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# SOLDIER



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(See pages 6-9)

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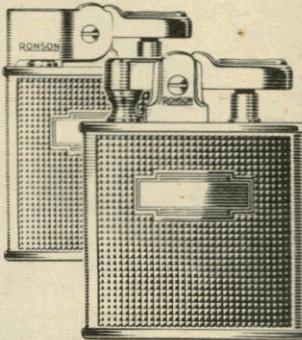


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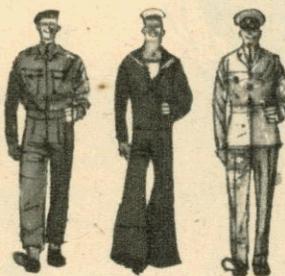
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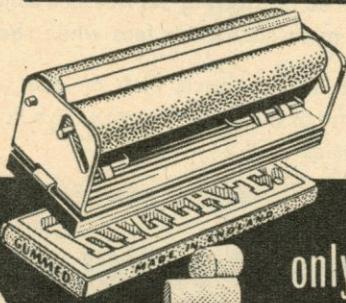
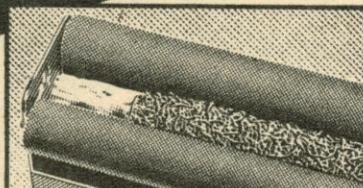
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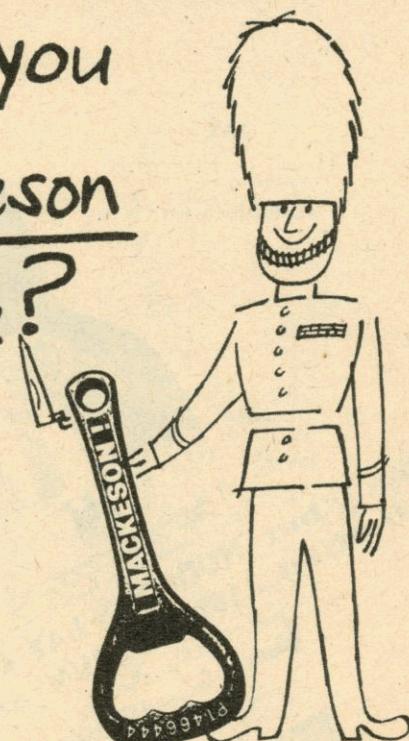
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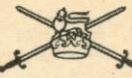
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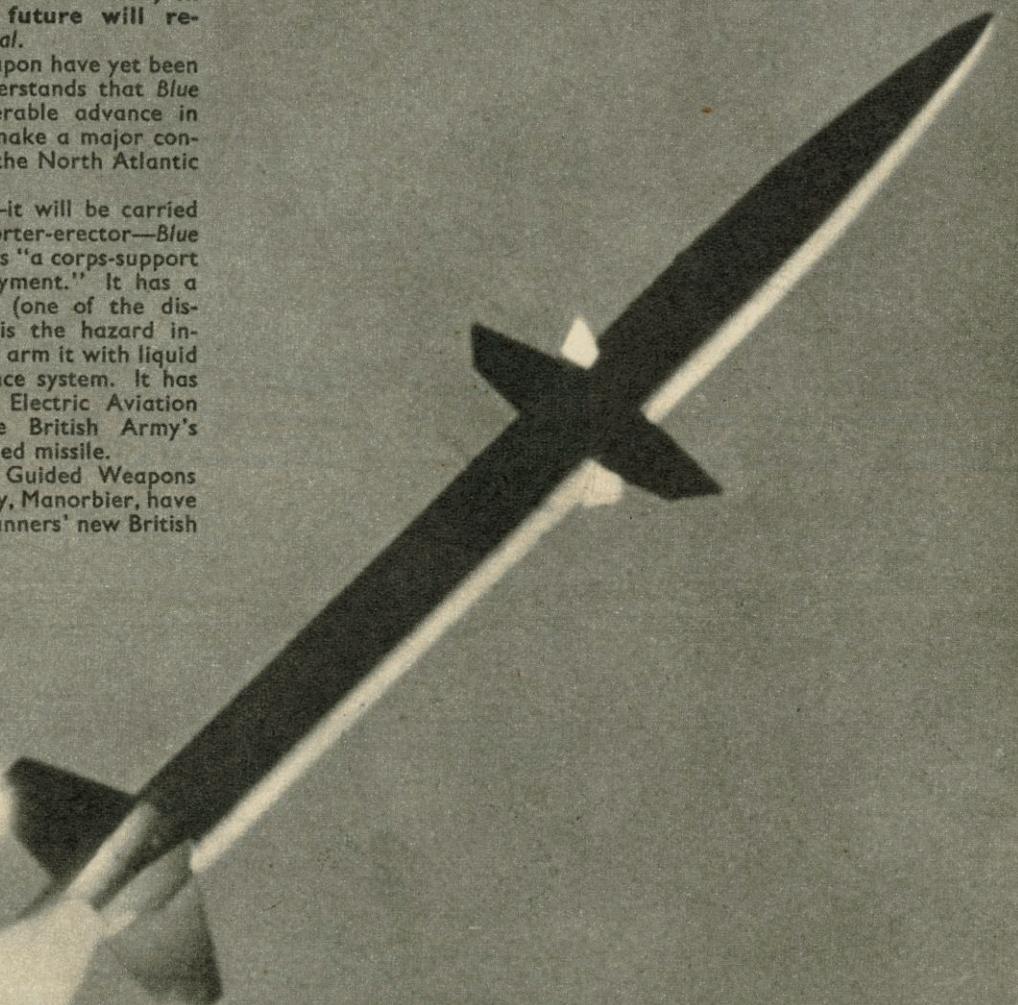
# IT'S BLUE WATER— AND IT'S BRITISH

**T**HE Royal Artillery is to have a new guided missile—the British designed and developed *Blue Water* which, in the not-too-distant future will replace the American *Corporal*.

Few details of the new weapon have yet been divulged, but **SOLDIER** understands that *Blue Water* represents a considerable advance in missile techniques and will make a major contribution to the defences of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

A highly mobile weapon—it will be carried on a self-propelled transporter-erector—*Blue Water* is officially described as "a corps-support missile for front line employment." It has a solid fuel propellant motor (one of the disadvantages of the *Corporal* is the hazard involved and the time taken to arm it with liquid fuels) and an inertial guidance system. It has been developed by English Electric Aviation which also developed the British Army's *Thunderbird* anti-aircraft guided missile.

Officers and men of the Guided Weapons Wing at the School of Artillery, Manorbier, have taken part in trials of the Gunners' new British guided missile.



BLUE WATER IN FLIGHT. THIS IS THE FIRST PICTURE TO BE RELEASED OF THE BRITISH ARMY'S REPLACEMENT FOR THE CORPORAL.

Continuing their seven weeks tour of the Far East, Staff Writer PETER N. WOOD flew to British North Borneo where, for the first time, British troops in the

WITH THE COMMUNIST TERRORISM IN MALAYA BEATEN, THE ARMY CAN TURN FROM SPECIALISED JUNGLE WARFARE TO A BROADER ROLE. IN THE NEW TRAINING AREA AT KOTA BELUD—THE SALISBURY PLAIN OF BORNEO—THE JUNGLE EXPERTS ARE RE-LEARNING MODERN TECHNIQUES AND METHODS . . .

## IN THE SHADOW OF KINABALU



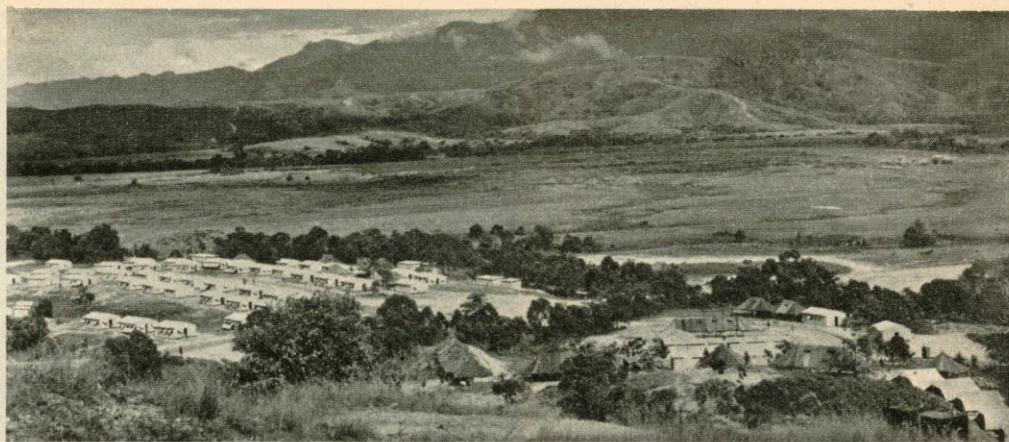
This panoramic view covers almost the whole of the Kota Belud training area which is seven miles wide and stretches 20 miles to the mountains in the distance. A new road runs to the camp nestling behind the ridge. In the background (right) Mount Kinabalu rears its jagged crest through the clouds.

With fixed bayonets men of the 1st/6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles double across the open grassland and throw themselves to the ground. This type of training is a long-awaited experience for these and fellow soldiers who for so many years have been fighting in Malayan jungle depths.

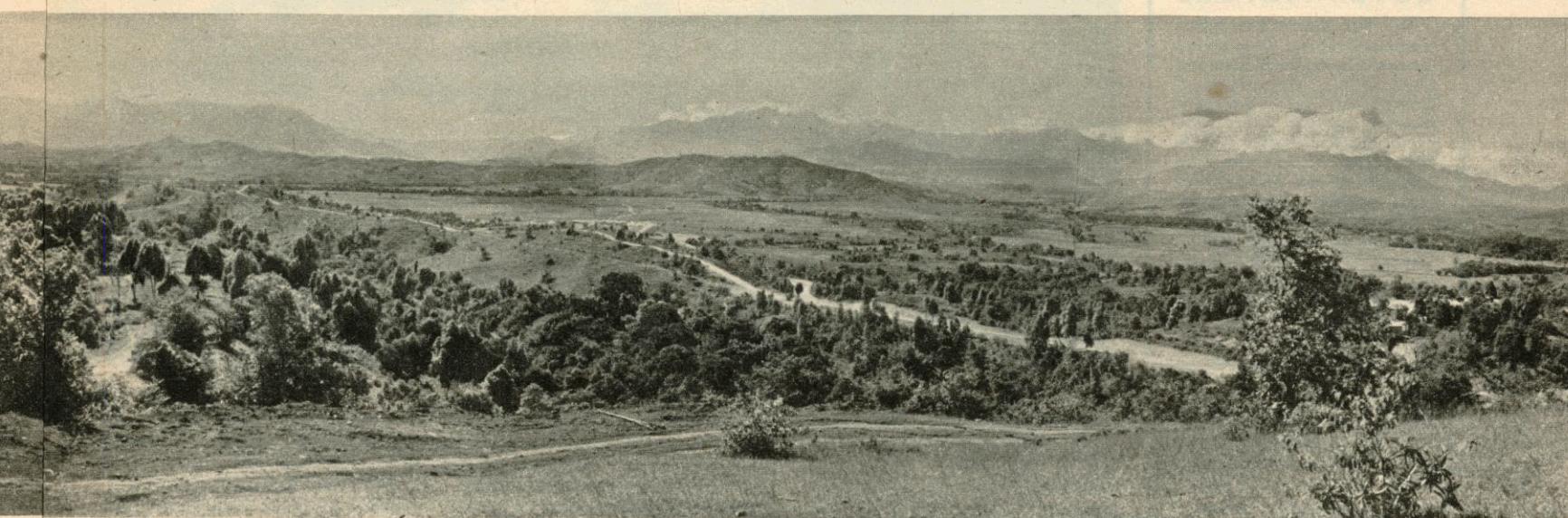
and Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT

Far East can train in open country

The training area camp is built along a hillside overlooking the plain. On the left are the huts for an Infantry battalion and, right, tented accommodation.



## KINABALU



**B**AYONETS fixed, and shouting at the tops of their voices, two platoons of Gurkhas charged across the open stretch of land, then sank to the ground, almost disappearing in the grass.

Ahead of them mortar bombs crumpled on the hillside, silencing the defensive fire from imaginary enemy positions.

Beyond the first slope, tiers of grass—and scrub—covered hills rolled into the distance to the massive backdrop of Mount Kinabalu, the granite range dominating the Army's new training area at Kota Belud.

This was almost a new experience for the Gurkhas. For years they had hacked their way through the Malayan jungle, moving noiselessly in "column of snake."

Now they could advance in extended order instead of single file, engage targets not a few feet but hundreds of yards away, and live and train together as a battalion instead of a section.

Borneo's Salisbury Plain, one of the few open areas in the Far East, will enable Far East troops to keep abreast of modern methods and techniques on a training ground which embodies most of the features of the theatre's terrain, and so be ready for any task they may be called upon to perform.

The training area, near the northern tip of Borneo, is still being developed and improved, but already two Gurkha bat-

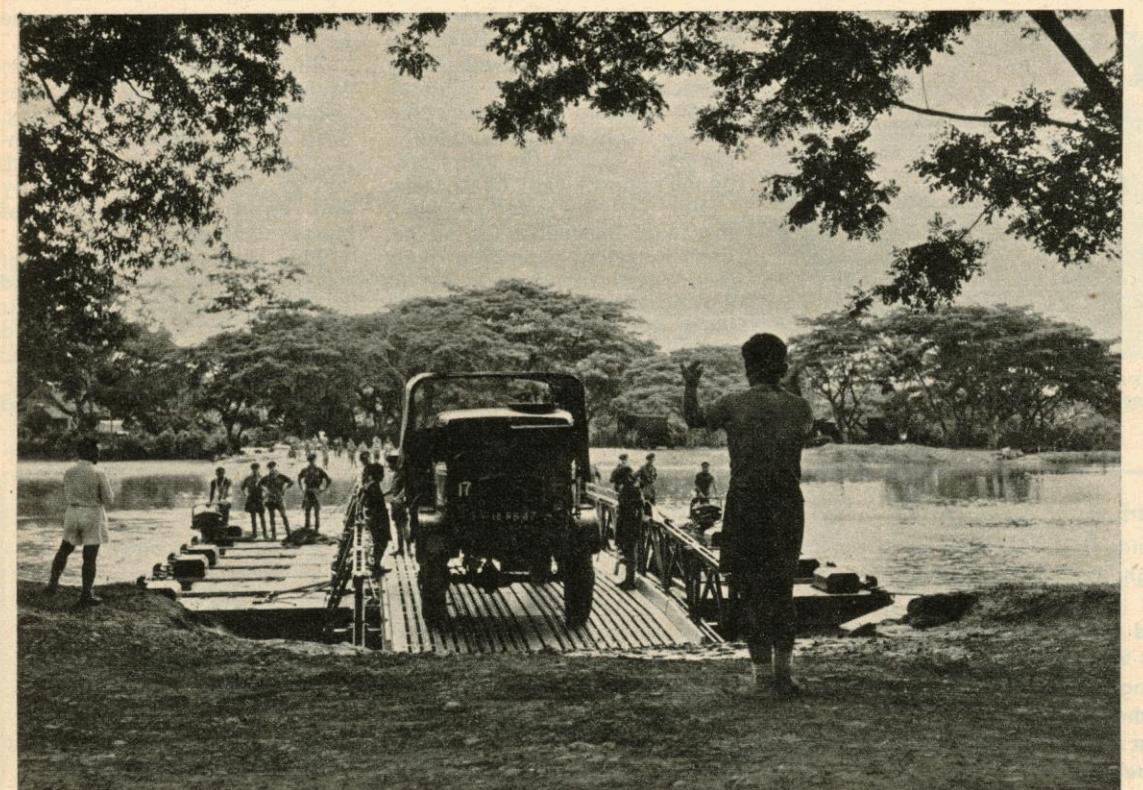
talion groups have spent a useful seven weeks there. It covers a rough rectangle seven miles wide and 20 miles deep and will eventually be used for exercises on a brigade group scale, with facilities for live tank and artil-

lery shooting and air support. Future rebuilding of a track leading through a valley to the north-east coast will enable units to make a seaborne assault landing, as did the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, and the 1st

Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters, in recent SEATO exercises, then march inland to the training area.

Kota Belud already bears a firm Army imprint in the new

OVER . . .



Sappers of 68 Gurkha Field Squadron handing over their tasks after six months in Kota Belud show men of 11 Independent Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, how to operate the light assault floating bridge over the Sungai Tempasuk. A Gurkha signals "come on" to the three-tonner on the ramp.

