

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 35 PENCE • 15 JULY 1985

# SOLDIER





## CONTENTS

- 7 News
- 8 People
- 10 TA Pay
- 12 TA Topics
- 13 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 14 CAT 85
- 19 All in the Family/How Observant Are You
- 20 Rhine Army Show
- 24 Veterans visit 3 Div
- 26 D-Day Memorial Window
- 30 Records
- 31 Humour
- 32 TA Units in Germany
- 35 Sport
- 37 Cap Badge
- 38 Mail Drop
- 40 Competition

FRONT COVER: Old soldier meets new soldier when veterans visit 3 Armoured Div at Soest. Staff Sergeant Jeff De Cartland, ACC, serves In-Pensioner Tommy Cantrell, RE (see pages 24/25).  
*Picture: Paul Haley*

FACING PAGE: Chieftain tanks of 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards dip their guns in salute during a drive past displaying their new Standard (see SOLDIER 1 July).  
*Picture: Les Wiggs*

BACK COVER: Members of the Historical Re-enactment Society bring a touch of the past to Rhine Army Show (see pages 20/21).  
*Picture: Paul Haley*

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# SOLDIER

INCORPORATING  
 THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE



Congratulatory kiss for 23-years-old Patricia Green of Osnabruck when she was chosen Miss BAOR at the Rhine Army Show. The lucky man is her husband Fred, a sergeant with 4 Field Regiment RA (see pages 20/21).



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S13/85

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**T**WO YOUNG BOYS had the surprise of their lives when playing at Sidbury Hill near North Tidworth. They stumbled upon a cache of irreplaceable Officers' Mess silver said to be worth £128,000 which mysteriously disappeared from the strong-room of the Queen's Own Highlanders based at Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth, nearly two years ago.

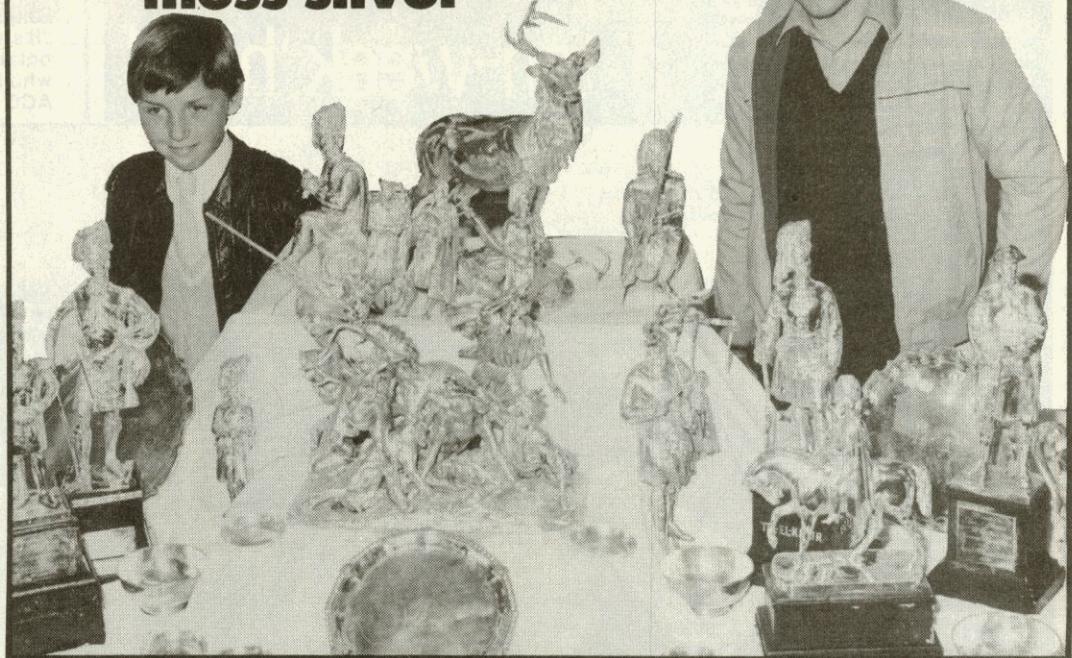
The silver, some of it 18th century and of "enormous sentimental value", was found hidden in a sack in a disused manhole less than a mile away from the scene of the theft. It was intact.

Civil police and the Army's Special Investigation Branch had been co-operating in their efforts to track down the thieves. Personnel who had access to the silver in the regiment were finger-printed and interviewed.

1st Battalion Queen's Own Highlanders are currently serving in Northern Ireland. A South-West District spokesman said: "Obviously the regiment is absolutely delighted to have the silver back again."

The boys, aged 10 and 15, both sons of civilians, had been playing at Sidbury Hill when they found a

## Boys find stolen mess silver



Two small boys — and a lot of silver

polythene-type sack, threw it in the air and found the staggering haul.

## FALKLANDS FOLLOW-UP

ABOUT 10,000 TROOPS from the reconstituted 5 Airborne Brigade and 3 Commando Brigade are to take part in an out-of-NATO-area exercise sometime, somewhere overseas next year.

The revelation by Defence Secretary Mr Michael Heseltine came to light in a Commons debate on the defence estimates.

The exercise is planned to test Britain's capacity for rapid deployment during an international crisis such as the Falklands three years ago.

## Dancing for the Princess

A display of Morris dancing was the unexpected form of entertainment laid on for Princess Anne when, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, she visited 1st Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment.

Princess Anne combined her military engagement with a visit to the German town of Verden, which is celebrating its thousand year anniversary this year.

The regiment was given the Freedom of Verden in 1980, and during the royal visit exercised its right to parade through the town with bayonets fixed.

Major General Sir David Thorne, Commander 1st Armoured Division, presented Dr Hartmut Friedrichs, the Burgermeister of Verden, with a gift from the Divisional Headquarters to commemorate the 1,000th anniversary.

A unique book encased in a glass and wooden frame, it was published in 1749 and is a collection of edicts and proclamations made on behalf of George II. At the time, the monarch was King of England, Ireland and France as well as being Duke of Braunschweig and Lüne-

burg. This book is of particular relevance to Verden as it was issued specifically for use by local dignitaries in Stade which was the centre of local government for the Bremen-Verden area.

The event coincided with a visit from the Chief of the Defence Staff, Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, who has been a personal friend of Dr Friedrichs since he commanded the 1st Division from 1971-3.

## GRAND TOUR

IN a busy schedule, 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) have just started a ten-day KAPE (Keep the Army in the Public Eye) tour through Berkshire, Wiltshire and parts of Oxfordshire.

The towns to be visited are in the heartland of the regimental recruiting area and include Calne, Melksham, Swindon, Chippenham, Wokingham, Wallingford, Maidenhead, Windsor and Reading.

## CAKE TO CELEBRATE



Tastes good! Chef Private Brian Mann cuts the giant cake for (from left) Pte Steve Drewery, Pte Joe Mozer and Pte Chris Aspel

On the day when 1 PWO's old Colours were being laid up in York Minster in the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, The Duchess of Kent, those lads on duty in South Armagh, Northern Ireland, were not forgotten. The CO, Lt Col Rory Forsyth, decided to have a cake made to rival all cakes and distribute it among those who were unable to celebrate the regiment's 300th birthday in any other way.

The 100 lb mega-cake, carrying the regiment's battle honours and two figurines in icing, was baked by regimental cook Private Brian Mann who describes his two week baking marathon as the highlight of his culinary career.

## BIG GIBRALTAR BUILD

OVER THE next four to five years Gibraltar Garrison will see the building of new married quarters

and the re-furbishing of existing ones in a £8½ million scheme for the Services stationed on the Rock.

# Lancers gallop off for a ten-week hike!

Only seven are pictured, but a nine-strong team of 17/21 Lancers are now halfway through a ten-week foot-slogging trek and climb expedition which takes in Nepal, New Zealand and the USA.

Based at Munster, BAOR, they left London a month ago starting with a 175-mile hike into the Everest area for an assault on the 20,000ft Gókyo Ri peak.

By now they should have completed that and be galloping on their way for a winter scaling of Mt Aspiring on New Zealand's South Island. This precedes a 125-mile bash through the jungle of the Fiji Island of Vitu Levu, giving the team a tough test of fieldcraft and map reading.

The final stage sees 'Worldtrek '85' climbing the 13,000ft snow-capped Pyramid Peak in the Colorado Rockies.

Pictured from left front: Cpl Mark Davies, 24, Capt Hamish Fulton, 28, (leader), LCpl Neil Hughes, 23; back row: Lt Nicholas Henderson, 21, Cpl Vic Waters, 27, Tpr Vaughan Foster, 19, and Adam Pearce, 21. Not pictured are LCpl Mark Wad-sley, 23, and LCpl Simon Morley, 21.



'WORLD TREK '85': halfway through with jungle to come

## Exotic tastes could get chips the chop

Chips, it seems, are still tops with soldiers. "It's a nourishing and tasty way of serving potatoes," says Brigadier Robin Maddy, who has just taken over as Commandant ACC Training Centre at Aldershot.

"But Army tastes are widening. Curries and foreign dishes are appearing on dining hall menus with increasing frequency and proving very popular."

"And since soldiers have



**Brigadier Maddy**  
Magic at the ACC

to pay for their food, we have adjusted our training to give them what they want. After all, they are our customers."

A former National Service-man, Brigadier Maddy joined the Army in 1953 and admits to seeing "unbelievable changes in Army food" since those days.

"I like to think I have contributed something to the improvement in standards which are now incredibly high, he said.

"We've made great strides in training and equipment, management techniques — in which computers will play an increasing part — and the quality of ingredients."

Before moving to Aldershot Brigadier Maddy controlled the Army's catering in BAOR. He was then a colonel.

A big job in itself, it paled somewhat when *Exercise Lionheart* started, bringing with it thousands of extra mouths to feed.

The biggest Army exercise since the war, it meant masterminding food supplies on a mega scale.

"At Sennelager alone we served more than two hundred thousand meals non-stop round the clock for two weeks. At Leuth, near the Dutch-German border, we served 42,500 portions of all-in stew to convoys on their way to the exercise," said the Brigadier.

No mean conjurer, it took all his magical skills — he is a member of the Magic Circle and has been for the past 32 years — to oversee that remarkable event.

Now he is weaving his skill and magic at the ACC Training Centre where wizards of the culinary art abound.

But it was a close thing, for as he confesses: "It was a toss up as a young man whether I joined the Army or became a professional magician."

Fortunately for the Army and the ACC, he picked the right card from the pack and trumped himself from becoming a full-time prestidigitator.

## Title hunt ends with handover



LTCOL RUPERT SMITH, BRIGADIERS MICHAEL PATERSON, ROBIN MADDY, LT GEN SIR GEOFFREY HOWLETT: times recalled

## How Dad's Army drove the CO to despair

The bumbling characters in the TV series *Dad's Army* must have been based on actual people. Supporting this assumption a story in *The Guardian* tells how wartime German airmen wandered around the countryside trying to get arrested.

According to the report a lieutenant colonel in charge

of the 4th Bucks Home Guard wrote a "despairing letter" to his commanders reminding them of their duty to arrest stray Germans who had bailed out.

He wrote: "After all the trouble they take to come over and bale out it is not right for anyone to totally disregard them."

"I have received a complaint that German airmen are finding it difficult to get arrested when they bale out and land in this country."

"One airman, after two failures, had to ask the way to the police station... Another tried to stop a lorry... the driver drove on. It's just not good enough," he said.

The request from Colonel Tony Barnett, ACC, was a simple one: suggest a suitable title for this Terence Cuneo painting.

"I got about 30 replies from around the Corps," said the Colonel.

But after a sift by his committee and rejecting suggestions like: *Tea Break at San Carlos*, they came up with *A Lull in the Battle*.

This matches perfectly the scene depicted by Cuneo showing ACC men as fighting soldiers in support of 3 Para during the 1982 war.

Cuneo painted the picture showing the military and professional roles of the Corps in which they acted as stretcher bearers, manned weapon pits, marshalled and loaded helicopters with stores and ammunition, took on watch keeping stints and guarded PoWs. Between times they ensured everyone got fed.

The original painting hangs in the officers' mess at Corps HQ, Aldershot, and it was there Lieutenant General Sir Geoffrey Howlett, GOC SE District and Colonel Commandant of the ACC, presented a print of the painting to Lieutenant Colonel Rupert Smith, CO 3 Para, to commemorate the South Atlantic links between the Corps and the Paras.

Present at the handover were ACC Director Brigadier Michael Paterson, and Brigadier Robin Maddy, Commandant ACC Training Centre (see this page).

# Bobby the buck leads 300-year parade



**BOBBY AND THE COLOUR CARRIERS**  
City marchers... drums beating and flags flying

## John beats rivals and scores a double

Lance Corporal John Moscrop certainly has something to smile about. For he has just collected — in racing terms — a nice little double... his first stripe and the title of orienteering champion of his regiment, The 1st Battalion The Green Howards.

His promotion came after a four-week junior NCO cadre and his title when he outran everyone, including the officers, to take first place.

He's also done rather well in the 1st Armoured Division League, coming seventh in a relay event which included half the German squad.

Asked for the secrets of his success, he said: "Run cool. Never get out of breath."

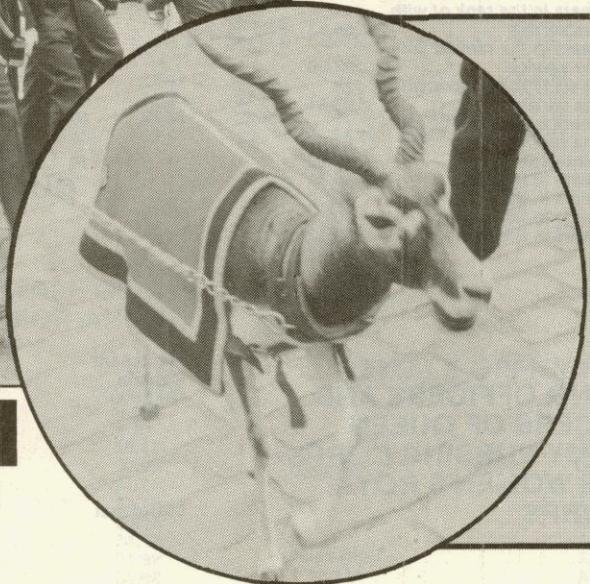
"If you run at two-thirds pace, the experience gained from route selection automatically improves your times. I get a great deal of satisfaction beating the course."



**LCPL JOHN MOSCROP:** double up

John joined the Green Howards in 1982 and has already visited Canada, Norway and Denmark with the regiment. His spare time he spends either orienteering or sailing.

He listed his most pleasing achievement to date as: "Beating all my officers in the battalion championships!" Mind you, he said it with a big grin.



Mounted on a large white horse, an official in a cocked hat and clad in a uniform of gold and scarlet ordered the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers to halt.

And 370 officers and men of that famous regiment — and their untamed Indian blackbuck mascot called Bobby — came to a crashing standstill, as did the traffic at the All Hallows Gate of London.

It was not possible to discern the words bellowed by the horseman at the waiting troops, band and the restless Bobby, but they were to the effect: "State your business in marching through the City with bayonets fixed, Colours flying and drums beating..."

Up strode Lieutenant Colonel Paul Bibbey, CO 2RRF and officer-in-charge of the parade, to tell the City marshal it was

the regiment's 300th anniversary and that they were marching from the Tower to the Guildhall with a salute by the Lord Mayor and the Duke of Kent...

It was the first time in 11 years the regiment had exercised its right to march through the City.

To greet them were thousands of City workers and ringing church bells.

Led by Bobby, who, when the band struck up had to be restrained by his handlers, Sergeant George Chapman and Corporal Ray Nevin, the regiment formed up in the shadows of the Tower and the world-famous bridge spanning the Thames.

Marshalled by RSM Jimmy Hollywood and parade adjutant Captain James Murray-Playfair, the regiment, preceded by the ever-lively Bobby, a quartet of Pioneer axemen and the band, made its way round the boundary of the Tower to All Hallows Gate and the Marshal's challenge.

Four young lieutenants — Jim Denny, Andrew Harvey, Peter Merryman and Sean O'Connell — carried the Colours to the cheers of the crowds.

Watching proceedings with a practised eye was Mr Alec Cook, a former soldier with 2 Para and now with 10 Para TA at the Duke of York's Barracks, London.

He had taken time off from his City job to watch his son, David, a Fusilier with 2RRF, marching with the Colours through the City.

"Great. Just great," said Alec. "But I wish David had joined the Paras..."

# PEOPLE

## Old timers parade for Bligny

There's not many of them left... but some of those who are made their way to Shrewsbury to commemorate the Battle of Bligny.

Fought on June 6, 1918 in France, the battle earned the 4th Battalion The King's Shropshire Light Infantry the award of the Croix de Guerre avec Palme.

To celebrate the occasion, Mr E V J Jones, 87, Major Arthur Groves, 94, and Mr G H Chester, MM, who was actually at the battle, met up in the



**MR JONES, MAJOR GROVES, MR CHESTER:** memories

Shropshire town with TA soldiers from 5 Light Infantry for a march past Brigadier B J Lowe.

