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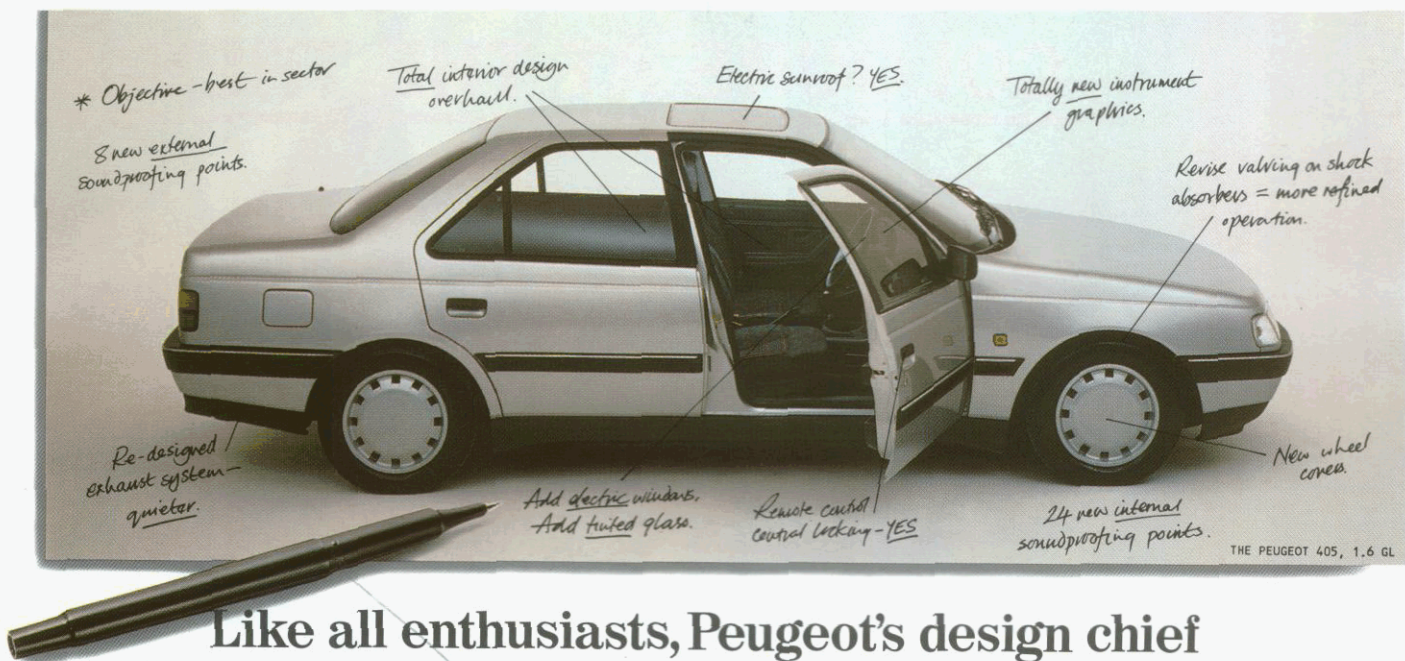


INSIDE:

Smiling Tigers
Flying corporals
Pinky flies back

26





Like all enthusiasts, Peugeot's design chief likes to spend his weekends tinkering with his car.

The Peugeot in the picture is now one of the best specified cars in its class.

This may come as a pleasant surprise if you're considering buying one, but it comes as no surprise at all when you get to know Peugeot's Design Department.

As well as being car experts, they're driving enthusiasts. They don't design Euroboxes that simply get you from A to B, they wouldn't know how.

Their brief is to design drivers' cars. Cars with character, and a quality of handling and all-round driveability you'd normally associate with exclusive sports marques.

They're just as uncompromising when it comes to the spec, they demand for their cars. 'As good as' isn't good enough.

Our designers monitor all the latest advances in materials and technology, then subject them to rigorous tests before coming up with ideas for their application.

Ideas aren't restricted to office hours, so it's a seven-day-a-week job.

A nine-to-five attitude to car design wouldn't produce a Peugeot.

This commitment has resulted in a 1991 405 GL 1.6 with not only electric front windows, electric sunroof and remote control central locking, but also a driver's seat lumbar support adjustment, tinted glass and new wheel covers.

The car's interior design has been totally overhauled, with new colour schemes, a new steering wheel and instrument graphics, as well as a modified fascia.

But the designers didn't stop there. They've been under the car, and have come up with a quieter exhaust system, and new valves on the shock absorbers to give a more refined operation.

To reduce noise transference to the passenger compartment they have also treated 8 areas around the car with the most up-to-date sound-proofing materials, producing remarkable results. Though not remarkable enough for a Peugeot

designer, apparently, because they went on to treat 24 areas inside the passenger compartment itself.

But in all this praise for our designers, let's not forget the unsung heroes in the After Sales Division, whose own tinkering has produced 'Lioncare' AA protection for every new Peugeot owner.

It provides full AA assistance even if you run out of petrol, with an option of free car hire for 48 hrs or £100 towards the cost of your travel or a free hotel for a night if your car can't be mobilised.

So you see, in every department at Peugeot we never stop tinkering. That's why Peugeots will never stop improving.



PEUGEOT 405 1.9 GTX

PEUGEOT 405 '91

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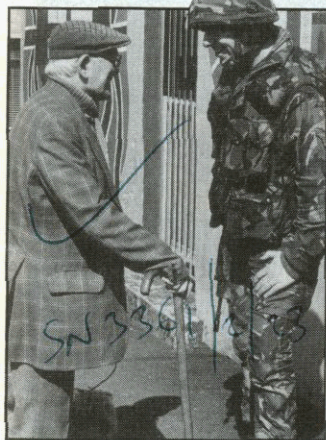
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CONTENTS

- 5 Newline
- 10 People
- 19 The return of Pinky
- 21 Tigers in Londonderry
- 28 RBL pilgrimage
- 29 Guards memorial
- 30 Cartoon view of Granby
- 32 All in a Good Cause
- 34 Anne Armstrong
- 36 Letters
- 39 Book reviews
- 40 SOLDIER Mart
- 41 HOAY competition
- 46 Classified advertisements
- 48 Sport



Smiling Tiger in Londonderry
See Pages 21 to 27.

FRONT COVER – Main picture: The Queen's and Regimental Colours of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, The Light Infantry are paraded in front of the Queen Mother after she had presented them to the three Regular battalions at Tidworth. The Queen Mother is Colonel-in-Chief of The Light Infantry. (Picture: Mike Weston). **Lower picture: The Queen Mother wears brooches in the form of The Light Infantry badge and the badge of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, of which she was Colonel-in-Chief.** (Picture: LCpl Dave Harris).

New York, here we come . . .



Picture: Mike Weston

Next stop for these Servicemen parading at South Cerney were the bustling streets of New York. About 240 soldiers and airmen representing 58 units which took part in Operation Granby flew to the Big Apple to join Gen Sir Peter de la Billière in the city's Gulf War victory parade

SIZE SET FOR 'NEW ARMY'

THE STRENGTH of the British Army is to be cut to 116,000 by the mid-1990s, Defence Secretary Mr Tom King announced in the House of Commons.

Figures released at the end of May show the Army's current strength is 147,639 (about 156,000 with trainees), including 16,397 male officers, 124,034 Servicemen, 1,112 female officers and 6,096 Servicewomen.

Mr King also confirmed that the Regimental System will be retained.

Precisely where the cuts will be made has been left to the arms directors, and decisions are expected by the end of July. The consultation process will include divisional colonels

commandant and regimental colonels.

Special Forces are not affected by Options for Change.

The Defence Secretary's announcement means that more than 31,600 posts will have to be shed under Options, heralding possible amalgamations or disbandment for a number of regiments.

MPs were also told that an announcement on a new main

battle tank to replace the Chieftain would be made soon.

Reductions in the Army are in line with those of Britain's Allies and Mr King's announcement followed agreement in Brussels on the reorganisation of Nato after the collapse of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet withdrawal from eastern Europe.

Plans for the defence of continental Europe include a 70,000 strong Rapid Reaction Corps to be spearheaded by British troops and with a permanent British commander.

The three armoured divisions of the British Army of the Rhine are to be cut to one, and it is this reduced formation which will play an important

● Turn to Page 5

Shape to be decided

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THE NEW BMW 3 SERIES



Men of all three Regular battalions of The Light Infantry parade their new Colours before their Colonel-in-Chief at Tidworth. Earlier the Queen Mother had inspected the battalions, watched as the old Colours were marched off parade in slow time, and then presented the new Colours after they had been consecrated

Picture: Mike Weston

QLR lays up old Colours

THE OLD Colours of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment have been laid up in the county and regimental museum in Preston.

They were handed over at a ceremony attended by the Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen David Houston, the commanding officer, Lt Col Alex Birtwistle, and civic leaders.

Two recently commissioned subalterns, Lt Ron Corrin and Lt Barry Keath-Barnes, carried the Colours. Both were present as NCOs when the Colours were presented to the battalion in 1970.

New Colours were presented to the battalion last July by the Queen, Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment.



A happy moment for WRAC members who met the Queen Mother after completing an assault course competition at the WRAC Centre, Guildford. They took part in a variety of demonstrations for their Commandant-in-Chief when she visited the centre to open the newly-refurbished corps museum. Among 600 members of the Auxiliary Territorial Service who attended the opening was Mrs Margaret Cooks, the only member of the women's services to have been awarded the George Medal, presented to her by King George VI and recently acquired by the museum

Picture: Mike Weston

'NEW ARMY' SIZE SET

● From Page 3

role in the new Germany-based Rapid Reaction Corps created for Nato's Allied Command Europe.

The British division will consist of three brigades with combat support, including air defence, artillery, engineers, Army aviation and logistics.

Also committed to NATO will be a lighter division based in the United Kingdom and consisting of two mechanised brigades in addition to 5 Airborne Brigade and combat and logistic support.

Catterick-based 24 Airmobile

Brigade will be part of Nato's multinational airmobile force.

The future size of BAOR, now around 55,000, will reduce to about 23,000 in line with the Brussels Treaty.

There is to be a widespread redeployment and restructuring of support areas of the Army, including reductions in civilian support.

The Ministry of Defence says cuts will be achieved as far as possible through natural wastage and careful control of recruitment, but a number of redundancies are inevitable to maintain the right balance of

ranks, ages and skills.

Details of the terms and eligibility for voluntary redundancy are to be announced soon, and it is believed will include a phased programme starting next year and lasting four to five years.

The Ministry of Defence says the Territorial Army will continue to have a key role to play, although cuts as a result of the Regular Army's reduced commitment are likely.

An announcement is expected soon on the restructuring of the UKLF command structure.

Germans thanked

BRIG Christopher Elliott, Commander of the 6th Armoured Brigade, entertained a number of German Army commanding officers and brigade commanders to thank them for their support during Operation Granby.

Each one of the German battalions represented had provided the British Army with barrack guards, transport, social links and activities. Signed certificates of appreciation are to be given to each German soldier who did guard duty.

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BILL MOORE

BILL MOORE, journalist and author, whose reports from the Gulf provided a unique record of British soldiers at war, died in Bournemouth General Hospital on June 8 after a short illness. He was 60.

In four years as senior writer on *SOLDIER*, Bill became a familiar and much-respected figure to Servicemen all over the world. He was the oldest man in uniform at the front when he joined 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment for its push into Iraq and Kuwait, having spent months filing stories from Germany and Saudi Arabia on the preparations for war.

Bill was a regular visitor to units serving in Northern Ireland and his final report – on 1 R Hamps in Londonderry – appears in this issue. His enthusiasm for the British Army, its traditions and history, was reflected in his authoritative, distinctive dispatches from locations as far afield as BAOR, America and Hong Kong, as well as in his books.

A professional to his fingertips, Bill Moore, born on Tyneside, worked for newspapers in Newcastle, with a two-year break for Army National Service, before going to Fleet Street to join the *Daily Mirror* and later *The People*, where he became deputy editor.

After a spell as a freelance author he joined the Ministry of Defence in 1975 as an information officer. His work took him to Northern Ireland and to South-West District Headquarters.

Ill health in 1983 forced him into temporary retirement in France, where he devoted his time to writing books, but by 1987 he was well enough to rejoin the Government Information Service as an assistant editor with *SOLDIER*.

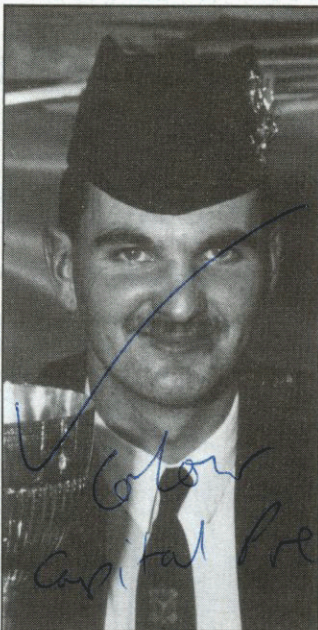
An acknowledged specialist on the First World War, Bill had written 12 books, including *The Thin Yellow Line*, a best-seller dealing with executions for "cowardice" which resulted in an amendment to the regulations protecting 1914-18 court martial files.

He leaves a widow, Maureen, two sons and three grandchildren. A quiet funeral was being planned with the request that any tributes should be in the form of donations to the British Heart Foundation.



Fighting spirit . . .

The Rev Alan Dean, senior chaplain in North East District, leads two civilian clergymen over the assault course at the Depot of The King's Division, Strensall, York. Thirteen civilian clergymen and two ordination candidates spent three days at the infantry depot, taking part in activities ranging from map reading and vehicle maintenance to the assault course and initiative tests.



Cpl Donald McIntyre (above) of the Queen's Own Highlanders won five trophies and the highest aggregate award at the Royal British Legion Scotland national solo piping championships staged at the Lady Haig's Poppy Factory in Edinburgh.

Pipers from Scottish regiments dominated the championships, with LSgt Keith Dawes, SG winning the premier trophy for the Piobaireachd, the Thomas Mathieson Challenge Trophy.

WIN A FAMILY TICKET TO THE TANK MUSEUM'S GULF WAR EXHIBITION



Six family tickets to the Tank Museum, Bovington, Dorset, are the prizes in a competition running in *SOLDIER* until July 8. All you have to do is answer four questions.

Question One appeared in the May 27 issue, Question Two in the June 10 magazine and Question Three is below. The fourth will be published in the July 8 issue.

To enter, complete the form appearing with the final question and send it to us. The first six correct entries drawn will win a ticket for two adults and two children to the museum's Gulf War Exhibition on Sunday, July 28, 1991.

QUESTION THREE: Which British tank, once called the Queen of the Desert, later went "Waltzing" with the Aussies in Borneo?

Don't send in your answer yet. Make a note of it, together with the answers to the first two questions. Watch for the last question in the next issue and complete the entry form accompanying it. The six winners will be drawn from the correct entries received by first post on Monday, July 15 and the prizes will be sent to the winners by post.

The correct answers and winners' names will be published later in *SOLDIER*. No correspondence can be entered into.

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Georgian Anglians

A TEAM from The Royal Anglian Regiment is to attempt to canoe round South Georgia in the autumn. The 500-mile journey is expected to take up to six weeks.

Four paddlers, including two members of the Royal Navy, will be supported by eight members of the regiment who will have to climb across glaciers on the inhospitable South Atlantic island to establish food dumps for the canoeists.

The expedition, led on land by Capt James Harris and at sea by Capt Richard Clements, both of 3 R Anglian, aims to collect soil samples and data.

Munster plaque

A PLAQUE has been unveiled by Brig Christopher Hammerbeck, Commanding Munster Garrison, to mark the closure after 46 years of the British Military Hospital at Munster.



Picture: WO2 Arthur Thomson

Glasnost gunners

Gnr Mark Sullivan explains the finer points of the 105mm light gun to Maj Gen Vladimir Zaritskiy, who with six other officers from the Soviet Army's Kolomna Artillery School paid a visit to their British counterpart, the Royal School of Artillery at Larkhill on Salisbury Plain. The Russian party were shown the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS), and enjoyed visits to Stonehenge and a local pub



Picture: Mike Perring

Who needs a shovel when you are Commander Transport and Movements at Aldershot? Col Nigel Gilbert makes sure that the first sod he cuts is a big one as work starts on the new home for 41 Squadron RCT and its Aldershot detachment. First part of a £100 million construction project in Aldershot, the building will be named after Lt Gen Sir Humphrey Gale, a Colonel Commandant of the former Royal Army Service Corps

QARANC thanks

PRINCESS Margaret attended a thanksgiving service at the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints, Aldershot, to mark the safe return of more than 700 QARANC nursing staff deployed to the Gulf during Operation Granby.

The Princess, who is Colonel-in-Chief of the corps, later visited the QARANC Training Centre in Aldershot.

Battery birthday

THE Royal Artillery's oldest battery celebrated its 275th anniversary on May 26.

Founded originally as Pattison's Company, one of the two original Trains of Artillery and the only surviving one, 19 (Gibraltar 1779-1783) Missile Battery marked the occasion with a fun day for families.

The battery is based in Menden, West Germany with 50th Missile Regiment, RA.

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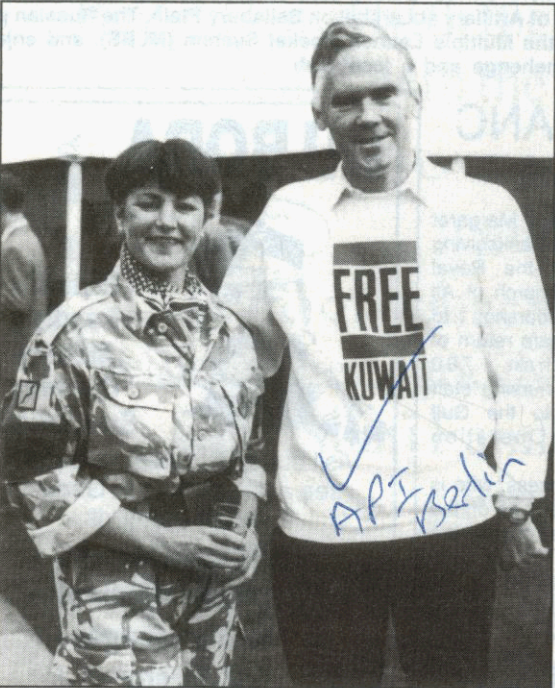
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Kiwi Kevin joins REME



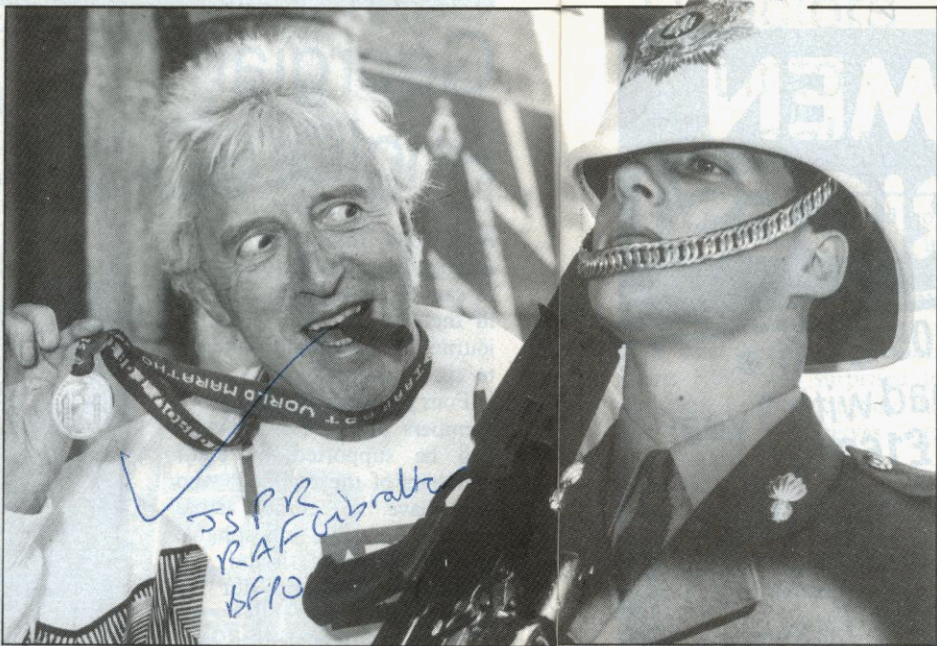
New Zealand teenager **Kevin Lunt** (left) travelled half way round the world to join the REME as an apprentice. He is pictured above being welcomed into the Army by senior Lancashire recruiter Lt Col **Chris Day** at Preston Army Careers Office. Kevin (17) is following in the footsteps of his father, Mr **Leslie Hunt**, who served in the Lancashire Fusiliers before emigrating to New Zealand 20 years ago.



