

SEPTEMBER 19  
1994  
EVERY  
FORTNIGHT  
60p

SOLDIER

MAGAZINE  
OF THE  
BRITISH  
ARMY



BRITBAT 1  
PUSHES NORTH



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- TV soldiers in the can
- Rwanda mercy mission
- Army airmen in NI
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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

**September 19, 1994**  
**Vol 50/19**

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Ordnance Road, Aldershot,  
Hants GU11 2DU.  
Ald Mil plus extension  
Civil: 0252 347 plus last  
three digits of extension

### Managing Editor

Chris Horrocks Ext 2355

### Editor

John Elliott 2356

### Assistant Editors

Laurie Manton 2362

Gordon Skilling 2360

Phil Wilcox 2362

### Picture Editor

Terry Champion 2357

### Photographers

Mike Weston 2357

Mike Perring

### Art Editor

Les Gwyer 2169

### Librarian

Gerard Sutton 2351

### Advertising

Lindsey Champion 2352

### Accounts/Distribution

Janice Follwell 2353

### Fax

2358

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necessarily those of the Army or the  
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**FRONT COVER:** (Main picture) Soldiers from three Queen's Division regiments wear roses behind their UN cap badges to commemorate Minden Day. Pictured front (left to right) are Pte David Higgins 2 PWRR, WO2 John Purvis RRF, and Pte Jim Price, 1 R Anglian. On the Warrior are soldiers from Canterbury-based 2 PWRR attached to the Poachers for the UN tour. See Pages 23-27. (Picture: Mike Perring.) (Inset) A Belgian soldier (left) deployed with a British soldier during 24 Airmobile Brigade's Exercise Gryphon's Eye. See Page 9 and back cover. (Picture: Terry Champion.)

● **SUEZ:** The Prime Minister has given a "disappointing response" to a request for support for a medal to mark the 1951-54 Suez Canal Emergency. *Page 30.*

● **BOSNIA:** British troops are making a major contribution towards keeping the fragile peace. *Pages 23-27.*

● **RWANDA:** Thousands of sick and

destitute refugees are being treated in a makeshift hospital by Para medics from Aldershot. *Pages 18-19.*

● **BERLIN:** As British troops prepare to leave the city after 50 years, we dip into *Soldier's* archives. *Pages 12-13.*

● **NORTHERN IRELAND:** The Army airmen who keep a watching brief. *Pages 14-15*



Picture: Mike Perring

Sgt Maj Steve Brooks of 1 R Anglian wins a hesitant

smile from a boy in East Tyrone. His battalion left Northern Ireland several weeks before the IRA announced that "... as of mid-night August 31, there will be a complete cessation of military operations".

As the cease-fire began, the 19,000 military personnel in the Province stood ready to support the Royal Ulster Constabulary. While troops in Northern Ireland do not come directly under police

## A new understanding?

command, their tasking reflects police requirements.

In large areas of the Province normal policing has gone on with a minimum of Army support, but where levels of terrorist activity were higher, such as the County Armagh border and west Belfast, military back-up for the RUC was greater.

Currently the Army maintains six resident, six roulement and six Royal Irish Regiment battalions in

Northern Ireland. As this issue of *Soldier* went to press there was considerable speculation on the implications of the cease-fire on troops in the Province.

During the past 25 years, 648 men and women of the Armed Forces have been murdered by the IRA. In addition, 2,226 civilians have lost their lives.

Until 1969 the Army maintained a garrison of about 2,500.



# **YOUR CHANCE TO USE THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON KNOWN TO MAN. YOUR VOTE.**

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# More Gulf medals gazetted

THE BELATED award of a Distinguished Service Order and a Military Cross in recognition of gallant and distinguished services during the Gulf War has been published in a supplement to the *London Gazette*.

A number of other honours and awards for Operation Granby are also listed, including several Northern Ireland gallantry awards dating as far back as 1988.

For security reasons at the time, the awards have not been publicly gazetted until now and no citations have been published.

Some concern has been expressed at the decision to drop detailed citations from the *London Gazette* now that operational honours and awards, including those for Northern Ireland service, are published twice a year in a combined list.

It was felt the British Army's history and tradition would be eroded by the lack of available detail behind deeds of gallantry.

However, enquiries have revealed that there is nothing sinister in the decision not to reveal the circumstances of awards. *Soldier* has been advised that, in recent years, it has not been the practice to publish citations.

Notable exceptions to this general rule have been Operation Corporate (Falklands War) and Operation Granby (Gulf War). Details were published because of intense national interest.

British troops received 369 honours and awards in recognition of their service during the Gulf War. The list, gazetted on June 29, 1991, included 115 gallantry awards. Forty-one of the awards went to members of the Special Air Service Group operating deep behind enemy lines in Iraq and Kuwait.

Some exceptions were also

made last year when awards for service in the former Yugoslavia were gazetted.

Named in the latest *Gazette* are:

## Distinguished service on operations in the Gulf (1991)

### DSO

Maj (now Lt Col) A J Whistler, MBE, RRF.

### OBE

Lt Col (now Acting Col) G C M Lamb, MBE, QO Hldrs.

### MBE

Capt (now Maj) J White, R Signals.

### MC

Capt (now Maj) D J Wood, MBE, LI.

### BEM

SSgt (now WO2) J M Lee, Int Corps; Sgt (now SSgt) A Thubron, REME.

### MID

Sgt G J Churcher REME (now retired); Maj (now Lt Col) W P Crowley, R Signals; WO2 (now WO1) A P Ferris, R Signals; Maj R G Heslop, MBE, Para (now retired); Col A C Massey, OBE, Late RCT (now retired); Capt (now Maj) R C Papworth, R Signals.

## Distinguished service in Northern Ireland (1988-1993)

### DCM

SSgt (now WO1) G Simm, Para.

### MM

SSgt J T McAleese, Para (now retired).

### QGM

WO1 G L Davies, APTC; Cpl (now Sgt) S Birchall, Para; WO2 M B Holliday, AGC (RMP); SSgt A T Keeton, Int Corps.

### MID

Lt (now Capt) G P Corcoran QGM BEM, 4/7 DG.

## US gives £64,000 to 'friendly fire' families

AWARDS of £64,000 each have been made by the Pentagon to the families of two British officers killed over northern Iraq when their American helicopter was mistakenly shot down by US fighters.

Lt Col Jonathan Swann RA and Maj Harry Shapland, Gren Gds, were among 24



LCpl Ian Beveridge lowers the flag over Stanley Fort as bugler Cpl George Moles and Piper Andy Robson sound the Last Post

## Black Watch quits Colony

THE FLAG has been lowered over Stanley Fort, Hong Kong, for the last time by the rear-guard of the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch. The battalion has now moved to Pirbright.

Bugler Cpl George Moles and Piper Andy Robson played as LCpl Ian Beveridge lowered the Cross of St Andrew in the traditional evening ceremony which on this occasion also marked the end of the Black Watch's last working day in

the Colony. Stanley Fort is one of 14 sites which will be handed over to the People's Liberation Army when Hong Kong reverts to China in 1997 after a British presence of 153 years.

The Black Watch was the last UK-based infantry regiment permanently stationed in Hong Kong.

Stanley Fort was a notorious pirate stronghold when the British Army took control in 1841, only nine months after occupying Hong Kong itself.

Royal Irish, Cameronians and Hertfordshires lost more men to disease than in the Opium Wars which forced the Chinese to cede the island to Britain.

The Chinese official who granted it was sent back to Peking in chains.

The only remaining infantry component of the Hong Kong garrison is provided by the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles based at Cassino Lines in the New Territories.



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COFFEE MUG		
S74	Coffee Mug - Stoneware Pottery. RA Badge Relief.	6.15
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CONFERENCE FOLDER		
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TEA TOWEL		
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## Cavalry let train take the strain

FOR THE first time, vehicles of the British Army have been deployed entirely by road and rail.

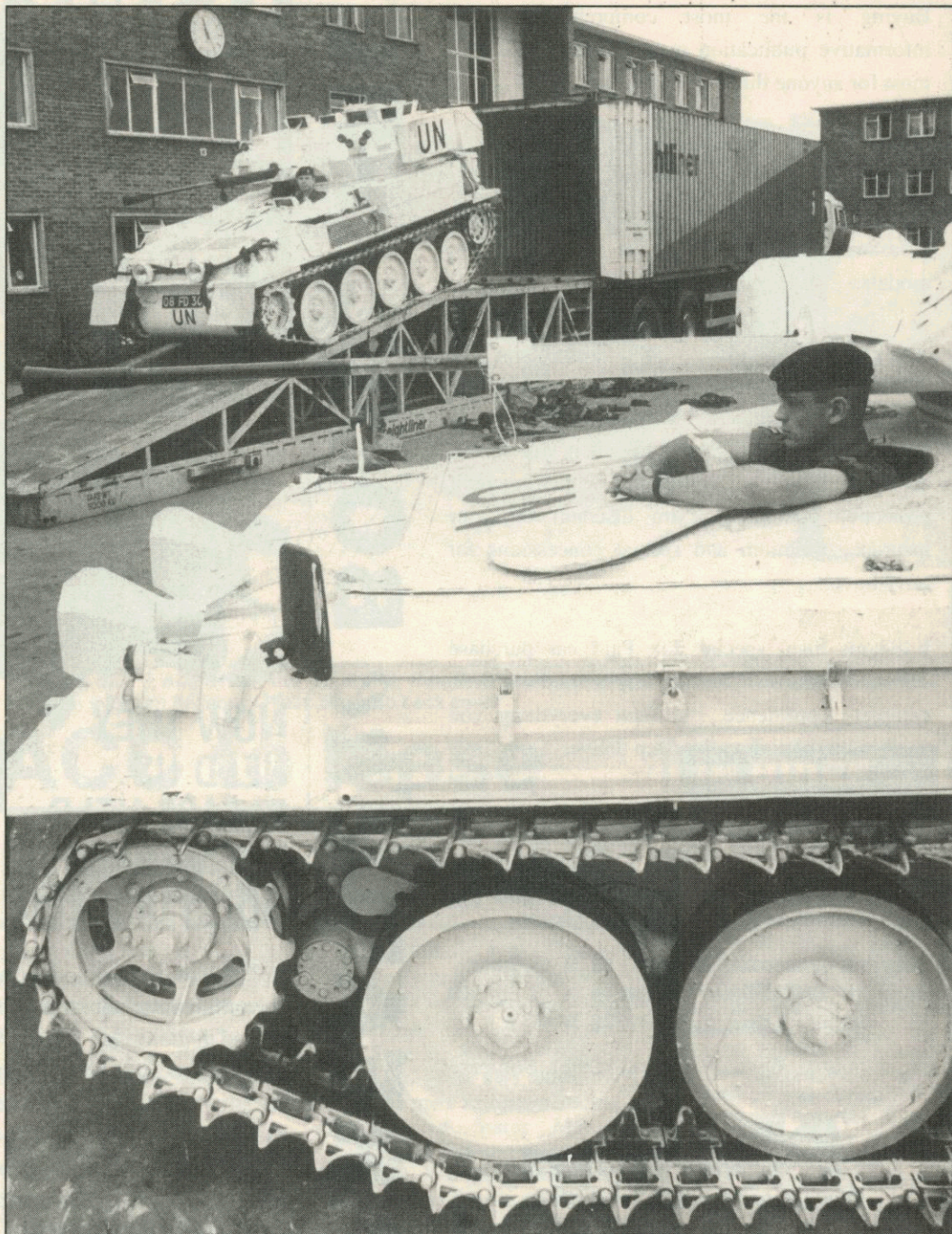
Twenty-seven armoured recce vehicles of B Squadron, Household Cavalry Regiment, departed from Combermere Barracks, Windsor, by container for transit to Bosnia via the Channel Tunnel – the first military consignment to use the tunnel.

B Sqn's Scimitar CVRs, which will provide recce assets for the British battalion at Gornji Vakuf, were transported by rail through France, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Slovenia to the railhead at Rijeka in northern Croatia, and then by road to Split.

The Light Dragoons' tracked vehicles will return from Split in the same containers.

In all, 107 men of the HCR – mainly Life Guards reinforced by a troop of Blues and Royals – will take over from the Light Dragoons for a six-month tour.

Squadron commander Maj David Amos is on secondment from the LD and has already seen service in Bosnia. He deployed on Op Grapple 1 and was responsible for siting many of the current locations of British troops.



Scimitar recce vehicles of the HCR are loaded into containers at Windsor for transit via the Channel Tunnel to Bosnia. Light Dragoons' vehicles will return by rail

Picture: Terry Champion

## Sappers blow Mostar bridge

A REPLACEMENT for one of the Mostar bridges in Hercegovina was planned to open on September 12 after being put in place by British and Spanish sappers.

The new bridge joins two communities split by the gorge of the river Neretva since all its bridges, including the ancient Ottoman bridge which gave the town its name, were destroyed during fighting between Bosnian Serbs and Muslims in May 1992.

The original Tito bridge was replaced by a Bailey bridge but as fighting flared up again

between Muslims and Croats, artillery and tank rounds damaged it, making it unusable to vehicles. Only pedestrians could make the precarious crossing.

That bridge was demolished last month by 30 Royal Engineers from 61 Field Support and 5 Field Squadrons of 36 Engineer Regiment, and 30 Spanish soldiers.

Demolition site commander was Capt Tim Dunn, who had the charges of 160lb of plastic explosive placed to blow the bridge into seven pieces, allowing it to be salvaged by cranes

from the river below.

The new bridge cost £290,000 and is being provided by the Overseas Development Agency, whose emergency engineering unit worked closely with the Royal Engineers, co-ordinated by the commanding officer of 26 Engr Regt, Lt Col Robbie Burns.

An extra-wide Bailey bridge, it is 14 bays long with a further eight at each end and will enable vehicles to cross the 140ft gap in either direction.

The massive 60-ton bridge was due to be pushed across the 70ft drop on rollers.

## Sapper's service

MORE than 350 sapper officers and soldiers from throughout former Yugoslavia attended a memorial service high in the Balkan mountains for Spr Barry Nicholas of 201 Field Squadron (EOD), 33 Engineer Regiment, who was killed clearing mines near Gornji Vakuf last month.

The service was held at Fort Invicta, a Royal Engineers camp on a dirt logging track, and was taken by the Rev Mark Jones RACHD. A poem entitled "Barry" and written by his cousin was read at the request of his mother.



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## Rapid reaction on the Plain

HALF A century after British and Belgian troops fought together against Germans to liberate Belgium during the Second World War, soldiers from the three nations were working together on Salisbury Plain in the same formation.

Colchester-based 24 Airmobile Brigade deployed for two weeks on Exercise Gryphon's Eye with 4,300 personnel, 1,000 vehicles and 80 helicopters of the Army Air Corps and Royal Air Force.

Also taking part were companies from the Belgian Para Commando Brigade and Germany's 31 Luftlande Brigade.

Commanded by Brig Peter Grant Peterkin, 24 Airmobile Bde is the British contribution to the Multinational Division Central Airmobile of Allied Command Europe's Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC), which also includes Belgian, Dutch and German airmobile brigades.

A unique formation with the British Army because of its combination of airmobile and multi-national roles, 24 Airmobile Brigade has been based at Colchester for 15 months.

It comprises two airmobile infantry battalions: currently the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment and 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry; two aviation regiments: 3 and 4 Regiments Army Air Corps; combat support from 19 Regiment, Royal Artillery, 21 Air Defence Battery, 51 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, and 210 Signal Squadron; and combat field support from its Combat Service Support Battalion, 19 (Airmobile) Field Ambulance and the Brigade Provost Unit.

### Regimental Colonel

A REPORT on the formation parade of Nijmegen Company, Grenadier Guards (September 5 issue) described the Duke of Edinburgh as Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment. In fact, the Duke is Colonel of the Grenadier Guards. The Queen is Colonel-in-Chief.



A soldier of 1 R Anglian on the move with Belgian troopers during 24 Airmobile Brigade's Exercise Gryphon's Eye on Salisbury Plain. See also back cover

Picture: Terry Champion

## ACC to lease Bells in Brunei

THREE Bell 212 helicopters are to be leased by the Army in October to replace the Scouts stationed in Brunei.

It is believed to be the first time the Army has leased civilian aircraft.

### RGBW in Gorazde

SOLDIERS from the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment have arrived in Bosnia at the start of a six-month tour of UN duty.

Commanded by Lt Col Patrick Davidson-Houston, 1 RGBW is relieving the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment at the encircled Muslim enclave of Gorazde.

The Bell 212 is a twin-engined version of the Huey D, the same family as the Cobra attack helicopter, and is familiar from its work in the oil industry. It is also flown by many armed forces, including the United States Marine Corps and Canada.