They were joined by a Colour party and guard from 5L and, for the first

time, soldiers of the new TA company which is in the process of forming at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shrewsbury. Music was provided by the Band of the Light Division Depot.

# CALLING ALL TERRIERS: YOUR NEW PAY SCALES

## TA OFFICERS

	Daily rates of pay £
2nd Lieutenant Lieutenant	19.59
On appointment	25.31
After 1 year in the rank	25.98
After 2 years in the rank	26.65
After 3 years in the rank	27.32
After 4 years in the rank	27.99
On appointment	31.95
After 1 year in the rank	32.81
After 2 years in the rank	33.67
After 3 years in the rank	34.53
After 4 years in the rank	35.38
After 5 years in the rank	36.24
After 6 years in the rank	37.10
On appointment	40.39
After 1 year in the rank	41.39
After 2 years in the rank	42.39
After 3 years in the rank	43.39
After 4 years in the rank	44.40
After 5 years in the rank	45.40
After 6 years in the rank	46.40
After 7 years in the rank	47.40
After 8 years in the rank	48.40
On appointment with less than 19 years service	55.08
After 2 years in the rank or with 19 years service	56.53
After 4 years in the rank or with 21 years service	57.99
After 6 years in the rank or with 23 years service	59.51
After 8 years in the rank or with 25 years service	61.03
On appointment	65.08
After 2 years in the rank	66.84
After 4 years in the rank	68.60
After 6 years in the rank	70.36
After 8 years in the rank	72.12
	79.63

## TA OFFICERS — OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL ARMY CHAPLAINS DEPARTMENT

	Daily rates of pay £
On entry	31.95
After 2 years service	34.12
After 4 years service	36.30
Chaplains	
Class 4 (Captain)	38.48
Class 3 (Major)	40.64
Class 2 (Lt Colonel)	42.81
After 6 years service	44.98
After 8 years service	47.14
After 10 years service	49.31
After 12 years service	51.48
After 14 years service	53.65
After 16 years service	55.81
After 18 years service	57.98
Chaplain Class 1 (Colonel)	
On appointment with less than 24 years service	57.98
After 2 years in rank or with 24 years service	60.15

## TA OFFICERS — OFFICERS OF THE QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

	Daily rates of pay £
On appointment	38.25
After 1 years service	38.90
After 2 years service	39.55
After 3 years service	40.20
After 4 years service	40.84
After 5 years service	41.49
After 6 years service	42.14
After 8 years service	42.79
After 10 years service	43.44
After 12 years service	44.09
After 14 years service	44.74
After 16 years service	45.39
On appointment	51.14
After 3 years in the rank	51.87

## TA OFFICERS — NURSING OFFICERS AND NON-NURSING OFFICERS OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY NURSING CORPS AND OFFICERS OF THE WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS

	Daily rates of pay £
2nd Lieutenant Lieutenant	19.31
On appointment	24.95
After 1 year in the rank	25.61
After 2 years in the rank	26.27
After 3 years in the rank	26.93
After 4 years in the rank	27.59
On appointment	31.49
After 1 year in the rank	32.34
After 2 years in the rank	33.19
After 3 years in the rank	34.03
After 4 years in the rank	34.88
After 5 years in the rank	35.73
After 6 years in the rank	36.57
On appointment	39.81
After 1 year in the rank	40.80
After 2 years in the rank	41.79
After 3 years in the rank	42.77
After 4 years in the rank	43.76
After 5 years in the rank	44.75
After 6 years in the rank	45.74
After 7 years in the rank	46.73
After 8 years in the rank	47.71
On appointment with less than 19 years service	54.29
After 2 years in the rank or with 19 years service	55.72
After 4 years in the rank or with 21 years service	57.16
After 6 years in the rank or with 23 years service	58.68
After 8 years in the rank or with 25 years service	60.20
On appointment	64.53
After 2 years in the rank	66.29
After 4 years in the rank	68.05
After 6 years in the rank	69.81
After 8 years in the rank	71.57
	79.36

## TA OFFICERS — OFFICERS OF THE WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS OF THE QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

	Daily rates of pay £
On appointment	37.70
After 1 years service	38.34
After 2 years service	38.98
After 3 years service	39.62
After 4 years service	40.26
After 5 years service	40.90
After 6 years service	41.54
After 8 years service	42.18
After 10 years service	42.82
After 12 years service	43.46
After 14 years service	44.10
After 16 years service	44.74
On appointment	50.41
After 3 years in the rank	51.13

## TA OFFICER CADETS AND JUNIOR ENTRANTS

	Daily rate of pay £
Male Cadet (on entry)	13.75
Female Cadet (on entry)	13.56
Junior Soldier	7.96
Young Soldier	9.67

The pay ranges of the three categories are as follows: Nursing Officers — Lt to Brigadier; Non-nursing Officers — 2nd Lt to Lt Col; WRAC — 2nd Lt to Brigadier.

## TA SOLDIERS

	Scale A £	Scale 1 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Scale 1 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Scale 1 £	Scale B £	Scale C £
Private Class 4	12.78	13.08	13.53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private Class 3	13.83	14.13	14.58	15.95	16.25	16.70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private Class 2	15.17	15.47	15.92	17.29	17.59	18.04	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private Class 1	16.29	16.59	17.04	18.41	18.71	19.16	20.69	20.99	21.44	21.44	21.44	21.44
Lance Corporal Class 3	16.29	16.59	17.04	18.41	18.71	19.16	20.69	20.99	21.44	21.44	21.44	21.44
Lance Corporal Class 2	17.45	17.75	18.20	19.57	19.87	20.32	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lance Corporal Class 1	18.69	18.99	19.44	20.81	21.11	21.56	23.09	23.39	23.84	23.84	23.84	23.84
Corporal Class 2	20.02	20.32	20.77	22.14	22.44	22.89	24.31	24.61	25.09	25.09	25.09	25.09
Corporal Class 1	21.44	21.74	22.19	23.56	23.86	24.31	25.84	26.14	26.59	26.59	26.59	26.59

	Scale A £	Scale 4 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Scale 4 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Scale 4 £	Scale B £	Scale C £
Sergeant	23.47	23.77	24.22	25.80	26.10	26.55	28.31	28.61	29.06	29.06	29.06	29.06
Staff Sergeant	24.96	25.26	25.71	27.29	27.59	28.04	29.80	30.10	30.55	32.51	32.81	33.26
Warrant Officer Class 2	26.67	26.97	27.42	29.00	29.30	29.75	31.51	31.81	32.26	34.22	34.52	34.97
Warrant Officer Class 1	28.55	28.85	29.30	30.88	31.18	31.63	33.39	33.69	34.14	36.10	36.40	36.85

## TA QARANC AND WRAC

	Scale A £	Band 1 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Band 1 £	Scale B £	Scale C £	Scale A £	Band 2 £	Scale B £	Scale C £

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# 'Pardners' in outlaw shoot-out

DESCRIBED as a "physical and technical test of their gunnery in arduous conditions", 2nd Infantry Division's Exercise Northern Outlaw at Otterburn saw regular and TA gunners firing together for the first time.

Among the field artillery in action were FH 70 Howitzers, 105mm Light Guns, 81mm mortars and there was an input of helicopters of Chinook, Sea King and Puma varieties.

Brigadier G Arnold, Commander Royal Artillery, 2 Inf Div said: "It is probably the biggest exercise of its type on these ranges for ten years and it is the first time that the Divisional Artillery have all fired together."

Later, he said: "I'm extremely



pleased with the results that we have achieved. It was arduous, the conditions were testing but the enthusiasm and cheerful way that the gunners, regular and volunteer, got involved made all the difference. And with the help of the

RN and RAF we had a far better exercise than was ever envisaged at the start of the planning."

Picture shows the eyes and ears of 205 Bty at its OP — left to right, Gunner Mick Armiger, Captain John Constable and Lance Bombardier Bill Nisbett.



Walkers with a purpose — they raised £1,000. Holding the cheque are Sister Anita Muir, Sgt Adrian Roche, Sister Kit Dickson and TSM Smith. Photo by courtesy of Evening News, Edinburgh.

## SAPPERS TURN CASH INTO COURSE



Sgt Bill Brown and his team — in the background the aerial walkway.

HQ SQUADRON of 75 Engineer Regiment RE (V) from Failsworth, Manchester, have completed a Military Aid to the Civil Community (MACC) task for Danesford School, Congleton — a 400-yard 'confidence course' that some say makes an assault course look

almost too easy.

The school is one of the National Children's Homes and the course comprises rope swings, an aerial bridge, tunnels and a log frame tower.

Chief designer and builder Sergeant Bill Brown, said after

## TARGET DOUBLED

A TEAM of Edinburgh-based TA gunners — from 207 (Scottish) Air Defence Battery, RA, (V) — have raised £1,000 from a sponsored walk, Exercise Long Walk, in aid of the children's ward at Leith Hospital, in the city.

The target set by organiser Sergeant Adrian Roche, the PSM of D Troop, was to raise £500 for the 55-mile-long event. The 15-man team exceeded their wildest expectations despite freak Arctic weather conditions along the route.

D Troop, the Edinburgh element of 207 (Scottish) AD Bty, RA (V) is part of 102 (Ulster and Scottish) AD Reg, RA (V).

The money raised will go to furnish another mother-and-baby room and towards the purchase of adjustable height beds.

various tests (the sappers turned in a time of two minutes 41 seconds) "It works. I knew it would and it looks tremendous to see a year's work being used by members of the school.

"Site constraints prevented the use of plant so it was good old hand sapping that turned £3,000 raised by Terry Wogan's appeal into this.

"We've used 160 man days to do it, working on specially designated weekends during the year."

Fellow designers were Corporal Allan Barnes and Lance Corporal Derry Kehoe.



## TOPICS

## WALES WINS REME TEST



WALES has swept the board for the second time in three years during Exercise Western Approaches '85, a competitive test of technical and military skills; a test set specifically for REME units and played out in a realistic scenario.

The exercise, in Staffordshire, pitted the wits of units from the North, South and West of England, the Midlands, and the North and South of Wales.

Romping home into first place was the team from 104 Air Defence Regiment, Light Aid Detachment, REME, with its HQ in Newport, Gwent. Second place went to Cardiff University Officers' Training Corps, their first year of entry, with their Swansea detachment. Third placing went to 157 Regiment Workshops, REME (V). shops, REME (V).

Picture shows Nuneaton maintenance welder, Lance Corporal Stephen Hands, making short work of the metalsmith task. On his right, Craftsman William Henry, the director of a Coventry electronics and electrical appliances firm, who has been in the TA for just 18 months.

# SOLDIER to Soldier



Lance Corporal Ron Henry and Corporal Ginnette Powell reading the last VISOR — in which they are shown reading the last VISOR!

VISOR, the Services magazine in Northern Ireland, has published its last issue after a lifespan of more than 11 years.

The decision to close the magazine has come because of further staff reductions in Army Information Services at Northern Ireland headquarters in Lisburn.

VISOR first appeared on 28 February 1974 as an eight-page weekly intended to present an operational summary in easily readable form for the 24,000 regular and Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers then serving in Northern Ireland.

It was especially aimed at the hard-worked troops on roulement tours of duty, 13 major units and 20 minor units then on four-month stints.

At that time, VISOR was produced by two civilian journalists working full time, supported by a team of photographers and RAOC printers controlled by Army Information Services. AIS was then more than 40-strong with a press office manned round the clock.

Today the Northern Ireland situation has changed considerably. Only two major units and five minor ones are now on roulement duty, VISOR had become a 'one-man band', and Army Information Services had gradually dwindled to a staff of three.

The rundown has paralleled the reduction in Army strengths and responsibility in Northern Ireland. During the late 1970s, VISOR's coverage of operational matters declined, reflecting the improving security situation and the re-establishment of Royal Ulster Constabulary primacy in the campaign against terrorism. The number of regular soldiers serving in the province has been reduced from about 22,000 at its height to about 9,000. The frequency of VISOR's publication became fortnightly last year with

a circulation of 6,500.

VISOR will leave behind it an opportunity for units, sports teams and clubs to reach a military readership in the province, with a fortnightly advertising sheet still carrying the name VISOR, published by AIS and dependent entirely on its readership for contributions.

But the VISOR that so many thousands of soldiers came to know has disappeared. With it has gone the regular full-page, sometimes two-page pin-ups, which have adorned barrack walls in Northern Ireland, and which once brought an accusation of sexism from civilian authority.

The last issue, No 548, declared: "Everyone concerned with producing VISOR during the past eleven years hopes it will be remembered as an old friend by the many thousands of soldiers who have served in Northern Ireland."

SOLDIER associates itself wholeheartedly with those sentiments. Farewell, old friend.

★ ★ ★  
CALLING all 3 Division veterans of D-Day. Any badges, photographs, uniforms, anything at all connected with that historic invasion 41 years ago will be gratefully received by the recently formed Musée du Débarquement at Hermanville-sur-Mer in Normandy.

The modern 3 Div is now getting itself involved in helping to keep alive memories of the wartime division's assault on Sword Beach (see stories pages 24/28) and Major General David Ramsbotham, the present GOC, had already sent a member of his staff to the Imperial War Museum in London to see what photographs might be available for display at Hermanville.

The little coastal community, which was right in the front line of the Sword Beach landing, can hardly hope to match the

impressive museum at Arromanches which is run by the influential *Comité du Débarquement*. But it is hoped the hospitality displayed by Hermanville to veterans over the years, in organising parades, services and receptions, may in part be repaid by receiving more D-Day memorabilia for their own display.

★ ★ ★

After ten years of travelling the world photographing the Army for SOLDIER, Doug Pratt has decided to move on.

Doug worked for the Ministry of Defence for 23 years, and was with the Admiralty Underwater Weapons Establishment at Portland before joining SOLDIER. Now he is going back to Dorset, to work as a public relations photographer for a brewery!

The many readers who will remember his excellent pictures, which were regularly award winners in the Army Photographic Competition, will no doubt join SOLDIER in wishing him well in his new post.



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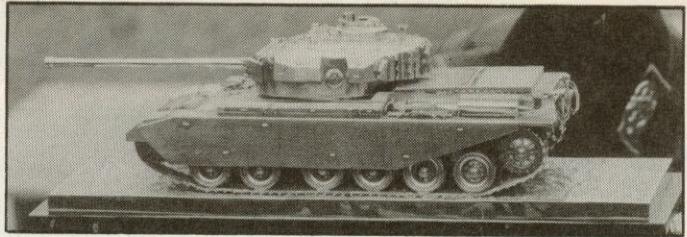
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# CAT 85



## At last — British get a hand on trophy!

**O**N what was only the second occasion of multi-national team competition, Northern Army Group (NORTHAG) wrested the prestigious Canadian Army Trophy from the grasp of Central Army Group (CENTAG).

The victory in what some people like to call the Olympics of tank gunnery, gave British soldiers at least a share in the trophy for the first time since 1969 when it was won by 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers.

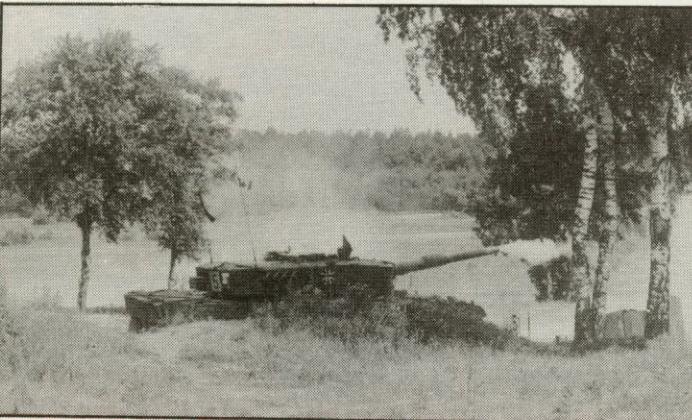
In those days and up to the last competition two years ago, the honour of holding the silver model Centurion tank, donated by the Canadian Government in 1963, was decided between units representing NATO countries with troops stationed in Germany.

General Leopold Chalupa, the German General who is the current Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe (CINCENT), explained that different training cycles, different kit and different stages of modernisation had presented problems in formulating an equitable competition for national teams.

The solution, to form Army Group teams of five multi-national units each, this year gave The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (representing the British Army for the second time in succession) a share of the spoils in the form of a miniature CAT.

But many of the problems of running such a complicated contest in a way that satisfies all contestants remain. For example, at this year's 14th CAT shoot out on the Bergen-Hohne training area north of Hanover there were virtually

### A German Leopard II firing



See full colour pictures — page 51



Cheers from the British spectators as Chieftain enters the arena

two different divisions. In the first there was the modern generation of tanks — the American M1 Abrams and the German Leopard II; in the second the not so modern — the Leopard I, the British Chieftain and oldest of all, the American M60.

CENTAG, the losing side, had only two teams in this unofficial first division, the 3rd Battalion, 64th Armoured Regiment, US Army, based in Schweinfurt, and the German Panzerbataillon 244, the first armoured unit in southern Germany to be re-equipped with Leopard II.

