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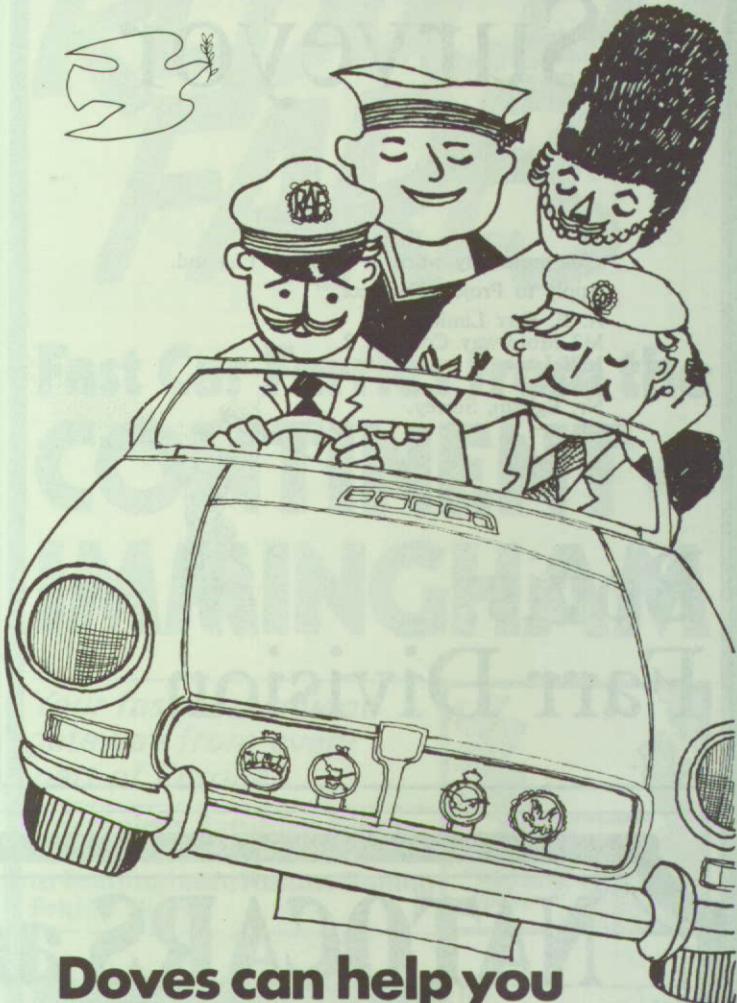


*"I didn't step forward for a dangerous mission, sir.
They all stepped three paces back!"*

Editor: PETER N WOOD
Deputy Editor: JOHN WALTON
Art Editor: FRANK R FINCH
Research: JOHN JESSE
Picture Editor: LESLIE A WIGGS
Photographers: ARTHUR BLUNDELL, MARTIN ADAM
Advertisement Manager: K PEMBERTON WOOD
Distribution: Miss D M W DUFFIELD

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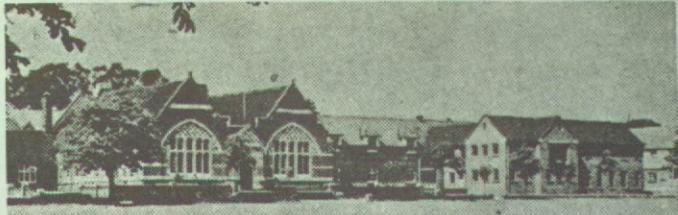
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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

MARCH 1972

200th anniversary, Corps of Royal Engineers.
28 St Kevin's School (Kirkby, Lancashire) ACF/ATC Tattoo (28-29 March).

APRIL 1972

22 Perth Festival (bands).
27 Irvine Tattoo.
28 Oxfordshire County Show (band).
29 Army recruiting display, Peterborough (29-30 April).

MAY 1972

6 Army recruiting display, Cardiff (6-7 May).
6 14 Signal Regiment open day, Worcester.
7 **Combined Cavalry Old Comrades 48th parade and service, Hyde Park, London.**
13 Army recruiting display, Swansea (13-14 May).
13 Allied Forces Day, Berlin (bands).
13 The Wessex Yeomanry receives Freedom of Borough of Cheltenham.
17 Kneller Hall band concert.
19 Army recruiting display, Bolton/Salford (19-21 May).
20 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
20 Ten Tors expedition, Dartmoor (20-21 May).
24 Kneller Hall band concert.
24 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (24-25 May).
27 Army recruiting display, Congleton (27-28 May).
27 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
27 Tidworth Tattoo (27-29 May).
29 Hertfordshire County Show (bands).
29 Royal Ulster Agricultural Show, Balmoral, Belfast (29 May-3 June) (bands).
29 **SSAFA International Air Display, RAF Church Fenton, Yorkshire.**
29 **Open Day and Fete, Army Apprentices College Chepstow.**
31 Suffolk Show (31 May-1 June) (band).
31 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.

JUNE 1972

3 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
3 Pipes and drums, Dumfries.
3 Salisbury Hospital Fête (provisional date) (band).
3 Beating Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
3 Devon Traction Rally, Newton Abbot (3-4 June) (motorcycle display team).
5 Pipes and drums, Dalbeattie.
7 Kneller Hall band concert.
10 Catterick Open Day.
10 Pipes and drums, Kirkcaldy.
14 Kneller Hall band concert.
16 Essex County Show (16-17 June) (band).
17 Aldershot Army Display (17-18 June).

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BICENTENARY — ROYAL ENGINEERS ON GIBRALTAR

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The Government of Gibraltar will issue three stamps, the values being 1p, 3p and 5p. The 1p and 3p stamps feature the Royal Engineers in phases of operations on the Rock—constructing Kings Bastion and Tunnelling. The 5p stamp shows a Royal Engineer of 1772 and 1972 and also features the Cap Badge of the Corps.

A First Day and Commemorative Cover has been approved for issue by the Corps Committee of the Royal Engineers. The design shows a Royal Engineer of 1772 in full ceremonial uniform with the Rock of Gibraltar in the background. Each Cover will carry the full range of stamps and an insert will give a potted history of the activities of the Corps of Royal Engineers on the Rock. Covers will be franked with a specially designed Handstamp featuring the Royal Engineers of 1772 and 1972 (British Forces Postal Service No 1772 has been allotted for the occasion), and will also be stamped with a special cachet of the conferring of the Freedom of the City of Gibraltar.

The cost of the Commemorative Covers is 40p each. A limited number (500) Covers will be autographed by General Sir Charles P. Jones GCB, CBE, MC the Chief Royal Engineer and Covers will be sold at £1.00 each.

Orders for this historic Commemorative and First Day Cover, accompanied by the correct remittance should be sent to the Philatelic Officer, Corps of Royal Engineers, Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham, Kent.

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DIARY

continued

JUNE 1972

- 17 North Wilts ACF Tattoo, Swindon.
- 17 Open Day, Army Apprentices College, Harrogate.
- 18 Welsh 3000s team foot race, Snowdonia (10th anniversary).
- 21 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 24 Dumbarton Tattoo.
- 24 Lord Mayor's parade, Cardiff (bands, floats).
- 24 Open Day, Central Vehicle Depot RAOC, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury.
- 26 Dover Army Week (26 June-1 July).
- 28 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 30 HQ Yorkshire District, Strensall, closes (massed bands, beating Retreat).
- 30 Army Display, Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich (30 June, 1-2 July).

JULY 1972

- 5 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 8 Basingstoke Military Tattoo.
- 8 Closure ceremonies, HQ Western Command, Chester.
- 10 Massed bands display, Larkhill (10-11 July).
- 12 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (12-29 July).
- 12 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 14 Cheltenham Tattoo (14-15 July).
- 15 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 19 Kneller grand (band) concert.
- 22 Gloucester Carnival (band).
- 22 Stroud Show (band).
- 26 Inverness Tattoo (26 July-3 August).
- 29 Beating Retreat, 38 Engineer Regiment weekend, Ripon (29-30 July).
- 29 Plymouth Air Show.
- 30 Royal Armoured Corps Centre Open Day, Bovington.

AUGUST 1972

- 1 Tyneside Summer Exhibition (1-5 August).
- 2 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (2-5 August).
- 4 Nottingham Army Display (4-6 August).
- 6 Old Contemptibles Association annual parade and service, Aldershot.
- 16 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 18 Edinburgh Tattoo (18 August-9 September).
- 18 Reading Show (18-19 August) (band).
- 23 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 30 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.

SEPTEMBER 1972

- 6 Army recruiting display, Preston (6-9 September).
- 6 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 13 Kneller Hall grand (band) final concert.
- 14 Carlisle Tattoo (14-16 September).
- 15 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (15-16 September).
- 16 Army recruiting display, Liverpool (16-17 September).
- 19 Centenary, Roundhay Park, Leeds (or 22 September) (bands).
- 21 Thame Royal British Legion Fête (band).
- 21 Cambrian March (21-24 September).
- 22 Centenary, Roundhay Park, Leeds (if not 19 September) (bands).
- 23 Army recruiting display, Wrexham (23-24 September).

NOVEMBER 1972

- 11 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall, London.
- 11 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 12 Remembrance Sunday.

MAY 1973

- 26 Tidworth Tattoo (26-27 May).

JUNE 1973

- 9 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 16 Aldershot Army Display (16-17 or 23-24 June).



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SOLDIER to Soldier

On pages 20 and 21 of this issue **SOLDIER**'s readers are invited to complete a questionnaire which will help in determining whether the magazine should continue or be replaced by a newspaper. Postage is free where the questionnaire is returned from UK or British Forces postal addresses—regrettably this facility cannot be extended to Commonwealth and foreign readers though it is hoped they too will return the questionnaire.

Should **SOLDIER** continue in its present magazine format there will still be changes. A much more rapid production cycle, envisaged in a change of printing method, would immediately enable the inclusion of more up-to-date material including sport. Alternative distribution methods which will offset increased postal charges are being studied and it is hoped that it may at last be possible to despatch the magazine overseas by air.

Forthcoming issues will see one change—a new process—coated paper which gives much more sparkle to colour and black-and-white illustrations. Existing stocks of the current paper, on which this March issue is printed, will first be exhausted, then the new paper will be taken into use.



A not-to-be-missed event for the military music lover is the annual gala concert given by the Band of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund. This year's concert at the Royal Festival Hall in London is on 13 May.

Founded in 1857, Kneller Hall is the oldest school of military music and until recently was the only one in the world. The school trains the bandmasters and bandsmen of the British Army and also has students and pupils from many Commonwealth countries. From these it has available a band of 250—at the Royal Festival Hall there will be some 120 players, including 15 nationalities, and the Kneller Hall trumpeters.

This annual concert has always attracted a strong following from the enthusiasts who attend the series of open-air summer concerts in the grounds of Kneller Hall but as yet it has not become widely known beyond this circle. The annual programme is always very varied and the concert has its own atmosphere of friendliness and informality which contribute to a splendidly enjoyable evening. Don't miss it!



For the first time the Army is to have its own purpose-built indoor tennis courts. Two courts are to be built next to the six grass courts of the Army Lawn Tennis Association at the Officers' Club, Aldershot. They will be covered by a "balloon" and will provide an all-the-year-round venue for Army and corps matches, match practice, coaching and, to some extent, other play. The cost is more than £13,000 but money is being saved by "self-help" work being carried out by local units on the site and foundations. It is expected that the two courts will be opened in July.



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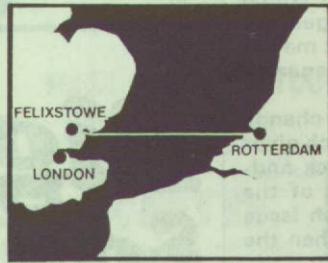
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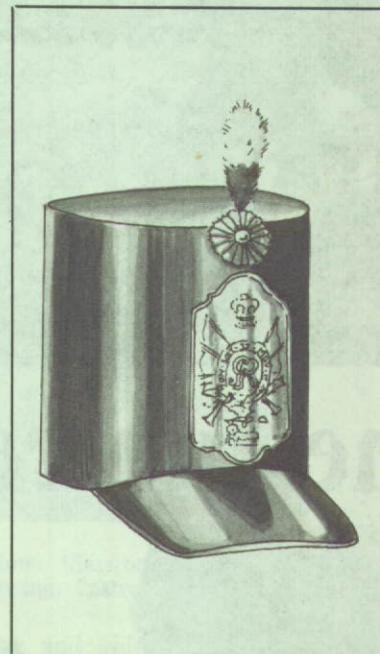
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British Army

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STOVE-PIPE SHAKO

1800 - 1811

THE stove-pipe shako, copied from the contemporary Austrian infantry shako, was authorised for use in the British Army by a general order of 24 February 1800 and was replaced by that introduced by Horse Guards circular of 20 October 1806.

