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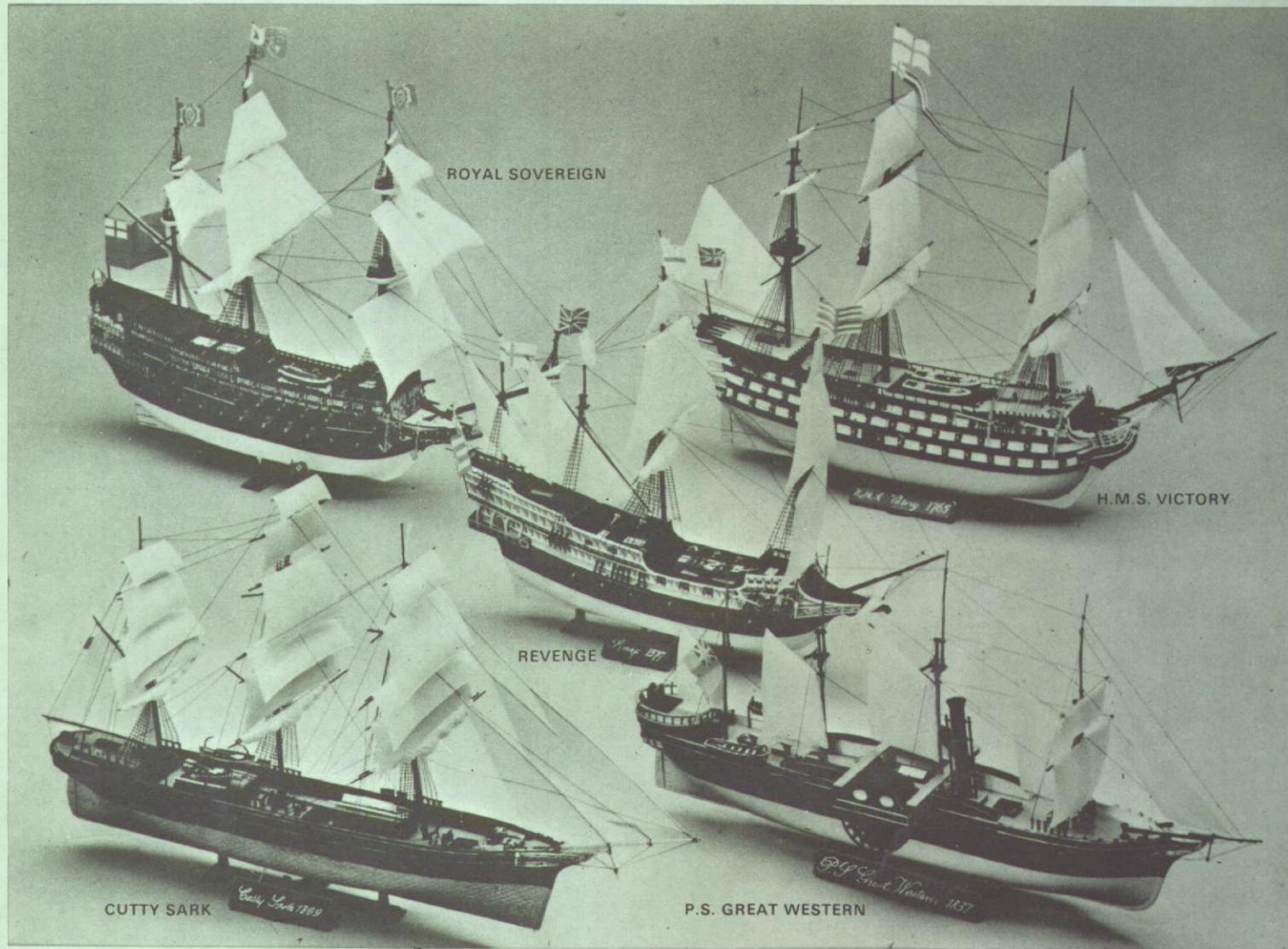
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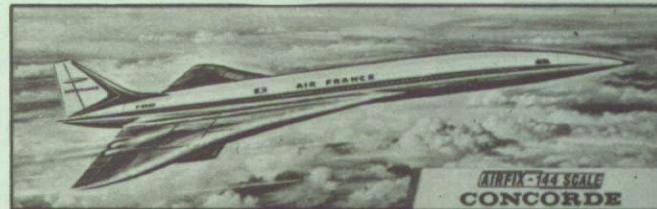
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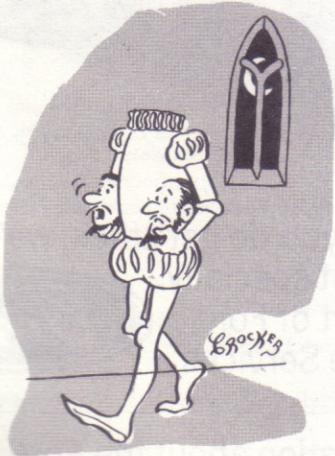
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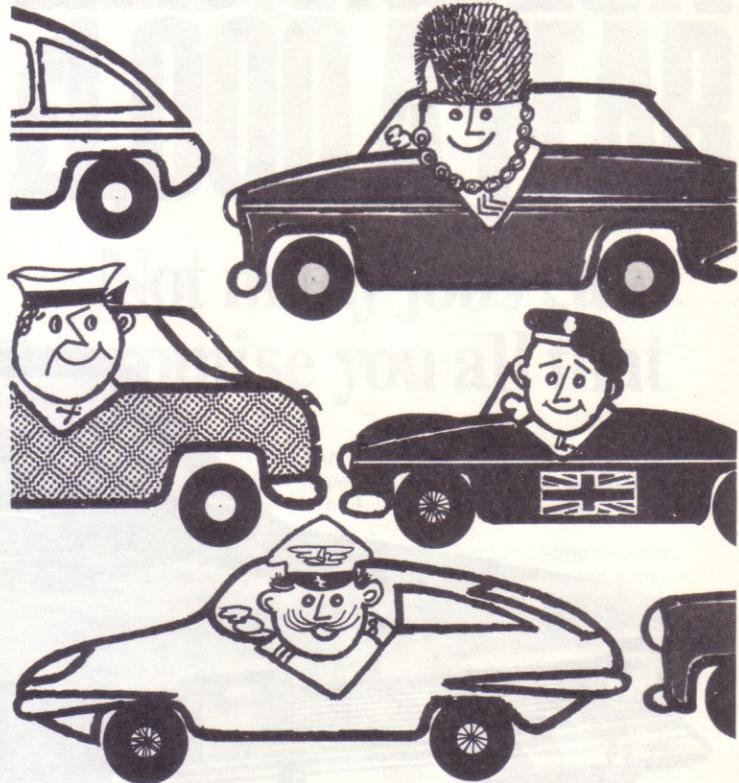
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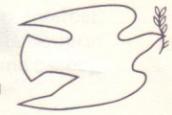
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See-the-Army DIARY

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 *italics*.

SEPTEMBER

- 12 Arnhem para pilgrimage (12-19 September).
- 13 Shoeburyness Garrison (including 36 Heavy Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery) At Home.
- 13 Recruiting display, Rochdale (13-14 September).
- 16 Recruiting display, Blackpool (16-18 September).
- 18 Military Band Festival, Berne, Switzerland (18-21 September).
- 19 Berlin Tattoo (19-20 September).
- 19 British Week, Gothenburg. (19-28 September).
- 20 Recruiting display, Blackburn (20-21 September).
- 20 Airborne Forces Pilgrimage, Arnhem (20-21 September).
- 20 Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, Open Days, (20-21 September).
- 28 British Week, Hamburg (28 September-5 October).
- 29 British Week, Tokyo (29 September-5 October).

Mid-September to mid-December, North American band tour (Band, Pipes and Drums, The Royal Scots Greys; Band and Drums, 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment; Pipes and Drums, 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders; Royal Air Force police dogs). Tour opens at Philadelphia 11 September.

OCTOBER

- 6 25th anniversary, Army Benevolent Fund, Gala Night "Horse of the Year" Show, Empire Pool, Wembley.
- 7 British National Day, 2nd Asian International Trade Fair, Teheran.
- 10 British Week, Vienna (10-18 October).
- 11 Laying-up of old Colours and dedication of Middlesex Regimental Memorial, St Paul's Cathedral, London.
- 24 Alamein Reunion, London.
- 25 Formation of The Royal Hussars from 10th and 11th Hussars.
- 31 Liberation of Walcheren Island, Holland (31 October-2 November).

NOVEMBER

- 8 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 8 Festival of Remembrance, Albert Hall, London.
- 9 Remembrance Sunday.
- 20 Disbandment parade, 5th Royal Tank Regiment, Wolfenbuttel, Germany.

FEBRUARY 1970

- 18 Festival of Military Music, Antwerp.

MARCH 1970

- 23 25th anniversary of Rhine Crossing—1st Airborne Division pilgrimage.

APRIL 1970

- 21 British National Day, Osaka World Expo (or 23 April).

MAY 1970

- 8 25th anniversary VE Day.

SEPTEMBER 1970

- 26 British Week, Hamm (26 September-4 October).
Mid-September to Mid-December—North American band tour (Band and Corps of Drums, Coldstream Guards; Pipes and Drums, The Black Watch).

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The new Minister for Administration

Mr Roy Hattersley, Member of Parliament for the Sparkbrook division of Birmingham, has succeeded the late Mr Gerald Reynolds as Minister of Defence for Administration.

Mr Hattersley was a joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Department of Employment and Productivity, formerly the Ministry of Labour, for two and a half years.

Aged 36, he has represented the Sparkbrook division since defeating the previous member in the October 1964 general election. He is a trained economist and before entering Parliament worked in the steel industry, adult education and the health service. His new post gives him responsibility for administration of the three Services.



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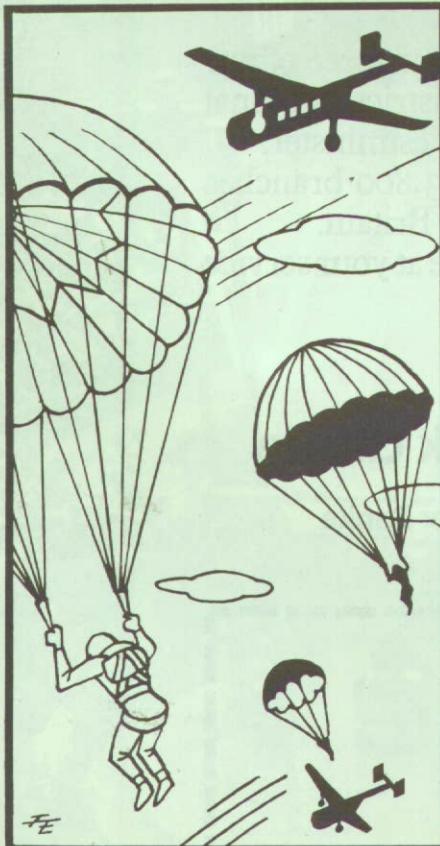
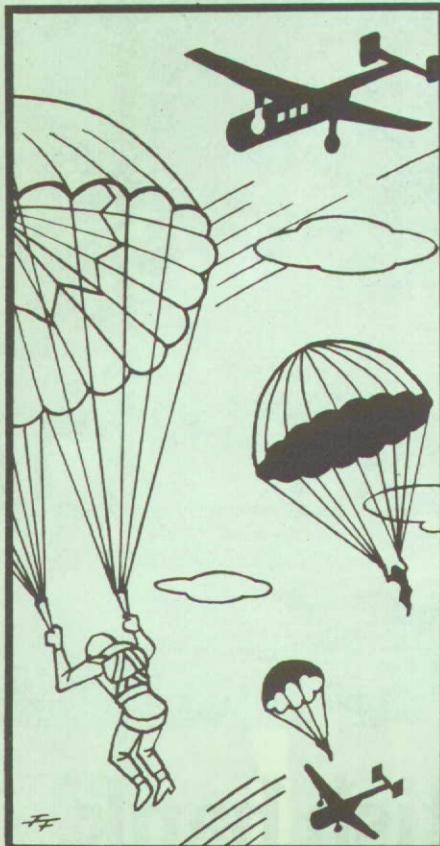


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HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 40.



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BEHIND THE POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

ON a remote part of the North Wales coast in sight of the cloud-capped Mount Snowdon they built a special camp for 3464 soldiers, sailors and airmen.

It was, they claimed, the largest camp built from scratch since that for the Coronation in London's Kensington Gardens. And the men accommodated there were

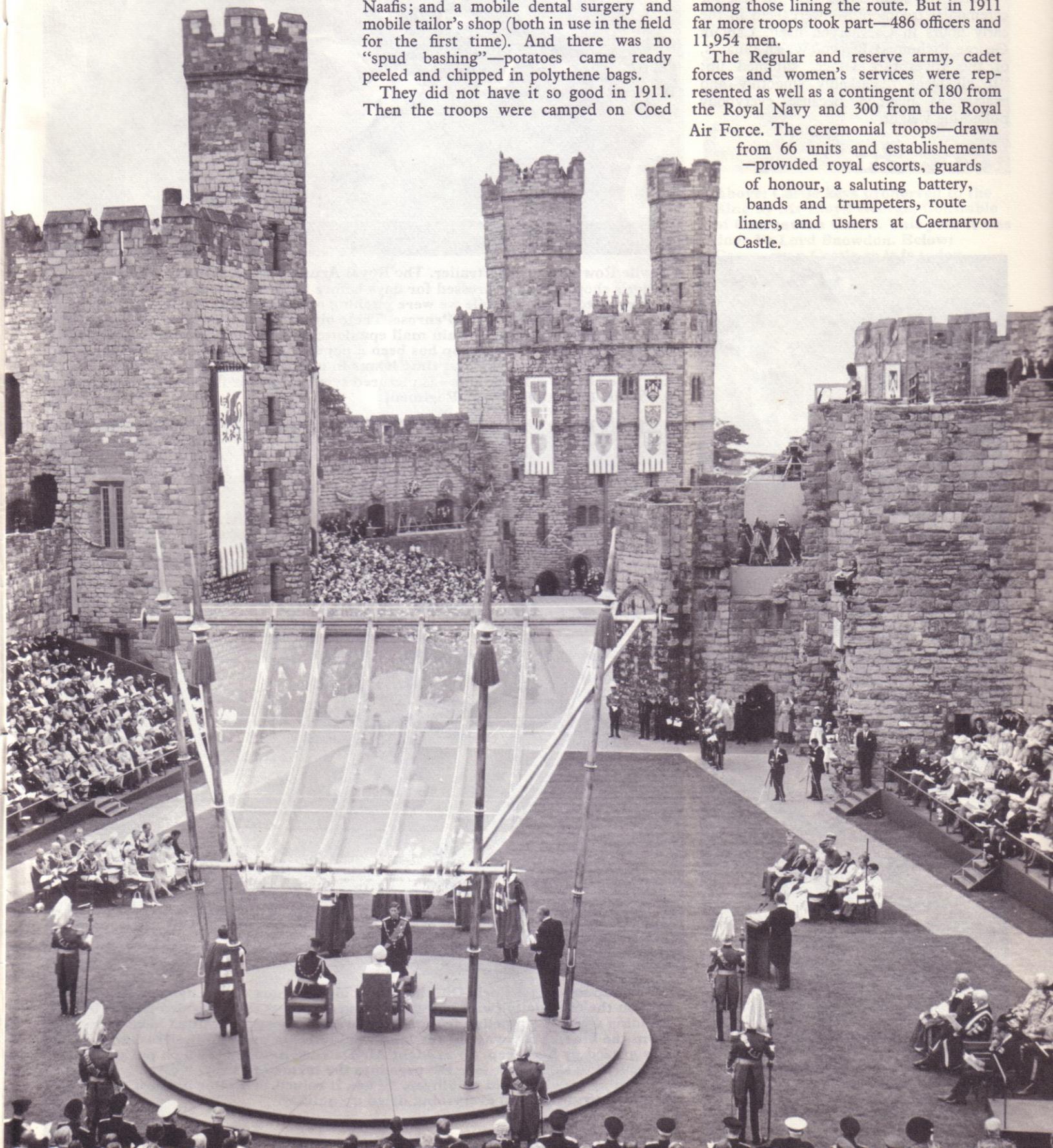
also to play a part in a historic royal pageant—the Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

This mini city was put up on a disused Royal Air Force airfield at Llandwrog. It took a year to plan and two months to build. There were 350 tents; baths and laundry; an inflatable cinema showing films like "The Longest Day" and "Hour of the Gun;" television in the messes and Naafis; and a mobile dental surgery and mobile tailor's shop (both in use in the field for the first time). And there was no "spud bashing"—potatoes came ready peeled and chipped in polythene bags.

They did not have it so good in 1911. Then the troops were camped on Coed

Helen, an exposed hill overlooking Caernarvon Castle. But there were some parallels with the 1911 Investiture. The 2nd Life Guards—who then provided the Sovereign's Escort—were allowed by its owner to stay at Vaynor Park free of charge. The offer was extended to the Household Cavalry this year by the present owner, Sir Michael Duff, Lord Lieutenant of Caernarvonshire. His father was adjutant of the 2nd Life Guards in 1911. The Prince of Wales's escort was provided 58 years ago by the Denbighshire Yeomanry. This time an officer and two troopers of the Flintshire and Denbighshire Yeomanry were among those lining the route. But in 1911 far more troops took part—486 officers and 11,954 men.

The Regular and reserve army, cadet forces and women's services were represented as well as a contingent of 180 from the Royal Navy and 300 from the Royal Air Force. The ceremonial troops—drawn from 66 units and establishments—provided royal escorts, guards of honour, a saluting battery, bands and trumpeters, route liners, and ushers at Caernarvon Castle.



In addition the Army provided other support and services such as ammunition and explosives disposal experts, transport, communications, repair and recovery, stores and supplies, catering and postal facilities. In fact, the Army post office at Llandwrog issued first-day covers for the Investiture with its own special frank: BFPO 1000 with a tri-service crest.

A special Investiture office—run by a lieutenant-colonel and a captain—was set up in Headquarters Western Command at Chester. They issued administrative instructions going into 84 foolscap pages and ceremonial instructions of 50 pages.

Three full-scale rehearsals—the last for ceremonial troops only—were held in the early hours in Caernarvon itself. Captain George Richmond Brown, Welsh Guards, of the Investiture Office, summed up: "It all went remarkably smoothly and exactly as planned because everybody pulled his weight."