Ironically these teams came first and second respectively in the competition, but their performances were mitigated by other CENTAG members, notably by the American 3rd Battalion, 32 Armoured Regiment, who came second last with their M60s and

the Royal Canadian Dragoons who were last with Leopard I.

NORTHAG on the other hand had three teams in the top division: the US 2nd Battalion, 66th Armoured Regiment, with M1, the German Panzerbataillon 24 and the Dutch 43rd Tankbataljon both with Leopard II.

The Dutch, fielding two troops almost entirely of conscripts who had never seen the inside of a tank until a year ago, came third overall. In fact their number one troop

**Story:  
Robert Higson**

**Pictures:  
Paul Haley**

scored the highest number of points in the first round of the competition.

"Obviously it would be a disappointment if more modern tanks don't produce better results," General Chalupa told a press conference just before the prize-giving.

"However even the most modern machinery is no good if you don't have the right team, the leadership, the training and the capability to operate it and make it also cost effective."

He thought that the general improvement in scores compared with 1983, when the target set up was virtually the same, indicated an advance in proficiency as well

as technology.

"The M1 and the Leopard II we have seen together for the first time," he said. "I would hope that we would also see the Challenger in the next competition."

Challenger's non appearance had been the cause of some comment. According to Major Nicholas Seymour, the OC of Scots DG's competing Eagle Squadron, The Royal Hussars, the only regiment with sufficient Challenger experience, were unable to take part because of conflicting commitments.

This year the tanks were spared the dry conditions of 1983 when dust all too easily obscured the targets. Instead they had rain which, while it kept the dust in place, was also capable of reducing visibility. In fact one battle run by the 2-66 US Armoured Battalion had to be halted for a time as the judges couldn't see the targets!

The rules, with some amendments, were basically the same as before. Each unit fields two separate troops of four tanks each.

The troops are presented with 24 targets — painted black and measuring 190 cm x 160 cm — which can be raised or towed as moving targets from any of over 80 sites within the designated arc of the fire zone. Maximum range is under three kilometres.

All but four have to be engaged at three stationary positions known as bounds. The others have to be

attacked as the tanks move from one bound to the next.

In addition each tank has to knock down two sets of 10 falling plates with machine gun fire while they advance between bounds.

At any stage in the battle run six targets are exposed simultaneously. Otherwise they come up in groups of between two and five, sometimes with a couple of presentations at one bound. Each is exposed for 40 seconds.

Accuracy and speed are the key to the competition. It is not enough just to hit the target, you have to hit it as quickly as possible. A target successfully engaged within one second of exposure earns the maximum 500 bonus points, whereafter the bonus drops for every second that is lost.

To accomplish their task the tank crews are each allowed 10 main armament rounds and 250 machine gun rounds. Bonus points are also

awarded for ammunition left over after successfully hitting all 24 targets.

If a troop fired only 24 times and by some miracle hit all its targets within one second each, while mowing down all its machine gun plates, it would score a maximum 28,100 points.

As it is a score of over 20,000 can be considered pretty good shooting. In the first round a troop of mainly conscripts from the 43 Tankbataljon (NL), who are fortunate enough to be stationed just alongside the competition range, beat the field with 21,364.

But their efforts, along with the rest, were eclipsed by another Leopard II troop — the second of Panzerbataillon 244 from Landshut — which notched a massive 22,037 in the final round of the competition.

It wasn't enough to give the Leopards victory. On combined



tots the M1s of 3-64 Armoured Battalion produced the best overall score.

The Dutch — with confident message in English!



#### Men of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards discuss M1 with Americans

RESULTS:			
<b>NORTHAG</b>			
43 TKBN (NL) (Leopard II)	21,364	19,914	41,278
<b>2-64 ARMBN (US)</b>	20,305	20,341	40,646
PZBTL 24 (GE) (Leopard II)	20,011	19,611	39,622
<b>2 LANSIERS (BE)</b>	17,664	18,152	35,816
SCOTS DG (UK) (Chieftain)	15,564	17,829	33,393
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>190,755</b>		
<b>CENTAG</b>			
3-64 ARMBN (US) (M1 Abrams)	21,321	21,934	43,255
PZBTL 244 (GE) (Leopard II)	20,560	22,037	42,597
PZBTL 63 (GE) (Leopard I)	19,746	18,857	38,703
<b>3-32 ARMBN (US)</b>	<b>17,718</b>	<b>14,909</b>	<b>32,627</b>
RCD (CD) (Leopard I)	13,299	15,175	28,474
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185,656</b>		

A competition like CAT 85 is sometimes remarkable for the fact that it takes place at all rather than for any shortcomings there may be in the organisation.

There are of course many other skill-at-arms meetings, but none where the Army are quite so large or deadly.

Just getting the contesting tanks together and dispersing them is quite a headache by itself. Then there are considerable technical problems of safety and judging compounded by the usual tensions inherent in any international event.

Each target is observed by pairs of judges who have to register hits and calculate to the second the time in which those hits are made. Holes appearing against black backgrounds on black targets don't always make the task

## TRAGEDY MARS EVENT



as simple as it sounds.

Targets themselves have to be serviced and repaired. In the case of a malfunction during a battle run sometimes contentious decisions have to be made on where to restart the action.

The rules stress the fact that competing tanks should conform to normal national

operational standards — in other words they are not supposed to be special competition models. This means careful scrutiny and strict quarantine for the tanks once they move to the zero range.

Safety regulations require that the competing troop of tanks travels to the start line with cleared guns. In position

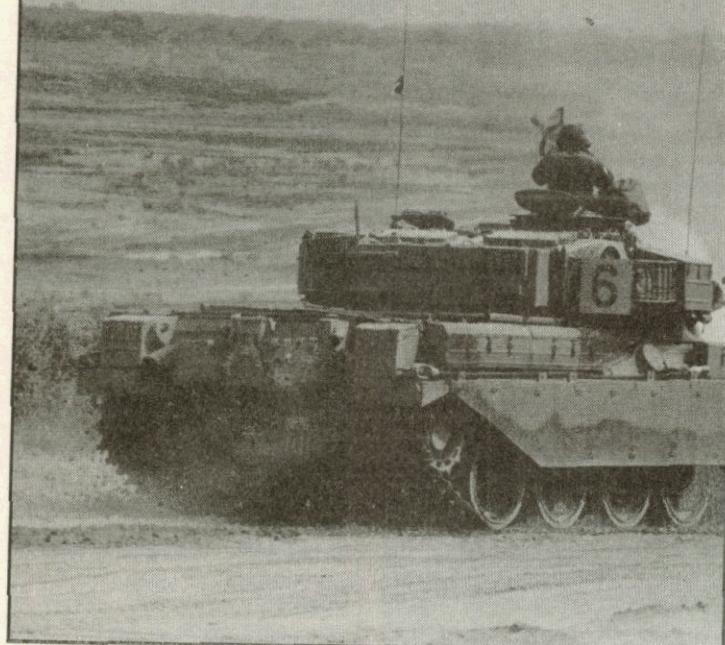
on the first bound they are allowed two minutes to load.

Unfortunately, as was tragically demonstrated on the penultimate day of the competition, it is not always possible to guard completely against the destructive power of tanks.

A traffic accident between a Land Rover and one of the Leopard Is of the second troop of Royal Canadian Dragoons, which was in the process of moving from the zeroing range to the first bound, killed a Belgian corporal and seriously injured another Belgian soldier.

After consultation with the team captains, General Leopold Chalupa, the Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe, ordered the flags to be flown at half mast and competition to be cancelled for the rest of the day.

## CAT 85:



# MUCH BETTER THIS TIME FOR ROYAL SCOTS DRAGOON GUARDS

**E**AGLE Squadron, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, is no more. Having carried the flag, so to speak, for the regiment and the British Army at this year's shooting match for the Canadian Army Trophy, the Squadron's one reason for existence has come to an end.

The CAT rules specify that specially formed units may not compete but as Major Nicholas Seymour, OC Eagle Squadron, explained: "Because the British establishment only has troops with three tanks, and the competition requires troops with four, we obviously had to form a special organisation just for the competition."

This was the second occasion on which Major Seymour and other members of Scots DG took part in what must rank as the most nerve wracking test of tank gunnery in NATO.

But unlike last time when they were novices in terms of the competition, they came to CAT '85 armed with experience.

"Whereas we started before not really knowing quite what the problems would be, this time we have managed to raise many potential problem areas before the start," Major Seymour said, "and that's made it a lot easier for us."

The competition still required nearly a year of intensive preparation while Eagle Squadron was formed the troops and tanks selected and then remorselessly drilled.

For the crews it was the sort of experience familiar to athletes with Olympic aspirations — long, hard months of training culminating in just one opportunity to get it right: a few stomach-churning minutes to decide success or failure.

The Royal Scots Greys, a parent of the present Scots DG, won the trophy back in 1965 but no one had any illusions this time that the 20-year-old Chieftain tank would be hard put to match the

performance of the modern American M1 Abrams and the German Leopard II.

"Because of the technological difference we require perhaps a little more luck than the others," Major Seymour admitted before Scots DG made the first of its two battle runs.

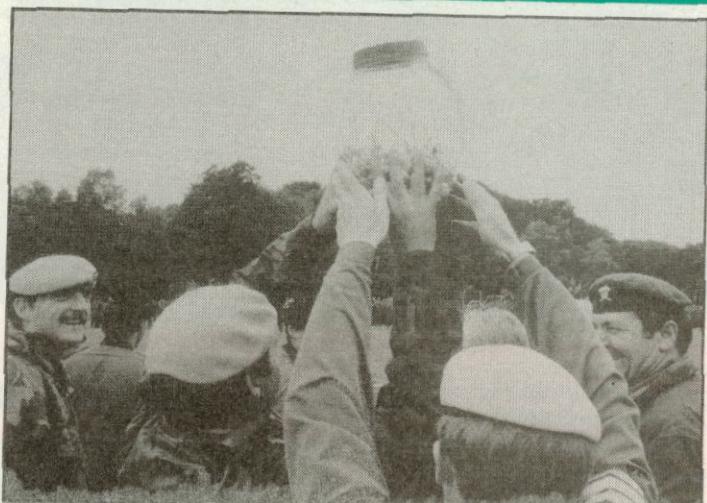
"Obviously there is considerable pressure. Hopefully the British soldier reacts fairly well and doesn't crack up under it but in the past there have been crews who have been physically ill prior to the start.

"If you look at the crews of M1 and Leopard II for instance, there's very keen competition there to show which is the best because there is such a lot at stake and I would imagine that the pressure in those turrets is somewhat more than in ours."

Eagle Squadron's 3rd Troop — the first to take the field — had to wait until almost the end of round one before its four Chieftains drew up alongside each other on the first bound.

Then, with nerves stretched and adrenalin pumping, the troop faced a cruel delay. Something was wrong with the communications. The control tower and the tanks couldn't hear each other. Evidently somewhere in the system a set was

## So out come the lollipops!



stuck on permanent send and until that could be sorted out the crews waited.

When eventually they got going they scored only 15,564 points, higher than any Scots DG troop achieved in 1983 but well below their best scores in practice and saved only by the Royal Canadian Dragoons from being the lowest in the competition.

"You get onto first bound and you are all ready to go," said Corporal Bob McKenzie, a tank commander. "Then you get somebody going daft on the air, doing permanent send and things like that. It just sort of takes you down a couple of pegs. The adrenalin's slowing down and once you go you feel a wee bit calmer than you should be."

"Certainly for us a real kick in

the nuts actually," commented a dejected troop commander, Staff Sergeant Ronnie Whiteside. "It's 20 minutes of your life which actually flashes by in about two seconds.

"Everything contributes. Certainly firing after a long wait through the day doesn't help. The communications problem? It's just one of those things but you should be able to rise over that. But when you are dealing with things in this sort of high pressure situation it doesn't help either."

Some of 3 Troop had been looking over an M1 in the static

# 'The best we could have done'



display of tanks which is always a feature of the competition, and they enthused about what they had seen.

Some disparaging comments about the gunner's controls on Chieftain compared with the M1 followed with the new American tank being credited with having a much simpler and more flexible system.

"It's immaculate," said Lance Corporal Kenneth Driscoll, a 3 Troop gun loader. "He's got all his controls on this Buck Rogers type steering wheel. He can lase, he can do it with his right hand or left hand it doesn't matter.

"If you put our guys in them — we would walk it, no bother."

Lance Corporal Joe Toward, the troop leader's gunner, was however, prepared to be kinder to his own tank.

"Chieftain is not really built for this competition," he said. "This is a gun (120 mm) designed to kill tanks not cardboard screens. If we had targets with depth, metal targets, we'd knock them out whereas a 105 (the standard gun for most entrants) may not."

"If I was going to war this is the tank I'd want because it's got killing power over other tanks. Although they are faster and they can fire quicker they haven't got the power and punch that Chieftain has."

Captain Ces Swinden, Royal Hussars, who was coaching Scots DG for the second successive CAT, said the troop had engaged 23 out of the 24 targets and hit 18. Had more of the hits been first time shots then the score would

**Spare shells from 1 Troop's re-run. The coveralls were a special issue for CAT 85 and were due to be returned after the contest**

have shown dramatic improvement. As it was he didn't think it a particularly bad result.

"The lads did as well as they could," he said. "They are disappointed obviously — with the end result rather than the performance. I didn't in any way say to them — that was bad."

Scots DG's CO, Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Hall, also stressed Chieftain's lack of suitability for the competition. But despite that and the great amount of effort involved it was still a matter of considerable pride for the regiment to have taken part. The experience of two competitions had undoubtedly improved general standards of gunnery and had enabled the regiment to suggest equipment modifications to such things as gun sights.

"We achieved our capabilities yesterday within the competition rules," he said. "After that it is luck for what we have. I mean for what the tank is meant to do. And you either have luck or you don't. It didn't work out yesterday. Maybe tomorrow it will."

Much hope was placed on Scots DG's second run, undertaken by 1st Troop — 2nd Troop having been eliminated in pre-competition assessment. But in the event target malfunction turned the run into chaos and after an appeal a re-run was allowed.

**A crew of 1 Troop clear out spare charges after the re-run**

Everything seemed to be going well to begin with, said Sergeant David Whelan, one of the tank commanders. But after the Control Tower had ordered a stop it all went to pieces.

"You lose your momentum," Sergeant Whelan explained. "You go on there all keyed up and then you get something like that and it just puts you down."

A tragic road accident in which a driver was killed when a Belgian Land Rover was in collision with a Canadian tank postponed the re-run until early the following day — the last of the competition.

The crews were up by 3.45 am and they were on Bound 1 before most people had stirred. The grandstand, normally crowded with excited spectators, was virtually deserted for what proved to be Scots DG's finest hour.

There was a feeling of excitement when the crews arrived back after being cleared by the judges.

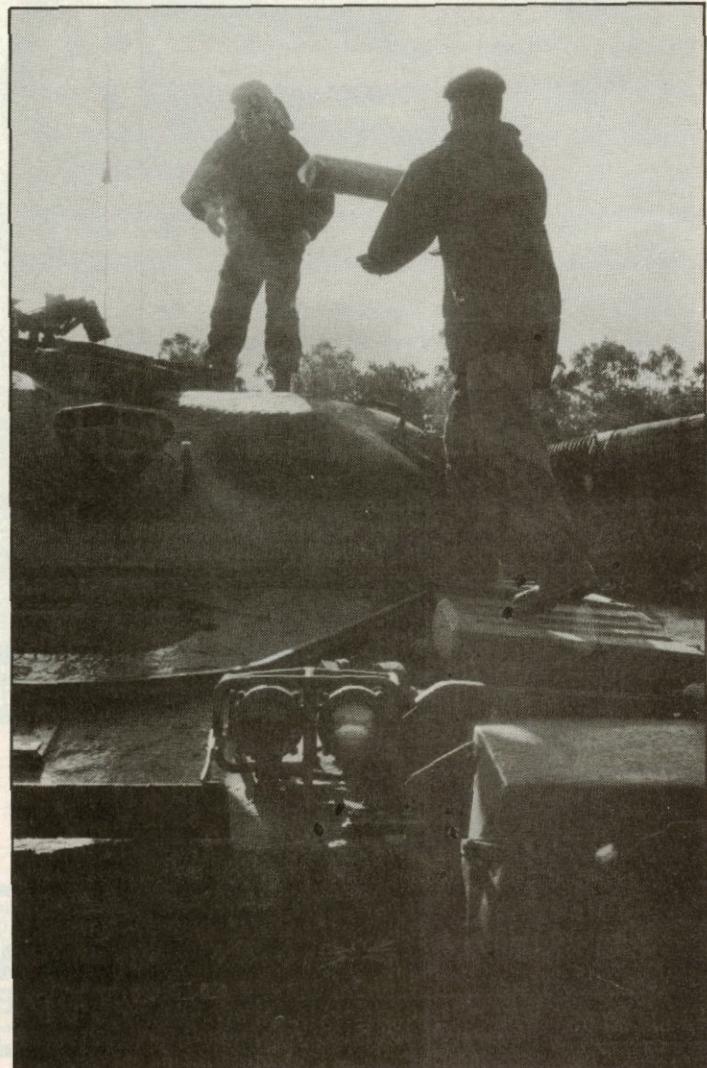
"I think that was a good run," said Corporal Norman Robertson, the commander of one of the flank tanks. "I think at this stage that was the best we could have done. It felt good and the boys enjoyed it. Even if the engagement times aren't fast I think it was the best we could have hoped for, so I'm quite happy."