Three Bell 212 helicopters will support Brunei garrison in military tasks, search and rescue missions and medical evacuations. Larger than the Lynx, it can carry 13 passengers but does not have the Lynx's agility or tank-killing capability.

The aircraft is built under licence by Agusta in Italy and will be leased from Bristow's. It will be flown by Army Air Corps personnel and maintained by REME technicians, who are being trained at HQ AAC at Middle Wallop.

## Naafi's new food deal

AN AGREEMENT expected to save about £12m a year has been reached between the MoD and Naafi to buy and distribute food to the Armed Services in the UK and Germany for three years from October 1.

In the past Naafi and the

Royal Navy provided the bulk of food, with a small amount purchased through local contracts in Germany by the Royal Logistic Corps.

Currently £100m is spent yearly on the storage, purchase and distribution of food.

### IN BRIEF

#### Tripod visit

THE HEAD of the Metropolitan Police firearms squad, the staff of Wormwood Scrubs Prison and the Governor of Campsfield Detention Centre visited the College of Military Education and Training Services, Beaconsfield, to witness the Exercise Tripod presentations.

Culmination of the college's 14-week potential officers (POs) development course, Tripod involves syndicates of POs researching and delivering 30-minute presentations on controversial and topical issues.

A change of name and a move to new premises by the Defence ADP Training Centre were marked by the opening of the Defence IT Management Training Centre at Shrivenham by Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Systems), Vice-Admiral Malcolm Rutherford.

Director General of the Logistic Support (Army), Maj Gen David Burden, visited the home of 3 Tank Transporter Squadron RLC at Antwerp Barracks in Sennelager.

Gen Sir Charles Guthrie, Chief of the General Staff, visited the Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School, Lulworth, to see Challenger 2. He was hosted by RAC director Maj Gen Jonnie Hall and Gunnery School commander Col Charlie Pyman.





## Cadet QM signs off

After 51 years of unbroken service with never a missed summer camp, Army Cadet Force Capt **Paul Collier** (centre) was wheeled out of Proteus Camp, Ollerton, on a 25-pounder field gun to the cheers of 600 cadets. Joining the ACF aged 14, he became Company Sergeant Major and for 34 years was a full-time member of the cadet staff. He retires next year as Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF Quartermaster.

Picture: Sgt Steve Baillie



## Music in the air

Soldiers stepped in to help musicians send spare parts to the one remaining orchestra in Sarajevo when HQ Northern Ireland arranged to fly the parts on a military re-supply flight. Col **Seumas Kerr**, an Assistant Chief of Staff, accepted £4,000 worth of strings, flute pads, clarinet reeds, violin bridges and even valve oil from Ulster solo pianist **Elizabeth Bicker**.

## PEOPLE PEOPLE PEOPLE



Maj **Willie Carlisle**, officer commanding 47 Air Despatch Squadron at RAF Lyneham, examines an air-droppable emergency shelter model designed by Miss **Yuko Okamori** of Westonbirt Girls School. Miss Okamori, accompanied here by Mr **W Adkin**, Head of Design Technology, has experienced the effects of earthquakes in Japan. The squadron, which has been involved in many humanitarian relief operations, comes under the command of 29 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps based at South Cerney.

## Bovington change



Lt Gen **Anthony Denison-Smith**, GOC Southern District, bade farewell to the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards as they prepared to leave the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington for Catterick and welcomed the advance party of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) when he called at the centre to meet the new commander, Brig **Andrew Gadsby** (pictured on the GOC's left).



## Three strands pull together

During the Staffordshire and West Midlands North Sector Army Cadet Force Annual Camp three branches of The Staffordshire Regiment's family tied the Staffords' knot a little tighter. From left are SSgt **Philip Nolan** (ACF), who hopes to join the Regulars; Pte **Paul Lloyd** who has served four years with the 3rd Battalion in the TA but was on his first cadet camp; and Sgt **Steve Worrell** of the 1st Battalion who is serving with 33 Cadet Training Team.

## ARMOUR BRIEF FOR AUSSIE



Australian Armed Forces Chief of General Staff Lt Gen **John Grey** (left) is briefed on Challenger 2's suspension by Maj **Mike Bullen** of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards during a visit to the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington and Lulworth to be briefed on the role of the RAC.



## Cheer from wheelchair

Determined not to miss his platoon pass out at the Infantry Training Battalion, Strensall, despite losing part of his left leg in a serious cycle accident a few weeks before, Sgt **Andrew Fuller** of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment was allowed out of hospital in a wheelchair to watch the event. He is helping to organise a sponsored bike ride to raise funds for hospitals. Pictured with him (from left) are Sgt **Brian Marshall**, Lt **Peter Allan**, Cpl **Tommy Rutherford**, Sgt **Mick Wiggins** (in blazer), Cpl **Roy Glendinning** and Cpl **Eddie Towler**.

## CRACK SHOT



Pte **Dilip Gurung** proved that the Gurkha demonstration Company at Sandhurst is not just for show when he won the Queen's Medal at Bisley as best shot in the Army.

## Huntsman finds favour

Royal Scots Dragoon Guards Cpl **Willie Brown**, huntsman for the Catterick Beagles since 1986, received his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from an appreciative Maj Gen **Jonathan Hall**, a former Scots DG CO, during a visit to the regiment when it re-rolled from being RAC Training Regiment at Bovington to becoming part of 19 Mechanised Brigade at Catterick. Cpl Brown has served 17 years and his regiment will soon be the first equipped with Challenger 2.



## SIGNAL STRENGTH

Footsore but proud were these members of Blackburn's 93 Signal Squadron after they were the only mixed TA team to finish the gruelling 216 Para Lanyard Trophy challenge in Catterick: (front) Sig **Debbie O'Neil**; (middle, from left) WO **Jeff Dolan**, SSgt **Diane Feest**, Capt **Richard Bowden**, Sgt **Adrian Moran**, and LCpl **Tracy Ireland**; and (back) SSgt **Marcus Cosgrove** and Sig **Carl Tomlinson**. Not pictured was Sgt **Jimmy Dean**.





# THE BERLIN YEARS

AS BRITISH troops bade farewell to Berlin on September 8, Prime Minister John Major unveiled a commemorative plaque at the headquarters of the Berlin Infantry Brigade, site of the British Military Government from 1945 to 1990.

In the years that followed the entry of the victorious Western Powers in June 1945 to join the Russians in occupation, Berlin was to be the scene of some of the most turbulent events of the Cold War.

In the British Sector, perhaps the Army's greatest prize was the 1936 Olympic complex, including a stadium built to hold 100,000 spectators.

A year after the occupation, *Soldier* recorded that facilities at the adjacent Maifeld allowed 250,000 people to watch matches on five rugby and two football pitches. Six cricket pitches were prepared in readiness for the summer.

The British Sector boasted no fewer than 43 football and ten hockey pitches.

As the first R and R parties visited the city, Berlin became the premier station for British soldiers. Its welfare facilities were unsurpassed anywhere in Germany. Admission to theatres, cinemas and the opera house was free,

and special underground trains were run to take soldiers home at night.

At first, the occupying forces got on reasonably well. British and Russian military policemen even shared jeeps.

But the calm across the city was uneasy, and it could not last. Three years later, Soviet forces isolated the Allies by halting all rail traffic and cutting off the electricity supply from eastern power stations to the western sectors. The blockade had begun.

West Berlin had food stocks only for 36 days; coal for 45. The only means of resupply was by air and for the next 11 months Allied aircraft flew more than 200,000 sorties in the historic Berlin Airlift to deliver two million tons of food, fuel and other life-sustaining essentials.

In the British Sector, the Royal Air Force's trusty Dakotas touched down at Gatow airport and Sunderland flying



A German policeman shows burnt-out "last stand" armoured cars to British and Russian soldier sightseers in Hitler's ruined Reich Chancellery

boats landed on the Havel.

Curiously, one of the compensations of living in a blockaded city was that troops could get their socks darned! Their "fairy godmother" was the Royal Army Ordnance Corps' No 49 Static Laundry, which catered for British residents in the city.

The unit employed 180 German men and women who washed 50,000 items a week. A repair section darned more than 3,000 socks a week. The service was free to NCOs and men; officers and civilians paid.

After the blockade was lifted, the British Army maintained a 90-day stock of con-

tingency rations in the city in case it was ever cut off again.

Tensions rose in the late 1950s and 60s when the Soviets declared that the Western Allies had forfeited their occupation rights in Berlin by violating the Potsdam agreement.

After much sabre-rattling, the Soviets made their move.

On August 13, 1961 detachments of East German border police and soldiers, supported by tanks and armoured vehicles, moved into position along the whole length of the Berlin perimeter. Roads were dug up and blocked with barbed-wire fences, concrete and other obstacles.

It was a tense time. Three thousand men of the Berlin Infantry Brigade deployed to battle positions. Centurion tanks of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment backed up RMP and infantry patrols within a few feet of the newly-erected barbed wire.

The 2nd Green Jackets, King's Royal Rifle Corps, the Durham Light Infantry and the Royal Welch Regiment "showed the flag" as they manned the border under the close scrutiny of armed Communist guards.

At home, a new strategic reserve division, 12,000 strong and equipped with heavy tanks and artillery, was formed. Based in southern England it was held ready to reinforce the



Watched by thousands of German civilians, Maj Gen L O Lyne takes the salute as the Desert Rats enter Berlin on July 4, 1945



A British soldier checks supplies being unloaded during the Berlin Airlift



Above - Auxiliary Territorial Service clerks inspect Hitler's office table in the ruins of his headquarters during a break in the Potsdam Conference in July 1945

Right - Soldier photographer Sgt Desmond O'Neill studies direction signs for the Desert Rats' route into Berlin



Centurion tanks of 4 RTR deployed to battle positions during the Berlin Wall crisis in 1961

British forces in Germany at short notice

War was avoided but the enforced separation of East and West Berlin lasted another 28 years.

Since 1989, when the infamous Berlin Wall came down, the city has been adjusting to its new-found freedom.

Now, with the departure of British, American, French and Russian troops, it is once again a "free" city in every sense.



Fd Marshal Montgomery and Russian Marshal Zhukov inspect the Grenadiers' Guard of Honour



# FLYING HIGH

ARMY aviators have played a pivotal role in the fight against terrorism in Northern Ireland.

The busiest regiment in the Army Air Corps is 5 Regiment, which is based at RAF Aldergrove with 655 Squadron, 665 Squadron, 1 Flight and 5 Regt AAC Workshop REME.

A composite HQ squadron is made up of the quartermaster's department, an operations cell, MT and a training wing.

The regiment provides more than 60 per cent of all military aviation to HQ Northern Ireland, flying more aircraft with fewer men than any other unit in the corps. Aircraft log about 25,000 hours a year – the equivalent of three aircraft in the air 24 hours a day.

Before the recent troubles began in 1969, Army Air Corps support to Northern Ireland was an air troop of six Sioux helicopters. By 1979 there were two full squadrons, one of which was provided by BAOR on a roulement basis, plus a Beaver flight and support elements.

The Northern Ireland Regiment was then formed to provide a formal command structure and administrative infrastructure to support flying operations.

The roulement squadron from BAOR was replaced by a resident squadron in 1986. Air, technical and non-technical

crews were provided on a roulement basis.

The regiment was split between Ballykelly and Aldergrove. In 1991 it was centralised at Aldergrove and in October 1993 it was re-titled 5 Regt AAC.

Lynx Mark 7 helicopters of 655 Sqn have mainly operated in high threat and high activity areas, moving men and material on both operational and administrative tasks.

The aircraft are always armed with the general purpose machine-gun, and last September two aircraft escorting an RAF Puma were involved in a dramatic shoot-out when they were fired upon from various points in Crossmaglen.

Two more Lynx helicopters quickly arrived to give support, but it was a one-sided battle for some time as the door gunners did not want to return fire while their targets were close to houses and civilians.

A lorry and van fitted with machine-guns were finally engaged when they moved into open country, with the pilots making good use of the terrain to surprise them.

The vehicles were abandoned and several weapons recovered. "It was a good engagement," said Capt Alan Hudson, squadron 2iC.

There are 14 Lynx helicopters in 655 Sqn, but with

**Report:**  
Gordon Skilling  
**Pictures:**  
Mike Perring



Above: Islander with Lynx and Gazelle



SSgt Neil Ross and Cpl Mark Simpson inspect the Chancellor helicopter-borne surveillance system



SSgt Michael Adams and Cpl Mahon Walden



Cpl Stewart Hughes of Wattisham and his shift of technicians



WO1 (ASM) Paul Kelly of 665 LAD REME

20 Gazelles, 665 Sqn is the largest squadron in the Air Air Corps.

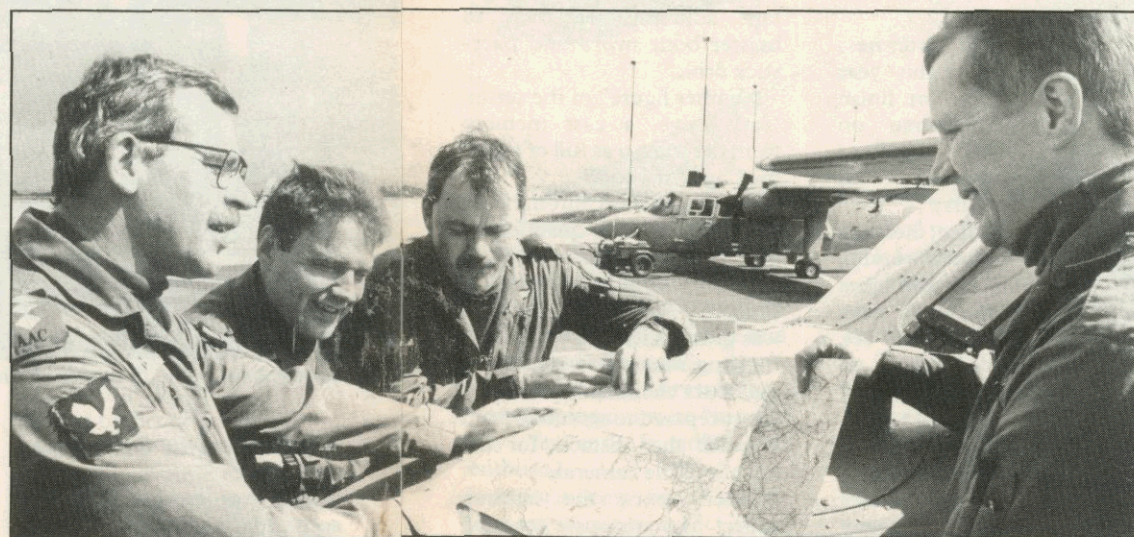
Controlling several aircraft is a demanding responsibility and new arrivals have to learn the rules and procedures, the air traffic system and get to know the terrain, as well as learning how to operate with gun crews.

Gazelles are employed on reconnaissance and observation tasks and also as command and control platforms.

Although not involved in heavily publicised incidents such as that at Crossmaglen, the Gazelle is widely recognised as performing a vital role.

The Islanders of 1 Flight are not the most elegant of aircraft, but provide potent airborne platforms.

They allow photo reconnaissance of the whole of Northern Ireland, with aircraft dedicated to HQ Northern Ireland during the day for flights to and from the mainland and special operations, plus cover at night



Capt Bill Wright, OC 1 Flight, briefs WO2 Al Doughty, SSgt Andy Cornes and Sgt Nic Parish

for the compassionate return of soldiers to Great Britain or Germany. The five aircraft are operated by six pilots and five aircrewmen.

Unusually, the flight does not operate with two pilots, but one pilot and one aircrewman.

All aircrewmen are trained camera operators and work to intimate tasking with the reconnaissance intelligence centre.

Over 20 years it has taken two million prints and flown 20,000 photographic sorties in support of peace-keeping oper-

ations. A fixed-wing conversion is much sought-after by pilots. There are only six job slots for the many pilots in the system. All are second or third-tour pilots with more than 2,000 hours.

Capt Bill Wright commands

1 Flt and laconically comments that the Flight has produced results. It has pinpointed hides, and by photographing incidents which have revealed secondary devices, has allowed soldiers on the ground to avoid traps laid for them.

One of the most significant technological advances for the regiment is Chancellor, the helicopter-borne surveillance system or "heli-tele".

With such intensive flying and technical equipment, half the regiment's complement of 348 officers and men is taken up by technical support.

Within 5 Regt AAC Workshop REME, aircraft technicians are divided into squadrons and provide second line support for in-depth maintenance.

Technicians at Aldergrove are supplemented by soldiers from regiments on the mainland and Germany on roulement tours.

"We need an awful lot of

technicians to maintain the aircraft," said Artificer Sergeant Major WO1 Paul Kelly.

If an aircraft becomes unserviceable away from Aldergrove, ASM Kelly sends out a technician to assess the problem. Because many locations are not conducive to working in the field, an RAF Chinook will be sent to recover an aircraft unable to return under its own power.

