

SOLDIER

9 MARCH 1987

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FRONT COVER: This is what learning to parachute in the Army is all about. Read how they teach the basics at 1 Parachute Training School, RAF Brize Norton. Page 23.

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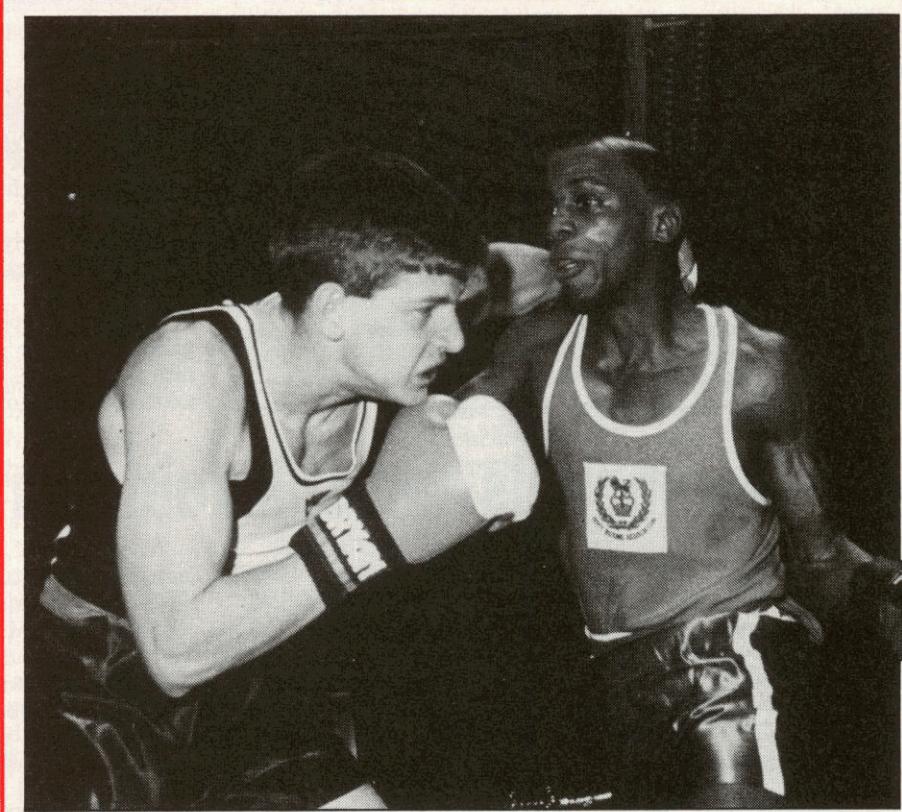
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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!



ABA champion LCpl Tony Velinor (right) in action against Seaman Tony Bonser of the Royal Navy. Velinor won, and so did the Army to record their fourth consecutive Inter-Services team title. Full report in the sports pages.

NEXT ISSUE

A SOLDIER team has been visiting units of the Rear Combat Zone in the Dusseldorf area of BAOR. Reports and pictures will appear in the next issue of the magazine.

ALSO

A nostalgic look back at the Auster AOP 9, last of an era of fixed wing aircraft that had to make way for the helicopter.

REUNIONS

● A number of events will be held in Edinburgh and Glasgow to mark the 40th anniversary of the raising of 15th (Scottish Volunteer) Bn The Parachute Regiment, May 9. Details from Admin Officer, 15 Para (SV), Pearson Hall, 172 Yorkhill Street, Glasgow G3 8PH.

● 23 Parachute Field Ambulance will be holding a reunion for past members of the Airborne Medical Services at Aldershot on Saturday July 4 to coincide with Airborne Forces Weekend. Details from Chief Clark, 23 Parachute Field Ambulance, Rhine Barracks, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2AX. The unit will be holding an all ranks function on July 3.

● RAMC/RADC WOs' and Sgts' Past and Present Dinner Club annual dinner and reunion will be held on May 9 at the Royal Officers' Club, Aldershot. Further details from RSM, RAMC Training Group, Keogh Barracks, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants GU12 5RQ.

● The Royal Regiment of Wales' annual association reunion dinner takes place in the Assembly Hall, City Hall, Cardiff

on Sat, June 27. Tickets and details from Maj (Retd) P L Cutler, RRW RHQ, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. Tel: (222) 27611 Ext 215.

● 9th Parachute Bn Reunion Dining Club 25th annual dinner on Saturday March 21 at the TA Centre, White City, London. Further details from Doug Woodcraft, tel 0621 892371.

● Combined Ex-Service Association Military Weekend, June 19-21 in Bridlington, Yorks. All ex-Service and friends made welcome. Enquiries to Mrs Eileen Youd (chairman), 25 Belgrave Road, Bridlington.

● 11th Royal Tank Regiment annual reunion, April 25-26 takes place in Bournemouth. Contact Colin Weeks, 4 Coronation Road, Banwell, Weston-Super-Mare, Avon BS24 6AZ (tel 0934-820307).

● The 3rd Divisional Signals Reunion Club AGM and annual dinner, Victory Services Club, 63/79, Seymour Street, London W2 on March 28. Details from the chairman, Maj K N Smartt, 'Imber', Millway Road, Andover, Hants SP10 3EU (tel: 0264-52297).

LETTERS

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

That word!

The letter from "Wife of SSgt" reminded me that we had a spate of filthy language in my regiment in the Middle East in 1942.

My quartermaster had a bright idea and at the next regimental discussion group he stated that we were very short of some MT spares and asked for a few of the "self reproducing light bulbs of which he heard so much".

This was closely followed by an OR stating that his last breakfast was "enry 'alls bruvver". The two produced gales of laughter and, for the next three months until I left to take command of an Indian

regiment, the seven letter word virtually disappeared. — Col (Retd) A H Woodland, Victorian House, Wedmore, Somerset BS28 4AE.

Hearty thanks to "Wife of SSgt" (SOLDIER, February 9) for her letter about "that" word, one of several which have crept into everyday speech, at least for some people. It seems to me to be a sign of low intelligence to have to pepper one's language with these words.

Sad thing is that they are used on radio and television, which gives them a certain respectability.

I have been told that an officer who swears is frowned upon by the authorities, so why cannot the Services encourage all personnel to watch their tongues as part of the training in fitness and discipline?

I was a Service child, a serving adult, a Service wife and am now a Service mother and I do not think I am a "fuddy-duddy" but regret that standards in the Services are such that these mindless expressions are in such common use. — Service wife and mother, name and address supplied.

come into existence until April 1967; the Palestine qualifying period ended in May 1948 and the others ended in 1945.

Though there will be plenty with the TD and bar, they will probably have the brooch Territorial rather than T&AVR. — Maj S Baldwin MBE TD RRF (V), HQ London District, Horse Guards, London SW1.

Incidentally, I wonder whether my group is unique. Besides two war medals it includes the GSM Palestine and the TD (T&AVR) with bar. The T&AVR brooch did not

The remark that Field Marshal Bramall was the last war medallist to serve is wide of

Two war medals and still going strong

Lt Col Nesbitt asks (SOLDIER, February 8) how many others with a war medal are still serving. If he is prepared to count the TA then I am among them. I have two war medals and am still serving (at least I was until publication of this letter!).

Incidentally, I wonder whether my group is unique. Besides two war medals it includes the GSM Palestine and the TD (T&AVR) with bar. The T&AVR brooch did not

come into existence until April 1967; the Palestine qualifying period ended in May 1948 and the others ended in 1945.

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Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen L A H Napier, shows the King and Queen of Kwa Zulu a shell found on the battlefield at Isandhlwana



King of the Zulus visits Rorke's Drift museum

IT was a case of history in reverse. The day a Zulu king and queen came to Wales!

The King and Queen of Kwa Zulu, King Goodwill Zwelitini Zulu Ka Bhekezulu and Queen Mtombe, visited the regimental museum of the South Wales Borderers at Brecon on a private visit.

For the Zulu nation have good reason to honour the Welsh soldiers who fought against them just over a hundred years ago at the famous battles of Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift. The Zulus under King Cetawayo massacred two battalions of Welsh soldiers at Isandhlwana.

The following day at Rorke's Drift a company of the 24th of Foot held off thousands of Zulus in a gallant action which earned a total of 11 VCs.

King Goodwill is a keen historian and had wanted for some time to visit the museum.

Later the royal couple looked at the regimental chapel in Brecon Cathedral where they saw the actual regimental Colours recovered from the battlefield at Isandhlwana.

New Zealand to buy 5.56mm rifle

THE New Zealand Army is to be re-equipped with Steyr AUG-1 rifles under the terms of a contract signed with neighbouring Australia.

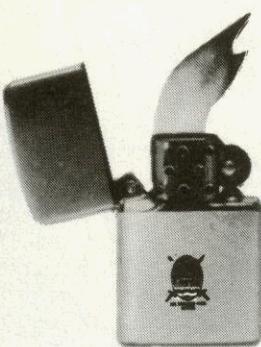
The agreement marks a major step in defence cooperation between the two countries and will result in the new 5.56mm rifles replacing New Zealand's Fabrique Nationale 7.62mm self-loading rifles which have been in service for more than 25 years.

Starstreak choice

GRAVINGER has been picked by Shorts to design, develop and produce the ignition safety unit for the new Starstreak close air defence hypervelocity missile. The unit will ensure that the second stage rocket motor of the missile does not fire until it has reached a safe distance from the launcher.

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Gurkhas in Cyclone Uma mercy dash

GURKHA sappers from Hong Kong have been involved in a second mercy mission to a cyclone ravaged South Pacific island.

Just weeks after men from The Queen's Gurkha Engineers had flown to the aid of the Cook Islands devastated by Cyclone Sally, 20 sappers flew from Kai Tak Airport, Hong Kong, to Port Vila, capital of Vanuatu, which took the full brunt of Cyclone Uma's 100mph winds.

Scores of people died in the disaster and 15,000 were left homeless.

Capt David Williams led the party of Gurkha sappers, who joined a major rescue mission involving Australia, France and New Zealand.

Sounds like a recipe for success

BERLIN cooks competed in a "baker's dozen" of classes, all vying for tasty placings in the Army's southern catering region competition in Hereford and, eventually, next month's Army finals at Aldershot.

Results were: *Chef of the Year*, Sgt J Murphy, 1 D and D; *Young Chef of the Year*, Pte D Martin, 62 Tpt & Mov Sqn, RCT; *cook-and-serve*, LCpl G Baker and Cpl N Mears, 1 D and D; *potato*, Sgt E Preston, BMH; *works in pastillage*, Sgt W Peck, 38 Fd Sqn, RE; *petits fours*, W/LCpl K Bryan, 29 Sig Regt; *cold buffet*, Sgt G Crisp, 1 D and D; *cold sweet*, Sgt C Campbell, 29 Sig Regt; *decorated cake in royal icing*, Cpl J Bennett, 1 RHF; *decorated gateau and French pastries*, W/LCpl P Thornhill, 29 Sig Regt; *cold pie*, W/Pte A Williams, 29 Sig Regt; *Challenge Trophy*, W/LCpl K Bryan, 29 Sig Regt; *civilian class*, Mr G Ellwood, 29 Sig Regt.

Bielefeld MSO sets road safety record

THE 225-strong 623 MT Unit Mixed Services Organisation (MSO) based at Bielefeld, BAOR, has set a new road safety record, an all-time best since its formation in 1948.

The unit's 119 vehicles covered 2,853,131 kilometres last year with only four attributable accidents. No injuries were caused and no vehicles were classed as beyond economic repair.

The unit, which includes only three members of the Regular Army, has 16 nationalities on its staff and traces its history back to the Civil Mixed Labour Organisation raised shortly after the war.

623 MT Unit forms part of 25 Transport and Movements Regt, RCT and is

Four badly hurt in demolition accident

FOUR soldiers taking part in Junior NCOs Tactical Course at Sennybridge, Wales, were seriously ill in hospital at Hereford, following an accident which happened while they were engaged in demolition training.

They are Sgt Martin Brennan, 28, of the Irish Guards, the instructor, who lost an eye and was admitted to the Victoria Eye Hospital, Hereford; LCpl James Jones, 23, 1st Bn Welsh Guards, who has extensive and severe injuries to his

stomach and has had some fingers amputated; Cpl David Brown, 26, 1st Bn The King's Regt, who has lost a hand, undergone stomach surgery and has lacerations and burns to his body; and Cpl Gurung Gmhahadur, 25, of 6 Gurkha Rifles, who had a hand amputated, his other hand badly injured and an eye damaged.

A Board of Inquiry and a full investigation will be held says the Ministry of Defence.



Soldiers of the Queen's Gurkha Engineer Regiment load equipment in preparation for their journey to Vanuatu. Supervising the loading is WO2 Peter Hayward (right) who led the advance party

commanded by Maj Ken Lloyd-Jones.

