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# SOLDIER



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## CONTENTS

- 6 News
- 8 News View
- 10 TA Topics
- 12 'Bogwheel' back in favour
- 13 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 14 17 Port Regt RCT
- 17 Judge and Major
- 18 Royal Danish Hussars
- 22 Falklands Gunners
- 24 All in the Family
- 26 New Guidons & Colours
- 29 Welsh Guards turn back clock
- 31 New Coastel for Stanley
- 33 Girls head for Falklands
- 35 Your Cap Badge
- 36 Book Reviews
- 37 Competition and How  
Observant Are You?
- 38 Mail Drop
- 40 Record run bid
- 41 Free Beer in Canada
- 46 Sport

### FRONT COVER

The new Guidon of the 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers on parade. Picture by DOUG PRATT with more ceremonial on centre pages.

### BACK COVER

Ammunition loading in Southampton Water. Picture: LES WIGGS. See feature on 17 Port Regiment RCT — page 14.

# SOLDIER

**NOW INCORPORATING  
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◀ **New Colours for  
Queen's Own  
Highlanders — page 26**



**Fred goes to the  
Falklands — page 33** ▶

**The many tasks of 17  
Port Regiment —  
page 14** ▼



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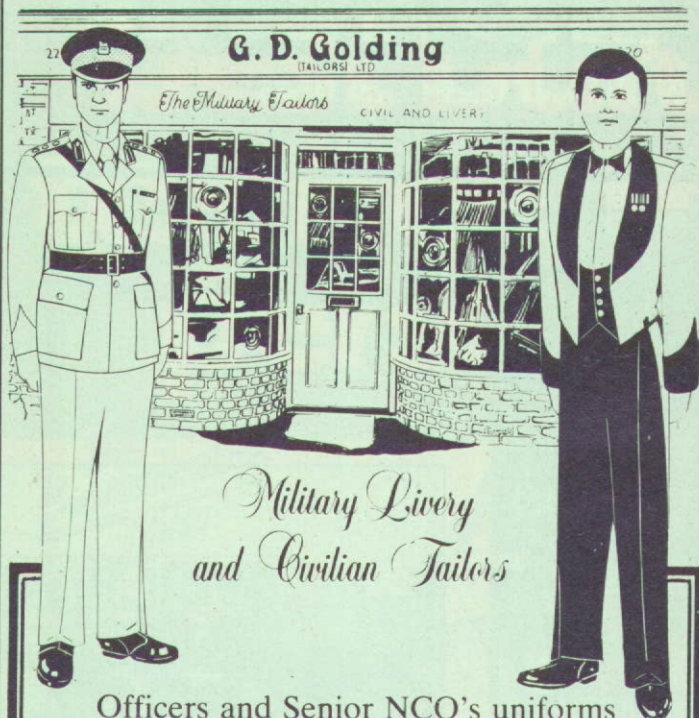
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# THE ALDERSHOT MILITARY HISTORICAL TRUST



## SCOUTS HAVE BIRTHDAY

THE ARMY Air Corps celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first flight of a prototype Scout helicopter in style, with a "fly-in" breakfast at Netheravon, Wilts.

Landing times were closely monitored as Scouts arrived from different units, and were joined by a Wasp, the naval version of the same prototype, represented by 829 Squadron from Royal Naval Air Station, Portland.

Twelve pilots challenged each other over a helicopter slalom course. Precariously dangling buckets of water at the end of a rope, they negotiated 'chicanes' trying hard not to hit obstacles or spill water.

The event was hosted by Netheravon-based 7 Regiment Army Air Corps.

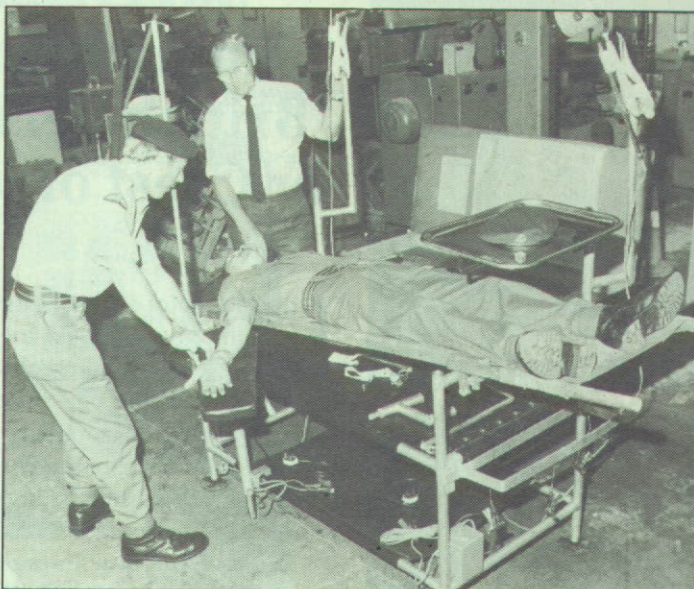
About 40 Scout helicopters are still flying with the Army Air Corps in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Brunei.

Whisper it, but . . . the Royal Navy won the first and booby prize!

## DUKE OPENS NEW ENTRY

THE DUKE of Kent opened the new entrance block at the Bovington tank museum, marking the completion of the first stage of the £1m rebuild of the museum.

The Duke arrived in a 1920 Rolls armoured car (below) with the Chief of the General Staff, General Sir John Stanier, and later inspected a guard of honour and unveiled a plaque before touring the museum.



Warrant Officer "Fritz" Sterba, Corporal Jim Pearson, John Dutton: Falklands proved this design.



An important exercise on the Sennelager Training Area BAOR, nicknamed, 'Flying Station', involved 3 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC and 18 Squadron RAF. The aim was to practise casevac with the huge heavy lift Chinook helicopter, and the Field Ambulance loaded literally hundreds of casualties on and off the big aircraft to test speed of loading, maximum loads and timings.

In addition, the Chinook was tasked to lift the entire dressing station less its vehicles — a unique test for all concerned and the results are still being evaluated. The exercise gave the Field Ambulance a chance to show the RAF (above) their means of transport and it appears they may soon have an entire aircraft crew trained to drive armoured vehicles!

IT COMES in a coffin-like container — about 6ft long by 2ft 6 inches wide by 2ft deep.

But the contents of the wooden casket save life. It's the Army's latest development of the MacVicar field operating table.

Made of lightweight aluminium alloy to be, it was invented by Colonel Frank MacVicar, a former RAMC surgeon, about 15 years ago.

Said WO Mike Sterba, widely known as "Fritz" because of his surname: "The Colonel designed this table specially for use by Para medics, but since the Falklands the RAF and the Navy have expressed interest and have asked for it with modifications." The latest of those "mods" is a new-style, built-on lighting system, replacing Land-Rover headlamp bulbs, and the addition of an "arm board" which allows surgeons to operate on injured arms with relative ease.

A "head-down" position for the patient has also been added. The demonstrator for this is Cpl Jim Pearson who, with "Fritz", belongs to 16 Field Ambulance, Aldershot.

Both were in the Falklands conflict and heaped praise on the versatility and practical use of the air-portable table.

Jim, too, came into his own there as he was the only one of the Para-surgical team to speak Spanish.

"It was a tremendous help that he could," said "Fritz" Sterba. "It seemed they could understand me better than I could them," cut in Jim, whose parents live in Spain and where he lived before joining the Army.

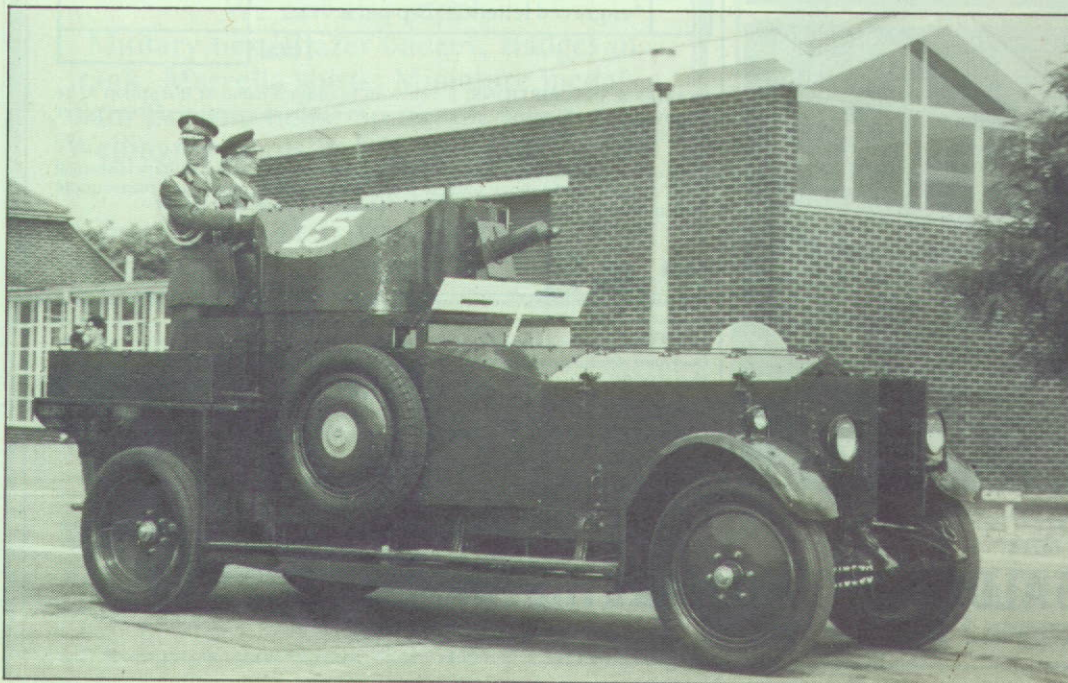
"The Falklands proved this design", said John Dutton, chief planner of 43 Command Workshops, Aldershot, where the table is manufactured.

"It's a simple lightweight, clever design which is easily packed away and carted around. It's so impressed the Navy and the RAF that they have ordered 230 over the next 12 months."

## FALKLANDS AWARD

A complete REME Aircraft Workshop has received a Commendation for its role in the Falklands operation. The Middle Wallop-based 70 Aircraft Workshop was presented with the award at a special working parade.

Men at the workshop were mobilised at short notice last year when they provided aircraft maintenance groups for Scout helicopters of 656 Squadron Army Air Corps. One unit went in support of the Commando Brigade Air Squadron and a second with the Air Squadron of 5 Infantry Brigade.







Lt Col Tim Toyne-Sewell watches a Milan missile flight through the new MIRA night sight.

## Milan night sight shows way

THE INFANTRY in BAOR will soon be capable of killing enemy tanks with their MILAN missiles — without themselves being easily seen.

By using the thermal imaging night sights, to be called MIRA (MILAN INFRA RED/RANGE APPARATUS), a clear picture can be seen of an armoured vehicle up to 1½ miles away — and it is not until the moment of firing that the Milan's position is at risk of being spotted.

Elements of the 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers under command of Major Stewart Walker spent five weeks at Putlos Camp on the Baltic coast directing the 1 (BR) Corps Milan Concentration.

Fifteen missile platoons passed through their camp amounting to very nearly 1000 soldiers. Each platoon was able to practice its own battle drills and procedures for one week.

For the second week the platoons moved onto the ranges and practised flying their missiles. The standard was high and the instructors from Netheravon were pleased with the results.

## Crew saved in drama

ALL SIX Army crewmen were rescued when the Royal Engineers yacht, Petard, went down 150 miles off the Swedish coast during a race from Travenmunde, Germany, to Karlskrona in Sweden. The men were from 21 Engineers Regiment, Nieuwburg.

Petard ran into some trouble in the Baltic whilst taking part in the Tall Ships Race and had to be abandoned.

It ran aground at night 150 miles north of Faro Island.

# EXERCISE LIONHEART '84: 50,000 TROOPS ON MOVE

MR MICHAEL HESELTINE, Secretary of State for Defence, has announced a major reinforcement exercise to be held in Germany in 1984. Known as LIONHEART 84, the exercise will involve the movement of some 50,000 regular and reserve forces from the United Kingdom to the continent.

## Minister sees new TA film premiere

ARMED FORCES Minister Mr John Stanley and the Chief of the Defence Staff, Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall led the VIPs attending the London premiere of the MOD-sponsored film "One of Us".

The film is heavily fictionalised and dramatised with a Territorial Army background and will undoubtedly help to mark the 75th anniversary of the TA, especially when released for the public to see later this year.

Unfortunately, SOLDIER is not yet in a position to say exactly when this will be, nor which feature film(s) "One of Us" will be supporting when it does do the rounds. We shall give readers this information when decisions are made.

The film has been made by Roymark Ltd and directed by

Des Good.

Stars in the film are Gareth Hunt (of "Avengers" fame), Jeremy Bulloch, Gerry Shail, Leslie Randall, William Hoyland and Michael Black with "supporting" roles played by the real TA . . . men of the anti-tank platoon, 3(V) Bn Royal Regiment of Wales. They were at the premiere, along with the actors apart from Mr Hunt who tried to get to London but could not make it.

The plot? Well, it has drama and fantasy but watch this space for the dates.



## FIRE DESTROYS OLD CHURCH

AN ESTIMATED £250,000 worth of stored tentage was destroyed in a mystery fire at the disused church of St Michael and St. Sebastian in Aldershot.

Part of a pre-fabricated hospital destined for the Crimea, it was built in 1856 as a temporary garrison church and was one of only two original wooden buildings still standing.

An investigation is under way.

THE PILOT of an Army Air Corps Beaver died after the aircraft crashed during an air day at the Royal Navy Air Station, Culdrose. He was Major (Retired) J. W. "Bill" Smithson, married with one son. He was a civilian flying instructor at the Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop. An inquiry will be held.



THE MEN of 81 Ordnance Company, RAOC, have moved from Aldershot to Tidworth — and how? They ran all the way . . . 51 miles in a target time of seven hours.

The men ran as a Company for the first three miles, then in teams of three and finally as a Company for the last three miles to their new home in the same county.

Colonel E Sheppard, Commander Supply South East District hands over the RAOC flag — he had just lowered it at 80 Ord Company — to Lance Corporal Wallis for its transfer by road relay to Tidworth where it was raised again by the CO of 9 Ordnance Battalion.

Mr Heseltine said: "Planning is underway for a major exercise called "LIONHEART 84 to take place in September 1984. LIONHEART 84 will practise our mobilisation procedures and culminate in a major field training exercise in Germany."

"About 50,000 men and women of the Regular and Reserve Forces will move to the Continent: this is significantly more than the 30,000 deployed in Exercise CRUSADER 80. Many of them will be from the Territorial Army, but for the first time it is planned to seek the voluntary participation of up to 4500 Regular Reservists, who will be contacted shortly and will receive further details during their annual reporting period this autumn."

"We will request the co-operation of employers over the release of their staff who volunteer for the Exercise."

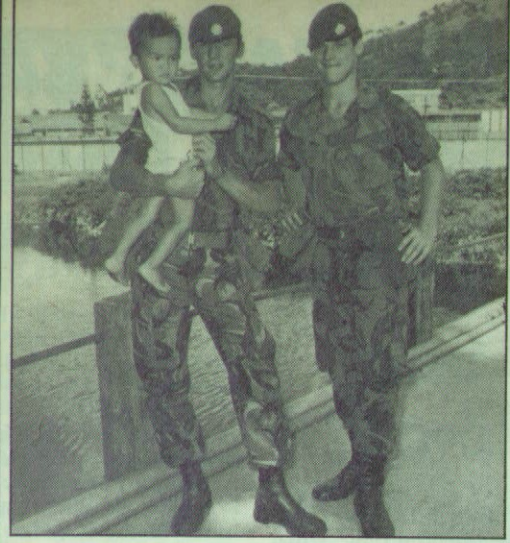
"LIONHEART will be associated with the annual series of major NATO Autumn exercises and troops from several allied nations will be joining our field training exercises. It will provide a valuable opportunity to assess progress on the many developments in organisation made since Exercise CRUSADER."

"As before, the reinforcements will travel to Germany by commercial ferries and aircraft as well as military transport, and will join British forces already in Germany for field training exercises."

"LIONHEART will be our largest reinforcement exercise ever and will demonstrate our ability to reinforce our troops in Europe, quickly and in strength."



# NEWS VIEW



## QUICK REACTION FORCE ▲

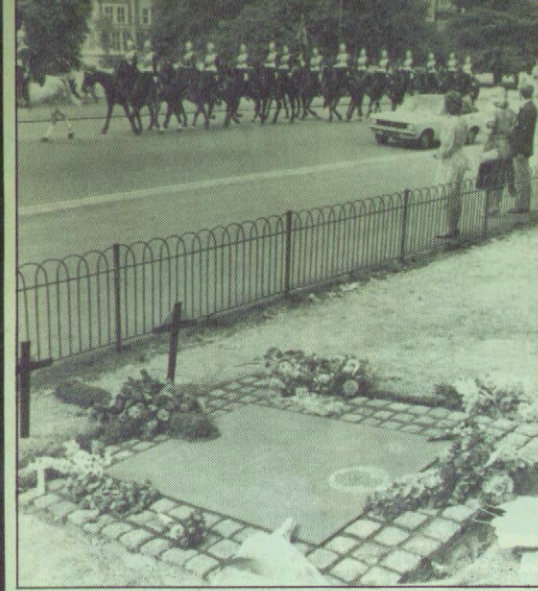
When two-year-old Ho Chi Wai fell off a bridge into the murky waters of the River Indus, it was very nearly curtains but for the quick reaction of three soldiers who were out on a regular anti-illegal immigrant patrol in Hong Kong. Lance Corporal Tom Dollochin and Guardsman Atkinson of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards, together with Lance Corporal Leung Keung Fai, a dog handler with the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, formed a human chain to bring the child out of the river to safety.



## GLOSTERS GO FIRST ▲

Men of the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment were the first to fly in one of the RAF's six new wide-bodied jets purchased from British Airways, when they made the 3695 mile flight to Edmonton, Alberta in Canada.

This aircraft is one of two to be used in a transport capacity while the other four are being converted for a flight refuelling role.



## SAD REMINDER ▲

Men of the Blues and Royals ride past the spot in Hyde Park — now marked with a memorial stone and floral tributes — where comrades and horses were killed by a car bomb just over a year ago.



## TERROR OF THE SKIES ▲

They came in their thousands to toss the welly, beat the squaddie and spot the goon at the Shackleton Barracks Open Day and Horse Show organised by the 1st Battalion, the Cheshire Regiment at Bellykelly.

Also putting on a display were 206 (Ulster) Air Defence Battery (V), part-time soldiers from Coleraine. Picture shows Sergeant Alec Hynes demonstrating the Blowpipe missile to off-duty Cheshiresmen Privates Derek Wilson and Jim Baker.



## THE GUNS OF GIBRALTAR ▲

The Gibraltar Regiment paraded its new artillery equipment, the 105mm Light Gun and the Blowpipe Air Defence Missile when it celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the renaming of the regiment. On parade were Thomson's Battery, the Air Defence Troop and the Rifle Company. The salute was taken by His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief Admiral Sir David Williams GCB.



## ALL AFLOAT ▲

Thirty assorted rafts made of oil drums, logs and tyre tubes were entered by members of 8 Regiment, RCT (Weapon Support Group) for their annual raft race on the Dortmund-Ems Canal near Münster. It was not all plain sailing though, as you can see, and the 200 metre course proved too strong for some of less robust craft. A re-enactment of the Battle of Trafalgar at the end of the race did for the rest!

## A STYLISH START ▶

The Forces Post Office moved to Lumsden Barracks, Fallingbowl and brand new premises as part of the station modernisation programme.

The Commanding Officer of 1 Postal and Courier Regiment RE, Lieutenant Colonel Doug Swanston and the first two customers (Mrs Borne and Mrs Downton) were treated to a glass of champagne.

Meanwhile, Cpl Stan Oldfield was preparing for a busy day ahead.



## VC HONoured AGAIN ▲

The only holder of the VC still serving in the Army has become one of the Queen's two Gurkha Orderly Officers. Captain Rambahadur Limbu, VC (left) and Captain Dipakhadur Gurung presented their swords to Her Majesty at the recent Investiture ceremony.

Captain Rambahadur was awarded the VC for his gallantry in Borneo.

## BRITISH PARA CHAMPS

The Army's eight-man sequential parachute team have just become British Champions at the British Parachute Association's national competition at Peterborough.

Now the Netheravon trained team go on to represent Great Britain in the World Cup competition this month as one of the few all-Army teams ever to represent Britain in an international sporting event. Watch this space . . .!



## ICE COOL

In the blistering heat at Finchley Carnival, the Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher was delighted with the ice bucket presented to her by Sergeant Bob Anthony and Private Keith Storer (in camouflage kit). The soldiers who are from the 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment based in Londonderry, were on a fortnight's KAPE tour of the London and Kent area which includes the Prime Minister's constituency of Finchley.





## TOPICS

### BIG AMOUNT SAYS IT ALL

A marathon run by Sgt Paul Pendlebury has yielded £950 for a disabled servicemen's home. Paul, chief clerk of the 75th Engineer Regiment (V) at Failsworth, Manchester, galloped round the 26 mile course in 3½ hours then presented the mammoth cheque — thought to be the largest individual sponsored donation to Broughton House, Salford — to Colonel Donald Gibbs, the Home's chief executive.

### 'I REMEMBER IT WELL'



Pte Steve Surman (LDY Coy 7 R ANGLIAN) showing a Maxim Gun (part of the Memorabilia 1908-1983 display for Leicester-shire's 75th Anniversary of the TA Celebrations) to two R Leicester TA Veterans, Mr Percy Yates (left) and Mr Charles Daines (right) both of whom first enlisted into the TA not long after the Territorial Force came into existence in 1908.



## SEXES TIED

Lance-Corporal Lorraine Illingworth from 7th Light Infantry Volunteers tied with a man, Sergeant John Alexander of the 1st Yorkshires in the new TA sub-machine gun championship at Bisley.

Thought to be the first tie

Sgt Alexander (left) and L/Cpl Illingworth received their trophies from Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Burgess, Inspector General Territorial Army.

between a man and a woman in a sub-machine gun match the event saw both get 355 points.

## Cruising with Alacrity

To say thank you for raising money for them and their families whilst away in the Falklands, the crew of HMS Alacrity invited members of B Company, 4th Royal Green Jackets for a sail up the Thames.

The B Company men collected £100 from a whip-round one Drill night with which to buy the ship's crew a drink. But their efforts did not stop there. £850 was raised from a 75-mile sponsored run from the Drill Hall in Fulham to HMS Drake in Plymouth.



The Northern Ireland Council for the Handicapped received a cheque for £650 thanks to the warrant officers and sergeants of the 4th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers who raised the money with a raffle at annual training camp at Oakhampton, Devon.

