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# SOLDIER



1945~1970





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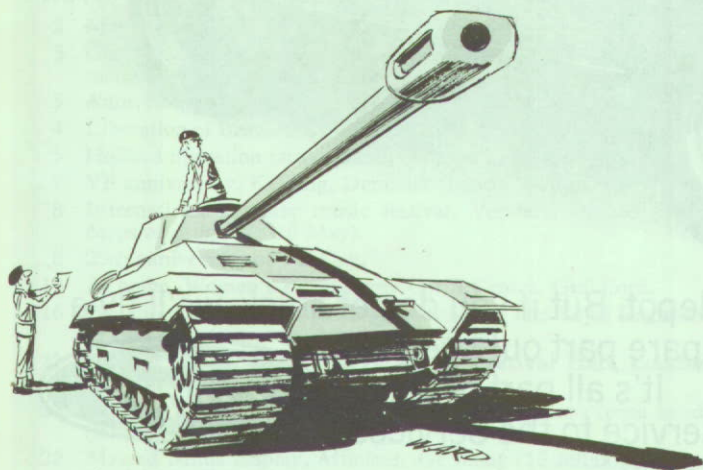
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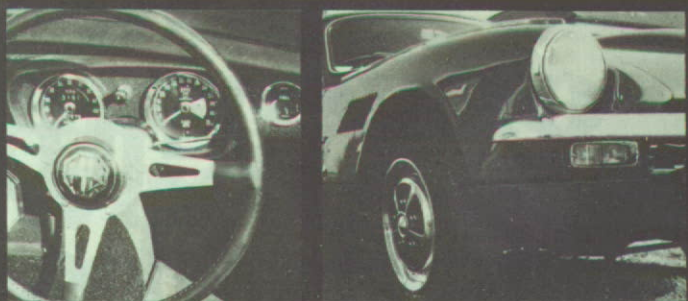
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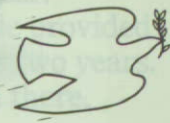
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## See-the-Army DIARY

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 1970

- 18 Military band festival, Antwerp (pipe band, dancers).
- 23 25th anniversary of Rhine Crossing—6th Airborne Division pilgrimage (23-25 March).
- 25 Amalgamation, Connaught Barracks, Dover, of The Lancashire Regiment and The Loyal Regiment.
- 27 Lydd air show (Blue Eagles helicopter display) (27-30 March).

### APRIL 1970

- 21 British national day, Osaka World Expo (or 23 or 25 April).
- 23 Presentation new Colours to 1st and 5th battalions, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, Kirton Lindsey (St George's Day).
- 24 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, freedom marches through Bristol (24 April); Cheltenham (25 April); Gloucester (26 April).
- 26 Laying up old Colours 1st and 5th battalions, The Lancashire Fusiliers, Bury Parish Church.
- 29 Opening, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers Museum, Alnwick Castle (provisional).

### MAY 1970

- 2 Mayflower opening ceremony, Plymouth (band, bugles).
- 3 Combined Cavalry Old Comrades 46th annual parade and memorial service, Hyde Park, London.
- 3 Anniversary celebrations, The Hague (band) (3-5 May).
- 4 Liberation of Brunssum (band, pipe band) (4-8 May).
- 5 Holland liberation tattoo (band, corps of drums) (5-7 May).
- 7 VE anniversary, Kolding, Denmark (band) (7-10 May).
- 8 International military music festival, Verviers, France (band, corps of drums) (8-10 May).
- 8 25th anniversary of VE Day.
- 10 At home, Women's Royal Army Corps Centre, Guildford.
- 16 Presentation new Colours to 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, Gibraltar (Albuhera Day).
- 22 **Kneller Hall Band concert, Royal Festival Hall, London (for Army Benevolent Fund).**
- 22 10th international festival of military music, Mons (pipe band) (22-26 May).
- 22 Massed bands display, Münster, Germany (10 military, 2 pipe bands) (22-23 May).
- 23 **Burma reunion, Royal Albert Hall, London.**
- 23 Allied Forces Day parade, Berlin.
- 23 Congleton carnival (Red Devils freefall team, motorcycle team, band).
- 23 Watford carnival (2 bands, Blue Eagles, arena display) (23-25 May).
- 24 **Burma remembrance parade, Horse Guards Parade, and annual service, Cenotaph, Whitehall, London.**
- 24 Tidworth tattoo (24-25 May).
- 25 New Addington fair (arena display).
- 25 Festival of London parade (bands).
- 25 **SSAFA international air pageant, RAF Church Fenton, Yorkshire.**
- 27 RUAS show, Balmoral, Northern Ireland (band) (27-30 May).
- 28 Army recruiting display, Aberdeen (band, pipes and drums, motorcycle team) (28-30 May).
- 29 Massed bands display, Herford, Germany (10 military, 2 pipe bands) (29-30 May).
- 30 Burley carnival (band, motorcycle team).
- 30 **First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.**

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## JUNE 1970

- 4 Army recruiting display, Glasgow (band, pipes and drums, motorcycle team (?), arena display) (4-6 June).
- 5 Royal Artillery at home, Woolwich (bands, musical drive RHA, freefall, motorcycle team) (5-6 June).
- 6 Nuneaton Army display (band, Red Devils, physical training).
- 6 Second rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, London.
- 6 Welwyn Garden City Round Table Stadium Gala (bands).
- 10 Newton Abbot trades fair (band, tentpegging, motorcycle team) (10-11 June).
- 11 Army recruiting display, Ayr (band, pipes and drums, motorcycle team, arena display) (11-13 June).
- 12 Coventry Army display (band, corps of drums, Red Devils, Blue Eagles, physical training, motorcycle team) (12-13 June).
- 13 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 13 7th international festival of music, Tournai, Belgium (band and pipe band) (13-14 June).
- 13 Massed bands beat Retreat, Catterick.
- 13 School of Infantry open day, Warminster.
- 13 Porchester carnival (2 bands, Red Devils).
- 13 Mayflower 70, Plymouth, Combined Services' Queen's birthday parade.
- 18 Queen's birthday parade, HQ SHAPE, Belgium.
- 19 Bexley tattoo (19-21 June).
- 20 Royal Signals 50th anniversary exhibition, School of Signals, Blandford.
- 20 Aldershot Army display (20-21 June).
- 20 Newham show, East Ham (band, arena display).
- 21 Royal Signals 50th anniversary cathedral service and march past, Salisbury (am); open day and pageant, School of Signals, Blandford (pm).
- 23 Mayflower 70, Plymouth tattoo, Royal Citadel (23-27 June).
- 23 Suffolk tattoo, Ipswich (23-27 June).
- 27 Massed bands display, Minden, Germany (7 bands) (or on 4 July).
- 27 Army recruiting display, Cardiff (band, corps of drums, Red Devils, Blue Eagles, motorcycle team) (27-28 June).
- 27 Military musical pageant, Wembley Stadium (for Army Benevolent Fund).
- 27 39 Engineer Regiment (Airfields) open day, Waterbeach.
- 27 Chingford Scouts (3 bands).
- 27 North Wilts Army Cadet Force tattoo, Swindon.
- 27 Installation, Governor of Edinburgh Castle (Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Leask), Castle Esplanade, Edinburgh.

## JULY 1970

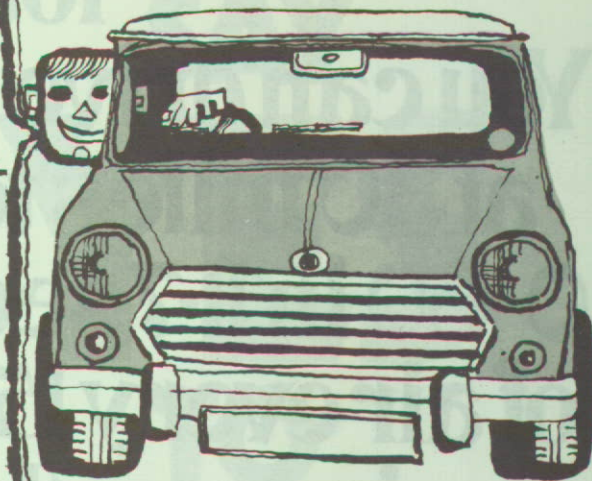
- 3 2nd Division massed bands display, Germany (3-4 July).
- 4 Army recruiting display, Troon (Red Devils) (4-5 July).
- 4 Massed bands display, Minden, Germany (if not 27 June).
- 4 Swansea Army display (band, corps of drums, motorcycle team, infantry display) (4-5 July).
- 4 School of Artillery open day, Manorbier.
- 10 Southampton show (band) (10-11 July).
- 11 Nottingham military display (6 bands, Red Devils, gymnastic display, guard dog demonstration, motorcycle team, Blue Eagles, cliff climbing, RAF display) (11-14 July).
- 11 Woking carnival (band).
- 11 Basingstoke carnival (band).
- 11 Cadet fête, Frimley (band, 2 displays).
- 15 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (15-31 July).
- 16 Commonwealth Games, Edinburgh (bands, pipes and drums) (16-25 July).
- 16 Liverpool Army display (band, pipes and drums, Red Devils (?), tentpegging, infantry display, Blue Eagles) (16-18 July).

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# White sheep of the family

**N**OT even in the days of the Raj was a British soldier so cosseted. Yet Private Derby of The Sherwood Foresters has his own comfortable quarter, breakfast brought to him in bed and two batmen to bathe him and clean his kit.

Derby—last three XXI—is 21st in the line of regimental ram mascots. Derby I was obtained during the Indian Mutiny when the 95th Foot (later the 2nd Battalion, Sherwood Foresters) was attacking Kotah in 1858. He was chained to a stake in a temple compound and captured by a soldier under fire from an enemy angered at losing its “rations on the hoof.” Derby I was a stout animal. He marched with the regiment over 3000 hot, dusty, battle-scarred miles, defeated 33 rivals in horn-to-horn combat and was eventually awarded the Indian Muntiny Medal with clasp.

Successive Derbys have worn that medal on their uniform—a coat emblazoned with regimental battle honours. But not all were so chivalrous. Derby VIII had a marked dislike of church parade and once butted the band when it was playing a hymn; his brother Derby IX was no better than he should be and was described by a military historian as having the morals of a Henry VIII; Derby XVII was an inveterate tobacco chewer and died of nicotine poisoning; Derby XVIII was promoted to lance-corporal for exemplary conduct on a Queen's Birthday parade but reduced to the ranks less than a year later for misbehaviour.

The present Derby is reputedly the best behaved of all. He has his own regimental conduct sheet (Army Form B 120) and there has not been one entry on it in his two and a half years' service.

Derby XXI, like all recent regimental rams, is a pedigree Swaledale presented by the Duke of Devonshire out of his flock at Chatsworth, Derbyshire. Unlike his predecessors, who were born and bred at Chatsworth, he was brought into the flock from Teesdale at the age of one. He has his own birth certificate.

Enlisted at the age of two, he spent his first six months in the Army doing “basic training” with his handlers, a ram-major and a ram orderly. He learned to march, counter-march, wheel and halt all to the sound of the band. “But he never quite got the knack of slow marching,” said Ram-Major Lance-Corporal Trevor Cheetham. “He marches at the normal speed, gets a few paces ahead and waits for us to catch up.”

Derby XXI's day begins with being woken from his warm straw bed and given breakfast—his main daily meal—of maize, oats and raw cabbage and carrots. The succulent grass at camp near Tidworth provides him with an afternoon snack. He is now four and his weight tops 205 pounds. Perhaps his passion for chocolates has something to do with it.

However, he is kept fit by an hour's walk in the morning and an hour and a half in the afternoon. He has a twice daily combing and a monthly bath. He is washed in shampoo then gone over with a lady's hair dryer—but he takes two days to dry out completely.

The Foresters' rams have an almost human status—the rank of private, documents of a human soldier and flags at half mast in camp when they die. Their memory is preserved even after death. Some of the heads have been mounted and exhibited in the regimental museums and messes, one Derby ram's skull was made into a snuff box and another Derby became a hearthrug.



No parade is complete without him. Derby XXI with his former handlers, Ram-Major Lance-Corporal George Hargreaves, and Ram Orderly Private Derek Howell. Derby, who wears a silver headplate, studded collar, and Indian Mutiny Medal and old regimental cap badge on his red, green and gold coat, is continuing as the mascot of The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment formed by amalgamation late last month.

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- 2 The Royal Navy (vice-admiral, full dress, 1805) (pictured above, right)
- 3 The 42nd Royal Highland Regiment of Foot (Black Watch) (officer, 1810) (pictured above, left)
- 4 The 7th Regiment of Light Dragoons (Hussars) (officer, 1810)
- 5 The 2nd or Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards (captain, 1815)
- 6 The Royal Horse Guards (officer, 1815)

### SERIES II (17 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 12 inches, including mount)

- 7 The 14th Regiment of Foot (officer, 1802)
- 8 The 95th Regiment of Foot (Rifles) (officer, 1810)
- 9 Lieutenant-general (service dress, 1810)
- 10 The 12th Regiment of Light Dragoons (officer, 1812)
- 11 The 2nd Regiment of Dragoons (Scots Greys) (officer, 1815)
- 12 The Royal Horse Artillery (officer, 1815)

### SERIES III (11 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, including mount)

- 13 The 1st Regiment of Foot Guards (captain, 1688)
- 14 The Royal Regiment of Artillery (lieutenant, 1743)
- 15 The Wiltshire Militia (major, 1760)
- 16 The British Legion in North America (Tarleton's) (major of cavalry, 1780)
- 17 The Corps of Marines (captain, 1790)
- 18 The 79th Regiment of Foot (Cameronian Volunteers) (officer, 1799)

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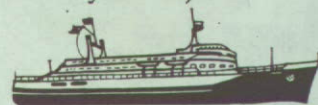
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This month **SOLDIER** celebrates its 25th anniversary—the first issue, then fortnightly, was published in Brussels on 19 March 1945 and distributed free to men of the British Liberation Army.

In this silver jubilee number **SOLDIER** reflects from its pages the events of the past quarter-century, from the end of World War Two in Europe and the Far East through the Korean War, the Malayan Emergency, Mau-Mau and Confrontation with Indonesia, the innumerable “brush-fire” and peace-keeping operations to the all-Regular “Professional” Army of the Seventies.

## SILVER JUBILEE ALBUM

### 1 WAR AND POSTWAR

**T**HE years of World War Two were a time of full national effort. The Nazis had every intention of ruling the world, first through the domination of Europe, to be followed by the evolution of a master race.

The British people, under the leadership of Winston Churchill, were determined to fight to the last rather than submit to a life without full freedom. No Briton, man or woman, doubted the righteousness of the cause. Their tenacity inspired the world and by early 1945 the forces of disruption were in retreat and Allied troops were closing round the fiercely fighting enemy divisions massed in central Europe, while containing the other great threat in the Far East.

It was at this time that **SOLDIER** was born as a fortnightly magazine for the troops of the British Liberation Army in Europe. It was edited, produced and distributed by soldiers and there are many stories of difficulties overcome by the staff in ingenious and amusing ways. One is of the acquisition of a truck in exchange for 20 cigarettes. Ken Pemberton Wood made the deal and is still with **SOLDIER**—now as advertisement manager.

Sales in those early days were more than

110,000—at two francs a copy. A note on the cover advised “Roll it up and send it home” and these copies are today collectors’ pieces. There was also a reminder that as **SOLDIER** weighed more than two ounces a penny stamp must be affixed—a contrast to the postal charges of today.

Later the magazine was printed in Hamburg and it was not until October 1953 that production moved to Britain. Meanwhile, in its first two years, **SOLDIER** had extended sales from Germany, France and the Low Countries to home commands, Austria, Italy, Greece, Malta, Gibraltar, Sudan, West Africa, India, Burma, Malaya and Japan.

Early numbers of **SOLDIER** preserve the historic events of those days: Monty, Churchill and Alanbrooke on the Siegfried Line, Churchill at the Rhine Crossing, Britain’s future Queen training as an ATS driver. There are also photographs of a young singer, Vera Lynn, who had cut a disc of a song that was to become famous with her—“Yours.”

The war in Europe ended on 8 May 1945 and **SOLDIER** published photographs of the six new campaign stars and the Defence Medal. In June the first troops were being demobilised and **SOLDIER** featured them going home—with eight weeks’ rations of cigarettes and seven ounces of sweets.

Editorially **SOLDIER** commented on the “ifs” of rocketry after the German V2 flying bomb attacks had been beaten and concluded: “No, we may not fly to the moon, but the Jap. . . .” There were to be no “ifs” about the Japanese who were still fighting fanatically. The first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on 6 August revealing a secret weapon that ordinary soldiers had not dreamed of.

Later that month **SOLDIER** published its first back cover pin-up in black-and-white—the young Elizabeth Taylor.

Before the end of the year a White Paper outlined a new deal for the Army: 28s a week for a recruit who had been receiving 21s (14s prewar). In the six months to 31 December 1945 more than



Russian and British soldiers review the 12 May 1945 number of **SOLDIER** showing Monty taking the German surrender at Luneberg. Left: Churchill is mobbed in Whitehall after broadcasting news of victory. From a balcony he said simply: “This is your victory. God bless you.” Then led the singing of “Land of Hope and Glory.” 300,000 milled around Buckingham Palace all night long.

Text: George Hogan



800,000 men and 80,000 women were released from the Army but the call-up of National Servicemen went on.

The three Services had a peak strength of 5,100,000 during the war and it was intended to reduce this to 1,100,000 by the end of 1946. By mid-year the release programme was exceeding its schedule by 55,000 but 800,000 had not been absorbed by industry. The Minister of Fuel and Power, Mr Emmanuel Shinwell, who became War Minister in 1947, said: "Some are waiting for executive jobs and some to open shops."

