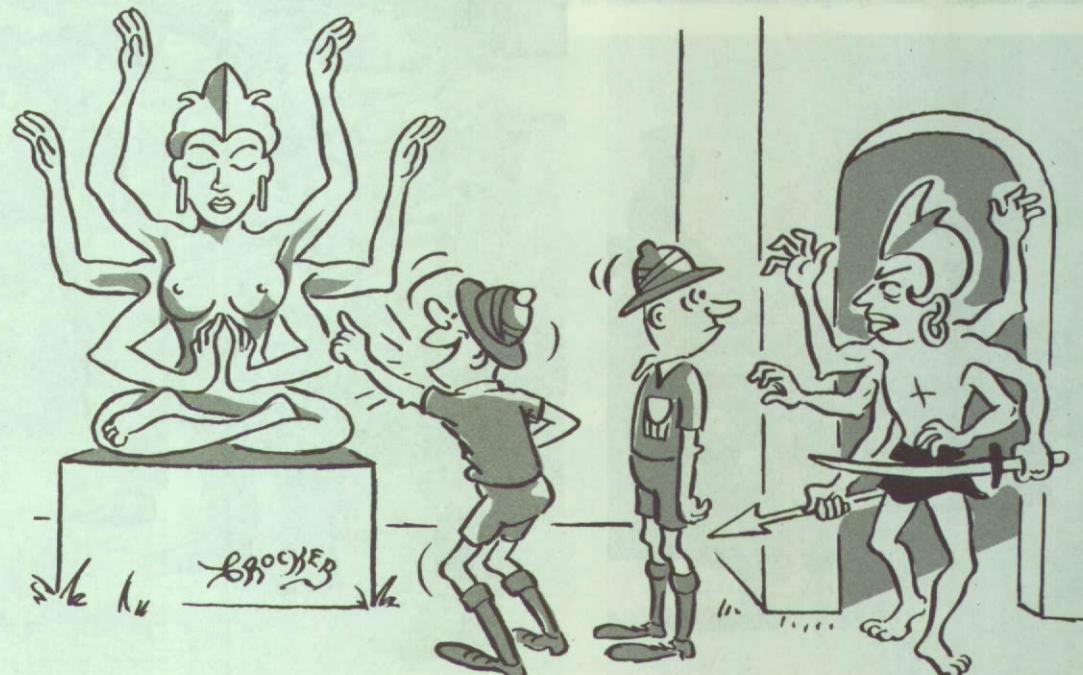
HUMOUR



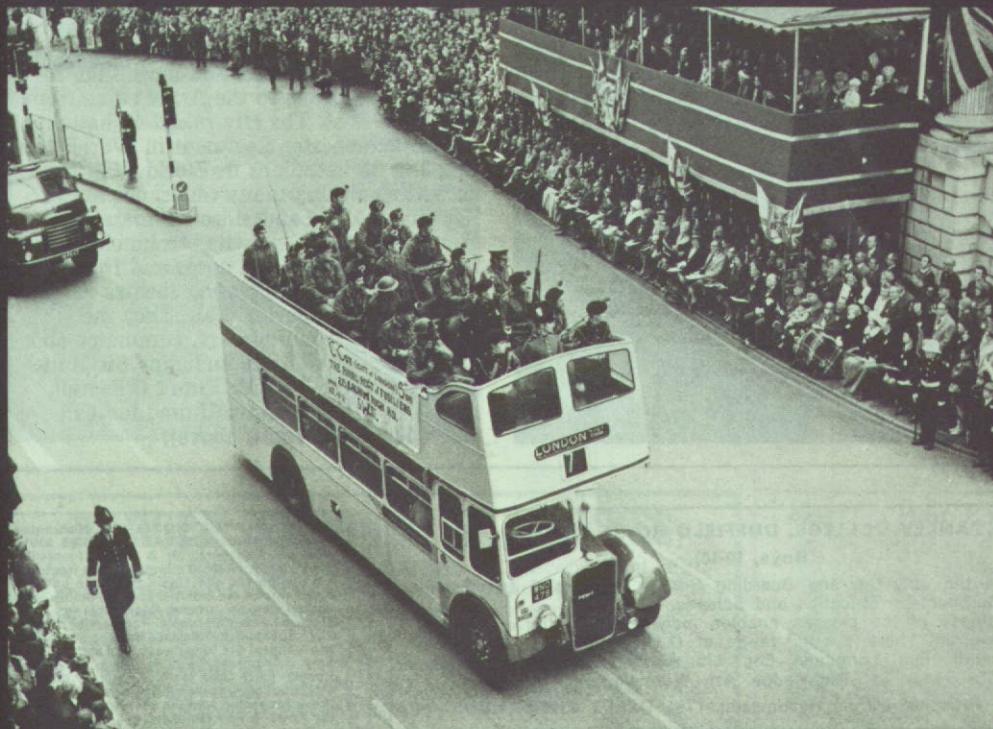
"I have reason to believe that this vehicle has been stolen."



"I thought you were going to do something about the ceiling?"



"Did you ever see anything so ridiculous in your life?"



THE CITY SCENE

Colour, ceremonial, regimental bands, pikemen, a golden coach and light-hearted floats . . . The Army had its own place in London's Lord Mayor's Show with Saladins, Saracens and Ferret scout cars as well as an open-top bus and a traction engine manned by officers wearing World War One rank badges.



Training in Cyprus, citizen-soldiers of B Company, 1st Battalion, The Lancastrian Volunteers, cross Pyla beach (above) in a dawn attack after a night withdrawal exercise and a 70-mile voyage on a Z craft of 10 Port Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport.

LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTRE



The Duchess of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Catering Corps, saw a baron of beef for her lunch being roasted on an outdoor spit (left) when she opened the new £4,000,000 ACC Training Centre at Aldershot. The Duchess wore the corps badge on the large collar of her military style three-quarter length coat. The 14-storey training centre, which houses 600 cookers in 58 kitchens, is the largest and most comprehensive establishment of its kind in the world.



The Lord Mayor of Manchester, Alderman Douglas Edwards, ex-Grenadier Guards, chose an unusual way to mark the city's outstanding contribution to the Army by inviting 20 Regular soldiers to meet leading citizens at luncheon in the Town Hall. Manchester tops the recruiting lists and more than a fifth of all recruits to the Army come from the north-west. The city raised 42 battalions of The Manchester Regiment in World War One and 25 battalions in World War Two as well as placing many thousands more recruits in The Lancashire Fusiliers. The Manchester soldiers invited to lunch came from 14 regiments and corps and from units as far apart as an operating theatre in Belfast and the Berlin Wall. They met personalities from industry, commerce and other areas of civil life including Sir Matt Busby, director, and Mr Frank O'Farrell, manager, of Manchester United football club (third from right, above).

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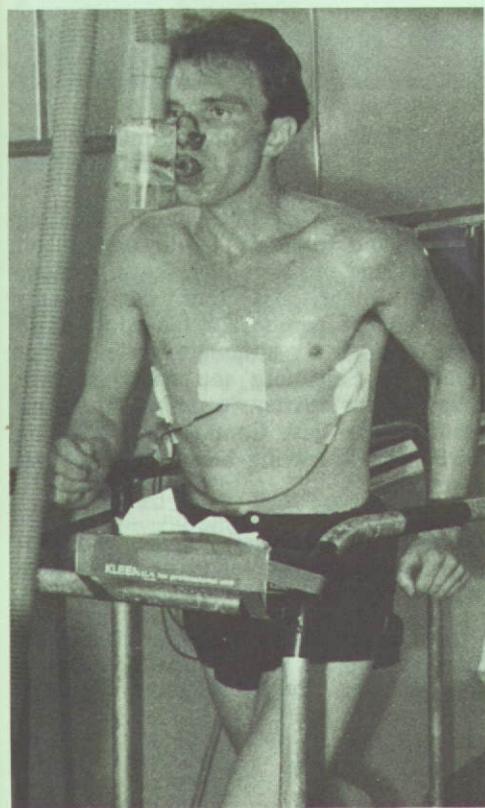
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As Freemen of the city of Celle, Germany, with drums beating and bayonets fixed, men of 94 Locating Regiment, Royal Artillery, marched through the streets (left) to show themselves to the citizens on the second anniversary of the granting of the honour. The freedom was conferred in 1969 after the regiment had completed 21 years in Land Niedersachsen. At the 1971 commemorations in the local Taunton Barracks, Lieutenant-General Sir John Sharp, Commander 1st (British) Corps, was accompanied by Dr Kurt Blanke, Oberburgermeister of Celle, when he inspected the regiment and presented Long Service and Good Conduct medals. Dr Blanke took the salute when the regiment marched past the Schloss led by its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P W Cartmel. In the afternoon thousands of the townsfolk visited static displays in the barracks and later watched a tattoo which included the deployment and firing of guns, "pig sticking" with balloons and a massed bands finale when the Royal Artillery Mounted Band was joined by the bands of 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, and The Queen's Own Hussars.



The ten-strong Army team (including one Royal Marine officer) training to represent Britain in the biathlon event at the 1972 Winter Olympics in Japan has been undergoing tough training in England and Germany. At Longmoor Camp, Hampshire, Dr James Vogel, on an exchange visit from the United States Army, has made available his ergometer which measures the biathletes' oxygen consumption, respiration and heartbeats. Staff-Sergeant Steve Stevens (left) from the School of Electronic Engineering, Arborfield, is shining with perspiration in an energy testing session. The biathlon is a fast skiing contest over 20 kilometres in which the skier has to stop periodically to shoot.

Visiting 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Highlanders (above) in Osnabrück, Germany, the Duke of Edinburgh, who is Colonel-in-Chief, showed great interest in the wide range of equipment used by mechanised infantry in Rhine Army and saw a company fitted out as a combat team. Among items closely inspected were armoured personnel carriers, mortars, Wombat anti-tank guns, small arms, radio sets and chemical warfare clothing. Prince Philip jokingly asked if tinned haggis was included in the cartons of field rations and he spoke to many of the soldiers as well as Naafi personnel and representatives of the Women's Royal Voluntary Services.

