

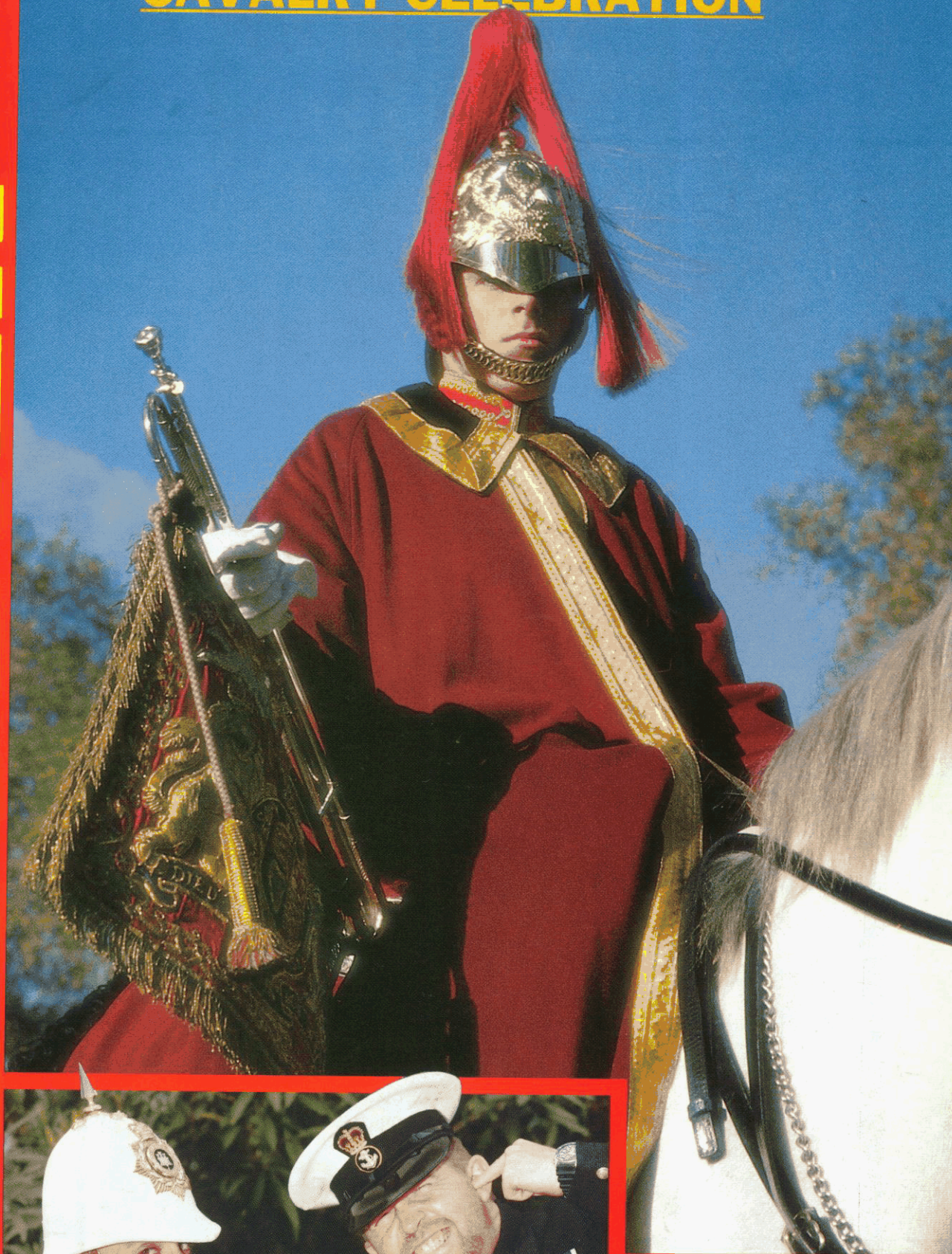
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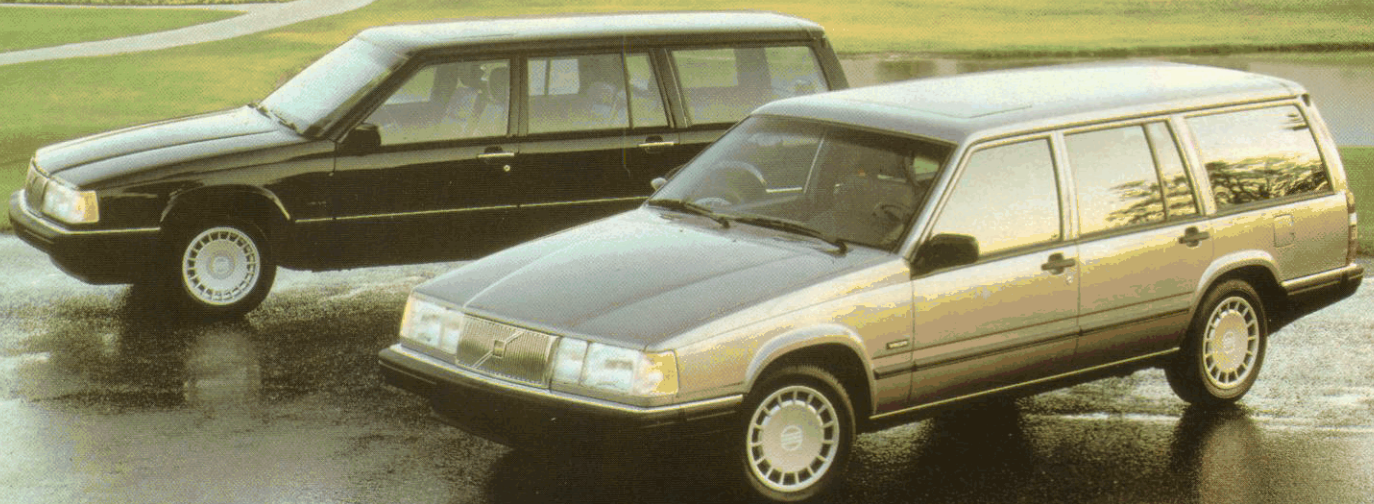


INSIDE:

**KOSB in Gulf
Berlin mascots
Leslie Thomas**



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London's pride



Pictures: Mike Weston

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh watch with the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Alexander Graham, as the flypast goes overhead. The Queen took the salute at Mansion House as the City of London paid tribute to Britain's Gulf Forces. Story in Page 5.



Combined bands of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars lead five detachments from BAOR drawn from the 1st Armoured Division and 4th and 7th Armoured Brigades through the City

FRONT COVER – Main picture: Trumpeter John Dewe of The Blues and Royals heralds our four-page feature, starting on Page 16, to mark the start of the Royal Tournament, this year led by the Army and celebrating the history of the cavalry.

(Picture: Mike Perring).

Lower picture: Bugler Andrew Roebottom, a part-time soldier with the Gibraltar Regiment, gives Petty Officer Dusty Miller RN an earful during Divisions at the Royal Naval Hospital, Gibraltar. The Gibraltar Regiment has assumed responsibility for the defence of the Rock following the withdrawal of the Regular British battalion earlier this year.

(Picture: Glen Harrop).

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WELCOME HOME

MORE THAN 1,000 Gulf veterans marched through the streets of London as part of the official welcome home celebration for British Servicemen and women.

Brig Patrick Cordingley, who commanded 7th Armoured Brigade during the conflict, led the parade. Behind him marched five detachments from the British Army of the Rhine drawn from units that served in

the desert with the 1st Armoured Division, 4th and 7th Armoured Brigades.

United Kingdom Land Forces participation was marked by a contingent of troops from Regular and reserve units stationed throughout the Army's nine districts.

The Queen took the salute at the Mansion House from where she watched a flypast. It had been intended to include every

type flown in the war, but this was restricted by the weather.

Music was provided by the combined bands of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars and the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, the Pipes and Drums of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars and The Queen's Own Highlanders, and the Band of the Scots Guards.

The event was followed by a special luncheon for the troops provided by the Lord Mayor of London at the Guildhall.

Watching the marchpast was Britain's Gulf commander, Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, who said: "I feel a tremendous sense of pride at their achievements, and satisfaction that so many returned safely."

Forty-two British servicemen lost their lives during the war.



The Pipes and Drums of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars and The Queen's Own Highlanders lead detachments drawn from all the districts of United Kingdom Land Forces through the packed streets of the City of London. New York victory parade - Page 26

Challenger 2 ordered

THE CHOICE of Challenger 2 as Britain's new main battle tank reflects the impressive performance of the Mark 1 during the Gulf war.

Not only did it operate successfully on the firm ground in Southern Iraq and Kuwait but it showed up well during the initial training period when the 7th and 4th Armoured Brigades had to contend with the perpetual carborundum

effect of the soft sands of Saudi Arabia.

The six-speed gearbox of Challenger 2 was actually tried and proven in a number of Challenger Armoured Repair and Recovery Vehicles which did sterling work in the hands of the REME.

According to Vickers Defence Systems, who won the £500m contract against com-

petition from the American M1A2 Abrams, the German Leopard 2 (Improved) and the French three-man Leclerc, the turret of the Challenger 2 is constructed to withstand all known tank-fired ammunition.

The vehicle is protected by British Chobham armour and the design incorporates what is termed "stealth" technology. This implies a facility to minimise the give-away radar

"signature" of the tank and will aid concealment.

A new 120mm rifled gun (XL30 E) is being developed for Challenger 2, which will be fitted with a Vickers-designed computer fire control system.

The new arrival will replace Chieftain in those armoured regiments which still have it.

The Army's order of up to 130 tanks will be produced in Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Picture: Mike Weston

It's already earned its stripes.



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The new Renault Clio has been voted 'Car of the Year 1991' by Europe's top motoring journalists.

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LI seals Unseen liaison

WHEN the Royal Navy's latest conventional submarine, HMS Unseen, commissioned at Birkenhead on June 7 the commanding officer of the 8th (Yorkshire) Battalion, The Light Infantry (Lt Col Rex Stephenson) was on hand to renew a liaison which began in the dark days of 1941.

After Winston Churchill had decreed that submarines should have names instead of numbers, P-51, then on patrol in the Mediterranean, was christened HMS Unseen and a numerical link was established between her and the 51st of Foot, the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. The LI bugle is incorporated in the submarine's crest.

At the commissioning, silver bugles of the 8th Battalion were blown by Bugle Maj Stephen Hartley and CSjt Brian Holman.

Big gun

THE Royal Artillery's Rotunda Museum at Woolwich has taken delivery of the last of the super-heavy 18-inch railway guns of a type used in both world wars. The 200-ton gun with its barrel more than 60 ft long is the biggest in Britain.



Instant millionaire Capt Ernest Hames can't believe his luck. He has just been cuddled by the lovely Joanna Lumley! Actress Joanna presented Capt Hames with a football pools cheque for £1,638,077, the second biggest win ever.

Capt Hames, quartermaster

Old numbers pay off

of 61 Field Support Squadron, 36 Engineer Regiment based at Invicta Barracks, Maidstone, used the numbers of his former sapper units - 28 Armd Engr Sqn, 38 Engr Regt,

50 Sqn and 56 MT Sqn - to fill in his coupon.

He had recently returned to the United Kingdom after two months in the Gulf involved in the post-Op Granby clean-up.



Men of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards in their Gulf uniforms march past Cardiff Castle while exercising their Freedom rights. The Tidworth-based QDG also took part in a service of remembrance at Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff for those who lost their lives during the Gulf War

Kineton tribute

A MEMORIAL to the 23 bomb disposal officers and soldiers of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps killed on duty since 1945 has been dedicated at the Army Ammunition Depot, Kineton.

Since the end of the Second World War 20 ammunition technical officers (ATOs) and ammunition technicians (ATs) have been killed on bomb disposal duties in Northern Ireland and mainland United Kingdom, two have died in Cyprus and one in Hong Kong.

The dangerous circumstances surrounding much of the work of RAOC bomb disposal experts has resulted in members of the Corps winning more than 280 gallantry awards, including four George Crosses and 50 George Medals.

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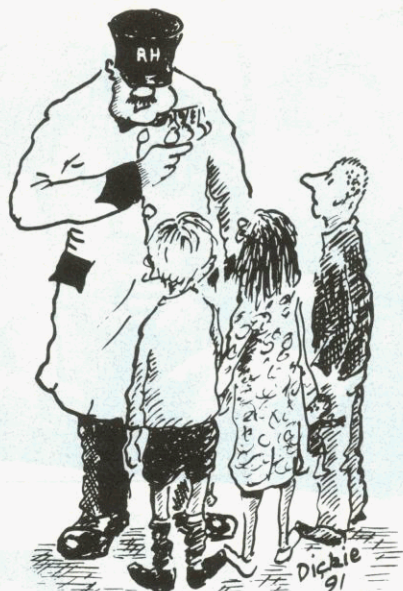
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KCB

Lt Gen P W Graham CBE, Col Gordons, Col Commandant Scottish Div.

CB

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CBE

Col C R Burson, late RA; Brig A F Gordon, late RA; Brig D R Higginbotham, RCT; Brig C R S Notley, late Scots DG; Col A R D Pringle MBE, late RGJ; Brig A G Stanforth, late REME; Col T W Terry MBE, late RTR; Brig C A G Wells, late 15/19 H.

OB

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MBE

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MBE

Maj Kam Yiu-Leung, Royal Hong Kong Regiment.

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

Six family tickets to the Tank Museum, Bovington, Dorset, can be won by answering four questions, the last of which appears below. Questions have been published in successive issues of SOLDIER since May 27.

Complete the entry form and send it to Tank Museum Competition, Promotions Dept, SOLDIER, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU, to arrive by FIRST POST, Monday July 15, 1991.

The first six correct entries drawn will be sent a ticket for two adults and two children to the museum's Gulf War Exhibition on Sunday, July 28, 1991.

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

QUESTION FOUR: Which place, in which county, has been "home" for tanks since 1916?

GULF WAR EXHIBITION COMPETITION ENTRY FORM ANSWERS

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Question Two (June 10):

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Question Four

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Band of hopefuls!

All smiles from the Regimental Band of the Scots Guards who joined Gulf veterans from all three Services for a free day at the races organised by Goodwood racecourse. The bandmen served as medical orderlies with 33 Field Hospital RAMC at Al Jubail during their five months in Saudi Arabia.



LCpl Liu, LCpl Yu, Cpl Lai and LCpl Pang

Busy line? Send for the Hong Kong Tele Mech lads

Four Hong Kong telephone men made their own contribution to Operation Granby – by helping hard-pressed 259 Signal Squadron in Cyprus.

The Gulf crisis coincided with the island's largest communications re-fit stretching 259 to the limit.

At RAF Akrotiri in particular, the squadron's Airfield Troop needed every pair of hands it could muster because the tele-communications mechanics (Tele Mechs) were providing extra facilities during the crisis.

An offer of four Tele Mechs from the Hong Kong Military Service Corps (HKMSC) was snapped up.

Cpl **Lai**, LCpl (now Cpl) **Liu**, LCpl **Yu** and LCpl **Pang** (all Class One Tele Mechs) flew to RAF Akrotiri to do vital cable work.

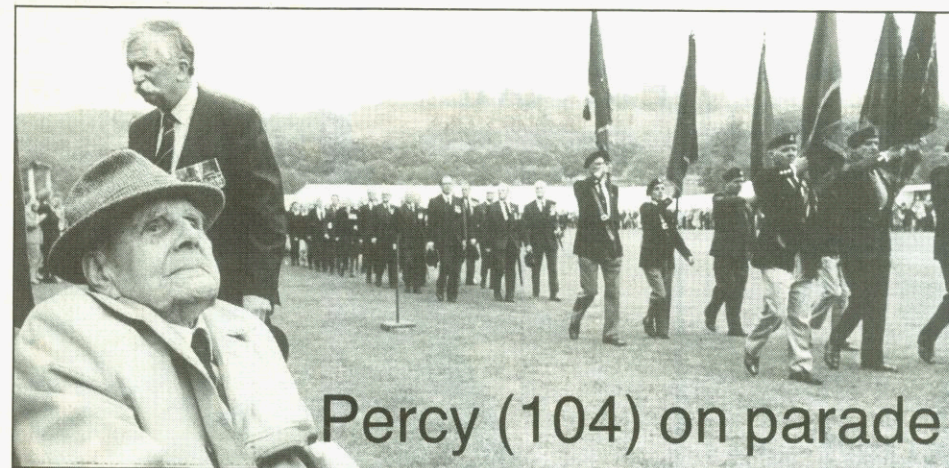
OC Airfield Troop Lt **Butch Maycock** had nothing but praise for his NCOs from the Orient: "They are the most enthusiastic group of soldiers I've ever met," he said.



Operation Haven may have been an errand of mercy, but a soldier still needs to be able to defend himself if attacked. Here members of a 30 Signal Regiment satellite communications detachment at Silopi in Turkey busy themselves loading magazines with ammunition. Left to right Capt **Neil Stevens**, Sgt **Steve Welding**, Cpl **Smudge Smith** and Sig **Doobs Rodgers**.

Blashers in Berlin

Former sapper and adventurer Col **John Blashford Snell** (right) visited Berlin to promote Operation Raleigh in the city. Brig **David Bromhead**, Berlin Brigade Commander, offered to sponsor two Berlin youngsters on a forthcoming expedition to either Chile or Zimbabwe.