The intensity and variety of work attracts the same people back to Aldergrove," said ASM Kelly. A Class Two REME technician leaving training can amass in four months the same experiences he would gain elsewhere in a year. He also has the benefit of working on all aircraft types, and can take upgrading tests much more quickly.

On the ground and in the air, 5 Regt AAC has shown that it makes a significant contribution to returning Northern Ireland to normality.





Female interest is provided by (from left) Tracey Whitwell (Kelly), Rosie Powell (Donna Tucker) and Denise Welch (Marsha Stubbs)



Last-minute adjustment to make-up and headgear for Dorian Healy (Maj Kieran Voce) before going into a scene



Newcomer David Groves, who plays ex-Legionnaire Fus Joe Farrell



Above - Series adviser Capt David Attwood, 1 Kings, briefs participants as they prepare for the next scene

# Kings of the small screen - coming your way soon

DOWN IN the Surrey woods, the lads from the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment were being given stick by an officer as, complete with respirators, they scrambled underneath an obstacle on the assault course.

Gas hung in the air around them as they disappeared into the gloom.

A closer inspection, however, revealed that all was not as it seemed.

The large catering wagon parked a discreet distance away provided a clue.

As did a neighbouring caravan bearing the legend "Mr Gary Love" and two other names on the door.

But the main giveaway was the array of huge lights, microphones, cameras and a veritable regiment of essential attendants.

The "gas" was being liberally dispensed from smoke canisters by two technicians, who melted out of shot once their job had been done.

The genuine Kingsmen were joined by the aforesaid Mr Love - in his *alter ego* of Sgt Tony Wilton of The King's Own Fusiliers (KOF).

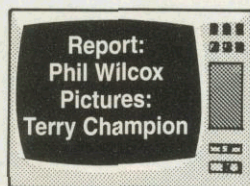
And the man who had been giving the soldiers their none-too-gentle briefing - Capt David Attwood, QM (Tech) of Hounslow-based 1 Kings - stepped back as the time-honoured words: "Stand by", "roll", "action" and "cut" followed in quick succession.

Episode 11, Scene 2431,

Take 1 of the fourth series of Central Television's *Soldier Soldier* - scheduled to start in the UK on September 20 - was "in the can".

The scenes being filmed at Pirbright's Alexander Barracks involved the men of the fictitious Fusiliers taking part in a CS gas exercise.

And, though the frequency and attractive locations of the KOFs' tours may involve more than a little dramatic licence, Central's adherence to realism



is meticulous.

That is where Capt Attwood comes in, following a Territorial Army adviser for the first series and Royal Green Jacket Capt Chris

Sheepshanks for the second and third.

"This time, they wanted an officer who had come up through the ranks," explained Capt Attwood during a lull in shooting.

He was on his Quatermaster's course earlier this year when he was told: "You finish the course on Friday: report to Cyprus on Monday."

Since then, he has been working closely with script editors and writers and on set, endeavouring to ensure authenticity in story-lines and Army jargon and procedure.

"One director (several different directors are used in the series) was National Service-orientated, and had squaddies calling their corporal 'Corp', for instance," said Capt Attwood. "On other occa-

sions, the writers had someone asking in a radio transmission: 'Do you wish to end the exercise?' or saying something along the lines of 'This is Alpha Zero. Message. Message. Over', like something out of Douglas Bader."

The actors had been tremendous, he added: they had to learn basic military skills, such as marching, very quickly.

Ben Nealon, for example, newly-cast as Lt Jeremy Forsythe, the Fusiliers' assistant adjutant, had had to master both sword and pacesstick drill.

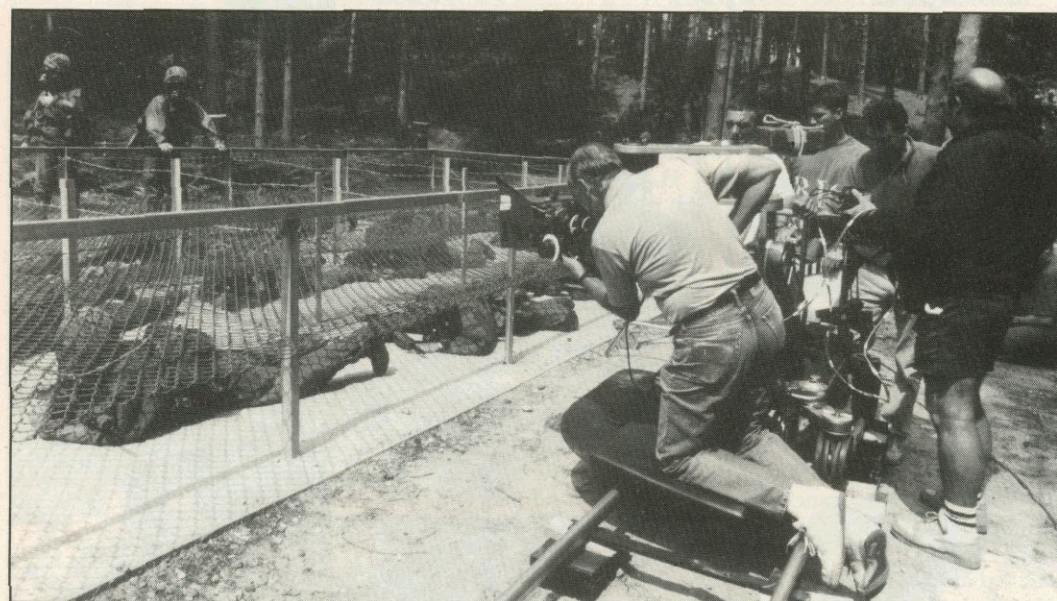
"Father figure" of the series, Gary Love, a cast member from the start, was full of praise for Capt Attwood.

"Having come through the ranks, he is well qualified to give a 'grass-roots' view of what it is like to be a sergeant."

On the set, David Attwood was giving advice to the youthful Kingsmen who were adding that extra element of realism as they prepared to scramble from beneath the obstacle for the benefit of the cameras.

Then, once the lighting expert had anxiously scanned the sky for just the right moment, director Michael Brayshaw was ready for another "take".

Series regular Dorian Healy, who plays Maj Kieran Voce, said: "This is not my first foray into being a soldier (he made a film in the Falklands), but it is my first time as an officer.



Left - Waiting for the shooting to begin... members of 1 Kings help out on the assault course

"Playing the part has given me an insight into the skills needed by Army professionals, from a physical awareness to decision-making, initiative and a certain confidence."

The young soldiers who had been helping out were "incredibly fit and friendly", he enthused.

Among new faces in the latest series are John McGlynn, playing KOF medical officer Maj James McCudden, and Fus Joe Farrell, played by David Groves.

"I had the normal sort of acquaintance with what the Army does, but it was only a surface sort of thing," said John, more usually associated with another branch of the

medical profession in *All Creatures Great and Small*.

"Then I met the 'squaddies' and David Attwood and discovered there was a whole side to it I didn't know about. All the training and so on is a lot harder than it looks."

During filming in Cyprus, he had an "interesting escapade" with a Land Rover ambulance, which he managed to turn over - almost ten years to the day after he had done the same on another set.

"Some actors are not good with props - I'm not good with Land Rovers," he laughed.

David Groves - whose character, without giving too much away, is a former Foreign Legion corporal - has also been

spending much time in the company of the Kingsmen.

"It has given me some good ideas on characterisation." And what of the 20 members of the real King's Regiment who are helping out their make-believe counterparts?

Comments ranged from "enjoyable, but a bit boring doing the same thing over and over again" to "we've been treated well - and the food's good..."

Gary Love - for whose character the writers have a few surprises in store this time round - said his fondest memories from the new series include a beach-landing from a landing craft in Hong Kong, involving 120 Welsh Guardsmen and

numerous hand grenades.

But the occasion which brought a lump to his throat was marching out of Windsor Castle behind the band and corps of drums of 1 Kings, as the KOF were supposedly carrying out public duties.

"There were tourists watching who mistook us for the genuine thing. I got a real buzz, and felt that that was the closest I have been to being a soldier," said Gary.

As the actor returned to the set to rehearse a scene involving seemingly inexhaustible supplies of cream crackers which had to be eaten under respirators, Capt Attwood's firm tones could be heard.

"Slow it down in the background, lads. Remember, you've been through a number of obstacles before that, so don't be moving like the proverbial from a shovel..."

Soon, the captain will return to a somewhat more mundane environment as Quatermaster of 5/8 Kings at HQ Warrington, where, like the cast, he will no doubt eagerly switch the television on to see how it all turned out.





Under the watchful eye of battery commander Maj Grant Carnegie, OCdt Victoria Rylance (left) translates range results read out by French soldier Pte Yannick Mandon for the benefit of SSgt David Findlay during Exercise Silver Sword

## Scottish Gunners sharpen their skills

FOR THEIR annual two-week camp, the Scottish Gunners deployed to one of the largest training camps in France to take part in Exercise Silver Sword. Camp de la Courtine, 400km south of Paris, was home to 105 Regiment, Royal Artillery (Volunteers), whose soldiers were testing their infantry and individual skills at sub-unit level.

The gunners, whose normal role is primarily air defence, were trained in everything from live firing to ambush and battle drills. They also took part in house and street clearance operations.

The exercise culminated in a 36-hour operation to locate and clear enemy troops, played by Headquarters Battery, from their dug-in positions. A battery-strength attack at first light was followed by a tactical withdrawal.

"I believe it is particularly important for Territorial Army soldiers to be able to train in a challenging, overseas environment," said the commanding officer, Lt Col John Thomson.

"With the TA's increasing role in support of the Regular Army, it is important that we possess the necessary mental

and physical stamina and versatility."

In addition to infantry training, the regiment's batteries competed for the Sommerville Trophy, which was won by 206 Battery. The competition involved aircraft recognition, NBC tests and first aid.

The exercise also involved the first public appearance of the regiment's newly-formed Pipes and Drums which marched along the main street of La Courtine.

Afterwards the soldiers joined the mayor and the commander of 52 Lowland Brigade, Brig Johnny Wardle, in commemorating Charles de Gaulle's famous 1940 radio broadcast from London which effectively marked the beginning of the Resistance Movement in France.

The regiment took its present form last year, when 105 (Scottish) Air Defence Regiment was amalgamated with 102 (Ulster) Regiment.

Its current formation consists of Regimental Headquarters and HQ Battery at Edinburgh, 207 Battery based in Glasgow, 212 Battery at Arbroath and the Northern Ireland-based 206 Battery.



Pte Danny Benton, 23 PFA, tries to improve his language skills

# Relieving the pain of Rwanda

THOUSANDS of Rwandan refugees have been massing at the gates of Ruhengeri hospital, where Aldershot-based 23 Parachute Field Ambulance has opened a treatment centre as part of the British contribution to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

Half of the 150-strong medical team is in place, but much of their equipment has yet to arrive. As the "bush telegraph" signals their presence, the number of patients streaming to the hospital grows daily.

Capt Charlie Beardmore, an Army doctor who trained at Guys Hospital in London, is concerned that the really sick may not be getting through.

"Many of the people at the gate are locals who may be hungry, but not sick. We will have to look again at how we categorise people at the gate."

Roughly half of those arriving at the centre are refugees who have taken weeks to walk from a camp in south-east Zaire. Many have dysentery and many more need oral rehydration. They are treated on the spot, given food and water before continuing their journey home.

Few British medics have worked in such circumstances. Nursing officer Capt Tim Penney is responsible for 12 patients whose conditions range from severe dysentery to worms and malaria.

"We are pleased to be able to come here and help, but I think it is proving very testing for some of the younger medical technicians. I am amazed at the



Shower time - Ruhengeri style

way they are just getting on with it, especially since we have had to clear up appalling conditions of filth."

On their first night, 13 people were injured in a minibus crash. In an international effort, Canadian medics took the injured to 23 PFA for initial treatment before evacuation to an Australian-run hospital at Kigali.

Lt Col Alan Hawley, CO of 23 PFA, is clear about his task. "We are here to help refugees make it home in one piece. If we succeed in that, it will have been more than worthwhile."



Cpl Kevin Campbell carries a patient into the 23 PFA hospital at Ruhengeri which is part of Britain's Operation Gabriel relief effort in Rwanda



Above - Capt Paul Taylor of 23 PFA examines a child at Ruhengeri

Above left - WO2 Kevin Capon, HQ UKLF photographer, shows Rwandan refugee children the wonders of the modern camera lens

Left - Medics from 23 PFA dress the wounds of an injured Rwandan in Ruhengeri hospital. Hundreds of thousands of Rwandans have been killed or injured since war broke out in April

● Rwanda 'angel' - Page 28

Pictures: WO2 Kevin Capon and the Press Association







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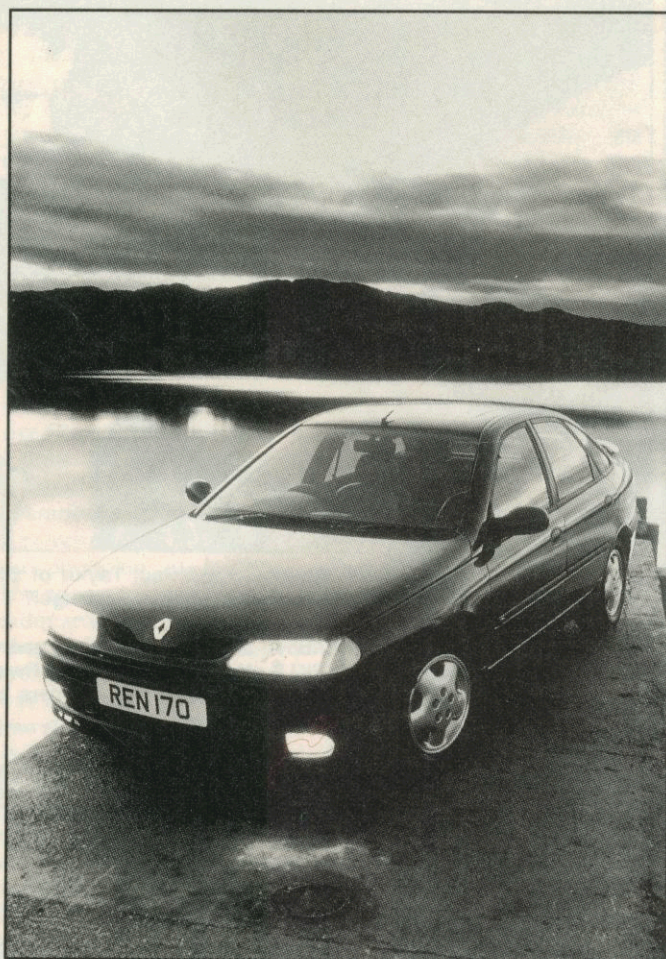
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LCpl John Ashton from Liverpool has volunteered for duty in the Falklands. A warehouse assistant, he has been in the TA for 15 years, visiting Cyprus, Germany and Gibraltar



Sgt Anthony White and Cpl David McIntyre of 5/8 Kings were responsible for instructing junior soldiers in the use of the 51mm mortar. Both have volunteered to serve in the Falklands, and David, a geology student, hopes to gain a commission in the Royal Marines when he has completed his degree

# Scouse Kings ready for the Falklands



Kgm Darren Morrison (left) from Toxteth and LCpl Roy McGrail from Anfield use live ammo on the GPMG. Both are serving with A (The King's Liverpool) Coy, 5/8 Kings

THIRTY-TWO part-time soldiers from the 5th/8th Battalion, The King's Regiment have volunteered to do a six-month tour in the Falkland Islands next year.

They were among 300 men and women from 5/8 Kings who have just completed a two-week annual camp on Otterburn Training Area in Northumberland.

Involved in the camp were 130 men and women from A

(The King's Liverpool) Company and V (The Liverpool Scottish) Company; 110 from battalion headquarters, HQ Coy and the reconnaissance platoon, and 50 from C (Manchester) Company.

While they were in north east England, 35 members of the battalion were in mid-Atlantic to take part in Exercise Turtle Reef on Ascension Island.

The volunteers for South Atlantic duty will help make up

a composite Territorial Army company that will be given the opportunity to serve with Regular forces on the Falklands, building up for the battalion skills and experience not normally available to TA units.

A TA company from 4/5 Rangers is currently deployed in the Falklands.

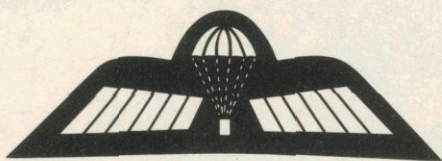
A number of new recruits were trained during the Otterburn camp and there was ongoing training for other sol-

diers in field craft, weapons and combat skills. On their return from camp, the battalion was starting rehearsals for a Beating Retreat ceremony held in Manchester's Albert Square on July 29.