The presentation was made at Battalion HQ in Portadown where Miss Monica Wilson received the cheque on behalf of the Council from the Volunteers' CO Lt Col Clive Larkin with the RSM, WO1 Harold Toney looking on.

## Going up in the world

The men of 277 Field Squadron (ADR) (V) changed roles for the second week of their Annual Camp this year. Instead of repairing runways they moved 2000 ft up Ben Nevis to carry out repairs on Mountain Rescue facilities using a Wessex of 22 Squadron Search and Rescue from Leuchars to move the men and their equipment to the work site.







◀ Mr Duncan Macdonald, 83 (left) hands his father's no 1 dress jacket to Major Geoff Talbot of 208 General Hospital. Centre is Mrs Edna Macdonald, Duncan's sister-in-law.

Lt-Col William Macdonald in World War 1



**T**HE CHANCE discovery of a tin chest in a Liverpool attic has brought us a slice of history and the opportunity to see a set of photographs which have lain hidden from view for forty years.

William Macdonald was a doctor with a practice in Penny Lane, Liverpool at the turn of the century. He joined the Territorial Force in 1908 as a founder member and served through the First World War achieving command of his own unit as a Lieutenant Colonel.

It was William's Son, Duncan, now 83, who made the discovery when loft insulation was being installed in his south Liverpool home. He found his father's tin uniform chest, with a full suit of No. 1 dress (blues), complete with helmet, leather, cap and

belt. There were his personal documents, mementoes of the RAMC and, perhaps most interesting of all to us, a pair of photographic albums and postcards that dated back to 1908.

William Macdonald was born in 1868, and qualified as a Doctor at Aberdeen gaining further qualifications at Edinburgh and Glasgow. Like many Scottish medical men, he came south to practice, and had established a practice at his home in Penny Lane, Liverpool, running it single handed.

Duncan was born there in 1900 and remembers the day that his father decided to join the newly formed 2nd West Lancashire Field Ambulance at 14 Harper Street, Liverpool. This formed part of the West Lancashire Division, and supported

the South Lancashire Infantry Brigade. The establishment was 10 officers, 323 men, 58 horses, with 22 horse-drawn ambulances.

He was appointed Lieutenant in 1908 on joining, and was promoted Captain in October, 1911. His Military Record of Service records '*At the inception of the Territorial Force in 1908, (I) devoted 2 nights per week during the first year, and one night per week in the second year in training RAMC personnel.*'

The 2nd West Lancs Field Ambulance recruited well, and included drivers of the Army Service Corps for the ambulances, as well as its medical staff.

The unit had a well-organised system for training, and their first Permanent Staff Instructor, Staff Sergeant Frederick Yeo, took the NCOs for a special period of instruction of 'Proficiency' on Fridays. The ASC men of the Transport section paraded with the Liverpool and Lancashire Brigade Companies ASC for riding and driving instruction, and on Fridays for Cavalry foot drill, harness and

waggon instruction and first aid.

2 WLFA went to France in November, 1915, and by then, William was a Major and Second in Command of the ambulance. In May 1916 he was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel with his final command being the 3rd line of his old unit until he returned to Scotland for a period of service as OC of the surgical wards of 4th (Scottish) General Hospital at Stobhill, Glasgow. His final posting was in France with the 47th General Hospital. A memento of his service in France is the Divisional Christmas Card that he sent to his older son Angus in 1917. He returned to his practice in Penny Lane, and died in May 1935.

2WLFA on the quay at Douglas, Isle of Man



2nd West Lancashire Field Ambulance on manoeuvres 1912.



On parade at Cambridge, Brigade Camp 1912.



A field ambulance with Army Service Corps driver





Cpl Wayne Buckley in action.

## The 'Bogwheel' back in favour

many arms and services were represented ranging from armoured and infantry regiments to RCT, RMP and RAOC units.

Some students of course had their own motorcycles and brought with them much experience; others had to learn from scratch. However, they all had one thing in common they had to learn it the Army way on the Canam 250 cc motor bicycle.

WO1 Richard Luedike from 1 Armd Div Tpt Regt RCT was the chief instructor and together with Cpl Wayne Buckley from the same regiment brought with them a great deal of experience. Both have competed in motorcycle cross country events as part of the Army team in such far

Story and pictures:  
HQ 1 Armoured Division  
Public Information

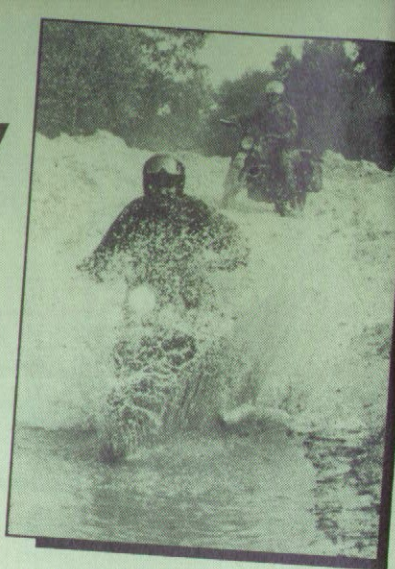
Students take to the water.

flung places at Mexico, Spain, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Italy to name but a few and of course West Germany.

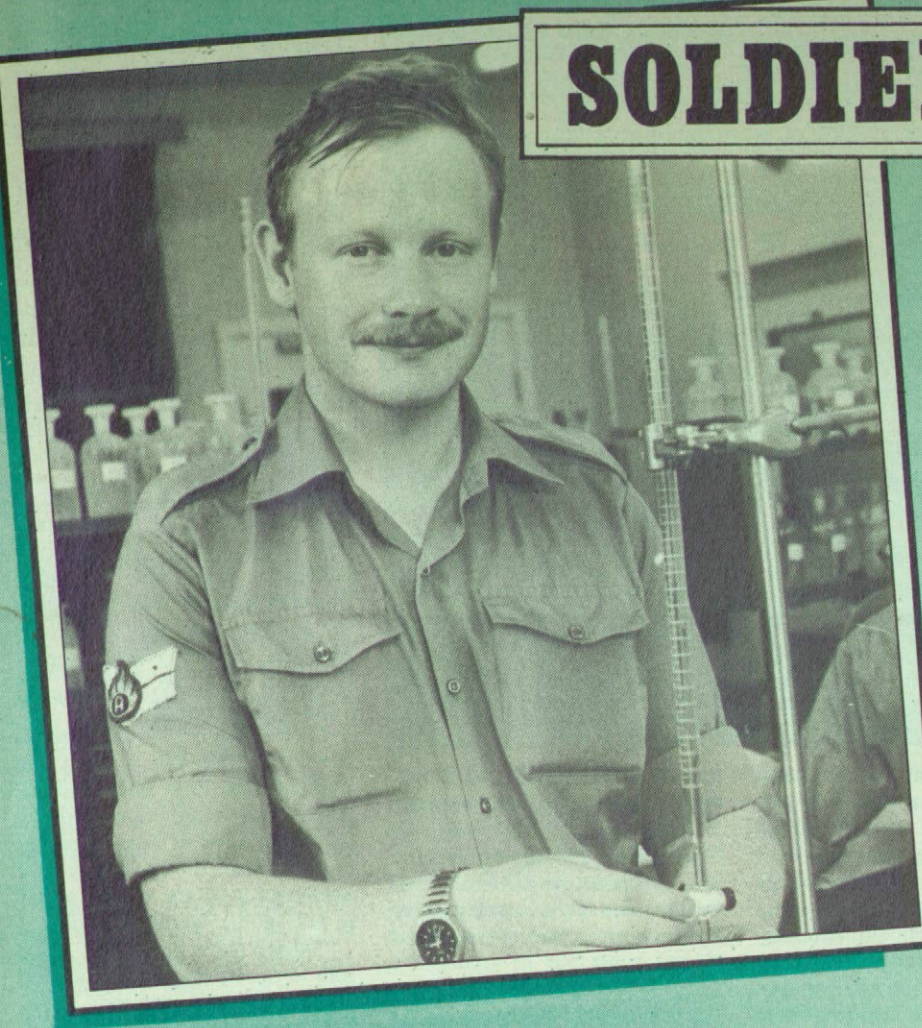
The two-week course was over subscribed. The first part was devoted to road driving skills and the second to cross country which proved to be by far the most challenging.

What may look comparatively simple to the novice, such as driving over sand banks and through water is in fact far more demanding when done for real.

The course was a huge success, all students passed. So the Army way was perhaps a good way. ■



## SOLDIER to Soldier



**D**ELIGHTED this issue to highlight the considerable achievement of a young man who has proved a first-class advertisement for the modern Army.

Highest scorer to date in the screened series of TV's The Krypton Factor, billed as the world's toughest quiz show, Corporal Ian MacKillop, 29, modestly says: "I didn't think it was any great shakes but it all worked out all right in the end."

Only he and SOLDIER know the outcome of his next mental and physical dering-do and the answer will be coming up on the nation's silver screens on September 28.

Ian, who entered the competition during one of its road shows in BAOR was with the Ammunition Inspectorate at Herford. "I decided to have a go when the road show arrived at Gütersloh," he said.

A degree in chemistry already behind him, Ian has re-mustered to the Royal Army Medical Corps where he is on a dispensers' course near Aldershot.

He made a minor slip on the assault course and says he has lost a stone in weight — thanks to Krypton. "I have gone from obese to overweight," he observed with a grin in the laboratory where he now trains.

Bootnote: Another contestant — in Heat Ten — is Sergeant Stewart Brown, of the REME based at Dortmund. ■

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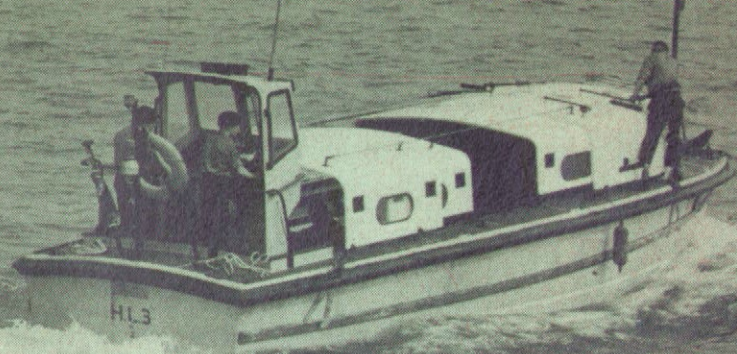
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## ANY PORT IN A STORM



One of 51 Squadron's harbour launches.

"I BELIEVE many others in the Army envy our work," said Major Robin Barton, Training Major of 17 Port Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, "because it is a real peacetime job and it matters."

The regiment, the only one of its kind in the British Army, has been based at Marchwood Military Port near Southampton since the mid-60s, and plays a vital role in the line of communication between UK and BAOR.

"We are a field force regiment," explained Major Barton, "with the commitment of providing port handling capabilities to NATO — both northern and southern flanks — and indeed anywhere else we're needed, like the Falklands."

"In peacetime, we are dedicated to providing a link in getting supplies of military equipment across the channel, thus reducing the dependence on the commercial scene. We run a regular shipping service to Antwerp from where all the supplies are dispersed."

"Marchwood is also the home port for the six Royal Fleet Auxiliary LSLs (Landing Ship Logistic) and a base for mounting various exercises and operations. The great advantage of our being here is that everything is handled by military personnel so therefore there are no industrial problems."

17 Port Regiment is split into three squadrons — each with their separate functions. It also

has 265 Squadron, RCT (V) attached to it as reserve support. During SOLDIER's visit to Marchwood, 265 Squadron had in fact assumed responsibility for the port and were carrying out all its functions in the course of their annual camp.

All three regular squadrons use this fortnight to catch up on things such as training courses and leave which they have precious little time to do during the other 50 weeks of the year, especially now that they provide a composite squadron down in the Falklands. Yet staff were able to show SOLDIER how Marchwood works.

51 Squadron provides the vessels and lighterage necessary for the loading and unloading of ships anchored offshore, such as the ammunition ship (ASL) *St George*, which makes regular 10-day runs to the port of Zeebrugge.

The men of 51 Squadron are the Army's sailors and unique in

that they wear blue uniforms. Training at seaman/driver level enables them to choose whether they move up the ranks in either navigation or marine engineering trades.

Officer Commanding, Major Peter Everingham is constantly up against the problem of not having enough qualified or senior men to handle the craft they are supposed to because 40% of the Squadron is on detachment in Belize, Hong Kong and Cyprus or in the Falklands.

"We run at very basic levels simply because our manpower is so stretched," he said.

The Squadron has at present at Marchwood three mexeflotes, two workboats, two harbour launches and one Ramped Powered Lighter (RPL). Later in the summer two 'girl' class tugs from the closing Naval Base at Chatham will be joining the Squadron's strength.

Every member of the Squadron has taken his turn in the Falklands at least once and indeed some are only now enjoying their first spell of warm weather in over a year, their postings have coincided with the winter either in UK or the South Atlantic.

"Ninety-nine percent of items sent to the Falklands are handled by our people," explained Major Everingham who recently commanded the composite Squadron in Port Stanley. "We moved 100,000 tonnes in one year. It's tremendously hard work down there where you can work up to 18 hours a day."

"This summer will be just as bad because we are starting a huge programme of re-supply."

"But morale is very high. After all, you don't work 15 to 18 hours a day without feeling you're achieving something."

Driver Paul Burke remembers the occasion during Operation Corporate when the LSLs *Sir Galahad* and *Sir Tristram* were bombed.

"The mexeflote was carrying

ammunition from *Sir Galahad* to the shore at Bluff Cove when the attack came. We just turned it round, still with all the ammunition on board, and went back to the ship to ferry survivors ashore."

The coxwain of the mexeflote, Staff Sergeant Derek Boulby was awarded the Military Medal for his bravery during this action.

In the blistering heat of Britain's heatwave the grim days of the Falklands campaign seemed a long way away but meanwhile there was still a job to be done. The TA Squadron were coping not only with the loading of the *St George* but also with the loading and unloading of two RFA ships, the *Sir Geraint* and *Sir Lamorak*.

265 Squadron's second-in-command, Captain Edward Colquoun explained that some members were already experienced in civilian port handling.

"Most of us have a salty tang," he said. "There are a few who work for Sealink and I am a lawyer specialising in marine law."

"Because Marchwood provides regular shipping services to Northern Europe, the work can be repetitive. Even so, it is a real job we're doing here and that's why this is a very popular TA Squadron."

Whilst the LSL *Sir Tristram* is being made seaworthy once more (*Sir Galahad* was sunk), two more supply ships, *Sir Lamorak* and *Sir Caradoc*, have been brought into service, the former taking on the regular run to Zeebrugge. *Sir Geraint* had just returned to port after eight months at sea, most of them spent in the South Atlantic.

Normally, the task of loading and unloading falls to 52 Squadron whose men are the port operators (or stevedores) and plant handlers. The LSLs can carry a dead weight of 1400 tonnes of general cargo and the Squadron

An ammunition laden mexeflote alongside ASL *Sir Geraint*, which will carry the supplies to Zeebrugge.

can expect to find almost anything on board. *Sir Geraint* returned home with a veritable Pandora's Box from beer barrels and air filters to a u/s Sea King helicopter and a captured aircraft.

With so many bulky items, such as containers and broken down APCs, the Squadron relies on heavy plant equal to the task of getting them ashore. With Fiat Allis fork lift trucks, Hydrahus-key cranes and the huge Demag crane, the largest in the British Army and capable of lifting 120 tonnes, the noise in the port area is ceaseless and the work hot and thirsty.

"The work is actually no different from any civilian port handling," said 52 Squadron's second-in-command, Captain Geoff Murley, "except all our people are dual-trained, that is, they are both stevedores and plant handlers."

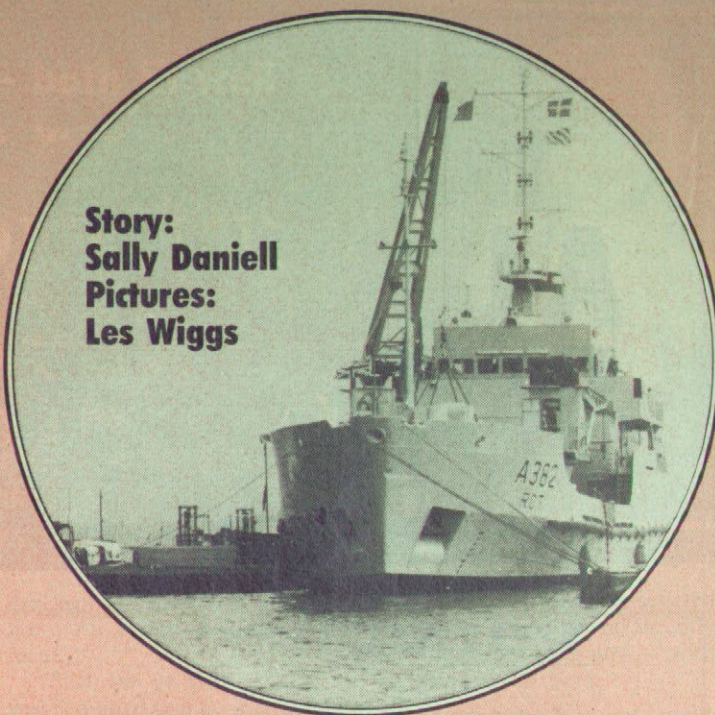
"It's not just these functions the Squadron has, but also all the organisation. Our control office has to know exactly what ships are coming in and when, who's available for the offloading, where all the stuff is going to and how it's going to get there. It's continuous work and of course the port operates seven days a week."

SOLDIER asked some members of the Squadron if the work became tedious since it appears, on the surface to be just humping heavy loads about; but not a bit.

"It's never tedious," said Corporal George Simpson, "because there are always different types of cargo requiring different types of handling. In the Falklands, for instance, we had to learn all the skills of the Chinese crew in a very short space of time, and there was helicopter loading as well as the usual shore side."

Lance Corporal Allan Robin-

Story:  
Sally Daniell  
Pictures:  
Les Wiggs



son was on board *Sir Galahad* when she and her sister ship *Sir Tristram* were strafed by enemy aircraft.

"I was eating my soup at the time of the first attack," he laughed. "When the second attack came there was chaos really with everyone running all over the place to avoid being hit. I remember I just kept running and was very relieved to get off!"

The administration, stores and catering of 17 Port Regiment are handled by the third regular Squadron — 53. Members of this Squadron also form part of the composite squadron in the Falklands, like Corporal Peter Dzedzej, ACC, who earned the C-in-C's commendation for his efforts during the campaign.

Another function of 53 Squadron is to provide the six Ships' Warrant Officers — sea-dogs assigned to each of the LSLs as liaison and flight deck officers — supervising the loading and unloading of helicopters and getting them on their way.

Warrant Officer Jimmy

Wright, *Sir Geraint*'s Warrant Officer, told SOLDIER:

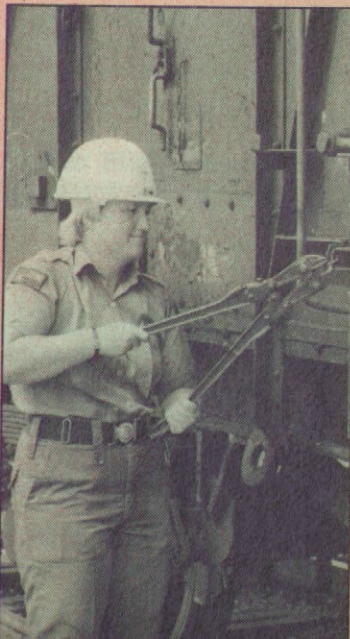
"Before the Falklands I had 97 launches to my name and when I came back I had over a thousand! The liaison side of things can mean anything but basically it's a fix-it job — even down to getting the laundry organised!"

Because Marchwood Military Port is a static operation, members of the regiment and their families are stationed there permanently apart from the rota detachments which are largely unaccompanied. According to Major Barton the indefinable malaise of Marchwood-itis occasionally rears its ugly head but usually there is not enough time to realise it is there.

"All right," he said, "so riding around in boats in good weather can appear glamorous, but don't forget that for the most part, and especially in the Falklands, conditions are far from pleasant. You can be cold and tired but you've just got to keep going because the job is vital and so many people depend on us." ■

Using a fork lift truck, ammunition is loaded from the slipway onto a mexeflote.

WRAC 'mover' Lance Corporal Sue Bradshaw breaking the seals on an ammunition container. ►



A mexeflote ferrying ammunition to the ASL *St George*.

Unloading bulk containers from *Sir Lamorak*.





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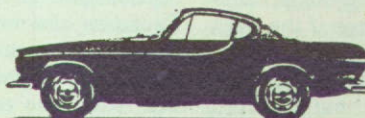
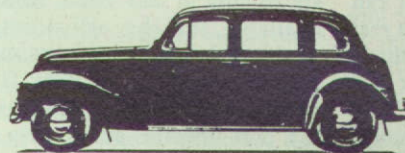
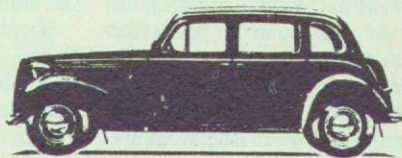
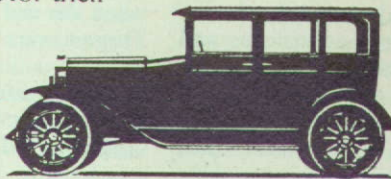
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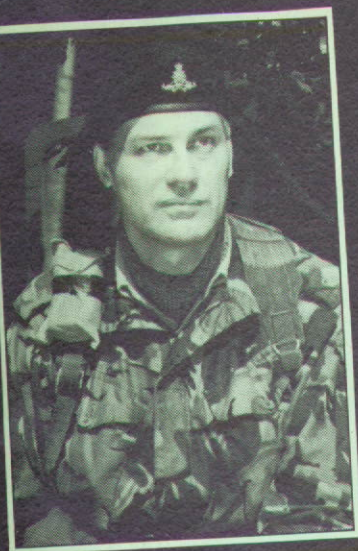
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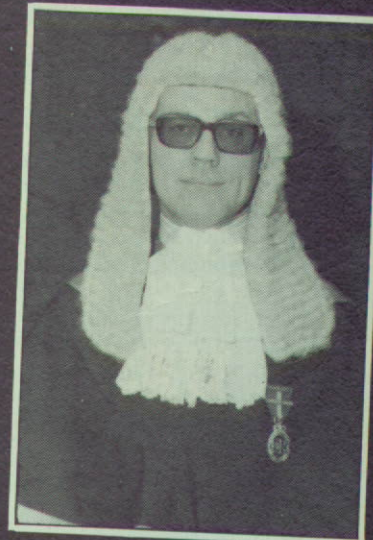
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**Beret or wig — both fit well  
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# HIS HONOUR *Judge* P. Batterbury, TD.