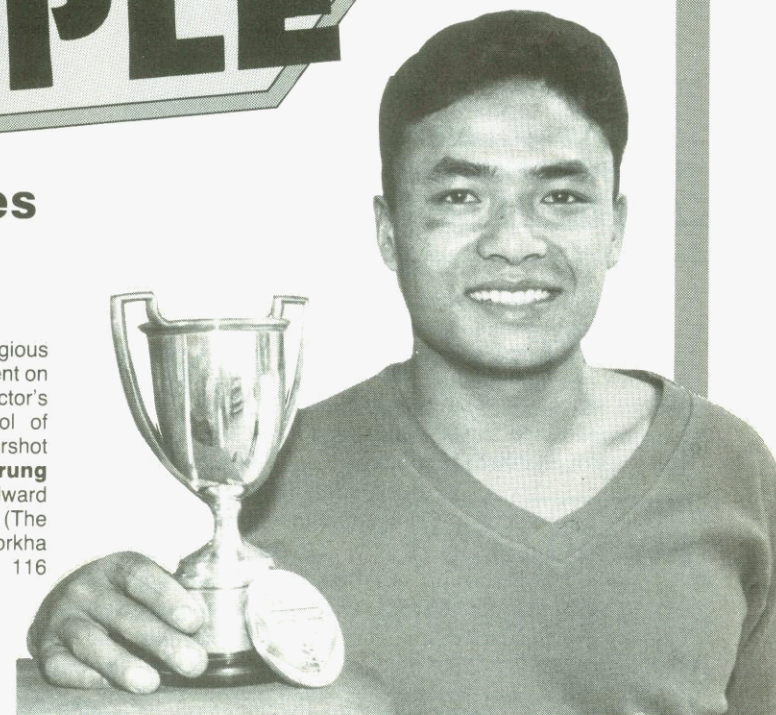
Percy (104) on parade

Oldest and boldest old comrade attending the recent presentation of new Colours to the three Regular battalions of the Light Infantry at Tidworth was 104-year-old Mr **Percy Francis** from Yeovil. Mr Francis, who was presented to the Queen Mother after the parade, enlisted into the Somerset Light Infantry in 1904 and was wounded and taken prisoner during the First World War.

PEOPLE

Gurkha goes top of the PTI class

First Gurkha to win the prestigious Slessor Trophy as best student on a physical training instructor's course at the Army School of Physical Training at Aldershot was LCpl **Manbahadur Gurung** of 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles). The 2nd Goorkha came top of a class of 116 students striving to pass a PTI class 2 course that included endurance and strength training and anatomy and physiology among its subjects.



Director WRAC in Herford

Brig **Gael Ramsey**, Director WRAC, poses for a picture with the CO 4 Armoured Division, Signal Regiment, Lt Col **Cedric Burton**, and WRAC clerks during her visit to Herford Garrison. After calling on GOC 4 Armed Div, Maj Gen **Jeremy Mackenzie**, Brig Ramsey met personnel from 14 Postal and Courier Squadron before going on to 4 ADSR where she spoke



to WRAC clerks LCpl **Karen Manzie** and Ptes **Deborah Graham**, **Linda Harvie** and **Claire Smith** in regimental

headquarters. The Director also visited 4 Squadron, 7 Signal Regiment where Ptes **Zoe Robinson**, **Tracy Backhouse**

and **Sharon Marshall** are among the first female radio operators to serve in the British Army of the Rhine.



Col **Alan Behagg**, late Royal Anglian, has become the first infantry officer to assume command of BATUS – the British Army Training Unit Suffield in Canada. He has a keen interest in new technology which will prove invaluable as BATUS expands to incorporate the Tactical Engagement System (TES) training aid that uses low power lasers to vastly increase the realism of exercises.

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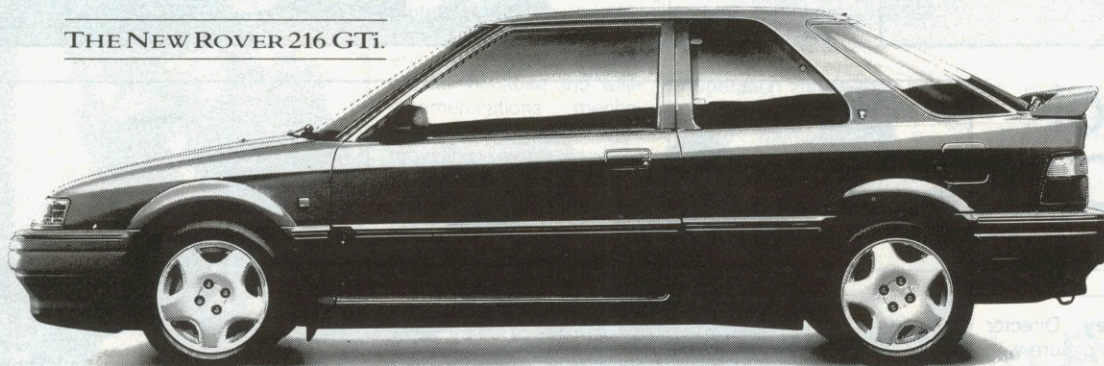
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Cherry's still a sensation

When this magazine published its now famous back-page pin-up picture of Cherry Richards in August 1945, the Doncaster lass became an instant celebrity, with fan-mail from soldiers all over the world.

But the effect was even more dramatic when we re-printed the photograph last month after the Imperial War Museum asked us to help trace her.

The national newshounds knew a good story when they scented one – and the trail led to Cherry's home town of Doncaster.

"The *Mail on Sunday* was the first newspaper to reach me, so I agreed to talk to them," Cherry, now a 66-year-old grandmother, told SOLDIER. "They whisked me off to Derbyshire overnight to escape their rivals.

"My sister who lives near me was besieged and so was my home. They were climbing over walls to get to me."

Forty-six years ago Cherry achieved fame as the first back-page pin-up in a long-running SOLDIER series.

"There was a colossal amount of fan-mail at the time," said Cherry. "They didn't know my address so some of the letters were just sent to Doncaster, but they found me. Some were sent to the Mayor, who delivered them to me in person.

"I did not reply to them all – there were far too many. But lots of copies were made of the photograph and were circulated to soldiers all over the world.

"I had two brothers serving in the Army at the time, in Africa and India, and they were both surprised to see pin-up pictures of me suddenly turning up in their messes."

Tribute to Fd Marshal Hull

A new stained-glass window, to the memory of the late Fd Marshall Sir Richard Hull, was unveiled in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, on June 16.

The design is by Mr Lawrence Lee, who created the other 14 Field Marshals' windows in the chapel and was responsible for the windows in

Coventry Cathedral.

The dedication, by the Chaplain in Chief RAF, the Ven B N Halfpenny, was made in the presence of a distinguished gathering which included Fd Marshal Hull's family, Fd Marshals Carver, Bramall, Stanier and Bagnall, and the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir John Chapple.

SOLDIER to Soldier



TODAY'S GIRL: Cherry Richards

Cherry could have gone on to be a film star but she declined a screen test, preferring to concentrate on being a housewife and mother, judging beauty competitions and modelling clothes.

The publicity surrounding the hunt for the former pin-up has resulted in an enormous interest in the Imperial War Museum's exhibition on war-time forces sweethearts, planned for next year.

And Cherry, now widowed but planning to remarry, is re-living the kind of fame she enjoyed in those heady days of 1945.

"It's certainly added a bit of excitement to our lives," she said.

Burma Star for Swiss veteran

Fifty years after he destroyed oil wells to prevent them falling into the hands of the advancing Japanese, retired Swiss engineer Mr Max Schwander (78) has received the Order of the Burma Star and has been enrolled in the Burma Star Association.

He was working for the Burmah Oil Company when he received orders to destroy the wells, and was apparently honoured with the Star in 1946. But a visitor to his home at Neuhausen am Rheinfall saw the medal and realised it was the more generally issued 1939-45 Campaign Star.

Wheels were put in motion and soon Lt Col Bill Thatcher, RA, Britain's Defence Attaché in Switzerland, was putting on his own uniform, sash and medals before knocking on the Schwander front door to formally present the Burma Star and citation.

Rat flashes sell well for SSAFA

At first glance, Lot 1425 – a desert camo hat, jacket and overalls of recent manufacture – would have been more at home in any army surplus store than an auctioneers' salesroom.

Closer inspection at Wallis and Wallis's sale of militaria at Lewes, Sussex, on June 4 revealed the Desert Rat flashes, while the catalogue showed that the garments had been worn in the Gulf War by a staff sergeant in the Royal Corps of Transport.

Included in the lot was a T-shirt printed with "33 Squadron RCT Saudi Arabia" and a cotton shemagh, or Arab headscarf. Proceeds of the sale were to be donated to the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association (SSAFA).

Circumstances alter cases, so instead of the grudging £10 bid normally given to such a lot, the dealers, Military Antiques, cheerfully stumped up £65 for a good cause and a fragment of military history.

Green grows the military

"Green" measures taken to cut down the impact of military activities on the environment will be explained at a Ministry of Defence display in London this month.

The MoD stand at the *Sunday Times* Environment, Wildlife and Conservation Exhibition at Olympia, July 6 to 11, will also illustrate the natural history, archaeology and care of historic buildings and ancient monuments on the Defence estate.

Ministry staff and distinguished naturalists and archaeologists will be on hand to answer questions.

A wildlife photograph and video competition, previewed in this column on May 27, will run alongside the main exhibition.

We're still out here!

KOSB remains on guard in the Gulf

CONTRARY to popular belief there remains in the Gulf one combat unit that was involved in operations during the war.

The 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers flew into Saudi Arabia between January 15 and 29. A 1st Armoured Division unit throughout the ground phase of the fighting, the battalion passed through the breach into Iraq and established several prisoner-of-war holding areas, finally halting about 30km north-west of Kuwait City.

After the cessation of hostilities the KOSB returned

to the port town of Al Jubail in Saudi Arabia as the Logistic Support Battalion, to guard and escort the more sensitive vehicles, ammunition and equipment being returned to the United Kingdom and Germany by the Logistic Support Group (LSG).

Guard duty has been mounted at the Convoy Marshalling Area (CMA), perhaps the most impressive tank, car and military vehicle park established by the British Army since Operation Overlord in 1944, some 13,000 vehicles parked cheek by jowl and

covering an area of five square kilometres.

The Challengers and Warriors with their Chobham armour are the focus of the tightest security.

Millions of artillery rounds, small-arms ammunition and Multiple Launch Rocket Systems at the ammunition supply depots also need to be guarded as they await inspection to decide whether they should be destroyed or returned to the UK.

Maj John Cooper said: "Escort tasks have been a popular and interesting role. Platoons of soldiers rode as escorts to Host Nation Support (HNS) trucks travelling between Al Jubail and the forward LSG near Al Qaysuma. Other routes took Borderers to Kuwait and the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

"Luckily, Al Jubail is blessed with sports facilities on a lavish scale, enabling guard tasks to be interspersed with inter-company sports competitions.

"It has not all been healthy living for 1 KOSB. After four months in the Gulf the chance to spend some leisure time in Bahrain, where two of the items dearest to a soldier's heart are more readily available, was greatly appreciated."

Although training facilities are limited, and most stores having been returned to UK, the large quantities of ammunition allow the KOSB to carry out firing practice in the desert training area.

Results of their guard duty are felt by the whole of the LSG – by allowing the specialists the freedom to get on with their jobs the recovery programme is well ahead of schedule.

After four months in the Gulf the KOSB hope to be returning to Scotland soon.

In the meantime 1 KOSB are content to soldier on as the only remaining combat troops of Operation Granby in theatre.



Cpls David (left) and Jim Harvey, brothers from Dumfriesshire, guard transport and equipment near King Fahd industrial port in Saudi Arabia



Above: 1 KOSB soldiers on guard at the Returned Ammunition Group

Below: LCpl Tait gives the salute on the 1 KOSB JNCO's cadre



A soldier on guard in the convoy marshalling area



Words:
Peter Reid
Pictures:
Sgt Anthony
von Roretz

In days of old when knights were bold, they were expected to be a magnificent sight to behold, either prancing about on their war horses or thundering hither and thither with lances under their arms. These heavily armoured shock troops were not always effective, as **Gordon Skilling** discovers in a look at the early history of the cavalry.

Spotlight on the cavalry



The glittering spectacle of the cavalry is a stirring sight. Here Maj Gen Henry Langley, then Major General commanding the Household Cavalry, inspects a parade in Hyde Park, London in 1982

GALLOPS, glitter and glory are promised for the Royal Tournament's 101st season which the Army is leading this year. It starts on July 10.

The focus will be on the Army's four-legged friend, with the spotlight on the history of the cavalry from the days of jousting to desert victory.

If any single action illustrates the panache of the cavalry it is the Charge of the Light Brigade. The courage of the gallant 673 who rode through the Valley of Death – twice – during the Battle of Balaclava is depicted in one of the most spectacular highlights.

The action is brought up to date with a desert battle between armoured reconnaissance vehicles.

One of the duties of reconnaissance by horse or vehicle was to obtain information and get it back in time to be of use. In olden times this could mean a lot of hard

Heavy Brigade were heroes of Balaclava

IF WE have a tendency to immortalise some of our greatest disasters in picture, prose and poem, then one of the best examples of this must be the Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854.

It was a disaster, mitigated only by the courage of the regiments taking part.

Like Tennyson's stirring poem, the display in this year's Royal Tournament will take a

few liberties with the truth. The really glorious and victorious heroes were the Heavy Brigade, who now languish in obscurity.

Three cavalry engagements at Balaclava illustrate three facets of the work of the mounted soldier: against cavalry, infantry and the guns. It also showed what could have been gained but wasn't, what should not have been possible

but was, and what should never have happened, but did.

In considering them, it must be remembered that victories are not always a function of the size of force, or the courage of men, but a matter of good soldiering and successfully avoiding idiocy.

Earlier in the war both the Allied and Russian cavalry had distinguished themselves by almost total incompetence.

The Russians had not bothered to engage the Allied infantry during the heroic crossing of the Alma river, nor had the Allies bothered to harry the Russians as they fled the scene.

Later, as the Russians marched on the vital harbour of Balaclava, warnings by a spy were ignored and as no cavalry screen had been deployed they had only the cholera-weakened

A Challenger tank of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars races across the desert in Saudi Arabia a few days before the ground war in the Gulf

galloping, sometimes hotly pursued by other horsemen. It is made easier by radio these days, and the role of communications, from Indian smoke signals to satellite, is examined.

American cousins of both the Blue and the Grey are visiting from Arizona in honour of the famous cavalry actions fought

during the American Civil War. With the help of artillery and infantry they act out a drama between the Confederacy and the Union, and afterwards Abraham Lincoln is invited to make a short Gettysburg address.

The Household Cavalry will perform their exciting musical ride.

More excitement is promised with the traditional and magnificent display by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, and the finale features cavalry units from all round the world.

Among the 2,000 Servicemen and women sharing the limelight with 200 horses will be a massed band comprising

the following units:

The Blues and Royals, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, The Queen's Own Hussars, The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, 9th/12th Royal Lancers, The Royal Hussars, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, 14th/20th King's Hussars, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and 17th/21st Lancers.

The Pipes and Drums of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars will be joined by those of the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles and other Gurkha units from Hong Kong.

This year the resident band is that of the Royal Signals, while the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards are looking after the administration.

Vehicles and equipment from the Gulf are featured in the exhibition outside the arena.

As a special thank you to those who fought in the Gulf, more than 6,000 husbands, wives and children have been invited to the first performance.



soldiers of the 93rd Highlanders to brush aside before inflicting a devastating blow which could have altered the outcome of the war.

With no time to form the kind of square which had demolished the French at Waterloo, they could only form the famous thin red line tipped with steel.

The four squadrons of approaching cavalry, faced by

only 550 men in two ranks, unsupported by cavalry or artillery, were greeted by two completely ineffective volleys, which caused no deaths.

Despite this, the relieved Highlanders watched the cavalry decide that discretion was the better part of valour and veer away.

Quite the opposite spirit characterised the move of the Heavy Brigade when they saw

the rest of the Russian cavalry on the top of a hill. The first squadrons of the 2nd Dragoons, later the Scots Greys, and the 6th Inniskillings followed by the Royals, 4th Dragoons and the 5th Dragoon Guards, pointed their 300 sabres up the hill at the 3,000 above them, took them on and routed them.

The Light Brigade should

● Turn to next page

Glory days . . . or hard work?

IT WAS not always the most glorious time, being in the cavalry.

The cavalry man of yesteryear had a rough time of it as his horse had to be trained, watered, fed, exercised in health and treated in sickness for 365 days of the year.

In his book *The Mechanised Lancer*, Frederick Grant describes his experi-

ences with the 16th/5th Queen's Lancers on the North-West Frontier and their rapid transition from a motivated to an armoured regiment, and points out that the duties could not lapse for one day.

Whereas the foot soldier could devote himself to his own well-being when he returned to camp at the end of a day's march or manoeuvres,

the cavalryman had first of all to see to his horse.

He would often return wet and exhausted, but before he could do anything for himself he would have to unsaddle, rub the horse down with straw, examine its legs for cuts and its hooves for stones, water, feed, bed down and rug up. Only then was he free to attend to himself. What price glory!

When cavalry called the shots

A CAVALRY charge is something which has struck terror into many a stout heart over the centuries, and raised the spirits of those on whose side they have galloped to glory and, often, death.

Commanders are judged by how they have used this arm, or how they have neutralised it; Alexander the Great only made his conquests by using cavalry; the shadowy figure of Arthur is heroic because of his success in using cavalry throughout the island against the Germanic invaders, whether or not he used knights from a round table.

The discipline of Cromwell's Ironsides and Marlborough's genius for manoeuvre, decep-

Balaclava

● From Page 17

have been ordered to finish the business, but were not, and when they were later given an order to attack Russians removing Turkish guns they had captured, they were sent for the wrong guns.

They got them, but could not hold the position, and lost more men on the way back down the "Valley of Death" than they had moving up that long mile. If the French had not disrupted some of the other guns firing at them, even fewer of the 195 would have ridden back out of the 673 who charged.

tion and shock tactics are still models today.

In their day, horsemen such as the Scythians, Mongol hordes, Saracens, Don Cossacks and Plains Indians have evoked shudders at the very invocation of their names.

British cavalry have been feared by foreigners since the times of the Romans. The warrior Queen Boudicca and her chariots, doing things the Romans had never dreamt of, destroyed the invaders' first garrisons of Colchester and London, and the lines of "anti-tank" ditches protecting the Perthshire fort of Ardoch bear mute testimony to that respect.

Not all that far from where Allied tanks finished the job against the Republican Guard in Iraq is the site of an equally significant but even more devastating cavalry action.

While Julius Caesar was busy invading Britain again, a rival was trying to win fame and glory with 39,000 of the finest infantry of the time when Iraq was called Parthia.

Swarms of light horsemen descended on them near modern Haran, equipped only with bows and arrows, but backed up by camel trains with full quivers and water.