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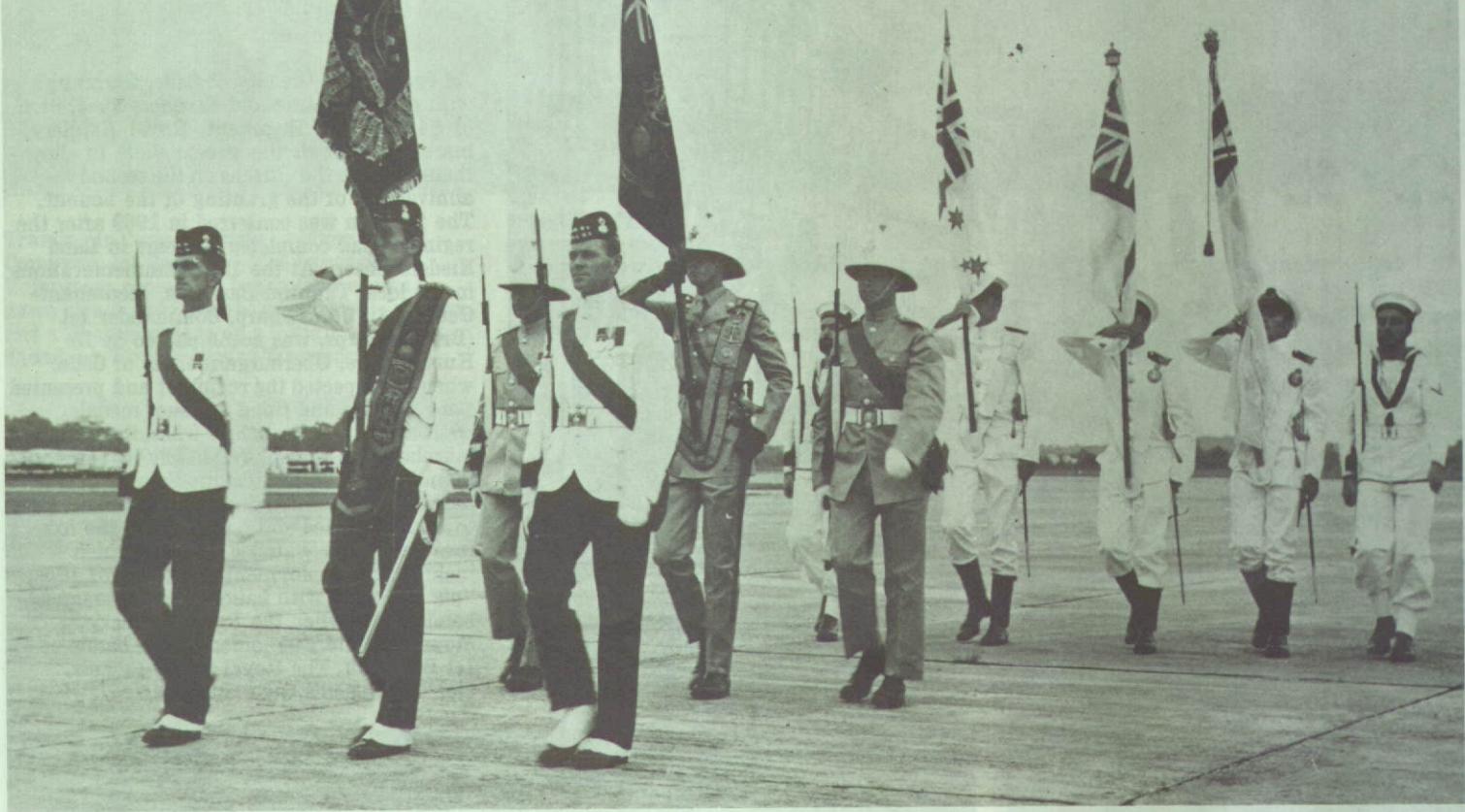


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FAR EAST COMMAND FALLS OUT



IT was the end of an era—and the beginning of another. The end of the vast military organisation in Singapore which originated and grew with Britain's imperial commitment in the Far East. The beginning of Anzuk, the British, Australian and New Zealand force.

Far East Command bowed out with a formal parade at Sembawang. On parade were guards from The Royal Highland Fusiliers, Royal Artillery, Royal Marine Commandos, Royal Australian Regiment, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, the Royal Air Force, and a naval guard

drawn from four British ships and one ship each from the Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand navies. Lining the parade ground were men of the Royal Engineers, Anzuk Support Group, Gurkha Independent Parachute Company, Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand air forces.

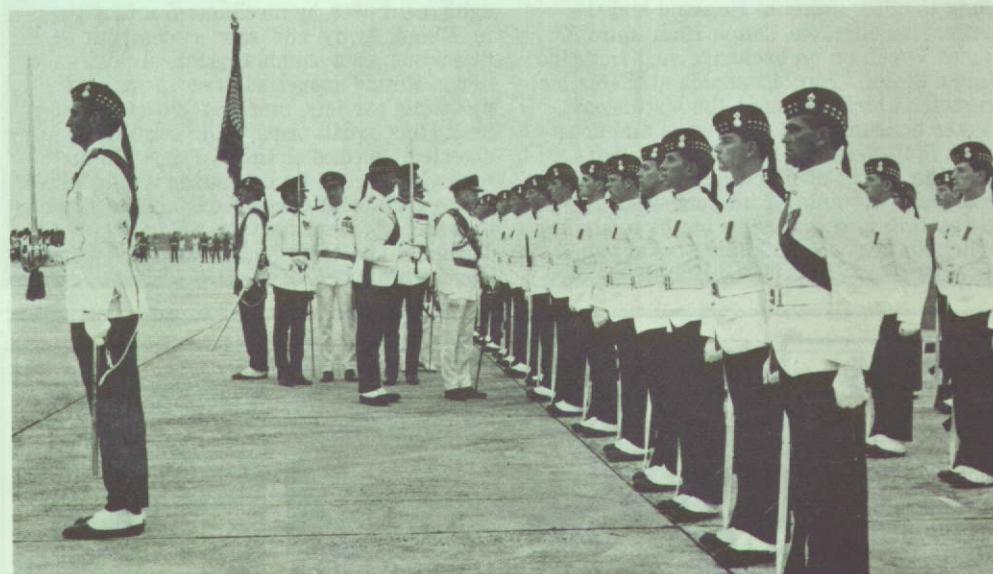
The Commander-in-Chief Far East, Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, and his three Service commanders took the General Salute to the accompaniment of a Royal Artillery gun salute and a fly-past of nine aircraft and 17 helicopters of the Royal

Navy, 28 Brigade Aviation Squadron and the air forces of Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

To the music of five bands, including the pipes and drums of The Royal Highland Fusiliers and 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, the four commanders inspected the parade. In his address Sir Brian said "... although we leave our friends in Singapore and Malaysia with sorrow in our hearts, we are thankful that, although Far East Command is standing down, we are leaving behind a small but select force."

Above: The Colour party marches on for the last rites. British, Australian and New Zealand forces will still be involved in the area.

Left: Commander-in-Chief Far East, Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, inspecting men of The Royal Highland Fusiliers.



On Record

MEMORIAL MUSIC

"National Anthems and Memorial Music" (Central Band of the RAF) (conducted by Wing-Commander R E C Davies) (Barry Rose, organ) (Columbia Studio 2 Stereo TWO 346) (£2.15).

Here are riches indeed. If my mail is anything to go by then at least six of the items on this LP are urgently needed by various associations, churches, cadet units and ordinary music lovers. Till now it has been "not yet, only on 78s."

Wing-Commander Roy Davies and his fine band of airmen at last bring to modern electric recording some of the much-needed and much-loved tunes associated with great solemn occasions of State.

For general use, and extra useful to Service units with a foreign guest but no regimental band, there are six of the most-required national anthems, those of Great Britain, France, Federal Republic of Germany, USSR, Italy and USA. Band seven on side one is the most sought-after piece in all the letters and telephone calls I receive—the "Funeral March No 1" played at the Cenotaph every year and attributed to Beethoven although in fact written by one Johann Walch, a German bandmaster of the 19th century. Then another much-wanted funeral march, that of Chopin from his piano sonata, with the "Dead March in Saul" to complete the trio.

Side two is devoted to Remembrance Day music. Walford Davies's "Solemn Melody" (always the cue for the Queen's arrival at the Cenotaph), Purcell's lovely melody "When I Am Laid in Earth" and Elgar's "Nimrod" come straight from the annual service, with "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," George Thalben Ball's "Elegy" (usually played at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance) and "Abide with Me" added for good measure.

The music is recorded in Guildford Cathedral. My thanks to all concerned, especially to producer Brian Culverhouse, for making at least one person's life easier. RB

"Scottish Pipe Band Favourites" (Pipes and Drums, 1st Battalion, The Black Watch) (Pipe-Major James B Anderson) (Drum-Major J Ferguson) (Columbia Studio 2 Stereo TWO 344) (£2.15).

The "gallant forty-twa" have recorded an excellent selection for the pipe band fan and all are played with a lilt and spriteliness that can so often be absent.

The record begins with excerpts from the Crimean reveille which came into being when Highland Brigade bands vied to put on the best musical show to wake the troops. In time these resolved into the most popular—"The Soldier's Return," "Grannie Duncan," "Sae Will Ye Yet" (the Scottish title for "The Wearing of the Green"), "Miss Girdle," "Ercless Castle" and of course "Hey, Johnnie Cope." Then come some old favourites including "Blue Bonnets Over the Border," "The 42nd" and "Far o'er the Sea."

Side two still sticks to marches except for two jigs. No other tunes have such a melodic line as the Retreat marches in 3/4 time, a rhythm which can prove a puzzler for the "opposition" when bands combine. The Black Watch band plays four of the very best of this type—"After the Battle," "The Green Hills of Tyrol" (who dares call it "The Scottish Soldier"?), "Lochanside" by the late John MacLellan, HLI and A & SH, and finally that gorgeous tune by the late G S MacLennan, Gordons, "Loch Maree."

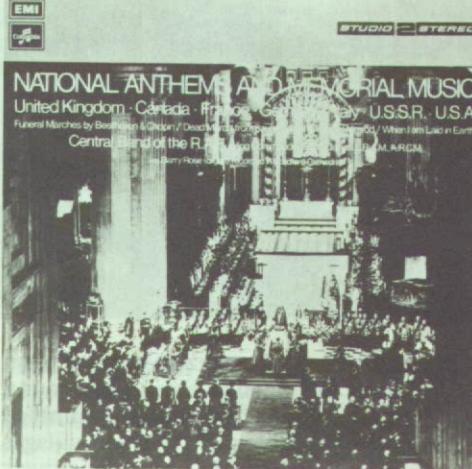
Three new tunes, "General Rennie" (a march in slow time), "Sarafand" and Pipe-Major Anderson's own "Elizabeth Herriot," will doubtless make their mark as they are often heard. The record ends with a group of two jigs and the evergreen "Bonnie Dundee."

The drumming accompaniment is tasteful, stays with the melody and assists the whole to become a record easy to listen to and worthy of a place in any record cabinet. JM

Other music on this record: Side one, "Glendaruel Highlanders," "74th Slow March," "The Muckin' o' Geordie's Bye," "Atholl Highlanders," "Scotland the Brave," "The 79th's Farewell to Gibraltar," "The Dundee Military Tattoo," "The Drunken Piper," "Highland Laddie," "The Black Bear" and "Will Ye Go Lassie?" Side two, "The Australian Ladies," "The Conundrum," "My Home," "The Highland Cradle Song," "Liberton Boys' Pipe Band," "Mrs Christine Dippie" and "Charles Anderson."

"Rolling Brass" (The Ransome Hoffman Pollard Works Band) (conducted by Dennis Masters) (Marble Arch MALS 1418).

Here are 11 marches, most of them well known and all very skilfully played and conducted. In spite of some (for marches)



complicated rhythms the tempos are beautifully set and maintained—a point some army bands could afford to emulate. William Rimmer is represented by four of his famous marches and the producer saw fit to place "The Cossack" next to "Ravenswood." Since the one starts on the same note as the other ends, and continues in much the same mood, I would have injected a little brightness between.

The two really bright spots on this record come, I'm afraid, from outside the world of brass bands for although brass band marches can be in a major key and have semiquavers running all over the place, the melancholy drabness of industrial and mining areas seems to pervade its music.