**W**ITH only 400 plus throughout the whole of England and Wales — Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own — Her Majesty's judges can be assessed as a fairly rare breed.

How much rarer then is His Honour Judge Paul Batterbury, TD, who, appointed as a Circuit Judge in May this year, is probably the only member of the judiciary serving in either the TA, the Air Force or Naval reserves?

"So far as I know I am the only serving TA officer who holds such an appointment," said the 6'3" judge who is aged 49.

"When I joined the TA in 1959, the basic retiring age was 40. This has now been increased in my unit to 50, which I will reach next January, so that it is just possible to combine both offices for a short period."

It was in the early 'fifties that the proverbial "brown envelope plopped on to the doormat" to herald for Paul Batterbury a military career which is still going strong.

Then he was an 18-year-old clerk working in the Strand branch of Coutts' bank.

Like thousands of other youngsters at that time, he had a compulsive urge to fly with the RAF.

And fly he did over the next three years, as an aerial photographer with the then Bomber Command, now long gone, like the aircraft he flew in — Lincolns.

"A direct development of the war-famous 'Lanc'," he said. With National Service in full swing, Paul opted for three years in the RAF with 2½ on reserve, rather than two years in and 3½ on reserve like millions of other NS men.

"That way I became a regular and not just another NS man," he said. But regular or NS the crunch for Paul came when, at

21, he was faced with "make-your-mind-up" time and had to decide what he was going to do in the future.

Fortunately for him a legal career beckoned and he spent three years at Bristol University studying law before practising at the Bar right up until his appointment as a Crown and County Court judge last May.

drill hall and signed on as a gunner with a light ack-ack regiment.

"That was in 1959 and for a year I trained as a gunner before getting a commission."

Two years later saw him switch from the ack-ack outfit to an Artillery Brigade in London and in '67 a transfer to Central Volunteer HQRA at Wool-

sion — the largest TA-assisted division in the Army and recently returned from Germany — with headquarters in York.

As a major he does not attend weekly "square bashing" or drill nights, but fulfils his two weekend commitments plus his 15-day annual camp which, this year, was in BAOR with 1 British Corps.

"The exercise called 'Summer Sales' saw 2 Div practising its new role, which is to return smartly to Germany in a crisis and beef-up the Corps.

A major since 1975, with his Territorial Decoration awarded in 1972 followed by a bar in '78, the judge expressed the hope that he would receive a second bar to his TD next year together with the good news that he will be allowed to stay in the TA on attaining the age of 50, if only for retaining his uniqueness as the only judge in England who can swap his wig for a TA officer's hat for just two weeks of the year. ■

*'The only judge in England  
who can swap his wig  
for a TA Officers hat'*

Between being a student and a trainee lawyer, he found it difficult to shake off his Service links and he decided to revive them by joining the RAF reserve.

At that point fate took a hand since the RAF reserve, on which he had set his sights, had disbanded.

"So I trotted off to my local

wich, original home of the Gunners.

There he worked on the Thunderbird missile system — the mobile version of Bloodhound — now scrapped.

Other jobs followed which in turn have been superseded by his present TA role involving him in the 'Ops Cell' of 2 Divi-

**A break from dispensing justice and a slice of bacon on exercise for Major Paul Batterbury. Lance-Corporal Bradley, dispenses the breakfast.**

**Words: JOHN MARGETTS**

*Pictures: 4 Armoured Division PI and Universal Pictorial Press*





**SOLDIER** writer **GRAHAM SMITH** and photographer **DOUG PRATT** continue their look at the Danish Army with this three-page study of the Royal Danish Hussars and a . . .

## VERY SPECIAL HOME GUARD

**A** BAKER'S DOZEN of Royal Danish Hussars crept through the wheatfield-flanked woods clutching their German-leased rifles. Their objective; a silo doubling as a fuel dump a mile away where they would be, unknowingly, outnumbered two-to-one by men from the Home Guard.

Survival was the name of their particular game now. For two days the Hussars had been evading detection as best they could, living off the land, "acquiring" potatoes and other vegetables.

The Hussars from the 2nd Squadron, 1st Battalion, had for exercise purposes, left their 40-ton Centurion tanks to make their way to the coast a few miles away and eventual recovery by fishing boat.

Eating just one meal every 24 hours the exercise in survival had been called White Hussar and was being enacted in South Zealand. But first, the tankies had to take that enemy fuel dump.

At this vital key point the defenders were already in position. A young lieutenant had just arrived dressed appropriately for war in his radio-telephone maroon Volvo. With him, his rifle — normally kept with the rest of his kit at home.

On a nearby ridge was 21-year-old Martin Pedersen, who earlier that day had swept 20 chimneys, gone home to have a bath and tea — and then promptly smeared his face liberally with cam cream!

He told **SOLDIER**: "I've been in the Danish Home Guard for two years and I enjoy it. There are three of us, all sweeps working for the same firm, and it was they who suggested I joined up."

"I'm on a four-year apprenticeship and I didn't want to join at first. This way, though, I get away from the soot and into the fresh air. It's all good fun and I shall be quite happy to go off duty at around midnight."

Meanwhile, a gusty shower precluded the fast-approaching

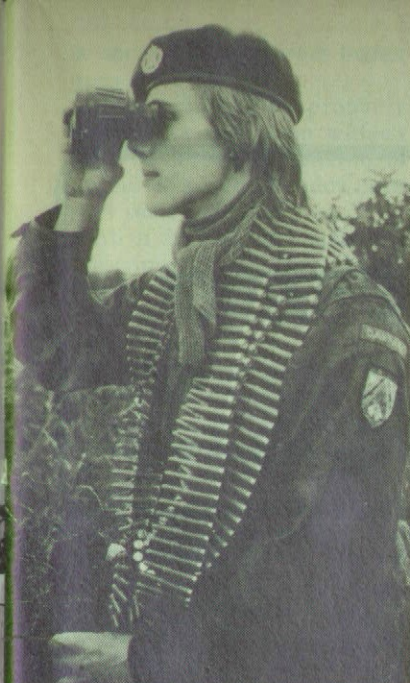
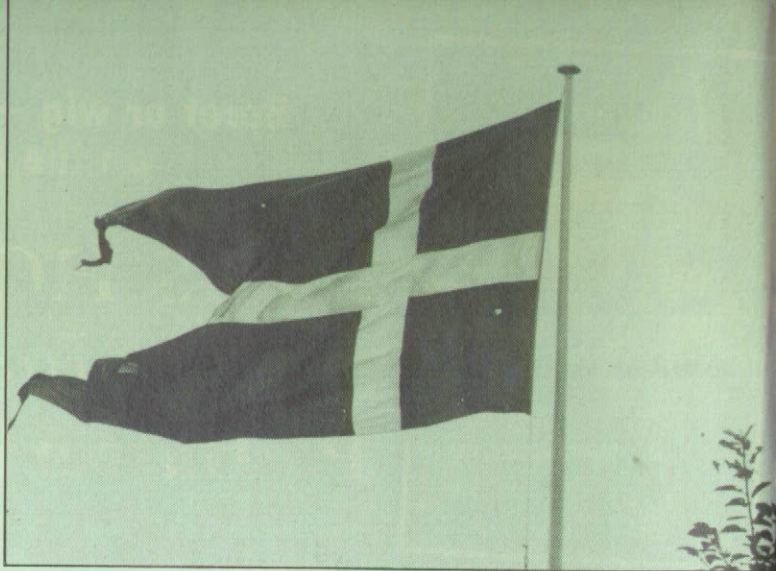
battle between Regular and Reservist.

Throughout their efforts, Major Hans Petersen, OC 2nd Tank Squadron had been noting the performance of his three tank platoons most of whom had negotiated a fingers-breadth strand of rope near a stream but a device which still caused five of his youngsters to take a tumble into instant dampness.

Making their assessment with him were his seven colleagues making up the Directing Staff who had gone out to track the platoons' progress in long wheel base open-topped Land-Rovers, their Nordic heads covered by black woolly caps, their light-skinned features sullied by cam cream.

"The platoons set off with some potatoes and meat as part of this survival training," said Major Petersen, as he gave **SOLDIER** verbal escape-and-evasion replies on just how they would survive off the land. "The Danish terrain is not good for this type of exercise. You can't move ten men and three vehicles without being seen."

"Exercise White Hussar is a physical and psychological test.



Chimney-sweep Martin Pedersen in the fresh air.

Some of them may hate it now — they are tired at the moment — but will laugh later in a few days. They all go off on holiday next week. Some of them I'm proud of; others, I'm not so proud of."

This was reflected by Staff Sergeant Hans Christian Olsen, a leader with the recce section, who said: "One of the three platoons has made a good job but the two others have done a bad job. They have followed the roads and not used the country and were discovered."

On route between the checkpoints — and contact men for food, it transpired — that platoons had to pick up orders and some explosives to destroy their notional targets.

And to preface the exercise and get it off to a good public relations exercise, 25 farmers had been approached for their cooperation.

"Our farmers normally understand the needs of defence and are prepared to make their contribution to deterrence," said Major Petersen. "But news out here travels fast and my own car driver knew most of the exercise details before I did. He learned of them at his local garage when he was having his car serviced."

Exercise White Hussar was played out with the ripple of gunfire over an area of countryside once defended by a Danish resistance hero of a century ago as he defied an attempted invasion by the Swedes.

Another home guard participant was former farmer and keen reservist, Erik Jensen, who dutifully manned his radio in a nearby school. Erik is 70.

Lt-Col Peer Hoegh-Guldberg, CO of the 1st Bn, The Royal Danish Hussars, who came to see his men in action told **SOLDIER**: "The scenario says they

have to train in survival. They have been forced to leave their tanks and have been told to get to the coast for recovery by a fishing boat.

"We gave them very little good — very poor rations. This trains them to work together and we carry out this exercise at this time of year because it is the quietest for us. Sadly, we cannot bring the tanks out."

"In a 12-month period we will have three weeks in West Jutland

and that is our main training period with our tank crews. We also have a shooting area in northern Zealand where we train two or three times a year not only to exercise our smaller units but also tank crew training again when we try, at least, to bring in some machine gun and 105mm Centurion main armament firing, including night firing.

"The exercise is a good part of the basic training for the squadron and it's the men themselves

who asked for this exercise. They have all volunteered. The more they are pressed, the more they like it.

"We turn them out on exercises like this with no money and tell them to make no contact with any civilians."

As he spoke, the platoons who had taken the fuel dump were to receive two set-backs and two sets of further orders. They would not pull out by fishing boat that night — nor the next!



**T**HE ROYAL Danish Hussars — that country's only regiment to mix mechanised armour with horse-power — had a mounted squadron comprising 60 horses all ridden by conscripts and with many of the steeds having a bloodline traceable to Britain through three generations.

In recent years, horses from the Regiment's mounted troop (motto: Be Fast in Action) have appeared in events like the Great Yorkshire Show in Harrogate, and others at Peterborough and Builth Wells in Wales.

The horses live in orderly red-brick stables in the quiet, neat town of Naestved, about 10 kilometres north of Vordingborg on Zealand.

Curiously, not only do the mounts have single name titles but even their young riders are just known by the names of the town from which they come; a quaint cavalry custom spanning two centuries.

The regiment was raised in 1762 due to the threat from Russia and the fast-moving and hard hitting cavalry unit was formed. Today the mounted squadron still remains as a small token of those times past.

Nowadays the horse squadron

is kept for prestige public eye purposes such as escorting the Danish Queen during visits by foreign dignitaries or part of the squadron will escort newly-arrived ambassadors presenting their credentials.

The Danes also appreciate the musical rides at rural summer shows.

All the 50-mile journeys to Copenhagen start from the impressive Naestved stables where many of the horses go for the first time having been given by members of the public. Those who have given up riding or cannot afford the upkeep of their equine charges usually approach the squadron with favourable results, most of the horses are bought at the age of five of "Danish warm-blood" stock.

Besides those horses of bygone British heritage there are those of German, Polish and Swedish forbears. One, the Regimental CO's horse — Nick Carter — has Russian ancestry.

Buying prices for young horses is put at between £1,000 and £1,500 and the mounts will usually work until the age of 22 when they are put down.

"People who give us their unwanted horses expect us to keep them and we do," said Major

Michael Ingemann and horse Sapor prepare for ceremonial duty.

Poul Lindergaard, OC until recently of the Mounted Squadron for ten years. He retired but reappears next month to manage the Queen's Stables in Copenhagen.

"We give them a fair price after consultation with our vets on-the-spot. Sometimes we find the horses have bad habits like kicking or biting. You have got to have a horse which is safe to work with and, in such a case, we give them back to the donors. We have an annual turnover of horses within the squadron of five or six horses."

"Each horse has its morning, noon and afternoon feeds getting through about five kilos a day of oats, hay and molasses."

"Horses on escort duties take about three to four hours to groom and then are given a couple of hour's exercise before returning to the stables and further preparation."

"It is important they know what we expect of them," said Major Lindergaard. "We don't give them special crowd noise training because we have the streets to ourselves when on pub-

continued on page 21





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PRESENT NO CLAIM BONUS <input type="text"/> % <input type="text"/> YEARS EXPIRY DATE						
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<b>USE:</b> (Tick appropriate box)	SOCIAL DOMESTIC AND PLEASURE (INCLUDING TO/FROM PLACE OF BUSINESS) <input type="checkbox"/>		BUSINESS USE BY INSD/SPOUSE STATE MILEAGE FOR SUCH USE PER YEAR <input type="checkbox"/>		BUSINESS USE BY OTHER DRIVERS SOLICITING OF ORDERS CARRIAGE OF GOODS (GIVE DETAILS) <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>DRIVERS</b> (Tick appropriate box)	ANY DRIVER <input type="checkbox"/> YOURSELF AND SPOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> INSURED AND ONE NAMED OVER 23 YRS. <input type="checkbox"/>					
	GIVE DETAILS OF ALL DRIVERS UNDER 25 OTHER THAN PROPOSER AND STATE IF MAIN USER					
	HAVE YOU OR ANY PERSON TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE WHO WILL DRIVE THE INSURED CAR:					
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	B) IN THE PAST 3 YEARS BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY ACCIDENT OR SUFFERED ANY LOSS IN CONNECTION WITH MOTOR VEHICLE? YES/NO					
<b>EXTRA BENEFITS AVAILABLE</b>	PERSONAL ACCIDENT COVER FOR DRIVER AND PASSENGERS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 17 AND 65. YES/NO		LOSS OF USE OF INSD. CAR FOLLOWING DAMAGE/LOSS COVERED BY POLICY YES/NO		NO CLAIM BONUS PROTECTION YES/NO	
	PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU REQUIRE THE PREMIUM ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS					



lic show. Crowds do not bother them.

"You could also probably drive tanks near them without fright yet a sparrow fluttering to get out of a stable window near their stalls will scare them."

All of the aspiring nine-month conscripts with the Royal Danish Hussars mounted troop duty in mind are already familiar with horses in most cases.

One such conscript who stayed on for an extra month was "Odense" — the town he comes from — but Michael Ingemann, 20, to his friends outside military circles. He rides Sapor, a horse of East Prussian progeny, but leaves shortly to continue his education in the USA for a year.

All the shoes for the horses are bought nowadays from Holland although farrier Captain Oeve Juergensen has been doing that line of work since 1947.

It takes about an hour to remove and fit four new shoes. Each horse will be shod every six weeks or nine times a year.

As Major Lindergaard said of the stable residents: "Although the horse has no place in the time of war, it still carries out a very important role in the time of peace. It not only keeps our regimental traditions alive but they last longer than lorries."



M-41 takes up defensive position. ▲ Walker Bulldog tanks work

alongside two brigades and are soon to receive a four-fold facelift — new engines, new suspension, new ammunition and night device capabilities.

The M-41s which tote 76-mm main armament, a co-axial 7.62-mm machine gun and a 0.50-in calibre Browning are each crewed by four men.

As Lieutenant Steven Dresler said: "In my opinion I think it's a tank for a specific job and we can knock out an APC, T-54 or T-55 at 4,000 metres. We are very fond of the M-41 because it has become part of our recce tradition.

"Soon we are going to modernise it including the putting in of diesel engines and adding APFSDS ammunition capability which will take out T-72s."

He added: "Until the Danish Defence Ministry decides to change tactics we are going to have the M-41s until 1990, I think. Our organisation and recce squadrons are organised on American lines based on World War Two experiences and we find with our distances in Denmark that the M-41 is suitable to do the job and relevant to part of the defence of Zealand. Our modernisation programme should be complete in about a couple years."

Yet the venerable M-41s get plenty of practical tactics for as

Lt-Col Leif Nielsen, CO of the 3rd Recce Bn explained: "We do up to half a dozen FTX each year and a number of CPX as well within my battalion.

"We are an all-Regular force and happily work together with other visiting nations as part of the AMF (L) exercises.

"Later, we are going to train on attachment with your 2nd Royal Tank Regiment at Wolfenbüttel in BAOR.

"We are the most manoeuvrable force in Zealand and we shall be the first people in the Army should enemy landings take place to reach the area within a couple of hours.

"We may not beat them but we could certainly delay them as they assemble their men and supplies. We could be on them before they made off for vital points or even thought about besieging Copenhagen. We will be ready and we are also confident we could destroy any air-dropped vehicle.

"All contingencies have been covered and we believe we could delay any intruder for at least a day until the two brigades took them on. Our tanks may be old but we are soon to take on new technology. I'm quite sure we could do the job if that day comes. We have high spirits and a good morale in the battalion." ■



**T**HEIR SQUAT American light tanks may be 30 years old but the men of the 3rd Recce Battalion, The Royal Danish Hussars and, in particular, of the 4th Recce Squadron, are confident they could still do the job.

They would be among the first of the land-based armoured eyes and ears to report of any air-landed invasion force.

The squadron's 25-ton, M-41

Horses keep long tradition alive.

**Pictures: Doug Pratt**



# RICHARD GARDNER reports from the Falklands on the return of the war veterans 97 Field Battery whose guns are firing . . .

THIRTEEN months after the Argentine forces surrendered on the Falkland Islands the 105mm guns of the Royal Artillery have been firing again — this time on exercise, but always ready for action at short notice.

Veterans of the Falklands conflict, 97 Field Battery Royal Artillery (Lawson's Company), are back in the islands providing artillery support for the resident battalion, currently 1st battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers. The battery home base is North camp, Hants, and they are due to return in the autumn before moving out to Germany.

The light guns used by 97 have been in the Falklands since the war and were in action right through the land campaign, ending up covering Stanley itself from positions near Sapper Hill.

The 105mm guns have shown themselves to be excellent weapons, capable of being air-lifted into position with a minimum of preparation.

They maintained high rates of fire for protracted periods and undoubtedly were a major contribution to the collapse of Argentinian morale in the final days.

During the recent exercises live ammunition was used and the guns were flown into the



Fire! Plenty of action as 'Lawsons Company' open up with their 105mm guns.

## YET THIS TIME NOT IN ANGER

chosen locations by Chinook heavy-lift helicopters of the RAF. The Chinooks can carry several gun crews in the cabin with guns and ammunition slung externally at the same time.

This has revolutionised the mobility of the Royal Artillery field regiments, especially in the Falklands where the local terrain prevents the cross country use of conventional gun tractors.

Once in position the guns can be towed locally by a fleet of new

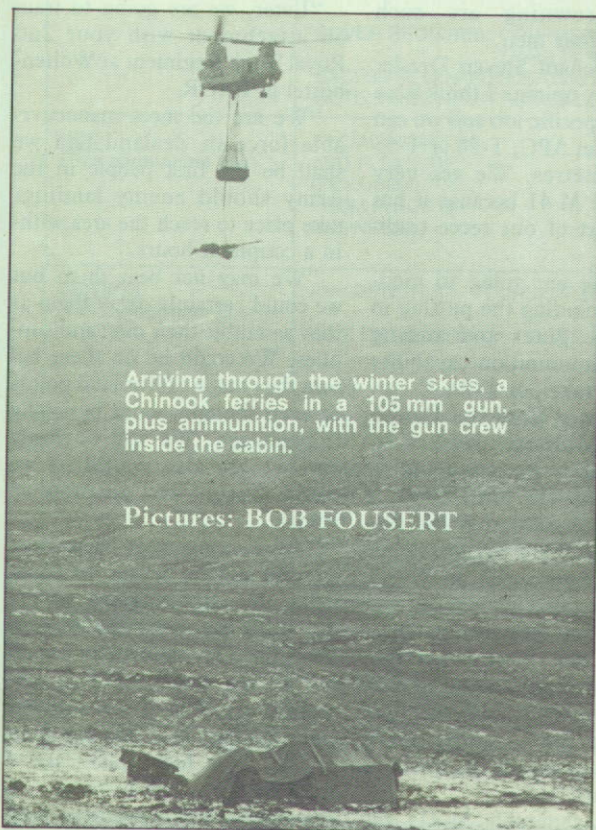
tracked vehicles ideally suited for use in boggy ground. The Hagglund BV206 is a Swedish successor to the Snowcat and it consists of a pair of tracked cabins.

It can carry up to 17 personnel in warm and dry conditions and has wide rubber tracks with a very low track pressure to weight ratio, akin to that of a skier! It operates in boggy ground and deep snow and can swim rivers and streams with ease.

The artillery units in the field

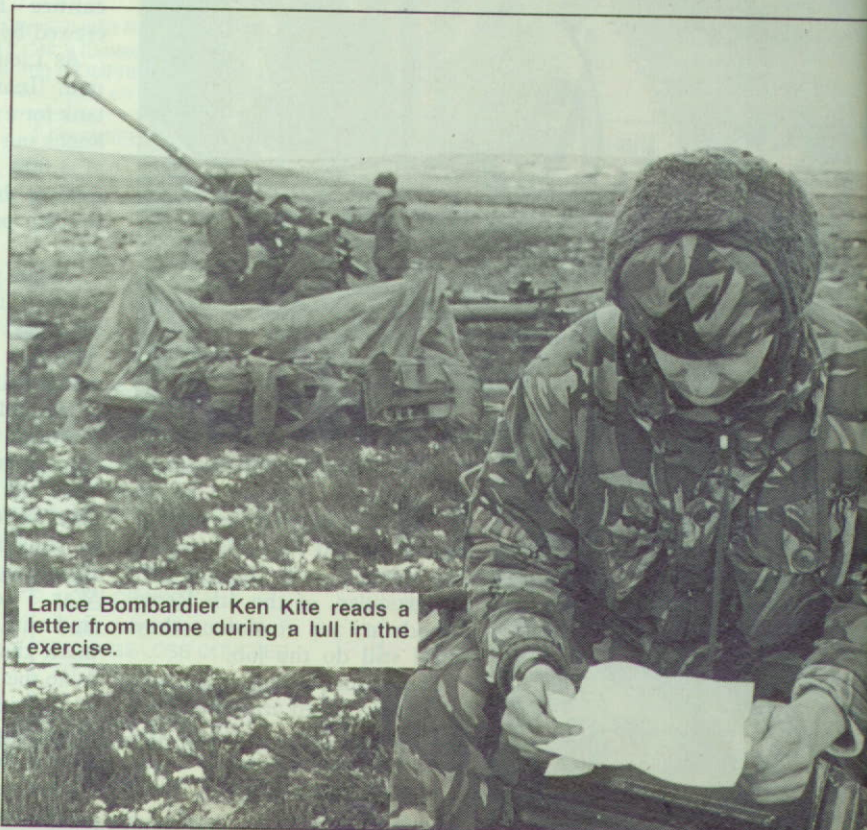
are self-contained and can be made ready for a rapid redeployment within minutes. All the ammunition and support equipment is packaged for easy heli-lift, tents and other items being stowed on the guns themselves.