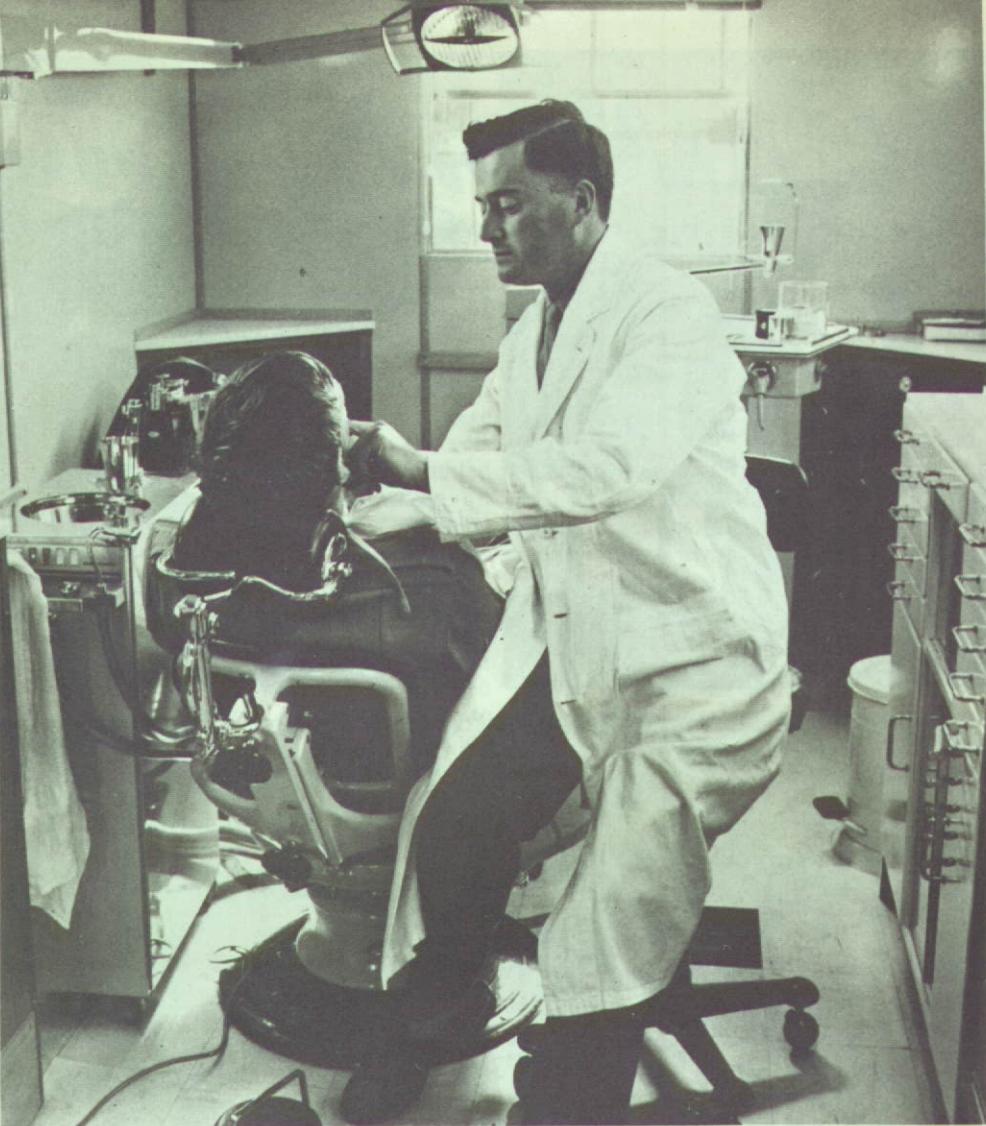
Savile Row in an Army trailer. The Royal Army Ordnance Corps' mobile tailor's shop was hard pressed for days before the Investiture. "They were even asking us to do work while we were pitching our tent," said Master Tailor Warrant Officer II Leonard Penrose. Their biggest job was sowing on badges of rank, medal ribbons and chain mail epaulettes, and they were even called on to repair flags. The tailor's shop has been a popular exhibit in several Army shows recently but this was the first time it was in use in the field. Mr Penrose—his speciality is making kilts—is pictured sewing a glider flash on a No 2 dress jacket of The Staffordshire Regiment.



Above: A horse in the "workshops." A farrier fits a new shoe on Jimpy, a Life Guard horse, at the temporary stables in Vaynol Camp.

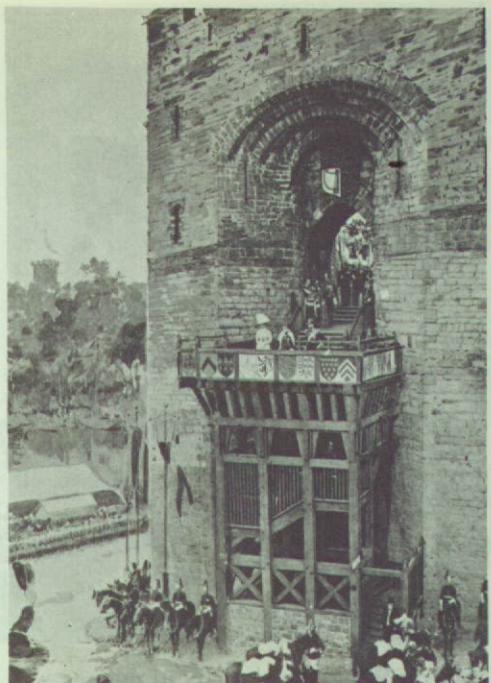


The camp at Vaynol Park. On Llandwrog airfield men of 38 Engineer Regiment laid on the electricity (with two 120 KVA generators) and provided water (by building a 3½-mile pipeline from Caernarvon to boost the limited local supply from the hills). The owner of the land would not let them on the grass which was grazed by his sheep. So 22 Light Air Defence Regiment, which put up the tents, had to sledgehammer the pegs into the tarmac runway. "Actually it was a good thing we did," said an officer, "When it rained the water drained off the cambered runway and everything dried up quickly."



Above: The Royal Dental Corps had its new type of mobile surgery in use for the first time at Llandwrog. All normal operations like extractions and fillings can be performed and there are facilities for gas, x-ray and even the repair of dentures. The surgery is in an 18-foot caravan and has air-conditioning. Captain Richard Stagg RADC—here carrying out an examination—had as many as 17 patients in one day.

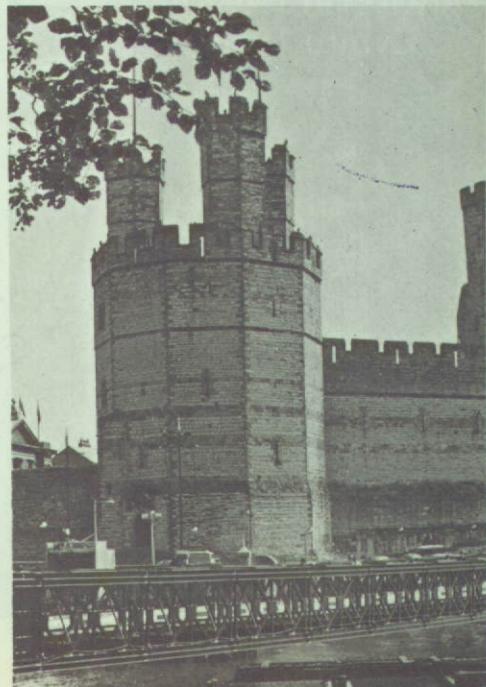
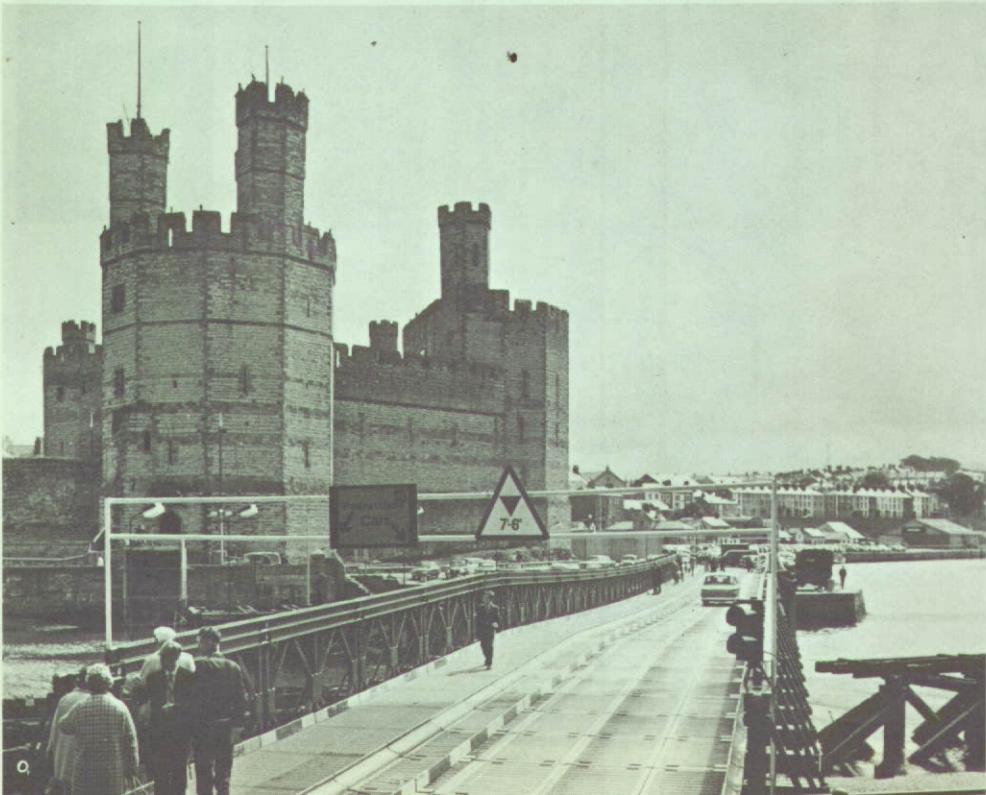
It is called Pont Yr Aber II (The second bridge over the estuary). It was built by 32 Field Squadron of 38 Engineer Regiment over the River Seiont by Caernarvon Castle. The original bridge was dilapidated and had to be demolished. The sappers began work on the new one in May, piecing the heavy girders together like a huge Meccano set. When finished it weighed 200 tons and spanned more than 212 feet.

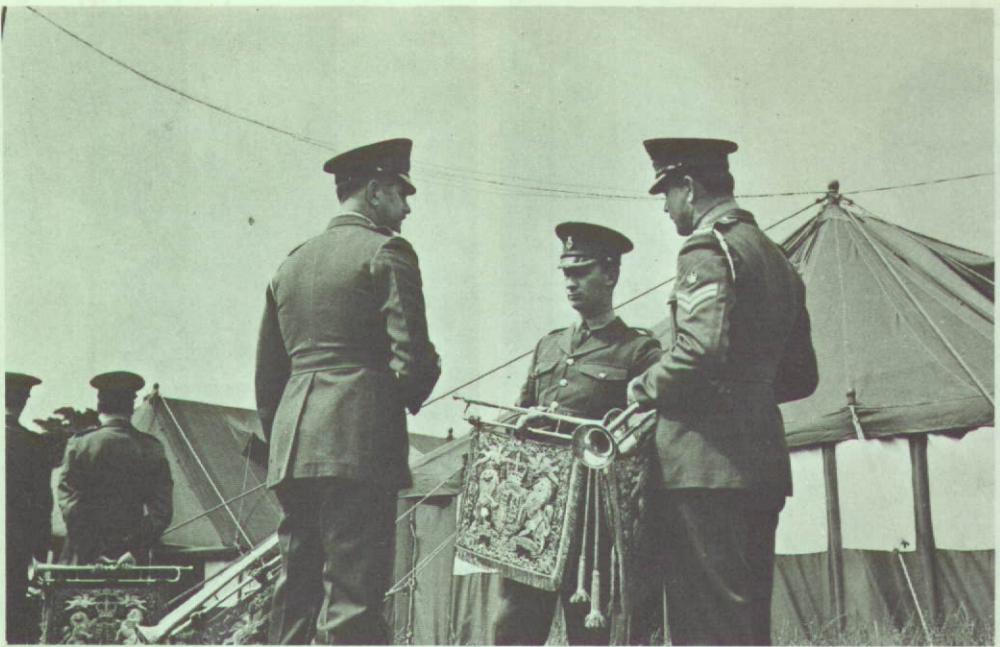


Above: Castle keys proffered to the King by Mr Lloyd George, Constable of Caernarvon Castle. This year it was done by Lord Snowdon. Below: Caernarvon Castle as it is today.



Above: The Prince of Wales was presented to the people at Queen Eleanor's Gate in 1911, just as in 1969. Scene from a contemporary drawing in the *Illustrated London News*.



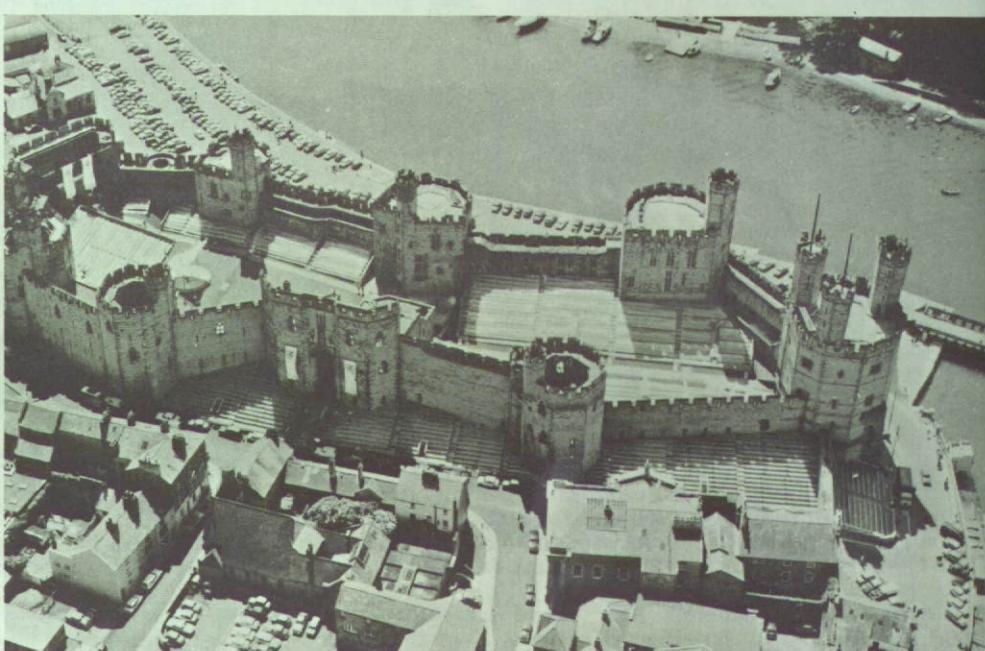


Above: What the public did not see.
Trumpeters at rehearsal in knee-length grass at the tented camp in Vaynor Park.

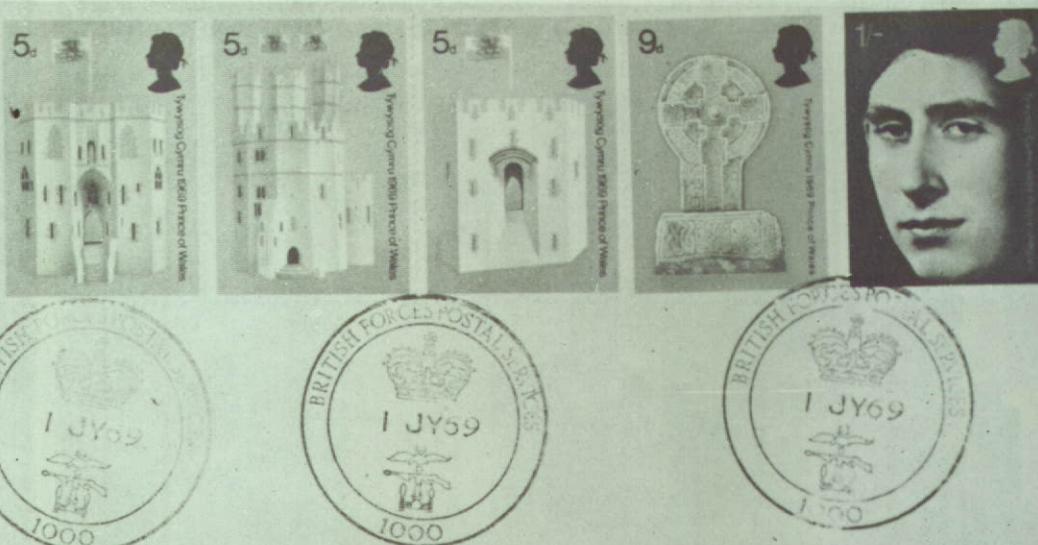


Above, right: The dragon of Llandwrog Camp. An appropriate motif made by three gunner staff-sergeants from wire, and plaster of Paris and bandages from the MI room. The glaring eyes are brake lights.

Right: Aerial view of the castle. Temporary seating, television cameras and pennants were in place days before the ceremony.



Below: A collector's item. The Army issued a first day cover from Llandwrog Camp, Caernarvon, with its own special frank—BFPO 1000.



MR H HOWTON
SOLDIER MAGAZINE
433 HOLLOWAY ROAD
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Return to Tunisia

BACK to the sun and the sand they went. To Medenine, Mareth and Tebaga Gap—scenes of actions which drove the Axis armies out of North Africa.

There were nearly 80 of them, officers from Malta, Near East Land Forces and the 5th Division in England. Many were former Desert Rats, some are now generals and colonels. The study group assembled in Malta, flew to Djerba (an island off Tunisia), and spent two days driving through the battlefields of 26 years ago in a comfortable coach.

They stopped for on-the-spot lectures. And heard about a sergeant who knocked out 14 tanks with a six-pounder, a signaller who mended a radio set on top of a trench and a young officer who went off to silence a machine-gun post but never returned . . . There was an account by Colonel Sir Thomas Butler of the gallant but disastrous advance into the heart of a German position in the hills across the Medenine-Mareth road by 4 Company, 6th

Battalion, Grenadier Guards, which he commanded at the time. Major-General W B Thomas told of the advance of the Maoris through the Tebaga Gap and Major-General D L Darling gave an account of the action of 7th Rifle Brigade.

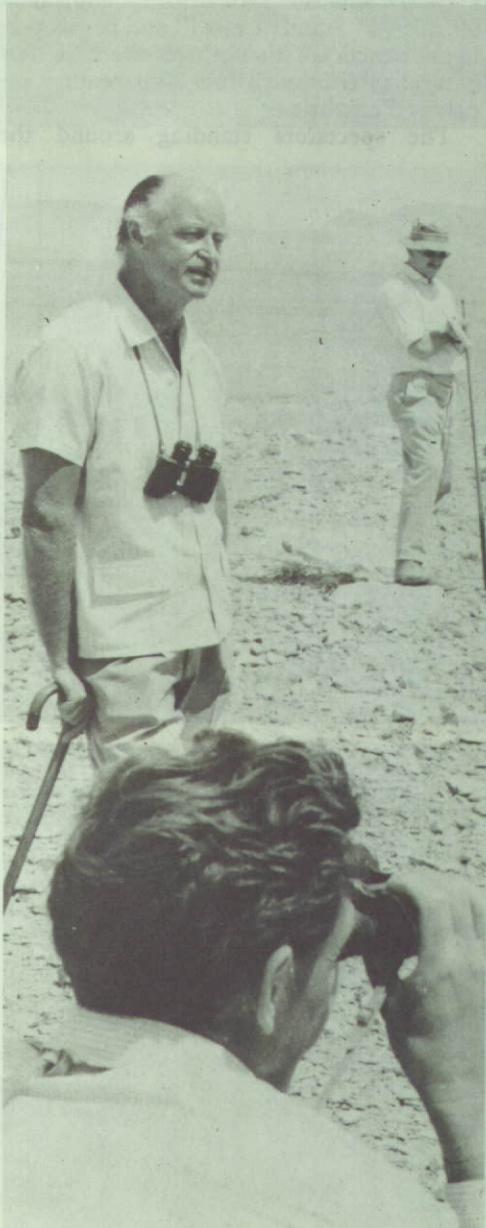
This time there were no panzers, no Afrika Korps, no problems of petrol, food and water supplies. The only dangers were the odd scorpion and sand viper.

Brigadier Rollo Price, commanding British Troops Malta, organised the tour and summed up: "Campaigns are planned by the higher command, but without the human factor—the leadership of countless junior officers and non-commissioned officers—no battle could have been won. It was the supreme example passed on from junior officers to their men that stayed with the Eighth Army right through Italy and into North-West Europe. Many of those young men never saw the end of the war, but their endeavours and inspiration passed on to scores of younger men who followed them to the battlefield."