From its barracks in Bielefeld the unit, which has its own small REME LAD, deploys vehicles daily on tasks including school buses delivering 900 children to three schools, a freight distribution service – sometimes as far as the Channel ports – the distribution of bread from the RAOC's Bielefeld bakery and the running of ambulances, staff cars and domestic vehicles.

Blue issue shirts and MSO badges are the only distinguishing marks when the unit sends its personnel out on exercise in support of 1 (BR) Corps and German is now the only language used commonly among all employees.

New Bellerby camp opened

A NEW £145,000 Bellerby Camp has been opened on the Catterick Training Area to replace the old hutt camp which dated from 1928 and was demolished three years ago.

Built of stone to comply with local building regulations, the new bivouac camp consists of three buildings – a guardroom and offices, dining room and ablutions – with a field opposite for 250 tents. It will be used by visiting units for range firing and dry training.

Royal visitor

The Victory Services Club in Seymour St, London, is to have a royal visitor. Prince Philip, the club's patron-in-chief, will visit the club, near Marble Arch, on March 12.

BCoy shows the way with £1,000

A BIG smile from Tony Castleton, rapt attention from his guide dog Nero and an air of satisfaction for a job well done from Col Arthur Soar, Commandant of Princess Marina College, Arborfield, and two apprentices from B Company.

And they have every right to feel proud, for Apprentice Tradesmen RSM David Bryson and CSM Alan Hughes were handing to Mr Castleton, appeals manager for the Guide Dog for the Blind Association Training Centre at Wokingham, an outsize cheque for £1,000 – just enough to

train a dog for a blind person.

Each company at the college adopts a charity and B Company, a REME outfit, linked up with the Blind Association to do their bit for the community.

It was B Company's first effort at fund-raising and, in appreciation of their help, the association has named one of its dogs, Marina, after the college.

Picture: Reading Chronicle.



Medic honoured



SGT STEPHEN WHEELER, MAJ GEN EARL CATHCART: top honour

RAMC Sgt Stephen Wheeler was among more than 100 people invested with the Order of St John by the Lord Prior of the Order, Maj Gen The Earl Cathcart, at a ceremony in London. A St John man for

the past 25 years, he was invested as a Serving Brother for his work as a cadet and member of St John Ambulance Brigade.

Currently based at the Army Careers Information office at Gloucester, Stephen

has maintained links with the Order and when in Cyprus from 1980-82 was in charge of the English Division of St John.

Now, because of his continued service, he has been promoted within the order, an honour personally approved by the Queen as head of the organisation.

SSVC's 3-way split

THE NEWS that SSVC has shelled out £125,000 to Forces' welfare funds in a three-way split will raise a few eyebrows and the question: "Where did they get all that spare cash?"

The short answer is they earned it as a civil company and a registered charity.

Their income comes from the Defence Budget,

from trading activities such as video shops and cinemas, and from training support services for non-military customers.

These activities leave them with a financial "surplus" which is shared by the Army, Royal Navy and RAF.

While the share-out itself is nothing new, it will add sparkle to SSVC's halo when unknowing listeners, viewers and CSE audiences learn that, in



ROGER MALLINDINE, BRIAN MACRAE: generous measure of malt

Brian takes a break and a sip!

THE Queen's piper, Pipe Major Brian MacRae of the Gordon Highlanders, got a welcome dram of whisky when he took a break from playing during a malt tasting in the Goldsmiths Hall, London.

Brian was poured a generous measure of 12-year-old Speyside malt by Roger Mallindine of the Distillers Company who market Cardhu whisky throughout the UK.

The tasting was held to raise money for the National Trust.



Top award for fire-fighting chef

COOKS can't do their job without pots and pans... and Army master chef WO2 Nick Jenkins ACC knew this when he dived into the smoke and flames of his blazing kitchen to rescue utensils and lead firemen to gas

taps and electrical switches.

It was a brave thing to do, but had Nick not acted as he did, there would have been a lot of hungry soldiers, for a time anyway, at Drumadd Barracks, Armagh, when fire des-

troied his kitchen and dining room.

Then he was a staff sergeant in charge of catering, now he's a WO2 at Catterick Garrison and he received from Maj Gen Charles Guthrie, GOC North East District, a

commendation for his quick action.

The commendation says Nick "entered the smoke-filled kitchen without the aid of breathing apparatus to indicate to firemen the mains services stop taps and in doing so salvaged much of the cooking equipment. The fire totally destroyed the dining hall and most of the kitchen."

European title for smiling Diane

SOLDIER's wife Diane Furness has plenty to smile about after being voted Naafi's most courteous and friendliest staff member in Europe.

Diane, a clerk in the Nienburg families shop, was chosen after local management and staff nominated her for her friendly smile and rapport with customers.

OPEN TO ALL

The competition was open to all staff serving in European Service shops and clubs, but Diane's winning ways beat all comers to take the gold award and a DM500 food hamper. She received this from Lt Col C Elliott, CO 21 Engr Regt, with which her husband Cpl John Furness is serving.

Said Diane: "I knew Naafi was running a courtesy campaign, but until I won the 1 Div regional final I didn't realise there was a competition.

I've always been one for chatting to people and smiling a lot. Perhaps it's got something to do

with being a Geordie – we're a pretty friendly bunch!"

Said top Naafi manager

Keith Radley: "Customer courtesy is the key to any retailing organisation and the 1986 campaign made

our staff more aware of how they are expected to give the best service possible."

IT WAS a poignant moment at the Royal Scots' Museum in Edinburgh Castle when the medals of the late WO John Loudon were handed in for safe keeping. Mr Loudon died in a car accident with his wife, Rena, and ten-year-old son, Paul, in April 1979. Now his medals, the GSM 1962 with three clasps – Radfan, South Arabia and Northern Ireland – and the LSGCM, have been handed to the regimental museum by his mother.

PEOPLE

Royal Scot's medals handed to museum



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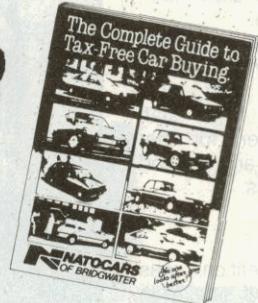


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Midlands Terriers star in action video

Territorial Army soldiers from all over the Midlands are getting a taste of Hollywood these days.

The bullets are all blanks, the grenades loud but harmless thunderbolts and the "make-up" nothing more than camouflage cream.

As helicopters thunder over and the mortars fire, the TA men are ordered to attack the same target time and again – until the cameraman say it's right.

It's all in aid of a new video aimed at telling the public – and in particular employers – about the TA of the 1980s. The film has been commissioned by the Birmingham-based TAVRA, the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association.

The producer is Tim Cooper, a former TA soldier who has an international reputation for covering real wars in Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Uganda. The cameraman, Phil Winn, formerly a TA para, is also a veteran of Afghanistan and the Lebanon fighting.

TA spokesman, Major Peter

SOLDIER to Soldier

Jones the medals

THE medals of a gallant Welshman who fought at Rorke's Drift in the Zulu Wars were being sold at Sotheby's in London on March 5.

Private Evan Jones of the South Wales Borderers was with the garrison of about 140 men, mainly from his regiment, who defended the Mission Station at Rorke's Drift against a force of about 3,000 Zulus in the famous battle of 1879.

No fewer than 11 VCs were awarded, seven to the South Wales Borderers, and Queen Victoria was so impressed by the story that she requested a special account of the action to be written by the senior officer present, and sent to her at Windsor Castle.

Private Jones had joined the Army only two years before at the age of 18. His South Africa Medal 1877-8-9 with one clasp,

along with two other medals for later service in India and Burma and with the Territorial Force, gains enormously in value to collectors because of his presence at Rorke's Drift. The medals, with his original Pay, Allowances and Clothing book, were expected to fetch £3,500-£4,500.

Private Jones was a member of the Royal Monmouth Engineers before joining the South Wales Borderers. He became a drummer, later joining the Montgomery Yeomanry, and in 1915 was attested at Aberystwyth for the 2/7 Royal Welch Fusiliers, rising to the rank of Acting Lance Sergeant, before his discharge in 1919. He was then a private with the Northumberland Fusiliers from 1919-1920.

He died in 1931 aged 72.



Pte Evan Jones

Rhodes says: "This video not only shows the skills that people learn with the TA but also makes the point that we provide more than 30 per cent of Army manpower for less than five per cent of the Army budget."

Bucks tribute to its military past

Buckinghamshire is a county with a proud and deep-rooted "amateur" military tradition.

Its citizen soldiers have distinguished themselves down the centuries and have strongly influenced its social, economic and political past, from the trained bands of Tudor and Stuart times to the militia, yeomanry and volunteers of the Napoleonic wars and nineteenth century; to the Royal Bucks Hussars and Bucks battalions and the Volunteer Training Corps and Home Guard of two world wars.

Until now there has been no museum in the county devoted to its auxiliary forces and citizen soldiers, but the newly

formed Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust aims to present the story of Bucks units in a new museum, which will feature uniforms, medals, equipment, photographs, documents and other relics.

The trust is considering a likely site for the display of its collections to the public, and anticipates mounting the first displays in 1987/8, although this will depend upon funding and progress in renovation at the proposed museum site.

The trust is seeking financial assistance and further military material for its collections.

Views expressed in SOLDIER are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.

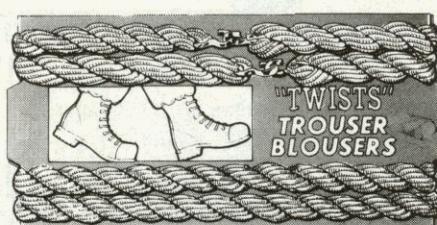
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2 R Irish prepare for the Falklands while TA

GOING... GOING...

MEN of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers, just arrived in the faraway Falklands have not gone there untrained for the rigours of an impending South Atlantic winter 8,000 miles away.

Before setting off for their stint, the Rangers completed a ten-day exercise - Exercise Green Penguin - on the similar terrained Sennybridge training area. It was there that the former 5 Infantry Brigade - now Airborne - did their pre-Falklands tune-up during Exercise Welsh Falcon just weeks before the Argentinian invasion of April 1982, writes Graham Smith.

Top of the training agenda were long "yomps" totting weights of up to 100 lbs.

Lt Col Digby O'Lone, the outgoing CO of 2½ years who handed over command, said: "It takes a certain determined fitness training to achieve this type of load carrying ability."

The enemy was soon routed

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TOYOTA



Getting in some yomping across the Welsh hills is the machine gun platoon of 2 R Irish

and dispatched.

But all good rehearsals come to an end and the Rangers were soon returning to their brine-blown barracks at breezy Dover where they were based.

Someone - they think it was the RSM - was heard to say later: "The harder you train the easier the task on the day!"

Historically, the Rangers were away in the southern hemisphere for that most treasured day in Irishmen's hearts - St Patrick's Day.

Story and pictures by Col Sgt Leo Callow

Every story, though, has a happy ending. Shamrock should have arrived from Ireland in time for the festivities via the islands' new Mount Pleasant Airport.



Spr Graham Todd, originally from Cornwall but now living in Germany after eight years with the Royal Engineers, helped to dig a massive pit for Argentine war debris when his TA unit held its annual camp in the Falklands

sappers notch up a 'first' in the South Atlantic

GOING...



Sgt Gordon Bell and Spr Derek Laidlaw grew up not far from each other in Scotland but met for the first time on their annual camp in the Falkland Islands. Both now live in West Germany

IT was a TA sapper "first" - two weeks in the South Atlantic to clear away the last of the Argentine debris of war in the Falklands.

The honour went to the two dozen men of 410 (BAOR) Plant Troop Sqn, RE, who man the unit formed just seven months earlier.

The willing workers were there as part of their annual camp and are, perhaps, pioneers of TA camps in the Falklands. Others may follow the lead of the sappers.

Their tasks included reclaiming metal matting from the former RAF Stanley airfield and the removal of debris at Moody Brook.

Like other Continental TA units, 410 Plant Troop, based on Osnabrück, is recruited from Britons who have settled in Germany, usually after Service experience.

The idea of an annual camp in the Falklands was the thought of Lt Col Kevin O'Donoghue, CO of 25 Engineer Regt, the unit involved in the restoration of the area round Stanley during Operation Flogger.

By completing their Falklands stint the new part-time BAOR soldiers will qualify for their bounty.

But the work was hard. Burned by the sun and "sand-blasted" by dust on the gusting winds

Terriers from the Continent help to tidy up

offshore, the BAOR sappers had to dig a massive pit into which they piled the wrecks of Argentinian vehicles, helicopters, field kitchens and even light aircraft at Moody Brook, west of Stanley.

Brig Graham Coxon, Chief of Staff of the British Forces Falkland Islands said: "I have been extremely impressed by their determination, good humour and, not least, by their skill."

The sappers were in no doubt about the success of the venture.

Officer Cadet David Newman (35), whose parents live at Colchester, said: "It is a privilege to be able to take part in the restoration of Stanley and it is rather nice that the TA have a role. It means that the camp has been creative and constructive."