### SANTA ON A BUFFALO

**K**OTA BELUD'S first Camp Commandant and GHQ Staff Officer, Major E. D. Sheppard, Royal Artillery, went out to Borneo two months after the first troops. For the next five months he and his wife lived in a Government rest house until the Public Works Board built for them Borneo's only Army quarter.

Major Sheppard was responsible for the camp, range safety and liaison with the local District Officer and police.

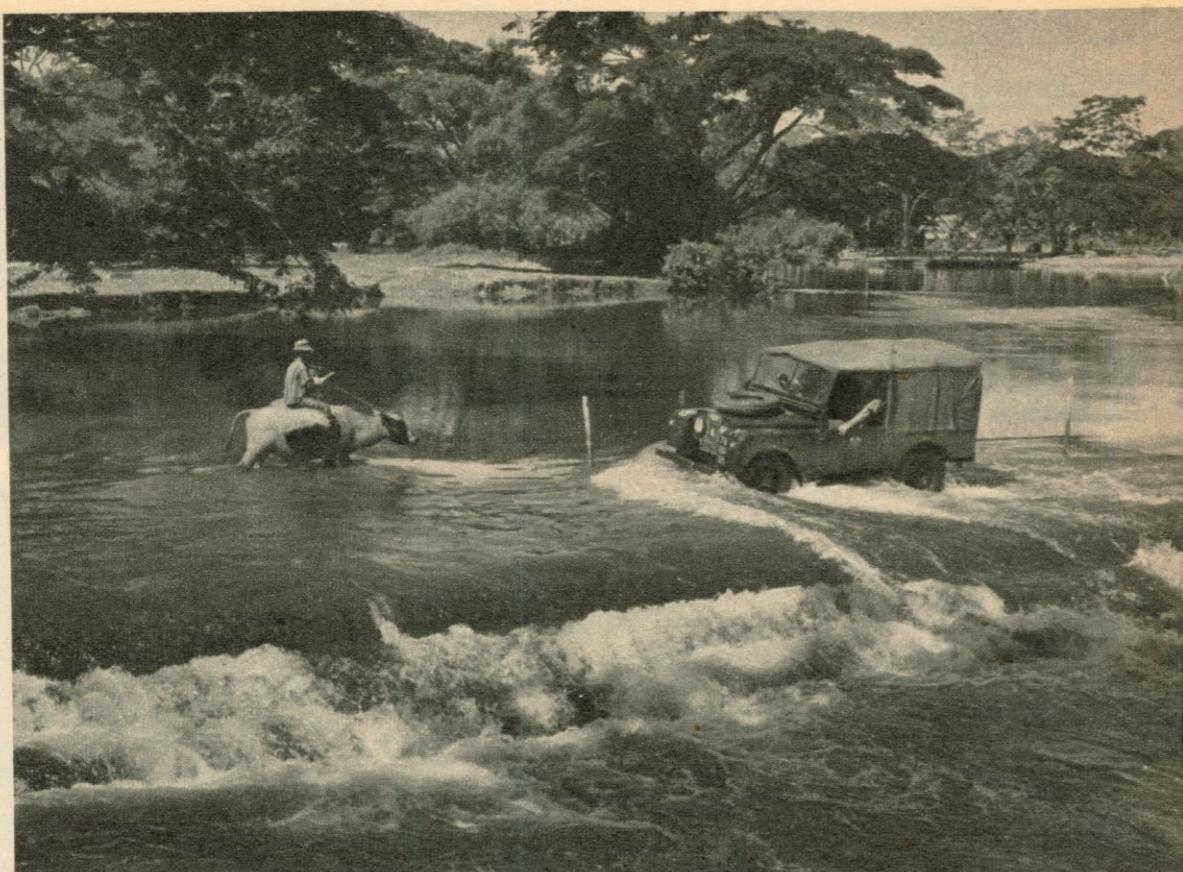
Major and Mrs. Sheppard quickly made friends of Kota Belud's polyglot population of Bajaus, Dusuns, Chinese, Malayans, Indians, Cingalese, Philippines, Timorese and Indonesians. They regularly entertained the local children and introduced them to Christmas with a party highlighted by a crocodile procession of 180 children and parents, led by Mrs. Sheppard in a crimson velvet gown and Major Sheppard as an unorthodox Father Christmas riding a buffalo.



## COVER PICTURE

The Far East's new open training area at Kota Belud is rapidly being developed and improved. Already two Gurkha battalions have spent training periods there and eventually Kota Belud will be the scene of exercises on brigade group scale, with tank, artillery and air support.

**SOLDIER**'s front cover shows men of the 1st/6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles guarding an airstrip during training as a Pioneer of the Royal Air Force comes in to land.



Left: Ancient and modern meet when a buffalo-mounted Bajau fording the Sungai Tempasuk encounters a Land-Rover ploughing through the swift flowing waters across the Countess Mountbatten Causeway.



Right: One of the first tasks of 11 Independent Field Squadron was to check the foundations of the causeway after heavy rain had caused floodwater. Removing tree trunks and other debris was an additional job for the Sappers.

roads cut into hillsides, the rash of huts in the camp area, inevitable hill top water tanks, four airstrips, and a ferry and now disused causeway across the main river, the Sungai Tempasuk.

But there has been no despoliation of the country and little

appropriation of agricultural land. The two principal local tribes, the horsed Bajaus and farming Dusans, are both appreciative of this, entirely friendly and keenly interested in every live shoot.

But when the first troops

arrived in Kota Belud nearly 18 months ago, it was virgin territory. A tank landing ship took 67 Gurkha Field Squadron out from Singapore, landing the Gurkha Engineers and a detachment of 10 Infantry Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, on an isolated beach.

The Squadron Group rafted its plant and equipment several miles up the Sungai Abai to set up a tented base camp five miles from Kota Belud.

For six months the Squadron, helped by a Royal Engineers plant troop and Royal Army Service Corps tipper platoon, worked steadily and solidly, converting tracks to roads and building new roads in the camp area on the opposite bank of the river.

Only a narrow, steep and winding road, unsuitable for all but light vehicles, connected Kota Belud with the nearest airport and docks at Jesselton, 53 miles along the coast.

The Public Works Board co-operated in a widening and bridge-strengthening project on

the Jesselton road and the Gurkha Sappers built a causeway across the river.

After six months, 68 Gurkha Field Squadron took over the work and began building a pumping station, water storage tanks and an Infantry Battalion camp. Now, 11 Independent Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, including its Australian Troop, has followed the Gurkhas, continuing building and improving the camp, maintaining roads and the river causeway, and operating the ferry and pump house.

The Squadron came from Malaya where it had been constructing an airstrip at Tapong, deep in the jungle. It is commanded by Major B. C. Elgood, former Cambridge University and Army wicket-keeper and squash champion.

The causeway, named after Countess Mountbatten, who died suddenly in Jesselton on a Far East tour, was 720 feet long and built from wired stones topped with square mesh tracking. Bamboo posts acted as a guide and

marker posts on both banks indicated when it was safe for vehicles to ford the river. When the river rose after heavy rain or cloudbursts the Sappers operated a light assault floating bridge, erected by the Gurkhas, which could carry two three-ton lorries. Eventually, tree trunks brought down by floodwater broke up the causeway and it had to be abandoned.

First to train at Kota Belud early this year were men of the 2nd/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, holding battalion exercises for the first time in seven years and supported by "N" (The Eagle Troop) Battery

of 2 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, and its 4.2-inch mortars. Then came the 1st/6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, also supported by "N" Battery and single-engined Pioneers of the Royal Air Force.

The Battalion flew to Jesselton in Beverleys and the majority of its men were ferried in Pioneers to the camp's airstrip, Kota Belud Airstrip, which was originally named Sheppard Field, after Kota Belud's first Camp Commandant.

The other strip, Allen Field, at the Sapper base camp, takes its name from 67 Gurkha Field Squadron's commanding officer.

Eventually, Beverleys may fly straight into Kota Belud.

Training on Borneo's Salisbury Plain is realistic and hard. Kota Belud is malarial, the long grass can harbour the ticks of scrub typhus and there are snakes and crocodiles. But these, tropical thunderstorms, flooded rivers and closed roads are accepted hazards of soldiering in the Far East.

But Kota Belud has a pleasant climate, an open countryside in startling contrast to jungle depths, a friendly, unspoiled people—and now a training ground in which the Far East Command can justly take pride.

Kota Belud children play "Robin Hood"—picked up from the local cinema—outside the Camp Commandant's bungalow. Major and Mrs. Sheppard (right) watch the youngsters enjoy their stave duelling.



Rifleman Dhandabahadur Gurung casts an alert eye over the training area. Bajau horsemen ride past after clearing the range of people and animals.

## THE LAND BELOW THE WIND

**M**OUNT KINABALU, rising from low foothills to a granite peak 13,455 feet high, is the inescapable feature of Kota Belud.

Hundreds of Allied prisoners-of-war, force-marched by the Japanese during World War Two, died in its shadow. To inland tribes it is a mystic being, surrounded by superstition and worshipped with the spirit of the forest.

Beneath Kinabalu, South-East Asia's highest mountain, stretches the training area—"The land below the wind."

On the rolling grasslands the Bajaus, Borneo's colourful cowboys, ride their horses, tending the stock of their Sorob cattle

farm, now a carefully protected oasis within the training area.

Their chief, Orang Kaya Kaya Nuar, is keenly interested in firing demonstrations and he and his expert horsemen—the Bajaus are actually descended from pirates—clear the firing areas by riding around warning people and driving animals to safe points.

The Dusans, an agricultural tribe worshipping Kinabalu, are equally friendly to the soldiers.

There are no bright lights in Kota Belud, but the troops can bathe in cool clear rivers or from white-sanded tropical beaches. And for the hardier there is the perennial challenge of climbing Mount Kinabalu.



## SOLDIER to Soldier

**T**HERE is no need to lose any sleep about a nuclear war—at least for the moment.

That is the opinion of a group of military experts who discussed the question recently on television. But one of them—Field Marshal Lord Harding—warned that the possibility of conventional wars cannot be ruled out.

In other words men, not missiles, matter most.

This is not the first time **SOLDIER** has raised its voice against the fallacy that nuclear weapons can replace the conventionally-armed soldier. With the evidence of operations in which the British Army has recently been involved—in Korea, Malaya, Kenya and Cyprus—it is remarkable that anyone should think the day of the conventional soldier is over.

Fear of self destruction may prevent nuclear war, but it will never stop aggression short of it. Then, only soldiers armed with rifles, guns, and tanks, can provide the answer.



**T**o judge from some newspapers one would imagine that the plan to set up an all-Regular Army of 165,000 men by 1963 is doomed.

In recent months, it is true, fewer recruits have been signing on, but what most newspapers have overlooked is the steady rise in the number of men joining for nine-year engagements.

It is to the men who sign on for long engagements that the Army looks to reach its target. The present trend suggests that it will be reached.

After the recent pay increases, it is difficult to see what more can be done to attract more long-term recruits. But one idea which may be worth a trial has been suggested by a **SOLDIER** reader.

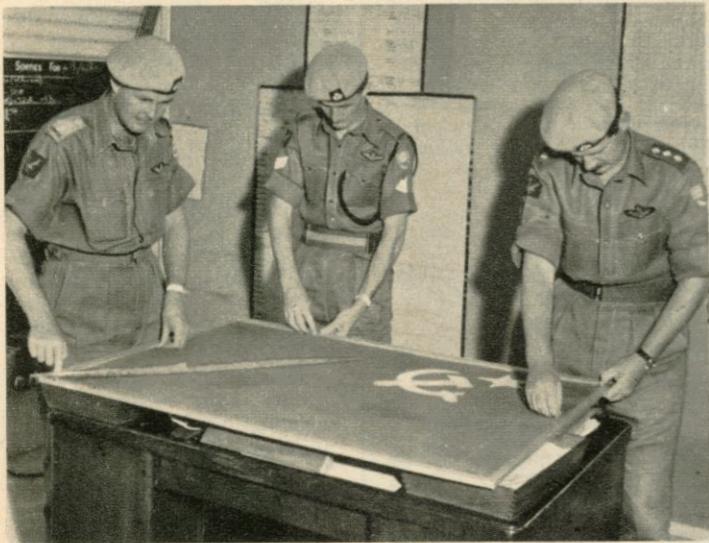
His plan is that a few months after a National Serviceman or a short-term Regular has been demobilised—long enough for him to discover that civilian life is not the heaven on earth he thought when he was doing guard duty in the rain—the local recruiting officer should send him a letter wishing him well and mentioning that there is room for him in the Army if he would like to rejoin.

Whitehall might be pleasantly surprised if the scheme were adopted, he says. He could be right.

Spotting terrorist camps deep in the Malayan jungle, dropping Christmas turkeys to a patrol, evacuating a sick tracker dog—all these are routine jobs for 7 Recce Flight, the only unit in the Army Air Corps permanently attached to a brigade



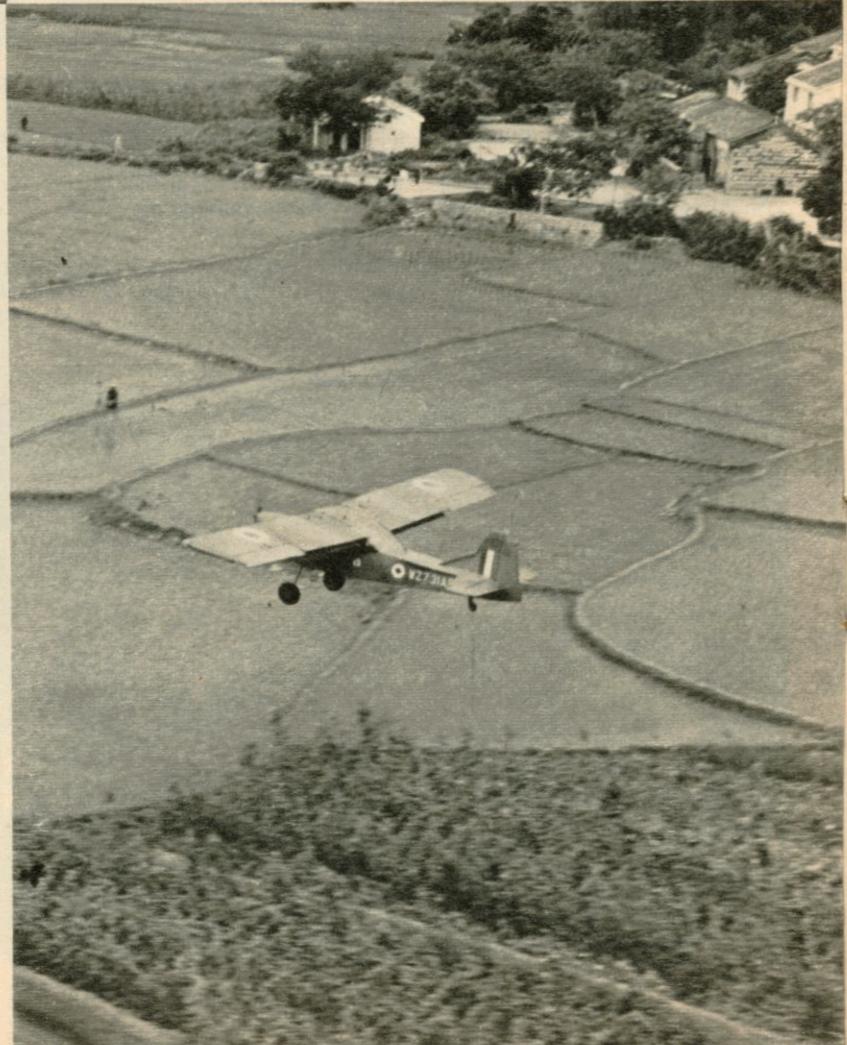
Above: Dropping supplies to a jungle patrol near the Thailand border. Note the dropping zone marker on a ridge cleared of trees. Right (below): Reconnoitring the possibility of crop-spraying, an Auster flies over paddy fields of the New Territories.



Pilots of 7 Recce Flight, Capt J. Chandler, Sgt N. J. Law and Capt J. A. Naylor, examine a Communist flag and panjan (booby trap pointed stick) from a captured terrorist camp.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ONE flight of 656 Squadron, 20 Independent Recce Flight, is stationed at Shatin, in Hong Kong's New Territories. This Flight's main tasks are photography and observing gunfire for both the Royal Navy and the Army.