From the brass band world are Rimmer's "The Cossack," "Ravenswood," "Punchinello" and "The Australasian," Sam Sykes's "Ridgehill," Dennis Masters's own "Wendine," Tom Powell's "Castell Coch," George Allen's "Raby" and C Burgess's "The Whistling Cockney." Sousa and Arnold Steck supply "King Cotton" and "Drum Majorette" and the producer has done the right thing here by placing one on each side of the disc.

A fine album in spite of my quibbles. RB

"Fantasy in Brass" (Harry Mortimer and his All-Star Brass) (Starline SRS 5077) (£1.15).

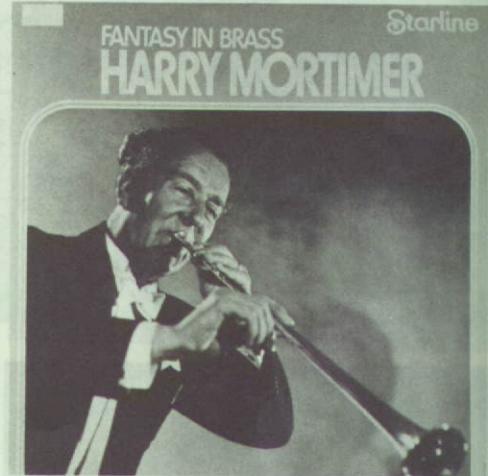
The distinguished features of Harry Mortimer once again decorate the sleeve of an All-Star Brass disc. Not only is he holding a post horn but he also brings his embouchure out

of retirement and gives a virtuoso performance of the "Post Horn Galop" during the record, double- and triple-tonguing as though he still had a tooth to call his own.

I found these players, as usual, in impeccable form and even the programme less hackneyed than is sometimes the case. Admittedly the opening number is the well-tried "Sousa on Parade" medley by King Palmer and that old warhorse Friedemann's "Slavonic Rhapsody No 1" finds a place on side two, but some refreshingly new arrangements and essays in tone colour make up the remaining items.

Only one quibble, I think. HM's tempo for Leroy Anderson's sprightly "Sandpaper Ballet" is more in the style of a clog dance; and I always found glasspaper served the purpose better than the prescribed sandpaper. Malcolm Sargent's arrangement of the overture to "Iolanthe" is always a winner as is Parish's of Hoagy Carmichael's "Stardust." The hymn tune "Praise My Soul, The King of Heaven," ends side one on a solemn and sonorous note.

In addition to the rhapsody and galop, side two includes "Summit March" by Frank Seymour, a novelty piece "The



"Faithful Hussar" and a thrilling version of "When Johnnie Comes Marching Home" by Major Jimmy Howe. The whole ends with Ronald Binge's singing-strings-style "The Farewell Waltz" in which the cornet section does a fine Mantovani act.

All very acceptable if lacking the fantasy of the title. RB

The Band and Chorus of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall (conducted by Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Bashford) (Decca Phase 4 F13232) (47½p). How would you like to see your very own "RB" in the Top Ten? I would. Just buy ten copies each of this single and I might make it. If the England football song could do it then this could; all I need is support.

Many of you will take your children or yourselves to the current Walt Disney offering for Christmas—the film "Bedknobs and Broomsticks"—and this little disc features one of the film's tunes, "The Old Home Guard." Done in military fashion with bags of drums, bugles, sergeant-major's bawlings, chorus of Home Guardsmen, air-raid sirens—the lot—this "Dad's Army"-like ditty recalls the broomstick defiance of Herr H's mighty army with all the uninhibited British blimpishness of 1939.

All good noisy fun with Leslie Fyson (of Friday Knight fame) as the sergeant-major. And on the flip side (my daughters supplied the technical terms) is an arrangement of "When Johnnie Comes Marching Home." The Kneller Hall Band and chorus is arranged, conducted, cajoled and cursed by yours sincerely RB

PANZERS AND PARAS



Above: Panzer Grenadiers, who had 4th Guards Armoured Brigade on their left, roll forward to destroy bridgeheads.

Below: TAVR parachute troops dropped behind the armour from RAF Hercules to disrupt lines of communication.

Bottom right: General A Goodpaster, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, has a few words with Volunteer paratroops.

AT midnight the panzers poured down from the wooded hills. The ground trembled as the column rumbled through the usually quiet German villages and some sleepy eyes peered inquisitively through windows as the knocker rapped on the hotel door.

Then came a German officer's voice indistinctly: "Our brigade . . . moving . . . radio silence . . . your telephone . . . may I? . . . to keep in touch with our division."

Exercise Keystone Two was underway. The brigade was the 19th German Panzer Grenadiers, the division the British 2nd. Thirteen thousand troops were in position

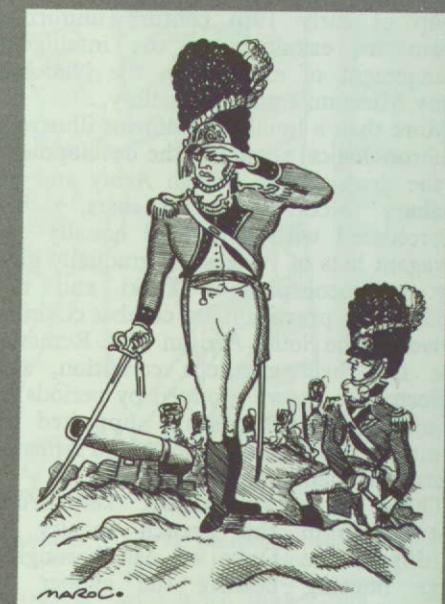
over 1000 square miles between Paderborn and Kassel. In forests, farmyards, barns and fields they were poised to move in Rhine Army's major exercise of the year. German and British soldiers, under the divisional commander, Major-General Rollo Pain, were side-by-side for the first time in large-scale manoeuvres.

Acting as enemy were Headquarters 44th Parachute Brigade (Volunteers) and 10th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, with elements of 12th Mechanised Brigade.

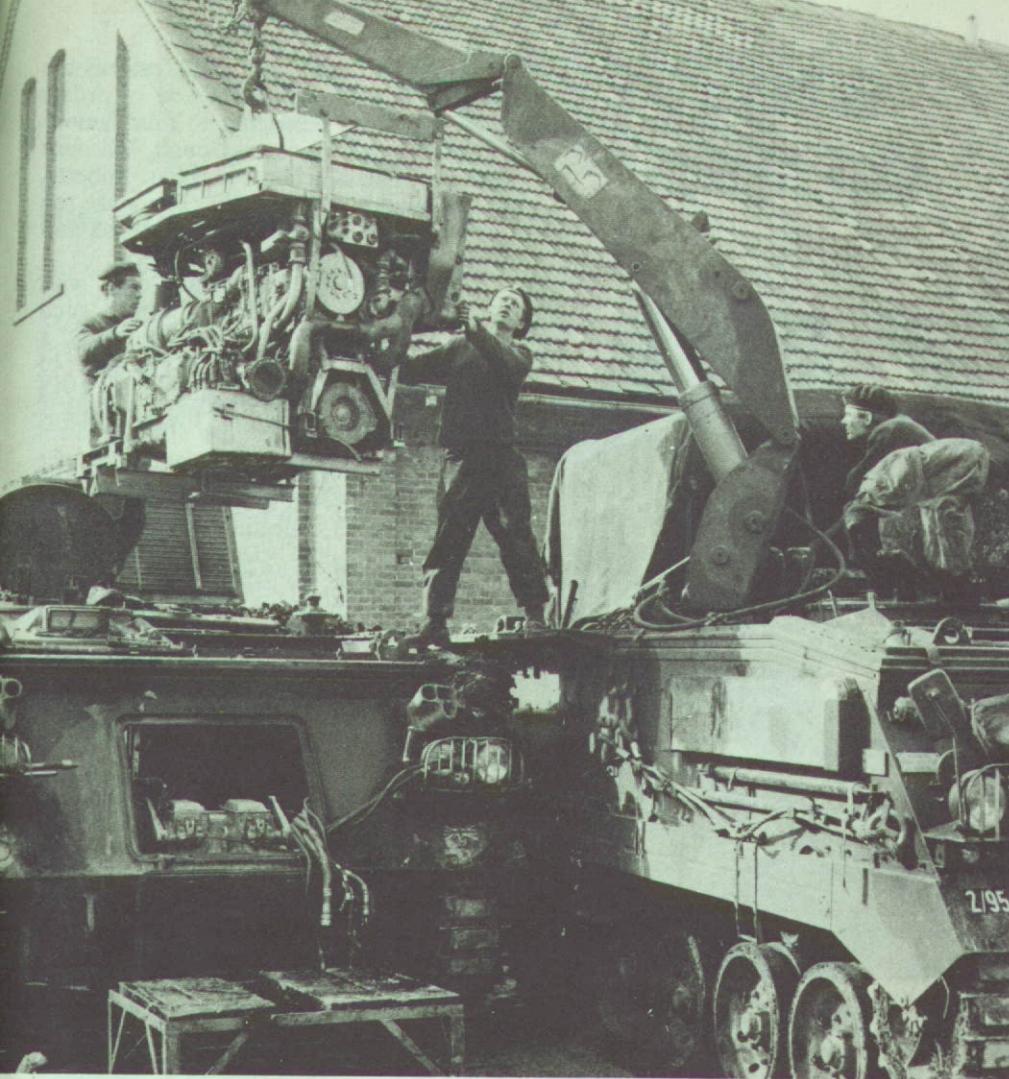
The 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force flew up to 50 reconnaissance and attack



Some less-known MILITARY PRINTS



“...if you manage to penetrate their lines, Captain, check the position of their troops' displacements, the number of their cannon and, if possible, the name and address of the tailor who fitted out their gunnery officer.”



Above: Replacing the "power pack" in an armoured personnel carrier. REME had responsibility for 1250 vehicles.

Below: Panzer Commander Oberst Horst Schuwirth with his brigade major, Major P Keightley, Blues and Royals.

missions each day with Phantoms, Harriers, Buccaneers and Starfighters. The Volunteers made helicopter-borne assaults and parachute drops from Hercules aircraft.

Most of the troops had been in the field 18 days and the intensive day-and-night activity of the final six-day Exercise Keystone Two tested their efficiency to the full. Support units laboured flat out to keep front line troops supplied and fighting fit. A field workshop repaired 107 pieces in 12 days, most of them within 48 hours with 153 men working 16 hours a day.

The 250 tanks, 50 self-propelled guns, 400 tracked and 750 wheeled vehicles also neces-

sitated close liaison between civic and military authorities with negotiations before the event, control during it and "mopping up" afterwards.

Ministry of Defence Lands and Claims personnel assessed facts and figures for compensation while damage control units of the Royal Engineers mended hedges and filled in potholed roads. A German newspaper praised the sappers: "Their weapons are brooms and shovels but their work is vital to smooth relations between soldiers and civilians."

From a report by Army Public Relations, 2nd Division, Rhine Army.