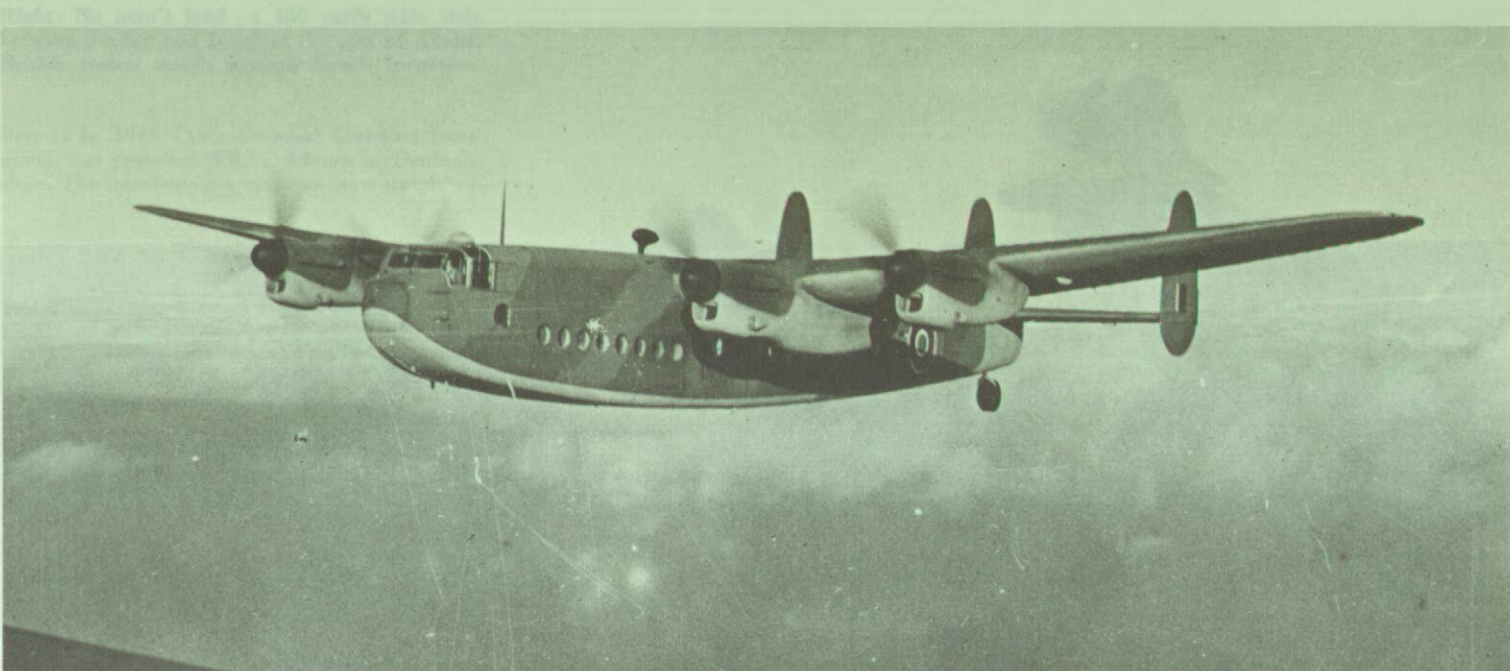
Britain's latest cruiser tank Comet headed the armour in the Victory parade in 1946 and in July of that year SOLDIER reduced its size to the present format, was for the first time published monthly and began to accept advertisements. This number announced the new blue No 1 dress for ceremonial and walking out. Bread was rationed from 22 July and remained so for the next two years.

The Nuremberg war trials were in progress and No 1 Headquarters Signals Regiment was sending out Press messages in seven languages.

In November SOLDIER featured the Army's mapmakers in the field and at the War Office, who "got too little of the credit for victory" having prepared 120,000,000 maps for D-Day, 15,000,000 for the North African landings and others worldwide including falsifications that deceived the Germans in the desert.

By the end of 1946 the "battle of the cap badge" had begun, the infantry's biggest reorganisation for 80 years. Fifteen groups were set up, mostly of four to six regiments with one training centre in each group.

The Army's first task in 1947 was to "shape a Regular force big enough to



Left: Princess Elizabeth, future Queen, in the ATS. The Queen Mother, then consort of George VI, watches her learner-driver daughter at work.

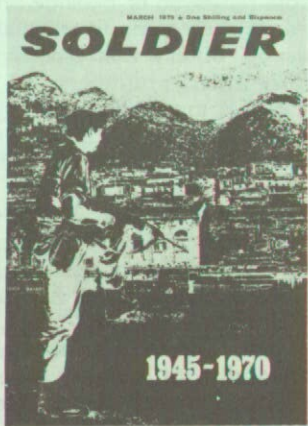
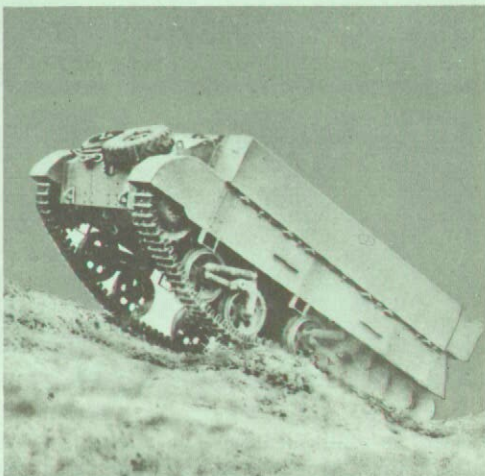
Below, left: The Union Flag did not fly over the Nazi horror camp of Belsen until the last hut was destroyed by flame guns. Here 23,000 died.

Above: Berlin airlift. A Royal Air Force Avro York which helped to relieve Berlin when the Russians stopped road movement from July 1948.

Right: Vera Lynn tries a number of routines for a new song. Soon it is whistled and sung by soldiers from Burma to Tobruk. It is "Yours."

Far right: The CT 20 replaced the Bren carrier in 1946. It had a waterproof hood and lifted 11.

Below: RSM Stilwell, demobilised 18 June 1945, one of the first Servicemen to return to civil life.



### FRONT COVER

On guard he stands in many lands  
Intrepid, steadfast, sure.  
His youthful years reveal no fears;  
His outlook sane, mature.

And while he stands, his comrades' hands  
In peaceful pursuits strive  
To ease the pains, erase the stains,  
Build, succour and revive.

On guard he stands in many lands  
Faithful, serene, secure.  
Ambassador from Britain's shore,  
Intrepid, steadfast, sure.

GRH

Symbolic picture by Arthur Blundell  
processed in line solarisation by Trevor Jones.





Right: No man's land—a 400 yards wide strip between Jordan and Israel at the port of Akaba. British troops watch against Israeli incursion.

Below: In 1949 Lance-Corporal Christine Lammond was training WRAC drivers in Denbighshire. The numbering system is now simplified.



commented: "Who said Northerners and Southerners always tread on each others toes? Not the least satisfactory aspect is that here was a bunch of British soldiers who were old-fashioned enough to want to marry British women."

Popular dance was the jitterbug and it made SOLDIER's front cover in November with the request: "Please watch your step."

Infantry regiments each reduced to one battalion in 1948 and recruits began their training with battalions. The last British



cover its commitments in the chaos of after-war." Monty's reforms included removal of petty restrictions like "lights out" and the improvement of living conditions, for example the issue of bedside lamps. In new barracks the rooms were smaller and there was an outcry that troops liked to live together in large numbers.

A SOLDIER map published in January 1947 showed the Army still in Germany, France, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Austria, Bulgaria, Romania, Trieste, Greece, Turkey, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Iraq, Transjordan, Palestine, Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, Egypt, Aden, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, East Africa, West Africa, India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Siam, Hong Kong, Japan, North Caribbean, South Caribbean and with military missions in Canada, United States, South Africa and Australia.

There was a great deal of clearing up at home with tank ditches 40 feet wide and deep being filled in, miles of barbed wire removed, pillboxes, weapon pits and slit trenches obliterated and 9,250,000 of the 11,000,000 acres taken over for training and defensive purposes already handed back to farmers.

In April 1947 SOLDIER published details of the new bright buttons and new equipment. In May a feature recorded a reunion in England when 50 Greek-born wives arrived to join their ex-soldier husbands while in October it was the turn of 100 girls of Lymington, Hampshire, who married Geordies of The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. SOLDIER



Gunners in action in Malaya. Task of 93 Field Battery, RA, was to use 25-pounders to flush terrorists from thick jungle for infantry action.

Left: 2nd Coldstream Guards in Malaya resettled jungle squatters by building five villages. Morning coffee was always offered and welcomed.

Right: The Malayan Scouts on a jungle river. This British unit with some Australian members was part of the Special Air Service Regiment.





troops came out of Palestine after 30 years of keeping the peace. The last British battalion, The Somerset Light Infantry, left India and the Auxiliary Territorial Service received Royal recognition and was renamed the Women's Royal Army Corps.

In Malaya, Communist-aided Chinese guerillas were occupying the attention of the Devons, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, Seaforths and Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. The 4th Hussars and 2nd Guards Brigade went out to reinforce them; the brigade included 3rd Grenadiers, 2nd Scots and 2nd Coldstreams. Also engaged were several battalions of Gurkhas, the Malay Regiment and police. The Royal Air Force was spotting and strafing jungle hideouts and the Royal Navy landing men for surprise assaults.

On 1 July 1948 the Berlin airlift began with British, United States and French aircraft moving in all food and other supplies after the Russians stopped road movement through East Germany. The Army supplied signallers, helped to load and unload the planes and 15 non-commissioned officers of the Glider Pilot Regiment took their places as second pilots in the four-engined York and Hastings aircraft of the Royal Air Force.

SOLDIER reported that coloured berets were to replace khaki berets and caps by the end of 1949 and there was a "call to arms" to reinforce the Territorial Army. The Regulars were now 400,000 strong but this was too large an army to maintain in peace so 100,000 ex-soldiers were required to join the 50,000 already in the TA. They would train the National Service intakes and, in case of war, absorb a high proportion of the 4,000,000-strong Class Z.

In 1949 came pay increases and a new six-star system for private soldiers. The pay of recruits and one-star privates remained the same but two stars were rewarded with 5s 6d a day and six stars with 8s 6d.

British troops were put ashore at the Jordanian port of Akaba to guard against the possible encroachment of Israeli patrols; they were to remain there for many months. Among the tasks of the Army overseas was the guarding of shiploads of Jews who tried to enter Palestine illegally and were being detained in Cyprus. Now Hong Kong called for reinforcements—a 33-day troopship voyage from Southampton—and larger formations of brigade size were being used in Malaya. A ban on buying out of the Army was announced in July.

A new zippered, water-repellant combat suit, the zoot suit, was introduced and the WRAC and QARANC got new No 1 dress uniforms, bottle-green and grey, designed by the Queen's dressmaker.

So the first five years of SOLDIER's existence included the hectic atmosphere of war, the readjustment of post-war days, and reorganisation towards a smaller army. But there were still worldwide commitments and alarms of disruption and disorder in many places. The next decade was to see war again and the Army was to be heavily employed in the East.

# SILVER JUBILEE ALBUM



## 2 INTO THE FIFTIES

**T**HE year 1950 opened with British troops still operationally employed in Malaya and this campaign against Communist terrorists was to enlarge until more than 30 major units were in the jungles. It was one of the Army's biggest commitments and lasted throughout the decade—but there were others.

Two battalions were in Eritrea and did not complete their task of rounding up the



Korea 1950. Brigadier B A Coad, commanding 27th British Commonwealth Brigade, is briefed by Maj-Gen Gay, commanding US 1st Cavalry Div.

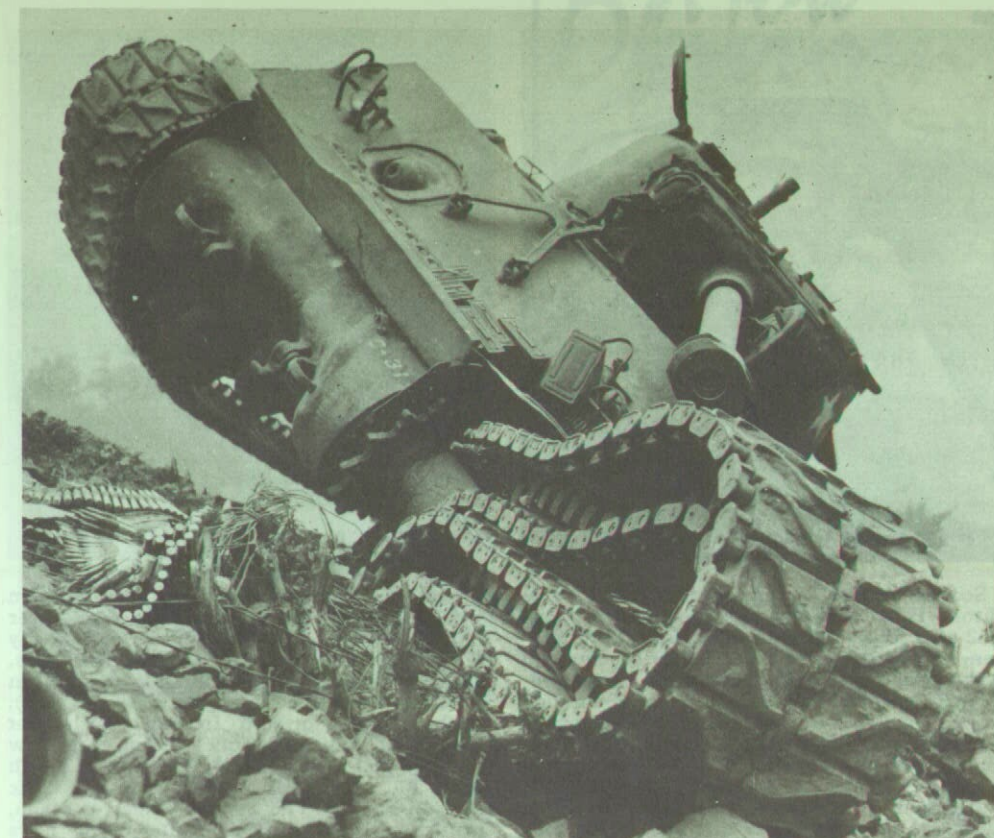
Left: United Nations patrol returns to base in a blizzard after a day-long probing mission. This was the pattern of the Korean winter 1950-1951.

Right: Contortions of war not modern art. A US M 26 tank knocked out by enemy action in Korea with track curled off and ammunition alongside.



Troops of 3rd Bn, Royal Australian Regiment, give covering fire to a section pinned down in front of a Communist position in wintry Korea.

Right: Any shelter is better than nothing for reading and writing home. These are men of The Gloucestershire Regiment with their own fire.



Shiftas until 1951. The North Koreans invaded the South on 25 June 1950; the United States quickly reacted by landing troops in South Korea on 2 July. British troops, as part of a United Nations force, were in action on 6 September.

There were riots in Singapore in December 1950 and an armoured regiment and four infantry battalions were required to keep order.

In 1952 there was trouble in Kenya and

the campaign against the Mau-Mau terrorists lasted until 1956. Disturbances in Cyprus, instigated by EOKA, kept British troops occupied from 1954 to 1959 with more than 20 major units operating at one time.

In 1956 the short, sharp Anglo-French Suez operation took place and from 1957 to 1959 an armoured squadron, two infantry battalions and the Trucial Oman Scouts gave aid to the Sultan of Muscat and Oman

against insurgent tribesmen. In 1958 a parachute brigade group and an infantry battalion flew to the aid of the Jordanian government when requested by King Hussein.

These are straightforward facts, simple paper figures of troop movements and operations, but in the event there is always colour, humour, humanity and the unusual.

continued on page 22



# PURELY PERSONAL



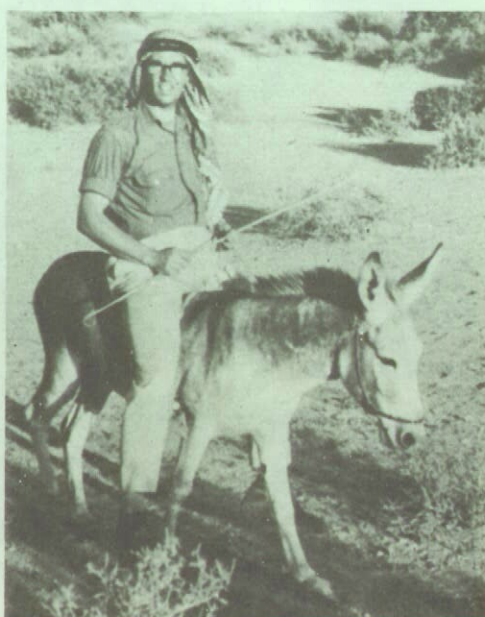
Second longest serving of **SOLDIER**'s five editors, Peter N Wood was appointed in April 1962 after four years as feature writer. Yorkshireman, previously worked on Halifax evening and weekly papers. Joined **Territorials** as a two-pounder anti-tank gunner and served through World War Two in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and Royal Army Service Corps, including two cold years in Iceland. Mentioned in despatches. Farthest travelled of **SOLDIER** staff—from Australia to Canada, taking in Europe, Middle East, Far East and Africa, plus Nepal, Iceland and Ethiopia. Infamous for taking the pin-up off the back page—still working on plan to loose-insert pin-up in magazine, but found no financial backers as yet. Member of British Association of Industrial Editors since 1966—magazine has won awards every year in association's competitions. "Honorary Colonel (special designation, Information Staff Officer) in Provisional Government Branch" of Confederate High Command—result of his centenary feature on American Civil War which boosted **CHC**'s UK membership from six to 60. Plays tennis and badminton with more panache than prowess. Collects matchbox labels.



Executive officer Miss Dorothy Duffield is responsible for sales, distribution and administration. Honey blonde, born in Wiltshire, coming from Army family (father is ex-captain of Royal Army Service Corps and brother serving captain in Royal Corps of Transport). Before joining **SOLDIER** two-and-a-half years ago worked in the Ministry of Food, Headquarters Anti-Aircraft Command, Command Ordnance Depot at Colchester and Stores and Clothing Research and Development Establishment also at Colchester. Commutes 35 miles from Chelmsford each day. Reads books on English history and travel. Plays badminton and tennis and goes to keep-fit classes.



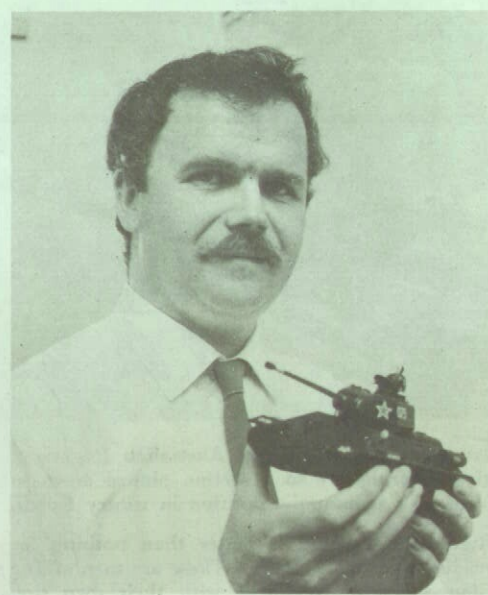
From boy bandsman playing the triangle in 1918 to a major in Siege of Malta, World War Two. Such was the Army career of deputy editor George Hogan. Served for 27 years, mostly with The Royal Hampshire Regiment, in British Army of the Rhine (between the wars), Southern and Northern Ireland, North-West Frontier of India, Palestine (during Arab-Jew troubles), and during World War Two in North Africa and Malta. After demobilisation became editor-in-chief of The Sunday Times of Malta, spent three years with Forcercuter (Army news service run in conjunction with Reuters news agency) and 12 with **BANEWS** (British Army News Service) as deputy editor before joining **SOLDIER**. Took part in yacht races in Malta in his 16½-foot sloop and been on motoring/camping trips in Europe. Fellow of International PEN (writers' association), life member of the Poetry Society and fellow of Royal Commonwealth Society. An early riser—heritage of Army days—getting up daily at 5.0 am to commute 30 miles from Woking by car, train, tube and foot.



Senior photographer Arthur Blundell is the most travelled of **SOLDIER**'s staff, having been to 33 countries from Canada to Borneo. Lambeth-born, he worked as a laboratory assistant before the war during which he served in The Middlesex Regiment and The Durham Light Infantry. After demobilisation he joined the War Office as a photographer and transferred to **SOLDIER** 20 years ago. Is a prominent figure in the British Buddhist movement—runs a world-wide correspondence course and has visited prisons as a lay minister. Recently made an honorary life member of the Buddhist Society of London for services to Buddhism.



