

MARCH 1974 ★ 7½p

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FRONT COVER

Norway's icy wastes were the setting for an exercise of the ACE Mobile Force (Land) whose British element includes 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots. The relatively small force is streamlined for quick reactions to defend NATO's flanks. Its multi-national defenders range from wintry Norway to the desert heat of Turkey.



BACK COVER

Men of 47 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, determined to beat the fuel crisis when Major-General Peter Hudson visited them at Colchester for a medal presentation. Petrol-thirsty towing tractors were abandoned for the parade and six-man detachments hauled the 105mm guns in front of the general by hand.

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Editorial, photographic, advertising and circulation inquiries should be addressed to SOLDIER, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2BG. (Phone: GPO Aldershot 24431, military network Aldershot Military). SOLDIER, the British Army Magazine, is published for the Ministry of Defence by HMSO and printed by Eden Fisher (Southend) Ltd., 555 Sutton Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Crown copyright 1974.

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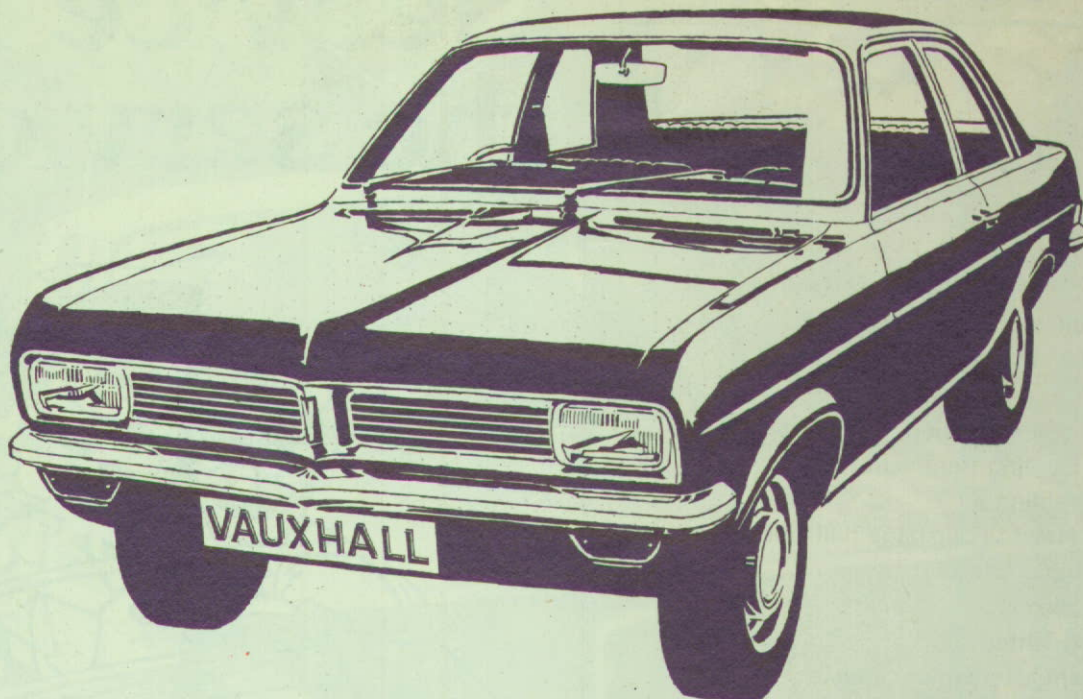
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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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 1974

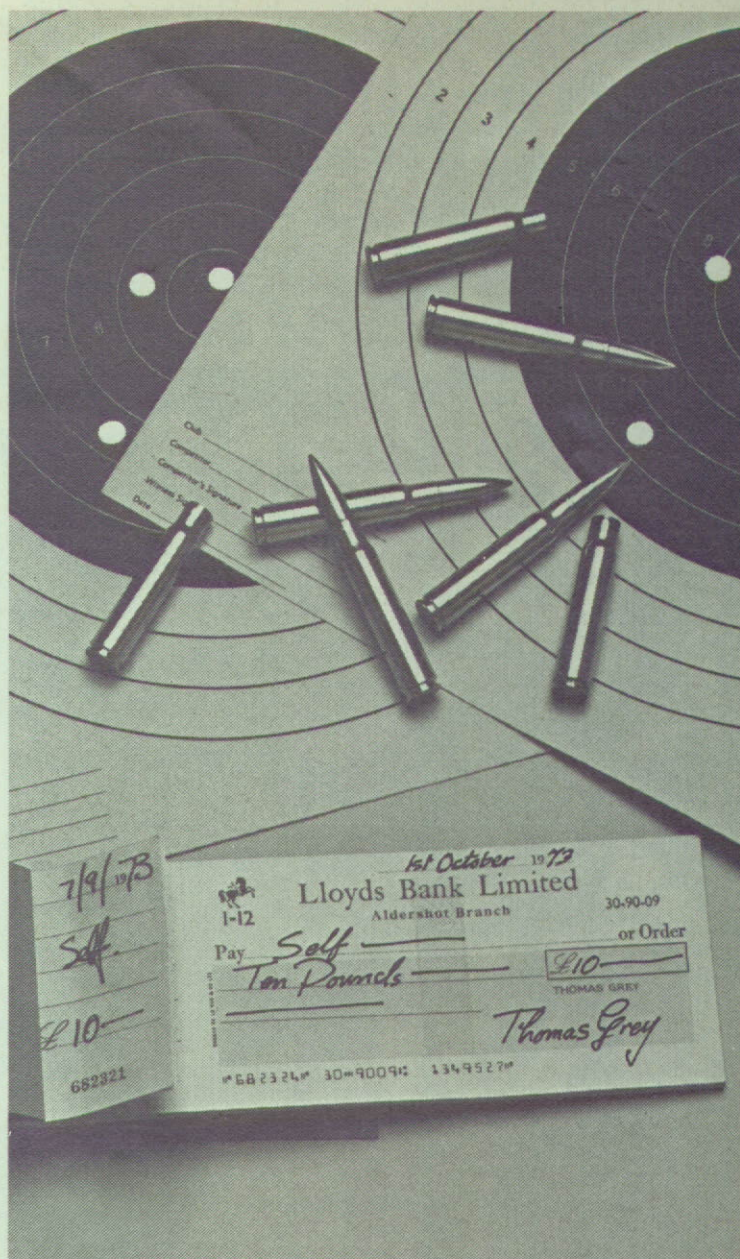
- 20 Freedom of Sunderland, 4 Field Regiment.
- 28 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, freedom march, Bristol.
- 30 Freedom of Tewkesbury, The Gloucestershire Regiment.
- 31 Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, freedom march, Wareham.
- 31 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, freedom march, Cheltenham.

APRIL 1974

- 2 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, freedom march, Gloucester.
- 16 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers tercentenary celebrations, Northumberland (16-21 April)—2nd Battalion band, drums and company group in Berwick-upon-Tweed and Alnwick, 16 April; Morpeth and Ashington, 17 April; Hexham, 18 April; Wallsend and Walker-on-Tyne, 19 April. Regimental freedom march Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 20 April; parade service St Nicholas Cathedral and City centre march past, 21 April.
- 21 Watford Gala (Blue Eagles helicopter team, band) (21-22 April).
- 23 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers tercentenary celebrations, Lancashire (23-28 April)—2nd Battalion band and drums in Bury, 23 April (display and opening of Fusiliers exhibition); in Rochdale, 24 April (display and concert); in Salford, 25 April (display and concert). New freedom deed and regimental march through Bury, 27 April; Gallipoli parade service Bury Parish Church and march past, 28 April.
- 24 Music group/singer contest finals, BBC Playhouse Theatre, London (24-25 April).
- 27 Glasgow KAPE Show (Royal Signals motorcycle team White Helmets, band) (27 April-5 May).
- 28 Burma remembrance parade, Horse Guards Parade to Cenotaph, London.

MAY 1974

- 3 Newark Agricultural Show (display team, band) (3-4 May).
- 4 Queen Margrethe II of Denmark presents Colours to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (Volunteer) battalions, The Queen's Regiment, Armoury House, London, followed by freedom march through City of London.
- 11 St Albans Grammar School Fête (Junior Para PT team).
- 11 Pontypridd Army Display (Royal Artillery motorcycle team, Red Devils freefall team, two bands) (11-12 May).
- 15 West Midland Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury (RCT Silver Stars freefall team, band) (15-16 May).
- 15 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 18 Tulip Festival, Birmingham (band).
- 18 Long Eaton Carnival, Derby (display team, band) (18-19 May).
- 18 Swansea Army Display (Red Devils, Blue Eagles, two bands) (18-19 May).
- 20 General Assembly Church of Scotland, Edinburgh (band, pipe band) (20-29 May).
- 22 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 25 Tidworth Tattoo (25-27 May).
- 25 Otley Show (two bands).
- 25 USAF Bentwaters Open Day (Blue Eagles).
- 25 Congleton Carnival and Tattoo (Red Devils, Royal Military Police tent-pegging, White Helmets, three bands) (25-26 May).
- 25 Watford Carnival (band) (25-27 May).
- 26 Derbyshire County Show (display team, band) (26-27 May).
- 27 Pershore District Carnival, Worcester (RA motorcyclists, band).
- 27 Hertfordshire County Day, Hartnam Common (band).
- 27 Southam Carnival (band).
- 29 Suffolk Show, Ipswich (Red Devils, band) (29-30 May).
- 29 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 30 Preston Army Display (Red Devils, Blue Eagles, White Helmets, RMP tent-pegging, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, three bands) (30 May-2 June).



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DIARY continued

JUNE 1974

- 1 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 1 Stevenage Day (display team, band).
- 1 Oakengates Carnival (Royal Corps of Transport Junior Leaders gymnastic display, band).
- 5 **Kneller Hall band concert.**
- 7 Army Display, Stafford (Red Devils, Para PT display, RA Junior Leaders PT display, White Helmets, four bands) (7-9 June).
- 7 Prestwick Youth Week (Blue Eagles).
- 8 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 8 Prestwick Air Day (Blue Eagles, RA motorcyclists, RMP tent-pegging).
- 8 Old Merchant Taylors Fête, Croxley Green (display team).
- 8 Vauxhall Motors Spectacular, Luton (display team, band).
- 8 Glasgow KAPE Show (Blue Eagles 10-16 June, RMP tent-pegging 9-17 June, RA motorcyclists 10-16 June) (8-17 June).
- 12 **Kneller Hall band concert.**
- 14 Army Display, Stoke-on-Trent (RA Junior Leaders, two bands) (14-16 June).
- 14 Essex Show, Chelmsford (band) (14-15 June).
- 15 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 15 Queen's Birthday Parade, Edinburgh (five bands, two pipe bands).
- 15 Coventry Carnival (band).
- 18 Massed bands, The Light Division, sound Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (18-20 June).
- 18 Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh (RMP tent-pegging 19-21 June, Red Devils, Blue Eagles, RE bridge-layer) (18-21 June).
- 19 Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln (band) (19-20 June).
- 19 **Kneller Hall band concert.**
- 21 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (21-22 June).
- 22 Derby Carnival (band).
- 22 Catterick Army Display (Red Devils, White Helmets, Blue Eagles, four bands) (22-23 June).
- 22 Bolton Army Display (Red Devils, Junior Para PT, band) (22-23 June).
- 26 Royal Norfolk Show, Norwich (display team, band) (26-27 June).
- 26 **Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.**
- 28 Aldershot Army Display (King's Troop RHA, White Helmets, RMP tent-pegging, gymnastic display, Silver Stars free-fall team, Red Devils, 7 (US) Army freefall team, REME Land-Rover dismantling, Royal Pioneer Corps stores handling, Junior Guardsmen, 16 bands, corps of drums, fanfare trumpeters) (28-30 June).
- 29 Woodford Air Display (Red Devils) (29-30 June).
- 29 Tamworth Carnival (band).
- 29 Clevedon Lions Show (AAC Chepstow PT display, RA motorcyclists, two bands).

JULY 1974

- 3 **Kneller Hall band concert.**
- 4 **Folkestone Tattoo (4-6 July).**
- 5 Tynwald Opening, Isle of Man (band).
- 5 Hook Gala (band) (5-7 July).
- 6 Birkenshaw Show (band) (6-7 July).
- 6 Elstree and Boreham Wood Families Day (band).
- 6 Basingstoke Tattoo.
- 7 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers tercentenary celebrations, London (7-13 July)—3rd Battalion public duties, Tower of London, 7-13 July. Regimental freedom march City of London, 8 July; regimental parade, march and display, Wandsworth Borough, 13 July.
- 7 Leeds Horse Show (band).
- 10 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (10-27 July).
- 10 Massed Bands Display, Larkhill.
- 10 **Kneller Hall band concert.**
- 12 Newport Carnival Fête (Red Devils, massed junior bands) (12-14 July).
- 12 Cheltenham Tattoo (12-13 July).
- 13 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 13 Howard School Fête, Welwyn Garden City (display team, band).
- 13 Bromyard Show, Hereford (band) (13-14 July).
- 13 Cheshunt Carnival (display team, band).

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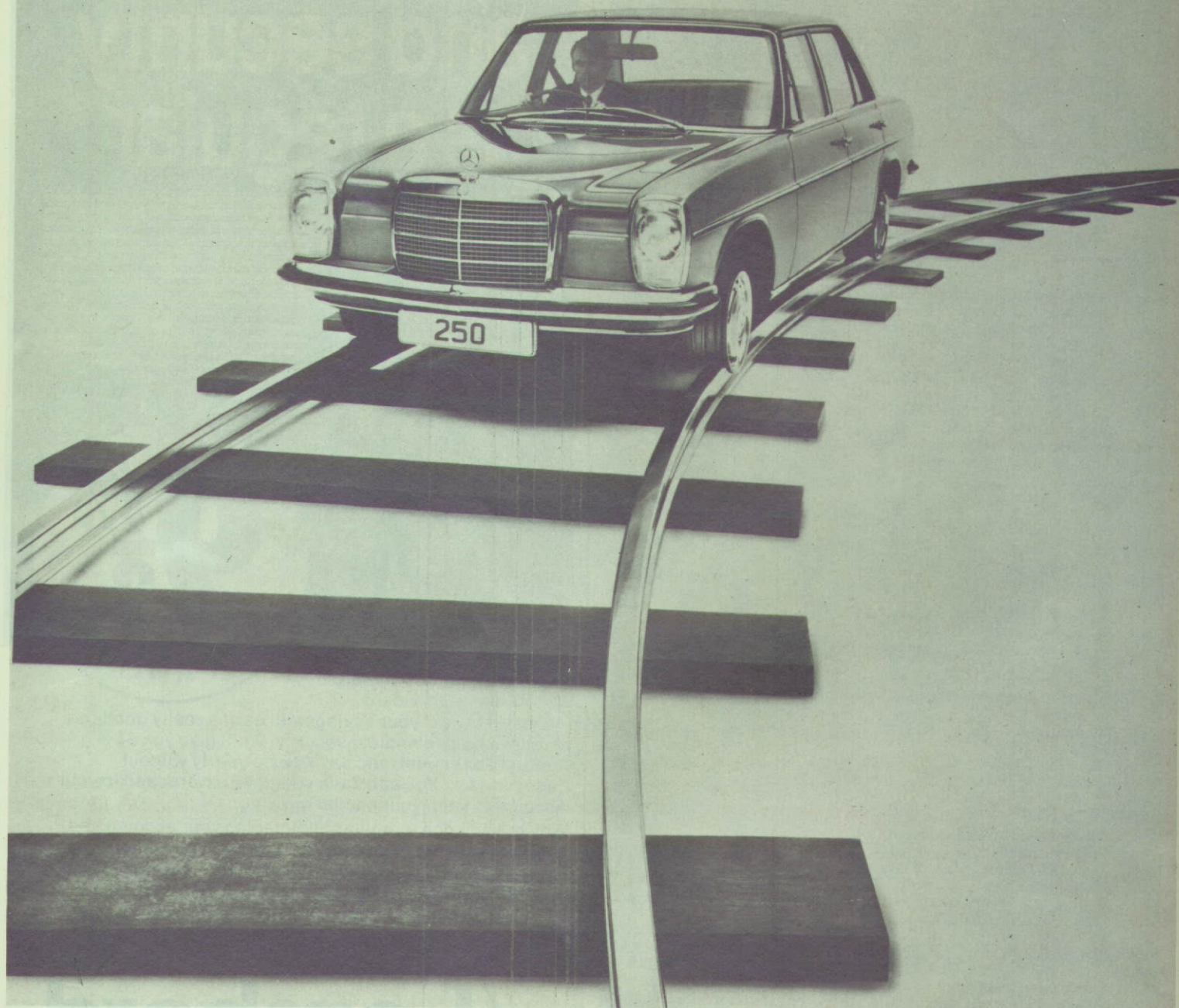
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SOLDIER to Soldier

Good news for some of the many readers who ask when the popular regimental drum ice buckets are going to be produced in their own particular choice of design—another five designs have been added, making a range of 69 now available. These latest additions are: Ulster Defence Regiment (Co Down), The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, Gurkha Engineers and 1st Battalion, The Royal Ulster Rifles.

And not-so-good news for future buyers, in a hefty price increase. The small firm manufacturing these ice buckets has held its prices for two years while absorbing many rises in costs. Now it has been forced to make increases because of the world plastic shortage—Polystyrene is now virtually unobtainable and the drums are now being made of ABS which is a much more expensive material.

SOLDIER has similarly absorbed increases in postal charges but when value added tax replaced purchase tax the benefit was passed on to readers in reductions from £5.25 (UK/BFPO) and £5.50 (elsewhere) to £5.20 (UK), £4.65 (BFPO) and £5.20 (elsewhere). Last December, in defiance of the general trend of rising prices, SOLDIER cut the UK figure by a further ten pence to £5.10 and the BFPO figure by five pence to £4.60.

The new prices of regimental drum ice buckets, effective from 1 March 1974 and of course including postage and packing, are £5.70 (UK), £5.20 (BFPO) and £5.80 (elsewhere).



Only a few small firms make the Army's colourful plumes, better known, though not correctly, as hackles, some of which were pictured on last month's front cover. In a forthcoming issue SOLDIER will look at what may become yet another supply problem, symptomatic of an age when craftsmen are a dying race and when yet another tradition or custom, if it is to be maintained, may have to turn to a synthetic solution.



TESTIMONIAL

The Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on Vellum has been awarded to Staff-Sergeant John Fitzpatrick, serving in the Royal Artillery Range, Hebrides, for rescuing a drowning child. Nine-year-old Anne Macintosh was bathing at Culla Bay, Benbecula, last August, when she went too far out and her plight was not noticed until she was in serious difficulties. Two men swam towards her but a strong current prevented them from reaching her. Staff Fitzpatrick ran along the side of the bay until he was opposite the girl. Going into the water fully clothed, he swam 40 yards to Ann, who was lying in the sea face down, and took her ashore. She was unconscious and barely breathing but her father gave her artificial respiration. Staff Fitzpatrick, serving in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, is married and has five daughters and a newly born son.

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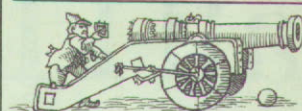
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Military museums

14: The East Yorkshire Regiment

NO 11 Butcher Row, Beverley—home since 1963 of The East Yorkshire Regiment's museum—is a house of character and charm in a town well endowed with buildings of beauty and architectural interest. A family house, it is the ideal setting for the treasures and souvenirs of a family regiment.