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CRIMEAN TOM, the cat rescued from the ruins of Sevastopol by a British officer, lies sprawled at his ease amid a display of British Army uniforms of the Crimean period. . . . A portable field canteen and a major-general's silver toilet set share the limelight with a group of early 19th century uniforms. These are examples of the intelligent arrangement of exhibits in the National Army Museum's uniform gallery.

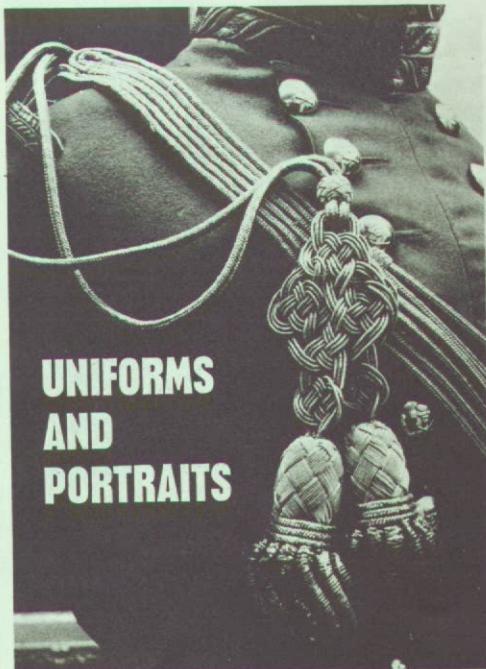
More than a hundred uniforms illustrate in chronological sequence the development of the dress of the British Army and its auxiliary forces. Colourful coats, richly embroidered with gold, and equally extravagant hats of yesteryear, gradually give way to inconspicuous khaki and the comfort and practicality of combat clothing as used in the South African War. Remarkable for their excellent condition, the uniforms are shown grouped by periods in contemporary surroundings supported by furniture, pictures, ornaments and items of interest of their times.

There is a magnificent kettledrum captured from the French cavalry at Dettingen, the Duke of Marlborough's horse housing bearing the cypher of James II and a brass clinometer with its leather case marked Major F Roberts VC RA. Items such as these, with their heroic, historic and personal associations, bring the whole exhibition to life.

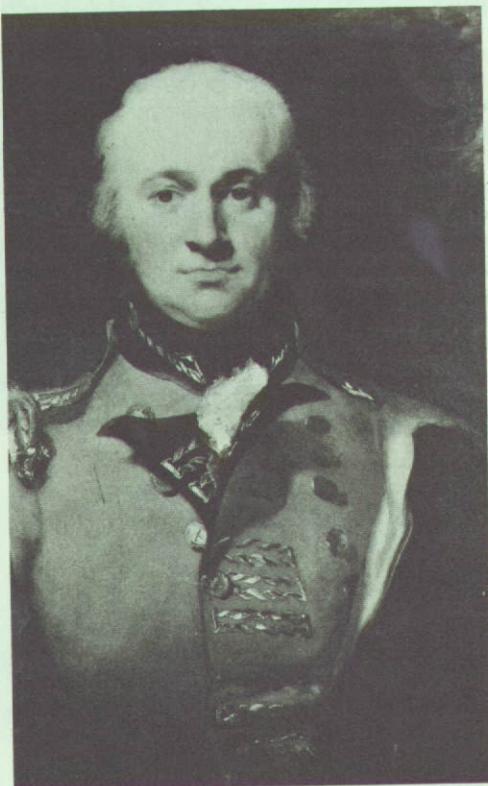
Alongside gorgeous cavalry headdresses a row of modest mitre caps, including a

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

3



Story by John Jesse



Gen Sir R Brownrigg by Sir Thomas Lawrence.



Top: Heavy gold tassels make a bold front.

Grenadier Guards cap of 1710, catches the eye. Further on, important sets of orders and decorations belonging to four famous field-marshals—Viscount Gough, Viscount Wolseley, Earl Kitchener and Earl Roberts, who is joined by his family. There are the two Victoria Crosses of father and son and the decorations of Countess Roberts.

Another section of the gallery deals with musical instruments, some of which, such as the 1790-vintage wooden serpent and a bass ophicleide of 1830, are awesome to behold. In contrast are examples of 1914 band equipment including the ubiquitous saxophone.

Battle scenes and portraits decorate the walls of the museum's circulation areas but the cream of its collection of oil paintings is on view in the elegant, restful surroundings of the art gallery just across the way from the uniforms. Here, pictures by leading artists of the day of relatively undistinguished men hang alongside portraits by lesser artists of military leaders whose names are household words—Wellington and Marlborough, the Marquess of Granby and Sir John Moore.

These and other portraits of men like Colonel the Earl of Craven, by Sir Thomas Lawrence, and Sir Joshua Reynolds's Field-Marshal Ligonier, who was knighted on the battlefield by George II, make interesting company for that monarch who is himself seen in a famous picture at Dettingen, the last occasion when a British sovereign led his troops into battle. Among



the smaller works in the gallery are two dashing studies of a member of Skinner's Horse at exercise and a delightful conversation piece by John Cawse of a "soldier relating his exploits"—in all probability at Waterloo—to his admiring family.

Above: Field-Marshal Ligonier by Reynolds.

Above right: J Jackson's Marquess of Granby.

Footnote: The question of charging for admission has not yet been decided by the council of the museum. Meanwhile, entrance is free.

LETTERS

National Army Museum

No doubt many of your readers have already been to the National Army Museum in Chelsea and you will possibly hear from them. Meanwhile may I say that I found it more than excellent? All that one expects is there and superbly laid out and lighted. Two features which particularly appealed to me were the captions alongside the cases which give in a few well-chosen words the history of the campaign to which the display is devoted, and the settees at various points in the museum which enable one to sit opposite a particular section and "take it in" at leisure.

The highest praise is due to all those who conceived and laid out what is really a magnificent display and one worthy of the Army.—
C W Mann, 461 Malton Road, York YO3 9TH.
★ SOLDIER heartily agrees.

400 years old

On 1 May 1572, at Greenwich, Queen Elizabeth I reviewed 3000 troops drawn from London's territorial force, the Trained Bands. After the review a certain Captain Thomas Morgan picked out 300 volunteers to go to the aid of the Dutch in their revolt against the occupying Spanish army. From those beginnings one of the most famous of British Regiments of the Line—The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) as it eventually came to be known—had its origins. To celebrate the 400th anniversary of that event the Regimental Association of The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment—the descendants of two famous Kent regiments, both of them, alas, no longer in existence—proposes to gather in Canterbury as many of its members as possible on a date as close to 1 May as can be arranged.

That date has now been fixed and on Saturday 29 April all members of the association are being invited to take part in a service of thanksgiving in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral at 11.30 am at which the address will be given by the Chaplain-General, Archdeacon John Youens. After the service the association's branches will exercise their privilege as Freemen of the City of Canterbury by parading through the streets, the salute being taken by the mayor. A luncheon, to which all members will be invited as guests, will be held after the parade has dismissed. Certain distinguished men and women connected with both former regiments and with the county will also be invited. Any former member of The Buffs, of The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment or of The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment, provided he is a member of the regimental association, is entitled and more than welcome to attend both the service and the luncheon, bringing with him one guest. Entry to the cathedral and to the luncheon will be by ticket only.

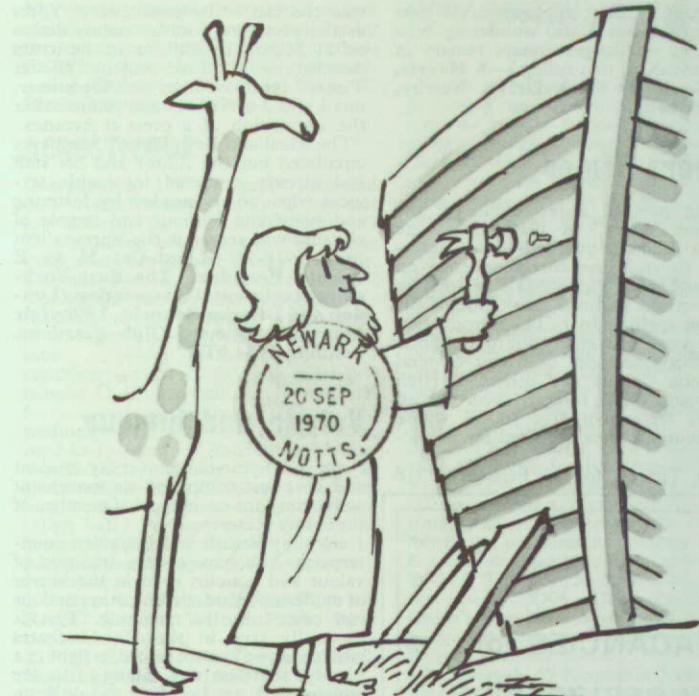
Application for tickets should be made either to the member's branch secretary or to myself, by not later than Saturday, 12 February.—Col H R Grace, Regimental Headquarters, The Queen's Regiment, Queen's Own Buffs Office, Leros TAVR Centre, Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent.

Were you in 8 Squad?

In February 1956 I joined the Infantry Boys Battalion at Plumer Barracks, Plymouth. The other day I was looking through some photographs of that period and could not help wondering how the last 15 years have treated everyone. I would be more than pleased to hear from anyone who was in 8 Squad; if enough "old boys" are interested perhaps we might even have a reunion.—
J Bryan Hughes, 6 Calcott Rake, Sefton, Lancs, L30 OPD.

Penang barracks

Thank you for publishing my letter (September) asking about the origins and naming of Minden Barracks, Penang. I received a very helpful letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D E M Fielding who was adjutant of the 3rd Bn Straits Settlements Volunteer Force from June 1936 to August 1939. Glugor Barracks, as they were then called, were built on a rubber estate. Major (later Brigadier) R F O D Gage, Royal Engineers, supervised the construction which was completed in 1939. The first unit to occupy the barracks was an Indian battalion originally named the 40th Pathans. Lieutenant-Colonel A J Jackson, Royal Signals, kindly wrote to fill in a further piece of the jigsaw, for he moved to Glugor Barracks in mid-1950 with 42 Commando, Royal Marines, to train for operations against the communists. He



says his unit took over the barracks, still called Glugor, from an infantry regiment.

Then Mr J D Wilson, of Doncaster, in a charming letter of praise about Malaya, wrote to say he moved in 1948 from Taiping to Penang with 2nd Battalion, The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, and took over Glugor Barracks from The West Yorkshire Regiment. "Shortly after" this the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, arrived from Germany and the 2nd Battalion was disbanded. It was then, says Mr Wilson, that the barracks were renamed Minden, after one of the regiment's battle honours.

My guess now is that the old name stuck for a few more years, but there may yet be another side to the story.—R L Pearce, Library Adviser for Representative Malaysia, The British Council, PO Box 539, Jalan Bukit Aman, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Pensions

The recent long-overdue increases in the pensions of long-service Armed forces pensioners who have reached the age of 60 have been most welcome. But thousands of men, discharged at 40, still have to wait 20 years for an increase. When the age is reduced from 60 to 55 this will be progress. This iniquitous age bar has been with the Service pensioner far too long and without justification.

And what of the pre-1950 widows of other ranks who are not entitled to any part of their husband's pension? The introduction of this ruling was vicious. Successive governments have shied from taking positive action. Why? Every

Service pensioner's widow should receive half his pension on his death.

