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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

January 10, 1994
Vol 50/1

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Managing Editor

Chris Horrocks Ext 2355

Editor

John Elliott 2356

Assistant Editors

Laurie Manton 2362

Gordon Skilling 2360

Phil Wilcox 2362

Picture Editor

Terry Champion 2357

Photographers

Mike Weston 2357

Mike Perring

Art Editor

Les Gwyer 2356

Librarian

Gerard Sutton 2351

Advertising

Lindsey Champion 2352

Accounts/Distribution

Janice Follwell 2353

Fax 2358

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The King of Malaysia, accompanied by Maj David Taylor, inspects a guard of honour drawn from the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots while at Holyrood Palace during a state visit to the United Kingdom

Conduct code spells out the standard



AN ARMY code of conduct which defines and justifies the requirement for high standards of personal behaviour and respect for the law is to be brought to the attention of all ranks.

Entitled the Standards and Discipline Paper, it has been distributed with an instruction from the Adjutant General, Gen Sir Michael Wilkes, that commanding officers set aside time to explain the issues personally to their officers and senior NCOs in order that the message is understood.

The paper, which makes no distinction between the Regular and Territorial Army, will form the basis for a rewrite of the disciplinary provisions of the Army General and Administrative Instructions.

"It is to be made clear that standards and discipline are not just the responsibility of the Army Board and the senior officers of the chain of command, but of everyone in a position of responsibility," says the Adjutant General.

The introduction to the paper states that prevailing liberal attitudes have led many parts of society to reject or diminish values which the Armed Forces seek to maintain and regard highly: sense of duty, loyalty, self-discipline, self-sacrifice, respect and concern for others.

For this reason, the paper was necessary to spell out the Army's high expectations to the younger age group of soldiers.

On alcohol, the paper says:

"It is of concern that the average consumption of alcohol by Service personnel remains very high and is a major cause of impaired efficiency, disciplinary problems, accidents and poor health.

"Moreover, alcohol remains the single highest contributory factor in violent crime in the Army."

The paper includes guidance on a wide ranging number of issues, including:

- Misuse of controlled drugs: This is illegal and may lead to dismissal, or a call to resign in the case of an officer, even when charges are not preferred.

- Dishonesty: An individual who shows that he cannot be trusted has no place in the military community.

- Bullying and initiation ceremonies: Responsibility for the well-being of subordinates rests with commanders at all times. Abuse or disregard of the responsibility amounts to neglect. "Initiation ceremonies involving assault, humiliation, intimidation, or the abuse of alcohol, are not to be tolerated."

- Racial discrimination will

FRONT COVER: New traditions are being forged within The London Regiment as Scots, Irish and English volunteers garnish their joint London identity with national customs. Fus Neil Tappenden (right) gladly accepts a toast from Pipe Cpl Chris MacPherson, but receives a goblet of port instead of the traditional quail of whisky. See also Pages 22-23 and back cover. **INSET:** LCpl David Slade AGC(SPS), a clerk at HQ 7 Armd Bde, looks after Pat the Rat. A jerboa, Pat was presented to Desert Rats commander Brig (now Maj Gen) Patrick Cordingley at the end of the Gulf War and has been cared for by HQ staff ever since. See 7 Brigade feature, Pages 14-19. (Pictures: Mike Perring.)

● Turn to Page 5

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DESIGNED TO BE DRIVEN

Increase in troops despite cuts?

A REVIEW of defence costs entitled Frontline First is under way to examine how the Ministry of Defence can meet its commitments more economically.

Announcing the review after the Budget on November 30, Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said the Army would get 259 extra Challenger 2 main battle tanks and 3,000 more frontline troops.

In the Budget statement, defence spending was cut by £780m over the next two years; by £260m in 1994-95 and by £520m the following year.

In a speech outlining how the MoD would meet these financial targets, Mr Rifkind told the House of Commons Defence Committee that 3,000 extra frontline specialists would be sought from existing support units.

If they could not be found, he would increase the overall strength of the Army by the necessary amount, primarily in the teeth arms.

Mr Rifkind said: "I have been concerned for some time about the strain which is imposing on all three Services and, in particular, on some elements of the Field Army.

"There is a strong case for increasing the planned peacetime establishments of certain Field Army combat and operational and logistic support units to nearer their wartime establishment."

The decision to purchase 259 Challenger 2 tanks rather than upgrade 420 Challengers means that armoured regiments will reduce from 50 MBTs to 38, with the Army's total tank fleet numbering 386.

● Mr Clarke's Budget statement included a reference to the sale of Service married quarters to the private sector. The Government's intention is to transfer the MQ estate to a housing trust, and a special team in the MoD is currently examining the concept.

When peace takes the cake . . .



Six members of a tri-Service team which has witnessed the destruction of tens of thousands of former Warsaw Pact tanks, guns and aircraft under the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty marked the third anniversary of the signing – by putting a tank made of cake to the sabre.

Army members of the Joint Arms Control Implementation

Group (JACIG) at RAF Scampton, Lincoln, are pictured with Gp Capt David Bremner, Commandant JACIG. From left to right are WO2 Mick Thompson 2 LI, Lt Col (now Col) Tony Davidson, Kings Own Border, Gp Capt Bremner, Maj Nick Ridout RMP, CSgt Roly Stockton RRF and WO1 Graham Maclean RLC.

The sabre was cast from armoured vehicle scrap metal.



Lt Col Bob Stewart, who commanded the Cheshire Battalion Group on the first Operation Grapple deployment to former Yugoslavia, pictured outside Buckingham Palace after receiving the DSO from the Queen

CODE OF CONDUCT

● From Page 3

not be tolerated. Sexual harassment is unacceptable and, while not a criminal offence itself, can result in criminal charges for, for example, indecent assault.

● Homosexuality is incompatible with military service. Anyone who admits to or indulges in homosexuality will

be required to resign or be discharged.

● Adultery within the military community is the most serious form of social misconduct. Adultery outside the military community brings the officer and the Army into dispute.

● Sexual relationships between officers and non-commissioned ranks undermine a well-ordered structure and cannot be tolerated, and while marriage between officer and other ranks is not prohibited, it "inevitably causes difficulties" and is to be discouraged.

● Single parents: Retention is dependent on their ability to continue to be operationally effective.

The paper concludes by outlining the principles for reporting misconduct and forms of administrative action.

Keady mourns gunner

MORE than 1,000 people attended a special inter-denominational church service in Keady, County Antrim following the death of a British soldier. The service was in memory of LBdr Paul Andrew Garrett who was murdered by an IRA sniper while on foot patrol in the town.

LBdr Garrett (23), single,

from London, was a member of 16 Battery of 26 Regiment, Royal Artillery. Since completing basic training at Woolwich in 1990, he had served in Germany, Canada and the Gulf, and his commanding officer, Lt Col Ian Campbell, described him as "a kind-hearted, personable and popular young man".

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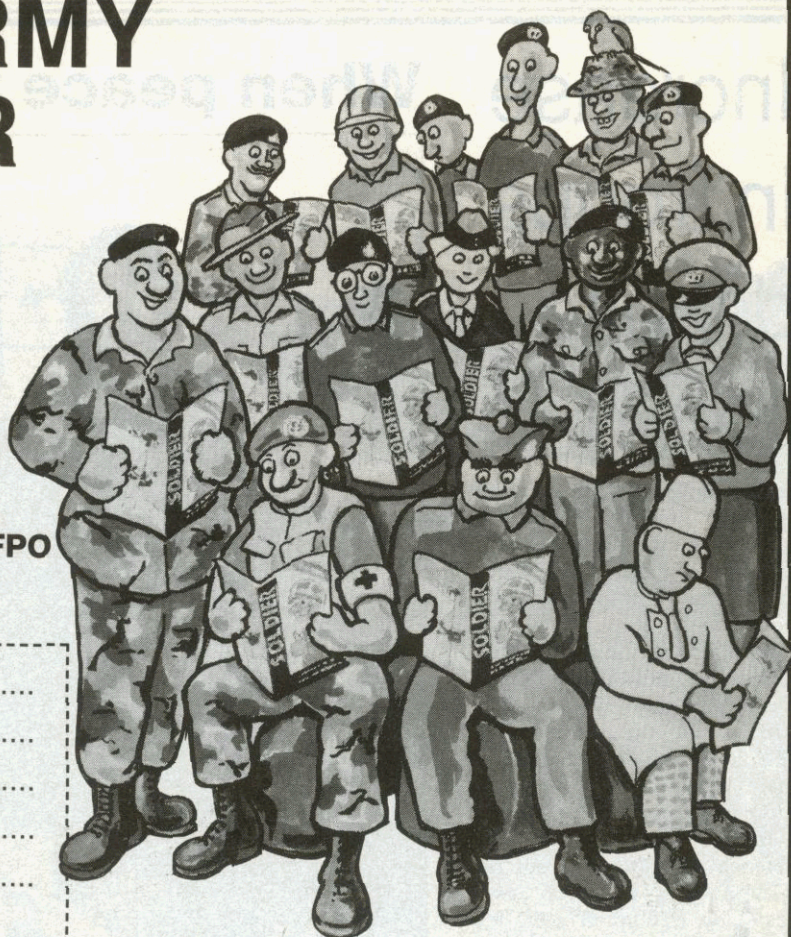
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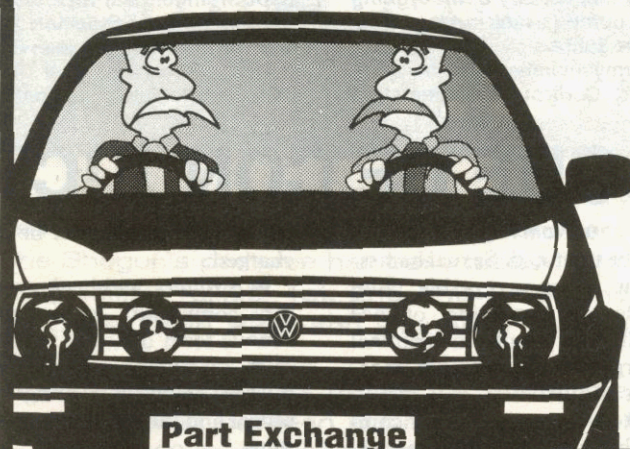
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Pete's Bosnia shots earn top phot spot



WO2 Pete Bristo with "top phot" trophy – and medal

TWO days after being presented with the MBE for services in the former Yugoslavia, WO2 Pete Bristo picked up another award – as Army Photographer of the Year for 1993.

The "top phot" trophy stemmed also from his six-month duty in Bosnia with Op Grapple 1, curtailed when he was wounded by a sniper.

His pictures from the trouble spot caught the eye of the judges for the main award as well as for the best overall entry category – and, to complete a trio of prizes, he was runner-up to Col Roger Thompson in the section sponsored by SOLDIER.

Now fully recovered from

his bullet wound, WO2 Bristo is serving with the Public Information team at the Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps headquarters in Bielefeld.

Col Thompson, voted best amateur and runner-up in the overall entry category, was one of several entrants to hit the jackpot more than once. The others were Maj Martin Figura AGC(SPS), of the AGC Training Centre, Worthy Down; Maj Roy Bevan, of Merseyside ACF, and LCpl Giles Penfound, of HQ UKLF PInfo.

Judges were Andy Kyle, of the *Daily Mail*, William Cheung, of *Practical Photogra-*



"OK, OK ... so Bristo will live ... what about the camera!"

phy and Capt Alexandra Roche AGC(SPS). Prizes were presented at the Imperial War Museum by Brig Tim Glass, Director of Public Relations (Army).

● Full competition coverage in next issue.

Jobs network excels itself

JOBS offered to the Services Employment Network have increased threefold during the past year as a result of the campaign to market "the best trained workforce in Britain".

Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind paid tribute to this success when he visited the Network (SEN) and the Tri-Service Resettlement Organisation.

He was particularly interested to see how SEN generates job offers and matches them to the skills and abilities of the 7,500 Service leavers – including 4,900 from the Army – on its books.

"The breadth and depth of training, both in management and trade skills, which everyone in the Armed Services undergoes is not matched by any other organisation in the UK," Mr Rifkind said.

Two SEN members, the Officers' Association and the Regular Forces Employment Association, have seen a tangible increase in their own job offers from business sectors which traditionally have not looked to the Services.

Brig Gage Williams, Director Resettlement, said a survey showed that more than a half of Service leavers have a job to go to when they leave. Of the remainder, more than half have found a job within three months, some have taken early



Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind (centre) with SEN general manager Alan Hastings (left) and Brig Gage Williams, Director Resettlement

retirement and a substantial number are undergoing full-time education or re-training.

"The decision faced by most leavers as to the specific career to pursue is hard, but for the good reason that their options are so wide.

"Often they do not find the right niche straight away, moving on quite quickly to another job.

"However, Servicemen and women, with their families, are used to moving or changing jobs – job mobility is part of our way of life and gives Service leavers a special advantage over their civilian counterparts when competing in a tough job market."

● The number of Service leavers who may register with the SEN has almost doubled following a widening of the eligibility rules.

Registration is now open to all commissioned officers, all ranks who have completed five years' service, and anyone leaving under medical discharge.

Previously, registration was restricted to commissioned officers and senior NCOs who had completed at least 12 years on leaving.

Registration is possible up to six months before leaving and is held on the database for a year after leaving. Those registered receive details of jobs offered to the SEN that match their skills, experience and chosen career.

The SEN's updated booklet, *Services Employment Network – How to Register*, with a new white registration card, was being made available through unit resettlement officers in mid-December.

● New training grant – Page 10

Howards to trace steps of explorer

A TEAM of Green Howards from Catterick is poised to depart for a major expedition to South Georgia.

The 15 soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards will attempt to retrace Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic polar journey of 1916, scale an unclimbed mountain and assist the British Antarctic Survey with an archaeological project.

They will be led by Capt Jason Wright and Lt Huw Rothwell, who planned the expedition while serving in Northern Ireland a year ago.

Shackleton personally trained the Green Howards in Arctic warfare techniques during the Russian civil war in 1918.

To prepare themselves for the project, which begins at the end of February, expedition members have trained in the mountains of Scotland, Wales, the Canadian Rockies and northern Norway.

Free SAS books

DETAILS of how to obtain *Bravo Two Zero*, Sgt Andy McNab's vivid account of his SAS Gulf War patrol behind Iraqi lines, appear on Page 39. And there is a special bonus for the first five orders received: they will get a free copy of the book and have their payments returned.



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White helmets head south to Blandford

THE ROYAL Signals' world famous display teams are on the move. Following the review of Army training, all three were leaving Catterick Garrison at the end of December to relocate at Blandford in Dorset.

The teams – the White Helmets (motor cycles), the Blue Helmets (freefall parachute) and Quicksilver (mobile display team) – were the first elements of 8th Signal Regiment to leave Catterick Garrison

after an association of 65 years.

Lt Col Lee Tilson, CO Royal Signals Display Teams, said: "The end of 1993 marks the end of an era for us. All the many friends that the teams have made over the years in

North Yorkshire and nearby will be sadly missed."

The rest of 8 Regt, the last remaining Royal Signals regiment in Catterick, is scheduled to move to Blandford at the end of 1994.

Midlands hospital unveiled

A NEW Territorial Army hospital in the Midlands has been opened by Gen Sir Peter de la Billière.

The Gulf commander also presented Liberation of Kuwait medals to 16 members of the unit – 202 (Midland) General Hospital RAMC(V) at King's Heath, Birmingham – who volunteered for service during the war.

He was welcomed by the commanding officer, Col Charles Cox, and presented a cheque for £2,000, raised during the unit's annual camp in Cornwall and four runners in the Berlin Marathon, to Baby Lifeline.

The hospital has been named after Major Roger Nutbeam RAMC who died on board the RFA *Sir Galahad* during the Falklands War.

BR signal to Services

SERVICE leavers are still being sought by British Rail to help modernise its signalling infrastructure.

A programme called *Forces for Change*, devised by Gen Sir Anthony Mullens, was set up after his retirement from the Army in 1992 to recruit mainly project and systems engineers from those leaving the forces, to join BR's Signalling Projects Group.

There are six signalling project offices – at Reading, Croydon, Birmingham, West Midlands, Glasgow and York. A second York office is under development and many of the newly-appointed Service leavers will be based there.

Those accepted by BR complete an eight-week induction course before joining teams to work alongside BR staff.



SSgt John Roberts and members of 42 Field Squadron RE test the bridge they had just built across the River Leine in Germany. It signalled the beginning of the fighting phase of Exercise Rhino Charge, during which 20 Armoured Brigade crossed the river to attack enemy positions near Hildesheim.

The exercise was planned

This is a Rhino bridge

and controlled by Maj Gen Anthony Denison-Smith and his 1st (UK) Armoured Division headquarters. HQs of 7 and 20 Arm'd Bdes deployed to field locations and were put through a series of battle options while 1 Regiment AAC and The Light

Dragoons deployed in a fighting role. Rhino Charge, the first major exercise undertaken by 1 (UK) Arm'd Div since its formation on July 1, was visited by C-in-C BAOR, Gen Sir Charles Guthrie, and Cmd ARRC, Lt Gen Sir Jeremy Mackenzie.

NEWS IN BRIEF

THREE soldiers serving with the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards in Bosnia waded into a fast-flowing stream to rescue three adults and a child from a car that had plunged off an icy bridge.

LSgt Jeremy Carr, Gdsm Roman Magdij and Gdsm David Ford pulled the four through a broken window after walking up to their waists in the freezing water.

Total strength of all three Services, now just over 266,500, is ten per cent down on two years ago, according to Government Statistical Service figures.

On October 1 Army strength

Coldstream to the rescue

was 130,873 officers and other ranks, 2,185 down on the previous quarter and nearly 10,000 fewer than a year ago.

A request, supported by the Royal British Legion, to the Government to set up a sub-department to co-ordinate the needs of the ex-Service community has been turned down.

Former members of the disbanded 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of

Fusiliers at Ashton-under-Lyne in Cheshire, have swelled the ranks of the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, 22nd Cheshire Regiment. Thirteen experienced soldiers from the former 3 RRF have opted to sign on with the Cheshire's A company at Stockport near Manchester.

The Berlin Infantry Brigade's British Winterfest fireworks and massed bands celebration, scheduled to take place on the Maifeld on December 10, was postponed until the New Year as a mark of respect to a Berlin man killed in a road traffic accident involving a British military vehicle.

Grant to help training for resettlement

A NEW Individual Resettlement Training Costs (IRTC) grant has been introduced to help eligible Service leavers pay for MoD-sponsored courses or training carried out under civilian attachment arrangements.

Eligible Service leavers may use up to 20 working days in their last nine months of service for resettlement training or Individual Resettlement Preparation (IRP). Training takes the form of courses at Service resettlement centres (internal training), or MoD-sponsored courses and training carried out under civilian attachment arrangements (external training).

While the former are provided free of charge, Service leavers have been liable for fees for the latter.

There will always be a need for external courses to complement the in-house programme, and the IRTC grant has been introduced to help Service leavers meet the cost.