AIR

# MAIDS-OF-ALL-WORK

WISPS of cloud hung over the green sea of dense Malayan jungle below the *Auster*. To every point of the compass the sea rolled away in troughs and crests broken only by the muddy brown sliver of a rain-swollen river.

There seemed to be no landmarks, nothing by which to navigate, but casually the *Auster* dipped a wing and the pilot pointed out a tiny clearing, an old dropping zone fast being reclaimed by the jungle.

A few minutes later the aircraft circled over a larger clearing, once a Communist terrorist camp, which had been spotted from the air by 7 Recce Flight of the Army Air Corps and captured by ground troops.

Completing its reconnaissance over the Thailand border and the Betong Salient, in the north-west of Malaya, the *Auster* returned to Grik, on the River Perak.

Refuelled, it took off again, this time to carry out another of the Flight's many roles, dropping a supply pack, nursed on SOLDIER's knees, to a patrol in the jungle.

The Flight, a part of 656 Squadron, is based on Taiping and is affiliated to 28 Commonwealth Brigade. A detachment—composed of the only British troops in the extreme north of

Malaya—operates from Alor Star.

Visual reconnaissance has always been the Flight's main task. Over a six-hour period, in two sorties separated by refuelling at Grik, the *Austers* search a 10,000-yard square of jungle, looking for terrorist camps and cultivations. First the pilots fly over the area at a thousand feet, fix the salient features and decide on likely areas for camps, usually to be found on a ridge near a stream.

The search from the air starts with the high ground and works downwards—this is a golden rule because, as the pilots put it, the hills climb faster than the aircraft—until the *Austers* are no more than 200 feet above the tree tops.

The brown earth of a clearing or the corner of a basha might catch the pilot's eye. Then he goes down to a mere 50 feet to investigate. Sometimes there is tremendous turbulence, when the



Six different helicopters were put through their paces at the public display held by the Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop. Here the French Alouette shows its lifting ability by placing part of another helicopter on a lorry.

aircraft is almost uncontrollable.

At the same time the pilots record sightings of aborigine *ladangs* and report the size of these villages. The information is then checked with the numbers of aborigines living there to make sure no terrorists have moved in.

Many a jungle patrol has turned to the Flight for help in determining its position. When this happens, the *Auster* flies over the area and on hearing the pilot opening and closing his throttle the patrol puts up white smoke through the trees. The pilot then pinpoints the patrol's position over the air or drops a message giving the exact position.

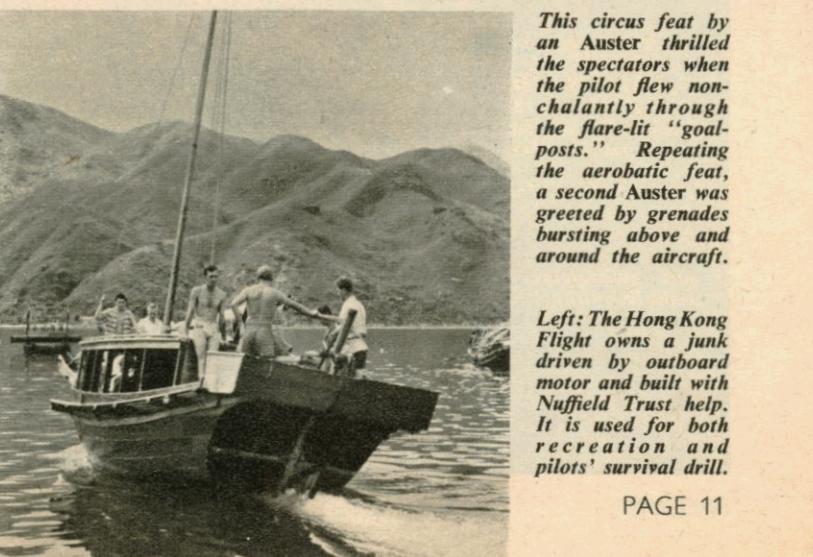
Once, when a group of terrorist camps was located in the Betong Salient and a police patrol made a 14-day approach march through the jungle, *Austers* contacted the police twice a day to plot their position and gave them their bearings and the best route to the camps.

The Flight has helped to find landing zones for helicopters, even directing from the air which trees needed cutting down, and

keeps an assessment check of old clearings. Its *Austers* have been used for supply dropping to patrols where it would be uneconomical to send out a Royal Air Force freighter, for communication flying, leaflet dropping (one pilot dropped a million in six days) and showing unit commanders the main features of a jungle area.

More infrequently the *Austers* have spotted for artillery shoots aimed at harassing terrorists or preventing them from breaking out of a cordon, and marked targets for Royal Air Force bombers by dropping flares. This was found to be the most accurate method of bombing in the jungle.

Sometimes the Flight has evacuated wounded men and sick tracker dogs. One pilot will long remember his experience with a dog being flown from Grik to Ipoh. The animal lay across its handler's knees with its head on the pilot's lap. When the *Auster* had taken off the pilot throttled back to cruising speed. The dog apparently thought the engine had stopped and went berserk!



This circus feat by an *Auster* thrilled the spectators when the pilot flew nonchalantly through the flare-lit "goal posts." Repeating the aerobatic feat, a second *Auster* was greeted by grenades bursting above and around the aircraft.

Left: The Hong Kong Flight owns a junk driven by outboard motor and built with Nuffield Trust help. It is used for both recreation and pilots' survival drill.

# EAST ANGLIANS CHASE THE TERRORISTS

**M**OVING out from "B" Company's base camp in the valley bottom, the patrol climbed the hillside and walked quietly along a logging track, each man alert for the slightest movement from the undergrowth.

The night cacophony of the jungle and dawn whooping of monkeys had died. Only the distant voices of loggers, a groaning winch or falling trees broke the silence.

Crossing a track, the patrol halted while the Company's Malayan liaison officer checked loggers' identity papers. Then on again, scrambling up a steep hillside, over fallen timber and through thick undergrowth.

In the lead, Major J. C. Salazar MC, an Army ski champion, kept up a pace which turned jungle green to black patches of sweat.

Up, down, up, down again went the patrol and at long last

reached a platoon camp. A brief halt, then another hour-and-a-half walk back to base.

After ten days in the jungle "B" Company would return to the Ipoh camp of the 1st Battalion, 3rd East Anglian Regiment, for a six-day period of refitting and testing equipment, training, and sports and recreation to relieve the tension of patrols. Then back into the jungle once more.

The Regiment had been in Malaya little over a month when

it was warned for Operation Jaya, aimed at winking out hard-core, will-o'-the-wisp Communists clinging to diminishing chances of survival on jungle-covered peaks rising to more than 5000 feet.

The first platoons moved in last Christmas Eve. At one time all four rifle companies and the support company were hunting bandits in the jungle.

Although the Regiment is serving Malaya for the first time, many of its senior non-commissioned officers and most of the company commanders, including Major Salazar, have fought the terrorists in earlier tours during the height of the emergency.

The newcomers, many of them

National Servicemen, were quick to learn the tricks. As rapidly they became conditioned to the peak fitness needed for marching in from the roadhead with a 70lb pack, walking out and in again with fresh supplies of food and equipment, moving through difficult country on patrol and even, in the case of "B" Company, establishing a base camp on the 5400-feet high peak of Gulong Buba.

• The 1st/3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) was formed in June, 1958, from amalgamation of the 1st Battalions, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and The Essex Regiment, both of which saw service in Burma.

Right: A patrol of "B" Company, 1st/3rd East Anglian Regiment, makes its way through secondary jungle up a steep hillside. Weapons, loaded, are held at the ready. Second man in the patrol is an aborigine porter with a carrier frame on his back.



A Saracen personnel carrier of "C" Squadron, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, backs off the road into a position where base camp will be established. This Regiment has been patrolling roads in the Jaya operation and maintaining a radio link with police.



Left: "B" Company's Malayan civil liaison officer, Peter Ong (right), checks the identity papers of a logger during a patrol. Note the gollick (a machete) hanging at his side.



## FAR EAST REPORT

4

THE FIRST MAJOR UNIT HAS MOVED  
INTO FORT GEORGE, THE NEW  
HOME IN MALAYA OF 28 COMMON-  
WEALTH INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP

*An Auster's eye-view of the partially-completed cantonment. Fort George overlooks the Malacca Straits.*

# They'll All Live At Fort George

**B**RITISH, Australian and New Zealand troops will soon be living side-by-side in the brand new barracks and quarters of the Commonwealth Army base at Fort George, north of Malacca.

The new cantonment came into being officially in a recent ceremonial visit by General Sir Richard Hull, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Land Forces, and has been named Fort George after a Commonwealth Division command post in Korea.

This name will link the Division with its successor, 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade Group, which is making the new base its home.

The first major unit to move in was 26 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, to be followed by the 1st Battalion, 3rd East Anglian Regiment, and, next year, by an Australian Infantry battalion and a New Zealand Infantry battalion. The field regiment will be joined at Fort George by 101 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery, the first time since the South African War that an Australian battery has become an integral part of a British Gunner regiment.

Fort George will also accommodate an Infantry workshop, ordnance field park, 160-bed hospital and other ancillary units of the brigade group.

Work on the base began more than two years ago—the foundation stone was laid by General Sir Francis Festing, General

Australia and New Zealand.

Fort George's position on the coast gives it the benefit of a cooling breeze at night and sailing, water skiing and swimming facilities. There will be a thousand houses, three churches, a community centre, two schools, beach clubs, 31 football pitches and over 3000 acres of training ground including a 600-yard rifle range.

Houses and barracks are of

conventional design but pleasantly painted in pastel shades. More than 4500 trees and shrubs of 120 varieties are being planted to beautify the area.

● Fort George is one of three projects being supervised by the Royal Engineers for the Army's civilian works organisation. The other two are Kahawa, near Nairobi, and the Gurkha Depot in Nepal (SOLDIER, September).

*The cool single-storey barrack blocks are decorated in pleasant pastel shades of blue, pale green, dove grey and primrose. Their roofs are tiled in green, readily distinguishing them from red-roofed offices and brown-roofed stores.*



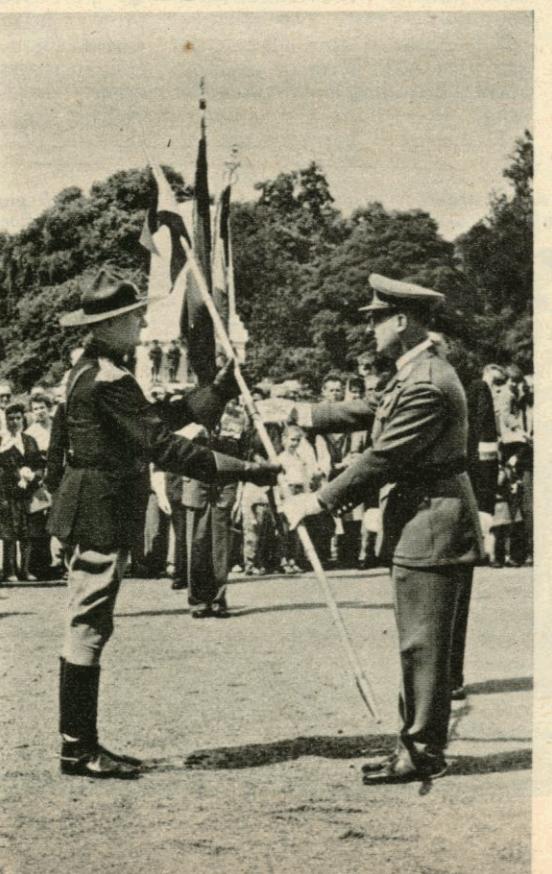
# THOUSANDS

For more than half a century the members of a unique private army have kept watch and ward on the Empire's frontiers. The Legion of Frontiersmen brought the first news of the Zulu uprising and were the first British troops in action in World War One



Led by Captain Philip Shoosmith, Adjutant, members of the Legion of Frontiersmen march down Whitehall to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in memory of fallen comrades.

Capt. M. Warnauts, of the 3rd Belgian Lancers, presents one of the lances which Frontiersmen carried into action in World War One. It replaces those destroyed during the Blitz of 1940.



**O**N Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall a proud company of men in wide Stetson hats, dark blue uniforms with chain mail epaulettes, riding breeches, brown leggings and spurs marched past the Belgian Ambassador to London.

"Here come the Mounties," cried a small boy.

His mistake was understandable. The uniforms were, in fact, designed on the lines of those of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police but the men wearing them were members of a unique private army with a remarkable record of military service—the Legion of Frontiersmen.

It was a doubly proud day for the Frontiersmen. They were taking part in a reunion parade of World War One veterans of the British Legion and Belgian ex-Servicemen's associations in Britain and were commemorating their undisputed claim to have been the first British troops in action in the 1914-18 War.

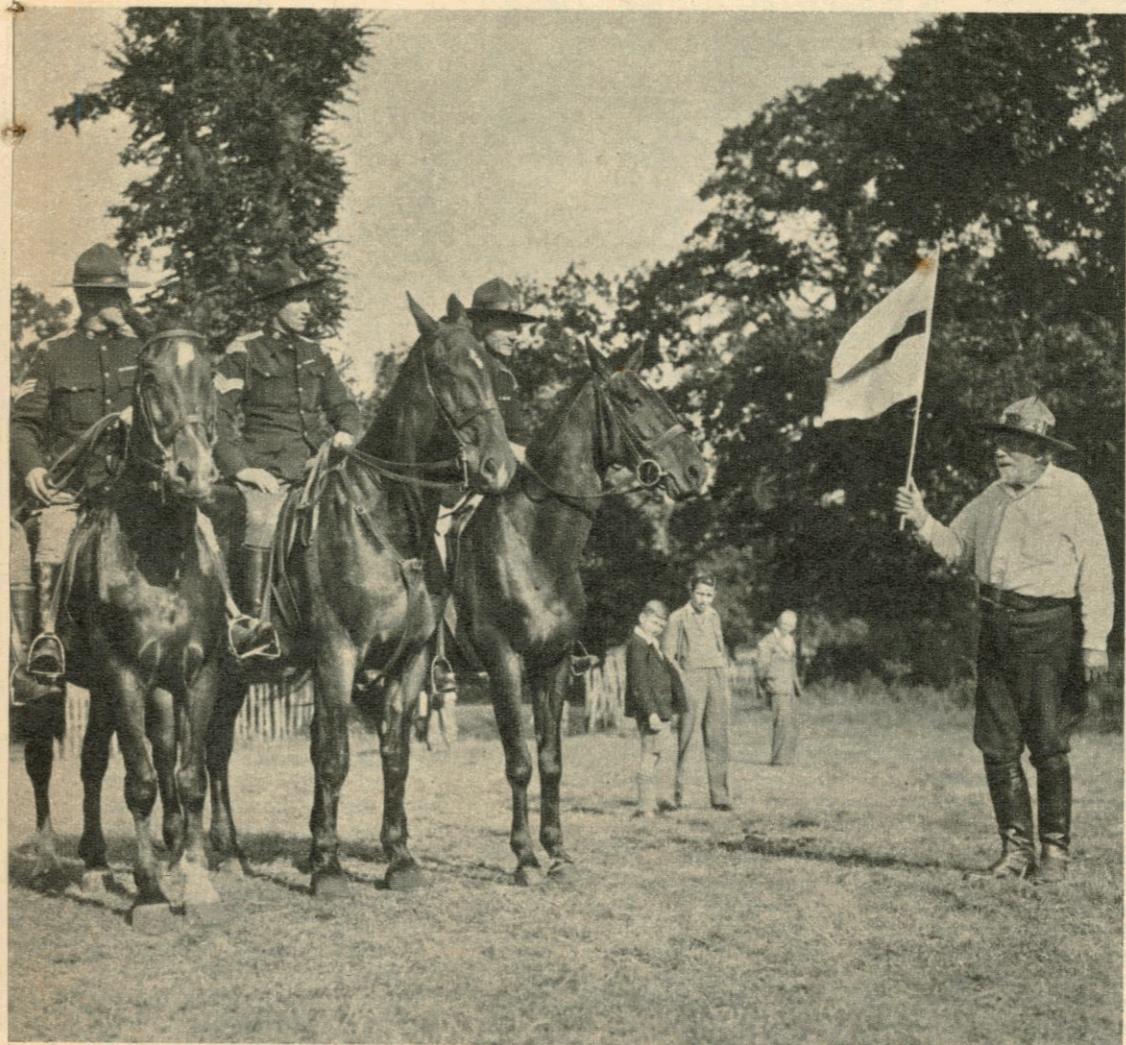
During the parade an officer of the 3rd Belgian Lancers presented Captain Philip Shoosmith, Adjutant of the Legion's Southern Command and who fought in both world wars, with two lances (until recently kept in

the Brussels war museum) with which Frontiersmen had fought in Flanders.