The Armed Forces Pensioners Association is not satisfied with the recent Pensions Increase Act, and justifiably so. It is lacking in simple justice. There is reason for complaint because the Service pensioners have received "similar" treatment to the public service pensioners. So far as the armed forces are concerned, pensions are part of wages. The Army Pensions Warrant in fact referred to non-effective pay, and there is only one interpretation. When a man is serving, part of his pay is paid in cash and part is deferred until after he is discharged to pension.

There is a need for an armed forces pensioners council of long-service retired officers and other ranks, distinct from and independent of the Public Services Pensioners Council, each member of which belongs to a union or is a credited member of a public service association.

Why should the armed forces pensioner tag along behind the public service pensioner—always at a disadvantage?—
H V Watson, General Secretary, Armed Forces Pensioners Association, 9 Tanglewood Walk, West Leigh, Havant, Hants.

In recent months there have been announcements in the news media that civil servants and servicemen were to be involved in an £85 million a year pension boost. These pensions were, it was alleged, to have been payable in September and apparently with a rise of at least 18 per cent and up to 35 per cent. Not having received an increase I contacted my regimental paymaster and learned from him that the increase did not apply until reaching the age of 60 or unless one was infirm and unable to

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Full details may be obtained by writing to The Head Master, The Gordon Boys' School, West End, Woking, Surrey.

carry out regular employment. I now know this, but I was wondering how many ex-service pensioners remain in the dark about this ruling?—K Harris, 22 Newlands Park Drive, Newby, Scarborough.

Wipers Times

Having perused a few copies of the "Wipers Times" in 1918—they were always jealously guarded—I was interested to read the correspondence on this subject. "Wipers" is said to have been an old soldier's adaptation of the Belgian spelling Iper. The introduction of the paper was largely due to the efforts and encouragement of Major-General Sir John Capper and others of High Command whose interest never waned. Copies were sent free to all whose contributions were accepted for publication.

"BEF Times" for 26 February 1918

VACANCIES for EX-SERVICEMEN

Airwork Services Limited offer employment to ex-Service Aircraft and Electronic Technicians who wish to continue their trade after termination of Service.

Opportunities exist in many parts of the U.K. and Overseas offering accompanied and unaccompanied posts.

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Scholarships are available for girls of high academic ability aged 11-13. These will be awarded on the results of a special examination to be held in March, 1972. Information may be obtained from the Headmistress.

was the last to be produced at Ypres as the press was lost by enemy action on 21 March. In addition to the issues detailed by Mr Fred Austin, "Better Times" for November and December, nos 1 and 2 of Vol 1, were printed after the acquisition of a press at Avesnes. "The Final and Best Times" was never circulated but the Editor and his staff had already rendered invaluable services when sorely needed by fostering and sustaining humour and morale of all ranks who served in the Ypres salient from 1916-18.—Lieut-Col H G E Woods, President, The East Yorkshire Regimental Association (London and District Branch), 2 Playfair Mansions, Queens Club Gardens, London, W14 9TR.

Valour and honour

I am a 20-year-old university student and have just completed six months of active duty for training, as a member of the Army Reserve.

I envy my British and Canadian counterparts. You have a deep tradition of valour and honour, even in the horror of modern warfare, that no other nations can come near to matching. This is especially true in the United States where many of us are forced to fight in a bloody, senseless war. Many of us are embarrassed to be seen in uniform especially since the revelation of Mai Lai and other scenes of Nazi-like brutality. My father, who served in a Canadian regiment during World War Two, has noticed this atmosphere in me and several of my friends and agrees that it is difficult to be honourable in a dishonourable war.

I hope you in England will try to understand American youth's situation and not judge us too harshly.—Nyle C Monday, 3414 E 2nd St Apt 3, Tucson, Arizona 85716, USA.

Congratulations

The British Army is to be congratulated on its participation in British Week in San Francisco (1-9 October). The band of the Royal Artillery in full dress (with band swords) was magnificent, and the pipes and drums of The Royal Scots, and particularly the pikemen of the HAC, made a great hit with the crowds. Princess Alexandra, mixing informally with people on the street, gave a pleasing image of royalty. The weather was warm and beautiful and the whole affair can be counted as a great success.—G A Baldwin, 3264 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California 95401, USA.

Any old prints?

I am writing to ask if you could possibly put us in touch with any units, messes, organisations or individuals who would be prepared to donate or loan any old framed pictures suitable for adorning some of the rather bleak walls in the

NEW BATTALION

A new major unit of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps—10 Ordnance Support Battalion—is being formed in Devizes, Wiltshire, on 10 January. The battalion has been created from the old 10 Ordnance Maintenance Park and will be responsible for logistic support to NATO's Allied Command Europe Military (Land) and the UK Military Force. It will also be responsible for training Regular shadow and Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve RAOC units, a commitment which will include operating a field bakery, mobile laundry and mobile bath.

As a memento a one-day philatelic cover is being produced, with an insert card, and will be cancelled by a BFPO 1262 one-day handstamp. The cover shows the corps crest and a globe on a background of the corps colours. Orders to Philatelic Officer, 10 Ordnance Support Battalion RAOC, Prince Maurice Barracks, London Road, Devizes, Wilts. Military cover sent direct, 25p; sent under separate cover, 29p. A strictly limited number of covers will be flown from Perham Down (the old maintenance park location) to Devizes in an Army helicopter flown by a RAOC pilot. These covers will be numbered from one to 300, signed personally by the pilot over a cachet incorporating a Scout helicopter silhouette, and backstamped on arrival at Devizes. These covers (under separate cover only) cost 50p; a further 100 copies, signed additionally by the commanding officer, will be £1 each. Profits go to the unit junior ranks fund, RAOC and Army charities.

messes, offices, sleeping accommodation etc of Okehampton Battle Camp. Although much has been done in recent years to improve both the outward appearance and the general comfort of this camp, which is now 75 years old and still accommodates a major unit, we can so far only boast two portraits of the Queen and a few regimental plaques by way of mural decoration.

I am sure many of your older readers will cherish some pleasant memories of battling against the elements on Dartmoor and may well be moved to answer this appeal. If so, their response will be appreciated by the constant stream of Regular, TAVR, ACF/CCF units which come here each year. Any form of pictures, old prints, the larger the better, will be welcome and insured as necessary.—Col K B Langdon (Retd), Dartmoor Training Area, Okehampton Camp, Okehampton, Devon.

in the front line north-west of Mons. One must also admit that, except for the very short-lived 2nd BEF which got out at Cherbourg in June 1940 after only a fortnight in France, the saltire of 52nd (Lowland) Division saw no further action in Europe until it landed on Walcheren Island to open up the Scheldt in October 1944. Fighting in Holland followed to the last action, the capture of Bremen six months later. "From the Irrawaddy to the Rhine" is no quote from 52nd (Lowland) Div's history! Postwar re-formation in 1947 as a Territorial division gave 52nd Lowland no chance from that day to final disbandment in 1967 to serve again as a fighting unit. The saltire was never seen in Korea. It was, however, a bloody good division—and thank you for reminding your readers.—R K Taylor, Public Relations, Lowland Area, 25 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6AT.

★ While all the Scots' exploits were not claimed on behalf of the 52nd, it is agreed that in the context of two sentences in the same paragraph, Scotsmen and 52nd Division could erroneously be read as synonymous. Woolly sub-editing by a long-understaffed editor-cum-sub-editor-cum-writer-cum-other-jobs-as-well!

The headline says "They're tough, these Lowlanders" and mention is made of places where these "dour Scots" fought in the two world wars. It implies that these regiments were all of Scotsmen whereas in fact they were made up by soldiers from English regiments drafted in to them. Sometimes more than half the men in a battalion were English. My own battalion, the 9th Camerons (SR), was made up of men from The Middlesex Regiment, The Northamptonshire Regiment and The Royal Ulster Rifles. I think these men are at least worth a mention.—D Turrell, 56 Barnmead Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 5DU.

TODAY'S SMART MAN wears **HAND-CUT SUITS**
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Rifle bucket

The type of rifle bucket depicted in the photograph on page 38 of Letters (October) was used by the rank and file of the mounted infantry. It would appear from the position of the rider's foot in the off-side stirrup that he was not wearing spurs. Therefore he was not a cavalryman since a mounted infantryman did not wear spurs. The equipment worn by the rider is of the same pattern issued to the infantry before 1910. Owing to the short rifle sling the piling swivel changed places with the sling swivel on the butt of the rifle. The cob was mounted from the off-side.

I attended a course of mounted infantry at Longmoor Camp, Hampshire, during the summer of 1912. At that time there were two battalions undergoing training but after my course the unit was reduced to one battalion which was the last one before the unit was disbanded in late

1912 or early 1913. The Mills webbing equipment was in use during my period of service.—C S A Avis (ex-sergeant, The Queen's Royal Regiment), Hotel Majella 209, 564 Pretorius Street, Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa.

In early 1914 I was a yeomanry soldier with the Royal North Devon Hussars. When World War One started we did a lot of training as mounted infantry and went to the Dardanelles dismounted like many other yeomanry regiments. In our mounted infantry training we had the same kind of rifle buckets as shown in your photograph. Our rifles then were Japanese carbines (short) with a (5) magazine which was quite easy to mount with. We had double bandoliers containing 50 rounds in front and 40 in the back and they also issued double bandoliers for putting around the horses. Incidentally, when we went to camp in pre-1914 days we had to supply our own horse saddlery and boots.—G H Sollis, 7 Sydney Road, Newquay, Cornwall.

Nulli secundus

I refer to C Wilkinson-Latham's head-dress article on "Coldstream Guards shako 1816-1828" (October) in which he mentions the 2nd Foot Guards. I have noted that the regiment has been called this in certain histories and articles and have always wondered why we

have been referred to in that way. The Army List of 1800 gives our title as the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards. The Army Lists of 1763 and 1861 do likewise. In the regiment we certainly do not accept that 2nd Foot Guards is or ever was our title.—Maj D Powell, Regimental Adjutant, Regimental Headquarters, Coldstream Guards, Birdcage Walk, London SW1.

★ Says Mr Wilkinson-Latham: I plead guilty. I offer no excuse except that I probably read the histories and articles which Major Powell mentions.

Public duties

When the Royal Artillery took over public duties in London while the Guards regiments were otherwise engaged it made me wonder whether the Household Cavalry are ever short staffed? If they were, I think it would be an opportunity for other cavalry regiments to take over for a while. You see the full dress uniforms of lancer, hussar or dragoon guards regiments only once in a blue moon! I was surprised to see the two mounted kettle drummers of The Royal Scots Greys (amalgamated 2 July with 3rd Carabiniers to form The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards) as I did not think that other cavalry regiments besides the Household Cavalry had mounted kettle drummers.

RESERVE FORCES ASSOCIATION

The British Reserve Forces Association and The Reserve Officers' Association of the United Kingdom have amalgamated as The Reserve Forces Association. The association's principal aim is to encourage all ranks and categories of reservists and volunteers involved in defence to get to know men and women who are their opposite numbers on the continent of Europe, alongside whom they are committed to fight for the defence of western civilisation under the terms of the North Atlantic Treaty. The Minister of Defence has officially recognised "without financial commitment" the new association.