Individuals may now claim an IRTC grant of up to £534 towards the cost of external training, provided it comprises all or part of their 20 days' resettlement training.

The scheme provides that where a leaver opts to undertake a combination of free internal training and chargeable external training, the maximum IRTC grant is reduced by £26.70 for each day of internal training.

If a leaver has attended nine days of internal training and wants to use some of his remaining 11 days to attend, say, an MoD-sponsored course, then he or she will be

Ptarmigan volunteers

PTARMIGAN garages in four British towns and cities have been officially opened to mark 35 Signal Regiment (Volunteers) becoming a fully operational member of Nato's Rapid Reaction Corps.

The £1m garages - at 35 Signal Regt's squadron locations in Shrewsbury, Birmingham, Rugby and Newcastle - were opened simultaneously. The squadrons have received equipment costing around £30m, and the garages will each house the 40 vehicles that make up a squadron.

Ptarmigan is the Army's new and highly-classified battlefield radio communications system.

able to claim a maximum IRTC grant of £293.70 (£534 less 9 x £26.70).

The introduction of the new grant was timed to coincide with the implementation on December 1 of the Central Hotel Booking Service within the United Kingdom, which has implications for Night Rate of Subsistence Allowance (NRSA).

The existing Individual Refund Scheme (IRS) may no longer be used by Service leavers to help pay for external resettlement training, but remains available to all Service people for non-resettlement educational purposes.

Tidworth project appeal

THE special appeal to raise the £2.5m balance needed to establish the Royal British Legion's training college at Tidworth is still very much up and running, according to fund-raising controller Colin Healy.

More than £2m for the £4.6m project has already been donated, promised or pledged by, among other

sources, trusts and foundations, RBL organisations and the European Social Fund.

But, he stresses, there is still an urgent need for finance for the new college, which is the RBL's major contribution to resettlement training of Service leavers and members of their families.

Further details from Mr Healy on 071-973 0633.

Paras move in to sort out Farnborough 'drug barons'

FARNBOROUGH was an unlikely location for drug barons to be holding a British Army Training Team hostage, but this was the scenario which took a company of soldiers from The Parachute Regiment and a troop of the Household Cavalry up the road a few miles north of Aldershot to sort things out.

The "crisis" should have occurred at RAF Keevil on Salisbury Plain where the rescue force could have fired blank rounds and had a "live" enemy to attack, but marginal weather prevented two Hercules aircraft from landing on the grass strip. So they had to make do with two four-tonners on the outskirts of Farnborough.

The exercise was normal training for units of 5 Airborne Brigade, which has to be ready

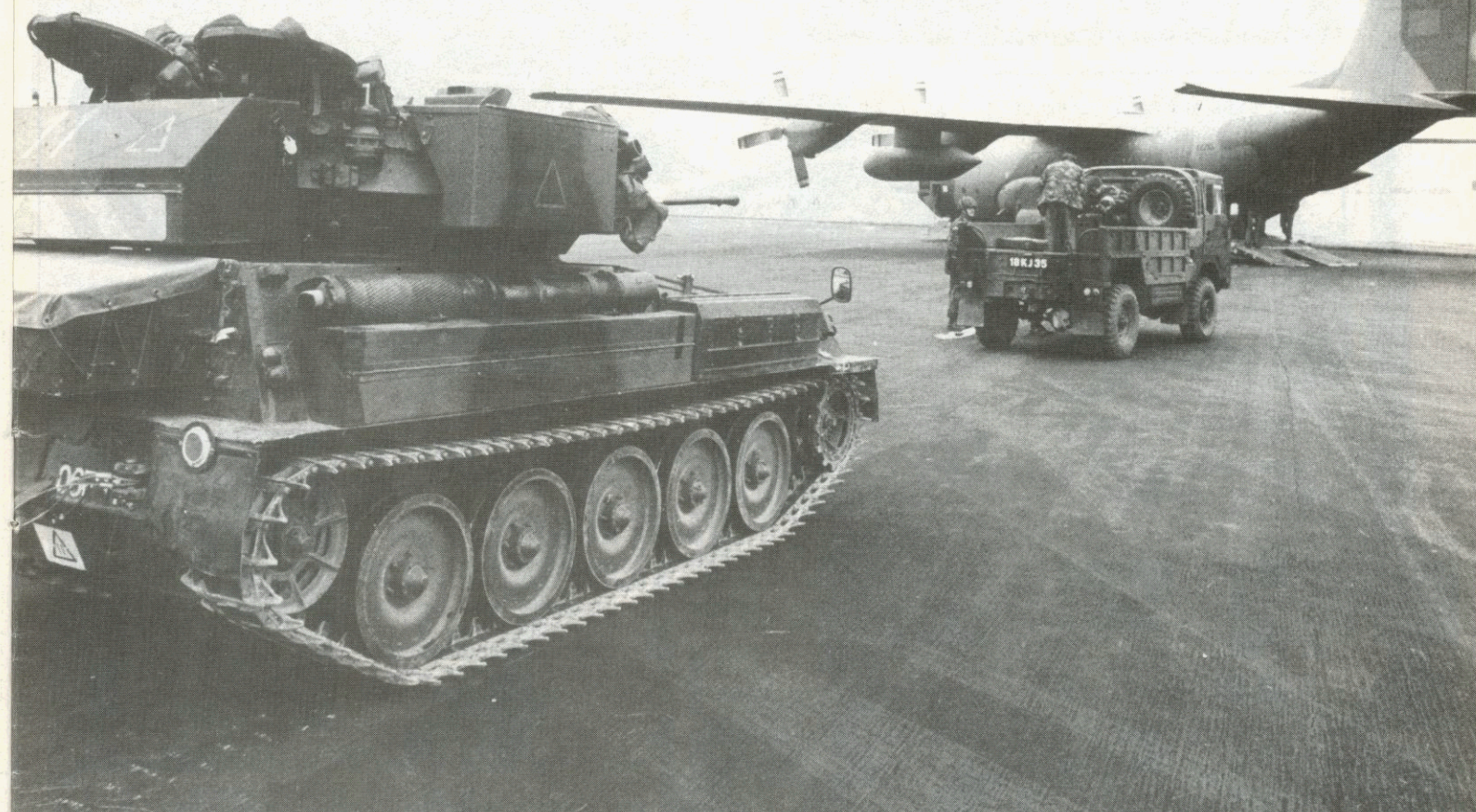
to carry out its interventionist role when and where required, and if necessary, at very short notice.

The location of the rescue was not important. With the former Soviet threat on the back burner, nobody knows who the next enemy will be or even the geographical whereabouts of the next theatre of operations.

The airborne soldiers are tough enough to carry out whatever task is flung at them, but for this type of operation they have to be slick as well.

This was the second rapid descent exercise which men of the 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, have carried out as part of a series of no-notice deployments. Taking part was C Company, which specialises in tactical air landing operations, supported by

Words:
Gordon Skilling
Pictures:
Terry Champion



A Life Guards Scimitar awaits loading before taking part in a tactical air landing operation at Farnborough

two Life Guards Scimitars from 3 Troop, Air Squadron, Household Cavalry.

Execution of such a task is no easy matter, particularly when it is carried out at night. There is always the risk of troops being drawn into

destroying the enemy instead of carrying out the surgical task of withdrawing hostages.

The more rapidly the unit has to deploy, the more initiative private soldiers have to show.

Maj Peter Kennedy, OC C Company, was confident that his soldiers could carry out their orders. Before that, and more important, was establishing efficient and smooth-running procedures.

Soldiers had to be recalled and held at different levels of notice to move, and before orders could be given the commanders had to collate intelligence and complete the planning and preparation of the operation.

An essential aspect was carrying out a rehearsal, first on mock-ups at Montgomery Lines, Aldershot, then on the actual aircraft.

The value of this was clearly shown during the first practice attack, when the two Hercules did not open at the



Easy by day, a different matter by night unless regularly practised by C Company

same time and there was a delay while the second half of the force deployed. But on the second attempt, everything ran like clockwork.

The crews of the direct fire support Scimitars had a particularly difficult task in the dark, said LCpl of Horse Derek Stevenson.

"With our night sights we can see more than the infantry

on the ground, but we cannot easily see the soldiers themselves. We have to be particularly careful when we are turning, and get out first to check we are not near any of them."

The rescue plan may not survive first contact with the enemy, but it has a much better chance when executed with proficient procedures.



Members of 3 Para charge from their Hercules

Altering Matilda . . .

Five years and three months of "sweat, love, labour, swearing and gnashing of teeth" have paid off for two former members of Liverpool-based 5/8 Kings. Ex-WO2 **John Gregson** (left) and ex-CSgt **Bob Grundy**. Together with current 5/8 Kings MTWO WO2 **Jack Winstanley** and numerous colleagues, they restored a 1933 Matilda Mk1 infantry tank which had been seeing out its days as a hard target at the Otterburn training area. Reward for all their hard work came when the restored vehicle – which saw service with 4 RTR in 1939 – made its debut at the amalgamation of the 1st and 4th Royal Tank Regiments at Tidworth.



Two Nottingham soldiers have been presented with medals in recognition of their service in the Regular and Territorial Army. Pictured with the Lord Lieutenant for Nottinghamshire, Sir **Andrew Buchanan**, on receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal is Sgt "**Bergy**" **Bergstrand** (right), a permanent staff instructor with B (Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry) Squadron. Behind them is Cpl **Garry Underwood**, who received the Territorial Efficiency Medal on achieving 15 years' TA service. Sir Andrew is Honorary Colonel of B Squadron.

Pride in Notts

Old . . .



Coming to the end of a long, winding trail after their last annual camp with the new London Regiment are two of the original "Diehards" from the 7th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment.

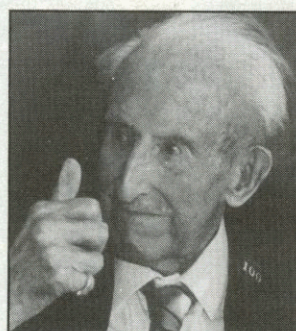
Maj **Derek Harwood** and WO2 **Smudger Smith** MTWO, both joined in 1958 and were first together as private and guard corporal, then sergeant and sergeant major. After taking his commission Maj Harwood was later Smudger's OC.

. . . mates

General celebration

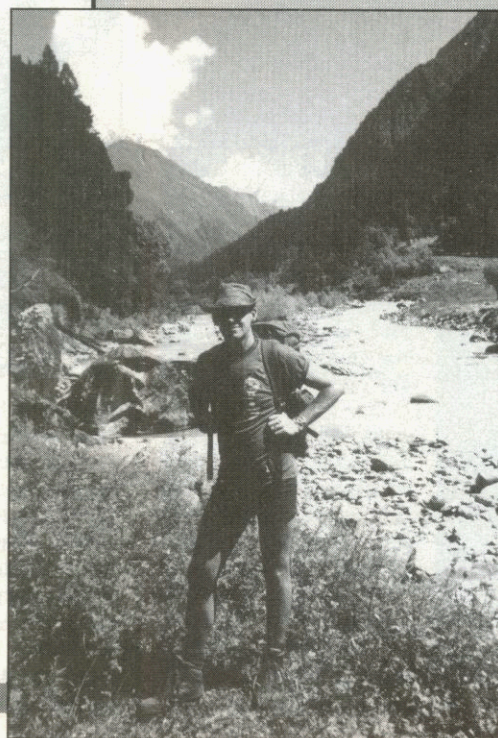
St John's Rest Home in Melrose was a hive of activity in tribute to Britain's oldest general on his 100th birthday. As a Queen's Own Cameron Highlander in the First World War Sir **Philip Christison** won the Military Cross, as Commander 4th (Gurkha) Infantry Brigade group in Burma he was the first lieutenant general to be awarded an immediate DSO, as Governor of Edinburgh Castle he oversaw the first Military Tattoo.

A contingent from The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, of which he was Colonel for ten years, presented a magnificent cake baked by their cooks; the Queen's Own Highlanders pipes and drums played Reveille and other events included Gurkha music, dancing by Queen Victoria School and a fly-past by 3 Flight Army Air Corps (Volunteers).



Tankies' Indian summer

As well as a 15-day high level trek in the Himalayas and white water rafting on the Ganges and the Taj Mahal, a highlight of a month's visit to India by nine members of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment from Fallingbowl, was contact with the Indian Army. The party had tea with Lt Gen Sharma, Deputy Chief of the Indian Army Staff, and the red carpet was rolled out in style by 2 RTR's affiliated regiment, The 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse), who held a regimental stag party in their honour. Pictured at the Bhilangana River is SSgt **Dick Taylor**.



Didn't they do well?

Renewing their acquaintance at the RE memorial weekend at Chatham were the Chief Royal Engineer, Gen Sir **John Stibbon** (centre) and Lt Col (QM) **Bobby Lampard**, quartermaster of the Depot Regiment RE, who go back



Director General of Army Training Maj Gen **Robert McAfee**

Romanian Field Day

had the pleasant task of presenting Gulf War medals to members of 100 Romanian Field Hospital. The 168 recipients were awarded the British medal in recognition of their support of the British 1st Division during the conflict. Maj Gen McAfee – then a brigadier – was the Assistant Chief of Staff in the British HQ at the time. Pictured with him at the ceremony in Bucharest are British ambassador **Andrew Bache**, Romanian Chief of Defence Staff Lt Gen **Dumitru Cioflina** and an interpreter.



MEDICAL MUMS

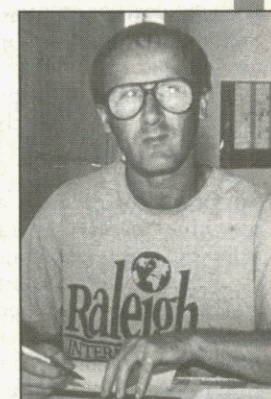
Young mother LCpl **Dawn Andrews** (above) dons a uniform at the weekend and becomes a combat medical technician with TA MASH unit, 202 (Northern) General Hospital RAMC in Newcastle upon Tyne. "I'm not unused to Army life altogether," says Dawn, who joined the part-time unit two years ago, "I was born in Germany when my Dad was there as a staff sergeant in the Royal Signals." For **Sara Lomax** (right), life at home with a five-year-old daughter was getting into a rut. She has now put a stop to that by training as a combat medical technician with the same unit as Dawn.



PEOPLE

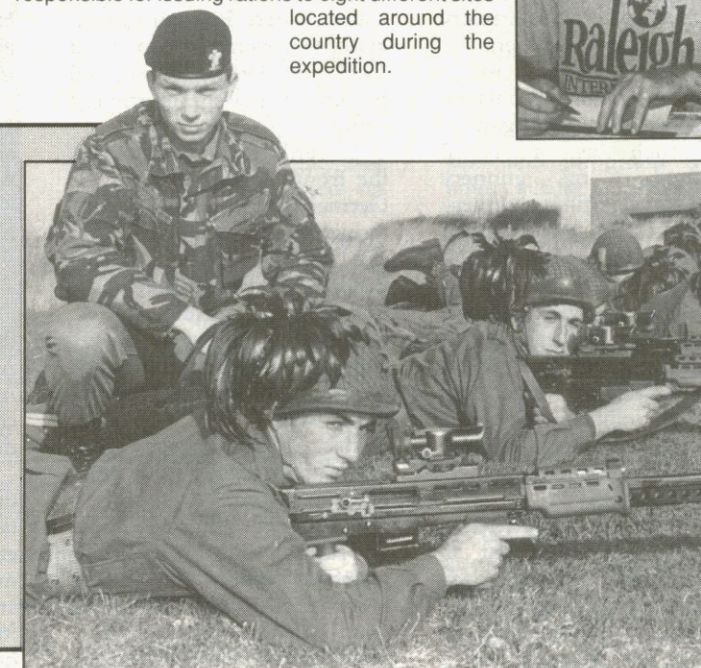
Thought for food . . .

"What shall I give them today?" ponders SSgt **Richard Duff** as he compiles menus during a Raleigh International expedition in Zimbabwe. Normally based in the catering department at Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich, he was also responsible for issuing rations to eight different sites located around the country during the expedition.



Leek links . . .

A lesson in how British weapons work for the Italian Army's Cpl **Varlotta** as LCpl **Ross McFarlane** RRW demonstrates the new light support weapon. The Italians were at the regiment's current home at Tern Hill in Shropshire as part of a two-week exchange training exercise.



With the reorganisation of the British Army in Germany well under way, the 1st (United Kingdom) Armoured Division is now Britain's most potent

military formation. Its three armoured brigades – 7, 4 and 20 – will be subject of special features in SOLDIER, starting here with the headquarters of

7th Armoured Brigade, now relocated to Hohn, and some of its major assets. Words by Laurie Manton, pictures by Mike Perring.

High-intensity brigade has world role

HEADQUARTERS 7 Armoured Brigade is based at Hohn, situated between Hamburg and Hannover, and commands Hohn Garrison, the largest and most north-easterly of the British garrisons in Germany.

It comprises three main stations – Hohn, Fallingb., and Celle – and two others in the process of shut-down, Verden and Hannover.

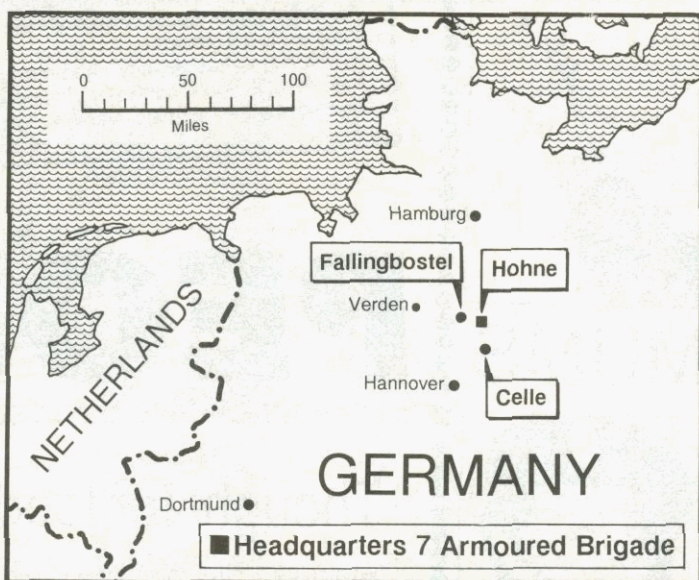
The headquarters was originally 22 Armoured Brigade, but retitled last April when 7 Brigade's original base at Soltau closed under Options for Change.

While the bulk of the brigade is located at Fallingb., Hohn is home to the headquarters and its signal squadron. Major units at the base are a reconnaissance regiment provided by The Light Dragoons, 40 Regiment, Royal Artillery and 32 Engineer Regiment.

Also at Hohn is 1 Armoured Field Ambulance and a host of minor organisations such as a Royal Armoured Corps gunnery wing, a Royal Artillery gunnery training establishment and, until next year, a Dutch tank battalion.