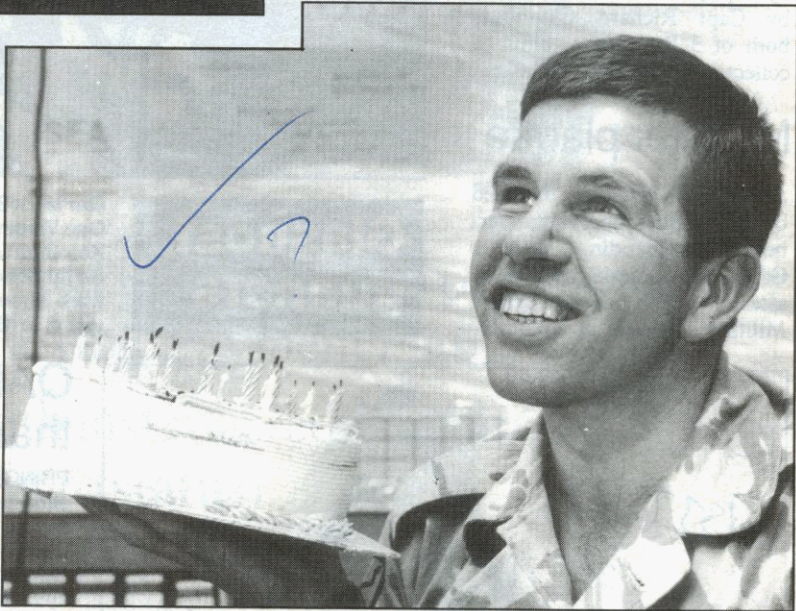
Looking the part at a barbecue for Berlin-based Op Granby veterans and their families were Lt Col **Stuart McLean**, CO 2 RMP, and his wife **Jac-que**. Mrs McLean was wearing a set of desert combats, while her husband was wearing a sweat-shirt produced by the then-exiled Kuwait information office. They were among more than 300 soldiers and guests attending the meal

Berlin beano

and disco at the Berlin Infantry Brigade's HQ complex. Speaking to the 190-strong Gulf contingent from Berlin units at the barbecue, Brig David Bromhead, Brigade Commander, paid tribute to the families and supporters.

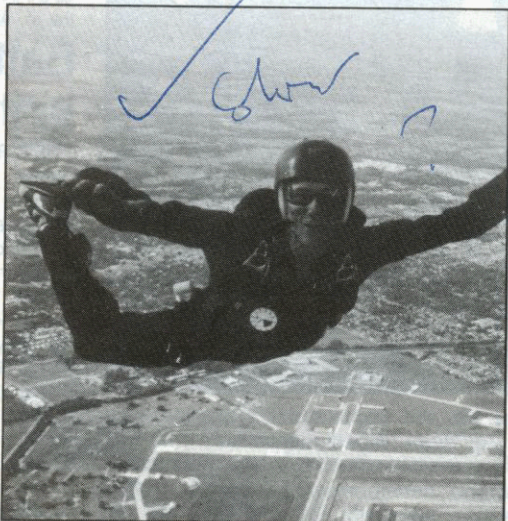


One of the perils the new Gibraltar Regiment has to be prepared for is people like **Sir Jimmy Savile** landing and either wanting to run from the dock up to the top of the Rock, or tell people how he does London Marathons. He has done 200 26-milers, and has the London medal to prove it to Pte **Mark Diaz**. As he only had two hours during his last visit, somebody fixed it for him to feed the Barbary apes, visit the Governor and meet the newly reformed Gibraltar Regiment.



Desert birthday

WO2 **Colin Pressley** took time out from his busy schedule to celebrate his 37th birthday. He is stationed with Headquarters Logistic Support Group in Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia, and is responsible for the movement of all vehicles from theatre back to the UK. With over 80kms of vehicles to return he, and his staff of two, are always busy. "At the rate we are moving we should have cleared the backlog by the end of June," says Colin.



High flyer

Apprentice RSM **Chris McCullagh** (left) is a high flying sapper in more ways than one. Pictured parachuting over Florida, Chris has now completed 95 jumps. But he has also had time to be selected as the Apprentice RSM, the top rank at the Army Apprentices College Chepstow. His ambition is to serve with 59 Commando Squadron, RE.

They've both been around a long time

Two faces of Royal Hampshire history. The lady is Sybille, who served as the figurehead of the 36-gun man o' war of that name at the storming of the Taku Forts in China in 1860. The 67th (South Hampshire) Regiment won four VCs in the action. Sybille was waiting to welcome the Hampshires when they arrived at Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry, formerly a naval base. See pages 21-27. CSgt **"Daisy" May** has the unusual record of having served in the battalion for 24 years with a break of only a few weeks - with a TA unit. The latest tour of Northern Ireland was his eighth, making six years in all. He married during one of them and has two teenage daughters. Among Daisy's memories is a stint in Normandy to mark the 25th anniversary of D-Day (when the Hampshires led the assault on the beaches). "Ten of us spent all day long peeling potatoes," he said.



PEOPLE



The Quartermaster General, Lt Gen Sir **Edward Jones** (right) and Lt Col **Malcolm Wood**, CO of 5 Ord Bn, look at some of the remainder of the 12,000 vehicles used in the Gulf conflict. The QMG, who was on a brief visit, watched as vehicles were being moved forward at the port of Al Jubail in Saudi Arabia before being returned by sea to bases in the UK and Germany.

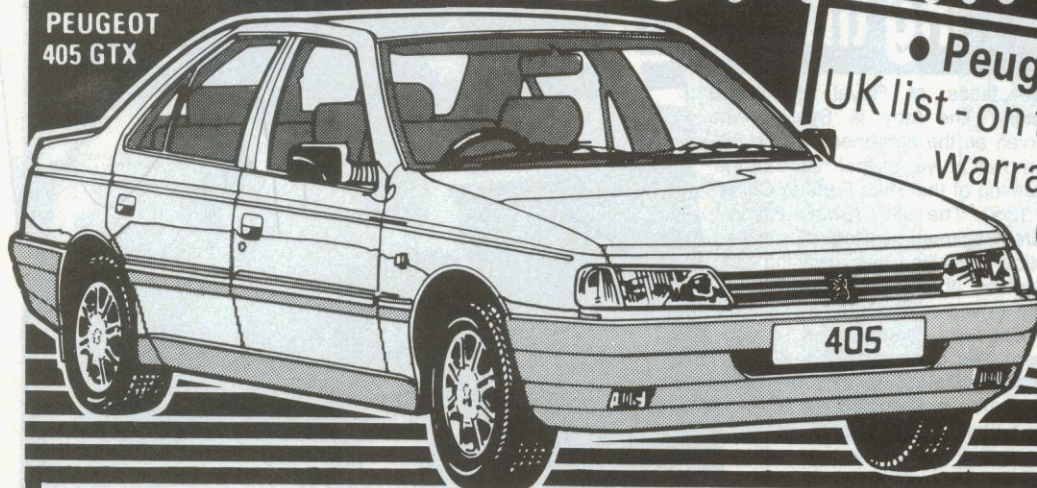
Youngest granny?



We reckon 2nd Lt **Sandra Massey** is the youngest grandmother serving in the British Army... unless you know better. Sandra, a TA officer, is the assistant adjutant of the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment. And just how old is this "battling granny"? A mere youngster of 37.

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TV actors slot into the ranks

Acting and the Army did not appear to have much in common until shooting started on *Soldier, Soldier*, the new seven-part TV series.

It was then that producer Chris Kelly was surprised to discover just how quickly the cast turned themselves into professional soldiers.

Perhaps it is not quite so astonishing in view of the detailed research conducted by Central TV – and the backgrounds of some of the actors.

David Haig, who plays tough disciplinarian Maj Tom Cadman, is the great-nephew of Fd Marshal Douglas Haig and the son of a major.

Miles Anderson (Lt Col Dan Fortune) is grandson of a boy bugler and son of a former Black Watch corporal who retired as a major general. But the family connections do not end there – he received some tips about the role from a brother who is a lieutenant-colonel with the Gurkhas.

Holly Aird, 22, who plays Military Policewoman Nancy Thorpe, was born at Aldershot when her father was serving in the Army. Her role was based on the personal experiences of series creator Lucy Gannon, herself an MP at Catterick for two years.

"My dad was in the Army for 25 years," said Lucy. "I was born in Londonderry and lived in Colchester, Scarborough, Cyprus and Egypt."

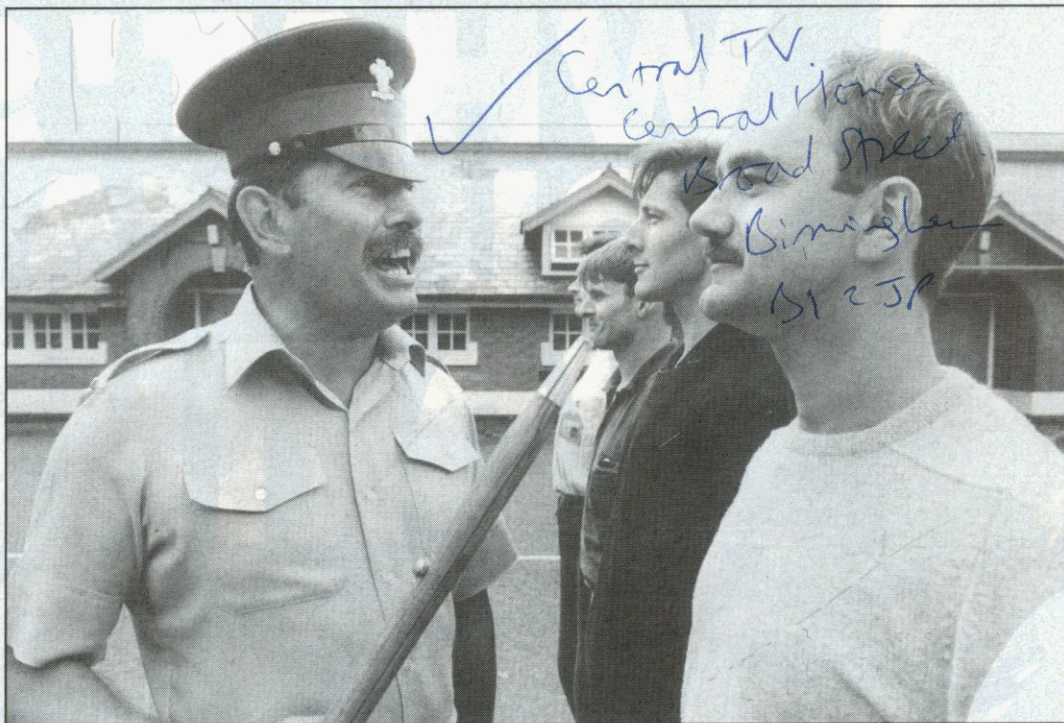
"When I joined up I was given the choice of Signals or the Military Police. I chose the latter and was stunningly unsuccessful at it. I was there for two years but never arrested or charged anyone."

The series, which started in the UK on June 10, is a first in major drama production for Chris Kelly, better known for presenting the consumer programmes *Wish You Were Here* and *Food and Drink*.

"When I first started working on *Soldier, Soldier* I knew very little about the military," he said.

"We did an enormous amount of research – visiting barracks and talking to officers, soldiers, wives, families and padres to get to know their world. I think, like everyone else, we had preconceptions

SOLDIER to Soldier



Actor David Haig, who plays a company commander in the TV series *Soldier, Soldier*, gets a taste of Army life from a real company sergeant-major – WO2 Peter Tatum – when members of the cast were given a crash course in Service discipline at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, home of the Staffordshire Regiment. They also talked to wives, families and padres

about the Army which weren't true.

"The people we met were not at all gung-ho. If anything they were more gentle and courteous than the people you meet in everyday life. The Army still has old-fashioned values and tremendous loyalty to each other – which I rather like."

The series, about an infantry company just returned from Northern Ireland, was postponed earlier this year because of the Gulf War.

All the wrong Options

Gossip markets are rife with speculation on the future of the regiments under the Options for Change review.

The only certainty appears to be that none of the pundits, however well connected, has any more clue about what is going to happen than the rest of us.

But SOLDIER can reveal that some decisions have been made. A usually unreliable source has told us that:

- The Life Guards are to amalgamate with The Royal

Green Jackets and will in future be known as The Life Jackets;
● 14/20 H will join 15/19 H, 13/18 H, 17/21 L, 16/5 L, 9/12th L and 4/7 DG to become the 88/102 H/L/DG (reduced further to 44/51 HLDG);

- Amalgamation will leave The Black Watch and the Blues and Royals Black and Blue;
- The Foot Guards will be amalgamated. An unofficial leak suggests that The Welsh Guards will lose their official leek, and that it will be a case of Scotch Missed;

- The Royal Army Educational Corps will raise standards by combining with the Intelligence Corps;

- The Duke of Wellington's Regiment will be given the boot;

- The Staffordshire Regiment will be told to get knotted;

- The Parachute Regiment will be for the high jump;

- The Queen's Dragoon Guards, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, and the Military Provost Staff will combine as the Dungeons and Dragons;

- The APTC will join forces with the Light Division to create a little light training;

- And as for the Army Chaplain's Department, they haven't a prayer.

Poppy song

A song dedicated to Pte Steve Dixon, of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, who was killed in action at Goose Green in the Falklands in 1982, will help this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The song is one of four on an audio cassette being marketed by Harlow branch of the Legion with all proceeds going to the appeal.

Branch member Harry James, who formerly sang in Joe Brown's backing group, wrote the songs and performs them on the tape with Lucy Sian.

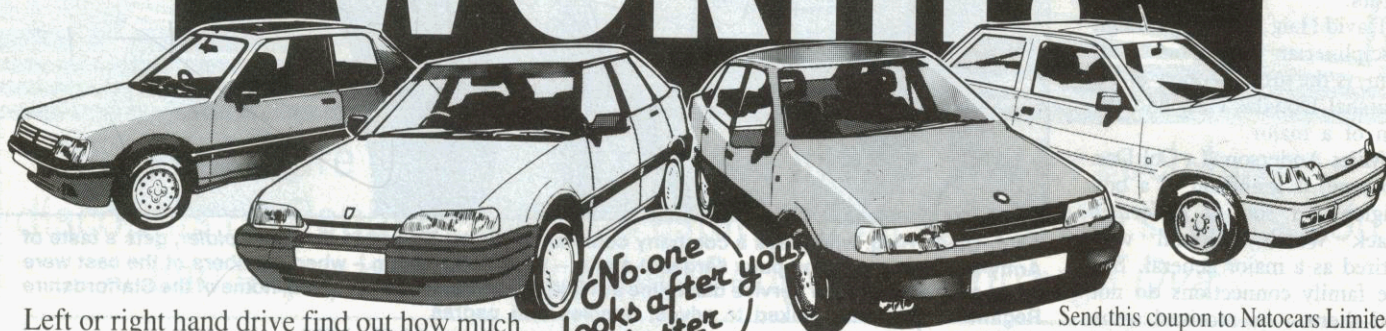
Another number is a salute to British forces who fought in the Gulf War.

The other two are dedicated to disabled people and those who bear the mental and physical scars of battle.

Copies of the tape, at £2.50 each (£1 p & p) are available from The Royal British Legion, Colt Hatch, Harlow, Essex CM20 1SX.

Cheques should be made payable to RBL (Harlow Town).

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S/PX/24/6



Cpl Rick Loe of 663 Squadron is converting to the Lynx helicopter. He says it has "more gadgets to play with"

COME FLY WITH US

TOO MANY corporals are afraid of flying, says the Army Air Corps.

Not scared of jinxing about in Northern Ireland, you understand, but actually sitting in the driver's seat and steering it a few inches off the ground.

The Corps finds this strange, particularly when corporals are beating captains hands down when it comes to picking up the prizes from one of the early courses on the way to becoming a pilot.

Not a lot of corporals know this. Perhaps if they did, they would be more willing to give it a try, because, in the words of flying instructor Sgt Steve Unsworth: "You don't need a brain like a planet to become a pilot."

Nor do you need to be an

officer with a degree in mathematics and physics. Flying is a great leveller and it doesn't matter whether you are a lance jack or a lieutenant; the important factor is whether or not you can fly.

"A lot of people put undue emphasis on the fact that many pilots are corporals, not officers," said SSgt Unsworth.

"We're not interested in his rank, we're interested in his ability. He doesn't need the greatest academic qualifications in the world to start, because we teach him it rather than expect him to know it before he arrives.

Not enough corporals are putting themselves forward to train as pilots with the Army Air Corps. **Gordon Skilling** found out that it may be easier than they think. Photographs by **Mike Weston**.

"We have been doing this since the Second World War and if we can teach him to fly, rank is immaterial. Rank purely gets him pay."

Cpl Rick Loe, converting from Gazelles to Lynx, agrees.

"Anybody with a bit of noggin can get through the course, but as people have the wrong impression they aren't willing to have a go."

Maj Sam Drennan, in charge of advanced rotary wing instruction, is impressed by the intellectual abilities of these young men.

"They just soak it in, indeed we've fewer problems with

them than with SNCOs. The older senior rank is used to thinking within certain guidelines and can make decisions within certain parameters, but after that they've got to refer it to someone else.

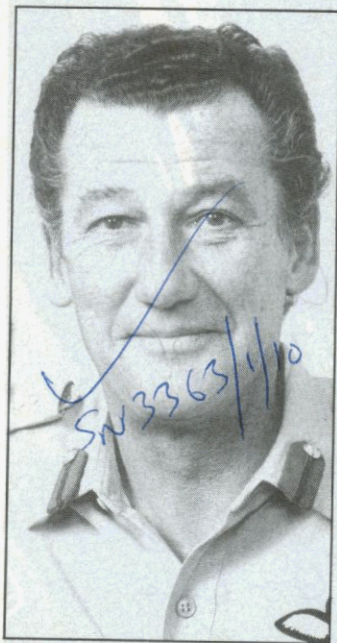
"In this game, when you're out flying your aircraft, your decisions are there to be made and you can't refer to anyone else. Sometimes the older guys have to get rid of mental barriers, whereas the corporals haven't been conditioned yet."