The chairman is Rear-Admiral P G Sharp; vice-presidents include General Sir Richard Gale and General Sir Hugh Stockwell. The association's offices are in Centre Block, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London SW3.

My view is probably biased as I collect model soldiers but it seems, judging by the number of well attended tattoos, that a lot of people enjoy the pageantry.—S J Sellwood, 7 Gorse Way, St Ives, Huntingdonshire.

ACROSTICODE

Competition 159 (August) attracted only a small entry—surely it was not too difficult for SOLDIER readers? The required message was "You may think there are greater things than war. I do not: I worship the Lord of Hosts." The author was Benjamin Disraeli.

Answers to the acrostic clues were: A (Mournful)—sad; B (top) (Urge into . . .)—egg; B (bottom) (. . . a container)—cup; C (Mogul official)—nabob; D (Lukewarm . . .)—cool; E (. . . and cold)—ice; F (United in wedlock)—married; G (bladed pole, used to J)—oar; H (Retributive justice)—nemesis; J (Noisy tier)—row; K (Rest lazily)—loll; L (Money, we hear, may be hidden here)—cache; M (top) (High ball? Perhaps in a N)—lob; M (bottom) (Whole . . .)—all; N (. . . prepared and ready to go!)—set.

Prizewinners:

1 S/Sgt R Turnbull RAPC, c/o RAEC Centre, Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

2 F St C Burt, 42 Warwick Road, Welling, Kent, DA16 1SP.

3 S/Sgt B N Bagot RAMC, c/o Sgts Mess, Pergamos Camp, Cyprus, BFPO 53.

4 C B Holman, Officers Mess, 13 Sig Regt, BFPO 40.

5 R H Pyne, 137 Coleraine Road, Blackheath, London SE3.

6 S/Sgt J Finney, HQ DCN, RAF Medmenham, Marlow, Bucks.

7 WO I M Edmenson, 23 Base Wksp REME, BFPO 20.

8 2/Lieut P M Ord, Birmingham University OTC, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15.

9 P B Barnes, 5 Stuart Close, Hillingdon, Middlesex.

10 Sgt G Rayner, 2 Greenfield Lane, Idle, Bradford, Yorkshire.

11 Mrs Snod, 10 Abbots Road, Faversham, Kent.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 35)

bottom left; 10 Shadow of rock at animal's tongue; 11 Shadow of rock at animal's head; 12 Length of stick in calculation; 13 Spikes on road; 14 Middle toe of animal's foot; 15 Tail on cave drawing; 16 Number of animals seen; 17 Spikes on road; 18 Length of stick in calculation; 19 Back of animal's head; 20 Number of pack below moon; 21 Number of animals seen; 22 Height of rock below moon; 23 W in trespasses; 1 Height of rock below moon; 24 Number of animals seen; 25 Number of animals seen; 26 Number of animals seen; 27 Number of animals seen; 28 Number of animals seen; 29 Number of animals seen; 30 Number of animals seen; 31 Number of animals seen; 32 Number of animals seen; 33 W in trespasses; 34 Number of animals seen; 35 W in trespasses; 36 Number of animals seen; 37 Number of animals seen; 38 Number of animals seen; 39 Number of animals seen; 40 Number of animals seen; 41 Number of animals seen; 42 Number of animals seen; 43 Number of animals seen; 44 Number of animals seen; 45 Number of animals seen; 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TAMIYA CENTURION

SIX prototypes of a powerful new tank designed to knock out the Wehrmacht were rushed to Germany in the late spring of 1945. But they arrived too late—just days after the German surrender.

This tank, later to be known as the Centurion, was not even utilised in the fight against the Japanese before their capitulation in August.

It was not until six years later that it first saw action, in its Mark III version, in Korea. At the Battle of the Imjin, Centurions of C Squadron, 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars, survived a massed attack by swarming Chinese infantry armed with sticky bombs and covered the evacuation of allied troops.

The "Cent," as it became endeared to

British "tankies," has been superseded by the Chieftain but it can be perpetuated in plastic by modellers with a kit made, paradoxically, by a Japanese firm—Tamiya Mokei Plastic Model Company.

Modelled on a Mark III Centurion at the Royal Armoured Corps Museum at Bovington, the kit includes transfers with markings for British Army regiments and formations as well as those used by the Israeli Army in the Six-Day War. The moulding is exquisitely executed even down to the rough-cast finish and weld marks. This kit is very good value at £2.50 and comes complete with a battery-operated motor and working tracks. It is marketed in this country by Richard Kohnstam Ltd of 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Modellers interested in British Army equipment and uniforms will also appreciate a World War Two mortar team, one of the latest releases of Rose Miniatures of 45 Sundorne Road, London, SE7 7PS. The figures are in lead with the head, body, arms and pack cast separately. Detail is up to Rose's usual high standards with helmets covered in "scrim." The three-man team with mortar costs £4.57 unpainted plus 30 pence postage and packing.

Rose's other new releases include further figures of the ever popular Napoleonic period and two fascinating Waffen SS soldiers (£5.83 each painted) wearing winter dress, complete down to seasonal snow on their boots.

HH



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ACTION STATIONS!

YOU are gunnery officer for the next half-hour (or so) in the old pen-and-paper game of "Battleships."

Your opponent has deployed his fleet of a battleship (four squares long), two cruisers (each of three squares), three destroyers (two squares) and four submarines (one square) within this rectangle of 63 squares.

He has obeyed all the rules—no ship may touch another, larger ships may be positioned vertically or horizontally, only a surface ship may touch the rectangle's sides and then only bows or stern on and not broadside. And he has carefully avoided the sandbank at G5 and G6.

The first six shots have already been fired: Round 1 hit a cruiser amidships at B2. Round 2 hit a destroyer at G8.

Round 3 sank a submarine patrolling in the north-east.

Round 4 hit the second cruiser at E2. Round 5 sank another submarine at D4. Round 6 hit a second destroyer at A6.

Obviously another 14 shots would finish off the fleet if you knew exactly where the ships are stationed. You don't—there are alternatives.

Disregarding the six rounds given above, what is the *minimum* number of shots you must fire to make sure of sinking the whole fleet? List your rounds in relation to the rectangle, eg A1, and send your list on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 164" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

Editor (Comp 164)
SOLDIER
Clayton Barracks
Aldershot
Hants.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 10 April. The answers and winners' names will appear in the June SOLDIER.

COMPETITION 164

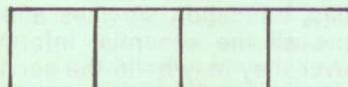
More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 164" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

PRIZES

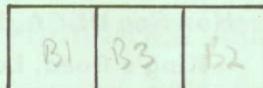
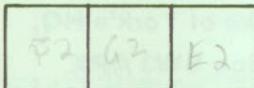
1	£10
2	£5
3	£3
4	£2
5	£1
6-8	Three books
9-10	"D-Day" print
11-12	SOLDIER free for a year
13-15	SOLDIER free for six months



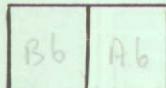
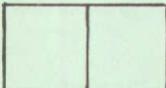
Battleship



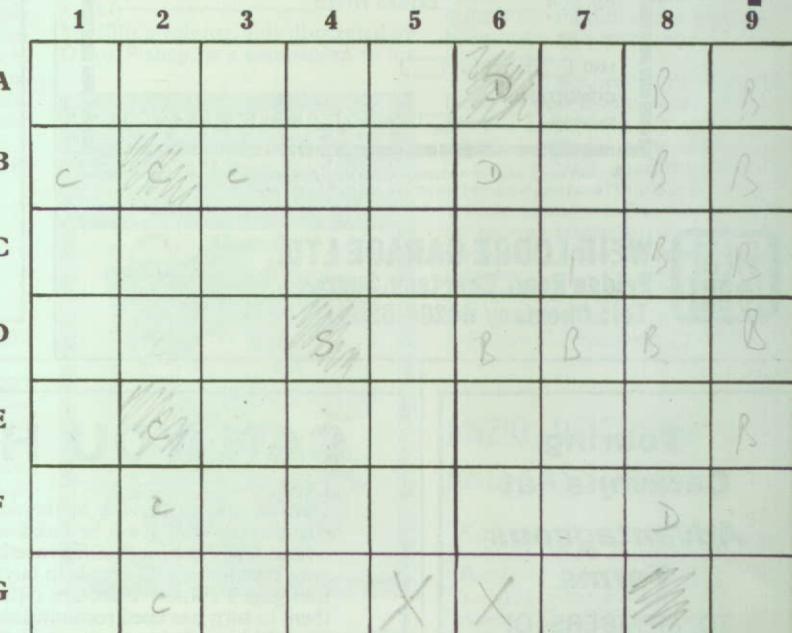
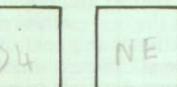
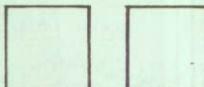
Cruisers



Destroyers

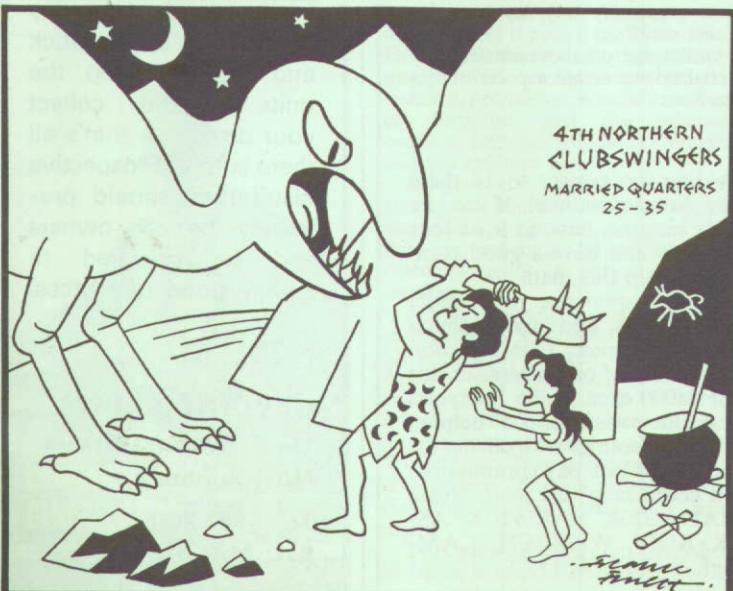


Submarines



HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 33.



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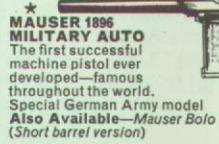
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CAN YOU HELP ME?

Dear Sir

I am at present serving in the Army and when my present engagement ends I will be faced with the problem of finding a house. Is there much difference between renting and buying your own home? If I decide to buy, what is the best method of mortgage? I know there are different methods and each of them in turn has been recommended to me at different times. I would like someone to explain the different methods to me so that I can make up my own mind.

I have heard that it is better to use as little of my gratuity as possible, and borrow the maximum. Why is this? What about the commutation of my Service pension in relation to house purchase? How much will I be able to borrow and under what circumstances is a 100% mortgage available if required? Because I am not quite sure what I will be earning when I leave the Army, I would like to be taking some action now to make things easier when I do eventually buy my own home. What can I be doing in this way?