The 1800 pattern was made of black lacquered leather, and measured seven inches in height with a plain flat top 6½ inches across. The peak was also of leather. The main feature of this, the first British shako, was the large shako plate worn on the front. This was six inches by four inches and was of copper gilt for officers and of stamped brass for the rank and file. Square in shape, it was slightly scalloped at the top and bottom.

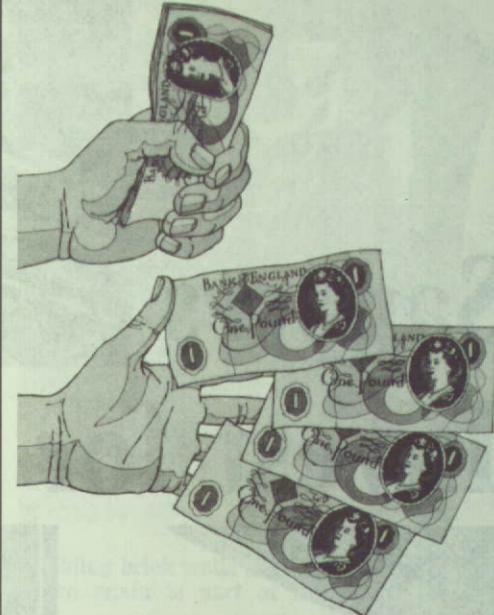
The universal pattern plate bore the design of the Garter with the motto "Honi soit qui mal y pense" with the royal cypher "GR" in the centre. The Garter was surmounted by a crown with a trophy of arms and flags behind and a lion beneath. The plates of some regiments also bore their number or badge.

Above the plate was the black cockade of the Hanoverian dynasty which had a plume fitted behind. The plumes were: Grenadier companies, white; light infantry and light companies, green; others, red and white.

In 1806 the heavy lacquered leather shako was changed for a lighter felt version which had a lacquered leather top. This pattern, although worn by some regiments throughout the Peninsular War and until Waterloo, was replaced by the "Wellington" or "Waterloo" shako introduced on 24 December 1811 and described in the first of this series of articles (SOLDIER, September 1970).

C Wilkinson-Latham

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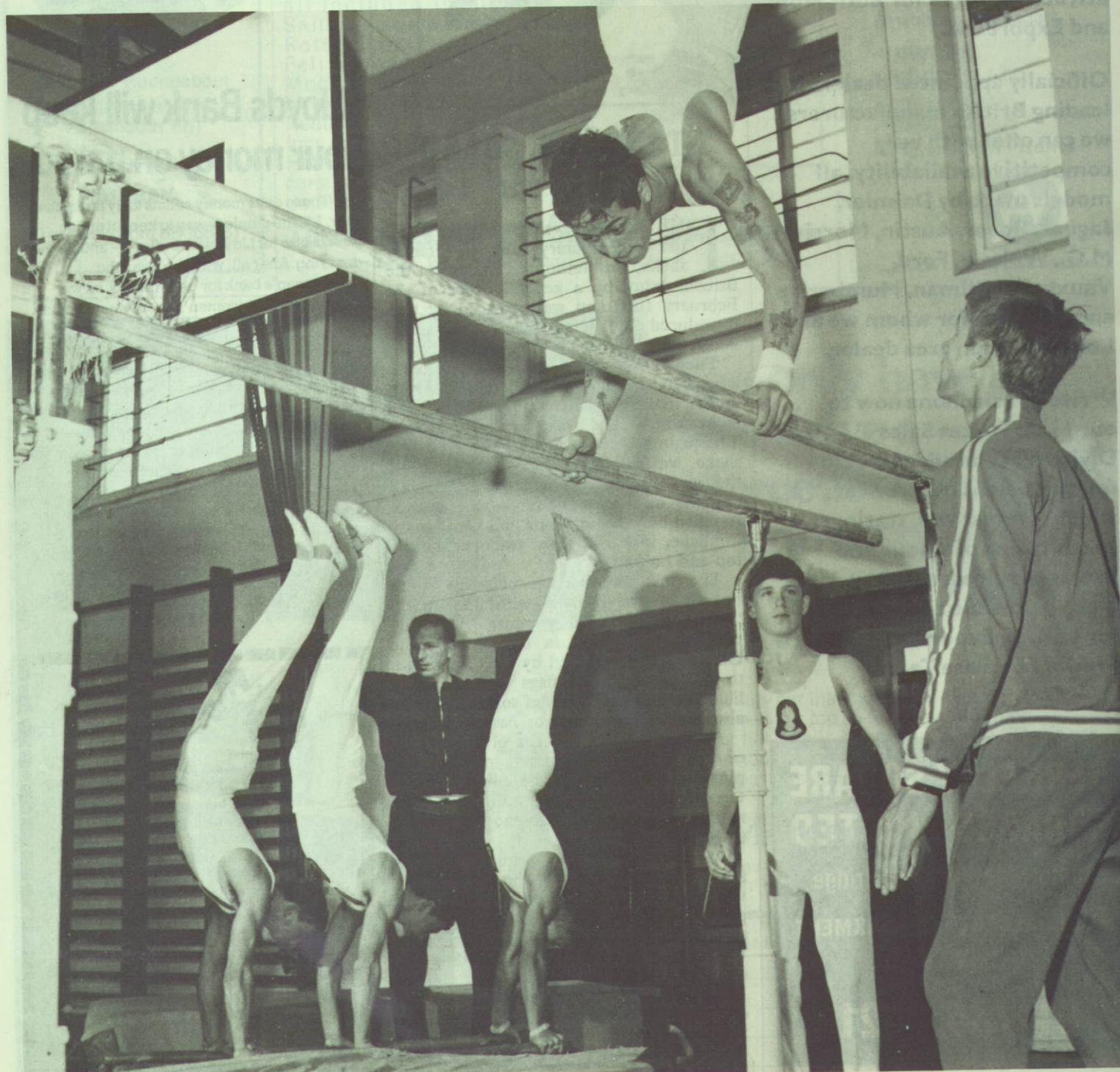
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Right: Junior sapper learns how to load and fire a machine-gun.

Below: Gymnastic training. This June the display team will be at Aldershot, Army Display again.



Sappers Invest for the future



A GROUP of boys sat apprehensively in the hall with their belongings by their sides. Young boys, only 15 or 16 pale and nervous and casually dressed. Outside a squad of young soldiers, little older, marched smartly past.

It was difficult to realise that in a few short months those boys, facing the ordeal of their first day with the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, at Old Park Barracks, Dover, would be as smart and confident as the lads outside—and well on the way to being trained sappers.

Homesickness is quite a factor at first for boys from all parts of the country, most of whom have never before been away from home.

But the great majority come through the testing time of the first five weeks, during which the new boy soldier is not allowed out of the camp.

Says WRVS representative, Mrs I D Morgan, who meets all boys on arrival: "I have to act as an honorary mum to the



Shavings fly as wood is planed 1972 style. Boys learn to use the latest power tools.

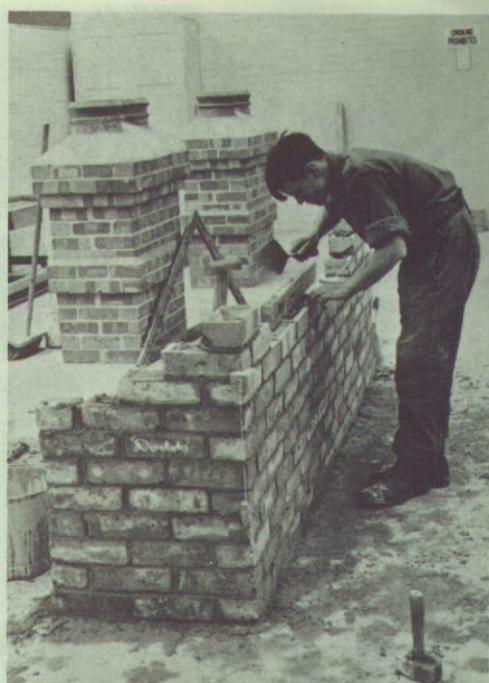
new boys and do all their shopping and so on during the initial period. It's a big thing in a boy's life to suddenly adapt to a completely new routine in which he is on the go from 7 o'clock in the morning until he gets to bed at night."

Long and busy hours mean big appetites and the food put before the Junior Leader is enough to make an old sweat blink. A typical lunch gives the boy a choice of four cold meats and fish, four grills, four roasts, two curries or miscellaneous items such as

Below: Classroom instruction in technical drawing. Instructor explains a finer point.

steak and kidney pies, braised steak or kidneys! Even food at home could not compare with the variety offered, although the boys are still "choosy"—they recently rejected fresh salmon in favour of the tinned version.

The object of the course at Dover is to turn out trained sappers able to take their place in field units and to develop the leadership qualities of those who show promise of becoming senior non-commissioned officers.



Building brick walls and then knocking them down again is part of bricklayer training.

Education, a vital part of the curriculum, is now directed very much towards education for trade. Boys selected as potential tradesmen have their studies individually planned so that they can later cope easily with the theoretical side of trades training. Some boys go on to take CSE and GCE subjects.

Half of the instructors in education are civilians. One of them, Mr Ernest Kembry, a former secondary school master, describes the differences he finds: "At school, when I



Back cover

Young soldiers, many of whom have hardly seen the sea before, become expert helmsmen in the busy Dover harbour. The boys, from the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, at Dover, learn sailing as an extra-curricular hobby and many continue to sail for the rest of their lives.



set homework on a voluntary basis, I sometimes found parental opposition. Here the boys are keen enough to come for evening work."

The junior leader needs two trades. All pass out as combat engineers and a large proportion reach Class 2 in this trade before joining units.

Those who join the regiment at a young enough age also get a chance to train as carpenters, painters or bricklayers; every boy is given a priority in trade training when he leaves Dover. Driving, signalling and clerks trades are also taught and the trades training wing has a very high success rate in getting boys through trades examinations.

In his leisure hours each boy is expected to take part in at least one active sport—for

instance judo, ski-ing or mountaineering—and one less strenuous activity such as fishing, photography, pottery or model-making. The radio club hopes soon to have its own "ham" station on the air.

Quartermaster Sergeant Derek Dolphin, Army Physical Training Corps, who heads the sports and recreational staff, says that 15 to 16 is the most formative age for physical education. His results are self-evident. Every boy who passes out at the end of the course can swim 200 yards in boots and denims. He may never have been to a swimming pool before joining the Army.

QMSI Dolphin has seen the regiment win a host of sporting trophies in the last two years. Perhaps the greatest achievement has been in the tetrathlon, a combination of

running, shooting, fencing and swimming. This is a difficult event to train for as the qualities required for the four events are not complementary. Entering the Army junior team championships for the first time in 1970 the junior sappers swept the board, winning both the team and individual titles. They followed this up last year by coming second and again taking the individual honours.

Leaving Dover at 17½, the junior leader does a short course in equipment bridging at a training regiment in Cove to complete his combat engineer training before joining a field unit of the corps. He can then be posted worldwide; some go on to learn the special skills needed in the parachute and commando engineer squadrons of the Strategic Reserve.

At present Dover Old Park Barracks are crammed to capacity with some of the largest intakes in the regiment's history. But next year this is likely to alter considerably because the school-leaving age is being raised and boys will not be able to join until 16.

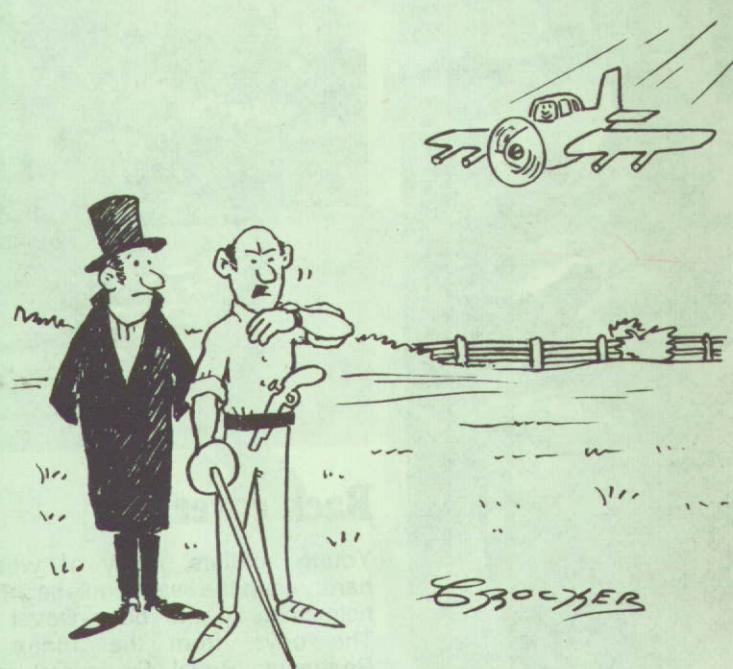
A shortened junior leaders course will always be available but some of the training offered at Dover, particularly in the trades line, will have to be postponed until a boy reaches adult service.