The brigade's two tank regiments, The Queen's Royal Hussars and the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, and an armoured infantry regiment, 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, are accommodated at Fallingb.

The 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment is based in Celle, one of the most attractive towns in Germany. Its historic timber-framed buildings were spared much of the ravages of the Second World War because Celle was



used as a hospital town for wounded soldiers.

The same cannot be said for the land south of Hohn Camp, where Russian prisoners of war were imprisoned in 1941. By 1943, Belsen had become a Jewish internment camp.

Towards the end of 1944, as the fronts began to close, the Germans sent prisoners and foreign workers back to collecting points such as Belsen instead of handing them over to the advancing Allies.

Although there were no gas chambers in Belsen, thousands died from disease and starvation. When the advancing British troops arrived, they found more than 61,000 prisoners in Belsen.

Belsen was burned down and thousands of former internees were treated at Hohn Camp, where Brig H L Glyn-Hughes established hospital wards in existing barrack blocks.

Today, 12 mass graves on a

memorial site contain the remains of 23,200 of Belsen's dead.

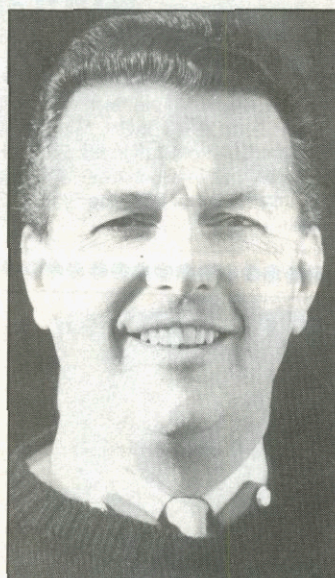
A small cemetery within Hohn Camp contains the graves of many more who died in the hospital.

Glyn-Hughes Barracks, situated just outside the main camp, and home to 1 Armoured Field Ambulance, was closed on October 8. The unit marched to a new barracks – also named in memory of Brig Glyn-Hughes – within Hohn Camp.

Like its two sister brigades in the 1st (United Kingdom) Armoured Division, the 7th Armoured Brigade is heavily committed to operational deployments worldwide.

A constant stream of its soldiers deploy to Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Bosnia and elsewhere. Training is of paramount importance and troops at Fallingb. and Hohn are fortunate to have their camps border the massive Bergen-Hohn ranges*.

Brigade Commander Brig



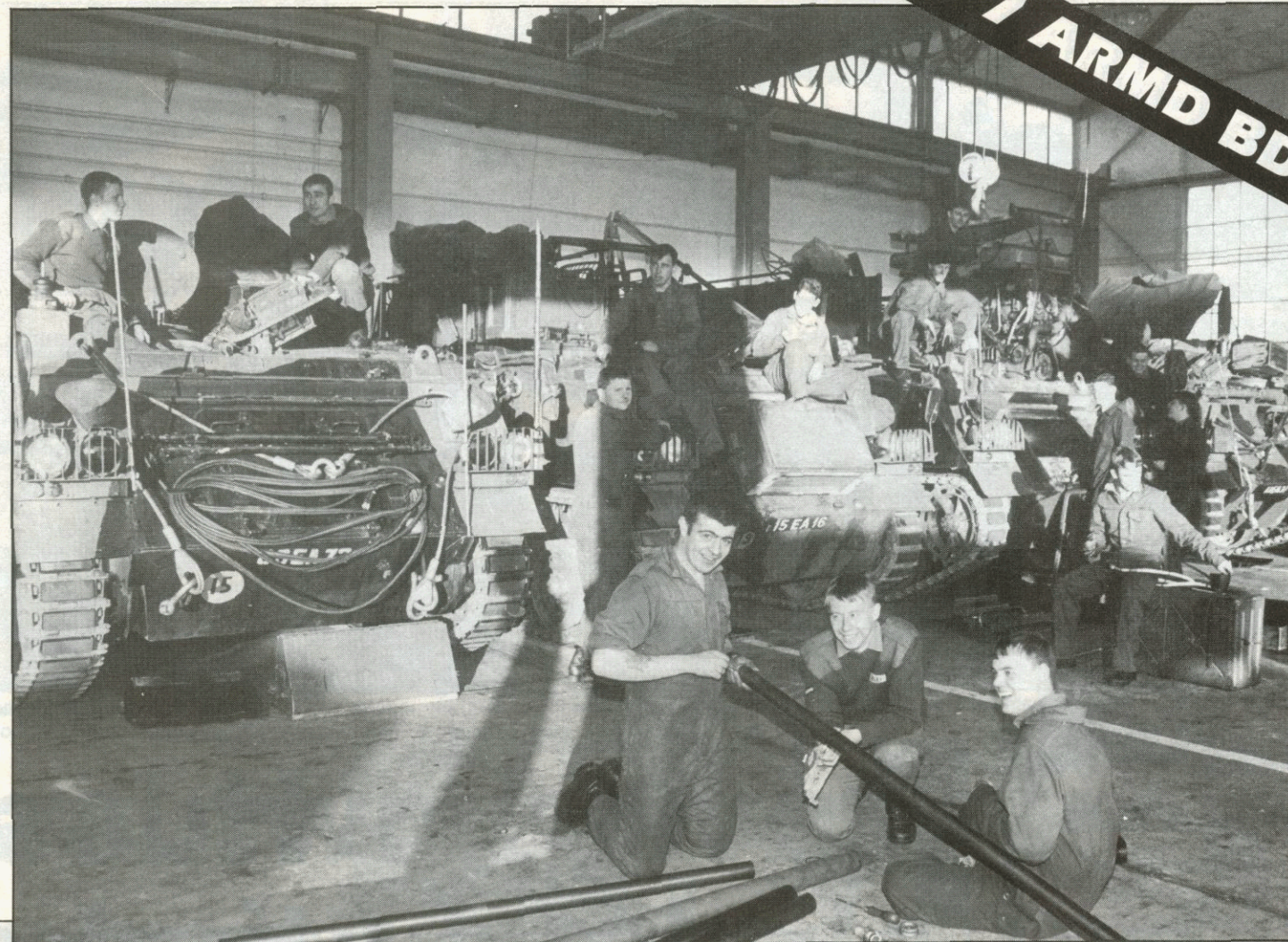
Commander 7 Armoured Brigade, Brig Andrew Ridgway, late RTR



Andrew Ridgway agrees that the Army's operational commitments should have the highest priority, but said other skills had to be maintained.

"It is quite right that operations should come first. They are the most urgent tasks, but it is important to maintain our high-intensity conflict capability."

"It is that capability which enables us to go, at the drop of a hat, to Bosnia, Cyprus,



Above – Members of the Brigade Signal Squadron prepare vehicles and equipment for a communications exercise

Left – Milan missile firing by 1 Cheshire. Since returning from Bosnia, 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment have been instrumental in training 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards for Operation Grapple



Northern Ireland, the Gulf or the Falklands. It is the retention of quality equipment and quality people and our training and doctrine that enables us to do these things.

"If we don't maintain our capability and concentrate our efforts on low-intensity operations, then we will lose our ability for high-intensity conflict," warned Brig Ridgway.

"Some might say we can just train up for it again if needed.

The trouble is that, these days, you only get two years in a military job. Two years as a corporal tank or infantry section commander, as a troop leader, squadron commander or com-

* Bergen-Hohn ranges were established in the late 1930s to enable two German Wehrmacht divisions to train simultaneously. In spite of protests, 11 villages on the sparsely-populated Luneburger Heide were evacuated to make way for the enormous facility.

Opened in 1939, the ranges enabled a complete division to be trained in just six weeks. Some went on to fight in Poland, France and Russia. Paratroopers who dropped in Holland were trained on range 3, while rocket artillery was developed on range 1. Tiger tanks first fired on ranges 5 and 9.

manding officer. During those two-year appointments, you gain military experience that you take with you into your next post.

"If you miss out that experience, in the space of a few years you end up with an Army in which every position is being occupied by people incompetent to carry out the job because when they should have been learning, they had actually been committed on low-intensity operations."

The brigadier admits it is difficult to keep up training because of the pressures on resources, but he is trying to create a culture in his brigade which seizes every training opportunity that presents itself.

"No matter what, we must use that opportunity to put everyone through high-intensi-

ty conflict training so they have some experience to take with them as the progress up the ladder of command.

"To that end, we are trying to set up a brigade live-firing exercise in the spring and are in the early stages of planning a brigade force-on-force free-play exercise on the ranges here next autumn."

"Of course, our most significant and important training takes place at BATUS in Canada. It is an absolutely magnificent facility."

Did the Army still have places to train on in Germany?

"Yes. We have the Soltau-Lüneburg training area until the middle of next year. For decades, people complained about Soltau, but now we are losing it, we are beginning to realise just how useful it was."

"However, we will continue to use Bergen-Hohn ranges and we will have access to other nations' training areas, including the US Army's Grafenwöhr complex."

Brig Ridgway cannot envisage the old large-scale division-

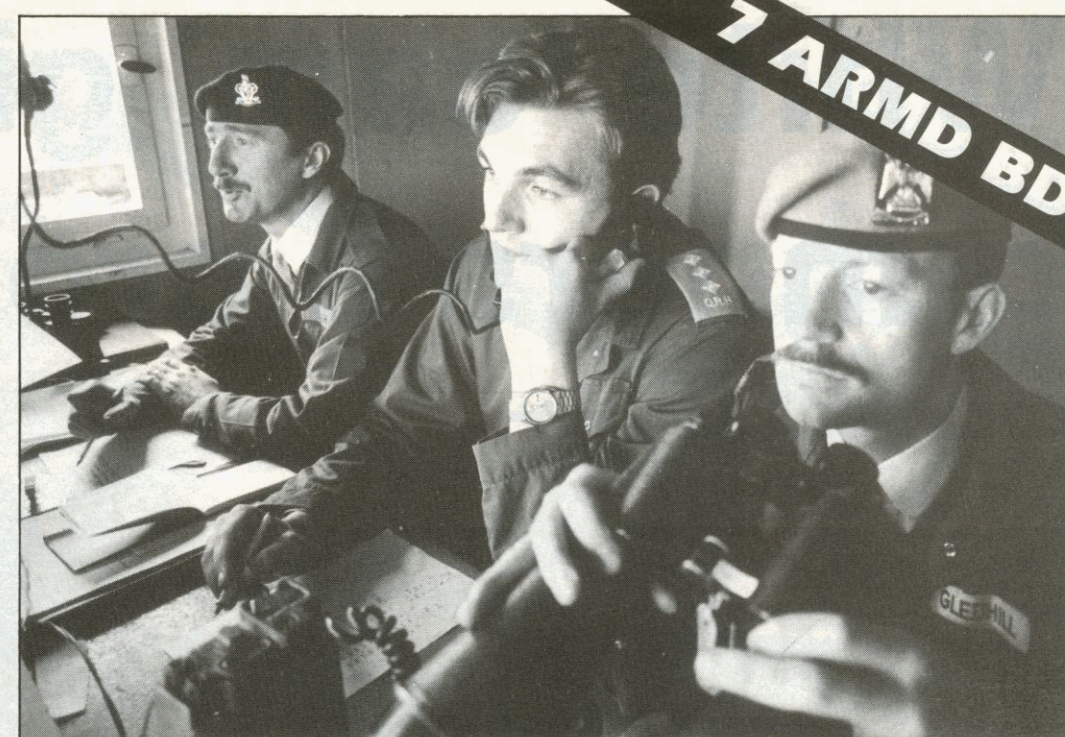
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LCpl Phillip Varney tests gun elevation on "22 Bravo" of Headquarters Squadron



In the TOGS monitoring trailer were Sgt Bambi Turner 1 RTR and the OC A Squadron, Maj Bobby Noone



Keeping a watchful eye on proceedings from the control tower were (left to right) regimental gunnery sergeant, Sgt Pete Gough, the OIC practice, Capt Nick Entwistle and assistant instructor gunnery, SSgt Ginge Gledhill, Scots DG



Brigade has world role

• From Page 15

al manoeuvre exercises across the German countryside involving hundreds of tanks and thousands of troops happening again. Instead, the brigade is committed to the use of computer-simulated battles to train commanders and their headquarters staff.

"We already make use of the brigade battle group trainer at Sennelager which forms an important part of our training, and a new higher formation trainer which produces computer-driven exercises is about to be introduced.

"At Grafenwöhr, you can fight force-on-force battles across a piece of computer land. Manning mock-up vehicles, you can look through your sights and actually see enemy vehicles in front of you," he said.

Like the remainder of the 1st (UK) Armoured Division, 7 Armoured Brigade is part of Nato's Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

The brigadier dismissed the idea that the world was a safer place and believes the way to maintain the peace safeguarded in Europe by Nato since 1945 was to draw on its experiences.

"Nato has done well for nearly 50 years, and should not be in too much haste to destroy it," said Brig Ridgway.

Despite Options for Change, there is a positive side to the



Ptes Chris Dixon and Merv Hannah AGC (SPS) with a memorial in the Jewish cemetery inside Hohne Camp

Army's reorganisation in Germany, albeit not without upheaval and change. Within Hohne Station, every single unit has either amalgamated or moved completely within or to another station.

Said Brig Ridgway: "There is not a bit of my brigade left where it was before and that is just a small part of the Army-wide restructuring which won't be completed until April 1995, when the third and final phase of redundancy has been completed and those affected have gone.

"These are very difficult times and to maintain our training and operational stan-

dards during this period is proving a great challenge, but the brigade, which is significantly bigger than it was, is now a much more powerful force.

"The three armoured brigades left in Germany provide a very potent force, having four manoeuvre battlegroups, instead of the previous three, a regiment of engineers instead of a squadron and a good deal more combat service support.

"40 Regiment, Royal Artillery will be re-equipped with the new AS90 self-propelled howitzer and I hope my two tank regiments will get Challenger 2."

Hussars' two halves make positive whole

SINCE the amalgamation last year of The Queen's Own Hussars and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, the soldiers of the newly-formed Queen's Royal Hussars (The Queen's Own and Royal Irish) have concentrated their efforts on bringing the two halves of the regiment together.

Now the regiment has completed its first firing camp. The first tank round ever fired by the Queen's Royal Hussars was sent down the range by D Squadron's callsign "two-one" – a Challenger tank crewed by commander Sgt Ian Griffiths, gunner Tpr Shaun Penfold and loader LCpl Paddy Robinson.

Before the firing camp, the QRH's tanks were put through a range preparation which included their final commis-

sion by a team of gunnery experts who "proved" the Challenger turrets with service ammunition.

After being put through the brigade battlegroup trainer at Sennelager, squadrons from the Queen's Royal Hussars are due to take part in Exercise Medicine Man at the British Army Training Unit at Suffield in Canada.

The adjutant, Capt Chris Coles, said: "The only differences in the two regiments were positive differences. It has been two years since the announcement of amalgamation was greeted with concern and, in some cases, hostility. But people have been positive about it, and those who remain are those who wish to be part of the new regiment."



Above – Queen's Royal Hussars Challenger tanks on the firing point. Inset – The commanding officer, Lt Col Andrew Bellamy
Left – The QRH crew who fired the first shot. Left to right: Sgt Ian Griffiths, Tpr Shaun Penfold and LCpl Paddy Robinson

White 'cam' gives gunners a problem

THE GUNNERS of 40 Regiment, Royal Artillery were about to deploy on exercise, but camouflage was one aspect of operations that would have to be overlooked – almost every one of the regiment's M109 self-propelled guns was painted white.

The regiment had been on standby for Bosnia and, although stood down, there had not been time to repaint the guns in temperate camouflage.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess is especially proud of its Gulf War painting just been completed by artist Joan Wanklyn.

"Prints of the picture, which depicts the regiment during a gun raid against Iraq, have been sold and almost £2,000 has been given to the Royal Artillery Association," explained WO1 RSM John Tippet.

The regiment has an enviable reputation in Service tug-of-war circles, having won every major trophy at one time or another during the past 17 years. Team manager SSgt Gary Gillespie thought the fact that the Regimental Sergeant Major was Oic Tug-of-War might have had something to do with encouraging the team's success!



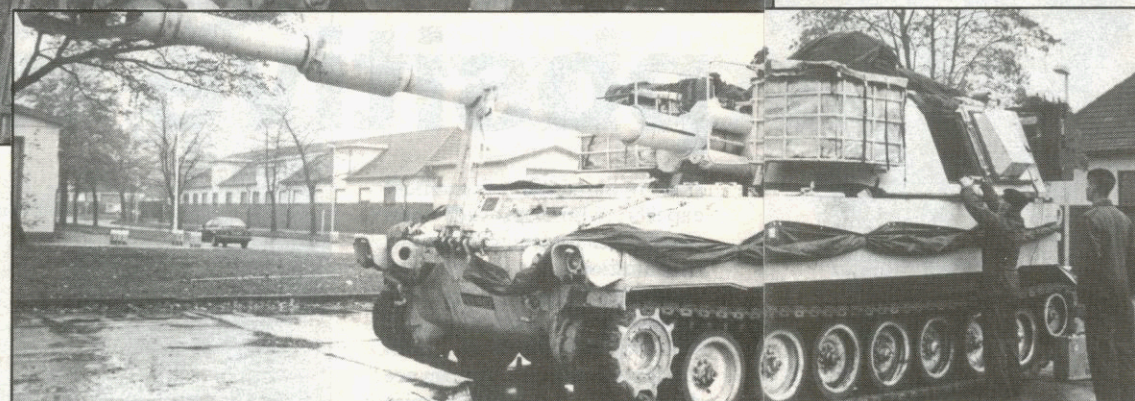
A group of 40 Regiment gunners pose on the gun park

The wives have not been left out of the list of successes. Their football team came third in the BAOR ladies' six-a-side football tournament and was unlucky not to reach the final, being knocked out on corners during the semi-final stage.



Above – Capt Gus Millar is proud of this fine Challenger Trophy which depicts the amalgamation of 6 Field Battery RA and 36th (Arcot 1751) Battery RA to form 6/36th (Arcot 1751) Battery as part of 40 Regiment RA. It forms the centrepiece of a magnificent display of trophies and historical documents in the battery's museum room

Right – The inside of 38 Battery's H1 command post. Pictured are WO2 Paul Dodd, Gnr Peter Collins and Bdr Peter Brown



Kit is stowed on the white-painted M109 self-propelled gun



On the Fallingbistel "Green Line", a blue-bereted Tpr Jimmy Orr stands guard as another 2 RTR Challenger waits to be put into light preservation

Tankies swap MBTs for UN Cyprus role

THE NEW 2nd Royal Tank Regiment was formed at Fallingbistel in March 1992 by the amalgamation of the old 2 and 3 RTR, then based in Catterick and Hemer respectively.

The regiment has spent much of the past few months training for a United Nations deployment in Cyprus, and two line squadrons and a headquarters squadron have departed for a six-month tour alongside Argentinian and Austrian contingents.

For the duration of the employment, the three squadrons will be known as Normandy, Burma and Alamein, names associated with the regiment's past.