Exhibits are arranged in five rooms, one of which, with leather armchairs and occasional tables, recalls the warmth and comfort of an officers' mess. Here, alongside pieces of regimental silver, medals are displayed including three Victoria Crosses won by members of the regiment and some interesting family groups, notably those of the Springhalls—father, son and grandson. There are the medals of Private R Springhall, who became a sergeant-major in 1877; Lieutenant-Colonel J W S Springhall OBE DCM; and Brigadier R J S Springhall CB DSO, Colonel of the regiment from 1948 to 1960.

A second room houses the library which includes the complete regimental history, a monumental volume of 575 pages by Sergeant Robert W Jones who enlisted as a private in 1877 and undertook this labour of love on his own initiative and without any help or financial assistance. The uniforms and equipment of the East Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers and Militia are featured to advantage and other items include a Waterloo shako (1812-16), an officer's gorget of 1830 and an early Brown Bess musket dated 1758.

In room three there are examples of Regular uniforms worn by members of the regiment, and two dioramas. One depicts the scaling of the Heights of Abraham in the Battle of Quebec on 13 September 1759, later to become the regiment's

principal battle honour and regimental day. A picture shows the death of General Wolfe on the Heights and nearby is the Amherst flag, reputed to be the personal flag of the first Lord Amherst, Colonel of the Regiment from 1751 to 1757, and flown at Quebec after the city's capture. The other diorama illustrates the 2nd Battalion's landing on the Normandy beaches on D-Day, 6 June 1944, when The East Yorkshire Regiment had the distinction of being the only regiment in the British Second Army to have two of its battalions in the initial assault wave.

There is a portrait of George VI, who was Colonel-in-Chief, and his khaki service dress jacket is on show. Of interest to collectors are a set of badges and buttons worn by the 15th Regiment of Foot, which in 1881 became The East Yorkshire Regiment, and a display of post-Cardwell regimental buttons. Items in the South African section include a pay book of 1893, a Boer flag and the adjutant's war diary.

An assortment of trophies reminds the visitor of the part played by the East Yorkshires in the two world wars. Downstairs an eye-catching display of a variety of band instruments, old music scores, drum-majors' belts and maces and bandsmen's uniforms rounds off an entertaining tour of a museum which tells the story, simply and sincerely, of The East Yorkshire Regiment from its formation in 1685 to its amalgamation in 1958 with The West Yorkshire Regiment to form The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

This was among the first infantry museums to be established in Britain. It was started in 1920 in the regimental depot at the old Victoria Barracks, Beverley, and the regimental journal of the day records how Captain Lewis Riall donated the first exhibit—a tunic and shako which he had worn while serving with the 2/15th Foot "50 years ago."

John Jesse



Curator: Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd) C J Robinson
Address: Regimental Headquarters (Beverley)
The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire
11 Butcher Row
Beverley
Yorkshire
HU17 0AA
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Telephone: Organised parties by appointment Monday to Friday, 0900 to 1200 and 1400 to 1630. Individual members of the public Tuesday to Friday, 1400 to 1600
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As you might expect, standards at Welbeck are high.

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F34

The Royal Military Police element of the Army in Northern Ireland has expanded into two regiments, one of them in Belfast where the redcaps combine with the Royal Ulster Constabulary in

TASK FORCE

The trouble-shooters

THE police sergeant sitting in front cups his cigarette in his hand like a World War One Tommy in the trenches and takes occasional discreet drags—all the while his keen eyes are roving the bleak streets. In the back of the armour-plated Land-Rover sit two more policemen and a redcap while a second military policeman peers out of the rear door with sub-machine-gun at the ready.

This is "Z-cars" Belfast style—where the melodrama of the television series is liable to fade into insignificance beside the real-life horror which can and does break out at any time.

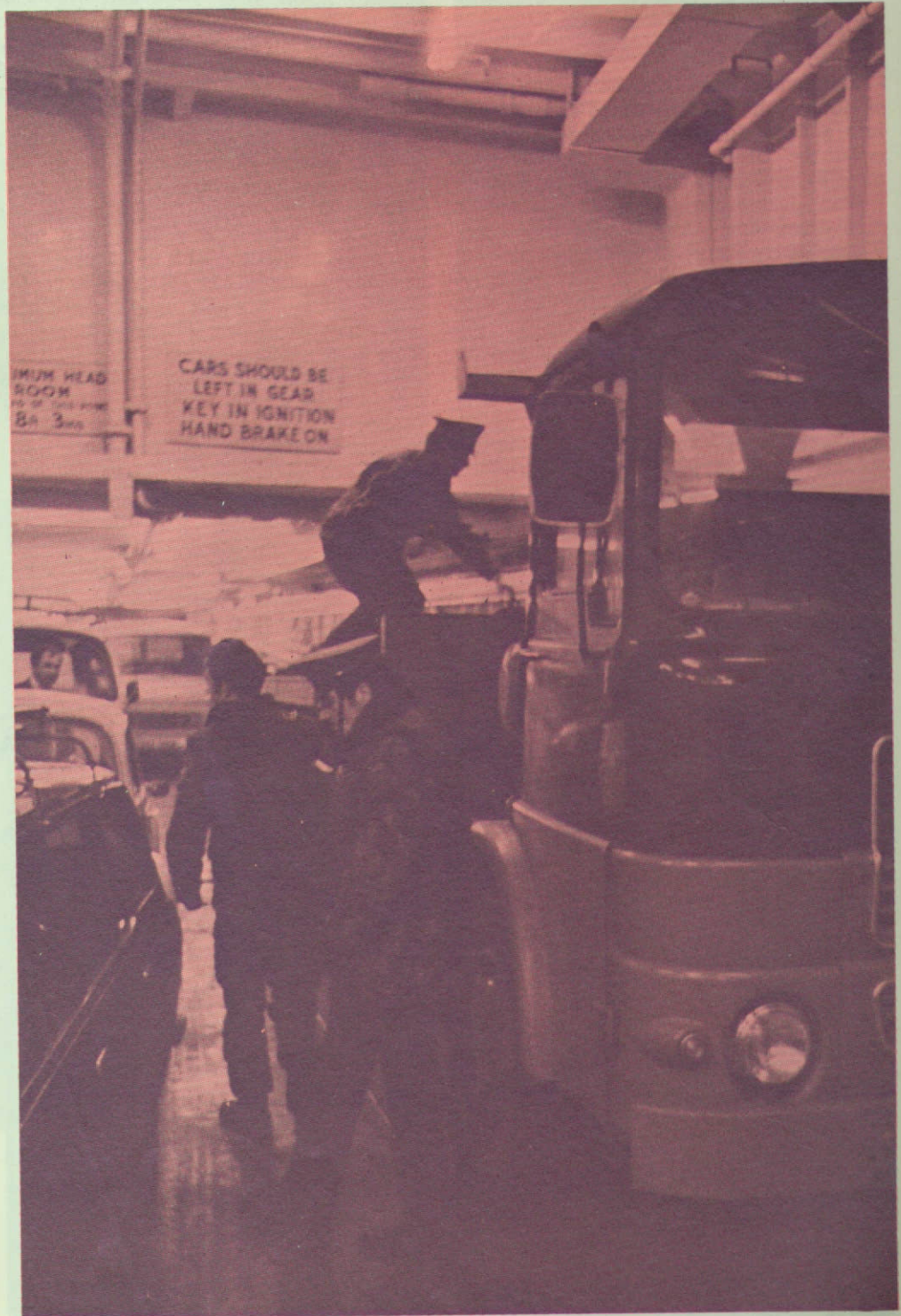
Task Force, set up by Mr William Whitelaw a year ago to deter the spate of sectarian murders then racking the city, comprises mobile car and Land-Rover patrols manned by mixed Royal Ulster Constabulary and Royal Military Police teams. Controlled from a secret operations room in the heart of Belfast, Task Force covers the whole city and can saturate an area with up to a dozen vehicles at the slightest sniff of trouble.

For two nights SOLDIER went out with these men—nights which were quiet by their standards but provided a fascinating insight into their struggle to cope with crime and terrorism in Britain's most dangerous city.

Within seconds of being on the road that first night we are on our way to an emergency. The Liverpool ferry has a bomb on board, says an anonymous caller. Passengers stand around in the bars and lounges and look bored—an indication of how violence has become the norm in this part of the world. Down on the car deck, policemen are busily searching every vehicle. None are apparently looked at before they drive on to the ferry. Nothing is found and the ferry eventually sets sail... delayed but not destroyed.

I ask the sergeant what is the ratio of bombs to hoaxes. His reply: "Perhaps about one in six or one in eight are the real thing but every one has to be checked out and if you get a lot of bombs and a lot of hoaxes at the same time it can be tricky sorting them out."

The night is cold and drizzly—this will probably mean less action for the Task Force patrols. Generally violence and trouble reach a peak on Friday and Saturday nights—but the familiar pub brawls and drunks at the weekend are these days out-



A bomb scare brought RMPs rushing to the Liverpool-Belfast ferry to search the vehicles on board—this time, it is a hoax.

TASK FORCE continued

numbered by more sinister figures and incidents.

The city streets are bleak, uninviting and already almost deserted although it is only 9.45 pm. Since "the troubles" began, quiet law-abiding citizens tend to stay at home with television and those who do venture forth hurry about their business and keep away from known trouble spots. We cruise around the city centre past graffiti-smothered walls, derelict and windlowless buildings and shuttered shops. It is time to set up a random vehicle checkpoint.

Car thefts are common in Belfast. Sometimes it is hooligan joyriders but often bombers are responsible. Occasionally vehicles which have just been stolen are intercepted but the main purpose of these snap checks is to deter the would-be car thieves.

In Crumlin Road near the famous prison we jump out. The two armed redcaps melt into a shop doorway and a gateway and cover the Ulster policemen as they start to flash cars down and check them over. Driving documents have to be produced and each driver opens his boot for inspection. People rarely forget to carry their driving licences in Belfast but if they have no identification a check is made by radio with the control centre.

Soon afterwards we are on our way to "rival Protestant and Catholic gangs gathering." These confrontations can end in riots

and even shooting but on this occasion it turns out to be a false alarm.

A quiet night, but the following evening, as a "bomber's moon" hung over the city streets, we were warned that things were likely to be warmer. And so it proved—in two hours our Land-Rover had scarcely a minute to spare between calls.

9 pm: We leave Task Force headquarters and within seconds are on our way to a suspect bomb left in a shop doorway. Troops have the situation well in hand so we move on a couple of streets to investigate a complaint of suspicious persons in an empty house.

9.15: A large van is parked outside the house but a friendly neighbour assures us that it was abandoned by workmen. There is no-one in the house and we drive away but seconds later we see two small boys running down the road closely pursued by a policeman.

9.25: The boys are caught and a crowd quickly gathers as they are put into the back of another Land-Rover. "Hey Jack! What's on your fillum? What are you taking the photos for?" yells a young man. Evidently dissatisfied with our explanations he hares off muttering "I'm going to get the IRA!" We quickly pile in and the Land-Rover moves off. It is dangerous to stay in some areas too long.

9.40: Another call sees us back at the scene of the non-existent confrontation of

Children involved in an incident in Belfast are shepherd home in safety.



A suspect brought in by the "finds-and-arrest" team awaits questioning.

Below: Ever alert—an RMP's Sterling sub-machine-gun glints in the light.



Gloom is the mood of Belfast's strife-torn streets epitomised by this picture.

last evening. This time a group of youths in the Belfast street uniform of denim suits and boots has gathered. They turn out to be members of an inoffensive youth club committee on their way home.

9.45: Next, a car parked with its windows open outside a pub used mainly by students from the university. The sergeant peers

inside but before long a worried student appears and reveals he is the owner. Another false alarm.

9.50: A bag containing what appears to be a bomb has been planted in the doorway of a bar. All traffic and pedestrians have to be diverted from a main road. We wait for the arrival of the bomb disposal experts, the



A military policeman gives first aid to a pensioner who had collapsed in Belfast.

One of the most striking developments in the Army in Northern Ireland during the last couple of years has been the massive expansion of the Royal Military Police element. There are now two regiments of military police in the Province and in recent months the last Army battalion has moved out of East Belfast leaving it under the control of the Royal Ulster Constabulary aided by redcaps.

The Military Police role is to support the RUC as the sole law-enforcing agency and eventually bring about a return to normal conditions.

Many of the military policemen in Ulster are working up to 90 hours a week—and this is for a two-year tour. The 1st Regiment covers Northern Ireland outside Belfast and the 2nd Regiment, formed only last July, the city itself.

At Northern Ireland Army Headquarters a team of special investigators has now amassed 43,000 case files ranging from minor incidents to murders. Every murder of a British soldier is still being investigated and not one of them will be regarded as "case closed" without a conviction. In addition a special team is employed to bring back Army witnesses from all over the world to appear in Ulster courts. Last year this total was 6242.

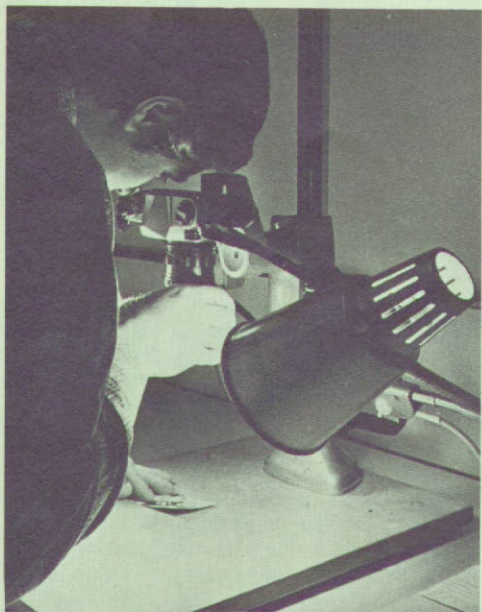
Below: The entrance to a police station is guarded by both military and civil police.





Shoppers in Belfast's city centre searched before entering the steel-gated "segments."

Below: A Special Investigation Branch man copies a photograph of a wanted person.



redcaps keeping an eye open for snipers. It is an eerie experience standing on a Belfast street waiting for a bomb to go off. Strips of curtaining flutter from the otherwise empty windows of nearby derelict properties—could there be a gunman behind them? Clearly revelling in the limelight is the pub customer who discovered the suspect bag. Thinking it was a bottle of returned empties he put his hand in, encountered wires and batteries and beat a speedy retreat. Soon a strange Dalek-like contraption slithers noiselessly along the road. This is Goliath, the bomb disposal robot. An observer with a flashlight shouts instructions and the robot turns the corner out of sight. He is equipped with TV cameras to peer into the bag and a shotgun to set off the bomb. Shortly afterwards there is a muffled report—the "bomb" was nothing more than an elaborate hoax.

10.45: On our way round the city centre again a well-dressed middle-aged woman flags us down. "You must do something about those two boys. They have a knife this

long," she says, extending her hands to sword length. Only after talking to her for a few minutes do the police realise that the lady, far from being a victim of two knifetoting youths, is a victim of delusions. We move on.

10.55: A man has committed what could be a major error in Belfast—locked himself out of his car. In England this usually entails a call to the AA or RAC—in Belfast your car could be blown up as a suspect bomb carrier. On this occasion the forgetful driver was lucky—the police accepted his story and helped him to open up.

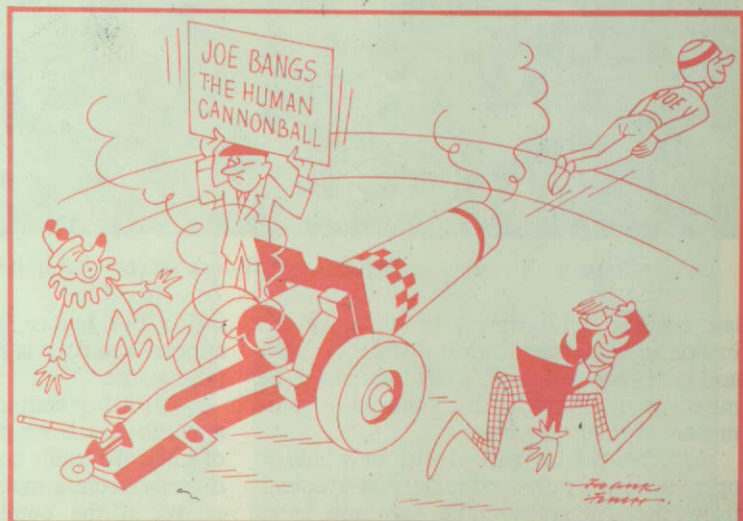
Just two hours have gone by. Action-packed and yet, compared with the dangers which this mixed team of police and redcaps often have to face, it has been an easy time. Perhaps the most surprising aspect of Task Force's work is how many incidents which in any other British city would be hardly worth checking must be investigated. Every one of them could contain danger. It will be difficult to take "Z-cars" seriously again.

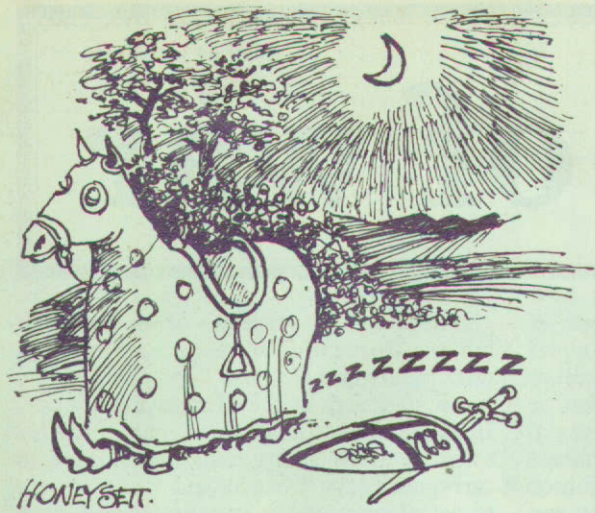
Below: The Royal Military Police control centre at Army headquarters, Lisburn.



How observant are you?

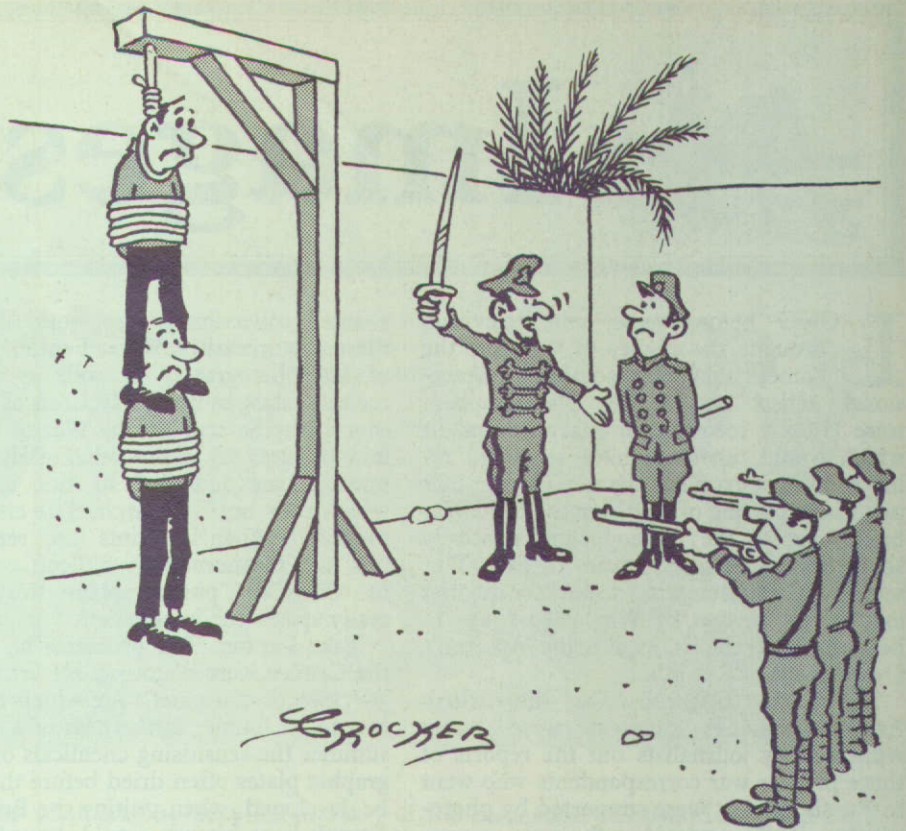
These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 39.