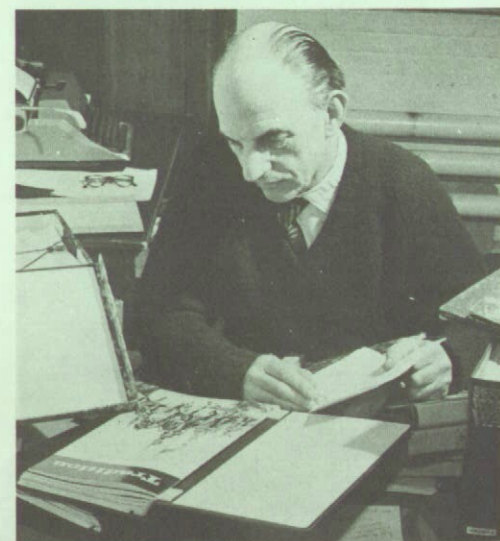
Frank R. Finch, art editor, joined the magazine soon after it began in 1945. Lancashire-born, art college graduate, worked in advertising pre-war. Served throughout World War Two with Royal Army Medical Corps, spending four-and-a-half years getting knees brown in Egypt and East Africa. Others painted things that did not move. He was exception—peering through microscope to sketch wriggly tropical disease germs that infest a soldier's blood. Later seconded as art editor of Jambo, magazine of East Africa Command. Speaks Swahili and played soccer in Army. Distinguished cartoonist, having contributed to Punch, Men Only, Tatler and national daily and evening newspapers. Finds time to plough through monumental tomes like William Shirer's 1245-page "Rise and Fall of the Third Reich." Nature lover, likes early morning walks on Hampstead Heath, dislikes destruction of trees and other natural features by bureaucrats and developers. But major interest theology which he considers highly relevant to modern life.



Feature writer Hugh Howton joined **SOLDIER** in October 1967 from Army public relations in Germany. Previously a reporter in suburban Essex and East London and was a National Serviceman and Army Emergency Reservist. Been to arctic Norway, Europe and the Caribbean. Keen modeller and contributes **SOLDIER**'s regular models feature; also currently embroiled in regimental mascots. Was member of East London cycling and judo clubs. Honours degree in Slavonic languages and English—speaks Russian, Serbo-Croat, French and German. Sang in school choir, played recorder in school band but claims to be proficient only on gramophone.



Ken Pemberton Wood, advertisement manager, joined **SOLDIER** from the forward Press camp of Second Army public relations immediately after German surrender on Lüneburg Heath. Magazine had then been operating for just two months with editorial offices in Brussels. Born in Sheffield, worked in motor trade sales and publicity before World War Two. Enlisted as gunner in Royal Artillery and rose to captain. During 25 years on **SOLDIER** has visited every major unit from United Kingdom to Persian Gulf. Has been officer commanding, accountant, circulation manager, and business manager (of British Army News Unit, which included **SOLDIER** and **BANEWS**). Took over **SOLDIER**'s advertising January 1968 and introduced Services Jobfinder. Motor racing enthusiast, can reel off Grand Prix winners back to red flag days. Green-fingered gardener, connoisseur of antique furniture and silverware.



Researcher John Jesse is **SOLDIER**'s "Auntie Mabel"—most of his time is taken up in answering readers' queries of which only a tenth are published; also writes occasional articles. Pre-war journalist with national news agency. Enlisted in The Devonshire Regiment, later commissioned in the General List and rose to major. On demobilisation returned to journalism as a foreign correspondent, also worked in industrial public relations and as a Fleet Street sub-editor. Later joined the Forcercuter desk of the British Army News Service at Reuters news agency, Fleet Street, until transferring to **BANEWS** headquarters at Holloway. Joined **SOLDIER** August 1968. Stands six feet three and a half inches in his size eleven shoes. Member Military Historical Society. Speaks French, spattering of Turkish (worked in Turkey for six years) and understands Russian. Played rugby for a French university.



Dining with Emperor Haile Selassie and the Sultan of Muscat—all part of the job for picture editor Leslie Wiggs. A Londoner, bachelor, six feet four. Worked as a photographer in ministries of Supply and Aviation. Called up 1944 and served with Royal Signals in India, Burma and Malaya. Returned to Civil Service as a photographer and was with military survey in the War Office just before joining **SOLDIER** in January 1964. Has been on assignments in Europe, Scandinavia, British Honduras, Iceland, Aden, and Vancouver. His photograph of the East Molesey floods rescue was best news picture in British Association of Industrial Editors annual competition 1969. Commutes 44 miles from Farnham in Surrey. Vice-chairman of office Whitley Council. Spends free weekends sailing his 16-foot Hornet racing dinghy with the Hayling Island Sailing Club.



At 26, senior photographer Trevor Henshaw Jones is youngest member of editorial staff. Served in Combined Cadet Force, learned some flying and gliding with Royal Air Force cadets. In commercial and industrial photography before joining **SOLDIER** in March 1967, since when has been on assignments from Arctic to Caribbean. In 1968 his entry was best news picture of the year in national competition of British Association of Industrial Editors. Last year awarded Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society (ARPS). Railway enthusiast who also breeds tropical fish, but photography is his main hobby. His wife Janet is a clerical officer in **SOLDIER**'s advertisement department.

## 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 45.







continued from page 19

In Hong Kong's New Territories in 1950, 37 Squadron, Royal Engineers, was building defence roads. These were fine but the local Chinese felt they left the inhabitants vulnerable at night and asked for dragon-proof gates. They were extremely happy when the sappers constructed barrel-weighted poles which at night could be lowered into position about three feet above the ground. The Chinese said they were very effective—against dragons.

By mid-1950 a "strategic concept" for the 12 nations of the Atlantic Pact had been worked out—a paper plan for defence but no estimate yet of what forces would be required. The strength of the British Army was then 373,000 of which 185,000 were Regulars.

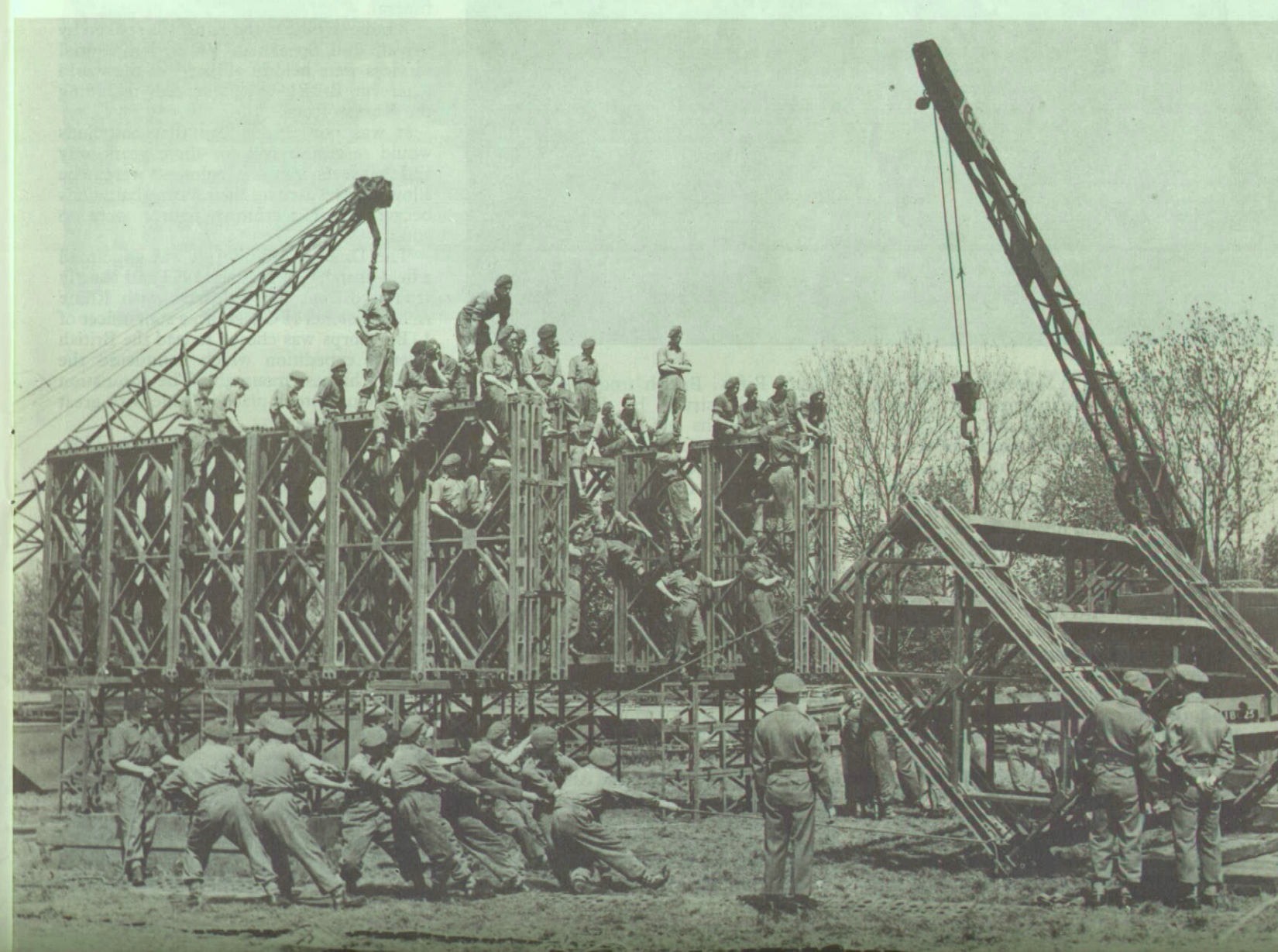
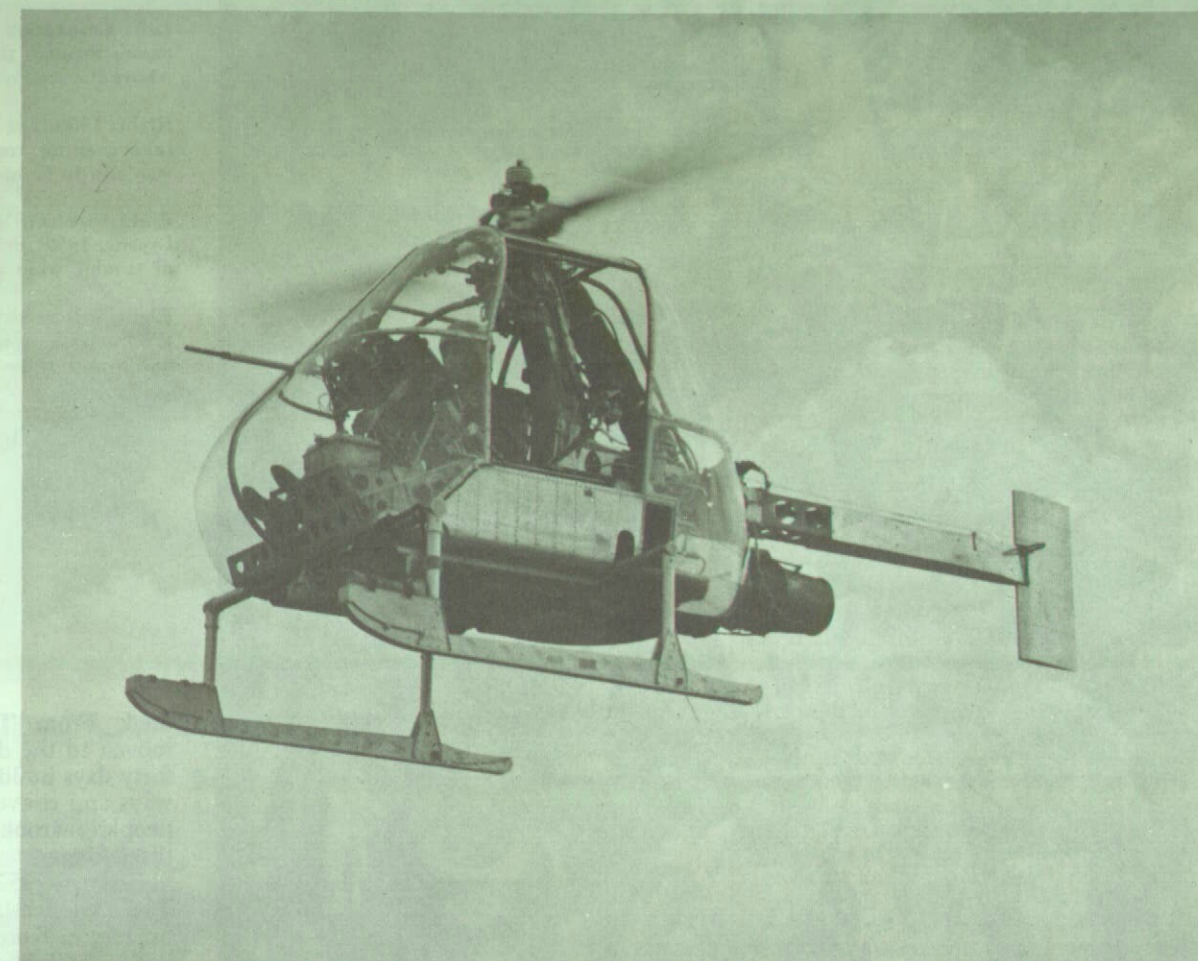
The Middlesex and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had a great send off when they left Hong Kong for Korea—reminiscent, said SOLDIER, of the Boer War troopship departures and entirely different to the "hush-hush" security-controlled operations of World War Two. It was not long before the battalions were part of a famous victory south of the 38th parallel and were advancing northward with the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade.

Left: The .280-inch rifle (foreground) proposed in 1951 to replace the Lee Enfield, also shown, was lighter and shorter and had a higher rate of fire. The sights are above the carrying handle.

Right: The Fairey two-seater ultra-light helicopter made specially for the Army with pressure jets at the rotor tips and no tail rotor for safety. SOLDIER reported in 1955 that four were being delivered for troop evaluation.

Below, left: Conqueror, big brother of Centurion, sets out for trials in Germany in 1955. It weighed 65 tons and had a road speed of 20 mph.

Right, below: Festival of Britain, 1951. 36th Army Engineer Regiment rehearsed assembling the 750-ton Bailey bridge at Maidstone before erecting it across the River Thames at Waterloo. It was 1060 feet long, and elegant







Left: Coronation 1953. The Queen's procession passes through the nave in Westminster Abbey. Above the screen are 20 Kneller Hall trumpeters.

Right: 1956. The Beverley comes in and will soon take over air trooping and freight carrying. It was also to be used by The Parachute Regiment.

Right, centre: May Day celebrations, Nicosia, Cyprus, 1958. British troops keep watch in case of trouble from extremists in island of tension.

Right, below: British paratroopers dug in along the Suez Canal road in 1956 after the ceasefire and awaiting the arrival of the UN police force.

died. From Trieste 200 British troops moved to the devastated area and toiled for forty days building bridges, roads and railways and conveying food. They saved 300 people marooned in houses in the first three days.

Early in 1952 King George VI died and The Gloucestershire Regiment, whose bravery in Korea he had so much admired, lined the processional route at the state funeral.

A radio tribute to the King was spoken by Private Bill Speakman VC and memorial services were held in all parts of the world wherever British troops served, including the Korean front.

It was now announced that battalions would serve overseas for three years only and that seven infantry regiments were to be allowed to resuscitate their second battalions because their recruiting figures were so good.

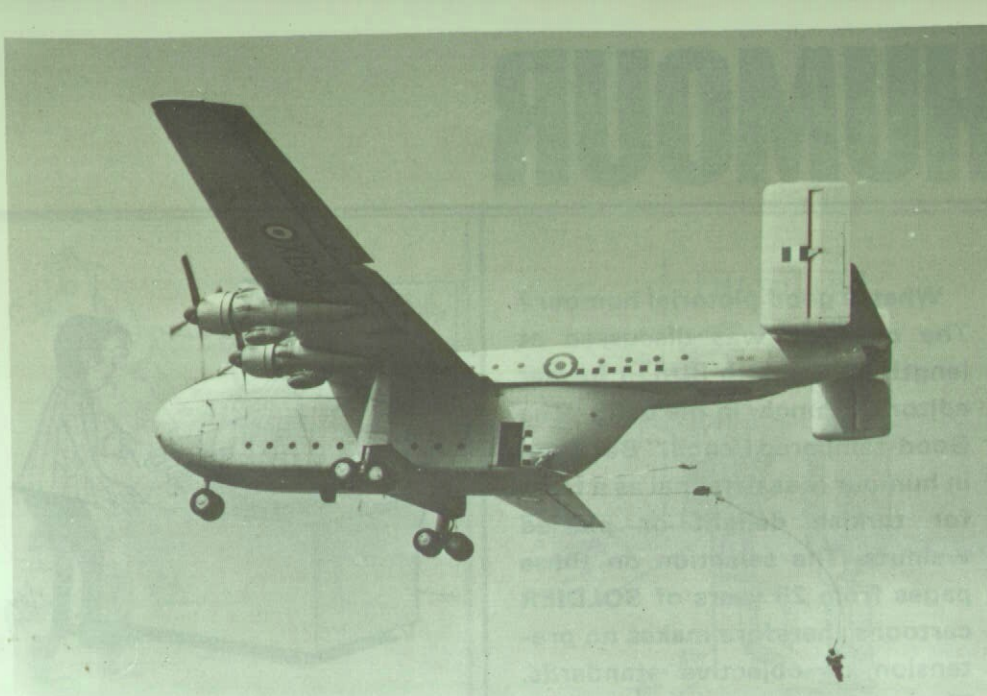
The Duke of Edinburgh was appointed a field-marshal in January 1953 and shortly afterwards was in battledress with Rhine Army. Colonel H C J Hunt, a staff officer of 1 (Br) Corps was chosen to lead the British Everest expedition which conquered the world's highest mountain. The coronation of the Queen took place in June with great pomp and ceremony.

The Parachute Regiment, born 1940, was now given permission to recruit direct—previously officers and men were seconded from other units. The recoilless anti-tank gun Bat was the infantryman's newest weapon and details were issued of Saracen, a six-wheeled armoured vehicle that could carry 12 men across country. The Centurion was being considered as number one tank for NATO.

On 6 May 1954 Roger Bannister ran the first four-minute mile and later became a doctor in the Royal Army Medical Corps. In July it was agreed with Egypt that all British troops should leave the Canal Zone and the withdrawal was completed on 13 June 1956. Eleven days later Nasser was elected president.

Tension between Israel and Egypt had been mounting and French troops arrived in Cyprus in August 1956. On 29 October

*continued on page 28*



## SOLDIER TO SOLDIER

In the context of the British Army's 300 years of history, the Royal Artillery's 250 years and the centenaries and golden jubilees of many a regiment and corps, **SOLDIER** celebrates with some modesty its own 25th birthday.

With modesty but with pride in its growth from the first free issues—aimed at improving the morale of an occupation army and keeping it posted on the then all-important "demob" dates—limited to the British Liberation Army in North-West Europe, to a worldwide coverage and circulation alike to Serviceman and civilian. There are few today in the British Services, Commonwealth and foreign armies who have not seen or heard of **SOLDIER**, from the Falkland Islands to Moscow and Peking, from New Zealand to Alaska.