The Romans' small auxiliary cavalry detachments were soon annihilated, along with most of the legions. Only 5,000

Right: Ferrets of 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards in Beirut after the civil war of 1983
Below: A romantic impression of the Charge of the Light Brigade, to be re-enacted at the Royal Tournament



returned, leaving 10,000 as slaves and the other 24,000 as dried bones. Glory Marcus Licinius Crassus certainly did not win, but fame he did, since his name is linked forever to the expression "crass stupidity".

So complete a defeat did the Parthian cavalry inflict that another expression passed into English, the "parting shot" – often the most wounding. It should really be the Parthian shot, an arrow fired backwards over the horse's rump just as

the opposition thought he was retreating.

The concept of combined arms operations, with infantry firepower on horseback, was to rule until the machine gun stuttered onto the scene, with, it must be said, the East evolving the tactics and the West ignoring them.

Mounted Scythian archers, whose descendants we fought in the Crimea, were among the ancestors of the barbarian hordes who brought down the

Roman Empire, and though the Romans eventually grasped the principles of mobility and firepower, the concept was then lost in the ensuing Dark Ages.

There was probably a bit of snobbery involved. The bow was the weapon of the foot soldier, the social inferior of the knight, who used sword, lance and mace. As the ideals of chivalry took hold, the Holy Roman Emperor tried to ban anything considered ignoble, so archery on horseback was taboo

LEARNING the lessons of past wars has always been a tricky business. So often, Britain raises the genius only to throw out his idea for somebody else to develop.

We invented the tank which helped win the First World War, but it took the Germans to use it properly. Indeed, they could claim victory in the first battle, pitting tank against tank, where the firepower of one A7V knocked out two female Mark IVs before more male Mark IVs put it out of action and its companions to flight.

Later, the Germans used British theories to teach the world the new dimensions of Blitzkrieg, then the Afrika Korps showed how properly-sited anti-tank guns could devastate armoured thrusts.

After generations preparing

and not even the Norman practice of flinging lances like javelins at Saxon housecarls (who obligingly dismounted to fight on foot) was acceptable.

One had to get near and administer a manly lunge, or leave it to the lower orders to decimate the enemy with

Learning the Gulf lessons

to repel hordes of successors to that most successful of tanks, the Soviet T34, it was quite a change for the British cavalry in the Gulf to be making a massive armoured sweep in the grand style.

To avoid learning the wrong lessons from the Gulf conflict, staff officers are visiting units involved to examine what they did and what they have to tell us. Learning the wrong lessons can lead to disaster as easily as not learning them at all.

arrows. Nobody had told the Byzantines Mongols or Muslims this, which made slaughtering Teutonic knights and Crusaders much easier. Richard the Lionheart only defeated Saladin's Saracens by using crossbows as defence, and refusing to be drawn until

his heavy cavalry could surprise the Muslim light cavalry.

In Britain the infantry eventually began to get the measure of the cavalry. Wallace's schiltrons – circles of pikemen – withstood the cavalry, but not the introduction of the longbow at Stirling Bridge; English archers protected by stakes saw off the French cavalry at Crecy and Robert the Bruce cheated at Bannockburn by booby-trapping the cavalry's approach.

The arrival of noisy firearms changed the face of the battlefield with tactics developing all the time, though cavalry plus artillery would generally expect to win against infantry.

Disdaining rational thought, the cavalry often attempted the impossible. It sometimes worked, as with the Heavy Brigade at Balaclava, but usually not, as in the heroic but forlorn charges of Polish cavalry against Blitzkrieg panzers.

With the advent of the tank and the armoured car a new era opened, but at the same time there was a new dimension added from the air which would eventually call the shots over the battlefield.



AN OF A CENTRE

SYSTEM DRIVE LIMITED

System Drive Limited is an approved contractor providing mass transport training activities for various Departments and Services within the Ministry of Defence.

One section of the Company is responsible for resettlement training on a tri-service basis, while the other undertakes motor car training in South East District, LGV training in North West District and together with naval colleagues runs the driving school at HMS Nelson.

The available skills cover the whole spectrum of transport training from basic motor car driving, through large goods (LGV) and passenger carrying (PCV) vehicles, to the National (Dangerous Substances) Driver Training Scheme, Department of Transport Approved Driving Instructors (ADI) to transport management in the form of the Royal Society of Arts Certificates of Professional Competence (CPC) – Freight and Passenger – at both National and International levels.

Clients are encouraged to talk to the Company training officer and discuss any possible problems or specific needs that they might have.

RESETTLEMENT TRAINING

Every qualifying serviceman and woman is entitled to a four week resettlement course to assist them in obtaining employment when they complete their regular engagement.

It is vital that military personnel, who will be competing for employment opportunities with civilian counterparts, are properly skilled and possess civilian acceptable qualifications.

The successful student who attends a course of resettlement training with System Drive Limited will have the knowledge and certificated ability to challenge any other job applicant, with the added advantage of a service background.

The Company own and operate the largest purpose built residential transport training centre in the UK.



1

The staff, most of whom have a service background themselves, guide students through properly structured courses leading to the highest qualifications available.

DRIVERS (FREIGHT or PASSENGER)

It is vital that service personnel understand that the modern professional driver is a skilled tradesman/woman, and licence acquisition is just not enough.

A course of training for someone who wants to be the driver of a large goods vehicle (LGV) will start with trade training. This element covers driver's hours of work regulations, tachographs, basic mechanical principles, safe loading of the vehicle, roping and sheeting, and much more. Phase 2 will be actual "hands on wheel" driving tuition leading to the Department of Transport test. The final part will cover the National (Dangerous Substances) Driver Training Scheme leading to the combined HAZFREIGHT/HAZPAK and ADR (International Certificate) qualifications.

The new class of licence for Passenger Carrying Vehicles (PCV) is Category D. Holders of this entitlement may drive any PCV regardless of its number of passengers or size. The trade training covers all items which are

specific to role together with the driver's hours of work regulations, tachographs, use of safety equip-

ment, conduct regulations and types of service etc.

TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

Many officers, warrant officers and NCOs use their resettlement course to obtain the internationally recognised Royal Society of Arts Certificates of Professional Competence (CPC), for either freight or passenger operations, at both national and international levels. As this is a three week course most students make use of their full entitlement and add-on the HAZ-FREIGHT/HAZPAK/ADR course. Numerous students who already have a CPC (Freight) take the opportunity to add the CPC (Passenger) to their list of qualifications, and enhance their employment opportunities.

2



DRIVING INSTRUCTORS

The chance to become a self employed driving instructor is very appealing to many servicemen and women. The first hurdle is to become an ADI. This requires entry onto the Department of Transport Register of Approved Driving Instructors. The only way to have your name entered upon this Register is to take and pass three separate examinations. Applicants are tested on (a) theoretical knowledge, (b) personal driving ability and (c) ability to give instruction. A full course of ADI training, with System Drive, will bring all students to the standard required and additionally provide an introduction to business and self-employment.

EXAMINATION AND TESTING

All students are guaranteed that they will undertake a driving test, or an examination, before they complete their training course, and in the event of a first time failure a second test will be arranged at no additional charge.

CPC students will be examined on the final day of their course, and ADI pupils will take the Part 1 DTP examination during the final week. Examinations for Parts 2 & 3 can be taken at a DTP centre close to the applicant's home or unit location. Alternatively there is no further cost involved if the trainee wishes to return to System Drive for a "brush up" and then take the examinations locally.

Service personnel who held either an HGV 3 or an HGV 2 licence BEFORE the 1st April 1991 may convert those licences to Categories C + E (Restricted). They may drive rigid good vehicles with trailers but NOT articulated vehicles. It will be necessary to attend a course to upgrade the C + E (Restricted) to a straightforward C + E entitlement.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

Anyone who needs further information, or who wishes to book a course of resettlement training will find that their unit resettlement clerk, and the nearest Army Education Centre, has an up to

date brochure. Resettlement officers are able to advise applicants about the allowances that are available to students undertaking pre-release vocational training. Enquiries directly to the Company Training Officer, telephone 0695 28008, are always welcome.

THE TRAINING CENTRE

The residential training centre, owned and operated by System Drive Limited, is located adjacent to junction 4 on the M58 motorway at Skelmersdale in Lancashire. The centre is set in 4 acres of

3



landscaped grounds and every activity is "under one roof".

Accommodation is in single, twin or four person centrally heated rooms and there are facilities for both men and women. A full English breakfast is served daily and there are always 3 or 4 choices for both lunch and dinner. The dining room has both smoking and non-smoking areas.

The chefs will happily arrange individual meals for vegans, vegetarians and those on special diets.

Residence staff make the beds and clean the rooms daily, clean linen is provided weekly. There is a 24-hour refreshment service available, TV lounge, quiet room and even a launderette.

In the actual training centre there are fully equipped classrooms for each separate element of the training undertaken. All of the instructors are multi-qualified to give tuition in more than one skill.

On site is a full sized, properly marked out, Department of Transport approved manoeuvring area.

Hands on wheel driver training is

undertaken on an Instructor:Student ratio of 1:2.

Resettlement training with System Drive is undertaken in an atmosphere of learning and professionalism.

All of the staff are dedicated to the task of helping the serving soldier to obtain the best qualifications for a second career on his/her return to civilian life.



4

1. 24731891 L/Cpl Kelly, 16 Sig Regt.
2. 24662229 L/Cpl Hughes MR, 1 Queens Dragoon Guards.
3. 24626098 L/Cpl Coombes, 1 Bn, Irish Guards.
4. 24622070 L/Cpl Brosnan, 14 Berlin Fd Wksp REME
W0476554 L/Cpl Clark, 62 Tpt & Mov Sqn RCT.

Between our establishments, in May 1976, and the end of May 1991 resettlement students, at System Drive, had obtained 16,327 HGV (LGV) licences; 4,821 PSV (PCV) licences and 1,406 car licences. A further 885 CPCs, and 1,349 ADIs were successfully trained as were 1,407 HAZ-FREIGHT/HAZPAK/ADR students. The record of over twenty six thousand successful vocational training courses is unsurpassed anywhere. System Drive feel, rightly, proud of their achievements.

An Irish Wolfhound and a royal goat attract a lot of attention when their Berlin-based battalions go on parade. *Mervyn Wynne Jones* reports . . .



Billy, Regimental Goat of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers

Just who do we think is in charge here?

"HE may be a big softie," said LCpl Peter Wadey, late Goat Major 1 RWF, "but if he's in a bad mood and doesn't want to go on parade, there's not a lot I can do about it."

LCpl George Spence, one of two dog handlers with 1 IG, nodded sagely. "These animals have a mind of their own, and when they are as big as you, and stronger, you have to keep a firm grip or else."

Both men belong to the curious brotherhood of handlers and keepers of regimental mascots. Theirs is the language of animal feed, cleaning utensils, veterinary visits and parade ground anecdotes.

"This is a job that demands 100 per cent commitment. You are responsible for every facet of the animal's welfare, health and well-being and for getting it to each parade on time," said LCpl Wadey.

LCpl Wadey was Goat Major with the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, for almost seven years before taking up another post last month.

"It is an honorary title and everyone, including the CO and RSM, referred to me as Goat Major. The lads just called me smelly . . ."

Billy, the latest of a long line of Regimental Goats (as distinct from the

Old friends



Goat Mascots of The Royal Regiment of Wales), is just as smelly as the next goat, even if he does come from the royal herd at Whipsnade Zoo.

It is a full-time job. Seven-year-old Billy needs to be mucked-out, bathed, fed, groomed and exercised. His diary is rarely empty, with parades, visits, open-days, charity work and suchlike.

LCpl Spence needs no reminding of the work involved. A former side-drummer with the Corps of Drums, 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, he was also until recently the second handler within the battalion, charged with looking after Connor, the regiment's Irish Wolfhound mascot.

He has now been posted to Wellington Barracks, London to handle the Irish Wolfhound pup which will eventually succeed Connor.

Though LCpl Paul Smith, also of the Corps of Drums, shoulders much of the responsibility for looking after the five-year-old Wolfhound, LCpl Spence and his wife Deborah played host at least two nights a week.

"The wife bent my ear about dog hairs around the house but we loved having him around. You could not imagine a more placid and affectionate animal.

"I got great satisfaction out of the job



Billy with LCpl Peter Wadey (left) and Connor with LCpl George Spence

and there is a lot of pride involved as well – it is not a job that everyone has in the battalion," said LCpl Spence, who was brought up on a farm in Northern Ireland and who leapt at the chance of working as battalion dog handler when it was advertised some five years ago.

"Connor enjoys a lot of attention and certainly gets a lot of that on his visits to schools, fetes, hospitals, charity events and so on. I genuinely believe that he enjoys his work," he added.

Connor is certainly well looked after. Consuming 3lb of prime steak daily, his is a healthy diet. He is regularly exercised, and enjoys the affection of all ranks of the battalion.

He has the run of the camp, and has come to recognise the mess kitchens as useful staging posts on his meanderings. His handlers are frequently asked to bring him to the officers' mess of an evening to mix with members and guests.

Both regiments are currently based in Berlin and goat and dog see much of each other during ceremonial duties.

"Billy knows exactly what he's about on these parades. If he does a few rehearsals, he will take you wherever you have to go without your having to lead him," said LCpl Wadey.

Most of the time he behaves very well but on other occasions he can be pretty awkward. At the regiment's 300th anniversary parade in mid-Wales he caught a whiff of a nanny goat and that was it – trouble!

"It is difficult to describe what it is like marching in front of the battalion or band except to say that it is a mixture of terror and intense pride.

"If he has done well I make sure that he gets a beer and an apple. Not only is he entitled to a beer and rum ration, but he is also entitled to a few cigarettes each day – a good North Wales farming cure for worms," added LCpl Wadey.

Both goat and Wolfhound have built up close relationships with their handlers. The dog howls inconsolably if left alone for too long, and the goat refused to eat while LCpl Wadey is away on leave unless a tape recording of the Goat Major's voice is played near the pen.

The two animals are members of a select group in the Army comprising two drum horses, two Shetland ponies, two goats, a ram, an Indian black buck and a dog which are officially approved as mascots and are therefore entitled to the services of the RAVC as well as movement and quarantine at public expense.

No record exists of the origin of the goat of The Royal Welch Fusiliers, but it was apparently a custom of long standing as far back as 1775 when it went into action with the regiment at the Battle of Bunker's Hill.

In 1844, Queen Victoria presented the regiment with its first royal goat and, since then, the Regular battalions and most of the territorial battalions have had a goat presented by the Sovereign.

The goats are selected from the Royal Herd which was started from a pair given to Queen Victoria by the Shah of Persia. Never referred to as a mascot, the Regimental Goat is regarded as an essential part of the battalion and travels with it everywhere.

The Irish Wolfhound was the ancient hunting dog of the legendary Irish Warriors led by Fionn Mac Cumhaill, so it was appropriate that in 1902 the Irish Guards adopted one such dog as their mascot.

There have been another eight Wolfhound mascots since then, including Connor, and all have enjoyed a varied service both at home and abroad.

Connor was welcomed into the regiment on January 17, 1985 by the Queen Mother at Clarence House.

The Berlin Adventurous Training Centre in the Bavarian Alps offers Service personnel a superb range of facilities set in unrivalled scenery. **Mervyn Wynne Jones** and photographer **Hendrik G Pastor** joined a party of soldiers enjoying . . .

THE HIGH LIFE

SMILES broke out among the party of walkers high in the Bavarian Alps when they heard that their overnight refuge – and a frothy mug of beer – was just a short climb away.

After a hard day's trekking and scrambling, blisters suddenly became more bearable for the mixed bag of soldiers from Berlin Infantry Brigade.

Looking out across breathtaking Alpine scenery from the heart of the Oberallgau massif on the Austro-German border, they were several thousand feet above their starting point, the Berlin Adventurous Training Centre (BATC).

Sheltering beneath the imposing bulk of the Hochgrat mountain, the centre is in a former farmhouse on the outskirts of the small ski resort of Steibis.

Run jointly by the Light Division and the Berlin Infantry Brigade, the BATC is ideally situated for a diverse range of outdoor activities and during the summer provides basic and intermediate courses in mountain leadership, canoeing and climbing.

The mountain walkers – drawn from the 1st Battalions, Irish Guards and The Light Infantry and from 3 Squadron, 13 Signal Regiment – were on the first of a summer-long series of two-week exercises called Alpine Ringer tailored to give students an insight into each outdoor discipline.

Used as a base for minor expeditions as well as adventurous training, the BATC hut has

eight rooms with bedspaces for 52 plus a bar and games and TV rooms. The accommodation is dormitory and separate facilities are available for women.

The BATC's OC is Capt John Wilson who said: "The idea is to get soldiers out of their normal working environment and doing something different, somewhere different. Adventurous training is always a good selling point as regards the Army, and Steibis has got it all."