I am sorry that I have so little knowledge on these matters but it is difficult to obtain impartial advice on all aspects of house purchase. Can you help me?

Cpl Wise-Planner
Tidworth

Our consultants specialise in providing the answer to all these and many other questions posed by Army personnel. If you are leaving the Army within the next six months, have at least four "O" levels, are aged between 25 and 40 and have a good communicative ability, you may be able to help this man.

Even if you have no previous selling experience or product knowledge, if you have a history of success, and enjoy helping people, we can offer you a first class career. Our selection standards are, however, very high. Because of our success in this field we are able to pay a salary of £4000 even in the first year. The real rewards however arise from the satisfaction of helping others tackle a worrying problem. In our dealings with clients the emphasis is on service and therefore we do not pay commission. If you feel that, with training, you could help this man, please write to THE PERSONNEL MANAGER, BARWICK ASSOCIATES LIMITED, 4 YORK ROW, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE13 1EE. (Ref. SOLDIER 172.)

BOOKS

IN THE TRENCHES

"Death of a Generation" (Alistair Horne)

Mr Horne, ex-RAF and Coldstream Guards, covers the whole horror and futility of trench warfare and in particular the two great battles of 1916, the Somme and Verdun, about which he has already written a definitive work, "The Price of Glory." And what a terrible story it is, with British infantry marching into the guns at the Somme line as if they were on parade and a whole French division disappearing, with only two hundred survivors, in the first hours of the Verdun attack.

In spite of Mr Horne's great talent and knowledge of the subject, he cannot explain the psychology which sent our grandfathers to their death so willingly—even joyously, one might say. He is not alone—no contemporary writer could. This century is too worldly wise, too cynical, too self-centred to understand those naive, bearded young men who sang folk songs or the popular silly musical hall songs of the day as they marched to their individual dates with destiny.

Apart from this unavoidable defect Mr Horne has produced an excellent, readable piece of work. One must congratulate his publisher on a finely turned out, well-printed and above all immaculately illustrated book. Recommended.

Macdonald, £1.50

CW

books but shortcomings in the binding do not detract from the text which is clearly set out.

General Dayan takes us through the campaign with the speed of his tanks and it never fails to astound one that they were able to capture—and later use—so much Egyptian war material. Apart from an Egyptian destroyer and mobile radar station, the bag included 27 T-34 tanks, six self-propelled SU-100s, 52 Shermans, 15 Valentines, 40 17-pounder anti-tank guns, 60 armoured troop carriers, 260 Bren carriers, 820 heavy trucks, 470 jeeps and 700 light trucks. Plus a large assortment of artillery, light weapons and vast quantities of ammunition.

1 Thomas Yoseloff, £3.50

2 Natraj Publishers, Dehra Dun, India
£2.50

JCW

It is generally accepted today that the mediums, Marks I, II and III, kept the tank idea alive in the British Army and from 1923 to 1939 they were the backbone of what tank forces Britain possessed. As an example of prejudice General Duncan quotes the senior officer who said the cavalry would never be scrapped to make room for tanks, and who ended his lecture: "We must rely on the man and the horse for really decisive results."

For anyone interested in the development of tank warfare this book presents an excellent account of the work of the armoured crusaders—Liddell Hart, Broad, Fuller, Hobart—who had the vision to see far ahead of the horse's nose.

Colonel Icks's volume on US armoured support vehicles is a new venture by Profile Publications in which series editors are given the opportunity of publishing material too long to be condensed into the format of the established Profiles.

This one covers the tracked carriers, amphibians and self-propelled artillery and the particularly interesting range of amphibious vehicles. Colonel Icks mentions quite a few modifications which have been made as a result of experiences in Vietnam.

Two Lockheed developments likely to find favour in other armies are the Terra Star, which combines wheeled vehicle performance with tracked vehicle mobility, and the Pac Star, an articulated 12 x 12 vehicle looking rather like a jazzed-up railway porter's trolley. Both are undergoing tests as squad support vehicles.

1 Blandford Press, £1.25

2 Profile Publications, £3.75

3 Profile Publications, £1.70

JCW

PHENOMENAL ARMY

"The Israeli Soldier: Profile of an Army" (Samuel Rolbant)

"Diary of the Sinai Campaign 1956" (Moshe Dayan)

In organisation, leadership, strategic and tactical aims and methods the Israeli Army is today among the world's most efficient fighting forces. In the 1948 war of independence, the Suez war of 1956 and the Six-Day War of 1967 it pulled tricks out of the bag which students of military affairs must come to regard as classic.

Dr Rolbant, who is closely associated with the Israeli Army's educational service, has produced a well-researched and lucid examination of this phenomenal army, not primarily for military experts but intended rather as a reliable and readable source book.

He places the army against the background of Israel's cultural patterns and traces its ideological, moral and religious sources, and its evolution through the Hashomer, Hagana, Palmach and other military groups. He examines recruitment, training, promotion, special problems of discipline and the inherent conflicts between religious precepts and the military life.

He goes on to discuss the soldier's attitude to his Arab neighbours, his extraordinary performance in the field and concludes by outlining the basic elements of Israeli military strategy.

Moshe Dayan, the Israeli field commander in 1956, presents a blow-by-blow account of the Israeli Army's action during the Suez crisis. First published in 1966, this diary is one of the most enthralling military records to appear since World War Two and gives a valuable insight into the workings and thoughts of the Israeli high command.

This particular edition, published in India, is not the best-produced of

MORE VEHICLES

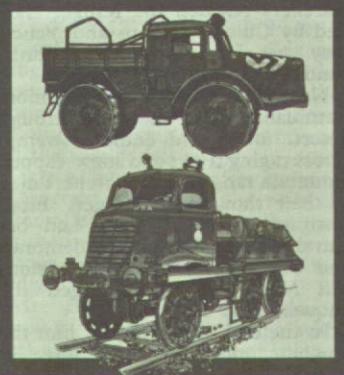
"Military Transport of World War Two" (Chris Ellis)

"British Armoured Fighting Vehicles 1919-40, Vol 2" (Editor, Duncan Crow)

"Profile Book 1 Modern US Armoured Support Vehicles" (Colonel Robert J Icks)

Mr Ellis's volume, ably illustrated by Denis Bishop, is a companion to his

MILITARY TRANSPORT



earlier book dealing with World War One and the years up to 1939. As before he provides a wide cross-section of the vehicles employed by the major belligerents which will be of value alike to students and modellers.

He produces the odd off-beat surprise among the many vehicles one expects to find. Perhaps the oddest is a mobile church which he lists as the most unusual local modification carried out by RAOC workshops. In North Africa during 1941-42 an AEC Marshal bridging vehicle became redundant. It was stripped to its chassis and a caravan-type structure built on containing an altar and padre's office-cum-quarters. The padre drove it around from unit to unit.

Mr Ellis oversteps his title with many postwar vehicles including Land-Rover variants and the Stalwart.

The book edited by Mr Crow is the second in a planned series which will cover all the world's armoured fighting vehicles. Contributors include Major-General N W Duncan, Peter Chamberlain, Chris Ellis, B T White, Major James Bingham, Colonel Robert J Icks and Mr Crow himself. This volume covers the inter-war years in which the tank as an idea was tossed back and forth

ANZIO, REICHSWALD AND KASSERINE

"Kasserine: Baptism of Fire" (Battle Book 17) (Ward Rutherford)

"Battle of the Reichswald" (Battle Book 16) (Peter Elstob)

"Anzio: The Bid for Rome" (Battle Book 15) (Christopher Hibbert)

Kasserine has been described as Rommel's last victory. In early 1943 the inexperienced British and American armies which had taken part in the North African landings became bogged down in the winter rains. There was a rapid German build-up under Von Arnim and along came the Afrika Korps after its long retreat from El Alamein.

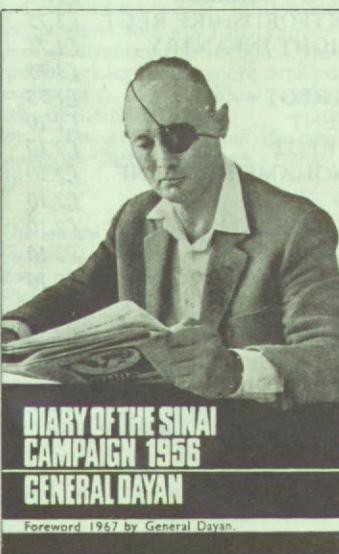
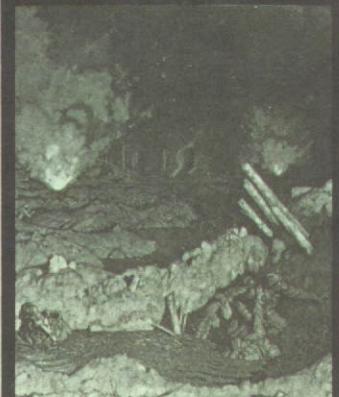
Rommel's idea was to smash the forces advancing from the west, drive through behind them and take their bases at Constantine and Bone, leaving the forward troops to be mopped up. He could then tackle Montgomery at Mareth. Though ill and dispirited, he had produced an imaginative plan. He hurled the Anglo-French-US forces back some 50 miles but could not follow up his victory.

The Allies emerged with one great benefit—they learned at last how to weld a unified leadership from a coalition of national commanders. "Kasserine" is an excellent account of a battle well worth remembering if only for its lessons.

The struggle for the Reichswald in February 1945 was the "worst battle I ever experienced," says General Sir Brian Horrocks in a foreword to this admirable account. It lasted for a month, during which

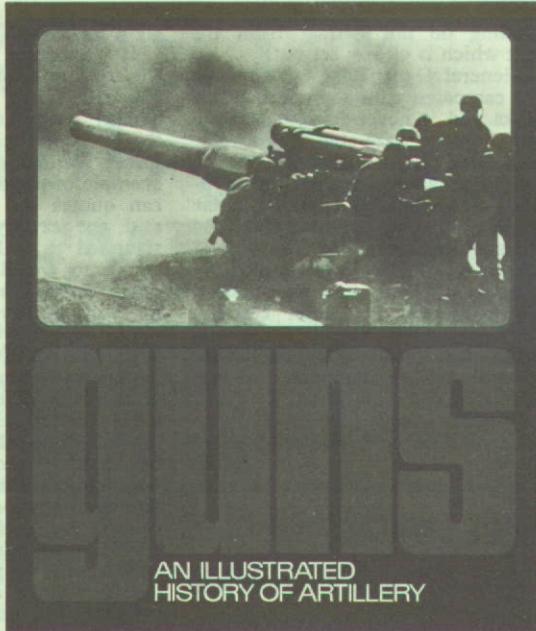


ALISTAIR HORNE



DIARY OF THE SINAI CAMPAIGN 1956
GENERAL DAYAN

Foreword 1967 by General Dayan.



AN ILLUSTRATED
HISTORY OF ARTILLERY

it rained just about every day, and took place in an area of flooded rivers and forests with few roads. Many of the troops were fresh from England but they beat mud, rain, panzers and parachutists. It was a hard slog and Mr Elstob's description of it is both vivid and lucid.