HONEYSETT.

Humour

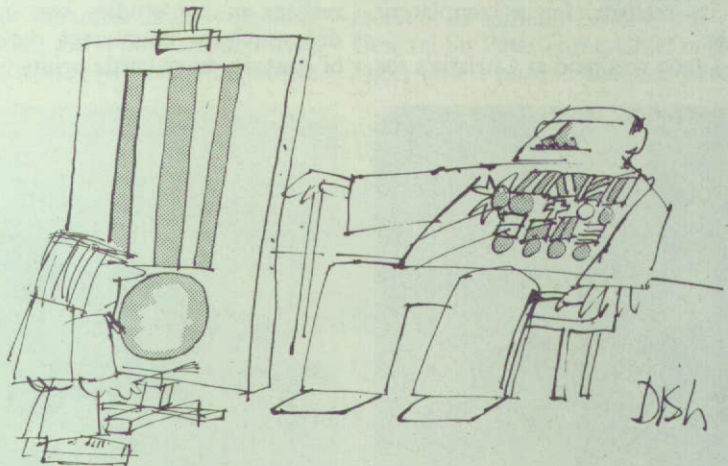


GROCHER

"The judge sentenced one to hanging and the other to be shot!"



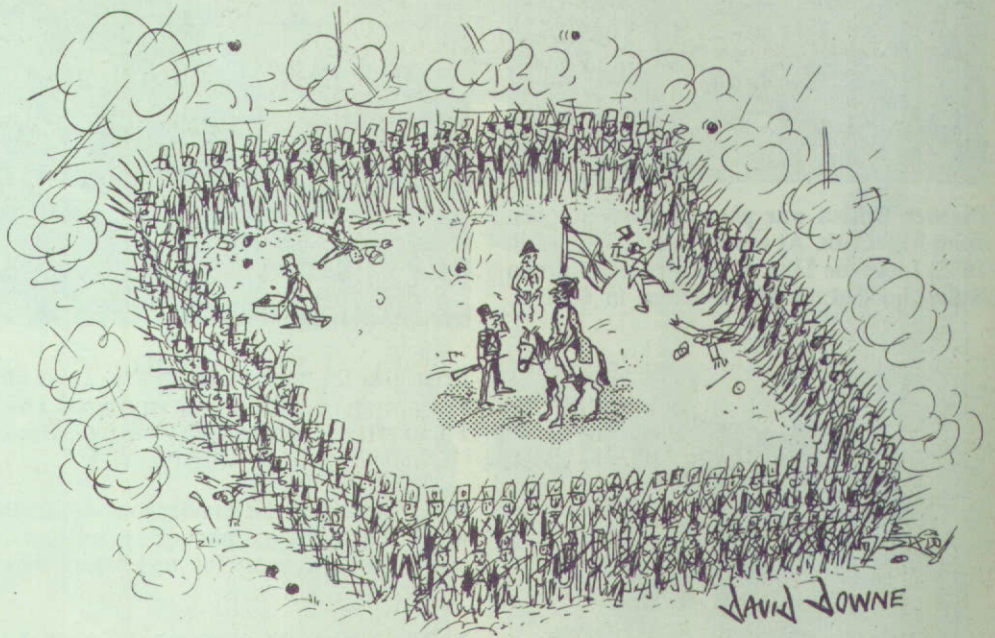
Arnold Miles



DSh



"Can't you be serious for once? This is war!"



DAVID DOWNE

"A message from the left-hand side?"



Images of war

LONG before radio and television brought the reality of war into the home, talented soldiers, professional artists and finally photographers were visually recording military campaigns which would otherwise have remained remote and unexciting. Examples of their pictorial reporting of war from the Civil War broadsheet to the bioscope and relatively sophisticated moving pictures of Boer War scenes make a fascinating display for the first exhibition—*Images of War 1640-1914*—to be mounted by the National Army Museum's Department of Records.

Before the Crimean War the British Army's activities overseas were rarely witnessed by journalists but the reports of those pioneer war correspondents who went to Russia in 1855 were supported by photographs vividly portraying the pain, terror, self-sacrifice and simple heroism of soldiers on the field of battle. This was a novelty, startling in its realism, for a complacent British public.

Last year £4200 was paid at Christie's for

a small collection of the work of one of these new witnesses, Roger Fenton. Samples of his photography as well as priceless records taken by John MacCosh of what he saw in the Second Burma War of 1852-53, and pictures by many other early camera masters, are included in this exhibition which runs until 3 March. The clarity and precision of their prints are remarkable but it is the immensely difficult conditions in which the photographers worked that really sparks the imagination.

Take Fenton. The problems he faced in the Crimea were daunting. He arrived with 36 cases of equipment for which transport had to be found; in the heat of a Crimean summer the sensitising chemicals on photographic plates often dried before they could be developed; when visiting the British and French lines his van would draw fire from the Russians who invariably mistook it for an ammunition wagon. But the resultant realism of his studies was masterly and did much to counteract the romanticism of contemporary battle prints.

MacCosh, a surgeon, who probably has the distinction of being Britain's first war photographer, took up photography while stationed in the Himalayas in 1844. In Burma he had to mix and manipulate his own chemicals and a mule was needed to carry his heavy wooden and brass camera to get pictures of life in the captured cities of Rangoon and Prome.

Working alongside the photographers were the artists—men like Sir Joseph A Crowe, who went to the Crimea as a correspondent for the *Illustrated London News* which not only printed his front-line impressions but also sketches sent home by serving officers.

Another aspect of the reality of war covered by the exhibition is the horrors suffered by civilians in the Indian Mutiny. Stark indeed is the lithograph of the Chamber of Blood—the room in Cawnpore in which British women and children were massacred by order of Nana Sahib.

There are some good examples of the work of soldier-photographers, mostly Royal



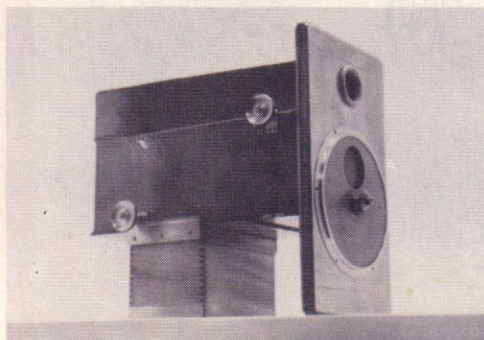
Pioneer British war photographer Surgeon John MacCosh. At top of page: Snapped in 1903, Lieut the Hon A Murray, 5th Gurkha Rifles, hooded for photo-action in Chitral.



Breach in the wall of the North Taku fort stormed by British troops in August 1860. Photo after an albumen on glass by F Beato.

Left: Typical of the cumbersome apparatus which 19th century photographers had to handle in their quest for war action shots.

Right: A Boer War shot taken on celluloid roll-film of a 15-pounder gun in action. Its shrapnel shell contained 200 bullets.





Engineers, in Abyssinia, Sudan, India, South Africa. Captain J A Holson's snapshots taken on celluloid roll-film of wounded soldiers in a wagon house at Klip Drift and the meat ration being brought up for an artillery battery are just one more step towards the eventual pocket camera.

Boer War photographs, in a handsome walnut stereoscope, showing in remarkable detail a selection of views of military activities such as British troops fording the Vet River or mounted infantry packing up at the Modder, are a popular attraction and so too are the motion picture sequences

of the coronation of Edward VII and Lord Roberts presenting shamrock.

Appropriately the exhibition, with its emphasis on the man behind the camera as a recorder of military history, was opened by General Sir Peter Hunt, Chief of the General Staff, who is himself a skilled photographer.

Above: 3rd Brigade, Peshawar Field Force, encamped in 1878 at Shergai Heights in the Khyber. Wet plate collodion by James Burke.

Right: An interesting picture of guns and limbers crossing the Modder at Paardeberg Drift. Celluloid roll-film, Capt J A Holson.

Below: British and French troops fraternise over a drink or two. A pleasing example of Roger Fenton's photography in the Crimea.

Below right: A corner of the exhibition showing some good examples of photographic portraiture done outside the studio.



Teaching a corps- and more- to drive

AT Aldershot's Buller Barracks, home of the Royal Corps of Transport, 12 Driver Training Regiment teaches every one of the corps' new recruits the basic trade of heavy goods vehicle driver.

But morse keys rattle in classroom cubicles and a monthly radio link with Rhine Army keeps alive students' hands and interest. Future men of the Royal Signals? ... not a bit of it. The hands are more used to the grip of a steering wheel than a morse key.

For the regiment's signals troop provides an advanced course for selected corps drivers. The military driver must be able to keep in touch by radio on operational duties. Sometimes this link will be over long distances—hence the morse.

A simple equation sums up the vital need of this skill. The Army driver is part of the logistics back-up to forces in the field—logistics minus communications equals chaos.

The signals troop also teaches padres and hovercraft radio operators.

As soon as the recruit has finished his basic military training he gets to grips with the driver's course. Eight working days of classroom periods instil the theories of motoring and mechanics and a simulator accustoms the student to the feel of the driving seat and controls—most of the trainees have had no previous driving experience. Those who have can be slotted into the later parts of the programme at a stage to suit their aptitudes.

From theory to practice, and this begins with qualifying for a normal driving licence. A section of D Squadron is dedicated solely to processing up to 1600 recruits' provisional and full licences for both ordinary motoring and heavy goods driving. The squadron's essential task is to cope with the actual driver training and it has seven troops to deal with the variations on that theme.

The budding Royal Corps of Transport driver learns first on a Land-Rover. Each civilian instructor—they outnumber the military staff by about two to one—shares two students at this stage. The regiment's commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Alf Grevatt, has a high regard for his instructors: "They're a good bunch," he said. "They come from all walks of life and a proportion of them are, of course, ex-soldiers. There are also one ex-RAF man and one ex-sailor plus one lady. It's a hazardous life for all of them!"

Qualified testing officers—civilians—are on hand to assess the results of the efforts of pupil, and indeed teacher, while the military element concentrates on managing the courses and training.



Left: The pinnacle of success for the HGV driver can be a muddy cross-country course.

Right: Yielding bollards leave room for a mistake in backing practice for learners.

When the young driver graduates to his heavy goods vehicle he has one instructor to himself. Up to and including this stage the practical side of the course is open ended. A trainee may be quick enough to get his licence in as little as 20 hours while another may take up to 80 hours of instruction. "In driver training we let the chap set his own pace," declared Lieutenant-Colonel Grevatt.

But the final phase of the training is done in a set time. This last section teaches the young soldier his basic trade training for the Army. And to become a B3 driver there are military skills to be mastered, how to camouflage a vehicle, how to drive tactically, in convoy and singly. There is also a bouncy bout of cross-country driving. The latter, explained Lieutenant-Colonel Grevatt, is to make a driver "really understand what his vehicle can do when the vehicle is part of him, not when he is controlled by it."

The regiment proudly claims to provide the largest heavy goods vehicle school in the country and it is geared to turn out 32 drivers a week. Intakes can vary between as few as six to as many as 78.

Once trained, the driver is immediately posted to his unit to start putting into practice the skills he has mastered. Upgradings follow as he gains experience and qualification in the field. And the military heavy goods driver scores a useful advantage over his civilian counterpart. He may begin driving at 17 and be a well-qualified and experienced truck driver by the age of 21—the age when the civilian driver is just starting to learn as the law dictates he may not earlier hold a heavy goods licence.

Although most of the driver trainees who pass through the regiment are men of the Royal Corps of Transport, girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps form an important part of its output.



A civilian instructor initiates would-be drivers into the mysteries of the motor.

Right: Simulators save wear and tear on nerves and vehicles for the inexperienced!

Story by Mike Starke
Pictures by Martin Adam



They do a fixed eight-week driving course split into two weeks in the classroom and six behind the wheel of a Mini getting a licence. Then they are "converted" to Land-Rover and staff car driving. But the accent is on the staff cars whose driving seats most of the girls will go on to occupy.

There are other driving jobs open to them and some go on to work with heavy goods vehicle ambulances. There are 12 ambulance courses a year taking just two students at a time. These are among the advanced courses run by the regiment. Others include motorcycles (there are eleven for training) and courses for the B2 and B1 trades.

The commanding officer is very much

aware that the girls are "thrown in at the deep end." No sooner is one trained than she may have to take the wheel of a staff car—possibly complete with high-ranking officer, with traditionally critical views of women drivers, breathing down her neck! Royal Corps of Transport drivers get a better deal. They have two years' experience before taking up staff car driving.

But Lieutenant-Colonel Grevatt has every confidence in the girls. And to prove it he always chooses one of the regiment's girl graduates as his driver for a month at a time. By doing this he has sampled the driving skills of a score or more and avows he has no complaints.



A drop in recruiting in the Army as a whole has meant fewer trainees. But the courses have been kept full with learners from a wide range of other arms and corps of the Army plus personnel from the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

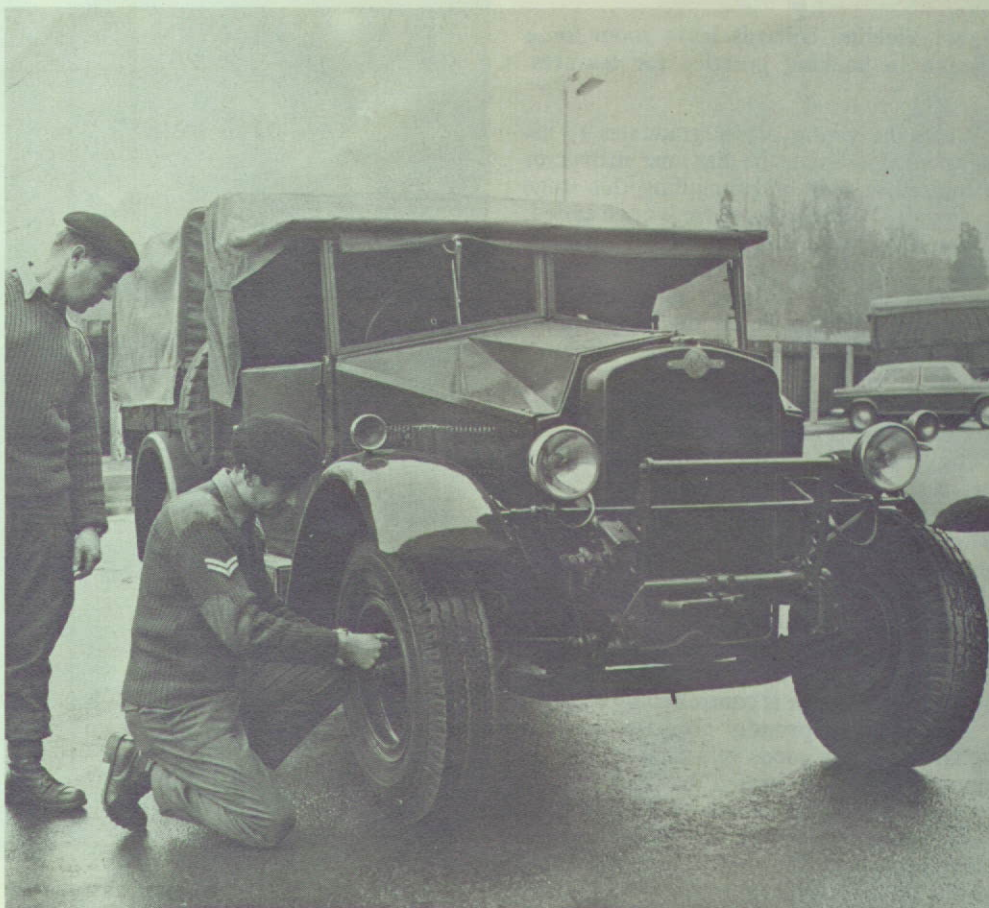
None of the training would be possible without the vehicles and the men who look after them. The regiment's V Squadron has charge of some 280 vehicles and works hand-in-glove with a Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers light aid detachment on the premises.

Nearly half the vehicles are four-ton lorries, reflecting the emphasis on HGV training. Land-Rovers, some fitted with radio for signals training, form the next largest group followed by 30 Austin 1800s and 30 Minis and those motorcycles. There are also four ten-tonners and a pair of articulated lorries.

The corps' mobile display team is the regiment's responsibility too and the regiment has a fine record of prizes for motor sport events.

The regiment is far from the Army's only driver training establishment and other arms and corps train their own drivers. But every Royal Corps of Transport recruit learns his trade at Aldershot.

Then he may be posted wherever in the world the Army is serving, fully confident that his skill has had the firm foundation built with care and expertise by 12 Driver Training Regiment.



"Betsy," a pre-war Morris, was lovingly restored to running order by the regiment.

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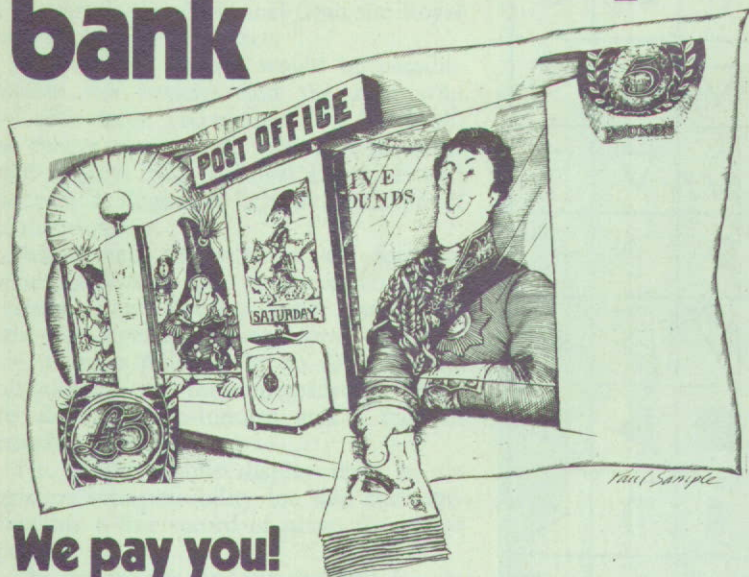
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PAGE 23

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Pull-out supplement SOLDIER March 1974

ADAT GROWS—AND PAYS WIDOW £26,000

The Army Dependants Assurance Trust has already brought relief to an Army widow whose husband died only ten days after joining the recently formed trust. She has received her first monthly cheque for £129 and when payments cease in 14 year's time, she will have received £26,000 tax free. Her husband had taken out three units to the age of 55. He was the only member of the trust among the 79 officers and soldiers to have died since ADAT was launched last October. But the trust has got off to a good start with more than 5000 members by Christmas. The figure soon rose to 5500 and some units reported almost 50 per cent membership.