A former Scots Guards SNCO himself, he gained one of his several decorations helping his former regiment on Tumbledown Mountain, and his comments carry weight. His students soon learn that he's been through the system, done

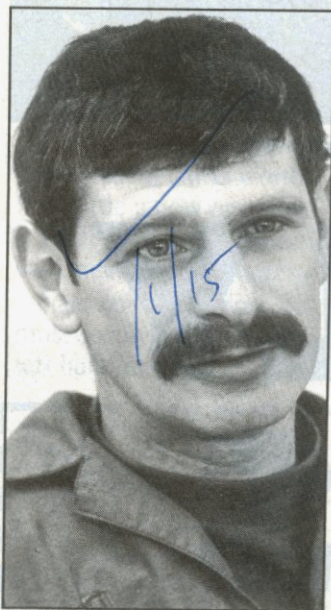
● Turn to next page

Come fly with us

● From Page 15



Col Ross Mallock, Commandant AAC Centre, is looking for corporals with agile minds



SSgt Steve Unsworth: "Rank doesn't matter"

dozens of good SNCO and officer jobs and seen active service. When he advises them, they tend to listen.

"Perhaps they lack military experience, but the AAC operates far and wide and they make up for it very quickly – just as a young officer does once he gets into the flying game. They are intellectually able enough to make use of it."

While Maj Drennan notices how educationally well-qualified the corporals often are, the Commandant of the AAC Centre, Col Ross Mallock, contends no qualifications are necessary to prove oneself as a pilot.

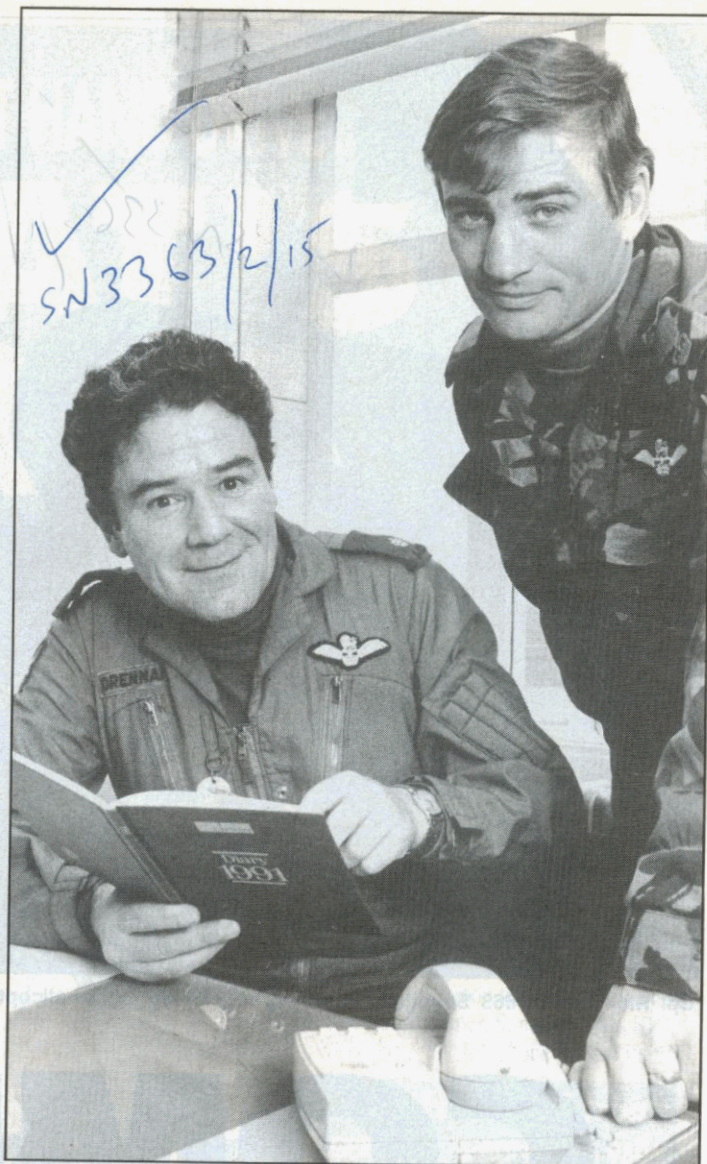
"They must do some preparation," he advises, "but if they know what happens under the car bonnet they can manage it. The only thing they won't have come across before is basic turbine, because most of us don't have turbines under the bonnet."

It would also be a good idea to know one's maths tables. Most of this now seems to be done on calculators, but when you are flying around you don't normally have one handy and you still have to work out whether you have enough fuel to get home.

All that is required is the ability to make a simple mental calculation of time and distance to avoid ending up, embarrassed, in the dirt.

Col Mallock promises it is all 11-plus stuff.

This is borne out by Maj John Ingram, a retired officer who, according to local legend, has been responsible for everything that happened in the Corps since Pontius got his



Maj Howard Floyd (right), who is taking over from Maj Sam Drennan (left) as OC 670 Squadron, is sure corporal pilots could handle attack helicopters

wings. "The JNCO will do well," he declares. "Forget about the dreaded auto-cycle and navigation. He will be in the top bracket of the ground school's theoretical subjects, and this is a huge achievement."

"Failure in the ground school is almost unknown – one in the 16 years it has been

running. As long as the chap is flying OK, we will take as much time as is necessary to bring him through."

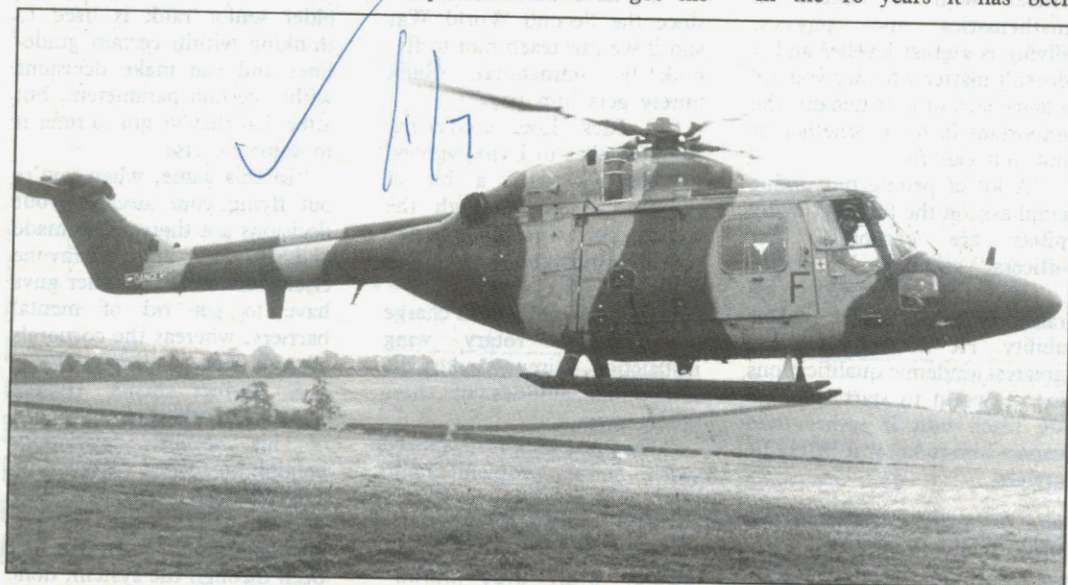
Flying ability is, of course, useful. The Corps feels the only way to find out if somebody can fly is to put him in an easy aeroplane like a Chipmunk and teach him. He will have come through initial flying selection at RAF Biggin Hill, where his dexterity at computer games may have pulled him through.

But after two weeks in the ground school comes the flying grading, where even the brilliant Cambridge graduate can be found huddled in a corner after a few days in the air.

Col Mallock's best advice to would-be corporal pilots is to pop along and see what it is all about at the local AAC unit.

"It's pretty needle stuff. He could be the guy who is first to see the enemy and start off the battle."

"It takes a lot of practice and animal cunning to protect yourself and get the information back."



A Lynx helicopter lifts off. Cpl Rick Loe is at the controls



The advance rotary course at the Air Corps Centre lasts 11 weeks. Pictured above is a class of '91. From left, back: Lt Martin Barnes, R Signals; Capt John McCardle, RA; Capt Graham Ruddick, RHF; WO2 Paul Jobling, RM; Capt Simon Butcher, RA; Cpl Phil Hughes, AAC; and Cpl Mac McCarthy, AAC. Front: Capt Humphrey Carter, IG; Sgt John Milton, RMP; Cpl Burge Burgess, RM; Sgt Curly Elstow, RM; and Cpl Dave Bentley, AAC

Attack role proved vital in Gulf War

WITH a certain amount of turbulence forecast for the Army over the coming months, the Army Air Corps is bracing itself for an upsurge of interest and a significant development in its role.

Before 1986 its helicopters operated with one pilot, but since then a second pilot, whose minimum rank is corporal, has been added, along with the aircraft commander. But events in the Gulf have opened a few eyes as to the potential of the helicopter.

"We've seen nothing yet," declares Col Ross Mallock, Commandant of the Army Air Corps Centre at Middle Wallop.

"When my regiment, 1 RTR, moved from Centurions to Chieftains, it was a small step for man. When the AAC moved from Skeeter to Lynx, it was a

comparatively giant stride, but it bears no comparison to the stride we are about to make in the next five years when the attack helicopter is introduced.

"I should think that the battlefield helicopter has reached the stage we saw with the fast jets in the 50s. They were the early fighters and as we were knocking on super-sonic, everybody thought this was about as far as we were going to get."

Many saw the Americans operate the Apache helicopters in the Gulf and were impressed. It was the corporals who noticed this first, said Col Mallock. When he moved to Wallop three years ago he was lucky to have two or three candidates for his Thursday afternoon selection interviews. Now he often has as many as he can cope with.

"A large, large number of these are from the armoured corps or infantry who were in the Gulf. First we began to get a large number of troop corporals from Challenger troops who had seen the light and wanted to find something with a future. The officers fell in shortly afterwards. These soldiers know a good thing when they see it."

Col Mallock said that Options for Change, with its threat of disbandments and amalgamations, was encouraging people to make the most of their chances.

One of those who took his chance seven years ago as a junior leader was Cpl Rick Loe, whose grandfather was garrison commander at Bulford.

Helicopters, he feels, are taking over the tank-killing job which has hitherto been

performed by other tanks.

"The Apache proved its value as an attack helicopter in the Gulf," he said, and was backed up in this by the new commander of 670 Squadron, Maj Howard Floyd. He has flown the Cobra and was lucky enough to be in the first American Apache battalion when it entered service in 1986, since when it has evolved spectacularly."

What they got out of it in the Gulf far surpasses anything considered three years before, he feels.

"In my experience it is one of the first pieces of military machinery which has been proved capable of all that the manufacturers say it can do. In fact, it can do more.

"Without a shadow of a doubt the future of aviation has to be in attack helicopters."

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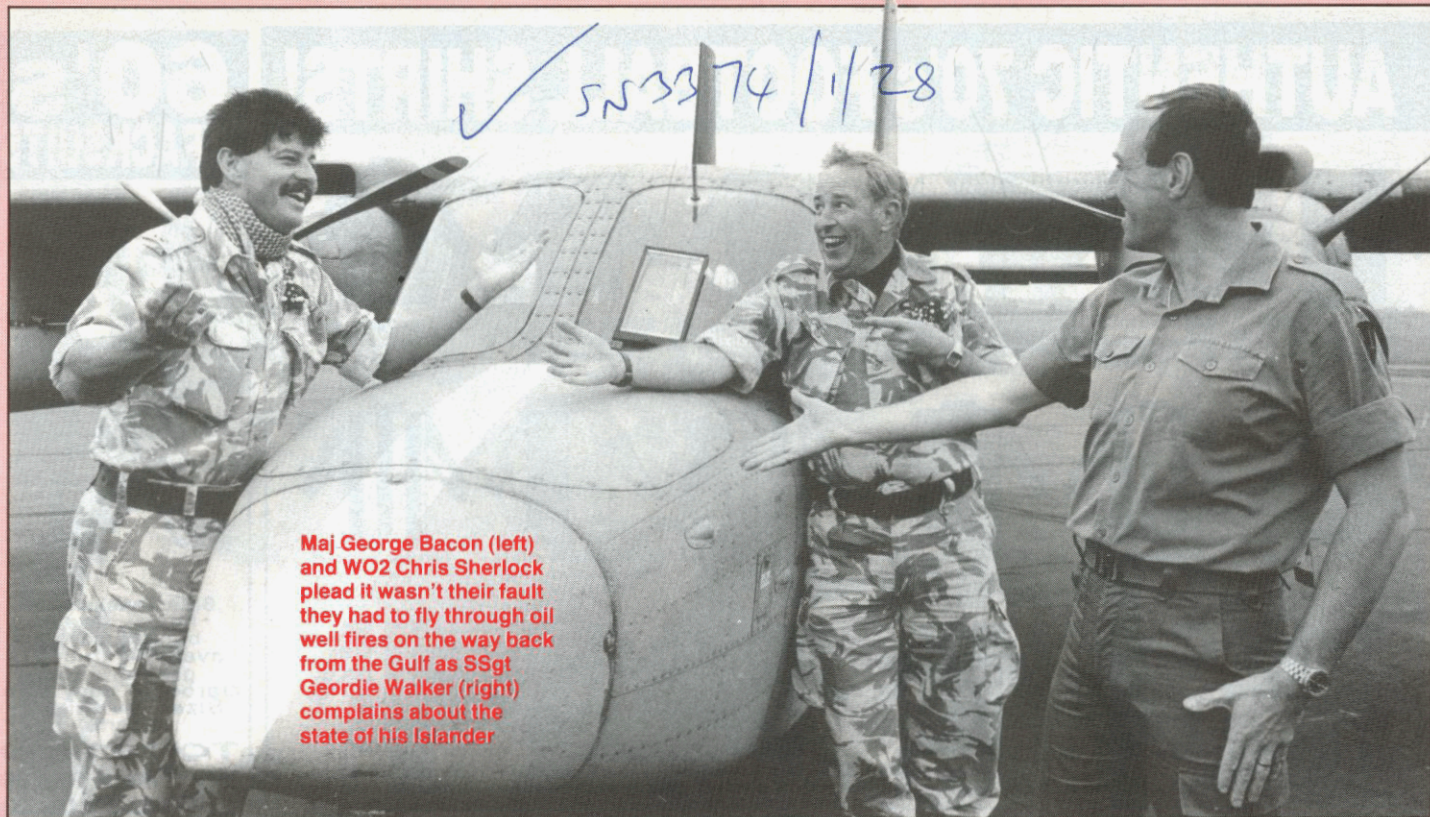
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Maj George Bacon (left) and WO2 Chris Sherlock plead it wasn't their fault they had to fly through oil well fires on the way back from the Gulf as SSgt Geordie Walker (right) complains about the state of his Islander

Picture: Mike Perring

Pinky flies home

PINKY the Islander was amazingly perky when it returned to Middle Wallop after four months in the Gulf, though to chief technician SSgt Geordie Walker it was certainly not in the pink of condition, writes Gordon Skilling.

He and the other five REME aircraft technicians left the Gulf just a couple of hours after the Islander aircraft and Army Air Corps pilots Maj George Bacon and WO2 Chris Sherlock, but as the technicians were returning in a VC10 they got back a bit earlier.

The pilots took a leisurely 29 flying hours spread over five days.

SSgt Walker was on hand to marshal the aircraft home, open the door for the pilots . . . then complain that it wasn't in the pristine condition his lads had left it in!

On the way back to the United Kingdom the Islander had to negotiate some of the oil well fires left as parting gifts by the Iraqis, so the pink had not so much faded as been flecked by tarry soot.

It was a different atmosphere on the way back compared with the journey to the Gulf. Maj Bacon and WO2 Sherlock had time to have a look at ancient Thebes and the Valley of the Kings in Egypt, then Pompeii during a stopover in Naples,



Pinky on a desert airstrip during the Gulf crisis

and later the sights of Paris.

The team of six technicians and three pilots, commanded by Major Nick O'Brien, had to move quickly to the Gulf in January. The call came through over the Christmas period because of communications problems in the Gulf. Long, difficult journeys on lethal roads had claimed the lives of a number of Coalition Servicemen, and it was decided to use an aircraft to fly senior commanders between main headquarters.

Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, Commander British Forces Middle East, was a regular passenger.

Within a week the Army's last three available fixed-wing

pilots had been dug out of their staff and training jobs in MoD, Germany and Yorkshire, the aircraft had been painted and christened Pinky by the ground crew, and the show was on the road.

Its liaison role taking senior officers forward from Riyadh to divisional headquarters for face-to-face briefings meant the aircraft clocked up two years' flying in just under four months. In that period it only missed one flight, when an engine-change had to be done.

Its combination of range, carrying capacity and economy was beyond the reach of any helicopter, and the relatively small investment in men and machine was repaid many times

over, with the aircraft developing something of a personality in theatre.

"We had to land in the desert on semi-prepared strips," said WO2 Sherlock. "They used a scraper to take the soft sand off which gave us a fairly firm surface, though we all managed to get bogged in once or twice and had to dig the front wheel out."

Maj Bacon said: "Saudi must be one of the few countries in the world where you can take half a million men and lose them without any trouble at all.

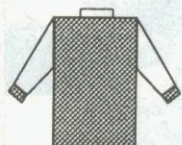
"Having flown two or three hundred miles over the desert, it was frequently very difficult to find a little dirt strip only 400 yards long among millions and millions of square miles."

"The only problems we had were the conditions we were working in," said SSgt Walker.

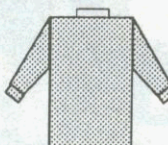
"It was so hot that everything dried out. You couldn't touch a steering wheel, and if the pilots had to sit on the runway for five minutes, they were just dripping with sweat. You get dehydrated and very tired very quickly when you lose so much fluid."

After leave, it will be back to the humdrum again: "I think going back to training pilot on helicopters might be a bit of an anti-climax," said WO2 Sherlock.

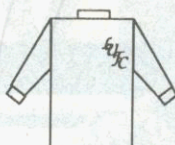
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Red body & cuffs, white arms & collar, as worn by 'Stroller' Graham & Charlie George.



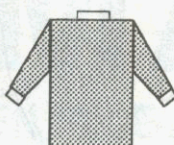
Royal blue with white collar, as worn by Joe Royle & Brian Labone.



Leeds United, white with LUFUFC embroidered in blue. As worn by Charlton & Bremner.



Leeds United Away, Yellow with LUFUFC embroidered in blue.



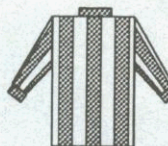
Sky blue, white collar & cuffs, as worn by Lee, Summerbee & Bell.



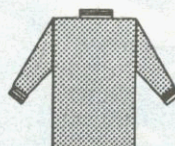
Red & black stripes, as worn by Lee, Bell & Summerbee on Awaydays.



Red with white collar & cuffs, as worn by George Best & Bobby Charlton.



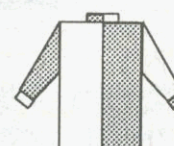
Red & white stripes, red collar & cuffs, as worn by Ian Porterfield & Dave Watson.



Sky blue with blue & white striped collar & cuffs, as worn by Willie Carr & Jeff Blockley.



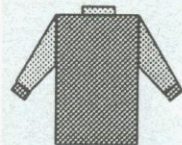
Red & white stripes, red collar & cuffs, as worn by Eddie Colquhoun & Tony Currie.



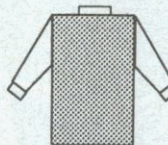
Blue & white, as worn by Bryan Conlon & Stuart Metcalfe.



Black & white stripes as worn by Bobby Moncur & Malcolm MacDonald.