Pride, too, in emerging from World War Two as the successor and sole descendant of a host of fine military newspapers and magazines and in being privileged to record the tumultuous changes of the past 25 years—the full-scale limited wars, "brush-fire" operations, peace-keeping and magnificent help in civil disasters which have maintained and enhanced the reputation of the world's finest soldiers.

In this silver jubilee issue **SOLDIER** pays its tribute to the British Army, to which it owes its very existence, in an illustrated review of those 25 years which **SOLDIER** hopes will bring back memories for all its readers.

Since the end of World War Two the Army has vastly run down and is to diminish yet further. In these difficult times which, beset by the vicious circle of a decreasing circulation and ever-increasing costs, the magazine shares, **SOLDIER** wishes the Army every prosperity and happiness in the years to come.

★  
And, coming this year, in case you still didn't know: Military Musical pageant in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund. Wembley Stadium, 7.30pm, Saturday 27 June. Massed bands, corps of drums, pipers, horses, guns—more than a thousand musicians.

Seats bookable at Box Office, Empire Stadium, Wembley. Seats at 30s, 20s, 16s, 10s and 6s with party rates (20 or more seats) at 26s, 18s, 14s and 8s. Cheques payable to "Wembley Stadium Ltd." Enclose stamped addressed envelope.

★  
The Army Benevolent Fund has benefited by £150 from the Daily Mail's transatlantic air race held last May. It is the gift of the race committee of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, which entered three teams in the event, and represents the surplus after all expenses had been paid.

Some 50 cadets and six officer-instructors, under the team management of a company instructor, Captain John F W Wilsey, were involved.

New pay scales in September 1950 boosted the private's weekly pay packet from 28s to 49s, with 56s for one star and £4 0s 6d for six stars. Sergeants' pay increased from £4 4s to £5 15s 6d.

In 1950 the sappers built a Bailey bridge across the Thames near Waterloo for the Festival of Britain opened by King George VI to show Britain's determination to succeed in peace as in war. A warrant officer of the Royal Signals wrote to **SOLDIER**: "Is it not time some wearable kind of waterproof was designed. Nothing looks more ridiculous than a man wearing an overcoat in the rain in hot weather."

The Korean War continued until 1953 and the three armoured and 15 infantry regiments which took part gained 45 battle honours.

Three Victoria Crosses, the first since World War Two, were awarded and the famous action at the Imjin River earned renown for the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, The Gloucestershire Regiment and The Royal

Ulster Rifles. British troops were eligible for medals struck by Britain and the United Nations and there was a gratuity for all who served in Korea.

In 1951 General Dwight D Eisenhower was appointed to command the armies in Europe of the North Atlantic Allies. As head of SHAPE he now had a defensive task as against the offensive role while head of SHAEP during the war.

A new 7mm automatic loading rifle had been produced in Britain and was likely to replace the Lee Enfield which had been relied on for more than 50 years. The Belgians also produced a 7mm and there was discussion about standardising ammunition in the armies of the North Atlantic Treaty powers.

Tension was building up in the Canal Zone; Egypt abrogated the Anglo-Egyptian treaty and the Sudan Condominium agreement in October 1951. At this time there was extensive flooding in Northern Italy when the River Po overflowed. Some 128,000 people lost their homes and 100



# HUMOUR



"Dear Mum, I'm writing to you from a place called Hastings. Everything is fine except I seem to have something in my eye. Your loving son, Harold."

What is good pictorial humour? The question was discussed at length by Kenneth Bird, a former editor of Punch, in his book "The Good-tempered Pencil." But taste in humour is as personal as a taste for turkish delight or pickled walnuts. The selection on these pages from 25 years of SOLDIER cartoons therefore makes no pretension of objective standards. They simply made us smile. We hope you like them, too.



"From now on number one in the charts for you will be a little thing called 'Reveille'!"



"He was a great general but a rotten horseman."



"You have just started total war, Smithers."



"Surely you don't have to be all that friendly with the birds, Bennett?"



"We were sort of hoping you might join the sponsored walk."



"Household Cavalry speaking."



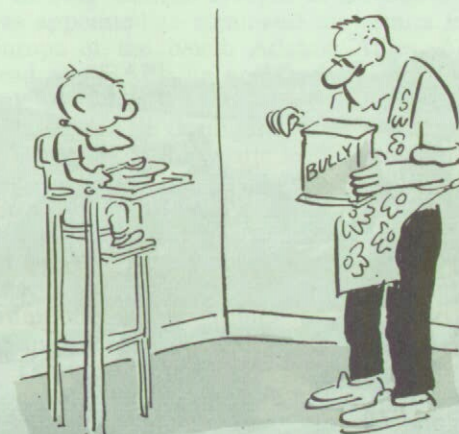
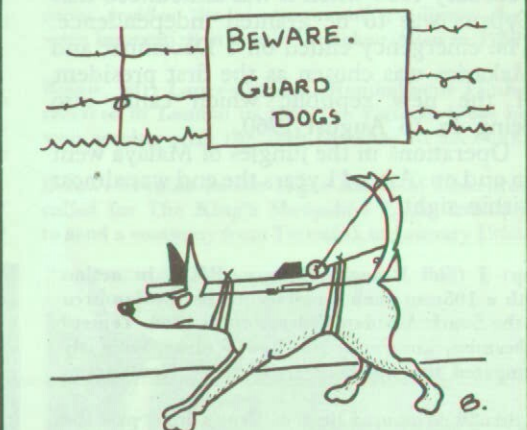
"Do the sergeant's stripes come off? Gerald likes to be able to reduce them to the ranks."



"You heard the captain—if this floor is what you call 'polished'..."



"The Army could only accept anyone in your condition if there were a war on."



from RSM and SON



by Larry





# SILVER JUBILEE ALBUM

the war between Israel and Egypt began and the Israelis overran Sinai within five days. On 31 October an Anglo-French offensive against military targets in Egypt was set in motion and on 5 November Anglo-French airborne troops landed at Port Said.

Seaborne troops came in the next day and there was a rapid advance southward along the canal towards Cairo. The United Nations had been pressing for a cessation of hostilities and at midnight on 6 November the cease fire was sounded with the allies within reach of their objective. The Anglo-French force began to leave Port Said on 5 December and within a month Nasser had abrogated the Anglo-French treaty of 1954.

In May 1957 the first British H-bomb was exploded near Christmas Island in mid-Pacific and in October the first earth satellite was launched by the Russians. It weighed 180 lbs and was a sphere 23 inches in diameter. A United States attempt to launch a satellite in December failed.

In Cyprus the emergency had continued from 1954. Archbishop Makarios and other leaders were deported to the Seychelles in 1956 and were returned in February 1959 when it was announced that Cyprus was to be granted independence. The emergency ended on 1 December and Makarios was chosen as the first president of the new republic which came into being on 16 August 1960.

Operations in the jungles of Malaya went on and on. After 11 years the end was almost within sight.

Top: J (Sidi Rezegh) Battery, RHA, in action with a 105mm pack howitzer in the Radfan area of the South Arabian Federation in 1964. Yemeni tribesmen, known as the Red Wolves, seriously hampered the northern trade route from Aden.

Right: 20 Armoured Brigade Group drove past the Queen in a review in Germany in 1965. On parade were Centurions, Conquerors, Saladins, Saracens and bridge-laying and recovery vehicles. Guns dipped in salute as they passed Her Majesty.

## 3 AND THE SIXTIES



**THE** sixties opened with hope. The Kenya emergency ended in January 1960 after eight years. Cyprus became an independent republic in August.

There was to be a new gun for the infantry—the Belgian FN general-purpose machine-gun which would fire standard NATO 7.62mm ammunition. It would replace the Bren and the much heavier

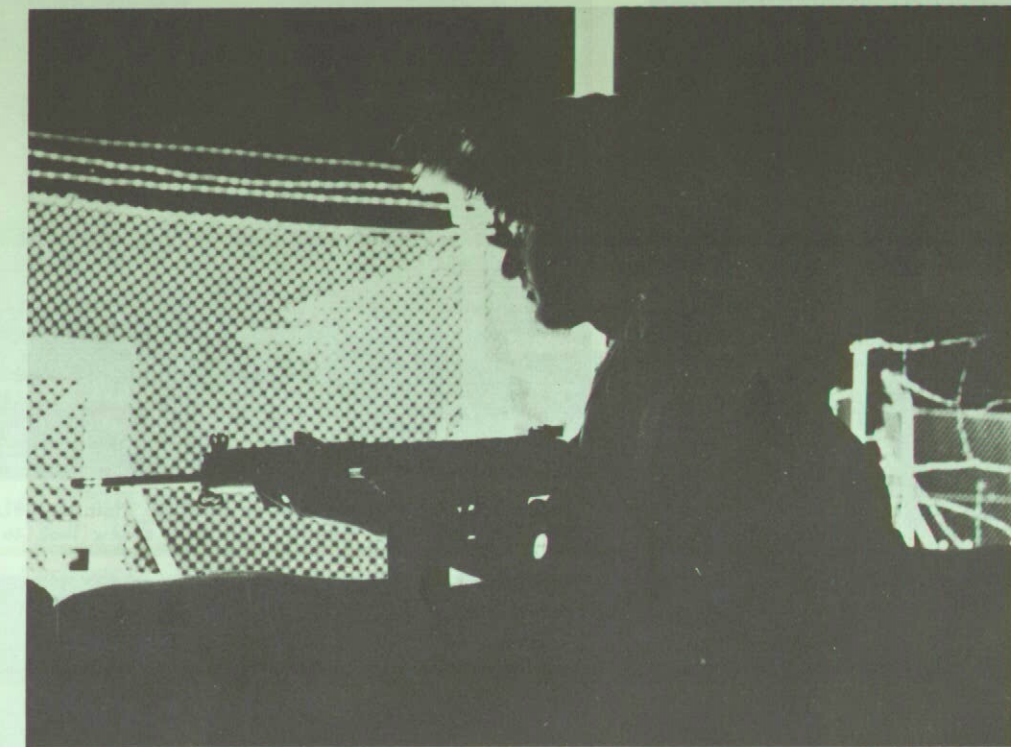
Vickers which had served the British Army for more than 50 years.

Aldershot was to have a real facelift with modern barracks and new married quarters with built-in garages. It was planned to spend £50,000,000 in the next seven years to include the rebuilding of Chelsea, Wellington and Knightsbridge barracks in London. The Women's Royal Army Corps was to have a permanent barracks in place of

the hutments at Guildford. It soon became known as the "powder puff" barracks.

Soldiers were to be accommodated eight to a room and there were experiments with "bed-sitters" for four with fold-away beds, built-in wardrobes, two washbasins and a combined heating and drying unit in each room.

SOLDIER did not wait for the sixties but had put a modern look to the magazine



with a simpler, cleaner front cover layout in 1959. Fatter pay packets came in April 1960 with an extra shilling a day for a private, who was now graded not starred. Pay was complicated as rates now depended on length of service and engagement as well as ability. A grade IV private committed to less than six years received 87s 6d a week. If signed for six years his pay was 105s, for *continued on page 31*

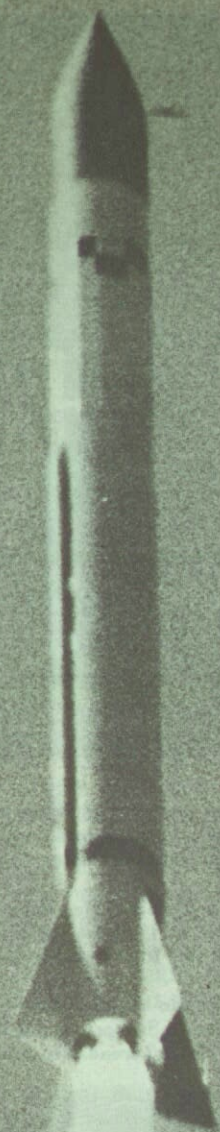
This silhouette of a sentry at Waterloo cantonment typifies the alertness and readiness that were imperative in trouble-stricken Aden in 1967.

Below, left: Lance-Corporal Rambahadur Limbu received in London in 1966 the Victoria Cross he won serving with the 10th Gurkhas in Sarawak.

Below: Trouble on the sugar island of Mauritius called for The King's Shropshire Light Infantry to send a company from Terendak in January 1968.







Honest John was demonstrated on Salisbury Plain in 1961. Above it is being fired from a launcher in Japan. Left: Corporal guided missile, which gave a new look to the Royal Artillery, being fired at South Uist.



1961. Wombat, latest anti-tank gun for the infantry, being demonstrated to 4000 military spectators on Salisbury Plain. Below: Paratroopers show the supporting power of the three-in-one 105mm pack howitzer.



nine years or more 129s 6d. A grade 1 private who had completed nine years and signed on for 15 was paid 171s 6d weekly. There was to be a new-look uniform—service dress with collar and tie, cloth belt and coloured peaked cap. The unglamorous battledress that was never liked but had served so well for 20 years was out. For training and action combat suits were to be worn. For the Women's Royal Army Corps and Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps there was the new figure-hugging "classical" line in lovat green and grey respectively.

A national newspaper reported that for the first time since World War Two no British troops were in action in any part of the world. This did not amuse the troops still operating against terrorists in Malaya, those patrolling the Yemen border or hunting rebels in the Oman. In June 1960 there was an uprising of the Rastafarians in Jamaica and from September until October the following year, for the first time, a British battalion was stationed in the Cameroons to give aid to the civil power.

The 12-year struggle against the Communist terrorists in Malaya ended officially on 31 July 1960. More than 80,000 officers and men from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, East Africa, Nepal and Malaya had taken part over the years. They included 50,000 from British Army infantry regiments. More than 500 of these allied troops were killed and 1000 wounded.

The guerillas, estimated to be 13,000 strong, lost 7000 killed, about 3000 wounded and nearly 3000 captured. The hundred or so remnants would still be hunted. In addition to the infantry, gunners, sappers, supply and communications troops, the Army Air Corps and air despatchers of the Royal Army Service Corps played an important part in ensuring the success of this long drawn out campaign. All, of course, so ably supported by the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

During the sixties there were small "brush fires" and other incidents which called for British troops to operate or keep order—in Kuwait (against an invasion threat 1961), Zanzibar (elections 1961), British Honduras (border incursion 1962),



Left: The Dutch sniperscope on trial in 1961 was fitted with infra-red ray and could hit a target at 150 yards in the dark. Weight 15lbs.

Below: A runway for Beef Island, West Indies, being built by 53 Field Squadron (Airfields), RE, Waterbeach, in 1968. It is 3600 feet long.

British Guiana (riots 1962), Hong Kong (illegal entry of Chinese refugees 1962), Brunei (revolt 1962), British Guiana (state of emergency 1963-64), Sarawak (raiders 1963), Swaziland (strikes 1963), Zanzibar (elections 1963, revolution 1964), Radfan (insurgency 1964), Uganda and Kenya (army mutinies 1964), Mauritius (riots 1965), Bechuanaland (guarding BBC radio station 1965), Das island (unrest 1966), Hong Kong ("Red Guard" riots 1967), Mauritius (riots 1968) and Anguilla (disorder 1969).

In April 1969 main water pipelines were cut and a transformer at an electricity substation was destroyed to hazard seriously the living conditions of the people of Belfast. British troops were called upon to guard vulnerable points throughout Northern Ireland. Later more troops were posted to Ulster to police Belfast and Londonderry after rioting and destruction of property had disrupted the life of the people.

The Army carried out much relief work worldwide—in Hong Kong 1960 after typhoon Mary struck; Kenya 1960 (floods); British Honduras 1961 (during and after Hurricane Hattie which caused widespread devastation); Hamburg 1962 (floods); Yorkshire 1962 (gales); Barce, Libya, 1963 (earthquake); Skopje, Yugoslavia, 1963 (earthquake); El Salvador 1965 (earthquake); Malaya 1965 (floods); Hong Kong

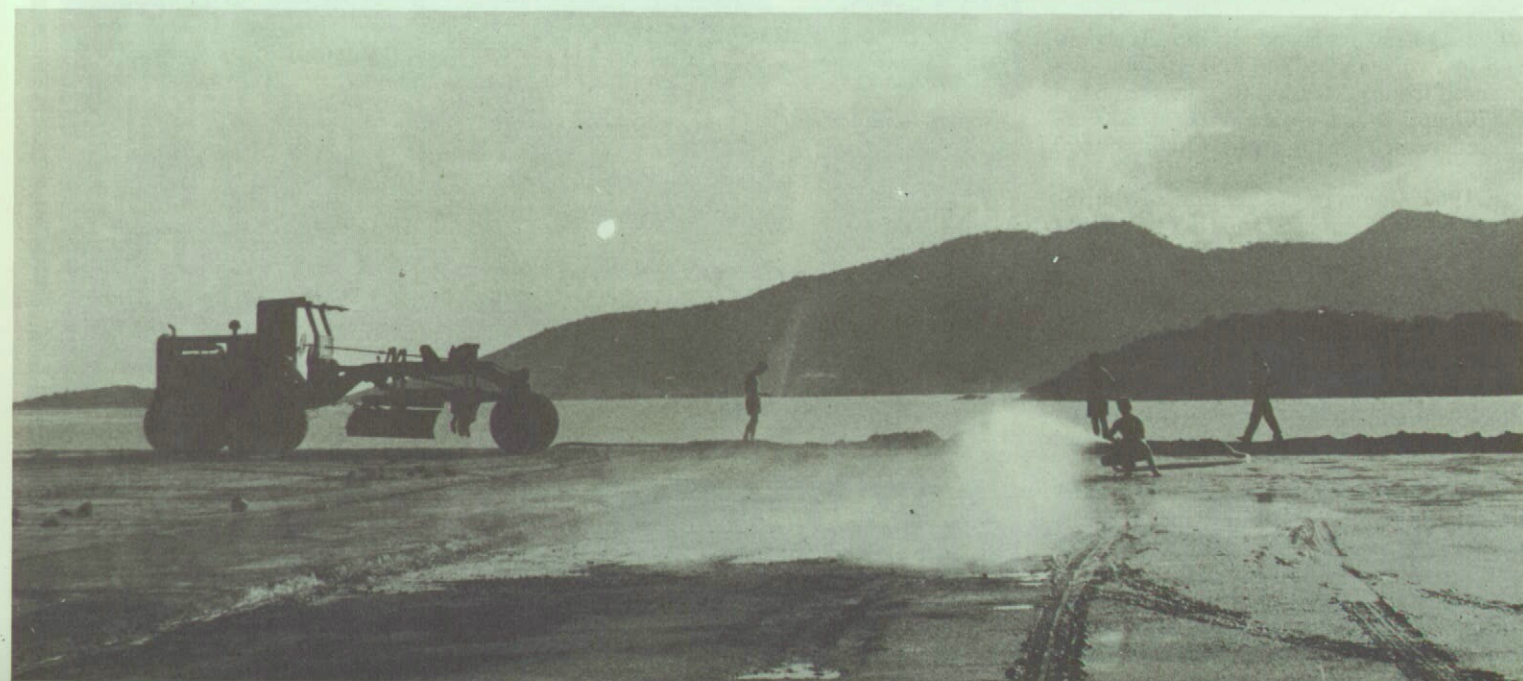
1966 (floods); Vientiane 1966 (floods); West Country 1968 (floods); Surrey 1968 (floods); Glasgow 1968 (hurricane) and Gonabad, Iran, 1968 (earthquake).