Sgt Keith Livermore (29) from Scotton, Catterick, found himself doing an almost identical task to his civilian job. He was operating plant to fill in the craters left by the bombing of Stanley Airfield.

Back at Osnabrück, where he has settled with his wife Sabine and their two children, he repairs roads.

Keith, who served for six years as a Regular with the Royal Engineers, said: "I rejoined as a TA soldier because I missed the Army life. But I never imagined for a moment I would get as far as the Falklands."

by Maj Aubrey Chalmers

GONE!



Spr Dave Phipps found time to photograph wildlife in the Falklands. Originally from London he spent six years as a Regular with the Royal Engineers and now lives near Osnabrück, West Germany

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Men of the AMETS troop release a pilot balloon. They are wearing flash masks, gloves and goggles in case of malfunction with the hydrogen generator behind them. In the foreground is the radar tracking equipment

AMETS aims to put the gunners bang on target — *whatever the weather!*

ARTILLERY controllers had little need to worry about weather conditions in the days — not so long ago — when guns could just about lob a shell from one side of a valley to the other.

Strong local winds should have been considered but it is unlikely that gunners of old would ever have foreseen the need for the specialist knowledge that is a hallmark of the Artillery Meteorological System (AMETS).

Shells are now in the air so long that adverse conditions can play havoc with accuracy. Precise calculations are needed to assess the fall of shot after a trajectory arching thousands of feet through the earth's atmosphere and several miles across its surface.

AMETS troops are generally 20 strong and part of a locating regiment such as Larkhill.

• Turn to next page

Unloading a camera from the Midge drone after a reconnaissance flight. Parachute and inflatable shock cushions are clearly visible
Right - Placing a sound ranging microphone into its carefully calculated and camouflaged position on the sound base
Inset - Maj Edwin Harding, OC 22 Locating Battery - "We've got a pretty mixed bag here"



Wind and humidity can

affect accuracy

Story:
Mervyn Wynne Jones
Pictures:
Terry Champion

● From Page 17
based 94 Locating Regiment RA whose barracks are within eyeshot of Stonehenge.

Here the AMETS troop is part of 22 Locating Battery which is earmarked for service with the 14,000 strong United Kingdom Mobile Force as an element of the 1st Infantry Brigade based at Tidworth, Hampshire.

The small hydrogen balloons, which can be filled by a field generator if there are no gas cylinders available, are tracked by radar until they burst at 20,000 feet.

Information is vital: wind can blow a shell off course, will affect the drift of material from hostile NBC rounds and can distort the detection of enemy artillery by sound ranging equipment.

The humidity or density of different layers of the atmosphere can cause a shell to fall long or short and temperature too can play its part in disturbing the fall of shot.

Losses of balloons and radio sondes means that plenty of spare items must be carried by the troop, whose vehicles include box bodied four tonners packed with instrumentation to process the feedback of information.

Microchip technology computes the information to be

provided information on wind speed and direction. Radio sondes which measure and transmit data on temperature at various altitudes are suspended beneath the balloons.

Information is vital: wind can blow a shell off course, will affect the drift of material from hostile NBC rounds and can distort the detection of enemy artillery by sound ranging equipment.

The humidity or density of different layers of the atmosphere can cause a shell to fall long or short and temperature too can play its part in disturbing the fall of shot.

94 Locating Regt CO Lt Col

Mike Smythe, who also commands the multi-national six battery artillery element of the Ace Mobile Force, told SOLDIER: "If you are going to put something up thousands of feet into the air to land 20 or more kilometres away it is vitally important to know the different types of atmosphere it will pass through."

22 Locating Battery is not all about AMETS though. The battery, under the command of Maj Edwin Harding, encompasses a wide variety of skills in its drone and sound ranging troops.

The drone troop uses the AN/USD 501 Midge which can make pre-programmed reconnaissance sweeps of 100

kilometres out over enemy positions.

Launched by a rocket booster which is later jettisoned, the Midge's size and speed make it difficult to shoot down.

Three different cameras can be carried in the Midge to offer panoramic, three dimensional or infra-red images. The images are not relayed live as they will be from its successor of the 1990s, Phoenix, but film can be processed rapidly for interpretation by intelligence teams.

Microphones, dug in and camouflaged, are strung out in a line a kilometre or two apart near the forward edge of the battle area, to be switched on as soon as enemy fire becomes audible.

Sound waves equate with ripples on a pond after a pebble is thrown in. The microphones relay their data by radio signal to a sound ranging command post which uses the information to locate the source of the

enemy fire.

The principle is not new - indeed it was used in the First World War - but the equipment has become more refined and the whole system hinges on the skills of the troop surveyors. They must be able to pinpoint the position of each microphone to within a metre.

Backed up by a second line of microphones in case the first is overrun, the troop can locate an enemy position to within 50 metres at 15 kilometres distant or to within 200 metres at 25 kilometres.

94 Locating Regiment is the biggest gunnery regiment in the Army and in its present form is just three years old.

Based until 1984 at Celle,

Germany, the regiment was moved to the UK during a cost-cutting re-shuffle.

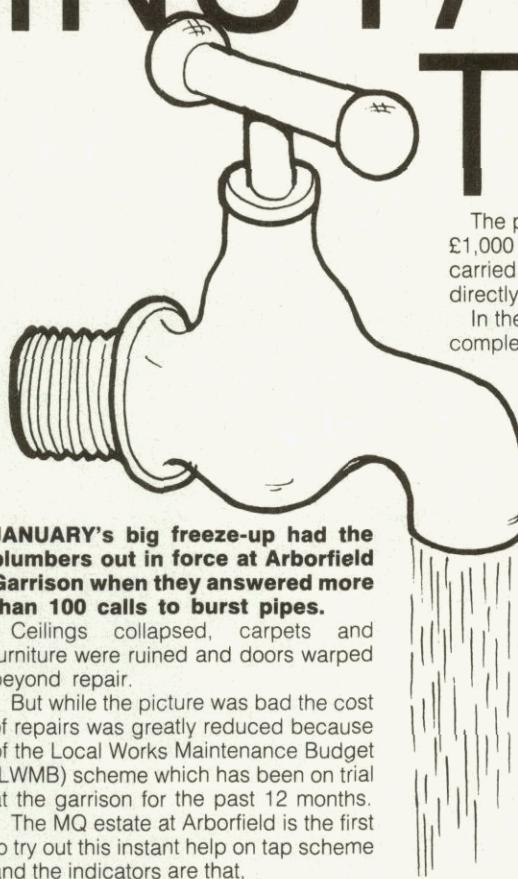
Only one of its original four batteries, 156 Locating Battery, is still part of the regiment's strength.

The other six batteries are 22 Locating Battery, 5 Field Battery equipped with 105mm light guns, 73 Mortar Locating Battery equipped with Cymbeline, Headquarters Battery, 43 Air Defence Battery equipped with Javelin and the Regimental Workshop.

43 Air Defence Battery is soon to become part of 26 Field Regiment when it moves from Bulford to Thorney Island, near Portsmouth, in early April.



INSTANT HELP ON TAP!



JANUARY'S big freeze-up had the plumbers out in force at Arborfield Garrison when they answered more than 100 calls to burst pipes.

Ceilings collapsed, carpets and furniture were ruined and doors warped beyond repair.

But while the picture was bad the cost of repairs was greatly reduced because of the Local Works Maintenance Budget (LWMB) scheme which has been on trial at the garrison for the past 12 months.

The MQ estate at Arborfield is the first to try out this instant help on tap scheme and the indicators are that, had it not been in operation, repair bills would have been much higher.

The scheme has been operating since February 1986 when the Families Housing and Welfare Service (FHWS) was given £180,000 to repair and maintain 600 married quarters.

The plan allowed them to spend up to £1,000 on a single job with the work carried out by local firms contracted directly by the FHWS.

In the first year 6,000 repair jobs were completed – from dripping taps to major repairs and decorations.

So far the trial has followed Government policy of encouraging small businesses and getting house faults put right before they develop into a major repair with ever-rising costs.

Service families, too, have benefitted as the

general inspection of jobs.

So when the garrison had 102 burst pipes in just four days the plumbing firm slept on the garrison, giving a 24-hour service and no call out charges of £15-£20.

Hi-tech bleepers are used for instant contact, something which was impossible under the previous system.

Once the job is satisfactorily completed, the bill is paid. If not, it's not paid. And for the small firms who give value for money, their cash flow problem is eased.

There is no doubt the new system gives an improved service with jobs completed within hours

Speed and efficiency

scheme has added speed and efficiency to house repairs and enhanced their quality of life. Now, because LWMB is showing signs of success, it has been extended for another year.

The FHWS has found a number of small firms who undoubtedly give value for money. This is shown in the costing of every job, the length of time taken and

rather than months or years. Urgent jobs are done within minutes as the labour force is on site.

While Arborfield can claim to be the first to operate LWMB for MQs, they are certainly not the only ones.

There are at least 50 other barrack sites with the system and another 40

ALL STEAMED UP OVER MQ HEAT PLAN

OVER the years I have highlighted the problems faced by Servicemen and women living in official accommodation needing modernisation, maintenance and repairs. And while many new MQ houses have been built (SOLDIER, Feb 23) there is still much to be desired.

Because they are the landlords and the maintenance agency, the MoD and the PSA are censured for most of the housing problems suffered by occupants of single and married accommodation.

Blame is also heaped on them for problems arising with other properties and buildings used by British Forces at home and overseas.

Now the latest black mark to come their way is the assertion by the National Audit Office that

they are failing to get value for money from their £50,000 million defence estate assets.

This means in simple accounting terms that Servicemen and women living and working in MoD estates are not getting value for money either.

Examples of this are legion. Only the other day a new central heating system was installed in houses on a married quarter estate.

That is what this National Audit Office report is all about – getting value for

supplementary heaters.

Quite simply the calculation for the system had been done on the assumption the quarters had roof and cavity wall insulation, but they had not.

A gross waste of money and even greater inconvenience to the occupants.

These quarters should be downgraded, for occupants should not be made to pay for mistakes that have been made.

That is what this National Audit Office report is all about – getting value for

Anne
HERE TO HELP



IN MY VIEW

oversee the administration, development and rationalisation of the company's estate and assets. The report suggests the MoD and PSA should consider what lessons might be learned from recent developments in other large organisations.

Much of the report is given over to the sale of surplus properties and estates, from which the receipts were returned to Service votes and did not necessarily benefit the quartering vote.

The MoD strategy was to use the money outside the ordinary Service works

Aborfield leads the way

occupants.

Of the forms returned only three showed dissatisfaction with the quality of the work. A follow-up check proved the figures correct.



WARPED DOORS AND BROKEN CEILINGS: quick repairs save money

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programme, to finance new buildings.

Two years ago, says the report, it was estimated that money from surplus sales in 1985-86 and including 1987-88 would yield £36 million to pay for buildings at Uxbridge.

The report's conclusion leaves no doubt why so many problems exist ... funds are insufficient to meet the MoD's and PSA's needs for capital and maintenance requirements. And that's just a starter.

For years MQ occupants have seen examples of gross inefficiency; re-decoration followed by re-wiring, poor workmanship, lack of thought for the occupant overcharging for jobs in comparison

to the local going rate. It's even been known for contractors to leave an MoD job to go off and work elsewhere.

The aims of the report are good ... to achieve value for money and spend-to-save, but we must ensure the new proposals do not cause a backlash to create more hardship for Servicemen and women and their families.

• The report is called *MoD and PSA Control and Management of the Defence Estate*, and is available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price £5.40.

Dogs need care from the girls



It's a dog's life!

MAN'S best friend needs the care and attention of a kennel maid if he is to look his best.

To this end Bellmead Kennels, a branch of Battersea Dogs' Home, is offering six new bursaries a year to girls between 16-21 starting in March.

Live-in accommodation goes with the offer which is spread over three terms and, for those successful, means a big reduction in the £1,000 cost of the course.

Male students are employed on the YTS as there is no residential accommodation available.

Full details for the 1987 course from Mrs G Sweeney, Bellmead Kennelmaid Training School, Priest Hill, Old Windsor, Berks SL4 2JN.

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Steadily rising fuel prices now make the company confident that this important new market will open up strongly in 1987. In addition, a brand new 42 ft cruising wingsail trimaran, Planesail 1280 will be launched later this year. Offering high performance, single person fingertip control, and computer protection against both wind and wave capsize, she is already under construction at the company's Hamble plant.

A new public Offer of Ordinary shares with Tax Relief under the B.E.S. is to be announced in mid February. For the latest WWS newsletter and to reserve your copy of the prospectus, please fill in and return the coupon. No intermediaries should apply, since it is intended that the Offer will be made available only to individual investors, and no commissions will be paid.

The minimum subscription will be £105; although the minimum total investment in the company in any given tax year to qualify for tax relief, is £500.