Below: Across a *wadi*. **Below right:** Maj-Gen Thomas tells of the Maori advance through Tebaga Gap.



Above: The *meshoui*—arab feast—at Matmata.



They cried "Have a care!"

On Marston Moor

IT was a hard and bloody victory on Marston Moor in 1969, even as it had been on the same battleground in 1644. Oliver Cromwell's "Ironsides" showed the same fine discipline and determination that routed Prince Rupert three and a quarter centuries ago, and the Marquis of Newcastle's "Whitecoats" again died heroically in the last desperate resistance of the Royalists.

A "Roundhead" lad of the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, was wounded by a pike and a "Royalist" suffered a hand wound through a premature explosion. The realistic cut-and-thrust of swordplay and fierce brandishing of staffs made this colourful Sunday entertainment seen by some 20,000 people a strenuous, exciting, even hazardous occupation for the participants.

Indeed, the commanders of both the Roundheads and Royalists had to appeal to their troops to cut out the rough stuff and to remember "this is not a real battle." "Have a care!" was the 17th century equivalent of today's "Stand at ease!" and it was perhaps beneficial that there were a few natural interludes in this 20th century replay in Yorkshire.

The spectators standing around the

extensive buttercup-yellow field were clearly on the side of the Royalists in their picturesque 17th century costumes and fiercely urged them on.

Nevertheless, history repeated itself. Rupert fled the field and presumably saved his life again by hiding in a beanfield while his dog, Boy, well-known symbol of success till then, was killed in the battle.

Marston Moor, fought over three hours during the evening of 2 July 1644, was of short duration but lasting effect. It was the beginning of the end for the cause of Charles I and it ensured the continuance of the new parliamentary system.

The battlefield had a frontage of two and a quarter miles and the Parliamentarian armies totalled 27,000 foot and 6000 cavalry, against the Royalists' 19,000 foot and 10,000 horse. Of these, 4000 Royalists were slain while the Parliamentarians suffered only about 300 dead. Some 1500 Royalists were taken prisoner; their cannon, baggage, nearly 100 standards and 6000 muskets were captured.

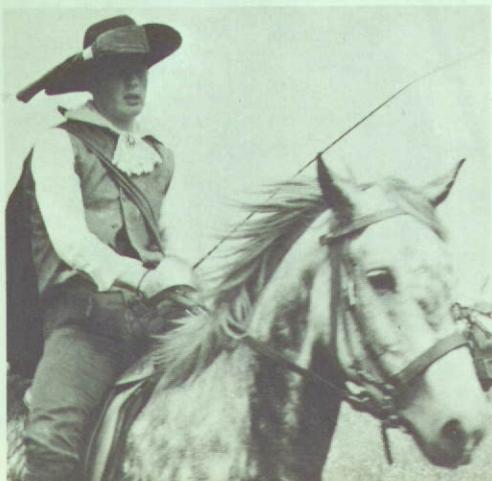
Strangely, at one time none of the five commanders of the armies was on the field—this when the struggle was in the balance and an astute move could determine the issue. Cromwell provided one when he led his left-wing cavalry round the Royalist

rear to attack their left. The Earl of Leven, senior commander of the Parliamentarian forces, who had fled the field with some Scottish regiments, was told next day at Leeds or Bradford that he was the victor.

The re-enactment of the battle on the same field was undertaken by the Sealed Knot, a Cavalier society formed about a year ago by Brigadier Peter Young, reader in military history at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

About 700 members took part, all wearing colourful costumes, cloaks, gauntlets, feathered hats and the long hair of the period. Among them was a contingent of officer cadets from Sandhurst who had joined the society as individuals. There were girls fighting as soldiers and some serving as camp-following wenches. The 70 or so horsemen included a troop of professional stuntmen who belong to the society.

Fighting for the Parliamentarians were members of the newly formed Roundhead Association, including contingents from the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, and the Yorkshire Volunteers. There were also many students from Southampton and Leeds universities and the St John's Teachers Training College, York. Lads of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, manned the guns.



Royalist troops advanced through knee high buttercups across the 1644 battleground.

Left: Brigadier Peter Young, founder of Sealed Knot, calling his troops to order.

Far left: Into battle with sword a-quiver dashing to loot Roundhead baggage train.



Back Cover

Roundheads' gun in action at the re-enactment of the 17th century battle of Marston Moor by the Sealed Knot, a Cavalier society interested in the history of the period.

Picture by Trevor Jones.

Above: Swords and pikestaffs intermingle as fierce hand-to-hand fighting develops.

Left: Leather and lace went together in 1644 and girls fought for both armies.

Far left: Real casualty. This cavalier injured his hand setting off explosives.

Story by George Hogan
Pictures by Trevor Jones

CYPRUS SIDELIGHTS



TO FEED THE MIND

THE Newspaper Distribution Unit in Cyprus, a tiny section with a big sense of responsibility, does much of its work by night, collecting parcels from Nicosia airport and sorting the papers ready for early morning delivery to units.

Commanded by an officer of the Royal Army Educational Corps, it has a seven-day-week task of ordering, issuing, and accounting for nearly 2000 dailies and 1200 Sunday papers for 65 units. In this Warrant Officer D B Marshall, Royal Army Pay Corps, is supported by a civilian clerk and a corporal and driver of the Royal Corps of Transport.

Newspapers on the scale of 20 per 100 men are provided for the troops and airmen overseas through the Institute of Army Education at the same price as they sell in Britain, there being no charge for air freightage. The dailies usually arrive in time to be distributed no later than the day after publication and early editions of the Sundays are available the same day. There have been some strange delays, however; one package arrived after first travelling to the United States.

The British Forces Post Office delivers to 35 distant units while the other 30 collect from Dhekelia. The NDU has recently moved into an annex (above) of the Forces Post Office where it is better able to cope with the nightly rush. The Services Cyprus weekly, Lion, and SOLDIER magazine, are also distributed by the unit.

A student uses gas welding to repair cast iron gearbox. Many trainees were formerly clerks.

This pretty girl employee has to learn how to use a theodolite before undertaking repairs.

RESETTLEMENT HELP FOR CYPRIOTS

Defence cuts which reduced the number of British troops stationed in Cyprus also made redundant many Cypriots employed in grades from clerks to cleaners in the supporting civilian labour force.

A resettlement course organised by 48 Command Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, commanded by Major Bill Barker, has been an outstanding success in providing trades for former white-collar workers who are now happily settled in new jobs.

The outcome is doubly gratifying as it has assisted not only the individuals but also the State's labour force which has a surfeit of clerical workers and a deficit of skilled tradesmen.

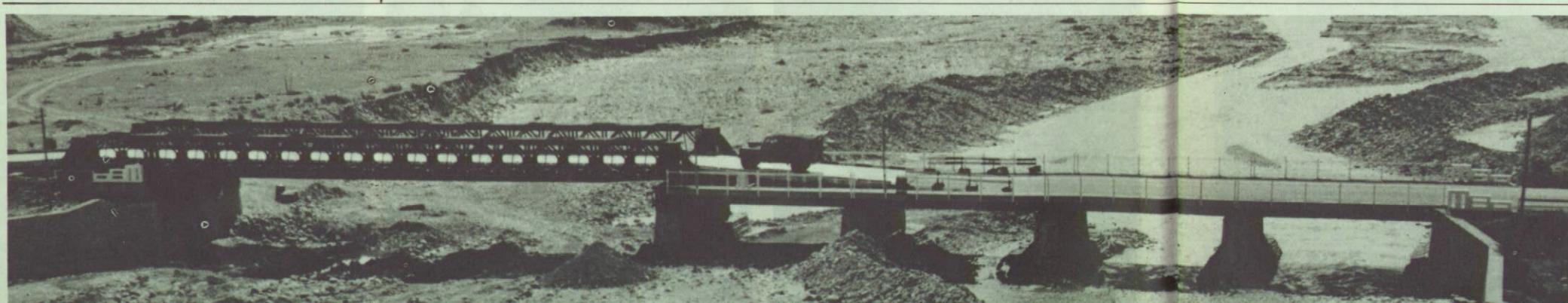
This scheme, agreed last year between

the British High Commission, the Cyprus Government and the Army, has given re-training as heavy vehicle mechanics, sheet metal workers, welders and precision instrument technicians.

The Army provided the instructors, equipment, materials, workshops and classrooms while the Cyprus Government gave trainees a weekly allowance of £6 for the period of the course.

The course was planned so that at its end employees could continue their academic and technical studies up to university level. Of the 43 men and women who joined, 38 have now graduated.

Five left early—three for personal reasons, one to take a university place and one to undertake more advanced training that was available in Britain.



FOR VARIED TASTES

AN egg occupies little space and comes from the hen already neatly packed, but it is a very small part of a soldier's daily ration.

The Supplies Sub Depot, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Cyprus, commanded by Major H E Bayman, supplies nearly one million eggs every three months—10,000 a day—and this is but one item in a man's diet.

The normal task of the depot was made much more complicated by the arrival of the United Nations Force. Eight nations with different tastes indented for their normal diet, like Kerrygold butter and golden onion soup for the Irish, Ementhal cheese for the Danes, molasses and peanut butter for the Canadians and different kinds of rye bread for the Austrians, Swedes and Finns. The Australians, apparently, were adaptable and the British were already getting their own specialities like creamy tinned milk and Daddies sauce.

But the RAOC men had no real difficulty. They merely combed the world for the supplies needed and shipped in special Danish luncheon meat, salami, shoulder ham, veal, sausages called falukorv, as well as frankfurters and havarti cheese. All the known spices were obtained as well as peppercorn and kernel corn, corn syrup and maple syrup, metfurst and rullepulse, liver paste, spiced lard and honey.

They imported Scandinavian experts to teach their bakers how to make rye bread and now six different loaves, including hamburger rolls, are issued daily at the Dhekelia depot. They are all wrapped in coloured paper marked with the day of issue so that Monday's does not get stale while Tuesday's is being eaten.



M1 BRIDGE DOWN

THEY call it the M1—it is in the Sovereign Base Area between Limassol and Episkopi. When hurricane force winds and torrential rains struck early this year the bridge went down.

The river is a wide raging torrent in a wild winter, a meek tiny stream dwindling to a dry water course in summer. There was no Royal Engineers field squadron on



15,000 LETTERS A DAY

THE British Forces Post Office in Dhekelia has moved to a more impressive building where the vast amount of work can be carried out with greater ease and efficiency.

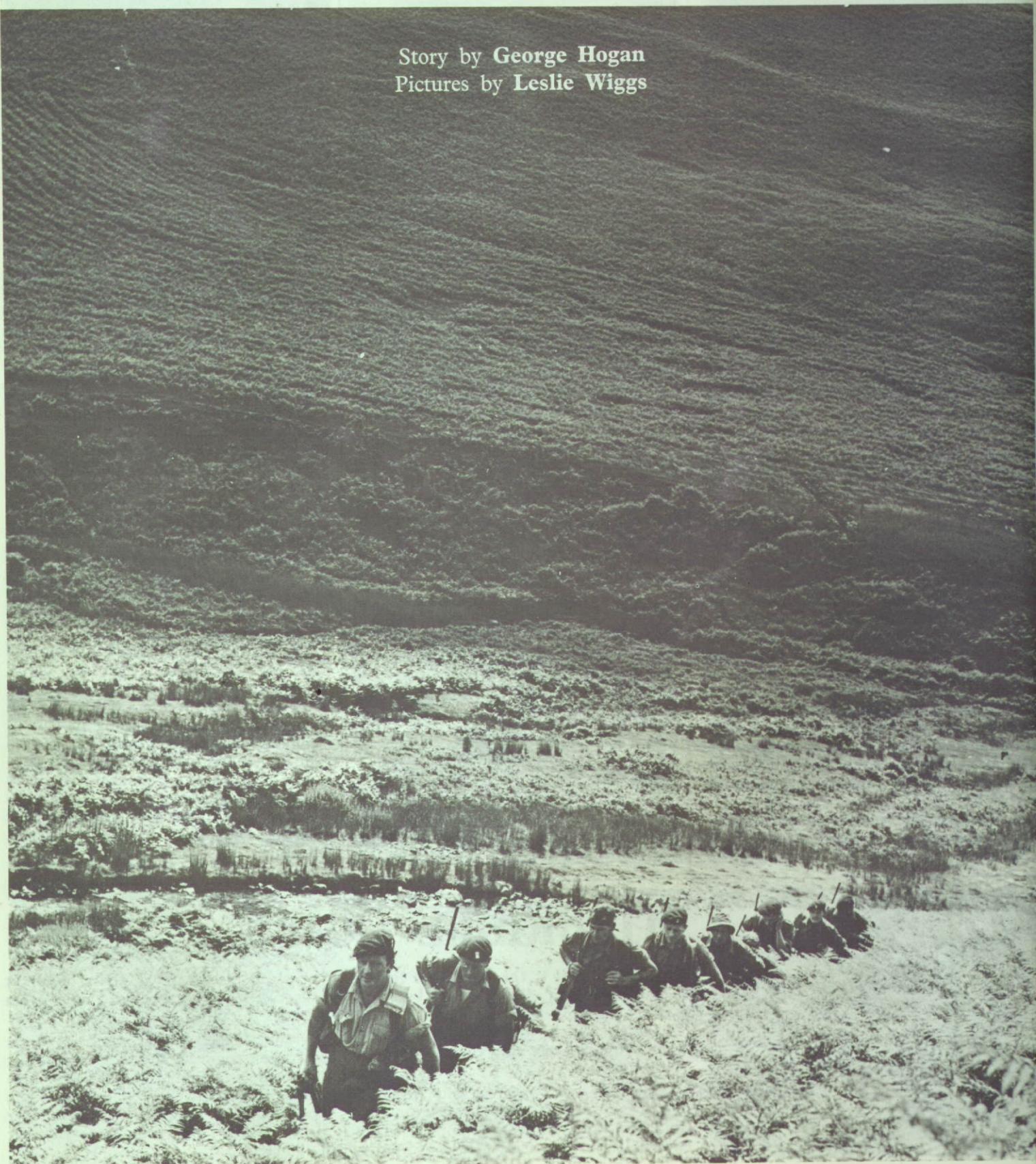
All military mail to and from Cyprus passes through the office which is run by 275 Postal and Courier Communication Unit, Royal Engineers, whose personnel sort 15,000 letters each day. Some 20 bags are despatched daily to Britain and direct to Commonwealth and foreign countries such as Malta and Germany. Three ships a month take 14 days to carry parcels to the United Kingdom.

The outward mail is sorted into regional bags for destinations such as Leeds, Manchester, London Town and London BFPO, and there is also a bag for second class mail. This early sorting in Cyprus facilitates quick delivery in Britain. Inward mail, even the heaviest load, is cleared within two days. There are six field post offices on the island which serve UNFICYP headquarters as well as the Sovereign Base areas and the military ski resort on Mount Olympus.

CYPRUS

THOSE BLISTERING MOUNTAINS

Story by **George Hogan**
Pictures by **Leslie Wiggs**



THE Cambrian March is mis-named. This is a four-day test of endurance, not merely a march. The steep rugged Welsh mountains make it so. It is also a trial of military skills—not a straightforward foot-slog. Major-General Lewis Pugh intended this when in 1960 he introduced the Cambrian as a voluntary test for teams of the 53rd (Welsh) Division, Territorial Army.

For seven years the Welsh Terriers kept it as their own private hell ground. Over an up-and-down 70 miles each summer they sweated, cursed and wore out their feet. When they had conquered it they cherished memories of agony and discomfort, tired limbs and blistered toes.

Teams from the 4th and 6th/7th Battalions, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, became famous for their prowess and 4th Battalion, The Welch Regiment, was almost unbeatable, being four times champions. A prized possession today is the certificate awarded to each individual who completes the gruelling course with all its military efficiency achievements.

These include crossing a rope bridge, using assault boats, map-reading, first-aid casualty care and evacuation, tactical manoeuvring, intelligent observation, fighting out of an ambush and, at the end of four long days, the ability to shoot straight in a rifle competition. The emphasis placed on military skills is reflected in the marking: 40 per cent for skills, 40 for marching, 20 for shooting.

Only the fittest enter for the Cambrian and only the toughest survive the four days of undulating grassland, bracken, sheep tracks and the sharp loose rocks of mountain roads. But that takes care of only 40 per cent—the rest is pure soldiering.

Suddenly a first aid test after 11 weary miles. Ten minutes to fix broken jaw and wounded leg.

From 1967, with the rundown of the Territorial Army, the march has been fully open to the Regular Army. Volunteer units, now with little time to train, compete for their own cup on the last two days only.

Units of Strategic Command are now the principal contenders. This year there were five from 3rd Division and six from 5th Division, plus 22 Light Air Defence Regiment, 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers, and A team of A Company, The Welsh Volunteers' TAVR. The latter, known as the galloping yodellers, were fresh from their victory in the fast-moving, stamina-testing Welsh 3000s.

Last year, in spite of devastating heat, the competitors developed a fast pace from the beginning and the toll was heavy indeed. Many dropped out on the first day and only six out of 20 teams finished. This year all completed the course.

Because the weather was again blisteringly hot on the eve of the event the medical advisers extended the bogey time for the first day's 20 miles by one hour to 11 hours. The teams did not need it—all but one finished well within ten hours.

In spite of mechanisation the British Army still pays a great deal of attention to marching. Foot slogging produces fit, tough troops; only men with hard feet can overcome the rigours of full campaigning. When transport is unavailable the soldier marches.

Some tactical exercises are planned with this especially in mind to ensure that the troops will always be fit to fight when battle is joined. Marching is still included in the physical efficiency tests that a soldier needs to pass each year to retain his proficiency pay. The requirement is ten miles in two hours ten minutes, but this also includes scaling a six-foot wall, jumping a nine-foot ditch, carrying a man for 200 yards by fireman's lift and firing five rounds at two targets at the end.

Battalions ensure marching fitness in their own ways. Some occasionally march in column headed by band and drums over country roads, but it is more usual for companies or platoons to train independently and tactically. There is less formal marching than of old and the ten-minute halt at the end of 50 minutes is out. Today there is a break of ten minutes in each two hours at the commander's discretion.

Feet are still feet—tender extremities until they are march-hardened. In spite of medical advances the Army has not yet sponsored any powder or spirit to toughen them or to prevent blisters. The current DMS (direct moulded sole) boot, with its perforated inner sole, may be an improvement on the steel-tipped and studded ankle boot, but not all would agree. Feet are feet, temperamental and individual, that have to be toughened by hard wear if the soldier is to live easy in times of stress.

So the Cambrian March and similar events are looked upon with favour; they help to keep the Army not only fighting fit but, equally important, fit to march.