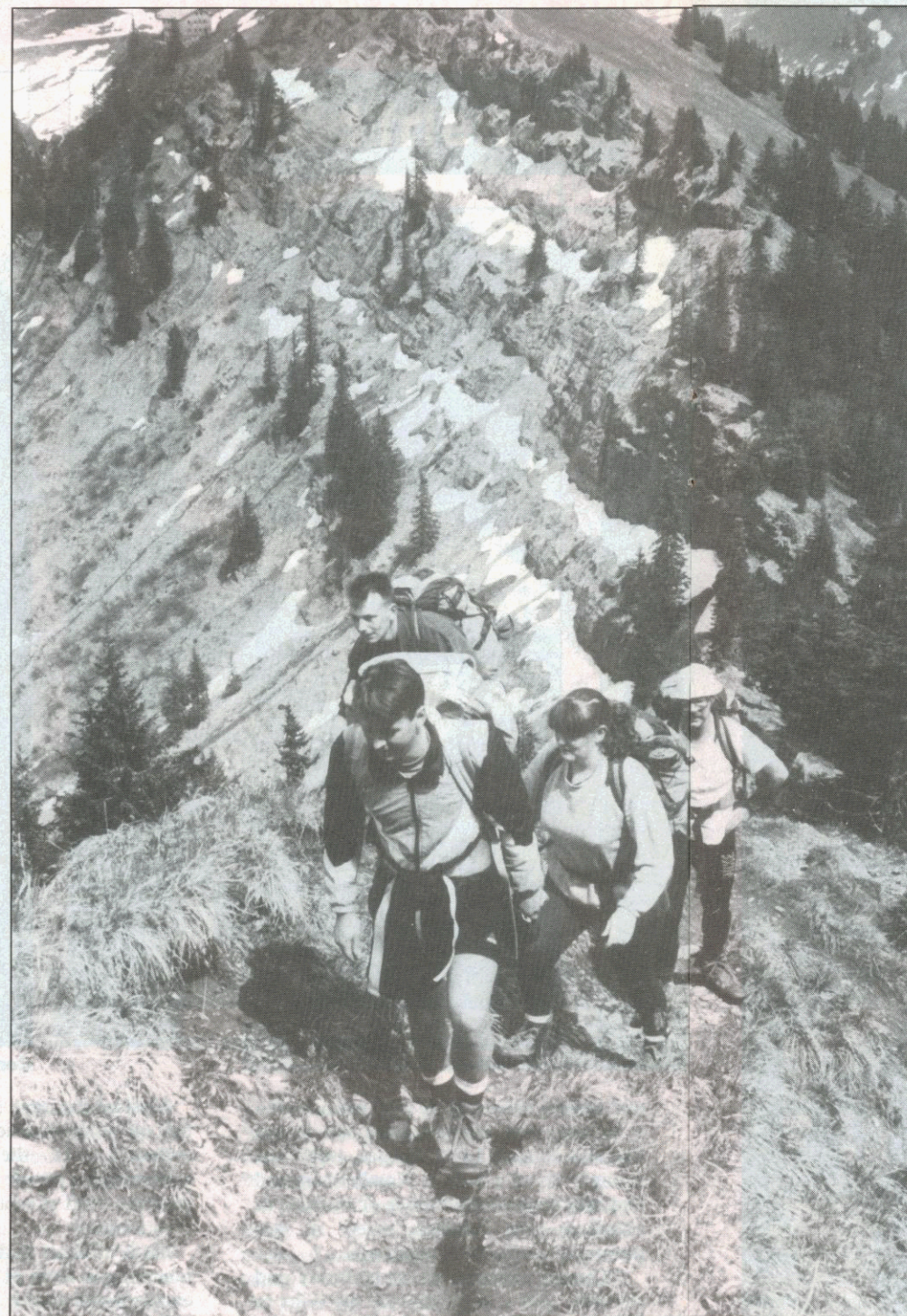
Capt Wilson heads a permanent staff of six at the centre – all RGJ and LI – who between them boast the full range of skills taught throughout the year at the BATC.

An innovation last year was the introduction of intermediate courses. Three two-week courses were held for students with experience in a particular pursuit who wished to progress further.

Some went on to take their qualifying tests at one of the Army's mountain training centres and are returning to Steibis this summer as additional instructors.

"The intention," said Capt Wilson, "was to attract people with log book experience who really wanted to go on and better their skills. We have proved that it can work."

Students on all courses are drawn from the Berlin Infantry Brigade and from Light Division units based in the UK and BAOR. Berlin Brigade units provide temporary instructors for the Alpine Ringer



An Alpine ridge walk – just one of the challenges facing soldiers during a fortnight at the BATC

courses during the summer.

Winter is geared towards Exercise Snow Queen – the Army's annual ski-training programme run from some 20 training huts in Germany – for which the BATC is ideally placed.

Early each December the BATC runs its own ski leader course, formerly under the watchful eye of an expert from the Aviemore-based British Association of Ski Instructors but this year to be hosted by permanent staff member LCpl Mac McGifford, RGJ, who is now fully qualified to join the ranks of top instructors.

The ski leader course ends late in December and Snow Queen usually begins within a week or two. This is the start of a busy BATC winter schedule of seven courses of 12 days' duration when students are taught Alpine (downhill) skiing skills to bronze, silver and gold standards and are also introduced to the basics of ski touring.

"It is a great opportunity for soldiers – both male and female – to come and enjoy themselves doing something that perhaps they never thought they could do. A lot of it depends on the instructors themselves and I'm

lucky with the staff that I've got," added Capt Wilson.

The staff themselves clearly enjoy the posting too – four of the permanent instructors are married to local girls.

Cpl John Gardner said: "The hours can be long but it is a rewarding job. Every day is different – different weather, a different group, different faces. The satisfaction of the job is getting a group of guys and having to sell yourself to them."

"You have got to spot the individuals and the leaders and get them to do it first – the rest will follow. We show them everything beforehand – that is

absolutely vital.

"Adventurous training gives a soldier the chance to learn more about himself – excitement, a little fear and a lot of challenge. All good character-building stuff as they say."

The first group through the hoop this summer was not blessed with good weather, but another, bigger, cloud could be looming over adventurous training in Bavaria.

Lt Col Mike Mumford, Sonthofen-based British Army Liaison Officer, Bavaria, explained: "We have the most outstanding basis for an adventurous training system

here in Bavaria but the future could be bleak if the proper support and organisation is not more forthcoming.

"This is a time of great flux in the British Army, particularly in Germany, but adventurous training is a vital part of a soldier's training and here we have an infrastructure second to none."

Cash restraints have placed a greater financial burden on individuals and units despite greater efforts by those units and their parent organisations to subsidise adventurous training.

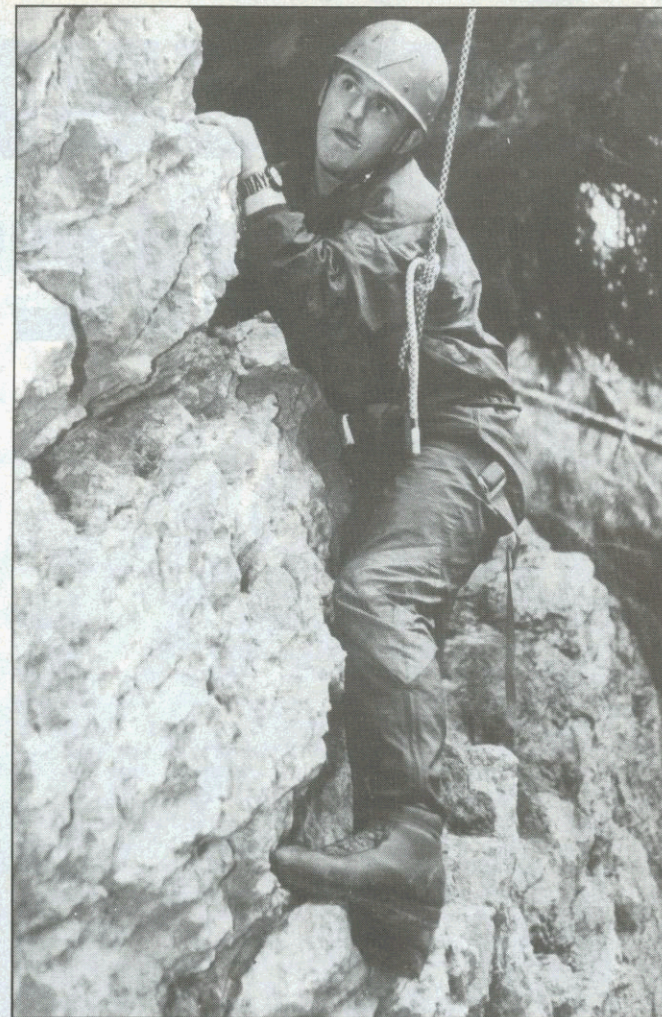
Fund-raising enterprises by

units are now, to a considerable extent, bolstering the whole Bavarian adventurous training infrastructure, said Lt Col Mumford.

The number of training huts in Bavaria run by the Army has plummeted from about 40 three years ago to some 15 this year. Gulf commitments have also taken their toll on the training programme in recent months.

Lt Col Mumford added: "How future changes may affect the future of adventurous training in Bavaria remains to be seen, but it is my sincere hope that it will be encouraged to flourish."

Near the summit of the Hochgrat – a group of largely Signals personnel with RGJ, RWF and IG instructors. BATC OC Capt John Wilson is seated at left

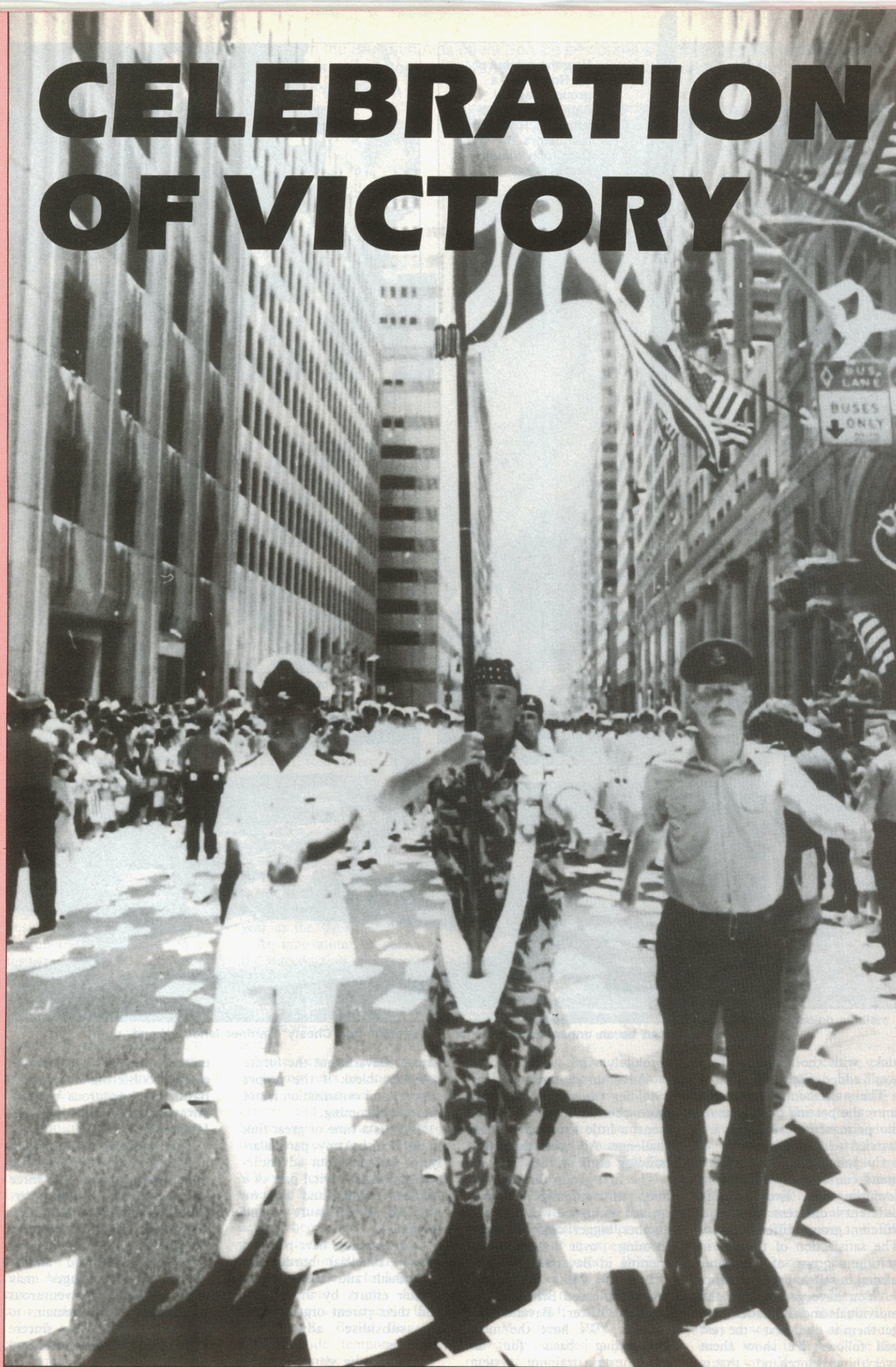


A study in concentration – a Berlin soldier ponders his next move on the cliff face



Capsize drills can be an unnerving experience – instructor Cpl 'Chesty' Gardner lends a hand, right

CELEBRATION OF VICTORY



The Colours of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots, and the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards leave the Hall Münsterland at the end of the drumhead service of remembrance and thanksgiving.

VICTORY in the Gulf was celebrated and fallen comrades remembered in two very different ceremonies involving men and women of the British Army.

An estimated three million New Yorkers turned out to shower American and British Gulf veterans with tons of confetti during a ticker tape parade down Broadway's skyscraper "Canyon of Heroes".

The British contingent, drawn from all three Services, was led by Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, their commander in the Gulf.

In Germany, the Colours, guidon and standards of Army and Royal Air Force units that served in the Gulf were paraded at the packed Halle Münsterland during a drumhead service

of remembrance and thanksgiving attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales and 600 Servicemen and women represent-

ing those who were in the Gulf.

About 3,500 people were present at the ceremony in Münster, including 2,500 rep-

resenting a cross-section of Gulf units, British Forces Germany units and personnel supporting Op Granby.



Left: A British contingent marches up Broadway during New York's Gulf War ticker tape parade

Right: The Prince and Princess of Wales, with (centre) Gen Sir Peter Inge, Commander-in-Chief BAOR, arrive for the drumhead service in Münster

Thank you, Bill

The following tributes to *SOLDIER* writer Bill Moore, who died last month aged 60, have been received:

● From the Adjutant General, Gen Sir David Ramsbotham

I FIRST met Bill Moore in January 1982 when, as the newly appointed Director of Public Relations Army, I visited him at Bulford, where he was the Public Information Officer for South West District. I was a fan at once.

Here was a man who was an expert at his job, of projecting and protecting the image of the Army, not least because he really cared for it, and saw it as his responsibility to do all he could for it and particularly those in it.

An ex-soldier himself, he had an infectious enthusiasm for his task which, coupled with his knowledge and love of military history, on which subject he was a prolific writer, made him someone special in his chosen profession.

From then on, until ill health forced him into his first retirement, I had frequent



cause to be grateful for his wise advice, his balanced approach to problems, and his expertise in matters PR, but above all for his friendship, his boundless good humour and his absolute integrity.

He would ring me up during the Falklands conflict and pass on some gem of a story, or some particularly relevant advice, with a shrewd understanding of when either would help me at that time. I, along with all who

● From former colleague Peter M Howard (Editor *SOLDIER* 1983-85), Editor *Jane's Defence Weekly*, Coudsdon, Surrey

history and his ability as an author to make this subject readable and fascinating for the non-specialist. We began working for MoD around the same time 16 years ago.

Walking along Whitehall one evening we came across a young girl in tears; her purse had been stolen. She was Swedish and working in Surrey as an au pair.

Bill insisted we took her to the nearest police station to report the incident and then loaned her £10 to ensure she could get to her employer's home. She took Bill's address and he told me not to worry because he knew he would get the money back. He did.

This is one of many fond memories of a fine man.

had the pleasure and privilege of knowing him, were therefore delighted when he felt able to come out of retirement, and take up a reporting post with *SOLDIER*.

Every time a story appeared under his signature, you could be certain that it was worth reading. It was carefully researched, and written with an understanding of the soldier's point of view that is all too rare in today's media. It was no surprise to me that *SOLDIER*'s coverage of Operation Granby was so outstandingly good, because Bill had such a large hand in it.

The last time I saw him, some three weeks before his untimely death, he interviewed me on subjects that he thought were of interest to the Army, in his judgement, and also showed me the very fine series of Gulf photographs that had been taken by the magazine.

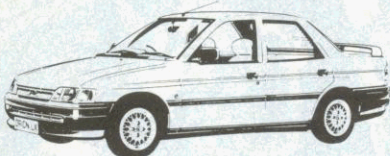
This was typical of the man. He had a shrewd idea of what might help the Army, and an intense pride in its standards of excellence, particularly in operational and human terms.

I appreciate that *SOLDIER*'s and the Army's loss is as nothing compared with that of his family, to whom he was so devoted. We sympathise with them in this shared loss of a friend and a man who gave so much to the Army he loved, in so many ways, throughout his life. Thank you Bill – words that I have so often had good cause to use.

MANY people in newspapers, TV and radio can testify to Bill Moore's skills as a journalist and public relations officer – or to his enthusiasm for military

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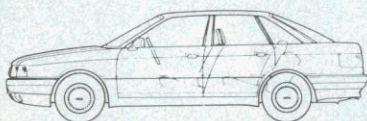
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Capt Henry Joynson (third from right) and his team of drivers are welcomed home by the Mayor of Preston

They made it!

EIGHT soldiers who used their post-Gulf War leave to drive a convoy of captured Iraqi vehicles 4,500 miles back to the UK have raised nearly £10,000 for charity.

All eight served with the 14th/20th King's Hussars, Lancashire's armoured cavalry regiment, during Op Granby. As a "thank you" for the hundreds of goodwill messages, letters and gifts from people in the North West, they decided to organise a sponsored expedition from Iraq to Preston in Lancashire.

The money raised will be given to the Preston Hospital Scanner Appeal and the Gulf Trust.

Capt Henry Joynson (26) and his team set out from Iraq at the beginning of April in five Iraqi Land Rovers captured by their regiment.

But Hussars' long drive was worth it

The vehicles were riddled with bullet holes and held together by a combination of mechanical skill, improvisation and faith.

Even so they had to abandon one Land-Rover in Saudi Arabia, one trailer gave up the ghost in Greece, a second Land Rover blew up and burst into flames just over the German border and another was abandoned in Munster.

Once through Jordan, they had to contend with a mountain of Syrian bureaucracy, thieves in Turkey, armed guards in Greece – and replace or repair



just about every moving part of the vehicles.

★ ★ ★

Before setting off for Bangladesh on a mission to help a children's home, SSgt Mick Gissing paid a special visit to Quarry Bay Junior School on Hong Kong Island where he was a pupil 20 years ago.

The reason was to collect a cheque for £1,000 which the school had raised for less privileged children in other parts of the world. When news came through of a special

appeal being launched by 660 Squadron AAC, it was decided to donate the proceeds of the school's fund-raising day.

SSgt Gissing, REME, attached to 660 Squadron, was due to fly to Bangladesh with a couple of colleagues in order to install an emergency lighting system in the baby care unit of the Sreepur Children's Village, 40 miles north of Dhaka.