Extract from Report by Captain R S Francis, Master of "Ashington" Dated - 19th November 1986

"The results for this run up the River Schelde were quite astonishing. With wind speeds approaching strong gale force it was clear that the wingsail was performing to its maximum. Spot checks of the recording equipment showed that, with the pitch set at 85% the fuel flow meter was reading around 38 litres per mile and the speed at just over 12 kts. With the wingsail on load, the fuel flow was reducing to around 30/32 litres per mile and the speed climbing to around 14 knots."



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CONFIDENCE is the keyword when taking the plunge, be it for the first time out of a balloon or free-falling with bergen and rifle from a Hercules 4½ miles high.

Tasked with instilling this confidence into thousands of students are the instructors of 1 Parachute Training School, Brize Norton, who train all personnel of each of the three Services whose duties may require them to jump into action.

The parachute jump instructors (PJIs) are RAF and most are serving, or have served, in the RAF Falcons parachute display team. Theirs is a no-nonsense approach to what is a particularly hazardous form of military training.

"Confidence is all important – confidence both in yourself and your equipment," said veteran instructor Flt Sgt Jim Graham. "A belief in yourself and a sense of adventure are always to be encouraged."

Last year 2,300 students passed through the school, 1,500 of them basic trainees. But the instructors are spread countrywide at satellite training depots.

Personnel passing through the school are mostly Parachute Regiment, para-trained corps members such as signallers, engineers and medics, members of the Pathfinders, SAS, Royal Marines and SBS and some members of the RAF Regiment.

The basic parachute training course lasts four weeks for Regular soldiers. During that time they are taught exit, flight and landing techniques and complete eight jumps – one at night – to qualify for their wings.

Members of the TA para



Careful as you go – a para trainee leaps out of the so-called "knacker-cracker", with the training tower in the background

battalions have to complete the same course in just two weeks but will have covered much of the groundwork and theory at

their own units before arriving at RAF Brize Norton.

Whereas Regular soldiers make their first jump from a

balloon early in the second week, TAs will have completed both the balloon jump and their first jump from a Hercules by



"Go!" - trainees jump out of the Hercules simulator inside the hangar at 1PTS

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● From page 23

the end of the first week of their course.

But there is much work to be done before setting foot in an aircraft and 1PTS - which moved from Abingdon near Oxford to Brize Norton in 1976 - has a complete range of indoor and outdoor training equipment.

Exit training is taught at ground level in a full-size model of a Hercules body from which jumping can be practised both individually and in sticks, with or without equipment, and where realism is encouraged by the shouting of instructions.

The word heard time and again is 'GO' which, as Flt Sgt Graham explained, promotes command response for the final crunch and the trainee's first parachute drop.

Instructor to student ratio is high - on average one instructor per eight man group - and the continuity of this situation also promotes command response and confidence.

Students must learn how to untwist their rigging lines and control their chutes during flight and these techniques are taught while suspended in flight harnesses inside the hangar.

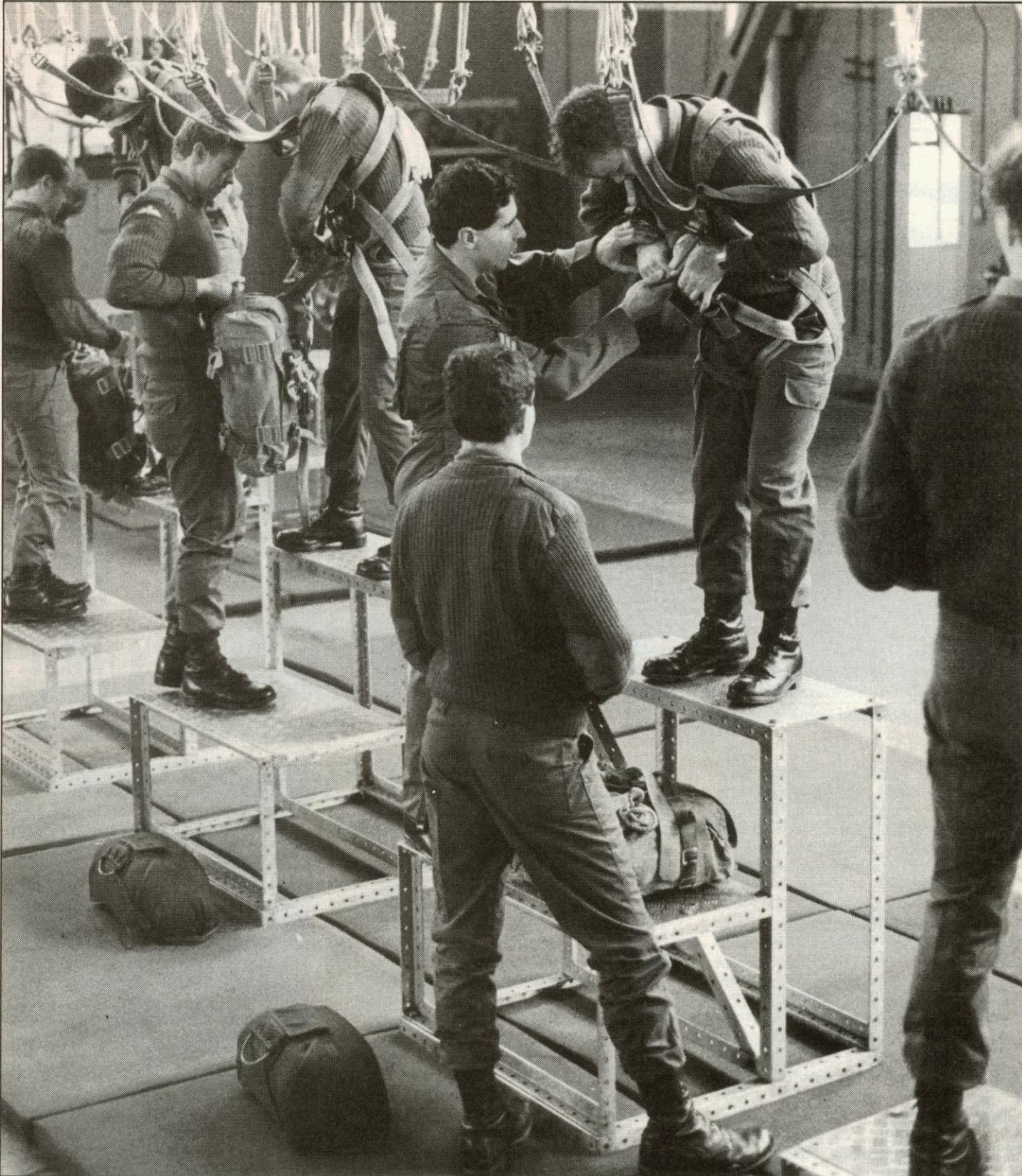
It is also inside the hangar, on a matted area, that landing positions and rolls are taught. "You only get hurt when you land, so we spend a lot of time on landing," said Sqn Ldr George Sizeland.

As techniques are mastered so height is introduced by the use of steps and ramps until they are ready to move on to their first real test of confidence, the fan trainer, which - several feet high - teaches both exit and landing positions.

Trainees then move out of the hangar to the outdoor exit trainer which gives them their first taste of the effect of an aircraft slipstream as they leap out and hurtle backwards suspended in their harnesses from long wires.

Guaranteed to bring tears to your eyes if an exit is misjudged or badly executed, the outdoor exit trainer is popularly referred to as the "knacker-cracker".

The final leg of the ground training programme involves the tower - a girder structure from which students leap 70 feet downwards in a controlled descent designed to give them an idea of height. A fairly hard landing awaits them at the bottom.



Falcons instructor Sgt Charlie Quinn (centre) teaches members of the Territorial battalions the basics of chute control on the flight harnesses

Then it is on to the balloon for the first jump, a nerve wracking experience made all the worse by its eerie silence.

Having passed that hurdle aircraft jumps begin using the C-130 Hercules, mostly from 1,000 feet.

Each jump is made more difficult by introducing new factors such as full equipment load, or jumping in ever bigger sticks, or with another stick spewing out of the other side of the aircraft until, by the time

they have gained their wings, they are capable of landing operationally - ready for action.

Specialist courses are held for particular operational requirements and high altitude low opening (HALO) features in the training calendar.

Two of the six weeks of the course are spent abroad in warmer climates where jumps are guaranteed on a daily basis.

Most of the RAF instructors become free-fall experts during their three year posting with

the Falcons. Students at 1PTS are taken straight to 12,000 feet for their first free-fall, unlike civilian courses where heights are raised gradually.

Flt Sgt Graham, who has seen hundreds of courses - both basic and advanced - pass through 1PTS since 1970, told **SOLDIER**:

"It is a very responsible job because at the end of the day it's men's lives that you are talking about.

"It can be repetitive but it

has to be because you have got to ingrain into them the emergency procedures to be taken if anything goes wrong. There is not much time up there and reactions have to be instinctive.

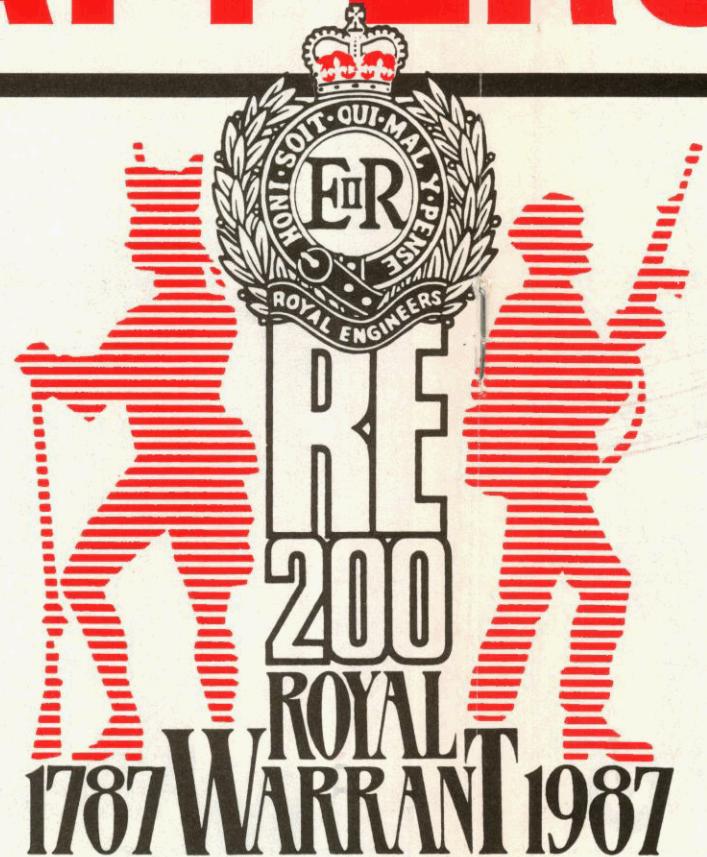
"You cannot afford to get blasé or over confident about parachuting because it has a nasty habit of coming back at you and kicking you in the teeth," added Flt Sgt Graham. "It is when you get careless that accidents happen."

THE SAPPERS' STORY

by
Graham
Smith



What the well-dressed sapper wore to work in 1786



Bridge building in 1987. Sapper students at the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham, Kent

Picture: Terry Champion

THE Corps of Royal Engineers has taken part in every major battle ever fought by the British Army and can trace an unbroken record of service back to 1066 and the invasion of Saxon England.

Links go back to the Norman knight Sir Humphrey de Tilleul, who was William the Conqueror's Engineer-in-Chief.

Sir Humphrey – who subsequently went AWOL – was left behind in England to safeguard the Hastings beach-head in case of enforced withdrawal. He was one of the first military engineers, who have since spanned ten turbulent centuries. Their milestone achievements have hallmarked today's 13,800-strong Corps of Royal Engineers which, this year, proudly celebrates the 200th anniversary of the addition of "Royal" to its title.

Sir Humphrey, incidentally, was replaced by a young monk called Gundulf, a cleric whom the Royal Engineers of today regard as their Founding Father. It was Gundulf who supervised the Great Tower in the Tower of London and the Old Barbican. He also fortified Rochester Castle on the Medway.

Young Gundulf of Bec went on to become Bishop of Rochester. Combining his ecclesiastical talents with those of construction he extended the famous cathedral, within whose ancient walls many subsequent sapper memorials are housed.

Gundulf's example of dual capacity has been the driving force for sappers ever since.

Richard I's military engineers were among the finest in the world and particularly useful during the Crusades in

assaulting Holy Land fortresses.

During his domestic campaigns against the Welsh, Edward I used a force of 1,000 fossatores to build military roads into their mountain strongholds and a vast force of masons and other skilled tradesmen were in support of that action. They were forerunners of today's multifarious sapper skills.

They also built a bridge of boats across the Menai Straits. Against the Scots, Edward employed his military engineers to direct siege operations and repair castles.

English sappers were first used overseas during the siege of Calais and the Battle of Crécy in 1346. They included miners impressed from the Forest of Dean and smiths and artificers from the City of London.