1969 Cambrian March Results

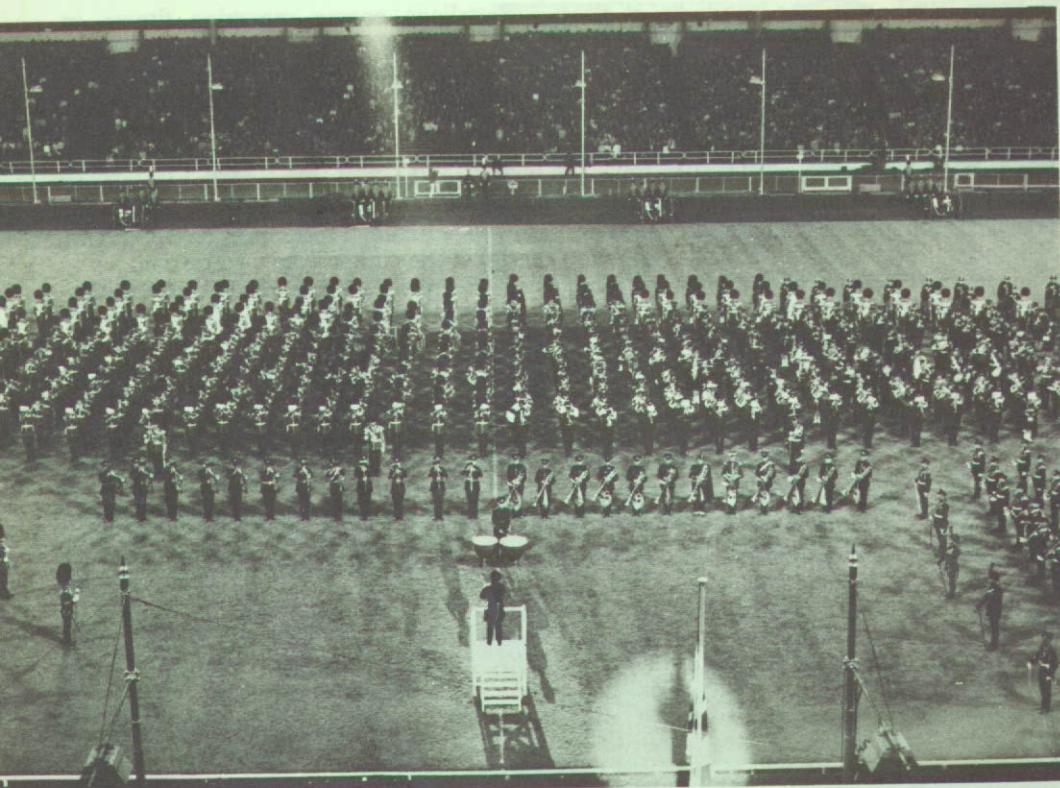
1, 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry, 1069 points; 2, 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, 1027; 3, 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, 1022; 4, 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, 22 Light Air Defence Regiment, 1010 each.

Other competitors in order of finishing: 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; 42 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery; A team, A Company, The Welsh Volunteers; 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers; 1st Battalion, The Loyal Regiment; B team, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; A team, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; 3rd Royal Tank Regiment; The Life Guards.

"Onward, upward, best foot forward. On, keep on!"



Left, Right & Centre

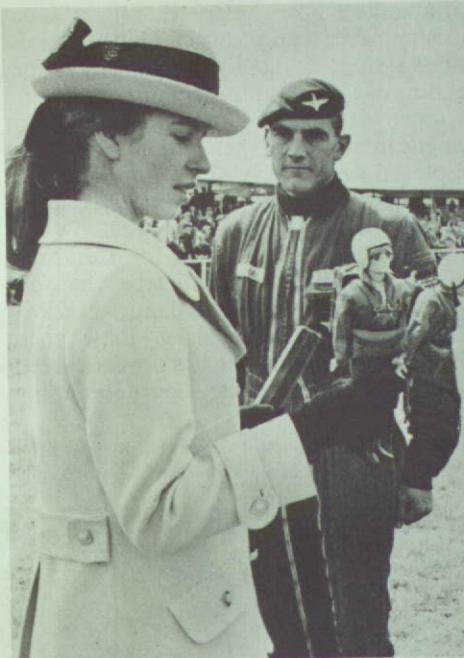


Thirty Army bands with more than 1200 bandmen and pipers, including 24 trumpeters, presented at Wembley Stadium, London, the biggest and best military musical pageant ever staged in Britain. When they played the 1812 Overture (above) they were augmented by the guns of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, sounding in accordance with Tchaikovsky's fire-plan, which brought resounding applause from the thousands of spectators. One hundred and seventy student bandmasters and pupils were in the band of the Royal Military School of Music, while among the units represented were the Life Guards, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards, infantry and corps, including the Women's Royal Army Corps. The event was in support of the Army Benevolent Fund, now in its silver jubilee year of active aid for past and present members and dependants of the Army.

Unusual task for 131 Flight, Royal Corps of Transport, based at RAF Wildenrath, Germany, was the escorting (below) of a seven-tenths replica of a 1930 Hawker Fury fighter plane from Biggin Hill to the Royal Air Force's mammoth air show at Wildenrath. The Fury was too small to carry emergency equipment or radio, had no brakes, no fuel gauge and only a ten-gallon tank although its fuel consumption was six gallons an hour. Sergeant-Major Ivor Tucker of 131 Flight flew a Beaver to Biggin Hill and guided the Fury across the Channel and into Germany, clearing traffic control points and leading the plane in for re-fuelling five times. Once on the ground the Beaver's crew had to race across the strip, catch the brakeless Fury and steer it to the fuelling point. This usually meant jog-trotting for up to a mile under a blazing sun. An energetic day's flying!



Princess Anne was at the Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet, to watch the Red Devils of The Parachute Regiment trailing clouds of coloured smoke during a free-fall demonstration. They were using a new triangular type of parachute, the Delta II Parawing (right). Lieutenant Tony Caldow presented the Princess (above, right) with two dolls dressed in para uniform and wearing workable parachutes. "For your young brothers," he said. Tony commented during his freefall.





Before leaving Minden, Germany, for its new station, Catterick, the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, performed the 273-year-old ceremony of "Beating the credits." This was a march of fifes and drums through the market place (left) to warn merchants who might have extended credit to soldiers that the regiment was about to leave. It followed the "Crying down credits" ceremony dating from 1696 when, after billeting abuses in England and Ireland, an Act of Parliament required commanding officers after taking over quarters "by sound of trumpet or beat of drum make publication that no officer or soldier be trusted in their quarters beyond the rates that have been or shall be prescribed by Act of Parliament." At Minden the regiment invited the Burgermeister and citizens to share in the old custom and to attend the evening beating of Retreat.

A Mark V Centurion tank with full operational kit, presented to the United States Army for the Patton Museum, Fort Knox, being handed over (below) to Colonel Robert Parks by Colonel Charles Maple (left) for Headquarters Rhine Army and Lieutenant-Colonel Freddie Warburton, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, at the Rear Vehicle Depot, BAOR, at Moencheng Gladbach. The Centurion proved its worth in Korea and was the Army's main battle tank for 20 years. It is now being replaced by the 120mm-gunned Chieftain.



In the new million-pound barracks at Aldershot the million-dollar smile of the Duchess of Kent (left) put the girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps at their ease during a tour of messes, rooms and amenities. The Duchess, who is Controller Commandant of the Corps, unveiled a plaque naming the barracks after her. The buildings accommodate about 600 personnel, mainly clerks, telephone operators, instructors and drivers.



The German Panzer Grenadier Lehrbataillon 351 won the 1969 Prix Leclerc marksmanship event sponsored by Allied Forces Central Europe and aimed to foster a high standard of infantry and small arms training. Teams serving in Europe were entered from Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United States (1st Battalion, 48th Infantry, left). Teams of 22 competed in two squads, first over an approach run of 1200 metres and then a tough obstacle course before entering upon offensive and defensive phases of shooting. The Belgian team was second and the Dutch third. Britain's entry was 1st Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters.

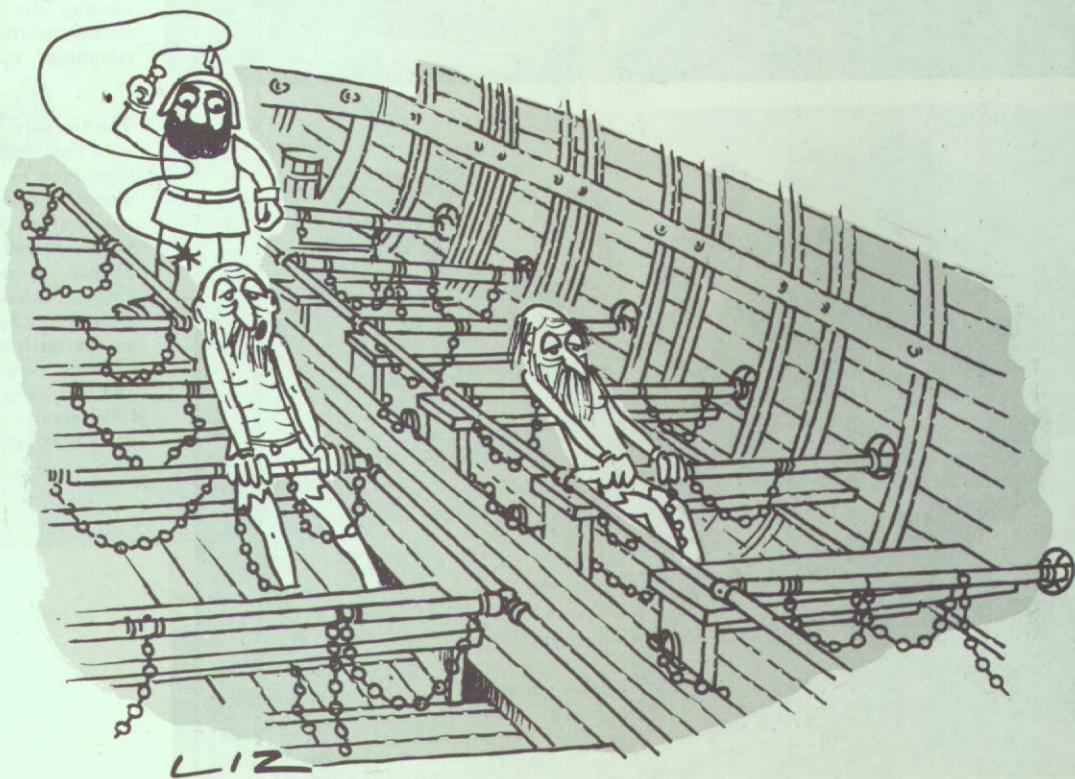
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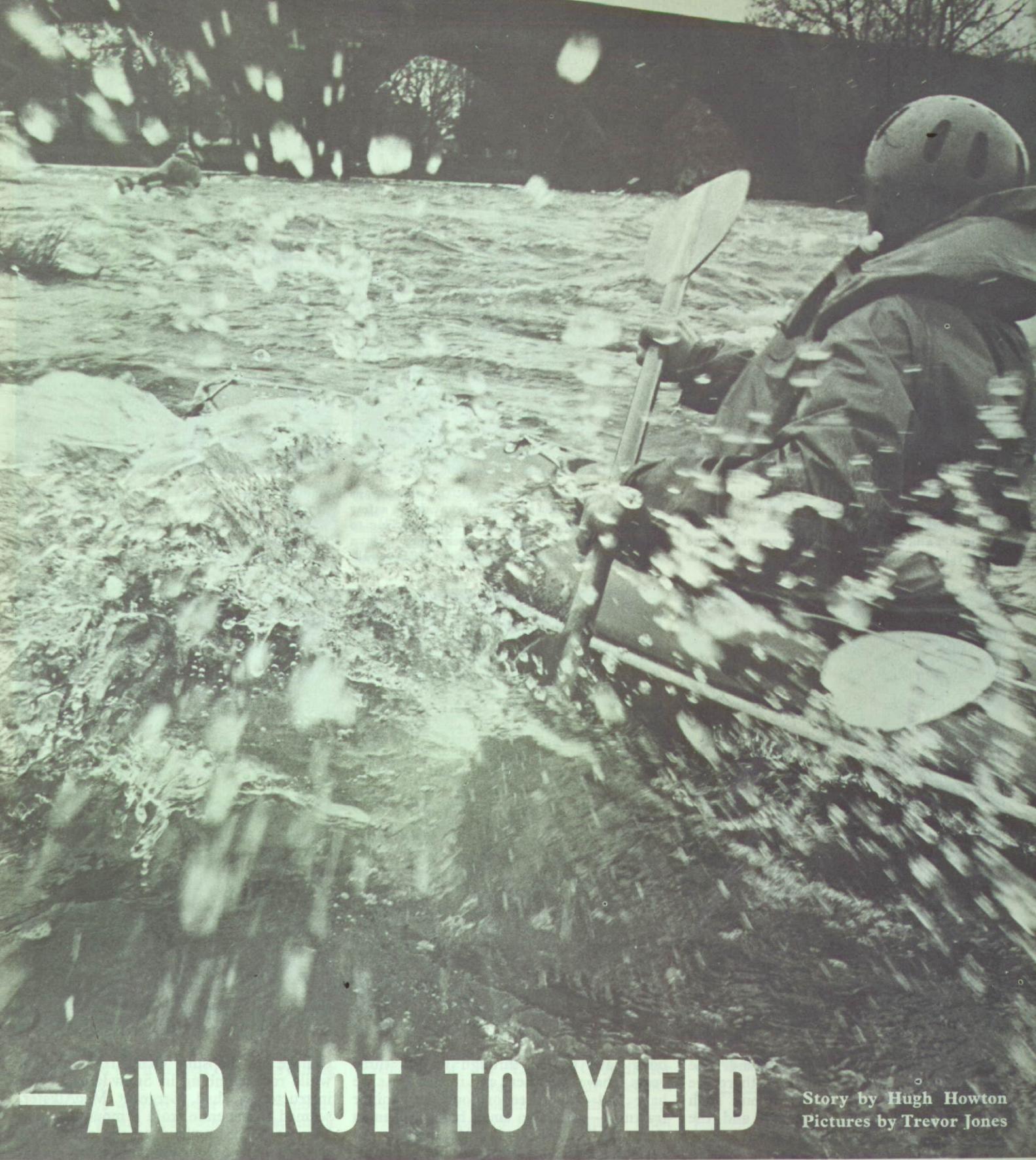


"We were sort of hoping you might join the sponsored walk."



"I'll be glad when the boys get back from leave!"





—AND NOT TO YIELD

Story by Hugh Howton
Pictures by Trevor Jones

TURNING teenagers into fit young men by strenuous, healthy exercise with an element of danger—such is the challenge of the Army Outward Bound School at Towyn, Merionethshire.

Junior soldiers who come here scale a sheer rock face 1000 feet above Llanberis Pass, shoot roaring rapids on the River Dysynni in a kayak canoe and spend a night alone in desolate Snowdonia.

"By overcoming physical and moral challenges they acquire a great sense of achievement," explained Brigadier Jack

Marchant, a sun-bronzed, six-footer who is the school's commandant. "This leads to increasing self-confidence—which is the basis of leadership—and they also discover more about themselves in their three weeks here than in the whole of their lives up to now." The aims of the course, he said, were self-confidence, self-discovery and self-discipline.

Towyn is in the wild but scenic county of Merioneth where the pubs close on Sundays, there are 25 sheep to each person and the mists sweep down from Cader Idris. The boys renounce the soft city

life for a spartan existence in an Army billet with reveille at 6.50, an early morning swim in the sea and lights out at 10pm; they cook their own meals on expeditions; drinking is forbidden and smoking discouraged.

Unlike a normal Army camp there are no orders, no parades and no uniform. Discipline is self-imposed. To succeed on the course a boy has only to do his very best all the time. Performance is irrelevant; it is the effort which counts.

The training programme includes canoeing, rock climbing, orienteering, map



Above: The complete canoeist—Captain Wan Chik Bin Baharom, Singapore Guard Regiment. He is wearing a plastic crash helmet, "wet suit," life-jacket and sneakers, and carries a paddle and a fibreglass kayak. Nose-clip is recommended.



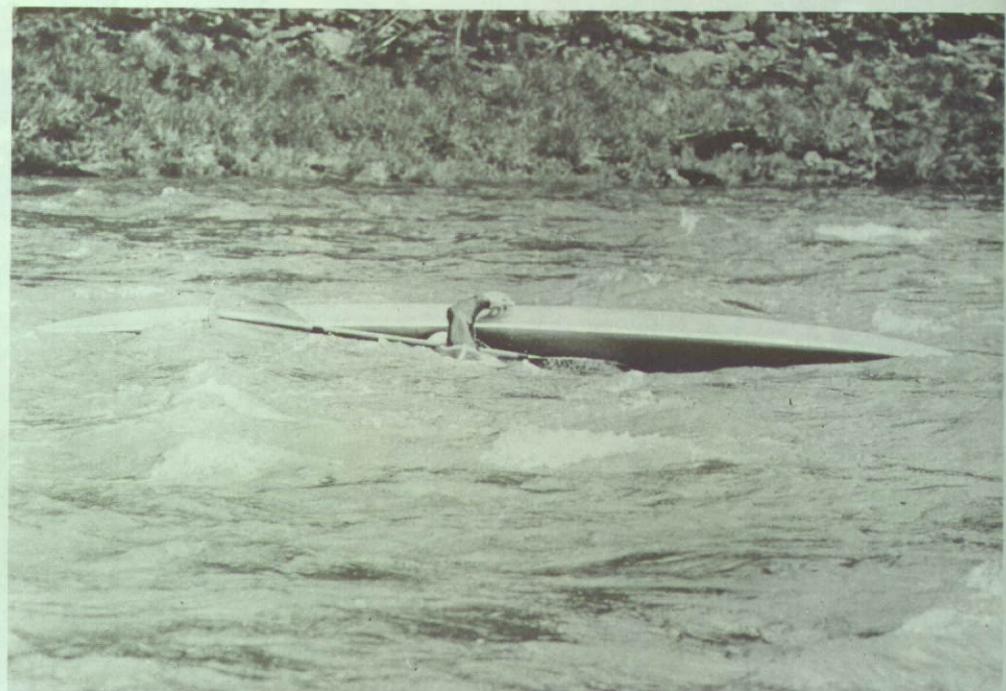
Above: Abseil to the wail of seagulls. Junior Trooper Dick Howley learns the ropes. He is watched by Brigadier Jack Marchant, the School Commandant, and another student. The location is a remote part of the Welsh coast near Towyn.



Front Cover

Only for master canoeists. Quartermaster-Sergeant-Instructor Ron Reilly, Army Physical Training Corps, performs an "eskimoo loop" in the roaring surf off the coast of Towyn. He comes in on the crest of a wave, tips the kayak's bows downward till it stands vertically in the water, pirouettes through 180 degrees, tips back to a level position and comes inshore backwards. The manoeuvre can also be performed in reverse. QSMI Reilly is an instructor at Towyn.

Below: Upside down on the Wye. The student raps three times on the base of his kayak—a safety device to warn the instructor—before trying to extricate himself. Get-out techniques are a forward somersault under water or eskimo roll.



reading, mountain rescue and first aid. The course is not entirely physical—there are informal discussion groups about such subjects as the generation gap and the value of space research. Potential leaders are revealed during initiative tests— instructing a team to carry a barrel over "shark-infested" water by use of a telegraph pole, and lifting an ammunition box out of an "electrified" wire compound by making pieces of scaffolding and a rope into a crane.

Overcoming fear—especially in the mountains and water—is a basic challenge for the boys. But the danger is carefully controlled. In the mountains the instructor always goes first and makes fast the rope while the student climbs. In the water, students are taught to somersault out of a capsized kayak before venturing into the rapids or the surf. "About 2500

boys have passed through in the three years I have been here and in that time we have had only three or four very minor fractures—such as a small bone broken in the ankle," said Brigadier Marchant.

Each course is divided into patrols named after famous mountaineers. The Naafi walls are lined with their pictures—men like Sir Edmund Hillary (who climbed Everest in 1953), Sir John Hunt (who led the 1953 Everest expedition), Edward Mallory and Andrew Irvine (the two who attempted to scale Everest in 1924 and were last seen "going strong for the top . . .").