SSgt Mick Gissing

Later this year, men of 660 Squadron hope to return to the Sreepur village to provide an emergency power system for the whole complex.

★ ★ ★

Soldiers from 7 Signals Regiment based at Herford have raised DM850 for local children's organisations.

Nine members of the regiment bravely turned up for their RSM's parade at Maresfield Barracks in full fancy dress as a charity dare – and spent the rest of the day in costume to raise cash.

A raffle helped to boost funds even further and later three of the soldiers involved presented cheques to the Kinderheim Bernhard Heising in Herford and to the children's ward at BMH Rinteln.



Col Bob Menzies, CO of BMH Rinteln, receives a cheque for the children's ward from soldiers of 7 Signal Regiment, based at Herford, after a fancy dress parade

The reluctant soldier

Laurie Manton talks to the author whose life was changed by *The Virgin Soldiers*, his story of National Servicemen.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, life changed dramatically for journalist Leslie Thomas with the publication of his first novel, *The Virgin Soldiers*.

His racy tale of Army life caught the imagination of a generation who had been called up for National Service, and become a runaway best seller.

The former Barnardo Boy had based the book on personal experience. He had been conscripted into the British Army as a National Serviceman, and had qualified for the General Service Medal with clasp "Malaya".

His entry in *Who's Who* simply records: Army Service 1949-51. Rose to Lance Corporal.

"I thought I was going to be God's gift to the Army," he said, "and actually wrote to the War Office to tell them I was coming.

"I said, because of my experience on local newspapers, they ought to put me in the Army News Service.

"When you asked for something in those days, you quite often got the opposite, so having told them I was the world's ace reporter, I ended up in the Pay Corps.

"It was ridiculous. Even now, I can't add up properly. The daft thing was I could do a good shorthand speed and type yet they put me to adding up figures which I couldn't do anyway and then employed civilians in the orderly room to do the job I could have done."

Thomas had lived in a dormitory at a Barnardo's hostel from the age of 12 so life in an Army barrackroom held no fears for the new recruit.

"To tell you the truth, I

really enjoyed basic training and never felt better than when I was square-bashing. It was great fun.

"I was so anxious to get in, I went round to my local labour exchange to register for National Service and the assistant asked me what I did.

"I told him I was a junior reporter and he said he was fed up with smart alec youngsters kidding him on that they had wonderful jobs. He then registered me as a junior porter, so I was lucky not to have spent all my Army career carrying things."

After basic training, he was sent to the Orderly Room at Whitchurch and then posted to Singapore, but was offered promotion to sergeant if he stayed.

"To go to Singapore was beyond my wildest dreams, so I turned down my stripes. Because of the Korean War, large numbers of National Servicemen including myself ended up doing an extra six months' service. I was very choked off about it. I was quite sure there would be a Third World War.

"I went to the latrine and sat there thinking, 'Well, if I sign on, I'll be promoted and get more money. I might as well, because we are all going to be in the Army forever.'

"Just then, a sergeant came by and banged on the door shouting, 'Come out of there!' I thought, 'No, I don't think I will!'

"That sergeant changed my

life. National Service was a unique experience for me and very important, for I wrote my first novel about it. If I had stayed in the Army, I don't think I'd have been a very good soldier, for I enjoyed the camaraderie but was bored to tears by the work."

To avoid the boredom, Thomas volunteered for a gruesome job known as Death Cases, which involved winding-up the accounts of Servicemen who had been killed on active service while fighting in Malaya.

"It made you realise how safe you were serving in Singapore when you heard of an action in Malaya in which six or eight young men of your own age were killed.

"It happened more than once and I used to get their paybooks to deal with. A soldier in those days wasn't supposed to carry his paybook on active service, but some did. One Royal West Kent soldier's bloodstained paybook had a bullet hole right through it. I based a scene in the film *Virgin Soldiers* on it.

"I've been out to Malaya many times since and seen the memorial to the soldiers who died there between 1948 to 1960. All of us reluctant soldiers had played some part in the victory. It was a National Servicemen's war. It was unbelievable. I saw more at 18 than most people see in their entire lives."

What prompted him to write *Virgin Soldiers*?

"I don't know. Despite all

the things that happened to me, it never occurred to me to put it on paper – not for ten years. I had already written one non-fiction book – *This Time Next Week* – which described my days in a Barnardo's Home, and I was working on the *Evening News* in London.

"What amazed me was how many young men did National Service – more than two million – and really only my book came out of it as the archetypal National Service book. I always wonder why no one else thought of writing it. I get manuscripts every week about it, but it's too late now.

"Some years ago I interviewed Fd Marshal Sir John Harding. He was GOC in Malaya when I was there. He assumed that because I wore a collar and tie and arrived by taxi I had to be an officer. He was very nice and said, 'Well, what mob did you have?' I replied: 'Actually, they had me!'

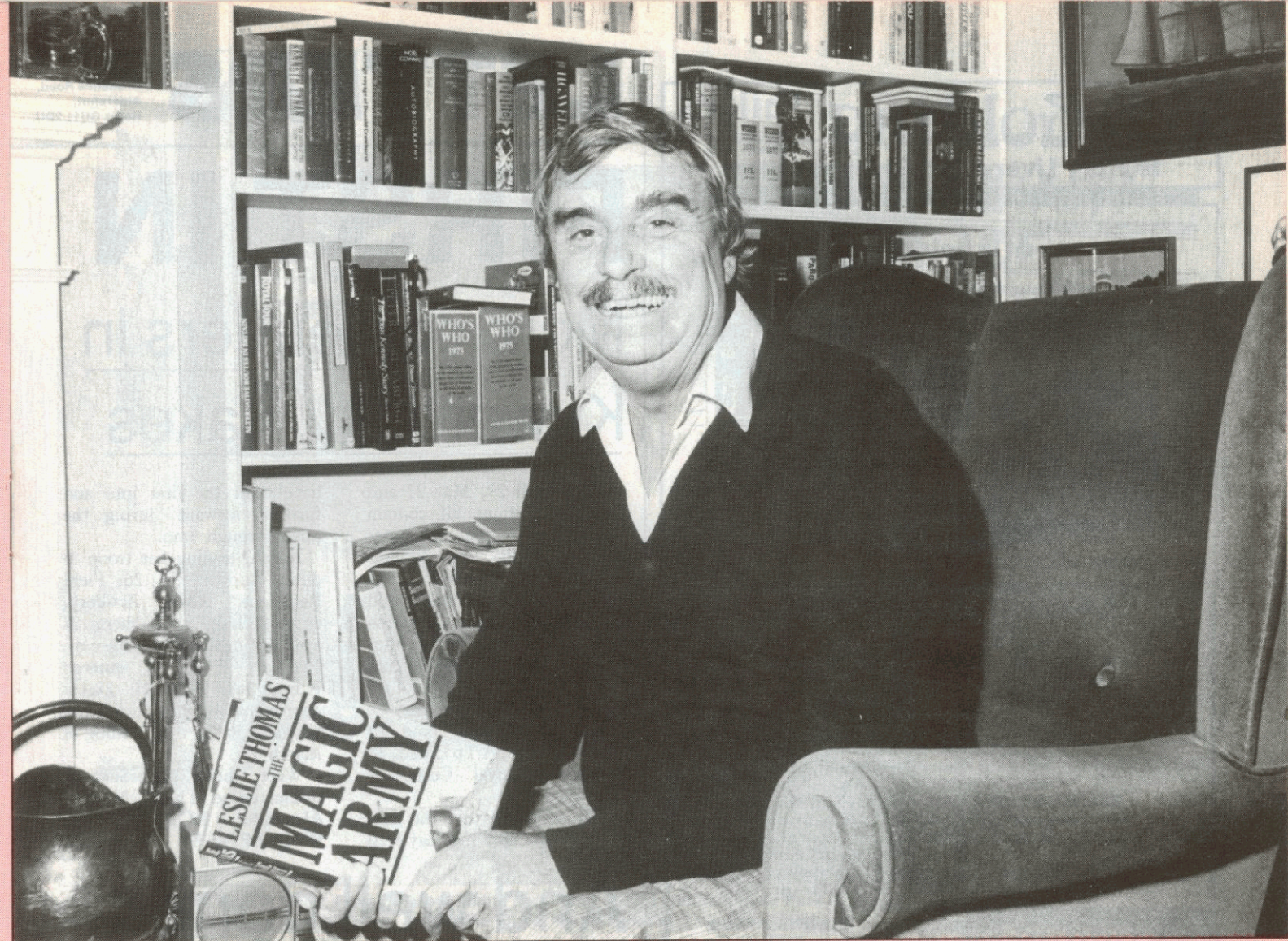
"He had once reviewed the King's Birthday Parade in Singapore. It was stinking hot and we were all lined up.

"Just as he came along with our commanding officer and the RSM, a wasp settled on my nose. As we Presented Arms, it flew straight up my nose and I just stood there with it buzzing away in my nostril.

"Harding looked at me, looked closer and then this wasp flew out. He just said 'Good God!' and walked on.

"Do you know, all those years later, he remembered the wasp, but not me."

Thomas came under fire several times when he went up country – twice from his own side.



"There were lots of Communist bandits in the area and we were green as hell so they took us by sea on landing barges. It felt very war-like wading ashore holding rifles over our heads. It saved us travelling by road and being ambushed.

"We used to go out on screening patrols. Two Malaysian soldiers looked on me as their lucky charm, so whenever they could they would attach themselves to me. They used to come with me to collect the mail.

"I thought they were experienced and knew the jungle. They weren't. They were very frightened and lay in the bottom of the truck.

"Once, going across a swamp, there was firing at the front and we all threw ourselves to the ground. The two Malays lay alongside, reaching out and touching me, muttering, 'Mati, mati!' – Dead, dead! It turned out to be a negligent discharge."

Thomas had a lucky escape in the second incident when doing a spell of guard duties. His sergeant had cleaned a rifle and pulled the trigger by mistake. The bullet missed his head by inches.

"He stood there absolutely transfixed and I can still remember the RSM rushing in and asking if I heard a shot. I thought, if I say yes, this guy will be court martialled and if I say no, then I'm in bother, so I said, 'I've just been round the

was always an armoured car on the back of the train, but frankly it was useless. You couldn't see a thing. There was always a little engine in the front, a pilot train, and twice ours came off the line.

"Once, I was travelling down

'I thought I was going to be God's gift to the Army and actually wrote to the War Office to tell them I was coming'

perimeter Sir', which was no answer at all.

"Years later the guy who fired that round had the bloody cheek to ring Columbia Pictures when the film of *Virgin Soldiers* was released and demand tickets for the premiere, claiming the hero, Sgt Driscoll, was based on himself. He was not!"

Thomas described the experience of travelling by rail in Malaya as "very nasty". He used the train when visiting units up country to check accounts or to go on leave in Penang.

"You were helpless. The bandits used to lie on the trackside and fire at you. There

on the train when it was ambushed. There was a Chinese woman in my compartment and her baby had its foot shot off. There was blood everywhere.

"There were lots of incidents like that. It was the danger time. A place called Tanjong Malim was absolutely notorious. The pilot engine had been derailed so we knew there were bandits in the area. Four of us actually got out of the train and went down the embankment to the village coffee shop.

"It was midnight when we walked in to find all these guys sitting around the walls staring at us as we came in! We must

have been so stupid, it's unbelievable.

"After a drink, we trooped back to the train. I always break out in a cold sweat when I think of it. The place was full of Communist bandits.

"Singapore was very safe in comparison. The only scare in Singapore while I was there came when a tiger swam the Straits of Johore. The RAF bombed the jungle where they thought the Communists were and this tiger swam the two or three mile straits to escape the explosions.

"The poor thing ended up inside the RAF camp at Changi. It may have been looking for the pilots who bombed it.

"The consternation it caused was considerable. Somebody shot it, eventually.

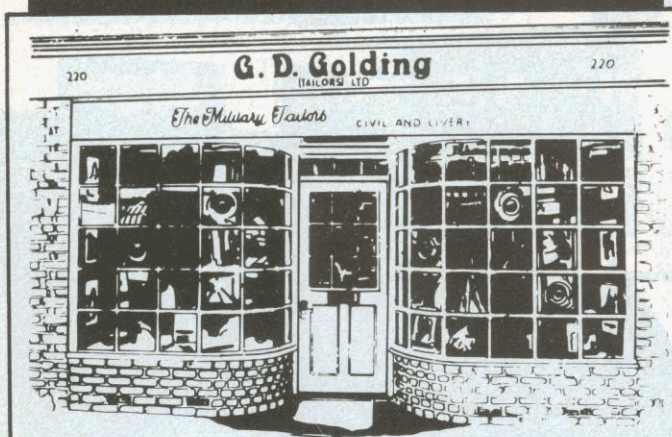
"It proved one of the great crossroads of my life. If I had stayed in the Orderly Room at Whitchurch, I certainly wouldn't have written *The Virgin Soldiers*."

Had he ever thought of writing a book about today's British Army?

"Yes, I have. I even had a title for it, but I think you would have to be in the Army now to do it."

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LETTERS

FIRST IN

More contenders in Kuwait City stakes

YOUR April 29, May 27 and June 24 editions all contain reference to the question: "Who was the first Servicewoman to enter Kuwait City?" and Maj Howe, 1st Armoured Division, has asked through your letters pages for further information of WRAC in Iraq and Kuwait.

He and your readers may be interested to know about Lt Karen Perkins, A Tp Comd, 38 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport.

While perhaps not the first into Kuwait City she may well

have been the first into and furthest forward during the push through Iraq.

Karen, leading her troop in direct support of 26 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, entered Iraq with them at approximately 1400 on February 24. She entered Kuwait on February 28 at approximately 1900 and Kuwait City on the morning of March 2.

Were there any Servicewomen ahead of her? - Maj I C Alexander, RCT, 38 Sqn RCT, BFPO 34.

And well done Workshop Main

FURTHER to your recent article and letters regarding Servicewomen on Operation Granby, I would like to mention LCpl Tracy Morton, part of the RAOC Stores Section attached to 23 Engineer Regiment Workshop.

LCpl Morton deployed on December 30, 1990 with the Wksp Main, which deployed into the desert a few days later.

For the next 11 weeks she lived and worked alongside the other 40 members of Wksp Main, located with the Regimental A2 Echelon in the 4th Armoured Brigade Admin Area.

During that time she worked as a supply controller but also

did an equal share of the other routine duties.

Workshop Main crossed into Iraq as part of the BAA convoy on the evening of February 25, 1991.

LCpl Morton accompanied the workshop through Iraq and into Kuwait doing a very creditable job right up until 23 Engineer Regiment's departure from theatre at the end of March.

I would also like to congratulate all the members of the workshop, who came from far and wide and remain unsung heroes, for a job well done. - Lt D Bedding, Wksp 2iC, 23 Engr Regt Wksp, REME, BFPO 36.

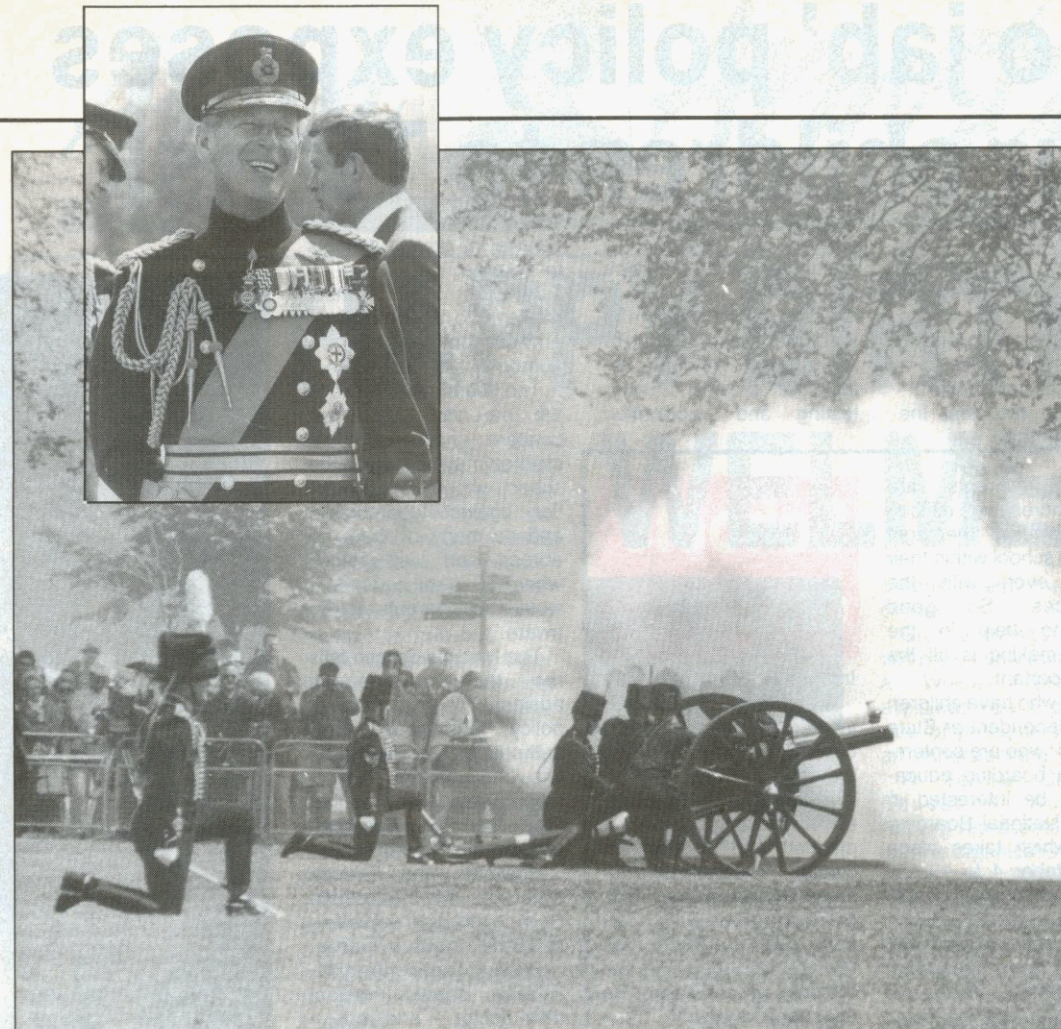
Poppy Appeal plea

CONGRATULATIONS on your well-written article on the Royal British Legion Village (May 27). However, may I point out an omission - The Poppy Appeal. Our building stands right at the front of the Disabled Men's Industries so

you can't miss us.