Says the second-in-command, Major Robin Bellam: "Our long-term future at Dover obviously depends on how many boys join the sappers on leaving school at 16.

"Our view is that we now get more 15-year-olds than we can take and we don't see any reason why 16-year-olds will not come forward in the same numbers."

The commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Geoffrey Preston-Jones, predicts: "Boys will still have the opportunity to come and serve as soon as they leave school.

"We have always relied on the junior entry as a vital part of the Royal Engineers manpower. It is our investment in the future."



"I told him 'Choose your weapon and be here at six'!"

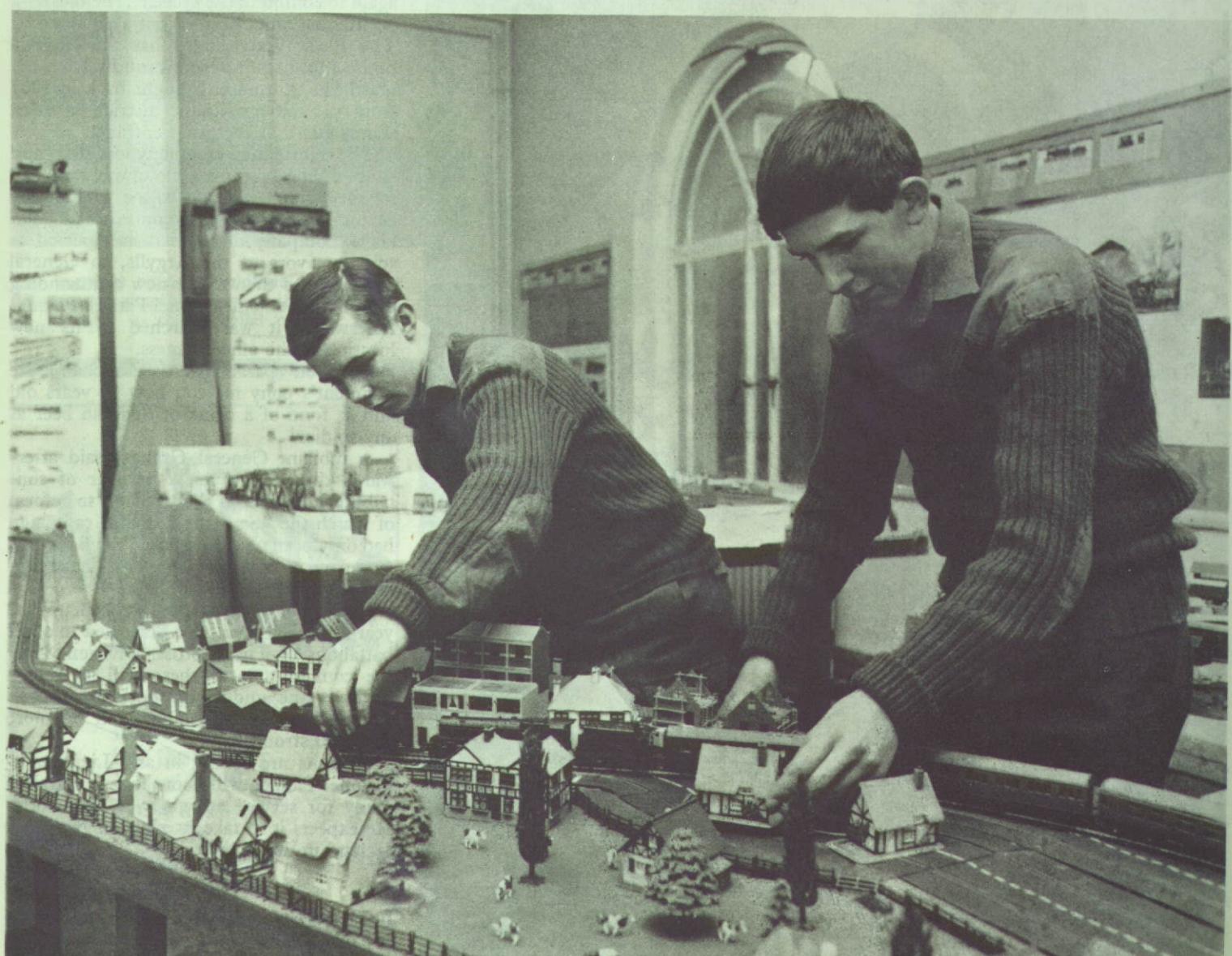


Far left: Batsman hits out as junior leaders cricket club enjoys a spot of "King Willow."

Left: Fencing is a traditional military sport which is useful for the tetrathlon effort.

Above: Judo is another hobby which is very successful—the boys have won championships.

Below: One of the most popular hobbies is model railways. Each term junior leaders construct a complete model railway layout from scratch.



THE ARGYLLS ARE BACK

SHREWD was falling across the square at Ritchie Camp, Kirknewton, near Edinburgh. But, for the handful of kilted highlanders on parade and the scattering of spectators, the message from the skirling pipes was one to warm the heart of any Scotsman—"The Argylls are back!"

Almost a year to the day after reducing to company strength, the 1st Battalion of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, was being reborn. It was a proud moment in regimental history for the descendants of that gallant "thin red line" of highlanders which triumphed at Balaklava in 1854.

Declared the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General Freddie Graham: "The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders live again to confound the Queen's enemies!"

Ritchie Camp, until recently occupied by The Black Watch, now has the Argylls' regimental flag fluttering proudly from the masthead; a cannon brought back in 1967 from the famous Crater district of Aden stands guard at the camp entrance.

The reformation ceremony was short and simple. The Queen's Colour was marched to the camp entrance to be handed by Major Ian Purves, who commanded Balaklava Company during its brief period as sole survivors of the Argylls, to General Graham and then to the new commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Palmer. Afterwards it was marched to its new location in the officers' mess.

Also on parade was Cruachan, the regiment's pony mascot, now 20 years old and as fond of a drink of Scottish beer as any soldier!

A jubilant General Graham said afterwards there had been a number of contributory factors to the decision to reform of which the "Save the Argylls" campaign had only been one. He praised the Balaklava Company as "the best company I have seen in 40 years of soldiering."

When the battalion was broken up last year some 500 men were dispersed to other battalions of The Scottish Division. Over the coming months these will all return until by the middle of the summer it is expected that the battalion will be more than 600 strong.

Recruits are rolling in and Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer will soon have a battalion ready for service anywhere in the world. He expects it to take its place in Northern Ireland in due course.

General Graham presents the Queen's Colour to Colonel Palmer—an act which symbolised the Argylls' return to battalion strength.





The bagpipes sound a jubilant note as the Colour party marches through the new camp on its way to the Argylls' officers' mess.

how observant? are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 33.





GC for bombs major

Major Stephen George Styles (above), of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, who has been awarded the George Cross for his bravery in disarming two bombs planted by terrorists in Belfast's Europa Hotel last October.

The first bomb was of a new and complicated construction with anti-handling devices and until an electrical circuit had been neutralised the slightest movement would have set off 15 lbs of explosive. Planning the operation and removing and neutralising the bomb took seven hours.

Two days later Major Styles was faced with an even more complicated bomb in the Europa. It contained more than 30 lbs of explosives and anti-handling devices and a confusion of electrical circuits clearly intended to kill anyone trying to neutralise it. Major Styles disarmed, removed and dismantled it after nine hours.

The citation says: "As a result of his courageous and dedicated resolution two determined and ingenious attempts by terrorists against life and property were defeated and technical information was obtained which will help to save the lives of operators faced with such devices in the future."

Purely personal



58 years in tailoring

When **Mr Frank Lovett** went to work at the London military tailor's, Meyer and Mortimer, it was 1913 and World War One was just round the corner. Recently Frank retired at the age of 73 after a record 58 years' service with the firm, which dates back to the 18th century. Frank, an expert on Brigade of Guards uniforms and Scottish tartans, has measured and fitted thousands of officers with their uniforms and knew most of them by their first names. During World War Two he ran a special shop in Camberley to be near the officers. Having supplied uniforms to many overseas officers he says with feeling: "I think our chaps are the best dressed in the world."



Signal success

Lieutenant "Benny" Goodman, Royal Signals, with his VHF radio appliqué unit, an invention which won him an award of £1000 from the Ministry of Defence. Lieutenant Goodman, who is serving with HQ Royal Signals at Bielefeld, Germany, conceived the idea while listening to a lecture on signals where the speaker complained about interference over VHF. He constructed pilot models which were tested and modified by the Combat Development and Trials Wing of the School of Signals. Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers then produced the first units for field tests and they are now in regular service.

He also received the British Empire Medal in the New Year honours list for his design of a radio control monitor unit.



Sign here, son!

Young enlistee, **Paul Wolstenholme**, receives his first soldier's pay from a man who is more used to giving him pocket money—his father! When Paul signed on in Hong Kong recently, before joining the Royal Engineers Junior Leaders at Dover, he became the fourth generation of his family to make a career in the Army.

Father, **Warrant Officer I Donald Wolstenholme**, of the Army Catering Corps, began his Army career as a boy in 1949 and is now a supervising travelling instructor. Another of his sons, **Stuart**, is to join Paul at Dover in the summer after signing on in Hong Kong.

An unconscious victim of the gasworks explosion is hauled away from the disaster area.



DISASTER

Within a matter of hours there were three major "disasters"—a generating station explosion, the bombing of an iron and steel works and a gasworks explosion. The casualties were many and men of 224 Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps TAVR, were kept at full stretch over a weekend in coping with them. Of course



Worried looks as Volunteers in the dressing station try to ease a youth's suffering.

Right: Stretcher party picks its way through the debris to rescue an injured soldier.



When a victim is too injured to be moved the ambulance girl has to aid him on the spot.

DISASTER

continued

Rescuers lift an injured NCO clear of the railway tracks after the gasworks explosion.

the explosions did not really happen. They were all part of Exercise Mazcaz designed to help the part-time soldiers to handle large numbers of casualties and to fit into a Civil Defence role. The exercise was in the Stoke-on-Trent district. The "casualties," some 260 of them, were realistically made up in advance and then

placed at the emergency sites. Picked up by the medical Volunteers, they were taken to a main dressing centre at the TAVR Centre in Stoke or were sent on to hospital at Birmingham. For the Volunteers it was a stimulating and exciting weekend with the hope that they will never be called upon to put what they learned into practice.



A young girl Volunteer puts the finishing touches to the make up of a "burns victim."

Middle of the night and the Volunteers are called out to the generating station.

More gory realism as this forehead gash is created for a casualty by use of make up.



Left: Saline drip is carefully kept in place as unconscious casualty is taken to safety.

Far left: Victims are not always accessible and it is often difficult to get them down.

Soldier dolls

"ENEMY in sight, range 1000!" shouts the diminutive, combat-kitted figure. "Hold your fire until I give the order!"

Such is the talking Action Man, a 12-inch plastic figure by Palitoy of Coalville, Leicester. He gives a total of eight commands by means of an inner miniaudio-recorder operated by pulling a string.

Action Man is a boy's doll basically aimed at five to 12-year-olds, but with the introduction of uniforms of famous British regiments the range is attracting more serious collectors. Regiments so far covered are The Life Guards, Blues and Royals, 17th/21st Lancers, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and The Parachute Regiment. Royal Marines are also available and a British Army officer and Royal Military policeman are due out soon.