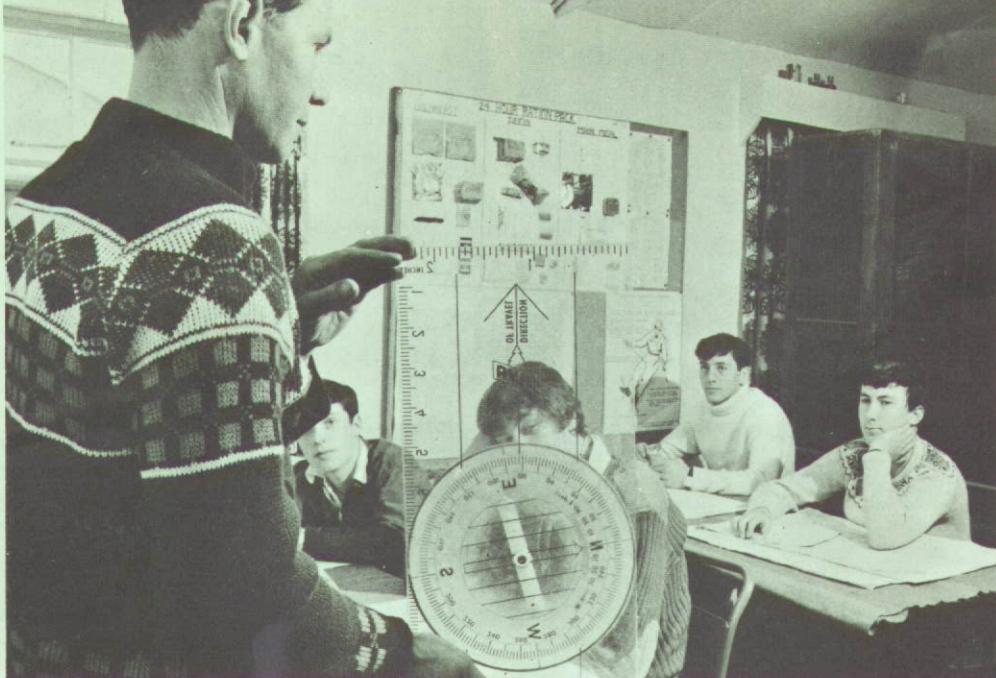
The instructors are athletic young officers and sergeants. All hold mountain leadership certificates and most are British Canoe Union instructors.

The instructors lead by example. A junior corporal of the Army Apprentices

College at Chepstow recalled an incident while rock climbing in Snowdonia: "The instructor we had, Sergeant MacAllister, seemed to generate from a mountain goat because he just walked up the climbs. At the top of each one he would say, 'That was a piece of duff, wasn't it?' He was a great chap."

Three instructors have been given awards by the RSPCA for rescuing sheep from deep gullies and exposed ledges. Recently a police cadet, stranded 2500 feet up on Cader Idris with a broken ankle, was rescued by an instructor and six students who rendered first aid and brought him down by stretcher.

Service to others and observance of the country code are instilled in the boys. A mountain refuge was built on Cader Idris with the aid of students carrying up sand and cement. They have helped farmers



Above: The orienteer's *vade mecum*. Sergeant Tony Souster, Grenadier Guards, demonstrates a larger-than-life model of a Silva compass to Hillary Patrol. It combines a compass, ruler, protractor, magnifying glass and map scale.



Left: A hair-raising climb called "The Spiral Staircase" on the Gromlech, 1000 feet above Llanberis Pass. But the hard, coarse rock gives good hand- and foot-holds—so it is considered quite suitable for the outward bound students.

Towyn—motto "To serve, to strive and not to yield"—is the only one of its kind, although there are six civilian schools in Britain run on similar lines. The aim is character development through adventure.

The Army school also caters for officers and non-commissioned-officers of the Regular Army, Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve, ACF and CCF, and the Women's Royal Army Corps. The Adventure Training Wing, opened two years ago, teaches the techniques of mountaineering, canoeing and rock climbing.

On the rock-climbing course they learn knots, the use of equipment, the techniques of abseiling and belaying and then spend seven days practising in Snowdonia. Mountaineering—a week's course in winter that includes a three-day expedition in the snow-capped mountains—is aimed at qualification for the mountain leadership certificate of the Central Council for Physical Recreation. A recent Defence Council Instruction has ruled that leaders of Army parties in the mountains must have this certificate by 1971.

Canoeing courses have been particularly successful. An average of 90 per cent of the students pass the Army Canoe Union proficiency test and in the first half of this year the school turned out 15 Army Canoe Union instructors. By the end of the course about half the students master the tricky "eskimoo roll"—a sideways turn through 360 degrees (useful when capsized in fast-flowing water!).

But it is not just the young who seek adventure. A recent student was a 53-year-old lieutenant-colonel of the Royal Army Pay Corps—with only four years to go before retiring.

mend fences and are encouraged to pick up litter and put it in their rucksacks during expeditions.

The boys who go to the school—mostly 16½ to 17½—are Army apprentices, junior leaders, tradesmen and bandsmen, candidates for the Regular Commissions Board, Sandhurst cadets, members of the Army Cadet Force and Combined Cadet Force, and pupils from Army-sponsored schools. About 800 pass through the Army Outward Bound School every year. The Chepstow junior corporal summed it up: "I think the more you push yourself on this course the better sense of achievement you reach, and better satisfaction and will-power are reached both mentally and physically." And he added: "I know that as long as I live I will brag about coming on this course."

The Army Outward Bound School at

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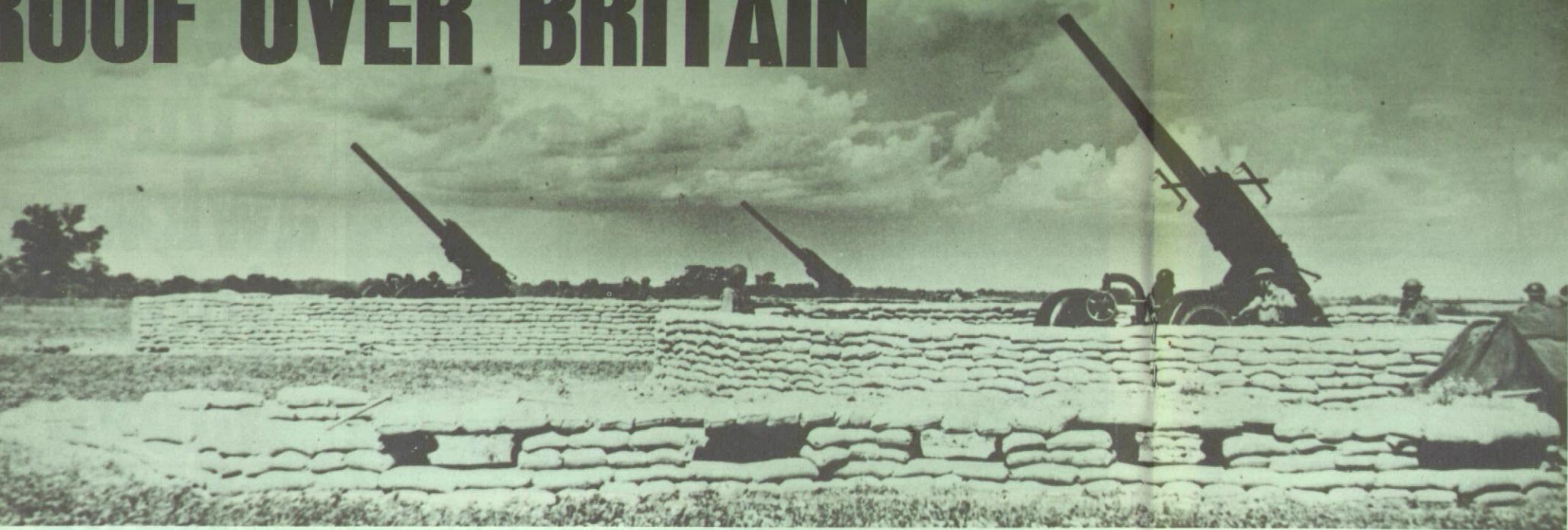
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ROOF OVER BRITAIN



HAIL to "The Few," the very few pilots who defeated the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain in 1940. On the ground there were other heroes, and heroines too, the gunner, searchlight and barrage balloon crews who fought back from static positions in the greatest "backs to the wall" epic of all time.

They too played a magnificent part in the immortal story and, in the words of Bill Maclurg, a BBC editor of those days, "kept the roof over Britain." Spitfire Production Ltd give them an honoured place in the film story "The Battle of Britain" which has its world première in

London this month. Well known actors in it include Harry Andrews, Michael Caine, Edward Fox, Rex Harrison, Curt Jurgens, Ian McShane, Sir Laurence Olivier, Nigel Patrick, Christopher Plummer, Sir Michael Redgrave, Sir Ralph Richardson and Robert Shaw. They are big stars but the story is bigger and the real star of this film.

It is the record of the British Service men and women who endured, fought back and survived. Most of them were young. They did not appreciate the vast pattern of events in which they were personally involved. In fact, many did not realise at the time the importance of those four months

which prevented invasion and turned the tide of war.

General Sir Frederick Pile, chief of Anti-Aircraft Command in those dark brave days, has since paid many tributes to the soldiers and the girls of the Auxiliary Territorial Service who worked so hard and heroically in difficult conditions.

Those around London and other vulnerable places were always in the line of fire. In many lonely stations a glass of beer meant a five-mile walk, and newspapers were often unobtainable.

There were long hours of duty and hectic periods of drama. Later, one of these was to involve Private Nora Caveney, the

first ATS girl to be killed in action. She was hit by a bomb splinter as she stood at a predictor during a raid. Nora was a Lancashire lass aged only 18.

Her battery moved but its successors repaired and decorated a hut on the gun-site as a memorial and hung her picture and a plaque on the wall.

Ack-Ack Command went on to fight and conquer the flying bomb but in 1940 its personnel backed up The Few fighting in the skies, defended the airfields and the civilians in the cities. They won for themselves an immortal place in that great story of defence that ensured the survival of Britain and the western world.



Spitfires scramble and take off over the English Channel in the film "The Battle of Britain."

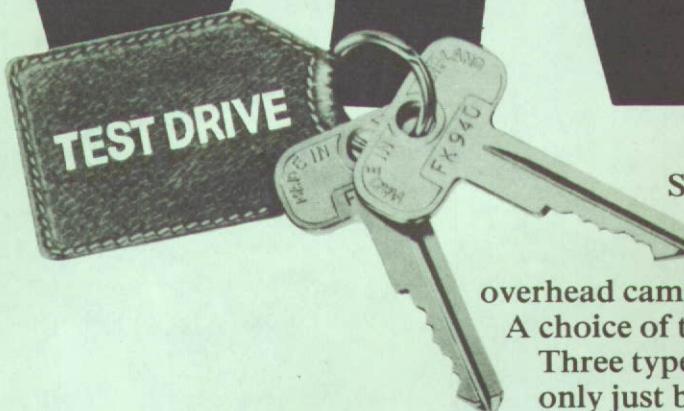
Top: The English skyline 1940. Guns always alert, sandbagged emplacements and reinforced trenches.

Right: The roar of the guns that Londoners knew so well, night after night, day after day.

Far right: Standing watch during the night. The ATS girls also operated fire control instruments.



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Egbert Menke, 4050 Munchengladbach-Rheindahlen Erkelenzerstrasse 8. Tel: 02161 29091.

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Schwarzwald-Autos-Betz, 736 Lahr, Offenburgerstr 5. Tel: 2378.



Purely Personal

Aiming high ▶

Winner at Bisley of the Queen's Medal as champion shot of the Regular Army, **Corporal A V Glasby**, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, stands proudly over the magnificent challenge trophies he acquired on the way to the top. They include the Roupell and Henry Whitehead cups. He also won silver spoons and the Army Rifle Association's gold jewel. Corporal Glasby, now 24, joined the Army at 14 and is an ammunition technician at Hounslow, Middlesex.



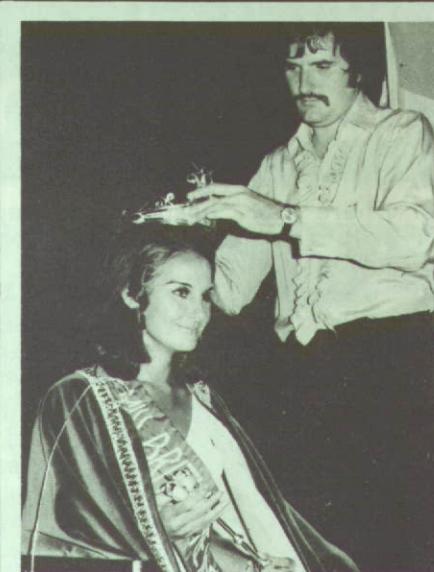
◀ Flying high

Keen freefall parachutist **Mrs Ingrid Price** after a record delayed drop at Zomba, Malawi. Wife of **Orderly Room Quartermaster - Sergeant Gordon Price** of the Grenadier Guards, attached to the Malawi Army, Ingrid is a founder member and chief instructor of the Malawi Parachute Club. She is the joint holder of the Malawi height record with a freefall from 18,000 feet with a 73-second delay and has completed more than 250 freefall descents. Ingrid is the only woman in Africa to hold a South African D licence in addition to similar licences issued by the United Kingdom and Malawi. Tests for these include both night and water jumps.



▼ Together apart

Husband and wife **Albert** and **Yvonne Prout** in camp for the third year with the same regiment—but they seldom meet. Albert is a sergeant living in the mess and Yvonne is a private in the Women's Royal Army Corps quarters. They belong to 37 (Wessex and Welsh) Signal Regiment (Volunteers) and, says Albert, "about the only social meeting we have had was at the all ranks' dance." Although the Army and rank now keep them apart it brought them together in the first place—they met in the old Territorial Army three years ago.



△ Malta Belle

Yvonne Farman, 21-year-old winner of the Miss British Resident contest in Malta, is also well known to the Army as an enthusiastic volunteer worker with the British Forces Broadcasting Service. She is in Malta with husband **Mike**, a public relations officer with the Army. Singer **Troy Dante** presents the crown.



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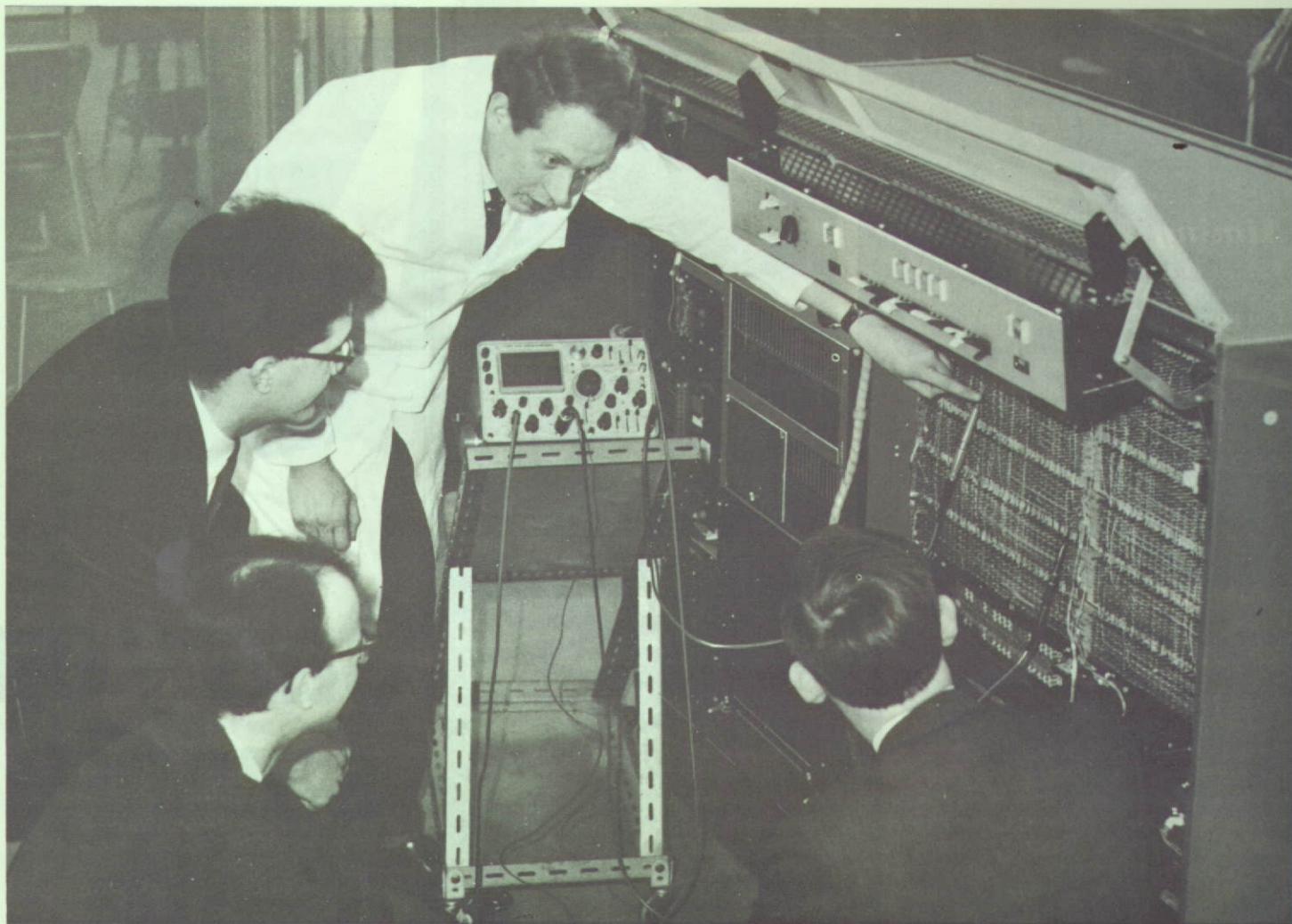
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FIELD-MARSHAL THE EARL ALEXANDER OF TUNIS

"ALEX," as he was known to countless soldiers who served under him was perhaps the most loved of British military leaders of modern times. This was in large measure due to the high standards of conduct and courage which he set for himself, so aptly summed up in his own words: "When it comes to this business of fighting the proudest claim a man can make is that he is a front-line soldier."

As a front-line soldier in the Irish Guards in World War One he went "over the top" 30 times, was wounded three times, won the DSO and MC and five mentions-in-

despatches. Between the wars he held a number of appointments including command of the Nowshera Brigade in India and, in 1919, that challenging assignment when he was sent to Latvia to command a 6700-strong force of Baltic barons with their followers and White Russians who were fighting to free the country of the Bolsheviks. Known as the Baltic Landeswehr, it was disorganised and undisciplined but its young commander—he was only 28—soon changed that and in an 18-day campaign the Landeswehr routed six enemy regiments.

In World War Two, as a major-general, he extricated the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk and, typically, was the last to leave. Home again, he was appointed to Southern Command but soon came another job of extrication—directing the fighting retreat of the British forces from Burma, and immediately after that he went to the Middle East as Commander-in-Chief. He reached the highest rank in the British Army at the age of 53 when his armies were fighting their way up Italy. He himself was on the Anzio beaches within the first 48 hours.

All-round sportsman—he played cricket for Harrow and Sandhurst and was amateur champion miler of Ireland in 1914—soldier and statesman (he was Minister of Defence 1952-54), he inspired supreme confidence wherever he went.



1910: starting his military career Alexander, 18, (seated left) in Harrow OTC.