Its Challenger tanks have been put into light preservation and will be looked after by maintenance teams provided from a squadron-plus sized rear party.

Tank guns have been cleaned and lightly greased, essential maintenance on



Tprs Jason Singer and Rich Andrews (left and right) await judgement of their culinary efforts from Master Chef, WO2 Mark Harris and the Quartermaster, Capt Paul Scully

engines has been carried out and all the running gear has been serviced.

Said the training wing warrant officer, WO2 Chris Mander: "Prior to deployment, we organised an intensive training package covering a wide range of subjects from patrolling to cooking. Infantry skills were brushed up and tank crews got used to walking on their feet again."

"We constructed a mock-UN line in our barracks to practise with. It included a

cemetery, wrecked cars and local street names where we could rehearse crowd control."

Cooking skills were placed high on the agenda and 30 "hobby chefs" were selected for training. Once in Cyprus, each would deploy to one of more than 30 OPs to provide meals for the soldiers.

"We have put them through a health and hygiene course, and taught them how to prepare vegetables, pastry and meat," explained the Master Chef, WO2 Mark Harris RLC.

Devon and Dorsets grapple with Belfast tour

THE WEST Belfast tour of 1st Battalion, The Devon and Dorset Regiment came as something of an anticlimax to the battalion which had to pass up the chance of being the first British infantry regiment to serve on Operation Grapple in Bosnia.

Having relinquished the United Nations' commitment to the Cheshires, the soldiers of 1 D and D shrugged off the disappointment and put their hearts into making sure their

**Words: Laurie Manton
Pictures: Mike Weston**

Belfast roulement battalion tour was a successful one.

Indeed it was, because the results of more than 200 search operations included the discovery of a number of important finds, including two sniper rifles (one a heavy calibre weapon), a bomb-making factory and a substantial amount of ammunition and explosives.

The battalion was based in the middle of the Republican heartland of west Belfast, whose hard-line estates bear names historically synonymous with the Troubles – the Lower Falls, Turf Lodge, Ballymurphy, the Beechmounts and Andersonstown.

Commanding officer Lt Col Simon Young said: "Clearly, the fact that a number of people living on those estates are not particularly attuned to making us feel welcome, made our tour quite 'interesting'.

"Our main threat came from members of the Provisional IRA who prosecuted a number of attacks against us using grenades, mortars and rifles."

These included an attempt to shoot a junior NCO on foot patrol. Fortunately, the soldier stepped back as the terrorist opened fire and the .50 calibre round shattered his SA 80. He was spattered with fragments in shoulder, neck and eye, but lived to tell the tale.

According to C Company's commander, Maj Bob Barnes, stone-throwing children proved a problem.

"We cannot afford to be heavy-handed in our response because, odds-on, our actions would probably be photographed or filmed and used in anti-Security Force propaganda.

"However, there have been improvements in our relationship with residents. Some are getting quite friendly – mainly the older generation who, perhaps, don't have quite so much to lose and who will respond to politeness," he said.

The battalion operated throughout its tour with four companies. C Company and a tactical headquarters at North Howard Street Mill; A and B Companies from Fort White-rock; and a company under operational command of 1 D and D provided by 2 Para.

Role of the battalion was to



Commanding officer 1 D and D, Lt Col Simon Young



support the Royal Ulster Constabulary in the suppression of terrorism.

Protestant paramilitary activity in the area has increased local concerns and is proving a headache for the police who are now trying to control the activities of both the Republican and Protestant terrorist factions.

"We worked very closely at RUC divisional and sub-divisional levels. Having acknowledged the fact that we had to get on with the police, I am delighted to say that they were just as receptive as we were. It has proved a very strong link-up, right down to the neighbourhood policeman working with Army patrols," said Col Young.



Saxon Patrol vehicle leads a Land Rover armoured patrol vehicle through west Belfast



Above – 3 Platoon, A Company and attached RMP searcher at New Barnsley RUC station

Left – Left to right are Capt Rob Pilato, Lt Rupert Barnsley and LCpl Beverley Gallier, RMP. Beverley is tasked to search women and children during patrol operations

Col Young.

In general, most patrols were liable for a 12-13 hour window in any 24 hour period.

Hours on duty soared when intensive operations were in play. Soldiers, laden with equipment, normally covered up to 20km a day.

Interface with the community was all important and community relations took a more prominent position than before. Said the commanding officer: "There are those within the estates we patrol who want to cause us problems by shouting and screaming abuse at soldiers.

"My men are trained to back off and avoid verbal altercation. If the person causing the trouble doesn't desist, then an

RUC constable can step in and make an arrest."

A number of soldiers manned observation posts at locations throughout the battalion's tactical area of responsibility. One sergeant and a junior NCO spent an entire six-month tour in their OP to provide continuity.

Fort White-rock is a purpose-built Security Force base nestling at the base of the Black Mountains.

Some patrols work out of RUC stations at Springfield Parade and nearby New Barnsley, said to be the most attacked police station in western Europe. Its security fencing is full of holes – the result of many bursts of machine-gun fire aimed at the base.

The battalion had an echelon at Musgrave Park responsible for equipment and supply support for all the company locations.

Most squaddies are softies at heart and the Devon and Dorsets are no exceptions. They often carried bags of sweets with them on patrol for the children. Astonishingly, this simple act of kindness struck a raw nerve with the terrorists, who issued a notice warning parents to stop children asking for sweets.

The soldiers' generosity undermined a campaign to persuade children that the soldiers were cruel oppressors of the people of Northern Ireland. Nothing could be further from the truth.



Capt Rob Johnson and LCpl Paul Toovey outside the Andersonstown RUC station on the Falls Road



Londons present a wide ethnic mix: Apart from broad Cockneys in the Scots and Irish companies as well as the two English companies, Londons originate from Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Jamaica, Malta, New Zealand, Sierra Leone, South Africa – and Wales

LONDON RICH MIX – AND PROUD OF IT . . .

FIRST annual camp for the new London Regiment since its official formation was not without its problems.

A solid week of excellent live firing at Warcop was followed by a second week devoted to a full battalion scenario.

This included preparing a defensive position, patrolling, and company-level attacks, followed by a battalion attack mounted from Royal Navy Sea King helicopters.

A virus, coupled with the unforgiving nature of North-umberland moors, tested the resilience of the Londons with 25 of their number being taken off the exercise.

Commanding officer Lt Col Peter Swanson PWRR expressed his admiration for the unit.

“Although many were feeling pretty awful due to the virus, they soldiered on,” he said.

Many had not experienced a long exercise before and it was important that they should appreciate battle procedure and administration in the field.

This unique battalion,

formed at Chelsea in July, is forging new traditions from echoes of 13 of the original 26 battalions which formed the London Regiment in 1908. The four rifle companies are A (London Scottish), B (Queen’s Regiment), C (City of London Fusiliers) and D (London Irish Rifles).

HQ (Anzio) Company takes its name from the landing nearly 50 years ago which each cap badge holds as a common battle honour, but the uniforms and traditions of each rifle company remain.

HQ Company is a scale model of the battalion, with its OC Irish, a Scot as 2iC and a sprinkling of fusiliers leavening the bulk of the Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment.

Nobody commands it, jokes OC Maj Jerry Mooney, one can only aspire to presiding over it. This rich pot-pourri is a challenge as it does not command the units on exercise that it does for training. But though

not having a historically rich company, it is from here that the new regimental ethos will grow as different cap badges move into the specialist platoons.

There is a deep fund of goodwill which belies traditional animosities.

“I have not heard anybody angrily quoting incidents from the Battle of the Boyne or Flodden during the exercise,” said Maj Mooney.

“Underneath whatever colourful accents and costumes, we mostly spend all our working life in London. We are not interchangeable, and long may it remain so, but there is an awful lot in common.”

WO2 Smudger Smith, on his last camp, agreed there could hardly be more unlike companies but found it remarkable how they have gelled.

“It is a good battalion. There is good banter and professional spirit, which is rare when there

are four cap badges with long traditions, some going back to the Peninsular War.

“When the chips are down we can call on the London traditions and avoid an enormous punch-up.”

During 36 years in the TA he has been in six different battalions and lost count of the number of companies, but has only moved drill hall twice. One of the last serving Diehards (7th Middlesex), he says the TA is in danger of becoming too professional.

“The fun has gone out of TA and Regular soldiering. You can work very hard, but you do need time to switch off.”

The officers could not switch off after their mess guest night. They had only a few hours’ sleep before their combat fitness test – a good start to the day off – while the sergeants had their dinner night that evening.

The corporals were luckier, squeezing in their mess night earlier in the week. Mess President Pipe Cpl Mac MacPherson was proud to start a new tradition when he presented

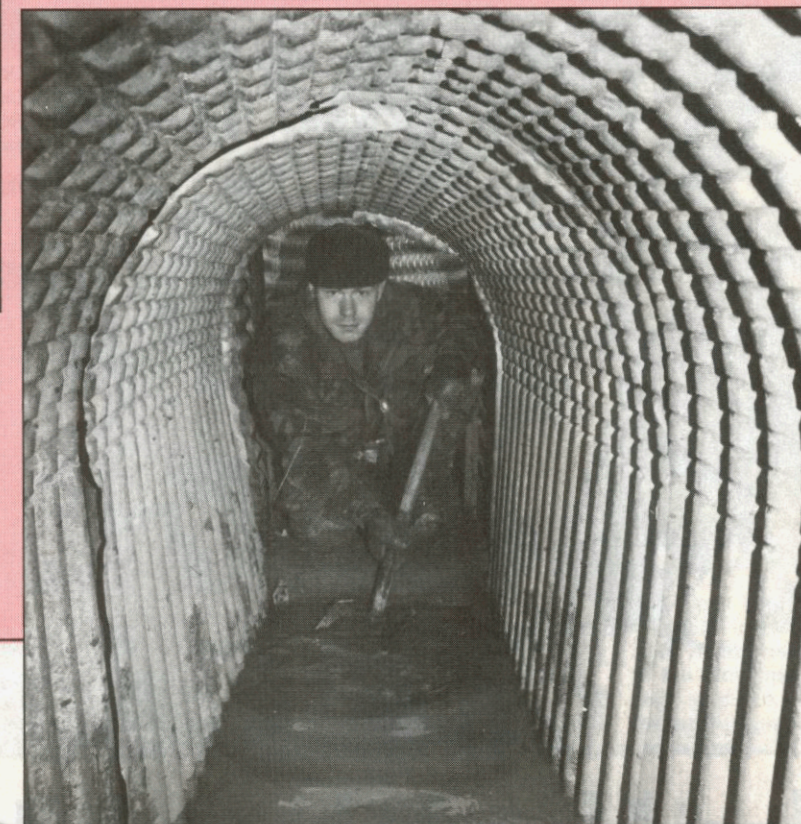
Words:
Gordon Skilling
Pictures:
Mike Perring



The Tower of London looks on the new London Regiment: LCpl Alan Clarke (London Irish Rifles) LCpl Mehmet Kavaz (City of London Fusiliers), Pte John Hurnn (London Scottish) and Pte Matthew Walker (Queen’s Regiment)



Four traditions, one aim near Warcop at Brough Castle, where Scots and English once fought: Rgr Ibrahim “Bob” Raiden, (London Irish Rifles) Fus Michael Jones (City of London Fusiliers) Pte Marcus Jones (Queen’s Regiment) and Pte Terry Hughes (London Scottish)



LCpl Pat Ryan of the assault pioneers has water problems in his trench



Light mortars are still a useful weapon for Infantry, as the London Scottish demonstrate

goblets of port to the drums and fifes after they had played round the tables.

Normally only pipers get a quaich (drinking cup) and give a toast, but pipers and fifers now play together, after returning the flutes to the pitch of the pipes.

LCpl Taff Morris from Merthyr Tydfil would have liked the London Welsh to have been resurrected – he

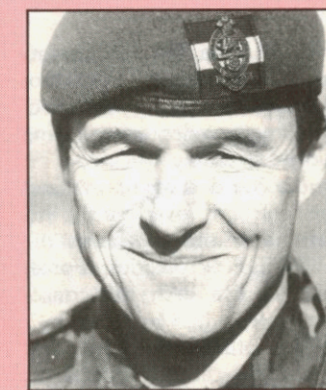
points out it was the 15th Battalion of the Royal Welsh (later Welch) Fusiliers in the First World War.

The ethnic mix of the battalion reflects the capital’s character. Ranger Ibrahim Raiden had a wealth of practical knowledge after working with the Red Cross in Beirut for eight years.

Cpl Belal Uddin from Bangladesh has a strong

PWRR identity just like Jamaican LCpl Joe Blair, while Maltese LCpl Joe Seychel is a proud Fusilier. LCpl James Boyle, from the Victoria Scottish regiment in Melbourne, was only passing through with the London Jocks, while Kiwi Ranger Paris McLaughlin chose the London Irish.

Pipe Major Ian King is from Argentina, and the adjutant, Capt Ed Murphy, a King’s



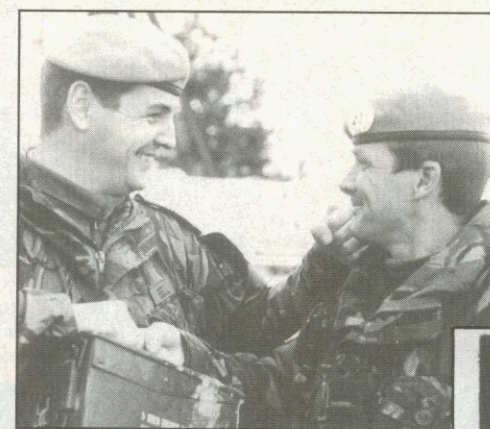
Lt Col Peter Swanson, CO

Own Scottish Borderer from near Aldershot. Pte Tom Tantony, with absolutely no Jock connections, was not put off by having to wear a kilt, while OC A Company, Maj Mark Ludlow, hails from Co Down but served with both Fusiliers and Queens before joining the London Jocks.

The Londons, a piquant cocktail, have built up a remarkable spirit in a few months.



Above – Sgt Claude Preira unloads rations at Split harbour



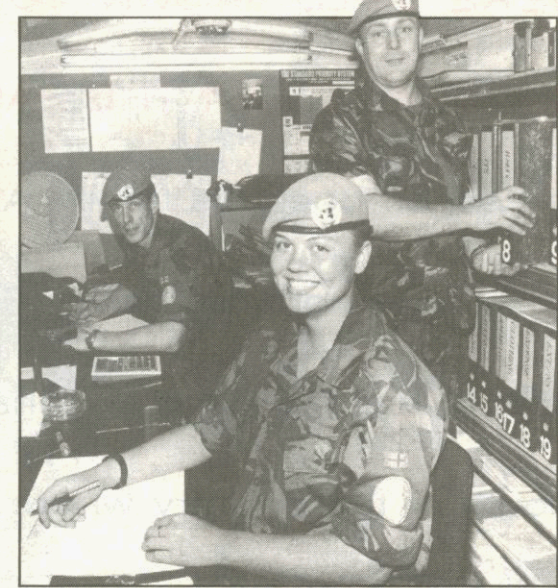
One of the hand-over pleasures for RQMS Charlie Lister of 1 PWO was winding up RQMS Vince Bell, 1 Coldm Gds, who gave as good as he got



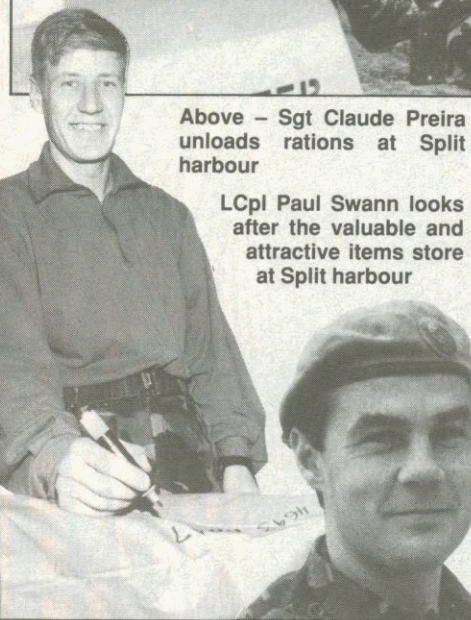
Left – Working at Split – but in split accommodation on board RFA Resource – are Cpl Andy Hartley and his wife Alison, who receive and issue stores



Right – Pte Eric Richie and LCpl Mac McLeod need their greens to unload the 1¼-tons of potatoes they issue daily



Below – Pte Anthony Rothero and Cpl Ray Franklin of central servicing with the British Transport Squadron at Omis



LCpl Paul Swann looks after the valuable and attractive items store at Split harbour



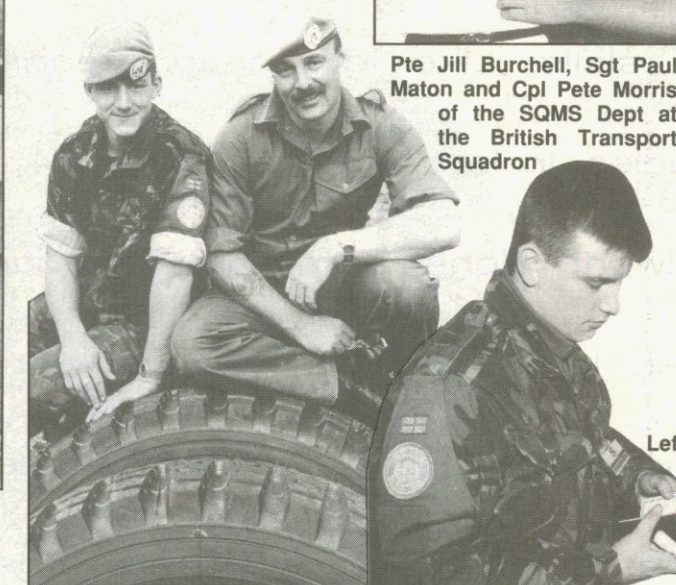
Above – LCpls Gavin Mason and Andy Cairns unload warriors at Tomislavgrad



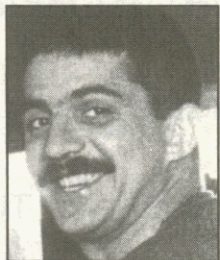
Left – Chief of Staff Maj Patrick Roberts



On his second tour in former Yugoslavia is Pte John Paul Collins, whose first tour was driving an ambulance on Operation Hanwood with the British Medical Battalion.



Pte Jill Burchell, Sgt Paul Maton and Cpl Pete Morris of the SQMS Dept at the British Transport Squadron



Above – Fork lift driver LCpl Taff Davis at Split

Left – The best kind of flight details for LCpl Alan Scarborough of the Movements staff to check are the return flights at the end of the tour

Lethal cocktail of bullets, ill will and slivovitz

MILITIA on the checkpoints in central Bosnia are not always drunk. But a young section commander approaching cannot be sure.

If a guard is aggressive and the corporal over-reacts, his battalion, and perhaps the whole UN Protection Force, have to live with the consequences.