The makers have gone for overkill trying to capture the military manner—

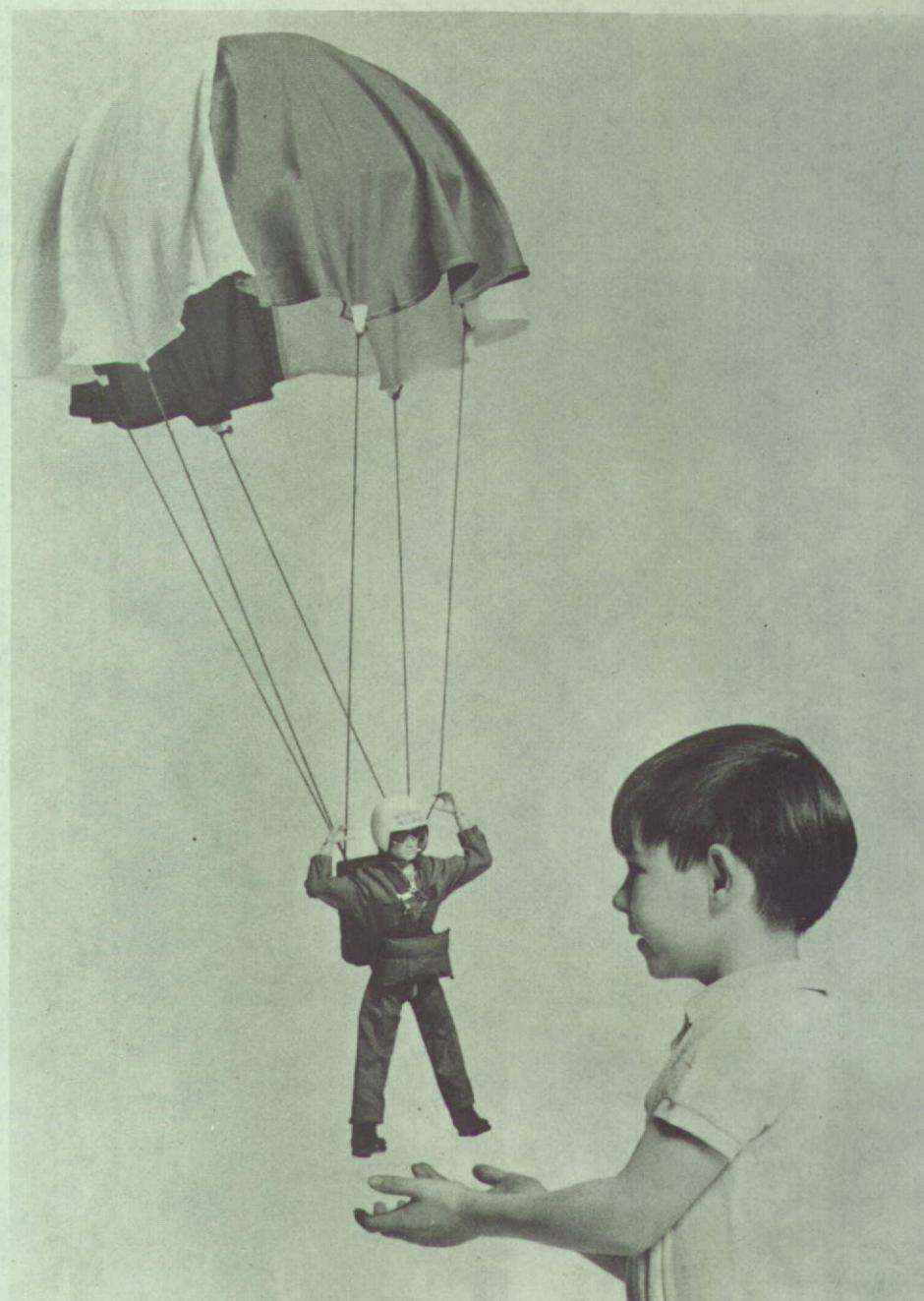


Firing bazooka-type missile based on Army's Blowpipe—Action Man uses latest weaponry.

the hair is cropped like a Tommy with a tight helmet and there is a scar on the right cheek looking as if he slipped trying to open a can of bully beef on a fixed bayonet. A spokesman for the firm said the scar was added "as it appears to add strength to the military theme in the eye of the consumer."

Their efforts have been more successful with the uniforms. The Blues and Royals trooper supplied has impressive boots and state helmet although the breeches look like "long johns" instead of buckskin. The British officer, by the way, will have self-adhesive crowns and pips—so junior generals can promote him or reduce him to the ranks!

Action Man figures have movable limbs and separate, interchangeable uniforms. A complete figure such as The Blues and Royals trooper costs £3.85, which is less than a professionally painted 35-millimetre lead figure. The basic Action Man figure is £2.35 and the talking figure £3.75. Uniforms can be bought separately at about £2 a time.

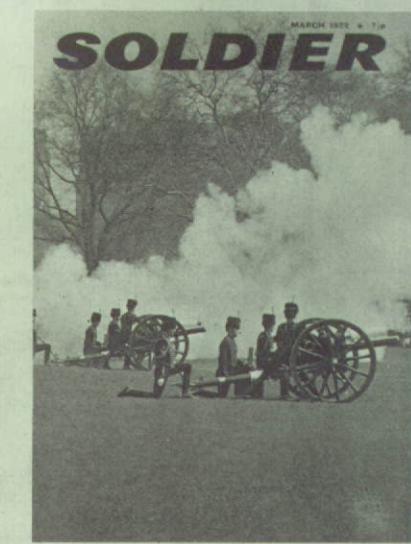


In Red Devil para kit with reserve pack, Action Man floats down to a safe landing.

Small accessories, such as rifles, mess tins, helmets and sub-machine-guns, are available as low-price packs marked "Quartermaster's Stores." There is even some hardware such as a scout car and armoured personnel carrier but they bear little resemblance to real equipment.

The Red Devil free-faller has a working parachute and a leaflet with diagrams of such aerial acrobatics as the harness jump and baton pass. Combat troops come complete with a "confidential intelligence manual" detailing badges of rank of various armies, the Morse code and World War Two tanks and weapons.

Collectors who prefer models ready-made are recommended to sample two makes of plastic figures from France—Starlux and MDM—imported into this country by Beatties, 112 High Holborn, London, WC1. They are of intermediate quality, somewhere between commercially produced toy soldiers and connoisseur figures. Although restricted to French Napoleonic, there is a wide choice of figures.



Front cover

A stirring springtime sight for the London visitor this year, as always, will be men of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, firing a ceremonial salute amid the green oasis of Hyde Park.
Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

Cleaning the crest

As a farewell gesture to Hong Kong, on leaving to join the reformed 2nd Battalion in Edinburgh, F Company Scots Guards has refurbished its crest carved on the hillside a few hundred yards from the border of the New Territories with the Chinese mainland.

The 2nd Battalion carved its name and regimental star 44 years ago to make a landmark which inspired the local name of Crest Hill.

Armed with spades and canisters of white paint, the men of F Company made three visits to Crest Hill to weed, re-set and re-paint the badge's stones. They were helped by mules of 414 Pack Transport Troop, Royal Corps of Transport, which has assisted on many exercises during F Company's 14-month stay in the colony as part of 1st Battalion, Irish Guards.

From a report by Joint Service Public Relations, Hong Kong.



Day's work done. Left to right: Guardsman Eric White, Lance-Corporal Graham Christie, Guardsmen George McIntyre and John Black.



Ruthin School



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In leisure activities the strongest traditions lie in the Mountaineering Club, the CCF and the Dramatic Society. Among sporting activities Ruthin is best known for its Rugby and Cricket.

There is a Waiting List for the Junior School (7 to 10), but a limited number of places are available in the Senior School.

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Further information from Ruthin School, Ruthin, Denbighshire, North Wales.

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Details and application form from the Secretary, 63-79, Seymour Street, London, W.2.

THE ARMY TEAM RALLIES ON ONDURA REMOULDS



Photo: J. Dickson

1st AGAIN FOR RELIABILITY

Major J Hemsley, LI, representing the British Army Motoring Association, is seen here in the recent Martlett's Rally taking an Army Landrover through to his fifth successive class win on the same set of Ondura retreads.

The Army Team has used Ondura Tread Rubber on

- 1970 RAC International Rally (Duke of York Trophy)
- 1971 Monte Carlo Rally
- 1971 Circuit of Ireland Rally
- 1971 RAC International Rally (2nd in Class, and Services Award)
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- Ondura Remould, Keighley.

on record

"A Bandstand Spectacular" (The Band of the Grenadier Guards, conducted by Captain Peter Parkes) (Decca SKL 5096) His first record with the Grenadiers augurs well for Captain Peter Parkes's association with that famous "group" as the American Ambassador once called it. The programme is not hackneyed by today's standards and, apart from my friend (yes, friend!) Harold Walter's ubiquitous "Hootenanny," is interesting even for a sour grape like me. But don't buy this disc just for "Hootenanny." It is the least successful item on it and is not really up this particular band's creek.

"HRH The Duke of Cambridge," written by Malcolm Arnold for the centenary of Kneller Hall, and the overture arranged by Antal Dorati from Offenbach's "La Vie Parisienne" give the programme the traditional start of march then overture. Terence Brien's "Clarinet Cascade" is a welcome addition to the sparse repertory of bright solos for that instrument and "Voices of Spring" is probably the most suited to military bands of all waltzes. Then follows a brilliant piece, brilliantly played, "Las Castanuelas" by Ronald Binge.

A march written by Captain Parkes for the Trooping the Colour ceremony, "The White Plume," and a medley of tunes under the title "Italian Festival" are on side two followed by a somewhat remote cornet solo in Sergeant James Norris playing "Song of Jupiter" ("Where E'er You Walk"). Leroy Anderson's "Irish Washerwoman" and nanny's hoot keep our feet tapping. RB

"Marching Around the World" (Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers (Chatham)) (Director of Music: Captain R A Ridings) (Rediffusion Stereo ZS83) Full marks, or nearly, to Captain Ridings and the band for a few marches to add to our collections. Although I may quibble

about this and that, make no mistake—this is a first-class record in which the band plays with fine precision and impressive dynamism.

The title led me to expect some great marches from such countries as Brazil, Belgium, Mexico, Norway, Russia, Poland and Czechoslovakia—but no, two each from USA, France, Scotland and England and one each from Austria, Spain, Italy and Germany. And what an odd choice for Germany. The composer Zehle sounds German enough but no-one knows anything about him and, since he wrote marches called "Wellington," "Army and Marine," "Viscount Nelson" and "Trafalgar," one suspects a pseudonym or at least a naturalised Englishman.

Nevertheless "Trafalgar" is a welcome addition to the list as are the *paso doble* "Aguero" (not "Aquero") by José Franco and the great "La Ritirata Italiana." And is this an Italian march? By a Carl Drescher? And "The Italian Retreat"? Sounds very German to me even though it is popular in Italy.

Only two more quibbles. The last item is "Pomp and Circumstance" by Elgar. Well, we all know what that means but surely we need to be certain which one it is—one of these days some idiot will give us the second, third, or great fifth, and then where shall we be?

The tempos I find a bit odd. I'm all for varying the speed of marches to suit the national style but found "The Corcoran Cadets" on the fast side and "Marche Lorraine" unaccountably slow considering the over-fast "Le Père La Victoire." Neither the French nor the Americans go as fast as our light infantry (not even the Shropshires) but certainly more briskly than our infantry.

Symbolically the march to represent England is "The Vanished Army" which, although not very poetic here, was a brave and rewarding choice.

RB



Marches and countries: Side one—"Under the Double Eagle" (Austria), "Aguero" (Spain), "Le Père La Victoire" (France), "Burns on the March" (Scotland), "The Vanished Army" (England), "The Corcoran Cadets" (USA). Side two—"Semper Fidelis" (USA), "La Ritirata Italiana" (Italy), "Trafalgar" (Germany), "Pentland Hills" (Scotland), "Marche Lorraine" (France), "Pomp and Circumstance" (Great Britain).

"Scottish Rhapsody" (Scottish CWS Band) (Conductor: Enoch Jackson) (Guest Conductor: Geoffrey Witham) (Polydor Carnival 2928 003 Stereo) New Year's Eve 1971—Glorioush shtuff this. All the lovely Scottish ballads interspersed with merry jigs, reels, strash—shtraps—sprathsp—lots o' wha' haes an a' that, played with fine style and much gushto by our old friends the Scottish Sheedoubleyouesh Band. I specially liked a medley of ma own songs arranged by Major Jimmy Howe.

Robert Burns

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"Massed Band Spectacular Volume Six"
(Colchester Military Tattoo 1971) (Drum Major MCN 6)

Although this fourth instalment of the Colchester Tattoo is technically much better than the other three the front of the sleeve as usual wins the day. The back of it has the usual misprints and misinformation and this time has hit me where it hurts most. Not only is my old regiment called The King's Own Rifle Corps but a mysterious arranger, B Ashford, creeps into the credits. If the producer, Major John Watkin-Williams, wasn't a friend of mine I'd dip deeper into my vitriol. And unless you read the sleeve notes very carefully you will expect to hear "The Battle of Waterloo" (arranged B Ashford) in its entirety. You don't.

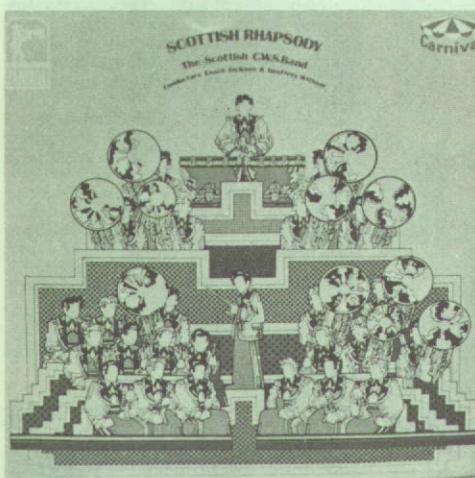
The trumpeters of The Blues and Royals and 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards open

the proceedings with a "Majestic Fanfare" and "EWJ Fanfare," both by Major E W Jeanes, after which the massed bands of 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, the band and drums of 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and the junior bandsmen and drummers of Depot The Queen's Division give a medley of marches comprising "Aida," a very attractive one called "Zacatecas" by Codina and the old favourite "Le Rêve Passe."