His funeral cortège nears St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

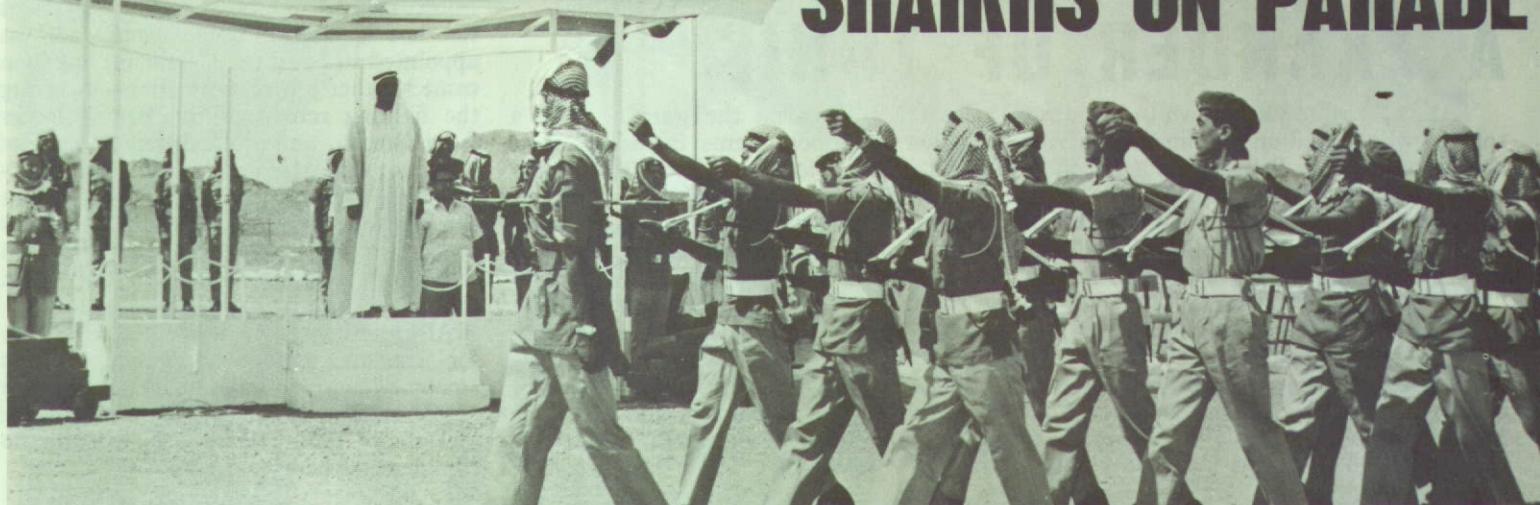


The World War Two field-marshal millions knew.

Commanding the allied forces in Italy (right).



SHAIKHS ON PARADE



A HIGHLIGHT in the history of the Trucial Oman Scouts, commanded by Colonel Pat Ivey, was the day when three rulers of Trucial States visited the training centre at Manamah to see the presentation of a special medal to the force and were later joined by a fourth ruler after a 45-mile flight in Wessex helicopters to the Scouts' headquarters at Sharjah.

The parade at Manamah included the passing out of 108 recruits, among whom were 28 policemen from the state of Ras al Khaimah. Shaikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahyan, ruler of Abu Dhabi, handed the medal to the senior Arab officer, Major Moh'd Salah, to mark the state's apprecia-

tion of the assistance given by the Scouts during the formation and early training of the Abu Dhabi Defence Force. Major Salah led the training team.

Shaikh Zaid also presented gold watches to the best recruits and marksmen and invited Shaikh Sager, ruler of Ras al Khaimah, to accompany him during the inspection of the parade. The third ruler present was Shaikh Rashid of Ajman, while British personalities included Sir Stewart Crawford, political resident, and Mr J L Bullard political agent, Dubai.

The red and white head-dresses of the Scouts, the red berets of the policemen and the flags of the seven Trucial states flying behind the saluting base brought colour to

an impressive occasion. After the flight to Sharjah, Shaikh Zaid toured the camp during which he fired a Sterling machine-gun to obtain a one-inch group at 25 metres.

Meanwhile, Sir Stewart Crawford presented the British Empire Medal to Staff-Sergeant Allcock, Royal Corps of Signals, awarded in recognition of his "outstanding devotion to duty" while serving with the Scouts.

The ruler of Sharjah, Shaikh Khalid bin Mohamed Al Qasimi, arrived to join in the last ritual of a memorable day—the traditional Arab meal which in this case included roast goats, turkeys and chickens.

From a report by Joint Public Relations Staff, Persian Gulf.



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Shaikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahyan of Abu Dhabi (right) invited Shaikh Sager of Ras al Khaimah to inspect the parade with him at Manamah. The recruits in red berets are policemen. Left: Shaikh Zaid takes the salute at march-past.



Abu Dhabi's thanks to the Trucial Oman Scouts. Shaikh Zaid presents a special medal which is received by Major Moh'd Salah, senior Arab officer. Below: The ruler of Abu Dhabi proved himself a marksman with the Sterling.



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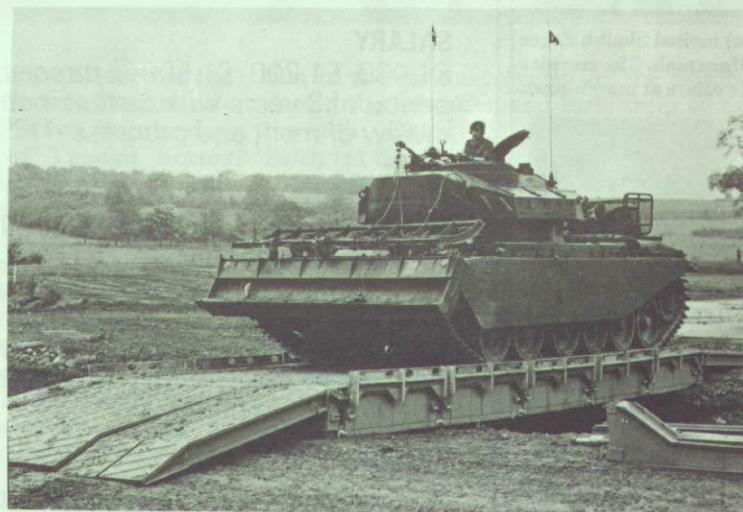
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Above: The first pilot section is slid across on rollers. Right: An AVRE crosses the completed bridge. These pictures were taken at trials by the Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham.



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A BRIDGE FROM THE SKY

A NEW bridge-cum-ferry that can be transported complete by helicopter is to be issued to Royal Engineer units in Britain and Rhine Army within a year.

Developed at the Military Engineering Experimental Establishment at Christchurch, it is made of lightweight aluminium-zinc-magnesium alloy, yet can support 16 tons.

This versatile piece of equipment can be used as a floating bridge of any length, a dry span bridge of up to 50 feet long or a ferry with a laden speed of six knots. Its main role will be to carry vehicles such as the FV 432 armoured personnel carrier over rivers.

The "Meccano" type construction and lightness mean quick assembly. A squad of 16 can build a 50-foot dry bridge in 20 minutes and a ferry takes 24 men 45 minutes.

The equipment can be transported by Land-Rovers with special trailers. But it is so light a Chinook helicopter has been able to carry a complete 50-foot bridge in one piece. A Hercules aircraft can take all the components required to build a ferry.

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S.I.

Letters

Second to none

I attended each day of Armex 69, the Army display and exhibition at Belle Vue, Manchester, and gained the impression that unquestionably the General Staff has forged in our Army a weapon possessing hitting power second to none.

Like most of the public I was but vaguely aware that our Army is "with it" in technical know-how. Although knowing little of the Army it was plain to see that its men are superbly trained. Furthermore they have that indefinable something termed morale as shown by their natural dignity as soldiers.

May I thank all ranks for an impeccable display, and that includes the arena party. In case it may be thought that I am ex-Army biased allow me to say that I was a boy mechanic in the Royal Air Force more than 50 years ago.

In conclusion I thank all ranks for their unfailing patience and kindness when answering the fooling questions of such as I.—**Edward H Molyneux, 952 Rochdale Road, Manchester 9 2EP.**

Waterloo film

I would like to point out a slight error in your article (June) on the film Waterloo. You state that this is the first screening of the battle but you are wrong for it has twice been screened. The first, very early film, was the "Iron Duke" (George Arliss). The Highlanders under Picton were depicted and the charge of the Union Brigade under Ponsonby, The Royal Scots Greys being much in evidence. There was also a more recent film starring Roger Moore but I cannot remember its title.—**Kenneth R Kendall, Ashbourne County Secondary School, Old Derby Road, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.**

Campaign gongs

I was appalled to see two letters in the March SOLDIER suggesting that British troops should emulate our American allies in the distribution of campaign medals.

It could well be that we of British stock are too niggardly in our recognition of campaigns or deeds. Perhaps we are. My father wears proudly three ribbons for World War One (four years' service) and 50 years later was issued with his Gallipoli campaign ribbon. I, for four years and a few days in World War Two, wear four ribbons only. Were either of us Americans we would have needed two uniforms to hold all the awards for which we would have been due.

I think the absurdity of the American attitude is demonstrated by the photo you printed of the US airman with his 19 medals—and three rows of ribbons already up. Hell, they even had one for coming to New Zealand during the war—and the natives were friendly.

No sir, let's retain our present attitude, conservative though it may be, and not run the risk of being taken for mobile fruit salads.—**C J McKay, PO Box 210, Whangarei NZ.**

Brothers in arms

A photograph of two pairs and one threesome of brothers serving in the same regiment was published in the June "Purely Personal" feature. Fourteen pairs of brothers are serving with 27 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, and this photograph shows 13 of them, the 14th pair being away on duty.—**Capt H E P Colley, 27 Medium Regiment RA, BFPO 16.**

Inappropriate

I expect many of your readers saw the excellent BBC television presentation of the formation of The Royal Regiment of Wales at Cardiff Castle on 11 June.

However, I thought one or two of the commentator's remarks were very inappropriate. While the old colour of The South Wales Borderers was being trooped he said "A moment this, perhaps one of the rare moments, when a man in uniform feels proud to be a soldier." How does he feel at other times?—**Brig E A James (late Royal Signals TA), Fernwood, 15 Bracebridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.**

Well played

As a collector of long-playing records of military bands of all types I was deeply interested in the very fine "On Record" article (May) covering five recordings—three by the Regimental Band of the Scots Guards, one by the Staff Band of the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and one by the Corps of Drums of 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards.

I am glad that at long last an LP has been made of a proper corps of drums, namely drums and flutes, for which the term fife is always used in referring to corps of drums. The instruments played are B flat and F flat flutes.

Your reviewer rightly says "This is a very interesting record because it is drum and fife music. It is also an important contribution to recorded military music since this medium is as old as the British Army itself and has always played a very important part in military life." How true, yet how few

times today do we see a corps of drums listed on the programmes of the many military tattoos held all over the United Kingdom each year.

One would like to see recordings on sale of the other Guards regiments' corps of drums, in the same style as in the Scots Guards record. Perhaps a recording of the massed corps of drums of the Brigade of Guards would find a real welcome in many record lovers' libraries.

A revival of the fifes and drums in English regiments, apart from the Guards, rifle and light infantry regiments, would be in order before the traditional music of the British Army is allowed to die out.—**R A Cox, 162 Parkview Street, Winnipeg 12, Manitoba, Canada.**

One medal in 26 years

I am probably one of very few people who have worn the Queen's uniform in a part-time or regular capacity pretty well continuously since 1943 and yet so far has managed for better or worse to obtain only a single medal!

In October 1943 I joined my school JTC unit and remained in it until December 1948. In April 1949 I began my National Service, until October 1950. From then until March/April 1953 I served with an ACF unit and from June 1953 until August 1959 with the Territorial Army. From August 1959 until December 1966 I served a short service engagement. Finally, since December 1966, I have served in an ACF unit at the school where I teach.

During 1964 I served for some five or six months in Borneo and so qualified



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for my only medal—a mere General Service Medal.

Had I been an American, I daresay my medals would by now have outdone any famous British General. As it is, my single medal after so many years must be almost unique.—J. McEvoy, 55 Norland's Lane, Farnworth, Widnes, Lancs.

Black and Tans

I am interested in the history of a British force known as the "Black and Tans" who served in Ireland during the rebellion of 1916/17 or thereabouts. How were they formed and recruited, the type of commission granted to officers, conditions of service and so on?

Perhaps readers, especially the "old soldiers," may be able to enlighten me.—W. F. Carr (ex-FO RAFVR), 86 Gales Drive, Three Bridges, Sussex.

old disbanded regiments deserves official attention.

The German Army, faced with a wholesale disbandment of regiments when the treaty of Versailles reduced it to 100,000 men after World War One, adopted exactly this scheme. The 217 infantry regiments were reduced to 21 with comparable reductions in other arms.

Each company, squadron and battery of the Reichswehr represented a regiment of the former German Imperial Army. They were described as Stammtruppenteile which means tradition units. As an example, in the 1st Battalion of the 16th Infantry Regiment, stationed at Bremen, No 1 Company was the tradition unit of the old 75th Infantry Regiment, No 2 of the 36th No 3 of the 28th and No 4 Company of the 68th Infantry Regiment.

We could preserve the traditions and names of our famous regiments if we followed this German system of tradition units.—Brig E. A. James (late Royal Signals TA), Fernwood, 15 Bracebridge Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Up the ladder

Latest figures show that in today's Army there are more than 950 officers and 1900 warrant officers who joined between the ages of 15 and 17 as apprentice tradesmen or boys. The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers head the list with 316 officers and 771 warrant officers, followed by the Royal Engineers with 138 and 290, and the Royal Signals, 109 and 193.

The officers include a brigadier, eight colonels, 57 lieutenant-colonels and 293 majors.

Traditional units

Mr Eaton's interesting letter (July) suggesting that the companies of the new infantry regiments should have secondary titles linking them with the

Forgiven

I write to say how much I enjoyed your May article on the Hampshire's serving as the British UN battalion in Cyprus—a delicate and generally thankless task.

I was so taken back that I was even able to forgive the erroneous caption which confused the picture of Stavrokono with Mandria. Like so many British infantrymen, having spent hours perched above the village watching the rain clouds beating up the Xeros valley from the sea, Stavrokono has won a permanent place in my affections.—Paul Stevens (late corporal, The Royal Welch Fusiliers), 34 Pentev Gardens, Cardiff.

★ Sorry, Stavrokono it is. As the caption said, "Typical of 130 villages in the Paphos area." So not difficult to confuse among the mass of photographs taken.

Erratum

An article on the transatlantic air race (July) inadvertently gave Captain Alan Clark's time as 18 hours. This should have read 8 hours 18 minutes. SOLDIER regrets the error and congratulates Captain Clark on his achievement.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

Maj P. Love, 75 Cirencester Road, Cheltenham, Glos.—Wishes buy badges, plates etc. Worcestershire Regiment (29 and 36) and Worcestershire foot units, Militia, Volunteer (39), Territorial. Also Everard's "History of XXIX Regiment."

S/Sgt A. Barnes, CI Section N Ireland, Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn, Co Antrim.—Wishes purchase German dress weapons (swords, daggers, bayonets) 1933-45 period, also literature in English or German on same subject. Highest prices paid. All letters answered.

A. Austin, 50 Bartram Avenue, Braintree, Essex.—Requires large Glengarry grenade Royal Fusiliers and others.

D. W. Pedler, 24 West Beach Road, Keswick, South Australia.—Requires Scottish militaria (insignia only) particularly Seaforth, A & SH and Gordons officers' cap badges and officers' and other ranks' plaid brooches. Letters will be answered.

P. Newsholme, 20 Sapgate Lane, Thornton, Bradford, Yorks.—Wishes purchase or exchange any British campaign medals, groups or single, except the two world wars.

M. B. St John, 21 Harringay Crescent, Red Hall, Darlington, Co Durham.—Requires copy of "Regimental Badges" by Major T. J. Edwards, published by Gale and Polden 1951 or 1953. Also SOLDIER July 1962. Please state price.

L. C. Dixon, 3 Riverside Road, Enfield, Middlesex.—Wishes purchase British Army cap badges particularly yeomanry and cavalry.

R. G. Rich, 392 Rectory Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.—Wishes sell Gordon service kilt and leather sporran, also hair sporran and Sam Browne.

B. Owen, 18 Grainge Road, Crownhill, Plymouth, Devon.—Will exchange or purchase items connected with Welsh Regular, Militia, Volunteer and Yeomanry units including photographs. All letters answered.

G. Bowles, 54 Montrose Park, Brislington, Bristol 4.—Requires 1908 pattern World War One cavalry sword at reasonable price.

W. O. J. Burrows, Bielefeld Det SIB, BFPO 39.—Wishes purchase metal badges etc. of RUR, MMP, CMP and has for sale 75 French Army badges. All letters answered.

Pte R. J. Minihan, c/o Sergeants' Mess, 1 RTB, Kapooka, NSW, Australia.—Collects military badges and flashes.

A. v. Rooyen, Staringstraat 30 II, Amsterdam, Holland.—Wishes contact collectors with US insignia, wings, badges, etc for sale or exchange (illustrated listed post free on request). Also interested in some German insignia and special camouflage equipment.

W. H. K. Southall, 113 Bodmin Avenue, Weeping Cross, Stafford, Staffs.—Requires hat badges, breast wings and formation signs of armies, navies, air forces of countries world-wide. Has ten lists of items for exchange. All letters answered.

Capt R. B. Auchterlonie, 40c Bayshore Drive, Ottawa 14, Ontario, Canada.—Collects Canadian, Commonwealth and Scottish World War Two cap badges. Correspondence welcomed.

J. Loop, 151 South San Jacinto Avenue, San Jacinto, California, USA.—Interested in military railways, armoured fighting vehicles and model railways.

W. Milligan, 23 Maryfield, London Road, Edinburgh 7, Scotland.—Offers variety of cap badges in exchange for Shanghai Scottish, Rangoon Scottish, Bombay Scottish and Calcutta Scottish badges. Can also offer few belt buckles.

R. G. Reed, 9 Manor Park Close, Shipton Road, York.—Wishes purchase or exchange British Army cap badges. All letters answered.

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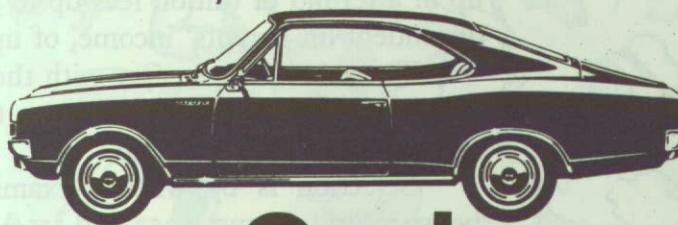
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REUNIONS

The Scottish Horse (1900-56) and Fife and Forfar Yeomanry/Scottish Horse (TA) (1956-68). Grand anniversary reunion Sat/Sun 8/9 November at Dunkeld. Dinner, bed, breakfast, lunch at special low subsidised price. Write to Secretary, Scottish Horse Club, Crown Terrace, Aberdeen.

14/28 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery. Annual reunion dinner Saturday 4 October, Depot RA, Woolwich. Tickets 30s. Accommodation can be arranged at Depot. Further particulars from Secretary, OCA, 14/28 Field Regiment RA, TA Centre, Church Walk, Devizes, Wilts.

Master Gunners Past and Present. Annual reunion Saturday 8 November, HQ Royal Artillery Sergeants' Mess, Woolwich. Details from H Whatling, 55 Orpian Road, Merstham, Surrey.