The Legion was founded in 1904 as a world-wide volunteer organisation "to provide a body of men to serve Sovereign and Country with thousands of eyes keeping sleepless watch throughout the world." In a few months scores of men stationed throughout the Empire had offered their services and it was not long before the Legion had proved its worth. A Frontiersman brought the first news of the Zulu uprising in 1906. His horse fell dead as he rode into Maritzburg but he ran to the nearest telegraph office and got his message through.

Under the Legion's badge some of the most unusual characters in British military history have lived, fought and died. The founder, Captain Roger

# OF WATCHFUL EYES



THE Legion of Frontiersmen—some members are over 80, others in their 'teens—has thriving branches in Britain and the Commonwealth, but the rules of entry are strict.

Among the qualifications each Frontiersman must have are experience of military or police service, and of prospecting, engineering or similar occupations overseas. And before he is accepted he has to be elected by his future comrades in the legion.

In Britain, where there are regional commands, cadets are trained in horsemanship, map reading, fieldcraft and shooting.

Every Frontiersman joins as a trooper, buys his own uniform and equipment and pays for his training.

Ex-Servicemen interested in joining the Legion should write to: Staff Records Officer, Legion of Frontiersmen HQ, Territorial Army Centre, Albany Street, London NW 1.

Captain Roger Pocock, founder of the Legion of Frontiersmen, waves the starting flag at a sports meeting at Sidcup in 1937. He was then 72.

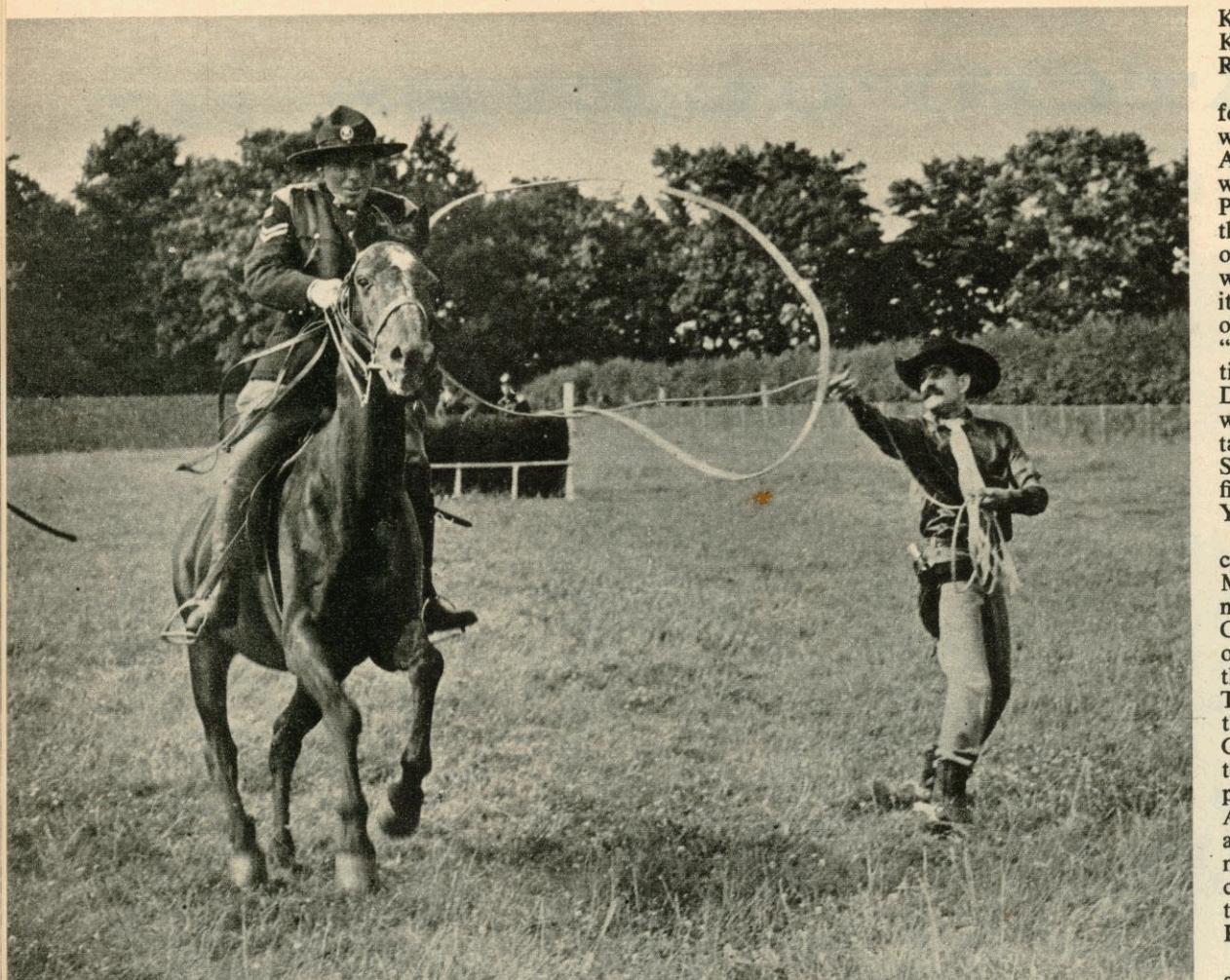
Below: Field-Marshal Sir Philip Chetwode inspects a parade of Frontiersmen on Horse Guards Parade in 1937.



Pocock, emigrated from England to Canada in 1880 and joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, serving with them in the North-West Rebellion of 1885. Invalided out with frostbite, he then went seal hunting in the Aleutian Islands, fought with pirates off Japan and in the Boer War served with the famous Waldron Scouts.

He was in turn prospector, pirate, journalist, civil servant, missionary, trader, cowboy (he once rode alone from Fort Macleod through the Great Desert to Mexico—3600 miles—in seven months) and soldier. He served throughout World War One, was demobilised in 1921 at the age of 56 and died in 1941.

Among the early Frontiersmen, all of them superb horsemen, were Colonel "Danny" Driscoll, "The King of Scouts," who commanded the irregular Driscoll Scouts and became Commandant-General of the Legion in World War One; William le Quex, best-selling novelist of the 1920s; Lord Baden-Powell



Frontiersmen demonstrate their horsemanship at a mounted gymkhana. A high standard of riding has always been insisted upon as the Legion is traditionally a mounted force, originally operating in wild and rugged country.

and Sir Ernest Shackleton, the explorer; and Cherry Kearton, Yorkshire-born big-game hunter, naturalist and one of the first and greatest photographers of wild life.

Another was Captain Frederick Selous (the famous hunter on whom Rider Haggard modelled the character Allan Quatermain) who won the Distinguished Service Order in World War One at the age of 66 and was killed leading his men in action in what

was then German East Africa. Thousands of Frontiersmen at home and overseas rallied to the cause at the outbreak of World War One, and it is the Legion's proud boast that there was no gallantry medal of that war which at least one Frontiersman did not win.

The members of the Manchester Squadron were so anxious to meet the Germans that on the day war broke out they offered their services as a

complete unit. When this was refused, they paid their own fares to Belgium and joined the 9th Belgian Lancers, first going into action with them on 16 August, 1914—a week before the famous "Old Contemptibles" joined battle at Mons.

Many Frontiersmen returned to Britain and formed machine-gun sections in Cavalry and Yeomanry regiments; others joined British Infantry regiments individually and many served with

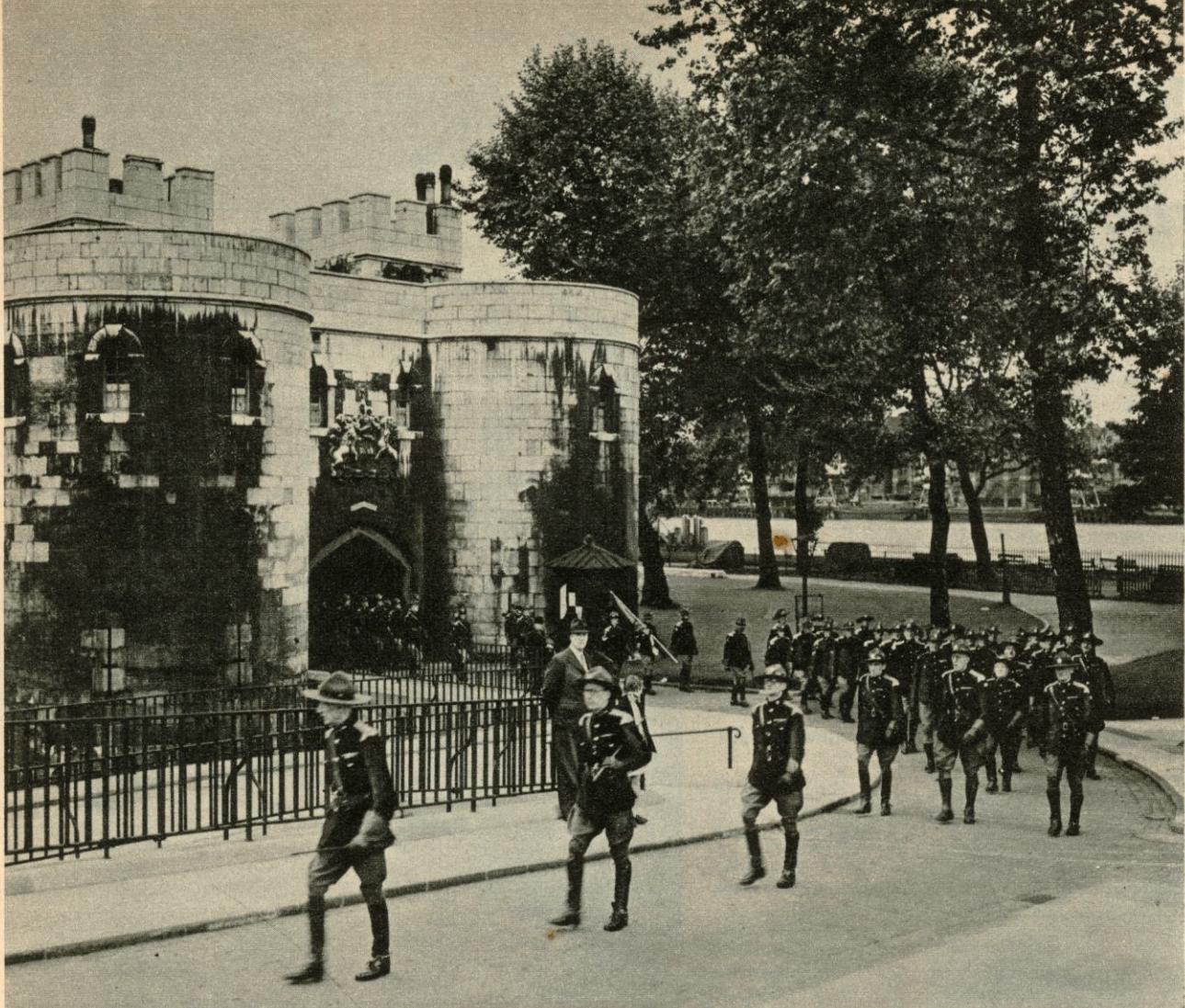
King Edward's Horse (The King's Overseas Dominion Regiment).

The Legion also provided men for a remount depot to break in wild horses sent to Britain from America and others did duty with the Military Mounted Police. Later, the Legion raised the 25th (Frontiersmen) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers which went to East Africa 14 days after its formation and fought throughout that campaign under Colonel "Danny" Driscoll. One Frontiersman, Lieutenant Wilbur Dartnell, won the Victoria Cross while serving with the 25th Battalion in East Africa and another, Sergeant John Ormsby, won it fighting with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in 1917.

In Canada, the entire Legion commands at Moose Jaw and Medicine Hat enlisted in the newly-raised Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry on the outbreak of war and were among the first Canadians in action. The Regiment fought so gallantly that at the end of the war the Canadian Government refused to disband it and it became a permanent unit of the Canadian Army. The Legion in Canada also raised the 210th (Frontiersmen) Infantry Battalion which carried out security duties with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police throughout the war.

Many Frontiersmen also served with Australian and New Zealand Forces and of the 9000 killed during the war more than 2000 lost their lives at Gallipoli. Almost every original non-commissioned officer in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment was a Frontiersman or ex-cadet.

At the end of the war the 25th (Frontiersmen) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers was disbanded but the Legion was not inactive for long. In 1922 Frontiersmen played an important part in quelling the Rand Rebellion and General Smuts thought so highly of their achievements that he joined the Legion as a trooper and later be-



The Legion's 40th annual parade at the Tower of London, where the Royal Fusiliers have their depot. As the 25th (Frontiersmen's) Battalion, the Legion fought with the Royal Fusiliers in World War One. This picture was taken in May, 1945.

came Commandant-General in South Africa.

In World War Two, with its emphasis on mechanisation and conscription, there was less scope for Frontiersmen units. But among the first troops to be moved into position were Frontiersmen detailed to guard the coast of New Zealand. Throughout the Commonwealth, members of the Legion fought with other units and joined the Home Guard and auxiliary services. Mounted Frontiersmen also patrolled the

Yorkshire Moors to watch for German paratroopers.

In more recent times the Mount Kenya Squadron of the Legion did excellent work in co-operation with British troops during the Mau-Mau emergency.

It is a far cry from the days of rough-riding, when the Legion was first formed, to the modern nuclear rocket era—but the Frontiersmen still flourish, ready as ever to serve Sovereign and Commonwealth.

DENNIS BARDENS

**T**HE Legion of Frontiersmen wear their own distinctive badge—the crest of St. George within a laurel wreath surrounded by a "mural crown" of bricks in the form of a castle wall and bearing the motto "God Guard Thee" in the centre.

first soldier to scale an enemy's fortifications and the Legion's badge commemorates the fact that Frontiersmen were the first British troops in action in 1914.

The motto is taken from an inscription on a ring worn by General Gordon at Khartoum.

The Legion also has its own medals and ribbons for long service and efficiency.



Above: Most-decorated man in the Legion—the late Major H. V. Collier-Gates—won 32 campaign medals, including the Matabele War Medal of 1896, the China (Boxer Rebellion) of 1900, Mons Star, 1914, French Legion of Honour and many foreign orders.

Left: Memorial to an early Frontiersman in the Natural History Museum, London. Captain Selous was a fearless hunter, and the original Allan Quatermain in Sir Rider Haggard's novel, "King Solomon's Mines." He was killed in action in World War One.



Two of the youngest members of the Legion of Frontiersmen—Troopers Colin Shipton and Michael Newell, both of St. Leonard's Crescent, Sandridge, St. Albans. They are learning to ride under the Legion's tuition.



Doreen Turner, age 19, is the second woman to join the Legion of Frontiersmen and plays solo clarinet in their band. Only recently, has the Legion admitted women after over half a century of existence.

# TREVOR EYES THE SPACE-AGE GUNNERS

**Y**OUNG Trevor Search looked up at the *Corporal* guided missile dominating the Front Parade at Woolwich Barracks. "It's fascinating," he said. "It's wonderful—but I'd rather be in field artillery!"

Trevor is 15 and has just left school. Two days before starting his first job, in a shipping office, *SOLDIER* found him in the crowds visiting the Royal Artillery "At Home" and took him on a conducted tour of the displays to find the reaction of today's teenager to an Army career.

With Trevor, on this Saturday jaunt from Southend, was his brother Brian, a former National Serviceman who signed on for three years and served as a Gunner clerk at Woolwich.

Both the *Corporal* and the *Thunderbird* intrigued Trevor. He listened keenly as Staff-Sergeant H. Shaw, of 27 (Guided Weapon) Regiment, Royal Artillery, briefed him on the *Corporal*, and with equal interest watched a *Thunderbird* demonstration by 36 (Guided Weapon) Regiment, Royal Artillery.