The BV206 vehicles can also be 'Chinooked' if required, though in this most recent deployment they travelled back to base independently, and there are few hills that are too steep to climb.



Arriving through the winter skies, a Chinook ferries in a 105 mm gun, plus ammunition, with the gun crew inside the cabin.

Pictures: BOB FOUSERT



Lance Bombardier Ken Kite reads a letter from home during a lull in the exercise.



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EVEN BETTER THAN TAX-FREE



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS are upon us and the rush for school leavers to find jobs or apply for a Youth Opportunities or Youth Training Scheme place later this year.

The MOD, too, has this month announced its scheme to cater for 5,000 young people plus a further 2,000 — but no mention if these places are available overseas.

I pressed Mr. Jerry Wiggin when Under Secretary of State, for consideration to be given to those overseas, because the last MOD scheme did not. He assured me he would, should further MOD schemes be announced later.

I hope that the MOD schemes for '83/'84 will include our school leavers overseas, should they wish to apply.

However for those who do not get a place for whatever reason, and are unable to find a job, at least in UK there is Supplementary Benefit to help towards clothing, food, accommodation and travel. So a school leaver is not destitute.

Spare a thought for those sons and daughters who have left a BFES school overseas and also those who have to join parents because of accommodation and other difficulties.

Those teenagers are UK citizens whose parents pay UK



taxes and are deemed in many instances to be ordinary residents, and are able to claim Child Benefit for their child overseas. Yet when they reach 16 they become disenfranchised with...

- NO Supplementary Benefit entitlement to claim.
  - NO automatic issue of a National Insurance number if leaving school overseas.
  - NO right to a vote at 18.
- Should these young people — our next generation — be so treated?

Do we have to be forced into becoming a pressure group? Surely not.

We are only asking for these teenagers the same rights enjoyed by their counterparts in the UK.

*Anne Armstrong*

## REPORTS FOCUS ON PROBLEMS

I HAVE just received a letter from a wife in Germany who has twice now been denied maternity pay. In each case she worked for an employer for three years in between having children. She was employed in Germany and Gibraltar working for Government departments, but if she had been in the UK she would have received maternity pay.

I have now also received my fifth case of a wife who has been denied redundancy pay.

In the same post came copies of the Seventh Annual Report from the Equal Opportunities Commission, and their new booklet — "Fathers, Childbirth and Work".

These are two excellent and interesting reports which highlight the problems facing women in 1983.

Excellent researched, both bring to the surface the difficulties which many of you mention in your letters.

The report records an increase in the number of complaints about redundancy arrangements which appear to discriminate against women, and the commission is also "Particularly concerned about the vulnerable position of part-time workers".

### A REVIEW?

Yet the cases I receive from service dependants on redundancy cannot be taken up by the EOC, as they explained when I raised this issue on my recent visit to the EOC in Manchester.

Again, the EOC terms of reference exclude cases from outside the UK. So, once again, service wives are unable to call upon such bodies for advice. However, I am now submitting a proposal to see if the government branch concerned will look again at the policy and hopefully reconsider this anomaly.

Then we come to opening up credit for women, something which also affects service wives on two counts. The fact of being

a serviceman's wife has prevented credit but we are hoping that NAAFI's policy will be changed in view of several court actions in 1982 undoubtedly advancing the cause of equal access to services and premises, particularly credit.

There are more and more letters from overseas giving examples of extremely low wages in comparison to even working women in the UK who are paid higher rates for the same job than is paid overseas.

The argument, wives are told, is that they don't pay tax. They have to declare all earnings and are taxed accordingly.

They want to pay tax and earn a realistic sum, not be penalised at every turn.

The Armed Forces Pay Review Body in 1983 said they "are aware of the difficulty that service wives have in finding employment overseas". Surely, we are entitled to have the same rate for the job as is paid in the UK when working for the same Government employer.

The report is worth reading and is obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price £3.00.

The EOC research "Fathers, Childbirth and Work" shows that few worker-fathers receive paternity leave. Spare a thought for the service wife who when overseas does not receive maternity pay like her German and UK contemporary.

The booklet is available free from the Publicity Section EOC, Overseas House, Manchester M3 3HN — tel: 061-833 9244.

### 3. If you can't find work

#### What you should do

##### Careers office

If you can't find a job when you leave school and if you are under 18 years old, register for work at your local education authority careers office. You will be given NI starting credits until you start work. Unless you think you've paid enough NI contributions to claim unemployment benefit, you don't have to sign on until you can claim supplementary benefit.

unemployment benefit. Go to the unemployment Benefit Office taking your P45 tax form or a note of your NI number with you.

- **Supplementary benefit** — for people not in full-time work who don't have enough to live on. You can't claim it if you are living with your husband, or with a man as his wife, or you have £2,500 in savings (in 1982). You can get it on top of

#### How to claim supplementary benefit

- If you are under 18 years old and need money the careers office will give you a card to take to an Unemployment Benefit Office (UBO). If you are over 18 years old and need money go direct to the UBO. If it is over 6 miles to the UBO ask if you can make other claims by post.

At the UBO ask for claim form B1, fill it in and send it to the social security office. The UBO will give

but you must be willing to take job as soon as one turns up. If you are aged between 16 and 19 your hours of study must be less than 15 a week (including homework). After 3 months you can study for up to 21 hours a week (excluding homework) provided your course is a different one.

#### Child benefit

- Your parents or guardian can go on getting child benefit for you,
- from the time you leave school

## Equal Pay? Not yet!

The following table, reproduced from the EOC report, shows average gross hourly earnings excluding the effects of overtime, for employees aged 18 and over from 1970 to 1982.

	Pence per hour							
	1970	1974	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Men	67.4	104.8	177.4	200.3	226.9	280.7	322.5	354.8
Women	42.5	70.6	133.9	148.0	185.7	206.4	241.2	282.1
Differential	24.9	34.2	43.5	52.3	61.2	74.3	81.3	92.7
Women's earnings as a % of men's	63.1	67.4	75.5	73.9	73.0	73.5	74.8	73.9

Extracts from NP 12/April 83 Social Security, School Leavers and Students.

What you pay and what you get explains exactly how a UK school leaver/student can apply or not.

Yet if the reason is that Supplementary Benefit is not exportable then something must be done to compensate for the loss of financial provision.



# STARS SET TO 'LIGHT-UP' HORSE GUARDS

"IF THE END result is not absolutely staggering I'll shoot myself," said Michael Parker, the producer of the first ever 'Son et Lumiere' to be held at Horse Guards', Whitehall. Nightly (9pm) from 17 August to 8 September the most spectacular show ever staged by SSAFA will bring to 34,000 people — if every ticket is sold — 'The Heart of the Nation'.

The voices from a galaxy of stars will bring alive events from Tudor times, bringing to reality the events which took place behind the famous facade.

Young Elizabeth fighting for survival, Charles I's execution, Cromwell, Charles II and there is a place for Nell Gwynn. Napoleonic and Crimean wars follow, news of Nelson's death reaching the Old Admiralty;

even Dover House and Lady Caroline Lamb, plus Downing Street and all the famous men who have passed through No 10.

Churchill (circa 1940) takes the long triumphant walk across the Parade ground from the Admiralty to No 10 Downing St.

The script needed to draw this huge period of time together into just 14 hours, was undertaken by the famous playwright Rosemary Anne Sisson, of Upstairs Downstairs, The Six Wives of Henry VIII, Duchess of Duke Street and a host of other famous TV series.

## CHALLENGE

"It took two years of research to find the right lines for Wellington. I had to read two huge volumes on the Duke, but it was a marvellous challenge."

Sitting behind the Duke of Wellington's desk alongside two of the famous stars, David Langton, who plays Asquith, had no hesitation in accepting the invitation to take part.

Among other voices you will hear are Anthony Andrews, Peter Barkworth, Isabel Dean, Maurice Denham, Rupert Everett, John Gielgud, Hannah Gordon, Robert Hardy, Jeremy Irons, Gordon Jackson, Penelope Keith, Philip Madoc, Keith Hinchell and Paul Scofield.

Under the guidance of BBC director Christopher Venning, the mammoth task of putting words and music together is not easy when they have been recorded in hundreds of different sessions.

It is a 'first', too, for Robert Ormby who has for three years, done the lighting for the Royal Tournament and Edinburgh Tattoo, and is world-famous for lighting stills for over 300 major productions.

550kW of power will surge through 1/2 million feet of cable to bring this production to the nation.

Ticket information from: 'Heart of the Nation', 27 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BZ (Tel: 01-222 9228).



David Langton, left and Gordon Jackson with scriptwriter Rosemary Anne Sisson preparing for "The Heart of a Nation" — and perhaps thinking of "Upstairs, Downstairs" as well!

I am writing in connection with your application for certificate E111.

I would like to explain that certificate E111, which provides cover for free or reduced cost medical treatment within the European Community through the social security schemes of the Member States, does not provide cover for serving members of Her Majesty's Forces and their dependants, who are stationed in Germany.

I understand that information concerning the procedure to be followed should emergency civilian medical treatment be needed in the Federal Republic of Germany, is contained in Service instructions.

However, I am enclosing certificate E111 to provide medical coverage in other EEC countries you may be visiting.

● I received the above letter from DHSS in reply to my application for E111. The letter I felt, is extremely unclear as to where one finds these Service instructions, especially if you are en-route to your new posting.

I have asked the DHSS to clarify the letter and they agreed. I also asked the MOD for the necessary instructions to be mentioned in the DHSS letter, so before you leave UK you are aware of these special instructions for the Federal Republic of Germany.

Remember to ask for your E111 to cover a year if you are on a posting to an EEC country.

If you are not in possession of an E111 ask at your DHSS office or BFPO for DHSS leaflet. Application form CM1 is at the back of the leaflet.

This also applies to all UK relatives, friends, children visiting an EEC country for a holiday. They too should be in possession of an E111.

My name is Ruth Taylor and I am 18. I have just completed a two-year nursery nursing course and I would be grateful if you could assist in helping me to obtain a position of a

## ASK ANNE

nanny, possibly in the Münster area of Germany.

I have worked with children between the ages of new-born and 10 and enjoyed each aspect. My training enabled me to work at Mary Howitt Infant school with children aged five to seven years, and I also worked with children aged between six weeks and five years.

After that I worked at Derby City Hospital in the maternity unit and then at St Andrew's special school in the nursery and infant department. Next I worked at Ripley nursery school with three to five year olds and I also hold my learner and intermediate certificates.

Miss Ruth Taylor, 3 Holbrook Row, Woodlane, Horsely Woodhouse, Derbyshire DE7 6BN.

● Ruth has also now passed her driving test. Can anyone help her in finding a job?

After reading an article recently published in the 'Lemgo Look' magazine I felt I had to write to you to express my thanks for all the campaigning you have done, and are currently engaged in, regarding the quite substantial anomalies in the amounts of money service wives may claim whilst residing in Great Britain compared with their entitlements when living and working in West Germany.

I feel that the explanations offered by the DHSS and the Minis-

try of Defence are inadequate, especially in the case of the working wife who pays the same NI contributions as her UK counterpart. If she doesn't qualify for such things as maternity pay, supplementary benefit for unemployed youth, redundancy pay and unemployment benefit after the initial three month period, then just what are her contributions contributing to?

In my own case, I work for the Army as a clerk typist, and have recently been told that I am to be made redundant in the early part of 1984, and it would seem that I will have absolutely no right to redundancy payment, or anything else.

Also, a couple of months ago, when I was three months pregnant prior to a miscarriage, I had included maternity pay in my budget forecast, as I had no idea that I would not be entitled to it. It never occurred to me that I wouldn't be entitled as all the relevant contributions had been paid.

The working wife is something of a minority in the community and therefore may sometimes feel that although she is being discriminated against she is not adequately armed with the correct statistics and information required to speak out on her own behalf and put the situation right by demanding the same rights as her UK-dwelling sister.

I envisage that there is a long way to go before this unfair position is corrected, and a spokesperson such as yourself, who is not afraid to speak out and defend the rights of working wives, is a vital requirement.

Finally, thank you once again for all your efforts.

Mrs M. BFPO 41.

● I have submitted a letter to Civil Management on the problem of redundancy as it faces Mrs M and the other 5 wives who have recently been made redundant and I await a reply. Regarding maternity pay, this too I am seeking an answer on.



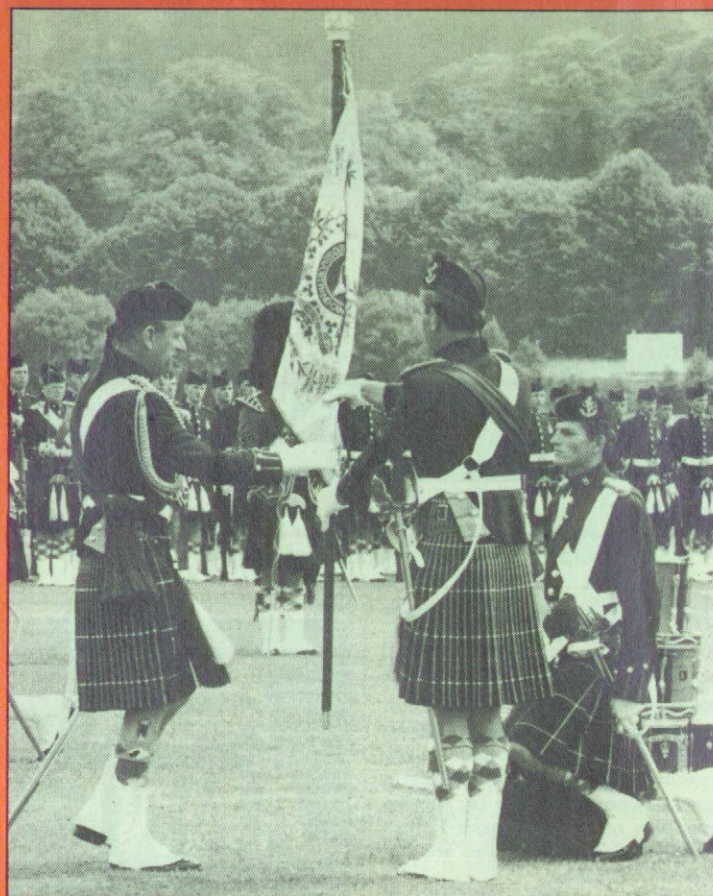
# NEW COLOURS

IT WAS a day of double celebration for men of 1st Battalion Queen's Own Highlanders at Tidworth when they not only received new colours from their Colonel-in-Chief, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh but a Wilkinson Sword of Peace as well. It was accepted by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas Ridley.

The sword was initially handed to Prince Philip by Sir Anthony Royle, Honorary President Wilkinson Sword Group, who made the award to mark outstanding service by the battalion in the Falklands after the war last year.

Addressing the parade at Tidworth Tattoo ground Prince Philip said the Sword "bears witness to the invaluable services performed by all ranks" and also referred to "another unexpected form of service not far from Newbury. Neither of these jobs can have been all that welcome but they were carried out with traditional dedication and good humour".

Prince Philip presented the old Colours to the Battalion just over



Prince Philip presents the new colours, above, and is seen below inspecting the Battalion and saluting the new Colours during the march off.

19 years ago and must have been as moved as everyone else present when they were marched off to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Among the many VIPs at this splendid occasion was Major General Sir David Thorne, who was Commander in the Falklands when the battalion undertook their many tasks ranging from collecting ammunition, removing rubbish, cleaning streets and buildings, filling in trenches, and helping with medical and educational assistance. ■



Presentation of the Sword. ▲

Prince Philip addresses the Battalion. ▼



Story: Peter Howard  
Picture: Frank Voice



# NEW GUIDON

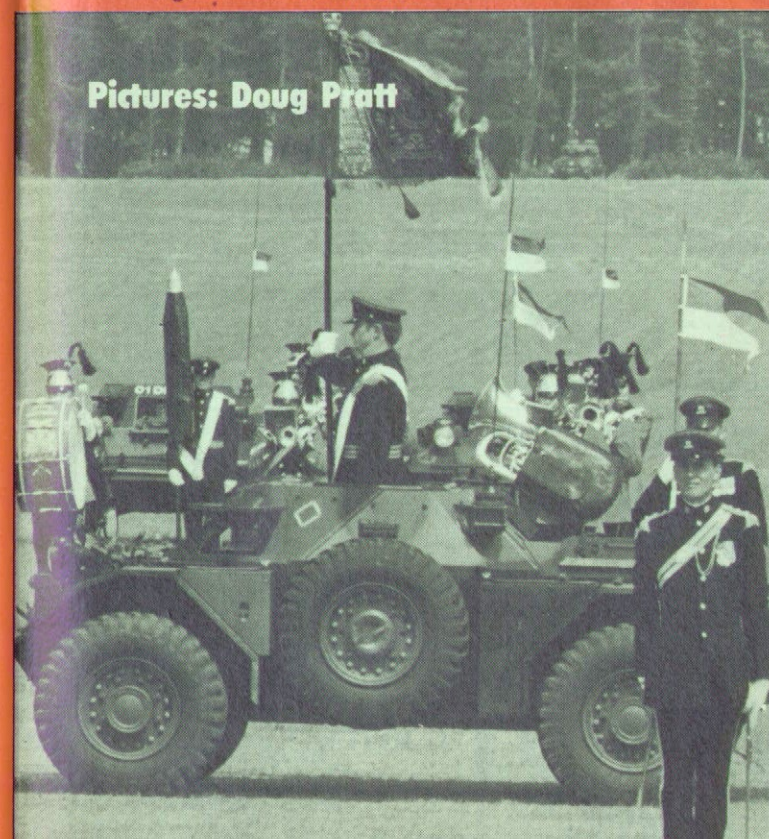
A FEW DAYS before their infantry friends received new Colours, the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers were presented with a new Guidon on Salisbury Plain by The Queen, their Colonel-in-Chief.

Addressing the regiment, The Queen said: "Wherever you have served, from Aden to Hong Kong, from Cyprus to Northern Ireland, you have adapted with professional skill to the role for which you have been called, and you have consistently done credit to the regiment and to the Brit-

ish Army. The mastery of new skills and new weapons is a constant challenge in today's Army but it is comforting to remember that military success in war and peace is still founded on those eternal virtues of courage, loyalty and discipline for which the regiment has always been renowned". ■

The new Guidon is driven through the ranks, above, and below men of the regiment on parade with lances.

Pictures: Doug Pratt



The Queen preparing to inspect her regiment.



Men and armour lined-up for inspection.





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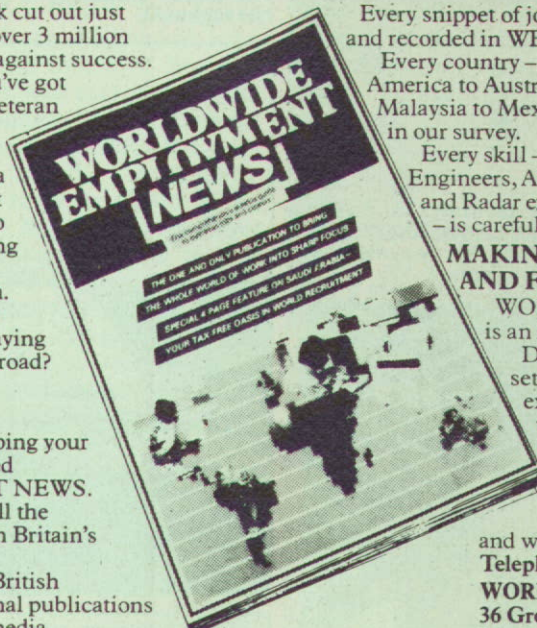
However - believe it or not - you've got an ace up your sleeve... you're a veteran traveller...

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Sol 4





## OH! WHAT A LOVELY CHORE

**T**HE MILITARY CLOCK was turned back 68 years on the main parade square of Pirbright's famed Guards Depot as 35 Welsh Guardsmen — 16 of them survivors from the ill-fated Sir Galahad at Fitzroy — donned £600 uniforms of First World War vintage, puttees, long bayonets in scabbards and clutched .303 Lee Enfield rifles — all specially hired from a London theatrical costumiers.

The all fresco occasion was the first fitting of the uniforms for a sequence in the Cardiff Tattoo, the UK's biggest in terms of participating numbers and size of arena with its 8000-seat capacity, which was under way as SOLDIER went to press.

Their role is a guard mounting scenario outside a mock-up of Buckingham Palace in 1915 — a

task not dissimilar from one they have been pursuing this year during which they have been engaged in public duties at locations such as Windsor Castle.

But this particular tailor's parade broke with all the stern traditions of the Depot's history as uniforms were carefully laid out on the grass. The idea was to fit the uniform to the soldier.

Those who failed to ease their sturdy frames within the khaki confines of the hired attire from Bermans and Nathans would, alas, have to content themselves with appearing in scarlet tunics of this day and age at the Tattoo.

Hot and itchy to the young men from the valleys, the Guardsmen will be wearing the uniforms with forage caps on a dozen occasions — ten evening performances and a couple of matinees during the two-hour-

ten-minute Tattoo.

At Pirbright the youngsters did the best they could getting into and understanding the correct accoutrements of the uniforms probably worn by many of their grandads.

"Webbing straps under the epaulettes, you burke," yelled one senior NCO doyen. A teenage Guardsman nodded nervously, his forage cap trying to find its own point of balance on his head.

Company Sergeant Brian Neck, 18 years in the Army, suddenly bawled: "And, oh yes, . . . you must all have 1915 haircuts! We must do the job properly. When you've finished here, all get down the barbers!"

There, Mrs Denise King, a hairdresser for nine years, from Cardiff — her husband Guardsman Stewart King is with the HQ Squadron — obliged.

Guardsman Dean Hunt, 18 in the Army for two years said: "I only had a haircut a week ago, but I don't mind. It's all in a good public eye cause."