**Major Nicholas Seymour, Royal Scots Dragoon Guards**

The troop had hit 20 targets and knocked down all their machine gun plates. Out came a large jar of lollipops in celebration. Evidently a fairly recent regimental tradition had been established in training whereby crews performing well had been awarded lollipops.

The score — a respectable 17,829 — put the Chieftains of Scots DG above the Canadian Leopard Is and the American M-60s. It wasn't a world beater but it enabled the regiment, which won't be around for the next CAT as it moves to Tidworth in 1986, to head home to Sennelager with the feeling that things could have been worse.



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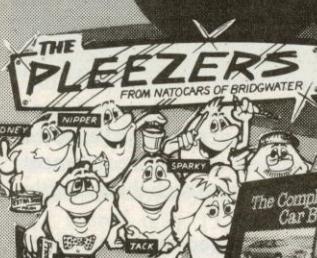
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**T**O write a book is a challenge in itself, to write a book when you are aware that time could run out for you is an even greater challenge.

Nancy Tennent, married to a Serviceman with two young children, was forty when acute myeloid leukaemia was diagnosed in 1980. But now, a dream has come true. Her book 'Miracles on Horseferry Road', a story of victory over cancer, has been published.

Nancy dedicates her book to her mother (her father recently died of leukaemia); to Ian Kirby, the unrelated bone marrow donor; Shirley Nolan who founded the Anthony Nolan Laboratories; and to Professor A J Barratt who made the medical breakthrough; and to her loving family, George, Cameron and Kirsty. These and all the staff at the Cambridge Military Hospital and the Westminster Hospital who cared, nursed and fought for Nancy to make it.

Her fight was no ordinary

one. She was a guinea pig, making a courageous decision to be the first to receive a bone marrow transplant from an unrelated donor. The odds were stacked against her.

She heard of all the horrifying side effects which would happen, during and after the transplant. How many patients had had a transplant from an unrelated donor and without Cyclosporin A? The number, four. How many had survived? None.

Nancy tells her story with feeling for all concerned, but above all as her doctors at Westminster Hospital in London, said: "Without her faith in God's guidance, she would not be alive today."

The book tells how rekindled faith played a very significant part in Nancy's road to recovery.

I met Nancy before her transplant, visited her in hospital and chatted to her afterwards. There is something very special about such faith and perception of life.

Some of you will remember her interview with Tommy Vance just a few days before being admitted to hospital and her story in SOLDIER News in 1981. A year later Nancy told in SOLDER magazine of her hopes and her battle to get her blood platelet count up to 200,000. Nancy had only 12,000.

'Miracles on Horseferry Road' traces Nancy's life from her birth in America, her travels, to marriage, Army life and then as a patient in a pioneering breakthrough to give those with leukaemia a chance.

For Nancy, "the greatest miracle of all was not my



physical healing, this was MY miracle — but that God had given me a second chance to receive His love and His free gift of salvation, to receive His dear son Jesus into my life and heart."

'Miracles on Horseferry Road' published by Pickering and Inglis Ltd, £1.75, is available from most Christian Bookshops or by post from Scripture Union, 51 Wigmore St, London; Christian Literature Crusade, 51 The Dean, Alresford, Hampshire, or 2 Cathedral Place, London.

*Anne Armstrong*

Home tel: Camberley 29653

**"Without her faith in God's guidance, she would not be alive today."**

dated to a year before my application date as this was the maximum time allowed. Please encourage others to do the same.

Thank you very much for all the splendid work you do for us. — Mrs F. Glos.

DEAR Anne, Thank you for your letter and for sending a copy of the letter which you have received from "Service wife of 20 years facing a 20th move".

The lady's suggestion is for vinyl covers for mattresses which could, presumably, be removed, cleaned and re-used as opposed to the present system of replacing the whole mattress.

DDSM6 (RAF) advise that the concept of a mattress with a removable cover has been accepted for the single element and they are currently negotiating with manufacturers on the

acceptance of suitable designs for trial.

DDSM6 (RAF) also say that, longer term, they are receptive to the idea of mattresses with removable covers for married quarters. Their view is that vinyl covers would be uncomfortable and noisy but other suitable materials would be considered.

This is on the list of their future projects. — MOD, Andover, Logistic Executive.

*In answer to a number of letters from wives working in Germany, I have received the following reply from HQ BAOR.*

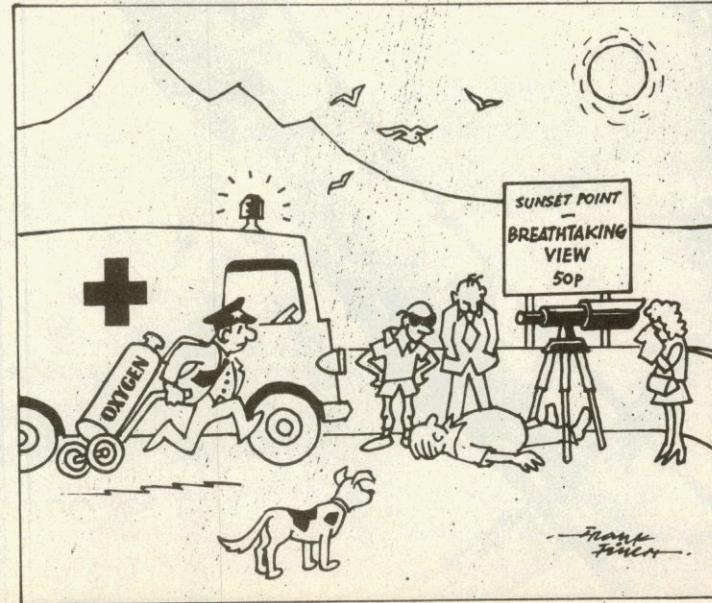
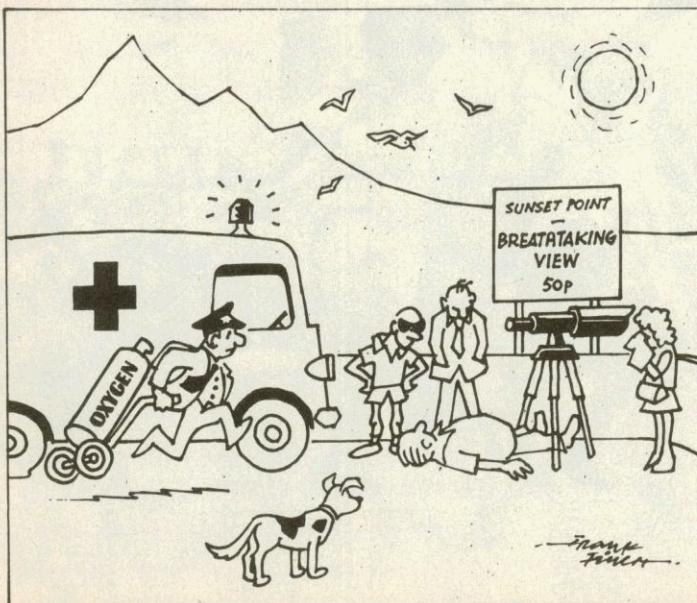
Q: What do we do when we return to UK as we are not given the P45 which

we are supposed to give in when we sign on for Unemployment Benefit at the office in UK. This is important as UB is now taxed.

*A: Income Tax P45. All of our dependant employees are advised when leaving employment that they inform their local UK DHSS office that the Overseas Branch of the DHSS should be able to answer any queries arising from their employment with BAOR. The final pay statement gives details of wages/salary to date with total ERNIC contributions. The statement does not include comment on tax paid as dependant employees are not subject to Income Tax. We have taken advice from DHSS on the latter point and it has been confirmed that local DHSS offices should be asked to refer to the Overseas Office at Newcastle in cases of difficulty.*

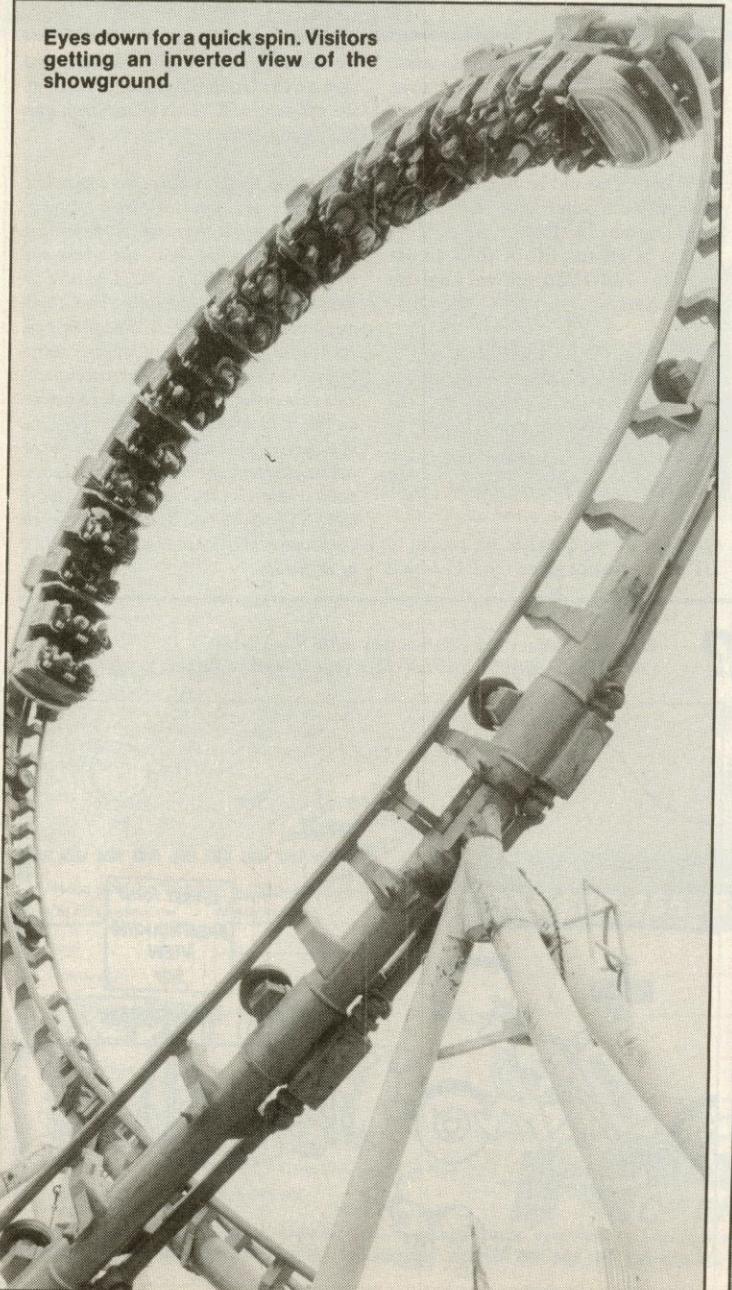
## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 39.





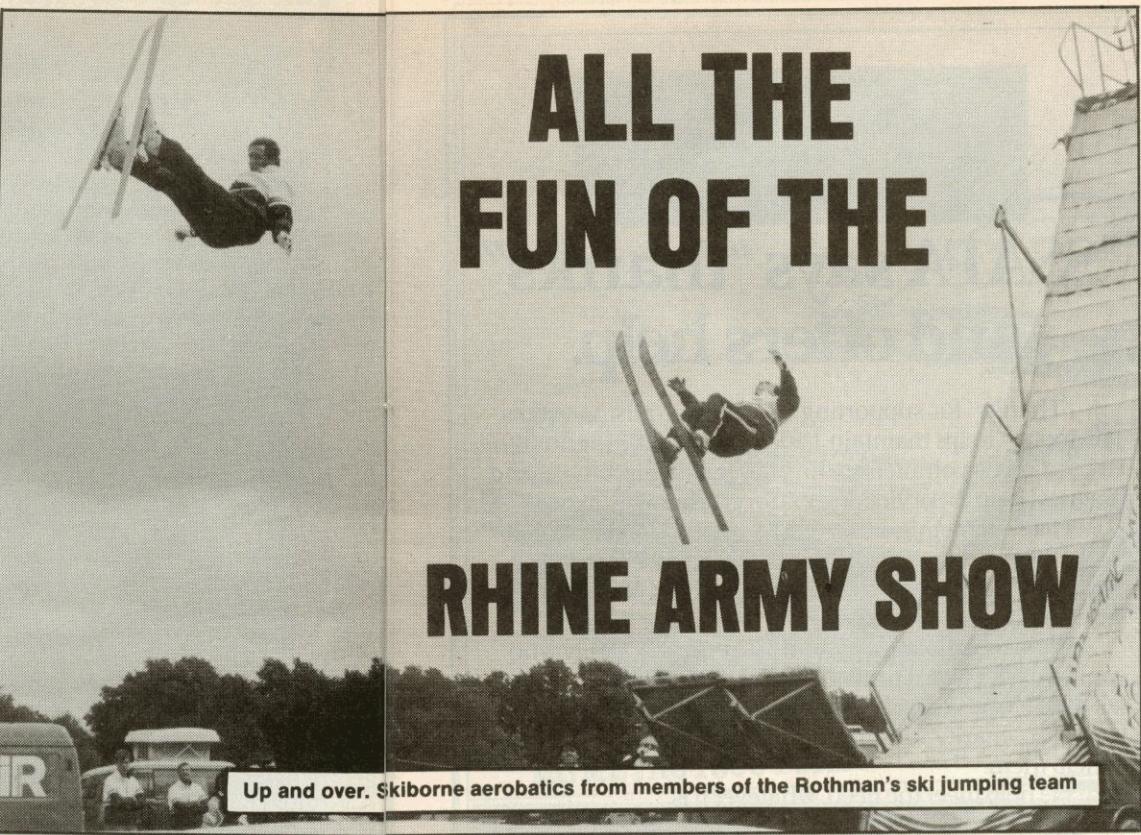
White Helmets on parade. The Royal Signals motorcycle display team give an exhibition of close order, high speed precision riding



Eyes down for a quick spin. Visitors getting an inverted view of the showground



Showing a leg. The can-can adds a few frills to the summer show



## ALL THE FUN OF THE RHINE ARMY SHOW

Up and over. Skiborne aerobatics from members of the Rothman's ski jumping team

**P**HOTOGRAPHER Paul Haley captured all the magical moments of the Rhine Army Summer Show at Bad Lippspringe, when rain and cold strong winds hit the organisers' expected high turnout.

For the first time, the show featured 'high noise' events including the RAF Red Arrows and the Royal Signals motor cycle team The White Helmets.

The Historical Re-enactment Society based in the west of England, re-enacted the battle of Sedgmoor in which the troops of King James II fought the rebels, under the Duke of Monmouth.

If the original battle featured explosions as loud as the displays

given they would have been heard from Dorset to Yorkshire during 1685.

The gusting winds caused problems for the two free fall parachute display teams. The Canonballs, formed by members of the RAOC, and the Joint Services Parachute Centre team, based at Bad Lippspringe, jumped from a Chinook of 18 Squadron RAF. On the first day both teams did extremely well in marginal weather conditions.

The Carlsberg Miss BAOR '85 title was won by Patricia Green, whose husband Fred is a sergeant with 4 Field Regt RA in Osnabruck. Patricia said she was very surprised: "When Mike Allan, of

BFBS, read out the third and second places I thought that I was out. But then the next name he called was mine..."

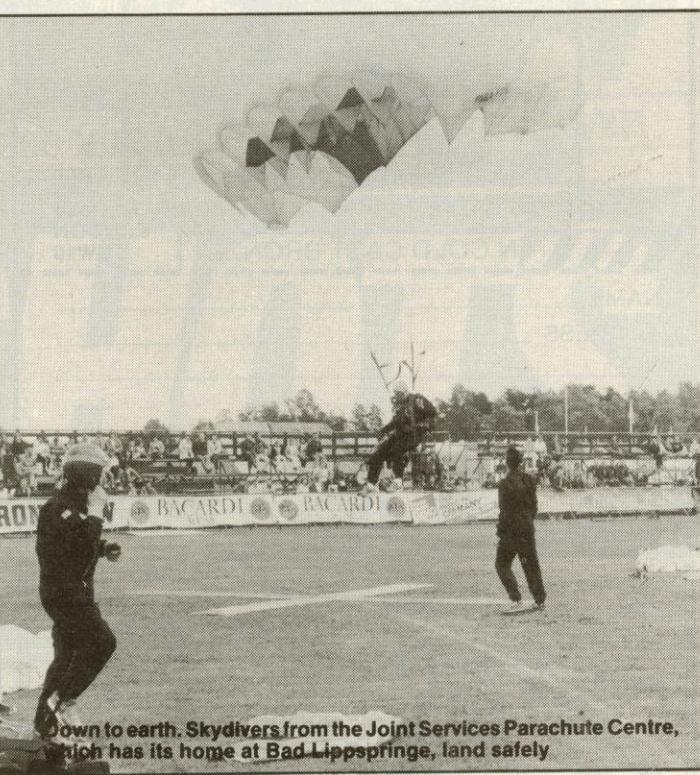
Around the show ground was over one kilometre of trade stands from sweet stalls and German beer houses to car sales and specialist clothing and camping equipment.