Claret body & cuffs, sky blue arms & collar. As worn by Steve Kindon & Martin Dobson.



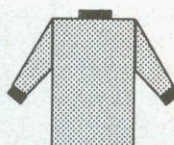
Blue with white arms, collar & cuffs. As worn by Peter Eustace & Jack Witham.



Red with white collar & cuffs, as worn by Don Rogers & Peter Noble.



Claret body & blue arms, claret and blue collar & cuffs as worn by Bobby Moore & Geoff Hurst.



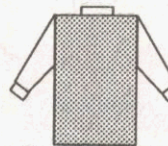
Old gold with black collar & cuffs, as worn by Derek Dougan.



Red & white stripes, red collar & cuffs. As worn by Ron Davies & Terry Paine.



Green & white hoops, as worn by Jimmy Johnstone & Danny McGrain.



Emerald green body, white arms, collar & cuffs. As worn by Peter Marinello & Arthur Duncan.



Rangers - Royal blue with RFC logo embroidered in white. As worn by John Greig & Colin Stein.



Goalie - Green, as worn by Gordon Banks & Peter Bonnetti.



Red with red & white collar & cuffs. As worn by Terry Hennessy, Ian Storey-Moore & Alan Hilton.

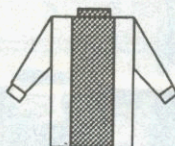
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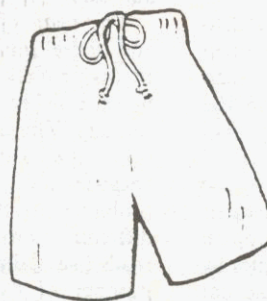
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Smiles

After more than two years in Londonderry the Hampshiremen found a warm and open welcome in Loyalist areas, as this picture shows. There were also discreet cups of tea on Republican estates when the "hard men" weren't there to intimidate the local people

on the faces of The Tigers



SOME old soldiers are not going to believe this but during the hot weather last year it was possible for patrols to get the children to run errands in the Creggan . . . Yes, *that* old Creggan!

"You could give them a £1 coin for a Mars bar and a can of Coke and they would bring the change back with them too," said a warrant officer who had witnessed this phenomenon.

The other day an even more astonishing event occurred in what has the reputation of being a turbulent Nationalist area.

Intending to clean up Rosemount SF base before handing over to another unit, the resident detachment went out with weapons, body

armour, helmets and a bundle of refuse bags.

An audience of youngsters appeared, potentially an ominous sign, but the job was soon done.

"The boys gave the kids 50p each and a black plastic sack and they picked up all the rubbish in no time," said CSM Bob Elson, who has spent a total of five years of his service in Londonderry.

"Nothing like this has ever been known before. It was a wonderful thing to see."

Such hopeful manifestations in the sorely-tried city where

the current troubles originated in 1968 can be attributed directly to the smiles on the faces of The Tigers, otherwise the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

When in 1989 it began a residential tour at Ebrington Barracks, the old naval establishment on the east bank of the Foyle, it was determined to restore the working relationship which, despite many difficulties, had existed between the Army and the local communities in the early 70s.

Lt Col Paul Davis, CO 1 R Hamps: "From the start our

training was done with emphasis on winning the confidence, respect and understanding of local people, our aim being to help in the alienation of terrorism.

"Ninety-nine per cent of the people are heartily fed up with it; many would like to help but are still afraid to turn against the paramilitaries. Only when that happens will an end be in sight.

"When we can overcome that situation the small number of active terrorists who operate in the city may be booted out."

Veterans who had been with the battalion when it was last in Londonderry 11 years earlier were encouraged by what they found on its return.

● Turn to next page

The 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment has worked hard to win the confidence of the people of Londonderry. **Bill Moore** found out how the Tigers did it. Pictures by **Terry Champion**

Smiles

● From Page 21

Lt Col Davis: "We saw evidence of economic growth. Money had been ploughed into the city – the Bogside now has probably the best civic housing in Europe – and a great effort has been made to improve public places."

One obvious example was a fine display of tulips in a flower bed on a corner just outside the barracks.

"They would never have lasted a few years ago," said Lt Col Davis.

The changed atmosphere, combined with the unequivocal condemnation of violence by local and political leaders of all persuasions, including the RC Bishop of Derry, Dr Daly, had made the battalion all the more determined to stick to its decision to establish closer links with the community.

One of the first agencies it approached in pursuit of its policy was the Peace and Reconciliation Group, affiliated originally to the Northern Ireland Peace People but since 1978 an independent body working out of a couple of rooms in London Street, Londonderry.

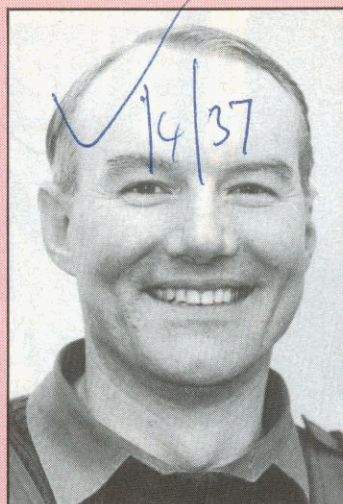
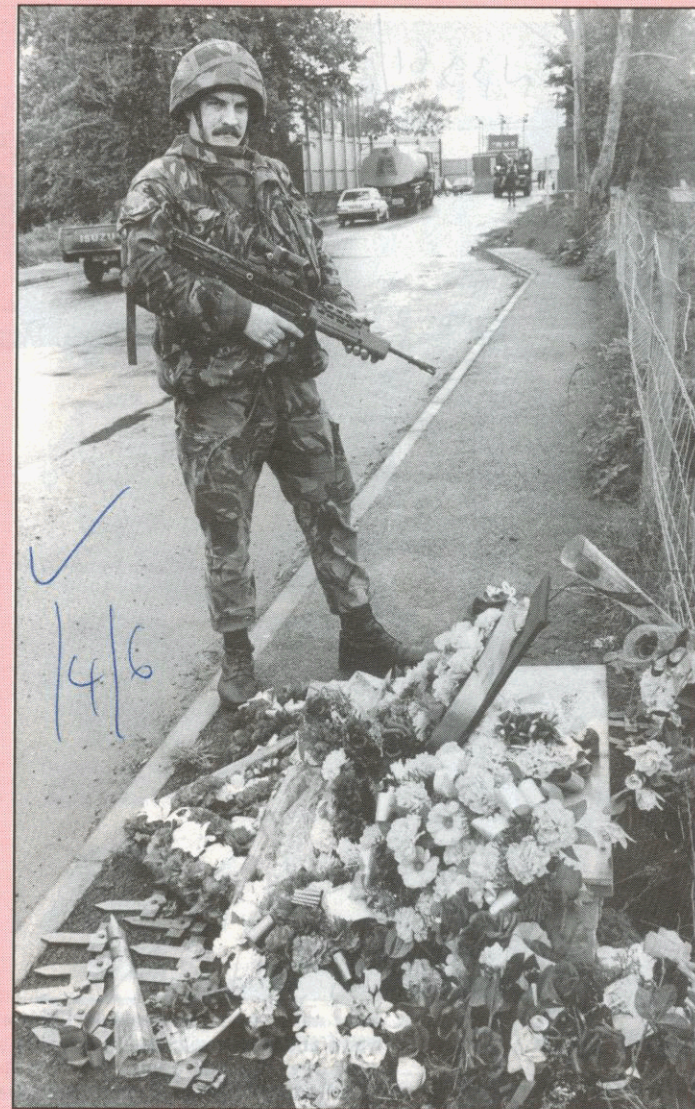
It was there SOLDIER met "chairperson" Margaret O'Donnell, an ex-nurse, and Jimmy Duffy, father of seven sons and known in some quarters as The Wee Peace Man or simply The Wee Mon.

Sparks flew from the SOLDIER tape recorder – if Mrs O'D and Jimmy are fast talkers it is because they will talk to anyone interested in bringing peace to their city and, when they'll listen, even to those who aren't. So they were not lost for words more than two years ago when someone announced: "The Army's here."

"The nice thing was that the Hampshires came to see us," said Mrs O'Donnell. "They didn't wait to be asked. And we were glad of it. They've revived the sort of lines of communication we used to have in the early days."

In more than two years trust has been consolidated and contact maintained. Perhaps the most unusual thing that has developed is the regular discussions which members of the Peace and Reconciliation Group give to soldiers inside Ebrington Barracks.

Mrs O'D: "We try to explain to them how they are seen through the eyes of ordinary



Above: Smile on the face of Lt Col Paul Davis, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment
Left: Sgt Kevin Dapson stands by the regularly renewed wreaths at the site of the Buncrana road checkpoint devastation. The high death toll horrified residents, Republican or not. Sgt Dapson's men were living in temporary accommodation in the almost rebuilt post
Below: CSM Bob Elson (second from left) with members of the Peace and Reconciliation Group. From left are Jimmy ("The Wee Mon") Duffy, chairman Mrs Margaret O'Donnell and secretary Jacinta McColgan



people who live in the Bogside, Shantallow or the Gobnascale estates. Of the little things which can grow into big trouble if they are not nipped in the bud."

The Gobnascale on a hill east of the Foyle is where Jimmy Duffy comes from.

The area has the reputation of being solidly Republican/Nationalist, though he points out that Sinn Féin did not win a

seat in the last council elections.

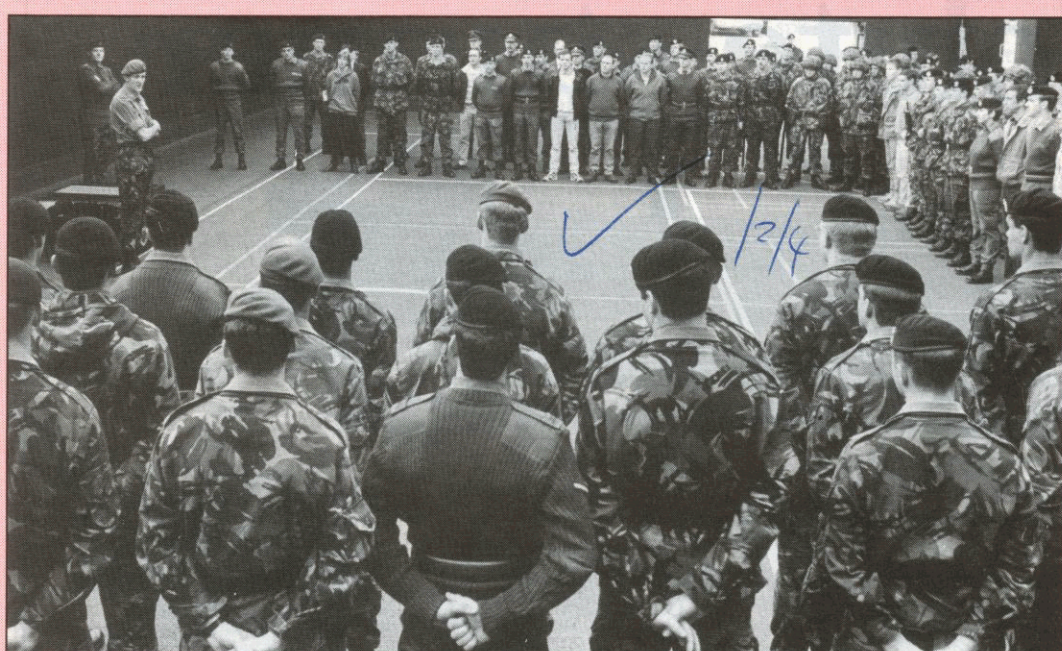
Jimmy is remarkable in being able to talk to members of paramilitary organisations on both sides of the divide. He bases his role as an intermediary between the local population and the Security Forces on a simple foundation – mutual trust.

"Never have the paramilitaries asked me: 'Who do you speak to in the Army? Who do

you see?' And the Army never ask me who I speak to in the paramilitaries."

"If anyone ever did I would go to the top... to the leaders."

It is not unusual for a Royal Hampshire company commander to ask for Jimmy to be present when, with the police, a house has to be searched. That way false accusations of damage can be avoided – and perhaps soldiers helped to resist a



Above: Men of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment have gone out of their way to win the confidence and respect of local people

Left: A word of thanks from Commander 8 Infantry Brigade, Brig John Sutherland. He told Hampshires in the Ebrington Barracks gym: "Yours was a brave policy"



temptation to use strong language.

If locals have a complaint but are shy of approaching the authorities Jimmy (or a member of the Group) can act as a go-between.

Sometimes there is no Army involvement in his work such as when youngsters started to hi-jack buses in the Gobnascale, causing genuine hardship to the older inhabitants.

"They had to put aside money they couldn't afford for taxis to get their groceries to their homes at the top of the hill. I spoke to one of the Hard Men and the next time nonsense was expected he was sitting in the front of the bus. The hi-jacking stopped."

Jimmy's main advice to the soldiers who have to work on the streets is to smile and pass the time of day.

"It doesn't matter if people don't answer. They may be looking over their shoulders. But they may give a wee smile and that's something."

Left to themselves most children are happy to chat with the troops. But if local paramilitaries are just around the corner they will shout abuse or throw stones.

Though he raises complaints with local commanders (when

he talks of ringing up "Jonathan" he means the adjutant of the 1 R Hamps) he is quick to report good behaviour such as a young soldier politely asking to search a bus: "Sure, he would have searched it anyway, but he was nice about it."

"It is very important to realise that much depends on

● Turn to Page 25

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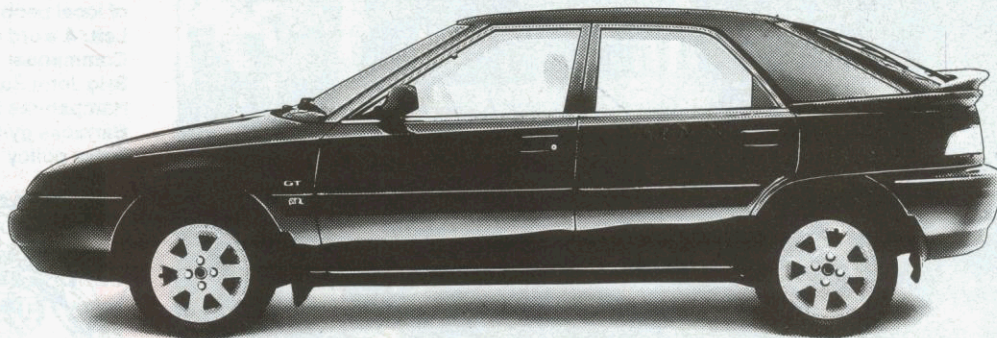
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THE ROYAL Hampshires trace their origins back to 1702 when they were formed in Dublin by an Irishman, Col Thomas Meredith. This unit became the 37th Foot when the infantry was numbered in 1751 and added the description North Hampshire in 1782.

The 67th Foot, newcomers formed in 1758, added the title South Hampshire in the same year, but the two served together only once before they were amalgamated in 1881 to become the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Hampshire Regiment.

The union was not universally welcomed and one old colonel refused to attend a joint function on the grounds that "since time immemorial regiments have been numbered according to their precedence in the Line."

"Nothing can alter the rightness of such a plan, and interfering boobies in the War Office can have no effect on my determination to ignore their damned machinery at all costs . . ."

He ended his reply to the Mess President's invitation with the following pleasantry: "My compliments, Sir, and be damned."

So much for Options for Change 110 years ago!

Such opposition did not persist and 36 battalions of Hampshires were raised in the



First World War. There were not so many in Round 2 but they saw service in Tunisia, Malta, Italy and North West Europe. The 1st Battalion was in the first wave of invasion on D-Day . . . right of whole line.

The regiment having been granted the prefix Royal in 1946, the 1st and 2nd Battalions merged to become the 1st in 1949. Which explains why today companies are listed as A and B (for the 1st Battalion) and Y and Z (2nd).

In the defence review of the late 60s the Royal Hampshires were scheduled for amalgamation with The Gloucestershire Regiment and for a time were

reduced to a single company (Minden, after their ancient battle honour) in which the current CO served.

Though today full of townies from Portsmouth, Southampton and Basingstoke (with a sprinkling from the Isle of Wight and Jersey) the battalion still has a traditional English county flavour about it, the men good-natured, slow to anger but not to be trifled with.

There are one or two "foreigners" around, one of whom says he comes from "just north of the county - Stoke on Trent".

But RSM Mick Mulligan can get away with almost anything.

All in the family. Two sets of brothers are serving in HQ Company, 1 R Hamps. Squatting are Cpl Mike and Peter Bramley from Portsmouth, standing are CSM John, Pete Lawrence and Cpl Frank Roberts from Nottingham

Smiles

● From Page 23

the attitude of the soldiers - and civility costs nothing."

He also recalls everything having been replaced exactly after his own house was searched: "The troops even put the ashes from the grate in a plastic bag," said Jimmy. "I thought, 'Grand' when they left, but didn't yer man come back a minute later and apologise and put the cinders back again."

Brig John Sutherell, Commander 8 Infantry Brigade, described the Royal Hampshires' approach as "a brave policy that definitely worked" thanks to "hard work and self control".

A private soldier put it more simply: "We used the McDonald's approach . . . Hello, I'm Fred, how are you . . ."

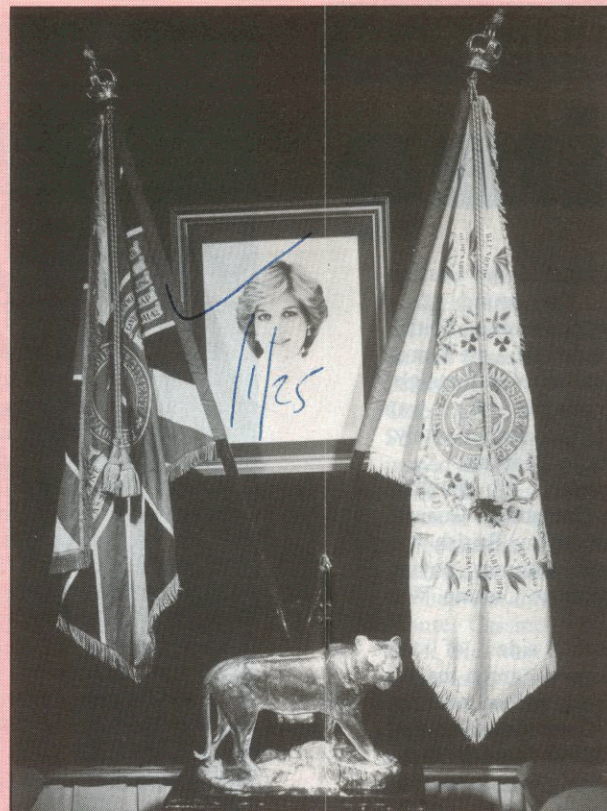
In the search for peace in Northern Ireland anything is worth trying and no one can say The Tigers didn't have a go!