**Story: Graham Smith**

**Pictures: Paul Haley**

On the parade ground, scene of so many thousands of crunching, bulled boots and inspiring oratory from instructors, the "time machine" Welsh Guardsmen were getting to grips with their foot drill combined with that used for the .303 Lee Enfield. Rumour had it that a well-thumbed drill manual of the time had been consulted!

But fact confirmed that a drill

sergeant would give them a 60-minute session of how to do it in the high, humid temperatures.

If they were uncomfortable in the kit of nearly 70 years ago, the young Guardsmen tried not to show it as wrinkled ammo pouches clung to the webbing compressed against their five-button tunics. It was a fun day. Several had been "promoted" just for the occasion and they must have felt like film extras on a set without cameras and arc lamps.

Guardsman David Evans — "eight-seven" — realised his work was going to be cut out bulling up the webbing — with blanco!

"We've all signed for this kit which, they tell us, is worth £600 and, after today, it will be locked away. We will have to blanco the webbing which is something we've never done before. It's going to be a new experience."

Ever aware of pride in the Welsh Guards, Major Charles Bremner, OC of Number Three Company, 1st Bn Welsh Guards, said: "The Tattoo will probably be the last time the Principality will see a formation of Welsh Guardsmen until 1988 for we are going on a four-year tour to Hohna, BAOR, as part of 22 Brigade, 1 Armoured Division."

Final word of approbation for the wardrobe session at Pirbright came from Company Sergeant Neck who said: "Considering this is the first fitting, they're looking tidy. They'll all look fine come the Tattoo."

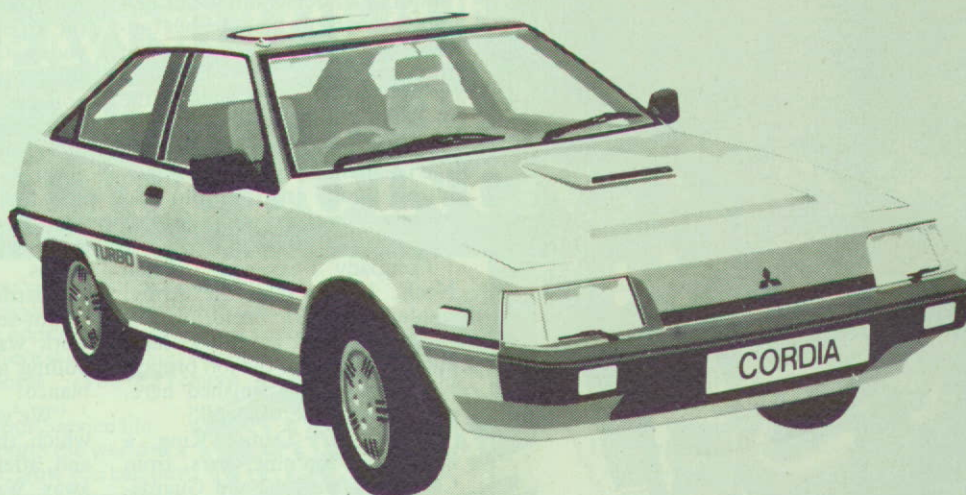
Five of their number — still in the uniforms — are taking part in a tableau showing a captured First World War German Trench. The Welsh Guards will also be showing evidence of their presence in the Falklands.

The London costumiers have loaned the Welsh Guards a total of 72 uniforms for both the Buckingham Palace and trench set pieces.

Mr George Bennett, head of the Military Section, told SOLDIER: "The uniforms the lads have on loan have not appeared in any films and some of the trousers were made specially."







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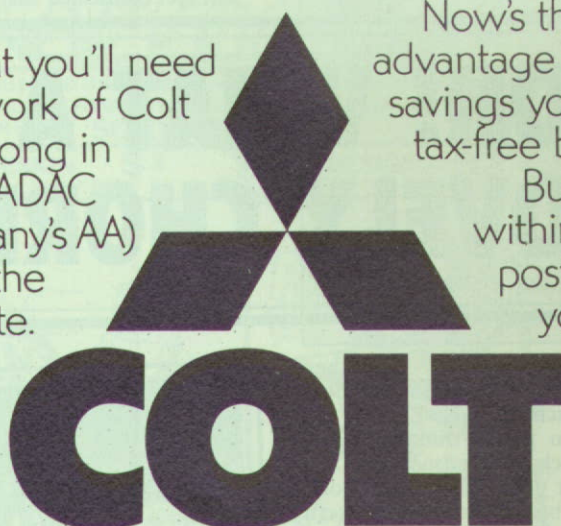
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**T**HE FIRST floating hotel, specially built for the Army, is on its way to the Falklands.

The 5,500-ton accommodation barge *Pursuivant* will house 874 men and ease considerably the living quarter situation in the South Atlantic islands.

The five-storey vessel is being shipped there, on board the semi-submersible *Dyvi Swan*, 19,216 tons, and should arrive at the end of the 8,000-mile voyage in about a month's time.

Built at Lowestoft, Suffolk, the 300ft-long by 90ft wide vessel is well equipped with three large social areas, a multi-gym, a squash court with wooden floor, special walls and protective glass screen and a comfortable bar area.

It even has its own medical centre and hospital.

It also has a comprehensive library and the added bonus of a double-glazed window in every room — something that is missing on the first of the floating hotels that has been in the Falklands for some months now.

Another acceptable amenity on board is a "stainless steel cow" which, its manufacturers claim, will produce milk undistinguishable from the real thing.

With fresh milk unobtainable in the Falklands because the Argentinians slaughtered the best of the islands' herds, this "cow" will ensure that breakfast goes with a snap, crackle and pop for the soldiers lucky enough to get a berth on board *Pursuivant*.

Tastefully decorated throughout the rooms will house either

two or four men.

No distinction has been made between officers and men's quarters — they are all the same. The same colour and with the same fittings.

Prior to the naming ceremony at Lowestoft by Lady Travers, widow of Lieutenant General Sir Paul Travers the former Quartermaster General of the Army, the vessel was given a last minute check by a five-strong team of Sappers from Chatham.

Warrant officers Keith Corbet, Dixie Dean, Graham Pattenden, Staff Sergeant Andy Walters and Sergeant Denis Pasfield have been carrying out technical checks on the vessel for some time, but as the army of women cleaners put the finishing touches to gleaming floors, walls and stainless steel fittings the REs moved in for a final look "just to make sure."

"No problems," said WO1 Keith Corbet as he took a last look at the six generators capable of producing 1000 kilowatts each.

Fireproofed and safe even the shower units are fitted with fire sprinklers.

"Unusual," he said, "but better safe than sorry."

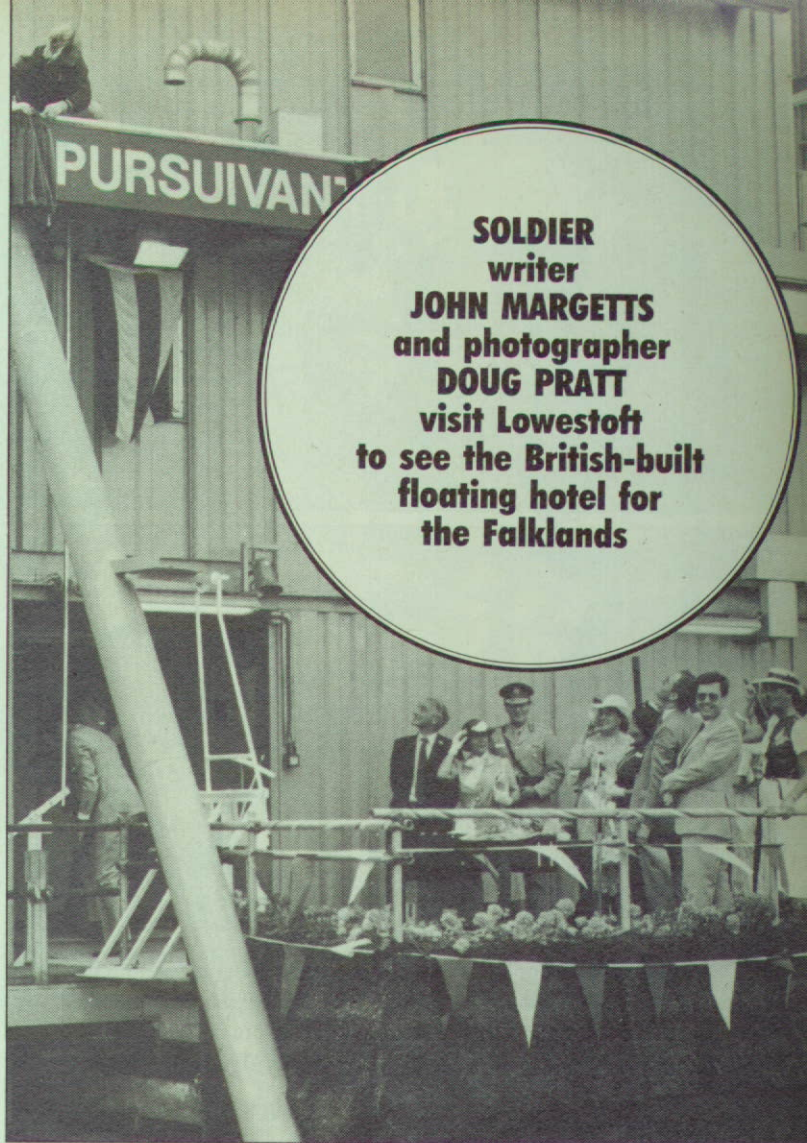
One fault he spotted on his last round was a lavatory with the lock on the outside of the door instead of the inside.

"Now that could be awkward. We'll have to get that put right," he said.

But it was all systems go when Lady Travers arrived for the naming ceremony together with

*continued on page 32*

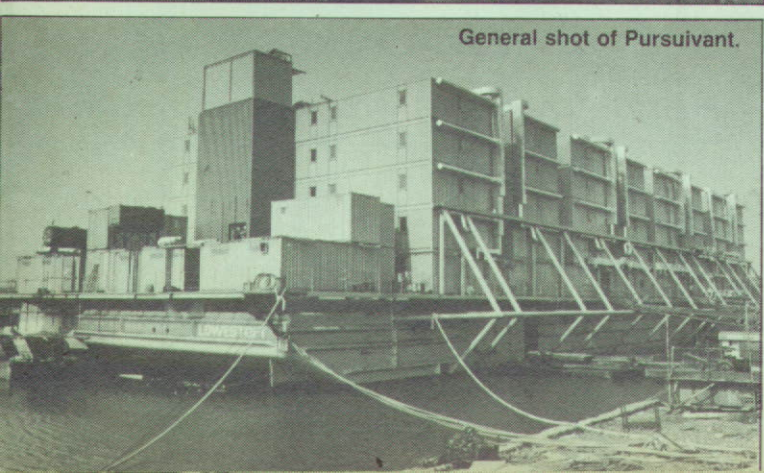
**SOLDIER  
writer  
JOHN MARGETTS  
and photographer  
DOUG PRATT  
visit Lowestoft  
to see the British-built  
floating hotel for  
the Falklands**



## Pursuivant is prepared!



Finishing touches to the kitchen.



General shot of Pursuivant.



The Royal Engineers 'checkers'. From left — WO1s Keith Corbet and 'Dixie' Dean, SSgt Andy Walters, Sgt Denis Pasfield, WO1 Graham Pattenden.





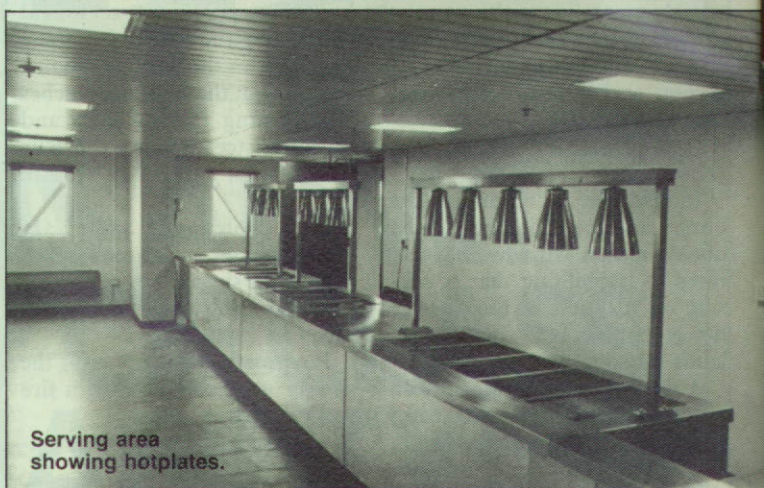
Squash court in use!



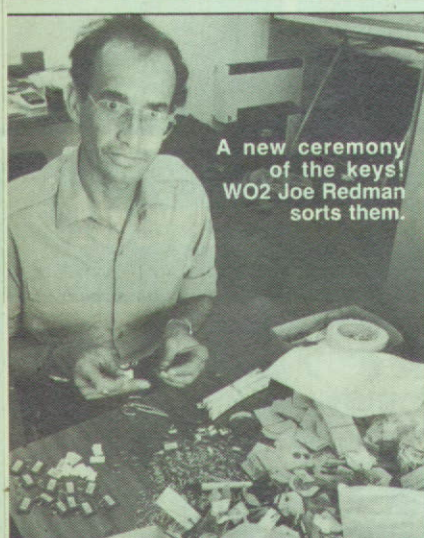
Washroom facilities.



WO1 Keith Corbet on a tour of inspection.



Serving area showing hotplates.



A new ceremony of the keys!  
WO2 Joe Redman sorts them.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces.

As the band of the 3rd Royal Anglian Regiment played, Lady Travers sent a bottle of vintage champagne crashing into the side of the vessel to name it *Pursuivant*.

In an interview following the naming ceremony, Lord Trefgarne said that living standards for the lads in the Falklands are poor indeed, but since the occupation there had been a steady improvement.

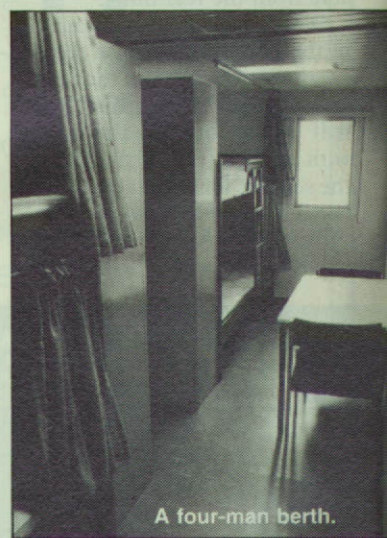
He said the *Pursuivant* was the third floating barge for the Falklands and cost a lot of money, but with the distance involved there

was no alternative.

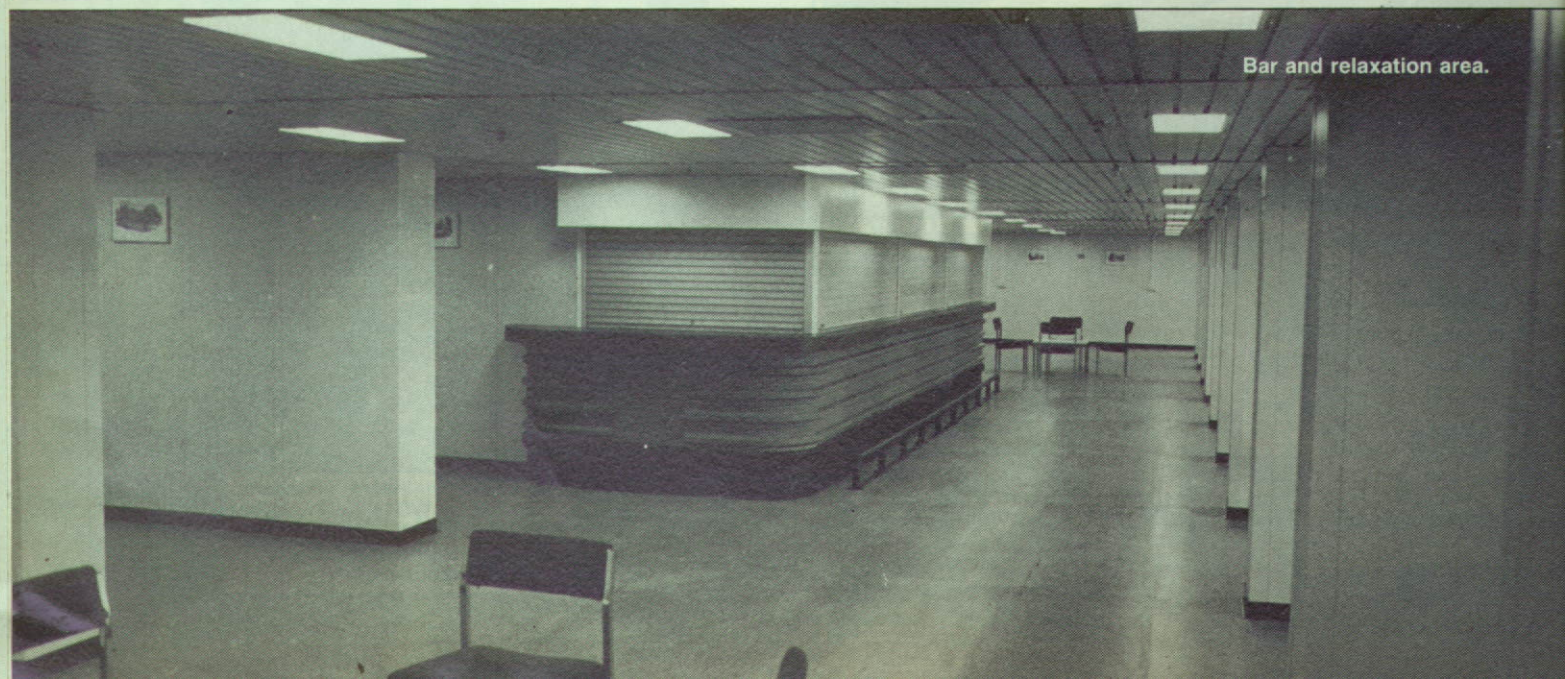
He estimated running costs at about £700 a day.

Following a short walk about the vessel, he said the accommodation looked very comfortable and with the other two floating hotels already there, will accommodate 2,500 soldiers.

For the technically-minded *Pursuivant* — named after a 1939-45 war base in the islands — is made up of 300-plus standard steel containers. It was built in six months by 250 workers of Sea and Land Pipelands of Lowestoft and is a completely self-supporting unit usable, say the builders, anywhere in the world.



A four-man berth.



Bar and relaxation area.



**SALLY DANIELL**  
*WATCHES the first  
 WRAC girls leave for  
 the Falklands after  
 'surviving' the cameras*

POSING FOR a battery of Fleet Street photographers on the parade Square at the WRAC Centre, Guildford, the 19 WRAC girls could scarcely believe that 24 hours later they would be sailing down to the Falklands.

They stood self-consciously in a most un-military line, carefully crafted by the nation's top photographers who sought to emphasise their femininity, despite the combat kit. A pair of red shoes lay on the ground, seemingly having tumbled from a kit-bag; and mascot Fred stood proprietorially at the head of the line.

But when a hair brush was called for, and other sundry female paraphernalia, the girls drew the line. 'What do they think we are,' they grumbled, their professionalism insulted. "We're soldiers!"

And indeed, their military skills will be very much appreciated, as much as their sex, when they reach the garrison at Stanley where they will be employed as clerks, cooks, postal and courier operators and stores specialists.

This is the first group of WRAC volunteers to be posted to the Falklands to join the thousands of Servicemen and a number of nurses from the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Under the command of Cap-

All aboard for the Falklands

With kitbags ready —  
 and mascot Fred resting.



## NOW FOR THE REAL TASK



Capt Di Foster . . . in charge

tain Di Foster the detachment includes two sergeants, five corporals and four lance corporals. They will be posted to various units in the garrison but billeted together in a private house.

Corporal Sarah Hickson said she had volunteered "but I expect we will be working long

*continued on page 34*



# Your Cap Badge

No. 47

## THE STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

(The Prince of Wales's)

The Regimental secondary title of "The Prince of Wales's" and its connection with the County of Staffordshire are suitably represented in the design you see illustrated here currently worn in the headdress of the soldiers of this regiment. The Stafford Knot is an old badge of the county and of the de Stafford family.

This regiment is the successor to four Regiments of Foot of which the oldest was the 38th regiment, raised 1705 named 38th (1st Staffordshire) Regiment in 1782 to become The 1st Battalion The South Staffordshire Regiment in 1881. The 80th Regiment raised 1793 as the 80th (Staffordshire Volunteers) Regiment became The 2nd Battalion The South Staffordshire Regiment in 1881.

The Knot had been a feature of the badges of both regiments but was discarded to be replaced by the Sphinx super-scribed "Egypt" for wear in the helmet and glengarry. The badge and Honour commemorated the services of the 80th in Egypt 1801.

On the introduction of the small cap badge in 1897 the knot re-appeared surmounted by the Victorian crown, all

above a scroll inscribed "South Staffordshire".

The 64th Regiment was raised in 1756 as the 2nd Battalion of The 11th Regiment to be given the higher number two years later. In 1782 it received the secondary title of 2nd Staffordshire.

The knot had adorned several of the head-dress badges in the period prior to the year 1881 when it became The 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment).

The 98th Regiment entered the Army List in 1824 to receive the secondary title of "The Prince of Wales's" in 1876 and to join the 64th Regiment as The 2nd Battalion of the combined regiment.

The Prince's crest appeared on the helmet and glengarry of the North Staffords and, in 1897, surmounted the Knot beneath which was a scroll inscribed "North Stafford".

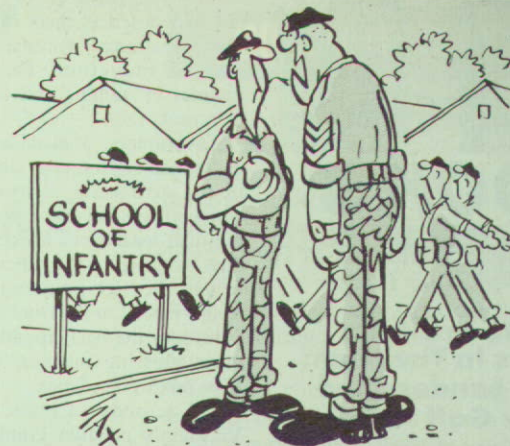
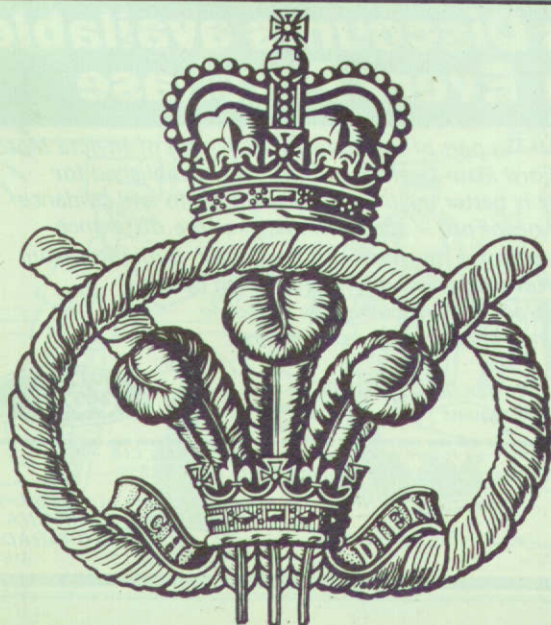
This badge was used until the amalgamation with the South Staffords in 1959, when it was replaced by the badge of the Mercian Brigade.