The sappers built a 39-kilometre road in Thailand in 1967-68 and airfields on Beef Island, British Virgin Islands, in the Caribbean, 1968.

In 1961 new Army weapons were demonstrated on Salisbury Plain. They included Honest John, the Wombat anti-tank gun, the 105mm pack howitzer and the Malkara guided anti-tank missile mounted on a Hornet armoured vehicle. Chieftain was on show at Chertsey for the first time, heralded as the world's most powerful tank. The first deliveries were made to Rhine Army in 1967.

From December 1962 to August 1966 British troops including Gurkhas played their part in Malaysia during the confrontation with Indonesia. In December 1963 tension mounted between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and a United Nations force arrived in 1964. It is still keeping the peace on the island. Britain supplies one battalion and many of the headquarters logistics personnel.

Civil disturbances in Aden in 1964 led to more British troops being sent there where they operated under great provocation to maintain order under active service conditions until the withdrawal on 29 November 1967 on the grant of independence.







Tense alertness in a street in Aden while Lieut-Colonel Mitchell directs the withdrawal of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from Crater.

Right: Severe floods in south-east England in 1968 brought soldiers to the aid of civilians. This is 36 Engineer Regt at Maidstone bridge.

Below: Belfast 1969. After rioting and erection of barricades in Belfast and Londonderry, troops were called in to restore and maintain order.



In 1965 the Royal Corps of Transport was born from the Royal Army Service Corps and some reorganisation of Royal Engineers and Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

The Queen reviewed Rhine Army in 1965 in two parades, the first of 6500 dismounted troops attended by a massed band of 470, and a few hours later of 300 armoured vehicles with crews totalling 1600 men.

In 1967 a new reorganisation of the infantry was announced and five divisions were formed: Queen's, King's, Prince of Wales's, Scottish and Light. The Brigade of Guards became the Guards Division.

In July 1969 Prince Charles was invested at Caernarvon Castle as Prince of Wales, wearing uniform as Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Regiment of Wales. The Army played a big part in the behind-the-scenes organisation.

So ended the sixties, a decade of activities all over the world. A White Paper forecast another new deal for the soldier who is now awaiting the all-embracing pay packet of the 1970s which will include an element for hard living and danger and will for the first time demonstrate his real worth in terms the world understands—money.



# SAPPER WELLS FOR DRY THAIS

**A** SPECIALIST team of British sappers is providing water wells for villages in Thailand recently devastated by storms and flooding.

The roaring torrents swept away bridges and flimsy wooden houses and brought tall trees crashing down on the roads in the provinces at Ratburi and Kanchanaburi. Helicopters of the Royal Thai Air Force flew food, clothing and blankets into the flood disaster area while the sappers rebuilt a bridge to provide access by road.

Next job for the sappers was to construct a new village on high ground which first had to be cleared of jungle. They were to build a prototype house and then supervise local labour in erecting another 49.

The sappers' long-term task is to provide fresh water wells in isolated and remote communities. Some peasants have had to trundle carts containing pitchers up to seven miles to collect water.

The sapper team, commanded by Major Richard Leonard, came at the request of the Thai Government. Headquarters was set up in Chom Bung and the team will stay for 18 months, with a change of personnel at the end of the first nine months. "By this time," said Major Leonard "We hope to have drilled at least 12 wells in Ratburi Province and done many other smaller jobs, like making additions to government buildings and schools and small repairs to homes."

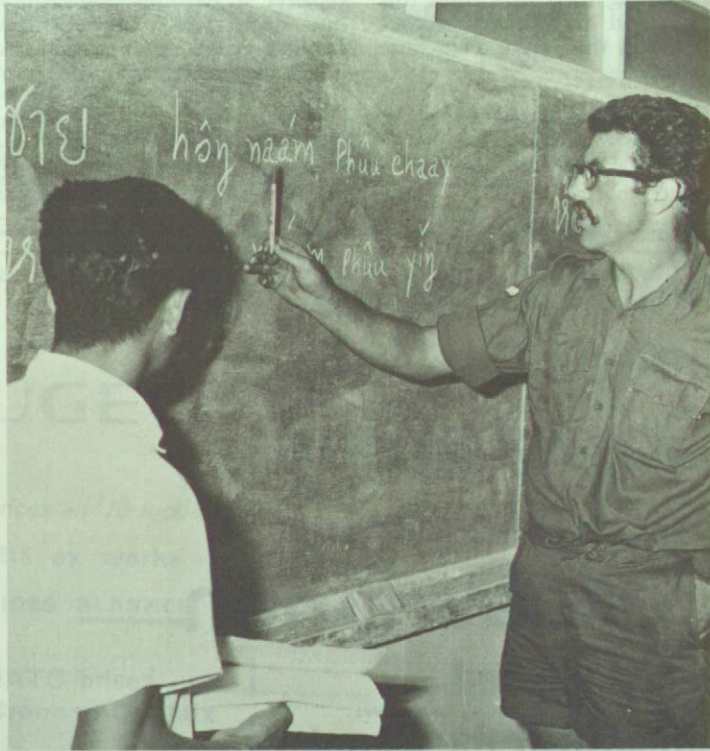
The team's presence has been specially welcomed by the Chom Bung Institute, the only school in Thailand which teaches modern agricultural techniques. In the hot summer months it has often had to close because of lack of water. Now it will be able to stay open all the year round and double its number of students to 1000.

From a report by Army Public Relations, Far East Land Forces.



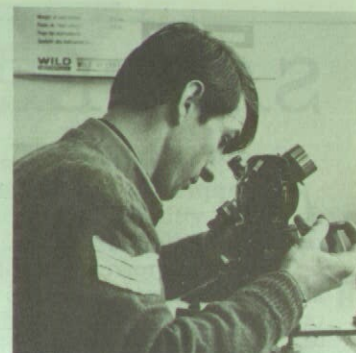
Instead of walking miles with heavy cans, like this girl, villagers will have running water tapped from wells like the first one here at Chom Bung being inspected by Thai officers.

Below, left: Sappers discuss rebuilding of Thung Krathin bridge with local relief workers. Below, right: Language lesson. Many of the sappers are learning Thai in their spare time.





# Happy birthday!



Sharing **SOLDIER's** 25th birthday on 19 March are 18 soldiers who were born on the day the first issue of the magazine was published in Brussels.

**SOLDIER** wishes all of them a happy birthday and prosperity in the future.

Orienteer and cross-country runner Keith Sadler is serving with Headquarters 3rd Division Signal Regiment. His rank is lance-corporal, his job telegraph operator. He comes from Southend, worked in a shipping agency before joining the Army and is married with two children.

A pale blue beret and United Nations badge. The wearer, Lance-Corporal Tony Bell, Royal Corps of Transport, is driver to the chief personnel officer at Headquarters United Nations Force in Cyprus. He comes from Kings Lynn, is on a nine-year engagement and has been to Malaya and Germany as well as Cyprus with the Army.

Servicing a theodolite. A tricky job to most people. But not to Sergeant Alan Wilton who is a qualified instrument technician with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers attached to 42 Survey Regiment, Royal Engineers, at Barton Stacey. He is married and comes from Christchurch.

A dock labourer in Portsmouth and a machinist in a cardboard box factory—these were the jobs of Lance-Bombardier Dennis Roberts before joining the Army. He has now done six years of a nine-year engagement and is at present a dog handler at the Royal Artillery Depot, Woolwich. He has been to Germany, Holland and Belgium with the Army.

Aden, Bahrain, Norway and Zambia—these are places Lance-Corporal Dave Taylor has been to with the Army. His home town is Plymouth, he is single and has signed on for nine years. His trade is fitter/welder, but at present he is recruit-training non-commissioned officer with 1 Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, at Cove.

Lance-Corporal Neil McIntyre of The Royal Hussars, stationed at Tidworth, is a gunner/driver of a Chieftain tank. He comes from Oxford, is married and is serving a nine-year engagement. He has been to Germany, Denmark, France and Belgium with the Army.

On the ball. Lance-Corporal George Williams of 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, is his company's goal-keeper. He is a driver at present stationed at Ballykinlar in Northern Ireland. He was an apprentice motor mechanic in Liverpool before enlisting in 1962. Since then he has been to Berlin, Norway, Aden and Kenya.



Military sports of skiing and shooting occupy the spare time of Lance-Corporal Kenneth Schindler. Corporal Schindler, pictured repairing the bell assembly of a telephone, is at present serving with 16 Signal Regiment at Krefeld, West Germany. He was an apprentice electrician before joining the Army in 1963. His wife Patricia is expecting their first child this month, and his younger brother Brian is in the Junior Parachute Regiment.

Lance-Corporal Clifford Tippler, who is on a nine-year engagement with the Royal Engineers, comes from an Army family. His father was a commando in the Dieppe raid and in The Parachute Regiment in Germany, his father-in-law won a Distinguished Conduct Medal with the infantry in Burma. Corporal Tippler worked as a property repairer in Widnes, Lancashire, but decided to continue the family's Army tradition. He is a B2 draughtsman with the Joint School of Photographic Interpretation at RAF Wyton, Huntingdon. His hobbies are model-making and coin collecting, he is keen on swimming, and has played rugby for his unit.

Hoping to be a tank commander—that is the ambition of Lance-Corporal Leslie Richard Holbrow of the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards. He is already a B1 radio operator (having transferred from the Royal Signals four years ago) and is at present doing a B1 gunnery course in order to qualify. He was born in Coventry and was a trainee electrician before enlisting. Since then he has been to Germany, Borneo, Aden and Northern Ireland with the Army. He married last November and lives with his wife in Detmold.

Clerk to a lieutenant-commander in the Royal Navy is the job of Lance-Corporal Peter Preston. He joined the Royal Army Service Corps in 1964, and was absorbed into the Royal Army Ordnance Corps on the formation of the Royal Corps of Transport. Corporal Preston was posted to Singapore in 1967 and works in Headquarters Far East Command. He is accompanied by his wife and three-year-old son. They are due to leave Singapore early this month, so they will be home for his and **SOLDIER's** 25th birthday.

Corporal John Parsons, Royal Corps of Transport, is the training clerk at Headquarters, 33 Maritime Regiment, RCT, the Army's sailors in Singapore. He lives and works on the island of Pulau Brani across the waters of Singapore's dockland. He joined the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Army Service Corps, in 1961 and has since served with 20 Company in London, Headquarters 1 (British) Corps in Bielefeld, West Germany, the British contingent of the United Nations' peace-keeping force in Cyprus, and at Northern Army Group Headquarters in Rheinland. He is unmarried.

Lance-Corporal John Young, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, comes from an Army family. He has two brothers in the Royal Signals; one has just been commissioned, the other is a sergeant. Corporal Young has been in the Army for six years of a nine-year engagement. He has been stationed in Germany, Sharjah, Shorncliffe and currently is at Gibraltar accompanied by his wife and baby son. He is in the mortar platoon of support company.

Internal security duties in Dhekelia, training in Libya and Kenya and an emergency tour in Cyprus. These have been highlights in the Army career of Corporal E Masterman of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. A Yorkshireman, he worked in a tailoring factory and then as an apprentice welder before joining up as a boy soldier. He is battalion weapon training and ammunition storeman.

Globetrotter Lance-Corporal Robert Excell has been to Canada, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Malaya, Borneo and British Guiana (now Guyana) since enlisting in the Army in 1963. He is serving in 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, and is pictured operating a radio set in battalion headquarters. He went to school in Croydon and was an apprentice mechanic before joining the Army.

Also celebrating their birthdays in Rhine Army on 19 March are: Corporal A C McAlister, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, AMED and MMEC; Guardsman J H Tonner, 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards; Corporal J E Setchfield, Royal Signals, HQ 4th Division.

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# HAMMERED AT HAMMELBURG

**T**WENTY-FIVE years ago half-tracks and Shermans clattered over the cobble-stones and stopped on a railway bridge just south of the German town of Aschaffenburg.

It was midnight on 26 March 1945 and the 300 American soldiers in the 50-odd vehicles waited in tense excited silence with only the diminutive glow of cigarettes relieving the midnight gloom.

They were about to embark on one of the strangest and most daring missions of World War Two—to plunge 60 miles into enemy territory held by three divisions and break into Hammelburg prisoner-of-war camp to release 1000 prisoners and bring them back to the allied lines.

The raid, ordered by General "Blood-and-guts" Patton, commander of the American Third Army, was to begin as a "wild goose chase and end as a tragedy," as fellow US General Bradley put it later.

However, tough red-haired Captain Baum of the 4th US Armoured Division,

who commanded the force, was not worried too much about the enormity of his task that night. His main concern was whether his regiment, under Colonel Creighton Abrams (now commander-in-chief in Vietnam), could clear a path for them through the village of Schweinheim opposite the bridge.

Then the radio of Captain Baum's jeep began to crackle. Colonel Abram had broken through. The way was clear. Baum did not waste time. He rapped out the order to "roll 'em" and his force moved over the bridge across the River Main. Everywhere in the village of Schweinheim there was the red-and-yellow flash of the German *panzerfaust* and the angry white morse code of the enemy machine-guns, but Task Force Baum did not hesitate.

It rattled over the cobble street at a smart pace and disappeared into the darkness beyond. Behind it the broken German line reformed and cut it off from the rear. The big raid had started.

All night long Baum's men ripped through the sleeping Bavarian villages, overrunning the surprised German defenders with a hail of fire, crashing through barricades with their heavy tanks, gone before the enemy was aware they were even there. By dawn they had covered 25 miles with only light casualties and the loss of one tank. It looked as if the whole operation was going to be a walk-over after all.

About this time the force was approaching the town of Gemunden where it must capture the bridge across the River Sinn to continue on the direct route to Hammelburg. Just as the light recon tanks were entering the outskirts of the pretty medieval river town they spotted several German trains steaming out of the marshalling yard. The tank crews opened fire at once. Train after train was hit, going up in flames and clouds of white steam.

Then bad luck struck. Just as the force was about to cross the vital bridge the Germans blew it up and the men on it right

under the Americans' noses. Captain Baum was wounded in hand and knee by a German shell splinter. They were the first of four wounds he would receive in the next 24 hours.

Losing "three tanks and a bunch of infantry" (as Baum recalled later), the 24-year-old commander withdrew his force and headed north looking for another bridge across the river. He was in luck. Eight kilometres away, at the little town of Burgsinn, he found one intact. The force rode on.

At 1430 hours on the 27th, Baum suddenly stopped the column. He had heard the faint drone of an aircraft. Anxiously he scanned the sky. There it was—a German plane. Baum cursed under his breath. From the prisoners taken he had learned that the Germans thought the breakthrough was being carried out by a whole armoured division. Now the spotter plane would tell a different story. Hastily he gave the order "Knock her out of the sky!" Even the wounded manned the force's 50-calibre

machine-guns but with an impudent wiggle of its wings the German plane flew unharmed through the hail of lead and turned due south. The Germans now knew the exact strength of the puny force so far behind their lines.

Two hours later Baum Force met the main German force—a tank destroyer squadron commanded by a Captain Koehl who had posted his Ferdinands with their great 90mm guns, which easily outgunned the Shermans, so that they barred the road to Hammelburg camp. Baum had no other choice but to fight. For two hours the battle raged. When Baum broke it off he had lost ten of his vehicles to one lost by Koehl.

Doggedly the task force rolled on up the steep hill leading to Hammelburg camp (now the Bundeswehr's Infantry School) and after a two-hour bombardment managed to overrun the camp's defences. But now, amid the hysterical scenes of excited liberation, Baum knew that although he had achieved his objective he had also failed.

He had not sufficient vehicles left to transport the freed prisoners back to the allied lines. Taking with him only those prisoners strong enough to fight, he withdrew to a hill feature two miles from the camp.

But the Germans were closing in on the ill-fated force. Fanatical SS officer-cadets were force-marching towards them from the south while a company of snipers plus Koehl's tank destroyers approached from the north. Baum would have to act fast if he was to get out of the trap. Unfortunately, after having fought continuously for nearly 36 hours and being delayed by the former prisoners, Baum hesitated a little too long. When he finally decided to move the Germans were waiting for him.

At the village of Hoellrich the task force, now down to 110 men, hit a German barricade. From all sides Spandau fire poured into the American vehicles. Baum ordered a withdrawal back to the hill. There he saw in the first light of the false dawn that his position was hopeless.



Above: Blazing buildings and black, skeleton-like trees greeted GIs of the 14th Armoured Division and 3rd Infantry Division advancing into Gemunden weeks later. Note the bridge's third span which had been blown in Baum's face.

Right: Crushing barbed wire beneath its tracks, a tank of the 14th Armoured Division breaks into Hammelburg POW camp to cheers from its inmates. This was the second and successful liberation which did not come until early April.







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The enemy was now advancing on him with tanks and tank destroyers from three sides. Pouring a hail of lead into the Americans, setting vehicle after vehicle on fire, the Germans forced them to retreat into the woods on the top of the hill.

Time after time Baum rallied his men and tried to break out but without success. In desperation he ordered them to break up into fours and try to get back to allied lines on their own. Frantically the beaten soldiers broke up and retreated into the dense woods followed by baying bloodhounds which the Germans were now using to root them out.

But few escaped. Baum was shot at close range by a German sergeant and taken prisoner. Some were hunted for days before local farmers caught them or they surrendered because of hunger. One man, Sergeant Graham, avoided capture for six days and when he finally made his own lines the American infantrymen threatened to shoot him as a spy!

One of the puzzling aspects of the whole episode is why the raid was ordered in the first place. Some time before, Joseph Stalin's son, an artillery officer, had been a prisoner in the camp, but he was long gone before the raid started. Officially it was given out that the raid was staged to confuse the German High Command about the direction of the American attack after they crossed the River Main. But a raid by a couple of companies was hardly likely to



Above: Hammelburg camp commandant Gen von Goeckel—alive today and living in Bad Kissingen.

confuse such a wily old bird as Field-Marshal Kesselring, the German commander in the West.

By coincidence one of the prisoners in the camp was General Patton's son-in-law, Colonel John Waters (now a four-star general). General Patton was severely criticised for the rashness of the mission, the tragically heavy casualties and most of all because his son-in-law was in the camp. But he maintained that he did not know of Waters' presence in the camp until Hammelburg was recaptured nine days later.

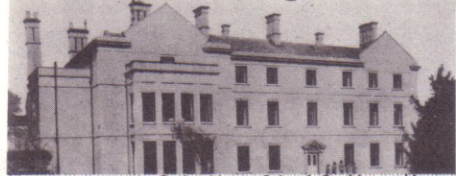
**Charles Whiting**

Below: Cigarettes, a strong handclasp and warm words of greeting from the liberators. Most prisoners were Serbs, not Americans as intelligence thought.





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# CYMBELINE for the gunners

**CYMBELINE**, a new radar/computer mortar-locating device, is to come into service with the Royal Artillery within the next five years.

It will be issued in the United Kingdom, north-west Europe and the Far East, ultimately replacing the gunners' existing equipment, Green Archer.

Green Archer has done yeoman service. But it was found to be too heavy and cumbersome in the Borneo jungle and rugged terrain in Aden.

New techniques of micro-miniaturisation have meant that the manufacturers, EMI Electronics Limited, have been able to keep Cymbeline's weight down to 250 kilograms (547 lbs). Green Archer, also made by them, weighs 1800 kilograms.