The hard work put in by all concerned was appreciated by those who attended but it was the weather, as always, that controlled the size of the crowds.

As one observer put it: "If the weather had been any worse on the Saturday and Monday we could have called it The Rhine Army Boat Show."



Winning trio. Patricia Green, aged 23 from Osnabruck, is this year's Miss BAOR. On either side are Nicola Willmott, runner-up (left) and Colleen Hart, third (right)



Down to earth. Skydivers from the Joint Services Parachute Centre, which has its home at Bad Lippspringe, land safely



Heavy haulage. 40 Field Regiment, RA, on their way to winning the 680 kg class in the tug-of-war competition

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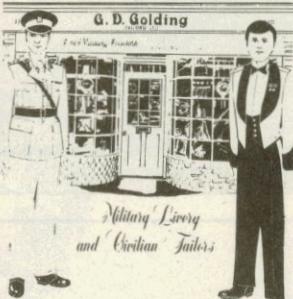
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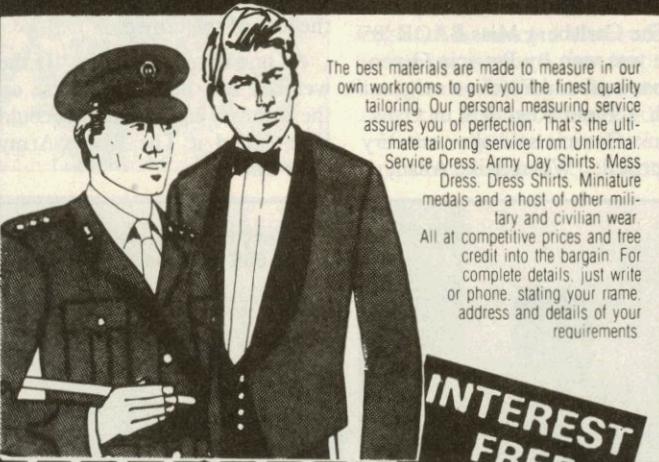
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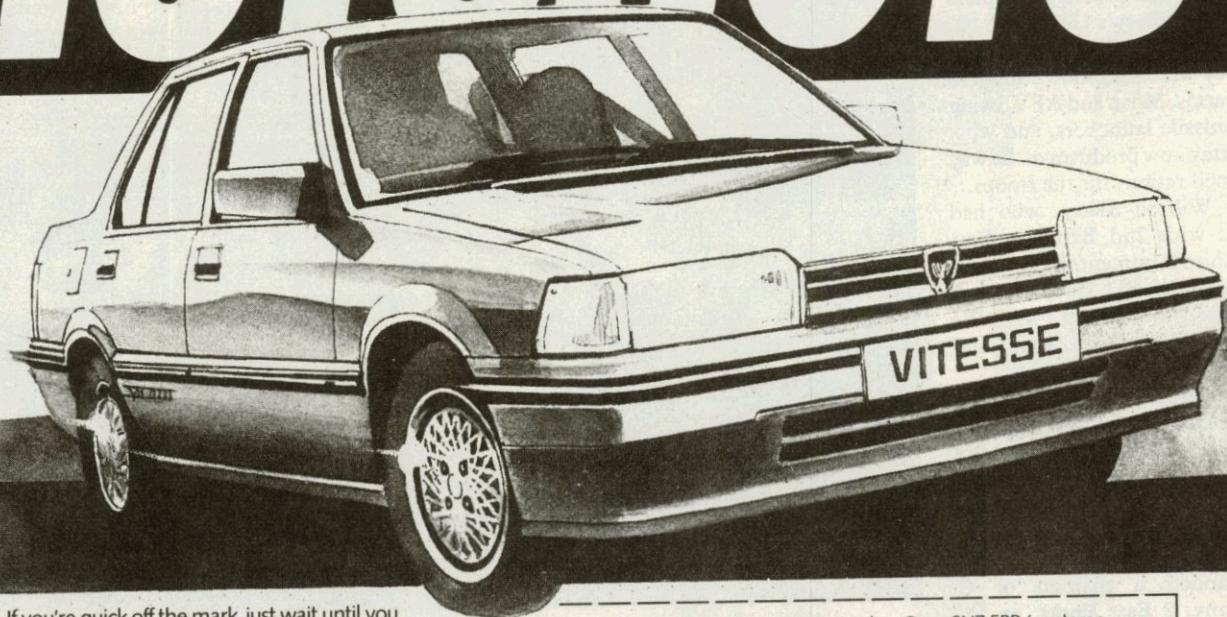
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# WAR VETERANS MEET MODERN

**I**T was quite an encounter. On one side ageing veterans of the greatest seaborne invasion the world has ever seen, on the other young professional soldiers of the modern British Army.

The meeting was part of 3rd Armoured Division's D-Day weekend in which some 50 veterans and their wives were invited over to Germany to witness the dedication of a memorial church window.

The special meet-the-modern-soldier display was put on for them on the day after their arrival.

They were given lunch under canvas from a field kitchen — an experience that reminded many of campaigning conditions as heavy rain turned much of the area into a quagmire; although, as they agreed, the food and service was better than they remembered.

They had the opportunity to drive an AFV 432, ride in a Scorpion, inspect a Chieftain tank, walk across an AVL (armoured vehicle launching bridge), watch a demonstration of the launch of Ranger anti-personnel mines, see over Lynx and Gazelle helicopters and the Artillery's 175 mm M 107 and 105 mm Abbot guns.

They were also shown modern small arms, Milan and AFV Swing Fire missile launchers, and what the Army now produces in the way of tinned rations for the troops.

Mr Wilfred Slater, who had served with 2nd Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment in the action which followed D-Day, was most impressed with Swing Fire ("We never had anything like that") and with modern Army cooking.

"I mean you used to get porridge and tea leaves, didn't you," he said. "I wouldn't mind being a soldier now if I was a young chap again. Its a good life."

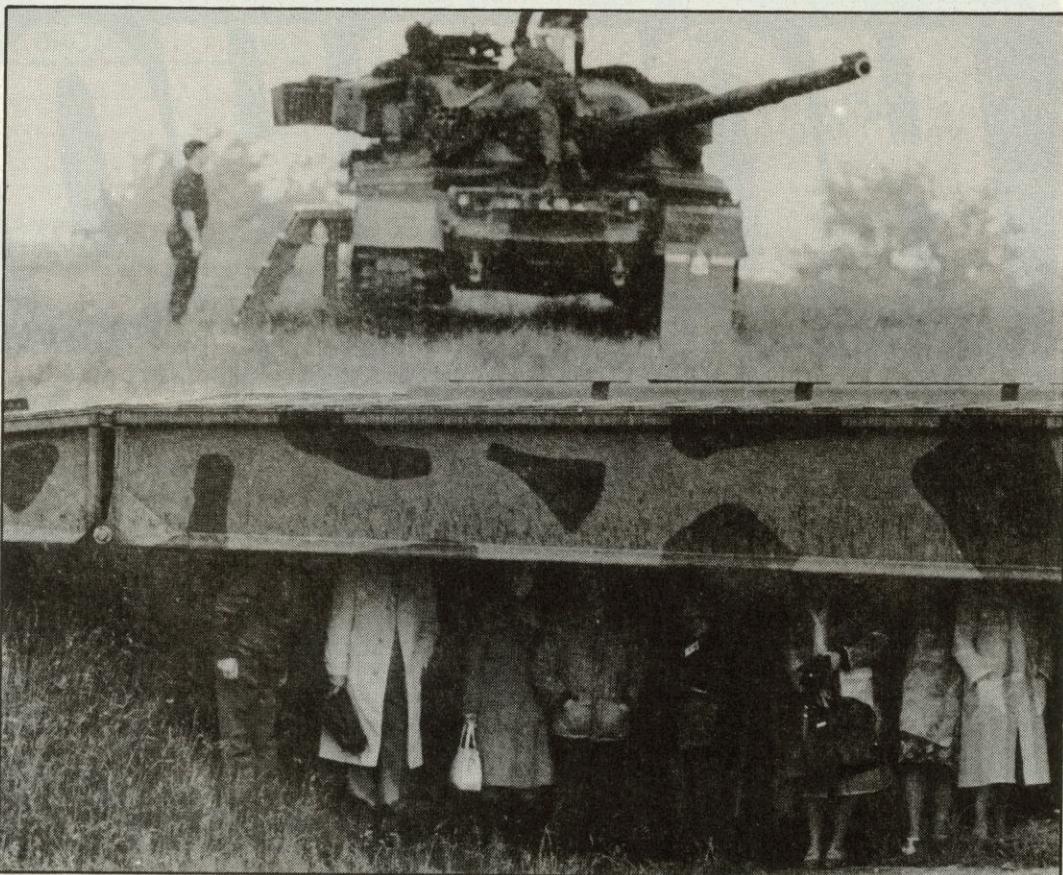
Captain Len Robertson, a Canadian loan service officer who commanded a platoon of C Company, 2 East Yorks, on D-Day, stood talking to Lieutenant Ron Brown, who had been the battalion's intelligence officer.

"The strides that have been made," he said. "Have you been inside that guided weapon projector? Everything's so different. It's armoured now. It used to be infantry."

Mr Brown commented: "I'm so old fashioned I still prefer to remain in open air as an infantryman than be behind armour. And yet you talk to an armour man and he says he wouldn't be out in the open for anything."



Above: Just like old times, for the veterans if not for their wives. Lunching al fresco with mud on the floor  
Below: Give me shelter. An armoured vehicle launching bridge provides respite from a shower of rain



Major Reginald Rutherford, who commanded an assault platoon of B Company, was advising Irish Guardsmen at the small arms display to beware of sand in their weapons.

"We couldn't operate rifles on D-Day because of the sand," he said. "All the mortar and artillery fire was chucking sand about and clogged up the works. But the old sten guns, very similar to these, weren't stopped at all."

Mr Robert Blair, another member of 3 Div Recce Regiment who found a home and a wife in France

in the aftermath of the invasion, examined the lever on the modern SMG which controls safety and rate of fire.

"People got themselves shot handling the old sten gun," he recalled. "The one I had didn't have a safety catch at all. In fact so many people got hurt that they took them in one by one and the local armourer in action drilled a hole in them for a metal pin which you used as a safety catch. You didn't have to forget to take it out when you were in a hurry."

For many of the soldiers on duty

at the display the mingling of the old with the new was also a matter of considerable interest.

As a child in Cornwall the Garrison Sergeant Major of Münster, WO1 Peter Harris, Coldstream Guards, recalled being taken to see from a distance American soldiers training for the invasion in South Devon.

"D-Day means more than academic interest I think personally," he said, "because the principles of soldiering, as we know them, are based on what's happened before."

# 3rd ARMOURED DIVISION

**Story:**  
**Robert Higson**  
**Pictures:**  
**Paul Haley**

And Lance Corporal Patrick Hicks, ACC, who was looking after the rations display, was enthusiastic about the whole event.

"I desperately wanted to get to the D-Day celebrations last year," he said, "but I couldn't get off. Honestly, it means a lot to me and it's great to see these people. It's nice to have them back and show them just how much it has changed."

Others weren't quite so sure about the relevance of even such an event 41 years ago.

"I can't really relate to it," said Corporal Gary Steadman, of D Squadron, Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, who came over from Münster with the Chieftain tank. "It's too long ago. We've got different tactics now and different kit."

At the end of the weekend the veterans went home having learned a little more about the modern Army during what was obviously a most enjoyable visit.

At times the weather was less than kind but undeterred one veteran voiced the feelings of many when he said: "I only wish we could do this every year."

Before he left for the town on the outskirts of Paris where he now lives Mr Blair commented: "It has been terrific. It has been remarkable. Nothing more could have been done for us."

One veteran who felt he was particularly lucky to be at the



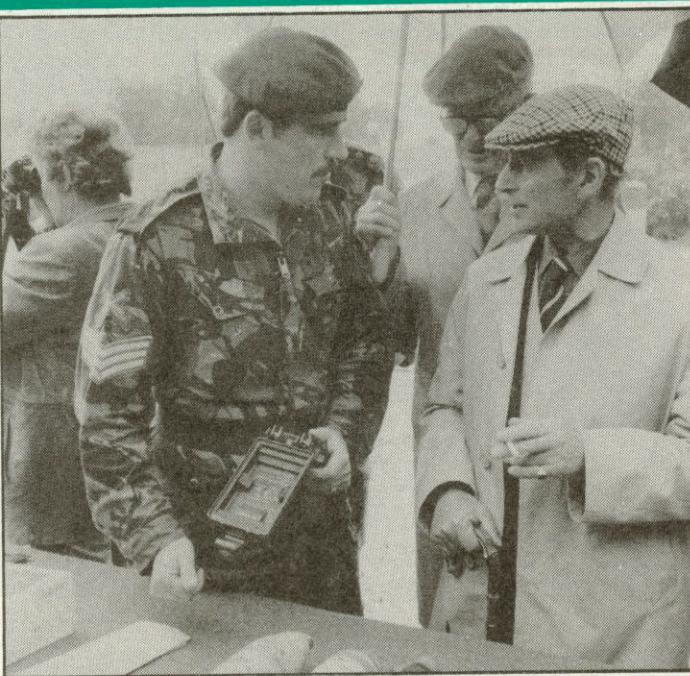
Above: The visitors meet a Scorpion of 17th/21st Lancers.  
Below: Discussion on modern mortar technology at the small arms stand manned by the Irish Guards.

weekend was Mr Henry Fudge. He wasn't even a member of 3 Div. But he had volunteered from his unit, 1/7 Royal Warwicks, to test new respirators at Porton Down. When the South of England was literally sealed off just prior to D-Day, Mr Fudge was unable to rejoin his battalion. Instead he found himself on the 3 Div command ship with a ringside seat for the invasion.

Uncertain whether he was eligible to be regarded as a 3 Div veteran, he wrote to General Ramsbotham who replied: "You come, you qualify."

For another veteran there was some post D-Day business to undertake on the way home.

Mr Lionel Robuck, who had been a private in 2 East Yorks, was due to call in at the Dutch Village of Venray to meet a former German paratrooper and help local people compile a history of their liberation four months after D-Day.



A cold but stirring end to the day. Fanfare trumpeters of The Royal Scots and The Gordon Highlanders at the tribute to the Queen's Birthday.

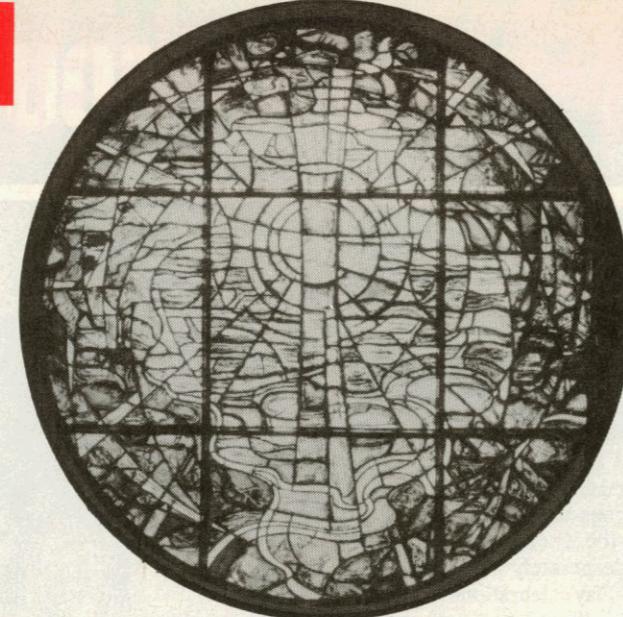
# NEW STAINED GLASS CHURCH WINDOW RECTIFIES OMISSION

**A**CIRCULAR window of stained glass — symbolising light overcoming darkness — now adorns the Garrison Church of St Luke in Soest, West Germany.

It rectifies what had been seen as something of an omission — a memorial for the members of the present 3 Armoured Division to the men of 3 Infantry Division who stormed the beaches of Normandy 41 years ago.

The idea took shape a year ago when amid the great flurry of activity and media razzmatazz which marked the 40th anniversary Major General Tony Walker, then GOC 3 Armoured Division, undertook to revive the historic links with D-Day.

The Iron Division, as they like to call it, has been around in one form or another since the Napoleonic Wars with only a couple of short breaks. At the beginning of the World War 2 it



was commanded by the future Field Marshal Montgomery who designed its badge of a red triangle inside a black triangle.