This in turn was succeeded by the present badge taken into use in 17th September 1970.

With the inclusion of the Prince of Wales's plumes, coronet and motto, it might be thought that it gave greater emphasis to the former North Staffords. However, behind the badge is a piece of Holland material which had been similarly used in the South Staffords from 1935. It commemorates the 57 years which the 38th Regiment spent in the West Indies, where they were so badly supplied that this type of sacking material was used to repair and make uniforms in the absence of the proper cloth.

HUGH L. KING.

Next issue:  
The Black Watch

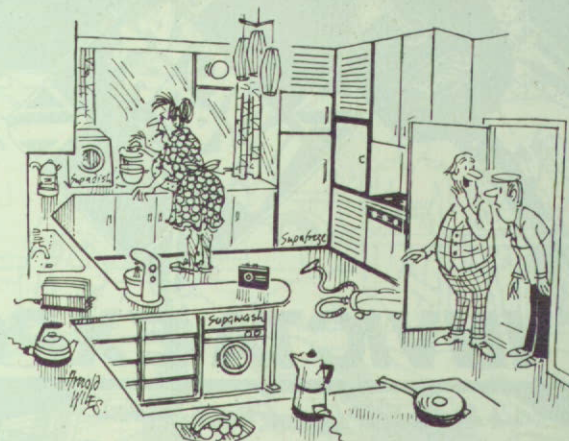


"This 'apple for the teacher' stuff doesn't apply here, Simpkins."

# Humour



"He's too damn calm and collected. I think we're lost."



"Everything in here has been approved by the Design Centre except the wife."





Cpl Sonya Steinert

hours. I'm a postie and there's so much mail going down there I think I'll be very busy.

"We spent a week in Wales as a training exercise and although it was tough, I enjoyed it. We spent one night out on the moors in a polythene bag and got bitten to death!"

Corporal Sonya Steinert who had recently come from 29 Coy WRAC in Rheindahlen told SOLDIER she was going so that she could add the Falklands to the list of places she had visited. "For me, it's just another country to conquer — I have travelled a lot with the Army but I still

want to get to as many places as I can. All my friends expect me to bring back penguins for them but I don't think I'll manage that!

"We seem to have a good bunch of girls going and as long as we can keep morale up it should be OK. I don't think we'll have trouble though — we all have a good laugh together!"

Most of the girls expect to be back in time for Christmas, and Captain Foster does not envisage boredom being a problem. "There'll be plenty for the girls to do," she said. "They'll all be working pretty hard but there will be entertainment for them with the CSE shows, video and discos. I'm a great believer in making your own entertainment anyway.

"There won't be time for much else although we will try and fit in some training and on board ship on the way down we will be doing some weapon training. Some of the girls haven't had a great deal of practice in that."

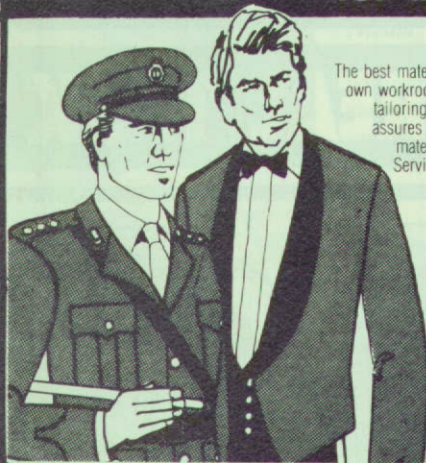
Meanwhile, it's back to the photographers, the smiles now becoming fixed and the happy waves a little droopy. The little one fifth from the end of the line just will not do what the photographers want in order to create the picture for the nationals.



But following the maxim that today's newspapers are tomorrow's fish and chip wrappers, the girls can soon forget their brief

Cpl Sarah Hickson newsworthiness and get on with the real glory — the hard work of soldiering. ■

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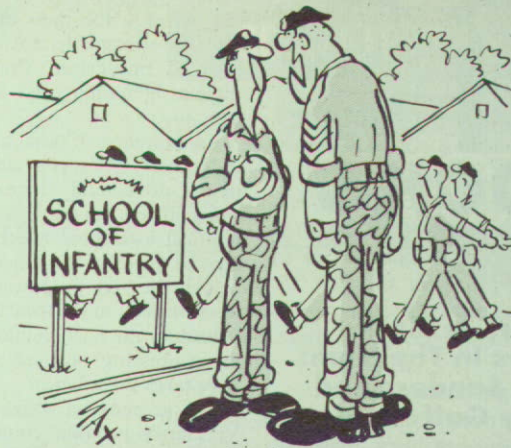
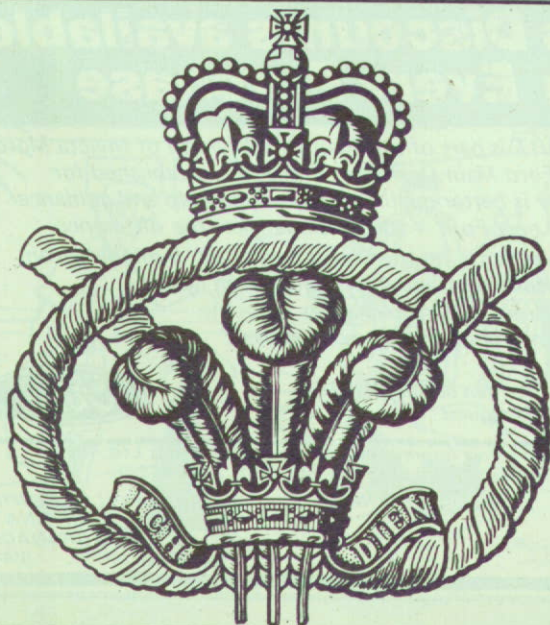
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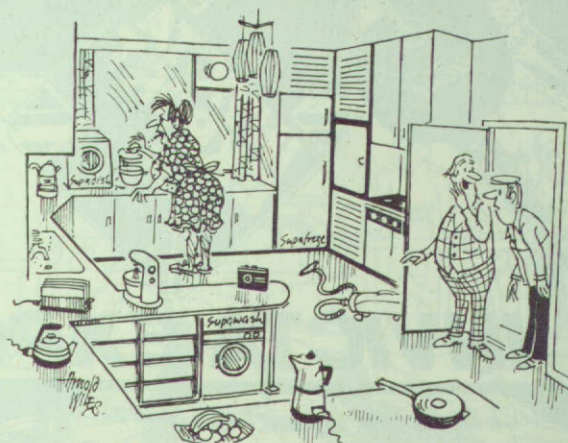


"This 'apple for the teacher' stuff doesn't apply here, Simpkins."

# Humour

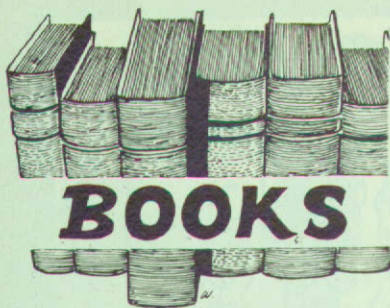


"He's too damn calm and collected. I think we're lost."



"Everything in here has been approved by the Design Centre except the wife."





## BOOKS

### Brothers — Black Soldiers In The Nam: Robert Sanders and Stanley Goff

The experience of black American soldiers in the Vietnam War is inevitably a politically and racially sensitive issue, for as much as fifty per cent of the troops in the combat zones were black, mostly at the lowest ranks, under white officers, and at a time when the violent social upheavals of the Civil Rights movements at home polarised views on colour.

Mercifully, however, *Brothers* chose to tackle its subject not through academic analysis or radical polemic, but rather through the experiences of two black soldiers who lived through it. Sanders and Goff were scarcely out of their teens when they were drafted in 1968, at the time of the Tet Offensive.

Organised by an expert in modern oral history, a former professor at the University of Berkeley, Clark Smith,

the two describe their experiences, from the strange, dehumanising process of induction, through the traumas of training and on to Vietnam.

An awareness of racial tension pervades their stories, emerging not only in the occasional ill-treatment by white officers but also in an increased political awareness which led both men to question the official motives behind the high proportion of black troops posted to the front line; but it fades into the background when the more pressing business of staying alive takes precedence.

The accounts of active service in Vietnam's peculiar conditions are vividly recalled as both men pass from scared newcomers to veterans, adjusting to the bizarre and nightmarish world where the possibility of ambush heightened the tension of a patrol through the paddyfield to an extraordinary degree, or a helicopter landing in a clearing held the promise of a jump onto carefully prepared boobytraps.

Although both men were decorated — Goff won the Distinguished Service Cross for his expert handling of an M60 machine gun during a heavy fire-fight — their experiences are by no means untypical of thousands of soldiers, both black and white. Allowed to tell it in their own words, they paint a particularly revealing picture.

*Arms and Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London, NW3 1QQ — £8.95*

JK

### A History of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards 1685-1980: J. M. Brereton

It is surprising that so little has been written about the history of these two famous regiments (4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards and 7th Dragoon Guards (Princess Royal's) which were amalgamated in 1922.

However, now that the regiment has decided to do so, they have to be congratulated on making a very good job of it. This is an excellently writ-

ten regimental history, full of documented facts and including many quotations from private papers and diaries; of the latter, readers will enjoy Trooper Baker's description of the landing on D-Day in Normandy and the subsequent fighting in the 'bocage' country — '... we moved along a hedge with the infantry trudging alongside, when machine-gun tracer started whistling through it... of course they had no effect on the tanks but the Feet didn't like them a bit'.

The Regimental Museum is shortly due to move to York and this history will provide the display consultant with marvellous material with which to work but sadly he will not have one of the regiment's great treasures — the Victoria Cross of General Sir Adrian Carton de Wiart. This was stolen last year from the Museum in Halifax.

If the thief happens to read this, perhaps he will be induced to return it.

*Published by The 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, Peronne Lines, Caterick Garrison, Yorks.*

PSN

### Ring of Fire: Dick Horton Retreat from Kokoda: Raymond Paull

Publisher Leo Cooper, who combined forces with Secker & Warburg a year or two ago, has been going through a period of attention to the Far East theatre in World War Two, particularly the Australians' part in operations, both clandestine and conventional against the Japanese.

It is claimed that *Ring of Fire* is the first published account of the activities of the British-inspired Australian Special Forces, which had the cover name of Services Reconnaissance Department, and the 2/2nd and 2/4th Australian Independent Companies on Timor, together with a description of some private enterprise guerrilla operations, such as those of Dr Albert Kwok, who led enthusiastic and heroic but, it must be said, impetuous, insurgent attacks in North

Borneo.

The amazing 5,000 mile voyage of *HMAS Krait*, an ex-Japanese fishing boat built in the 1920s, from Australia in September/October 1943 to Singapore, where her raiding parties sunk an estimated 50,000 tons of Japanese shipping, is a story worth an epic film, particularly as the vessel still survives as a rescue training ship in Sydney Harbour.

The Services Reconnaissance Department's last task was to use its Z Special Unit to organise the revolt in Borneo to harass the Japanese at the time of the Allied invasion. These difficult operations are fully described in this book.

We are all too accustomed to read accounts of World War Two written by historians, some of whom were not even born when the events were being enacted.

In this case, the author was a member of the Force which is the subject of his book, thus bringing a refreshing air of authenticity, especially in the revelations of the specialised surface and submersible craft built for and employed by the Australian SRD. This comes as a surprise to many who thought they knew the equipment of the period.

What emerges from Raymond Paull's *Retreat from Kokoda* is the sheer heart and body-breaking conditions of jungle warfare.

The book is a well researched documentation of the campaign that began in 1942, when the Japanese invaded the north coast of New Guinea to be faced by the diminutive Australian New Guinea Force.

It is the story of the Kokoda Trail, which sounds like a Wild West pioneering route but was, in parts, no more than an inhospitable mountain and jungle footpath with extremes of climate and attendant tropical perils and discomforts.

Raymond Paull's book is not only a documentary, it is a tribute to the courage and endurance of the men who took part, both Australian and, in justice, those who wore Japanese uniform.

*Leo Cooper/Secker & Warburg, £8.95 and £11.50 respectively.*

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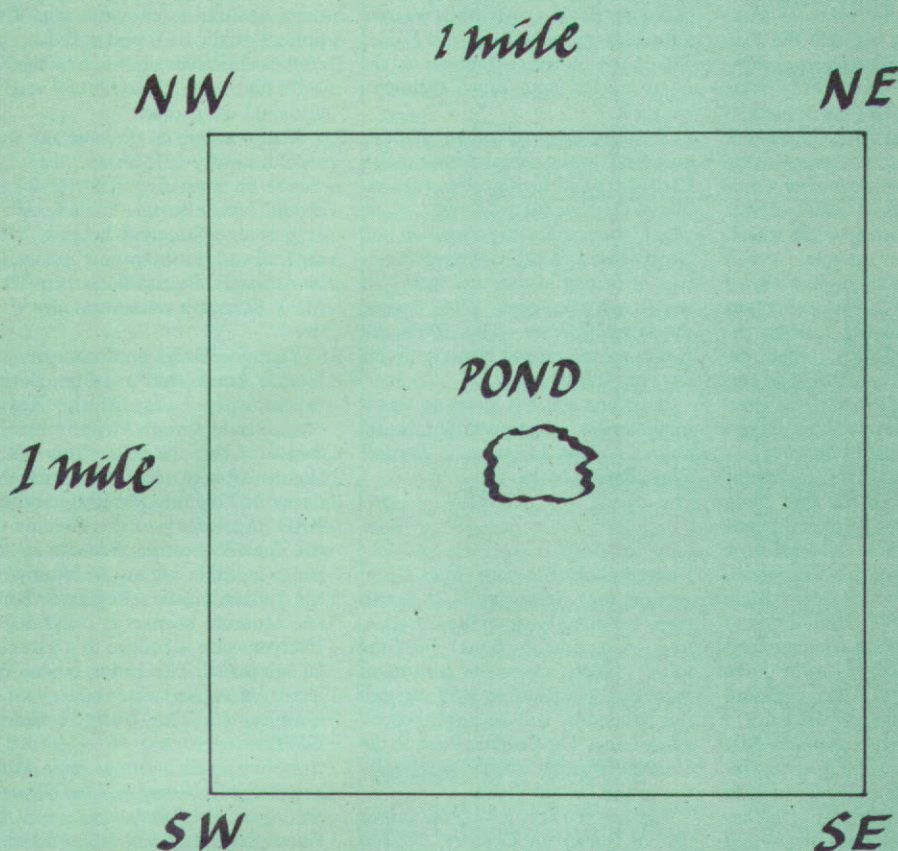
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# GRASS FAMILY

COMPETITION 323



**T**HE Grass brothers — all four of them — were farmers in a small way. Their father had left them a square piece of land the boundary of which measured four miles. The sides ran North-South and East-West. It was his wish that each of the sons should have access to the large pond in the centre of the piece of land.

Further, he stipulated that no son should have to cross another son's land to get to the pond: and each son should have access to the pond by one of the corner gates without having to cross another's land.

The land was therefore cut up into four

equal parts each 160 acres — the pond being included in the division.

On each of the pieces of land one of the sons built his own farmhouse. Each holding was of exactly the same shape as any of the others: the length of the boundary of each holding being also the same in every case.

The holding which terminated in the south-west was held by the youngest son, Timothy Grass and from his farmhouse the other three farmhouses were in a direct line due north-east. The farmhouses were equally spaced.

Can you show how the land was divided in accordance with the father's wishes? Can

you also, in your sketch, show the position of each farmhouse?

Remember, each holding was of the same shape and size (pond included) and each had to fulfil the conditions — that each son had direct access to the pond from one of the corner gates without crossing another's land. Remember, also, that the farmhouses were in a straight line from SW to NE. One square mile = 640 acres.

Send in your sketch showing the land divisions and the location of each farmhouse — approximately.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 9 September. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 3 October 1983 and no correspondence can be entered into. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 323' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answer by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 323' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

## PRIZES

1: £15

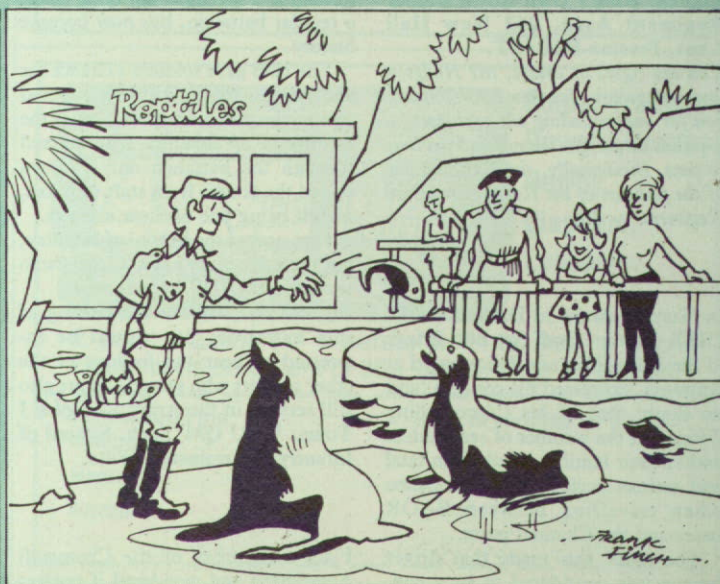
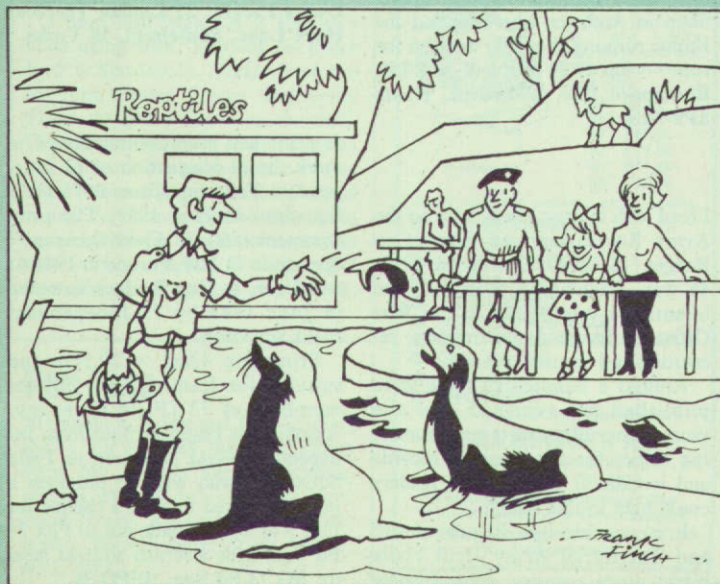
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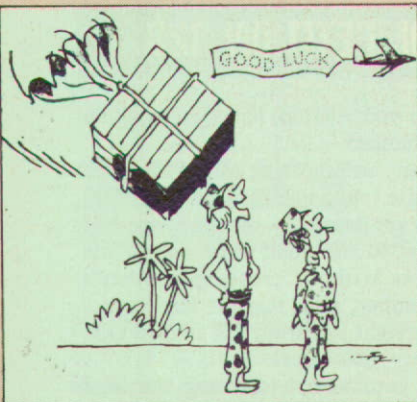
4-5: Six free  
issues of  
**SOLDIER**  
posted direct

## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 39.







Got something to say, a point to make or a story to tell? This is your page to exchange your news, views, comments and opinions. All we ask is that you keep it brief and include your full name and address. Write to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

## HOWLERS

With hundreds of hawk-eyed, amateur military experts eagerly awaiting each fortnightly issue of SOLDIER Magazine so they can spot a 'schoolboy' howler, you have an unenviable task and must view the arrival of SOLDIER into its readers' hands with some trepidation.

However, I feel sure the two errors I have found in the 27 June issue are not intended factual ones but merely typographical errors that have twisted the facts: page 25 — The Royal Scots Battle Honour for Tangier was of course 1680 and not 1860; page 35 — The Loyal Regiment's senior forbear was of course the 47th Foot and not the 37th.

Going back to page 25 and the illustration of the Colour Party. I doubt very much that the Colours are under the blanket. If the Royal Scots are like my regiment they wouldn't uncase the Colours for anything so mundane as a rehearsal (unless it was full dress). Instead they will have two blankets cut to size and fixed to two spare colour pikes. I should imagine that Colours encased in blankets would be far too heavy for the Ensign to manage with one hand — especially if there was any wind and if they were sodden with rain. — Joe Hodgson, Hon Secretary, Preston Branch, King's Own Royal Border Regiment Assn, 262 New Hall Lane, Preston PR1 4ST.

You are right, of course, Mr Hodgson and we apologise for these errors. Thank you for understanding our problems — gremlins do get into the system from time to time. Incidentally, the 37th was one of the forbears of the Royal Hampshire Regiment. — Ed.

## DRIVING AID

In 'Staying awake to Danger' (SOLDIER 21 Mar) Staff Sgt Bob Briggs of the Royal Military Police based at Antwerp, expressed his concern (and no doubt that of his Commanding Officer) at the number of servicemen and/or their families involved in fatal and serious accidents on autobahns when travelling between BAOR bases and the Channel ports.

The point was made that driver fatigue was considered to be a con-

# MAIL DROP

tributory factor, as many of the accidents did not involve other vehicles. My understanding was that the accidents happened when service personnel were driving their own private vehicles and therefore not subject to any legal limitation on the number of hours driven. In some cases drivers had begun their journeys after a normal day's work. As a result drivers were often falling asleep at the wheel.

Quite apart from the tragic loss of life and/or serious injuries sustained there is another most important aspect — that of the loss to the Armed Forces of highly skilled, expensively trained, professional personnel, who whilst probably not irreplaceable would nevertheless cause a temporary loss of unit efficiency.

As a professional driving instructor I am aware of a device now being made available to all drivers of any class of motor vehicle to combat the danger of falling asleep at the wheel, known as the Slarner anti-fatigue safety aid. This was designed and produced by a French company and first distributed among professionals (long distance HGV drivers) and soon proved its absolute efficiency.