Cannons were used for the first time in this campaign. Fortification design and the art of siege warfare changed. Ordnance had to be supervised and an Office of Ordnance was set up, appropriately, in Gundulf's White Tower.

One Nicholas Merbury was made the first Master of Ordnance. He had been Henry V's chief engineer at Harfleur and Agincourt in 1415. The Office of Ordnance was renamed the Board of Ordnance in 1518 and eventually abolished in 1855.

Few British regiments can claim permanent service under the Crown stretching back further than the formation of the Standing Army after the restoration of Charles II in 1660.

The corps made a unique contribution to scientific discovery for military purposes and to the exploration, surveying



Royal Engineer telegraphists and their equipment, photographed in 1871

and development of today's Commonwealth countries.

The Corps of Royal Engineers boasts not one but two mottos: *Ubique* (Everywhere) and *Quo Fas et Gloria Ducunt* (Whither Right and Glory Lead).

During the Tudor period the nation, threatened by France and Spain, called in the engineers to construct seaward

defences and to fortify the Thames Estuary and other naval ports.

During the Civil War of 1642-1651 military engineers contrived remarkable river crossings that would have taxed the ingenuity of today's sappers. However, they had to pay a price. Many were dubbed as traitors by the Parliamentarians and had their properties confiscated.

During the formation of the Standing Army of 1660, military engineers were sent to the Continent to learn the art of fortifications and siege operations.

British sappers were involved in the War of the Spanish Succession which lasted for 12 years from 1701 and included Marlborough's nine campaigns in the Low Countries and fighting on the Iberian Peninsula, Minorca, Canada and on the High Seas. Engineers were involved in all the land operations and many served afloat with the Fleet.

The first Royal approach was made on May 26, 1716, when King George I by his Warrant separated the sappers from the gunners, a long-standing arrangement. The gunners became the Royal Regiment of Artillery.

For the next 150 years engineer officers remained responsible for the siting and construction of batteries from which the artillery fired their guns in siege operations.

Administration was to change again just before the Siege of Gibraltar (1774-1783) when, on March 6, 1772, a company of Soldier Artificers was formed to be commanded by RE officers, a second company being formed soon afterwards.

These were the first regular engineer officers of the British Army and they proved their worth during the Great Siege. Defence, batteries and galleries built by them still stand in time-honoured testimony to their work on the north face of The Rock.

Conscious of the vulnerability of the British coastline after the French Revolution, the Board of Ordnance raised

a Corps of Royal Military Artificers on October 10, 1757, to strengthen the nation's seaward defences.

Earlier that year, on April 25, 1757, the Corps – it consisted solely of officers – was granted the title of "Royal", thereby becoming known as the Corps of Royal Engineers.

Companies of the new Corps of Royal Military Artificers were sent to overseas garrisons and, in 1767, the Gibraltar Soldier Artificers were absorbed into the new Corps for which the Royal Engineers provided the officers.

They did well during the Peninsular War (1808-1814) and the fortifications at Torres Vedras are showpieces of their skill.

In 1812 the Board of Ordnance set up an establishment at Chatham for the instruction of junior engineer officers and soldiers in the "duties of sapping, mining and other military field works".

The Corps of Royal Military Artificers was renamed the Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners. It built a military road across the Pyrenees, bridged the river Adour estuary using French fishing boats and decking and, as its pièce de resistance, built a pontoon bridge across the Seine over which Wellington was the first to ride on his last victorious push to Paris.

The era of Sappers and Miners saw them not only building batteries for the artillery – such as at Sebastopol during the Crimean War – but also leading the infantry into the assault from the "saps" – the zig-zag trenches heading towards besieged fortresses.

● Turn to Page 36

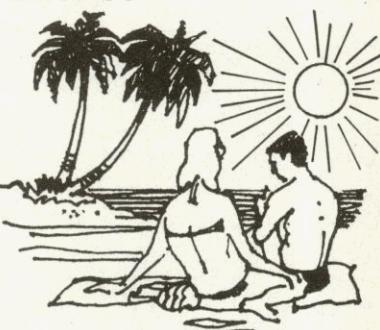
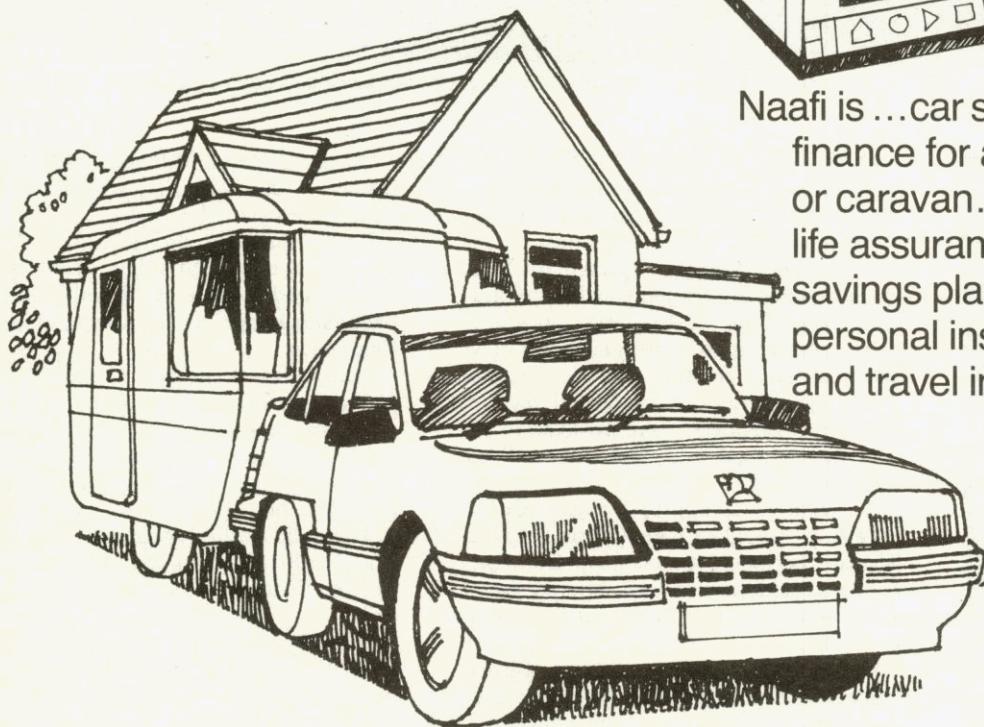
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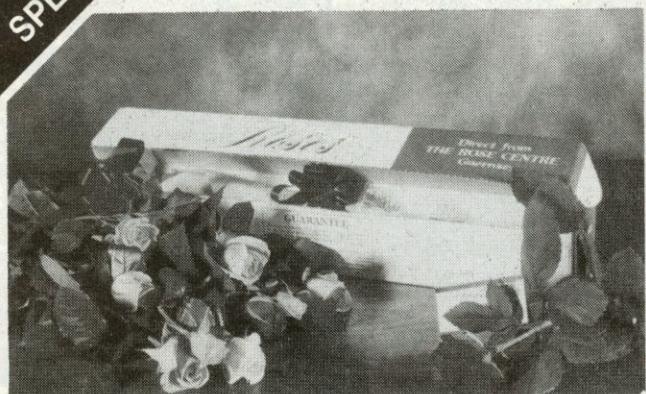
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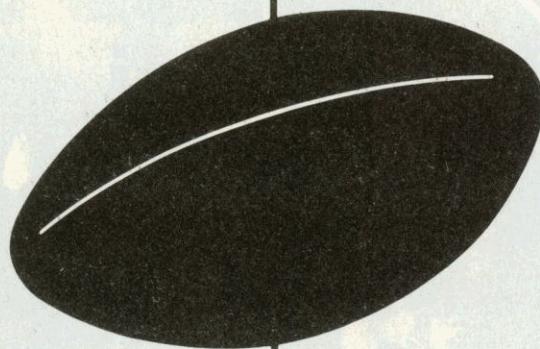
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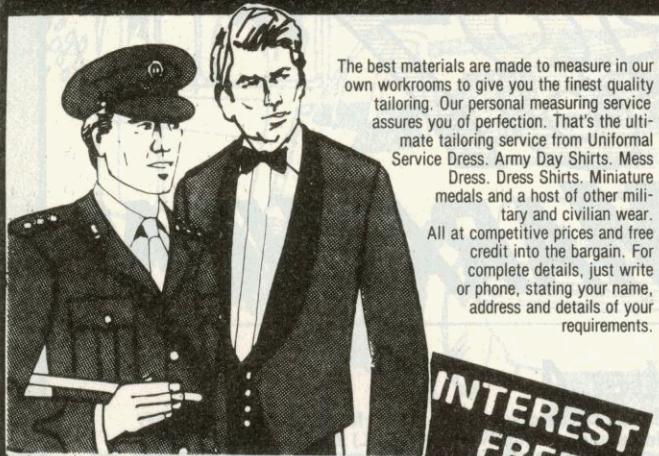
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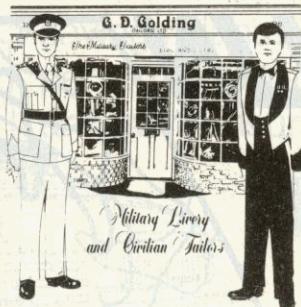
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Teams of cadets also raced over the assault course watched by Maj Gen J Boyne who later presented the winners – students from Exeter and Southampton – with their prize.

At Blackwater, Camberley, home of 3 Training Regiment RE, 350 UOTC cadets from 18 universities also flexed their talents and initiative.

Object of the "Meet the Army" weekends was to show students the possibilities of a career in the Service.

Picture: Sgt Chris Young

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Korean veterans to see Queen unveil memorial

A FATHER and son will walk together with pride in St Paul's Cathedral on March 11 when the Queen unveils a memorial to the 752 British soldiers who were killed in action or listed as missing during the Korean War of 1950-53, writes Graham Smith.

The father is former Fus Norman Rushworth who served with The Royal Northumbrian Fusiliers (the 5th Fusiliers). The son is Bdr David Rushworth, 29, now serving with the Imjin Battery, 45 Field Regt, RA (the regimental battery was in action in Korea under the title of the 170th Independent Mortars).

The memorial stone, Ungchon Black, is a gift from the Korean people. Suitably inscribed, it will occupy a long overdue place in a crypt within the cathedral.

The memorial was raised through the fund-raising efforts of the 2,500-strong Korea Veterans' Association, 1,500 of whom are expected to attend the poignant ceremony.

Two British brigades – 27 and 29 – were involved in the three-year war alongside the Americans, four other Commonwealth countries and ten more United Nations countries.

During the war against the North Koreans and whistle-and-bugle blowing Chinese four VCs were awarded – two of them to Lt Col Fred Carne, CO of the Glorious Glosters and the giant Pte "Big Bill" Speakman of The King's Own Scottish Borderers.

In all, 1,074 honours were made to the fighting men who had crossed the world for a war which ended in an armistice at 10am on July 23, 1953.

They included two George Crosses, 111 Military Medals, 107 Military Crosses, 77 foreign awards and 571 Mentions in Dispatches.

It was a campaign with evocative geographical names such as Plum Pudding Hill, Gloster Hill, Sariwon, the Naktong Crossing, and Hills 282 and 355.

It was a campaign largely fought by British National Servicemen who won from the hardened Regulars a new admiration. Regular Army reservists were also called up.



Men of The Royal Sussex Regiment disembarking from HMT Empire Orwell

Part of the 40th Division, 27 Brigade initially included 1st Bn A and SH; 1st Bn The Royal Leicesters; 1st Bn The Middlesex Regt; 1st Bn KOSB; 1st Bn KSLI, and elements of 1st Bn South Staffords.

Included among the 29 Brigade units in Korea were the 1st Bn The Royal Northumbrian Fusiliers; the 1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regt; The Royal Ulster Rifles; the 8th King's Own Royal Irish Hussars, 45th Fd Regt, RA; the 170 Independent Mortar Bty, RA; and the 55th Fd Sqn, RE.

Later, 29 Brigade during the last year of the fighting comprised units such as the 1st Bn The Royal Norfolks; 1st Bn The Welch Regt; 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards; 1st Bn The Black Watch; 1st Bn The Royal Fusiliers; 1st Bn The Light Infantry; 1st Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regt; 1st Bn The King's Regt; 1st Bn The Royal Scots; and 1st Bn North Staffords.

The war lasted for two years 11 months after the first Commonwealth troops arrived in Korea from Hong Kong and the UK.

Casualty figures for the UK revealed 71 officers and 615



The sign says it all – a token of gratitude to the fallen of the Battle of the Imjin. Now there will be a memorial in St Paul's

men killed in action; 187 officers and 2,311 men wounded in action. Altogether, 52 officers and 1,050 men were taken prisoner. During Opera-

tion Little Switch 40 officers and 996 men were repatriated by the Koreans.

One man refused repatriation.