Next year soldiers of 5/8 Kings will enjoy a complete change of scenery – and climate – on their camp. They are due to fly to the United States to train at a US Army base in Washington State.



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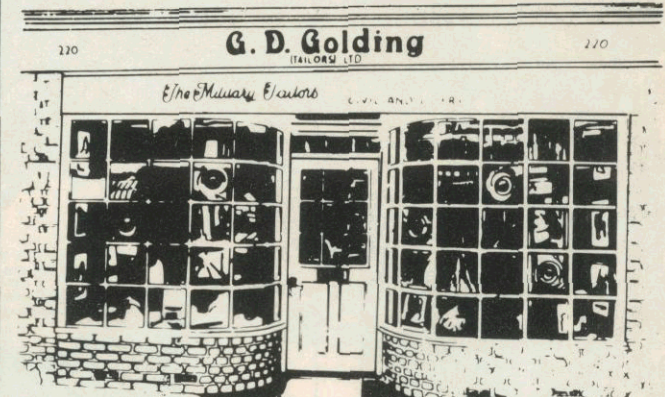
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Right – Pte Mark Wadkin 1 DWR and LCpl Nigel MacNess, 2 R Anglian, guard a weapons collection point at Vitez. The guns and mortars have been surrendered into UN custody by HVO soldiers

## OP GRAPPLE

IT IS amazing what a difference a few short months make.

When the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment arrived in Bosnia earlier this year, the country was at war. It was difficult to move humanitarian aid, and basic commodities such as electricity, water and medicines were in short supply.

But following a peace agreement between Bosnia Croats and Muslims, the HVO and BiH armies declared a ceasefire and central Bosnia has returned to relative peace.

Lt Col John McColl, the Poachers' CO, said: "Having trained at Sennelager to escort aid convoys through a war zone and found, on arrival, we were to act as peacekeepers, the battalion had to check pace for a moment while it adapted to the new role.

"Now, never a week goes by without some improvement being agreed to create a better relationship between the two sides. Throughout our area of responsibility (AOR), my soldiers have established Warrior sentry posts at crossing points on the former confrontation line between the two communities."

Unfortunately, there is not total peace in the region because the Bosnian Government Confederation Forces, as the joint HVO/BiH armies are calling themselves, are still engaged in fighting the Bosnian Serb army.

Troops from the British battalion group, BRITBAT 1, at Vitez are deployed deep inside the Maglaj finger and the Poachers' A Company, and D Squadron, The Light Dragoons, have established bases at Zepce, Maglaj and Jelah.

The soldiers' area of responsibility contains both Bosnian Croat and Muslim communities and has the potential for friction. An UNPROFOR presence has the effect of keeping the peace.

Additional troops from Germany, in the form of Regimen-

tal Headquarters, The Light Dragoons, have since taken charge of the Maglaj area. Within the UN's orbat, they have been given the title, BRITCAVBAT – British cavalry battalion.

At Zepce, soldiers are based in the Eko factory a few kilometres east of the main town. There, Capt Mark Randall, Gibraltar Regiment, is 2iC A Company and camp commandant.

Report: Laurie Manton  
Pictures: Mike Perring

He said the company was responsible for the western half of the Maglaj AOR.

"We have been manning checkpoints and monitoring active artillery sites. Most guns haven't been fired for some time, but should they do so, we would check the bearings to ensure they are being aimed at

military targets, not civilians.

"Although the Bosnian Serb front line is not too far away, we do not go within 3km of it unless specifically tasked. In trying to man one observation post, our soldiers came under fire from Serb guns. Initially, they returned fire with chain guns, but over the next two hours as they withdrew, the Warriors were shelled and mortared.

● Turn to next page



# How BRITBAT 1 has played a full part in the peace





Pte Michael Jackson cleans 30mm Rarden cannon shells during a weekly mission service at Vitez



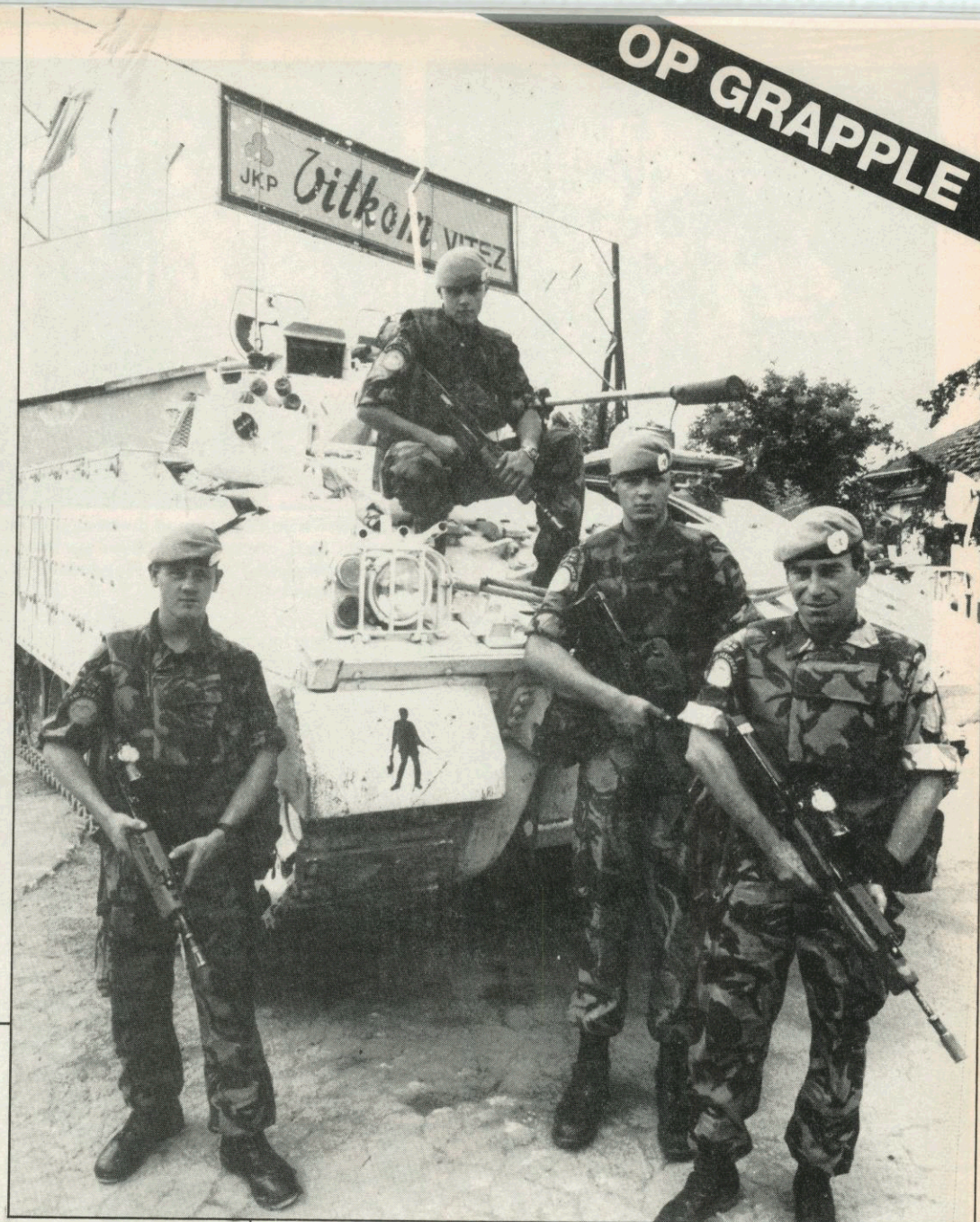
Pte James Oliver displays the shell splinter that was stopped by his flak jacket



Capt Richard Talis and SSgt Chris Biggs discuss plans to combat banditry on the main supply routes



Pte Martin Whitworth and Phil Peters fill sandbags to protect a fuel dump at Jelah



Above - Ptes Jonathan Wolley, Darren Brown, Barry Eggleton and Sgt Bob Wolfe man a road block at Stari Vitez



Left - Pte Ashley Wells checks the track tension on his Warrior

blue helmet cover, another embedding itself in his body armour.

He was slightly injured and treated by Pte James Ballantyne RAMC. His platoon commander, 2nd Lt Simon Vincent said: "He would have been severely injured or possibly killed if he had not been wearing his protective flak jacket."

Back at Vitez, the situation is relatively quiet. The British have been stationed there for almost two years and relations with the inhabitants of the Lasva Valley are good. BRITBAT 1 has a reputation for being disciplined, professional and firm.

The Poachers are actively engaged in peacekeeping, with soldiers guarding weapons at active sites, manning checkpoints and patrolling buffer zones. When the bullets were

flying, residents were pleased to see the British Warriors arrive.

Now, as the area returns to normal, the 25-tonne vehicles are less welcome. As a result, some patrols are carried out on foot or in the back of a four-ton truck.

Many of the Poachers have become involved in providing military aid to the civil community.

They have helped to repair schools and have derived great pleasure from seeing children return to their lessons.

Col McColl said: "It has been so worthwhile seeing the country returning to normal."

At the rear of the British Vitez base, heavy weapons handed in to the United Nations bear witness to just how normal life is becoming. BRITBAT 1 has played a major part in the process.

## BRITBAT 1's role

● From Page 23

"Some 900 machine gun rounds were fired at our troops, as well as up to 40 rounds of mortar fire. In addition, heavy anti-aircraft guns were used in the direct fire mode against them. No personnel were hit, but there were a lot of splashmarks on the sides of the Warriors.

"As a result, the crews' confidence in their vehicles and the Chobham armour has soared to new heights," said Capt Randall.

In a separate incident, a recce platoon Spartan hit a mine near Novi Seher, injuring two of its crew. Bosnian Serb soldiers approached offering first aid, but were turned away by a third uninjured crewman.

As HVO troops arrived to help, the Serbs moved forward and stole weapons, helmets and flak jackets belonging to the Spartan crew, and a general purpose machine gun. Nato aircraft scared them off and the vehicle was eventually recovered.

ered following negotiations with Serb commanders.

At 2 R Anglian's Zepce base, now minus its distinctive Eko entrance arch (demolished by a vehicle), 2nd Lt Justin Hughes is in charge of the quick reaction force. His platoon also provides soldiers for camp guards and sentries at the Bravo 7 checkpoint.

When temporarily deployed into the field, just south of Tesanj, he and his men came under fire several times. British troops tend to shrug off

such incidents, but one attacker overstepped the mark.

"One night, the rounds landed a bit too close and one of my sentries returned fire. The gunman was shot dead," explained Lt Hughes.

Maj Richard Kemp commands A Company. He and two platoons have deployed north to Jelah, where they hope to set up a base in the town.

"Until negotiations for accommodation are complete, we are living in the shell of a



Pte Steve Barrett, Cpl Elliot Daley and LCpl Kevin Winter provide medical cover at Jelah

house in a muddy field. In the interim, I have established platoon bases at Tesanj and Jelah.

"We are here to assist in the development of humanitarian aid operations in this area and to reduce the level of tension between Bosnian Croats and Muslims who have been involved in a series of squabbles recently. If at some stage the Bosnian Serbs agree to join the ceasefire, we plan to set up monitoring bases on both sides of the front line between

Bosnian Serb and HVO/BiH Confederation Forces."

In the meantime, the two platoon bases each consist of four Warrior infantry fighting vehicles parked in diamond formation and ringed by razor wire barricades. It would be lonely for the troops but for the children who gather every day to watch the soldiers' every move and beg a boiled sweet.

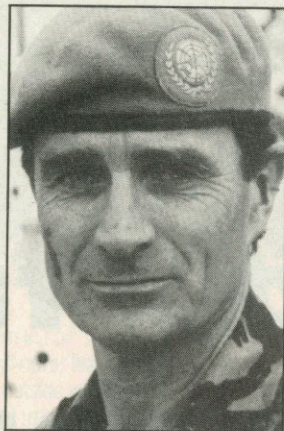
The way the vehicles are parked gives some privacy, but, more importantly, they provide

protection should the location be shelled.

A mortar shell landed within 20 metres of the position at Jelah. Pte James Oliver was on

duty, sitting in the commander's hatch of one of the up-armoured Warriors.

He had a lucky escape, one piece of shrapnel slashing his



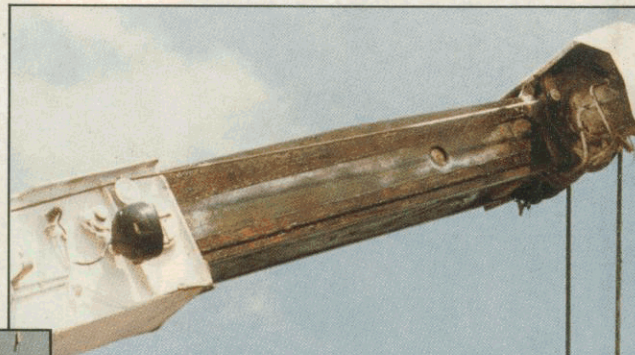
Lt Col John McColl, CO 2 R Anglian





Above – If you can't stand the heat, don't work in the kitchen. Royal Logistic Corps chefs have endured very high summer temperatures while catering for British troops deployed in Bosnia. Pictured at Vitez are LCpl Jason Bellamy and Ptes Elliott Clutton and Alison Smith

Left – Making friends with local children at Stari Vitez are Ptes Abdel Guermellou, Gary Davison and Chris Phillips. The three soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment are attached to 2 R Anglian



Above – Recce Platoon Scimitar, callsign "Two-Zero Bravo" leaves the A Company base at Zepce. Pictured are Pte Simon Jones (in driver's compartment) and LCpl Kim Ogden and Sgt Bob Cole

Right – LCpl Anthony Harris (front) and Pte Anthony Gilbert of C Company, 2 R Anglian on foot patrol near Jelajah

Left – Three members of Catterick-based 15 Field Workshop REME's forward repair group change an FV 432 powerpack at Vitez Garage. From left to right are Cpls Scouse McIntyre and Mick Simson and Cfn Donk Roberts



Seven-a-side rugby competition at Vitez. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment team (in red) mount an attack against C Company, 2 R Anglian



Surrounded by razor wire, four Warriors of A Platoon, C Company, 2 R Anglian are parked in diamond formation to provide protection for crews. Keeping watch from the turrets are Cpl Anthony Harris and Pte John Morton



Surgical gloves are put to a different use by RAMC Ptes Katrin Davies and Louise Wylie of MST Vitez. The two women were tasked to repaint in UN colours a four-ton truck issued to the medics



# Rwanda dash puts 'angel' in the limelight

LT SARA Billingham wasn't entirely happy about being the centre of attention when the advance party of 15 British soldiers flew out to spearhead the way for the 600-strong force assigned to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

One of two women in the advance guard, 25-year-old Sara found herself singled out on the front pages of many national newspapers and was much in demand for radio and television interviews.

The tabloids instantly dubbed her their Angel of Mercy!

"Of course I'm delighted to talk about my unit, 30 Signal Regiment, and what my team will contribute to the humanitarian operation in Rwanda, but I don't really see why I was singled out for all this attention," she said.

As a troop commander, she is responsible for 70 soldiers and a variety of communications equipment and is in charge of the Army's communications systems in Kigali.

Like everyone in the British contingent, Sara had little more than 24 hours to prepare for the Operational Gabriel deployment.



Lt Billingham



Maj Swanson charms British children during 28's production of The Pied Piper

## Bluebell corner

Children were soon enjoying the facilities at the new 1st Battalion, REME Bluebell kindergarten at Osnabrück, with places taken up as soon as it opened.

Expansion of the unit to full battalion size put pressure on kindergarten places in the garrison, so it was decided to open a new one. Families officer Capt Andy Buchan raised the money to set wheels in motion, but the facility will be self-funding.

Supervisor is Sarah Wilson, who with her husband put in many hours of work to ensure all was ready for the opening, performed by



Mrs Jan Ingram (pictured above). Bluebell is the old REME call sign.

## Rogue Robin steals show

A REGIMENTAL 2iC has many duties to perform, particularly if his wife needs him for the main role in 28 Engineer Regiment's annual performance of the Pied Piper play in Hameln, Germany.

Every summer Sunday the town stages the play except on one day, when the sappers and British children from Hameln and Hastenbeck schools take over.

With experience of amateur dramatics from a previous tour in Cyprus, Josephine Swanson was asked by the commanding

officer, Lt Col Steve Sherry, to produce the play and decided on her husband for the lead.

Maj Robin Swanson, however, felt that prancing about in multi-coloured tights piping a flute was not his style. His other half slyly suggested he should best portray a sinister, mysterious, menacing and arrogant rogue in special robes she would design.

She prevailed, and with costumes made cheaply from bunting left by a garrison in drawdown, both play and piper were well received by the community.