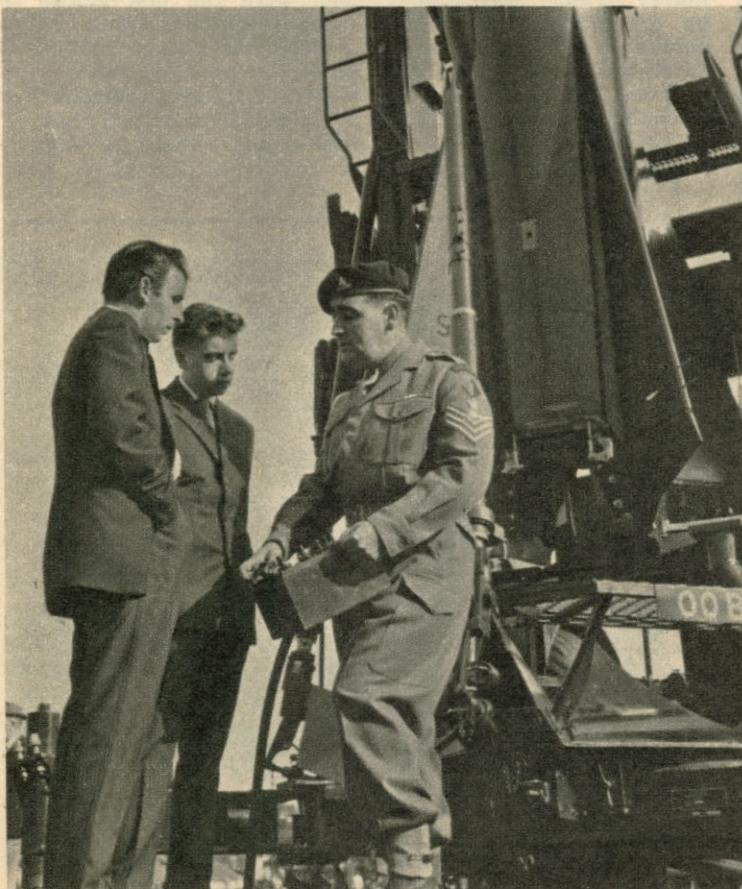
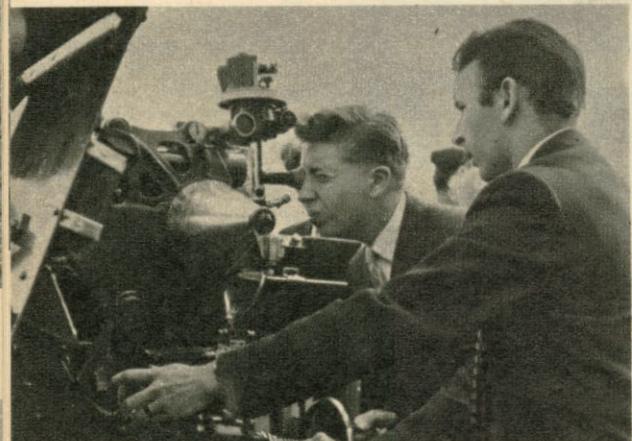
But his real interest was in the gleaming 25-pounder guns. "I'd rather be in field artillery than guided weapons because I like guns," he explained.

Next on Trevor's list of things to be seen came the new barrack

*Left: Trevor's keenest interest was in the 25-pounder gun. He examined it in detail and, watched by his brother, took a careful reading.*

*Right: It seems a long way down from the top of the tower and Trevor was not too happy, but he made it and enjoyed his first "para" jump.*

*Below: Standing by the *Corporal*, S/Sgt H. Shaw explains the mysteries of the remote control box which operates the transporter-erector.*



blocks. In Inkerman Barracks he inspected the showers, tested the softness of a bed, tried the bed light and admired the individual lockers.

With his brother pointing out the differences between old and new, Trevor readily agreed that today's Woolwich Gunner has a comfortable home. "I think it's a good life for a chap—if he's not going to get married," he added cautiously.

These were Brian's views, too. "If they'd had quarters like these I'd have thought about staying on in the Army. The money is good. But the snag, when you're married and live out, is in being suddenly pounced on for duty when you think you're clear. Why don't they employ civilians for night duties? I came out because of the guards and piquets—my wife had had enough of it."

Next came a glimpse into tradition, represented by a display of the Royal Artillery Mess silver, and an appraisal of the marching of the Royal Artillery Band's junior musicians, for Trevor's second choice in an Army career would be bandsman.

Trevor had another doubt about Army life, whether he would be fit enough to carry out the training. *SOLDIER*—and Brian—assured him that he would be surprised how quickly the Army would build up his physique.

To convince him, Trevor was persuaded to try the jumping tower manned by Territorials of 289 Para Light Regiment. At first he demurred, then he made the jump, conquered his misgivings and walked jauntily from the landing mat with evident satisfaction.

Will Trevor join the Army? In his own words he is "thinking about it." If he does, then the Royal Artillery "At Home" can claim a recruit, for both Trevor and Brian agree that they have seen no greater enticement to would-be Gunners.

*The Saluting Troop of the 2nd/6th Battalion, The King's African Rifles, fires a farewell with its 25-pounders across the harbour Port of Louis. Mauritius is a saluting station.*

**After 150 years in the ocean outpost of Mauritius, the British Army has pulled out, first handing over to a new force it has helped to train. Many famous regiments have been stationed on the island**



## FAREWELL TO A FAMOUS GARRISON

**T**HERE were smiles, parting gifts, banter—and a few tears, too—when the British Army Garrison pulled out of Mauritius the other day after 150 years of friendly co-operation with the inhabitants.

The withdrawal is part of the British Commonwealth's policy of helping member countries and dependencies step by step towards social, economic and political independence. The British Army has handed over its responsibilities to the newly created and locally enrolled Special Mobile Force, which it helped to found and train.

Mauritius is an island of volcanic origin in the southern Indian Ocean, about 1400 miles off the East Coast of Africa and 500 miles east of Madagascar. Its climate is sub-tropical in winter and somewhat cooler, though uncomfortably humid, in summer.

With its cascading rapids and fast-flowing rivers, its tall fields of sugar cane and waving coconut palms, this sun-drenched island, fringed by coral reefs,

looks romantic enough. It was anything but romantic to the British merchantmen who plied in the Indian Ocean until the early 19th century, for once its innumerable bays and coves were infested by pirates and corsairs who emerged from their hiding places to harass and harry British seamen.

It was this fact, primarily, which brought British troops to Mauritius in 1810. Under the command of General Abercrombie they landed at Grand Bay and brought peace and stability to the islanders and British seamen alike. The pirate menace was ended at last.

Under British rule, Mauritius has progressed and prospered. Once one of the most malaria-

ravaged countries in the world, it is now almost completely free of the disease.

Under the protection of the British Army, the islanders—with the help and guidance of British colonial administrators—have developed their sugar-cane industry to the stage where it has become the island's main subsistence. The British, too, harnessed the fast-moving rapids to produce hydro-electric power and built modern hospitals, dispensaries, schools, roads, railways and a port.

None of this would have been possible without the friendliness, commonsense and adaptability of the British soldier.

Many famous regiments have been stationed there. It has had its famous commanders, too—men such as General Gordon, then a colonel. In the cemetery at Phoenix, near Vacoas, the well-kept graves testify to the loyal service of scores of British

soldiers who died in this remote and once unhealthy island Colony.

African troops of the King's African Rifles first went to Mauritius in 1899 but their stay was brief. Not until the end of World War Two did the askaris come to stay. The Garrison's primary role was defence and for many years it has been an official saluting station.

Mauritius has in the past suffered catastrophic cyclones, and on each occasion the British Army has been swiftly on the scene with help and rescue. Early this year, when two cyclones wrecked many districts, the Army mobilised all its resources to distribute food, clear obstructed roads and give medical and surgical treatment in the Military Hospital.

A new Force has now taken over, but the British Army has left behind a lasting impression of loyalty, dignity and service.

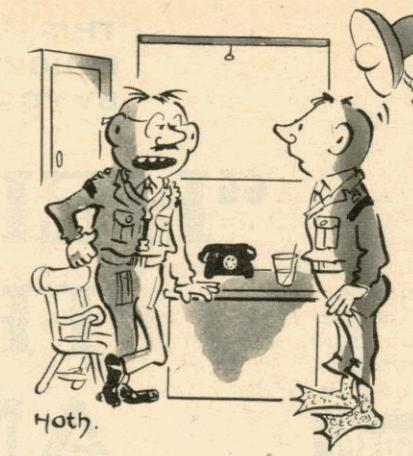
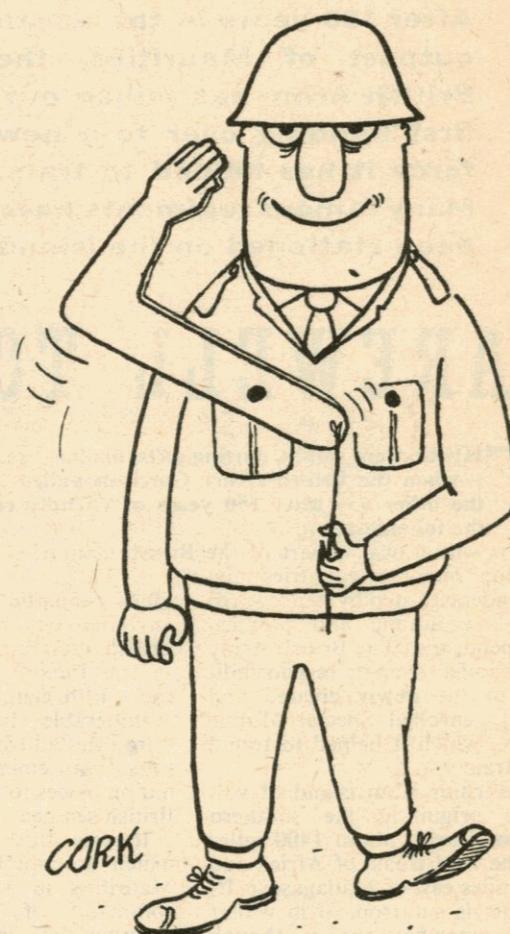


*Before the Garrison's departure from the island, Sir Robert Scott, former Governor and C-in-C of Mauritius, inspected a Guard of Honour provided by the 2nd/6th Battalion of The King's African Rifles.*

## HUMOUR



"Tonight the British Army's going to get a taste of chemical warfare!"



"Nothing we can do for a thing like that except transfer you to the Royal Navy."



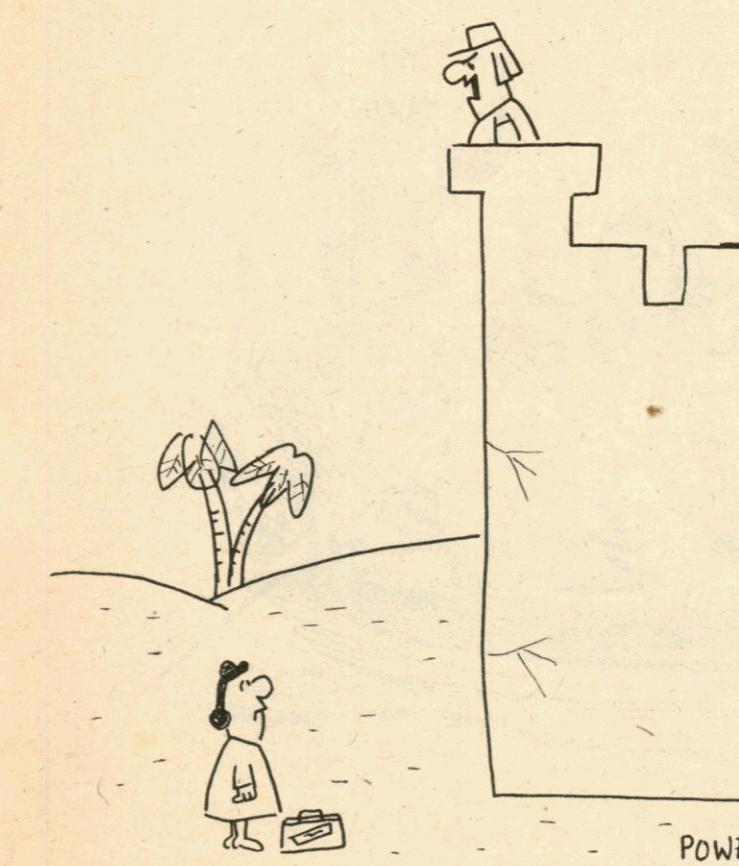
"Friends? I haven't got any friends—only subordinates!"



"Look—it's a devil of a way to Palestine, so why don't we make it a protest rally instead?"

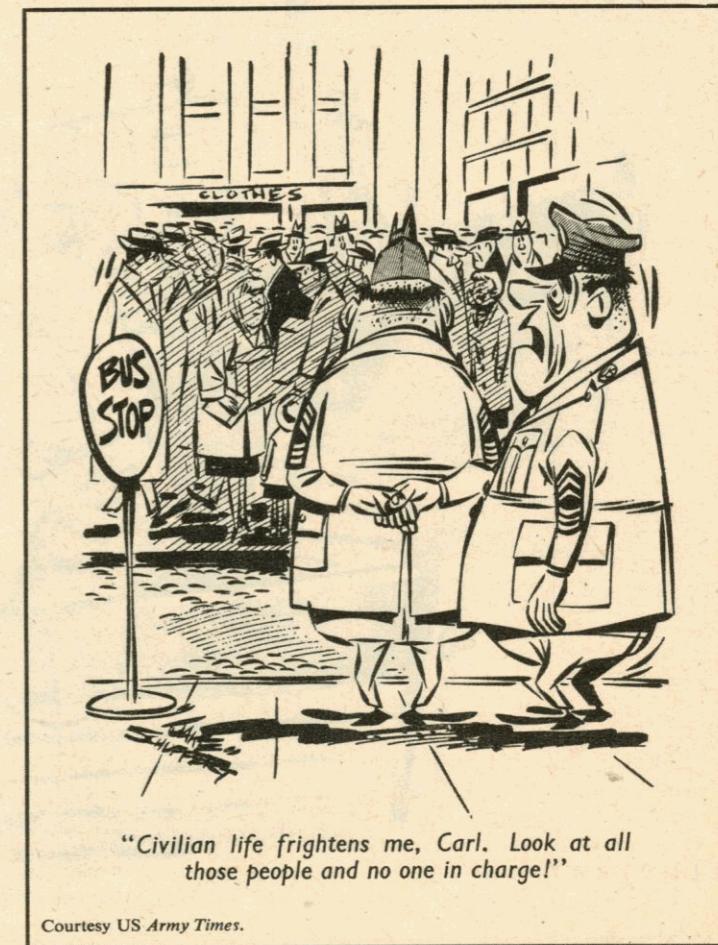


"Do you come here often?"



POWER

"Can't you understand, Edith? It's all over between us!"



"Civilian life frightens me, Carl. Look at all those people and no one in charge!"

Courtesy US Army Times.

THIS IS THE ASTONISHING STORY OF TWO BRITISH SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT THEIR WAY OUT OF PRISON CAMP, BLUFFED THE NAZIS BY POSING AS GERMANS AND JOINED THE YUGOSLAV PARTISANS

# "HEIL HITLER!" SAID THE CRAFTSMAN—AND THE GERMAN WAVED HIM ON!

ESCAPE

9

**I**FF a letter had been delivered a day earlier in 1941 this extraordinary story of Craftsman Harold Woodward's daring escape from a prisoner-of-war camp and his near-incredible adventures on the run in Greece and Yugoslavia could never have been told.

Instead, he would probably have spent his war fire-fighting in London. And he would never have won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry.

After a spell with the Auxiliary Fire Service on the outbreak of war, Woodward joined the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (he was transferred to the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

on the formation of that Corps in 1942), fought in France and was snatched from the Dunkirk beaches. Then came the "Cold War" and in a fit of boredom he applied to rejoin the Fire Service.



ILLUSTRATION  
by  
ERIC PARKER

... an innocent-looking fishing boat loomed out of the mist, laden with German paratroopers ...

trying unsuccessfully to contact other British troops, they found a dilapidated dinghy and a pair of broken oars on the beach near Corinth and decided to get away by sea.

With hardly room to move in the boat the ten men paddled slowly to a small island in the Gulf of Nauplia, stole a better pair of oars from a rowing boat and set off again, along the west coast of the Gulf.

For eight days they rowed in turns, putting inshore occasionally to buy food from friendly Greeks. But off Cape Malia, some 50 miles north of Crete, an innocent-looking fishing boat loomed out of the mist—laden with German paratroopers!

It was a bitter blow for the exhausted and famished men. They were taken to a camp near Corinth and here Woodward met the man—a Lance-Corporal Arnold—with whom he was destined to share his astonishing experiences. "However long it takes," they agreed, "we will escape!"

Five hours later he was free. The prisoners were shifted to Salonika, then by way of a transit camp to Stalag 306 at Maribor in Yugoslavia, just outside the Austrian border and about 40 miles from Graz. Here, by playing the perfect prisoners, Woodward and Arnold were allowed to go out with a working party to the nearby town of Pichling where, for two back-breaking years, they toiled as slave workers on farms, watching and waiting each day for the chance to escape.