We help more than 100,000 ex-Service personnel every year. Please remember us and help us help all those who need us. - Mrs Patricia Cox, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent.

Write to:
SOLDIER,
Ordnance Road,
Aldershot,
Hants GU11 2DU.



Above: Men of The King's Troop, Royal Artillery taking part in the 41-gun salute in Hyde Park to mark the Duke of Edinburgh's 70th birthday. Inset: The Duke in the uniform of a field marshal

Gunners' call

THE Queen launched the Royal Artillery Heritage Appeal on June 10 when she and the Duke of Edinburgh attended a Royal Salute in Hyde Park.

The salute was fired by the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery in honour of Prince Philip's 70th birthday. Afterwards the royal party attended a reception to mark the

beginning of the appeal to provide a new home for the Gunner Heritage.

It is planned to bring together the magnificent historical artifacts and equipment of the Royal Artillery into one place at Larkhill, close to the ancient and much-visited monument of Stonehenge.

There are more than a million ex-gunners in the United Kingdom and we need all their help to raise £15 million and spread the word about the appeal nationwide.

Meanwhile, they should send any donations to the Royal Artillery Heritage Appeal, RA Barracks, Woolwich SE18 4BH. - Gen Sir Martin Farndale, Master Gunner, St James's Park.

Postings galore

AS I now enter my 29th year of service, I wonder if I have created some sort of record with the number of units to which I have been posted and countries in which I have served.

I am now on my 18th posting (attachments not included) and have worked in 22 countries. Life in the Armourer's Shop has always been an adventure but as the world seems to be getting smaller perhaps it will soon be time to call it a day.

For those of your readers who like to be bored by facts and figures, here is a complete list of my postings and the locations in which I have

served:

Postings: 7 Armd Workshops REME, 1 Div RE, QRIH, 3 Royal Green Jackets, 22 SAS, 5 Lt Regt RA, 32 Lt Regt RA, Royal School of Artillery, 4 Div HQ and Signal Regt, 50 Hong Kong Workshops, 10th PMO Gurkha Rifles, KOSB, 10th PMO Gurkha Rifles (again), 2 Coldstream Guards, 1 Coldstream Guards, Ops Wing Close Protection Unit RMP, 2 Royal Green Jackets, Jnr Ldrs Regt RAC.

Locations: UK, Northern Ireland, BAOR, Cyprus, Libya, Canada, Beirut, Oman, Hong Kong, Brunei, Uganda, Sudan, Kenya, Brazil, Uruguay, Honduras, Mexico, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile.

Any takers for postings or countries?

Finally, thanks to Auntie Records for a fine old time. - SSgt B Newman, Regimental Armourer, Junior Leaders Regiment RAC, Bovington Camp, Dorset.

DIARY OF EVENTS

July 6: Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot families' and open day, 11am.

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

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

August 1-24: Edinburgh Tattoo.

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

September 27: Final "Lest We Forget" annual Service charity presentation by Seaside Entertainment Appreciation Society, Carlton Hotel, North Promenade, Blackpool. (Hon Sec SEAS, 45 Gateside Drive, Layton, Blackpool FY3 7PN).

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

REUNIONS

● **Trucial Oman Scouts:** Reunion London, October 26. Details from T J Ward, 44 Weller Avenue, Rochester, Kent ME1 2LG (tel: 0634 404528).

● **Rocket Troop:** O Battery, the Rocket Troop reunion will take place on November 2 in Manchester. For details contact WO2 (SMIG) Pals (Titch), RAGTE, BFPO 30.

SEARCHLINE

● **Family history:** Mr J King, of 249 Roberts Street, Grimsby, seeks further information about his uncle, Pte Perkins, who enlisted in Grimsby and died in Lucknow, India, in the early 1900s, and about his regiment, the 14th King's Hussars.

● **Tournament video:** Mr Terry Moody, 2 Stoneleigh Court, Paddock Hill, Frimley, Surrey GU16 5XH, wishes to borrow a video of the 100th Royal Tournament (1990).

Old Naafi's now a mosque

I RECENTLY returned to Malaysia to look over places where I did my National Service. In Kuala Lumpur I noticed a mosque on the site of

the old Naafi Galloway Club. Can anyone throw any light on what happened to the club visitors' book? - V Fletcher, Manchester.

A time for action

IT was late in the evening when my phone rang. "Anne, can you help," pleaded the caller.

"We are being evicted from our quarter at the end of the month. They have said we will be put into bed-and-breakfast accommodation and must get rid of our ten-year-old dog."

Another caller, due to leave the Army in August, told me that a change in her local authority's housing policy had forced her family off the list. For civilians a residence qualification was sufficient, but Service families now had to prove that husband or wife had been born in the area.

Question

Both people wanted an answer to the same desperate question: "What can we do?"

When it comes to housing I sometimes think our Service families fall into the same category as refugees, migrant workers and those seeking political asylum!

It is a problem I have been writing about for years, yet it affected a relatively small number of people. Now, with Options for Change looming large, several thousands could be searching for a roof over their heads.

Appalling

What I find appalling is that one council could change its housing policy so soon after the Defence Secretary's announcement that the Army would be trimmed to 116,000. Will local authority policy-makers panic as they contemplate a flood of homeless ex-Service families?

Our families now face a chronic resettlement problem. Every option to help them must be vigorously pursued. All I can do is join with those voices on my telephone and shout: "Help!"

'No jab' policy exposes our children to TB risk

A PARENT based overseas tells me that her daughter's boarding school in Berkshire is having difficulty arranging for the child to be given a tuberculosis vaccination – despite the fact that the

parents are serving in a region for which TB jabs are advised.

The school's problem is that the East Berkshire Area Health Authority refuses to provide a skin-testing and vaccination

service for private schools in its area.

Although the school offered to negotiate a private contract with the authority, this was rejected.

The headmaster wrote to the parents: "My main concern now is that children may be leaving the school without any protection against tuberculosis, and so many of them go abroad and visit places where TB is still common, I would like parents to be aware."

The Medical Branch tells me that vaccinations against TB are national policy, but some local authorities do not follow the line because the risk of tuberculosis is so low that they feel a widespread programme is not viable.

However, the Branch says it will vaccinate Service children travelling to TB-risk areas overseas. Parents experiencing difficulties should contact their doctor – and me.

★ ★ ★

Two boarding schools, St Brandon's in Clevedon and Hunmanby Hall in Filey, North Yorkshire are to close at the end of the summer term.

SERVICE parents are facing increasing difficulties in finding the right boarding school within their means, even with the allowances. So good advice to help in the decision-making is all the more important.

Those who have children at an independent or State school, or who are contemplating a boarding education, will be interested in the first National Boarding Week, which takes place from October 4 to 13.

During the week more than 800 independent and State boarding schools will open their doors to parents, the Press, employers, businesses and local communities.

Partly coinciding with this, from October 11 to 13, is a national exhibition at the Business Design Centre, Islington, organised by the Independent Schools

Schools' choice

Information Service.

More than 15,000 Service children board at one or other of the 750 ISIS member schools.

Information and advice about boarding both in the private and maintained sectors is available (for those overseas) from ISIS, 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AG (tel: 071-630 8790) or (in the regions) by consulting the telephone directory.

For maintained boarding schools, the person to contact is The Director, The Clearing House, Maintained Boarding Schools, 75a Claypath, Durham (tel: 091-384 2783).

Pupils better protected

WELCOME measures to improve protection for independent school pupils came into force on May 15.

In each recent court case involving child abuse in boarding schools, those schools have had Service children among their pupils.

From now on independent school proprietors must report any member of staff who is dismissed, or considered for dismissal had he not resigned.

On application, and annually, proprietors are also required to provide particulars of all staff – not just those who teach. This will help Service parents not able to maintain close ties with schools.

The new regulations give the authorities a sounder basis for monitoring pupil welfare.

Gulf Trust funds will meet needs

STORIES that Gulf Trust money totalling £2.5m would be "hived off" into other Service charity funds has left next-of-kin confused. They need not worry.

The original terms of the Trust stated quite clearly that donations would be passed to the three charitable Service benevolent funds to meet the needs of soldiers, sailors and airmen and their

dependants who suffered as a result of hostilities in the Gulf.

When I asked the MoD to clarify the position I was told: "If next-of-kin have a need, now or in the future, they should contact their regimental headquarters, either direct or through their casualty visiting officers."

"RHQs are well versed in the Army Benevolent Fund procedures for

assessing need and making recommendations for payments to alleviate it."

The Director of the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, Brig Tony Dixon, told me: "The terms of the Gulf Trust recognise that not all the casualties of the campaign in the Gulf will necessarily be revealed in the immediate aftermath of war, and provision must be made for those whose need may not be identified for several years."

It should be remembered that the Gulf Trust was not set up to provide compensation for loss or injury. Payment of compensation is a totally separate subject.

Next-of-kin who feel they have a claim for compensation from MoD based on negligence should take the matter up with the MoD.

Baby-sitting advice

Question: We are due to return to the UK and I may have to work evenings. What are the rules about baby-sitting if my husband cannot be home?

Answer: Contact Social

Services and local authority for guidance. They will have a register of approved childminders. The Army Families Advice Bureau information sheet dated May 1991 gives guidance on the rules.

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone: Camberley (0276) 29653

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, WELMET ...

OVERSEAS-based Service parents with children in boarding schools in the United Kingdom well know the worry of aircraft delays and diversions, bad weather and motorway jams on the very day their offspring are due to travel.

Not to mention the other little "snags" – such as lost tickets, missing luggage and travel sickness.

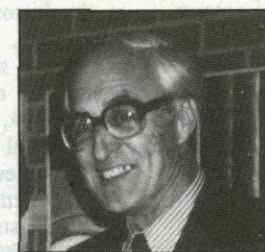
Ten years ago Diane and Michael Barkham (late RWF) were asked by Service friends to meet their children and take them to an airport.

The idea for Welmet was born – and flourished after publicity in SOLDIER and on BFBS. Soon there were ten escorts and 81 children involved.

Ten years on, 800 children benefit from the dedication of 200 Welmet escorts.

Long hours, cold stations, occasionally difficult children – the escorts put up with them all.

All the escorts are strictly vetted before being accepted, Diane told me.



Michael Barkham

Deirdre joined seven years ago when her son, now 16, was a Welmet child. At the beginning and end of holidays she puts in tremendously long hours. Not so long ago she started a day at 5am and signed off at 1.30am at Heathrow.

Carole and Ray Bradbury are Welmet escorts. A number of fathers help when needed.

Elizabeth Howard and Sheila Ford explained that Welmet tries, where possible, to ensure the same

escorts meet the same children.

Glyn, a college student, told me proudly that he was a Welmet child and explained how important it was for youngsters to have an understanding escort.

A Service Children's Education Authority (SCEA) representative told me the organisation sometimes uses Welmet and had never been let down.

Sometimes parents have been known to get it wrong, leaving the child high and dry at a boarding school waiting to close its doors at the end of term.

A tearful mother contacted SCEA from Cyprus to explain that father was on exercise and the proper forms hadn't been filled in, so stranding their son at his school in the UK.

SCEA contacted a Welmet escort who promptly collected the bewildered

youngster from school, put him up for the night (a common occurrence) and, with the help of the Services Booking Centre, soon had him on his way to grateful parents in Cyprus.

"The safety of the child and peace of mind for parents is paramount," Diane told me.

And to celebrate the ten-year landmark, Welmet held a birthday party at St John's College in Wimbledon. The cake was in the shape of a suitcase!

● A plea to the Inland Revenue. When Welmet buys a rail ticket for a child 17 per cent VAT is added to the cost. It is just another expense – and inconvenience – for parents stationed overseas who are unable to buy the ticket themselves, thus avoiding the VAT. Welmet's representations have fallen on deaf ears.

Welmet founder Diane Barkham (left) celebrates with helpers

... AND MANY MORE SAFE RETURNS!

Treating Cpl X like a civilian

WHEN I asked Defence Secretary Tom King at the Adjutant General's Conference about the difficulties facing the three Grenadier Guardsmen injured on exercise in Canada it indirectly brought a further case to my attention.

Another person present at the conference suggested to Cpl X of the TA that he should contact me regarding his own injury, received on an exercise in the UK over a year ago.

Cpl X explained that as a result of that injury he had lost his job, the mortgage company was foreclosing on his house and the bank was calling in the loan.

I hope my taking up of his case will result in the necessary action to resolve his problems.

TA regulations on the reporting of incidents which may give rise to a claim – the strict procedure is set out in TAVR Unit Command Part 13 (Third Party Claims) – differ from those applying to Regular personnel, who have to prove a case of negligence.

One question which arises in the case of an injured TA soldier is whether National Health or Service hospitals are responsible for the continuing medical treatment. Cpl X has been told by the NHS

TA injury cost him everything

that there is a two-year waiting list for the operation he needs and that he should be treated in a military hospital; the military hospital considers him to be a civilian. The position of non-Regulars needs clarifying.

As the onus is on both Regular and TA personnel to bring their own case for compensation I would suggest that they need

help and advice from one of the Service charities and that those personnel, relatives, dependants or next of kin should be aware that such help is available.

The industrial injuries procedure is well-known to many civilians, but not so widely-known are the problems faced by Service and TA personnel, with their different rules and regulations for claiming compensation.

I know of other Service personnel awaiting compensation. Some do not realise that if there is a long wait, an interim award can be made, but only if sought.

I do urge everyone to

consider the Services' personal accident insurance scheme, PAX, or the new scheme for the Reserves and civilians who work with them, PAR.

That immediate financial help is at hand for a unit price per month of £1.65, or £2.90 to cover Reservist, spouse and children. Those with hazardous exposure pay a higher premium.

Don't fall into the old "it will never happen to me" trap. Write to me and I'll send you a new PAR information leaflet. And if anyone else is having similar difficulties, contact me in confidence.

Options overtake a volume of fact

BATTLE TEAM

SAD irony about the latest, and arguably the best, reference work on British regiments and corps is that impending changes mean it will soon be out of date.

But all such books have a built-in obsolescence and this inherent weakness should not detract from the value of Ian S Hallows's excellent *Regiments and Corps of the British Army*.

In one volume, regimental structure and traditions are examined in detail, including all pre-1991 amalgamations and disbandments, and there is a guide to battle honours, campaigns, music, headquarters, memorials and much more.

Opening the book at random at the pages devoted to the Corps of Royal Engineers, one is able to glean at a glance from its readable presentation a

wealth of fascinating detail.

Set out clearly and concisely under the first heading are the corps history, mottoes, headquarters address, recruitment area (in this case, nationwide), and famous former members, Gordon and Kitchener among them.

Other headings cover awards, dress, the Corps quick-march (*Wings*), alliances with foreign corps, affiliated regiment (The Queen's Gurkha Engineers), journals, museum address and opening times, record office address, and a bibliography of corps histories.

The pattern is repeated for every regiment and corps, with some inevitably claiming larger chunks of the book than others. The Light Infantry, for example, runs to ten pages, with its huge lists of emblazoned and accredited battle

honours and entries devoted to its predecessors.

Time charts setting out the raising of regiments and corps and the wars and campaigns they conducted up to the Falklands 1982 are a useful aid to the historian.

So, too, are the chapters devoted to the chronology and geography of battle honours, 1662-1914, and to an alphabetical list of regimental anniversaries.

Final mention must go to the book's lists of regimental amalgamations and disbandments - a catalogue in need of expansion in the event (more likely than not, one would hope) of a second edition. - CH

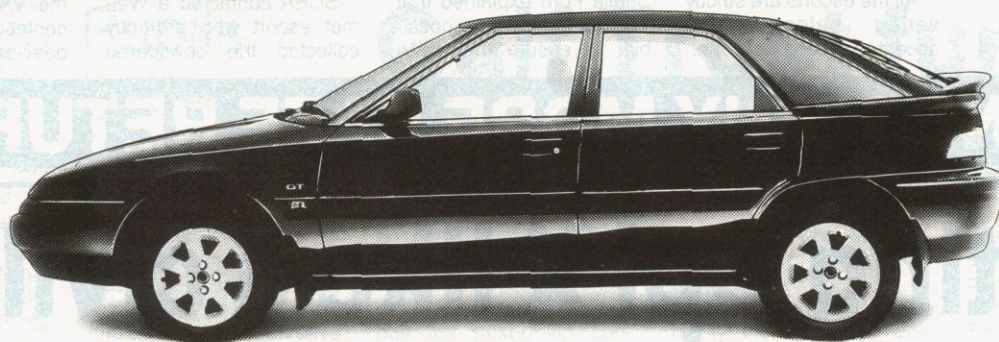
Regiments and Corps of the British Army by Ian S Hallows. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £19.95.

IN PSN's review of *Great Battles of the British Army as Commemorated in the Sandhurst Companies* (June 10), several lines were inadvertently omitted from the text. The two paragraphs affected should have read:

"The original idea emanated in 1983 from the late Brig Peter Young, a former head of the Department of War Studies at RMAS and a colleague of David Chandler, the current director, who has gathered a team to produce this imaginative book, acted as editor-in-chief and written two of the 17 chapters.

"The 'fairly formidable' team of military contributors, as Chandler calls them, includes Fd Marshal Carver (called John instead of Michael in a caption) and Gens Hackett, Jackson, Fraser, Farrar-Hockley and Farndale. The academic expertise includes the late Antony Brett-James and Drs Grey, Pimlott and Holmes among others."