New ways to make the scheme more attractive are being explored, such as obtaining advantageous rates for the continuation of cover into civilian life and an additional endowment option aimed at providing a lump sum at a fixed date. But the primary aim of the trust is still to provide a continuing income for the dependants of those soldiers who die while in the Army.

DPS(A)

PARLIAMENTARY DEFENCE DEBATE

● A summary of the Northern Ireland situation in 1973 was given by Mr Ian Gilmour, then Minister of State for Defence, in a defence debate in the House of Commons. Drawing on his first-hand experience of the crisis during "fairly frequent visits," Mr Gilmour said: "Every time I go to Northern Ireland my admiration for the way in which the security forces have carried out, and are carrying out, their duties through this long vale of trouble becomes even more pronounced. When their job is not dangerous it is uncomfortable and boring, and it is often all three things together.



"That's not the sort of MP I wanted to see."

Yet day after day, night after night, they are subjected in some areas to unremitting abuse together with more tangible tokens, and, sadly, these often come from women and children. Yet despite this dreadful provocation the ordinary soldier tenaciously clings to his belief that at the end of the day fundamental human decency will triumph over the evil and warped designs of terrorists who are not heroes and martyrs but simply common criminals of a particularly nasty sort."

He thought the House would be interested to know that during the year 1353 people had been arrested and charged with offences "of a security nature." Of these 543 were Protestants and 810 Catholics. He added that the force levels in Northern Ireland had been reduced by two battalions, leaving 16 major units in the infantry rôle on peacekeeping duties there.

● Revolutionary changes in military tactics and weapons could emerge from long-term studies of the operations during the recent Middle East war. Summing up the conflict during the defence debate, Mr Gilmour said: "There are obviously lessons to be learned from the Middle East war. Here some of the most modern equipments in the inventories of the Warsaw Pact and of NATO were used against each other under operational conditions which are much more akin to those we could expect in Europe than, for example, the conditions in Vietnam.

"However, it is also clear that there are very considerable differences of terrain and climate and, perhaps equally important, of the degree of training and skill possessed by the troops that operated these sophisticated equipments."

The Ministry of Defence is giving top priority to the highly complicated task of assessing the data before drawing any firm conclusions. But Mr Gilmour added: "It may be

PARLIAMENTARY DEFENCE DEBATE

continued from previous page

that as a result of the 1973 war there will be a change in military tactics or weaponry as revolutionary as the changes which followed the battles of Arianople, Crecy, Ravenna or Cambrai."

● On the NATO front, Mr Gilmour drew the House's attention to concern among member nations about the increase in military programmes in the Soviet Union despite political détente. He said the current military capability of the Soviet Union was "well in excess" of its defence needs. He emphasised the need for NATO to maintain a resolute defence effort.

GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

The new year government reshuffle brought changes in the Ministry of Defence. Defence Minister Lord Carrington moved on to the new post of Secretary of State for Energy, bringing into the Cabinet for the first time, as Defence Minister, Mr Ian Gilmour, former Minister of State for Defence. Mr Gilmour's vacated post has been filled by Mr George Younger, former Scottish Under-Secretary. Mr Peter Blaker, who had been Defence Under-Secretary for the Army, was replaced by Mr Dudley Smith from the Department of Employment. Mr Blaker moved to the Foreign Office as Under-Secretary.

NAAFI PROFIT BENEFITS ALL...

Naafi's net profits each year are paid back in the form of extra rebate to the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force in proportion to the amount of money each spends. The Army share goes to the Army Central Fund for the benefit of serving personnel and their dependants. In 1972-73 this rebate amounted to £403,000 which was distributed as follows:

		£	
Annual grants	Regular Army	26,070	
	Military hospitals	3,910	
	TAVR/UDR	1,930	
	Army Sport Control Board	43,521	
	Army Benevolent Fund	76,250	
	Other establishments, clubs, schools, etc	16,279	
			£167,960
Special grants	Welfare transport	57,082	
	Swimming pools	51,000	
	Boating and sailing	31,552	
	Leave chalets	13,200	
	Winter sports	12,226	
	National Army Museum	12,000	
	Army golf	8,500	
	Riding	5,707	
	Gliding	4,000	
	Other sports	24,743	
			£220,010
Loans	NCOs clubs	31,493	
	Army golf	25,500	
	Army entry in Round-the-World yacht race	5,000	
	Welfare transport	3,500	
	Rifle shooting	2,500	
	Parachuting	750	
			£68,743
		TOTAL	£456,713

The difference of £53,713 was met from other income.

... SKG PAYS TOO

It's not only Naafi that ploughs back cash to the customer. The Services Kinema Corporation distributes part of its trading profit to Service charities and the Army Central Fund. In 1973 the Army's share of this profit was £86,000.

NEW SATELLITE SYSTEM

Britain's Skynet II, the first operational communications satellite designed and built outside the United States or Russia, failed to get into orbit after an abortive launch by an American rocket at Cape Canaveral.

The 960lb satellite was produced for the Ministry of Defence by Marconi Space and Defence Systems. With its sister spacecraft, which is being launched later this year, it would have formed the space segment of the most comprehensive military satellite communications system in the world, carrying British defence communica-

tions spanning an area from the United Kingdom to the Far East. These spacecraft are to replace the smaller, United States designed and built Skynet 1 satellites now in orbit.

The complete Skynet system comprises, in addition to the satellites, a network of ground terminals including a 42-foot master communication station, 40-foot semi-static terminals, 21-foot airtransportable terminals and the new three-and-a-half-foot shipborne terminals for the Royal Navy.

NEW EVENING DRESS FOR WRAC

An attractive dress of classic design has been approved as evening mess dress wear for warrant officers and sergeants of the Women's Royal Army Corps. The dress is full length in oyster-coloured polyester jersey with a dark-green rayon drape fastened



to and falling from the left shoulder. The dress was designed by Warrant Officer 2 J Kerr and is being made by Messrs Hilliers of London. Pictured modelling the new gown is Warrant Officer 2 E Madeira who is personal assistant to the corps' director.

QUARTERS REBUILD FORGES AHEAD

Work has started on the second phase of the rebuild of quarters at the Royal Army Educational Corps Centre, Beaconsfield. This provides new accommodation for 163 male and 67 female junior ranks plus a new mess and social club. Of the men, 152 are course students and will each have a single study/bedroom. The project, which also includes a new sergeants' mess, will be finished by late 1975 at a cost of nearly £3,000,000.

New barrack accommodation for the junior ranks of 9 Company, Royal Army Medical Corps, has been taken over at Colchester. This is a single-storey prefabricated building provided as an interim measure at a cost of £100,000. DQ(A)

CALLING ARMY POP STARS

The Army music group/singer contest finals will take place at the BBC Playhouse Theatre, London, on 24 and 25 April. This competition is open to all serving ranks of the Army and Women's Royal Army Corps serving in the United Kingdom and Rhine Army. Details are available at all district headquarters.

VARIETY CLUB PLAYS SANTA

The Variety Club of Great Britain gave over 200 Christmas gifts to children whose fathers had been killed in Northern Ireland. The Adjutant-General, General Sir Cecil Blacker, received the presents from the club's Chief Barker designate, Mr Michael Samuelson.

WINDFALL FOR BENEVOLENT FUND

The Army Benevolent Fund, dedicated to help distressed servicemen and ex-servicemen and their families, has had a £5000 windfall from the Drapers' Company, one of the City of London's famous livery companies. With the reduction in the numbers of the armed forces in recent years, the fund has come to rely more and more on the public and outside charities or organisations such as the Drapers' Company. This was originally an association of merchants but is now primarily a charitable body. It

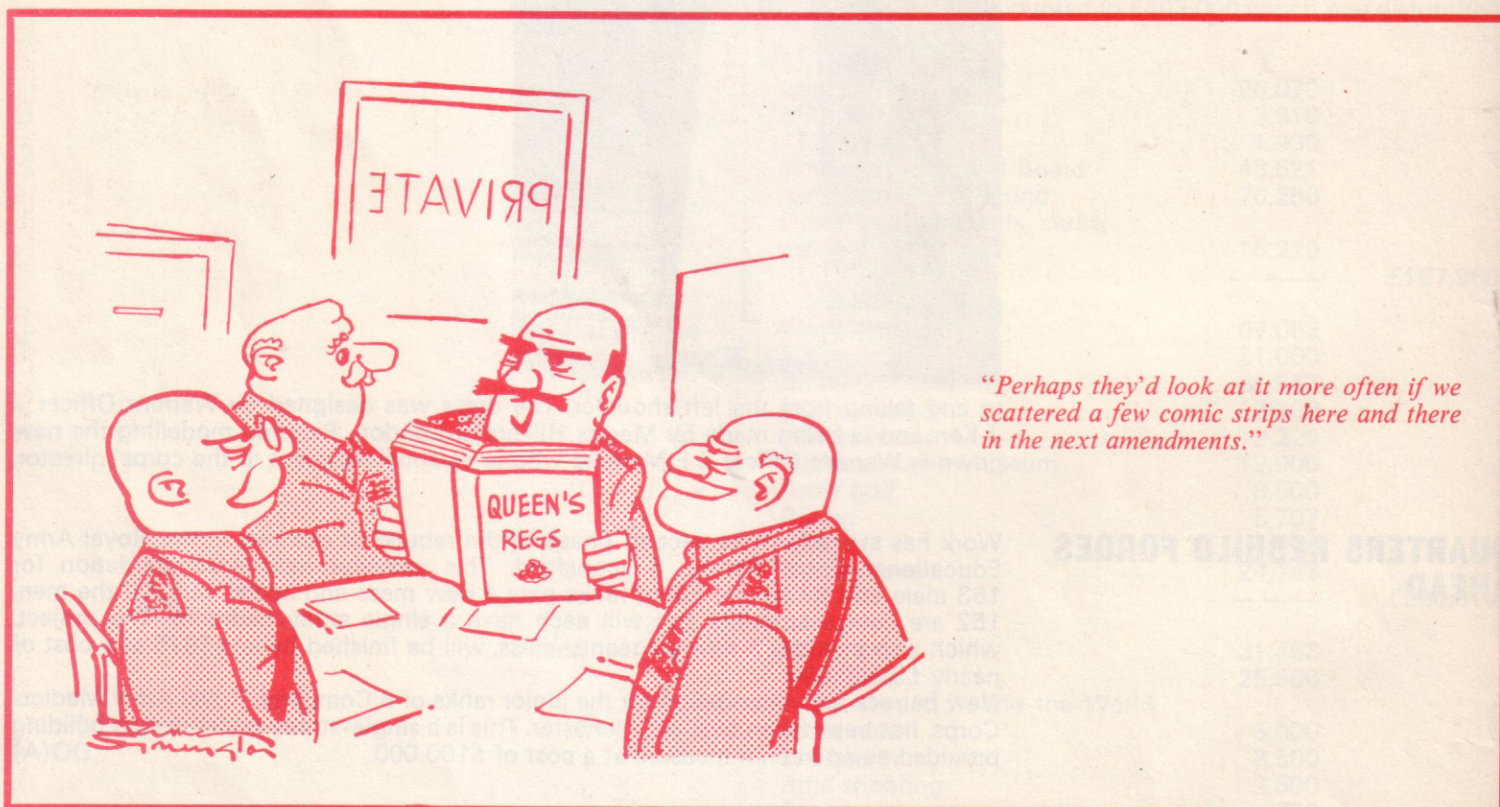
BENEVOLENT FUND

continued from previous page

awarded the Army Benevolent Fund a grant of £500 a year for seven years from 1964, £1000 in 1970 and £1000 in 1972.

TOP APPRENTICES HONOURED

As Defence Secretary, Lord Carrington presented prizes in London to successful competitors in the 1973 Tom Nevard memorial competition for first-year apprentices in Ministry of Defence and Department of Trade and Industry establishments. Among the winners were Gavin Oseman, of the Royal Radar Establishment, Malvern, who won the mechanical engineering cup; Philip Newport, of 34 Central Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Donnington, who received the merit award for electrical engineering; and Miss Shona Powrie, also from Donnington, who received a merit award for the fabrication test. Shona, who is studying at the University of Wales for an electrical engineering degree, already holds the Donnington trophy for the best REME apprentice in fabrication and the rosebowl awarded to the best girl apprentice at 34 Central Workshop. The competition started in 1952 as a memorial to the late Mr Tom Nevard, a senior official in the old Ministry of Supply, who did much to bring about the government's industrial apprenticeship schemes.



YOU AND YOUR NEWS

SOLDIER News cartoons are designed to do much the same job! Perhaps there's some point that has been puzzling you about the Army or some aspect of Service life you would like to see explained. Why not drop a line to SOLDIER News at SOLDIER, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 2BG.

NORTHERN IRELAND COMFORTS

Mid-tour leave and new comforts for soldiers on duty in Northern Ireland for four-month tours were pointed out in Parliament by the then Under-Secretary of State for the Army, Mr Peter Blaker. In answer to a question from Mr John Cronin (Labour, Loughborough) he said the Government was continuing to do all in its power to improve troops' conditions in Northern Ireland. A mid-tour break of 96 hours with free travel is now available, he added, and accommodation improvements are progressing. Two new swimming pools have been finished and another two are on the way. A further £100,000 is being spent on launderettes, bowling alleys, sauna baths and squash courts—some of which have already been completed. Mr Blaker revealed that between April and November last year £4,500,000 was spent on improvement and maintenance of accommodation.

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NORTHERN IRELAND PRISON SERVICE



Left, right and centre

Enjoying a quiet game of chess in the newly opened Sandes Soldiers' and Airmen's Home in Hong Kong are three men of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch. The new home in Chatham Road Camp was opened by the Deputy Commander Land Forces, Major-General E J S Burnett. The homes had their origins in Ireland a century ago when a teenage girl, Elise Sandes, decided to devote her life to the welfare of young soldiers. Now there are three centres in London, three in Singapore, one in Malaysia and one for the Irish Army.



Early morning best foot forward for the Commander British Forces Hong Kong, Lieutenant-General Sir Edwin Bramall (centre), and Lady Bramall as (right) they led some 15,000 participants on the first leg of a 16-mile "walkathon" round Hong Kong which aimed to raise at least a million Hong Kong dollars for the colony's charitable community chest.



Scottish singer Moira Anderson, was kept busy signing autographs when she visited 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, in Hong Kong. Miss Anderson, who gave impromptu

performances of Scottish favourites in the cookhouse and the sergeants' mess, wore a full-length skirt in the regiment's tartan for her visit.



Cookhouse conference between the GOC Northern Ireland, Lieutenant-General Sir Frank King, and four men of 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment. Occasion was a visit by General King to the battalion during its Londonderry tour of duty.



A total of 107 years' Army service is represented in this group at the Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop. Centre is the Director of Army Aviation, Major-General T A Richardson (commissioned 1942), who had just presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to four men of

the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, each with 19 years' service. They are (left to right) Staff-Sergeant Douglas Britton, Staff-Sergeant Bill Dick, Warrant Officer 2 Peter Beard and Warrant Officer 1 Derek Walker, all of 70 Field Workshop (Aircraft), Middle Wallop.



We all know who the one in the middle is (Peter Sellers of course!). But who are the others? Answer—Lance-Corporal Terry Duckworth (left) and Trooper Bill MacDonald, among men of 16/5th Lancers acting as extras in the film "Ghost in the Noonday Sun" being filmed in Cyprus.



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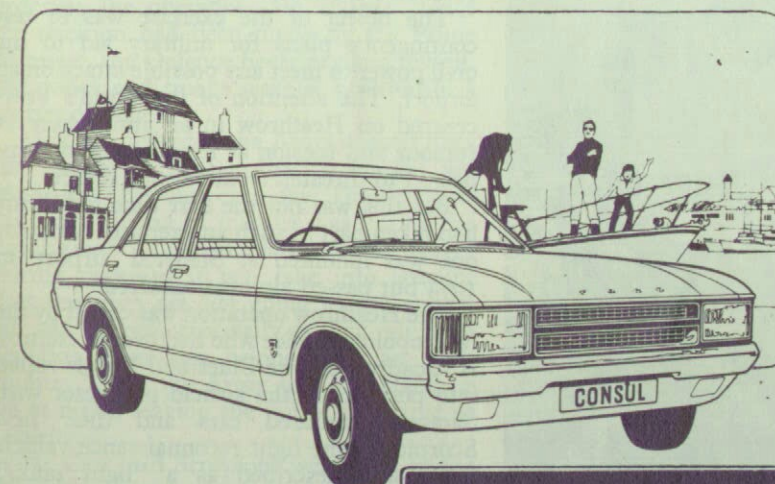
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Heathrow alert



Right: A Jumbo from London lumbering over the head of a machine-gun guard at the airport.



THE Army's internal security capability came closer to home than ever in the first week of the new year when Britain awoke one rainy morning to find troops and tracked vehicles encircling London's Heathrow airport.

The object of the exercise was to test contingency plans for military aid to the civil power to meet any possible attack on an airport. The attention of the world's Press centred on Heathrow in an atmosphere of rumour and tension as terrorist activity appeared to threaten from various sources.

But this was not the first time the Army had taken part in such an exercise. A similar one was mounted at Stansted airport in 1973 but passed almost unnoticed.

The Heathrow operation was called by the Metropolitan Police who had overall control. A squadron of The Blues and Royals rolled into position on the airfield perimeter with Saracen armoured cars and their new Scorpions—the light reconnaissance vehicle universally described as a "light tank." Initially a company-strength detachment of the Irish Guards provided an infantry element, their place being taken later by men from 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards.



Left: A British Airways Trident soars in safety above a mixed Army/police patrol.

Above: A Blues and Royals sentry keeps an eye on the cargo depot—a possible target.

Below: A familiar part of everyday life in Northern Ireland has now invaded England.

In an interview on why troops were sent in, Mr Robert Carr, the Home Secretary, said a considerable increase in Arab terrorist activities in Europe and the very real threat that they might use stolen SAM missiles against aircraft led to the Government ordering the operation. He added: "Once the decision had been made by the Prime Minister, the Defence Secretary and myself, the police and troops were in position in a matter of hours."

Mr Carr defended the Army against jibes that it was a "nine-to-five" operation not continued after dark each day. The real danger from the use of missiles was during the day, he said. "There is relatively little danger during darkness if you take into account that terrorists are not going to fire at just any old aircraft, especially as they might be shooting down one belonging to an Arab country." But the Army was still standing by at night, leaving the police in charge of security.

Mr Carr said Scorpions were used in the first place because the Army had to use what vehicles were to hand for transport and communication needs. These were later replaced by smaller vehicles.