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Hussars cut a musical dash

SCIMITAR

Band of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars
Conductor: Bandmaster A R Chatburn

AS we all know the old scimitar was a curved oriental sabre of sorts, and no doubt used to gory effect by cavalrymen of the eastern hordes. So it is entirely fitting that our modern tracked cavalry should have a light tank named after it.

That's as far as there is any connection with the musical content of an attractive programme, except for the obligatory fanfare or march composed by the bandmaster to justify the title. Just as it should be.

Mr Chatburn saves his *Fanfare-Scimitar* for the second half, and begins the programme with a march by Richard Waterer called *Royal Salute*. There follows a Nordic Trilogy made up of three pieces by three of America's leading band composers: they are *Swedish Festive Dances* by Frank Erickson, *Fantasia on a Danish Theme*, and *War March and Battle Hymn* by Alfred Reed.

All quite thrilling stuff but I think I detected more of a campus than Viking influence in the music.

A Jeremiah Clarke Trumpet Tune and Ayre is not the

famous one once attributed to Purcell, and makes a pleasant change. And to complete a real mixed bag of contrasts we have one of Bill Conti's themes from the *Rocky* films. I have never seen one but I gather Rocky was a boxer, and sounds like it.

The said fanfare by Mr Chatburn starts off as though it were a march, and I suggest he has a good enough idea to extend it into a fully blown concert march, there being only a couple of cavalry trumpet marches available at present.

Sammy Nestico's *Canyon Country* is all you would expect from its title - big country film clichés fit for any John Wayne epic. More film music in Mozart's *Elvira Madigan*, not a cliché in sight this time, and how old Amadeus, being the sort of musician he was, would have appreciated the joke.

Two marches, *The New Colonial* by R B Hall and *Light of Foot* by Latann, Clare Grundman's *Western Dance*, and the Regimental March *Balaclava* conclude the entertainment in a very lively and well played mixture of effective, unacknowledged music.

● From Bank Office, 13/18th Hussars, Harewood Bks, BFPO 15, price £5 inclusive.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

Guerrilla Warfare from 1939 to the present day, by Robin Corbett. Well illustrated volume on various guerrilla campaigns throughout the world including present-day insurgencies. Published by Orbis Books Publishing Corporation Ltd. Price £14.95.

Battle in the Civil War, by Paddy Griffith. Generalship and tactics in the American civil war 1861-65; a step-by-step explanation of the war and the commanders' problems. Published by Field Books. Price £4.95.

A Particular Duty, The Canadian Rebellions 1837-39, by Michael Mann. The

campaign seen through the eyes of British soldiers from the 21 regiments of the line, two cavalry regiments and two battalions of Guards. Published by Michael Russell Publishing Ltd. Price £12.95.

Northern Ireland Scrapbook, by John Chartres, Bert Henshaw and Michael Dewar. Photographs of "the troubles" in Northern Ireland since the late '60s. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £6.95 in paperback, £12.95 hardback.

Hitler's Young Tigers, by Rupert Butler. The story of the Hitler Youth. Published by Arrow Books. Price £2.50 (paperback).



Leese and Montgomery photographed in Benghazi when the former was GOC 30 Corps

Panzerwaffe tactics owed much to British thinking

THE PANZERWAFFE, the Armoured Corps of the German Army, with its blitzkrieg technique, its confidence and its superiority in weaponry and tactics, produced great victories and territorial gains for the Nazis during the years of expansion and conquest from 1939 to 1942.

Its strength was less than a fifth of the German Army but its faith, dash and military expertise had been built up by study and trial during the pre-war years and tested to some extent in the Spanish Civil War. Then the German panzer commander, von Thoma - destined to be captured by Montgomery at Alamein - was to prove that tanks obtained the best results when they fought together, rather than in small units assisting the infantry as Franco wanted.

However, most of the fighting was on the huge Russian fronts and the Soviets, always geared to heavy industry, repeatedly matched and surpassed the German upgrading of tanks, tank armour and guns.

Knights of the Black Cross covers the build up and subsequent use of the Panzerwaffe from long before the outbreak of war. - GRH

It records that the German generals themselves credited the British military authors Liddell-Hart and Fuller - particularly the Fuller "Plan 1919" and a demonstration by the Royal Tank Corps of movement by formations under radio control - for the original inspiration.

"Plan 1919" included deep penetration while a breaking or holding operation was keeping the enemy force occupied, and then a pursuit for up to 150 miles. Unfortunately, and through financial curtailment, the British did not energetically follow this thinking.

The Germans, although restricted under the First World War peace treaty, made it the basis of their tank strategy and tactics, and so the Panzerwaffe became both the forward striking sword and the backbone of the German Army.

Maybe this was his greatest achievement, but he was a winning general all the way, genial and well liked and with a friendly attitude towards all ranks and nationalities. He never sought publicity. His story is well told in this book. - GRH

● *Knights of the Black Cross*, by Bryan Perrett, published by Robert Hale Ltd. Price £12.95.

Oliver Leese, genial general

GENERAL Oliver Leese's greatest military achievement may have been at Alamein in 1942 when he commanded 30 Corps which led the breakthrough and put Rommel on the run. There followed success after success in the van of the 8th Army as the enemy was chased, caught and defeated all the way to the Mareth Line.

By that time the Anglo-American Operation Torch, which had been advancing from the west towards Tunis, was suffering some humiliation. Alexander asked Montgomery to release Gen Leese for promotion to command the 1st Army.

Monty refused (for the time being, he said) as Leese was the master of the set-piece battle and the 8th's task was not yet completed.

Oliver Leese never did get away, but did attain command of an army in Italy when he succeeded Monty as commander of the 8th.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was at Cassino, that stubborn defence that the 8th Army conquered. After the victory King George VI knighted him in the field.

His plan to surprise the Germans holding the "impregnable" Gothic Line included moving his whole army across Italy from west coast to east. It paid off handsomely.

Transferred to South East Asia in 1944 at Mountbatten's request he accomplished the capture of Rangoon in Burma months before it was thought possible. *The Times* called it one of the most remarkable campaigns in history.

Maybe this was his greatest achievement, but he was a winning general all the way, genial and well liked and with a friendly attitude towards all ranks and nationalities. He never sought publicity. His story is well told in this book. - GRH

Oliver Leese, by Rowland Ryder, published by Hamish Hamilton. Price £14.95.



● From Page 27

The sappers also provided scaling ladders and, during the offensives, wore tracing tape round their hats so that they could be recognised in the dark.

Hence the battle cry in the Crimean War of "Follow the Sapper!"

Surveying of the Scottish Highlands started after the Battle of Culloden in April 1746 and it is 200 years ago this year that the engineers were involved in the first accurate mapping of England.

A military survey service was formed in 1855 and run by the Royal Engineers. Every Commonwealth country was mapped by them. During the First World War more than 600 square miles were surveyed and mapped for the RFC and the Army on the Western Front and more than 30 million maps issued.

In 1824 experiments were successfully carried out at Chatham with the electrical firing of explosives underwater. The art of diving was developed.

Between 1862 and 1912 the Royal Engineers were responsible for military flying. Balloons and man-carrying kites for aerial observation were developed and RE Balloon Sections were employed in the Suakin operations of 1884, during the Boer War of 1899-1902 and the Boxer Rebellion of 1900.

Later, powered airships and aircraft were brought into service and aerial navigation equipment, aerial photography and ground-to-air wireless communications were developed.

On October 17, 1856, the Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners was incorporated into the Corps of Royal Engineers thus ending the anomaly of military engineer officers and soldiers belonging to separate corps.

After the Indian Mutiny of 1857 the government of India passed from the East India Company to the Crown and, in 1862 the British officers and NCOs of the company's Corps of Engineers were absorbed into the Corps of Royal Engineers. These were men who had built trunk roads and vast irrigation schemes on the sub-continent.

It was during the Crimean War that the sappers were first given the task of operating an electric telegraph system.

The introduction of mechanical transport into the Army was effected by sappers experimenting with the steam traction engine developed in the 1880s. From these efforts emerged the RE Directorate of Steam Road Transport. "Steam Sappers" comprised a steam traction engine towing a train of wagons and were used extensively



A sapper investigates a chemical bomb

'Follow the Sapper!'

during the Boer War. It is said the whole strategy of that war was dictated by the sapper-controlled and operated 4,600 miles of railway.

A primitive type of railway Line of Communication used operationally during the Crimean War was the forerunner of the RE Transportation and Movement Control Service. This unit operated ports, coastal craft, railways and inland water transport.

Kitchener's advance on Khartoum during the River War of 1897-98 was supported by a railway laid across the desert by Royal Engineers and it was widely said that the battles of Atbara and Omdurman were won in the workshops at Wadi Halfa where the deadliest weapon used against Mahdism was created – the military railway!

During the Victorian era the corps had a golden age. The corps' School of Architecture within the School of Military Engineering was to produce many famous landmarks.

DID YOU...

● **Sappers designed the Crystal Palace and the Albert Hall**

● **A sapper corporal's base camp grew into Nairobi, capital of Kenya**

...KNOW?

Sappers were behind the design of the Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition of 1851. Captain Francis Fowke designed the Prince Consort Library, Aldershot which was built in one year from September 1895 at a total cost, including landscaping, furnishings and books, of £4,183 8s 4d.

The same young officer was responsible for the design of the Dublin National Gallery, Edinburgh's Museum of Science and Art, London's Victoria and Albert Museum and, just before his death, London's Albert Hall. It was finished by another sapper, Maj Gen H Y Scott.

Elsewhere in the Empire the corps was busy building roads through the Canadian Rockies – Sappertown in British Columbia of 1858 later taking on the name New Westminster.

Still in Canada, sapper skills became synonymous with dams and canals such as Lt Col John By's 123-mile-long, 47-lock Rideau Canal which stretches from Bytown – later Ottawa – to Kingston, thus enabling British shipping on the Upper St Lawrence to avoid the American batteries on the southern bank. A six-year waterway project, it cost £800,000 and opened in the summer of 1832.

British sappers were involved with railway and port construction in Abyssinia – now Ethiopia – during Sir William Napier's campaign.

A Cpl Ellis, RE, employed on the construction of the East African Highway, set up a base camp which grew into Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

Sapper officers supervised the building

● Turn to Page 40

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TODAY'S AIRMEN: Royal Engineers with their hot air balloon Sapper II

Golden age of field marshals and VCs

From Page 36

of Catterick Garrison to house British Troops withdrawn from Ireland after the First World War.

Everywhere new barracks were built, married quarters refurbished and depots erected by military engineers. Cantonments were constructed at Raghmeh in India, in Singapore and Malaya.

Sappers entombed Napoleon on his death in exile on St Helena in May, 1821. Sappers were the founding force of ordnance survey work. Capt Sir Douglas Gloton planned London's main drainage in 1857.

Sappers were involved in the surveys of vast tracts of country. In particular, projects such as the North American Boundary Commission delineation of the 49th Parallel between Canada and the USA.

On the Indian sub-continent and its northernmost confines, Andrew Scott-

Waugh, the Surveyor-General of India, announced to the world the discovery of the world's highest mountain, and, self-effacingly, named it after his predecessor, Col Sir William Everest, a surveyor and geographer.

During Britain's imperial adventures from Waterloo until 1898 and the start of the Boer War, sappers earned 25 VCs in the Indian Mutiny, the Crimea and Omdurman, and five sapper officers rose to the rank of field marshal between the Crimean and First World Wars.

Lt John Chard, RE, won a VC for his part in the Rorke's Drift action in Zululand on January 22 and 23, 1879.

During Britain's golden era the corps produced more than 60 colonial governors, a viceroy of India and three military doyens - Napier of Magdala, "Chinese" Gordon and Kitchener of Khartoum.

Just before the start of the Second

World War living accommodation, hospitals, depots and workshops all had to be erected for the vast number of Canadian and American troops sent over for the Normandy landings. All down to sapper construction and design skills.

They also produced the hutt camps for the National Service generations.

Sappers built a vast Middle East base covering Egypt, Palestine and the Persian Gulf.

During the first two decades of this century the sappers, as the only scientifically trained corps in the Army, showed their inventiveness to the full developing the Balloon and Telegraph Services, steam traction mechanical transport, submarine mining, searchlights and harbour defences including wire-guided torpedoes, and wire-laying wagons.

It was the sappers who set up Tunnelling Companies to lay devastating mines under German front lines and

DID YOU KNOW?

● The world's highest mountain is named after a sapper colonel

● Sappers entombed the body of Napoleon on his island of exile

● Sappers spawned the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Corps of Signals

support trenches on the Western Front. Sappers who set up forestry companies to fell timber.

Three prominent sappers - Swinton, Elles and Martell - were behind the concept, implementation and leadership into battle of the Tanks Corps "landships" - tanks - during the Somme offensive of September 1916 and again on the first day of the battle for Cambrai on November 20, 1917.

The corps of Royal Engineers spawned the Royal Flying Corps, itself developed from the Air Battalion, Royal Engineers. The Royal Corps of Signals was formed in 1920, recognising the rapid growth of the RE Signal Service.