With their Warriors and Scimitars, the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards and C Squadron, The Light Dragoons could easily force an aid convoy through. The next convoy might be more costly.

Such potential confrontation previously involved only Bosnian Serbs. Now they are regular occurrences. The goalposts have changed since the first British soldiers at Gornji Vakuf played football with the inhabitants at the start of Grapple 1.

Moderate Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian Croats who tried

to form a government fell out and extremists now fight for their enclaves with a hatred they reserved for Bosnian Serbs who would not join the young republic. Each now expels the others' people with equal barbarity.

Activity involving the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment battalion group was more concentrated at the edges of its area of responsibility during the initial, frustrating, phase of establishing the British operation, though they saw the start of the atrocities.

The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire battalion group had to cope with a deteriorating internal situation through Grapple 2 in which its main supply route was increasingly threatened because of communal fighting.

British UN soldiers were unable to give the military help the threatened communities

wanted and as they realised that their attitude changed to sullen resentment.

Bosnian Muslims now blame Britain for maintaining an arms embargo, and accuse it of abetting genocide. Instead of waving in friendship, children make obscene gestures; vehicles have to run a gauntlet of bricks and bottles in Prozor, now a Bosnian Croat stronghold. From Tobruk back to Troy, combatants have not expected third parties to prolong their sieges.

To the weapons of bombardment, pestilence and starvation are now added a cynical manipulation of refugees and prevarication over aid convoys.

The militias themselves usually respect the British soldier as impartial and professional – the Yorkies were often robust in their dealings with them – but the United Nations has lost much credibility.

Where Cheshires could often move through checkpoints with a wave, Yorkshiremen often had to sweet-talk their way through.

Against this background young British soldiers have had to restrain themselves when confronted by arrogant, Kalashnikov-toting thugs made unpredictable by slivovitz.

"We found it difficult to start with, but had to learn quickly that if you weren't polite, you just wouldn't go anywhere," said WO2 Terry Chapman, B Squadron Sergeant Major, Light Dragoons, before handing over to C Squadron.

"Some areas could be stable and others completely unpredictable, with every encounter different," he explained.

"You are not going to be able to reason with a Mujahideen ready for a holy war, nor with civilians trying to impede you," said Capt Arthur

Ibbotson, Squadron 2iC.

"It was enough to drive any normal person completely insane, but the lads kept their positive attitude."

It is a thorny legacy, now bequeathed to guardsman and dragoon alike.

At BRITFOR HQ in Split, Chief of Staff Maj Patrick Roberts, himself Light Dragoons, was high in his praise for 1 PWO as they departed.

"They were thoroughly professional and robust, and managed to defuse every incident which happened in their area," he said.

"It takes an awful lot of discipline and good leadership. This is becoming another 'corporals war', like Northern Ireland," said 1 PWO RQMS Charlie Lister.

"There is a lot of responsibility at junior level and generally they have handled it well, which will put them in good stead for

several years. Each situation is completely different."

One event which shocked soldiers was the murder of aid drivers by civilians and militia when two Warriors were fired on, then threatened by a rocket-propelled grenade.

They returned fire – first warning shots, then aimed fire – killing three HVO soldiers.

Pte Ian Wyatt of 2 Platoon, 1 PWO, didn't have much time to think as he drove through a battle near Tuzla, where he was based for two months.

"I was the last wagon crossing the Serb front line as all these mortars went off right next to us. A lot of gunfire was going over. Serbs were firing at Bosnians and they were firing back and we were in the middle."

"I think one side wanted us to think the other was firing at us, and when I saw a position, I took a chance and fired warn-

ing shots from the chain gun. They stopped firing."

The northern sector, where a company and the squadron groupings were based, gave opportunity for particularly interesting work by the Light Dragoons. It was a classic reconnaissance task, gathering an enormous amount of data as well as establishing where the lines of conflict were.

With the arrival in mid-October of a Scandinavian battalion, the British concentrated their light armour at Tomislavgrad in preparation for a hard winter.

The eastern, Mostar, route is closed and the inevitable increase in traffic during bad weather will take its toll of the dry-stone macadam road laid by the Royal Engineers, said Maj Roberts.

"Add the shortage of daylight hours and C Squadron has a very real job in monitor-

ing aid moving up country."

RQMS Lister said the Cheshires from Grapple 1 would not recognise the country now, nor would he in six months, because it will probably change again.

"Most of the villages we first drive through now no longer exist. When we first arrived, Gornji Vakuf had a few burnt houses, now it has almost been flattened by the Croats rolling oil drums packed with explosives down the hill and exploding them."

Last year, in a mild winter, the people were hungry. This year's winter arrived early, and the fact that the main aid arteries are uncertain bodes ill.

"So much goes to the fighting men that the civilians will do anything for food or fuel and are risking their lives to break into our camps. Many people are going to starve," said RQMS Lister.

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BUT THAT'S JUST THE HALF OF IT. When a serviceman leaves the forces, so does his family. And civvy street can at first seem a hostile and unwelcoming place. Fortunately, The Royal British Legion can offer a helping hand. We have training centres in the North and the South of the country where ex-servicemen and their wives can pick up valuable skills. Like information technology, accounting and business studies. In fact we're spending £4 million on a new training centre at Tidworth alone. Sometimes we can lend you more than a hand, we can lend you money. Last year our Business Advisory Service arranged over £900,000 in interest free loans. We're also just as busy after hours. We have social evenings and clubs where you can enjoy the laughs you had with your mates in the forces, out of the forces. If you'd like to know how we can help you, or would like to become a member of The Royal British Legion, send off the coupon below. Your small membership fee will go towards the cost of our higher profile activities, helping and caring for old and infirm war veterans. They never did things by halves. It's only right that we don't.

.....

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The infantry closes with the enemy supported by a Chieftain of The King's Royal Hussars



Gunners of 97 Battery RA prepare ammunition for a fire mission



Armour withdraws during battlegroup exercises



QLR steps in as 432 bows out at BATUS

ENDEX: The 1 QLR battlegroup draws up for a team photograph after a rewarding and successful month of training on the prairies of Alberta

IN A TRULY ironical twist, a non-mechanised unit – the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment – found itself commanding a mechanised battlegroup on the final occasion when the old and trusted APC was used at BATUS in Canada in the infantry role.

The Army's worldwide commitments, exacerbated by the deployments to Bosnia, had meant that mechanised infantry to support the Armoured formations from British Forces Germany was not readily available.

That was where Berlin-based 1 QLR came into the picture.

The battalion had not experienced the mechanised role

since leaving Paderborn in 1989, and consequently had only a very small expertise remaining.

Now, not only were they to provide an infantry company and the support platoons, but also the command element.

Having spent the previous year in Berlin, they now had just three months' notice to train for the command and tactics that a mechanised battlegroup requires.

So, while a strong activation team left for Canada to prepare the 432 fleet, the command element married up with the other unit at BBGT Senelager.

This was the first time that the battlegroup had

come together in any shape or form, and the advice given by, among other old BATUS hands, 97 Bty RA and the KRH, proved invaluable.

Meanwhile, 432 APC drivers were being trained in other areas of BAOR while back in Berlin the 1 QLR element was busy brushing up and learning the new skills.

The sub-unit commanders had a ten-day period to get to know each other at BATUS before the arrival of the main



Sgt Herrington QLR records an ammunition request at Al Echelon

body, and to form a nucleus with which the commander, Lt Col Geoff Sheldon QLR, was able to carry out reces and

hold study days and briefings.

Most importantly, he was able to form a cohesive team – very necessary for a battlegroup comprising some 1,000 soldiers from many varied locations and units.

In the event, with little notice of a mechanised exercise – and even less time to train for it – the soldiers of 1 QLR, with characteristic professionalism, adaptability and sense of humour, acquitted themselves well.

The live firing and all arms concept had been a unique experience, and they have since departed for training in a completely different theatre: Kenya. The 432 is being replaced at BATUS by Warrior.

Cari Roberts

COUNTERPOINT



ONE OF the aspects of education that has come under the Government's scrutiny recently has been attendance and truancy.

In his regular contribution to *Counterpoint* Col Laurie Edwards-Major, Controller, SCEA, said that it was a pity that the SCEA schools didn't figure in the published "league tables".

SCEA collects and forwards results of surveys to the Department for Education but they were not published as the authority stands, to all intents and purposes, outside both state and independent sectors.

Col Edwards-Major said that the truancy rate in SCEA schools is virtually nil – a fact that is frequently commented on by HMIs.

The secret of their success? The flippancy answer is that SCEA has a captive audience... and the real answer is probably very similar.

Children who don't turn up for school are more easily identified in the relatively small communities that use the schools.

At a time when many members of the public are moved to send gifts to Service people overseas. Many send parcels addressed to "A Serviceman" or "Servicewoman" in the hope that they will be delivered to someone who's far away from family and friends and in need of a bit of cheering up.

This year former Yugoslavia is a favourite destination for welfare parcels of this type.

To deal with this the Ministry of Defence in collaboration with United Carriers, the nationwide transport company, has devised an efficient delivery system.

There are two methods.

One is to deliver the parcels personally to any United Carriers depot in the UK from where they will be taken to a central collection point. Alternatively donors can send gifts directly to the Army collection point.

The address for this is the Army Regional Depot, Thatcham Station Road, Thatcham, Newbury, Berks RG13 4LY. The postal charge will be Royal Mail Parcels UK Inland Rate.

All parcels should be addressed to: A Serviceman or Servicewoman in Bosnia, Welfare Parcel, British Forces Croatia and Bosnia, c/o United Carriers. The sender's name and address must be clearly marked on the outside together with a list of contents. There is a weight limit of 3kg (6lb) on each parcel. Parcels will be subject to a security scan at Thatcham before moving on.

British Headquarters in Split will make sure that the parcels are distributed fairly.

The service runs until January 15. As parcels may take a while to reach Croatia, they shouldn't contain anything perishable. Alcohol is not allowed.

As to what goes down well with Service people... well, cassettes, books, magazines, board games, and chocolate are all listed as welcome and so, strangely, are nuts!

Homeward Bound is SSAFA's network of short-stay accommodation for mothers and children affected by separation in the Service community. Some time ago I visited the first house to open. It is in Newcastle and I was very impressed by the way in which the bedrooms and community rooms had been designed to be both

integrated and separate.

A new project, Fenlands Lodge, in Cambridgeshire, has just the same quality.

The bedrooms are very comfortable and the community areas have the atmosphere of a small, pleasant hotel. The staff are well-trained and have connections with the DSS and other local agencies who can help women decide how they want to plan their future.

At a vulnerable time, many mothers and children would benefit from the help and experience of Homeward Bound – as have a number already.

Longside House has helped 55 mothers and 95 children in its short history and many ex-residents, now back on their feet in civilian life, visit the house to join in the work for helping others in their spare time.

Talking about the project in *Counterpoint*, Dianne Myers from SSAFA, highlighted this aspect as perhaps the most telling indicator of success.

She also thanked the SSAFA committees and others who raise funds overseas for their tireless work. The amount of money which has come in for this project seems to have surprised even the most optimistic at SSAFA.

Other contributors to the project include The Army Benevolent Fund, which gave substantial help.

You can get more information about Homeward Bound from your Families Officer, Social Worker or Dianne Myers at SSAFA Central Office.

You can write to Cari Roberts at Counterpoint, BFBS, BFPO 786 or c/o SOLDIER.

Changes to 'patch' life cause alarm in the ranks

"WHO will be my neighbour?" asked anxious Army wives of MoD delegates at the 11th annual conference of the Federation of Army Wives (UKLF), writes Gordon Skilling.

They gave representatives a rough ride over the proposed private sector housing trust to manage married quarters, and assurances that their

Secretary for Service Personnel, who caters for the whole range of tri-Service allowances and has a key role in shaping the provisions of the housing trust.

She had found the trust a rather vague concept at first, but admitted she had become something of an enthusiast.

She said it made sense that management of hous-

ing should be run on a professional basis. The trust was an imaginative scheme.

Major negotiations had, however, to be carried out, and she hoped that the bulk of these would be completed by September.

Maj Gen (Retd) James Johnston, chairman designate of the trust, told the conference he was also sceptical at first

but now saw it as a unique opportunity to upgrade married quarters in a way that had not been possible in the past ten years.

He explained how he envisaged the trust operating and the considerations in selecting a chief executive. Key areas were setting the right standards, providing as good a service as possible, providing choice (almost like an estate agency), and involvement with the people living in the houses.

But the audience was more concerned with rent increases, quality of patch life, reassurances that the mutual support of wives would be retained, and safe transition to trust management.

Bonanza for Breakthrough

ARMY wives in the UK and Germany raised more than £7,000 for Breakthrough, the charity for breast cancer, and presented it at the FAW conference. Wives in the UK provided £5,000 and the remainder came from Cree de Foubert and Judy Newell in Bielefeld, who did a sponsored parachute jump.

These fears were acknowledged by the senior MoD representatives present, and the women were promised that proposals had not been set in concrete and that the trust would incorporate proper safeguards.

FAW chairman Mrs Jill Bullock had set the tone by highlighting the need for a stable family background. Local authorities were not prepared to accept that Army wives faced particular problems.

The conference heard apologies from Viscount Cranborne, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, who had been called to Russia and was unable to attend.

In his place was Alexa Walker, Assistant Under



Mrs Jane Burrows makes a plea for time to help widows come to terms with the drastic change in their lives

Welfare areas face cash squeeze

ARMY wives have been warned that welfare areas will feel the squeeze following the November budget.

Speaking at the 11th annual conference of the Federation of Army Wives (UKLF) held at RMA Sandhurst, the Adjutant General, Gen Sir Michael Wilkes, described the Ministry of Defence as "glowing incandescently" with changes which had just been announced.

Gen Wilkes pointed out that the primary problem was resources.

"We are £1 billion over our planning line and have been set in addition a secondary planning line which



Gen Sir Michael Wilkes

requires us to take another billion and a half pounds out of our programme," he said.

"That is £2½ billion to get ourselves roughly in balance, which is really big money."

Agreeing that the front line had to be defended, he warned that support, administration and welfare areas would feel the squeeze. Huge economies were being made through amalgamations, aggregating the personnel and records empire in Glasgow which would realise 40 per cent savings in manpower.

Despite demands for defence "dividends", the

Army had never been more busy at grass roots level, said the Adjutant General, listing the various commitments including Bosnia. Even minor United Nations operations caused considerable disruption at unit level by plucking out company commanders and very good captains to act as monitors.

Halfway through the restructuring process which began 18 months ago, the Army was being turned on its head and facing change on change, he said.

"Your husbands' frustrations are understandable because it is not an easy situation to handle when you have to start again, particularly when the goal posts shift dramatically."

Gen Wilkes said he was glad to hear from Army

wives their real concerns, as they were the barometer by which he could judge the situation at ground level.

The Army was quite proud of its taut chain of command in getting information down to soldiers in the quickest possible way. But he recognised the system did not always work as efficiently as he wanted, nor did wives always get the information from their husbands.

There were very real concerns over fundamental changes in the management of married quarters. The new Housing Trust, the establishment of which was confirmed in the Budget, was explained to a sometimes cynical audience which had many questions to put to the expert speakers on the platform.



The Naafi Good Neighbours Rosebowl and a cheque for £500 for the Wives' Club which does most for those in its area was won by Benbecula, with Blandford as the runners-up. Pictured with the trophy is Mrs Marion Deane, FAW chairman Mrs Jill Bullock and Mrs Carol Heaton. "Each year, there are about ten entries," said Mrs Bullock. "This year Benbecula won because it is so far out on its own and also looks after civilian wives and old people on the island. Without the Army I don't think they would have such a good quality of life."

Topics such as external tenants, vacancy problems, security and length of tenure were recognised as difficult areas, and safeguards had to be negotiated into the contract with great care, said Gen Johnston. But, he added, the trust had not been tasked with welfare work.

The panel was surprised at the vehemence expressed over whether the dreaded march-out would remain. To loud applause, one speaker pointed out

that for wives it was the most degrading and frustrating aspect of Service housing, resulting in the farce of living in one room to keep others spotless.

During the afternoon session, Lt Col Mike Llewellyn, Army representative on the Housing Trust Team, addressed many of the practical issues worrying the wives.

He was overwhelmed by support for the suggestion that the trust clean quarters before a hand-over, even

when he pointed out that families could lose the disturbance allowance. He added that the team had no power to change Army policy.

He said there was no policy of letting houses behind the perimeter wire and doubted if this would happen in high security areas. Opinions differed as to the legality of vetting prospective civilian tenants.

On other topics, wives insisted they wanted to be with their husbands. They

had married the man, not the job, and few indicated that they would rather further their own careers.

Strong support was offered to three widows who made an emotional appeal for widows to be given a year in which to adjust before having to leave the Army community.

The Adjutant General, Gen Sir Michael Wilkes, assured the conference that a review over the next nine months would be open-minded, but warned that there was a chillier wind outside. Allowances would be looked at, as well as the way the Army ran its business.

The question of women leaving the Services because of pregnancy was a "minefield" which was being reviewed, as was the possibility of an operational package allowing a block issue of allowances. There was little hope of early progress other than on aerogrammes, R and R flights, and a telephone allowance.

A number of changes were being considered in terms of service, he said. It was ridiculous to lose so much expertise because soldiers had to retire at the 22-year point, at the peak of their management efficiency. Selected warrant officers and SNCOs would take part in a pilot scheme next April to allow a second engagement for five or ten years for 15 posts.

Sympathising with the delegates, Gen Sir John

Wilsey, C-in-C UKLF, felt they were unconvinced of any clear policy and still had numerous anxieties after the discussions.

As garrison commander at Tidworth, he was once required to make 24 quarters available to the local authority. They eventually had to be fenced off from the rest of the patch.

"I understand precisely your fears over this and will fight for you," he said, "but you must understand this is not some barmy idea dreamt up by a particular commander or some official. It represents a political decision and is Government policy."

When he looked at the alternatives to a housing trust, he was not vehemently against it. He had just been told that £260m had been taken off the money available for defence next year, and the only way his share could be found from his budget in the short term was in property management.

"We can't get rid of soldiers, civilians, cancel equipment or cut back on Bosnia or training for Bosnia or Northern Ireland; only housing is left if short-term savings have to be made."

"The way things are going at the moment, the quartering situation is deteriorating fast, and it might just be possible that with the Housing Trust we could end up with something better than we have at the moment," he said.

NO MARKS FOR EXAM TABLES

A SCHOOL attended by Service children is fighting to protect its good name after three national newspapers published results for examinations its pupils were too young to take.

In November, *The Times*, *Sun* and *Independent* reported a 26 per cent pass rate in GCSEs for Moyles Court School in

Ringwood, Hampshire, which in the past three years has developed from a preparatory school into an independent educational establishment for children between the ages of three and 16.

The "pass rate" was included in the national league table of exam results – but the school's

first GCSE examinations will not take place until later this year.

Headmaster Mr Richard Dean, who said the school's legal representatives were dealing with the matter, commented: "Not only have we been given an abysmal result, but an abysmal result for exams we haven't even taken."