# RBL passes on the Knowledge

SINCE its formation in 1928 the Royal British Legion has helped ex-Service men and women to become London licensed cab drivers by offering training to pass "The Knowledge", the rigorous tests, administered by the Public Carriage Office of the Metropolitan Police, which include driving ability

and learning 400 Inner London and many suburban routes.

It can take 12-15 months of full-time commitment to pass "The Knowledge", and so far more than 5,500 ex-Service people have been assisted at a training school which has had a number of homes but is currently based in Brixton Road, near the Kennington Oval Cricket Ground.

With a reduction in the number of ex-Service personnel applying for training, and the number of non ex-Forces people that may be trained governed by charity law, an assessment of the future training needs was made. A proposal that a training grant scheme should be offered in place of assistance at the school was accepted by the RBL.

Under it, an ex-Service person may apply for a grant for nine months of training provided by a commercial organisation.

A three-year contract has been agreed with the Knowledge Point School of London which has been appointed an RBL accredited training provider.

This established company specialises in taxi driver courses, and is a recognised provider of Training For Work courses to London TECs.

It is one of the aims of the training grant scheme to transfer ex-Service students to one of the Government-funded TEC courses as soon as they have reached the course qualifying standard. This should be achieved in six months.

The scheme will start on January 1, when the training school will close, but the transference of existing students will begin from October 3. It will be administered by the RBL's resettlement support officer, Simon Cracknell, at 48 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JY (tel: 071-973 0633).

## DSS booklets

NEW booklets issued by the DSS include *A guide to Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (RR 2)*; *Babies and benefits: A guide to babies and benefits for expectant and new mothers (FB 8)*; and *Pregnancy Related Illness (NI 200)*, a list of common diseases and their relationship to the last weeks of pregnancy.

THERE should be a more positive approach to caring for Service widows with professional input and a more evenly spread network. The claim is being made by Irene Bloor, who has had many years experience with the War Widows Association and recently chaired SSAFA's Defence Widows Working Party.

Talking about the recently formed RAF Widows Association and the Federation of Army Widows, she highlighted the need to care for and support women who find themselves widowed and adrift in the civilian world.

This is another area of concern which would benefit from a tri-Service approach. Each Service has a different system and setting up professional contributions to plans for the future might involve multiplying the effort.

If there was a department for Ex-Service Affairs it would prove the ideal setting for the co-ordination of information about professional help on offer.

One widow sought advice from Cruise - the national bereavement care organisation - to be told that it lacked experience in

Cari Roberts

## COUNTERPOINT

## Widen the network to share widows' burden

that area. The team did as much as they could but they would obviously welcome an insight into the particular plight of the Service widow.

If the new support organisations for Service widows follow the lead of other specialist groups - like Mutual Support, the group for Service people with Multiple Sclerosis - they will contact civilian organisations who would like to hear about the Service experience to extend their own work.

This also deepens the understanding of the special nature of Service life in the civilian world.

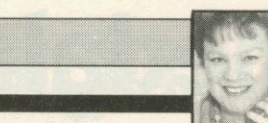
Special Service charities propagate the exclusivity of Service life and I think that's why we who have been in that world love them so much, but I do believe the time has come

for a conscious effort on the part of MoD to do some pro-active PR and for that it needs a proper department to strengthen links with the civilian world.

You may remember that the issue of rail warrants for stepfamilies was raised by Kath Little (*Soldier* August 8) who works with the National Stepfamilies Association. In a recent edition of *Counterpoint* I asked her about some of the problems she would like to see addressed.

Kath said that a divorced parent, not living with the children, is entitled to six rail warrants to visit them. This entitlement ceases on re-marriage. This, claims Kath, is where things become difficult.

The Child Support



Agency has been very active in working out how much money is paid, usually by the father, to first families. This means that a second family might be living on a substantially reduced income. Many people are trying to support two sets of children.

Kath says that, in some cases, up to a third of some families' income is going towards payment ordered by the CSA. If parents have to pay to travel to visit children of a previous marriage it can put an intolerable strain on the budget. Looking at some rail fares within the UK you can see that Kath might have a point. She quoted the fare between London and Darlington - around £90. So what would she like to see? Well, obviously the ideal solution would be for MoD

to review their policy of cutting off entitlement to warrants on re-marriage, making more warrants available. But, in the light of cutbacks and economies it seems unlikely.

I think Kath was speaking more in hope than expectation but she'd welcome any comments you have. Drop me a line.

I also asked her about another aspect of living with constraints on family life - custody and travel overseas.

When one person has custody of a child there is usually an agreement that the child cannot be taken out of England and Wales without the written permission of the other parent or of the court.

When families are posted overseas permission has to be granted and can be revoked at any time. If this happens to a Forces family it can prove to be expensive and worrying.

She suggested that there might be some way of regarding service overseas as not being out of England and Wales. This kind of negotiation could only be done by MoD and Kath said she would like to see them involved.

Happy family: Cfn Robert Broadbent and his wife Cfn Caroline Broadbent of 100 (Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, who, judging from the picture, are keen to recruit son David into the unit where they met three years ago. They were among the 500 visitors who turned up at an open day at the unit's London headquarters to watch demonstrations and walk around displays of the unit's latest equipment, including signals, radar and weapons.

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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

12 July 1994

*John Robert Newton*

Thank you for your letter of 7 June. It was a pleasure to meet you at Southwick House and I hope you found the events of that weekend as memorable as I did.

You raised the question of the lack of a medal to reward those who served in the Suez Canal Emergency from 1951-54.

You are quite right that the question of an award was first raised in January 1952. It is also unfortunately true that no record exists of the decision taken by the Army Council at that time to refuse an award. One can only speculate on the reasons behind the decisions. Nor is it possible to say why the Honours and Decorations Committee took the same line when they reviewed the award following the further Emergency in October and November 1956. Lapse of time may have been one of the factors, but there may have been others.

I am sure you will be aware that a further very thorough review was carried out in 1991 by the Chief of the General Staff and the Adjutant General.

They looked in great detail at all the available evidence and concluded that there were no grounds for reopening the case for a medal. I should add that the unequivocal policy of the Honours and Decorations Committee since World War Two has been that they will not consider proposals for awards recognising service many years after the events in which that service was given. The reason for this policy is that the present Committee cannot put themselves in the place of the Committee which made the decision at the time.

I realise that this will be a disappointing response, but I hope you will agree that the question has been given the most thorough consideration. I really do not believe there is anything more to be done.

May I end on a happier note by saying that the sight of you and your comrades marching past at Arramanches was a most moving one. The memory will stay with me for a very long time to come. I hope that you and your colleagues found the events a fitting tribute to all those who fought so bravely for freedom fifty years ago.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith who, having received a copy of your letter, wrote to me as well.

*John Robert Newton*

Colonel P. S. Newton, M.B.E.

## Suez medal: No more to be done, says PM

YOUR readers, especially Suez Canal Zone 1951-54 veterans, will be interested to read the letter [reproduced above] I received from the Prime Minister, which he has agreed may be published in *Soldier*. But they will be disappointed in the contents.

Since I wrote to the PM on June 6 I learned of the decision by the Australian and Canadian Governments to issue a special Service Medal for a prescribed peacekeeping or non-warlike operation for the period 1945-75, where recognition has not previously occurred (*Soldier*, September 5).

I wrote to the PM drawing his attention to these retrospective awards and received a reply from his private secretary stating: "Any approval that Her Majesty The Queen may have given to the retrospective institution of awards would have been as Queen of Aus-

tralia and Canada, on the advice of her Australian and Canadian Ministers.

"Such decisions do not affect the policy laid down by the Honours and Decorations Committee of this country regarding belated awards for service by members of our own Armed Forces."

I have since discovered the Australian Government has decided service in Korea (July 23, 1953 - August 26, 1957) and Malaysia/Thailand Border (August 1, 1960-August 16, 1964), when Australian troops were serving in the Commonwealth Brigade, will qualify for the Service Medal 1945-75.

This means that British and other Commonwealth troops serving alongside the Australians in these theatres will not be entitled to a medal, unless their governments institute a similar award.

Should our Government

decide to rectify this anomaly and institute a retrospective special service medal it would be logical to include service in the Suez Canal Zone 1951-54 at the same time.

This is clearly a case that must be taken up with our parliamentary representatives so the Queen may be apprised of the injustice to her own and other Commonwealth troops. - **Col (Retd) P S Newton, Winchester.**

## 14th not forgotten

MANY thanks for your excellent report and photographs of the St Paul's Cathedral service for the 50th anniversary of the Kohima and Imphal battles (*Soldier*, June 27).

Most of the media ignored it - but trust *Soldier* to come up trumps, making sure that the "Forgotten 14th" was not forgotten after all. - **D R Hordle, Northwich, Cheshire.**

## LASCARS IN THE INDIAN ARMIES

IN HIS review of *The Story of the India General Service Medal 1908-1935* (*Soldier*, June 27), JMB states that a Lascar was solely a mercantile seaman and not a rank in the old Indian Army.

This is not the case. Many thousands of gun, engineer and pioneer lascars served with the

HEIC Bengal, Madras and Bombay Armies over a period of nine decades.

They were Regular uniformed soldiers with a rank structure of Serang, First Tindal, Second Tindal, Lascar or Private and Pukhali.

A field battery normally consisted of a European or native

artillery company and attached gun lascars. Lascars worked on drag-ropes, carried ammunition, undertook labour duties, and in the heat of battle frequently served as gun-numbers.

In 1785 there were 30 such companies in Bengal, 36 in Madras and ten in Bombay.

and both lack finesse in design.

Regimental niceties have been observed but the "China Dragon" of the Royal Berkshires is now only to be found on the button design.

Had the opportunity been given to present my views prior to the final decision being made the chance would have been seized with both hands, but how was one to know?

Mr Wood may rest assured that it is my desire not to be one of "the best boxers outside of the ring" but to be an impartial judge bent on the best result. In aircraft design there

## BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"Cut! Very clever, Kingsman Dooley, but kindly leave the acting to the actors and rejoin your buddies in the crowd."

See *Soldier* - Pages 16-17

## RGBW badge: Why I object to the design

THE letters of Sir Conrad Swan and RSM I J Wood on the subject of the RGBW badge (August 22) are read with interest. As the author of the original letter (July 11) I trust you will allow further comment from me.

The interpretation of the painting from the College of Arms by the manufacturer has been well done but it is the design to which I have some objections.

The badge is too large, made of too much metal, the sphinx is larger than ought to be the case in proportion to the cross

is a saying, "If it looks right, then it flies right" which in my view applies in this instance. - **Hugh L King, Farnham, Surrey.**

## Enter the dragon...

MAY I be permitted to offer a solution to the question of the new 1 RGBW cap badge (*Soldier*, July 11, August 8 and 22)?

It appears that while the cross patée derived from the Wiltshire Regiment and the sphinx of the Gloucesters are fully represented, the Berkshire element is omitted apart from the brandywine backing.

Why not reduce the size of the sphinx and introduce on to the lower arm of the cross the Chinese Imperial Dragon awarded to the Royal Berkshire Regiment?

All three devices are featured on the RGBW Colour and Drums. - **Bill Behan, Aldershot.**

## Computers, warrants, and routes to WO2

IN REPLY to WO2 (SMIG) Kerbey's letter about the quality of his Royal Warrant (August 22) may I offer this personal explanation, albeit a little tongue-in-cheek.

There have been for some years now two routes to the rank of WO2 in the Royal Regiment of Artillery.

The first is the "old-fashioned" way of being seen by senior officers in the rank of sergeant or staff sergeant to be above average in that rank.

Through hard work, diligence and commitment, sitting and passing a promotion board in competition with all other eligible SNCOs, that person qualifies for promotion - but only when a vacancy exists.

The second method - and, to quote the Royal Artillery Manning and Records Office, the "preferred route" - is for a man in the early stages of his career to aim for the one-year Gunnery Career Course.

For this, candidates must meet certain criteria, including rank, recommendations and length of service remaining at the end of the course.

Having been selected for the course the candidate has only then to "stay the distance" and - as if passing GO - collect his WO2 at the end.

In essence I fully support WO2 (SMIG) Kerbey in his call to reinstate the Royal Warrant to its rightful place as a certificate that recognises the achievement of a man reaching the rank of Warrant Officer Class 2 (by any route).

I expect this explanation will provoke a lot of heated reply, particularly from ex-gunnery career warrant officers.

However, I am only trying to poke a little fun at the GCC and we should all ensure that our achievement is not derided by this "kick in the teeth".

As an afterthought could anyone please tell me - is the Commissioned Officer's Royal Warrant now also a computer print-out? I doubt it. - **M G Hagan WO2 (Route 1), 101 (Northumbrian) Regt, RA (V), Newcastle Upon Tyne.**



## Army rail nostalgia

LONGMOOR Military Railway in Hampshire, which was the location for sequences in films including *The Great St Trinians' Train Robbery* (1966) and *Young Winston* (1972) is the subject of an exhibition opening at nearby Alton next month.

Originally operated by the Transport Branch of the Royal Engineers, the railway passed into the control of the Royal Corps of Transport in 1965 and closed four years later.

As well as films, it was also associated with the children's railway stories of the Rev W V Audrey. Gordon the Blue Engine was based on one of the Army's blue freight engines, originally named after Gen Gordon, and which is now preserved on the Severn Valley railway.

For the last two years of its life, Longmoor itself became the temporary home of a number of preserved steam engines and there was an unsuccessful move to establish a preserved railway.

Part of the old railway has been given public access by East Hampshire District Council under its Riverside Railway Walk project.

The free exhibition, coinciding

## SOLDIER to Soldier

with the 25th anniversary of the railway's closure after 70 years' of operation, runs at the Allen Gallery, Church Street, Alton from October 29 to November 26. Details of opening times are available from Tony Cross on 0420 82802.

A lecture on the Longmoor Military Railway will be given at the Assembly Rooms, Alton, at 7.30 pm on November 10.

## Take a step back in time

IF YOU are interested in military history, the Society for Army Historical Research is interested in you...

Founded in 1921, the society embraces Army and regimental history, military antiquities and pictures, uniforms and insignia, arms and equipment, customs and traditions, and the history of land warfare in general.

Members (and you don't have to be old to be a member, says SAHR's Andrew Cormack!) receive a high quality quarterly publication containing articles at the leading edge of research in military history. All are freely submitted by SAHR members. Special publications such as personal accounts of service and diaries are also produced from time to time.

The SAHR arranges occasional visits to places of military interest (some not normally open to the general public) and runs a series of lectures in London at the beginning of each year.

Membership costs £18 a year, and more details can be obtained from the Secretary, Society for Army Historical Research, c/o National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HT.

## Naafi brew's public debut

OLD SOLDIERS who acquired a taste for Naafi tea will be pleased to learn that it is available for the first time to the general public.

The distinctive blend of leaves from Kenya, Tanzania and Ceylon is being sold in special commemorative D-Day boxes through shops in NISA (National Independent Supermarkets Association), which includes the Cost-Cutter chain.

From each box sold, 15p will be given to Service charities.

The tea has been blended at Amesbury in Wiltshire for more than 70 years. Service bases throughout the world use about 280 million Naafi tea bags a year.



Picture: Evening Herald, Plymouth

## Wyvern back in Normandy

Standards of (from left to right) The Worcestershire Regiment, The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, the Royal British Legion and The Somerset Light Infantry are dipped in salute during a ceremony on Hill 112 near Caen.

A 65-strong party from 43 (Wessex) Brigade marked the 50th anniversary of the battle for the dominating ground south west of Caen. In July 1944, 43 (Wessex) Division, an entirely TA formation, wearing

the same Wyvern which distinguishes today's brigade, was tasked with capturing Hill 112 to start the push to drive the Germans from Normandy.

In what was their first engagement of the war, and faced with battle-hardened SS Panzer units, the men of the West Country suffered fierce fighting and appalling casualties.

Survivors are few and mem-

ories bitter. Brig Christopher Wolverson led the 43 Brigade party and spoke of his pride at wearing the same Wyvern badge that had seen combat there.

Lt Col Tony Thornburn, CO 4 D and D, whose father fought there, arranged for his own son to attend the service.

## SEARCHLINE

● Mr M Nuttall is trying to trace the medals, in particular the Military Medal, of his late father, 3451793 Cpl Frank Nuttall, The Lancashire Fusiliers. They were sold in the early 1960s. Replies to 55 Rose Avenue, Smithy Bridge, Littleborough, Lancs OL15 8QJ.

● Former military ship's company of HMHS *Oxfordshire* sought for reunion. RAMC personnel, medical officers and nursing sisters served aboard while the ship was used by the military between January and June 1946. Replies to Harry Mitchell, 3 Florence Road, Southsea, Hants PO5 2ND (tel: 0705 830158).