Today 3 Div has the proud boast of being the only existant British division involved in the D-Day fighting. Forty-one years ago as 3 Infantry Division it had the task of assaulting Sword Beach on the left flank of the invasion.

In the years that followed many veterans of the 1944 Division have made an annual pilgrimage to Normandy on the anniversary of the historic breaching of Hitler's Fortress Europe. At one stage a 3 Div officers' club did much to carry on the tradition but that organisation faded, as is so often the case, when key members died.

More recently the Division's Reconnaissance Regiment has featured prominently in the commemoration, due largely to the presence on site of one of its members, Mr Harold Pickersgill,

who met and married his French wife at the regiment's old HQ in Mathieu, some six kilometres inland from the invasion beach, where he still lives.

Mr Pickersgill, incidentally, can claim to owe his present situation to the German General von Rundstedt, whose decision to send in strong Panzer reserves to defend Caen checked the British advance and kept the Recce Regiment in Mathieu long enough for him to meet the future Mme Pickersgill.

Later the General joined the Mayor of Hermanville at the head of a group of veterans for the march a kilometre and a half inland to the British military cemetery. They were led as usual, by the sort of village band that only the French seem able to produce — a collection of young boys, old men, girls in anything but uniform dress, and playing with sufficient enthusiasm to send herds of startled cattle galloping away in distant fields as they passed.

At the vin d'honneur in the Mairie of Hermanville, which for a time after D-Day was 3 Div HQ, General Ramsbotham spoke more of his hopes for the future: "I'd like to feel that every year we will bring some young soldiers over who will hear from the veterans as

"Myself and my successors will be here for as long as com-



Arriving for the service



Marching through Lion-sur-Mer

## The Iron Division revives old tradition



I've heard this afternoon, of what they did on the day.

"History is a living thing and they might as well come and hear

it while it still goes. We are very fortunate — we have got something to build round with D-Day as a focus and that's something other

divisions haven't got."

As an indication of his division's determination to fulfil a more active role in D-Day commemoration General Ramsbotham arrived in France with presents — coloured maps of the invasion area with a specially prepared overprint of the deployment of 3 Div forces for the veterans. And a framed print of Sir Thomas Picton's troops storming a stronghold during the Peninsula War for Mr Pickersgill.

As he explained it was the custom to present such a picture to people who had done worthwhile work in the modern division.

At the same time another link with the invasion was being reforaged at the neighbouring town of Lion-sur-Mer which formed the right flank of the 3 Div landing.

Here four former officers of 77

Armoured Engineer Squadron laid wreaths at a new memorial near the place they had come ashore while 28 members of the present unit from Münster stood to attention around them.

The squadron was reformed only two years ago and the municipality of Lion-sur-Mer extended a special invitation to the OC, Major Malcolm Croft, to bring some of his men over for this year's anniversary.

The modern Sappers were due to stay the weekend, with the somewhat daunting prospect of a soccer match against a local side of suspected high potential. But for General Ramsbotham and some of the other D-Day veterans the weekend action switched to Germany.

(Turn to page 28)

The wreath laying ceremony



Story:  
Robert Higson  
  
Pictures:  
Paul Haley



GENERAL SIR NIGEL POETT (see story below)

At 3 Armoured Division HQ in Soest there was a full programme of events for nearly 50 Normandy veterans and their wives. They were given an introduction to the modern Army and they watched the bands of the 1st Battalions The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) and The Gordon Highlanders, together with the Royal Scots Pipes and Drums, Beat Retreat in honour of the Queen's official birthday.

On the Sunday they attended the climax of this special weekend — the dedication of the D-Day

memorial window in St Luke's Garrison Church.

The eight foot diameter window, designed by Mrs Philippa Heskett Blackall, was paid for by money raised by the sale of first cover D-Day stamps. The fund also covered the purchase of a pair of commemorative silver candelabra for the Garrison Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity next door.

The window was revealed in all its glory to the congregation as Mr Arthur Hern, who was a teenage signalman attached to the 2nd Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment on D-Day, slowly pulled back the curtains while the Venerable Archdeacon W F Johnston, the Chaplain General, recited the dedication.

The design of a cross of light pushing back a sea of darkness, with small 3 Div symbols like antibodies attacking a virus at the convergence, will now be with the division wherever it may go.

They had to knock a hole in the East Wall of St Luke's and move the large cross to the other end of the church in order to accommodate the new window. But when the division eventually leaves Soest the hole will be bricked up and the window removed.



The Mayor of Hermanville, left, and Major General David Ramsbotham, right

## PARACHUTE DOLL GOES BACK TO RANVILLE

ONE of the more unlikely veterans of 6th Airborne Division's D-Day drop into Normandy now has an honoured place in Ranville — the first French village to be liberated on that eventful day 41 years ago.

Raggety Ann — a small rag doll with a top knot of ginger wool — parachuted into France with Major Reginald Tarrant at 10 minutes before 1 o'clock on D-Day morning. It had been entrusted to his care by his daughter Felicity, aged three.

Later that day Major Tarrant, an officer of the Dorsets who was serving with 13 Battalion (Lancashire) The Parachute Regiment, was to snatch a swastika flag from a regimental headquarters of the 21st Panzer Division which was located in Ranville in a building now occupied by a home for handicapped children.

Both flag and doll were among the effects sent back to his family after he died of wounds in a field hospital at Douvres-la-Délivrande some two months after D-Day.

This year there was an addition to the customary rounds of D-Day commemorations at Ranville. As usual the veterans assembled at the 13 Para memorial on 'Windy Gale



Corner' and heard an address from General Sir Nigel Poett, who commanded 5th Parachute Brigade during the assault.

They attended a service in the local church and paid their respects at the nearby British military cemetery.

Then came the extra ceremony at Ranville community hall. Miss Felicity Tarrant formally handed over her father's war time trophy and his mascot into the care of the Mayor of the Commune.

"Last year after my mother and I visited Ranville and surrounding countryside," she told the gathering, "we decided

we would very much like to give the Nazi flag we had in our possession to be displayed here in Ranville with the other trophies and memorabilia of the 6th Airborne Division.

"My mother should be making this speech but she insisted I do it because the flag was given to me by my father."

Miss Tarrant's mother, who became Lady Seaford by a second marriage, explained afterwards that they had both been concerned about the future of the two relics of D-Day when they were no longer around to look after them.

"They would mean very little left to someone in England,"



MAJOR TARRANT, above and the presentation of the flag, left

her daughter added. "But they will stay here as a permanent reminder for all to see."

Miss Tarrant claimed no memory at all of the doll made by a great aunt and still wearing the string harness and lead weights which enabled it to make the descent right way up inside Major Tarrant's parachute harness.

"My mother says it was a favourite doll and I played with it all the time."

Lady Seaford confirmed what had happened: "She gave it to her father. She said: 'You're to have it'. So it parachuted down with him on D-Day."

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# On the Record

## with Rodney Bashford

**OLD COMRADES —  
NEW COMRADES GRALP 1**  
Band of HM Royal Marines School of  
Music  
Conductor: Lt Col GAC Hoskins

Among four old favourite marches are distributed half a dozen new ones by local composers and members of the band. The sub-title Marches from the Cinque Ports refers as much to the publishers of the same name as to the geographical origins of the music, though all the titles refer more or less to life on the ocean wave. Colonel Hoskins, of the other RMSM, seems as great a sadist as his colleagues at Kneller Hall where students are made to conduct a classic march before following it immediately with their own pale imitation. Salutary, but an unnerving experience from one who knows.

An Army man tried his hand with a Miss Boge — a total miss I'm afraid — but I predict better things for John Perkins's *New Comrades*, even if it does have an odd shape to it. It, and the other new marches, fight a losing battle to avoid the million marches already written, with the well-worn cliché much in evidence.

They are *In Bristol Fashion* (P Rutherford), *Lichfield* (R Kaighin), *The Cairo Road* (W Adams) which uses the soldiers' song *Saida Bint of fond memory*, *Venit Secundis* (Starr), *Parade of Brass* (Rose), *Broadlands* (J Hillier), *HMY Britannia* (P Heming), *The Nation* (R Kaighin), and *Up Periscope* (Baker). Of these *Lichfield* is a concert march in a different class altogether; as immaculate as the lord himself (Lichfield I mean). Still in march rhythm but for a bit of variety are Paul Neville's medley *Sea Shanties* and a catchy little patrol called *Little Swiss Piece*.

The four old marches are *Old*

*Comrades*, of course, *Blue Devils*, *HM Jollies*, and to finish with a now famous march which, when first shyly produced for examination by his peers, was considered mere pastiche on every German march ever written, cliché-ridden, and generally poor stuff. That was in the late 1930s, and in spite of my opinion of *Glorious Victory* not having changed since then, its many recordings mean there is yet hope for we who scribble the odd crotchet or two. From Crasmere Records, 59 Marlpit Lane, Coulsden, Surrey, price £5.60 inclusive.

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Director of Music: Major D N Taylor

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On this disc it's every man for himself on a not-too-even marching surface in the necessarily frenetic and chancy chaos of a live tattoo, but which has the immediacy and nail-biting tension of a live TV play; will he forget his lines, will the window open to the heroine's delicate shove, and the cameras stay out of vision?

It's a case of warts an' all, or studio perfection, and as I've said so many times — you pays yer money and you takes yer pick..

There are people who collect tattoo records though, and are much displeased to find they have bought a studio performance. I can assure them that, all very much alive-o, is an artillery

salvo followed by a massed fanfare, a display by the Light Division *Quick Silver*, the familiar Canadian youngsters with the *British Columbia Beefeater Band* in *Georgia on my Mind* and *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, a *Quadrille* by the Household Cavalry, a bit of a battle scene as a side filler, a massed bands display and finale of hymns and anthems.

Of music other than tattoo hardy annals there is nothing, but then, if there was by chance a new and glorious march you would want it with studio perfection wouldn't you? It seems you can't have it both ways. From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2E 9AR, price £5.10 inclusive.

**FESTIVAL OF MUSIC**  
Massed Bands of the Royal Air Force  
Conducted by Wing Cdr Eric Banks

The festival took place in September last year and is the first time the massed bands of the RAF have appeared on-stage together. Only one band was absent, and that for reasons of distance. This fine disc can serve as a memorial to the tragic loss of so many members of RAF (Germany) Band, not in sorrowful sarabands, but as they would wish to be remembered — in the sort of programme they themselves provided so often and so well.

So, from the Royal Albert Hall, and boosted by the great organ played by Sqn Ldr Brian Russell, a feast of popular music played in great style with no quirks from the hall's acoustics. After the *National Anthem* in Gordon Jacob's setting and the *RAF March Past* the bands immediately take wondrous flight by way of Rimsky Korsakov's *Bumble Bee*, then pay tribute to a fellow airman in *The Sounds of Glen Miller*, almost out-doing the master himself. Walton's highly colour

ful and descriptive (when played imaginatively) coronation march *Crown Imperial*, with its bustling crowds and solemn processions stays firmly rooted on terra firma.

On side two it's a case of fasten your safety belts and check your parachutes. Apart from a quiet interlude in Ray Noble's *The Touch of Your Lips* as a trombone solo we have the obligatory RAF lollipops at such a concert as this. The *Dambusters March* of course, *Star Wars*, *Hora Staccato*, 633 Squadron, and a Proms type finale with John Heddle Nash joining the bands to sing *Rule Britannia* and *Pomp and Circumstance*.

From dealers or Studio Music Co, 77-79 Dudden Hill Lane, London NW10 1BD price £5.50 inclusive, digital Record or cassette.

**IT'S A LONG WAY  
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Band of the 2nd Bn The Royal Rangers  
Conductor: Bandmaster J F Winterflood  
Bugle Major: S Mitchell  
Pipe Major: G Richmond



The musical resource of the Regiment, since the amalgamation of all the old Irish regiments into one, is unique; only a corps of drums is missing. With pipes, bugles, and military band this makes for unusual variety. Add a harpist (as pretty as this one), a folk group, let the boys give voice, and you have more to offer than a regiment ever had. With my distaff name of Donovan I was therefore a little disappointed with the use made of this resource, although the record's title should have warned me. It foreseeably concentrates on regimental music and popular ballads with no shadow of the mystic land of Cathleen ni Hoolihan, of Ossian and Usheen. Never mind. If not a rule it is at least unwritten policy at Kneller Hall never to send an O'Donnell to the Irish, a McTavish to the Scots, and a Jones to the Welsh; the English take what comes.

So Mr Winterflood does his sassenach best with his own fanfare *Bugle Major*, the march of the title, Clare Grundman's *Irish Rhapsody* and a euphonium solo on *Those Endearing Young Charms*. The pipes and drums play a medley containing a nice mixture of march, strathspey, reel, slow march, jig and hornpipe — on Scottish pipes alas — and the band a selection of all the marches associated with the old regiments. *The Royal Irish Polka*, Percy Grainger's setting of *Londonerry Air*, a pleasant *Steal Away* from the folk group of fiddle, guitars, accordion and drums, and a harp solo from Ann Marie O'Farrell make up the rest.

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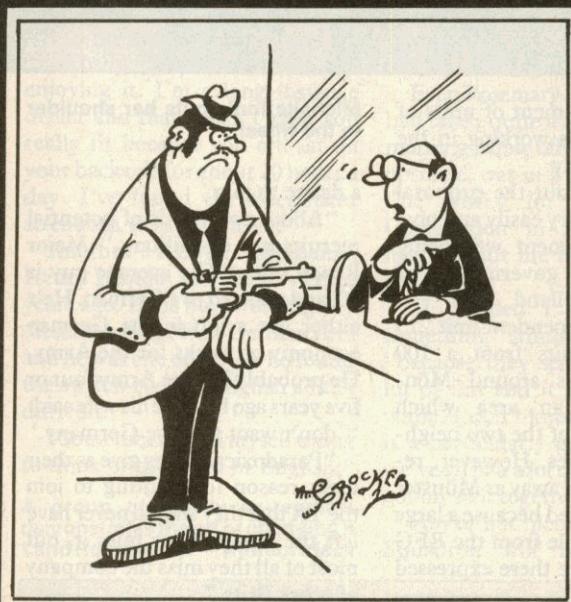
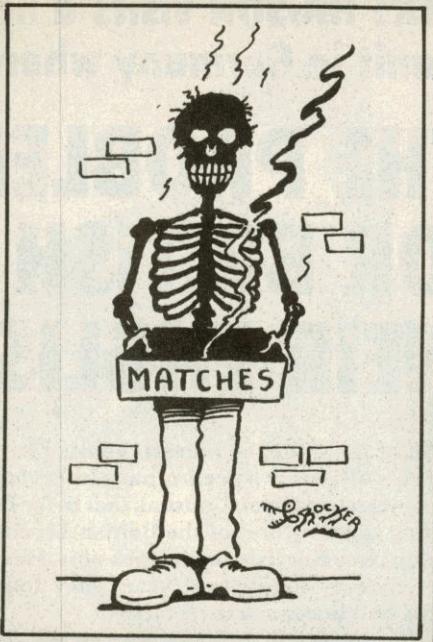
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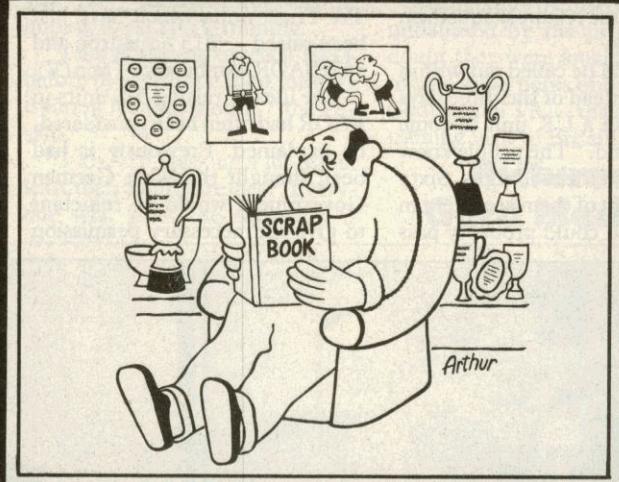
Doug Baltz

"Now that I've got the job, do you have an early-retirement scheme?"

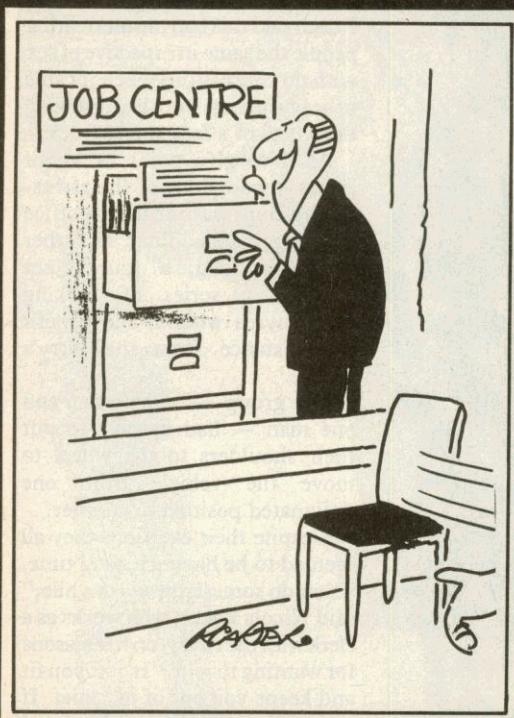


"Withdrawals at the other end, sir."