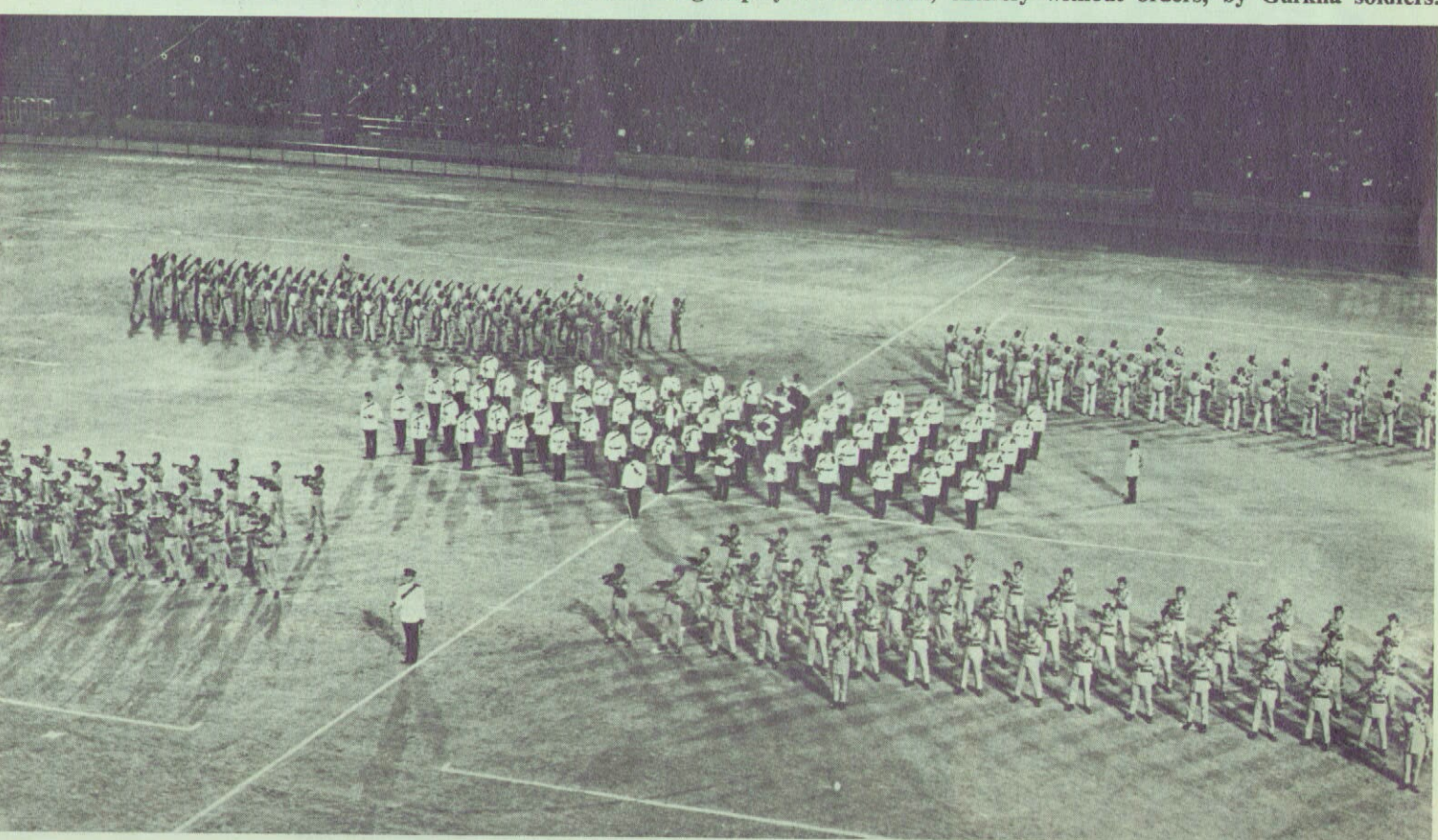




The daredevil riders of the White Helmets lean over backwards to please spectators.



Above: The massed pipes and drums, under Pipe-Major J Anderson, of The Black Watch. Below: The dazzling display of rifle drill, entirely without orders, by Gurkha soldiers.



HONG KONG TATTOO

MORE than 1200 Hong Kong-based British servicemen combined to stage the Colony's biggest and most spectacular military tattoo. Major Aubrey Jackman, a veteran of Army "showbiz" for nearly 20 years, produced an event which attracted more than 100,000 spectators to its five performances. The closing night was a royal occasion when the Sultan of Brunei, who was in Hong Kong visiting the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment on exercise, took the salute.

Traditional fanfares, an inter-Services assault course competition, gymnastics and the firing of 105-millimetre pack-howitzers were followed by an historical display presented by the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers). It included a junk full of bloodthirsty pirates being taught a lesson by the Volunteers.

Highlight, according to seasoned tattoo observers, was the drill display by three companies from the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles. Says a correspondent, "they performed as one man and their timing left one wondering whether they were men or a machine."

The Royal Signals White Helmets motorcycle display team gave a breathtaking display and the traditions and customs of China and Brunei were brought together in an oriental extravaganza. Chinese legend was represented in a dragon dance by 100 locally enlisted soldiers of 56 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, and this was followed by the colourful royal ceremonial umbrellas display by 120 soldiers of the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment.

A modern battle scene was presented when B Company of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, stormed the arena from Royal Air Force Wessex helicopters. A tri-Service flavour was added by scale models of Royal Navy patrol craft while ground support came from Scorpion tanks of C Squadron, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, and pack-howitzers of 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.

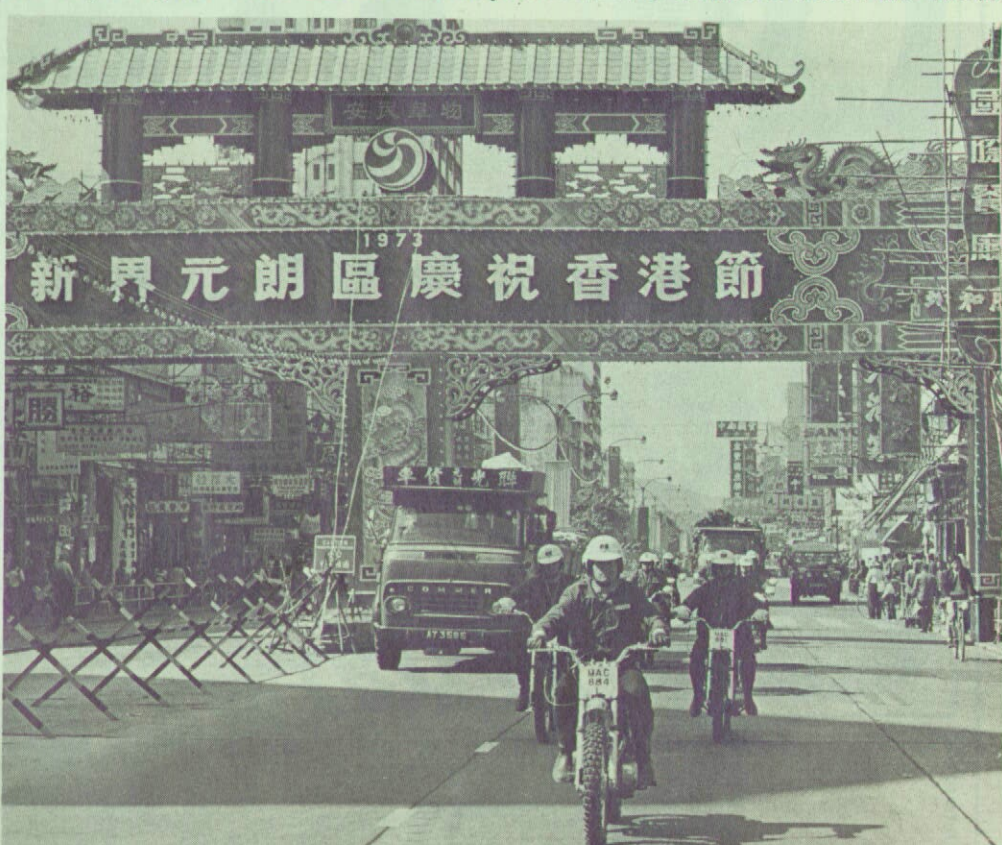
Musical items in the tattoo featured more than 300 musicians with the bands of 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment; 1st Battalion, The Black Watch; 1st and 2nd battalions, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles; Royal Air Force Regiment; Royal Hong Kong Police and the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment, as well as several units' pipes and drums.

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



Men of C Battery, 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, with six 105mm pack-howitzers.

The Royal Signals' White Helmets motorcycle team in a cavalcade before the Tattoo.



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The four-man staff comprises retired Royal Army Educational Corps officers and the centre itself is an RAEC responsibility. The lecturer in management studies and mathematics is Major W A Day. He explained the special course: "It started off as a course for senior non-commissioned officers. But now we cater for anybody—we've had students from lance-corporal to wing-commander—it's tri-Service too."

About 14 students are taken on for the course, which is looked on as orientation for civilian life for men whose first career has been in uniform. One of the objects is to reduce the apprehension with which some people face the prospect of Civvy Street after a lifetime in the Services. The end product should be a man who can step confidently out of uniform into a business suit to compete on equal terms with anybody for jobs in commerce and industry.

Getting out of uniform starts in the

course's classroom. After the first couple of days of reticence from both ends of the rank structure, students catch on and all contribute as equals. Major Day said: "This in itself is a bit of preparation for earning your respect in civilian life for slightly different reasons than in the Forces."

The management course can be taken any time in the last six months of service. It looks comprehensively at the outside world of management and industry and includes studies of economics, supervision skills, industrial relations and industrial law plus visits to local firms to see theory in action and hear lectures by representatives of management and workers. "It's quite astounding what we can cover in a month," said Major Day. "We end up studying all the most modern theories of management."

A snap poll of opinions among those taking a course showed a hearty approval for what was being taught. "I've found the course very good," said Warrant Officer 2 L E Dunn, Royal Army Medical Corps, "I haven't got a job to go to—but I don't think I'll have any trouble after this." He had spent 22 years in the Army and although qualified to be a nurse, he wanted to try something different.

A sales administrator's job was waiting for Royal Corps of Transport Warrant Officer 2 A T Hilton when he left the Army. So the course was an obvious choice for him. He said: "After my 25½ years in the Army I hope to carry on my career in management. This is a very good course. I now know more about civilian life—it brings it all out here at the centre."

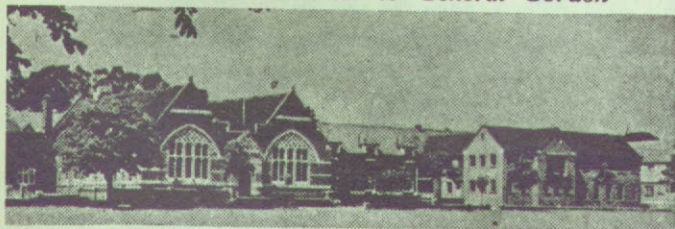
Experience in the Royal Army Pay Corps during a 19½-year Army record had convinced Staff-Sergeant J Webb that accountancy was for him. Although he had no definite job to go to while on the course he said: "I've learned quite a bit here and picked up a few tips. We've come to know the set-up of businesses from top to bottom."

In the four years the course has been running, Major Day cannot recall more than five people who did not really know what they wanted to do. "If they do have problems, we are here to do all we can to help them."

Major Day and his colleagues have the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts have sped many men on their way to a successful second career in responsible jobs for which their Army service and natural aptitudes have combined to fit them.

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SPORT

French - British draw opens Kentish Cup series

A 2-2 draw was the result of the British Army versus French Army soccer match, a hard-fought game punctuated by fouls and orchestrated by the whistle of Belgian referee J Peeters.

The match was this season's first in the annual series played by the French, English and Belgian armies since 1920 in the Kentish Cup—named after the brigadier-general who started the tournament in memory of the three nations' comradeship in the trenches of World War One. Appropriately, the clash took place at the Aldershot military stadium, which is dedicated to Brigadier-General Kentish.

The French always looked a hard side to beat, especially in the first half when the wind was behind them. And so they should with all but one of their players drawn from the second or third division teams of their native country—a luxury the French Army's sport enjoys as a result of conscription.

The nippy visitors made repeated forays through the English defence and the tactic paid off in the 23rd minute with an easy

looking goal by D Rocheteau. It took a penalty by Britain's Corporal D Aitchison to even the score after Corporal J Robson was brought down by a French defender. Robson had further revenge a few minutes later when the French defence was completely wrong-footed and he had all the time in the world to dribble in a goal to make it 2-1.

But in failing light and with rain bucketing down on the pitch a last-minute attack by the French brought the final equaliser from the head of Y Delestre after a goal mouth mud-mélée.

In the end the all-amateur British side proved a match for the almost exclusively professional French players and the drawn result was a fair reflection of the even division of skills. A shame, though, that the French player Roux persistently punished opponents in tackles and that British players took it out on the speedy French winger D Six. A pity too that the breaches of the rules came to a climax in the 74th minute with the British captain, Corporal A



First-half action in the French goalmouth kept players on their toes and in the air.

Goucher, being sent off after bringing down the French goalkeeper, A Rust, in a flurry of arms and legs.

There to watch the game was regular Army supporter Joe Mercer, the Coventry City general manager, who recently took the Army trainer under his wing for instruction in the finer points at Coventry. Joe once played for the Army himself as did other soccer stars including Bobby Charlton, Peter Dobin and Ron Yeats, the ex-Liverpool favourite who now manages and plays for Tranmere Rovers.

French defenders surround the British Army Staff-Sergeant Instructor A Coulton (9), often a threat to their net.



Rugby squad yet to settle down

THE Army fifteen's recent showing against civilian teams has resulted in some depressing scorelines. But experts close to the squad are confident there will be a marked improvement on recent form. It is early days yet and once a few more fixtures have match-hardened the Army players, scores will undoubtedly reflect the promise they have already shown against some very tough opposition.

The daunting Harlequins fall into the latter category and the Army did well to score 11 points to the Quins' 19 at Aldershot. The Army led 7-0 at half-time with wind and slope in their favour. Superior teamwork ground down the military machine and in the second half the Harlequins

dramatically clocked-up all their 19 points in 25 minutes with two goals, a try and a penalty against the Army's two tries and a dropped goal.

Lieutenant G Davies (RCT) and Captain N J Newell (DWR) were the Army try scorers. Others in the team were Corporal M Cuss (DWR), Lieutenant P M Davies (13/18 H), Lance-Corporal D B Reynolds (REME), Lance-Corporal A S Turk (RTR), Corporal D Spawforth (REME), Captain J M Thorn (DWR), Lieutenant P R Wilkinson (RA), Captain N T Slater (RAEC), Captain M G Molloy (RAMC), Sergeant I Cairns (R Sigs), Captain R E Rea (RAMC), Captain A J Hoon (RE), Second-Lieutenant K G Lawson (RAEC).

The Army also lost to the London Irish at Sunbury 11-15. Turk, G Davies, P M Davies, Newell, Spawforth, Thorn, Slater, Molloy, Cairns, Lawson and Hoon played here too and were joined by Lieutenant J E Knowles (RCT), Corporal J H Morgan (REME), Captain G A Miller (RAEC) and Lieutenant C L G Wright (R Sigs).

Surrey defeated the Army 15-9. Playing again in this match were the two Davies, Knowles, Morgan, Slater, Wilkinson, Molloy, Cairns, Lawson and Wright. Also involved were: Lance-Corporal D B Williams (RWF), Lieutenant R A M Norton (REME), Lieutenant A T D Lerwill (LI), Sergeant P Challinor (RA) and Captain K N Collins (RAOC).

Speedway—second spectator sport

IT comes as a surprise to most to find that the flying motorcycles and cinders of the speedway tracks up and down Britain provide the nation's second largest spectator sport.

There are 36 league teams split into two divisions. Like soccer, a team scores two points for a win and one for a draw. In every match there are 13 races of four laps each with two riders from each team competing for the points—three for first, two for second and one for third. As well as starting money, riders are paid bonuses for the points they score. So both the honour of the team and the weight of the wage packet are at stake during each five-minute dash at speeds of up to 50 or more miles an hour.

Matches move quickly and a newcomer to the terraces can soon get confused in a flurry of whirring wheels, waving flags, gleaming leathers and coloured helmets. Knowledge of a few of the rules is a help.

A team consists of seven riders—three "heat leaders," two "second strings" and two "reserves." The programme is designed to give the maximum variation in races. Heat leaders and second strings are scheduled for four rides each and the reserves three.

If a team falls six points behind it is allowed to make a "tactical substitute" which means that any rider can be replaced by another in the team. Thus a team star could take a reserve's place to try to pick up lost points. A reserve can be used at any time to replace an off-form rider but can have no more than five rides if used in this way.

When the four riders get ready to race they start behind a three-tape "gate" which is lifted when the referee considers the gear-grinding gladiators are ready. If an over-



Thrills and action of speedway caught by the camera as two riders slew through a corner.

eager rider breaks a tape he is out of the race—and loses his starting cash.

As with motor racing, riders and spectators read semaphore flags for information on the progress of the race. A yellow flag with a black cross means one lap to go and the traditional chequered flag greets contestants crossing the line at the end. A red flag means the race has been stopped and black means a rider is excluded. A hooter or buzzer gives teams a two-minute warning of race starts; anyone exceeding this time is excluded.

Riders are identified by their helmet colours. The home team uses red-and-blue and the visitors white-and-yellow/black. But fans

soon get to recognise their favourites by their style as much as by helmet colour.

All the motorcycles are similar in design and power. Engines are 500cc and the only controls are clutch lever, throttle twist-grip and, of course, the bucking handlebars themselves. There are no brakes. Believe it or not, this is a safety measure to stop leading riders pulling up too quickly and causing a crash with following speedsters.

Most tracks open in March or April and close in October with meetings once a week all summer. Speedway claims a family spectatorship with prices about the same as the cinema.

SPORTS SHORTS

ROWING

Thousands of soldiers and their families associate RAF Gütersloh only with aircraft but the base is also home for soldier and airman oarsmen of the Joint Services Rowing Club. This thriving club kept muscles in trim recently by building its

own boathouse from an old hut and discarded drop-tank packing cases. The picture shows the official opening of the boathouse by the station commander, Group Captain J F G Howe. Flanking him and holding the sign are (left) Flight-Lieutenant Taff Harries and Captain Pete Major, who are in charge of rowing.



HOCKEY

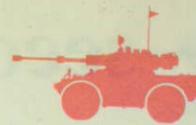
The Army hockey eleven went down 3-1 to Tulse Hill. The defeated team comprised Lieut R J White (RA), Capt R M G Brooks (RE, captain), 2/Lieut S M R Eagan (RE), Capt C D Farrar-Hockley (Para), Capt G A Allen (R Sigs), Capt V T M Smith (RA), 2/Lieut K A Boulter (RAEC), Sgt A J Stamp (RE), Cpl P Havlin (R Sigs), Lieut P C Marsh (RE), 2/Lieut S Chetwood (RE). The Combined Services under-22 team held the East under-22s to a nil-nil draw at Colchester.

FENCING

A strong team of challengers has been selected for a clash between the Army and Royal Navy "A" fencers. Foils will be in the hands of Sgt J Bacon (RA), Gnr C Mitchell (RA) and L/Cpl A Hatcher (REME). Wielding épée will be Capt J Astbury (RCT), Cpl K Hartshorne (RCT) and L/Cpl F Barkas (REME). Sgt Bacon is due to double on the sabre joined by CSM T J J Cooper (APTC) and Spr C Waterfall (RE).