Glosters. Reunion warrant officers and sergeants 4 October, Gloucester. Apply R Panting, Robinswood Barracks, Gloucester GL4 9RP.

Middlesex Regimental Association. Annual reunion 11 October, Porchester Hall, London W2. Details from Secretary, TA Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Right tail fin of top aircraft. 2 Number of windows in top aircraft. 3 Top of zigzag in big parachute. 4 Number of cords on left of big parachute. 5 Shape of right-hand cloud. 6 Right heel of left soldier. 7 Shoulder harness of left soldier. 8 Right wing of bottom aircraft. 9 Sky lines at bottom. 10 Artists' initials.

NAME THE BRIDGE

Competition 132 (May) deliberately included silhouettes of well-known bridges (the Forth Bridge (4) is unique but one competitor thought it was the much newer Forth road bridge), some perhaps not so well-known and two "catch" ones—the Rialto, Venice (5), which was taken for the quite different Bridge of Sighs, and the Britannia tubular rail bridge (6) across the Menai Straits, which could be confused with the Conway rail bridge on the same Euston-Holyhead main line.

There were nine incorrect offerings for the Pont St Bénézet, Avignon (1), four for the Golden Gates Bridge (2) and ten for perhaps the most difficult silhouette, the Arnhem Bridge (3). Many competitors submitted Sydney Harbour Bridge for this and quite a few the Tyne bridge at Newcastle.

Nine variants were offered, with the Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls, the most popular, as a solution to the Victoria Falls Bridge (7) over the Zambezi.

Prizewinners:

1 G A Silk, Clive House, Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, Kent.

2 Mrs R Potter, 5 Redden Court Road, Romford RM3 0UR.

3 D C Lawton, 17 Eastwood Road Muswell Hill, London N10.

4 G A Gladman, 33 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham 17.

5 Lieut-Col P W Lonnon, Ponderosa, Park Road, Ashtead, Surrey.

6 Rev M B Seed, The Abbey, Fort Augustus, Inverness-shire.

7 Maj H Charlesworth, Frog Hall, Wokingham, Berks.

8 Miss C Caldwell, 251 Eversleigh Road, London SW11.

9 M G Sharp, Hyes, Mill Road, Ringmer, Sussex.

10 J Giblin, 14 Oxendene, Warminster, Wilts.

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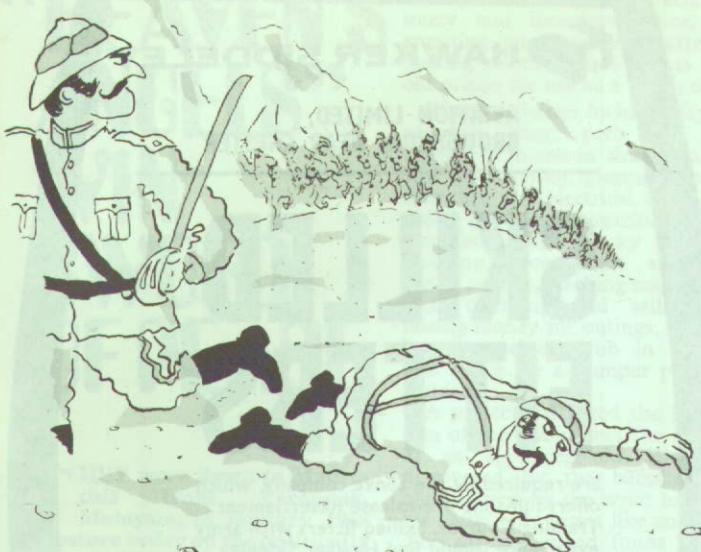
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Now the 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel John Ballenden, has been awarded the Sword of Peace by Wilkinson Sword Limited for making the most valuable contribution by an Army unit in 1968 towards good and friendly relations with a civilian population.

Their projects included renovating homes for spastics and old people,

giving outward bound training as a means of fostering inter-racial harmony and interdependence, constructing an open-air theatre and making major improvements to an old prison for use as a youth centre.

These activities included laying a concrete floor, path and pool, digging a monsoon drain, painting and redecorating, glazing, repairing furniture and electrical faults, providing books and magazines, clearing scrubland and rocky outcrops, building stone walls and seats, laying asphalt, teaching map reading, rock climbing and sailing, and raising money for outings. Even the battalion wives' club in Malaysia sent funds for a bumper picnic for children.

A project that fired the imagination of the public was the adoption of an eight-year-old blind boy discovered by the battalion's air platoon tied by the wrist to a post. He could only grunt like an animal. The platoon raised funds to send him to school and arranged for an eye specialist to examine him. There is now a chance that the lad might one day regain his sight.

Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma presented the Wilkinson Sword of Peace (below) to Colonel Ballenden at Cutlers' Hall, London. The 7th Mine Countermeasures Squadron, based on Malta, gained the Royal Navy Sword of Peace for services during the earthquake in Sicily in January 1968 and 1153 Marine Craft Unit, received the Royal Air Force sword for three separate search-and-rescue operations in the Eastern Mediterranean involving an Egyptian airliner, a Greek cargo ship and an Israeli submarine.



The Sword of Peace awarded to 18 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, in 1967 has been presented to the School of Artillery, Larkhill, by Lieutenant-Colonel Terrence FitzGibbon who was commanding the regiment when it disbanded in February this year. The sword was awarded for the unit's contribution to good and friendly relations with the Chinese population when serving in the New Territories, Hong Kong.

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ON RECORD

The Band of the 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment (conducted by Bandmaster Derek Dawson) (Music for Pleasure MFP 1314).

It was inevitable that an LP of mainly Welsh tunes played by the band of a famous Welsh regiment should be made in Investiture year, and a very good record it is. The only real criticism is of the sleeve illustration—Taffy and the goat-major, in the foreground, are good, but the band and drums in the background look as if they are just finishing a 20-mile route march!

The general playing is nice and full and very satisfying although a little more light and shade would have enhanced the record, particularly in the "Welsh Patrol" (Ellis) and that grand march "Great Big David" (Lotter). It is good to have a mixture of old and new numbers and particularly the contrast between "Arena Encarnada" (Brien) and the authentic "Men of Harlech."

To complete the picture it would have been interesting to have had "The Prince of Wales March" by Haydn, played in its original form. The Kneller Hall Band recorded this some years ago using the instrumentation of the period, ie two clarinets, oboe, bass clarinet, natural horn, Eb trumpet, serpent and ophicleide, and a very effective sound it was. Bandmaster Dawson will remember it because he played solo clarinet in the group.

"Circus Galop" by Peter Smith is a welcome addition to the light music repertoire and is great fun as a stage number. Other items on this LP are the fanfare "Proud Capital" (Captain D Walker), "Swing March" (Mancini), "Bell A'Peal" (Brien), "Flying Fingers" (Kenny), "Men of Wales" (Ellis) and the regimental march of The Welch Regiment, "Ap Shenkin."

MAINLY WELSH



nevertheless precise playing of "76 Trombones," with a true trombone sound. There is masterly playing by the cornet section in "Bugler's Holiday" and a very snappy little march, "Swing Along" (Edrich Siebert). Other items are "In a Monastery Garden" (Ketelby), still a great favourite; "Puppet on a String," a medley, "Passing of the Regiments," "Santa Lucia;" the waltz "Espana;" "Abide With Me" and "1812."

The producer, Ray Horricks, has done a first-class job in giving people what they want but one point puzzles—why a sousaphone on the sleeve? This instrument is not used in a brass band! Anyone looking at the sleeve would think this was a recording of an American band!

BHB

"The Big Brass Band" (conducted by Harry Mortimer) (Decca Phase 4 4143).

For those lovers of brass bands who so enjoy listening to their favourites at the seaside or in the park this is an LP I thoroughly recommend. Here is a selected group of the finest brass bandsmen playing a programme of popular music under "Mr Brass" (Harry Mortimer) himself. It would appear that although the top bandsmen usually prefer "meaty" music or music specially written for brass, with plenty of problems to master, here they are thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Listen to the way they play the wonderful march "BB and CF" by Ord Hume, probably the finest march written for brass bands, and the complete abandon but



SERVICES JOBFINDER

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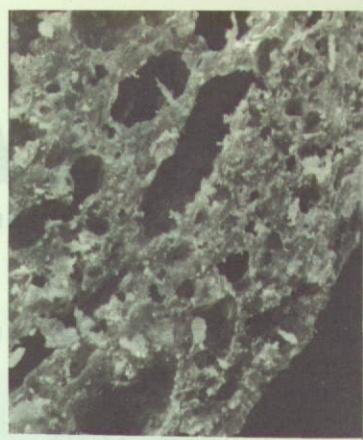
*Editor (Comp 136)
SOLDIER
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This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 8 December. Answers and winners' names will appear in the February 1970 SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 136" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

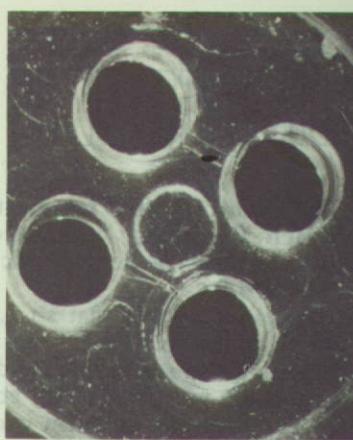
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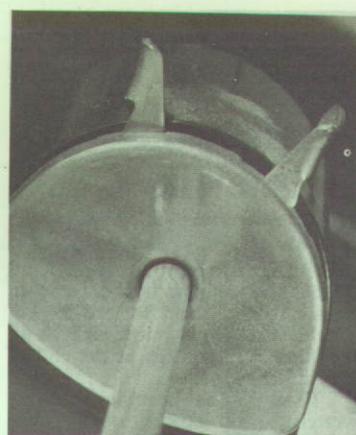
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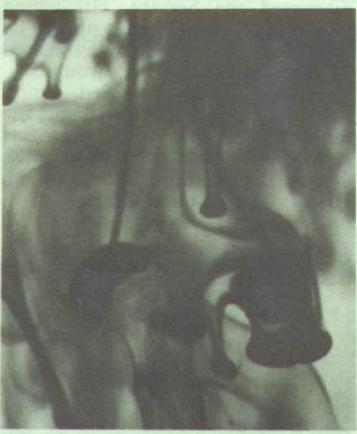
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6 (a) Hoar frost
(b) Car windscreens
(c) Bath crystals



7 (a) Extruding cable
(b) Pencil sharpener
(c) Dingle sprocket



8 (a) Picasso painting
(b) Polyps
(c) Drop of ink in water

Chase the Jackpot

No competitor submitted correct entries for both the April and May competitions. The jackpot therefore starts again with the June competition. If you have sent in a correct entry for this competition ("Togetherness") and for July ("Nor all that glitters, gold"), you will win a special prize. And you will continue to be eligible for the jackpot as long as you send in correct answers to the August and subsequent competitions.

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Against the Bolsheviks

"Allied Intervention in Russia" (John Bradley)

British, French, Japanese and Czechs try to smash the Reds in Russia. This is not a preview of World War Three but hindsight on the allied intervention at the end of World War One.

The subject has been neglected by western historians, probably because it is so confused and complicated. Mr Bradley, lecturer in politics at Manchester University, helps to put things in a clear perspective. He has researched in several languages and countries.

The budding Bolsheviks managed to hold out against the combined forces of several major world powers. As Mr Bradley points out, there was no real co-ordinated international action by the allies—each nation pursued its own interests and identified itself with disintegrating factions of Russian society.

Some strange facts emerge. The United States joined with the Bolsheviks to thwart Britain and Japan; British sailors and Japanese marines who landed at Vladivostock in April 1918 were back on board ship within a month. The Japanese made another landing in August and had 70,000 troops in Siberia by November. Trotsky asked the allies to check the Japs at one stage though on a small scale with guarantees that such forces would not be used against the Bolsheviks.

The stranded Czech Legion seems to have been a cat's paw of allied intrigue. Czech leaders had not wanted the Legion to interfere in internal Russian affairs but the allies apparently had other ideas. At first the Legion was told it was the allied *avant garde* and would re-establish the Eastern Front on the Volga. Later, when drawn into war against the Bolsheviks, that it was fighting for democracy in Russia.

Intervention was never really a vital threat to the Bolsheviks but it helped to divert the Russian people from their domestic political and economic problems and put the blame on the interventionists.

This is a diplomatic rather than military view, comprehensive but colourless. There are an exhaustive bibliography and some clear maps.

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 55s HH

John Shipp

"The Path of Glory" (edited by C J Stranks)

First published in 1829 as "The Memoirs of the Extraordinary Military Career of John Shipp," this book has been revised for modern readers.

Suffolk-born in 1785, Shipp was a workhouse orphan who ran off to enlist as a drummerboy with the 22nd Foot at Colchester and was quickly posted to the Cape. There he fell in love and tried to desert. He was caught, court-martialled, found guilty and sentenced to 999 lashes. Fortunately his superiors were fond of the youth and he was only admonished.

Determined to become a good soldier, Shipp educated himself in India. At 20 he was a sergeant. At the siege of Bhurtpore he displayed

BOOKS

incredible bravery, leading three "forlorn hope" charges in one day, and was officially declared to be an officer and gentleman and posted as ensign to the 65th. Unfortunately his regiment returned to England and lacking a private income he was soon in debt. He sold his commission. But soldiering was in his blood and he re-enlisted.

Without influence or money, Shipp achieved the impossible, rising again to the rank of ensign, this time in the 87th Foot. He was promoted lieutenant after a dramatic hand-to-hand fight with a Gurkha war chief in Nepal, he married and had a family. Then came disaster. Mixed up in a gambling scheme he was again court-martialled and dismissed the Service. His young wife died, his family split up and he returned home after having served 32 years and suffered six wounds.

Pensioned and remarried, Shipp joined the police and rose from the ranks to inspector. But prospects seemed brighter as a workhouse master. It was there that he died. His life had gone full circle.

Chatto & Windus, 42s AWH



R. F. Delderfield

Napoleon

"Imperial Sunset" (R F Delderfield)

Long columns of troops filed their way into Paris—pig-tailed hussars and moustached grenadiers from Prussia, bearded Cossacks on shaggy ponies, Circassians in chain mail, Bashkirs with short bows, Tartars and Siberians in furs, Swedes, Bohemians, Croats, Hungarians, Bavarians, Saxons and many more. It was 1814 and the sun had set at last on Napoleon's empire.

The varied composition of the invading army reveals what was required to topple Napoleon. This interesting study by a highly skilled writer covers the year 1813-14, when all seemed lost for the French as an avenging Europe closed in.

Napoleon seemed to thrive on the challenge. He retained his nerve and confidence and expended an enormous amount of dynamic energy in correspondence and in dashing across the continent in his famous green coach from one crisis point to another. His problems springing from his military defeat in Russia and the recent rise in German nationalism, were tremendous.

His real problem was the massive threat of a united Russia-Prussia-

Last Post At Mhow

Arthur Hawkey



Austria with their vast foot armies tightening a ring of steel around Paris. He fought back viciously with his conscripted youths, who had little military training, and there was always the hope that his autocratic enemies would fall out among themselves. But this they were determined to avoid.

All it needed was a proclamation from the Tsar that Paris was to be spared the horror of war for the populace to throw aside their tricolour cockades and take up the white Bourbon scarves. Napoleon had lost.

A fine book, written with feeling and clarity, attractively printed and with good maps and plates and full explanatory notes.

Holder & Stoughton, 45s AWH

"Uncle Bill"

"Slim as Military Commander" (Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans)

The author served under the then General Slim as a senior staff officer and as a brigade and divisional commander in Burma. He has written in this, the fifth of the Military Commander series, a splendid detailed and lucid account of the campaigns in which Slim took part from his command of a brigade in the Sudan to his final defeat of the Japanese in Burma as commander of Fourteenth Army.

Slim, promoted to brigadier on the outbreak of war, arrived in Burma in March 1942, as a lieutenant-general, to take command of Burcorps, an armoured brigade group and two weak infantry divisions with which he conducted a masterly retreat of 1000 miles.

During this most difficult of military operations, Slim's qualities of mental toughness, resilience and implacable will to win were tested to the utmost. Only his superb leadership plus some luck brought the battered remnants back to stand and fight on the frontiers of India; only superb leadership eventually created from these unpromising beginnings the magnificent Fourteenth Army which, on the Imphal plain, was to inflict on the Japanese their greatest defeat on land in any theatre.

It was then to recapture Mandalay and Rangoon after a campaign against a savage and fanatical enemy in some of the worst conditions of climate and terrain in the world.

Slim's further qualities of integrity, intelligence, modesty and humour enabled him to inspire confidence in his superiors and to get the best out of prickly subordinates, notably Stilwell and Wingate. Mountbatten has said unequivocally, "I consider Slim was the finest general World War II produced." On a slightly lower level he was a *bahut accha Sahib* to his Indian troops and "Uncle Bill" to his British. Both remember him with pride and affection.

General Evans has done a first-class job though the final evaluation of Slim's place as a military commander must be left to history. The book is attractively produced, well illustrated and with informative appendices; the maps are outstandingly good.

Batsford/Van Nostrand, 63s

RHL

Military Scandal

"Last Post at Mhow" (Arthur Hawkey)

The regimental paymaster is court-martialled for making "false and malicious statements" about his commanding officer; the regimental sergeant-major and two troop sergeants-majors are accused of conspiracy against the colonel and placed in close arrest; the RSM is confined in his quarters with his wife, who is in bad health, in the blazing heat of an Indian summer; the adjutant is relieved of his post for neglect of duty while posting sentries on the RSM's quarters; the RSM and his wife die and the colonel is returned to England for court-martial for having caused them "great and grievous hardship and suffering."

These astonishing happenings occurred at Mhow in Central India in 1862. The unhappy regiment was the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Crawley; his RSM was John Lilley. The regimental paymaster was a Captain Smales.

The basic cause of the trouble was social rather than military although the colonel, newly arrived from England, did not think highly of his new regiment and set out rather harshly to remedy this.

Smales eventually went too far, was court-martialled and cashiered although he was subsequently pardoned. During the early part of the trial Crawley learned that an unauthorised account of the proceedings to date had been given to the RSM and two TSMs. He accused them of conspiring against him and placed all three in close arrest. A combination of the confined space, the heat, Mrs Lilley's illness and the RSM's drinking habits resulted in the deaths of husband and wife.

Victorian England and the British in India were outraged at the tragic deaths of the Lilleys and Crawley became the most unpopular man in England. He was however acquitted at his trial and eventually retired as a major-general.

Mr Hawkey, a journalist, has written an absorbing book. The trials are particularly well done and the dialogue is either on record or is accurately implied. The rest of the book provides a fascinating vignette of Army life of the time.

Jarrold, 35s

IN BRIEF

"Breach of Security" (edited by David Irving)

This is a rather startling title for a rather dull book edited by an author whose previous work, "Destruction of Dresden," and his contribution to the controversial "Soldiers" play by Hochhuth has been anything but pedestrian.

He deals with the work of the top secret German intelligence organisation, the Forschungsamt, which was responsible for decoding foreign diplomatic codes and tapping the phones of foreign diplomats in Berlin before World War Two. In particular he deals with the events leading up to the war but contributes nothing very new to that period in which Chamberlain made his still unexplained change from appeasement to support of Poland.

The only fact of interest to emerge is the amazing lack of security at the British Embassy in Berlin. For example one reads that Sir Arthur Henderson, the British ambassador, on hearing that the invasion of Poland was imminent, telephoned the secret not only to the Foreign Office in London but also to his French and Polish colleagues—this in a police state.