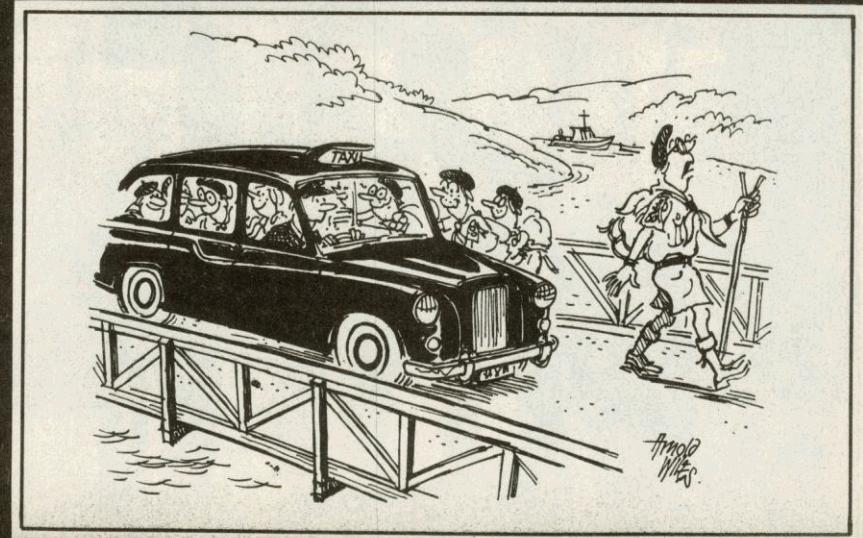
# Humour



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"Keep well over to the side, lads, there's a vehicle coming . . . ."

**ROBERT HIGSON visits a new TA unit in Germany where . . .**

# THE PROBLEM FOR BRITISH IS THEIR ENGLISH!

**S**OME of the would be recruits coming into Major Mike Roach's office for a preliminary interview had a slight but unusual problem. Unusual, that is, for British citizens hoping to join a unit of the British Territorial Army.

The problem was English, or the lack of it. Having lived and worked in Germany for several years they found that their native tongue had become a little rusty.

"Some of them, sitting in this office, can't talk much English when they first come because they have been talking nothing but German," Major Roach said. "It takes a good half hour to get them out of their shells and talk English again."

But there was a considerable advantage in this strange state of affairs. As OC 213 (BAOR) Squadron, RCT (V), Major Roach runs a unit which has unique qualifications for its intended job of a fourth line resupply squadron in Germany.

"We could be called out within 24 hours instead of the three days it might take a UK unit to come over," he said. "The people know the roads and the road signs. Sixty or 70 per cent of them are fluent in German and could probably pass

a colloquial exam next week.

"They like it here so they have an affinity for the country which is important if you are fighting for it. In fact it couldn't be better. They are suited very well for the job they are going to do."

Major Roach was speaking in his office at Ayrshire Barracks, Mönchengladbach, during the fourth assessment weekend to select potential members and junior NCOs for two Continental TA Trials units which have just been raised — 213 Squadron and 335 (BAOR) Ambulance Train (V).

The idea of raising TA units in BAOR had often been considered, he explained. Previously it had been thought the West German Government would be reluctant to give the necessary permission



**Michelle Innis puts her shoulder to the wheel.**

for the establishment of units of foreign nationals working in the German economy.

As it turned out the proposal went through very easily and now the same agreement was being sought with the governments of Belgium and Holland.

Being an independent unit 213 Squadron recruits from a 100 kilometre radius around Mönchengladbach, an area which includes a slice of the two neighbouring countries. However, recruits from as far away as Münster are being accepted because a large number of people from the BFG Licensing Office there expressed

a desire to join.

"About two thirds of potential recruits are ex-military," Major Roach said. "The average guy is 30, and married to a German. He's either got a job in the German economy or works for the Army. He probably left the Army four or five years ago because his wife said: 'I don't want to leave Germany.'

"Paradoxically they give as their main reason for wanting to join the TA that they should never have left the Army. They miss it, but most of all they miss the company of other Brits."

Women have accounted for one in six of the applicants — a far higher ratio than in England. Major Roach said this had meant treating people the same irrespective of sex with no concessions when it came to heavy manual work like changing the wheel of a four tonne truck.

As if to give point to Major Roach's words one of the assessment groups was outside the office building manhandling, or rather womanhandling, a four-tonner through a series of parking manoeuvres without the benefit of assistance from the lorry's engine.

The group — four women and one man — had literally to put their shoulders to the wheel to move the vehicle from one designated position to another.

Despite their exertions they all seemed to be having a good time. "You do something worthwhile," said Nicola Baker, who works as a clerk with the Army, on her reasons for wanting to join. "It gets you fit and keeps you out of mischief. If we can live through this weekend



**Major Mike Roach tells candidates — think the problem through**

we can live through anything."

Michelle Innis, one of those who came from the BFG Licensing Office in Münster, spoke with feeling of the demands of her first weekend with the TA.

"The running's the worst part," she said. "Getting up at six this morning with legs that feel like planks of wood."

Nearby an all male group was engaged in changing the wheel of a Land Rover without a jack. They were working on the problem with a tree stump and a stout shaft of wood which had been left, not too obviously, near the site.

They were hoping to join 335 Ambulance Train which, as a sponsored unit, can recruit from any part of West Germany, and all but one of them were ex-regulars.

Steve Nolloth who left the Army in 1980 after five years in the REME said he had sort of tagged along when two friends of his who live in the area decided to join.

"Really, if I'm honest, I'm enjoying it. I'm a long distance driver and that doesn't keep you really fit because you are sat on your backside for about 20 hours a day. I've found the assessment strenuous to say the least."

Another REME mechanic, Henry Hinton, left the service 10 years ago. He is now working as a diesel mechanic for a German firm and he was one of those who found the switch back to English a little difficult.

"Sometimes I find myself trying to think of the word in English,"

**A group of mostly ex-regulars demonstrates the art of changing a Land Rover wheel — without a jack**

he said. "It gets you sometimes, particularly technical terms."

Staff Sergeant Paul Newton-Smith, 213 Squadron's PSI, said that some of the recruits had some trouble understanding what was asked of them on their first weekend.

"We thought actually it was the guys themselves, but it is not. They were translating it into German and trying to think about it in English."

"Now that we've accepted some of them as instructors, we put them in the classroom and the lesson comes out half in German, half in English. We're standing at the back and thinking that sounds strange because we don't speak German. But the rest of the class understands it. It's quite comical."

Perhaps that is one of the reasons for the feeling of high morale which already exists at weekends around the former reform school which is now the Mönchengladbach TA centre.

Even Rosemary Haasmann, who had taken quite a hard knock that morning falling off a command task obstacle, was in a cheerful mood. She works for an American Corporation in Dinslaken and heard about life in the TA from her fiance.

"I decided I wanted to do something similar," she said, "because they seemed to have a lot of fun and it seemed worthwhile. I don't know whether this is a particularly good group but we've all had a lot of fun and we've got on well together."

Fun or not membership of 213 Squadron will require a fair



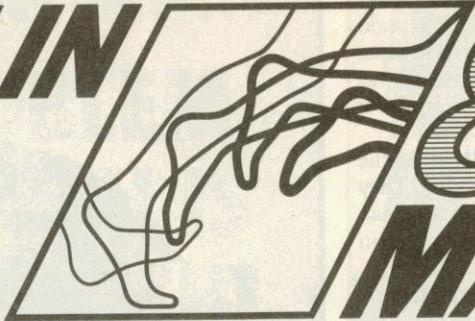
**Nicola Baker embraces a challenge — and the spare wheel**  
under no misapprehension."

The recruits themselves seemed undaunted by the prospect. No doubt they were looking forward to one of the perks of being in the Continental TA — the chance of a training visit to Britain.

**Pictures:  
Gerd Medoch**



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# 'MR SPORT' HANDS OVER

Towards the end of this year, six months after celebrating half a century of service to the Army, Lieutenant Colonel Desmond Leach will hand over the reins of the BAOR Sports Board.

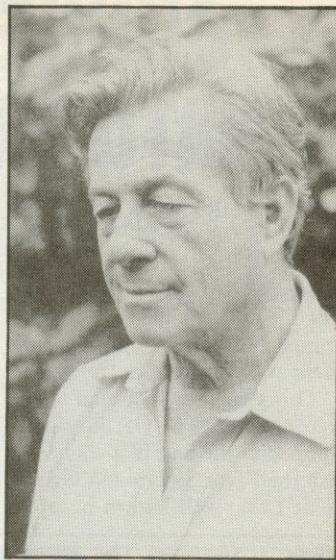
Colonel Leach has held the job of general secretary of the Sports Board for 16 years during which time he has seen a tremendous increase in the amount of BAOR sport and a dramatic rise in the level of sponsorship.

But his connection with the Army goes back much further than that — to May 1934 to be precise when he joined the Royal Artillery Depot, Woolwich, as a would-be trumpeter, aged nearly 15.

Descended from four generations of soldiers (his father was a Gunner WO1) Colonel Leach says he had virtually no option but to join the Army. However, a bout of rheumatic fever brought his trumpeting career to an abrupt end. It lost him a year and, at 15, he was too old to start again.

The years before the war he spent as a messenger at the War Office. In 1939 he was back in uniform and a couple of years later received a commission.

The war took him to India where he became an instructor in jungle artillery. Afterwards, in the first full year of peace, he applied for an Army flying course and began



Lt Col Desmond Leach in 1958 (left) ... and today

a close association with the origins of the Army Air Corps.

A decade before the formation of the AAC Colonel Leach learned his flying skills on a single engine Auster 5. In those days the job of airborne artillery spotter meant low flying, map reading, using a radio and plotting the fall of shells.

The AAC came into being in 1957 and a year later Colonel Leach enjoyed a brief burst of fame as the first officer to be photographed for the national press wearing the now famous light blue beret.

Later in his Army career Colonel Leach commanded 651 Squadron, AAC, and 2 Wing, a job which

took him all over the Middle East and North Africa. His flying exploits included landing on the Playing Fields of Eton when he took Brigadier Sir Bernard Ferguson to inspect the College CCF, and organising what must have been the first heliborne away fixture for any hockey team when 615 Squadron flew in to play Bury St Edmunds.

Hockey was Colonel Leach's first real contact with Army sport. He started playing for the Royal Artillery in 1952 and continued for 15 years.

In 1969 when he was due to go back to the UK after two years as

Assistant Director Public Relations at HQ 1 Corps he heard from Brigadier Dennis O'Flaherty, an old school friend, that the job of BAOR general secretary of sport was on offer.

He retired early from the Army in order to take on overall responsibility for Army sport in one of its most active areas.

Leaving BAOR won't mean that Colonel Leach will sever his ties with sport in the service. He plans to open a consultancy to act as a go-between for Army sports which need subsidies and commercial companies with financial support to give.

## GOLF TITLE BID

## ROGER 'HOLES OUT' AFTER 17 ROUNDS

Thirty minutes before attempting a new world golfing record, Sergeant Roger Sanders, handicap 16, had a lesson from his club pro, Peter Thompson.

Then Roger, 28, stepped on to the first tee at the Army Golf Club, Aldershot, to smash an iron shot straight down the middle.

He was out to make his name as a record breaker by completing more than 22.5 rounds of golf in 24 hours, and raise funds for the Royal Corps of Transport and the Grand Order of Water Rats. Now Roger has hopes of collecting at least £2,500 from his sponsors and will, when fully recovered from his marathon, start looking for the money.

That Roger's bid for the title, set in Australia, failed by more than five rounds, was due to exhaustion and cramp, which was not helped by the wet condition of the 6,533-yard course.

Heavy rain had saturated the ground making the going extremely heavy, sapping strength and energy.

After completing 17 rounds in 22½ hours, taking food and drink

on the run, the medics stepped in and insisted he call it off.

His last round had taken nearly two hours — almost twice as long as his fastest round of one hour two minutes.

With 1,744 strokes marked on his 17 cards by his two markers, he was averaging a little over 100 shots a round. "In that time," said Captain Geoff Little, Adjutant at the RCT Depot, "he lost only four balls."

Describing the event, Captain Little said three teams of six ball spotters — those on the night shift carried powerful lights — three caddies, two timekeepers and two card markers, shared the marathon with Roger.

Sharing the vigil with them was his wife, Jeanette and their children, Timothy, 14, and Katie, 13.

"They were a great support as was SOLDIER photographer Doug Pratt, who ran with him and photographed him for several holes," said Captain Little.

"Scores of others, too, lined the course. And throughout his 22½ hours a group gathered on the 18th

green to see him finish one round and start another.

"He trained for months for this," added Captain Little, "and it's a pity he just missed out."

Will Roger try again? "Don't know about that. You will have to ask him. Unfortunately he can't answer for himself as he's recovering in Aldershot's Cambridge Military hospital," said Captain Little.

Note for golfers: in his bid for the record Roger used only five irons and a putter — no woods — and his plan was to keep the ball in play and save search time. Earlier in the week, on the same course, he set a new British speed record for a round of golf when he galloped round in 35 minutes 45 seconds.



Sergeant Roger Saunders (right) during his successful speed record bid, with Sgt 'Mac' McKeeverne

## ALAN IS BAOR SUPERSTAR

Lieutenant Alan Barbone of 1 Armoured Division Transport Regiment beat off tough competition from ten other finalists to become the first ever Townsend Thoresen BAOR Superstar.

Alan, aged 24, a skier and biathlete, gained a total of 36 points in nine events, narrowly beating Lance Corporal Mark Tout, 24, of 2 RTR into second place with 34 points. Third was Lt Mark Moore, 23, of 39 Heavy Regt with 31 points.

# GUNNERS NET NATO TROPHIES

**D**ORTMUND-BASED 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery, part of BAOR, landed a netful of cups and trophies at the 10th annual NATO Angling Tournament at Grindstedt in Denmark. This year four five-man teams were entered by BAOR units, who jumped at the bait of a chance to fish the River Skjern and Grindstedt Lake, well-known in inter-

national fishing circles for their high quality angling.

Fish from a few ounces to well over a pound were caught on the first day, mainly roach but with a fair sprinkling of trout, dace and perch and even a lamprey sucker-fish caught by Lance Corporal Keggen of 9 Squadron, 10 Regiment Royal Corps of Transport team from Bielefeld.

By the end of the day, 19 Field



Sergeant Alan Dyson, of 9 Squadron, 10 Regiment RCT, proudly shows a fine tench

Regiment RA had won the Team Trophy, with a combined catch of 65.6 kg, wresting it back from last year's winners, 10 Corps Transport Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport.

Individual top-weight winner in the team event was Warrant Officer Class 2 Bill Rowarke, the 19 Regiment team leader and also secretary of the BAOR Angling Association, with a catch of 21.5 kg.

Sergeant Alan Dyson of 10 Regiment took first prize in the second day's individual contest with an all-up weight of 8.2 kg, and also took the prize for the biggest bream, a 1.7 kg specimen. Sergeant Edwards of 19 Regiment was second with 5.45 kg, including the prize for the biggest roach, and Lance Corporal Jim Taylor of HQ Regiment third, with the prize for the biggest tench.



The smile says it all. Warrant Officer 2 Bill Rowarke of 19 Field Regiment RA sees his prize-winning catch weighed.

A total of 4,976 lengths were swum (or just over 68 miles) and over £500 was raised for charity.

## Swim for charity

While 36 Engineer Regiment and the public were enjoying all that there was to see and soaking up the sunshine at the Regiment's open day, six men were relentlessly ploughing up and down the swimming pool at Invicta Park, Maidstone.

All proceeds from the open day were for charity and a 24-hours sponsored swim was organised to help the fund-raising. The six swimmers swam two lengths each (50 yards) in strict rotation — which meant diving in every 2½ minutes or so — for the whole period.

## THREE TIME WINNERS

While British football teams have recently been somewhat out of favour on football pitches in general and Continental pitches in particular, one team at least continues to be welcomed by its European contemporaries.

For three out of the past four years, 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment's soccer team has entered a 'Mini World Cup' tournament, which is hosted in turn by various European countries. In May this year the team completed a memorable hat trick when they again became winners of the cup, as they were in 1982 and 1984.

This year's tournament took place in Enschede, Holland.

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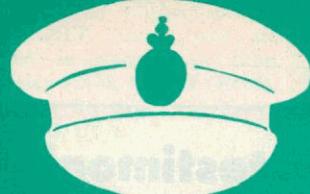
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This campaign, which had such a far-reaching effect on the British Army, gave birth to the Corps which has developed since 1854 through important changes.

In 1866 a Royal Warrant authorised the appointment of female nurses.

In 1897 the first of the reserves was formed, entitled Princess Christian's Nursing Service Reserve.

On 27 March 1902, again by Royal Warrant, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS) was established.