UNIFORM IS CIVVY DISGUISE

AS MUCH as I agree with Mrs P J Barlow's letter (A uniform discourtesy, November 1), I feel that some excuse is valid since military personnel these days masquerade as civilians once outside their barracks.

One can hardly blame real civilians for donning military gear in order to be different from the masses. In the old days when uniform was worn off duty, this problem did not arise to such a degree. — **Anthony Johns, Gosport.**

Plea to No 10

"BACK to basics," says Mr Major. "That is all we ask," say Suez veterans. I have written to see if the Prime Minister will review the missing medal from square one. — **C L Golder, Bolton.**

Hansard 'supports Suez medal case'

SUEZ CANAL Zone veterans, and others, will be interested in the following extracts from *Hansard* of January 29, 1952, which I have just discovered.

The Foreign Secretary (Anthony Eden) was giving an oral answer to the House entitled "Egypt (Terrorist Activities)", shortly after the attack by 1 LF on the Bureau Sanitaire Police Station in Ismailia on January 26 and the riots in Cairo:

"The increase of terrorist activities, however, supported in many cases by detachments of the auxiliary Egyptian police, compelled HM Government to act if the security of the Canal Zone, of the British base and of our forces themselves was to be preserved"...

"The late Egyptian Government paid no heed to these representations (by HM Ambassador in Cairo on November 24 and December 15 1951 and January 19 1952). It is on the contrary only too clear that so far from

wishing to prevent armed clashes with the British Forces they were actively concerned to provoke them"...

"One of the worst features of recent events in the Canal Zone is that unscrupulous men have sought to turn what is in some cases no doubt genuine national sentiment into terrorist activities"...

"If our troops are to have the protection which is their right under the Treaty (1936) we cannot limit commanders to taking action against terrorist organisations which are not carrying on a proper war but perhaps something rather worse, which is this type of war"...

There could be no clearer statement by HM Government that British troops in Egypt were at war with terrorists in the Canal Zone and were not just guarding installations against thieves as MoD(DS15) would have us believe was the case and why a medal was not awarded.

It was about this time (January 18, 1952) that the C-in-C, Gen Sir Brian Robertson, asked for a medal for his troops, 33 of whom at this stage had been killed and 69 wounded in preserving our legal right to remain in the Canal Zone.

The Foreign Secretary clearly considered that British forces were at war with terrorists, supported by the Egyptian Government, but it was the Foreign Office who, according to Lt Gen Sir George Erskine, turned down the request for a medal because "they did not want to upset the Egyptians."

They cannot agree to admit that we were strictly at war. Diplomacy would be undone if we were to verify the fact by awarding a medal."

This diplomacy did not prevent the Egyptians awarding a medal to their paramilitary police forces.

It is difficult to reconcile the Foreign Secretary's remarks and the Foreign Office's action but as the need for reticence passed with the evacuation of the Canal Zone in March 1956 the matter should have been properly reviewed then.

According to Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, the matter was already too late to be considered in December 1956, when a bar "Near East" was awarded for the Suez Operation.

British troops in the Canal Zone 1951-53 were denied a medal by diplomatic niceties and by omission by the War Office, unlike others in the Colonies/Protectorates such as Cyprus and Palestine, who were also fighting terrorists and received a medal.

This injustice should be rectified by the Government and it is up to veterans to see that this is done through parliamentary action by their representatives.

It is not too late for justice to be done, as there are plenty of precedents. — **Col (Retd) P S Newton, Winchester.**

Pilgrimage to God's Little Acre

IN AUGUST 1948 I sailed with the 4th Queen's Own Highlanders to Malaya. Most of us were only 18 and although we had little or no jungle training, we soon learned to look after ourselves.

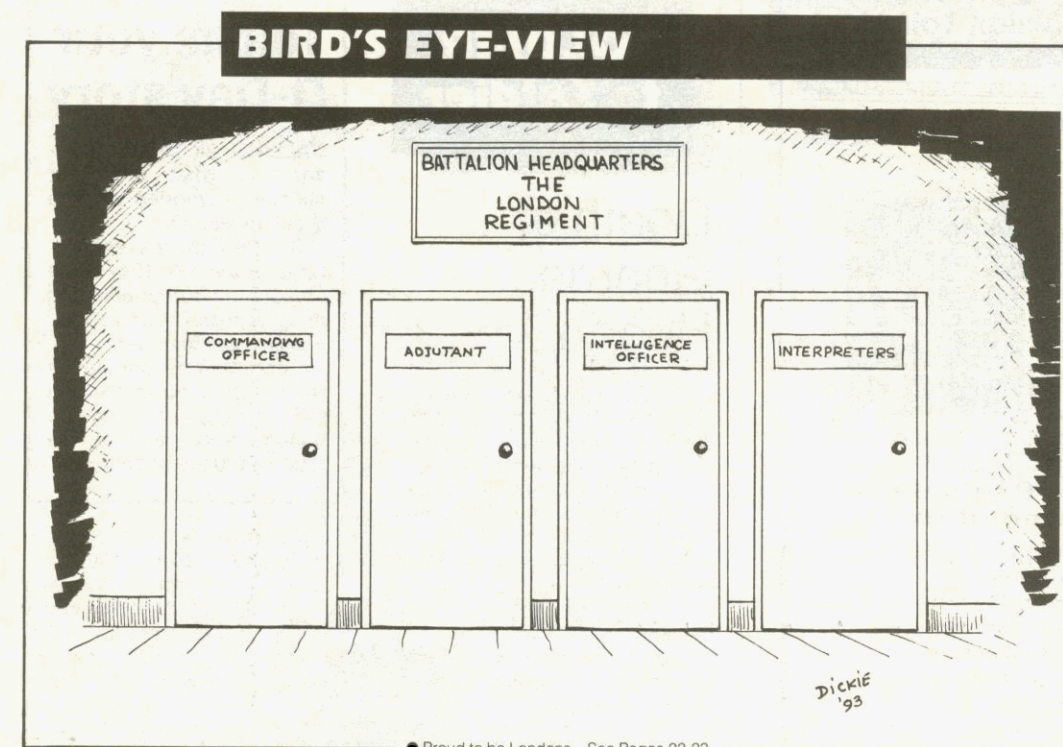
On December 31 one of our patrols was ambushed and six of our lads were killed. On January 18 our RSM, Chesty Read MBE, was killed in the Cameron Highlands.

Since then my wife and I have made three trips to Malaysia and I have often wondered where our lads were

buried. In April I found out — at "God's Little Acre", Batu Gajah, a Christian cemetery not far from Ipoh. I was told there is an annual service of remembrance there for soldiers and policemen killed in the area during the Emergency.

I was given a video of last year's service, at which there were representatives from High Commissions, a guard of honour and full military honours.

I hope to be going to the service in June 1994, so if anyone wants to know more about it,



● Proud to be Londons — See Pages 22-23

GLENCORSE'S BRAVE FACE ON CHANGE

MAKING virtue out of unwelcome necessity is something at which the Army has considerable skill, born of long practice. This skill is exemplified in the article "Small is beautiful at ATR Glencorse" (November 15) which, shorn of hype, describes how recruits for two Divisions (Scottish and Kings) with nothing in common, have been thrown together for initial training.

The commanding officer and his two company com-

manders are of course duty bound to put on brave faces, and I doubt neither their sincerity nor their determination to make a success of the task thrust upon them.

They have my sympathy, but I believe the Scottish Division, bending over backwards to accommodate the King's Division needs to see that it does not get the worst of the deal.

Lt Col Douglas is quoted as saying, "... all sorts of compromises have had to be

worked out, such as on different regimental customs, what to wear on the drill square, the format for passing-out parades and so on..."

To see the sad effect of one such compromise, one need look no further than the photograph (Page 26) of the first joint pass out: there is the CO, resplendent in Argyll kilt; but what has happened to the dress of the Scottish Division recruits?

Besides those of RHF and KOSB, properly attired in the trows which are the parade dress of these regiments, your picture shows, also (and inexplicably) in trows, two men of the Queens Own Highlanders, plus one of The Black Watch (to whom Brig Groves is speaking).

Is the brigadier perhaps asking him why he is not turned out in the kilt?

And is the answer that those from Highland regiments, instead of dressing up for this important occasion have been made to dress down, possibly to avoid drawing all eyes away from the King's Division squad in sad khaki? — **Maj (Retd) A S Robertson, London SW1V 4DB.**

Fair exposure for sappers

LCPL C D Stone (September 20) referred to the arduous work of the sappers in Bosnia and complained of the lack of publicity in *SOLDIER*.

I am sure, as an ex-sapper myself, that he is right about the nature and importance of the work, but I agree with you that fair exposure has been given to us.

Under the heading "Medal puzzle" in the same issue, D G Marriott queried the wearing of the Canadian Forces Decoration by the Prince of Wales.

Presumably the Prince has served the requisite 12 years as Colonel of the Royal Regiment of Canada, and I imagine the Queen as Colonel of the 48th Highlanders of Canada and the Queen Mother as Colonel of the Toronto Scottish Regiment are in the same category.

Incidentally, these Militia (TA) regiments are highly regarded by the people of Toronto, where the units are based.

What other Commonwealth or foreign regiments have such connections with our royal family, or other Britons? — **Capt (Retd) W A Ewbank, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana.**

Artillery honoured everywhere

I NOTE the November issue of *SOLDIER* lists the regiments given Gulf War theatre and battle honours.

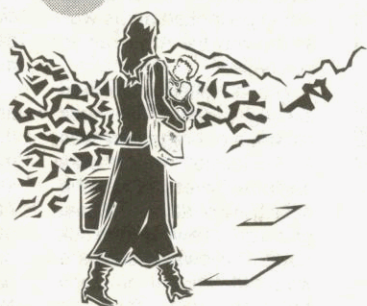
As the Gulf War was mainly an air and artillery battle it seems odd that no mention is made of the gunners. — **N M Callender, ex-RNZA, Lister House, Southgate, Ripon.**

● The Royal Regiment of Artillery does not carry battle honours. Its motto "Ubique" (Everywhere) is on every gun badge, and with the words "Honour and Glory" recognises that the Royal Artillery fights in every single battle. In that sense no other honour is necessary.

The same applies to the Royal Engineers, who share the motto "Ubique". Individual gun batteries may carry honour titles but these are strictly internal within the regiment. — **Editor**

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- The Royal Irish Regiment.
- The Queen's Lancashire Regiment.
- The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.
- The Royal Regiment of Wales.
- The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters.
- Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.
- The Light Infantry.
- 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles.
- The Army Air Corps.
- The Royal Army Chaplain's Department.
- The Royal Logistic Corps.
- Royal Army Medical Corps.
- Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.
- The Adjutant General's Corps.
- Royal Army Veterinary Corps.
- Small Arms School Corps.
- Royal Army Dental Corps.
- Intelligence Corps.
- Army Physical Training Corps.
- The Berkshire Yeomanry.
- The Inns of Court and City Yeomanry.
- Royal Gloucestershire Hussars.
- The Wessex Regiment.

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SOLDIER to Soldier

Death of George Hogan

GEORGE HOGAN, who died on November 23 at the grand old age of 90, was proud of a lifetime centred on the British Army.

His career as a Regular soldier and military journalist spanned nearly 70 years.

Born in Portsmouth in 1903, George joined The Royal Hampshire Regiment as a bandboy at the age of 15, and two years later was serving in southern Ireland. A World War and 27 years later he turned to journalism, a career move that was eventually to lead him back to the military fold as deputy editor of both the British Army News Service and SOLDIER magazine.

Loss of sight in 1988 thwarted George's intention of recording the history of the 20th Century, but, undeterred by his blindness,



George Hogan

Their number's up!

NORMANDY veterans attempting to telephone Tony and Andrea Daly about accommodation in the Bayeux area in June would have been frustrated by two missing digits (SOLDIER to Soldier, November 29). Their full number is (010 33) 31 21 9125.

SEARCHLINE

● **Isle of Man 50 years on:** Isle of Man Joint Ex-Service Association is planning a 1995 reunion for all ex-Servicemen and women who served or trained on or around the island during the Second World War. Anyone interested in attending should write to the association c/o E L Kissack, 5 Fort William, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 5BG before March 31, 1994.

● **49 Wing Section, 4th and 7th Air Formation Signals:** Stan Clifford, 8 Sefton Drive, Bomere Heath, Shrewsbury SY4 3NL, would like to hear from past members of 49 Wing Signal Section, especially those who served in Sicily and Italy from 1943-45. Two successful reunions have already

Tell us your D-Day story

CALLING all D-Day veterans ... what are your special memories of the great invasion?

SOLDIER invites recollections of June 6, 1944 to be considered for publication in a special anniversary feature next summer.

Contributions should be restricted to no more than 175 words, and should include your rank at the time and name of unit.

he published his recollections in *Oh, To Be A Soldier!* in 1992.

It was his third work, following *Malta: The Triumphant Years, 1940-43*, and *O God of Courage!*, an anthology of his poetry written during three years under siege in Malta.

The funeral took place at St Oswald's Guiseley, Leeds on December 6. George Hogan is survived by a son and daughter. His two grandsons followed

him into the Army with commissions, one currently serving with REME, the other recently made redundant from the same corps.

War grave pilgrimages

DETAILS of Royal British Legion pilgrimages to war cemeteries in northern Germany, Arnhem, Italy, Normandy, Malaysia and Israel have been announced.

They are open to all and there is a subsidy for war widows under



Gallery girl

Pictured with a model of a member of the Queensland Mounted Infantry who fought in north west Transvaal in 1900 is Katherine Tobias, curator in the department of uniforms, badges and medals at the National Army Museum, London. The soldier is one of the exhibits – some never shown before – in the museum's new permanent gallery on the British Army from 1816 to 1914.

the Government's grant-in-aid scheme.

The RBL is also organising a number of 50th anniversary pilgrimages to Cassino and Anzio, Normandy, and Arnhem and an 80th anniversary tour of Mons. Details of all the 1994 projects may be obtained from the Royal British Legion Pilgrimage Department, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7NX (tel: 0622 716729).

QGE mess to close

ANY ex-members of the Queen's Gurkha Engineers who donated items to the British WOs' and

Sergeants' Mess are requested to contact the president regarding disposal of property on closure of the mess. Correspondence to WO2 (BRQMS) G Holtham, The Queen's Gurkha Engineers, Perowne Barracks, BFPO 1.

38 (Berlin) Fd Sqn disbandment

Anyone who donated or presented to 38 (Berlin) Fd Sqn RE items which they wish returned on the unit's disbandment in June should contact WO2 (SSM) G W Bell on Berlin 01049 030 309 ext 3610 (or c/o 38 (Berlin) Fd Sqn RE, BFPO 45). Pieces not claimed will be given to another mess.

REUNIONS

● **Poachers' Band:** 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment Band final reunion takes place on February 18-20 at Celle. Bus laid on to Germany and back. Ex-members and wives welcome. Inquiries to Sgt J Milgate, Band HQ Coy, Trenchard Barracks, BFPO 23.

● **ACC Benevolence Trust (Association):** Annual general meeting takes place on February 25, 1430 hours, at St Omer Barracks, Aldershot. All ex-corps members, retired and serving, welcome. Details from Bruce Dyson on 0252 340893.

● **Beachley Old Boys Association:** Annual reunion weekend, February 26-27. Details from Hon Secretary, Beachley Old Boys Association, Army Apprentices College, Beachley, Chepstow, Gwent NP6 7YG (tel: 0291 627212 ext 5331).

● **Glosters' tercentenary:** The Gloucestershire Regiment is celebrating its tercentenary in Gloucestershire during the period March 19-26. Events include a

reunion lunch, marches and service of thanksgiving. Details from RHQ, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Custom House, Gloucester GL1 2HE (tel: 0452 522682).

● **4 QORWK (50th anniversary of Kohima):** Reunion to take place on April 9 at Boxley Road TA Centre, Maidstone. Contact Capt J Brown on 0634 850573.

● **74 Medium Regt RA:** Annual reunion, May 14. Details from Ron Somers, 104a Lee Road, Blackheath, London SE3 9DE (tel: 081-852 6716).

● **50th Missile Club RA:** Sixth annual reunion on May 21 at Peterborough. Details from Mr A J Todd, 9 The Grove, Heathhall, Dumfries and Galloway DG1 1TN (tel: 0387 62378 evenings).

● **5 Kings/2 T Force Unit OCA:** Annual reunion/AGM planned for Stoke on Trent in October 1994. Also trip to Fallingbowl, May 9-16. Details from R Walker, Hon Secretary, 15 Wedgwood Road, Barlaston Park, Stoke on Trent ST12 9BB (please enclose sae).

DIARY

MAY

14-15: International Air Show, Middle Wallop.

28-30: Military Vehicle Trust D-Day 50th anniversary commemoration rally, Southsea Common, Portsmouth. Details from Chris Pearce, 2 Locks Road, Locks Heath, Southampton SO3 6NT.

JUNE

11: Queen's Birthday Parade on Horse Guards, Colour trooped by 1 IG.

JULY

16-23: Nijmegen Marches, the Netherlands.

19-30: Royal Tournament, Earls Court (tickets available January 4 onwards from box office on 071-373 8141).

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

APPOINTMENTS

Brigadier – P C C Trousdell – To be DPR(A) MoD, Nov 29; C D Parkinson – To DGAMS, Nov 29.

Colonels – M O'Donoghue – To MoD, Nov 29; S F N Miller – To 10 Dent Gp, Nov 29; P C Cook – To MoD, Nov 22; S W J Saunders – To BDLS/MA Canberra, Nov 24.

Lt Cols – S R P Ford RDG – D&M Sch RAC Cen, Dec 1; J L Kelly RHF – To MoD, Nov 30; C G Le Brun PWO – To be CO 1 PWO, Dec 3; N R Parker RGJ – To be CO 2 RGJ, Nov 29; J Richards RA – To MoD, Nov 29; C M Eastland, R Signals – To MoD, Nov 28; M J Hampson RA – To HQ DRA, Nov 22; R P M Rendall RLC – To MoD, Nov 24; R E Toland RLC – To MoD, Nov 22; T N Tyler REME – To MOD, Nov 22; J D V Wooley

QRL – To HQ Episkopi Gar, Nov 22; J R W Pullinger, Para – To MoD, Nov 22; M Gilmour QARANC – To Def Med Ser Dir, Nov 1; J H Hardy RADC – To 9 Dent Gp, Nov 7; M Srinivasan RAMC – To BMH Rinteln, Nov 1.

RETIREMENTS

Brigadiers – A E Berry, late RGJ, Dec 4; G Hyde, late RE, Dec 3.

Colonels – E Mulley, late R Signals, Dec 1; R D K Thompson, late R Signals, Dec 4; W H Leach, late RAMC, Nov 10; R C Deacon, late RAMC, Nov 23; C M Ayers, late QARANC, Nov 29; M K Carson, late R Signals, Nov 24; R C Deacon, late RAMC, Nov 23.