BOXING

At the time of going to press the outcome of the United Kingdom inter-unit team championship boxing final was not known. But the two contesting units who had boxed their way to this last battle were 1 DERR and 1 RWF. Rounds leading up to the final ended as follows: Quarter-finals 1 IG beat 3 Para by 6 bouts to 5, 1 RS trounced 3 RRF 10-1; 1 DERR beat 2 RGJ 9-2. In the semi-finals 1 RWF beat 1 IG 8-3 and 1 DERR beat 1 RS 7-4.



Each a character

LEAD soldiers were once regarded as those-things-that-get-caught-in-the-Hoover. Their faces consisted of a blob of shiny pink, a red slash for a mouth and black dots for eyes. And they had to keep company with marbles, chewing gum and the occasional white mouse in a schoolboy's coat pocket.

Today we talk of "model" soldiers, not "toy" soldiers—a subtle difference. It is because some of these models have become sculptures in their own right and grace the mantelpieces of television producers and film stars, generals and royalty.

Take as an example the magnificent new series of French Napoleonic figures in 75-millimetre scale designed by art director Ray Lamb (a British Model Soldier Society top award winner), cast by Hinchcliffe (originally noted for their exquisite miniature metal cannon kits), and distributed with the marketing expertise of Lynn Sangster (of Historex Agents) through his new enterprise, Armour Accessories.

Here are none of your stereotyped ranks of identical figures standing stiffly at attention. These are individuals with character of their own: a stubby, pot-bellied drum-

mer with a tambour slung on his back; a suave officier de Grenadiers with luxuriant sideburns nonchalantly resting his right leg on a small boulder with his left arm akimbo; and (right) a grenadier with moustachios and ear-ring grasping a musket with fixed bayonet at the high port...

It is the minutiae of detail that is the test of quality. The plumes are not just lumps of lead with scratch marks but really look as if made of feathers, the creases in the cloth fall naturally and the hair, eyebrows and moustaches are actually waved and combed. The casting—in a lead-based white metal alloy—is sharp and crisp but the minimal amount of flash (excess metal on the mould line) at such extremities as coat-tails and hands is easily removed with a craft knife. The only other criticism is that the figures hint at caricature, which is not necessarily a bad thing in a model.

The figures each cost a reasonable £2.25 in kit form plus eight pence post and packing. Mr Sangster offers his usual return-of-post service. For full details and lists send him a stamped addressed envelope at Armour Accessories, 3 Castle Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1QJ.



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Light fantastic

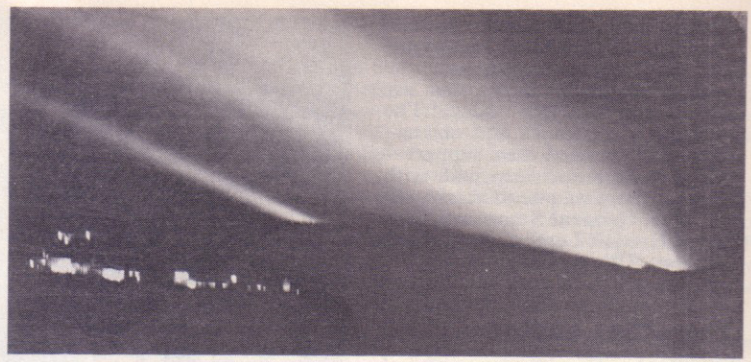
As the officer who initiated the use of movement light in World War Two I was very interested in the article about 873 Movement Light Squadron RE (TA) in the January SOLDIER.

In 1943 I was G1 of 53 (W) Division stationed in Kent and in October 160 Brigade was training on the South Downs near Plumpton. I was walking along the lanes one evening from Malling to Plumpton when one or two searchlights came on at least a mile away each. I noticed that the fields on either side of the lane became "moonlit" to an extent which would make it easy for infantry to operate and for one to recognise anyone one knew 50 or more yards away.

With the backing of my divisional commander I wrote to HQ 12 Corps suggesting that trials be made to pro-

vide troops operating at night with "artificial moonlight." (My original letter is at The Royal Welch Fusiliers regimental museum, Caernarvon.) Back came the answer "you carry out the trials," which we did on the South Downs, the last trial being attended by Sir Miles Dempsey, GOC Second Army. Incidentally, it was found that "artificial moonlight" used by the attacker gave little advantage to the defender. That was the start of "artificial moonlight," later called "movement light."

We, of course, used it much in North-West Europe. Two searchlights illuminated the rear areas of 12 Corps so that vehicles had no need of lights; a single searchlight was used as a beacon for tanks driving back from a raid with infantry near Evécy; and for the movement of the



division forward by road at night from Falaise I had two searchlights positioned shining along the line of our route which made it almost as easy as daylight for the drivers.

In Kent, before D-Day, an AA light battery comfortably unloaded extra guns, ammunition etc from a train at Ham railway station at night by

the light of two searchlights stationed two or three miles away. "Artificial moonlight" also much facilitated the crossing of the Rhine by the British Army.—**Brig M H-ap Rhys Pryce (Retd)** (late The Royal Welch Fusiliers), c/o National & Grindlay's Bank Ltd, 13 St James's Square, London SW1.

LETTERS

Green Howards Museum

There are two small points arising from your article on this museum in the January SOLDIER. First, the money raised for the conversion work on the church was obtained entirely through regimental efforts by means of an appeal within the regiment and to the public in the North Riding. A loan of £25,000 was also negotiated with the English Tourist Board.

Secondly, the Victoria Crosses referred to as on display in the museum are only nine of the 18 awarded to Green Howards since the inception of this decoration.—**Col J M Forbes, Curator, The Green Howards Museum, Richmond, Yorkshire, DL10 4QN.**

Where's the oompah?

Over the past year or so readers have referred to military bands playing to "half empty halls" and, in the case of Mr Andrews (September), to Army bands needing more fans.

This is not compatible with my experience. During my ten years' residence in South Devon I have been to numerous concerts by Royal Marine bands (including three devoted entirely to the "big band" idiom). All were a "sell-out" days before the actual concert. The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards came to Torquay to play two indoor concerts and both were well attended. I also understand that Cheltenham Entertainment Committee decided to try military band concerts a few years ago and these were so successful they are now an annual winter feature.

If your correspondents who have written on this subject would like to attend the splendid concerts held daily during the summer at Bournemouth I think they would be agreeably surprised to find almost every seat occupied long before the start, especially in the afternoons.

Thus, I find readers' views on this matter a source of puzzlement and

can only surmise that perhaps interest is regional?—**J Shields, 17 Pellew Way, Teignmouth, South Devon.**

May I take issue with John Matthew (September). The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band is probably a first-class band but its LP is one of the worst I ever heard both as regards programme and sound. So I agree 100 per cent with Mr Plunkett (March).

That there were problems getting the LP made or that it was the first to be recorded by this band have nothing to do with the quality or the programme. It is the more regrettable because this is the first LP. I have a collection of more than 1200 LPs of military bands of countries all over the world. I correspond with ten other lovers of band music in Holland, England, Sweden, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Canada and they all agree with me and Mr Plunkett.

I agree with Mr Matthew when he says "I hope the band may yet record its own fine regimental march by Charles O'Neill which has so far appeared only on an RCA Victor LP—"Music in the Round"—played by Howard Cable and his concert band." I still wonder why on the first LP of this band, in its centennial year, this march was not on the disc.—**T J Koldewyn, 1412 Devonshire Crescent, Vancouver 9, BC, Canada.**

Longmoor Military Railway

Reading your article (January) one gets the impression, though possibly unintentionally, that the Longmoor Military Railway always went under that title.

When I was stationed at Longmoor from 1928 to 1932 with a medium regiment, its title then was the Woolmer Instructional Military



Railway and its rolling stock was accordingly marked WIMR. The troops naturally nicknamed it "The Will-It-Move Railway."

From memory I recall that the little engines were named Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener etc and rumour had it that one driver was placed on a charge for "driving Lord Roberts at excessive speed."—**Capt H M Sullivan, 26 Queen's Road, Shanklin, PO 37, Isle of Wight.**

Royal British Legion

I write in reply to Mr Gopsill's letter (January).

While applauding his support for the Royal British Legion, I must on its behalf correct his statement that World War Two ex-servicemen and women are reluctant to help us. On the contrary, it is they who are now firmly in control of our organisation at all levels; in fact we estimate that some 90 per cent of our total membership served in the forces during World War Two or since.

The continuing success of our Poppy Appeal is to a large measure due to the enthusiastic practical support of

these "younger" members. While carrying a tray of poppies in the streets used to be considered a job for women our ex-servicemen now readily accept this responsibility.

I would accept Mr Gopsill's observation that fewer ex-servicemen—particularly those who served in World War Two—attend Armistice Day services. While I think this is due to a reluctance on their part to attend parades of any sort, it does not mean they lack any feeling of comradeship or are oblivious to the sacrifices of the past. It has been amply demonstrated that they have a great concern for the welfare of former comrades and their dependants who may be in distress, as is evidenced by the vast amount of voluntary work which they undertake.

I suggest that Mr Gopsill may have overlooked the effect which advancing years may have on a man. As we say in our Exhortation to Remembrance: "As we that are left grow old..." This does not make it any easier to distinguish the 1939-1945 vintage from those who, only a generation earlier, had been the veterans of World War One.

Having, I hope, put the record

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straight, may I now heartily endorse Mr Gopsill's plea to all ex-servicemen and women to support the Legion, especially those who are leaving the Services today. The potential is enormous and increasingly we shall need their support—that is if we are to keep faith with those to whom we owe so much.—**D E Coffer, General Secretary, The Royal British Legion, Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JY.**

The other Legion

Mr Charles Gopsill's letter (Royal British Legion, January), with which I am in full agreement, prompts me to try and reach through your columns the many ex-servicemen who are, we know, trying to get in touch with the Legion of Frontiersmen of the Commonwealth (I have just received one such application from an ex-RAF man who has been trying to contact us for four years). The Frontiersmen are 70 years old this year. Formed in 1904 as a voluntary corps to serve king and country in an emergency, it was granted recognition as a reserve force on 15 February 1906 by the then Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Sir Neville Littleton. In 1914 it was formed at War Office request into the 25th (Frontiersmen) Battalion of The Royal Fusiliers. In East Africa the battalion won a Victoria Cross and 11 Distinguished Conduct Medals. One unit was already serving with the Belgian Lancers in 1914 to become the first British in action against the enemy. The Legion caters for those ex-servicemen who, although active and fit, are over age for service in the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve. It needs many more of those



who are prepared to serve without thought of material gain. Training is carried out in all military subjects, often in association with the TAVR, to keep members' hands in and their waistlines down so that they can offer service in an emergency. At this time, when the country is torn apart with internal strife, the banding together of those who have served and would serve again is of great importance. Strict discipline is observed on duty, good comradeship when off.—**Capt G W H Woods (Press Relations Officer, Home Command), Wells House, 79 Wells Street, Oxford Street, London, W1P 3RE.**

Marching with Ord Hume

As the present bandmaster of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars I was most interested to read the letter from Mr Hayes (December) about the lack of Ord Hume march record-

Jane Picton School

The recently opened Jane Picton School at Llanhilleth, Abertillery, is named after a member of a family well known throughout Wales. The most famous Picton was General Sir Thomas Picton, killed at Waterloo and buried in St Paul's Cathedral. The school, to which Army children are welcome, is not thought of as a conventional place of learning but rather as a residential home provid-

ing stability, security, love and educational facilities appropriate to the need of the mentally handicapped child. The aim of the school is to help such children towards normality and, by overcoming handicaps, a rightful place in life. They are encouraged to shop locally, visit nearby parks and recreation centres and to take as active a part as possible in the life of the community.

ings. While I heartily agree that Ord Hume wrote several wonderful marches I think these now fall into the category of pieces we would like to record but have doubts as to whether they would sell. We live in a very commercial world in which the record industry is probably the most difficult. The band following is certainly on the increase and we dare not think only of the connoisseur. I would add, however, that perhaps we all fall into the trap of not taking the "minimal risk" mentioned by RB (December) when reviewing the Coldstream Guards record "Regimental Marches of the British Army."

On our last recording, "In Martial Mood," we played "Officer of the Day" (R B Hall), "Father Rhine" (Paul Linke) and "Royal Horse Guards" (Strauss): these, I believe, are the only recordings of these tunes at present available. Sales of this record were not as high as we had hoped but I had a wonderful crop of most interesting letters from all over the world, particularly about the Strauss march. On our next record I will endeavour to include an Ord Hume march, perhaps even

"Prairie Flower." I would welcome a letter from Mr Hayes as an ex-8th Hussar. I have framed in my office a band programme played in Naini Tal, India, about 1919 and I would be most interested to hear about banding in those days.—**P B Smith, Bandmaster, Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, BFPO 16.**

The other side

Captain Derek Dawson wondered (Letters, December) how much captured British Army material is displayed in European military museums.

As far as France is concerned it appears that "Albion" is so perfidious that it is beneath contempt (apparently) to look after and display our captured material, at least if Colonel Howard Green's story in his "Famous Engagements" (Vol Two) is anything to go by. In his chapter on Quatre Bras, Colonel Green tells how The Welch Regiment lost its King's Colour to some of Kellerman's cuirassiers. This Colour was seen in 1909 by a Captain Jeffcock in the château country. It was on



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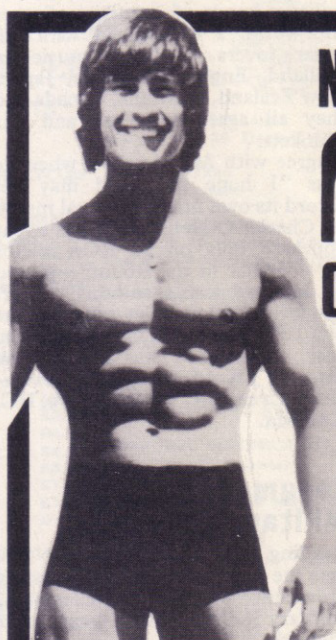
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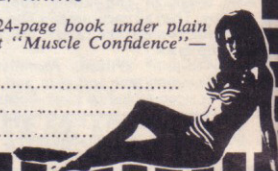
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display in an antique shop in Azay le Rideau and Captain Jeffcock bought it. The Colour remained with his family until 1953 when his grandson gave it back to the regiment. The Colour may have been through several hands of course, and perhaps was never brought to the notice of the French military authorities, but can one imagine an Eagle being allowed to slip through British fingers in this way? Perhaps the French have no regard for any trophies but their own. There are very few Imperial Guard Eagles in existence, however.—**Dan James, 29 St Olave's Walk, Norbury, London, SW16 5QQ.**

Right sleeve only

Reference the letters on this subject in the August and December SOLDIER. KD issued before the introduction of OG was made in a very robust material. Woven chevrons were backed by the same cloth and edges requiring to be sewn were doubled over. It was therefore quite a task to stitch them on and in the event the dhobi soon reduced chevrons to shreds.

I believe this, combined with shortage of materials after the first few months of World War Two, gave someone the idea of using white tape for chevrons and to adorn only the right sleeve. The latter point was merely a reversion to the original dress instructions of 14 July 1803 which said:

"His Majesty has been pleased to approve that the use of Epaulets and Shoulder Knots be discontinued by the Non-Commissioned Officers of the Foot Guards and Regiments of Infantry, and that they shall hereafter be distinguished by Chevrons

Airborne scrapbook

A new REME airborne scrapbook is now being compiled. Although some photographs are available from an old scrapbook with the parachute workshop squadron of 1 Parachute Logistic Regiment, their scope is limited. The following are required: Photographs of buildings with dates and locations; groups of personnel with names, location and date; personnel working on or with equipment, with name of equip-

ment; articles of any description or date dealing with the old workshop; any paper work produced by bygone clerks, ie movement orders etc. All photographs will be returned (if required) after copying.

It is hoped that the present project will develop from more than just a scrapbook into a pictorial history of REME Airborne which would eventually take its place in the Corps Museum. A good response

has been received from REME Airborne Association members but there are still large gaps—especially pre-1956. So if you have anything at all relevant, why not share it with the rest of REME.

Articles and photographs should be forwarded to S/Sgt D Marriott, ADEME, HQ Rhine Area, BFPO 34 or to Mr J M Lawrence, c/o QM 1 Para Log Regt, Arnheim Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

made of the lace at present used in their Regimentals, viz:—Sergeant Major and Quartermaster Sergeants, four Bars to be placed on the right arm. All other Sergeants, three Bars to be placed on the right arm. Corporals, two Bars to be placed on the right arm."

In due course the order was extended to cover all arms of the Service and in 1881 a crown replaced the four chevrons of a sergeant-major.—**Maj (QM) R A J Tyler RMP, Hong Kong Dog Company RMP, BFPO 1.**

Railway Circle

There exists in Germany an organisation, the Rheindahlen Railway Circle, which endeavours to cater for the interests of enthusiasts of "things on rails." Membership is open to all members of the civil and armed forces and anyone interested is asked to contact the hon secretary, Staff-Sergeant D Kay REME, 79 Rly Sqn RCT, BFPO 40. If residing within 40 kilometres of Rheindahlen, the cost is DM10 a year; outside this range, DM2 yearly. Contact is maintained and

information shared through a "Newsletter" and, for those in the Rheindahlen area, we meet about once a month for "technical evenings" and similar club functions. We are kept "on the right lines" by the professionals of 79 Squadron. Please don't be put off by our name. It is so called because that is where it all began. Our members are currently spread between Northern Ireland and Paderborn, Vierson and Geilenkirchen—we even have a contact in the Gulf of Bahrein—so it is not a local club by any means.—**Ch/Tech T Wright RAF (publicity member RRC), Sergeants Mess, RAF Wildenrath, BFPO 42.**

★ *The Rheindahlen Railway Circle will be featured in a forthcoming issue of SOLDIER.*

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 16)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Jacket lapel of man second from left. 2 Pattern on Joe's helmet. 3 Hub of wheel. 4 Band

round front of gun barrel. 5 Little finger of clown on left. 6 Top of hat of clown on left. 7 Thickness of Joe's neck. 8 Joe's left arm. 9 Notch in top of gun shield. 10 Second "N" in "Cannonball."

ASK A SILLY QUESTION...

The majority of entrants had no difficulty in sorting out Competition 185 (October/November). The answer was HEADACHE. Prizewinners:

- 1 M S Gollop, 10 Hereford Road, Whiteleigh, Plymouth, Devonshire.
- 2 Cpl J Deane, 48 Comd Wksp REME, BFPO 53.
- 3 B R Cane, 16 Kingsway, Woking, Surrey.
- 4 Typists (Mrs W Noble and Mrs J Lockett), 16/5 Queen's Royal Lancers, Aliwal Barracks, Tidworth, Hampshire, SP9 7BB.
- 5 Maj H Charlesworth Pikes Farm House, Forest Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 5QR.
- 6 Spr Shipway, 9 Indep Para Sqn RE, Rhine Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire.

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about March 1974 with other groups following at intervals until the autumn of 1974. A smaller number of opportunities will occur in 1975.

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7 M Armstrong, c/o Capt A Armstrong, 58 Sqn RCT, BFPO 53.
8 2/Lieut P R Rossiter, Officers Mess 7 Sig Regt BFPO 15.

REUNIONS

Notices of corps and regimental reunions should be sent to Editor, **SOLDIER**, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 2BG, at least two months before the event is due to take place. No charge is made for announcements.