● J H A Smith wishes to contact former colleagues in TBRE Chatham (189 Party), 1935-36; 5 Fd Coy RE, 1936-40; 84 CW Coy RE, 1941-42; D Sqn, Glider Pilot Regt, 1942-45; TBRE Lockerbie, 1946-47; 12 SME Regt, 1951-52, Army Recruiting Staff, Chatham, 1952-60. Replies to 49 Ernest Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5PT.

● 2nd Battalion, Essex Regiment: Mrs M Callaghan wishes to trace anyone who knew her brother, Pte Patrick McGowan 14437699, killed on June 11, 1944 in or near Caen. Replies to 55

Albion Street, Birmingham B1 3EA.

● 47A (Chepstow, Taunton, Harrogate): A reunion is planned for ex-Boys of 47A, in particular the Beachley Boys who were moved to Norton Manor Camp, Taunton, in February 1948. All 47A and anyone who served at Taunton please contact Bill Poor (tel: 0705 374851) or Keith Butcher (tel: 0730 261933).

● Former personnel of El Adem Radio Service (TEARS), RAF El Adem 1958-70, are asked to contact John Moir, 27 Wilton Drive, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hants PO8 9QY.

● RAVC - Indian service: Capt Narinder Saini, c/o 148 Alfreton Road, Radford, Nottingham NG7 3NS, returning to India mid-September, wishes to contact members of Royal Army Veterinary Corps who served at the following stations: Meerut Cant, Babugarh, Remount Depot Saharanpur, Ambala Cant and Lucknow.

● Fayid and Ismailia 1948-52: To assist with a research project, members of the Royal Artillery (HQ 2 AGRA, including 1 RHA, 71 HAA, 73 HAA, 80 LAA, 6 Fd Regt

and 7 Fd Regt) who served in and around Fayid and Ismailia between these dates, and also 6th Airborne Div in Palestine 1947-48, is asked to write, phone or fax (with own telephone number) Sara Doremus, PO Box 694, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866, USA (tel: 301 8471477).

● R Topley, c/o 95 Linnet Drive, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8AG, wishes to hear from anyone who served with him in D Coy and 14 Pln of the 1st Bn, The Middlesex Regiment 50 years ago. Also members of the Middies, Cheshires, Manchesters and Northumberland Fusiliers who served in the Demonstration Platoon, Small Arms School, Netheravon, September 1942-43.

## APPOINTMENTS

Colonels - F A Bush - To MoD, Aug 22; A P Deed - To HQ EDist, Aug 22; T E Hall - To IMS Brussels, Aug 25.

Lt Cols - S M Alabaster, Coldm Gds - To Nato Sch SHAPE, Aug 22; H G R Boscawen, Coldm Gds - To be CO 1 Coldm Gds, Aug 22; A J Briggs, R Signals - To MoD, Aug 22; R Z A Ciaglinski AGC

## REUNIONS

● The Light Dragoons Regimental Association: Second annual reunion dinner-dance, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, September 10. Details from Regimental Secretary, HHQ The Light Dragoons, Fenham Barracks, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE2 4NP (tel: 091-239 3140/3141).

● RAVC Association: 66th annual reunion and dinner at the Defence Animal Centre, Melton Mowbray LE13 0SL on September 24. Details from Regt Secretary c/o DAC (tel: 0664 63281 ext 8646).

● 209 Support Workshop REME (V): 12th annual reunion dinner-dance on September 24 at Wilmslow Moat House Hotel, Cheshire. Details and local accommodation from Ray Patterson (tel: 061-976 2084), or ring hotel direct for reservations on 0625 529201 referring to TA reunion.

● Air Despatch: Tenth annual Air Despatch reunion on October 8-9, Duke of Gloucester Barracks, South Cerney, with the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Arrhem as its theme and a drum-head service of commemoration on Sunday, October 9. Former air

despatchers who would like to attend should contact WO2 (SSM) P Lovell, 47 Air Despatch Squadron RLC, RAF Lyneham, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 4PZ (tel: Lyneham Mil 6515 or 0249 890381 ext 6515).

● 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards: Annual Cardiff dinner will take place on October 21. Details from Regt Secretary, Home HQ, QDG, Mandy Bks, Cardiff (tel: 0222 227611 ext 8213).

## CLOSURES

● Chattenden WO's and Sgts' Mess: Annual Cardiff dinner will take place on October 21. Details from Regt Secretary, Home HQ, QDG, Mandy Bks, Cardiff (tel: 0222 227611 ext 8213).

● ITB Strensall, formerly The Depot Kings Division, will be drawing down by July 1995. Units or

● Trucial Oman Scouts: Launch of the official history of The Levies/Scouts takes place in the National Army Museum, Chelsea, on November 18 at noon. All former members urged to attend. To book buffet at £10 a head contact Officers' Association or All Ranks Association.

● 29 Tpt Sqn RLC: All ex-29 Sqn RLC members are invited to a reunion. Details from AO/Ch Clk, 29 Tpt Sqn RLC, BFPO 1.

individuals who have made a presentation to the WO's and Sgts' Mess and who would like it returned are asked to contact WO2 (RQMS) D S Quinton at the WO's and Sgts' Mess, ITB Strensall, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York YO3 5SW. All postage, packing and insurance costs will be paid for by those requesting return of presentation.

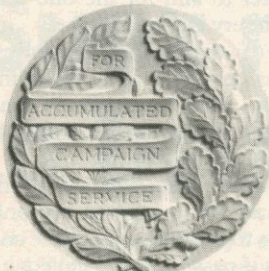
● The British WO's and Sgts' Mess, and QOGTR British Officers' Mess, Gun Club Hill Bks, Hong Kong, BFPO 1, will close in October 1994. Units or individuals who require presentation items to be returned are asked to contact the QM, Maj (QM) D J Winkle (tel: HK 7322181). Postage will be paid for by unit/individual. Items not claimed by October 1994 will be transferred to 10 Tpt Regt in Colchester.

● The QOGTR Gurkha WO's and Sgts' Mess, Gun Club Hill Bks, Hong Kong, BFPO 1, will close in October 1994. Units or individuals who require presentation items to be returned are asked to contact the PMC, WO2 (RQMS) Narendrakumar Tamang (tel: HK 7322184). Packaging and postage to be paid for by unit/individual. Items not claimed by October 1994 will be transferred to 10 Tpt Regt in Colchester.

● 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade Officers' Mess, Hong Kong, will close in October 1994. Those who presented an item to the mess are asked to contact Capt MA Thompson REME, 50 Hong Kong Workshop REME, Malaya Lines, BFPO 1. Some items will be transferred to the new Station Mess though the bulk, assuming donors agree, will be given to the Gurkha Museum or disposed of locally. Those who wish to claim back items are asked to establish their bona fides and pay for the return.

● 29 Tpt Sqn RLC (formerly 29 Sqn RCT) will disband in 1997. Anyone who has made a presentation to the squadron is asked to contact Capt S Y Wu, 29 Tpt Sqn RLC, BFPO 1.

## 23,000 GET NEW MEDAL



ABOUT 23,000 personnel from all the Services will qualify for the new Accumulated Campaign Service Medal (shown above) and it will take at least two years to complete its issue.

Medals will be issued in the following order: serving personnel; retired and discharged officers and soldiers; and the legal beneficiaries of deceased officers and soldiers.

The medal's reverse carries the inscription "FOR ACCUMULATED CAMPAIGN SERVICE" set within a four-part ribbon surrounded by a branch of oak leaves with laurel and oak leaves woven through the motto ribbon.

It will be worn immediately after the Meritorious Service Medal and hang from a ribbon of purple and green, with a central stripe of gold to denote excellence.

## DIARY

### SEPTEMBER

5-11: Farnborough International Airshow.

10-11: First Berwick Military Tattoo in aid of SSAFA, Berwick-Upon-Tweed, 8pm. Tickets from 0289 304493/330733.

18: Winchester Military Society militaria exhibition and fair, The Guildhall, Winchester.

### NOVEMBER

17-19: Army Arts Society Festival, Rheindahlen (entry forms from HIVES).

● To include public events in this diary contact the Editor.

## MILITARIA

● Capt V J Pagent, who has been tasked to write a history of REME in Hong Kong from 1942 to the present, would be grateful for information, personal anecdotes, photographs etc of REME life in the territory. Replies to Capt V J

Pagent, OC, Log Sp Regt Wksp, BFPO 1.

● James King, 16 Miller Avenue, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8PA is researching British Army unit histories for a degree dissertation and wishes to hear from anyone who served in specialist units such as RASC/RCT not concerned with general transport, non-field units of the RE and non-firing RE.

● Canadian museum seeks guns: Wanted for historical restoration, any of the following coast artillery guns: BL 6in Mk 2; QF 4.7in; 12pdr 12cwt; 6pdr Hotchkiss. Contact 15th Field Museum, Bessborough Armoury, 2025 West 11th Ave, Vancouver BC, V6J 2C7, Canada.

(ETS) - To be Svc Attache Warsaw, Aug 22; G M V Gillett RA - To RMCS, Aug 22; T C Jarvis-Bicknell, Kings Own Border - To BMM Kuwait, Aug 26.

Colonels - R B Watson, late RLC, Aug 29; B A E Chapman, late RAMC, Aug 26; P F Lutter, late RAMC, Aug 25.



# THE YEOMEN OF HERTFORDSHIRE

EARLIER this year a colourful ceremony took place to mark the bicentenary of the creation of Britain's yeomanry regiments.

Fitting, therefore, that we should welcome the story of one of those bodies of volunteer part-time horse-soldiers, the Hertfordshire Yeomanry, whose troops first paraded (on their own horses) in July 1794.

The author, Lt Col John Sainsbury, has given us a definitive history, as well he might, for apart from his 37 years as a Territorial officer, he has devoted his spare time to researching and publishing other works on the Hertfordshire Territorials.

Confined to Home Defence, the yeomanry saw no active service until the Boer War when, represented by the 42nd (Hertfordshire) Company Imperial Yeomanry, the regiment chased De Wet and the rest across hundreds of miles of veldt.

One of the troopers was Arthur Martin Leake who, although a qualified doctor, volunteered to serve in the ranks. Later he was commissioned Medical Officer in the South African Constabulary,

and in 1902 he was awarded the VC for rescuing a man under heavy fire.

Transferring to the RAMC, he won a Bar to his VC for a similar act of gallantry at Ypres – one of only three such Bars.

On mobilisation in 1914, 80 per cent of the Hertfordshires volunteered for active service, first guarding the Suez Canal, and then as infantry suffering in the disastrous Gallipoli fiasco which cost them their CO and numerous other ranks, as much from disease as from Turkish bullets.

Evacuated back to Egypt and reinforced by their home-based 2nd and 3rd line reserves, two squadrons operated against the rebellious Senussi tribesmen in the Western Desert, finally riding with Allenby's Desert Mounted Corps in Palestine and Syria – though they saw no mounted action.

Divorced from the regiment, D Sqn confronted the Turks in Mesopotamia, where it prided itself on being the first British unit to enter the captured Baghdad.

After the war, the Herts fell victim to the radical reorganisation in the Territorial forces and ceased to exist as a yeo-

manry regiment. In 1922 it contributed two batteries to the newly-formed 86th (East Anglian) (Hertfordshire Yeomanry) Brigade RFA (TA), and has remained as Territorial gunners ever since.

As evidenced by his copious source references and extensive bibliography, the author has spared no effort to produce a truly definitive and authoritative history.

Not only are there detailed accounts of campaigns (from the Boer War onwards) but the minutiae of arms, equipment and uniforms are fully dealt with throughout.

And the book is illustrated with 167 photographs, which do not merely supplement the text but form a pictorial history in their own right.

Old Herts yeomen, no less than a wider readership, will applaud Col Sainsbury for his devotion to a worthy cause, and will look forward to the promised second volume which is to bring the story up to the present day. – JMB

**The Hertfordshire Yeomanry. An illustrated history 1794-1920** by Lt Col J D Sainsbury TD, FSA. Hart Books, Welwyn, softback, £17.95.



Bitter legacy: Frontline service in Korea became even tougher when sub-zero temperatures and heavy snow added their own brand of misery. This picture was taken by Army photographer Sgt Mark Carson near the King's (Liverpool) Regiment lines in December, 1952

## Korea's bitter legacy

FIND A number of ex-soldiers who served in a war years ago, ask them to tell of their experiences and a book is born.

One of the latest to offer this format is Adrian Walker with *A Barren Place – National Servicemen in Korea 1950-1954*.

North Korea's attack on South Korea more than 40 years ago resulted in 40,000 British soldiers serving there over the three years of the war. Several hundreds died fighting and more than 1,000 became prisoners of war, at least 50 dying in captivity.

Of those 40,000 the vast majority were National Servicemen with an average age of 19 – the minimum for service in Korea.

Now Adrian Walker has sought out 17 of those former conscripts to ask for their recollections of their time in the Land of the Morning Calm.

Few of Walker's 17 interviewees paints much of a picture of their service there, although George (now Lord) Younger, who was destined to become Defence Secretary from 1986-89, described being in the front line as an "interesting and extraordinary experience".

Younger served with The

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for just a few months before returning to Hong Kong and eventual demob.

Others, although less enthusiastic about their time in Korea – many had no real idea why they were there – express regimental loyalty and affection for their comrades.

Despite this some of them returned to the UK disenchanted and bitter about the

events that changed the shape of their young lives in such dramatic fashion. They weren't too happy, either, about the way people on their return home tended to be dismissive of their Korean war service.

Perhaps those people were disenchanted with war itself, having had their fill of the 1939-45 conflict. – JM

**A Barren Place** by Adrian Walker. Leo Cooper, hardback, £14.95.

## Battles the media forgot

SUB-TITLE of John Russell's *No Triumphant Procession* is *The Forgotten Battles of April 1945*.

Currently commanding the 1st Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, Lt Col Russell puts forward the claim that the battles in northern Germany, in the final few weeks of the European campaign, were largely ignored by the media because their attention was focused on other momentous events.

As a result the battles were "forgotten".

Publicity, it seems, was sadly

lacking for those fighting their way across the Rhine and beyond and the author goes into great detail to put the record straight, not only for those who survived, but for those "who fought and died in sight of peace".

The ferocious battles he describes cover the period from March 23, 1945 to May 5, the day following the surrender to Montgomery on Luneburg Heath.

Among the toughest and most formidable of these actions was that faced by the

## Kitchener: The enemies within

PROBABLY the best known recruiting poster and slogan of the 1914-1918 war was that of Lord Kitchener glaring from behind his enormous moustache and proclaiming: "Your Country Needs You". It is still well-known and is often humorously imitated.

At the time it was no laughing matter, although according to A J Smithers in *The Fighting Nation – Lord Kitchener and his Armies*, few politicians of the day took military recruitment very seriously. For them, volunteering was the way to raise an army.

Kitchener, brought in at the start of the war to reorganise the Army, saw that voluntary service would not provide enough men and by his methods induced around three million to sign on.

### IN BRIEF

**O Valiant Heart** by Constance Peach. Fast-selling memoir in softback by 78-year-old widow of a former Life Guard. Available at £5 plus 70p postage per copy from Mrs Peach at 4 Watmill Court, Bath Road, Woolhampton, Reading RG7 5RD.

**No Mean Soldier** by Peter McAleese, with Mark Bles. "He has, without doubt, seen more action in more theatres of war than any other postwar British soldier" says the publisher's blurb. Orion, paperback, £4.99.

Because of his military successes in various parts of the Empire he was tremendously popular with the public and ordinary soldiers.

But he was ahead of his time and his ideas of raising armies and fighting wars led to clashes with a number of cabinet ministers and top brass.

A former Royal Engineer, he saw solutions to problems in practical terms. This, plus his honest approach and straight talking, did not endear him to his political and military masters.

He had agreed, when called in to boost the Army, that he would stay for three years or the duration, but after 22 months in the job he was drowned when HMS *Hampshire*, taking him to Russia on a special mission, went down off the Orkneys.

Even the Germans paid homage to him. It is easy to infer from this account that his enemies at home were as formidable as those he faced on the battlefield. – JM

**The Fighting Nation – Lord Kitchener and his Armies** by A J Smithers. Leo Cooper, £16.95.

## Detective work on Aristide

WHO WAS Aristide? Not an ancient Greek warrior or philosopher as you might suppose, but a wartime spy-master.

In *Aristide – Warlord of the Resistance* we discover this was one of the codenames of Roger Landes, who was leader of a 7,000-strong unofficial underground army in France between 1942 and 1944.

Because of his training as a wireless operator with the Royal Corps of Signals and his fluent French, this Paris-born British citizen was selected for training with the

cloak-and-dagger Special Operations Executive.

Former police detective David Nicolson spins an exciting yarn with a strong feeling of déjà vu ... of secrets agents being trained and dropped into occupied Europe; of coded radio signals transmitted to London; of Gestapo raids on hideouts; of capture and torture; of passwords; of escape.