The sappers had all the expertise - artisan works, electrical and mechanical, tramway, road construction, gas, sound ranging, land drainage, port construction, camouflage, inland water transport and boring sections.

The corps swelled from 25,000 Regulars and TA volunteers to more than 300,000 by 1918.

Junior officers from 1914 had become the commanders and policy makers of military field engineering from 1939 onwards.

The corps' professionalism was widely acknowledged during the Second World War. Demolitions covered the withdrawals in Norway, France, Greece, Crete, Malaya and Burma. Mine warfare in the Western Desert, Tunisia, Sicily and Italy.

Added to these were bridging to defeat the German demolition plans in Italy and north-west Europe; airfield, road and logistic construction almost everywhere; and the developing of lines of communication.

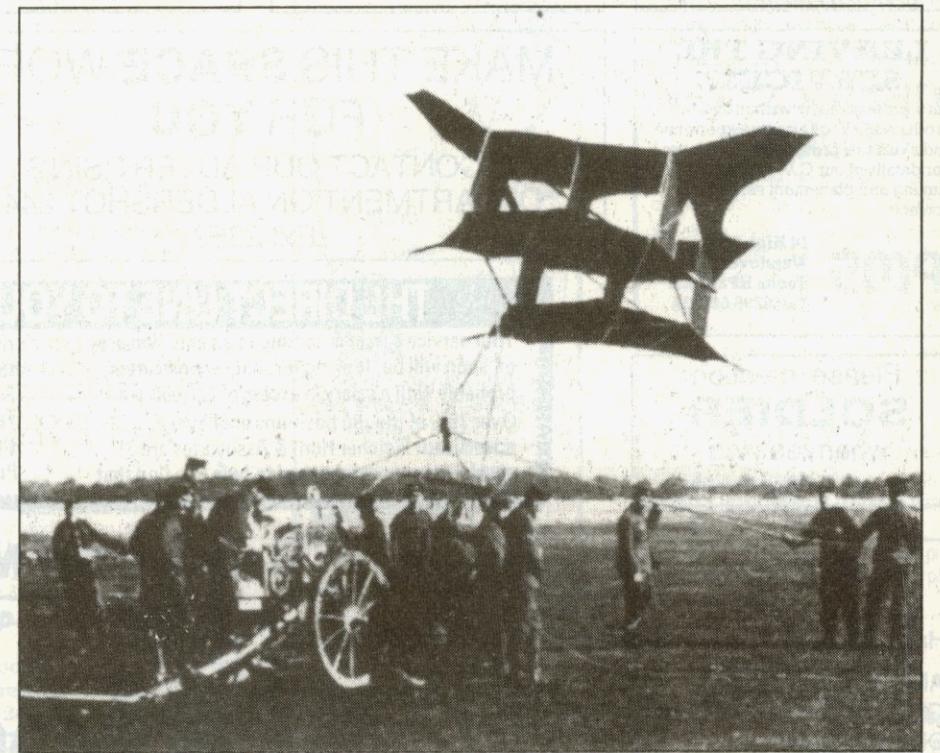
Three other major wartime feats were the breaking of the Atlantic Wall by assault engineers, the building of the Mulberry harbour on the Normandy coast and the Rhine crossing which heralded the end of the war in Europe.

Like the rest of the Army the Corps of Royal Engineers has decreased in size from more than 300,000 in 1945 to 17,000 in 1962 - when National Service was ending - to today's figure of 13,800.

Britain has been involved in several "brush fire" wars during the past 30 years. Wherever the Army was, the sapper was right in the thick of it.

Sappers were involved in the provision of military accommodation in Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Aden and Borneo.

Sappers have helped fellow Services in more peaceful settings. Gangways of heavy girders for a Royal Navy aircraft carrier to speed up loading and unloading. The mole at Akrotiri, Cyprus, for the RAF. A clubhouse at Netley for the Army Sailing Association.



YESTERDAY'S AIRMEN: An RE observation kite photographed in 1890

Hearts-and-minds schemes carried out by sappers at home and abroad abound everywhere.

Past projects have included Bailey bridging in Malawi; roads and orphanage building in Kenya; well drilling in Botswana; famine relief work in Ethiopia; air strips in Skye, the Shetlands and the Inner Islands; a youth hostel on the Isle of Arran, a hutt camp at Skopje, Yugoslavia after the earthquake; bridge repair operations in Bangladesh following flooding; and the rebuilding of the burned down Maze Prison.

More recent events have included earthquake relief missions to Italy, Mexico and Colombia. Assistance in the faraway Solomon Islands. And many, many more.

Today's operational sappers are multifarious in their talents and professional expertise. Mapping, bomb disposal, diving, armoured and amphibious regiments of engineers, combat engineers, para squadron engineers, airfield damage and runway repair specialists and the postal and courier service just to name a broad band of skills on sapper tap.

The Latin motto *Ubique* is, indeed, an accurate one. The sappers are truly everywhere.

The Army would be a poorer organisation without them as the corps moves slowly but surely towards this year's bicentenary celebrations of Royal patronage.

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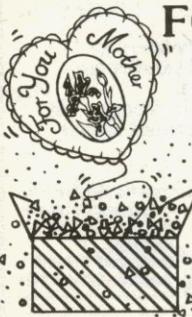
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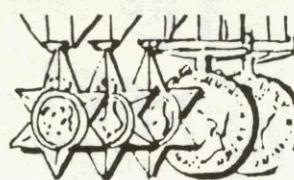
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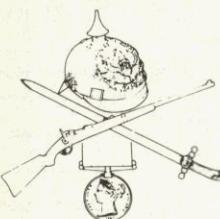
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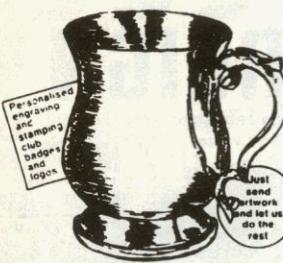
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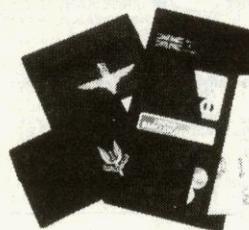
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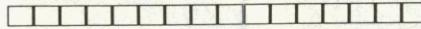
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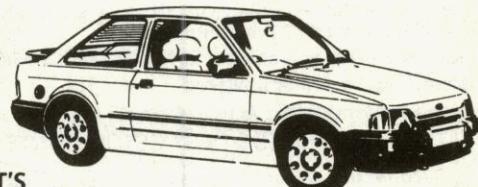
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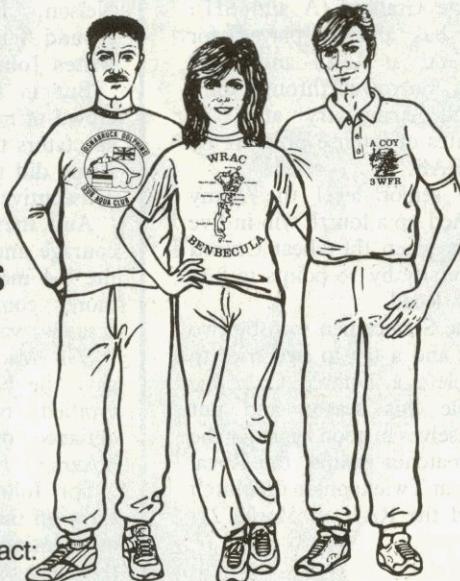
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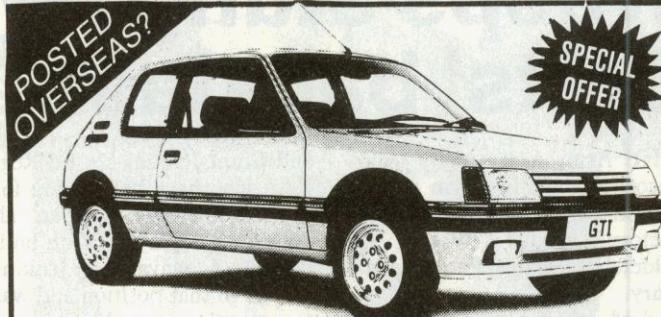
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Another bitter blow?

SUPERB defence allied to a knack of scoring at just the right moment earned the Army Under 21 rugby team a hard-won 18-6 victory over the Royal Air Force at Aldershot Military Stadium.

This was the third Inter-Service contest for the Charrington Shield, sponsored by the brewers, and the third time that the Army junior side has carried off the honours.

Spurred on by their two previous defeats, the RAF threw everything at their hosts and scored first through a Clarke penalty. Spr Ryan's subsequent try, plus the conversion, put the Army ahead at the interval, but the RAF equalised soon after with a dropped goal.

Minutes later the Army were awarded a penalty, the airmen

assumed wrongly there would be a kick at goal, and were too late to stop the home team running in a tapped penalty.

London Scottish prop LCpl George Graham (A and SH), who has already played for Scotland at U-18 and U-19 levels, burrowed through for a second Army try after 20 minutes of intense pressure by the RAF.

At senior level the Army notched up a fourth win in five games when they beat Oxford University by 16 points to 8 at Iffley Road.

The Servicemen won by two goals and a try to two tries to complete a notable Oxbridge double this season and put themselves in good heart for the big matches against the Royal Navy at Twickenham on March 7 and the RAF on March 21.

Wasps stung by Colts' backlash

THE Army Colts rugby team recorded their first win of the season with a spectacular 55-0 victory against Wasps at Aldershot, writes Peter Salisbury.

And what a turn round it proved to be. The previous weekend, because of injuries and other problems, the Army could field only five of their selected side and went down 36-7 to Durham County.

But with better availability and two new players who made a significant contribution, the Army Colts ran in 11 tries against Wasps.

There were many good individual performances, but pride of place must go to Cfn Simon Peart (22 Engr Regt Wksp) on the right wing who scored five tries. Newcomer Cfn Mark Broady (SEME Bordon) had an excellent game at number 8, scoring two tries, and the other newcomer, Gnr Tony Howard (17 Trg Regt and Depot RA) at full back, contributed four conversions and a penalty.

Other try scorers were ATs Doug Laws and Stuart Price (both PMC Arborfield), Spr Andrew Sanger (36 Engr Regt) and Grove. PHOTO: OKABAYASHI

Army Colts have two more fixtures, against Boys Clubs of Wales and Birkenhead Park, before they play the Royal Navy at Esher and Royal Air Force at Aldershot on March 7 and 21 respectively.

Gnrs Andrew Grove (7 RHA)

CHAMPIONS

Four in a row for Army boxers

THERE is no tougher place to win an Inter-Services boxing championship than the cavernous gymnasium in HMS Nelson, Portsmouth, home ground for the Royal Navy, writes John Elliott.

But in front of a sell-out crowd of nearly 1,500 partisan spectators that is just what the Army did to earn their fourth consecutive CSBA team title.

And they did it with such courage and commitment that the 6-4 margin seemed rather more comfortable than it actually was.

SSI Mick Gannon's team gave the Navy a torrid time, typified by the aggressive defiance of his four losing boxers.

Spr John McLean got the show on the road by decisively outpointing AB Tony Martin at flyweight with a crisp exhibition of counter-attacking that ultimately destroyed the Navy lad's defence.

LCpl Keith Howlett (RE) went one better with a brilliant second round victory over Cook Dave Pope, the man who stopped the Army team captain at Aldershot last year.

Howlett was simply too agile and too accurate for the potentially dangerous Pope, cutting him down three times in the second round with volleys of stinging combinations.

But the real sensation of the night was the featherweight rematch between LCpl Alan Lesbirel (RGJ) and Royal Marine Colin Day, the Combined Services champion and an England squad member.

A hard first round went to Lesbirel, but that turned out to be a relatively gentle prelude to

what was to follow. Day suddenly found his range and blasted home punches that would surely have knocked out most opponents. Lesbirel came back fighting.

And the close-shaven Green Jacket fought back again at the end of an unbelievable third round in which he soaked up just about every shot in the book.

Day, rightly, earned a unanimous points decision. Lesbirel had to settle for his share of the first standing ovation I have ever seen accorded two Service boxers.

Tpr Mark Miller (QRIH) and Dvr Kevin Mason (RCT) gave everything in defeat against Scottish international Marine Dave Robb and the very experienced MEM Brian Kearney, and suddenly the Navy were in the lead.

LCpl Errol Holder (RRF)

evened the score with a second

round demolition job; ABA

champion LCpl Tony Velinor

(RGJ) outclassed young Gary

Bonser, a seaman from,

appropriately, HMS Brave; and

LCpl Ian Strudwick proved too

strong for Navy newcomer RO

Dave Phillips, who was retired

at the end of the second round.

Fus Danny Coyle (RWF), a



Members of the Army boxing squad pose happily with the Inter-Services trophy, theirs for a fourth successive year. Kneeling at the front are three of the stars of the victory, Spr John McLean, team captain LCpl Keith Howlett (with trophy) and Cpl Alan Lesbirel

Pictures: Les Wiggs



Spr John McLean (right) scores against Able Seaman Tony Martin

Welsh international, made that fourth championship safe by ignoring a huge reach and height disadvantage in the light heavyweight contest. His aggression simply broke the will of big Mick Ford, a leading hand from HMS Boxer.