Lightness means transportability. So Cymbeline can be carried as a single unit by six men with carrier poles, mounted on a three-quarter ton trailer or a long-wheelbase Land-Rover or be lifted by helicopter (hydraulic shock absorbers on its feet allow it to be dropped safely).

The working principle of most mortar locators is that they project a radar beam inclined slightly above the horizontal. The



Above: A whirring of rotor blades, tautening of cable and Cymbeline is lifted into the sky. It is normally carried in a Land-Rover or special trailer.

power unit is a Wankel rotary internal combustion engine driving a generator.

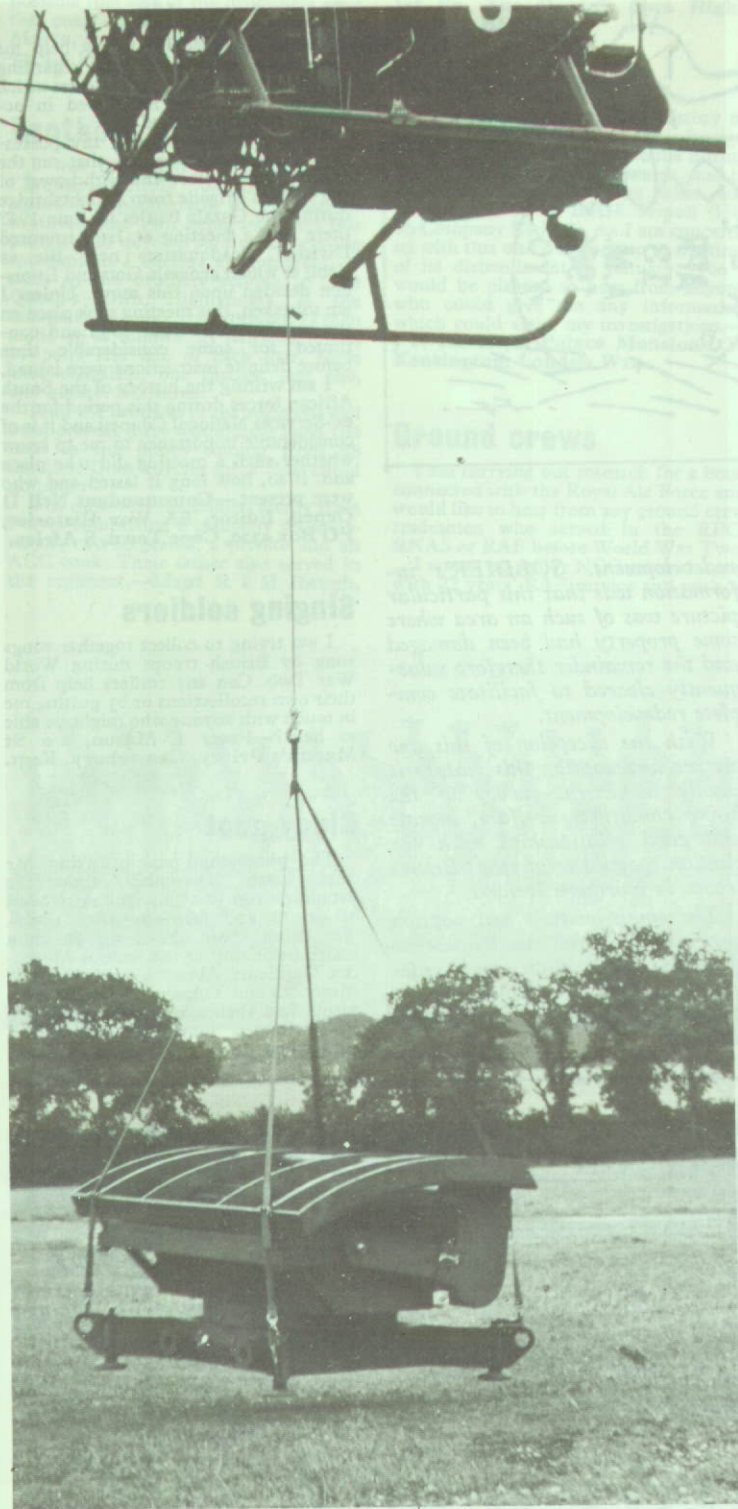
Cymbeline can also be used to adjust artillery fire. When firing at high angle the radar can detect the shell on its downward trajectory —instead of its upward one—and can compute where it will fall. With low angle airburst the actual position of burst (determined by the radar) can be compared with the theoretical position (range set on the gun) thus giving the error due to meteorological and other factors.

This obviates the need to fire a ranging round near an enemy which would alert him. The ranging round can be fired some distance from the enemy's known position and immediately after the relevant data are computed the guns can fire for effect.

Cymbeline's other uses are surveillance of estuaries and other coastal areas, ground surveillance of moving vehicles and control of light aircraft and helicopters.

*Footnote: Cymbeline (or Cunobelin) was a British king, AD 10 to 40, whose capital was Colchester. He was later featured in a play of that name by Shakespeare.*





Above: New eyes and brains for the gunners. Cymbeline was demonstrated to representatives of 26 nations at the School of Artillery last summer.

mortar bomb is detected when it passes through the beam and marked on a television-type screen.

The operator then elevates the beam, ready to catch the bomb at a higher point in its trajectory. The second point is then marked on the screen.

Data about the range, bearing and time the bomb takes to travel between the two points are fed into a computer which then determines the position of the mortar. The whole process takes only about half a minute.

In addition, Cymbeline has an "alert" beam which warns the operator when a mortar bomb is fired. The complete radar head can be rapidly rotated to cover any required sector, for example, 180 degrees in 15 seconds.

In an emergency one man can operate Cymbeline, but two are normally required. Operators can work by remote control from cover positions at up to 50 feet away.

Cymbeline can operate in temperatures of minus 40 to plus 52 degrees centigrade at altitudes from sea level to nearly 10,000 feet with no loss of accuracy in winds of up to 56 miles an hour. The

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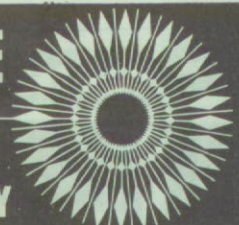
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# LETTERS



## NORTHERN IRELAND

From the Town Clerk of Belfast:

I refer to the article "24 Hours a Day" in the January **SOLDIER** and particularly to the caption on page 13 describing the photograph on page 12. This caption gives a totally erroneous impression in that the photograph is, in fact, of an area where dwellings, shops etc were demolished to make way for redevelopment and motorway constructions and not destroyed as a result of the disturbances which took place in the City last August.

It seems to me that this matter demands correction not only from the point of view of achieving an accurate record but of avoiding the creation of a wrong image in the minds of your

readers who, you must agree, could be led to think that vast areas of the City had been devastated whereas, in fact, the areas affected by the disturbances were small both in number and extent.—**David Jamison, Town Clerk, City Hall, Belfast.**

★ Other readers have written in the same vein.

**SOLDIER** apologises. The picture and caption have clearly been the cause of considerable misunderstanding. This picture was selected, from a large number available, because it was thought to symbolise not only destruction but particularly the rapidly taken opportunity to clear completely an affected area and press on with

redevelopment. **SOLDIER's** information was that this particular picture was of such an area where some property had been damaged and the remainder therefore subsequently cleared to facilitate complete redevelopment.

With the exception of this one picture and caption this feature is wholly a general survey of the living conditions, welfare, morale and good relationships with the civilian populace of the British troops in Northern Ireland.

The single picture and caption were included in the feature to symbolise destruction and redevelopment and to represent all the houses and factories destroyed or damaged.

## Desert meeting

Could any reader possibly help me clear up a rather vital point regarding the history of the war in the desert which I have never seen mentioned in accounts so far published?

From wartime notes in my possession I am almost certain that on the crucial night before the withdrawal of the Guards Brigade from Knightsbridge during the Gazala battles in June 1942 there was a meeting at 1st Armoured Division Headquarters near Bir ez Zebli at which generals Gott and Lumsden decided upon this move. Unless I am mistaken, this meeting took place on the evening of 13 June 1942 and continued for some considerable time before definite instructions were issued.

I am writing the history of the South African forces during this period for the ex-Services National Council and it is of considerable importance to me to know whether such a meeting did take place and, if so, how long it lasted and who were present.—**Commandant Neil D Orpen, Editor, SA War Histories, PO Box 4320, Cape Town, S Africa.**

## Singing soldiers

I am trying to collect together songs sung by British troops during World War Two. Can any readers help from their own recollections or by putting me in touch with anyone who might be able to help?—**Peter F Mason, c/o St Martin's Priory, Canterbury, Kent.**

## Giddy goat

The photograph accompanying Mr East's letter (December) shows the drummers row of a native infantry band of drums and fifes—so-called *nouba*. The drum apron shows the Salomon badge belonging to the famous Moroccan Tirailleurs. Almost all the Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian tirailleurs regiments had their goats—sometimes led by a trooper, sometimes unattended. And when nobody led them is it not



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possible that one of the drummers gave the goat orders in arabic?—Claude Morin, Primevere 3, Rue d'Orléans 72, La Ferte-Bernard, France.

Brothers in arms

I was interested to see the letter "Brothers in Arms" (September) which included a photograph of 13 pairs of brothers—the 14th being away. As this promises to develop into an interesting competition I enclose a photograph of most of the brothers serving in The Queen's Own Highlanders at the moment. The photograph shows 77 men made up as follows: 21 pairs complete, 21 pairs less one of each pair, three trios complete, one quartet less one, one quintet less three.

If all the brothers in the regiment had been present there would have been 104 men in the photo coming from 48 families. Does anyone think they could do better?

The quintet is the Duffus family from Forres comprising a company sergeant-major, two sergeants, a private and an ACC cook. Their father also served in the regiment.—Lieut R I H Haugh,

1st Bn, The Queen's Own Highlanders, BFPO 64.

Were you there?

I am researching into the history of British, Commonwealth or foreign units which were in Tripolitania during World War Two and afterwards, and in particular those occupying what was known in 1954 as BMH Tripoli (HQ 36 Company RAMC). As I am concerned with this unit's history up to the time of its disbandment in January 1966 I would be pleased to hear from anyone who could give me any information which could assist my investigations.—J N Davies, 8 Palace Mansions, W Kensington, London W14.

Ground crews

I am carrying out research for a book connected with the Royal Air Force and would like to hear from any ground crew tradesmen who served in the RFC, RNAS or RAF before World War Two.

I am an ex-senior NCO ground crew with 22 years' RAF service and wish to

write on the work of the ground crews. The Army, and the Royal Engineers in particular, were pioneers of British military aviation and it is with these men that I wish to communicate.—F J Adkin, 8 Linsbury Avenue, Offerton, Stockport, Cheshire, SK2 5SH.

More bands please

I agree with ex-D/Sgt Jess Matthews regarding more bands in the Royal Tournament—the more so now that so many bands have been axed.

The tournament has been a "must" for me ever since my grandfather, himself a D/Sgt in The Suffolk Regiment, taught me how to roll a drum. The attraction is naturally the bands and drums in the arena. Of course the show put on by the various cadet bands and others before the performance is very good but it loses much of its attraction owing to people taking their seats and the usual noises associated with the show.

Let's have more bands. After all, what is finer than the sound of a military band, the wonderful music of com-

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## NEW CAP BADGE



This new badge, of The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (29th/45th), came into service at the amalgamation parade of the two regiments at Bulford on 28 February.

The badge typifies the intention of welding together the customs and traditions of both regiments on as nearly equal a basis as possible. From The Worcestershire Regiment comes the elongated eight-pointed star, the garter and the motto "Firm," and from The Sherwood Foresters the Maltese cross and the hart "lodged on a field of blue."

## more letters

posers like Kenneth Alford and the sight of British military bandmen on parade?—Vic Meekins, ex-bandsman QRR, 34 Townsend Road, Tiddington, Stratford-on-Avon.



## Wrong bridge

On page 36 of the September SOLDIER there is a picture of a Centurion AVRE (approximate weight 50 tons) crossing a new lightweight bridge which the article says can support 16 tons. How come?—K G L Mills, 2 Second Avenue, Bay Valley N, Johannesburg.

★Reader Mills, is of course, absolutely right. The structure in the picture is a medium girder bridge and not the lightweight air-portable bridge/ferry mentioned in the text. Both bridges are made of a new lightweight aluminium alloy.

## 2 RTR

Any former members of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment who served from 1916 to the present day and who wish to keep in touch with the regiment through news letters and reunions should write to.—Capt C R M Messenger, RHQ RTR, 1 Elverton Street, London SW1.

## British SS men

I am researching into the history of British and Indian citizens who fought with the Germans in World War Two.

It would be of great assistance if any readers could contact me if they have encountered any members of the British Waffen SS Unit—the so-called "British Free Corps" or "Legion of St George," in German POW camps on the Elbe in 1945, or in Allied POW camps in Belgium in 1945-46. Similarly I am anxious to hear from anyone who had contact with the Indian Legion in southern France in 1944.

Any information or photographs concerning these units, or of any of the other strange non-German units fighting with the Waffen-SS or German Army, would be most appreciated.—Alan C Beadle, 30 Durham Road, Bromley, Kent (01-460 3380).

## SQUARE UP!

A failure by the printers to correct properly a proof of the January Competition 140 means that the "magic square" cannot be completed.

Clue M should read: CDXI minus 403. Similarly clue L should read: BOBED minus KIM.

Prizes and regulations remain as published in the January SOLDIER except that:

Closing date is now extended from Monday 6 April to Monday 8 June.

Answers and winners' names will appear in the August SOLDIER.

Each entry should now be accompanied by the "Competition 140(R)" label on this page

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**140 (R)**





## CARIBBEAN ADVENTURE

Readers with a taste for re-living stirring military adventures of a past age in romantic Caribbean settings will be interested in an off-beat tourist attraction launched by the West India Packet Company, of Newport, Rhode Island, United States.

Next June and July some 40 tourists will set sail from Newport in a specially built full-sized replica of the 1757 20-gun British frigate HMS Rose to Caribbean islands of historic military interest and to various eastern US ports of historic significance. At each port of call it is intended to stage pageants appropriate to the occasion, including landings, marching and "storming the fort"—all in 18th century marine and army uniforms.

One snag—it is an expensive jaunt. A ticket for the seven-eight week cruise, including hire of uniforms and flintlock muskets, costs about 800 dollars but is transferable, ie several people may go on one ticket provided only one person is on board at any given time.

For further particulars write to John F Millar, The West India Packet Company Ltd, 60 Church Street, Newport, Rhode Island, USA.

For most of the year the Rose, whose original namesake fought with distinction in the Seven Years War and in the American Revolution, is a restaurant-museum on the Newport waterfront; she is also occasionally used as a sail-training ship for sea cadets.

## LETTERS PATENT

About three-quarters of the entries for Competition 137 (October) came up with the solution of Algeria (col 1 and col 4), Nigeria (col 4) and Andorra (col 5). Accepted too were Malaya (col 7) and Angola (col 5). But unfortunately only 12 names could be drawn from the "hat."

Not accepted were Minorca (a popular loser in col 5), Malanda (col 7), Angorra (col 5), Indiana (a USA state, cols 5 and 6) and, because they were already in the acoustic, Rumania, Denmark, Tunisia, Iceland and Morocco.

Unacceptable, too, were names formed by taking letters out of sequence in the vertical columns or by jumping from one column to another. These were America, Antigua, Armenia, Bahamas, Bavaria, Bermuda, Corsica, Eritrea, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Kashmir, Katanga, Madeira, Moravia, Réunion, Rio Muni, Sumatra, Surinam, Tangier, Vatican, Vietnam and Yaounde.

### Prizewinners:

- 1 Richard Tarleton, 47 Post Street, Godmanchester, Hunts.
- 2 G L Evans, 72 Bibby Road, Churchtown, Southport, Lancs.
- 3 Mrs G Wise, 7 Wilson Drive, Elswick PR4 3XL, Lancs.
- 4 Mitchell S Davidson, Findon

Croft, Portlethen AB1 4RN, Kincardineshire, Scotland.

5 S Sgt H Alderson, A Coy, 1 PWO, BFPO 53.

6 WO I T M Brown, 5 RTR LAD REME, BFPO 33.

7 Mrs E Bell, Radland, St Dominick, Saltash, Cornwall.

8 Mrs P R Morris, 77B Sydenham Road, London SE26.

9 P T Starr, 86 Halse Road, Brackley, Northants.

10 B T Pittaway, 26 Tennyson Road, Eastleigh SO5 5FT, Hants.

11 P K Bridges, 14 Pinewood Court, Clarence Avenue, London SW4.

12 Capt J G Wishart, HQ 4 Div, BFPO 15.

## REUNIONS

Notices of corps and regimental reunions should be sent to Editor, SOLDIER, 433 Holloway Road, London N7, at least two months before the event is due to take place. No charge will be made for announcements.

**RAOC Association.** Annual reunion dinner, Birmingham Co-operative Restaurant, High Street, Birmingham 4, Saturday 25 April. Tickets £1 from RAOC Secretariat, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey.

**11th Royal Tank Regiment.** Reunion, Fourways Hotel, 21 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Saturday 18 April, 7.30 for 8pm. Details from J E C Fraser, 30 Dereham Way, Branksome, Poole, Dorset (Parkstone 2332).

**The Queen's Own Hussars.** Reunion dinner Saturday 2 May, Criterion, Piccadilly, London W1. Dress optional, tickets 25s each from Maj J S Sutherland (Rtd), HHQ The Queen's Own Hussars, Post Office Chambers, Old Square, Warwick.

**The Rifle Brigade.** Annual reunion Saturday 11 April, 6.30pm, 24 Sun Street, London EC2. Admission free, no tickets.

**The King's Royal Rifle Corps Association.** Reunion Saturday 11 April, 6.30pm, 56 Davies Street, London

W1. Details from Secretary, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester, Hants.

**The Border Regiment Association.** Annual reunion dinner South of England Branch, Saturday 4 April, 6.30pm, Victory Ex-Services Club, London W2. Tickets 17s 6d. Send SAE to Lieut-Col J W Westwood, 25 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 5HJ. Families also welcome.

**Burma Star Association.** Shepherds Bush Branch ceremonial parade, 3 May, from White City TA Centre, headed by military band, to St Luke's Church, Uxbridge Road, London W12, for service of dedication of branch Standard.

**Burma Reunion.** All ex-Burma wallahs of 2nd, 4th, 9th battalions and other Border Regiment members please rally at Royal Albert Hall, London, Saturday 23 May, 6pm.

**The York and Lancaster Regimental Association.** Annual dinner and dance Saturday 25 April, 6.45 for 7.30pm, Duke of York's Headquarters, Kings Road, Chelsea, London SW3. Preceded by annual general meeting 6pm. Members wishing to attend should inform RHQ, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield S10 3EU by 13 April.

**Royal Horse Artillery Association.** Trowbridge branch reunion dinner 4 April. Details from hon sec, 55 Whitehorse Park, Trowbridge, Wilts.

## COLLECTORS' CORNER

Miss E M Thomas, 1 Hazel Grove, Farnworth, Bolton BL4 0BD.—Collects insignia worn by world-wide female services and wishes contact service personnel to trade and exchange correspondence.