Ptes Paul Wootten (left) and Jim Leech in the back of a patrolling Land Rover



The MT Platoon (acting MTO CSgt Bazz Mepham in the foreground) pictured in the workshops. The Ebrington battalion is believed to have the greatest number of vehicles in the Province, including its own infantry-driven section of "Pigs"



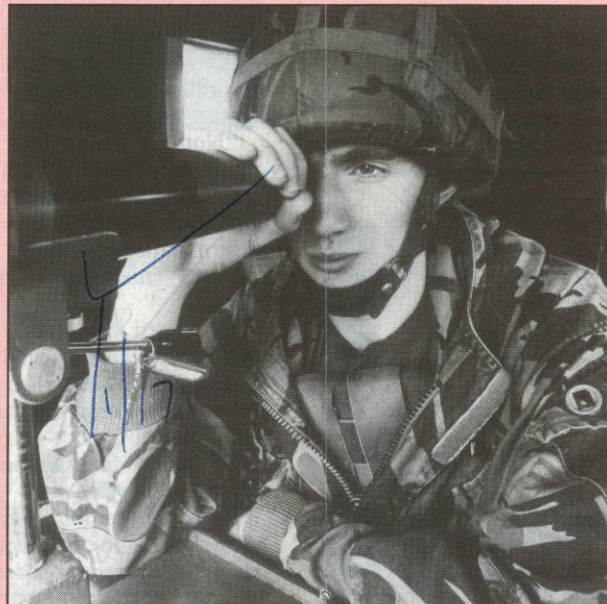
The Colours frame a picture of the Colonel-in-Chief, the Princess of Wales, and the silver Royal Bengal Tiger, part of the 67th Foot's badge after 21 years in India



Men of 6 Platoon, B Company, 1 R Hamps relax for a team photograph beside a weapon from an earlier age overlooking Londonderry



Hard hats off to a multiple of 2 Platoon (Lt Chris Parker) after a city patrol



Man at the top. Pte David Morey on sentry duty in a sangar on Derry's Wall



Ebrington Platoon was only the second WRAC platoon to be attached to an infantry battalion in Northern Ireland, and the first in Londonderry for some years. Balancing precariously is Lt Charlie Tipper, the assistant adjutant of the 1st Battalion, and the WRAC platoon commander

When a World Cup result changed the mood

DURING the two-plus years the 1st Royal Hampshire spent in Londonderry incidents of terrorism decreased noticeably but it was not an easy tour.

The depths of savagery were plumbed with the use of a human bomb to destroy the Buncrana Road permanent vehicle checkpoint manned by men of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, taking a heavy toll of life and inflicting many injuries.

The civilian worker to whom

the terrorists tied their bomb worked at Fort George, HQ of City Company, 1 R Hamps, and was a familiar face.

By comparison with their neighbours the battalion escaped lightly during its tour, only a handful of men receiving major injuries, though 24 Hampshire suffered a variety of cuts and bruises from "brickings".

Awards under the criminal injuries legislation had reached the £25,000 mark by the spring

and a private had just received £2,500 for a gash on the throat when SOLDIER visited Ebrington Barracks.

Strangely, international football created memorable moments for platoon commanders like Chris Parker and Matthew Millard-Beer.

After the Republic of Ireland had been knocked out of the World Cup bottles flew over the walls of Rosemount all night and 8 Platoon crunched over a carpet of glass that shone

like frost in the bright moonlight.

During the Republic's match with England a multiple of 2 Platoon watched the mood in the Creggan change with the fortunes of the game.

"The streets were deserted most of the night. When we got the result, a 1-1 draw, we were near the chip shop and out came the tricolours and the crowds.

"That was the first night we were bottled."

On the night of the Arnhem-Derry game in the first round of the UEFA Cup a detachment of B Company was about to do a route check and stopped to brew up near a little wood.

They shooed off some children who disturbed them and a sharp-eyed team commander spotted a line of worn turf running through the middle of green grass.

It led to a plastic dustbin buried in bracken and gorse; an

ammunition technical officer was summoned.

As the OC, Maj Colin Bulleid, and CSM Elsen were on their way to the scene a bomb went off between their vehicles at a road junction but failed to damage either of them.

The area was cordoned off for the night and the next day the plastic dustbin was found to contain 400lb of homemade explosive and to be packed with "shipyard confetti" - scrap metal which included inch

thick bars of iron.

At 10pm as the last of the HME was being loaded onto the ATO's vehicle the Hampshiremen saw tracer sailing up from the Bogside over the environmentally friendly Kilo sangar at Masonic SF base. Some rounds landed on civilian houses two miles from the firing point, one of them breaking a window in a room where a child was sleeping.

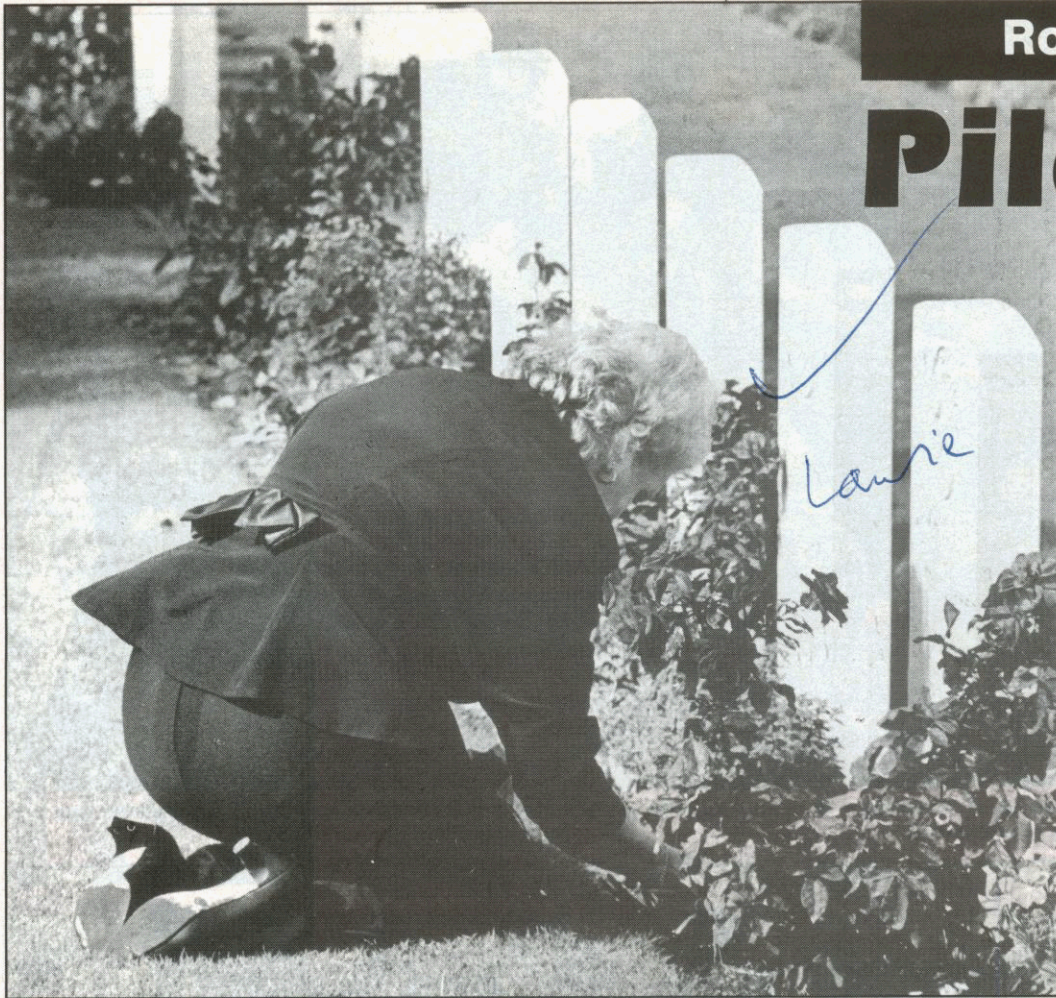
About 1am a burnt-out car was reported about 50 yards

from the firing point but the Hampshiremen decided it might be a "come on" and waited until morning before clearing the area.

By then B Company had been on the go for 36 hours.

"It was just like doing Northern Ireland training," said Maj Bulleid, "because you hadn't finished dealing with one incident before the next started. All that was missing was the video debrief at the end."

Pilgrimage to Monte Cassino



A poignant moment repeated at all cemeteries throughout Italy as British war widows visited their husbands' graves

HILLS around Monte Cassino echoed to the sound of a solitary bugle as a young British soldier sounded the Last Post at the culmination of a fortnight of pilgrimages to war cemeteries throughout Italy, writes Laurie Manton.

The bugler, of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, was accompanying British war widows and veterans paying their respects at Cassino War Cemetery.

On each side of an ornamental pool, green marble columns are inscribed with the names of Commonwealth and Empire soldiers who fell on the shores of Sicily and Italy or in the subsequent battles and to whom the fortunes of war denied a known grave.

Those paying homage included more than 80 members of the Guards Division who went on to tour battlefield sites at Anzio and Salerno, and a party of 60 from an official Royal British Legion pilgrim-

age to the battlefields of southern Italy.

Principal wreath-layer at the service of remembrance was the British Army's top soldier, the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir John Chapple, who accompanied Mrs Jessie Tomsett, 73, of Wych Cross, Sussex to the grave of her husband.

Pte Leslie Tomsett, Royal West Kents, died during one of the heaviest days of fighting at Monte Cassino on May 15, 1944. He was 27 years old.

It was the first time that Mrs Tomsett and her daughter, Mrs Irene Cragg, had seen the simple headstone that marks the last resting place of Pte Tomsett.

A Ministry of Defence war widows grant-in-aid scheme paid the cost of Mrs Tomsett's visit.

The scheme, administered by the Royal British Legion, enables war widows to visit their husbands graves anywhere in the world. It was

set-up in 1985 for five years, but has been extended for a further five.

So far, the scheme has taken more than 2,000 widows to 37 different countries to pay their respects.

During the week-long pilgrimage to Italy, services were held at a number of cemeteries.

The Legion's Head of Pilgrimage, Mr Piers Storie-Hugh, whose own father spent most of the Second World War as a prisoner of war in Colditz, said:

"No matter how often I or members of my staff accompany widows to the graveside, it remains a touching sight. For many, it is the final confirmation, after more than 40 years, that their husband is dead.

"When a widow traces her finger over the lettering of her husband's name on the headstone, you cannot help but be moved."

Cyril Merry travelled from Deal in Kent and Charles

Elsberry from Spain to attend the pilgrimage. Both served with the 7th Battalion, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in Italy.

Conditions endured by the troops were appalling. Mr Merry lent his watch to a signaller and was then wounded. When he returned three months later he found the unburied bodies of his comrades. His watch, still working, was on the wrist of the dead signaller.

Mr Merry carries it to this day.

Behind the town of Cassino, hills rise sharply to the dominating feature of Monte Cassino upon which stands the celebrated monastery founded by St Benedict in 529. It proved the most stubborn obstacle encountered by the Allies during their advance from the south to Rome.

It was reached in December 1943 and was a key point in the Gustav Line. During the early

part of 1944, some of the fiercest fighting of the Second World War took place around the town and the monastery hill.

Town and monastery were reduced to rubble by repeated shelling and air attacks before being finally taken by the Allies in mid-May 1944.

During 1991, the Royal British Legion Pilgrimage Department will be organising group visits to war memorials, cemeteries and campaign areas at locations ranging from Sri Lanka to Japan and Colditz to Ypres.

You don't have to be a Legion member to join a pilgrimage, or even have a grave or memorial to visit. However, priority is given to those who do.

Further information on the scheme can be obtained from the Pilgrimage Department, Royal British Legion Village, Maidstone, Kent ME20 7NX.

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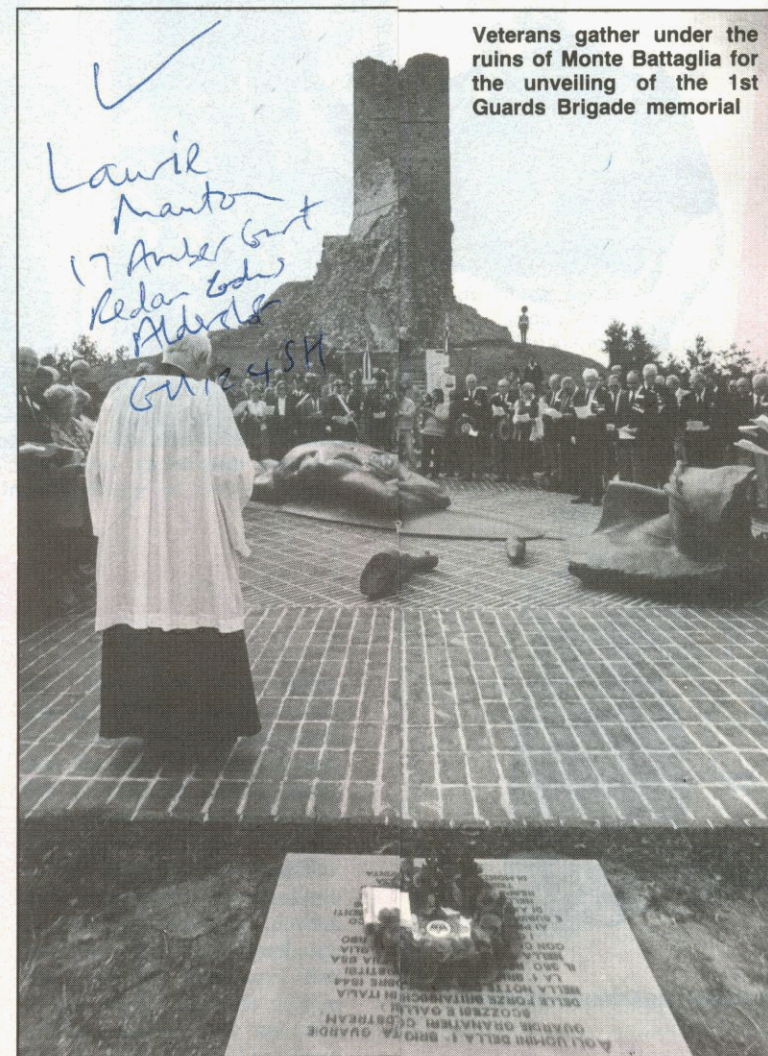
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Veterans gather under the ruins of Monte Battaglia for the unveiling of the 1st Guards Brigade memorial

A plaque on Battle Mountain

A SIMPLE plaque on Monte Battaglia bears testimony to the men of the 1st Guards Brigade who lost their lives in defence of the peak in October 1944.

Repeated attacks by the Germans failed to dislodge the force of Coldstream and Welsh Guards defending the feature, which overlooked the northern foothills of the Appenines and the Po Valley.

Already on the site are memorials to American and partisan fallen.

The Guards plaque was unveiled by the brigade's former commanding officer, Maj Gen Sir John Nelson. More than 60 veterans returned to Battle Mountain for the unveiling ceremony.

Moves to have a British memorial placed on Monte Battaglia began two years ago after Guards veterans had visited the site.

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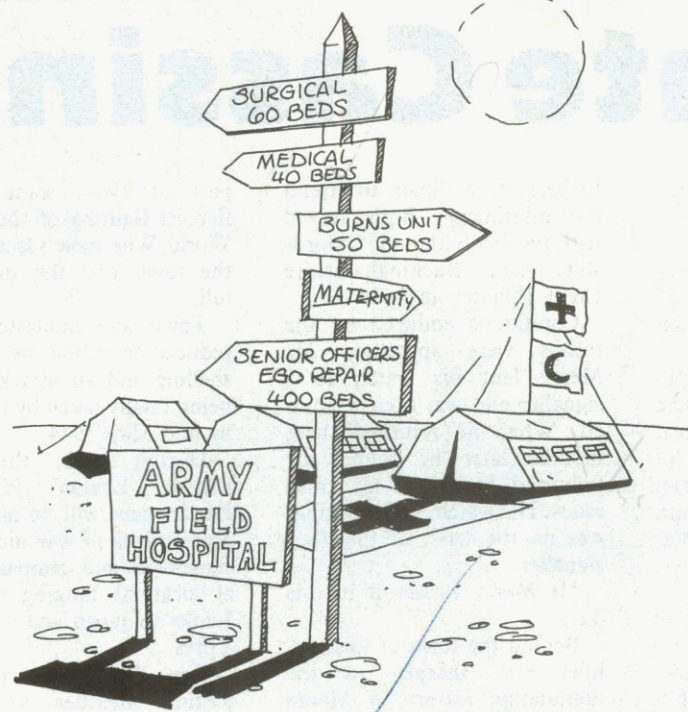
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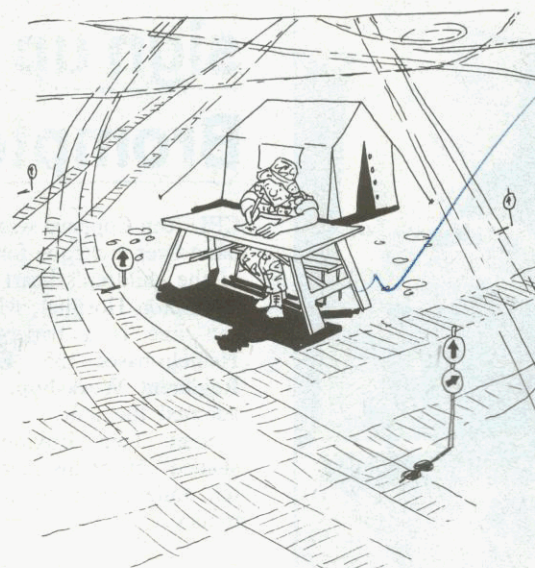
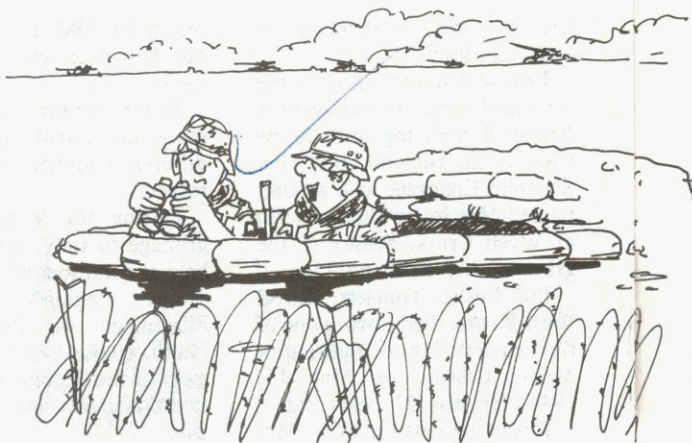
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'Dear Mum, just a quick note from the trackless wastes of Saudi Arabia ...'



Desert Rat



Dessert Rat



Deserter Rat



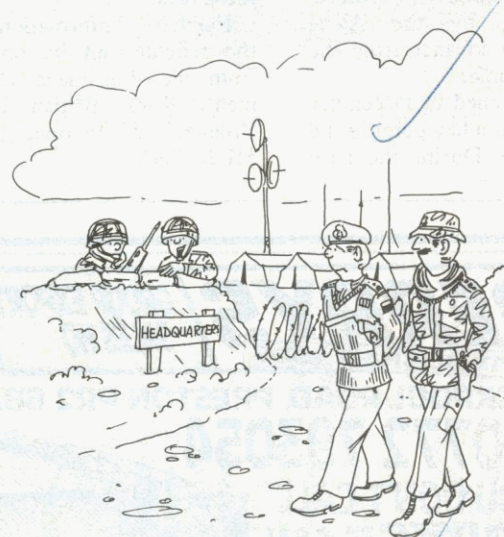
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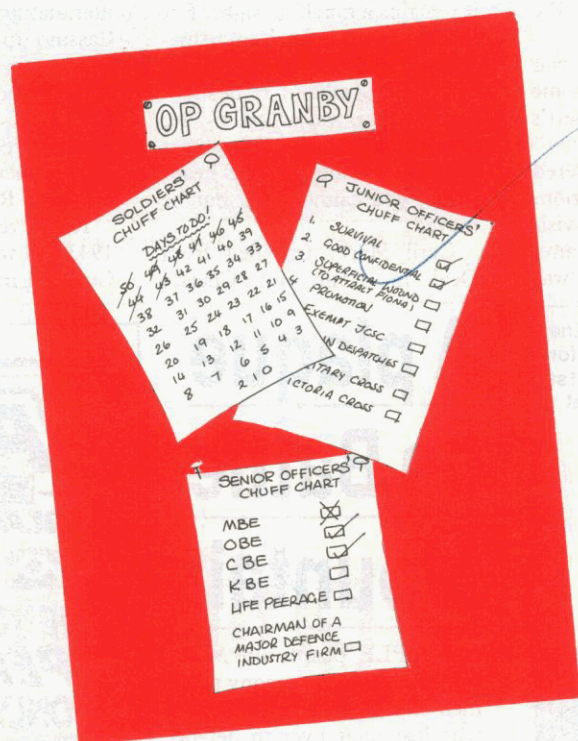
S...house Rat



King Rat



'There are more cowboys round here than there are in Wyoming!'