The device which is available only through members of the Driving Instructors' Association, is shaped to fit over either ear, regardless of whether or not you wear glasses, is powered by battery and is very light (15 grammes including battery). Medical studies have proved that all drivers who drop off at the wheel, even if there is a headrest, will automatically drop their heads forward, never back or to the side. It follows the movement of the head watching the degree of inclination; as soon as a certain threshold is reached it triggers off the sound alarm in the form of an electrical buzzer. The threshold of inclination beyond which the buzzer is activated, is chosen and can be pre-selected by the driver, according to the position of the driver's head and individual driving posture. — R W Howson, 5 Park Square, Lancaster.

## IDB WAKE

Since its disbandment, the Infantry Demonstration Battalion which was formed as a means of not tying down a regular battalion, has now become history.

The IDB gave soldiers a chance for another posting, and also enabled them to acquire new skills. Out of the hundreds of soldiers who passed through the battalion only 27 men stayed the course from start to finish, myself being one of these soldiers.

I am now at the School of Infantry, but there are quite a few soldiers who served in the IDB here as well.

I, for one, mourn the passing of this battalion, but would be interested to hear the feelings of the other soliders who served and are also still serving in the Army. — Cpl P J Toms, WSU QM Tech, School of Infantry, Warminster, Wilts.

## NO ROYAL ARMY

I am a member of the Cromwell Association and wondered if readers

are aware of why the Army is not called the Royal Army, when we have a Royal Navy and a Royal Air Force? The Army is simply known as the Army — but with Royal regiments within it.

Tradition has it of course, that this goes back to the times of the English Civil Wars and Cromwell's organisation of the New Model Army — upon which the present-day Army is still largely based. What happened then is part of British history and from that day Royalty has never 100% trusted the Army! 95% yes — but 100%, no! Hence the reason why there is, to this day, no 'Royal' Army.

If anyone else has views on this it might make an interesting debating point. — John L Atkins, 2 Tordoff Way, Barry, Glam.

## GURKHA BOOK

I have just read in your 'Mail Drop' section that Brigadier E D Smith plans to write a book on the Gurkhas. In a few months my book 'The Gurkhas', which covers the history of these fine soldiers from 1815 through the Falklands, will be published by Allen Lane, The Penguin Press in the United Kingdom and by W W Norton in the United States.

I am, as you may know, the author of 'For Queen and Country', 'Queen Victoria's Little Wars', 'The Great Boer War' and other books concerning the British Army. — Byron Farwell FRSL, PO Box 81, Hillsboro, VA 22132, USA.

## CHARITY RUN

Exercise Tartan Trot, a Charity Run from Lands End to John O'Groats was successfully completed in July by the members of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment, raising £3125.

A cheque was presented to the headmistress of Wentfield School, Dalkeith to enable her to buy specialised equipment for the Disabled Children who attend there.

May I through your magazine thank the following firms for their generosity: Rangers Talbot Military Sales; Rascal; Gieves Hawkes Military Tailors; Janes Pocket Books; Rediffusion. Also Run-Around Sports Shop in Andover who supplied the Etonic running shoes we wore on the run. — Sgt D H McNeill, 4 RTR, Bhurtpore Bks, Tidworth, Hants SP9 7AS.

## POSTER SEARCH

I read with interest the articles on the Army Recruiting and Army Cap Badges (18 April). During the 1939-45 war, following a year with the infantry, I was posted to the War Office to design Army training, recruiting and security posters.

Around a hundred of these were published but vanished over the years. I am still trying to trace surviving copies for my personal records and wonder if any of your readers could help in this search.

It is possible that Regular Army and Territorial Army Drill Halls might prove a source, since I know

some posters were being displayed in them up until a few years ago. The posters might be found rolled up in cupboard corners and each is signed with my name. Individuals might also hold old copies.

If any readers do discover any and would kindly inform me direct I would be most appreciative. They should not be further folded, rolled or posted beforehand because they are frail and brittle by now and could be damaged. Best to keep them flat. Many thanks in advance to any 'finders'.

Your Cap Badge enthusiasts might like to know that I designed the original cap badge of the Royal Armoured Corps when newly formed. I date the badge from 1942, slightly after my first poster for the Army in 1941 for recruiting into the RAC. According to the Curator of the Tank Museum at Bovington, the badge is still in use but worn only by the Junior Leaders Regiment RAC and Museum warders as collar dogs. Everyone else is badged to a particular regiment. The badge is also on Tank Museum notepaper. — A Games, 41 The Vale, London NW11.

According to the reference work *Military Badge Collecting* by John Gaynor, the original RAC badge was simply the letters RAC within a laurel wreath, K/C above. We understand your design, Mr Games, of a mailed gauntlet with fist clenched and the letters RAC on the wrist, was chosen in 1941 to replace the other. — Ed.

## LOVELY LETTERS

Many thanks for putting my name in the Pen Pals column. I had over 600 letters from soldiers all over the world, but I can't keep up with them all!

So now I have two pen pals in Northern Ireland and one in the Falklands as well as my boyfriend whom I met through SOLDIER. He has just come back from Northern Ireland and is now posted to Hohne in Germany.

I would like to thank all the lads who wrote to me. It was really great to receive such lovely letters. — Debra Padgin, 27 Linden Terrace, Hove Lane, Pontefract, W Yorks.

## NEW PRINT

A print has been commissioned to mark the re-designation of 73 Independent Field Squadron as 73 Field Squadron in June 1983. The print commemorates 73 Field Company's operations in NW Europe in 1944/45 and Exercise Pigs Bridges mounted in June 1983 by 73 Independent Field Squadron.

Prints are 42cm x 29.5cm and suitable for framing. Any former members of 73 (Field Company, Amphibious Engineer Squadron, Independent Field Squadron or Field Squadron) who wish to purchase a print are asked to send a cheque for DM 5 or £1.40 (made out to PRI 73 Fd Sqn) plus a return address label to: AO 73 Fd Sqn, BFPO 36.



## Can You Help?

Is there anyone in one of the Divisions in Germany who can get in contact with or know the whereabouts of Signalman Chris Castleman from Hastings. If so, please get him to contact: **Sig J Breacker, B Tp 2 Sqn (Radio), 9 Sig Regt, BFPO 50.**

I am anxious to get in touch with former members of the Sandhurst Band who may be able to send me anecdotes of any particularly interesting experiences or events, light-hearted or otherwise. — **Lt Col A Shepperd MBE, 30 Heatherdale Road, Camberley GU15 2LT.**

One of the least-known aspects of the recent war in Vietnam was the number of Canadians who volunteered to fight there. As research for a book I am writing on the subject, I would appreciate hearing from anyone with knowledge of Canadians who served with Australian or American combat forces in Vietnam. — **Sidney Allinson, 24 Ravencliff Crescent, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1T 1R8.**

I am a researcher for the popular ITV programme 'Just Amazing!' which goes out at seven o'clock on Saturday evenings. We are currently looking for our items for a second series.

One of the most successful people on our present series was Flight Sergeant Nicholas Alkemade who, in 1943, fell 18,000 feet into Germany without a parachute and survived. I am sure there are other servicemen who have had equally stirring experiences that they feel able to share with other people.

If any readers feel they know of similar stories of bravery, skill or sheer luck, perhaps they would telephone me, reverse charge, on Leeds (0532) 445888, or write to: **David Poyser, 'Just Amazing', Yorkshire Television, The Television Centre, Leeds LS3 1JS.**

I am working on an article for a military collectors, newspaper, and I am in the hopes that some of your readers might be able to help me with first hand experience or information.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who was involved in Unexploded Bomb work of the Royal Engineers during World War Two.

I have read Major A B Hartley's book along with, *Stopping the Clock* by P G Macdonald, *Highly Explosive* by John Frayn Turner and *Softly Tread the Brave* by Ivan Southall. Does anyone know of more books on the subject? I would like to obtain more information on this subject and would very much like to hear from anyone who was or still is involved in this work. — **Bruce D Siegel, PO Box 550, Pt Pleasant, NJ 08742, USA.**

## Pen Pals

My name is Jackie and I am 23 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall with brown eyes. My hobbies are horse-riding, reading and my car. — **Jackie Hart, Rock House, Kewstoke Road, Kewstoke, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS22 9YL.**

My name is Carol and I am 28 years old, ex-WRAC and divorced. I like writing, walking and country & western music. I want to write to a home-loving person who likes a joke now and then, aged between 27-35. Looks don't matter as long as they're sincere. All letters answered. Photos appreciated. — **Carol Howie, 77 Beechcroft Ave., Darcy Lever, Bolton, Lancs.**

**Our names are Johanna and Alison.** Johanna is 15 years old, 5ft 5ins tall with brown hair and hazel eyes and is a Girls Venture Corps cadet. Alison is 16 years old, 5ft 5ins tall with blonde hair and grey eyes and likes modern music. We would like to write to anyone aged between 17-20. All letters answered. — **Johanna and Alison, 34 Wade Avenue, Larklands, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 5DU.**

**My name is Tracey and I am 17 years old.** I am 5ft 6ins tall with light brown hair and brown eyes. I enjoy writing and socialising, and would like to write to anyone in the 17-23 age group. — **Tracey Sharpe, 10 Wimbledon Close, Old Dean Estate, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 4AZ.**

**My name is Susan and I am 30 years old.** I am 5ft 2ins tall with blonde hair and blue eyes. I like playing darts and writing letters. — **Mrs Susan Wilson, 31 Larch St., Southport, Merseyside.**

## Collectors' Corner

**G Williamson, 3 Cameron Toll Gardens, Edinburgh EH16 4TF.** Requires British and Commonwealth Military Police badges and insignia. Also German 'Feldgendarmarie' and 'Feldjäger' items. Has spares for exchange or will pay cash.

**R D Walsh, 21 Boardman Road, Kippa-Ring, Queensland 4020, Australia.** Has for sale **SOLDIER** Magazines from Feb 75 to Apr 83. Will swap for books on Indian Army pre-1947.

**David B Sales, 26 Sharonmore Ave, Carnmoney, Co Antrim, N Ireland, BT36 6PP.** Requires cap badges of the Royal Army Educational Corps and the Royal Army Chaplain's Department to complete collection. Willing to buy or swap for other badges.

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## How Observant Are You?

(see page 37)

1 Left foreleg of deer; 2 Right window of reptile house; 3 Upper fin of thrown

fish; 4 Whiskers of left sea lion; 5 Number of fish in bucket; 6 Right arm of distant spectator; 7 Soldier's left elbow patch; 8 Woman's right heel; 9 Keeper's belt buckle; 10 Left sea lion's right hind leg.

## Competition

Oh, dear! We were not surprised to receive only a handful of entries for Competition No 319, 'Getting it Together' when we realised there was an error in the published artwork. As many will have noticed, the white square numbered 39 should in fact have been black in order to complete the puzzle. Those who did send us their efforts had assumed this and so we were able to pick the winners. The chess board should have fitted together like this:

1	56	9	40	25	48	17	64
63	10	55	26	39	18	47	2
38	19	62	3	46	27	54	11
28	45	4	61	20	37	12	53
13	36	21	44	29	52	5	60
51	30	43	22	35	14	59	6
58	7	50	31	42	23	34	15
8	57	16	33	24	41	32	49

Prizewinners were: 1st Mrs I J Peters, c/o Maj Peters, Officers' Mess, 3 Bn RRF, BFPO 45. 2nd Mr F J Spooner, Physics Branch, RMCS Shrivenham, Swindon, Wilts. 3rd David Williams, 11 Causeway, Horsham, Sussex. 4th Mr P J Derlien, 50 Filet Street, Sheffield. 5th Mr J A Earl, HQ DACC, St Omer Bks, Aldershot.

## LOOKING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?

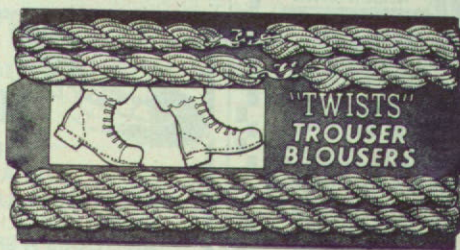
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# 7 RHA AIM FOR BIG RECORD

TEN RUNNERS from F (Sphinx) Battery, 7th Regiment Royal Horse Artillery will set out from Land's End in an attempt to set a world record for a non-stop relay to John O'Groats and back. The aim is to raise £25,000 for the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association, the Services' own charity for disabled ex-servicemen.

Sponsors are Sam's Luxury Coach Travel of Osnabrück and T J Leisure of Salisbury, who between them are providing a 49-seater coach and 3 back-up vehicles.

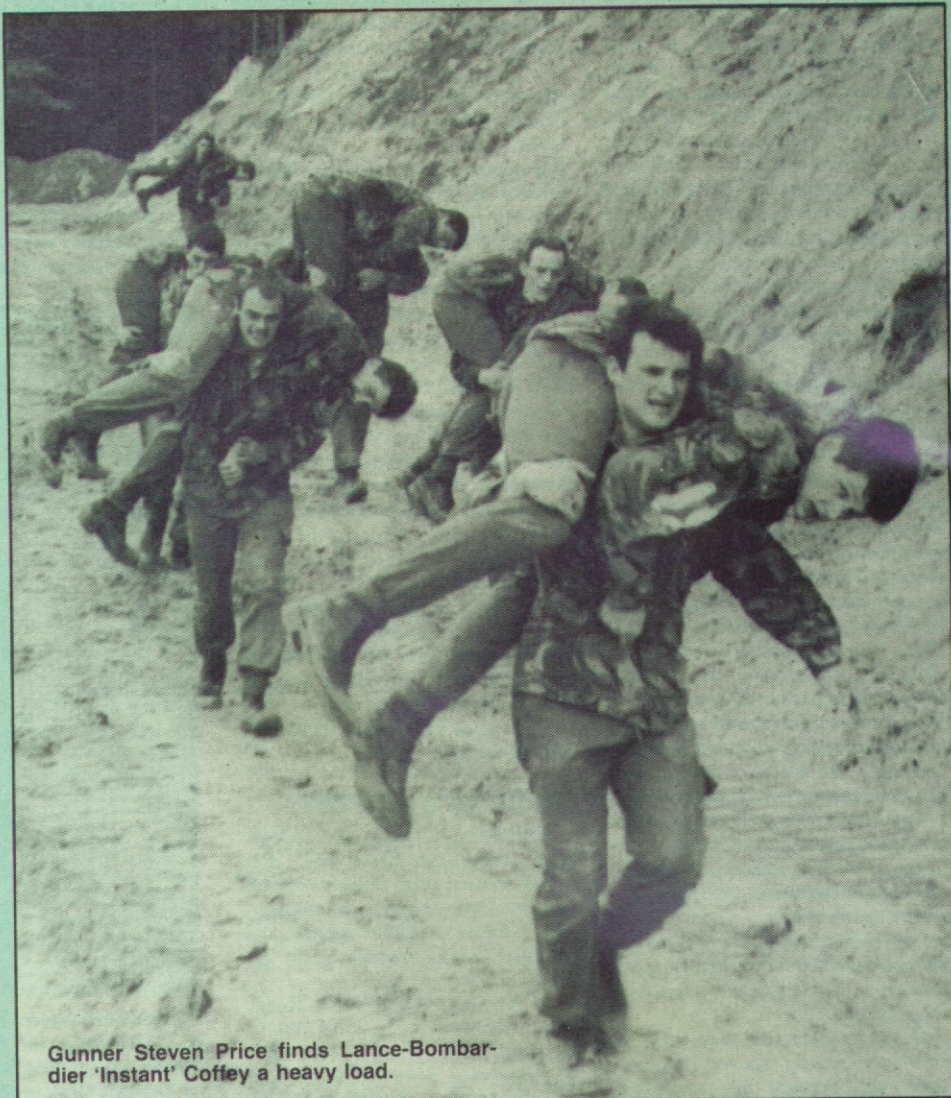
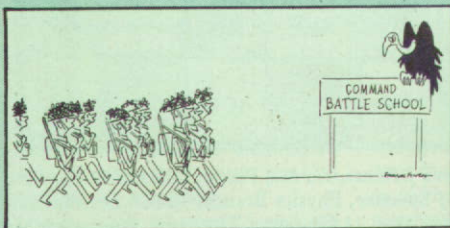
The runners are the BAOR cross country champions and last year a member of the regiment, WO2 Fox, set the world non-stop walking record. These are the good credentials for an assault which has never been done before.

In effect every runner covers the equivalent of a marathon on each of seven consecutive days.

The central fund raising theme is the raffle of a Ford Fiesta. At 0630 on 18 August the winning ticket will be drawn and shortly afterwards all watches will be set to zero and the world record attempt will begin.

Throughout the run the media will keep the public informed of progress and greatly boost fund raising activities en route.

The money raised will be used to buy specially adapted invalid cars for disabled ex-servicemen and 7 RHA are also supporting Action Aid, the Third World children's sponsorship charity.



Gunner Steven Price finds Lance-Bombardier 'Instant' Coffey a heavy load.

## ... and return to Para task

7th REGIMENT Royal Horse Artillery has a long tradition linking it with the Airborne forces and they wear a Pegasus on their uniforms in recognition of their affiliation.

Now the link is to be renewed, because 7 RHA is moving back to Aldershot in Spring 1984 to renew a parachute capability, and this means that the special training for parachuting has begun in the regiment already.

The difficulty is passing the selection to be able to go parachuting and the selection is done by the Depot Parachute Regiment who

run a course of three weeks of the most intensive physical training.

To prepare the men of 7 RHA for this course Major John Fairley, himself a military parachutist, is running a course within the regiment called 'Pre Para'.

'Pre Para' is staffed by a number of well muscled characters led by Staff Sergeant Instructor Gracey APTC, who ensure that the willing volunteers reach such a level of fitness and motivation that they are as well prepared as possible to attend P Company in Aldershot.

For those who manage to complete the regimental course a final selection is made by the instructors to decide who is ready to return to Aldershot for P Company.

The aim is to produce as many students for P Company as possible; so whilst students on 'Pre Para' are being tested from the outset they are also being encouraged to improve their performance.

The system seems to work: the first group to attempt P Company achieved an 86% pass rate, and so the old and bold paratroopers within the regiment had better be careful about the horror stories they make up in future!

What, you may well ask, about parachuting? Falling out of aircraft cannot possibly be any worse than the Trainasium in Aldershot, and so, to the cry of "Keep up at the back", the next Seventh Regiment 'Pre Para' Course disappears over the hill...

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# 400 miles for a free beer!

by MAJOR ANDY COLLIS

*(Who led runners from CFB Suffield/BATUS in a run of some 400 miles as a non-stop relay, bringing a centennial message from the Governor of Alberta to the City of Medicine Hat).*

IN 1883, the first train pulled into Medicine Hat from the East. In those days, the plains around the city were home to buffalo and indians. Now both are gone, and the modern industrial city of Medicine Hat is celebrating its Centennial.

I had the idea of running with a goodwill message from the Governor whilst lying on my lounge floor. The Governor and the City welcomed the idea, and even the Police said it wasn't illegal.

I asked the city for advice on exclusively local charities which needed support, and eventually we decided to run for multiple sclerosis sufferers and mentally retarded children. We built up a good relationship with officials and recipients of both charities, and sent sponsorship requests to local businesses.

Second Lieutenant Guy Slater did most of the administration, and Private Rob Devey, from Vehicle Platoon, was chosen to receive the message on the bases of his hard work during training. I took over from him and ran the first leg out of Edmonton. I'm still not sure I took the shortest route, but managed to hand over to Corporal Roger Hunking right in front of the TV cameras!

It was wonderful running through the low prairie hills, but opportunities for uninterrupted rest were rare.

Then into the Base exactly on time, smiles, cheers, banners, children crying, and on to Medicine Hat, and ran into Athletic Park, where a reception and a capacity crowd of 5000 awaited us.

Warrant Officer Dan Kolesnik, our sole Canadian runner, read the Governor's message, followed by cameras, hand shakes, speeches of thanks, and best of all — the purpose of the story — free beer!

At the end of it all, we were fitter, wiser, better thought of in the community, and we'd raised \$4,000 for charity.

The following ran:

Major Collis RAOC, 2Lt Fren-  
do REME, WO Kolesnik, SSgt  
Montgomery RAOC, Sgt Storey  
REME, Cpl Scott RE, Cpl  
Hunking RAOC, LCpls Pinning-  
ton RE, LCpl Richardson  
REME, LCpl Tymgaillio REME,  
LCpl Irving RAOC, Cfn Green  
REME, Ptes Stanley, Arnell and  
Devey all RAOC, and Airtrooper  
Lee AAC.



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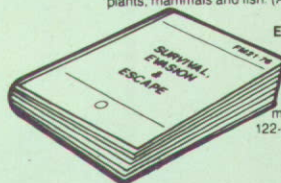
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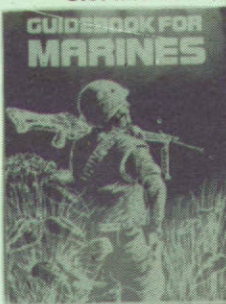
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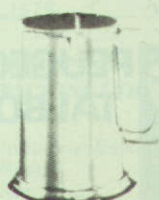
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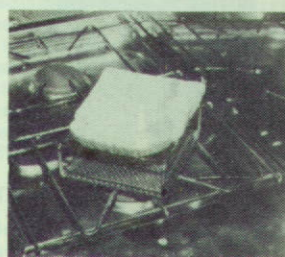
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Julia and Mark repeat wins

## TENNIS — IT'S AS YOU WERE

By Sally Daniell

**CAPTAIN** Mark Jeffrey, REME won the Army Lawn Tennis Championships for the second time in a row and his fourth victory since he started playing for the Army.

His opponent in the Final, Sergeant Andy Smith, RAOC, the BAOR champion, had a walk-over in the semi-final against Captain Chris Braithwaite, 15/19H, last year's runner-up, who was unable to appear for the match. Had it been played, ALTA officials believed this would have been a close fought contest.

Despite suffering from the af-



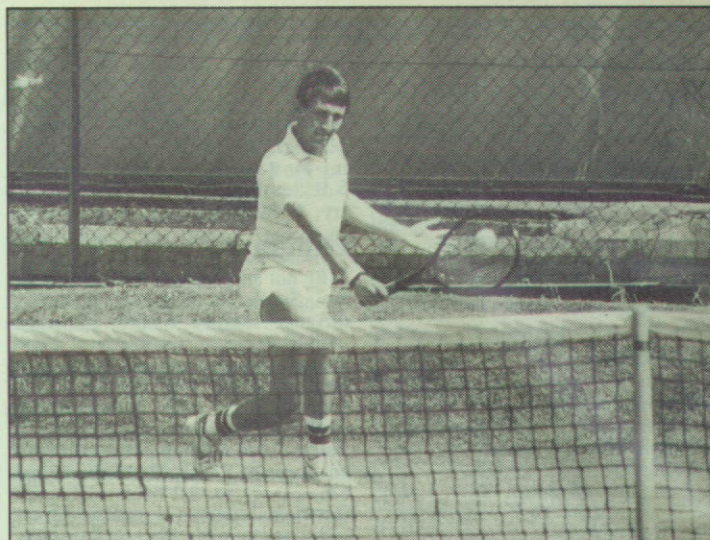
Captain Julia Dixon hat-trick.

ter effects of acute cramp which caused him to retire the day before the Men's Doubles Final, Jeffrey dispatched his singles opponent in two sets which took just one hour.