D G Blyth, 12 Helen Street, Christie Downs, South Australia 5164.—Requires Scottish regimental badges, sword with King's Own Scottish Borderers markings and dirk, any type. All letters answered.

Roger Parke, Heads House, Royal School, Armagh, Northern Ireland.—Wishes purchase set new-type webbing. Will pay fair price.

S R Pardoe, 8 Park View Terrace, Brighton BN1 5PW.—Collects regimen-

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 21)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Time by clock. 2 Chevron on jacket. 3 Smoke from chimney. 4 Side-lamp of car. 5 Tray of cigarette packet. 6 Near end of pipe in front of car. 7 Tread of tyre on right. 8 Ground line at bottom right. 9 Height of civilian's trousers. 10 Right spire of church.

tal cap badges and requires any pre-Jan 1968 editions of SOLDIER; also 1st or 2nd editions "Regimental Badges" (Major T Edwards).

E P D'Andria, Northern Factoring Inc, 3410 Geary Boulevard, Suite 343, San Francisco, USA.—Requires toy soldiers, trucks, vehicles and tents made by Britain's Ltd.

D B Dawes, 10 Englands Caravan Site, Woodhouse Down, Almondsbury, Bristol.—Wishes sell Purnell's History of the Second World War, 96 parts in six volumes, unbound, as new; offers.

Peter M Howard, 102 Mackenzie Crescent, Burncross, Sheffield S30 4US.—Wishes purchase British Army/Indian Army cap badges, shoulder flashes etc. All letters answered.

A Birmingham, PO Box 142, Ryde, NSW 2112, Australia.—Urgently requires in good condition early Australian recruiting posters, also wall charts and postcards of badges, flags etc. Also wanted pre-1955 SOLDIER magazines and back numbers Jan June 1961, Aug Sep 1960, Jan Feb Mar Apr 1959, Jul 1957, Mar Apr 1955. State price including postage. Please write airmail with full description of items.

G Pilkington, 5 Bowness Crescent, Kingston Vale, London SW15.—Requires any Royal Military Police badges and RMP armband by exchange or purchase. All letters answered.

N J Burchett (aged 10), 36 Lady Margaret Road, Kentish Town, London NW5.—Requires any British Army cap badges to increase his recently started collection.

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# BULLDOG AND BULLDOZER

**A** "FUNNY"—besides being a joke about Army haircuts or cooking—is slang for a specialised vehicle on a tank chassis.

An example is the American M8 A1 cargo tractor which is a caterpillar-tracked



personnel carrier with freight compartments, a crane and a bulldozer blade. It is a development of the M41 Walker Bulldog tank. Modellers can now make both with Japanese kits in 1:35th scale recently put on the market in Britain by Riko of 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

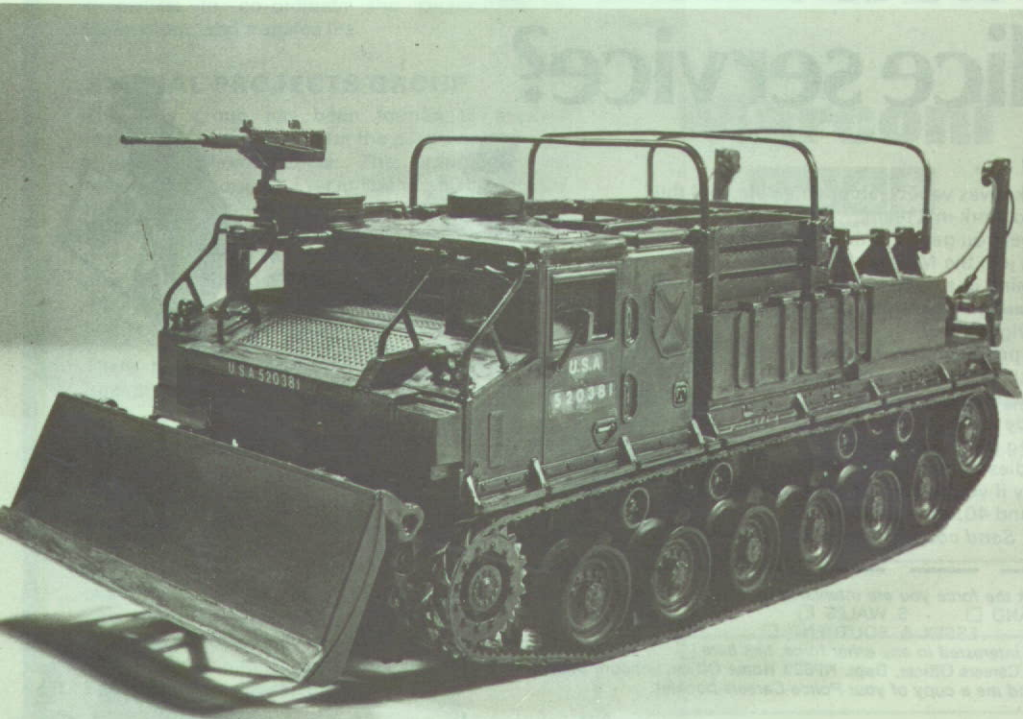
The M8 A1 was briefly in service with the US Army and is currently used by the Japanese Self-Defence Force. Its role is to tow heavy field guns, transport ammunition and personnel as rear support and carry out various sapper tasks. The colour is semi-matt olive drab, a finish which can be achieved by painting the model with Humbrol "US olive drab" coated with matt polyurethane varnish.

The kit, made by Nitto Kagaku Kyozaï Company of Tokyo, has a battery-operated motor and costs £2 15s. It is an interesting and intricate model but has a couple of defects—a clumsy, externally mounted switch, and poorly detailed tracks in the form of moulded rubber bands. I replaced the switch with a more compact one mounted inside, in a lateral position between motor and batteries, with access through a small hole cut in the base of the hull. The kit is supplied with two sets of drive wheels, one with inaccurate V-shaped teeth which must be used if you want to motorise the model, and the other, accurately shaped, which necessitates making perforations in the track. It would seem an obvious answer to replace the M8 A1 tracks with those from the M41 kit, which are much more detailed and accurate, but unfortunately they are too short (the M41 having only five road wheels compared with the M8 A1's six).

Now obsolescent, the M41 first appeared in the early 1950s. It is still used by the Japanese Self-Defence Force and a few remote US Army units in Alaska. The kit of it, made by Tamiya Mokei Plastic Model Company, is remarkably good value at £1 5s 11d (including motor). The basic hull is a superb piece of moulding and the finished model has a neat, squat and businesslike appearance.

Both kits are supplied with transfers of American and Japanese markings. **HH**

Above: M41 Walker Bulldog with high velocity 76mm gun—a neat model by Tamiya. Below: M8 A1 cargo tractor. Drive wheels have V-shaped teeth necessary for motorising. Both kits give a choice of American and Japanese markings.





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The scholarships carry with them, for the successful, the assurance of a place at Sandhurst—and can therefore be a boy's first step to a career as an Army Officer.

Selection is by written examination and interview. Boys born between 2nd February 1954 and 1st February 1955 are eligible, and application must be made before 15th May 1970. The written examination will be held at schools in early June.

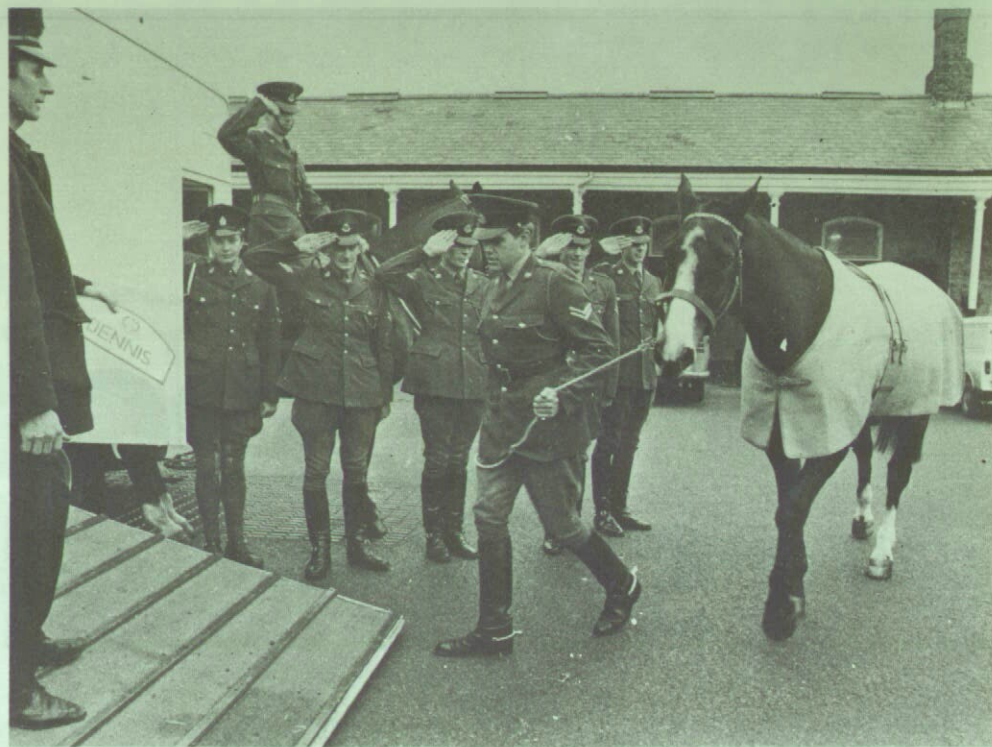
**For full details of the scheme, write to:**

**Major R. T. T. Gurdon, Army Officer Entry, Dept. 351, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA**

K.I.



# Left, Right & Centre



To farewell salutes from the Redcaps (above), an 18-year-old bay gelding is led off into honourable retirement. His name is Dennis and he served with the Royal Military Police for 14 years. Dennis is the first Army horse to be put out to grass instead of being slaughtered. This follows a national Press outcry about the 60 elderly ceremonial mounts which are "cast" each year. Many are now going to the RSPCA's rest home for retired horses on the Isle of Wight, following an agreement between the society and the Ministry of Defence. Said a society official: "Most of them have to be broken into a lazy life in the paddock. They are not used to the grass and trees after life in the bustle of an army parade ground."



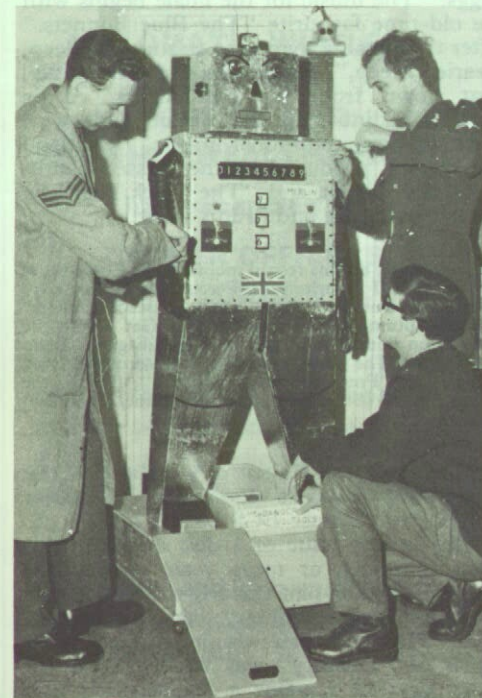
Delectable delicacies (left) on show at the Army Catering Corps Training Centre in Aldershot for the first visit of The Duchess of Kent since she became Colonel-in-Chief of the corps. She met apprentices and students, lunched in the officers' mess, visited the gymnasium, saw a display of hobbies in the library and also planted a tree.



The Worcesters, motto "Firm," have broken ranks after 276 years. With fixed bayonets, drums beating and Colours fluttering in the winter breeze, they exercised for the last time their privilege of the freedom of their namesake city, marching through the busy shopping centre (left), past the Guildhall, where the mayor took the salute, and into the Cathedral for a final service. The regiment amalgamated with The Sherwood Foresters last month to form The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment.



The West German town of Fallingbommel and a British Army unit—7th Armoured Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers—have become permanently linked as a result of a charter of "Partnerschaft." The unit has had such cordial relations with the town, where it has been stationed for the past 18 years, that the civic authorities decided to commemorate it by a special charter. In a ceremony outside the Rathaus (Town Hall), Bürgermeister Herr Otto Holman (above) presented the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Derek Cash, with a copy of the charter and a stainless steel plate. Col Cash gave a regimental plaque in return.

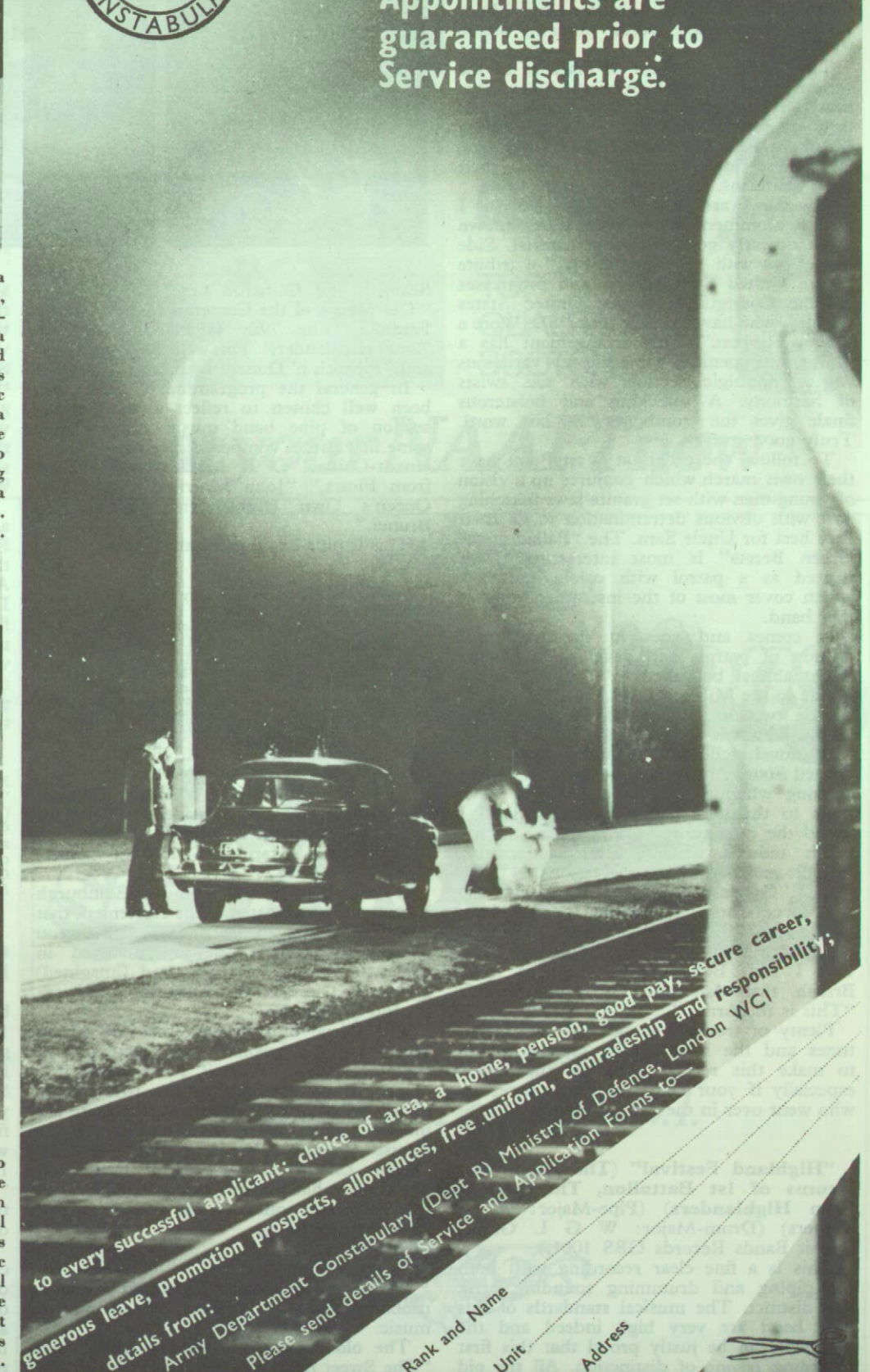


Merlin is a mini Ernie, an electronic robot who can talk, listen and rattle out random four-figure numbers in 20-second bursts. Merlin is the brain child of Corporal Tony Musgrove, Lance-Corporal Denys Cole and Corporal Royston Beauvais (above), all members of the Society of Electronic and Radio Technicians serving with 229 Signal Squadron (Berlin). He was built in their spare time from scrap and salvaged material and cost just 46 Deutsche Mark (about £5). His makers expect he will be a big attraction in the garrison.

## WOs/ NCOs



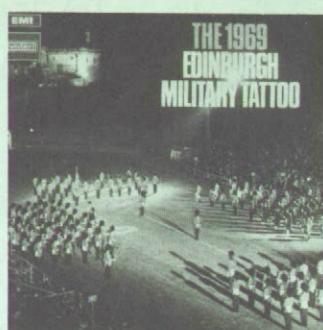
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# On record



**"March in Review" (Band of the Grenadier Guards, directed by Major Rodney Bashford) (Decca phase 4 stereo PFS 4171).**

This is an assortment of marches of the various United States Services. They have nearly all been effectively re-orchestrated and this, combined with the clearcut playing and "big band" sound of the Grenadiers, gives these tunes something special in their new "uniforms."

The tunes are mostly well known but I would recommend some of the lesser known as particularly good listening material. Side one opens with "Anchors Away," a tribute to the United States Navy, and progresses via the Coastguards to the United States Cavalry, who have as their tune "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon." This arrangement has a symphonic opening, some cheeky variations and a nostalgic section with sad twists of harmony. A rollicking and boisterous finale gives the trombones the last word. Truly good stuff!

To follow, the cadets at West Point have their own march which conjures up a vision of young men with set granite jaws marching past with obvious determination to do their very best for Uncle Sam. The "Ballad of the Green Berets" is most interesting. It is treated as a patrol with colour contrasts which cover most of the instrumentation of the band.

It comes and goes in the traditional fashion of patrols and develops into what might almost be called a "Young Person's Guide to the Military Band."

Side two opens with the Marine Corps Hymn which is well played and concludes with novel echo and fading effects. The United States Air Force tune has an arresting opening which is almost electrifying as it leads to the jolly "Wild Blue Yonder." I found the next tune, "Commando March," a bit tedious with a few disconcerting melodic and harmonic progressions.

The "Guadalcanal March" represents the para forces and is the link to the last item on the record. This is a selection of marching tunes of the past two centuries from "The Girl I Left Behind Me" (perhaps more British than American) to Irving Berlin's "This is the Army."

Plenty of trumpet sounds, drums, bright tunes and the band's solid playing all go to make this record "one for the rack," especially if your neighbours have ancestors who went over in the Mayflower.

**DAP**

**"Highland Festival" (The Pipes and Drums of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Highlanders) (Pipe-Major: A. A. Venters) (Drum-Major: W. G. L. Grant) (Great Bands Records GBS 1001.)**

This is a fine clear recording with both the piping and drumming sounding brisk and distinct. The musical standards of this pipe band are very high indeed and the regiment can be justly proud that this first recording is one of distinction. All the old

Seaforth and Cameron tunes are played—"The March of the Cameron Men," "Cabar Feidh," "The 79th Highlanders," "The 72nd Highlanders' Farewell to Aberdeen" and "Pibroch o' Donald Dhu."