Chip off the block

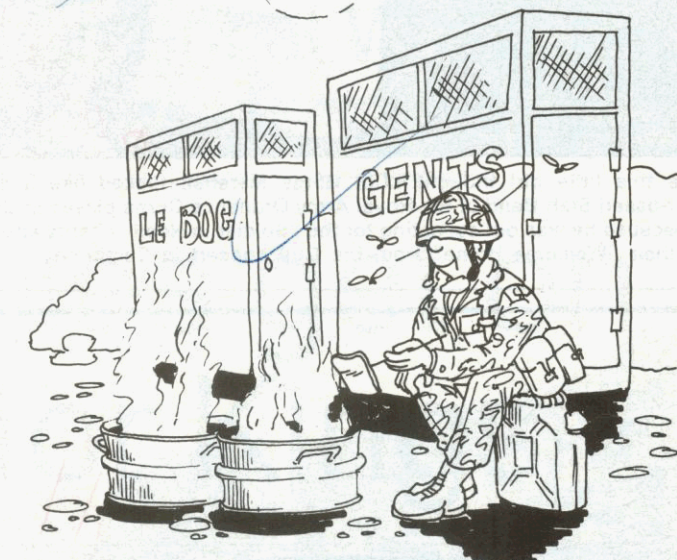
Capt Chip Wood's cartoons have been making colleagues laugh for years. During the Gulf War he served in Saudi Arabia as quartermaster of 3 Field Squadron, RE, filling the odd dull moment by sketching cartoons in a notebook.

Some appeared in *Sandy Times*, the newspaper produced for Servicemen in the desert, but until now his work has never circulated beyond

the unit in which he was serving.

Chip joined the sappers as a boy soldier in 1962, trained as a combat engineer and draughtsman, and took part in the Falklands campaign as a squadron sergeant major.

He has served in Northern Ireland, Canada, the Sinai and Germany, and is now back at Perham Down near Andover, Hants, with his unit.



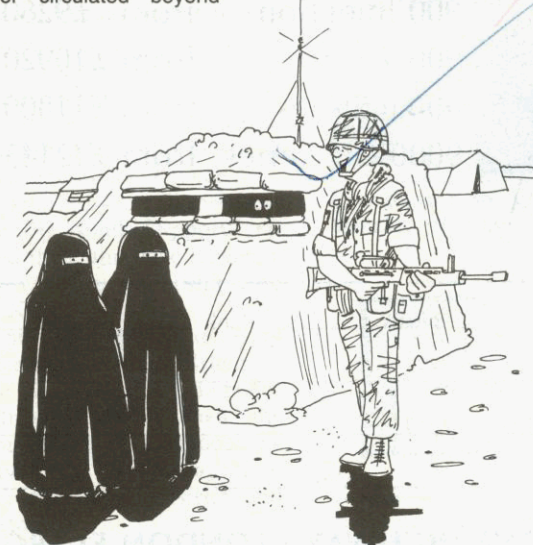
Some people get all the best jobs.



'Dear son, how's the sun tan coming along?'



'No, the spelling's right. They're from the Army Catering Corps in Al Jubail'



'On the other hand, I think I prefer yours ...'



'His Highness thanks you for your greetings but says he is not familiar with one which says: 'May your camels never pee on your goats' ...'



Perhaps this little girl thought LCpl Ginge Marshall looked like a soldier in need while the Deepcut-based Staff Band of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps played in Camberley. But Ginge didn't mind, because he was out collecting for the "Soldier in Need" charity and the band were helping out before their "Welcome Home" from the Gulf concert in Camberley.

Hameln sappers sign up Brompton

CPL Ken Coppard was able to hand over a cheque for £1,500 to the children's heart unit of Brompton Hospital, where his son Lee is a patient, after Hameln-based 35 Engineer Regiment Workshop, REME adopted the unit.

SSgt Tom Buxton "persuaded" 50 of his men to run ten miles each to raise the money.

★ ★ ★

Ski instructors from the Paderborn-based 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards have again been giving up their free time and money to help 12 blind or partially-sighted children from Northern Ireland have fun on the ski slopes of Bavaria.

This is the fourth year they have operated the holiday.



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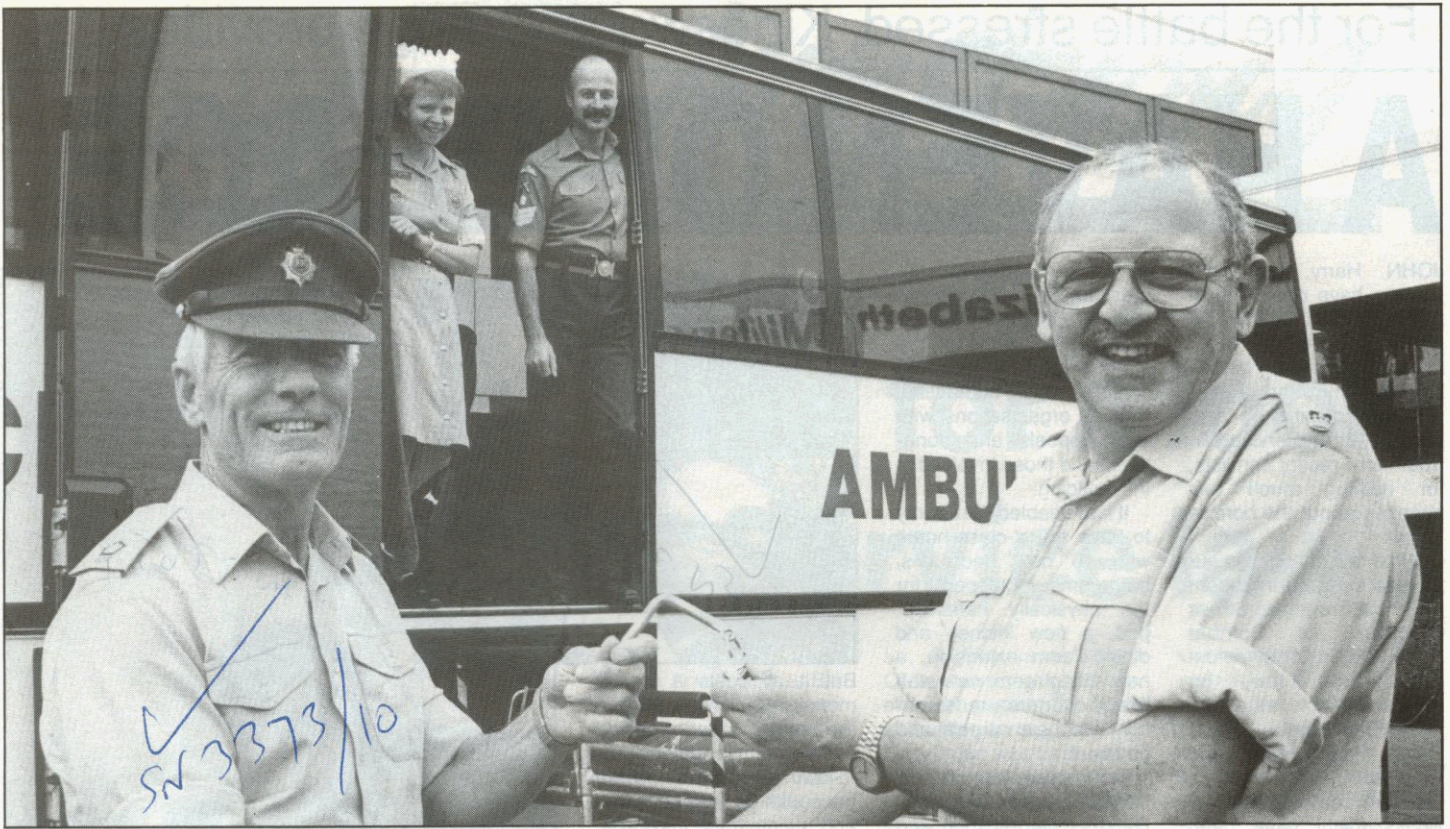
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The keys of a "jumbulance" are handed over by Maj Peter Douglas (left), transport commander of 56 Squadron RCT to Maj Bill Houston at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich, watched by WO2 Pauline MacDonald QARANC and SSgt Stix Taylor, Wardmaster.

The jumbulance - a large coach

Key moment at Woolwich

converted to take stretcher, wheelchair and seated patients - will be used to transport cancer and other seriously ill patients daily from QEH to London

hospitals for special treatment.

Maj Douglas and WO2 MacDonald raised money to fit the jumbulance with video and audio equipment.

Ulster bobbies get on their bikes for Kings

AFTER 400 miles by bicycle in four days, 11 RUC police officers expect to have raised between £5,000 and £6,000 to provide for the families of the five members of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment and one civilian who died in a terrorist bomb blast at Londonderry in October.

The officers are all members of the NI Mobile Support Unit based there and have formed a close working relationship with the Kings.

They had written to every police force in Great Britain to raise money. Merseyside police contributed £600 when the team arrived at Liverpool via Ballymoney, Ballymena, Stranraer, the Lake District and Preston.

★ ★ ★

Naafi staff at JHQ Rhein-



New Zealand-bound are Mervyn Wynne Jones, LCpl Sean Sheils, Sgt Martin Coffey and Capt William Menzies, all based in Berlin



than selling clothes - they have been modelling them as well and have raised more than £1,500 for the Lord Roberts Workshops For Disabled Servicemen.

Organiser Val Winch of the

clothing department used all shapes and sizes of models and gave them three days of rehearsals.

★ ★ ★

Putting their best feet forward, four walkers from Berlin's garrison have been striding out round the perimeter of what had once been the western half of the city to raise more than £300 for London's Great Ormond Street Hospital appeal.

Capt William Menzies and Sgt Martin Coffey of Ordnance Services, LCpl Sean Sheils, 1 IG, and Mr Mervyn Wynne Jones, Ministry of Defence press officer at the Garrison, had an added reason for doing all that mileage.

The four are going on an adventure training exercise to New Zealand next month. They will be trekking the mountains of North Island before joining the New Zealand Army for a few days of outdoor pursuits.

For the battle stressed, Kingswood Grange provides . . .

A HAVEN OF PEACE

JOHN, Harry, Tom and George have one thing in common with many old soldiers – they still suffer the nightmares of battles fought many years ago.

It is a plight they also share with. Servicemen from more recent conflicts, for nothing much has changed about the horrors of war.

What has changed is our attitude to – and treatment of – Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, or Combat Stress. It is a symptom highlighted, too, by tragedies such as Bradford, Zeebrugge, King's Cross, Lockerbie and Clapham.

In the past this type of illness might have been dismissed in times of war as "shell shock". Today, Service and ex-Service personnel need not think of this disorder as a weakness. It is becoming accepted for what it is and help is available to deal with it.

I met John, Harry, Tom, George and others the other day when a new £1.4 million extension was opened at Kingswood Grange, Reigate, Surrey, where they are being cared for by the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (Combat Stress).

To a trumpet fanfare by the Life Guards, the opening ceremony was performed by Admiral Sir David Williams, who after 11 hardworking years was

about to hand over the presidency of the society to Gen Sir Charles Huxtable.

Sir David spoke of the teamwork between the society, local authorities, Service organisations with their appeals and donations, and those involved in the building.

It had enabled the charity to have a first-class home with 16 new bedrooms, bathrooms equipped for the physically handicapped, a new kitchen and dining room extension, a new sitting room, new staff living quarters, redecoration and new carpets and curtains.

For the past 70 years the Combat Stress Organisation has helped men and women who have retired from the Armed Forces and Merchant Navy and who

● Residents at the Grange would be helped by a motorised wheelchair. If any unit is looking for a fund-raising cause, I reckon this is a deserving one.

needed looking after. That help goes on, backed up by a network of eight regional welfare workers.

The society has treatment centres at Hollybush House in Scotland and Tyrwhitt House in Surrey. They offer up to a month's stay with treatment, giving carer and sufferer a break.

In 1990, 580 clients stayed for up to a month.



Left – Cheerful care and attention from nurses such as Theresa Caplen are helping John, an ex-Royal Engineers RSM, and other Kingswood Grange residents cope with the effects of a war fought generations ago

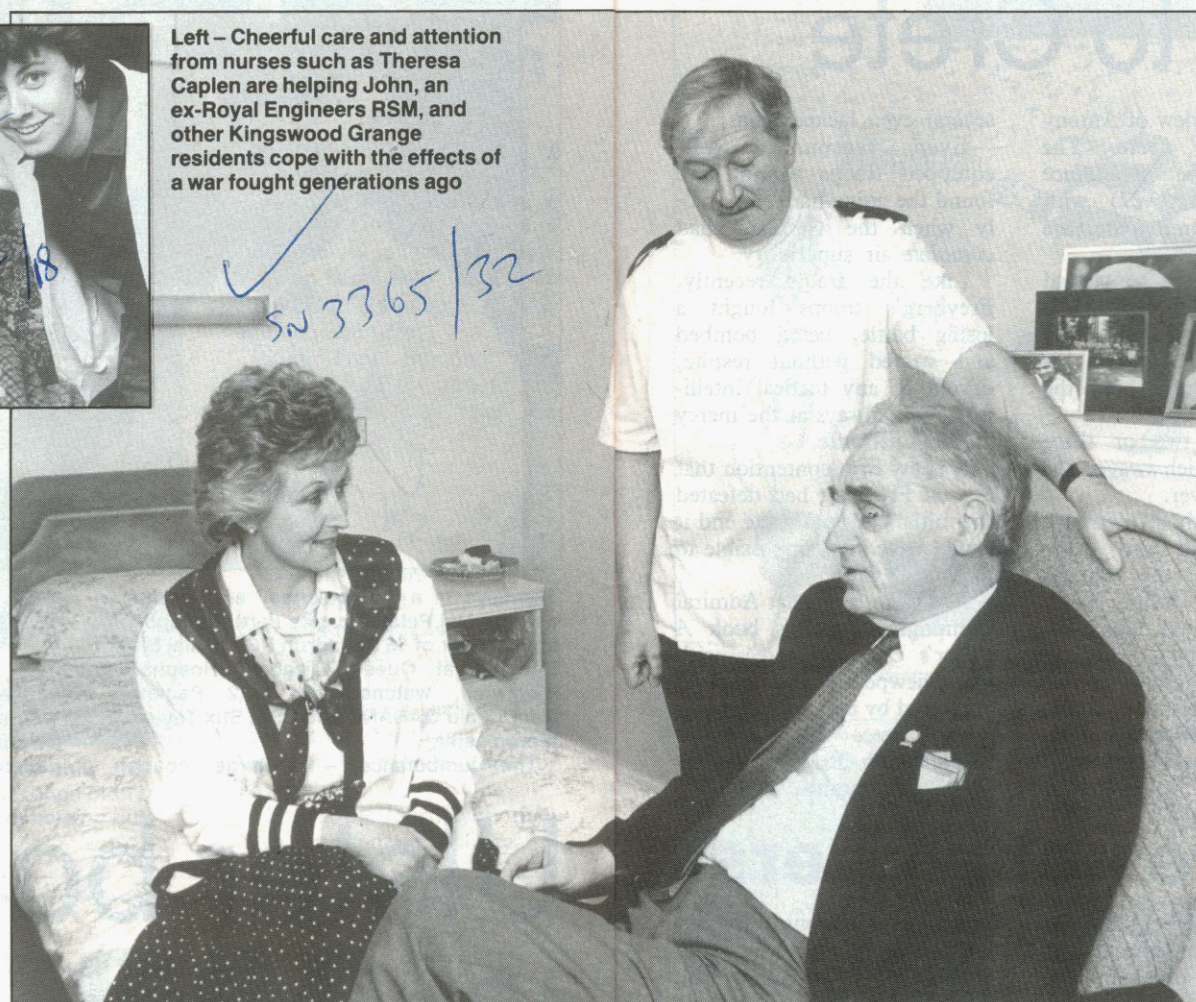
But it all costs a lot of money. Brig Tony Dixon, the charity's director, said: "We must raise £1.5 million annually to keep pace with all the demands and maintain the care at a very high standard."

"These veterans must not be forgotten and they deserve the best."

For John, Harry, Tom, George and all the other residents, Kingswood Grange provides much-needed comfort. As George said: "I still have nightmares as a result of the war, but it's peaceful here and I have a home."

There may be those who need help but are afraid to ask. They need not be – they can call in complete confidence.

More information can be obtained from Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1RL (tel: 081-543 6333).



Gabrielle Tait, Chairman of the Federation of Army Wives, chats to Tom, ex-Royal Signals, in one of two rooms at Kingswood Grange paid for by Federation fund-raising. Looking on is Gerald Jones, an ex-Serviceman who has been Head of Home for almost a year. The FAW raised £10,500 from members in the UK, BAOR, Northern Ireland and Gibraltar

Anne



Armstrong

Home telephone: Camberley (0276) 29653

ARMED FORCES BILL

Time for a look at Service law

EVERY five years since 1961 an Armed Forces Bill has been brought before the House of Commons with the main aim of keeping the Services' disciplinary powers in force.

In-depth questioning of Ministry of Defence witnesses at Select Committee sessions – part of the Bill's procedure – helps to ensure that civil legislation is reflected in Service life. Issues raised at recent proceedings included:

Children: One recent major change to civilian law was the 1989 Children's Act, under which a few of the 50,000 children of Service and MoD civilians might require protection.

In 1990 about 50 children were on the Services "At Risk" Regis-

ter. Six Places of Safety Orders were made and four children placed into local authority care. But the Committee was persuaded that a divergence from civilian law on the duration of protection orders was justified.

Courts Martial: While not convinced of the need to change the composition of courts martial, the committee showed great concern over the length of time taken to bring cases to the Civilian Standing Courts in Germany.

It recommended in particular that the Ministry review the evidence of charges being dropped largely or solely on the grounds of such delays.

New facilities at the Military Corrective Training

Centre female wing were welcomed. Service courts were urged to take pains to ensure that sentencing is equitable between the sexes; previously members of the women's Services were either fined or dismissed from the Service.

Death penalty: Seeking to bring Service law into line with civilian law, the committee added a new clause to the Bill, recommending the abolition of the death penalty for the five Service offences.

Under-18s: The view was that under-18s should not be sent on active service overseas unless there was an over-riding reason. Nearly 200 17-year-olds were on active service in the Gulf.

Bullying: Proven cases had fallen in the past five years from an average of 20 a year to seven in 1990 due to a number of positive measures. On racial harassment and discrimination, the committee recommended that MoD reconsider how best to identify incidents of harassment and to keep records accordingly.

Conclusion: The committee recommended that the Government provide parliamentary time in the next five years for legislation to consolidate Service law. With the effects of Options for Change implementations, the committee believed there would be a need for a comprehensive overhaul of the format and content of the Service Discipline Acts.