He took the first set easily 6-1 and was 4-1 up in the second set before Smith got into his stride. Smith held on to his service but only after a struggle at deuce. He took Jeffrey to deuce in the next game but a sharp, deep volley from Jeffrey gave him the advantage and Smith put the next ball into the net.

Undeterred Smith then played another brave service game showing some good judgment in ball positioning, helped by a couple of unforced errors from the defending champion.

At 5-3 Jeffrey was in a strong position to take the match and he did not disappoint, chipping the ball at his opponent forcing him to mishit. But Smith did not give up without a fight and managed a couple of quite unreturnable shots before he went under 4-6.



Jeffrey — bowing out of Army tennis in accustomed style.

Afterwards, SOLDIER asked Jeffrey if the match had been as easy for him as it had looked. "No," he replied, "he is a good solid player anyway and I wasn't on top form. I would have had a real struggle if it had gone to three sets.

"Yesterday I was thinking I'd serve and volley at him but had to change tactics to more groundstrokes because I felt as if I'd been in bed with 'flu for two weeks! As long as I was controlling the rallies, that took less effort than the more explosive serve and volleying."

This is the last time we can expect to see Captain Jeffrey playing at these championships since he is shortly to leave the Army. His plans for the future are as yet uncertain but he hopes still to be involved in tennis.

Captain Julia Dixon, WRAC made her hat-trick this year when she beat Captain Karen Ibbotson, WRAC in a close fought Ladies Singles Final 6-4, 6-4.

Other winners were: Regimental Doubles — Maj D Hughes and Maj G Billingham; Open Doubles — Col B Reeves and Maj D Hughes; Ladies Doubles — Capt J Dixon and Capt K Ibbotson; Mixed Doubles — Sgt P Weaver and Capt Dixon; Veterans Singles — Maj J McManus; Veterans Doubles — Col Reeves and Capt A Hilton; Veterans Handicap Singles — Maj G Stubbs.

## JUNIOR CRICKET PAY CORPS' SIX HIT

THE ROYAL Army Pay Corps, Apprentice College, Worthy Down retained the Army Junior Soldiers' Cricket Cup for the sixth year, defeating the Junior Soldier Company, Queen's Division from Basingbourne by three wickets.

The Junior Soldiers lost their first three wickets for only 19 runs but a fifth wicket stand between John Collins (18) and John Tomney (11) helped Basingbourne reach 74 all out. For the RAPC Michael Vine took four for 34 and Skipper Steve Webb two for five.

The RAPC also lost early wickets, and only resistance by Steve Webb (23) kept Worthy Down's hopes alive. With seven wickets down for 40 it looked as though the Junior Soldiers would triumph but Stuart Lowe (17) and Peter Jump (11) saw the Pay Corps side to victory without further loss. For Basingbourne, Skipper Jeremy Bell took four for forty and Nigel Metcalfe three for 23.

## Chepstow spring success



ARMY Apprentices College Arborfield won the first ever Army championship for junior gymnastic display teams at Aldershot. Second were the Junior Leaders Regiment RA seen above in one of their routines and third and Junior Leaders Regiment RCT.

The new competition was the brainchild of Captain Terry Hammond, until recently secretary of the Army gymnastics union. Six teams took part and all were visited by judges at their units. The routines were video taped and the three finalists selected.

Captain Dennis Martindale, who organised the competition, said afterwards: "The idea is to encourage gymnastics in the Army as a whole. The standard today was much higher than when the judges visited them."

## SIGNALS SHOW WYE

IN THE Army Canoe Union Sprint and Long Distance Championships held on the River Wye at Monmouth, Royal Signals teams won most of the top prizes. The Senior Sprint and Ladies Sprint team prizes went to 16 Signal Regiment while the Junior Team prize went to the Army Apprentices from Harrogate. This pattern was repeated in the Long Distance trophy awards.

There were over 300 entries for the sprint events and most of

those also entered for the Long Distances event on the Sunday. This year saw an increase in the number of ladies competing.

Two national paddlers took part. Sgt Steve Jackson R Signals, who won the Senior K1 1000m race, represented the United Kingdom in Finland in the World Championships and Cpl John Speck REME, who won the K1 500m event, will represent UK in the Prague Marathon at the end of August.



## NEW CRICKET PITCH PROGRAMME

## GOODBYE TO GRASS

A long term programme which will mean the end of all but a handful of grass cricket pitches in the Services and their replacement by artificial pitches has been launched. The new pitches, made of porous nylon with a porous underlay and said to react in a similar fashion to weather conditions to the conventional pitch, are already appearing at Service grounds.

Colonel Roy Brennan, secretary of the Army Cricket Association, told SOLDIER that all three Services had nominated a certain number of grounds which would be maintained to county standard. Six different types of artificial pitch had been experimented with and one had been selected as the specification for future pitches.

Now units with worn out pitches or those experiencing difficulty in obtaining skilled groundsmen to keep them in good order can apply for the new artificial surface. Colonel Brennan hopes that playing on true surfaces will encourage younger players to take up the game

seriously.

"We finally settled on the type of pitch which will play like a grass pitch when wet or dry. You don't need a skilled groundsmen. It takes an hour's maintenance by an unskilled man before each game plus the time it takes to cut the outfield with a gang mow. You are getting a good surface at a fraction of the cost."

Colonel Brennan said the new pitches were already installed at Woolwich, Sandhurst, Blackdown and Basingbourne and other units could now ask for them. He declined to hazard a guess on when the long term programme would be complete.

## WOODEN SPOON FOR ARMY UNDER 25s

The Army Under-25 cricket team ended up wooden spoonists in the Services Under-25 cricket festival at Hurlingham. After a comprehensive thrashing on the first day from the eventual tournament winners, the RAF, they lost by three wickets to the Navy.

At the end of the week the Under-25 squad had a sorry record. Of seven games played only one was won and one drawn. The captain, Lieutenant Edward Gordon-Lennox admitted that the batting had been weak and said that while there were a lot of young players in the Army it was difficult for some of them to train and hard to compose a side.

Gordon-Lennox himself had mixed fortunes with the bat —



Gordon-Lennox — pain followed pane.

but one towering six will be remembered. At Sandhurst he put a ball through the library window — reputedly into the sporting books section!

But the Under-25 get together is designed to bring on the younger players and youngest of all, 17-year-old Junior Gunner Martin Render from Bramcote felt it was all worth while even though his main task as 12th man against the RAF was to take out the drinks tray.

"I was only expecting to play the first day, but was asked to stay on for the week," he said. "It's been good fun and I averaged two wickets a game when I played. I'm sure it's improved my game."

The Army youngsters flopped badly against the RAF, who won the competition for the first time. Batting first they soon found themselves at 23 for five. Only the No 7 batsman, Guardsman Mark Williams, held the innings together with 27 runs and the final Army total was just 70.

The RAF openers, Doherty (who had caught six Army players behind the stumps) and Jones painstakingly began to knock the required runs off and reached 46 before they were

## US STARS SPUR BRITISH RUNNERS

Faced with an American team of mostly world class athletes including a former Olympic champion, Combined Services athletes pulled out all the stops at Cosford and managed to keep the US winning margin down to 34½ points.

For two Army champions there were new Inter-Services records to savour, Private Earl Deverill knocked 1.3 seconds off the six year old record for 800 metres with a new mark of 1 minute 50 seconds. Faced by fierce opposition from both the Americans and the other team in the triangular tournament, the French Armed Forces, he managed to get his nose in front.

Three days earlier Deverill had been beaten into second place in the Inter-Services championships. "I was disappointed with that performance but this went how I wanted it" he said afterwards.

The second new record was set by Sgt Kriss Akabusi at 47.1 seconds in the 400 metres. Despite this marvellous run he was still edged out by the American 2nd Lt Alonzo Babers.

The Services battled all the way to contain the Americans. Sapper Mark Stirling won the hammer and in the 10,000 metres, raced in sapping heat, the RAF's Corporal Steve Jones came second in a personal best time with WO 2 Ted Turner third.

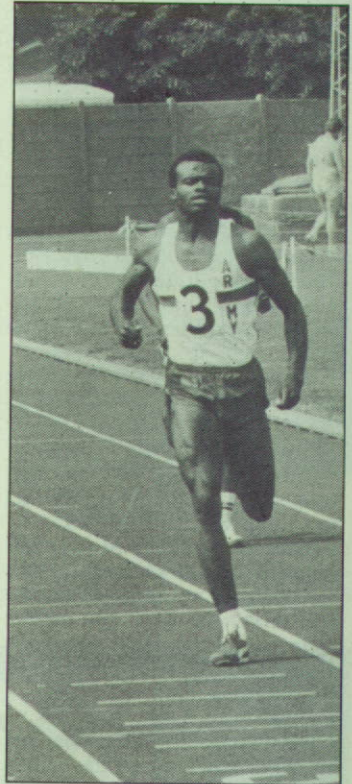
Winner of the long jump and 100 metres was the American 2nd Lt Randy Williams, who has quite a pedigree. He won the gold medal for the long jump in the 1972 Olympics and his mark of 7.67 metres was well clear of Private D J Grant's new Inter-Service record of 7.41 metres set earlier in the week. Grant, still recovering from injury, could manage only 6.97 metres and sixth place this time.

The French, who did not field a full team, won the pole vault and the javelin events among others and an American high jumper, EMS Leo Williams, beat the UK national record by one centimetre!

separated. A quick wicket flurry followed with the score slumping to 50-3 but that was the last man to fall and the RAF won by seven wickets.

The Army put up a much better show in the Navy match. Openers 2nd Lieutenant David Bolus and Lieutenant Peter Shuttleworth put on 66 for the first wicket and Gordon-Lennox whacked 57, including seven fours.

They scored 179-7 in their 55 overs. The Navy managed to pass this with just four balls remaining. Top bowler was Lance-Corporal Steve Durston (3-33).



Akabusi — great run but came second.

In the final event, the 4 × 400 metres relay, the Americans got the verdict but the British team were given the same time. Final totals were USA 161½, UK and France 85½.

The triangular tournament came about following visits by the RAF athletics team to both France and the United States in recent years. It is the first of its kind to be held in Britain and is described by the RAF as "a pathfinder". The hope is that further tournaments will be held in future years possibly involving Combined Services teams visiting the other two countries.

## POLO WIN

After a very closely contested game the Army Junior Water Polo team emerged victorious over the Royal Navy juniors to become this year's Junior Inter-Services champions.

The team, selected by Army water polo coach, QMSI Ted Martin APTC, after the recent Army championships, included eight players from the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow. He said afterwards: "Army water polo is on the climb."



# IRISH GUARDS WIN 'MAJOR'

**DETERMINED** to oust their erstwhile rivals, 50 Missile Regiment from the number one spot in the Army Inter-Unit Athletics Championships (Major Units), 1st Battalion, Irish Guards stretched their early lead and won this year with 222 points.

The real battle this year was for second place with 50 Missile Regiment and 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards leapfrogging each other for position.

The 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment added further to the jostling, reluctant to let go of their early third place but ending fourth.

The Irish Guards came first in seven track and field events including the high jump when Guardsman James Gregg had another go at breaking the Army record.

He is the first soldier to have jumped over two metres since 1947 but is still short of the record of 2.02 metres.

Although Gregg won the high jump at these Championships his best jump was 1.95 metres.

After 17 events 50 Missile had the edge on the Grenadiers but the position reversed after the first relay, the 4 x 100 metres when one of the Missile runners stumbled. The Guards grabbed the advantage and tore home in 43.3 seconds.

Keen for revenge, the Gunners put the wings back on their heels for the 4 x 400 metres relay and pipped their challengers at the post in 3 mins 25.3 secs.



**Guardsman James Gregg**

Despite coming first in five events 50 Missile failed by just four points to beat the Grenadier Guards who came second.

Their 'local hero' was undoubtedly Lance Sergeant John Taylor who broke last year's record in the 110 metres Hurdles in 14.3 seconds. He also won the long jump and the triple jump.

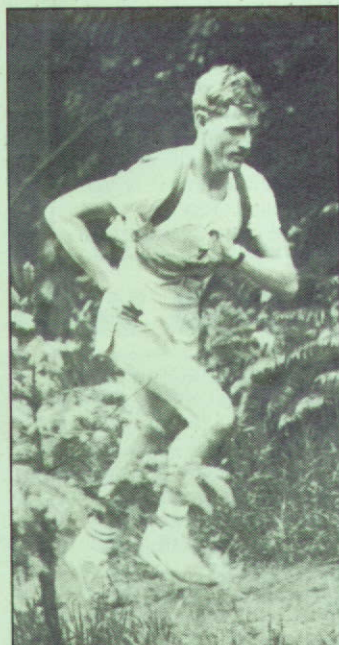
"I'm pleased with my performance all round today," he told **SOLDIER**. "I came here

with the intention of breaking the 110 metres hurdles and would have been disappointed if I hadn't done it.

"Obviously the hurdles is my strongest event and during this winter I shall concentrate on that. Next year I am determined to break the record again and do it in under 14 secs. I also want my Great Britain vest!"

Other winners during the day's events were 65 Corps Support Squadron, RE in the Minor Units and 29 Company, WRAC in the Women's. No records were broken.

## Walkabout winners run away with trophy



**Sergeant Phil Stuart — walkabout winner**

**FOR THE** third year running 7th Regiment Royal Horse Artillery have 'run' away with the coveted Harz Walkabout trophy — and having won three times running, they can now keep the trophy for ever!

The Harz Walkabout sounds like most people's idea of a nightmare.

The event consists of three-man teams completing a 62 Km course together on day one, followed by a 40 Km course run as individuals on the second day.

The total times are then added together to produce the winning time.

7 RHA, having won twice before, were keen to make it a hat-trick.

Their three teams competed against 43 other teams and, by the end of the first day, were leading 42 Field Squadron Royal Engineers by 16 minutes and 94 Locating Regiment by half an hour.

However, because one of the

control points was deemed to be out of position, all the day one timings were cancelled and it was decided to run the competition completely on the day two results. 7 RHA's first day lead was therefore wiped out.

Undaunted, they tackled the 40 Km second day course with a determination that made them convincing winners.

First home and overall winner with a time of 3 hours 43 minutes was Sgt Phil Stuart.

Maj Martin Cooper was third with a time of 4 hours and WO2 (RQMS) Alec Stoddart clocked a time of 4 hours 16 minutes which gave him 1st veteran and 6th overall.

7 RHA teams were first and third with 94 Loc Regt RA slipping into 2nd place.

**1 KINGS** Parascending Club's second sponsored parascending marathon at Osnabruck raised DM5,000 for the Booth Hall Childrens Hospital, Manchester.

## DEFENDER LYNN KEEPS HER CROWN

**DEFENDING** her title as Women's Diving Champion, Corporal Lynn Bradley, WRAC defeated all comers to win again in this year's Army Diving Championships held at the National Sporting Centre, Crystal Palace.

She won both the springboard and firmboard events.

In a repeat of last year's Men's events the APTC monopoly held.

Sergeant Instructor Danny Bryan won the five metre firmboard and Sergeant Instructor Mike Kempson the three metre springboard.

## RECORD AIM

A 25-year-old Army Corporal, Chris Pavey, RAOC Bicester, is to attempt something nobody has achieved before . . . running 100 miles in 24 hours.

Chris will take a cross country route to Bicester from Colchester and not only will he be trying to create a record, but Chris will be raising money for the National Kidney Research Fund because he is being sponsored by friends and colleagues.



## GRAY MAKES IT SIX

**CORPORAL IAN Gray** of 81 Ordnance Company RAOC took the Army Golf Association 72 hole stroke play championship for the sixth time despite a strong challenge from Lance-Corporal Alastair Brownrigg RE.

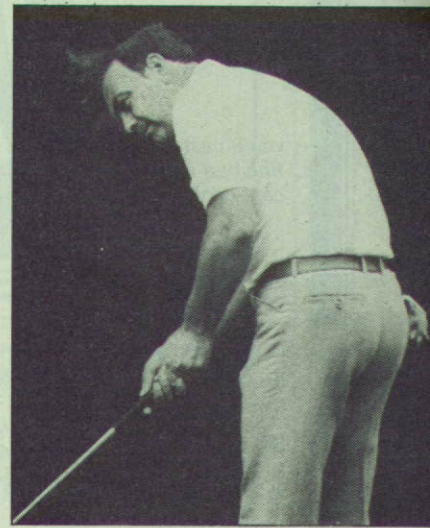
Reports Doug Pratt: "Brownrigg started the final day just one shot behind but over the closing holes he could not match the machine-like precision golf of Gray."

The course at Little Aston was in superb condition with the greens holding and fine weather with little or no wind provided ideal golfing conditions. But the testing course left only a handful of competitors with scores under 80 after the first round.

Gray went into the final round two shots clear and Brownrigg was still in that position until the tenth and toughest hole on the course. He tried to play the hole in a conservative manner but ran up a seven.

Further shots were lost on the 11th and 12th and the match looked over but at the 14th Brownrigg produced a magnificent eagle two. Gray hit back with a birdie and continued to pull away to win by 11 shots with a 72 hole total of 293. Third was Staff-Sergeant Chris Carveth, Royal Signals, on 310. Brownrigg took the under-26 prize.

Winners in the WRAC golf championship at Aldershot were:



**Corporal Ian Gray**  
... putting on the 15th

Scratch — WO 1 Kate Bettison (HQ SW District); Handicap — Major Mary Harwood (MOD AG 16).

## Army hang gliders blown off course

**ARMY HANG GLIDERS** had the wind put up them at this year's Inter Services Championships in the Yorkshire Dales with the RAF and Navy taking the first three places. First khaki name to appear was Sergeant Harry Wigham from 4 Armoured Division Field Ambulance, who finished fourth equal overall.

Since in the past, the Army has dominated these championships, winning three years in a row, what went wrong this time? It seems the Army has been caught napping when it comes to keeping up with the state of the art. Both the RAF and the Navy were flying the new Typhoon and Magic III hang gliders which gave them the advantage over the Army.

"The thing is with these championships," explained former Inter-Services champion Major Rod McDonald, deputy chairman of the Army Hang Gliding Association, "is that it is a completely open sport with no

handicap whatsoever. This means that to have any chance of winning, you have got to have the best machines. We still think we have got the best pilots and we thought this would compensate for not having the new gliders; that it doesn't, came as a bit of a surprise, no doubt about that, and we will have to get our act together before next year."

But at around £1400 per glider, and with no financial assistance from the Army to date, this could prove expensive.

With less than perfect conditions, the standard of flying was nonetheless extremely high and the clear winner was the RAF's Sergeant Mick Appleby.

Running at the same time as the Inter Services, was the Army Championships in which Wigham emerged as the best pilot with Signalmen Mick Parnell of 13 Signals Regiment winning the Pilot 1 class and Territorial Corporal David Foster, 2 Wessex, coming first in the Student class.

pionship two German based teams left the rest trailing. Eventually 65 Corps Support Squadron RE took the title by four points from 229 Signal Squadron (Berlin).

Records toppled in the first two races in the WRAC cham-

pionships. Corporal Lynn Philipson beat her own record in the 66½ yards breaststroke and Lance-Corporal Tracy Loftus set a new mark in the 66½ yards backstroke.

Team winners were 29 Company WRAC from Rheindahlen.

All action in the water-polo championships

## 36 Regiment win all-Sapper final

**UK CHAMPIONS**, 36 Engineer Regiment from Maidstone finally landed the Army water polo championship after some tense and exciting matches at Catterick. In the final they ran neck and neck with another sapper team, 21 Engineer Regiment, winners of the Rhine Army title.

Eventually the Maidstone team moved ahead and finally won by ten goals to seven, despite some heroic efforts by 21. Defeated semi-finalists were last year's Army champions, 7 Royal Horse Artillery and 39 Infantry Brigade HQ and Signal Squadron from Northern Ireland.

Army water polo coach, WO2 (QMSI) Ted Martin, was watching and immediately selected four men from the 21 team and three from 36 as part of his squad to go into nine days' intensive training for the Inter-Service championships at St Athan in South Wales this month.

Martin has high hopes that the Army will be able to recover the Inter-Service crown from the Navy after a gap of a decade. "I think this could be our best effort for years."

Sappers have long been at the forefront of Army water polo and Martin was one of those who took up the sport while with the Junior Leaders RE at Dover. "What I do hope now is that when these two teams come to the end of their tours they will take the game to other regiments and help to develop it" he said.

## 7 RHA hold off 21

**IN A THRILLING** all the way battle at Catterick, 7 Royal Horse Artillery from Osnabrück finally edged out their Rhine Army rivals, 21 Engineer Regiment to win the Army swimming team championship by four points.

From the start three teams

dominated the finals and they continued neck and neck until a disqualification ended the challenge from 36 Engineer Regiment. With two relay events to go 7 RHA and 21 Engineer Regiment were level on 52 points with the other four teams strung out behind them.

But in the medley relay the gunners pulled out all the stops and clipped three seconds off the old record to take a two point lead. The final freestyle relay was a neck and neck affair between the two teams which brought the large crowd to their feet — but 7 RHA took the race and the trophy by a whisker.

Earlier in the breaststroke relay the same two teams had both broken the record by just under three seconds with 7 RHA getting the verdict by a hundredth of a second.

Individual records were set by Gunner Mark Basnett (7 RHA) in the 100 yards breaststroke and Lance-Corporal Mark Williams (36 Engineer Regiment) in the butterfly.

In the minor units cham-

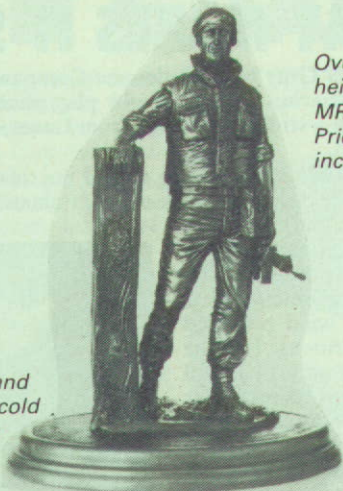


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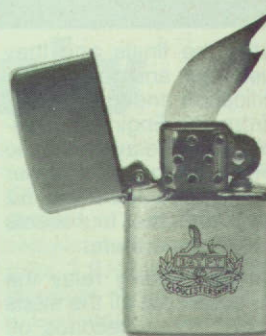
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