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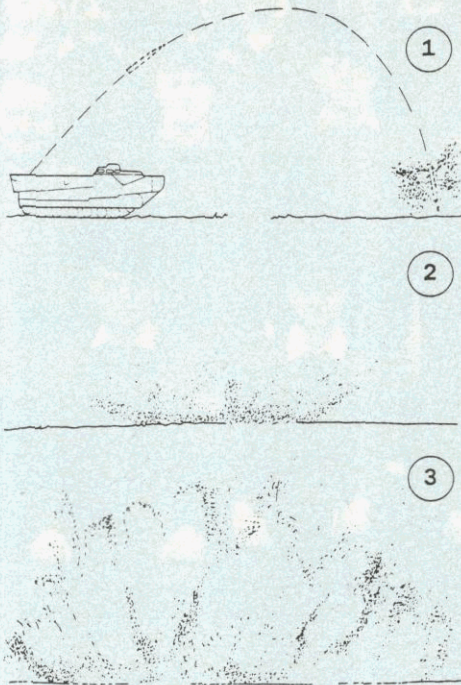
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A bleak prospect for tanks

HOW FAEs WORK

1. The launch vehicle fires the FAE (Fuel Air Explosive) rocket, which has an airburst fuze, often in the form of a mechanical probe. This sets off the bursting charge when the rocket reaches a set height.
2. The bursting charge disperses the fuel into an aerosol cloud.
3. Delayed action detonator charges then detonate the cloud, producing a massive overpressure



An example of an FAE is SLUFAE (Surface-Launched Unit FAE), a 30-barrelled multiple rocket launcher that fires Zuni rockets, each weighing 59kg, to a maximum range of 1000m. Each warhead contains 38.5kg of liquid propylene oxide and the explosion of all 30 warheads produces a 300m, 90kg/cm³ overpressure

How Fuel Air Explosive rockets work. One of the excellent illustrations from *The Ultimate Weaponry*

IN BRIEF

The Art of Blitzkrieg by Charles Messenger. Second edition of the 1976 tour de force by the former Royal Tank Regiment officer, given added significance by the Gulf War, although prepared too early to take it into account. Published by Ian Allan. Price £16.95.

Born of the Desert: With the SAS in North Africa by Malcolm James. The author, an Army doctor with this fledgling force in 1942-43, has added a postscript and 16 pages of photographs to this hardback re-issue of his original edition, published in 1945. Published by Greenhill Books. Price £14.95.

SAS: Phantoms of the Jungle by David Horner. A thoroughly-researched, 527-page history of the Australian Special Air Service, revealing its involvement in Borneo and Vietnam and various activities since those days. Published by Greenhill Books. Price £19.95.

The American Soldier by Philip Katcher. Colourfully-illustrated, coffee-table style book which looks at US army history from 1755 to the present, with special appeal for uniform buffs. Published by Osprey. Price £14.95.

Low Intensity Operations by Gen Sir Frank Kitson. New paperback edition of the acclaimed analysis of subversion, insurgency and peacekeeping first published in 1971, with a new

preface by the author, a former Commander-in-Chief UK Land Forces. Published by Faber and Faber. Price £6.99.

The Anti-Terrorism Handbook by Karl A Seger. This American expert's "practical guide to counteraction planning and operations for individuals, corporations and government" will also interest the military student. Published by Presidio Press in the US and distributed by Greenhill Books. Price £13.95.

Banzai, You Bastards! by Jack Edwards. Named after the cry with which prisoners taunted their captors during US air raids, this autobiographical accounts tells of the appalling suffering but indomitable spirit of Japanese prisoners of war in Taiwan. Published by Souvenir Press. Price £18.50.

Soviet Military Art in a Time of Change by Robert Hall. Well-informed study of the Soviet command and control system, still relevant despite the many developments since the book's completion. Published by Brassey's (UK). Price £22.50.

The Last Prussian by Charles Messenger. Biography of Fd Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, doyen of the Prussian Officer Corps and the man responsible for the loyalty of most of his generals to the bitter end. Published by Brassey's. Price £19.95.

"IN the two decades since 1970 there has been a quiet and largely unnoticed revolution in the technological resources that soldiers – from generals right down to the poor bloody infantry – have on hand for fighting their battles."

So writes John Pimlott in a new book, *The Ultimate Weaponry*, which describes state-of-the-art killing inventions and provides some crystal gazing of the foreseeable future: weapons which are already feasible, such as the railgun and particle beam "death rays".

John Pimlott, the general editor of this book, is Deputy Head of the Department of War Studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

The authors of specialised chapters include Paddy Griffith, a past lecturer at Sandhurst and contributing member of the European Security Study of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which has investigated ways of strengthening conventional deterrence; Maj Hugh McManners, who was a forward artillery observer in the Falklands; and Antony Robinson, an aviation specialist formerly on the staff of the RAF Museum Hendon and now at Janes the publishers.

The contents live up to all the expectations that an expert team will inspire: analytical chapters examining the varied aspects of today's and tomorrow's tactical problems including the air war, the use of helicopters, artillery, combat engineering, and the hang-ups caused by casualties and refugees.

Important questions concerning the Army are posed. For instance, is the infantry "dead on its feet"? It could be

reasoned in the affirmative and this argument is itemised.

Then again, the mobility aspect is a powerful one and we are presented with reasons why the infantrymen will continue to be the fundament of any army in the foreseeable future.

But what of the tank? With a bewildering range of anti-tank weapons the AFV can be as vulnerable as any soft-skinned vehicle, and a constantly-improving armour and sophisticated fire suppression systems have made the prospects for the tank's future into a race between weapons and protection.

On the other hand, it has surely been thus since tanks first took to the battlefield at Cambrai on September 15, 1916.

It is the area of electronics over which the biggest question mark hangs: "... perhaps the major question is whether or not tactical radio communications will be possible at all in the face of massive jamming.

"If they ultimately turn out not to be, then almost the whole theoretical basis of modern tactics will be swept away at a stroke."

The Ultimate Weaponry, despite the deadly importance of its subject, is not a dry academic work. It abounds with lavish colour illustrations and boxed-in sections which concisely sum up the vital arguments for and against specific weapons and arms of service.

It spells out how military hardware is currently employed and would be used.

As General Sir John Hackett writes in his foreword: "Conflict will not cease ... and improvement in warlike techniques will continue to be sought." – BJ

The Ultimate Weaponry. Published by Sidgwick and Jackson. Price, hardback, £25.



Shetland sentinel stands down

After 30 years of electronic vigilance in defence of the United Kingdom, the Nato forward scatter station at Mossy Hill on Shetland has closed. The Royal Signals-manned establishment was formed in the late 1950s as part of a backbone of communications stretching from Norway, through the UK and Europe as far as Turkey and Cyprus. The Ace High system utilised "over the

horizon" techniques such as "tropospheric scatter" to link Norway to mainland Scotland. After a formal switching-off ceremony, Commander 2 Signal brigade, Brig Colin Brown began the demolition of the site by swinging the first hammer. Pictured at Mossy Hill are OC, Capt David Tarrant (third left, front row) and his communications detachment.

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The pictures below differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer or win a new book. Just circle the differences in the right hand picture, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 516, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU by July 26. Do not include anything else in your envelope.

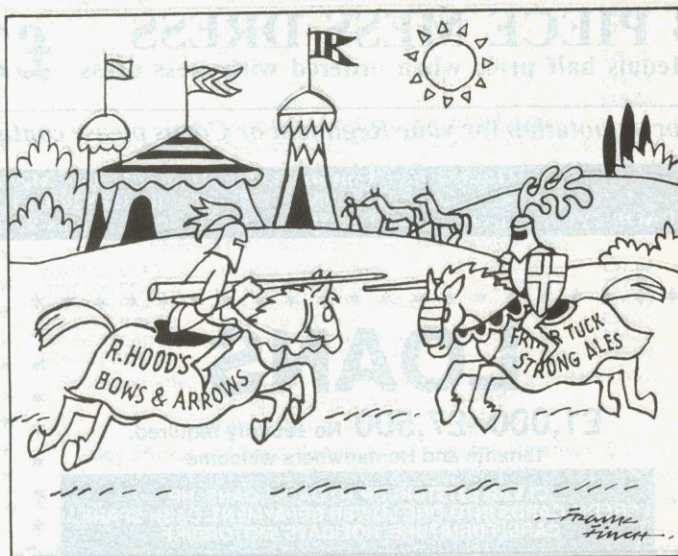
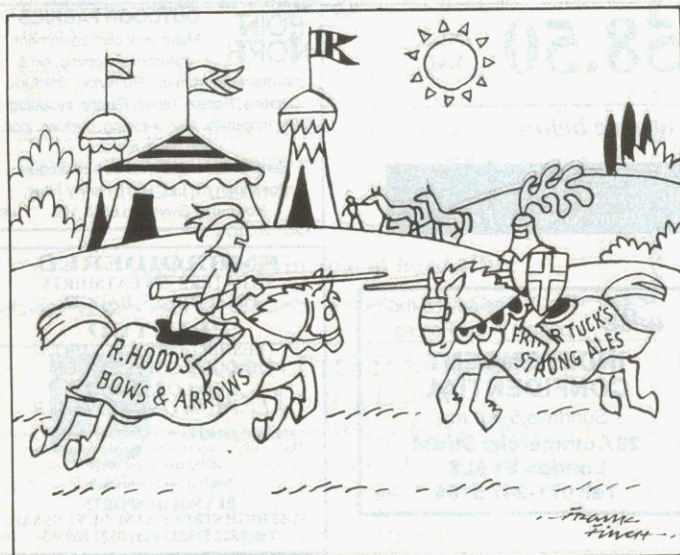
More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

The first correct entries drawn will be the winners. No correspondence can be entered into.

The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up will be announced in the August 19 issue.

Name: (Give rank or title)

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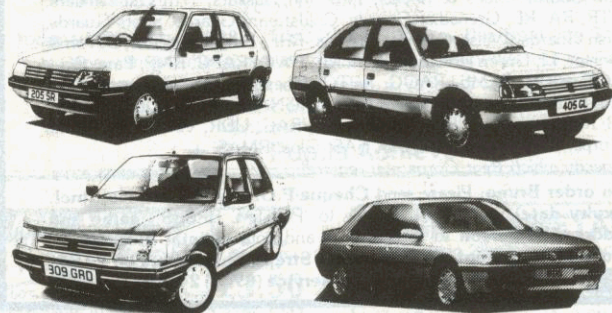


Competition No 513:
Congratulations to Miss E A Milne, of Almeria, Spain, who wins the £50 first prize. Book prizes go to runners-up SSgt D B Hickinbottom, of 222 (EM) Fd Amb, Leicester, and Mrs M J Carrick, of MoD ASCB, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot.

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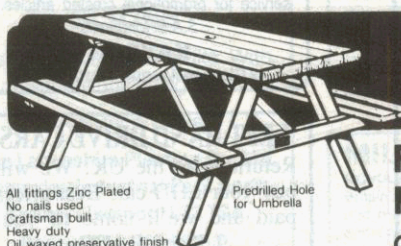
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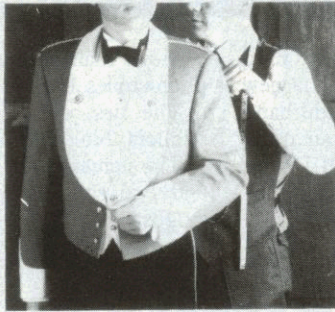
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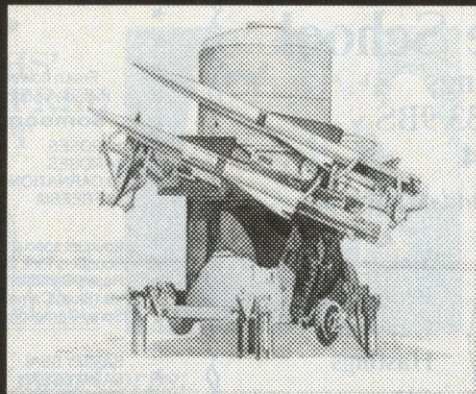
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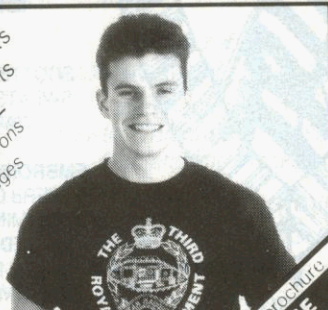
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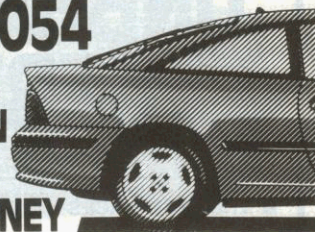
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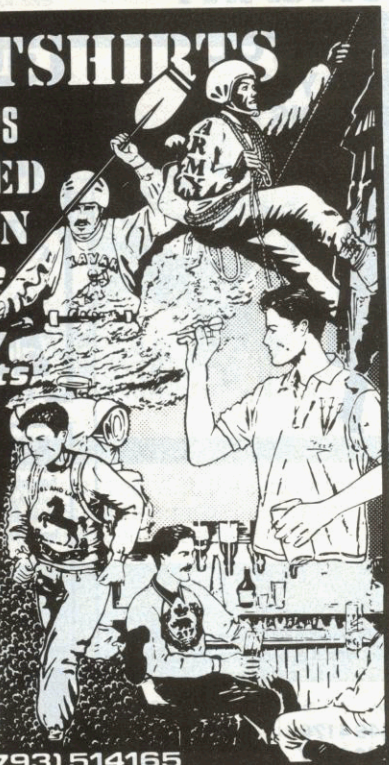
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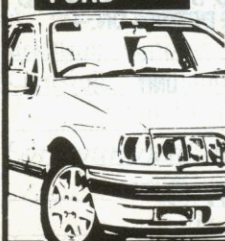
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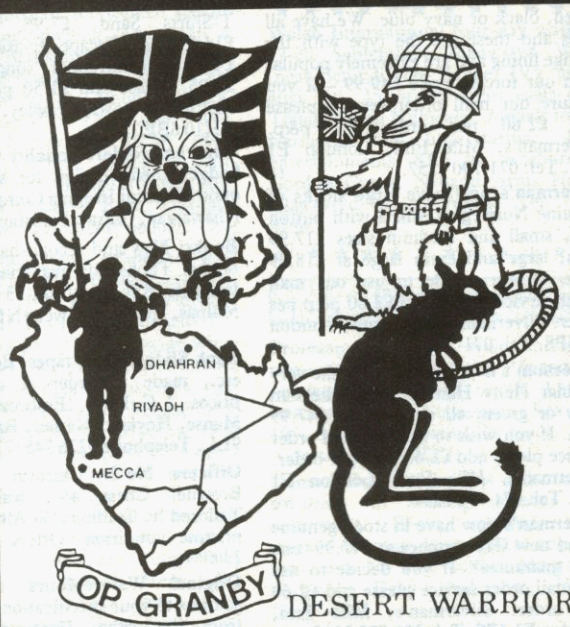
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Openers in great form at Arundel

COMBINED Services romped to an eight-wicket win over Lavinia, the Duchess of Norfolk's XI in a one-day match at Arundel, and the man they had to thank was opener 2nd Lt Richard Greator (27 Regt RCT).

He went on to a fine 102 after an opening partnership of 50 with Army skipper Capt Jimmy Cotterill (JLRR).

The Duchess's XI, led by former Sussex skipper John Barclay, declared at 211 for eight after 66 overs, but that was never enough once Greator and the RAF's SAC Adrian Jones (52 not out) got going. They put on 105 and the Services ended on 212 for two in 40 overs.

It was Greator's second hundred in representative games this summer. He scored an undefeated 106 for the Army against the Arabs at Aldershot earlier in the season.

Cycle festival

The 11th Army cycling festival takes place at Chilwell Station, Nottingham from July 20 to 28. Organised by Military Works Force, the festival will include the Army senior and junior championships, and the inter-Corps and Service events.

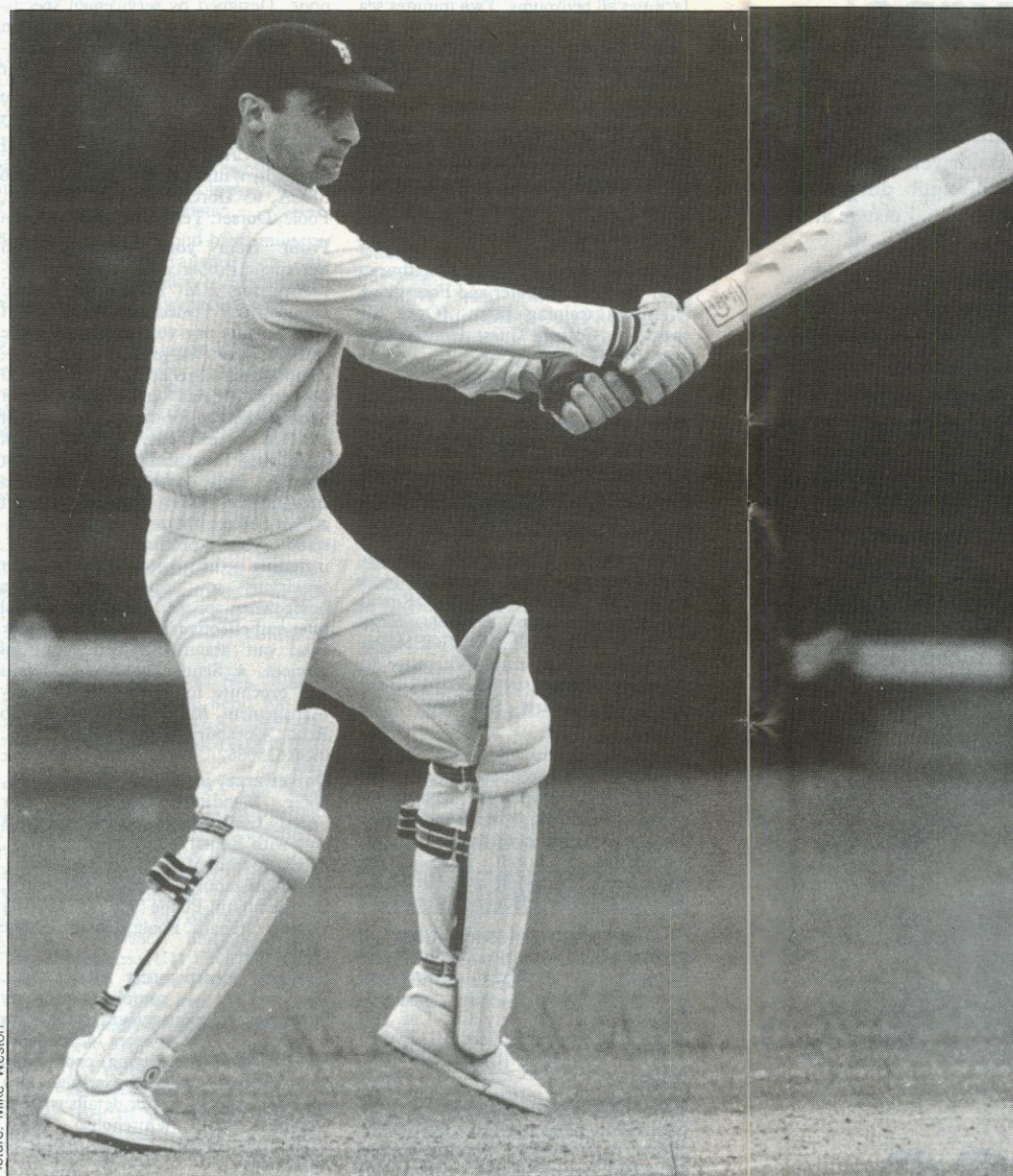
Capt Jimmy Cotterill scored an undefeated 102 for Combined Services in their rain-ruined three-day match against Cambridge University at Fenners.