REFUND LIMIT

THE MAXIMUM total sum for which a partial refund of extra insurance premiums may be claimed for service risk has been increased to £90,000.

Can Servicemen shut the door on homosexuality?

SUBJECTS causing the most discussion and questioning during the committee hearings on the Armed Forces Bill – reported elsewhere on this page – were bullying, racial harassment and discrimination, and, particularly, homosexuality.

The committee was told that in the past four years nine naval, eight RAF and 22 Army personnel (half the Army figure were women) were dismissed from the Service after a conviction. A further 296 were discharged without a formal disciplinary charge.

The Ministry of Defence witnesses before the committee contended that there is no punishment for homosexuality. Being

IN MY VIEW

homosexual is not an offence; you cannot punish people unless they have committed an offence.

What the Services say is that homosexual orientation or practices are incompatible with further service in the Armed Forces and would lead to an "administrative discharge".

Among other witnesses were representatives of gay and lesbian groups.

The committee was not persuaded that the time had come to require the Armed Forces to accept

homosexuals but said: "We understand why homosexual activity is considered unacceptable in the Armed Forces but we see no reason why Service personnel should be liable to prosecution under Service law for homosexual activity which would be legal in civilian law."

"We recommend that homosexual activity of a kind that is legal in civilian life should not constitute an offence under the Service law."

"We look to the Government to propose an appropriate amendment to the law before the end of the next Session of Parliament."

This does pose some difficulties and runs counter

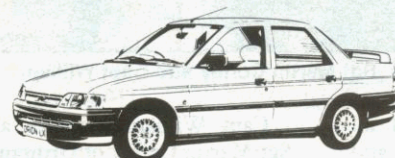
to the relationship of Servicemen and women. In short, if the recommendation is passed it will mean disciplinary action can be taken in the case of heterosexual relationships in ships, barrack rooms and messes but not in the case of homosexual activity.

I do not see why Service personnel paying for their living accommodation should have no say in what can or cannot take place there.

Civilians at least have a choice as individuals – they can say yes or no, move, or shut the door – but it is not so easy in Service accommodation where you live and work with the same group of people.

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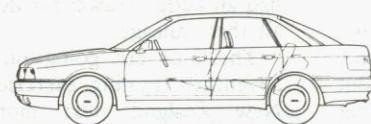
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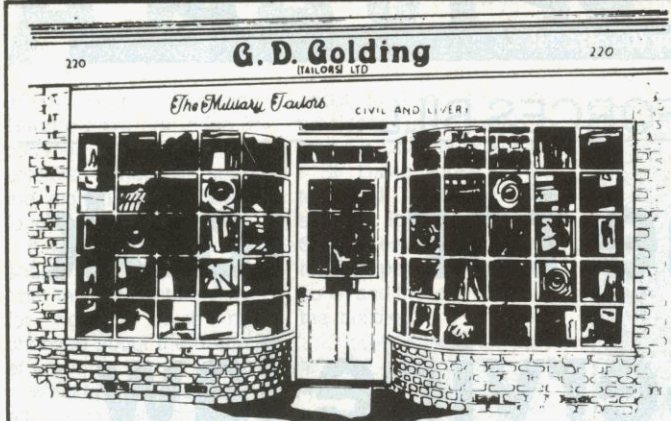
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LETTERS

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Luftwaffe held key to Crete

I READ the review of Antony Beevor's book *Crete: The Battle and the Resistance* (SOLDIER, May 27) with interest and, I admit, a measure of disbelief.

If the battle for Crete had been fought as a sand-table exercise then there is little doubt that Freyberg and his forces should have held the island.

There were two or three other factors which swayed the outcome, however.

First of all, only 8,700 troops had come fresh and fully-equipped from the Middle East. On the other hand, 29,000 British and Dominion troops, and 15,000 Greeks, had been flung together as an improvised defence force, many of whom were demoralised by the defeat in Greece. Some had been wounded and

several even lacked rifles.

Even seasoned, well-equipped troops would have found the going hard, especially when the Germans had complete air superiority.

Like the Iraqis recently, Freyberg's troops fought a losing battle, being bombed and strafed without respite, devoid of any tactical intelligence and always at the mercy of the Luftwaffe.

It is my firm contention that even if Freyberg had defeated the initial attacks, in the end it would have been impossible to have held Crete.

It is of interest that Admiral Cunningham, in his book *A Sailor's Odyssey*, agrees with that viewpoint, one that is expressed by me in *Victory of a Sort (Greece 1942-1946)*. - Birdie Smith (Brig (Retd) E D Smith), Sidmouth, Devon.

We're not movers!

I AM writing on behalf of the Port and Maritime trade concerning your photograph of members of 52 Port Squadron headed "They're getting a move on" (April 29).

We would like to set the record straight - we are port operators, rather than movers, as we were described.

There were in fact no movers in the photograph you published.

The movement trade is

completely different from ours, although we do work alongside movers to a certain extent. They tally the vehicles and equipment as it is being loaded, but that is where their involvement ends with the loading of ships.

We do have a movement squadron (50 Movement Sqn) based at Al Jubayl Port but it is separate from our own. - Dvr J C Wardle, 52 Port Sqn, RCT, BFPO 637.

'Rat' items wanted

CONGRATULATIONS to Cpl Bryden-Smith (April 29) if she was indeed the first Service woman into Kuwait City (see picture next page. - Editor).

We are delighted to see she was wearing a 7th Armoured Brigade Desert Rat flash. It was seeing that flash that prompted this letter.

We have been fortunate here in Soltau to have received many kind donations of "Rat" memorabilia, including a few treasured items from our last campaign in 1941-45.

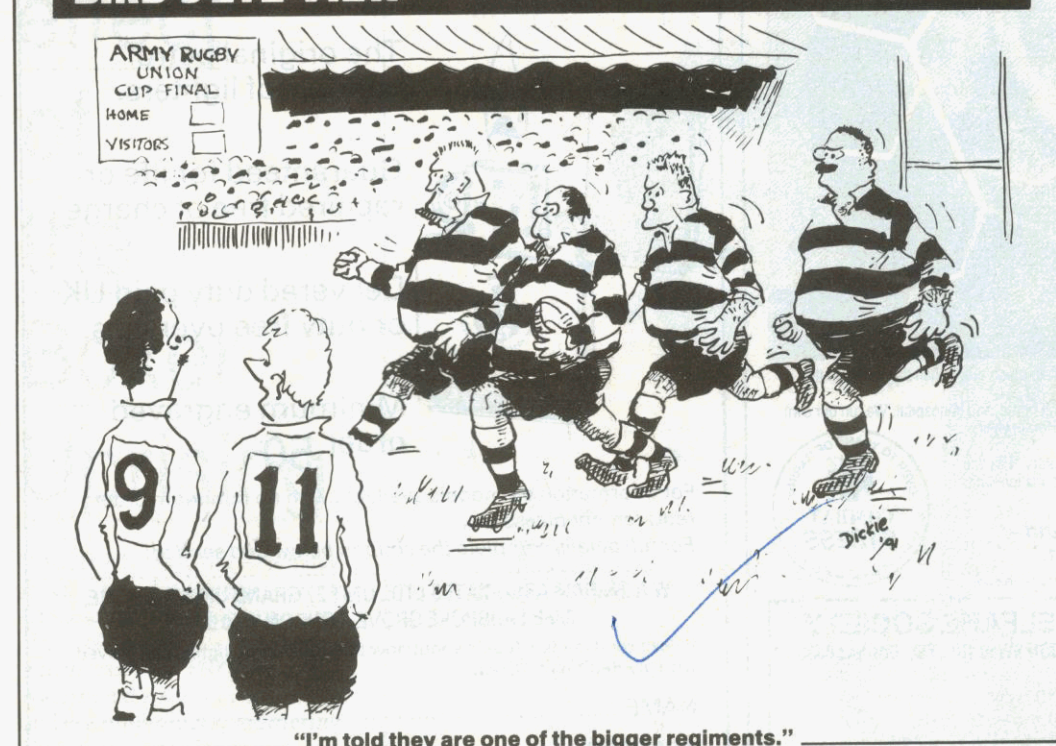
As time goes by there may be families who have mementoes

they can't quite bring themselves to throw away, but at the same time would welcome a good home for them.

We, the direct descendants of 7th Armoured Division who are the current Desert Rats, would gladly house any such items.

Photographs are a thing we have plenty of but we are interested in plates, carvings, flags, pennants and other personal items, with any history that might be applicable. - Capt P J McGuigan, RCT, Headquarters 7th Armoured Brigade, BFPO 37.

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"I'm told they are one of the bigger regiments."



This is Sgt Sharon Whitehead, Chief Clerk of HQ DAA, who entered Kuwait City on March 1, a day earlier than Cpl Catherine Bryden-Smith (see letter May 27). Sharon is now back in Germany with HQ 1 Armoured Division.

US medal awarded

HAVING read the correspondence regarding the award of a Suez medal, you may be interested to know that the USA has already made an award for the Gulf operation, the South West Asia Service Medal, to be awarded to all US military who served in the theatre during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

The medal was designed by the Institute of Heraldry in Alexandria, Virginia. The obverse depicts the desert, sea

and sky, with a tank, infantry fighting vehicle, helicopters, fixed wing aircraft and ship and the inscription "South West Asia Service".

The reverse shows a sword, hilt down, entwined by a palm frond, symbolising military might and preparedness in defence and peace, and carrying the words "United States of America".

The medal is suspended from a ribbon of the following colours: black, chamois (sand), Old Glory blue, Old Glory red, white and myrtle green, representing the national flag colours of both the USA and Kuwait.

It would be interesting to know whether British Servicemen will get any recognition for the part they played in the Gulf War. One thing is certain, it won't be done with anything like the speed of our American cousins! - Owen O'Neill, Sheffield.

● Gulf medal awards are expected to be published in the London Gazette at the end of this month - Editor.

DIARY OF EVENTS

June 14-16: Rhine Army Summer Show, Sennelager, Germany.

June 22: Pipes and Drums of 7 GR on parade at Gurkha Museum, Peninsula Barracks, Romsey Road, Winchester, 11.30am.

July 6: ASPT Aldershot open day, 11am.

July 10-27: The Royal Tournament, Earls Court (Box office tel: 071-373 8141).

July 28: Gulf War exhibition opens at Tank Museum, Bovington.

August 1-24: Edinburgh Tattoo.

Open until October 20: Battle for Crete 50th anniversary exhibition, National Army Museum, London.

● Organisers who wish to include public events in this diary should contact the Editor.

REUNIONS

● **Staffordshire Regiment** annual reunion will take place on Saturday, September 7, 1991 at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs WS14 9PY (SAE please).

● **RE Darland Boys - 1939-41:** The 11th reunion will be held in Brompton on September 21, 1991. Details from Jim Winchester, 8 Durham Road, Luton, Beds LU2 0RB (tel: 0582 27569).

SEARCH LINE

● **Bristol graduates:** The University of Bristol is keen to maintain links with its graduates. Army personnel recruited from the university who have not completed an alumni record form are asked to contact the Alumni Office at Senate House, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol BS8 1TH (tel: 0272 303030).

● **Family military history:** Mr Roger C Miles seeks information on the circumstances in which his father ended his service in 8 RTR in Rafah, Palestine, after serving in 40 RTR and the 17th/21st Lancers. In researching his grandfather's service he seeks details of 14th Motor Ambulance Company in France and Flanders in Sept 1915 and in particular 493 Motor Transport Company which served in Egypt July 1919-April 1922. Please contact Mr Miles at 30 Ashgrove, Thornbury, Bristol, Avon BS12 1BJ (tel: 0454 412286).

COMBAT STRESS

'Perhaps the bravest man I ever knew...'
and now, he cannot bear to turn a corner

Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G't'r'e, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

But now, after seeing service in Aden, after being booby-trapped and ambushed in Northern Ireland, Sergeant 'Tiny' cannot bear to turn a corner. For fear of what is on the other side.

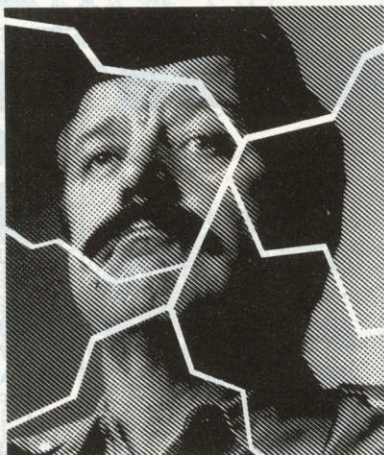
It is the bravest men and women from the Services that suffer most from mental breakdown. For they have tried, each one of them, to give more, much more, than they could in the service of our Country.

We look after these brave men and women. We help them at home, and in hospital. We run our own Convalescent Homes and, for the old, there is our Veterans' Home where they can see out their days in peace.

These men and women have given their minds to their Country. If we are to help them, we must have funds. Do please help us with a donation, and with a legacy too, perhaps. The debt is owed by all of us.

"They've given more than they could – please give as much as you can."

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



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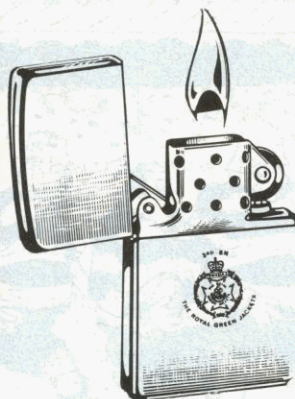
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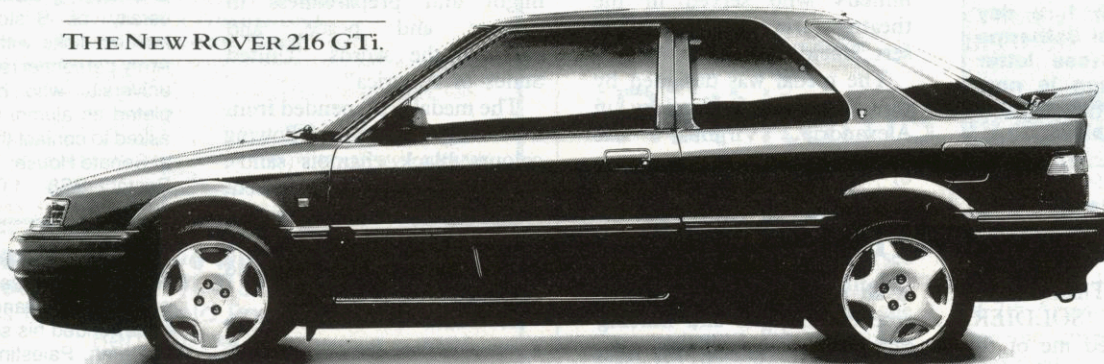
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Lasting effect of the Boxer Uprising

"BOXERS" was the nickname given by Europeans to a Chinese secret society, The Fists of Righteous Harmony, which early in 1900 organised widespread risings in Shantung and other provinces, murdering European missionaries and Chinese Christians.

The Manchu element at Court, led by the Empress Dowager Tsu Hai, the de facto ruler, at first opposed but later encouraged the movement, all the time insisting that the Boxers were beyond government control.

Matters came to a head with the assassination of Baron von Ketteler, the German minister at Peking, the destruction of several Western legations, and the siege of foreigners within the British legation.

A relief expedition of British, French, German, Russian, American and Japanese forces was organised, ships of the "Powers" bombarded the Taku forts, and an unsuccessful advance on Peking was made under Vice Admiral Sir Edward Seymour.

Troops again advanced and this time, after heavy fighting along the route, succeeded in relieving the legations on August 14, 1900, after a siege lasting 55 days.

It is against this scenario that Henry Keown-Boyd has written *The Fists of Righteous Harmony: A History of the Boxer Uprising in China in the Year 1900*, which is claimed to be the first illustrated account of the rebellion ever published. The author's style, combining wit and compassion, makes the book a highly-readable tragic farce.

There is no doubt that this



Handing over the first copy of her latest photographic tribute *The Gulf War* to the Duke of Kent is Anne Pitcher, a bedside teacher at the Cambridge Military Hospital.

This is the 62nd book which she has prepared and published herself for charity and is similar in format to her popular study on the Falklands conflict which raised £3,000 for the South Atlantic Fund.

Over 25 years she has

nationalistic rebellion was largely fuelled by the grasping demands of the Powers whose aim was to treat China as nothing more than a milch cow.

The Powers' legation guards were ill-equipped to withstand the siege.

"Apart from their rifles and a few hundred rounds per man, they had no reserve ammunition, no heavy weapons and only three machine guns . . . The only artillery was a little one-pounder gun belonging to the Italians for which they had 120 shells.

"The Russians were supposed to have brought a heavier weapon with them but they forgot it at Tientsin railway-station, although they remembered its ammunition . . ."

An old cannon, probably dating from the 1860 occupation of Peking by the Anglo-French, was discovered. Known affectionately as 'Betsy' and using the Russians'

Anne's latest book boosts Gulf Trust

raised £115,000 for various charities. All proceeds from the new book will be going to the Gulf Trust.

The compilation of photographs, many of which were taken by SOLDIER staff, are her own memorial to the men

and women who fought in the Gulf. The book includes a Roll of Honour.

Copies cost £3 and can be obtained from her at 50 Rectory Road, Hook, nr Basingstoke, Hants RG27 9JQ.

ammunition, the gun probably did little damage to the enemy but much to boost the morale of the defenders.