In general the programme of music has been well chosen to reflect a good cross-section of pipe band music and includes some new pieces composed recently—"Lieutenant-Colonel D. R. MacLennan," "Flett from Flotta," "John Morrison" and "The Queen's Own Highlanders' Farewell to Brunel."

This is pipe band music at its best.

**JM**

Also on this LP: "Dundee City Police Pipe Band," "Heroes of Kohima," "Kilworth Hills," "MacGregor of Rora," "Miss Elspeth Campbell," "Maggie Cameron," "79th Farewell to Gibraltar," "Duncan MacInnes," "The Hills of Perth," "The 51st Highland Division," "The Dream Valley of Glenaruel," "The Land of My Youth," "Heroes of St Valery," "Him Bain's Wedding March," "Scotland is My Ain Hame," "The Dornoch Links," "Millbank Cottage," "Highland Harry," "Alick C. MacGregor," "The Saffron Kilt," "Corkhill," "John Keil MBE."

**"The 1969 Edinburgh Military Tattoo" (Producer: Brigadier J. S. Sanderson) (Director of Music: Major P. J. Neville, Director of Music, Royal Marines School of Music) (Waverley SZLP 2117).**

If you have never seen an Edinburgh Tattoo nor participated in the excitement that a tattoo creates in its audience then you may have difficulty getting involved in these 40 minutes of music and (imagined) spectacle. The cure, of course, is to go north for the 1970 tattoo.

The sleeve blurb claims that the album captures the atmosphere and excitement of it all. Don't you believe it. Nevertheless it is a good buy, especially as the royalties go to the Army Benevolent Fund, for there are massed bands, massed pipes and drums, the British Columbia Beefeater Band and the Danish Life Guards Corps of Drums. A pity this last had to play modern rubbish when the traditional sound of fife and drum was made for Edinburgh.

**RB**

The sound of massed pipes and drums is probably the most thrilling of all martial music.

The old tunes "The Weary Maid" and "The Sweet Maid of Glendaruel" herald the

approach across the Castle drawbridge and as the music comes into earshot one can hear the clarity of the playing and the zest of the very good concise drumming. This fine opening is followed by the slow melody "The Gareloch" which is a rather *avant garde* piece of bagpipe music but which with its counter melody and "seconds" is the highlight of the massed pipe and drums selection. Strangely this piece goes very well when accompanied by a military band!

The tunes which follow are the "Athol and Breadalbane Gathering" and "Corn Riggs." The music for the finale begins with the old-time favourite "The Blue Bonnets." After the evening hymn the strains of "Sleep, Dearie, Sleep," played by the lone piper, float down from the battlements. As is usual at Edinburgh, the Tattoo ends with what is now traditional music, "Scotland the Brave," produced by the massed bands, pipes and drums, and "The Black Bear" by the massed pipes and drums alone.

**JM**

Other music on this record includes "St Louis Blues March," "Riff Interlude," "Percussion in Review," "Consider Yourself" ("Oliver"), "Beaded Belts" (British Columbia Beefeater Band); "Get Me to the Church on Time," "Wonderful Copenhagen" (Band and Drums, The Royal Danish Life Guards); "Army of the Nile," "Preobrazhensky March," "A Life on the Ocean Wave" (Band of the Royal Marines School of Music).

**"The Spirit of Pageantry" (Band of the Grenadier Guards conducted by Major F. J. Harris) (Eclipse ECS 2008).**

This is a re-issue of a disc made by this band some ten or more years ago and at 17s 6d, less than half the original's price, is a good buy for a military band enthusiast. Percy Fletcher's prizewinning march "The Spirit of Pageantry" was written about 60 years ago but remains a favourite. It is a fitting start to a record of the same title in which some first-class technique is apparent. It leads to Verdi's ceremonial march from "Aida" which is so well balanced and tuneful that at times the rendering is almost orchestral in its texture.

The "Lustspiel" overture is next, again carefully and tastefully played although it is difficult to understand why this "Comedy" overture should be included in the pomp and ceremony unless it was intended to be a little light relief from the more serious pageantry items.

The last item on this side has a Scottish flavour. In this the band approaches and fades to the strains of the "Wee MacGregor" patrol.

Side two opens with the "Light Cavalry" overture. The rendering of this well-known work is not always above reproach but it contains some very neat clarinet work and gallops away to a quite thrilling finish. The lesser-known nautical overture by John Ansell, "Windjammer," is a worthy partner to his "Plymouth Hoe." This is extremely well played with some nice contrasts in colour and a fine depth of tone throughout. A patrol setting of "Highland Laddie" ends the record.

The arranger of this, J. A. Kappey, was a Coldstreamer; had he been a Scots Guards musician the title might well have read "Hielan' Laddie."

The sleeve carries a very fine picture of the Lord Mayor's coach passing the Law Courts during his inaugural ride through the City of London.

This epitomises the title and is a fitting cover to a good record.

**DAP**

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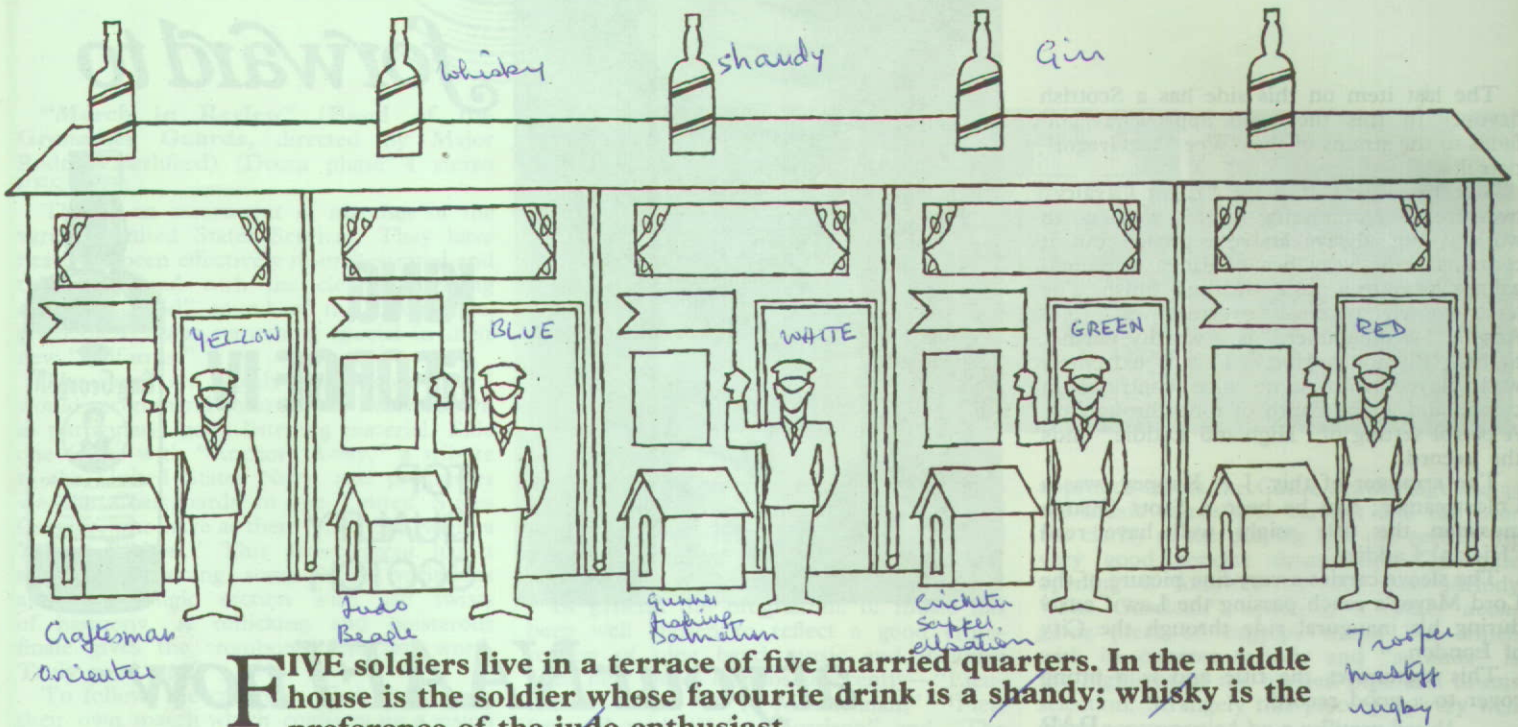
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# WHO AND WHAT?



**F**IVE soldiers live in a terrace of five married quarters. In the middle house is the soldier whose favourite drink is a shandy; whisky is the preference of the judo enthusiast.

Next door to the beagle owner lives the orienteer, whose door is yellow; the trooper lives in the house with the red door, the gunner's sport is fishing, the mastiff's owner plays rugby.

The blue door is next to the craftsman, who lives on the first left. Next to the dalmatian owner is the cricketer. The sapper owns an alsatian and the rifleman drinks lager. Left of the gin drinker's house, which has a green door, is the white door.

Now, can you determine which soldier drinks beer and which owns a poodle?

Send your answer, on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 142" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

**Editor (Comp 142)  
SOLDIER  
433 Holloway Road  
London N7.**

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 8 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 142" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

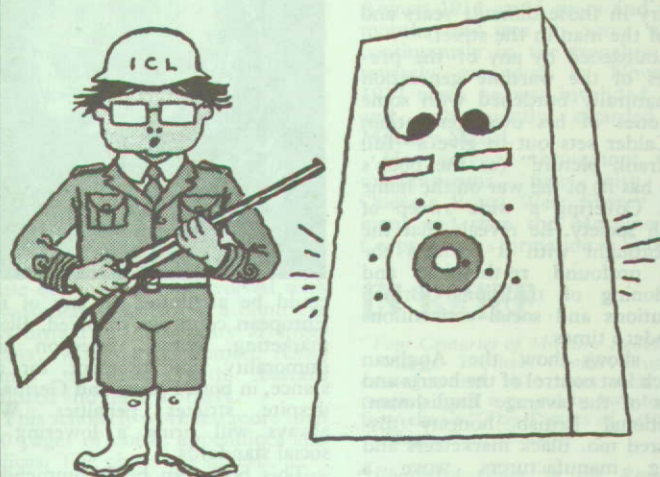
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# BOOKS

## On the home front

*"The People's War" (Angus Calder)*

This is a very readable and interesting account of life on the "home front" during World War Two by a young university lecturer who was three years old when the war ended. It details the life of leading politicians who ran the country in those difficult years and that of the man in the street.

Unburdened by any of the prejudices of the wartime generation but naturally burdened with some new ones of his own generation, Mr Calder sets out to give a "full and frank picture" (as the book's blurb has it) of the war on the home front. Covering a wide sweep of British society, he reveals that the war brought with it perhaps the most profound re-thinking and abandoning of traditional British institutions and social conventions in modern times.

He shows how the Anglican Church lost control of the hearts and minds of the average Englishman. Traditional British honesty disappeared too. Black marketeers and willing manufacturers wove a crooked course through the controls.

Some 80,000 men went absent without leave from the Army alone by October 1944 (in 1941, the peak year, the rate was about one in a hundred of the entire force). It is estimated that after the war some 20,000 unpardoned deserters were at large. The early years of war saw a shocking increase in the number of new cases of syphilis.

In spite of the fact that Mr Calder's book presents an excellent and, in essence, truthful picture of the home front during World War Two, the conclusions he arrives at

## THE PEOPLE'S WAR Britain 1939-45



could be attributed to any of the European countries involved. Black marketing, crime, desertion and immorality were rampant, for instance, in both France and Germany despite stricter penalties. War always will bring a lowering of social standards.

This book can be recommended as obligatory reading for anyone interested in contemporary history and what it was like to be in the United Kingdom during this most crucial period of the 20th century.

Jonathan Cape, 65s

CW

## Warts and all

*"The Kings Depart" (Richard E Watt)*

Mr Watt has produced a fine book dealing with the collapse of the Central European monarchies at the end of World War One. The method he uses has become

commonplace with the younger historians—the quick, nervous, wide sweep of events, generously laced with portraits of the personalities involved, warts and all, plus the smart "significant" punch-line at the end of each section.

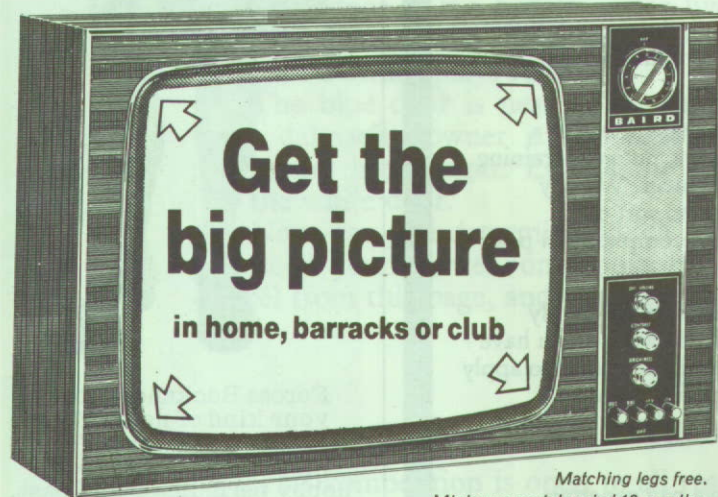
Though Mr Watts resorts to somewhat dramatic methods to bring his story to life, this is no defect. Too much history has been written in so dry-as-dust a manner as to hold no appeal for the general reader. His chosen material is full of drama, violence and mayhem, revolution and counter-revolution, blood-letting everywhere from Germany to Hungary and then even more.

This American historian concentrates on the fate of Germany, ending his story of that country's first attempt at democracy with the acceptance of the chancellorship by Adolf Hitler in 1933 and implying that the Treaty of Versailles which ended World War One also brought with it the seeds of the destruction of that "New Europe" it sought to found. Naturally there is a large element of truth in this thesis—the nationalistic elements in post-war Germany never tolerated the losses in territory and prestige inflicted upon them by the *Versaillesdiktat*, the dictated Treaty of Versailles, as they called it. Yet one could also argue that without the crippling effects of the 1929 depression and the resultant demands for a radical solution in Germany the nationalists, in the shape of Hitler's Nazis, would never have come to power.

In spite of his untraditional style and traditional thinking, Mr Watt's book is still a fine introduction for the general reader to the immediate post-World War One period.

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 50s

CW



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# Fighting professionals

"The Roman Soldier" (G R Watson)  
Most past studies of the Roman Army have been by German scholars. It is a relief to find an even better book in English by a Bradford man.

Over a period of six centuries the organisation and structure of the Roman Army changed a great deal and the author wisely concentrates on the years between Augustus and Diocletian. The old citizen-army had passed away and in its place stood a hard core of fighting professionals with three main branches.

The Praetorian Guard was an élite force, the emperor's bodyguard. These pampered troops, with their right to receive substantial money gifts from aspirants to the imperial throne, were a constant threat to the security of the state.

The bulk of the Army consisted of the Legions. There were some 160,000 men in 30 of these heavy infantry formations. These very hard fighters were intensely loyal to their eagles and their generals.

Finally there were the auxiliaries, mainly cavalry and specialist troops, archers and slingers, whose great ambition on discharge was to claim Roman citizenship and enjoy its many rights.

The author describes how a typical volunteer would fare on enlisting in a Legion. The recruit must submit his letter of introduction, giving character details. Then came an advance in pay, the oath of loyalty and the posting. Basic training revolved round marching with heavy packs, learning to swim, jumping and vaulting on horseback,

in armour! Drillmasters set up wooden targets and weapon training followed with heavy wooden swords and spears. Longer route marches with 60lb packs were the basis of field service training.

Promotion depended upon weapon skill, literacy, length of service and sheer luck. To reach officer rank of centurion there had to be a fair number of decorations—necklaces, armbands and discs—won in battle.

Punishments could be severe. For desertion, mutiny or insubordination it was death, for other offences floggings and fines. If a unit disgraced itself then it might be decimated (every tenth man by lot clubbed to death by his comrades) or disbanded in some remote outpost of empire.

Marriages were frowned on because of the red tape involved with non-Roman citizens but a blind eye was turned to "temporary arrangements" with native women. Army camps swarmed with bastard children and their mothers.

This scholarly work has more than 100 pages of notes, appendices and indices. The plates are superb.

Thames & Hudson, 50s AWH

## Worm's eye view

"With a Machine Gun to Cambrai" (George Coppard)

There have been many personal reminiscences of World War One, mostly written by young officers. Siegfried Sassoon's "Memoirs of an Infantry Officer" and Robert Graves's "Goodbye to All That" are possibly the best known. Apart from Frank Richards, a Regular private soldier who wrote the classic "Old Soldiers Never Die," George Coppard has produced quite the

best book by a non-commissioned rank and it challenges comparison with all but the very best of the accepted authors.

What is exceptional is that this book is based on three old notebooks which the author kept as a kind of diary when he got to France at the age of 17. He had enlisted in August 1914 at 16 years and seven months and was to serve almost continuously in the trenches until severely wounded in November 1917 when he was invalided home and subsequently awarded the Military Medal.

He served throughout with machine-guns, first with The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment and then the Machine Gun Corps from its formation in February

## IN BRIEF

"Four Centuries of Military Books"

Maggs Brothers' latest illustrated catalogue lists 1616 titles with prices ranging from a pound or two to £205 for Aelian's "The Tactics of Aelian."

Maggs Bros, 10s 6d

"Illustrated Guide to the Regimental Museum of the 17th/21st Lancers"

A well-produced, informative booklet which should make more interesting a visit to Belvoir Castle, seat of the Duke of Rutland, whose family has a long-standing connection with the regiment. Profits from the guide are being ploughed back for the upkeep and improvement of the museum.

Leo Cooper, 2s 6d

"The Fighting Maroons of Jamaica" (Carey Robinson)

A native Jamaican, Mr Robinson has taken one of the proudest episodes in the island's history—the fight of Maroons against the local authorities—and turned it into a readable account of an interesting sideshow in the story of guerilla warfare.

1916. Mr Coppard is a sympathetic and sensitive observer who has produced a splendid picture of the ordinary Tommy's life in the trenches, unalleviated by the minor luxuries which more senior ranks could afford.

He is particularly successful in getting across the terror-inspiring and morale-sapping effects of the continuous horrors, dangers and discomforts of prolonged trench warfare. He gets his effect, all praise to him, not by florid writing but by perceptive and straightforward reporting of facts and his personal opinions.

This excellent and well-illustrated book is published on behalf of the Imperial War Museum's trustees.

HMSO, 6s

RHL

The Maroons were small bands of renegade slaves who fled into Jamaica's Blue Mountains and Clarendon Hills from whence they harassed the English farmers. At first their activities were limited to burning the occasional farm and driving off cattle but over the years their threat grew until finally the British administration brought in Regular troops to put them down.

By the early 1800s the Maroon rebellion was broken. The survivors were employed to round up escaped slaves for the government against the payment of a bounty.

Collins & Sangster, 30s

THE FIGHTING  
MAROONS  
of JAMAICA



Carey Robinson

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