Then loud cheers for the hard-worked band and bugles of the Brigade of Gurkhas as they enter to the bugle march "Paris Belfort." Their display continues with "Marching Through Georgia," "Mechanised Infantry" and two arrangements by directors of music—"Nilo Chari" (Major E J Moore) and "Tantivy" (Captain H C R Bently).

Side two has more massed trumpeters and bands playing "The Standard of St George," "The Stars and Stripes for Ever," "Fehrbel-liner Reiter Marsch" and "Victory Beating" by all the drummers with some clever solo drumming. Then follows "The Battle of Waterloo"—which progresses only as far as the actual battle. Instead of the crash and bang of guns and fireworks the whole thing expires in a very damp squib of "Evening Hymn and Last Post" arranged by R Tulip.

In addition to the musicians already mentioned the bands of the Royal Artillery (Woolwich) and 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry, and pipers of the Royal Air Force, lend a helping hand. The tattoo director of music, Captain T A Kenny, and the record producer have done a good job. The writer of the sleeve notes parade in full marching order outside my office. **RB**



New Year's Day 1972—What a dull record. In spite of a good deal of fast-moving music the thing never seems to get going and because of poor intonation, mostly on the flat side, the general effect is definitely morning-after-the-night-before. Several beautiful airs receive shoddy treatment at the hands of the arrangers but dear old Willie Rimmer can still show them all how to do it in his "Lord of the Isles." Pass the Alka-Seltzers please, it's all too loud, Loud, LOUD. **RB**

2 January 1972—Not a bad record really, apart from the intonation. Just the thing for a Hogmanay party for you can jig to your heart's content or weep into your whisky to the more sentimental ballads. Here is a full list of the items—Side one: March "Alexander," "My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose," cornet solo "Caledonian" (soloist, Willie Barr), medley of songs of Robert

Burns: "Come under my Pladdie," "Ye Banks and Braes," "A Man's a Man for a' That," "A Highland Lad," "Afton Water," "Green Grow the Rushes O," "Corn Rigs are Bonnie," "Scots Wha Hae." Side two: March "Harlequin," euphonium solo "Bonnie Mary of Argyll" (soloist, Grierson Stein), "Caller Herrin," Scottish rhapsody-medley: "Lord of the Isles"—"Ca the Ewes to the Knowles," "Duncan Gray," "When the Kye Come Hame," "Blythe, Blythe and Merry Was She," "A Man's a Man for a' That."

"The World and National Brass Band Festival 1971" (recorded live at the Royal Albert Hall) (Black Dyke Mills Band, Brighouse and Rastrick Band, CWS (Manchester) Band, The Fairey Band, Fodens Motor Works Band) (Decca SKL 5102)

Perhaps I know too much about the making of this disc to recommend it wholeheartedly. I was locked up in a box for more than five hours with Eric Ball adjudicating at the 1971 world and national contest and by 3.30pm was exhausted. Poor Eric had to carry on and conduct two concerts in the evening with one very inadequate rehearsal. No wonder he hurries through several of the items.

The programme reflects his tastes and is rather more serious, though popular, than is usual at these junketings after the contest. The national anthem, preceded by a fanfare by the late Frank Wright, opens the concert and is followed by a shortened version of Walton's march "Crown Imperial" in which occurs a minor disaster. Then "Jesu, Comfort of my Heart" and side one ends with one of those stop-go medleys of British airs by Roger Barsotti, the guest conductor.

A Prokofiev march (Op 99) hardly seems



worth the trouble it must have caused, having all the most irritating fingerprints of that great composer. In a suite from "Music for the Royal Fireworks" the grandiose and leisurely Handel tempos elude the conductor who must by this time have been very weary. The "Air from Suite in D" by Bach, reputed to be on the G string, also moves faster than usual.

The concert ends with another truncated version of a long work, the symphonic poem "Les Préludes." The big tunes of this piece are right up the brass band street but brass instruments cannot cope with Liszt's original inner parts and the result is not happy.

As usual the engineers have done wonders to achieve such balance and detail from vast forces. **RB**

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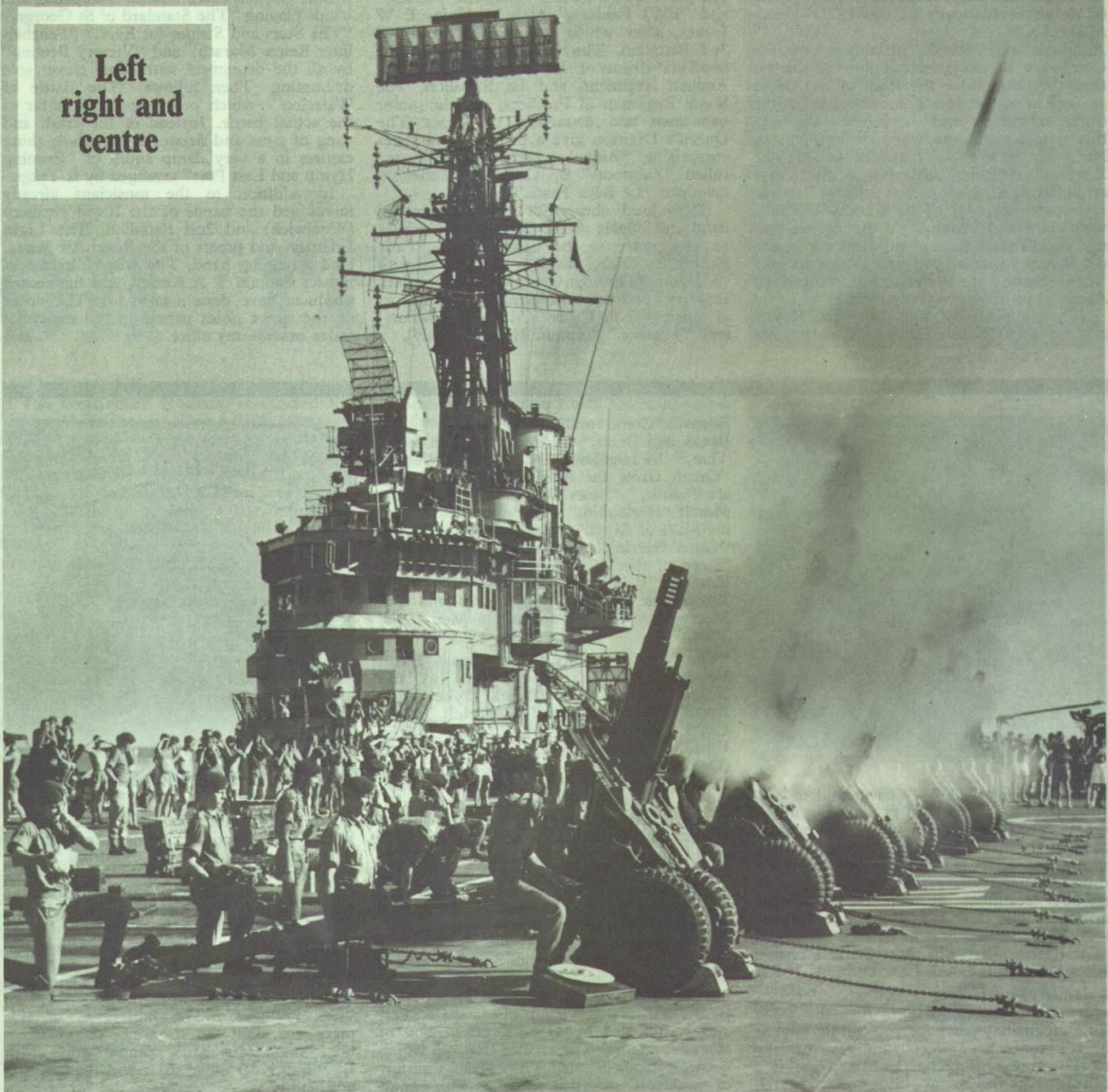
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The Chief Constable, U.K. Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary, Building F6-A, A.W.R.E., Aldermaston, Reading, RG 7 4 PR.

Left
right and
centre



Guns fire as men of 7 (Sphinx) Battery, Royal Artillery, give a convincing demonstration (above) of their firepower from the flight deck of the commando carrier HMS Albion in the Indian Ocean. Embarked as part of 40 Commando Group, Royal Marines, the battery took the chance of some practice from the ship's flight deck.

Posted to Cyprus with their unit, B Squadron, The Royal Hussars, Corporal Terry Maryan and Lance-Corporal Howie Robinson decided to drive there from Britain in an Austin-Healey Sprite which they were rebuilding. They covered nearly 2000 miles in their 11-day trip before arriving (left) to a welcome from their colleagues. B Squadron has taken over from A Squadron as Force reserve in Cyprus.

"Chorley Chaplain"

While serving with the Army in Germany I was surprised by the way the padre would pop in and out of the barrack room for a smoke or a game of cards, even a bottle of beer, but what surprised me more was the nickname the lads had given him. He came from Chorley, Lancashire, so was nicknamed Chorley Chaplain, much to his amusement.—J Lister, 8 Brighton Road, Huyton, Liverpool, L36 6HD.

Rifle bucket

I was surprised that you tried to fob off Mr Leadbetter (Letters, October) with a definition of a "bucket." It would seem that the mounted soldier in the photo is an SSM of a yeomanry regiment (exactly which I cannot discern) using an experimental bucket which first saw the light of day when the ZGB, forerunner of the Bren gun, was issued to mounted regiments in 1933 on a scale of two per regiment for experimental and research purposes.

All sorts of methods of carrying the gun were tried out including a bucket similar to the one in the picture. The Indian Army settled for a pack horse! I suspect that some interested unit tried the efficiency of using the bucket for a short-magazine Lee Enfield rifle—hence the photo.

The short cut of the horse's tail and the civilian (?) figure in the background, probably one of the horse contractor's men, suggest to me that it was a yeomanry regiment at annual camp.—Maj H R Sawyer, late 16th/5th Lancers, The Villa, Laxton, Goole, Yorkshire.

Dress sense

Reference Corporal D Harrington's letter (November). Being with a NATO unit composed of servicemen from Britain, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, I feel I am in a position to comment.

With the exception of the uniform worn by the Belgian National Serviceman, the British service dress is the dullest, most ill-fitting and uncomfortable uniform available. Khaki KF shirts are surely designed as a punishment for joining the Army (I know now what a monk means by wearing a "hair shirt") and the No 2 Dress shirt, complete with two detachable collars, is a standing joke among the servicemen of other countries of this unit.

The denim work shirts and poplin dress shirts worn by the Germans, Belgians and Dutch personnel are smarter, tidier and much more practical. The No 2 Dress could be made smarter by simply adding flashes or badges to denote the arm of service, formation or country of the wearer. And surely something could be done about the No 2 Dress waist belt—it always seems to be two or three inches above or below the waist.

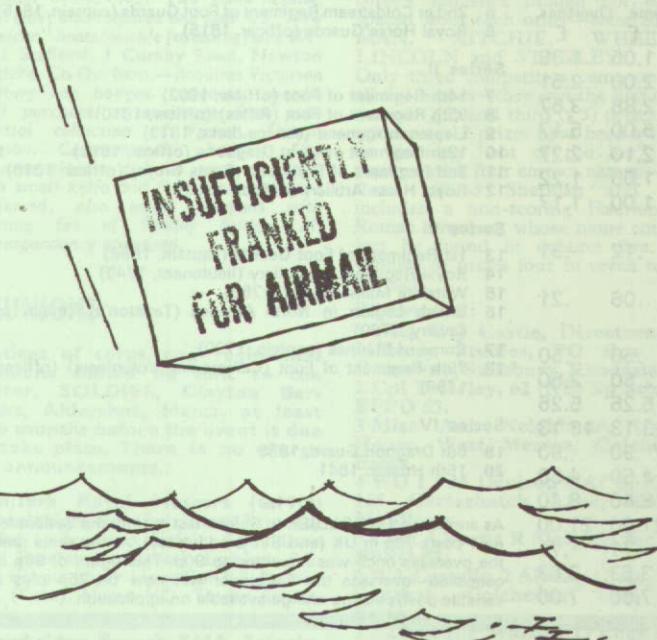
The No 1 Dress cap (which seems to be a job lot obtained from various bus companies) could be replaced by a hat similar to the present side hat which, like the stable belt, is purchased out of one's own pocket.

In conclusion I would like to comment on the lack of speed which seems to govern the issue of new clothing and equipment. For example 1958 pattern webbing has now been on issue for 13 years and yet many soldiers, us included, are still wearing 1937 pattern webbing. If something was done to rectify all these points it would make a favourable impression on the Army's recruiting figures.—L/Cpl D Smith, HQ NORTHAG/Two ATAF Tpt Coy LAD, BFPO 40.