From the inception of the Nursing Service members were granted the privilege and status of officers, although they were not addressed as such, neither did they possess rank structure.

The main feature of their badge, designed by Queen Alexandra, is the Dannebrog, which remains in the same position in the centre of the current format.

Her Majesty, by including this symbol of her native land in the badge, had recalled the legend originating from the time that the Danes fought the Estonians at the battle of Lyndanisee in 1219.

During the struggle old Archbishop Anders knelt praying for victory and while he kept his hands pointed to the sky the Danes advanced but when he tired and lowered them the Estonians gained the advantage.

Noticing this two monks held up the Archbishop's arms and shortly afterwards the Dannebrog fell while a voice roared out "In hoc signo vinces". Since that time the white cross on a red ground has been the national flag of Denmark.

The Corps motto 'Sub Cruce Candida' (Under the White Cross) refers to the White Cross but it is at odds with the badge since the Cross is in gilt.

Perhaps at some time in the future the Cross will be changed to silver, or even white enamel thus resolving the anomaly.

On 1 February 1949 (AO 5/1949) the present Corps received its current title and on 1 July 1950 (ACI 455/1950) other ranks were included.

The badge is described as 'A cross

pattee, the Dannebrog, thereon in the centre a circle enclosing the letter A, cypher of Queen Alexandra; above resting on the top arm of the cross the St Edward's crown; on either side of the cross a branch of laurel'.

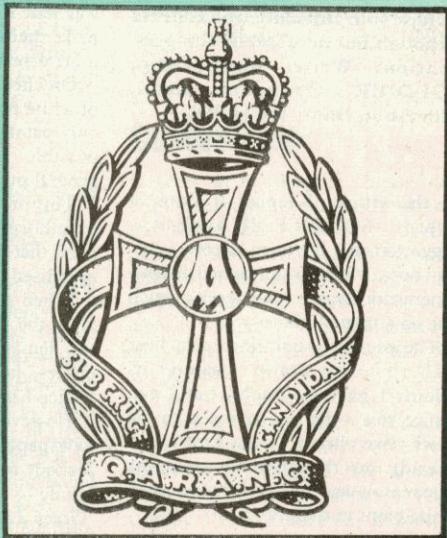
On the lower portion of the left branch is inscribed 'Sub Cruce' and in similar position on the right branch 'Candida'.

Below the cross and on the bottom of the laurels a scroll inscribed 'QARANC', in gilt except that the scroll is in silver.

Other ranks wear the badge in the appropriate anodised materials.

Prior to the accession of Queen Elizabeth the Imperial (or Tudor) crown graced the design.

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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 although not necessarily for publication. Write: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

## GREEN LINE

In the article 'Keeping it Cool in Cyprus' (SOLDIER 22 April) it is suggested that the term 'Green Line' was born when an un-named British general drew a green chinagraph pencil line on a map of Nicosia.

The assertion is quite incorrect. That such a line was drawn, whatever its colour, I have no doubt, but I can assure you it did not give rise to the descriptive phrase 'Green Line'.

Ludicrous though it may seem, the true reason was my inability to supply white paint in quantity.

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When the troubles began in Cyprus shortly before Christmas 1963, I held the appointment of Issues Controller in the Ordnance Depot at Four Mile Point (Ayios Nikolaos) near Famagusta.

A few days into the conflict a telephone call from DADOS, HQ Cyprus District, informed me that a dividing line was in the process of being set up in Nicosia, between the Greek and Turkish quarters, in an effort to help preserve the peace.

Old, sandfilled oil and paint drums were being used to demarcate the boundary, and there existed an urgent need for a large quantity of white paint.

Tatty old oil and paint drums are not a pretty sight, and the intention was that a coat of white paint would make them more visible at night, and more arresting aesthetically.

On checking I found that my stock of white paint was small, and that the only paint immediately available, and possible, in lieu, was a light green general purpose paint.

This proved acceptable to HQ, and I authorised the first issue of green paint that same afternoon to the hastily organised Truce Force.

When originally set up, and even after the drums were painted green, the demarcation line was, in official circles, normally referred to as the 'Peace Line'.

However, it was not long before UK newspaper reporters - always on the lookout for a new angle - began to allude to it in their despatches as the 'Green Line'.

This new appellation found general favour, and has subsequently become standard in other trouble spots around the world, the latest of these being Beirut.

I hope the above facts will help set the official record straight. - Frank McCormick, Major (Retd) RAOC, 5 Langley Court, Huntington, York, YO3 9SG.

The expression 'Green Line' was taken from page two of an official background brief supplied by the Public Information Department of HQ UNFICYP in Nicosia doubtless coined by them from the general journalistic appellation to which you refer. - Ed.

## SUFFERING

The Titertek Multiskan Appeal Fund has been started as one way to help the many ex-Far East prisoners of war and Burma veterans who are still suffering.

12,433 British Far East prisoners of war died in captivity - from starvation, beatings, and tropical diseases. Many who survived have since died from health problems due to their terrible experiences.

Doctors at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, a leading international centre for teaching and research into tropical diseases, help many of the ex-FEPWs and Burma veterans whose health is still stricken.

Amongst other afflictions, substantial numbers have *Strongyloides stercoralis* worm infection which can progressively damage the various organs of the body.

To improve their diagnostic methods for this, the doctors urgently require a Titertek Multiskan machine. The work of the doctors is financed solely by public support or endowment.

## An unsolicited testimonial!

Mr Acres (SOLDIER 3 June) was wrong! Any magazine worth its salt (and SOLDIER is) will print constructive criticism.

SOLDIER is by no means "poor stuff" - it is a quality magazine produced by professionals for professionals. In short a magazine for the modern soldier and his family. What it has done is change with the times.

It was right to remove the 'pin-up' - there are plenty of other periodicals that cater for this. But let me add SOLDIER's were always in the best possible taste.

I must admit I preferred SOLDIER as a monthly magazine. I miss the regular book reviews with their brief but valuable comments - and the record section too.

It also seems to lack the historical content that made it so much to look forward to.

Then I hear you ask why do I still read it?

Because of my high regard for the soldier - both past and present - and for the magazine which does its best to represent him. - R J Castle, 97 Stakes Road, Purbrook, Hants, PO7 5NR.

The horrors endured by these Far East veterans are part of the dreadful price paid for our freedom. In this special year of remembrance, I am asking all readers to please help the doctors to assist those still suffering, by sending donations towards the £4,000 needed for the Titertek Multiskan machine to: Titertek Multiskan Appeal Fund, c/o Mrs S Dixon, Fernhill Lodge, 2a Highfield, Sale, Cheshire, M33 3DN.

## KOHIMA CATHEDRAL

Any soldier whose pal was killed wishes in some way to help keep his memory evergreen, and it may please some of your readers to learn that a cathedral is to rise from the bloody battlefield of Kohima, Assam, to the memory of the 1,287 lads who fell.

It is to be built close by Garrison Hill (with its Military Cemetery) which with DIS, FSD, and Kuki Piquet formed the centre of violent conflict for 64 days - a battle to the death. The Japs lost, India was saved and Burma fell later.

Fr J Bennett, SDB, 116 Crescent Rd, Cowley, OX4 2PE, who was a missionary there in WW2 is responsible for the appeal in the UK and would welcome any donations.

A folder on Kohima today and Cathedral project is available, without obligation, from him (SAE 10 x 8 please).

For help in obtaining Kohima grave photos or details of three Far East pilgrimages Sep/Oct this year, or other enquiries please write to me (SAE please). - Mr J Wilkinson, 56 Fall Birch Road, Lostock, Bolton, BL6 4LG.

## US MEDALS

Maybe some of SOLDIER's readers would be interested in what's what with US Army medals. As has been stated in the past, the US forces are generous when it comes to awards.

Anyone who has served in the military knows there are medals and, then again, there are medals. Of the fourteen US military decorations, only

I trust this may enlighten some of the SOLDIER readers who are interested in medals. - John McCamley RSM, US Inf (Retd), 1401 Short St, Copperas Cove, Texas 76522, USA.

## RESEARCH

I am currently involved in some detailed research on the Britons and Commonwealth men who have served in the French Foreign Legion over its 150-years-plus history.

There have assuredly been a substantial number of them, some making quite good military careers in the Legion, and serving for two or more five year contracts.

As we had brought a Brigade's worth of stores and vehicles with us, our quartermaster, and an attached RAOC officer, spent many sleepless nights thereafter.

Note: 1 A&SH were in British

Guiana for exactly one year - Oct

1953 to Oct 1954 - when we were re-

lieved by the 2nd Bn Black Watch. -

Alexander Ward, 28 Agnes Wilson

Road, Park Meadowlands, Harare,

Zimbabwe.

I would be interested in hearing from — or about — any of these British or Commonwealth men who are or were in the Legion — and will reply to all letters received. — Colin Rickards, PO Box 280, Postal Station 'C', Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6J 3P4.

## OMISSION

Reference "British Army Operations Overseas since 1945" (SOLDIER 6 May), you omitted to mention British Guiana 1953.

1st Bn The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (just a year back in Scotland from a three year tour in Hong Kong and Korea) were rushed from Edinburgh to Devonport, and thence by the aircraft carrier Implacable in October 1953 to (then) British Guiana, to foil an attempted coup d'état by a left-wing group.

As a former London Territorial, with short periods in the Rhodesia Regiment and South African Air Force and now a civilian, I would like to see more appropriate rifles used. — M B S Laing, 62 Brebner Road, Bloemfontein 9301, South Africa.

Perhaps I might quote from a review

of the late Major Rhodes-Wood's 'War

History of the Royal Pioneer Corps'

which I wrote twenty-five years ago:

"The variety of the work performed was endless. Pioneers worked in docks, depots, and hospitals; built bridges, roads, railways, and airfields; put up smoke-screens around vital targets and cleared away the debris after the bombers had gone; watched for fires, and fought them; ran mobile bath units and laundries; collected salvage, cleared minefields, and carried stretchers. They worked on the Mulberry harbours, the Pluto pipeline, and the Ledo road; manned the POW cages, and looked after our own rescued prisoners; provided smoke cover for the Rhine crossing and handled the assault boats; sought out and guarded secret enemy installations in Germany; ran a battleship; hung pictures in the National Portrait Gallery; and fought beside the infantry in their spare time!"

I have recently completed a four month tour of duty in Kenya.

I was stationed at a small town named Nanyuki which is about 117 miles from Nairobi. Some old soldiers may remember the town.

I took photographs at the local War Graves Commission cemetery in the area and thought that relatives of the dead would be interested.

They, and 1 A&SH were the first British troops in the colony for one hundred years.

The presence of the Argylls had a stabilising effect on the situation, and, apart from some minor rioting, handled by the police, plus a little bit of inept

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sabotage — eg a statue of Queen Victoria had one hand blown off! — we only did a small amount of cordon work for the police, and extensive patrolling.

I note by our Regimental history that our only fatal casualties were one soldier drowned, and one other killed in a vehicle accident.

The most dramatic thing was that because the situation calmed so quickly we went from wartime accounting to peacetime accounting.

There have assuredly been a substantial number of them, some making quite good military careers in the Legion, and serving for two or more five year contracts.

As we had brought a Brigade's worth of stores and vehicles with us, our quartermaster, and an attached RAOC officer, spent many sleepless nights thereafter.

Note: 1 A&SH were in British Guiana for exactly one year — Oct 1953 to Oct 1954 — when we were relieved by the 2nd Bn Black Watch. — Alexander Ward, 28 Agnes Wilson Road, Park Meadowlands, Harare, Zimbabwe.

I would be interested in hearing from — or about — any of these British or Commonwealth men who are or were in the Legion — and will reply to all letters received. — Colin Rickards, PO Box 280, Postal Station 'C', Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6J 3P4.

Any relatives can obtain a print by writing to me (address on page 3) — Ed.

## Call-signs

Mr G F Lines of 13 New House Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 7LP wishes to contact any of his 1914-18 comrades who served in the 7th Field Survey Co RE (28 Observation group), a specialised unit trained at GHQ in France to observe for the Artillery.

As a mere war-timer myself I must, alas, leave it to younger men to describe their role today. I doubt whether battleship-running and picture-hanging still figure in the curriculum — both jobs have probably since been privatised (i.e. with a small 'p' in place of the large one). But fighting beside the infantry certainly does! — Major FD K Forrester (Retd), The Royal Pioneer Corps Association, 51 St George's Drive, London, SW1V 4DE.

## Competition

Readers were asked in Competition 362 to identify nine famous faces from the World War I period. Only five named them correctly, most readers mistakenly thinking that the photograph of General Gustav Jodl, Nazi Chief of Staff at the time of Germany's surrender, was Field Marshal von Rundstedt.

The winning entry was from B McVitty, of Clifton Crescent, Wheatley Hills, Doncaster, South Yorks, who receives the £50 prize. The answers were: A Stalin, B Alexander, C King George VI, D Churchill, E Jodl, F Eisenhower, G Zhukov, H Tommy Handley, J Montgomery.

## How Observant Are You?

1 "H" in "Breathtaking"; 2 Nozzle of oxygen cylinder; 3 Steering wheel of ambulance; 4 Front bumper; 5 Earpiece of sunglasses; 6 Tie of tallest man; 7 Sleeve of casualty; 8 Woman's shoe; 9 Top right corner of ambulance; 10 Rear tyre.



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The Book Marketing Council has made available a complete set of the titles — among them Evelyn Waugh's *Sword of Honour Trilogy* and Robert Graves' *Goodbye to All That* — to **SOLDIER** as the prize for this issue's competition.

All you have to do is answer the following 12 questions and you could be the proud owner of the 'top twenty'. 1. Who wrote the line 'Was it for this that clay grew tall', and from which poem was it taken?

2. Which is the 'cruel sea' of Nicholas Monsarrat's novel of the same name?
3. Where does the 'Strange Meeting' in the Susan Hill's novel of the same name take place?
4. When the author of 'Eleni' finds the man who killed his mother does he: a) Shoot him? b) Torture him? c) Walk away?
5. 'Empire of the Sun' is set in which occupied city?
6. The first volume of Siegfried Sassoon's trilogy, *The Complete*

*Memoirs of George Sherston*, is: a) *The Memoirs of a Fox Hunting Man* b) *The Memoirs of an Infantry Officer* c) *Sherston's Progress*.

7. Which war was it that inspired much of James Fenton's poetry in the book *'The Memory of War and Children in Exile'*?

8. The hero of *CATCH 22* is called: a) Jo b) Yossarian c) Applebaum.

9. What illness is 'The Pork Butcher' in David Hughes' recent award winning novel of the same name afflicted by? a) Lung cancer? b) Bronchitis? c) Tuberculosis?

10. In which war is the 'Good Soldier Svejk' based, and what nationality is the author?

11. Who wrote 'Love and War in the Appennines'?

12. In which city is 'The Heat of the Day' set?

The rules of the competition remain the same. It is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is 30 August. The answers and winner's name will be announced in our issue of 23 September.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 367' label.

In the case of a tie, the winner will be drawn by lots. No correspondence can be entered into.

Send your answers by post card or letter with the 'Competition 367' label to: Prize Competition **SOLDIER**, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

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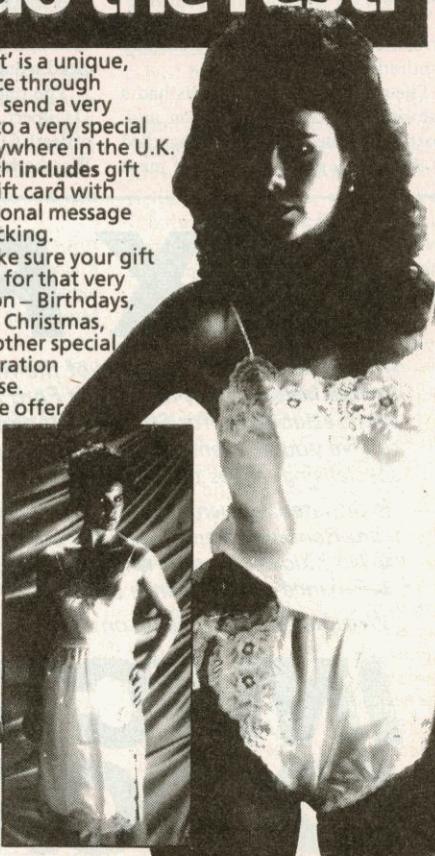
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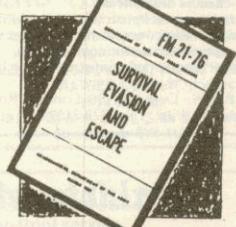
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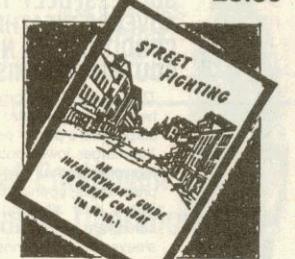
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Crowds from the NATO nations watch tanks firing at CAT 85 (story on pages 14/17).



Smoke belches from the barrel of a Chieftain of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards at CAT 85. Both pictures by Paul Haley.



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