Paradoxically, their unbroken spirits were nearly their undoing. One day they quarrelled violently with a bullying farmer over conditions of work and were sentenced to a spell in the local gaol and when they returned to Pichling were placed under strict surveillance.

Only desperate measures could succeed now and it was a desperate and dangerous plan that Woodward and Arnold hit upon. They would fight their way out!

One evening, soon after their return to Pichling in September, 1943, they each levered loose an 18-inch iron bar in their cell window and, knowing that only two German guards were on duty, hid the weapons down their trousers and hurried to the guardroom.

Bidding "Guten Abend" to the German on guard outside, Woodward strode into the office where the other guard was telephoning and gave the pre-arranged signal for attack. Whipping out their iron bars, the two British soldiers knocked the guards over the head and bound and gagged them. Pausing only to leave a note absolving the other prisoners from complicity, Woodward and Arnold then forced themselves through the tiny guardroom window and clambered over the perimeter wire to freedom.

They headed south-east, hoping that in their khaki drill shorts,



Craftsman Woodward DCM, on his return to Cairo for questioning after his near-incredible experiences on the run in Europe.

civilian shirts and socks tucked over the top of their Army boots they would be mistaken for Germans or Austrians on a walking tour. And that is precisely what happened. After walking some 40 miles on the first night they decided to travel by day and for four days trudged towards the Austro-Yugoslav border, giving the "Heil Hitler!" salute to everyone they passed!

At the border, Woodward and Arnold took cover behind a rock and had just begun to spy out the land for a likely crossing place when four armed German soldiers appeared from behind some nearby boulders and walked straight towards their hiding place.

Waiting until the Germans were only a few yards away, the

two British soldiers leapt into action, Arnold shooting three of them dead with the revolver he had taken from the guard at Pichling and Woodward knocking out the fourth with a thick stick.

Exhausted by the fight and now literally on the run for their lives, the two men stepped out for Maribor, a busy town swarming with German and Croatian troops. At a bridge a German officer stopped them and, acknowledging a smart "Heil Hitler!" asked if they had seen any escaped British prisoners who were known to be trying to join the Yugoslav partisans! Assured that they had not, the German waved them on!

For 14 days, living on vegetables, grapes and apples, they trudged on, spending one night with a pro-German farmer on the excuse that they were German officers who had been robbed. The farmer warned them to avoid a route north-west of Zagreb, as it was infested with Yugoslav partisans—and they straight-away took that very route!

Contacting the anti-German partisans was not so simple, however. They had to stick to their cover story about being Germans until they were certain who their questioners were. Thus, when a trigger-happy boy of 14 stopped them at a road block they said they were German.

Curdly, he motioned them into a nearby house and Arnold, who thought the boy had gone to fetch the Germans, suggested that they should get out while the going was good. But there wasn't time. Suddenly the door burst open and the boy, his eyes ablaze with hate, confronted them with a revolver in one hand and a grenade in the other. Behind him was a crowd of partisans.

Patiently Woodward tried to explain that they weren't Germans but British soldiers. The Yugoslavs looked sceptical when their captives could produce no identity papers and then one partisan, who could speak English and said he had been to Southend, asked Woodward to describe the town. As Woodward launched into a detailed description the tense atmosphere changed to cheers and smiles. The partisans had accepted them.

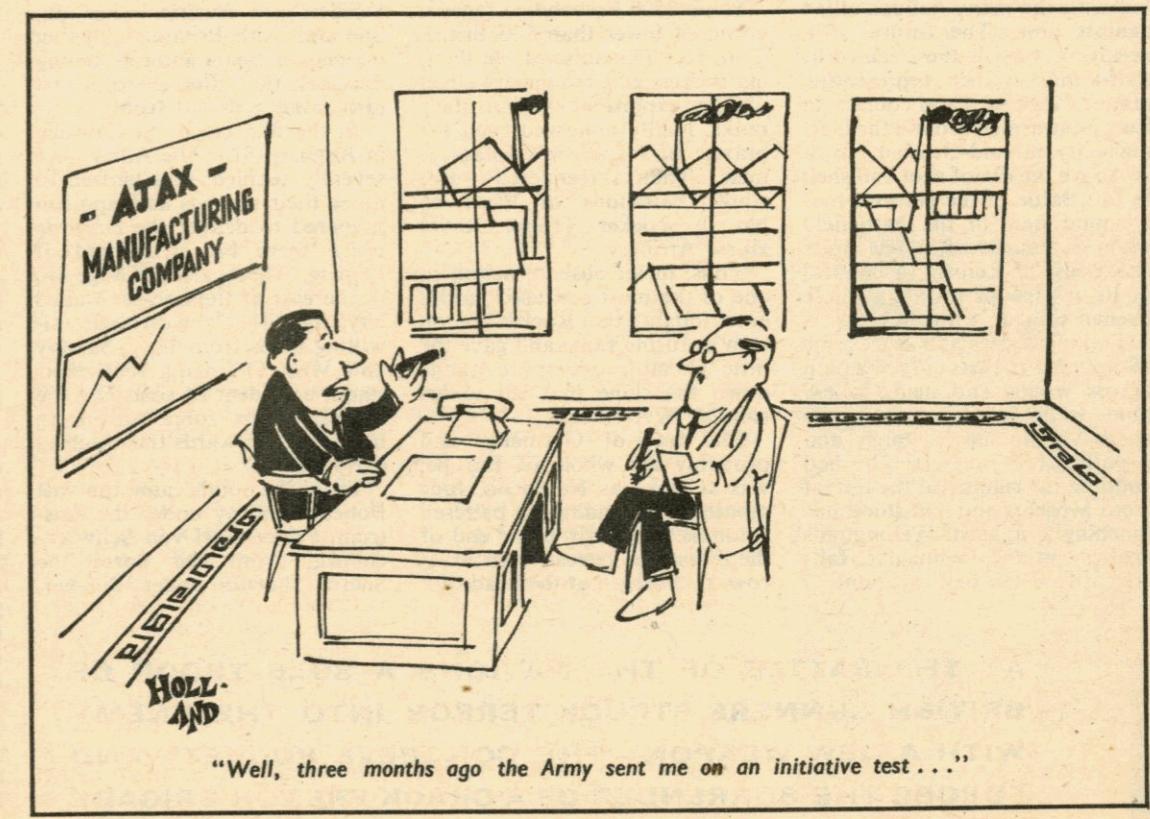
For several weeks Woodward and Arnold fought with the partisans, swooping on German encampments in the valleys, blowing up their supplies at night and ambushing their patrols.

One day when the leader of the partisan group said there were British officers in the area, Woodward asked to be allowed to contact them. After drinking to victory in fiery plum brandy, the two British soldiers were escorted on a long, circuitous trek round the east of Zagreb to the Adriatic coast, and on to a small boat which took them down the Dalmatian Islands via Tijesno, Rogoznik, Marius, Trogir, the Island of Brac and thence to the mainland where, at Povo-do, they were handed over to an American liaison officer.

On the Island of Lisiinia, where the American took them, they were picked up by a Royal Air Force Air-Sea Rescue launch and later flown, first to Cairo for questioning and then, in December, 1943, to Britain.

Eleven months later, at Buckingham Palace, Woodward and Arnold received the Distinguished Conduct Medal from King George VI, who told them: "We're glad to see you back."

LESLIE HUNT



"Well, three months ago the Army sent me on an initiative test..."

# The Rocket Gunners Routed Napoleon's Men



An artist's impression of the Battle of Leipzig, showing the French cavalry attacking the guns.

Courtesy: The Parker Gallery

THE high-pitched whine of Stuka dive-bombers swooping down on northern France in the spring of 1940 can have had no more terrifying effect than the nerve-shattering scream of the Congreve rockets that showered into the squares of French Infantry at Leipzig 127 years earlier.

Napoleon was locked in combat with the many nations allied against him. The future of a continent was in the balance as half-a-million men representing almost every race and country in Europe swarmed around the German city in mid-October, 1813.

Above the din of shot and shell in this Battle of the Nations rose a sound new to the battlefield when at Paunsdorf, a few miles north-east of Leipzig, a handful of British troops routed a whole French brigade with rockets.

Trailing flames and sparks, the 18-pounder rockets curved a path across woods and fields to explode in the massed ranks of the enemy. Napoleon's tough and relentless foot soldiers, who had endured the rigours of the retreat from Moscow and had stood unflinchingly against Wellington's artillery in the Peninsular, faltered before the new weapon.

The fate of Germany, and probably the whole of Europe, was at stake as Napoleon, four months after leading his battered columns into Paris at the end of the disastrous retreat from Moscow, re-emerged at the head of a

250,000-strong army and moved east across the Rhine.

The Russians, who had pursued the rabble of the *Grande Armée* into East Prussia, had joined forces with the Prussians. Sweden and Austria came into line and, with Britain tightening her grip on Spain and blockading the seas, the Allies were at last presenting a united front.

In the first clash—at Dresden in August, 1813—the Allies were severely mauled, and paused to nurse their wounds as Napoleon prepared to deliver the *coup de grâce* from his stronghold at Leipzig. There, along a huge arc to the east of the ancient walled city, the French, with their unwilling allies from Italy, Saxony and West Germany, took their stand, confident of smashing the heterogeneous force advancing hesitatingly towards them during early October.

Thus, in an obscure action in one of the most confused battles ever fought, the Rocket Troop won enduring fame and gave the little Dictator one more nudge down the slope that led to his ruin at Waterloo.

From the south came the vast Bohemian army under the Austrian, Prince Carl von Schwarzenburg; from the north the Silesian hordes under Blücher,

AT THE BATTLE OF THE NATIONS A SOLE TROOP OF BRITISH GUNNERS STRUCK TERROR INTO THE ENEMY WITH A NEW WEAPON—THE CONGREVE ROCKET—AND FORCED THE SURRENDER OF A CRACK FRENCH BRIGADE

72-year-old veteran whose one burning desire was to avenge his defeat at Jena seven years earlier. On the march he would unsheathe his sword, lunge at some spectral figure before him and spit out the name: "Napoleon!"

Keeping pace with Blücher on the flank was the Army of the North, commanded by Crown Prince Bernadotte of Sweden. It included a 20,000-strong multi-racial group under the Hanoverian General Walmoden, among them the Rocket Troop—Britain's only representatives in the battle.

Walmoden boasted another battalion which has a fair claim to being the grandfather of the present United Nations Force. According to Maude, in his *Leipzig Campaign*, it consisted of 111 Dutchmen, 92 Prussians, 80 Italians, 66 Flemish, 63 Hanoverians and Brunswickers, 46 renegade Frenchmen, 35 Saxons, 27 Austrians, 18 Hamburgers, 14 Bavarians, 14 Hessians, 12 Spaniards, 12 Mecklenburgers, 11 Poles, ten Holsteiners, ten Swiss, nine Hungarians, seven Danes, five Oldenburgers, three Russians, two Serbians, one Englishman, a Portuguese and a Swede.

On the field at Leipzig were more crowned heads than might be seen at a royal wedding. With Napoleon were King Eugene of

Italy, King Murat of Naples, King Frederick Augustus of Saxony and the heads of several lesser German states. Fighting with the Allies were Czar Alexander, Emperor Francis of Austria, King Frederick William of Prussia and Crown Prince Bernadotte. More men were involved than in any other previous battle in history.

Of the scores of accounts of the battle no two are similar. Most of the military historians agree that it opened on 16 October, and closed on the 19th with Napoleon's flight to the west.

On the eve of battle Napoleon must have rubbed his hands in delight. The Prussian, Austrian and Russian levies looked a rabble, many of the Prussians carrying pikes and some of the Russians bows and arrows. He sadly underestimated their courage, determination and fervour.

On the morning of 16 October Napoleon prepared to smash the Bohemian Army to the south, and by mid-day success was within his grasp. His Infantry were boring through the Bohemian centre when General Bourdesoule, with his 2000 *Cuirassiers*, suddenly decided to launch his whole force against some troublesome Russian batteries. He had put 26 guns out of action when, from all sides, the Allied cavalry came sweeping in by brigades, regiments and squadrons, just as they came to their commander's hand.

The battle raged throughout

17 October, and it was at the

critical moment on the 18th that

the British Rocket Troop scored its tremendous success.

To Bourdesoule's rescue galloped the remaining French squadrons, and for 90 minutes hordes of horsemen hurled themselves at one another in utter confusion, masking the guns on either side and preventing a further French advance. In a strip four miles long by one wide, 35,000 dead and wounded lay in the bitter cold of that night.

Meanwhile, to the north, Marmon was locked in battle with Blücher at the village of Mockern, which was won and lost many times during a day of

carman, in his "A History of Firearms," says they "paralysed squares of Infantry and produced on the enemy an impression of something supernatural."

Captain Richard Bogue, commanding the Troop, was in the

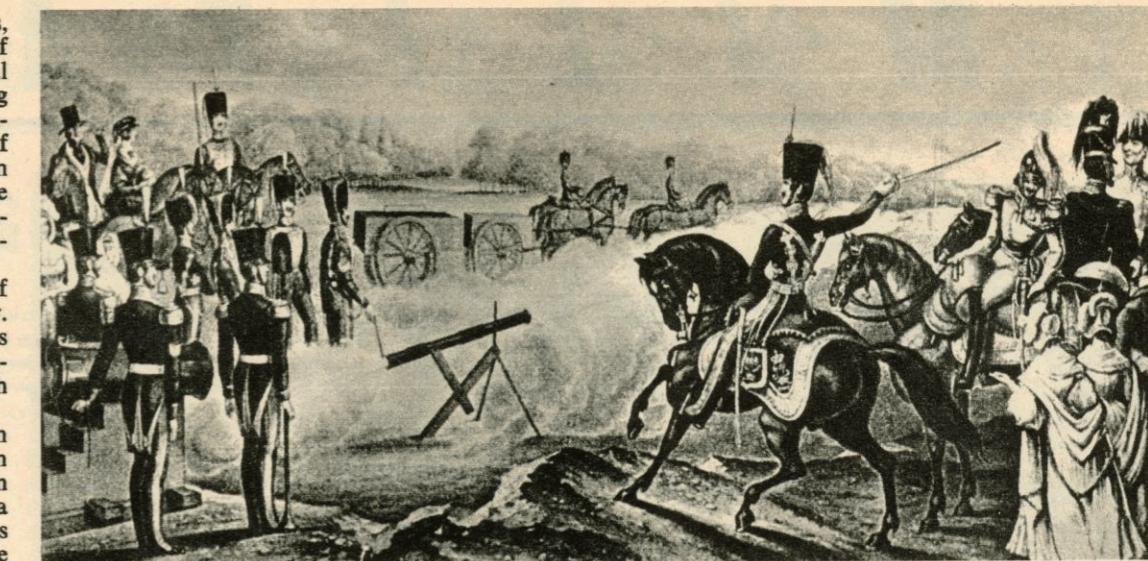
range of 3000 yards when set off on the spot and were fantastically cheap to produce. His 32-pounder cost £1 1s 11d and his 12-pounder only 9s 4d each!

Congreve's rockets are believed to have been used for the first time in war at the siege of Boulogne in 1806, when they set fire to the town in ten minutes. Later, they were successfully employed at Walcheren and Copenhagen (1807), Baltimore (1814) and Waterloo and New Orleans in the following year.

It was the Indian rocket, employed with great effect by Tippoo Sultan against British troops at the siege of Seringapatam in 1799, which the British gunnery expert, Colonel Sir William Congreve, took as his model and improved in the early 1800s.

He made rockets of from two ounces—a self-driven musket ball—to three hundredweights. They could be fired from wheeled frames, portable tripods, earthworks or shallow trenches dug

in the officers' mess of "O" (The Rocket Troop) Battery, 2nd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.



No. 2 Rocket Troop loose off a Congreve rocket during training on Woolwich Marshes in the early 1800s.

Reproduced from an old print by courtesy of The Parker Gallery

savage fighting. Finally, as Marmon was moving in his last reserves came the Prussian cavalry in one of the greatest charges of all time. Behind them advanced the Prussian *Landwehr*, which that day laid the foundations of its subsequent fame. The French streamed back in panic to Leipzig, leaving behind 7000 dead.

Command of the Rocket

Troop now devolved on the youthful Lieutenant Thomas Fox Strangways, who was later wounded at Waterloo, rose to the rank of Major-General commanding the British Artillery in the Crimea 40 years later, and finally fell at Inkermann.