Pensions

Like K Harris (Letters, January) I did not know at the time that the increases in pensions applied to persons reaching the age of 60. I chose the Army as a career and have never believed that, on retiring, the Army owed me a living. I do know however that during bad spells of my service the thought of a pension at the end helped to make life more

LETTERS



SOLDIER welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received. All correspondents must therefore give their full names and addresses to ensure a reply. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

Please do not ask for information which you can get in your orderly room or from your officer commanding. **SOLDIER** cannot admit correspondence on matters involving discipline or promotion in a unit.

bearable. However, after 22 years I felt that the pension had been earned. Unfortunately, the income tax department thinks otherwise and taxes it as "unearned income"—which I consider a disgusting state of affairs.—C McDonald, East Lodge, Sandringham, Norfolk.

Unit history

I am about to start compiling a history of 251(S) Field Ambulance RAMC (V) and would like to call upon readers of **SOLDIER** for assistance. Advice as well as photographs, mementoes etc would be appreciated. This unit was formerly 151 (N) Field Ambulance (TA).—Sgt Brown RAMC (V), 164 Old Durham Road, Gateshead, NE8 4BN.

RFD-RFM-TFM

I was very interested in Mr G G Stokes's letter (November) especially in relation to the Canadian Decoration, a form of which could surely be introduced into our own Forces to mark the 20th anniversary in 1973 of the Queen's coronation.

Now is the time to consider the introduction of a Regular Forces Decoration (RFD) for officers of all three Services who have completed 20 years' full-time commissioned service, which need not be consecutive and for which there is no lower age limit. It should be awarded on a commanding officer's recommendation for majors and below and on the

recommendation of the appropriate superior authority for lieutenants-colonels and above, the same conditions applying to officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

A competition could be held to decide on a ribbon and decoration for this award which should be exactly the same for each Service with the exception that the bar above the decoration would show to which Service the recipient belongs. It should be awarded as well to retired officers of all three Services who have met the conditions for its award. The recipient would be entitled to the letters RFD after his or her name.

The introduction of such a decoration would remove the anomaly which now exists between the long-service Regular officer and his Reserve Army counterpart. After the requisite number of years' service the latter, on recommendation, receives the Territorial Decoration or the Emergency Reserve Decoration. The reserve officer is quite rightly rewarded for evenings, weekends and holidays which he devotes to training. The RFD would provide something suitable for the Regular officer who at present leaves the Forces after many years' service with usually no decoration at all.

Simultaneously with the introduction of the RFD the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal should be renamed. It is not awarded lightly and its recipients are justly proud of it. While retaining the high standards necessary for its award, it should be renamed the Regular Forces Medal and its recipients, past, present and future, should be entitled to put the letters RFM after their name. The form of the medals and

ribbons should remain the same as at present in the three Services.

A word now about the Meritorious Service Medal. There is no need to tamper with this much-prized award but surely the recipients should be entitled to put MSM after their names! In the TAVR the Efficiency Medal, or the equivalent in the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, should be renamed the Territorial Forces Medal but again the form of the medals and ribbons should remain unaltered. The recipient should be entitled to the letters TFM after his or her name—this to be retrospective to those who have previously received the award.

It should be possible for a recipient of the RFM to qualify for the RFD in addition, if he or she is subsequently commissioned, by the decision that so much reckoned service should be allowed to count for the award of the Regular Forces Decoration. This should also apply to those who have been in the Services too short a time to qualify for the RFM before commissioning, assuming of course that their record immediately prior to commissioning showed them to be in line for the eventual award of the RFM.

Now, the General Service Medal. I have heard of at least one person who has achieved quite a high rank and who, so far, has been eligible only for the award of the two GSMS. He has three bars to the first and three to the second. Yet at present, unless he wears the medals, there is no means of telling this and by looking at the ribbons on their own he might have served the minimum time necessary in a theatre to earn each GSM with a single bar. That doubt could easily be resolved by the introduction of the following:

When the Africa Star was introduced during the last war, members of First and Eighth armies were entitled to put "1" or "8" in the centre of the ribbon. These were small metal figures and this system could easily be applied to the GSMS. Thus the person mentioned in the last paragraph would be entitled to a "3" on his first GSM ribbon and a "3" on his second. In the event of a mention-in-despatches the oak leaf emblem should be worn over the numeral.—Maj D P Monckton RCT, PR Branch, HQ Northern Ireland, Lisburn, Co Antrim.

Last 303

The army numbers of the medical officer, chief clerk and corporal clerk of this unit all end with the same three digits—303. We think this could be a record.—S/Sgt G Bray RAMC, 7 Field Ambulance RAMC, BFPO 36.

Righteous cause

I was sorry to read (Letters, December) that Mr Monday, of Tucson, Arizona, is embarrassed to be seen in the uniform of the United States Forces. I would have thought that fighting communist aggressors in Vietnam was an honourable war in a righteous cause, as in Korea or in World War Two.

I have affectionate memories of brawling and drinking with our American comrades in England, Iceland, North Africa and Italy. Memories of being treated like a king by Captain Sullivan of New York, in his field hospital outside Bizerta, North Africa; of escaping from a POW train at the Alerona bridge, near Orvieto, with the help of the USAF who blew up the train and the bridge; of sharing a few beans fried in olive oil and their last "dog ends" with Robert J Rankl, of Pittsburgh, and his seven comrades of the 36th Texas Infantry Division up at the old monastery of San Bernadetto on the mountain above the village of Monte Beuno, Italy—they were later killed by the SS.

So cheer up, Mr Monday, it's an imperfect world, but let's thank our lucky stars that thanks to the martial qualities of the allies in the West we're all living in the West in comparative freedom, unlike the dictatorships of parts of the East.—Danny Marlow, 24 Whitewell Road, Colcot, Barry, CF6 7TU, Glam.

many times, I have never been invited to renew my membership. I want very much to be a member and would dearly like to be able to help the Legion in some way. While I cannot help financially I am certain I can help in many practical ways.

When I was discharged from the Army the British Legion helped me to get a war pension which I would not have got without their help. In the first instance I was awarded a pension of 20 per cent but the Legion insisted I should get more and appealed several times on my behalf.

Each time my pension was increased but it was not until I got the 50 per cent that the Legion felt I was entitled to do they let the matter drop. For this I thank them, but I do feel that I should do something constructive to help the Legion. I owe it to my comrades.—**Glyn Minton, 25 Rosemount Close, Oxton, Birkenhead, Cheshire.**

★ Royal British Legion headquarters have taken up the question of Mr Minton's membership.

Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regt), Lancashire Fusiliers. Write first stating price.

Cpl J Garcia, 201 Baillie Crescent, Victoria BC, Canada.—Requires 17th/21st Lancers badge. Has Canadian Army badges available for exchange.

Cadet Sgt J G Robb, c/o 17 Hillmead Road, Craighead, Ellon, Aberdeenshire. —Wishes purchase or exchange for British Army badges, buttons and titles one German World War Two steel helmet, shell only; also requires one pair US "New Mexican" boots (buckle fastening) size 10. W L Stafford, 1 Cumby Road, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham.—Requires Victorian military cap badges, bayonets, swords. Will purchase or exchange from substantial collection of French, Dutch, Belgian, Commonwealth badges. Also requires piper's dirk in good condition with small knife and fork silver mounted preferred; also edged weapons with running fox of Shotley Bridge. All correspondence answered.

REUNIONS

Notices of corps and regimental reunions should be sent to the Editor, **SOLDIER**, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, at least two months before the event is due to take place. There is no charge for announcements.

13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO) Association. Reunion dinner Saturday 6 May at Saddle & Sirloin, Rood Lane (off Fenchurch Street) London EC. For tickets apply Lieut-Col J R Palmer MC (Retd), Home HQ, Tower Street, York.

Trowbridge Branch RHA Association. Annual dinner at Town Hall, Trowbridge, 25 March. Tickets £1.25 from Capt W H Steer, 38 Summerleaze, Trowbridge, Wilts.

RAOC Association. Annual reunion dinner 29 April, Alexandra Rooms, New Street, Salisbury. Tickets £1 from RAOC Secretariat, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

The hours spent in compiling the October Competition 161 were sadly rewarded by a comparatively small entry for this type of teaser. The symbols converted to the surnames of 25 generals and the required answer was the surnames of five more generals—one in each of the first, second, centre, sixth and seventh vertical columns.

These five—their letters were in the correct sequence though not equally spaced from each other—were SHERMAN, RITCHIE, WHEELER, LINCOLN and STANLEY.

Only three competitors came up with all five names—they win the first (£10), second (£5) and third (£3) prizes. The remaining 12 prizes have been awarded by drawing "out of the hat" competitors with four correct names—all of these offered Sherman and some included a non-scoring Hadrian, the Roman emperor, whose name could in fact be found in column five. The winners of prizes four to seven receive £1 each.

Prizewinners:

1 Maj C J Castle, Directorate of Military Studies, PO Box 8230, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

2 Cpl Brierley, 62 (NE) Sp Sqn RE, BFPO 53.

3 Miss Ann Neighbour, Upland House, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex.

4 WO I J M Denison RAPC, Flat 6, 165 Carterhatch Lane, Enfield, Middlesex.

5 Capt A Burns R Signs, 259 Sig Sqn, BFPO 53.

6 R A Costello, 2 Albany Close, West Bergholt, Colchester, CO6 3LE, Essex.

7 2/Lieut A P Walker, 23 Engr Regt, BFPO 36.

8 E H Hilderbrando, The Ramblers, 199 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, Wilts.

9 M B Turner, Chudleigh House, Pen Lane, King's Stanley, Stonehouse, Glos.

10 Mrs E M Wallis, 37 Alexander Street, Collaroy 2097, NSW, Australia.

11 Lieut (QM) H M Whitehead, TAVR, 2 Vale Court, Westcliffe Road, Ramsgate, Kent.

12 Sgt M Lockie, 37 Cleveland Road, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.

13 M K Wilson, 3 Akeman Avenue, Ambrosden, Bicester, Oxon.

14 Lieut-Col B A T Hammond RA, 30 Tudor Drive, Oxford, Sevenoaks, Kent.

15 J A Hewson, Hillside Cottage, Stonegate, Wadhurst, Sussex.

The complete table is:

M	A	X	W	E	L	L
B	L	U	C	H	E	R
M	E	T	H	U	N	N
G	A	M	E	L	I	S
C	A	S	S	I	U	T
J	O	U	B	E	R	A
A	G	R	I	P	P	Y
B	R	A	N	D	E	E
W	I	N	G	A	T	E
S	T	U	D	E	N	T
J	A	C	K	S	O	N
S	P	E	I	D	E	L
S	C	H	E	R	E	R
H	A	N	F	O	C	K
E	R	S	K	I	N	E
R	I	D	G	W	A	Y
S	M	A	P	S	U	N
M	E	T	C	L	E	A
L	W	E	Y	G	A	D
W	A	L	L	E	N	Y
A	K	O	P	R	U	L
D	E	M	P	S	E	Y
N	E	H	R	I	N	G

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 17)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Goalkeeper's right cuff. 2 Height of numeral on goalkeeper's back.

3 Notch in shorts of right player. 4 Front stud in goalkeeper's right boot. 5 Neckline of player on left. 6 Leg of middle policeman. 7 Left corner flag. 8 Size of left striped flag. 9 Sideburns of player on right. 10 Left boot of player on left.

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Address.....

County.....

Age.....

I am physically fit,
between 19 and 30
and 5' 8" or over.

BACK TO BATTALION STRENGTH



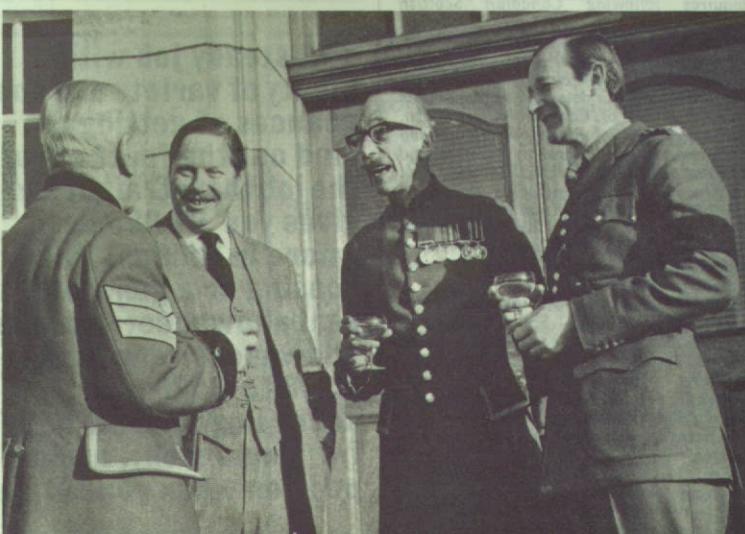
Above: Headed by sideburned piper Sergeant Ian Halliday, the Colour is marched from the ceremony to its new home in the officers' mess.