In his book on Anzio Mr Hibbert covers one of the most controversial operations of World War Two. General Lucas refused to attack from the beachhead until he had built up his forces. His inaction gave the Germans time to deploy a defence brilliantly organised and superbly fought. Churchill summed up the result: "I had hoped we would be hurling a wildcat ashore, but all we got was a stranded whale."

Mr Hibbert presents an enthralling account of the Anzio operation, backing his customary meticulous research with intelligent analysis.

Macdonald, 50p each

JCW

SIX THOUSAND MILES

"The Long March 1935" (Dick Wilson)

In 1934 Chiang Kai-shek seemed to have triumphed over the Red armies which sought to supplant his Kuomintang regime in China. With a million troops, tanks and aircraft he had the communists' Kiangsi soviet in a stranglehold getting ever tighter.

But in October that year, 100,000 men and women, the shattered remnants of a Red state the size of Belgium, broke out and in desperation began a 6000-mile odyssey which ended a year later at the Yenan caves in the shadow of the Great Wall. Only ten per cent of the marchers reached the refuge. Harried by Chiang's troops and planes, they were also prey to local warlords, bandits and hostile tribes.

Natural hazards were even more formidable. They marched through desert, forest and endless swamp, across raging rivers and snow-capped mountain ranges. The marchers died in their thousands—hunger, thirst, frostbite, drowning. They had begun the march divided and demoralised but it resolved all dissensions and Mao Tse-tung emerged the unquestioned leader.

In the end he had under him the toughest, most dedicated force in China. As the Eighth Route Army it fought the Japs and in 1945 was the strongest force in the country. It marched again and pushed Chiang

into the sea. Today it rules China. Tomorrow?

Mr Wilson concludes his excellent and informative book with a warning—the long march is a legend on which the pride of millions of Chinese rests, and a model for the idealistic struggle.

Hamish Hamilton, £3

JCW

TO BE TREASURED

"Guns" (Editor: Joseph Jobé)

In any future war the atomic cannon is likely to re-establish the gun as the army's most important weapon, says Colonel Daniel Reichel, director of the Swiss Military Library in Berne, in his chapter on artillery from 1871 to 1971. He argues that missiles in the megaton range would hardly be used for military reasons and the really large nuclear weapons would cancel each other out.

This does not apply however to the atomic shell fired from a gun, where the comparatively small atomic warhead, although containing a very large destructive power in relation to size, can be considered limited in effect, can be directed accurately, and its effects can be predicted.

Colonel Reichel puts his argument in the conclusion to a splendid symposium in which experts from four countries—Dr Erich Egg (Austria), Henry Lachouque (France), and Philip Cleator (Britain) are the others—trace the development of artillery from the 14th century to its apparent demise in the face of airborne bombs and guided missiles.

They show the employment of artillery changed over the centuries, with the first generation of guns being used to spread terror, the second to reduce castles and fortifications and the third to mow down attacking enemy infantry.

This is a superbly enthralling book made more so by the profuse illustrations—paintings, drawings, engravings and photographs—many of them hand mounted. It is a book to be treasured.

Patrick Stephens, £9.80

JCW

NABOBS AND MOGHULS

"The East India Company" (Brian Gardner)

During its heyday the Honourable

East India Company had its own standing army, navy, civil service and merchant fleet; it ruled over 250 million people, more than the present population of the United States, and had a revenue greater than that of the British Isles; it maintained a military staff college at Addiscombe and a civilian one at Haile Bury (now Haileybury School); its outposts extended from St Helena to China via Burma and Malaya.

The company was granted its first charter in 1600 by Elizabeth I for a period of 15 years. The royal charters were extended until the Great Mutiny in 1857 by which time the company had over-reached itself and was heavily in debt to the home government. By the India Act of 1858 control of all the company's assets and territories passed to the Crown.

Although vast fortunes were made by the merchants and executives of the company (the nabobs), large payments were made to the moghuls (emperors of India) and local independent rulers. Above all a measure of stable government and the "rule of law" were introduced to vast areas under the enlightened administration of a unique band of soldier administrators like the Lawrences, Nicholsons and Edwards.

Mr Gardner does not claim this to be an academic history, only a popular one. He is too modest. Well



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documented, illustrated and with an adequate index, this is a fascinating book of empire.

Rupert Hart-Davis, £2.95 RHL

UMBRADE TAKEN

"The Battle for Naw Seng's Kingdom" (Ian Fellowes-Gordon)

During the retreat from Burma in World War Two and the subsequent long slog back, the hill tribes, notably the Nagas, Karens, Chins and Kachins, gave the allies invaluable support. Led by British officers, they acted as an intelligence screen and also fought in guerrilla groups or in formed units. Such a unit was the Kachin Levies. This is their story.

The author served with them as company commander, second-in-command and acting commanding officer, winning the Military Cross. He obviously had great admiration and affection for those doughty warriors, as well he might.

Much of the book deals with the operations of the American force Galahad, better known as "Merrill's Marauders," and the second Wingate expedition. The author attaches too much importance to Galahad, the value of which, to many serving in Burma at the time, seemed exaggerated.

Brigadier "Mad Mike" Calvert, whose 77th Brigade had fought a hard battle to capture Mogaung, was incensed to hear on Radio India that "American/Chinese forces have taken Mogaung." He immediately signalled Chindit HQ: "Americans have taken Mogaung; 77 Brigade has taken Umbraze."

This is an interesting, if short, book about a sideshow of the campaign. It has excellent photographs but its value would have been increased by an index. It is rather over-priced.

Leo Cooper, £3.15 RHL

WITH TITO AND THE PARTISANS

"The Embattled Mountain" (F W D Deakin)

In his new book the author, former Oxford fellow and tutor in modern history who retired from teaching recently, has returned to the more adventurous days of his early manhood.

But the reader who expects a fast-moving war story will be disappointed. Mr Deakin is still very much the historian in this

account of his drop with a British military mission during the 1943 German-Italian offensive against Tito's partisans encircled on the Montenegrin mountain of Durmitor. His account is replete with footnotes, references and quotations.

But this is a highly readable and interesting book covering a period in the wartime career of Marshal Tito, the Yugoslavian guerrilla leader, when his whole future was doubtful; a period virtually unknown to the average British reader. We see his senior officers, their backgrounds and peculiarities; his "army" and its method of fighting; and the somewhat puzzled lot of British officers parachuted in to "liaise" with Tito.

Mr Deakin's work cannot hope to rival Brigadier Fitzroy Maclean's earlier book on the same subject, but then Brigadier Maclean was more outgoing, outspoken and schooled in the ways of the world. Mr Deakin's approach is much more hesitant and academic. Yet it is a very valuable book which will undoubtedly become a minor classic on partisan warfare in Europe within the narrow range of literature available on the subject in English. Recommended.

Oxford University Press, £3.75 CW

IN BRIEF

"No More Soldiering For Me" (Spike Mays)

This is the third part of the author's autobiography, taking him from 1934, when he was demobilised from the Royal Dragoons after 12 years' service, to 20 years later when he left Edinburgh University to start looking for a job yet once again at the ripe old age of 46. In the intervening couple of decades Mr Mays had a variety of jobs in Post Office communications and later with the Royal Signals.

This is an interesting and often very amusing account of a persistent, hard-working and ambitious ex-Regular's attempt to make a place for himself in "civvy street." Warmly recommended to those interested in what it was like to try to make a living in the depressed thirties and who want a quiet chuckle.

Eyre & Spottiswoode, £2

"Tanks of other nations: France"

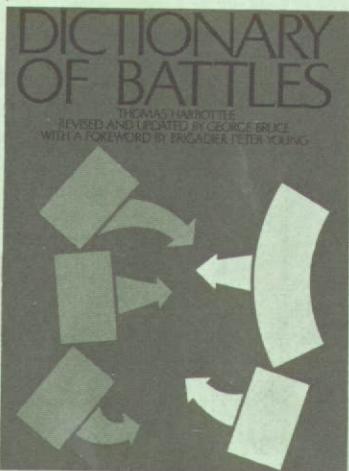
This booklet on French tanks is well up to the standard of previous publications in this series. Easy-to-read sections on special features and design trends, followed by an explanation of armoured formations, prepare the reader for the more detailed descriptions of individual tanks, many of them illustrated.

Royal Armoured Corps Tank Museum, Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset, 25p

"Dictionary of Battles" (Thomas Harbottle)

From A to Z—from Aachen in World War Two to Zuyder Zee (1573) during the Dutch War of Independence—this must surely be one of the most useful reference books for the military researcher and historian.

It was originally compiled by Thomas Harbottle in 1904 and the present volume is a completely revised and up-dated version by George Bruce. Each entry, cross-referenced where applicable, is history in miniature. Battles are



related to the wars or campaigns of which they were part and the relevant data includes such information as the number of troops involved and the tactics employed by their commanders. Finally, there is an index, thorough enough to satisfy the most demanding reader.

Rupert Hart-Davis, £2.95

"Rocket Fighter" (Weapons Book 20) (William Green)

Mr Green, an internationally acknowledged authority on aviation, examines the efforts of the warring powers to produce a rocket fighter.

The Germans, with their Me 163B Komet, were not first in the field—the Russians flew their B-1 some 15 months earlier, in May 1942. But the Soviet programme died through neglect.

The German rocket fighters came too late; the Reich's industrial capacity had been shattered by round-the-clock bombing. In the end, more German than Allied pilots were killed by the aircraft. Jap ideas, gleaned from the Germans, came to nothing—forestalled by the atomic bomb and surrender.

This is a fascinating book on a neglected area of aviation history. Mr Green carries the story through to the 1950s when Britain, America

and Russia still had rocket fighters in mind.

Macdonald, 50p

"Liberation of the Philippines" (Campaign Book 12) (Stanley L Falk)

"I shall return," said General Douglas MacArthur as he left the battered Philippines in 1942 on the orders of President Roosevelt. Soon afterwards, Corregidor surrendered and the islands fell to the Japanese.

Only a few months after arriving in Australia, MacArthur went back to the offensive and always the goal was the recapture of the Philippines. It took 31 months to redeem his pledge.

Mr Falk covers the island-hopping campaigns which, with great sea battles and air operations, led to liberation.

In a way this is also a vital biographical chapter of MacArthur's life. Almost perversely he survived in command and, despite errors of judgement and flaws of character, triumphed to become a national hero.

This is one of the most valuable additions to this Purnell library.

Macdonald, 50p

"London's Burning" (Battle Book 18) (Constantine FitzGibbon)

Mr FitzGibbon, who was in London throughout the blitz, recalls the dark days of 1940-41 with a superbly evocative account of the months during which Goering's Luftwaffe turned its fury on Britain's capital.

Other cities had suffered earlier—Guernica, Warsaw, Rotterdam, Belgrade—but none for so long as London. It was soon evident that no matter how great its punishment, the city was the focal point of the nation's determination to withstand aggression. London's fortitude won sympathy and a great deal of material support from hitherto uncommitted nations, and irritated Hitler to the extent of abandoning his invasion plans. Instead he turned to the east—where his army was to die.

Mr FitzGibbon's book, both vivid and compassionate, is a worthy addition to Purnell's History of the Second World War.

Macdonald, 50p

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