Lt Cols – D W Garland RAMC, Dec 3.

MILITARIA

● **Combined Services Caving Association:** The CSCA is hoping to publish a book in 1995 covering the history of Service caving and cavers. Anyone with information or stories is asked to write to Sgt Ian M Rolland, Mountain Rescue Section, RAF Leuchars, St Andrews, Fife KY16 0JX.

old girls: A weekend reunion is planned for May 14-15 at the school to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St Elphin's School, Darley Dale. Many past pupils of the boarding school have had connections with the Armed Forces.

● **Tom Whitehead, ex-RA:** Richard Field of 3 Colliers Brook, Aylburton Common, Lydney, Glos GL15 6DX, wishes to contact Tom Whitehead of Nottinghamshire, with whom he served in the Royal Artillery attached to 656 Sqn AAC in Malaya in 1959-60.

● **Prince Rupert School (Wilhelmshaven, Germany) Association** is trying to create a register of former pupils so that reunions

been held and a third is being organised for summer 1994.

● **Peter Waller:** Anyone who knows the whereabouts of former soldier Peter Waller, now aged about 56, who was stationed in Berlin-Spandau in 1958-59, is asked to write to BFG, P Info (1011/5), HQ BAOR, BFPO 140.

● **Julie M Lavery** (108 Schofield Street, Oldham OL8 1QJ) wishes to contact 24516537 Cpl Lesley Hilditch with whom she lost touch on going to work in South Africa in 1984. Thought to be serving in Aldershot area.

● **St Elphin's School, Norwich,**

Heavyweight tribute to soldiers of the Queen

THE BRITISH Army's regimental system, developed over many centuries, arguably has been the finest outline structure of any fighting force in time of war and the most enviable of systems for a Regular army in peacetime.

The negative side is that when political pressures make it necessary to reduce the strength of the standing army and its auxiliaries, the break-up of a long-established regiment causes nostalgic regrets at best, and a loss of personal commitment at worst.

To those who are not of a "regimental family", and that includes political decision-makers, these gut feelings – call them sentimental if you like – are hard to understand.

However, the regrets are real and must surface when a regiment is disbanded or shrunk through amalgamation.

IN BRIEF

Penguin Encyclopedia of Modern Warfare by Kenneth Macksey and William Woodhouse. Useful compact guide to developments between the Crimean War and the present. Penguin, paperback, £9.99.

Living in Germany: The Complete A-Z Guide by John A S Abecasis-Phillips. Oddly subtitled: the only alphabetical feature of this is the index. It says next to nothing about the British Forces but is, in its idiosyncratic way, quite informative about the native lifestyle. Robert Hale, hardback, £14.99.

Battle Group! by James Lucas. German Kampfgruppen shock-troop action of the Second World War by a popular military historian. Arms and Armour, hardback, £16.99.

Rommel's Army in Africa by Dal McGuirk. One for collectors and modellers as well as history buffs by the owner of one of the world's largest collections of Afrikakorps memorabilia. Airlife Publishing, hardback, £19.95.

Round the Clock by Philip Kaplan and Jack Currie. Large-format portrait in words and pictures of Second World War bomber crews. Cassell, hardback, £25.

The announcement under the Defence Cuts of 1991 – the deceptively-named "Options for Change" – that The Queen's Regiment was to be amalgamated with The Royal Hampshire Regiment and that at the same time, the establishment was to be reduced, came as a bolt from the blue for the Queens, who at that time were preparing to celebrate their 25th anniversary.

It was on December 31, 1966 that the regiment was formed from the four old-established regiments that made up the short-lived Home Counties Brigade: The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, The Queen's Own Buffs (Royal Kent Regiment), The Royal Sussex Regiment, and The Middlesex Regiment.

Lt Col J P Riley's history of the 25-year period, *Soldiers of the Queen*, had been commissioned originally as part of the celebration, but when the shock "Options" announcement was made, there clearly had to be a rethink on the book's format.

It was then decided to make it a memorial record of the life of The Queen's Regiment from its formation to the virtual disbandment in 1992.

This meant expansion of the work, which now has 816 pages and includes more than 200 photographs, some 30 maps, and numerous annexes dealing with particular aspects of regimental life (Appointments, Battle Honours,

Awards, Badges and Insignia, Dress, Music, Customs, Weapons and Equipment, Cadets, and Roll of Honour).

The Territorial and Volunteer Battalions also receive recognition.

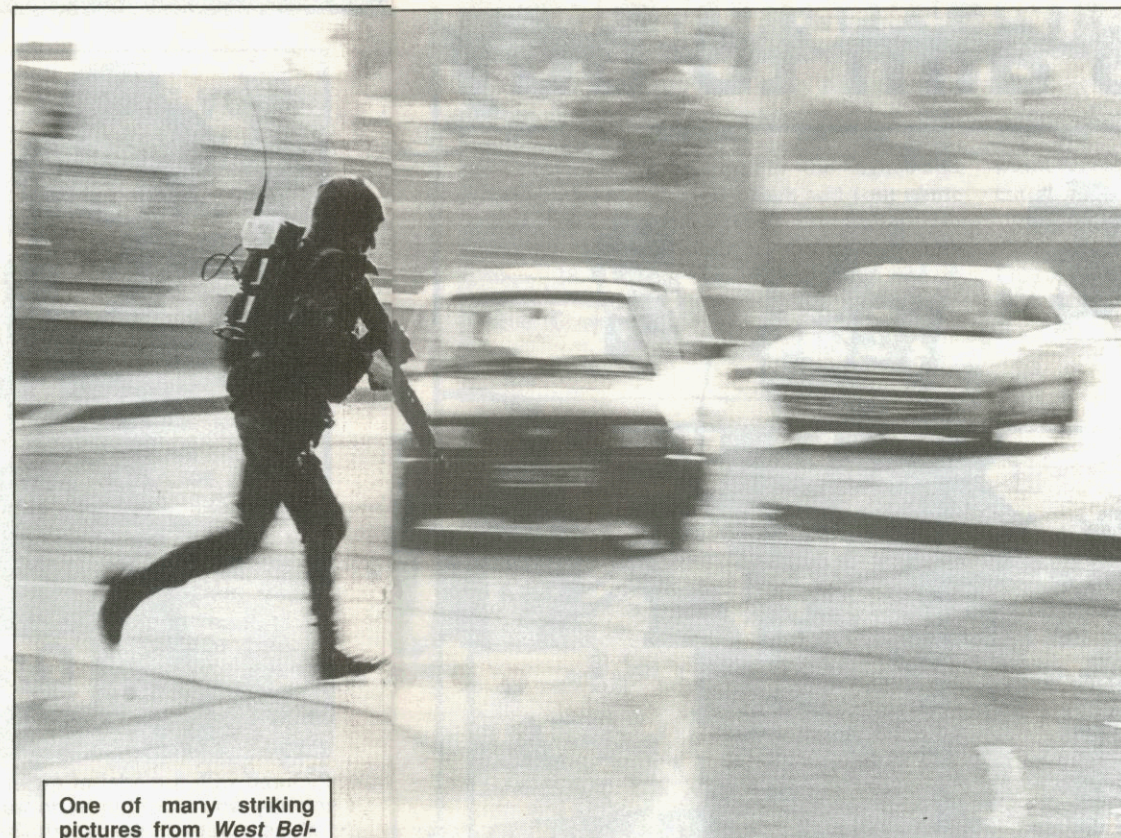
The book is divided into six parts: Military Background from 1956 to 1993, Histories of the Regiment – 1966-1970 and 1970-1993, Regimental Institutions, Annexes, Maps and Diagrams.

In the words of the author, "Twenty-six years is a short life in British military history. It is a short life when compared with the span of the regiment's forebears – 330 years since Peterborough's raw levies and Dunkirk veterans sailed from the Downs for Tangier; only a little less since the men from the English Brigade in the Netherlands returned to face uncertain future.

"But those who served in The Queen's Regiment, no less than those who served its founding regiments, will always be proud of the regiment and its record.

"There will be no battle honours for 'North West Europe 1966-92', nor 'Northern Ireland', nor 'Central America', nor for many other places where the soldiers of the regiment served, sweated and in some cases, died.

"But there is always a job to be done, no matter how unglamorous and in its generation the regiment did that job for the defence and freedom of



One of many striking pictures from *West Belfast May-November 1992*, a photo-graphic resume of a Northern Ireland tour by 1st Battalion Scots Guards. The paperback is available, priced £11.99, from Owl Press, PO Box 315, Downton, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 3YE

its country."

Though not exactly light reading – in fact it is a real heavyweight of a book – this is a fine memorial to an illustrious regiment which has become yet another victim of political expediency. – BJ

Soldiers of The Queen: The History of The Queen's Regiment 1966-1992 by Lt Col J P Riley. Picton Publishing, available from RHQ The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1JU. Hardback, £48.

Independent view of Gulf

Expert Witness records one defence correspondent's view of the Gulf War.

Its author, Christopher Bellamy of *The Independent*, was based in Saudi Arabia throughout the war and he looks at events through two distinct perspectives: first, as a military historian and student of warfare, and then as a journalist reporting from the theatre command headquarters.

Some scholarly defence writers seem to feel obliged to produce articles and books that are

so wordy and obtuse they are practically unreadable to all but the most committed enthusiast.

Mr Bellamy is an exception to the rule. *Expert Witness* is one of the best general explanations of the conduct, not only of the war, but of the journalists who reported it.

It stands alongside Gen Sir Peter de la Billière's *Storm Command* as one of the better and more informative accounts of Operation Desert Storm.

The book, which also

recounts the story of Operation Provide Comfort, designed to save the Kurds in northern Iraq, contains a useful Coalition Forces order of battle and the complete text of Gen H (Stormin') Norman Schwarzkopf's historic news briefing given on February 27, 1991, when it became clear that Saddam Hussein's forces were on the run. – LJM

Expert Witness by Christopher Bellamy. Brassey's, hardback, £19.95.

Definitive study of Erwin Rommel

IT IS RARE for a general to write disparagingly of another, even when the subject is – or as in this case was – a wartime enemy.

Sir David Fraser sticks pretty well to this line in the 562-page *Knight's Cross – A Life of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel*.

Like many others who have written about the Desert Fox, the field marshal was to him an officer and a gentleman, a first-class soldier and a "leader of purest quality".

Apparently he was a stickler for military rules and the care of those under his command, although the author points out that the Great Man was not entirely faultless, which reduces the laudatory level of this book by a few decibels.

Rommel was one of Hitler's leading military disciples, a member of the Nazi Party and followed orders without question until he became disillusioned with the progress of the war.

After a series of setbacks, Rommel knew Germany was doomed to lose the war. Then the Stauffenberg plot to kill Hitler surfaced and the con-

spirators tortured and questioned. Rommel's name was mentioned and Hitler turned on him, accusing him of treason.

Hitler offered Rommel the choice of a trial, which he knew he couldn't win, or suicide. He chose the latter to protect his family. He was 53.

As a military leader, Rommel had some amazing achievements, playing a prominent role in the annexations in Central Europe, the fall of France and, most notably, the North Africa campaign, which has been chronicled many times.

This substantial book – "surely the definitive study" – offers warm approbation of Rommel as a military man carrying out his orders in a "simple, frank, honest and straightforward" manner.

Perhaps he did just this, and perhaps he was politically naïve, as is suggested here, but that is for the reader to decide. – JM

Knight's Cross – A Life of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel by David Fraser. Harper Collins, hardback, £25.

GORDONS BOW OUT IN STYLE

VIDEO

The Farewell Concert
Drums and Pipes and Regimental Band
The Gordon Highlanders
Conductors: Bandmasters T Cooper and T Wittingham

IF THE lords above say you must go then go with a bang, or in the case of the Band of The Gordons, with a week of musical festivities.

There are several videos of massed bands – The Wembley Pageant, Retreat Beatings, Trooping the Colour – but this is, I think, the first of its nature by a regimental band.

The Queen's Royal Lancers, and no doubt others, have videos of their amalgamation parade; this is altogether different. The drums and pipes and band were flown from Germany in July for a final wake of music in their native city of Aberdeen.

And what a brave and sad sight it made to see them marching, for the very last time, through the city with drums and pipes and band a-skirl, kilts a-sway, and heads high.

A last Retreat Beating ceremony in the city centre, with highland dancing, *Sunset*, and lone piper lamenting from on high in the tower of the

Citadel, with city dignitaries and populace to enjoy it all, was followed by the concert to a capacity audience.

Professionally lit and filmed, the band, assisted throughout by the pipes and drums and band of the Queen's Own Highlanders, plays film music, cornet and tuba solos, more dancing to the drums and pipes who also give a display, a slick drum flourish, all leading to an emotional finale.

A poem pertinent to the occasion is read by compère Robbie Shepherd and the band plays a medley of Scottish songs, the audience needing no persuasion to join in, led by singers Peter Morrison and Alison McDonald.

Then, as the lights dim the band, one by one, stands, waves farewell to the audience, and leaves the stage until only one player remains. He waves, departs, and all is silence.

Forever, as far as the music of the The Gordon Highlanders, the 75th Regiment of Foot, is concerned. Or, if you acquire this beautifully produced video it will remind you of times when a regiment had a band to call its own.

● Available from Army Careers Office, 377 Union Street, Aberdeen AB9 2ER, £12 inc.

Coldstream compilation

Nulli Secundus
Band of the Coldstream Guards
Conductor: Maj R G Swift

THIS IS a compilation for compact disc of music from 1986 with three extra items added. Roger Swift was soon to hand over to Capt David Marshall, who is now the Director of Music.

I can't remember reviewing any of the programme so perhaps it escaped my net. The title is, of course, the motto of the regiment and is also the title of a fanfare by Roger Swift which opens the programme.

He also has *Royal Celebration*, written for the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

Other marches are *Stage Centre, Pomp and Circumstance No.4*, and *Milanollo*, the regimental march.

Solo items are *The Carnival of Venice* variations for Sgt David Morrow's flute, Monti's famous violin *Czardas* played on Cpl Andrew Flaxman's trombone, believe it or not, and the *Post Horn Gallop* by Bds Coates.

The meat of the programme is Richard Strauss's *Festmusik der Stadt Wien*, here arranged for fanfare trumpets and band by Wg Cdr Eric Banks.

However, three selections of light and jazzy show music make up most of the programme, with a *Marvin Hamlish Showcase* – he of many popular songs – *The Movies*, including *MASH* and *Star Wars*, and a medley of *Glen Miller* classics.

● From Music Masters, CD £12 inc.

Mega loggies aim to buy a lifeboat!

WULFEN-based 12 Supply Regiment RLC soldiers are planning a "mega triathlon" in an attempt to raise £35,000 towards the cost of a lifeboat.

Soldiers from the unit will run a relay of 260 miles from their base in Germany to Cape Gris Nez on the French coast, attempt a British record relay team swim across the English Channel, and cool off with a 650-mile cycle ride from Dover to Looe in Cornwall.

Looe is where *The Spirit of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps*, a lifeboat funded by 6 Ordnance Battalion RAOC in 1992, will be launched.

Sgt Michael Smith, one of the men behind the 6 Ord project which raised £25,000 for the RNLI, is also driving the 12 Sp Regt effort. The regiment's intention is to raise £35,000 towards the cost of an Atlantic 75 lifeboat to be named *The Spirit of the Royal Logistic Corps*.

Sgt Smith is looking for sponsorship and can be contacted at 12 Sp Regt RLC, BFPO 44 (Tel: Wulfen Mil 213 or civil 02369 30 213).

Air Trooper Barry Powell of Prescott, Liverpool who is severely disabled following a car accident in Germany, has received more than £4,000 from his former colleagues at **1 Regiment, Army Air Corps** based at Gütersloh, Germany.

The money was raised during an appeal day at the barracks involving a parachute display, helicopter trips and a sponsored biathlon, as well as

"It's a Knock-out", a prize draw and what must be the world's first underwater cycle marathon, on exercise bikes!

The money, which was presented to Barry by pal ATpr Paul Langford, will buy equipment which will make his life more comfortable during his rehabilitation period.

More than 40 volunteers from the **Royal Logistic Corps** based at Blackdown Camp, Deepcut, Surrey, acted as Poppy Appeal collectors at



ATpr Paul Langford presents the cheque to Barry Powell

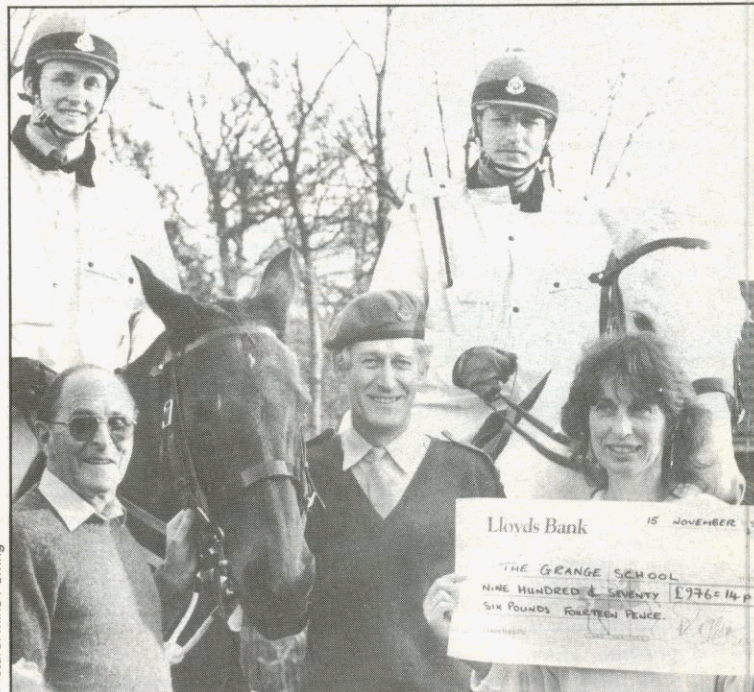
the new Clacket Lane Road-Chef service area on the M25 – and helped to raise more than £5,000.

Colin Hales, the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal co-ordinator for Surrey, visited Blackdown camp to thank the men of **B Squadron**.

When staff at Marks & Spencer's Manchester store were let down by a commercial firm in assisting with a spon-



RBL's Colin Hales and John Whiteley thank B Sqn 2 i/C Lt Keith Cammack, SSM Ronald James and some of the Blackdown volunteers who helped with the Poppy Day Appeal



Deputy Head Nicola Green of Grange School for mentally handicapped children at Aldershot receives a cheque for £974 from Lt Col John Nelson (centre), Provost Marshal and CO RMP Southern District, with PTA chairman Maj Henry Tyndale (left) and mounted RMP Cpls Andy Bowes and Martin Whitfield looking on. The money was raised in the WO's' and Sergeants' Mess of 160 Provost Company RMP during a 24-hour darts marathon

sored abseil from their tower block in the city centre, three members from **BHQ, 4th Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment**, came to the rescue.