RHA Association (Trowbridge branch). Annual dinner and reunion Saturday 30 March, Civic Hall, Trowbridge, Wilts. Tickets £1.75 from Capt W H Steer, 38 Summerleaze, Trowbridge.

KOSB Association. Annual general meeting followed by freefall para demo, massed bands Retreat and all ranks' reunion at Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, Penicuik, near Edinburgh, Saturday 25 May, 1500 hrs.

15 Hvy (Coast) Bty RA OCA; all Far East Coast Artillery 1924-49; REME/AER 1950-1963. Reunion at The Drive Hotel, Old Town, Eastbourne, 27 July. Hon Sec: D A Knight, 79 Tyrrell Ave, Welling, Kent, DA16 2BT.

The Queen's Own Hussars. Reunion dinner Saturday 4 May, Tavistock Banqueting Rooms, 18 Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0HR. Dress optional. Tickets £1.75 from Maj J S Sutherland (Rtd), Home Headquarters, The Queen's Own Hussars, 28 Jury Street, Warwick.

RAOC Association. Annual reunion dinner, St George's Restaurant, St George's Barracks, Bicester, Oxon, 27 April, 7.30 pm. Tickets £1 from RAOC Secretariat, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey.

ERRATUM

Under the heading "GS Medal bars" (Letters, March) the number of British war medals issued in World War One was given as "more than 500 000." This should of course have read "more than 5,500 000."

Collectors' Corner



This column is open to bona-fide collectors, not dealers. Announcements are published free of charge as a service to readers. Subsequent correspondence must be conducted direct between readers and not through **SOLDIER**.

R J Girling, 8 Edinburgh Gardens, Claydon, Ipswich, IP6 0DS.—Will sell or exchange for militaria or coins following back numbers **SOLDIER**: 1962, Jan, Feb, Jun, Oct; 1963, Feb, Jul, Aug, Sep, Nov, Dec; 1964, all 12; 1965, all but Jul; 1966, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep; 1968, Mar, Jul; 1969, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec; 1970, all 12; 1971, all but Aug; 1972, all 12; 1973, all 11.

Roy Hanlon, 146 7 St NW, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, T1A 6N4.—Requires grenade cups for pattern 14 303 Enfield and long Lee Enfield or Melford rifle. Also slide with target sight for 9mm Ingles (Browning) auto. John E Price, PO Box 113, Cheltenham, Victoria, 3192, Australia.—Wishes purchase badges British infantry regiments all periods, particularly WW1 all-brass, WW2 bakelite; also Territorial, Militia, Volunteer units. L A Caron, 28 Westledge Road, West Simsbury, Connecticut, 06092, USA.—Wishes purchase Horse Guards or dragoon helmet in battered or deteriorated condition (cannot afford one in good condition) or will exchange mint West Point shako with cloth storage bags or other militaria. Also interested in Horse Artillery busby in poor condition.

D Delaney, 26 Leyster Street, Morecambe, Lancs, LA4 5NE.—Wishes acquire US cap and collar badges,

insignia and shoulder patches. Will exchange British infantry, cavalry and brigade badges. All letters answered. G Pulman, 6 Hardy Road, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3AZ.—Wishes purchase shells (rendered harmless), complete with cases, for decorative purposes. Must be in good condition. Please state prices.

D K Owen, 73 Hagley Road, Rugeley, Staffs, WS15 2AL.—Requires Canadian cap badges, particularly CEF, scarcer WW2 items, QC versions and COTC. Also all metal/cloth insignia for Scottish OTC/CCF. Purchase or exchange. G Ewing, 7 Lyham Close, Prison Quarters, Brixton, London SW2.—Wishes purchase prison badges and insignia world prisons etc. Also desperately requires one cap badge Popski's Private Army. Andrew Butler (age 13), 10 Avebury Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent.—Wishes start collection military hackles Black Watch, RRF, R Warwicks etc. Any help welcome.

Sgt G Kay, AT Course 1973 B, Army School of Ammunition, CAD, Bramley, Hants.—Wishes sell WW1 postcard with silk embroidered crest Lancashire Fusiliers and signed Bert Hoylt "best wishes, France, 1917."

P Mather, 13 Malvern Avenue, Seedfield, Bury, Lancs, BL9 6NW.—Wishes purchase or exchange military band concert programmes of any age, particularly massed bands Royal Marines and Guards Division beating Retreat Horse Guards Parade.

H T Jacobs, 30A Bayshore Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K2B 6M8, Canada.—Requires military medals. Will purchase or exchange.

I C Forster, 2 Tilham Street, Baltonsborough, Glastonbury, Somerset.—Has about 700 British and Commonwealth cap and collar badges, shoulder flashes and buttons for sale. Highest bid secures. House purchase forces reluctant sale.

D MacPherson, 88a 6th Ave, Mayfair, Johannesburg, South Africa.—Requires cap and helmet badges Cape Colony Artillery, Transvaal Horse Artillery, Diamond Fields Artillery. Good prices paid.

W G Fleckney, 14 Buckland Path, Buckland, Portsmouth, PO2 7DB.—Interested pre-war cavalry uniforms and uniforms worn by private firms eg carmen, transport drivers etc. Will buy

postcards, photographs or copies and would like to correspond with and meet others interested.

C H Bussell, Cyreve, Beechenlea Lane, Swanley, Kent, BR8 8DR.—To complete collection WW2 cap badges will exchange or buy 6 Commando, Raiding Support Regt (both cloth), V Force, Popski's PA, 27 Lancers, Highland Regt, Lowland Regt, 50/52 Commando, HAC (Artillery), Military Provost Corps (G VI R).

Gregory Singer, 2743 Adrian Street, San Diego, California 92110, USA.—Wishes purchase RRF beret badge, British rifle regiments cap badges, regimental cap badges incorporating sphinx and any insignia from King's African Rifles. All letters answered.

R Bryant, 28 Stone Street, Earlwood, New South Wales 2206, Australia.—Will purchase or exchange current Australian Army badges for any British medals in reasonable condition.

J Paine, Flat 4, Courtney King House, 169 Eastern Road, Brighton, BN2 2AN.—Wishes sell pictorial regimental scrapbooks: Royal Marines £25, Life Guards £20; Chelsea Pensioners, Army Horses £10 each; Suffolk Regiment, Yeomen of the Guard and uniforms generally £5 each. Postage extra.

William A Gesswein, 269 Division Avenue, Massapequa, New York 11758, USA.—Wishes exchange US military insignia for British Army metal badges or cloth formation insignia.

R G Pearson, 2A West Hill Road, London SW18.—Wishes purchase medals 72nd, 78th and Seaforth Highlanders.

Cpl P G Smith, 4 Hillside Close, Brereton, Rugeley, Staffs, WS15 1JF.—Military insignia for sale or exchange. Requires insignia Staffordshire units.

C/T P W Mills, 72 Farman Crescent, RAF Little Rissington, Cheltenham, GL54 2NF.—Wishes exchange Lancashire and Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers feather plumes for any other British fusilier regiment feather plumes.

J C Howarth, 15 Lawrence Street, Preston, PR2 3DT.—Wishes purchase cap badges Montgomery Yeomanry WM, Pembroke Yeo BM scroll WM; 1st Royal Dragoons eagle 1914; RTC (tank facing left) WM 1924; Leinster Regiment BM angled scroll; Lowland Regiment old strike; RS Fusiliers and Scots Guards (pipers). Will exchange Hampshire Cyclists.

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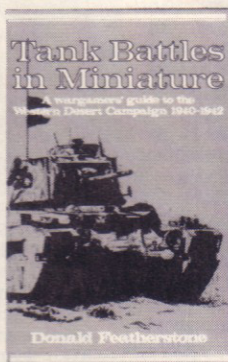
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A History of the British Cavalry

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The Marquess of Anglesey F.S.A.

Volume 1: 1816-1850



CAVALRY HISTORY

"Emperor's Chambermaids: The Story of the 14th/20th King's Hussars" (Lieutenant-Colonel L B Oatts)

Few spoils of war have been so unusual as that acquired by the 14th Light Dragoons at Vitoria in 1813. A patrol captured the carriage of Joseph, brother of the Emperor Napoleon, and among his luggage found a silver chamber-pot engraved with his coat of arms! The "Emperor's Chambermaids" was an inevitable nickname in consequence.

The 14th and 20th Hussars amalgamated in 1922; their long records began in the 18th century. The 14th started as dragoons and fought Jacobites in the Highlands, quelled negro revolts in the West Indies, slogged it out with the French at Talavera and charged the Sikhs at Ramnuggur. As hussars they fought Boer commandos on the veldt, German Uhlans in Flanders and Turks in the desert. The 20th died from yellow fever in the West Indies, fought in South America and South Africa, rode across the plains of India and chased Derivishes in the Sudan.

As with every other cavalry regiment in World War One the great chance never came and the regiments fought as infantry. In 1941 the 14th/20th fought at Gilan in Persia and their efforts in Italy were climaxed at Medicina in 1945.

This impressively composed volume has many fine illustrations and coloured maps. The author has produced a book which is a pleasure to read.

Ward Lock Ltd, 116 Baker Street, London, W1M 2BB, £6.75 AWH

MONTY BY HIS BROTHER

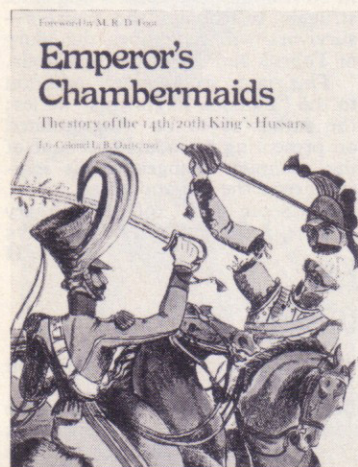
"A Field-Marshal in the Family" (Brian Montgomery)

Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Montgomery is the youngest of the nine children of Bishop Montgomery and his wife. When he was born, one of his older brothers, Bernard, then 16, went into action on his behalf. His parents proposed to christen him Brian Frederick. Bernard argued that the initials would embarrass the lad later in life. It was one battle the future field-marshal lost.

Not surprisingly, young Brian seems to have grown up holding his brother in a mixture of affection and awe, the latter now tempered by a realistic appreciation of his shortcomings as demonstrated, for ex-

ample, in his attitude to Auchinleck. His book is unusual, a kind of family history with the field-marshal as the central figure.

The author frequently links traits in Bernard's character with those of his ancestors and certainly the brothers had two remarkable grandfathers. One was Sir Robert Montgomery who was acting Chief Com-



missioner in the Punjab at the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny. The other was the redoubtable Dean Farrar, scholar, cleric and headmaster, author of that moral work, "Eric, or Little by Little."

Many of the author's anecdotes about Bernard are about breaking rules. As a battalion commander he caused trouble by refusing to devote time to preparing ceremonial parades and abolishing compulsory church parades; as a brigadier by leasing a football ground to a circus to get £1000 for his welfare fund; as a bridegroom by making his own wedding arrangements, which resulted in the guests discovering only when the couple drove from the church straight off on honeymoon that there was to be no reception.

Monty is the sort of military eccentric the Army can do with now and again—but not too often.

Constable Publishers, 10 Orange Street, London, WC2H 7EG, £3.50 RLE

WARGAMING

"Battle Notes For Wargamers" (Donald Featherstone)

"Tank Battles in Miniature" (Donald Featherstone)

"Vitoria 1813" (Lieutenant-Colonel J P Lawford)

Pharsalus, Poitiers, Prestonpans, Maida, Aliwal and Little Big Horn are among history's smaller battles

and, in Mr Featherstone's view, eminently suitable for wargames because of the relatively small numbers of troops involved and the compactness of the terrain. There are others, too—Barnet, Cheriton, Wynndael, Guilford Courthouse, Wilson's Creek, Modder River, Anzac landing at Gallipoli, St Nazaire and Pork Chop Hill. Mr Featherstone describes each action in detail and makes helpful suggestions on its reconstruction as a wargame. He advises on assembling terrain and on rules controlling the game, and lists suppliers of model soldiers.

In his second book, sub-titled "A Wargamer's Guide to the Western Desert Campaign 1940-42," he describes what it was like to fight in the desert, the problems of navigation, communications, the terrain, vehicles and weapons used, and air operations. Then he guides the reader through the various stages and operations—Brevity, Battleaxe, Crusader, Alam Halfa, El Alamein and so on. Appendices cover British and German armoured formations, recognition silhouettes, armour penetration tables and the construction of various aids to wargaming.

These are two excellent contributions to the wargaming library.

Colonel Lawford presents a portrait of a battle in Knight's "Battles for Wargamers." Introduced by Brigadier Peter Young,

this is a very useful series. Vitoria was the crowning moment in Wellington's Peninsular War, a campaign which was a strategic masterpiece. Many critics have found Vitoria somewhat disappointing yet Wellington achieved surprise and managed to make the enemy draw his strength away from a crucial area. Colonel Lawford captures all the facets of an intriguing action which should provide quite a bit of table-top excitement for wargamers.

1 David & Charles (Holdings) Ltd, South Devon House, Newton Abbot, Devon, £2.95

2 Patrick Stephens Ltd, 9 Ely Place, London, EC1N 6SQ, £2.80

3 Charles Knight & Co Ltd, 11-12 Bury Street, London, EC3A 5AP, £1.00 JCW

FIRST OF FOUR

"A History of the British Cavalry 1816-1919: Volume 1 1816-1850" (The Marquess of Anglesey)

Less than a century ago men rode into battle on horseback dressed in the most fantastic array of shapes and colours—plumes, breastplates, reds and golds. But as this first volume in a series of four clearly shows, they were just as hard and tough as any soldiers today.

A brief account is given of the use of cavalry throughout history—in the British Army it was not until 1660 that Regular units appeared. There were many developments with the appearance of hussars, yeomanry and lancers.

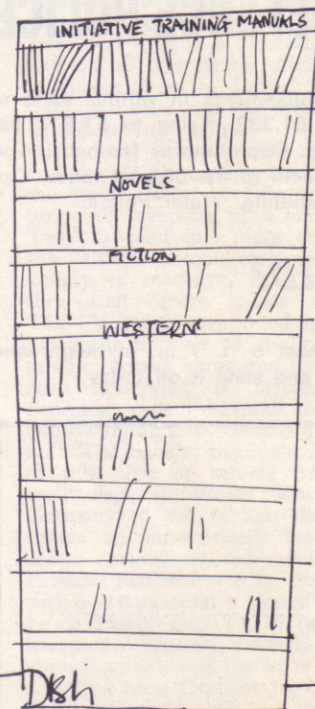
The author presents a mass of fascinating material on how horses were trained, why men enlisted, what they ate and how they spent their spare time. Life was very hard for both officers and men and it is not surprising that they sought outlets in duelling and drink.

Although most general histories give the impression that the first half of the 19th century was a period of inactivity for the Army this is very far from the case. The author illustrates his point by describing campaigns fought in India against Gurkhas, Marathas, Afghans and Sikhs.

An excellent piece of work which lives up to its claim to be the definitive study in this field. The detail is absolutely absorbing and the illustrations and maps are of a high order.

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MOBILE GUNNERS

"The Royal Horse Artillery" (Shel-ford Bidwell)

Although it had long been known that wars were won by artillery, it was not until 1793 that the Duke of Richmond persuaded the authorities to attach horses to guns to give mobility in action. Official reluctance is understandable—the horses in just one battery cost more than £5000! But it was not long before the horse gunners proved their worth in Ireland, Holland and South America. Their toughest test came with the Peninsular War where they showed fantastic courage riding their guns through massed French cavalry.

Throughout the 19th century they played their part in imperial wars—at sieges in the Crimea, in the Indian Mutiny, at Maiwand against the Afghans and at Saana's Post against the Boers. But war was changing, with less and less place for the horse.

In World War Two the Royal Horse Artillery had 30 batteries in North Africa alone in a desperate struggle to contain the panzers—survivors will remember the glory of Tobruk and the horror of Gazala.

This is a well-written addition to the "Famous Regiments" series; the author is to be congratulated on presenting a readable account of the complex changes in his regiment over the last 200 years.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £2.75 AWH

DOUBLE 50th

"The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment" (Roger Holloway)

Born in the mid-18th century as the 50th of Foot, this regiment is appropriately the subject of this 50th volume in the "Famous Regiments" series. The 50th spent almost all their time in war against the French, in Jamaica, Gibraltar, Egypt and even Corsica. Vimiero and the retreat to Corunna were the highlights in the Peninsula. The "Dirty Half-Hundred" had their revenge upon Napoleon—one of their officers was his jailer on St Helena.

Imperial service could mean action against Burmese, Sikhs, Maoris, Dervishes or Boers, but more often it meant yellow fever

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in Jamaica, cholera in India and typhoons or hurricanes on the high seas. Change was inevitable and in 1881 the 50th united with the 97th who had seen hard fighting in the Crimea.

World War One was a ghastly experience for the 22 battalions of the West Kents—7000 were killed at Le Cateau, Ypres, Somme, Passchendaele, Gallipoli and Gaza—but their reputation was made for all time with their marksmanship at Mons, their steadfastness at Neuve Chapelle and their toughness at Hill 60 and Loos.

In World War Two the West Kents endured Dunkirk, suffered heavily at Alam Halfa and slogged from Longstop Hill in Tunisia to Monte Cassino and beyond in Italy. At Kohima their stand against a Japanese division made history and Lance-Corporal Harman's courage earned him the Victoria Cross. After Malaya, Suez and Cyprus the West Kents merged in 1961 with their friends, The Buffs.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £2.75 AWH

MILITARY RECORDS

"The Guinness History of Land Warfare" (Kenneth Macksey)

The biggest bombardment of history was the American 72-day shelling and bombing of Iwo Jima. It was garrisoned by 23,000 Japs, each one pledged to deny the island to the Americans who wanted it to support their increasingly heavy air attacks on the Japanese mainland.

Despite the intensity of the bombardment, the three US Marine divisions which landed on 19 February 1945 lost 6891 dead and 18,000 wounded. More than 21,000 Japs died and only 212 surrendered. The island had been heavily fortified and it proved once again that a determined enemy cannot be dislodged by bombardment alone.

This is just one of the thousands of fascinating insights to military history which Major Macksey has assembled in a kind of Guinness book of military records. It well maintains the standard set by his earlier volume, "The Guinness Book of Tank Facts and Feats," and enhances his reputation in the field of military history. This new work carries the story of man's assault on man from the Stone Age down the centuries to the Arab-Israeli war of

THE ZULU WAR 1879



ALAN LLOYD



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Guinness Superlatives Ltd, 2 Cecil Court, London Road, Enfield, Middlesex, £2.95

JCW

GRAVE AND GAY

"Officers' Mess: Life and Customs in the Regiments" (Lieutenant-Colonel R J Dickinson)

The author comes up with a generous ration of customs of many regiments. Among them is the keeping of books. Subalterns of the 2nd Seaforths had a "raspberry book" in which even a field-marshal was unwise enough to earn an entry. The 1st Essex had a similar book but, as they called a raspberry a ptarmigan, their book was known as the Ptarmigan Ptmes.

Colonel Dickinson produces all the necessary information on passing the port and the snuff-box, on the drinking of toasts (variations on the Loyal Toast seem to be nearly as numerous as regiments) and on such other grave matters as the wearing (or otherwise) of hats and belts in mess and talking at breakfast.