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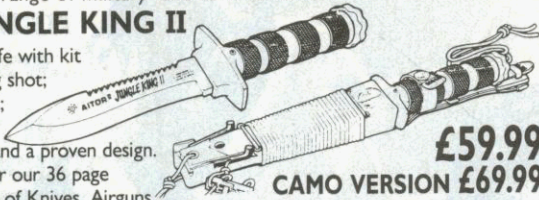
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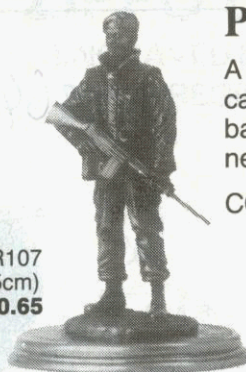
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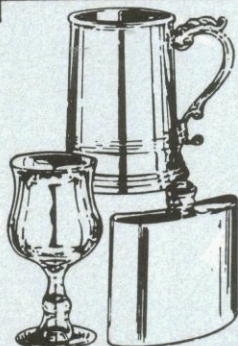
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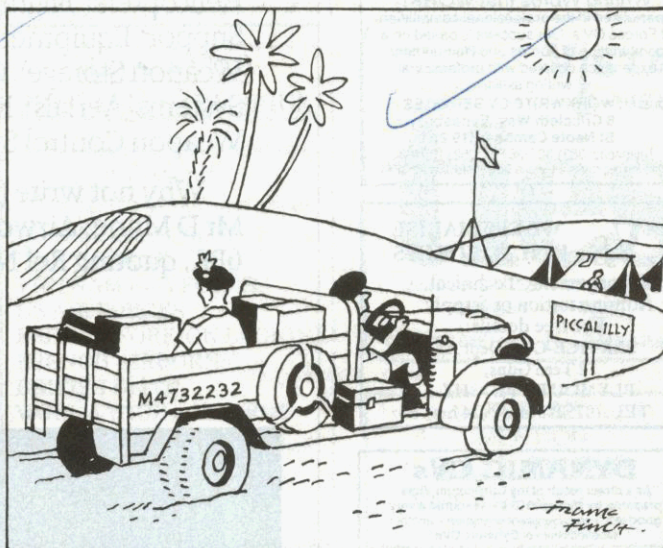
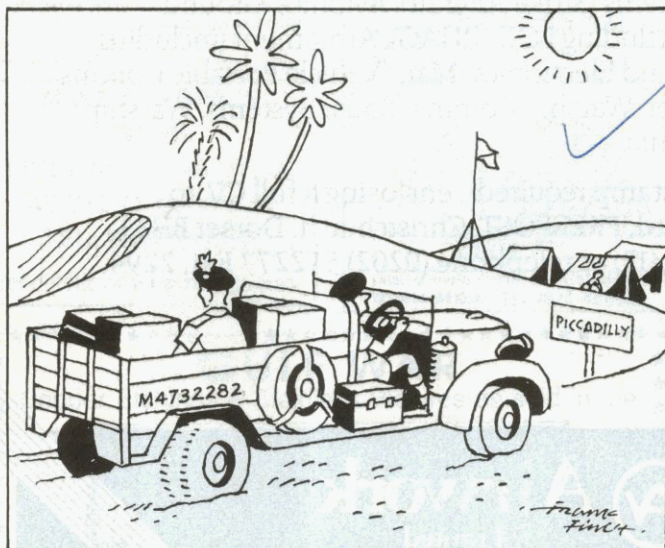
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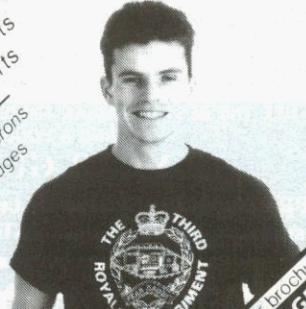
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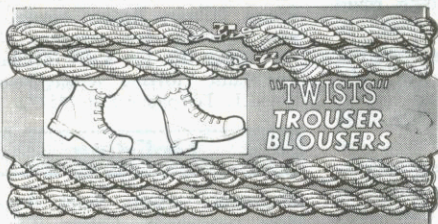
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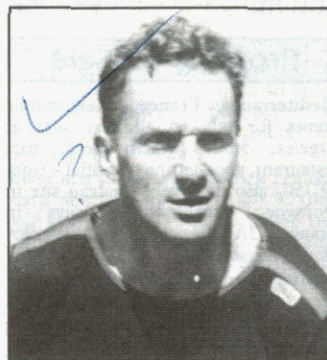
Cardiff Terrier is king of peaks

ALTHOUGH suffering earlier in the week from a severe bout of dysentery, Cardiff territorial LCpl Nigel Webb (31), 3 RRW (V), set a new national record time of under 4½ hours, to win the 20th National Snowdonia Welsh 1,000m Peaks Race.

His third consecutive win, in a time of 4hrs 22.55min, it knocked 22min off the previous best time.

Second was LCpl Jeff Rees, 4 RRW (V), and third Rfn Dag Bdr Limbu, Gurkha Demo Coy, NCOs Tac Wing, Brecon. Overall team winners were the Gurkha Demo Coy.

The race, organised by the Snowdonia Gorphwysfa Club and run in conjunction with the Army in Wales, attracted more than 400 military and civilian



LCpl Nigel Webb

runners from all over the United Kingdom.

The near marathon distance race of 31km included 2,700 metres of uphill running. More than 60 Service teams, each of five runners, competed.

Starting at sea level at Aber,

near Bangor, the race covers the four National Parks peaks of Carnedd Llewelyn, Carnedd Dafydd, Carnedd Ugani and Snowdon, all over 1,000 metres.

Pte Errol Alexis, 3 RRW, running in his 16th race and at 55 the oldest Services entrant, came 4th in the veterans' event.

Winners of the civilian mountaineering team event were from 3 RWF (V). The runners were Lt Col Mike Lewis, RSM Alan Ankers and CSM Derek Adams.

Junior Welsh Guardsman LCpl Johnathan Jenkinson (16) was the youngest Army entrant to complete the whole course.

MILITARY RESULTS

Men - 1, LCpl Webb, 3 RRW (V) A; 2, LCpl Rees, 4 RRW (V); 3, Rfn Dag Bdr Limbu, Gurkha Demo Coy, NCOs TACWG.

Women - 1, Capt Hatchford, JLR RCT/RAOC.

Team

Overall - 1, Gurkha Demo Coy, NCOs TACWG; 2, 4 RRW (V); 3, 3 RRW (V), A.

Regular - 1, Gurkha Demo Coy, NCOs TACWG; 2, 5 AB BDE LOG Bn, A; 3, 1 Para, A.

Reserve Forces - 1, 4 RRW (V); 2, 3 RRW (V), A; 3, 3 RWF (V), B.

Guest Team - 1, MDSS, HMS Nelson.

Women - 1, JLR RCT/RAOC; 2, Northumbrian UOTC B.

Veterans - 1, WO2 Williams, 4 RRW; 2, Capt Watkins, HQ ACC Trg Centre.



Putting the miles in are LCpl Jason Sklenar (left) and Cpl Ian Woods

Squash champs

WINNERS of the Western District and Wales inter-unit squash championships were the Army Apprentices College Chepstow. In the team were Capt Peter Bevan RAEC, Capt Robin Broad RCT, WO1 (RSM) L Windle IG, WO2 T Rooney RE and Mr R Baldwin.

Glasnost goals

A FOOTBALL match at the British HQ complex between the Berlin Infantry Brigade WO's and Sergeants' Mess and their Russian counterparts for Karlshorst, eastern Berlin, was won 2-1 by the Soviets.

ACC paddlers mark corps' birthday

THE ACC canoe slalom team marked their corps' 50th anniversary in some style at the UKLF championships on the Teifi at Llandysul, South Wales with a "grand slam".

Their successes included the open Canadian singles (Capt Paul Hepworth with WO1 Neil Martin second), the open Canadian doubles (Sgt Dave Brunton and Martin were second), the first unit team (Brunton, Martin and Hep-

worth), and wins in the veteran event (Martin), junior kayak (App Mitchell with App Marples third), and the junior kayak team event (Mitchell, Marples and App Savage).

The men's open kayak event was won by Capt John Atkinson (JLR RA), the men's intermediate kayak was won by Kgsn Bryers (1 Kings) and Sgt Moffat of the Guards Adventure Training Wing took the men's novice kayak title.

Biathlon aces aim for the Olympics

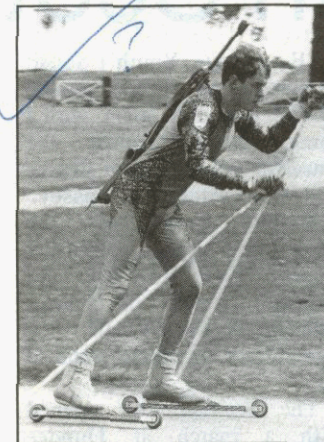
BACK in training after their short post-season break are the soldier skiers who are pushing British biathlon into world contention.

Led by Cpl Michael Dixon (35 Engr Regt), the five-man national A team and a number of reserves who represented Great Britain in a B team, are working furiously to build up racing stamina for the next international season, culminating in the 16th Winter Olympics at Les Saisies, Albertville in France.

Britain currently stands half-way up the field of 24 World Cup teams in biathlon, a combination of cross country skiing and rifle shooting sport.

Dixon beat all last season's World Cup winners on different days, while LBdr Kenneth Rudd (50 Msl Regt) showed great potential by finishing 22nd in his first full season at world level.

Cpl Ian Woods (26 Engr Regt) and Pte Malcolm Hamilton (1 KOSB) were so



LBdr Ken Rudd on roller skis close behind the others that Britain's strength as a team, not yet fully tested, has the potential to move among the top nations.

Also in the A team last winter was LCpl Jason Sklenar (26 Engr Regt), while LCpl Paul Ryan (26 Engr Regt), Gnr Mark Gee (3 RTR) and Dvr Andrew Simpson (1 Div RCT) also represented GB.

Summer training began in

Army oarsmen see chairman off in triumph

ARMY Rowing Clubs Association chairman Col Alexander Lindsay bowed out in fine style after the 23rd annual Joint Services regatta at Peterborough City Rowing Club, writes Peter Robertshaw.

Not content, in his retirement year, with being in the winning crew of the veteran coxed fours, he also watched the Army win 11 of the 23 trophies on offer.

And just to seal Col Lindsay's day, the Infantry Rowing Club won the veteran pair in the ARCA's latest acquisition, a coxless pair named after him. He is handing

over to Col Terry Kirkpatrick.

It has been a difficult year for Services rowing, with the Gulf providing a worthy counter-attraction, but last-minute training did produce some excellent results.

Late exercises tripped up the RMAS crews, and despite some fine racing they fell short of actual wins. RMCS, spurred on by the presence of their commandant, Maj Gen Sam Cowan (who presented the prizes), won the novice eights and the senior III coxed fours.

The Royal Engineers crews were particularly hard-hit by Op Granby but still managed wins in the open coxless fours, open coxed fours and open coxless pairs, and were represented in the winning veteran coxed four.

After a gripping race, the sappers were beaten by a canvas by an RAF crew in the open eights event.

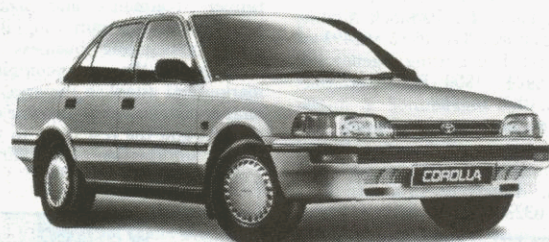
The Infantry Club was well represented and teamed up with RMCS to take the novice eights - not bad for a first outing. They also beat the senior III coxed fours record.

Their best result, however, was the veteran coxless pairs in which Park and Milligan set a blistering pace and took a clear 15 seconds off the record. Milligan also set a record in the veteran sculls, despite coming second in the race because of the veterans' staggered start.

Most remarkable performance was by the recently-formed Army Women's Rowing Club. After just two days of training together their small squad entered as many races as they could, setting records in the open coxed fours, the open coxless pairs and the novice coxed pairs.

In addition, Lt Claire Holdsworth won the novice single sculls.

In the women's open coxless pairs, Lts Bee Coote and Rachel Cane paddled down the course alone - all the other crews having scratched - and still set a new record.



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Festival format change is a hit

THERE was a new format to the Army cricket festival on the Royal Aldershot Officers' Club grounds, with four teams – North, South, East and West – playing on the Friday and Saturday, and the selection process for both Army senior and Under-25 squads continuing on the Sunday with a match between the Chairman's XI and the President's XI.

The experiment proved a resounding success, produced entertaining cricket in fine weather – and unearthed some young talent.

Results were:

East 143 (Lt K Steel, R Irish 62). **South** 47 (Capt P Presland AAC 4-6, Capt P Krasinski, Gren Gds 4-6).

West 230-6 (2nd Lt I Wood, Birmingham UOTC 82, Cfn R Addison, REME 64 no, Fus J Jeremias, RRF 28; ATPr Oakley, AAC 3-30).

North 162 (Pte Jackson, UDR 35; Capt J Cotterill, JLRRA 4-18, Fus J Jeremias, RRF 3-27).

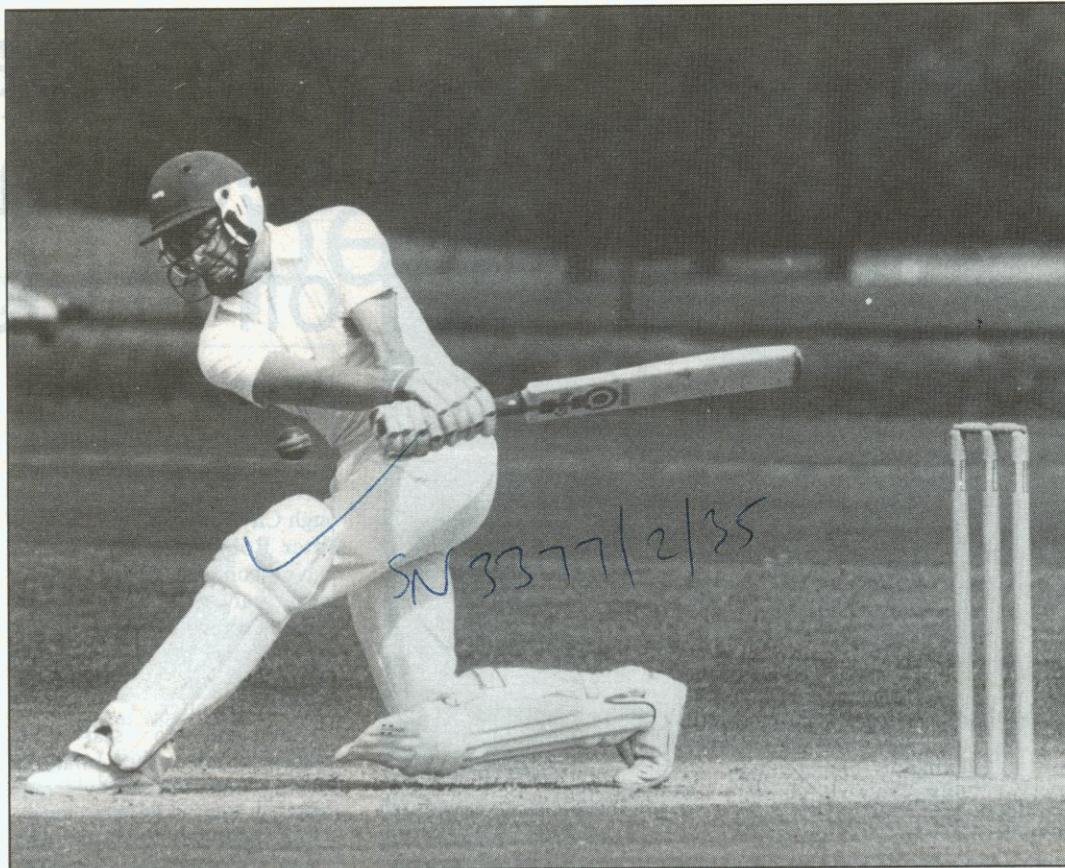
South 159-3 (Capt J Bird, RE 49 no, Spr A Pick, RE 64 no). **North** 82 (Lt J Illingworth, AAC 30; Sgt Thompson, R Signals 4-9).

Final: **West** 218 (Capt J Cotterill 62, Fus J Jeremias 55, Gnr H James, 7 RHA 39). **East** 118 (Capt P Presland 20 no; 2nd Lt M Day, RA 3-43, Gnr H James 2-14).

Chairman's XI (U-25) 126 (Capt P Istead, Green Howards 51, Lt J Illingworth 34; Capt P Krasinski 3-25, 2nd Lt R Harvey, WG 3-4).

President's XI 127-3 (Capt J Cotterill 46, Lt C Dahl, RCT 40; 2nd Lt M Day 2-40).

Opening batsman 2nd Lt Richard Greatorex (27 Regt



Army skipper Capt Jimmy Cotterill hits out against Middlesex 2nd XI at Aldershot. He scored 21, but his side went down by 76 runs. Middlesex scored 262-7 in 55 overs and bowled the Army out for 186. Capt Matthew Rudd (WG) top-scored with 63 and newcomer Spr Anthony Pick (22 EOD Sqn) hit an undefeated 56. Best of the Army bowlers was Gnr Gary James (7 RHA) who took 3-48.

RCT) scored a fine undefeated century as the Army beat the Arabs by nine wickets in a one-day match at Aldershot.

Chasing a total of 175, Greatorex, skipper Capt Jimmy Cotterill (JLR RA) and Capt Guy Bishop knocked the runs off in just 40 overs.

The Arabs 175-8 dec (WO2 N Willis 3-43, Cotterill 2-48). **Army** 179-1 (Greatorex 106 no, Cotterill 35, Bishop 29 no).

Lt Simon Hazlitt (LI) scored 52 in the Army's total of 142 against Sussex 2nd XI in a 55-over match at Aldershot. Colin Wells (53 not out) led Sussex to victory by five wickets.

Youth beaten in Scotland

THE Army Youth Squad prepared for their annual football tour of Scotland with a home fixture against the powerful Association of British Colleges, writes Pat Massey.

Despite leading at the interval by a goal scored by Sheeran (19 Fd Regt RA), and missing a couple of chances early in the second half, they were beaten by three goals to one.

The Scottish tour opened with a match at Dundee United's Tannadice Park where the tourists were beaten by the Scottish Schools FA National XI by two goals to one. Todd (Tg Regt RE) gave the visitors a first half lead.

The schools fought back strongly in the second half and equalised through an own goal by Goodge (Princess Marina College).

The second game was against Queens Park at Lesser Hampden. After holding the home

side to 1-1 at the interval, Clarke (47 Fd Regt RA) scoring for the visitors, the home side went ahead when the Army failed to clear a corner kick and the ball ended in the back of the net.

Sheeran was unlucky not to equalise in the last minute.

The final game at Linlithgow saw the visitors lose 4-1 to the strong Association of Scottish Youth FC.

Todd opened the scoring for the Army with a great volley following some good work by Joyce (SEME) and Proctor (16 Bn, RAOC). Just before the interval, Sheeran, with only the keeper to beat, shot over.

Four matches in seven days was about to catch up with the tourists and three goals in the space of 15 minutes put the match out of their reach.

Hospitality extended to the Army party was of the highest order from a generous and friendly football fraternity.



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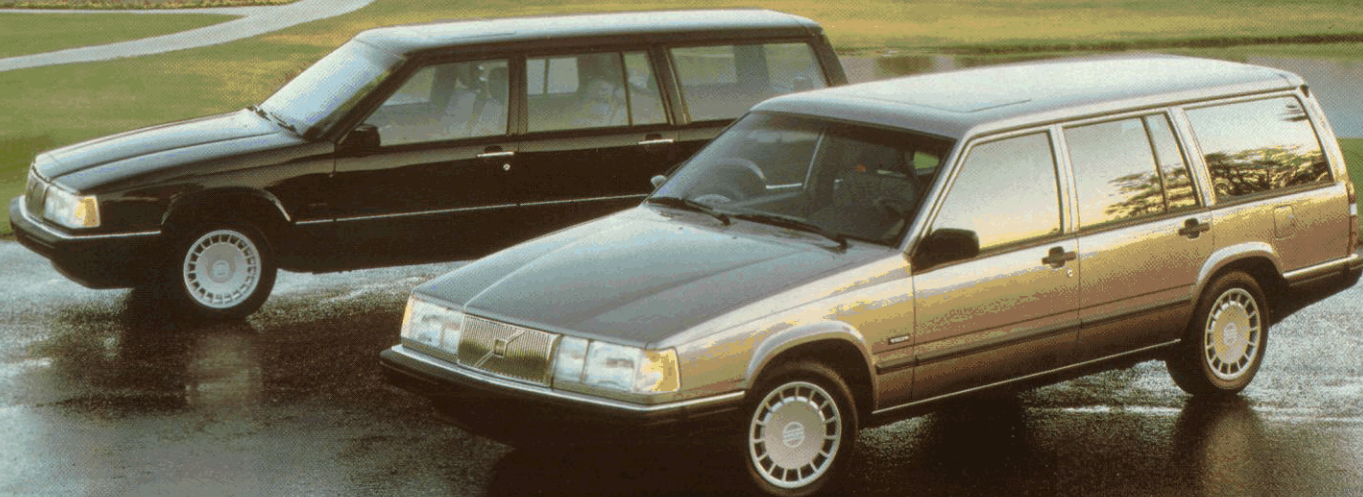
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Some tips on pruning for a young soldier of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The Tigers worked hard to establish a rapport with local people during their two years in Londonderry. See Pages 21 to 27.

Picture: Terry Champion