A third of this book is devoted to listing the titles of intercepted messages between 1940 and 1942.

William Kimber, 50s CW

"The Conspiracy Against Hitler in the Twilight War" (Harold G Deutsch)

This book deals with the second plot to undermine Hitler's power during the first year of World War Two, carried out, according to the author, by German military intelligence with the aid of the Vatican. Its aim, again according to Professor Deutsch, was to make Hitler sign a compromise peace with England.

For an academician, Professor Deutsch's sources are very dubious, being nearly exclusively German Catholics (who today have a vested interest in proving that they did not support Hitler). He makes out of this episode, which was basically a great deal of hot air, a significant point in wartime history.

Minnesota University Press/Oxford University Press, 65s CW

"Gentlemen at Arms" (Peter Ling)

The sub-title of this interesting volume is "Portraits of Soldiers in Fact and Fiction, in Peace and at War." It is in fact a nicely balanced anthology of prose and poetry from which emerges a composite portrait of the soldier, as a hero, a coward and often as a villain.

His appearances range in time from the pages of Plutarch, Froissart and Shakespeare to Crane, Tolstoy, Hemingway and Churchill. Mr Ling's treatment is diverse—guardsmen rub shoulders with generals—and he does not take sides. Roman, British, French, Russian and American soldiers are all represented in snippets which are part and parcel of military life down the centuries.

"Gentlemen at Arms" is an excellent pot-pourri of soldiers' experiences but it is just a bit on the expensive side.

Peter Owen, 52s

JCW

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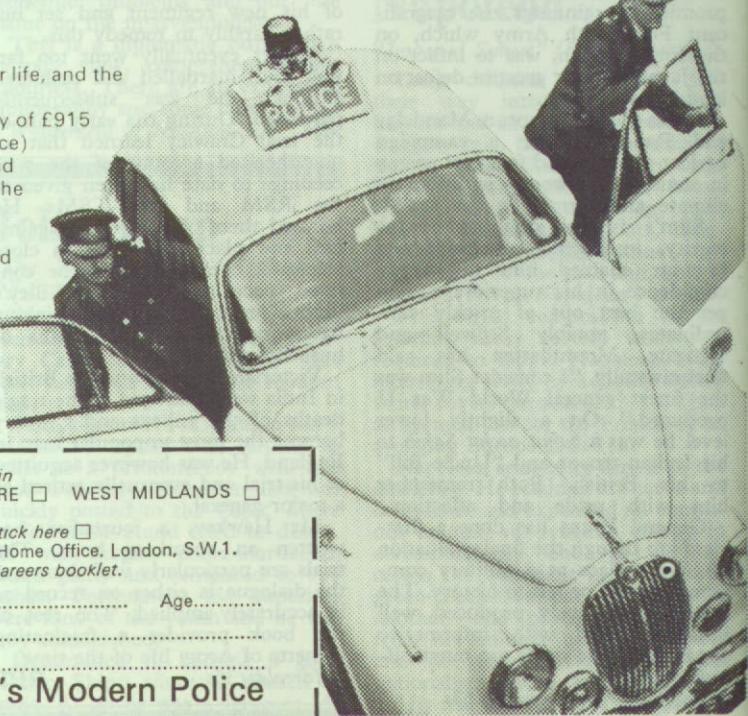
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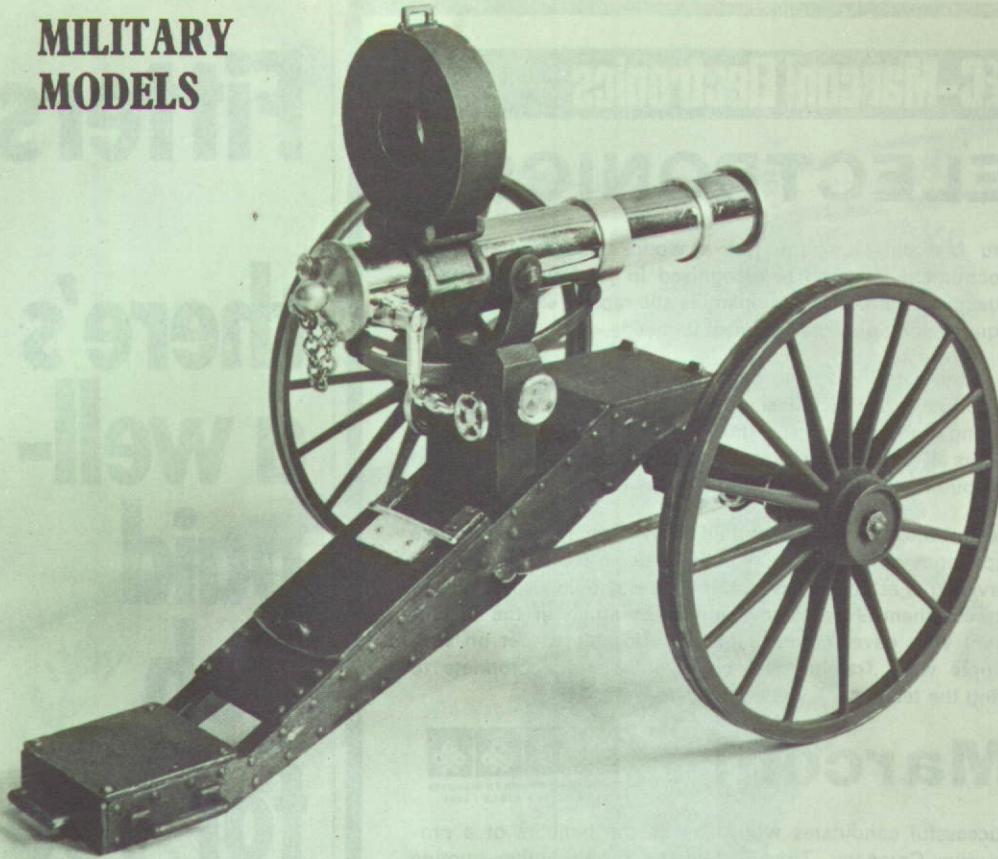
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GUNS for beginners

Above: Ideal for the beginner, this model is 7½ ins long by 5½ ins high with no minute finicky parts. It need not be painted. The light-grey plastic is a similar colour to the later American Gatlings. British carriages however were painted medium green.



IT was a fearsome weapon, the Gatling gun. With it the British Army mowed down savage hordes in India, Africa and Egypt. And schoolboys recited the lines by Sir Henry Newbolt:

The sand of the desert is sodden red—
Red with the wreck of a square that broke;
The Gatling's jammed and the Colonel dead,
And the regiment blind with dust and smoke...

The Gatling—hand-cranked and multi-barrelled—is one of a series of historic guns available from Riko at 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. The guns—made by Palmer Hobby Kits of the United States—have brass plated barrels, rope or chains, and cost 16s 6d in Britain. They are easy to make and have clear step-by-step instructions, the Gatling kit having only 44 parts. Others in the series are a 24-pound naval gun, American Civil War field gun, 75mm artillery piece and War of Independence field gun.

Readers may be interested in two societies specially catering for the military modellist. They are the Miniature Armoured Fighting Vehicle Collectors' Association, whose secretary is Mr G Williams, 15 Berwick Avenue, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 3AA, and the International Plastic Modellers' Society whose membership secretary lives at 17 Cranleigh Court, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire. Both publish magazines and have many Service members.

Airfix have just produced a Royal Air Force emergency set of World War Two (pictured left). It includes an Austin ambulance—also used by the British Army—a crash tender, fire party, drivers, stretcher bearers, medical officer and patient. There are 121 pieces and the kit costs only 3s 9d.

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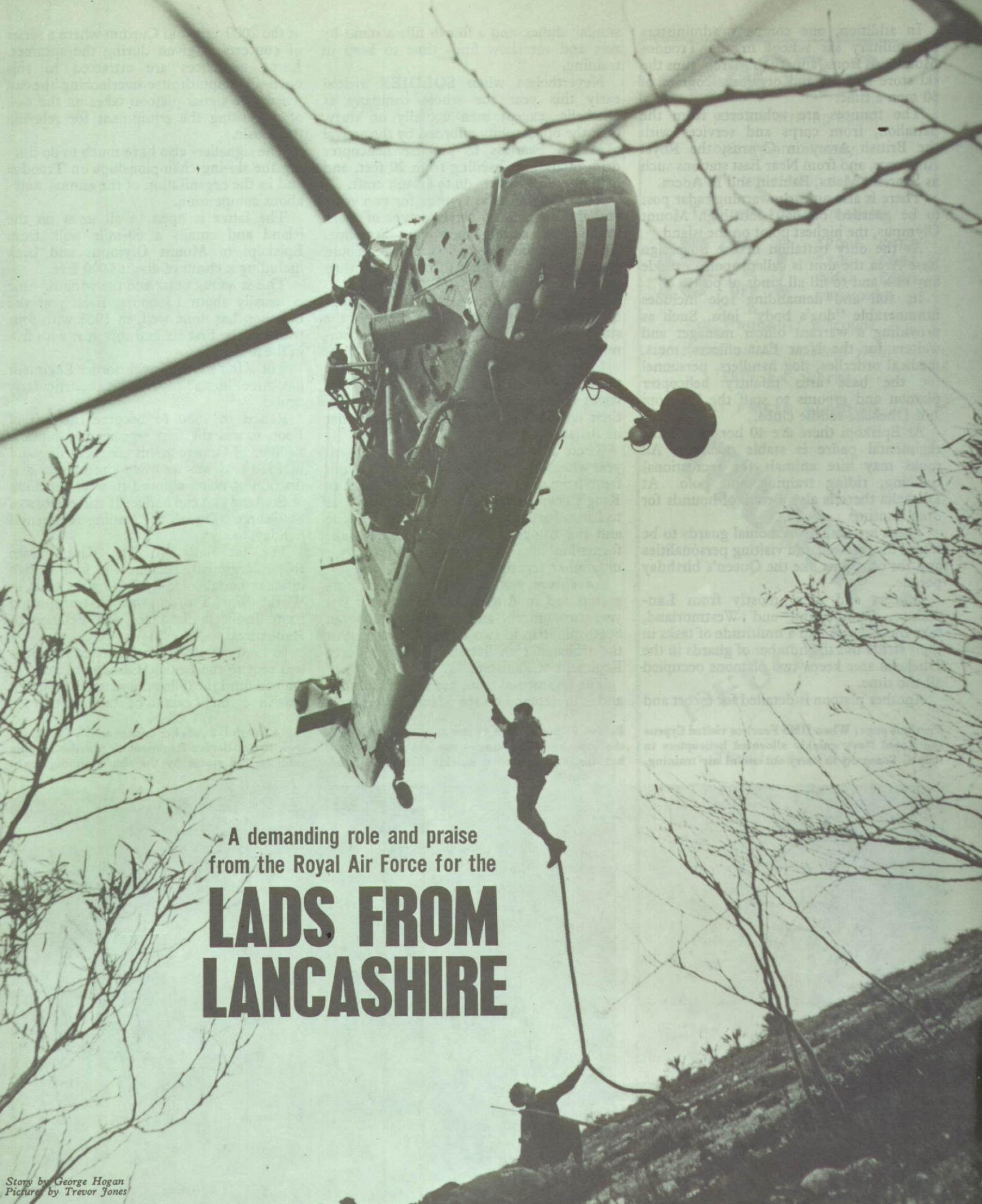
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A demanding role and praise
from the Royal Air Force for the

LADS FROM LANCASHIRE

Story by George Hogan
Pictures by Trevor Jones

IHAVE got a wonderful battalion in The King's Own Royal Border Regiment," said Group Captain D M Clause, station commander at Episkopi, Cyprus.

"Normally a Royal Air Force station commander has three RAF squadrons

under his control—operational, administrative and technical. This infantry battalion fits in logically as a 'fourth wing' with Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Hardy as the commanding officer of another formation of specialists."

The battalion less one company is re-

sponsible for the security of the Episkopi cantonment, one of the three stations into which the Sovereign Base Area is divided. The other company is 55 miles away at Dhekelia and there are also some responsibilities from time to time in Akrotiri, the RAF airport.

In addition, one company administers the military ski school in the Troodos Mountains from January to March, runs the ski store and lift and organises courses of 60 men a time.

The trainees are volunteers from the battalion, from corps and services with the British Army in Cyprus, the Royal Air Force, and from Near East stations such as Sharjah, Malta, Bahrein and El Adem.

There is also an early warning radar post to be guarded on 6403-foot-high Mount Olympus, the highest point on the island.

As the only battalion in the Sovereign Base Area the unit is called upon to tackle any task and to fill all kinds of posts.

Its full and demanding role includes innumerable "dog's body" jobs. Such as providing a warrant officer manager and waiters for the Near East officers' mess, medical orderlies, dog handlers, personnel for the base area infantry helicopter platoon and grooms to staff the Episkopi and Dhekelia saddle clubs.

At Episkopi there are 40 horses and the regimental padre is stable manager. All ranks may hire animals for recreational trekking, riding training and polo. At Dhekelia there is also a pack of hounds for drag hunting.

There are many ceremonial guards to be found for resident and visiting personalities and for occasions like the Queen's birthday parade.

Officers and men, mostly from Lancashire, Cumberland and Westmorland, take these duties and a multitude of tasks in their stride but the number of guards in the Dhekelia area keeps two platoons occupied all the time.

Another platoon is detailed for escort and

Previous page: When HMS *Fearless* visited Cyprus the Royal Navy quickly allocated helicopters to help C Company to carry out useful air training.

similar duties and a fourth fills a stand-by role and somehow finds time to keep in training.

Nevertheless when **SOLDIER** visited early this year the whole company at Dhekelia, except men actually on duty, took the opportunity afforded by the arrival of HMS *Fearless* to practise helicopter drill, including abseiling from 20 feet, and loading Land-Rovers on to assault craft.

The battalion is in Cyprus for two years and the continuous garrison type of work imposes a certain personal discipline. This might be eased if companies could change round frequently but this in turn would impose matrimonial difficulties.

Families could not be expected to change quarters often and the 55 miles between the stations of the base area precludes commuting.

So the company at Dhekelia remains there for a year and the troops have their wives and children with them as they did in their last station, Bahrein, and before that in Britain.

There is a respite in the autumn each year when the battalion is relieved by a unit fresh from the United Kingdom. Then The King's Own Royal Border Regiment moves to Libya for six weeks for battalion training and the troops work together as a whole formation in a different atmosphere over unfamiliar terrain.

Adventure training has not been forgotten and in August and September last year two officers and four men made an 8000-mile trip in two Land-Rovers to visit the affiliated 15th Battalion Frontier Force Regiment of Pakistan.

The regimental band has toured in Israel and is in demand on the island, particularly

Below. *Fiercely down to the battle ground—or is the rope hot? First-timers can get raw and sore but the experts move quickly hand-over-hand.*

at the 2000-year-old Curium where a series of concerts is given during the summer. Large audiences are attracted to this open-air amphitheatre overlooking the sea where the signal platoon takes on the task of organising the equipment for relaying the music.

The signallers also have much to do during the ski-ing championships on Troodos and in the organisation of the annual walk-about competition.

The latter is open to all units on the island and entails a 60-mile walk from Episkopi to Mount Olympus and back including a climb of about 6000 feet.

This is a tough task and the winning time is usually about 13 hours. Each year the battalion has done well, in 1968 with four teams in the first six and this year with five in the first eight.

The King's Own Royal Border Regiment has three "firsts" of which it is particularly proud.

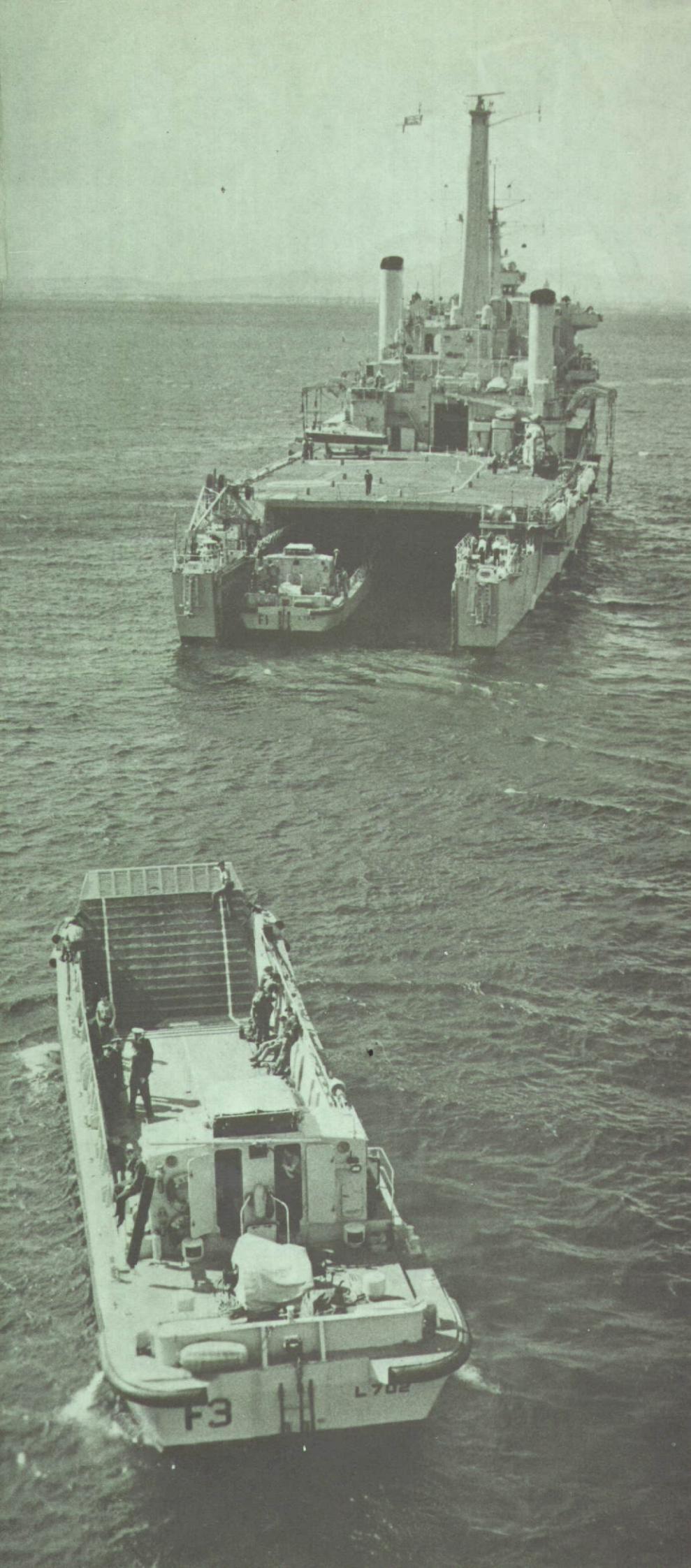
Raised in 1680 to become the 4th of Foot, it was the first regiment to support William of Orange on his arrival in England in 1688 and was awarded the unique distinction of being allowed to wear the Lion of England as a cap badge. It still celebrates St George's Day as the leading regimental holiday.

The 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Regiment, became the first British infantry battalion to fly into battle when in World War Two it was air-transported from India to Iraq for the defence of Habbaniya.

In 1960 the newly amalgamated regiment was sent to the British Cameroons and remained until the following year to be the first British regiment ever to be stationed there.

Right. *Fearless floods her dock to enable The King's Own Royal Border Regiment to practise loading vehicles and stores by the ship's landing craft.*





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