Replying to the undergraduates' 265 for five declared (2nd Lt Richard Greator 2-15), Services were struggling at 38 for three before Cotterill and SAC Adrian Jones (102 not out) put on 210 for their unbeaten fourth wicket partnership. Greator opened and was bowled for 16.

The Services declared at 248 for three after 63 overs and Cambridge were 187 for four in their second innings when the rains made further progress impossible.

Northants 2nd XI made fairly short work of the Army in a 55-over match at Aldershot, winning by the large margin of 136 runs. The visitors made 185 for six (Cotterill 2-13) and then bowled the Army out for 49 in 26 overs.

Greator (15) and Lt Simon Hazlett (13) were the only batsmen to reach double figures as the Northants bowlers returned some impressive figures. Roberts wrapped the innings up by taking three wickets in six overs without conceding a run.



Fus Jonathan Jeremias of 2 RRF attacks during the Army Under 25 match against the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. The U-25s scored 247 for eight in 45 overs and RMA's replied with 222 for three



CAPT Alison Brook, RAVC became the first member of the Armed Services for 20 years to qualify for and compete in the Badminton horse trials when she took part in this year's international three-day event.

Capt Brook, pictured in action at Badminton on her horse Kingscourt, is the veterinary officer at RAVC Support Group, Aldershot. She and Kingscourt will be appearing at the Royal Tournament in July and are on a short-list of eight for the British team to compete in the IME international three-day event in Lisbon, Portugal in October.

Harrogate in charge

HARROGATE-based apprentices won the three-man novice event at the Army junior team and individual judo championships at ASPT Aldershot. Princess Marina College, Arborfield were second with JIB Ouston and a second AAC Harrogate team equal third.

Ouston won the five-man open team competition ahead of Harrogate, Arborfield and Chepstow.

Individual champions (novice)
Under 60kg - JLDr Finnegan, Ouston. **U-65kg** - AT Dale, Harrogate. **U-71kg** - AT LCpl Arnold, Harrogate. **U-78kg** - Sig Venables, Harrogate. **O-78kg** - JLDr West, Arborfield.
Open
U-60kg - JLDr Finnegan, Ouston. **U-65kg** - JLDr Johnson, Ouston. **U-71kg** - AT Heal, Chepstow. **U-78kg** - JLDr Booker, Ouston.

Date clash robs Army of stars

A CLASH with the UK closed athletic championships at Cardiff cost the Army most of their stars at the Army individual meeting at Aldershot.

And that, combined with a post-Op Granby drop in entries and two days of cold, blustery weather had Army athletics secretary Maj Morris Murch tearing his hair out.

"We tried for ages to get the dates of the UK championships to avoid a clash, but couldn't," he said.

The result was that the nucleus of the Army team (sprinters Callender and Paul, 400m hurdlers Douglas and Beaumont, and middle distance men Maynard and Overton) ran at Cardiff.

Now Maj Murch has circulated secretaries in the UK and Germany to find out if the timing of the Army individual championships is right, how many days should be set aside for it, and what part of the week would be most attractive to athletes.

One big plus to emerge from the Aldershot meeting was the form of triple jumper Cpl Alvin Walker of REME and serving with 1 Regiment AAC at Hildesheim in Germany.

Walker went over 14m and earned himself instant selection for the Inter-Services at Aldershot on July 3.

RESULTS

SENIOR
100m - 1, Capt Hancock, 1 PWO, 11.1sec; 2, Cpl Henry, 21 Sig Regt, 11.5sec; 3, Cpl Farrell, 21 Sig Regt, 11.6sec. **200m** - 1, Capt Hancock, 1 PWO, 22.5sec; 2, Cpl Walker, 1 Regt AAC, 22.8sec; 3, LCpl Anderson, 13 Sig Regt, 23sec. **400m** - 1, Pte Bulmer, 1 PWO, 50.3sec; 2, Cpl Whatley, 1/3 TRRE, 50.3sec; 3, Pte Robinson, Comms and Sy Gp (UK), 51.8sec.
800m - 1, Sgt Finch, RAPC/1 Staffords, 1min 53.7sec; 2, Pte Robinson, Comms and Sy Gp (UK), 1min 54.5sec; 3, Sig Smith, 21 Sig Regt, 1min 56.3sec. **1500m** - 1, Sgt Finch, RAPC/1 Staffords, 4min 00.6sec; 2, Sgt Freeman, UKLF Sch of P and RT, 4min 01.4sec; 3, Dvr Wadsworth, 1 ADSR, 4min 03.7sec. **5000m** - 1, Maj Grant, HQ UKLF, 14min 33.8sec; 2, Sgt Martin, Sch of Sigs, 14min 52.6sec; 3, Bdr Amell, 7 Para RHA, 14min 58.9sec.

110m hurdles - 1, LCpl Tomkinson, 21 Sig Regt, 15sec; 2, SSgt Killen, 21 Sig Regt, 15.2sec; 3, Cpl Tout, 2 RTR, 16sec. **400m hurdles** - 1, SSgt Killen, 21 Sig Regt, 56.9sec; 2, Sig Rennick, 21 Sig Regt, 57.6sec; 3, Sgt Pittman, 82 Ord Coy, 57.8sec. **3000m steeplechase** - 1, SSgt Dupree, 94 Loc Regt, 9min 23.2sec; 2, LCpl Palmer, 62 Sp Sqn RE, 9min 29.2sec; 3, Sgt Martin, Sch of Sigs, 9min 38.2sec.

Discus - 1, Cpl Tout, 2 RTR, 42.46m; 2, SSgt Killen, 21 Sig Regt, 39.60m; 3, Cpl Dobson, 21 Sig Regt, 38.40m. **Javelin** - 1, Gdsm Rix, 1 IG, 58.9m; 2, Pte Oliver, 90 Ord Coy, 55.9m; 3, Sig Powell, 21 Sig Regt, 54.16m. **Hammer** - 1, Gnr Stirling, 50 Msl Regt, 52.26m; 2, LCpl Jones, 21 Sig Regt, 51.60m; 3, Gdsm O'Connor, 2 Gren Gds, 46.8m. **Shot** - 1, Cpl Tout, 2 RTR, 13.29m; 2, SSgt Killen, 21 Sig Regt, 12.97m; 3, Gnr Stirling, 50 Msl Regt, 11.62m.

High Jump - 1, Cpl McSweeney, 21 Sig Regt, 1.98m; 2, Cpl Wildridge, 17 Port Wksp, 1.93m; 3, Cpl West, 1 Sennelager Tg Gp, 1.80m. **Long Jump** - 1, Cpl McSweeney, 21 Sig Regt, 6.6m; 2, Cpl Hopkinson, Depot Queens Div, 6.55m; 3, Cpl Walker, 1 Regt AAC, 6.50m. **Triple Jump** - 1, Cpl Walker, 1 Regt AAC, 14.10m; 2, Pte Bulmer, 1 PWO, 13.72m; 3, Cpl Hopkinson, Depot Queens Div, 13.38m.

Pole vault - 1, Cpl R Lyons, 1 PWO, 4m; 2, Sgt S Lyons, 21 Sig Regt, 4m; 3, SSgt Killen, 21 Sig Regt, 3.80m.

WOMEN

100m - 1, Sgt Thorn, WRAC Centre, 13.3sec. **200m** - 1, Cpl Holmes, HQ York Garrison, 27sec. **400m** - 1, Cpl Holmes, HQ York Garrison, 58.7sec. **800m** - 1, Cpl Holmes, HQ York Garrison, 2min 19.5sec. **1500m** - 1, Cpl Sharp, B Coy WRAC, 4min 54.8sec. **3000m** - 1, Cpl Sharp, B Coy WRAC, 10min 23.3sec.

High Jump - 1, Sgt Paul, 12 MoD PI, 1.65m. **Long Jump** - 1, Cpl Churchley, 11 Det SIB, 5.35m. **Shot** - 1, Capt Osterberg, 233 Sig Sqn, 10.78m. **Discus** - 1, Capt Osterberg, 233 Sig Sqn, 36.26m. **Javelin** - 1, Lt Scott, Liverpool OTC, 34.62m.

JUNIORS

100m - 1, Gnr Graham, 94 Loc Regt, 11.7sec. **200m** - 1, Gnr Graham, 94 Loc Regt, 23.9sec. **400m** - 1, JLDr Lavender, JLR RCT/RAOC, 52.6sec. **800m** - 1, Tpr Haywood, RHG/D, 2min 5.7sec. **1500m** - 1, JLDr Yeoman, JIB Shorncliffe, 4min 33.5sec. **3000m** - 1, Cpl McKenna, SEME, 9min 25.4sec.

110m hurdles - 1, JGnr Williams, JLR RA, 18sec. **400m hurdles** - 1, JGnr Fox, JLR RA, 1min 2.2sec. **2000m steeplechase** - 1, JLCpl Carter, JIB Shorncliffe, 6min 34.1sec.

High Jump - 1, Sig Holliday, 11 Sig Regt, 1.95m. **Long Jump** - 1, JLDr Morgan, JLR RCT/RAOC, 5.72m. **Triple Jump** - 1, Pte Waltham, 1 PWO, 11.9m.

Pole Vault - No entries. **Shot** - 1, JLDr Ridsdale, JLR RCT/RAOC, 10.25m. **Discus** - 1, App Andrews, AA Coll ACC, 25.66m. **Javelin** - 1, App Summers, AA Coll ACC, 44.34m. **Hammer** - JLDr Rice, JIB Shorncliffe, 25.72m.

● Decathlon report, pictures in next issue.

In the swim

THE Army won both swimming and water polo competitions at the Inter-Service junior championships.

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Bernie keeps Army challenge on course

ARMY champion navigator Capt Bernie Stevens (93 Ord Coy) teamed up with Sgt Flo Shouls (RAF Finningley) to win the Exercise 4-Wheel Driving Force competition against 4×4 teams from the

Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, HM Customs, the Coastguard and Police Forces all over the UK.

Vehicles ranged from Land Rovers to works teams from Mercedes, UMM, Lada and

Vauxhall. Sgt Shouls was the first woman to appear in a winning crew, and the team was supported by Sgt Shirley Edwards and Pte Sandra Jemmett.

The event was held in three

stages – a testing 176-mile night navigation test on Salisbury Plain and surrounding areas, trial sections driven by the navigator, and eight difficult hill climbs at the 4×4 centre at Clyro in Wales.

UDR make late move

THE Ulster Defence Regiment came from behind to win the 19th Inter-Corps target rifle match at Bisley.

Twelve teams took part in the competition, with the Royal Engineers and REME sharing the lead on 371 out of a possible 400 on the 300 and 600-yard short ranges. The Scottish Division were five points adrift at that stage.

The competitors moved to Bisley Stickdown range for the 900 and 1,000-yard shoots as the weather gradually deteriorated from dry and pleasant to wet.

Despite that scoring was high, with the first four teams exceeding the previous best.

But the UDR did better than anyone in the conditions, overhauling the opposition to win with a score of 723 out of 800 from the REME (721) and the sappers (719).

The Scottish Division were fourth, followed by the Medical Services and the RAC.

Highest individual scores were achieved by the UDR's WO2 Davy Beattie (190 ex 200, 48 at 1,000yd) and Maj Jeremy Earle, RAC (190, 46 at 1,000yd), both scores being records for the match.

The reserves match was won by Maj Earle, and the cleaning rod prize awarded to the best tyro went to WO2 Steve Lewsey, REME with a score of 174.

Possibles were achieved by Lt Duncan Bedding, REME and Sgt Des Gillies, Gordons, at 300 yards and by Sgt Paul Quilliam, RE at 600 yards.



Members of the winning 2 and 7/10 UDR team on the range at Bisley

Signals success

A LAST-MINUTE change of venue for the Army canoe slalom championships ensured a reasonable quality of white water and a high standard of competition.

The event was to have taken place on the Tryweryn at Bala, but when a scheduled dam release was cancelled the championships were hastily reconvened on the Dee in north Wales.

Capt Julian Bunce (28 Signal Regt), kayak champion for the past two years, was relegated to third by new champion Lt John

Atkinson (JLRRA) and second-placed Sgt Andy Dobson (16 Signal Regt).

Atkinson, champion in 1988, paddled a near-perfect run to claim the title for a second time. But the closeness of the competition was reflected by the fact that the top three were separated by just two seconds between each kayak.

Capt Paul Hepworth (ACC Tg Centre) retained the Canadian singles title for a fourth consecutive year, with Atkinson demonstrating his all-round white water skills by

finishing as runner-up.

Capt Allison Mann (28 Signal Regt) retained the women's title.

There was a close finish to the Canadian doubles, with SSgt Paddy Eaton (AMF Wksp) and Sgt Andy Dobson (16 Signal Regt) incurring fewer penalties to go clear of WO1 Neil Martin and Sgt David Brunton (ACC Tg Centre) by ten seconds.

The unit team event was won in exceptional style by 16 Signal Regt, the final run giving them a 21-second lead over runners-up 28 Signal Regt.

Individually, 16 Signals' team members (SSgt Ian Dobson, Sgt Andy Dobson and Cpl Lee Broders), all finished in the top seven.

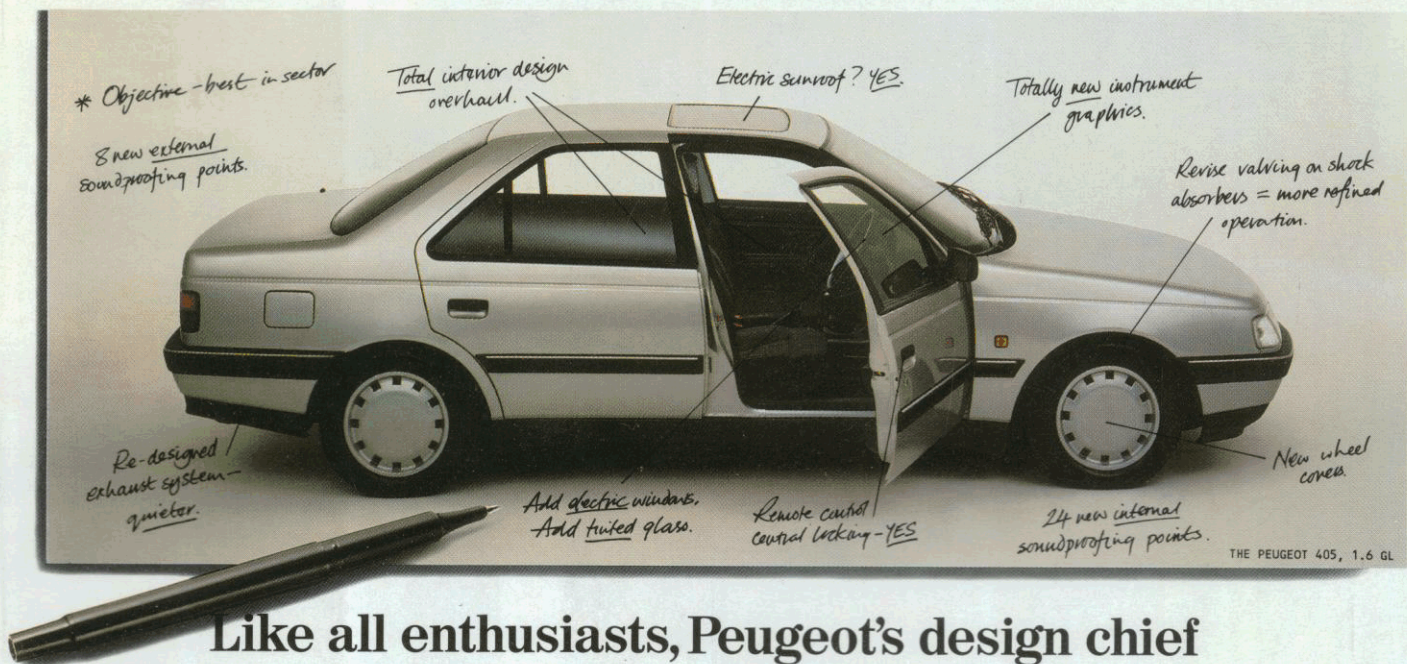
The efforts of the Guards Adventure Training Wing team, who came third, were also worthy of a mention.

Sappers take unit title

A FINE season for the 35 Engineer Regiment badminton team ended with further honours when they travelled from Germany to beat RAPC Worthy Down in the final of

the men's inter-unit championships at the Light Division Depot in Winchester.

The Hameln-based sappers had already won the 4 Division and BAOR titles.



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

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

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

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Sons of the brave who are rightly proud of their parents are LCpl Chandra Prakash Limbu, Queen's Gurkha Signals, and Lt Pahal Sing Thapa (right) of the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's own Gurkha Rifles. They were visiting the Gurkha Museum in Winchester where their fathers, who both won VCs, are commemorated. LCpl (now Maj) Rambahadur Limbu rescued two comrades under heavy enemy fire in Sarawak in 1965, while Subadar Maj (now Capt) Lalbahadur Thapa put an anti-tank gun and machine guns out of action in Tunisia in 1943, killing four enemy with his rifle and kukri.

Picture: Mike Weston

SOLDIER