And to round off the bill Sgt Paul Davies (RRW) and the highly rated rookie Marine Gary Sanderson produced some thunderous action in the best heavyweight contest seen in these championships for many a year. Sanderson got the nod from the three judges.

DORSET, who are celebrating their centenary, were afforded very little hospitality on the field when the Army beat them 3-1 at Aldershot Military Stadium in their South West Counties championship fixture, writes Pat Massey.

Off the field it was a different matter, with Brig R S Mountford presenting the county with an engraved plaque on behalf of the Army FA.

Cpl Kevin Parkins (RCT) very

nearly fired the Army ahead in the second minute, but it was not until Gds Bob Sharpe (1 SG) converted a penalty that the Servicemen deservedly took the lead.

Newcomer Pte Dave Maynard

(1 DERR) laid on the second for Cfn Stewart Greenwood (REME) after Cpl Spider Lomas (RE) and Cpl Andy Edwards (R Sigs) had done well to prevent an equaliser.

Five minutes from time Dorset

did score, but the Army restored their two-goal advantage soon afterwards when LCpl Steve Welsh (R Sigs) finished off a move involving Cpl Sandy Brown (R Sigs), and LCpl Trevor Keen (RE).

All three Army goals in their 3-0 win over London University due to meet at Uxbridge on March 11 and the Army entertaining the airmen at Aldershot on March 18. The final match in the tournament is between the RN and the Army in Portsmouth on March 25.

LCpl Paul Thorpe (ACC) and LCpl Mick Johnson (RE) scored the goals, substitute Thorpe with his first kick of the game.

The Inter-Services matches start this month, with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy due to meet at Uxbridge on March 11 and the Army entertaining the airmen at Aldershot on March 18. The final match in the tournament is between the RN and the Army in Portsmouth on March 25.

Army dampen the Dorset celebration

Lassetter makes his mark!

CPL Mark Lassetter (P and C Depot RE) held off a strong challenge from defending champion Sgt Geoff Wade (1 PWO) at Tweseldown Race Course near Aldershot to win the Army senior cross country title for the first time.

The first five runners were all in with a shout as a very close race developed, but Lassetter held on to record his first Army title and his first win over Wade.

Third was former champion Maj Glen Grant (HQ 1 (Br) Corps) and fourth was the very promising Musn Wright (Gren Guards), who might have improved his position but for a couple of falls.

1 PWO took the major units' trophy ahead of 2 Div HQ and Sig Regt and 1 DWR. FOD Dulmen were first in the minor units' competition and AA College Chepstow beat Princess Marina College Arborfield by a single point in the junior race.

Army runners did exceptionally well at the Inter-Services, hosted by the Royal Navy in HMS Dryad near Portsmouth.

Sgt Maggie Smith and Pte Sharp led the women's team to their second consecutive victory at this level; Pte Simpson (1 PWO) and App Tsmn RSM Graham (Princess Marina College) made sure the Army juniors broke the RAF stranglehold; and but for an unkind 'flu' virus, the veterans would surely have won the first Inter-Services race in their age category.

The RAF's massive strength at senior level was undiminished, with marathon star Cpl Steve Jones leading home a contingent of international runners. The Army fielded as strong a side as they have ever done but could never hope for better than second.

By finishing first and third in the junior race, Simpson and Graham pushed the Army to their first ever victory in a race which has been won every year since its inception in 1981 by the RAF.



All tied up in a split second

DRIVER Maj Mike Pugh (RTR) and brakeman Sgt Neil Killen (R Sigs) won the Army bobsleigh championships at St Moritz and later helped the Army to an astonishing tie with the Royal Navy in the Inter-Services championships at Cervinia, Italy.

To achieve that tie, four runs by the three fastest bobsleighs of both Services resulted in the same total time - to a hundredth of a second!

The Royal Air Force finished third despite providing the fastest individual by Flt Lt Meade (driver) and Cpl Horler (brakeman). Pugh and Killen were the highest placed Army bobsleigh in third position.

Cpl Parrock and Lt Carr (both RTR) were fifth in the Army's second bobsleigh; Capt Deverill (RTR) and Cpl Ellis (REME) sixth in Army 3; and Cpl Bunce and Cpl Preece (both REME) eighth in Army 4. Capt Boag (RE) and Lt Snowball (Para) completed in Army 5. Cpl Horobin (R Sigs) was the reserve crewman.

The novice trophy and the award for the most improved driver were won by Cpl Bunce.

In the Army championships at St Moritz there were some excellent performances by the seven novice drivers taking part. Eleven regimental bobsleighs were involved.

The Inter-Services were organised by Maj Duncan Jones (R Sigs).

Hilary debut is double delight

SEVERAL fine performances at the Army women's table tennis championships in Aldershot left selectors with a difficult task in choosing their team for the Inter-Services.

Former Kent league player Mus Hilary Greig, competing in the Army championship for the first time, won the individual title by beating Pte Jane Benson, 11 UDR, in the final.

Hilary, who is training at Kneller Hall music college, is bound to be in the running during the forthcoming selection weekends, especially as she snatched the doubles' trophy as well with a winning performance alongside LCpl Tina McFarlane, Guildford WRAC.

They beat runners-up Cpl Wendy Clare and Pte Rhona Garrod, both of 3 PCD, Rheindahlen.

Lucky 13's a record-breaker

THE Army notched up a record 13th consecutive win in the Inter-Service squash championships, held this year at Burnaby Road, Portsmouth, Hants, writes Lance Brett.

But the Army's feat was achieved only after one of the closest finishes seen for years. The Royal Air Force mounted a strong challenge and, with the inclusion of county junior player Cpl Jim Lord, had every reason to believe they could end

the Army's domination of the championships.

The airmen won comfortably the four and five string matches when SAC Steve Gascoyne and Sgt Lou Arthur beat WO2 Dick Sharkey and Capt Clark Adam 1-3 respectively.

Army No 1 Capt Robbie Robinson replied with a 3-1 win over Cpl Dave Clarke and No 3 seed Maj Chris Wilson beat SAC Mike Leonard 3-0.

At two rubbers apiece, it was

left to the second seeds, Cpl Tom Pollard and Jim Lord to determine the outcome.

After a gruelling 45 minutes the score stood at 2-2 with both players very evenly matched. Lord took a fifth game lead but Pollard persevered and took full advantage of his anxious opponent's errors.

Pollard's patience was rewarded when Lord hit the tin at match point.

The Army beat the Navy 4-1.

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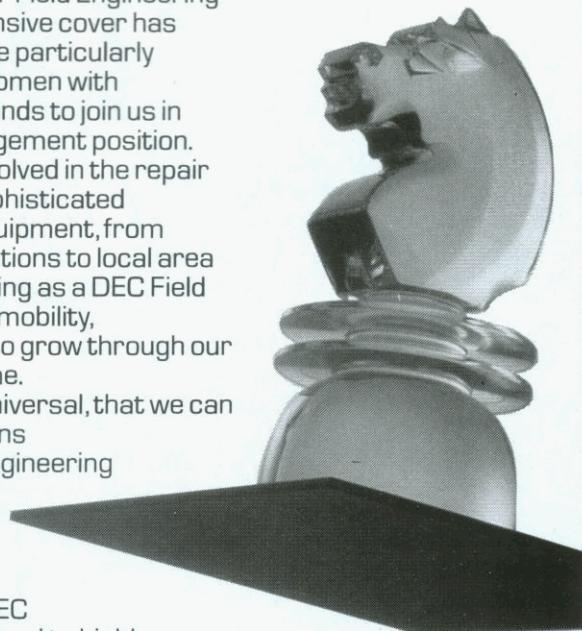
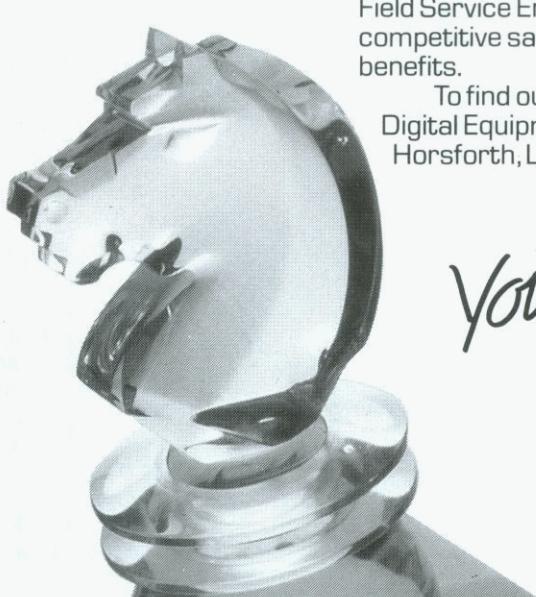
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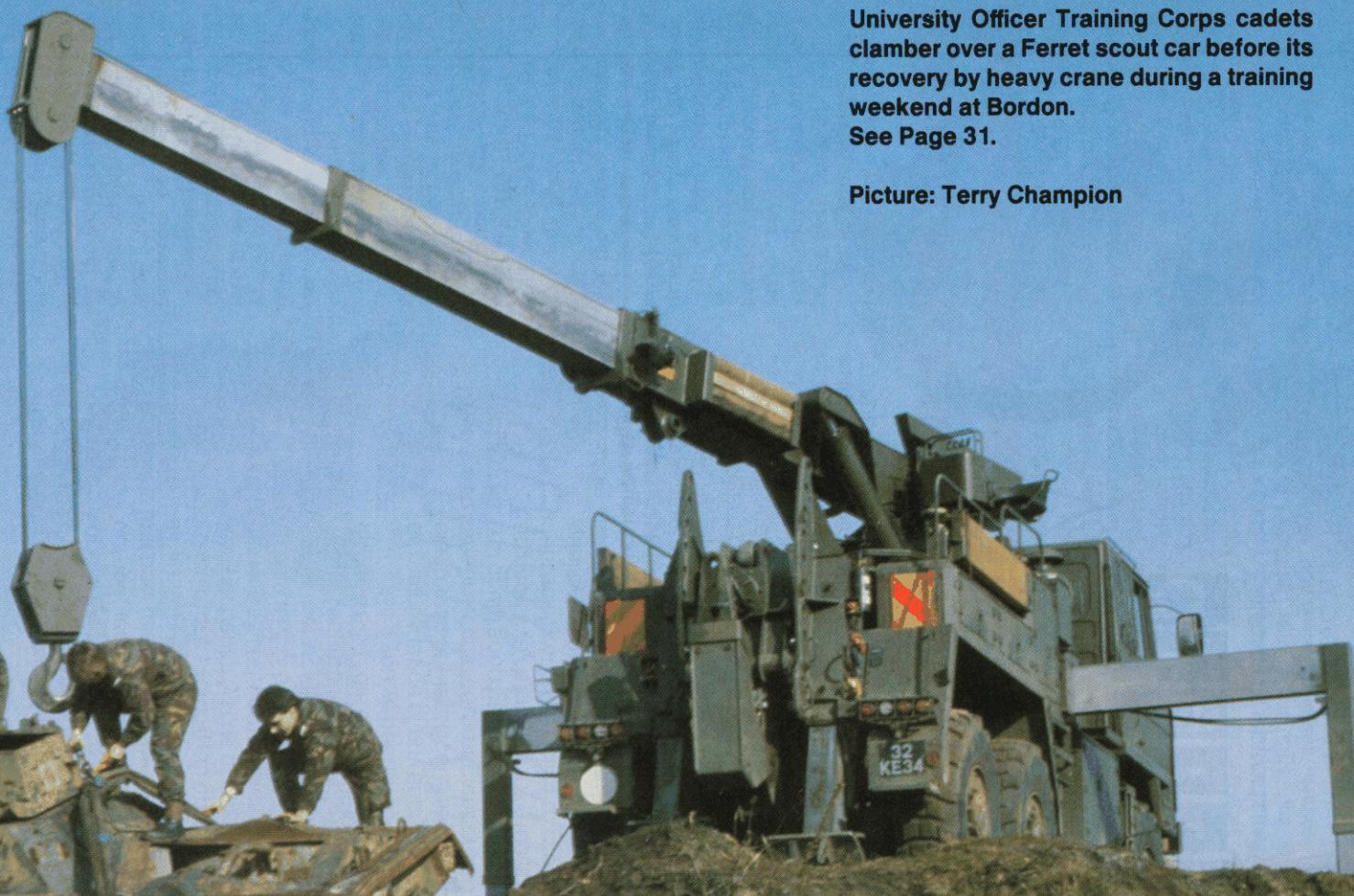
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University Officer Training Corps cadets clamber over a Ferret scout car before its recovery by heavy crane during a training weekend at Bordon.
See Page 31.

Picture: Terry Champion