Capt Tim Green (adjutant), WO1 (RSM) Roy Zaman and WO2 Phil King (permanent staff instructor) reced the site and found it suitable... provided a scaffolding company could put up a structure.

Once this had been achieved, 20 members of the company's staff were able to abseil down a 200ft wall, helping to raise several thousand pounds for the Alzheimer's Disease Society.

Members of the same battal-



Chain reaction: a happy bunch of lads from Germany-based LAD REME 9/12 L who raised more than £6,000 for their nominated charity, Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, by cycling in relays the 500-mile journey from Herford to London

ion turned gambler for the night at their training centre in Preston when they held a reunion for those who had taken part in Executive Stretch exercises.

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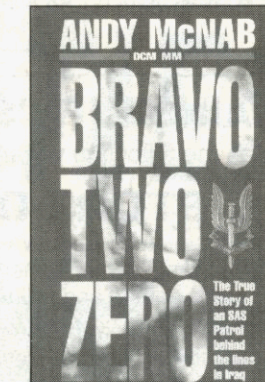


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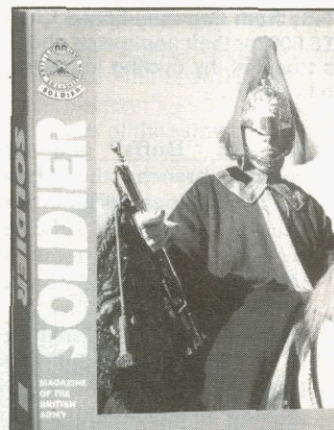
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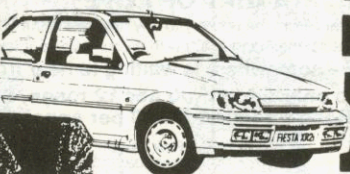
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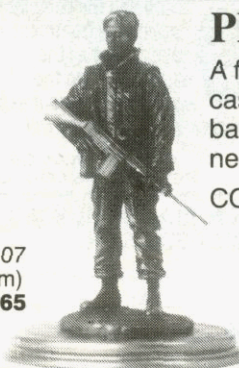
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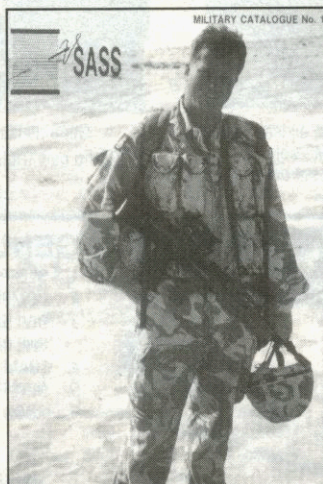
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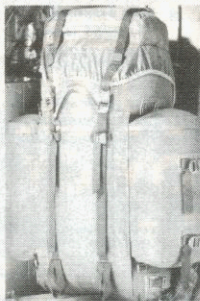
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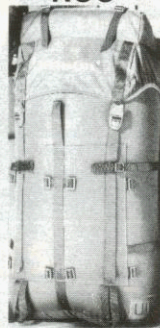
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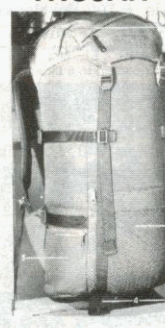
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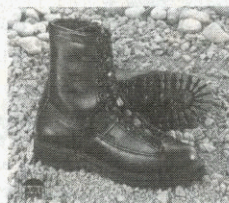
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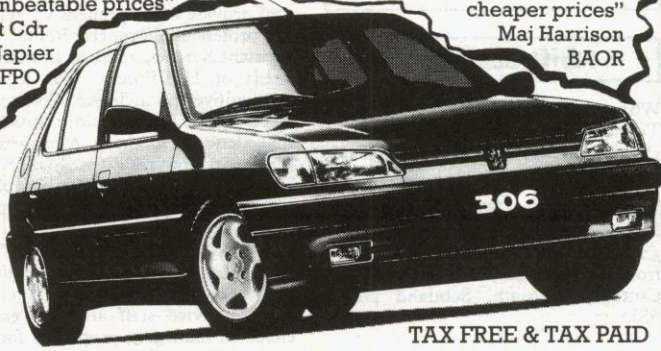
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ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

NOVEMBER 27, 1993

Two-way tie for first prize (19 goals, £1,500 each): Pte J J Byrne, 1 DERR, Catterick; WO2 Lloyd, ASMT, Leconfield.

Seven-way tie for third prize (18 goals, £214.29 each): LBdr W T Davies, 22 Regt RA, Kirton in Lindsey; Sgt G R Foss, 8 Arty Sp Regt RLC, BFPO 17; Maj N H Hay, 62 Cyprus Sp Sqn RE, BFPO 58; Cpl C W D Kay, 8 Arty Sp Regt RLC, BFPO 17; Sgt S A Lane, 4 Regt AAC, BFPO 41; Sgt S P Southam, 23 Para Fd Amb RAMC, Aldershot; Sgt L E Wood, ACIO Edinburgh.

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DECEMBER 4, 1993

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The championships had earlier been postponed because of the poor response.

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BAOR judo championship results

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Women: 1, Cfn Christie (1 Bn REME); 2,

JTW Jackson (RAF Gatow).

Open: 65kg — 1, Cpl Lawman (7 Flt AAC); 2, Sig Jackson (1 ADSR). 71kg — 1, Cpl Catt (1 ADSR); 2, LCpl Birss (1 Gordons). U-86kg — 1, WO1 Williams (REME Tech Svcs); 2, LCpl Macdonald (1 QO Hldrs).

Open weight novice: 0-86kg — 1, Sig Hurcombe (7 Sig Regt); 2, LCpl Henson (1 ADSR). U-86kg — 1, Pte Collins; 2, Pte Pellet.

Open weight: 86kg — 1, WO1 Williams (REME Tech Svcs); 2, Cpl Catt (1 ADSR).

ARMY SENIOR NOVICES

A new unit title will appear on the Falklands Trophy after operational and training commitments prevented 22 Engineer Regiment from defending their three-man title at the Army senior novice judo championships staged at Aldershot.

Ten teams entered, and after several excellent contests 1 RRF, coached by SSI McDonald (APTC), just edged out 7 Para RHA.

Army senior novice judo championship results

Three-man team competition — 1, 1 RRF A; 2, 7 Para RHA A; 3, 7 RHA B and 7 Armd Bde HQ and Sig Sqn.

Individual events, men: Under-65kg — 1, Cfn Codd (SEE); 2, Pte Booth (2 Para). U-71kg — 1, Sig Taylor (7 Armd Bde HQ & Sig Sqn); 2, LCpl Birss (1 Gordons). U-78kg — 1, Cpl Hardman (1 RRF); 2, Fus Johnny (1 RRF). U-86kg — 1, Cpl McDermott (ATR Basingstoke); 2, Gnr Fox (7 Para RHA).

0-86kg — 1, Bdr Dickinson (7 Para RHA); 2, Gnr Hockett (7 Para RHA). **Women:** Light-weight — 1, LCpl Barlow (1 RRF); 2, Cfn Warnes (1 RRF). Middleweight — 1, Cfn Tikare (SEE); 2, Cfn Doran (1 RRF).

Goal sprees brush away county blues

Middlesex 2, Army 0

TWO second half goals by Middlesex late in the second half at blustery Wheatshaf Lane, home of Staines Town FC, sunk the Army in the first of four games in eight days, writes Derrick Bly.

Although the Army had the edge in the first half, lapses of concentration in their defence cost them the game. Goalkeeper Wiscombe had no chance with the first goal after 50 minutes when, with the Army defence all over the place, Page blasted in his shot.

With 13 minutes to go a Middlesex corner glanced off the head of Strouts, wrong-footing the defence for a Middlesex striker to score from six yards with an overhead kick.

Civil Service 0, Army 1

Cpl Dave Maynard's persistence resulted in the only goal of the game as the Army retained the Footballer Trophy against the Civil Service.

Maynard (RLC) challenged for a ball apparently running harmlessly out of play over the goal-line, and squared it to skipper SSgt Alan Higgins (R Signals) who found the corner

of the net through a crowded penalty area.

Earlier, Cpl John Scott (REME) and Sig Jim Strouts (R Signals) had gone close.

Sig Paul Brown (R Signals) had the measure of the Civil Service full back, but lacked accuracy in the last third of the field.

Most of the chances fell to the Army, although the Servicemen almost undermined their efforts when Mark Taylor (DSS Brighton) was floored by a clumsy tackle as he raced clear. Fortunately, former Football League referee Tony Ward pointed to a spot just outside the penalty area.

Army 5, TA 0

A strong Army team smashed five goals past the Territorial Army in their annual fixture, played at the Military Stadium, Aldershot on December 5.

The Regulars were three up at the interval through goals by Gnr Lee Bluck, Sig Jim Strouts and skipper SSgt Alan Higgins, whose 30-yard blockbuster was a contender for goal of the season.

Cpl John Scott, who had an excellent first half in the

RAC skiers in credit



Cpl Mark Gee (right) of the RAC Nordic Skiing Club receives a cheque for £3,000 from John Loaring, Naafi financial services director. The money will be used to finance the corps' annual Nordic skiing championships at Les Saisies in France. Cpl Gee — better known as Fred — hopes to break through into contention for the British team which will compete in the next Winter Olympics

Army's midfield, rifled home a tremendous shot on the hour, and SSgt Steve Davis scored the fifth seconds before the final whistle.

Army 6, Crusaders 0

An Army side containing a number of regular first team players put six past Crusaders' goalkeeper Capt Kevin Clarke without reply at Aldershot.

The officers were on the defensive from the first minute and Army 'keeper SSgt Nigel Wiscombe did not lay a hand on the ball until the 22nd minute when his clearance led directly to Sgt Bob Corner's

opening goal. Corner went on to complete a hat trick in the closing minutes, by which time Sig Jim Strouts, Sgt Steve Bates and Sgt Ian Daley had also got their names on the score-sheet.

Infantry 4, R Signals 0

Three goals shortly before half time by Pte Lee Bradbury (PWRR), Cpl John Greechan (QO Hldrs) and Cpl Eric Tomlinson (Kings) virtually sealed this game for the Infantry. Greechan scored his second soon after the interval to give the Infantry an emphatic victory.



A 7 Para RHA player powers through the Welsh Guards' defence as the reigning Army champions blasted Northern Ireland-based 1 WG 57-0 in an Army Cup fixture played in gale-driven rain at Aldershot. The previous week the guardsmen had stormed past 2 Para, also serving in the Province, by 32 points to nine

Paddlers in for a wild time

WILD water paddlers take note: the 1994 Army championships are being held in north Wales over the weekend of January 22-23.

All levels of ability will be catered for and all serving soldiers are eligible. Details can be obtained from Capt Neal Martin at 4 Cadet Training Team, Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow (tel: London Dist 5654/5657).

The 1993 UKLF and Army wild water canoe championships were held at Barnard Castle, Co Durham at the end of November.

Winners were: UKLF

Men's slalom — 1, WO1 Chapman (22 Fd Hosp); 2, Maj Rothwell (HQ AMS TA). **Men's K1** — 1, Sgt Heath (HQ Eng Res); 2, Sgt Ross (12 RSME). **Men's C1** — 1, Capt Hepworth (HQ QMG). **Team results:** **Men's K1** — 1, 8 Sig Regt. **Junior open** — 1, Harrogate. **Men's slalom** — 1, HQ AMS TA; 2, 127 AYT.

Army

Open K1 team — 1, Harrogate; 2, 8 Sig Regt. **Men's C1** — Sgt Ross (12 RSME); 2, Capt Hepworth (HQ QMG). **Men's K1** — 1, Sgt Heath (HQ Eng Res); 2, LCpl Haigh (11 Sig Regt). **Men's slalom** — 1, Mr Miles (Harrogate); 2, AT Sgt Cullip (Chepstow). **Junior slalom** — 1, AT Sgt Cullip (Chepstow); 2, AT Sgt Wragg (Harrogate). **Men's K1** — 1, Sig Holt (8 Sigs); 2, AT Sgt Stocks (Chepstow).

Gunners set to round GB

GUNNERS from Colchester-based 19 Regiment RA put to sea in a hired OOD 34 in the 1993 Royal Ocean Racing Club offshore series and surprised themselves by winning a number of events.

After introductory courses, the soldier sailors entered the Cervantes Trophy race and finished 14th out of 46 boats, following up with top five medal places in the De Guinand Bowl, the Morgan Cup, the St Malo event, the Channel

Skeleton thrills

ANY soldiers wishing to experience the thrills of the high speed skeleton bob should contact WO1 P McClellan at 12 RSME, Chattenden, Rochester, Kent. Newcomers to this relatively inexpensive sport are always welcome.

Ben Hughes, serving in Germany, won the British novice championships at Igles, Innsbruck in November.

race and the Cowes-St Vaant-Solent.

The 19 Regt crew won the RAF Challenge Trophy for first Service boat in the Channel race, the Haylock Cup for first Service boat in the RORC series, and the Ortac Cup for second place overall in Class 2.

The regiment's Haylock Cup win stretched the Royal Artillery Yacht Club's hold on the trophy to three seasons, and the boat's Ortac Cup win was the highest placing by a Service entry since the RAF's success in 1986.

Now the regiment, which is sponsored by Securon, intends to enter the next Teesside Round Britain Race which starts from Cowes on August 6. It is looking for a competitive Class 1 boat.

The crew will be based on the 1993 team but gunners interested in filling vacancies on the boat should contact Maj Ben Archer on Colchester Mil 3001.

Services tug of war on course

THE FIRST instruction course tailored specifically for Service tug of war officials is to be held at RAF Cottesmore on February 4-6.

Army judges and coaches who wish to be considered should contact Maj Dick Field RAMC, 202 (Midland) Gen Hosp RAMC(V), TA Centre, Dawberry Fields Road, King's Heath, Birmingham B14 6NY as soon as possible.

The course has been organised by the newly-formed Combined Services Tug of War Association and instruction will be by experienced officials from all three Services.

Jubilee Hawks

THE HAWKS of The King's Royal Hussars — retained the Jubilee Cup when they beat The Queen's Royal Hussars 2-1 in the final of the RAC hockey competition.

Goals from Capt Hunter and Tpr Owen settled the result, although both teams are still waiting for their medals.

Lottery growing by 200 a week

MORE than 5,500 soldiers have signed on with the Army Sports Lottery and the number is growing at the rate of 200 a week.

Announcing the figures, lottery manager Maj Adrian Cassie said a ceiling of £1,000 has been put on individual grants and team tours will be limited to £100 a head in grants towards travel costs.

The restrictions, may be relaxed as the kitty grows.

Teams which are given grant aid for travel may not re-apply

for three years for similar tours.

Explaining the rules, Maj Cassie said grants would not normally be awarded for equipment until the unit had applied for a welfare grant.

Under no circumstances will money be given for adventure or military training or any activity wholly or partially funded from the public purse, other than for travel where this could not be claimed. A DCI setting out definitive rules is anticipated in the spring.

Some "punters" had com-

plained that the rules for the summer competition, based on county cricket scores, were too complicated. He agreed that they appeared forbidding and intends to produce explanatory notes nearer the time.

Top ten in the ticket-buying stakes are HQ ARRC (279), 28 Engr Regt (240), 1 (UK) ADSR (238), MoD Main Building (237), 4 R Irish and BRITLOGBAT, Bosnia (219), ACIOs (215), 1 PWO (164), 1 DERR (151) and AGC Centre (150). To date,

UK-based ticket holders have won 54 per cent of prizes to BAOR's 28 per cent.

Grants totalling £6,950 were made from the November lottery proceeds.

Cpl K Lester, ATR Lichfield, £800 for parachuting expenses; Army Archery Association, £500 start-up; Cpl R Maybin, 16 Signal Regt, £1,000 for ski-bobbing expenses; 7 Signal Regt, £1,000 towards USA rugby tour; HQ 24 Airmobile Bde, £50 towards purchase of minor units trophies; 1 Staffords, £1,000 towards purchase of tack; 522 Sqn RLC, £50 towards trophy and £200 for ski team travel; Army Ladies' Alpine Ski Team, £900 towards travel; Army Women's Hockey Association, £450 for new kit; Infantry Football Association, £1,000 towards Hong Kong tour.

● Latest results - Pages 47

Golfers fight back to claim the title

THE ARMY triumphed at the Inter-Services golf championships at Little Aston Golf Club, near Birmingham, beating both Royal Navy and Royal Air Force convincingly.

With foursomes in the morning and singles in the afternoon, the format was similar to that of the Ryder Cup, matching the best eight golfers from each of the Services in the same friendly but highly competitive way.

On the first day the Army beat the Navy by eight points to four, and when the sailors succumbed 2-10 to the RAF, the defending champions, all depended on the third day.

The Army, captained by Maj Martyn Allen (RE), won by 7½ to 4½ to claim the championship. Down 2½-1½ after the foursomes, the soldiers staged a convincing comeback, winning six of the eight singles in the afternoon.

The championships were hosted by the Army. The next Inter-Services competition will be put on by the Royal Navy in the autumn at Weston Gables GC in Scotland.



Cpl Dave Sanby (39 Regt RA) is congratulated on his hole in one during the Inter-Services golf championships by Alan Kinnes of Symphony Group PLC who presented him with a special prize

Sanby leads Army trio in Hong Kong

ARMY GOLFERS Cpl Dave Sanby, Sgt Rick Smart and Sgt John Maguire filled three of the six places on the Combined Services Golf Association tour to Hong Kong in November. The other three places went to Sgt Duncan Beaumont, Cpl Mark Blaber and Cpl Ian McGarva of the RAF. Tour manager and captain was Wg Cdr Ian Skellern RAF.

With the Services' current six best players chosen, there was no Royal Navy representative for the first time since the inception of the Hong King trip ten years ago.

The tour, staged biennially at the invitation of the Hong

Kong Golf Association, allows the Servicemen to take on their international team and to compete in their Open Amateur championship.

Cathay Pacific Airways came to the CSGA's rescue with free flights, and further generous assistance with accommodation and equipment was provided by British Aerospace, Pittards under their Footjoy brand name, and Titliest.

After winning the top game in the match against Hong Kong on the surreal Clearwater Bay golf course, Combined Services were beaten 2-1. Because tee times were at a premium as golfers practised

for the Open Amateur, the match had to be reduced to a fourball format.

Of the 120 entries in the Open, the CSGA team provided six of the eight UK-based players who qualified for the final day (the other two were English amateur champion David Fisher, who went on to win, and Walker Cup player Peter McEvoy).

CSGA placings were: 20, Mark Blaber (298, two over par); 23, Ian McGarva (299); 25, Dave Sanby (300); 31, John Maguire (305) and Ian Skellern (311). Duncan Beaumont missed the 54-hole cut by a single stroke.

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Fus Del Alderman and Fus Ian Kemp charge past as Fus Trevor Salmon and Fus Ian Tapley give cover during The London Regiment's first annual camp since its official formation on July 31. Story and more pictures in Pages 22-23.

Picture: Mike Perring

SOLDIER