Aristide himself almost did not make it to France in the first place. The RAF made half-a-dozen attempts to parachute him in, using a variety of aircraft over several

weeks. His stay in the country – apart from one brief break (part of it spent in a Spanish prison) lasted until he was personally booted out by de Gaulle in September 1944.

Now retired in Liphook, Hampshire, Landes's spectacles and a goatee beard give him a distinctly avuncular appearance.

There is no clue as to his wartime role. Apart, that is, from the name of his house – Aristide. – JM

**Aristide – Warlord of the Resistance** by David Nicolson. Leo Cooper, hardback, £19.95.



# Many a good tune conducted with an old baton . . .

**Kneller Hall**  
**A Musical Salute**  
The Kneller Hall All-Stars Band  
Various Conductors

TWO bandmasters had the very bright idea to assemble, if duties allowed, a band comprising alumni and serving members of Kneller Hall to meet for a long weekend and, just for the hell of it, record a programme of music associated with the Royal Military School of Music.

So in April the following Seniority of Soldiers met for two days of rehearsal and two of recording (ample notice being given for embouchures to be revived, instruments borrowed if necessary, and batons sharpened) - eight lieutenant colonels, ten majors, 11 captains, 20 serving bandmasters, eight student bandmasters, and eight pupils. Oh, and two

ladies. Combined age of band - 2,196 years; service - 1,076; combined age of the seven conductors - 427 years.

Age and service had hardly withered them, but at the end of it all lips were sore, arms ached, and several batons broken. All to a good purpose, we hope.

So, a unique disc, unlikely ever to be repeated, with sleeve notes giving full information of the personnel, with three lieutenant colonels on clarinet and one on trombone to name but a few, and six past Directors of Music, Kneller Hall, as conductors.

Only Lt Col Basil Brown was missing. At 86 he thought four days of hard work would be beyond him.

The music itself begins with the *School March*, then two concert marches specially writ-

ten for Kneller Hall, Sir Malcolm Arnold's *HRH The Duke of Cambridge* and Gordon Jacob's *Sir Godfrey Kneller*.

Kenneth Alford, who came bottom in his year's march competition, is represented as our most famous alumnus with *The Great Little Army*. He is the model of all present-day students attempting to write their first marches.

The great triumvirate of English composers who wrote the first original works for band were Gustav Holst, Vaughan Williams, and Gordon Jacob, and all three are of course here.

Holst with his *Suite in E flat*, Vaughan Williams with the *Toccata Marziale* he wrote for the Kneller Hall band at the Wembley Exhibition of 1924, and Jacob with his *Original Suite*.

Walton O'Donnell is the

fourth fine composer of band music of the pre-First World War period, having studied at Kneller Hall from 1912-14. His *Three Humoresques* are classics of the genre and a challenging work for any band.

On the lighter side are a suite from the ballet *Pineapple Poll* and Derek Bourgeois' charming *Serenade*.

The finale had to have a suit-

able title, challenge the players, and be a modern work of not too serious intent. So Philip Sparke, as always, had one such to his credit, and *Celebration* won hands down.

Seventy-six-and-a-half minutes of sheer joy for us, and with a small cheque perhaps for you too.

● **Bandleader** CD BNA 5109 £12, cassette £7. From Sound and Picture Co, PO Box 177, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5FE, or dealers.

## Lively wake for tyke musicians

**Fond Farewell**  
Band of the 1st Bn The Green Howards  
Conductor: Bandmaster M J Searle

THIS is the final recording of a famous Yorkshire regiment on its way into limbo.

Some of its members will join one of the two bands allotted to the King's Division, but for the others the ordinary word dis-band-ment takes on its true meaning.

The music is about as perfect a bandstand programme as could be devised, with marches, overture, medley, solo, suite, and grand march. A famous band going out as in they came.

*Hollis VC* is a march by a former bandmaster, C A Dawe, to commemorate the VC won on D-Day by Sgt Maj Stanley Hollis.

Thereafter the regiment's roots in Yorkshire and association with Norway are portrayed in *A Yorkshire Overture* by Philip Sparke, A W Brown's march *The Mareth Line* (a regimental battle honour), *The Bedale Hunt*, for post horns of course, one of Ord Hume's marches aptly named *The Green Howards*, and *Three Yorkshire Dale Dances* by Arthur Wood, heard every day for his signature tune to The Archers, taken from another suite of his called *My Native Health* - as true a Yorkshireman as was his namesake the old Yorkshire wicketkeeper.

*Harlem Nocturne*, a *Western*

*Dance*, music from the Disney film *Aladdin*, the xylophone duet by Kenneth Alford *The Two Imps*, and Grieg's *Homage March* (the Norwegian connection) add spice to the programme.

John Barry, composer of film music including most of the Bond films, is represented by his music for *Out of Africa*. He was once a bandsman in the regiment. The slow and quick marches complete this lively wake.

● **Cassette** (price £6.95) or CD (£11.95), plus £1 p&p, from Plantagenet Music, 90 Holgate Rd, York YO2 4AB or from RHQ, The Green Howards, Trinity Church Square, Richmond, N Yorks DL10 4QN.

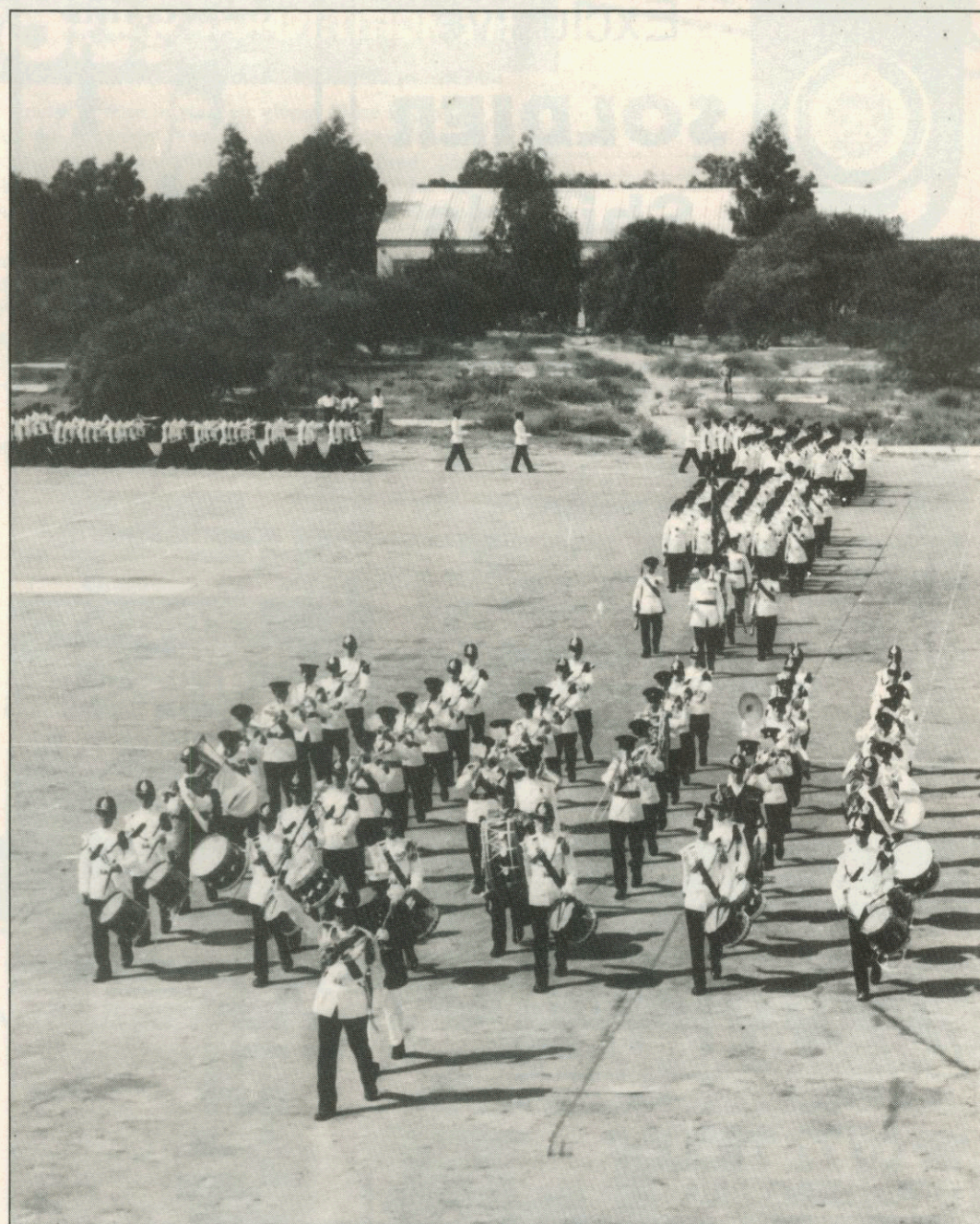
## AGC band lets its hair down

**New Horizons**  
Band of the Adjutant General's Corps  
Conductors: Capt M Torrent

WE HAVE said farewell in these pages to the recording careers of several bands and will no doubt continue to do so. It is therefore a pleasure to welcome a new one, in name at least, for it was formed from the WRAC and other bands in 1992.

How times do change. "Too loud Bloggs, you idiot. Four days' extra practice." "Debbie darling, could you manage it a little quieter?"

What we pre-war old 'uns,



Foreign fields: the Band of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, leads the battalion as the Colours are marched past during an Alma Day parade at Prinn Barracks, Libya in 1963. The modern band has been absorbed into one of the two bands allotted to the King's Division

with our martinet bandmasters would have given for the restraining influence of a feminine presence.

So welcome Fiona, Kevin, Debbie, Graeme, Joanna, Dougie, and all. But after Capt Malcolm Torrent will there be conductors to follow Jean, Lyn, Zara and Ena of fond memory?

To remind us of past glories, and let us hear the new corps march, the band plays *Pride of Lions*, which won a competition for the new march, and the old marches of Royal Military Police, Royal Army Pay Corps, Royal Army Educational Corps, and Royal Army Legal

Corps, all of which comprise the new corps.

Its slow march retains that of the WRAC, *Greensleeves*. Percy Fletcher's concert march *The Spirit of Pageantry* is followed by the obligatory gesture on these occasions - a march by the conductor, *The Adjutant General*, and Kendall's *Glorious Victory*.

Then to let their hair down (a phrase I have often used, but now with more significance) we have the *Marches of John Williams* (Jaws 1, 2, 3, 4 and all that), Delius's *La Calinda*, a Beatles Medley *Echoes of an Era*, and Percy Grainger's *Molly on the Shore*.

*New Horizons* is suitably named for a cornet solo by Gordon Langford and played by Annette Cowles, who also doubles as Drum Major. *When You Wish upon a Star*, Lloyd Webber's *Variations*, and a medley of *Broadway Show Stoppers* make up a demanding programme very ably performed by one and all.

The tune sometimes known as *My Lady Greensleeves* is heard again, this time through the eyes of American composer Alfred Reed.

● **Bandleader** CD BNA 5106 £12, cassette £7, from Sound and Picture Co., PO Box 177, Dorking, Surrey.



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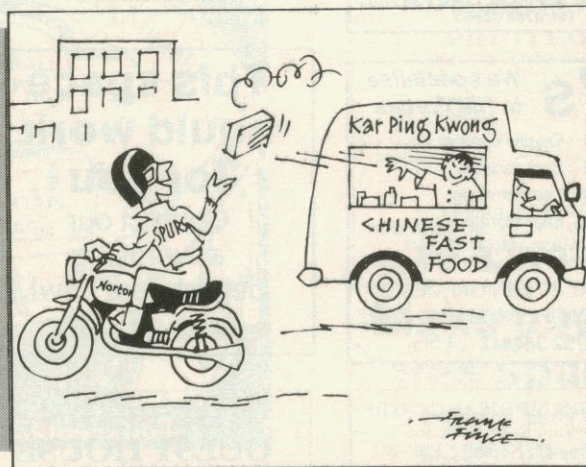
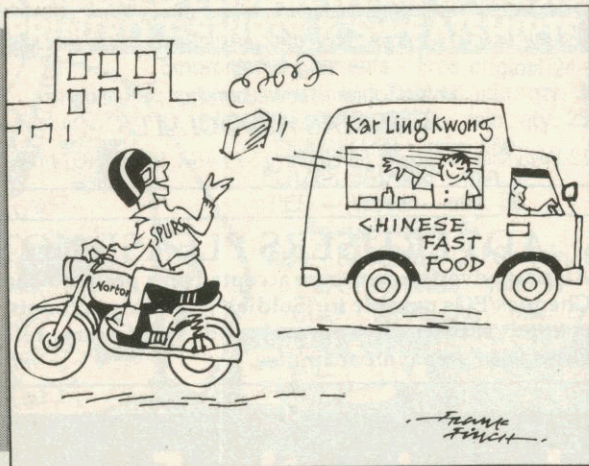
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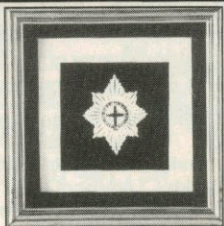
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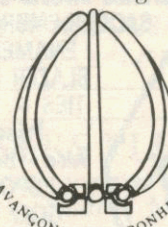
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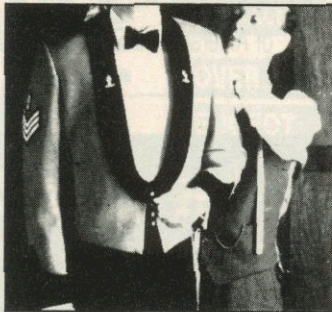
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D6

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**"Wilma"** (30 something) would like "Fred" (30+) for yabba dabba doo-times. Blue eyes, small build, blonde hair. Hobbies: sport, animals, pubs, films, reading and music. My name is Chris. **P51**

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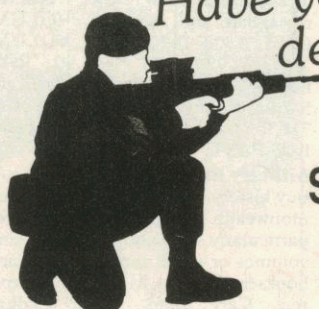
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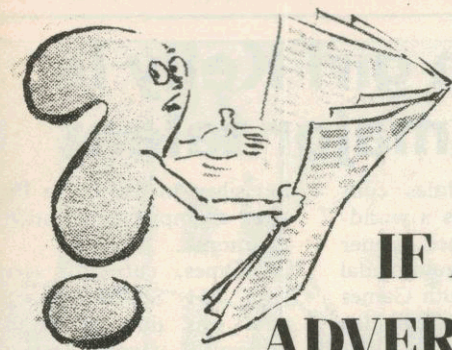
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D4

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### AUGUST 20, 1994

**First (381 runs, £2,000)** LCpl A L M McKinlay,  
Sp Wpns Wing, Netheravon.

**Second (379 runs, £1,000)** Tpr N C F Baker,  
QRL, BFPO 36.

**Third (378 runs, £500)** Maj J W G Smith, 17  
Regt RA & Depot, Woolwich.

**Fourth (365 runs, £400)** Capt D J Leek, 203  
(W) Gen Hosp RAMC (V), Cardiff.

**Fifth (360 runs, £300)** Sgt J D Grimes, 1 Bn  
REME, BFPO 36.

**Sixth (358 runs, £200)** Maj D A S Davis, HQ  
RSME, Chatham.

**Seventh (354 runs, £100)** Sgt P J Gilby, 2 Bn  
REME, BFPO 38.

### AUGUST 27, 1994

**First (688 runs, £2,000)** Bdr M B Gillespie,  
RSA, Larkhill.

**Second (673 runs, £1,000)** WO1 D Nichol,  
Log Sp Regt, Hong Kong.

**Third (639 runs, £500)** Maj D A Fagg, 4 Regt  
AAC, BFPO 41.

**Fourth (613 runs, £400)** Sgt J R Unwin, 1 (UK)  
ADSR, BFPO 15.

**Fifth (598 runs, £300)** Maj G Wood, MoD PB2,  
Stanmore.

**Sixth (596 runs, £200)** Cpl B Devlin, 1 QO  
Hldrs, Edinburgh.

**Seventh (591 runs, £100)** Cpl C J Deed, ASPT,  
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D6

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ATHLETICS GOLF FOOTBALL TRIATHLON

## Golden girl Kelly is now a major talent

CPL KELLY Holmes confirmed her status as a world-class middle distance runner when she won the gold medal in the Commonwealth Games 1,500m at Victoria in Canada.

The Aldershot-based PTI ran a beautifully judged race, finishing powerfully to hold off strong Canadian and South African challenges in the final straight. Her winning time was 4min 08.86sec.

This was Holmes's first win at a major international championship and follows soon after

her silver medal at the European championships earlier in the month.