Right: Champagne celebration for two Scots Guards pensioners, the colonel commanding the regiment, Sir Gregor MacGregor of MacGregor (left) and Lieutenant-Colonel Boam, who wore a black armband because the Court was in the mourning period for King Frederick of Denmark.

FOR two elderly men on parade at Redford Barracks, Edinburgh, the ceremony at which 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, was restored to full strength meant a little more than to most.

The two Chelsea pensioners, Sergeant Jim Blair (71) and Company Sergeant-Major Jim Edgar (69), were heartbroken when the battalion was reduced to company strength last April. Said CSM Edgar: "It was as if our whole lives had gone out of existence." Between them they had spent 43 years with the battalion and as the battalion flag rose once more they relived the days which took them to China, Palestine, Egypt and France.

Five minutes before the arrival of the General Officer Commanding the Army in Scotland, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Leask, the company sign at the barrack gates was exchanged for a larger battalion sign. After inspecting the guard and seeing the flag raised, General Leask presented the Long Service and Good



Conduct Medal to Regimental Sergeant-Major Jim Dargie, the new RSM and until recently a college sergeant-major at Sandhurst.

The Colour, which was presented by the Queen in 1965, has been at the regimental headquarters at Wellington Barracks, London, while the battalion was at Company strength but it will now be lodged in the officers' mess at Redford Barracks.

The new battalion is being assembled from the existing company, S company just back from British Honduras, F Company which served with the Irish Guards in Hong Kong and G Company which had been with the 1st Battalion in Ulster.

The new commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Tony Boam, said he expected the battalion to be 550 strong by July.

Then the revived battalion turns to training for Northern Ireland. Ironically Charles I authorised the raising of Scots Guards in 1642 to be "led into our realm of Ireland" when there was trouble between the Irish and the Scottish settlers.



Above: Colour-Sergeant Fred Smith puts up the new sign at Redford Barracks entrance and removes the company sign there since April.

Below: A double event for new Regimental Sergeant-Major Jim Dargie, receiving Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the GOC-in-C.



H.M. FORCES SAVINGS

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Officers and soldiers may now authorise direct deductions from service pay to SAYE. Generous tax-free bonuses.

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Ideal for mess funds.

Ask your Unit Savings Officer for further details or write to:—The Secretary, H.M. Forces Savings Committee, Block B, Government Buildings, London Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4PX.

Doctor's orders

AS is well known to all Mundavian doctors and nursing staff, the seriousness of any illness depends entirely upon the number of letters in the name of that illness. It follows that a patient's temperature should be taken more frequently for the more serious diseases.

In fact the Mundavians have got this business down to a fine art. Having diagnosed the patient's complaint, it is then arranged that during his stay in hospital his temperature is taken an exact number of times. For example a patient with small pox must have his taken exactly eight times while whooping cough demands that this be done 13 times.

The patient is of course immediately discharged once his final temperature has been taken and recorded.

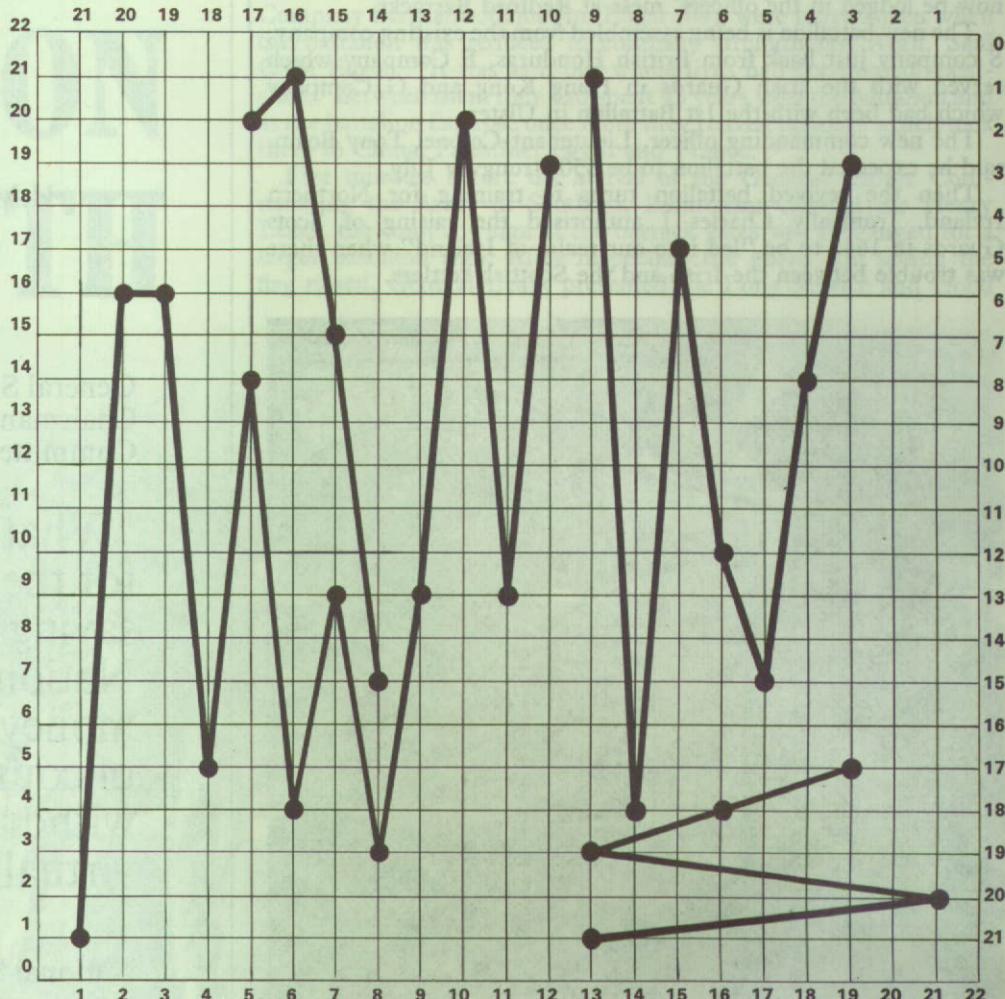
With their well-known ingenuity, the Mundavians have devised a standard chart for use in all their hospitals. This chart, in the form of a grid, enables more than one patient's temperature and progress to be plotted.

It also has a number of other curious and useful properties. It is obvious that each time a temperature is recorded one of the letters of the name of the illness is also simultaneously plotted, but quite apart from this, one of the scales shows for each patient his day of admission and discharge and thus his length of stay in hospital.

Oddly, too, once it is discovered in which direction each graph line runs, it is then possible to find the name of the patient's illness.

Tomh, for example, whose operation was completely successful, spent the longest time in hospital. He was discharged on the same day that the patient who spent the shortest time there was admitted. Having got over mumps, poor old Harih had to be readmitted a couple of days later with another complaint.

Apart from the mumps, can you say for what illnesses Tomh, Dikh and Harih were each treated?



Send your answer on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 166" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

Editor (Comp 166)
SOLDIER
 Clayton Barracks
 Aldershot
 Hants.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 12 June. The answers and winners' names will appear in the August **SOLDIER**.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 166" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

Prizes

1	£10
2	£5
3	£3
4	£2
5-6	£1
7-8	"D-Day" print
9-10	SOLDIER free for a year
11-12	SOLDIER free for six months

Some less-known MILITARY PRINTS



Books

Royal bodyguard

"The Life Guards" (R J T Hills)

Today's peacekeeping role has been known for centuries to such regiments as The Life Guards, raised in Breda, Holland, to act as bodyguard to Charles II. In the absence of police they were needed in the Sacheverell and Gordon riots and in the Cato Street conspiracy—their frustration expressed itself in numerous duels and enlistments in the Royal Navy for service against the Dutch. But in moments of national crisis they simply had to be used, as at Steenkirk, Neerwinden, Dettingen and Fontenoy.

Although pageantry was central to their lives at Brighton, Windsor and London, they showed their fighting skills in Egypt against Arabi Pasha and in South Africa against the Boers. World War One took all the glamour out of war and The Life Guards found themselves as infantry at Passchendaele and Neuve Chapelle, taking Zwartelen with the bayonet and breaching the Hindenburg Line with machine-guns.

Switched to armoured cars in World War Two, they fought the Vichy French in Syria and the Germans in North Africa and Italy. Their greatest feat was the magnificent nonstop race through Europe with the Guards Armoured Division to the liberation of Brussels. Their international police-work has continued in Berlin, Aden, Cyprus and now in Northern Ireland.

An interesting addition to the "Famous Regiments" series.

AWH

Bahadur

"The Great Duke" (Sir Arthur Bryant)

The Peninsular campaign was fought in the toughest possible terrain amidst a savage, unstable people who had little regard for human life. The man sent to lead the British forces was an Anglo-Irish landowner, Arthur Wellesley, better known as the Duke of Wellington or even "Old Nosey."

He hardly seemed a suitable candidate. He was plain and direct in manner and known to be simple and frugal in his habits but with his background as an aide at Dublin Castle garden parties many doubted his ability. Such critics knew little of his work in India where he mastered the Mahrattas at Assaye and organised armies supplied by as many as 120,000 bullocks in a column. He was soon to prove that he was not called "bahadur" (the "invincible one") for nothing.

His first contact with the Iberian Peninsula was ruined by the stupidity of other commanders despite his victory at Vimiero. Fortunately a court of inquiry exonerated him for the infamous Convention of Cintra. Given a free hand thereafter, Wellington outgeneraled Napoleon's best commanders—Sout, Victor, Masséna and Marmont—in the glorious victories of Talavera, Fuentes de Onoro, Salamanca and Vittoria. Some were frightful in the extreme—Albuhera, Ciudad Rod-

igo and Badajoz—but they proved that the British infantry was the finest in the world. Wellington demonstrated this again and convincingly at Waterloo.

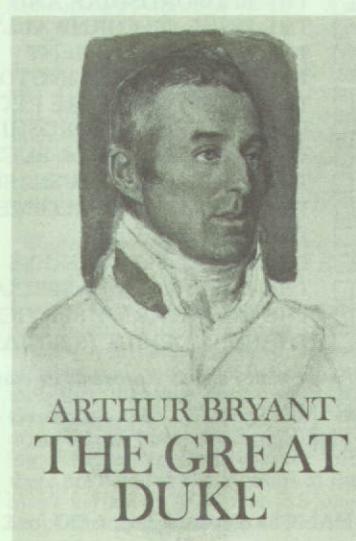
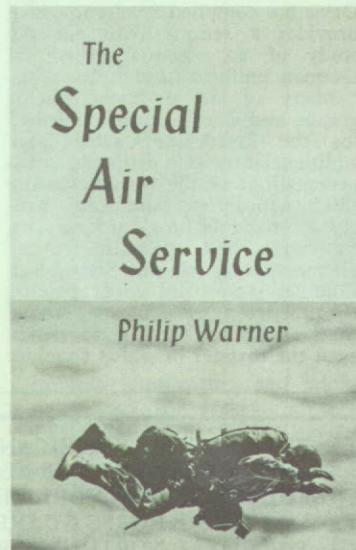
A very well-written volume with excellent maps and plates. *Collins, £3.50* AWH

"Cloak and dagger"

"The Special Air Service" (Philip Warner)

The Special Air Service Regiment is about 30 years old but it remains Britain's most mysterious fighting force. They rarely figure in parades and, when you come across them, a first impression of its men is that they are a bunch of bandits armed not only with conventional weapons but also carrying assorted Lugers, kukris and daggers.

Mr Warner, who was asked by the regiment to write this history, sweeps away many of the misconceptions and there emerges for the first time the gripping story of these elite troops. He describes vividly their birth in the Western Desert, where they specialised in destroying aircraft on the ground, and follows them to Sicily ahead of



the landings, to the Aegean and the Adriatic where small SAS groups tied down whole German divisions, to Greece and Italy where a Danish SAS officer, Anders Lassen, won a posthumous Victoria Cross, and to France, Belgium, Holland and Germany where again they operated behind enemy lines.

After the war they made excellent contributions to the British successes in the Malayan Emergency and during Confrontation in Borneo. They fought with similar success in the South Arabian area.

They enhanced Britain's military history at every step, on land, at sea and in the air, but perhaps their greatest achievement lies in the techniques and training which they have pioneered and passed on to the rest of the Army.

Kimber, £4.50 AWH

"Tribal areas"

"The Highland Regiments: Tigers in Tartan" (W Pratt Paul)

In some quarters the "death" of a regiment is quietly accepted as the price of reorganisation of a modern Army. It is argued that it saves money, rationalises the system and is in keeping with contemporary ideas. Cynics scoff at "tribal areas" and contemptuously dismiss their contribution.