Strangways played the hero's role at Leipzig with his dashing and skilful leadership of the Rocket Troop. The surrender of the French brigade in face of the terrifying rockets was one of the main factors which prompted Napoleon that night to abandon Leipzig.

Leaving his unwilling ally, the King of Saxony, to face the music and make what terms he could, Napoleon led 90,000

K. E. HENLY



Col. Sir William Congreve. He modelled his rockets on those used by Tippoo Sahib at the siege of Seringapatam.



Holidaymakers at Wissant, on the French coast, find a new subject for their cameras as the Royal Engineers make their landfall. Running their canoe ashore (foreground) are Sgts Ogle and Cusick.

## ACROSS THE CHANNEL BY CANOE

UNDER a leaden dawn sky and with a deep swell running, 24 Sappers in 12 home-made canoes painted in Royal Engineer blue, paddled out from the quayside at Folkestone and headed for France.

Six hours later they ploughed through the surf on to the sandy beach at Wissant, near Calais—the largest armada of canoes ever to cross the English Channel.

The Sappers, led by their Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. L. Clutterbuck, were officers and men of 38 Corps Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers, from Ripon.

with spray covers, prismatic compasses and baling buckets.

At Easter, 50 Sappers were selected for advanced training with the Outward Bound Mountain School at Ullswater, tackling 30-mile long paddles in formation and learning how to deal with launching, landing and paddling in rough seas.

When the Regiment decided last winter to make the massed Channel crossing, the unit's carpenters and joiners set to work to build the canoes and early this year had made 12 craft—wooden frames covered by waterproof canvas and fitted



## POLITICIAN ON PARADE

HISTORY was being made on the famous Front Parade at Sandhurst as a grey-haired figure in a morning suit and shiny black top hat inspected the lines of officer cadets and walked smartly back to the saluting dais.

For the first time since the Royal Military Academy was formed in 1947 a politician was taking the salute at the Sovereign's Parade.

The figure in the top hat was the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Macmillan, wearing on his left breast a row of medals and ribbons which he won while serving with the Grenadier Guards in World War One when he was wounded three times.

More than 700 officer cadets were on parade, 160 of them, including the son of General Sir Francis Festing, the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, passing out to join their regiments.

During the parade Mr. Macmillan presented the Sword of Honour awarded to the best cadet of his term to Senior Under-Officer R. M. Gamble and the Queen's Medal to Company Junior Under-Officer Malik Ghulam Mohd Khan, from Pakistan.

Mr. Profumo at his desk in the War Office where he succeeds Mr. Soames as the War Minister. Mr. Profumo is a former Territorial.



gency drill for getting aboard the motor fishing vessel which would accompany them to France. Then they set off in the early hours of a Saturday morning to "invade" France.

In the first two hours the canoes covered nine miles but then the wind got up, whipping the sea into angry waves and slowing down the little armada. Grimly, the Sappers ploughed on and at long last entered the shelter of the Wissant headland. Now the going was easier and, line abreast, paddles shining in the sun, the 12 canoes ran ashore, to the cheers of hundreds of holiday makers on the beach.

As he stepped ashore the commanding officer took from a waterproof bag a letter of good wishes from the Mayor of Ripon and handed it to the Mayor of Wissant. The crowds cheered again and the Sappers were led off the beach to become guests of the town for the day. The next day they returned to England, this time the easy way, on board the motor fishing vessel.

Several weeks later two of the Sappers—Sergeant A. Black and Sapper H. Morfitt (who had partnered Lieutenant-Colonel Clutterbuck on the first crossing)—were back in Wissant again. Travelling alone, they had canoed from Folkestone in four hours 15 minutes.

## EX-TERRIER AT THE TOP

M R. JOHN PROFUMO must have found it easier than most of his predecessors to settle down to his new job as Secretary of State for War for he has been a fighting soldier and has considerable experience of the problems that beset both the staff and the individual soldier.

A Territorial before World War Two, Mr. Profumo served throughout the North African campaign as a captain with the 1st Northamptonshire Yeomanry and in 1944, as a lieutenant-colonel on Field-Marshal Lord Alexander's staff, conducted the German representatives across the Alps to sign the surrender terms in Italy.

After the war Mr. Profumo, then a brigadier, became Chief of Staff of the British Military and Diplomatic Mission to Japan.

The new War Minister, who was the youngest member of the House of Commons from 1940, when he was elected to represent the Kettering Division of Northamptonshire at the age of 25, until the end of the war, has always taken a deep interest in soldiers' personal problems. In 1944 he flew home from Italy to open a debate on leave for men serving overseas.

At a saluting base in Eldon Square, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, four ex-Gunners, all over 80, watched proudly as one of the six guns with which they had fought in the Boer War was driven past by 272nd (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, Territorial Army.

The Regiment was celebrating

the 60th anniversary of the departure from Britain of its forbears—Elswick Battery, 1st Northumberland Volunteer Artillery, the only complete volunteer Gunner unit to take part in the Boer War and the first to see active service in any campaign.

As the Regiment drove past, the four ex-Gunners remembered the days when the Elswick

Battery was recruited from the Armstrong Whitworth works at Elswick, many of them working on the six guns—naval 12-pounders on field carriages—which Lady Meux, wife of one of the directors, had offered to the War Office, along with the services of the Battery. When the War Office refused, Lady Meux offered them instead to Field-Marshal Lord Roberts who per-

suaded Whitehall to allow the Battery to man the guns and accompany them to South Africa.

Within a few days the four ex-Gunners, with more than 200 others, enlisted for service overseas and several weeks later were bound for Cape Town, wearing uniforms paid for out of his own pocket by Major Harvey Scott, the Battery Commander, and with equipment raised by public subscription.

Elswick Battery served in South Africa until 1902 and during the campaign won two DSOs, two DCMs and 13 mentions in despatches.

One of the guns with which the Battery fought now occupies pride of place in 272nd (Northumbrian) Field Regiment's Drill Hall where, after the anniversary parade, the four ex-Gunners—Mr. F. W. Thompson, aged 83, Mr. J. Totten (82), Mr. W. H. Cummings (81) and Mr. T. Brigg (83)—were joined at a party in the Sergeants' Mess by 86-year-old Mr. David Kemp, a former bombardier-trumpeter who had fought with them in Elswick Battery, and was in Newcastle on holiday from South Africa where he has lived since 1901.

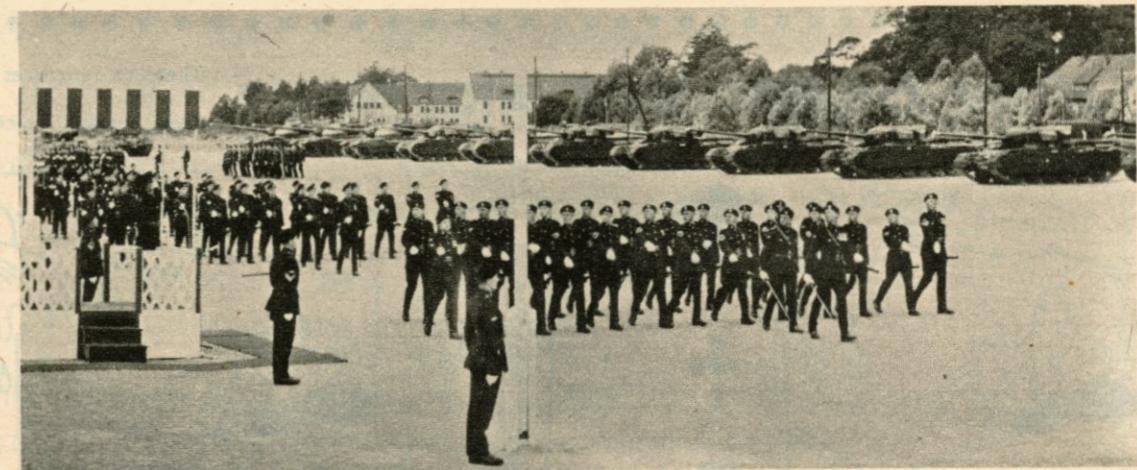
Below (left): A naval 12-pounder of the Elswick Battery in action at Rooikraal in May, 1901. Right: Four of the Battery's ex-Gunners on parade again.



## FIVE AND EIGHT AMALGAMATE

O N the edge of a parade ground at Fallingbostel, 41 tanks dipped their guns in salute and roared past General Sir John Crocker, Senior Colonel Commandant of the Royal Tank Regiment, in one of the most impressive military ceremonies ever held in Rhine Army—the amalgamation parade of the 5th and 8th Royal Tank Regiments.

As more than 500 spectators took their seats (including two Chelsea Pensioners who had served in tanks in World War One), the two regiments, immaculate in their "Blues" and white gloves and carrying sub-machine-guns, marched on parade, led by the massed Cambrai and Rhine bands and the Corps of drums of the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment. The two columns slow-marched inwards to become one, the two regimental flags were lowered and command of the new regiment was



handed over to Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. W. Ironside. Then the guns of four Centurions crashed out a feu de joie and the new regimental flag was run up.

The 5th and 8th Royal Tank regiments were both founder members of the old Tank Corps of World War One and their

amalgamation is the last of three within the Regiment, all of which have taken place in Germany. It was in "Hilda" of "H" Battalion, from which the 8th Royal Tank Regiment sprang, that Major-General Sir Hugh Elles first hoisted the Tank Corps Colours at Cambrai in 1917

when he led 486 tanks into battle.—From a report by Sergeant Brian Dexter, Military Observer.

# HOW BRIGHT ARE YOU ABOUT DOGS?

To each of the questions below are given three alternative answers. Select those you think correct and send your entry to the Editor.

The sender of the **first** correct solution to be opened may choose any two of the following recently-published books: "Freely I Served" (a personal war story) by Maj-Gen. Sosabowski; "The Great Wall of France" (story of the Maginot Line) by Vivian Rowe; "Wellington" by Sir John Fortescue; the novels "One of a Crowd" by Philip Gibbs and "Looking In, Looking Out" by Charles Humana; the historical novel "The Seventh Square" by Brigid Knight; and the crime novel "Requiem for Charles" by Harry Carmichael.

The senders of the **second** and **third** correct solutions may choose whole-plate monochrome copies of any two photographs and/or cartoons which have appeared in SOLDIER since January, 1957.

The senders of the **fourth**, **fifth** and **sixth** correct solutions will be sent SOLDIER free for 12 months.

All entries must reach SOLDIER London offices by Monday, 28 November.

## RULES

- Entries must be sent in a sealed envelope to:  
**The Editor (Competition 29), SOLDIER,  
433, Holloway Road, London, N.7.**
- Each entry must be accompanied by the "Competition 29" panel printed at the top of this page.
- Competitors may submit only one entry.
- Any reader, Serviceman or woman and civilian, may compete.
- The Editor's decision is final.

1. Which regimental dog mascot was presented with a medal by Queen Victoria: (a) Jock, of The Black Watch; (b) Brian Boru, of The Irish Guards; or (c) Bobby, of the Royal Berkshire Regiment?

2. What is the name of this breed of dog?



3. How many dogs are there in Britain: (a) 200,741; (b) 600,908; or (c) 3,700,000?

4. In which country does a pedigree dog have a passport and is liable to military service: (a) China; (b) USA; or (c) USSR?

5. What was the name of the first dog fired into outer space: (a) Petroushka; (b) Laika; or (c) Zabo?

6. How long does it take to train a Military Police dog handler: (a) two weeks; (b) two months; or (c) six months?

7. Which of these types of dog was (or were) held sacred: (a) St. Bernard; (b) Pekingese; or (c) Fox terrier?

8. What was the name of the dog that served in the Special Air Service Regi-

ment and made 20 parachute jumps: (a) Rover; (b) Rob; or (c) Bristle?

9. Which breed of dog is most popular as a pet in Britain: (a) Scots terrier; (b) Bulldog; or (c) Miniature Poodle?

10. When was the Dickin Medal (the Animal's Victoria Cross) instituted: (a) The Crimean War; (b) The South African War; or (c) World War Two?

11. What is this breed of dog?



12. Which dog, famous in literature, is said to have died of joy: (a) Gipsy, Dora's pet in Dickens' 'David Copperfield'; (b) Ulysses' dog Argos who recognised his master on his return from Troy; or (c) King Arthur's dog, Caval?

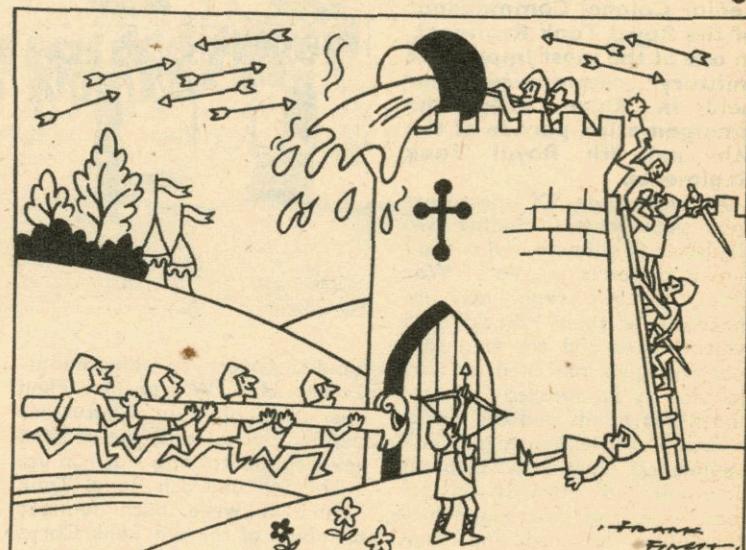
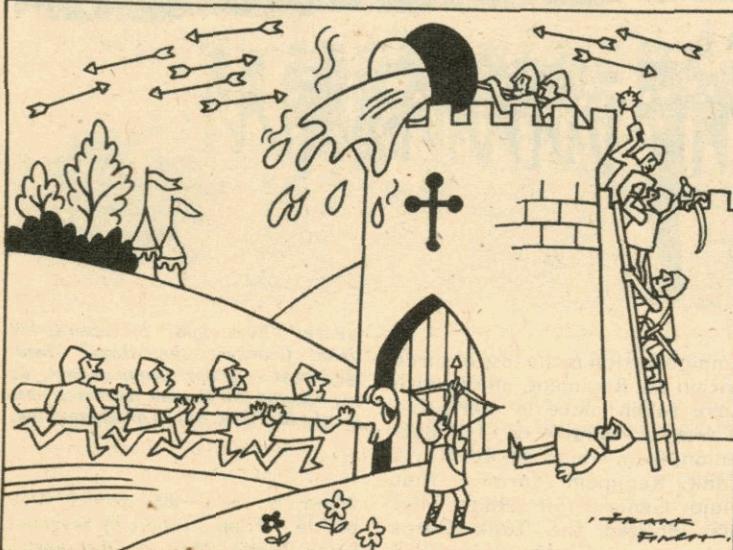
13. The wild rose is called a "dog rose" because: (a) dogs like to eat them; (b) the flowers are shaped like dogs ears; or (c) in ancient times they were considered a cure for dog bite?

14. Dogs are placed in quarantine on arrival in Britain because their bites may cause: (a) Rabies; (b) Hydrophobia; or (c) Blood poisoning?

★ The solution and the names of the winners will appear in SOLDIER, January, 1961.

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. Look at them very carefully. If you cannot detect the differences see page 38.

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?



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# The Incomparable Old Contemptibles

*"It is my Royal and Imperial Command that you concentrate your energies for the immediate present upon one single purpose, and that is, that you address all your skill and all the valour of my soldiers to exterminate the treacherous English and walk over General French's contemptible little Army."*

**T**HAT was the famous order from the Kaiser to General von Kluck, commander of his Second Army, on 19 August, 1914—the order which gave the world the phrase "Old Contemptibles."

"Little" the British Expeditionary Force may have been compared with the Continental armies. "Contemptible" it certainly was not. Von Kluck was later to describe it as "incomparable." Its exploits are magnificently retold by John Terraine in "Mons" (Batsford, 21s), one of those rare military histories which merit the cliché "I could not put this book down."

On the day the Kaiser's order was issued, there might have been some justification for rating the British Expeditionary Force fairly low. It had not yet met the Germans, but it was coming to the end of its concentration march across a France which swarmed with souvenir hunters.

As a result, about half the men had lost their badges and many of their buttons, and their clothes were held together with string and tape. It was a curiously unsoldierly episode in the story of what the author describes as "the largest, best-equipped and most efficient British army that had ever left our shores."

There were to be few unsoldierly moments in the following weeks.