Holmes, currently serving with 251 Signal Squadron, who was due to begin a sergeant's course later this year, is considering her future in the Army. Her next major challenge on the track will be the World Cup at Crystal Palace.

Her track season will end with a number of 800m races in the UK and on the Continent.

## Sappers' putt out to claim golf crown

SAPPERS have claimed the Inter-Corps golf title in Germany for the first time for 20 years.

The Royal Engineers, who fielded two teams, beat off 13 other corps at Sennelager (British Army) Golf Club.

They were given an excellent start in the qualifying rounds by Brig Tony Kerr and Spr Jim Taylor and went on to beat the Royal Artillery in a tense semi-final. With the teams level at 4-4, Maj David Hamilton put the sappers through.

All square after 18 holes, Hamilton kept his cool and sank a 35ft putt to win the match after four tense extra holes.

In the final against the strong RLC team, SSgt Tony Christie and Taylor won their matches but Hamilton and Kerr were both beaten. Engineer hopes rested with Spr Ian Cowley who played some stunning golf against the very experienced WO2 Thomson.

One up after the 16th, Cowley holed a 40ft birdie putt on the 17th to clinch the title for the sappers.

The RE B team finished sixth in the plate competition.

### TAYSIDE

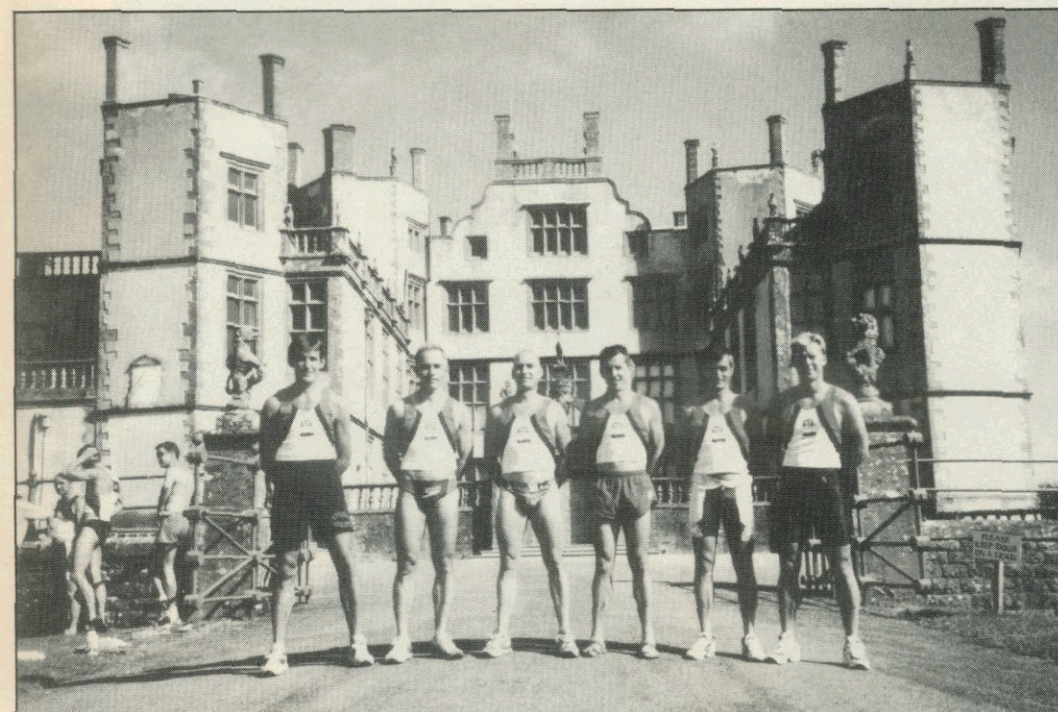
Sgt Fraser Doyle (REME) from ACIO Bathgate near Edinburgh was the first winner of the AEA Recruitment Chal-

lenge Trophy golf tournament staged by Army Careers Tayside and Fife.

WO2 Ron Creasey was the scratch winner at the Tulliallan Golf Club, WO1 Gordon McInnes (R Signals) won the Tayside and Fife Challenge Shield, and CSgt Alasdair Macauley (A and SH) organised the event.



Winning sappers: (from left) Brig Tony Kerr, Spr Jim Taylor, SSgt Tony Christie, Maj David Hamilton, Spr Ian Cowley and Maj Neil Jordan who represented the Royal Engineers in the Inter-Corps championships



The victorious Inter-Services Army Men's Over 35 team: (from left) Sgt Reading, Maj McManners, WO2 Roberts, WO2 Hookings, WO1 Vavangas and Cpl Little

## Women's football joins the fixtures

FOR THE first time, the Army Football Association fixture list includes a women's event, the finals of a new six-a-side competition to be played at Aldershot on April 12.

A series of women's sixes are planned around the Districts.

Meanwhile, in the men's game, and barring injury and operational calls, the Army should start the new season

with most of last year's squad available. Only Peter Batey is missing, the former Para having left the Service.

Coach WO2 (QMSI) Joey Roach (APTC) was getting his first chance to evaluate new players when the Army's 1994-95 fixtures got under way against Uxbridge at Aldershot on September 5. By the time the Army play Dover Athletic two weeks and three games later, he and manager Maj Alan File (APTC) should have chosen their first team squad.

The Royal Air Force visit Aldershot on March 8 in the Inter-Services opener, and the Army take on the Royal Navy at Portsmouth on March 15. The title is jointly held by the Army and RAF.

On the domestic front, the Army sixes will be staged at Aldershot on October 5 and the first round of the Army Challenge Cup will be played by October 14, culminating in the final at Aldershot on April 26. The Minor Units final is on April 5, also at Aldershot.

The South West Counties Cup programme kicks off against Hampshire at Eastleigh on December 12.

## SPORT

## Army's elite squad take a knock

THE MEN's elite team competition at the Inter-Services triathlon championships, hosted by the Royal Navy and held in the grounds of Sherborne Castle, Dorset, developed into a duel between the Navy and Army teams.

With eight to count the Army team, though, faced an uphill struggle from the start. LCpl Stacey Robinson, the Army champion, emerged the worse for wear in a hectic scramble at the start of the swim and never fully recovered, finishing 19th.

Worse still, Sgt Dave Mutch was knocked off his bike by a car during the cycle section. Disaster aside, the Army team managed to take four of the top ten places, but it was the Royal Navy, with all eight team members in the top 18 places, who squeezed the Army into second place to take the trophy.

Despite missing out on the men's elite team trophy, the Army team, sponsored by GKN Defence, hit winning ways thanks to the Men's Over 35 team led home by Maj Peter McManners. Continuing from where they left off at the end of last season, they convincingly outperformed the other two Services to take the team title in their section of the competition.

On an individual note, Maj Rob Herring, the Army duathlon champion, pulled himself up from a mediocre swim placing to record the fourth fastest cycle split and second fastest run split to finish third overall.

There was a third place, too, for LCpl Sonia Hurst (the current Army champion) in the women's elite individual competition. Once again it was the 10km run where she produced the fastest split time which helped her move up several placings.



# Army makes light work of RAF victory

IMPECCABLE sportsmanship by the Army handed the Inter-Services cricket title to the Royal Air Force at Aldershot last month.

Chasing an imposing RAF total of 238-9, the hosts had subsided to 91 for six by their 32nd over when they were offered the light three times by the umpires. They refused on each occasion.

Had the players gone off in the gloom, the trophy would have been shared because under the competition rules 35 overs have to be bowled for there to be a result.

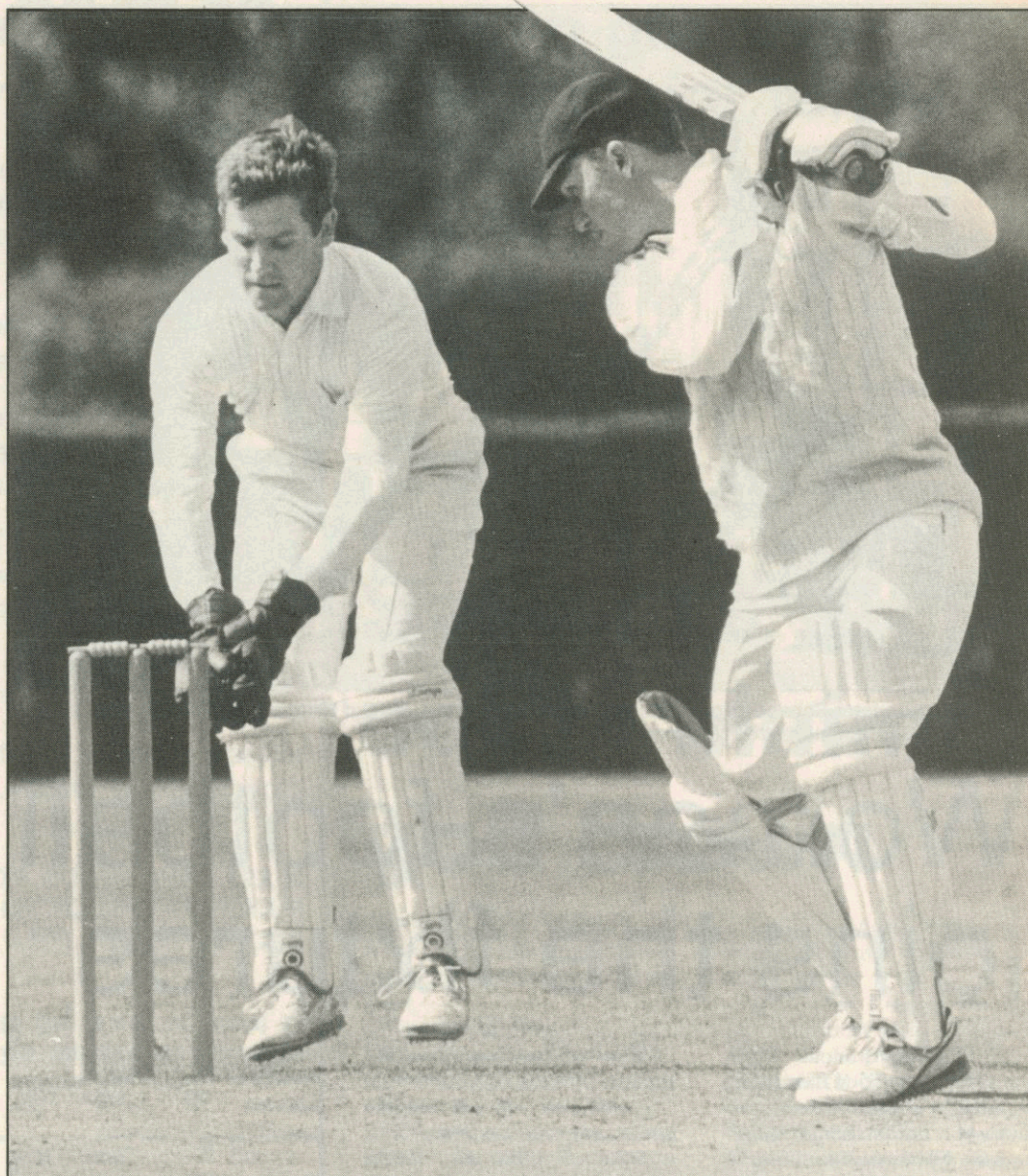
The Army never recovered from losing their first four wickets for 24 runs, Flt Lt Paul Singleton and Cpl Chris Whyborn doing the damage.

Skipper Capt Richard Greatorex battled his way to 31 off 66 balls, and Capt James Carr-Smith added 25 batting at number 10. Only three others reached double figures as the Army were bowled out for 138 in the 40th over.

Earlier, Capt Jim Cotterill had been the most successful Army bowler, finishing with 4-54. Carr-Smith bowled his ten overs for a miserly 25 runs. Cpl Adie Jones top-scored for the RAF with 59 from 78 balls.

For the Royal Navy, however, the three-day festival was one of missed chances. They could so easily have claimed the title.

Having lost to the RAF off



Army wicketkeeper Capt Peter Germain in action during the match against the Royal Navy at Aldershot

the final delivery of the first day when their 'keeper fumbled the ball, the Navy also went down to the Army on the last ball of the match.

And again their wicketkeeper was culpable, dropping a difficult catch to allow the Army to score the winning run.

Having inserted the sailors, the Army had to chase a total of 241-8. Gdsm Ian Redfern (73), Greatorex (30), Capt Ian Fielding (24), Capt Peter Germain (31) and Capt Dave Richmond (31 not out) got them to 239, but last man Lt Patrick Logan (1 not out) had to make his contribution before the match was won in a thrilling finale.

On day one of the tournament, the Navy scored 243-5 and the RAF responded with 244-8.

Both visiting Services were highly complimentary on the wickets, the grounds and the standard of catering.

## ROYAL NAVY

P Andrew st Germain b Carr-Smith .....	113
A Proctor ct Carr-Smith b St George .....	1
C W P Hobson ct Logan b St George .....	11
A Falconer ct Fielding b Matthews .....	0
R E C Hollington ct Palmer b Richmond .....	62
P H G Moore ct Matthews b Cotterill .....	24
J Mann st Germain b Cotterill .....	6
P Barsby not out .....	5
S Adams run out .....	0
S Miles not out .....	1
D Garbutt did not bat	
Extras .....	18
Total (for 8 wickets, 55 overs) .....	241

**FOW:** 1-4; 2-34; 3-39; 4-163; 5-212; 6-235; 7-235; 8-235.

**Bowling:** P D O Logan 11-3-48-0; C St George 11-1-32-2; D Matthews 11-3-33-1; J Carr-Smith 11-1-42-1; J W S Cotterill 9-1-55-2; D C Richmond 2-0-23-1.

## ARMY

Capt J W S Cotterill ct Hollington b Miles .....	10
Gdsm I Redfern st Adams b Procter .....	73
Sgt N Palmer ct Adams b Moore .....	10
Lt C St George ct Adams b Moore .....	1
Capt R J Greatorex ct Hollington b Mann .....	30
Capt I S Fielding run out .....	24
Capt P S Germain lbw Moore .....	31
Capt D C Richmond not out .....	31
Pte D Matthews run out .....	4
Capt J Carr-Smith b Moore .....	0
Lt P D O Logan not out .....	1
Extras .....	27
Total (for 9 wickets, 55 overs) .....	242

**FOW:** 1-11; 2-45; 3-53; 4-125; 5-151; 6-204; 7-239; 8-239.

**Bowling:** D Garbutt 6-0-38-0; S Miles 10-2-37-1; P H G Moore 11-1-37-4; A Proctor 11-1-55-1; J Mann 11-1-36-1; P Barsby 6-1-23-0.

The Army won by 1 wicket.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE

J W Riddell lbw Logan .....	9
G S Lumb ct Germain b St George .....	3
A Jones run out .....	59
R E Beeston lbw Logan .....	27
G H Cartmell ct Palmer b Cotterill .....	40
D W J Catlow ct Germain b Matthews .....	6
A W J Spiller ct Matthews b Cotterill .....	47
J Winwood ct Palmer b Cotterill .....	7
D J Aunber ct Carr-Smith b Cotterill .....	1
P S Singleton not out .....	5
C M Whyborn not out .....	0
Extras .....	7
Total (9 wickets, 50 overs) .....	238

**FOW:** 1-14; 2-89; 3-106; 4-136; 5-174; 6-176; 7-209; 8-223; 9-237.

**Bowling:** P D O Logan 10-0-41-2; J S A Carr-Smith 10-1-25-0; D C Richmond 1-0-8-0; C St George 10-0-56-1; J W S Cotterill 10-1-54-4; D Matthews 9-0-50-1.

## ARMY

Capt J W S Cotterill ct Aunger b Whyborn .....	2
Gdsm I Redfern ct Aunger b Singleton .....	13
Sgt N Palmer ct Cartmell b Whyborn .....	4
Lt C St George ct Aunger b Whyborn .....	0
Capt R J Greatorex ct Whyborn b Beeston .....	31
Capt I S Fielding ct Aunger b Beeston .....	3
Capt P S Germain run out .....	17
Capt D C Richmond ct Lumb b Spiller .....	10
Pte D Matthews run out .....	0
Capt J Carr-Smith b Spiller .....	25
Lt P D O Logan not out .....	1
Extras .....	32
Total (for 10 wickets, 39.5 overs) .....	138

**FOW:** 1-11; 2-21; 3-22; 4-24; 5-51; 6-91; 7-93; 8-94; 9-119; 10-138.

**Bowling:** P S Singleton 10-2-22-2; C M Whyborn 7-2-15-2; J Winwood 5-0-12-0; R E Beeston 10-2-41-2; A W J Spiller 7.5-0-29-2.

RAF won by 100 runs.





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British and Belgian airmobile troops work together with the Light Strike Vehicle during 24 Airmobile Brigade's Exercise Gryphon's Eye on Salisbury Plain. Details in news pages.

Picture: Terry Champion



**SOLDIER**