But every age in history thinks itself in an age of crisis and it was no different in the late 18th century when most of the Highland regiments were raised. Many authorities regarded them even then as colourful anachronisms with their strange titles—Am Freiceadan Dubh (Black Watch) and Na Gordanach (Gordons)—their kilts, plaids, sporrans and hackles and their weird music.

But the "Tigers in tartan" carved out an empire in Canada at Ticonderoga and Bushy Run and in India at Bangalore and Assaye; they frustrated Napoleon at Badajoz and Waterloo, maintained the Pax Britannica at the Alma, Cawnpore, Omdurman and Magersfontein and died by the thousand at Loos, La Bassée and the Somme. Within living memory they showed their worth yet again at El Alamein, Kohima and Korea.

This costly publication is really a compendium, a reference book, crammed with the deeds of men from The Black Watch, Queen's Own Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Impulse Publications, 28 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB1 2NB, £3.25 AWH

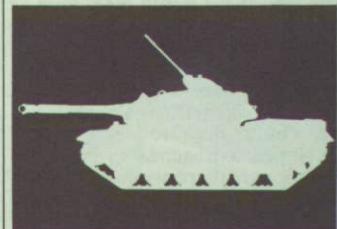
Teeth arm

"History of the Royal Army Dental Corps" (edited by Leslie J Godden) Robert Burns once described toothache as "the Hell o' a disease!" Anyone who has suffered must agree. And for the fighting man it can be unendurable.

Strangely the earliest references to the need for dental equipment for surgeons in the field are as early as 1617. But the Boer War first exposed the ravages of dental caries.

Profile News

AFV/Weapons Series



No 38 Conqueror Heavy Gun Tank

Changes between conception and production are not infrequent in the development of military equipment, yet the history of Conqueror is probably more bizarre than most. Intended originally for the support of infantry it was then adapted to become the so-called Universal tank—only to be superseded by the design it was meant to replace—and finally emerged into service for a short time as a highly specialised tank killer: By Major Michael Norman, Royal Tank Regiment, author of AFV/Weapons Profiles 17, 18, 19, 23 and 27.

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Although armoured cars, a familiar sight in many countries, have never been popular in the United States, more varieties have existed there than is generally realised. This Profile recounts the whole story of US armoured cars from the Davidson car of 1898 to the XM808 on the Lockheed Twister chassis of today: By Colonel Robert J. Icks, the famous American armoured expert, author of AFV/Weapons Profiles 16, 24, 26 and 32, and Profile Book AFV/Weapons Series No. 1 Modern U.S. Armored Support Vehicles.

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Books

Hundreds of men were incapacitated by toothache and the four dentists sent out there could not cope. So many men lost their grinding teeth that mincing machines were issued to most units! It was not till the Aisne offensive in World War One that the problem was taken seriously and then only because Haig himself developed toothache.

Although there were 831 dentists in the Army by 1918 it was not till 1921 that the Army Dental Corps was formed. That their problems were not really appreciated is shown by a regulation that working dress included spurs. In 1927 the first really complete dental unit was sent overseas to Shanghai. A 1937 statistic, that 98 per cent of all recruits required treatment, showed the need for dentists.

In World War Two the Dental Corps did sterling service with mobile units in every theatre of operation and with every possible formation. Seventy-four names are recorded in the corps book of remembrance. In 1946 the corps became the Royal Army Dental Corps.

Gale & Polden, £3.00

AWH

THE PASSWORD IS COURAGE



John Castle

side-line?" asks Mr Green in his prologue.

Fortunately for readers who enjoy off-beat war stories, he decided to publish this remarkable personal account of one man's war. Mr Green, a Royal Army Dental Corps officer, was captured in 1940 with 51st (Highland) Division at St Valéry. He was a much-travelled "kriegie" by the end of the war and picked up lots of valuable information which he sent to British intelligence in coded letters. Through him, Commandos captured at St Nazaire were in touch with home and London kept tabs on a traitor planted among the prisoners by the Germans. That explains his reference to a treason trial.

He tells his story with engaging humour and a complete lack of heroics. But what he did took courage of a high order because, being Jewish, he knew his captors would welcome an excuse to get rid of him.



Charles Coward, a Territorial battery sergeant-major captured at Calais, decided that captivity was dull. He too made the rounds of prison camps before escaping and joining the Polish Underground. He became an expert saboteur, sent back valuable information to Britain, then turned his attention to the notorious Auschwitz death camp. Trading in dead bodies, he organised the escape of some 400 inmates. Finally, with the Gestapo close behind, he had to run for it. He reached Britain in April 1945 and later was a major witness at war crimes trials.

This is a re-issue of a book which has been long out of print. It is well worth another airing.

Green: Hale, £2.00
Castle: Souvenir Press, £2.00 JCW

Behind bars

"From Colditz in Code" (Julius Green)
"The Password is Courage" (John Castle)

"How the hell did a flat-footed, short-sighted dentist with a tendency to overweight get involved in a treason trial, find himself approached by the Polish Underground to take part in an uprising in Silesia in 1943, get propositioned by a blonde poppy in the Friedrichstrasse Bahnhof in Berlin in 1942 while wearing British uniform, become confined in a fortress for British officers considered especially dangerous to Germany, and end up asked to join in a gun-running operation, carrying illegal immigrants and dope as a

German militaria

"German Army Uniforms and Insignia 1933-1945" (Brian L Davis)

"German Infantry 1914-1918" (David Nash)

The wealth of authoritative detail covering every aspect of the military uniforms, insignia and accoutrements of the Army of the Third Reich make Mr Davis's book an important reference for military historian, student and modeller. Mr Davis has compiled a volume which provides a serious basis for the study of an essential aspect of German uniform history.

Many of the excellent photographs and drawings are published for the first time; some have additional interest in depicting actual personalities of the period wearing their appropriate uniforms with characteristic features such as cut, aiguillettes and specialist lanyard plaques clearly shown. Sixty-seven shoulder straps and collar patches are illustrated in colour and, typical of meticulous attention to detail, even the manner in which shoulder

straps are attached to the tunic and the precise significance of shoulder strap buttons are discussed.

The narrative is in three main sections—rank and rank insignia, badges and insignia, and uniforms. The first explains the rank hierarchy of the German Army. The second covers all the distinctive badges issued to German troops, including trade, specialist and proficiency badges, unit emblems, cuff titles, side-arm knots and arm bands. The uniform section discusses all the more basic items of equipment—headress, tunics, trousers, shirts, greatcoats, camouflage material, footwear and sports equipment.

Useful appendices include a summary of a soldier's personal equipment and weapons and extensive English-German and German-English glossaries.

The more modest "German Infantry 1914-1918" gives a concise and informed account of the organisation, order of battle, equipment, small arms, insignia and uniforms of World War One German infantry regiments. Of particular interest is a short well-illustrated chapter on machine-gun troops.

German Army Uniforms and Insignia 1933-1945



Brian L Davis



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In brief

There are eight pages, plus the cover, in full colour showing uniforms, shoulder straps and contemporary prints. Numerous line drawings and other pictures complete the coverage of a subject which is increasingly claiming the attention of model soldier and uniform enthusiasts.

*Davis: Arms & Armour Press, £4.25
Nash: Almark, £1.00 (paper cover), £1.50 (hard cover)*

JFPJ

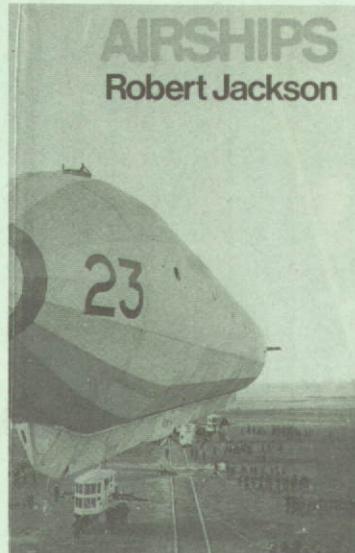
"Wellington's Peninsular Victories" (Michael Glover)

This lucid and absorbing narrative of the five years of gruelling campaigning that brought Wellington and his armies from Portugal to the south of France makes a welcome reappearance. Originally published by Batsford and reviewed in the February 1963 *SOLDIER*, this well-indexed paperback, which also includes an appendix giving the order of battle of the Anglo-Portuguese army, now sets out to conquer fresh and wider fields.

Pan Books, 30p

"Airships" (Robert Jackson)

The airship was the first real terror weapon, carrying war far behind the battle fronts into the civilian domain. The Zeppelin stalked the skies of Europe bringing death and unheard-of destruction to London and other British cities.



In this illuminating and wide-ranging book Mr Jackson gives a compelling account of Germany's airship war, and those of Britain, France and Italy. He begins in 1268 when Roger Bacon first conceived the idea of man breaking his earthbound situation.

He takes us through the years of development, through World War One and into those postwar years when there was still hope for lighter-than-air travel. Akron, R-101 and Hindenburg killed the dream and, though the US Navy had some success with blimps, the airship idea was never revived as a major programme.

Cassell, £3.25

JCW

"Waffen-SS: Its Uniforms, Insignia and Equipment 1938-1945" (D S V Fosten and R J Marrion)

Larger than the average Almark publication, this book provides a concise yet comprehensive record of what was once considered to be the elite fighting force of Nazi Germany—the Waffen-SS. Its organisation, history and main fighting divisions are well covered and there are detailed descriptions of the many variations of Waffen-SS uniforms and insignia. Some 80 illustrations and a wealth of line drawings support the text.

Noteworthy are the excellent colour plates depicting uniforms and the close-ups of seasonal camouflage which characterised SS camouflage clothing. In short, this book brings clarity to a complicated subject and as such will be specially welcomed by model soldier specialists and military uniform enthusiasts.

Almark, £2.25 (hard cover), £1.75 (paperback)

"British Military Markings: 1939-1945" (Peter Hedges)

This comprehensive and detailed guide to the marking systems adopted for British military vehicles in World War Two fills a long-empty space on the bookshelves of the many enthusiasts in this field. A noteworthy feature is the wealth of illustrations, particularly the seven pages which show in full colour more than 130 signs, or groups of signs, as covered in the text—something the keen tank and vehicle modeller will welcome.

An introductory chapter on military formations provides a useful background to the main theme of tactical signs, serials and vehicle markings and how they relate to an army's organisation. This handy little book does much to simplify a complicated subject.

Almark, £1.75 (hard cover), £1.25 (paperback)

"Sword Collecting for Amateurs" (James Henderson)

The broadsword, the rapier, the small-sword; military and naval swords; Japanese swords—swords of every kind are described in this fascinating recruit to Mr Henderson's "Collecting for Amateurs" series. Nearly half the book is devoted to tracing the history of the sword from legendary times to the famous cavalry pattern approved by Edward VII. There are chapters on forming and maintaining a collection and useful tips on the acquisition of swords. A glossary, bibliography and a selection of line drawings and photographs complete this work.

Muller, 70p

"Overseas: The Lineages and Insignia of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1919" (Charles H Stewart)

This painstakingly compiled book gives the order of battle of the Canadian Army units—no fewer than 755 of them—which were mobilised in World War One. As such it is a work of historical importance. It is also a valuable reference providing information on a variety of subjects including battalion strengths, unit organisation dates, affiliations, disbands, battle honours, regimental mottoes and a list of Canadian recipients of the Victoria Cross.

There are also details of regimental uniforms and 36 photographic plates illustrating 507 cap badges, 353 collar badges and 185 shoulder titles. All the more pity that so useful and informative a work is published in a limited edition.

C H Stewart, 204-251 Sackville St, Toronto 246, Ontario, Canada, \$10.50 (including postage, not airmail).

The Medieval Soldier

Vesey Norman



Life in the Middle Ages

Feudalism and chivalry

"The Medieval Soldier" (Vesey Norman)

One of the most fascinating problems in history is how the undisciplined hordes of barbarians who smashed the Roman Empire managed to evolve into the tightly controlled feudal armies of the later Middle Ages. This volume, the latest in a new series, "Life in the Middle Ages," goes a long way towards providing a scholarly explanation.

The Pax Romana disintegrated under the enormous pressure of attacks by tribes beyond the Rhine-Danube frontier. Huge masses of Huns, Avars, Vandals, Visigoths and Ostrogoths poured into Western Europe and destroyed a civilisation far beyond their comprehension. Soon they had dissipated their energies in a welter of bloodshed aptly called the Dark Ages. Yet this is not entirely true. Some of these primitive races, especially the Lombards in Italy and the Franks in France, absorbed much of the culture they had conquered. Later groups, the Saxons and Vikings, were almost as successful.

From this blend of barbarian vigour and Roman ideas was born the concept of feudalism which for centuries provided Europe with its basic form of social and political organisation. Before long there evolved a code of honour, chivalry, which was to lead Western Europe into the long and wasteful crusades. By the 14th century both feudalism and chivalry had visibly declined.

This is an interesting book with scholarly studies of arms, armour, ships and tactics. The bibliography is excellent.

Arthur Barker, £3.00

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