It may all be daunting to one about to enter an officers' mess for the first time. It has its ludicrous aspects but, apart from ceremony meant to honour regimental heroes and royalty, the customs are there for the private comfort and amusement of mess members and, as the author rather ponderously makes clear, are observed with great humour.

Mess life has built a stock of anecdotes and the author includes some traditional chestnuts like that of the two Irish Guards officers discussing whether sex was 80 per cent work and 20 per cent pleasure or the other way about. They picked on a guardsman, nearby on gardening fatigue, as arbiter. His verdict: "It must be 100 per cent pleasure... If there was any work attached you'd be sending for me."

Illustrations by Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Wilson add greatly to the attractiveness of this book.

Midas Books, 12 Dene Way, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells, £4.00

RLE

SHATTERING

"The Zulu War 1879" (Alan Lloyd) The Zulu War was probably the most shattering experience to befall the British Army in Africa. For too long British troops had enjoyed relatively easy successes against natives and, when they marched into Zululand, they were complacent and self-satisfied.

Commanders like Lord Chelmsford seemed totally unaware that the Zulu military machine was as dis-

ciplined and as well handled as any Prussian army. It was a conflict marked by bungling inefficiency in command, particularly on the part of Lord Chelmsford who, through dividing his force, was directly to blame for the disastrous defeat at Isandhlwana. There were highlights, of course, like the inspiring defence of Rorke's Drift and the capture, of Cetshwayo, King of the Zulus.

The sensation of the war was the death at Zulu hands of Louis, son of Napoleon III and Empress Eugenie. The Sandhurst-trained prince had been permitted to go as a "privileged spectator." His own assumption of command of his escort led directly to his death; Lieutenant Carey, his companion, was blamed.

Mr Lloyd has produced a compact, lucid and accurate account of the Zulu War which deserves a wide readership.

Hart-Davis, MacGibbon, 3 Upper James Street, London, W1R 4BP, £2.95

JCW

Philip Ziegler OMDURMAN



AGAINST THE MAHDI

"Omdurman" (Philip Ziegler)

The death of General Gordon in Khartoum in 1885 raised a storm of protest but it was almost 14 years before the British got round to an invasion of the Sudan.

The preparations were typical of the dour Kitchener. A railway line was built across the desert, gunboats equipped with howitzers and searchlights were despatched upstream and a highly efficient spy service was set up—with the aid of Cook's travel firm! Grenadiers, Seaforths and The Rifle Brigade, backed by Egyptian-Sudanese formations, were the core of the fighting force. It was a long hard slog to Khartoum with battles at Firket, Abu Hamed and Atbara as well as flies, scorpions, boils, enteric fever and the desert.

Early in September 1898, Kitchener's army reached Omdurman where some 60,000 dervishes launched their massive charge. Many famous figures were at the battle—Churchill (who was generally disliked), Haig, Beatty, Townshend and Smith-Dorrien. The action itself proved that an ancient faith is no match for modern technology. Controlled firepower won the day but the best remembered incident is the magnificent, but impractical, charge of the 21st Lancers.

This is a thoroughly enjoyable and beautifully presented book. The

author has skilfully woven a highly realistic and exciting account from eyewitness reports, letters and diaries. The photographs are very rare and the maps clear and helpful.

Collins, 14 St James's Place, London, SW1, £3.00

AWH

In brief

"O Jerusalem!" (Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre)

This is a 600-page paperback on the bloody months from November 1947, when the United Nations voted for the partition of Palestine, to July 1948 when an armistice signified that the infant state of Israel had established itself.

The British Army was there until May. After two gruelling years of maintaining law and order, its role now was only to look after British interests. So this is the story of the Israeli and Arab fighters, much of it reconstructed from interviews, more dramatic than scholarly, the very readable work of two experienced journalists.

Pan Books, 33 Tothill Street, London SW1, 60p

"How to Go Plastic Modelling" (Chris Ellis)

Now in its revised and updated third edition, this book seems to have become established as a bible for makers of plastic military models. Mr Ellis covers the hobby from choosing the right tools and paints to complicated conversions. This book's particular value is in its wealth of useful tips, such as making aircraft canopy frame lines with strips of painted Sellotape, the use of undercoats, mottling effects and "weathering." Perhaps the nicest point is the method of finishing off the tracks of World War One tanks with the correct "chalky soil" of the Somme!

Patrick Stephens Ltd, 9 Ely Place, London, EC1N 6SQ, £2.40

"Profile AFV Weapons" (Numbers 53, 55 to 60)

The FV 432 series of armoured personnel carriers and variants is the subject of number 53 in this series. It is surprising just how versatile this tracked vehicle is. The Swingfire missile launcher version (FV 438) is illustrated and will be of interest to mechanised infantry about to embark on the training course with this vehicle and its tank-killing payload.

Number 55, a "Profile Special" and thicker than other booklets in the series, looks at German self-propelled weapons of World War Two. Divided into eight sections, the study summarises a wide variety of machines and includes the usual centre colour spread. The FV 438 is mentioned again in passing in number 56, dealing with missile armed armoured vehicles. Also illustrated is Striker, the Scorpion variant adapted to carry five Swingfire missiles atop its sleek hull. The booklet traces the history of this type of vehicle from its early days in World War Two Germany to the present day and covers an international field—the centre colour spread profiles a French Panhard AML mounted with SS11 missiles, a United States Jeep-mounted TOW (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided) missile and the SS11 again, this time on a German Jagdpanzer Rakete (Neu) M-1966.

It is back to the past again for

issue 57 with an in-depth study of the development of two German half-tracked infantry armoured vehicles, the Schutzenpanzerwagen SdKfz 251 and SdKfz 250. Static pictures of the two are interspersed with wartime action shots. Number 58 forms the first part of a study of French infantry tanks and deals with the chars 2C, D and B spanning a period from the end of World War One through World War Two. Part two is in number 59 and includes the R 35 and FCM 36. Russian armoured cars up to 1945 are the subject of issue number 60. Profile Publications Ltd, Coburg House, Sheet Street, Windsor, Berkshire, 40p each (No. 55, 50p)

"American War Medals and Decorations" (Evans E Kerrigan)

This is a revised and expanded edition of Mr Kerrigan's standard reference work on American war medals and decorations first published in New York in 1964. Now, under the banner of a London publishing house, it is more readily available to British collectors.

Since its first appearance a number of new American medals have been created, notably the awards established by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). These and the whole range of United States medals starting with the Badge of Military Merit of 1782 are illustrated and fully described. Four pages of colour plates show the colour and patterns of the various ribbons with, in some cases, the medals suspended.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.15

"Armoured Fighting Vehicles" (John F Milsom)

In this introduction to fighting vehicles and armoured warfare, Mr Milsom makes no attempt at comprehensive coverage but has an unerring eye for the tanks and tank facts of evergreen interest. He traces the development of the armoured fighting vehicle through the slow, clumsy years of World War One, through controversy and innovation to World War Two and the great fighting tanks—Sherman, Valentine, Matilda, Panther, Tiger and, of course, the superb Russian T-34/76.

The latter, he emphasises, was indisputably the most advanced tank design of its time. In the T-34, Russia achieved the most effective combination of fighting tank requirements—a 76mm gun, the most efficient of its day, cleverly sloped thick armour, Christie suspension and a diesel engine.

This is an excellent little book, well produced in a laminated cover and splendidly illustrated in colour by John Batchelor.

Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd, Hamlyn House, Feltham, Middlesex, 50p

"War Machinery and High Policy: Defence Administration in Peacetime Britain 1902-1914" (Nicholas d'Ombrian)

This is the story of the early Committee of Imperial Defence. The author examines why it failed in its purpose to decide strategy and became a mere machine for setting the armed forces in action, "a part of the Government's bureaucracy rather than its master." The author attributes responsibility for this reduced role to Lord Hankey.

Oxford University Press, 37 Dover Street, London, W1X 4AH, £4.50

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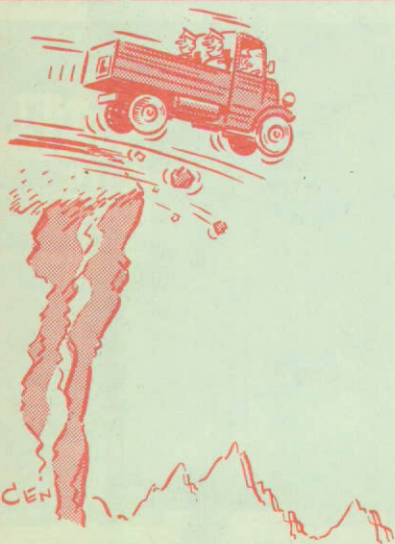
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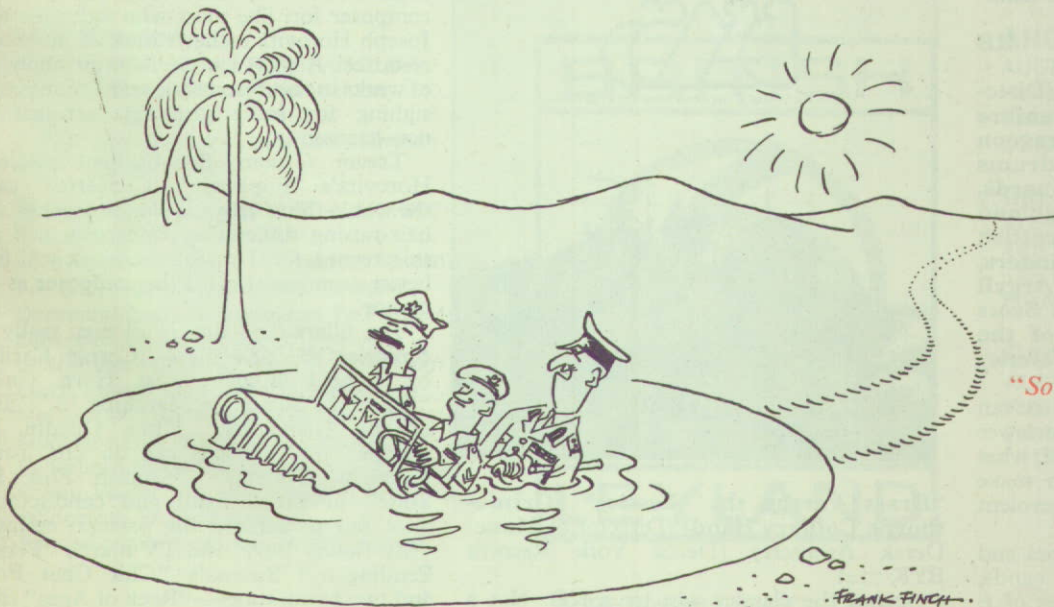
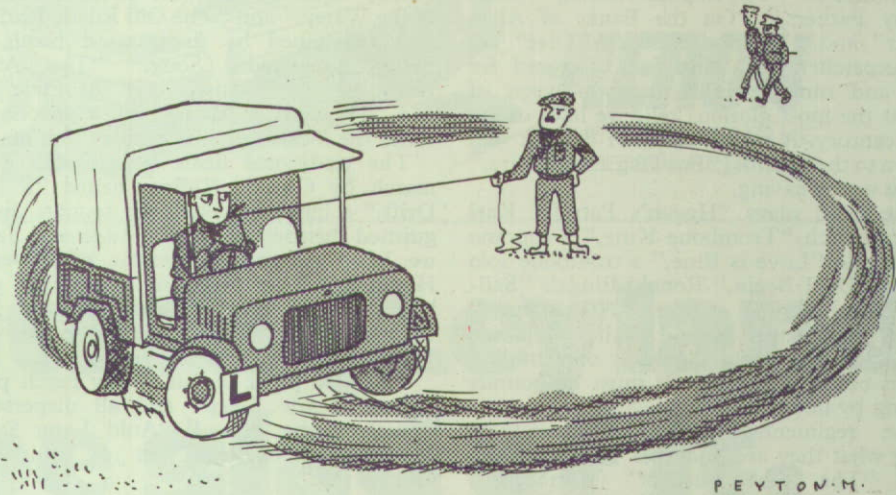
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ON RECORD

"On Parade and in Concert" with the Regimental Band and Corps of Drums of 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Bandmaster: P Hannam) (Drum-Major: Pip Piper) (EMI SSLX 401)

The format for records by regimental bands is by now well established. Half on parade, half seated as a concert band. In addition we have here an introduction by the commanding officer and the welcome appearance of a corps of drums, much in demand by readers.

Although this band has a narrow dynamic range and appears loath to have a go, especially with tongued attack, the music is pleasantly put across. Side one, "On Parade," is established with a fanfare by the bandmaster named after one of Gibraltar's gates, "Landport," and Alford's march "The Standard of St George," almost a regimental march to the Fusiliers.

The corps of drums, glory be, is heard in traditional music only and attempts no modern trash for which it is unsuited. It even performs the beautiful march in 3/4 time, "Lilliburlero." "The Rogues' March," "Land of my Fathers," "On the Banks of Allan Water" and "When the Battle's O'er" are all despatched with that fine disregard for tone and tuning which makes a corps of drums the most glorious relic we have of the 17th century. A march by W H Turpin well known to the Guards, "For Flag and Empire," is also worth having.

The band plays "Hogan's Patrol," Karl King's march "Trombone King," a soprano cornet solo "Love is Blue," a trombone solo "Where Do I Begin," Ronald Binge's "Sailing By" and of course "Hootenanny." Composer-arranger Harold Walters told me recently he had made a quarter of a million dollars out of this piece. It must be pounds sterling by now.

The regimental music, amalgamations being what they are, includes "Rule Britannia," "The New Fusilier" (Kimberley), "British Grenadiers," "Blaydon Races," "The Warwickshire Lads," "The 7th Royal Fusiliers," "The Minden March" and for good measure a version of "Evening Hymn and Last Post" by R Tulip, a one-time bandmaster of the 7th.

A must for Fusiliers, and others.

RB

"Edinburgh Military Tattoo 1973" (Director of Music: Captain R A Ridings) (Fanfare Trumpeters, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards; Military bands, pipes and drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, The Royal Scots, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, Queen's Own Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, The Scots College, Sydney; military band of the Royal Engineers, Chatham) (Waverley SZLP 2/38)

It's Edinburgh Tattoo time again, so can Colchester be far behind? For this reviewer both are a hardy annual problem of what to say that might encourage you to make your contribution to the Army Benevolent Fund by buying a copy.

Since half this record is by the pipes and drums, with or without the massed bands, you have to be fairly keen on the key of E flat in which all their music is played. Their first display includes "Caller Herrin," "The Rowan Tree," "The 79th's Farewell to Gibraltar," "Atholl and Breadalbane Gather-



ing," "These Are My Mountains," "Cutty's Wedding," "The Keel Row," "Tail Toddle," "Barney's Balmoral" and "Green Hills of Tyrol."

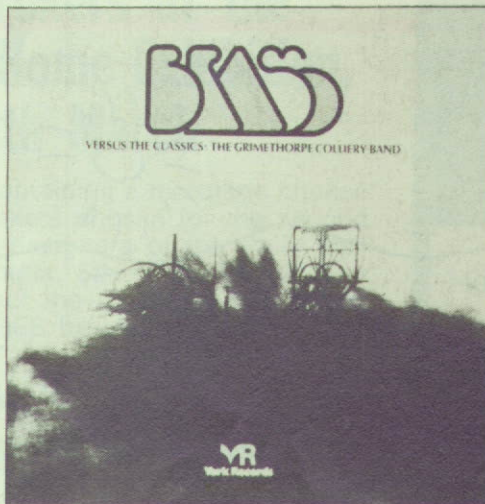
The massed bands play a march, "The Beacon," by Major Alf Young, music from the film "Khartoum," a concert version of "Lady of Spain," a novelty piece "Swing your Partner" and a medley, "Burns on the March," by Major Jimmy Howe. The pipers from Australia do their stuff to "Dovecote Park," "The Road to the Isles," "Meeting of the Waters" and "The Old Rustic Bridge," and are joined by the massed bands for "Highland Cradle Song," "The Atholl Highlanders," "Whistle o'er the Lave o't" and "The Earl of Mansfield," a selection of tunes the locals must be heartily sick of.

The traditional finale begins with a 6/8 march by Captain Ridings called "Rorke's Drift," a battle in which the sappers distinguished themselves. After the General Salute we have yet another version of "Evening Hymn and Last Post" in which that poor bugle call is even more fragmented than usual so as to "fit" the Scottish psalm-tune "Crimond." Where will it end?

The lone piper on his windy perch plays "Sleep Dearie Sleep" and all disperse to "Scotland the Brave," "Auld Lang Syne" and "The Black Bear" but you could have told me that.

Also on this record: Side one—Fanfare: "The Third Dragoon Guards." Side two—"Scipio."

RB



"Brass Versus the Classics" (Grime-thorpe Colliery Band) (Director of Music: Derek Ashmore) (Decca York Records BYK 714)

... and the classics win by a KO. Not a technical KO however, for the Grime-thorpe boys are quite up to the devilish difficulties of all the works played here. No, it's just that some of these particular classics should never

have been put in the same ring as a brass band. Instead of one competitor losing, both do, so no marks to the conductor who presumably chose the items (and arranged some of them) and no marks to the producer who encouraged him. Five out of ten to the engineer who made things harder by keeping the atmosphere too "dry" but full marks to the band for playing all the allotted notes.

When the classics are involved it is rather the conductor who is "versus," not the band. I found the overture to "Egmont" too rigid in the wrong places and most of the items suffered from lack of natural rubato, within or outside the bar-lines. A marvellous fault in a brass band, so perhaps L von B would have approved even if R von B doesn't.

The other overtures, those to "Tantalus-qualen" by Suppé and "Daughter of the Regiment" by Donizetti, are much fairer game but "Night on the Bare Mountain," the "Troika" from "Lieutenant Kijé," and "Jupiter" from Holst's "The Planets" were mere sitting ducks. The latter started from the hymn tune in the middle of the piece, at a funeral pace, and Jovial Jupiter raised titters instead of guffaws.

A bout I admired, but did not enjoy. RB



"Cornet Carillon" (The GUS (Footwear) Band) conducted by Stanley Boddington) (Columbia Studio 2 Stereo Two 418)

Considering this disc contains a virtuoso performance of the very first concerto for the euphonium I find its presentation rather odd—in the middle of side one of a record called "Cornet Carillon." Not that a fan need be frightened of this new work by a modern composer for, like most who write for band, Joseph Horowitz eschews most of his modern resource. A pity, for we have an abundance of works in this bland style and I found myself sighing for some grinding, ear-shattering non-harmony.

Trevor Groom, the brilliant soloist in Horowitz's "Euphonium Concerto," carries the whole thing off with élan in spite of some hair-raising difficulties. Collectors will need this record for I doubt the work will find a better protagonist, with the composer as conductor.

The fillers (and that is all they really are) comprise the title piece "Cornet Carillon" by Ronald Binge, "Post Horn Galop," "When the Saints Go Marching In," "Entry of the Gladiators," "The Onedin Line Theme" (only strings can do this justice), Vaughan Williams's "English Folk Song Suite" in which band and conductor for once fail to achieve the pastoral ecstasy of "My Bonny Boy," the TV march "Perils of Pendragon," Strauss's "Chit Chat Polka" and two hymn tunes—"Rock of Ages" (tune: Redhead) and "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (tune: Stracathro).

Aficionados will love it all.

RB

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