The British Expeditionary Force was proof that the Regular Army was in no way unprepared for war in 1914. Its numbers were quickly made up by Reservists, its movement plans worked smoothly, and it arrived in France with little fuss and complete with its equipment. Its training was such that the Infantry's rifle fire convinced the Germans that it had gone into battle with a concentration of machine-guns.

There were only four Infantry divisions and five Cavalry brigades in the Force at this stage. Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener, then War Minister, was one of the few who expected that the war would be a long one, and insisted that two Infantry divisions and some Cavalry were kept up the Army's sleeve. It was a fortunate decision, says the author.

Neither the British nor the French High Commands, at that



"L" Battery, RHA in action at Néry in 1914. So long as there was a round to fire the gun was kept in action.

time, could see the realities of war clearly. Pre-conceived ideas and faulty intelligence were the main reasons. Sir John French, the BEF's commander, seemed unable to control his troops and also had the misfortune to have to fight beside a French general who was reluctant to give battle and who was soon to be sacked.

It was the French commander-in-chief, Marshal Joffre, who planned the counter-stroke that turned retreat into the victory of the Marne. The British Expeditionary Force was not under his command and Joffre had to exercise great tact in getting French to co-operate.

There was an incongruous mixture of old and new in those early days. French Cavalry went into battle wearing cuirasses and plumed helmets; British Cavalrymen speared Germans with their lances and slashed them with their swords. French Infantry went into attack with bands playing and Colours flying.

Wireless, however, had come and the Royal Flying Corps was making its first appearance on a battlefield. One aircraft on a liaison flight landed between the lines. Its crew of two delivered their message and took off from a field just as Uhlans were riding into it.

The British Expeditionary Force's first full-scale battle was on the line of a canal at Mons. The Germans advanced in solid, square blocks, and the British Infantrymen mowed them down. But with its French neighbours giving ground, the BEF had to do the same. The long retreat had started. In 13 days, its regiments were to march 200 miles.

As the retreat began, the Duke of Wellington's and a field bat-

tery held six German battalions at bay after messages to retire had failed to reach them. The Duke had 400 casualties before they broke off the action. The failure of a similar order to arrive brought tragedy to the Cheshire. Hemmed in on three sides by the Germans, they fought backwards slowly until, split into several small parties, they surrendered.

At Le Cateau, the 2nd Corps stopped and, with undefended flanks, struck hard at twice the number of Germans, foiling the enemy plans.

Sheer exhaustion was to damp the troops' high spirits. At St. Quentin, Major (later General Sir) Tom Bridges found two battalions which refused to march any farther. Getting a tin-whistle and a drum from a shop, Major Bridges and his trumpeter played around the square, rousing the men and persuading them to fall in. Then, the "band," increased

by a couple of mouth-organs, led them on their way.

The mettle of the BEF was

more typically revealed by the 1st King's Own who, surprised by machine-guns and artillery fire, lost 400 men in a few minutes but rallied and fought through the day; by a platoon of Inniskillings which was wiped out where it stood, in a circle of German dead; by two companies of the Warwickshires which were cut off and marched for three days between the German Cavalry screen and their main body before rejoining the Force.

The 13-day retreat finished on

5 September; by the 13th the

Allies had driven the Germans

back to the Aisne, where a front

was formed which was hardly to move for the next four years.

With Joffre's troops, the BEF foiled the great German war plan conceived by Graf von Schlieffen, Chief of the German General Staff.

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His book is unusual in that it avoids the scholarly periods usual to military historians and is written in the crisp sentences and short paragraphs of the popular newspapers. Readers of his daily column, "Good Morning," in the war-time newspaper SEAC which Lieutenant-Colonel Owen edited, will not be the only ones to enjoy it the more for that.

Singapore got off more lightly than its sister-colony, though torture and mass-executions were to be a feature of Japanese occupation. For some of the soldiers, death in a forlorn-hope stand would have been more merciful than the deaths they were to die as prisoners.

The campaign started badly. Plans had been made to forestall the invaders by advancing into Siam and providing reception committees on beaches. At various high levels this plan was postponed until too late; it went off at half-cock.

So much went wrong in the retreat that followed. One incident which would have been funny in another setting was the failure of explosives to destroy a bridge over the Kedah River. The structure merely sagged, so it was decided to drive an armoured train on it to complete the job. The train was started up and as it neared the bridge the driver jumped clear. Instead of crashing through, however, the train went right across, and disappeared down a jungle track.

Mostly it was the Japanese who made things go wrong. When they met trained and determined troops, they took a beating, but more often they encountered units with little or no training, ill-equipped and physically exhausted. When reinforcements came, Lieutenant-General A. E. Percival, the commander, reported that he could not put them into battle before they were better trained.

The battle for Malaya lasted seven weeks. Then the causeway was blown up. The last phase was begun.

In far less secrecy than Gage

supposed, the column set off late

on the night of 18 April. At the

village of Lexington, on their

# A Fateful Day At Lexington

**W**HO fired the first shots in the American Revolution? At Lexington, in Massachusetts, visitors are shown a pair of pistols with which, it is said, a Major John Pitcairn of the Royal Marines sent the first bullets flying.

British reports claim that the first shots came from Lexington's colonists.

Sir John Fortescue, the historian of the British Army, dismisses the matter as being "really trifling importance."

Perhaps it was, but the sequel to those shots was anything but trifling.

What happened at Lexington on 19 April, 1775, has become the theme of an American legend, a legend of a handful of devoted colonists gallantly facing up to the cream of a Regular British Army.

A much less romantic light is thrown on the subject by an American historian, Arthur Bertrand Tourtellot, in "William Diamond's Drum" (Hutchinson, 25s).

With rebellious colonists drilling and gathering arms, General Thomas Gage, commanding the British troops in Boston, sent a column of Grenadier and Light Infantry companies of his regiments to Concord, to destroy

military stores.

They were lined up with muskets loaded, facing the column of 700. Afterwards, Major Pitcairn, who commanded the head of the column, said he

ordered his men to surround the colonists, disarm and then disperse them. Captain Parker said he

ordered his minutemen to disperse. Both declared afterwards they ordered their men not to fire.

Somebody did fire, and soon

there was a great deal of undisciplined shooting. Eight of the

minutemen were killed and

several more wounded. One Regular was slightly hurt.

The column moved on to Concord, where it made an ineffective attempt to carry out its mission and brushed, without glory, against more colonists.

By now, the countryside was roused. As the column set off back towards Boston, colonists converged from all sides—tough, independent fighters, many of whom had served alongside the British troops in wars against the French and Indians. From behind walls and woods and from inside houses, they poured musket-balls into the marching Regulars.

The column was in a sorry state by the time it got back to Lexington where a brigade from Boston with two guns, joined them. Still under harassing fire, the Regulars marched on, until they came under the protection of a man-o'-war's guns at Bunker's Hill.

When the day ended, the British Regulars had lost 73 men killed, 174 wounded and 26 missing; the colonists had only 49 killed, 39 wounded and five missing.

It was a bad day for the British Army. Some of its officers had been shown to be hopelessly in

OVER...

## Why Did Singapore Fall?

**H**OW was it that Singapore, with 85,000 troops, surrendered to a numerically inferior Japanese force in February 1942? Frank Owen recounts this dismal passage in the history of British arms, and delves into the reasons why, in "The Fall of Singapore" (Michael Joseph, 21s).

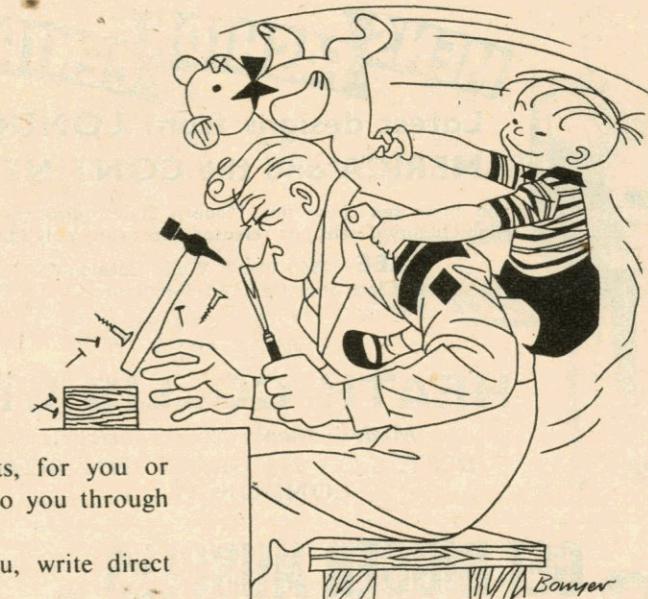
The dust-jacket calls this an "angry story." "Sorrowful" would be more apt. The author is full of sympathy for the officers and men who, ill-equipped and often ill-trained, faced an invader who had been under-estimated. Why did they find themselves in this position? The author offers the evidence and leaves the reader to apportion blame.

As the retreat began, the Duke of Wellington's and a field bat-

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competent and its men undisciplined. It was a great day for the colonists for they had shown that they could take on Regulars.

Exploited by propagandists—the author clears the Regulars of "atrocities" charges—the events of

19 April, 1775, helped to unite the American colonists as no other effort had been able to. They brought into existence the revolutionary army which, under George Washington, was to win the war.

## Thirty Seconds of Terror

**A** WEARY battalion of The Queen's Royal Regiment was making a night march towards home, during the last stage of a brigade exercise in Baluchistan, when the men heard a noise like an underground train arriving in a station.

Under their feet, the road buckled. Those who were marching alone, like the commanding officer, managed to keep standing. The men in the ranks, hampered by their rifles, were less fortunate. As one toppled, the man behind was knocked down and they fell like toy soldiers.

It did not last long. Apart from a few bruises, the Queen's were not hurt. A few miles away, however, it was disaster on a scale to parallel an atom-bomb explosion. The story is told by Robert Jackson in "Thirty Seconds at Quetta" (Evans, 21s).

Quetta, with 12,000 British and Indian troops, was the largest Army station in India. Its Staff College nurtured many a soldier who was to be famous, and its chief instructor in 1935 was the future Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

The great earthquake occurred at three minutes past three on the morning of 31 May, 1935. It lasted only 30 seconds but when it was over, thousands of people were dead and dying. Most authorities say 30,000 died; some go as high as 60,000. The Indian Military Hospital alone treated between 20,000 and 25,000.

The author (who served on SOLDIER's staff) has collected the stories of many of the British survivors and woven them into a detailed and enthralling picture of a great disaster. It is a story from which the British, Gurkha and Indian soldiers emerge as the heroes, the British to a point at which some of those they rescued sought immediate conversion to Christianity.

The Army was lucky enough when the earthquake struck. The military lines and the Staff College were outside the area of major devastation, separated from the stricken city by two *nullahs* which absorbed much of the shock. For all that, there were soldier casualties. Others escaped narrowly, leaping from their beds either out of their houses, or to the protection offered by a doorway before their quarters tumbled on them. The Royal Air Force was badly hit. Its barrack-blocks collapsed on the airmen, and many died.

Worst hit of all was the crowded native city. Its huddle of flimsy buildings collapsed on their sleeping inhabitants. The police were decimated in their lines. Civil administration almost ceased to exist.

Thus it fell to the Army to take over, and martial law was declared. But before that, mustering a few minutes after the shock, the West Yorkshires and the Gurkhas, Sappers and Signallers, were hurrying on their way to the city in organised columns.

Rescue was made the more dangerous as time went on by further tremors that brought down the shaky ruins. A Gurkha, Rifleman Harkbir Tharpa, was found to be able to detect survivors under heaps of debris when nobody else could hear a sound and when a way had been started into the rubble he insisted, time and again, on going into the dangerous tunnel and completing the rescues himself. He was one of those awarded the Albert Medal for gallantry.

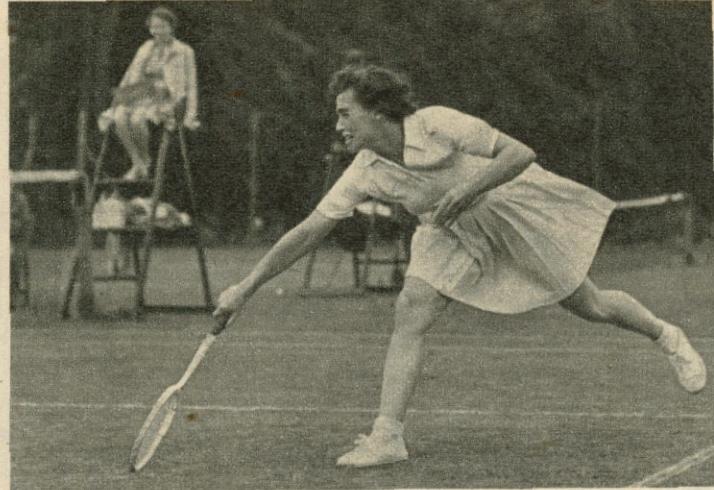
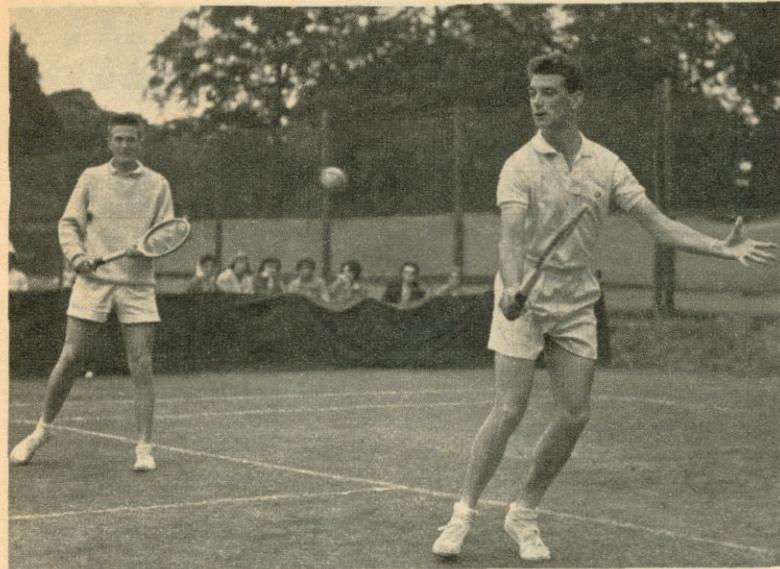
Troops cleared roads for ambulances and death carts to drive into the ruins. They set up camp on the race-course to house the survivors, whom they fed. Bodies were burned or buried. Tanks dragged dead animals away to the open countryside.

Adding to the Army's burden was the knowledge that Quetta was surrounded by wild tribesmen who would be alert to the opportunities for loot. Each camp had to be guarded while the units were on their errand of mercy, guards had to be posted among the ruins and Cavalry and tanks patrolled the area around the city.

There were less expected troubles, too. The Indian soldiers who drove the vehicles which removed the bodies threatened to cease work on the second day because, they said, the spirits of the dead they had carried were haunting their vehicles. They agreed to continue their macabre task if each had an armed escort to keep the spirits away!

By the third day, the effect of the heat on the rotting bodies beneath the ruins had produced an intolerable stench, and a serious threat of pestilence. A final and thorough search for survivors was made and then the city was sealed off with barbed wire. Still under the ruins were more than 20,000 dead.

In August unsealing, section by section, and rebuilding began. This time the buildings were designed to withstand earthquakes, and they did so triumphantly, six years later.



Left: L/Cpl Stubbs makes a backhand lob in the doubles final which he won with Sapper Freeman (left). Above: Capt. D. Temple stretches for a short ball in the final of the WRAC singles in which she beat Capt. MacLagan.

## TRIPLE WIN FOR THE PAY CORPS

**T**HIS year's Army lawn tennis championships were a triple triumph for Lance-Corporal G. W. Stubbs, of the Royal Army Pay Corps.

In an all-other rank final he retained his singles title in three straight sets and then went on to form winning partnerships in both the men's doubles and the mixed doubles.

Lance-Corporal Stubbs reached the final by beating Gunner J. D. Lilley, of the Royal Artillery, in two straight sets, 6-3, 6-1, and was tipped as an easy winner against the other finalist, Sapper T. L. C. Freeman, of 3rd Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, who had beaten Gunner S. Yeff, Royal Artillery, in a hard-fought semi-final, 8-6, 9-7.

But Stubbs did not have things all his own way. Taking the first set 6-3, mainly through his superior service and better tactics, he was hard pressed to ward off Freeman's strong attack in the second set and ran out a narrow winner by 6-4. Freeman tired in the third set and wilted to 6-2 in the face of Stubbs' clever and aggressive play.

Sapper Freeman had his revenge when, partnered by Lance-

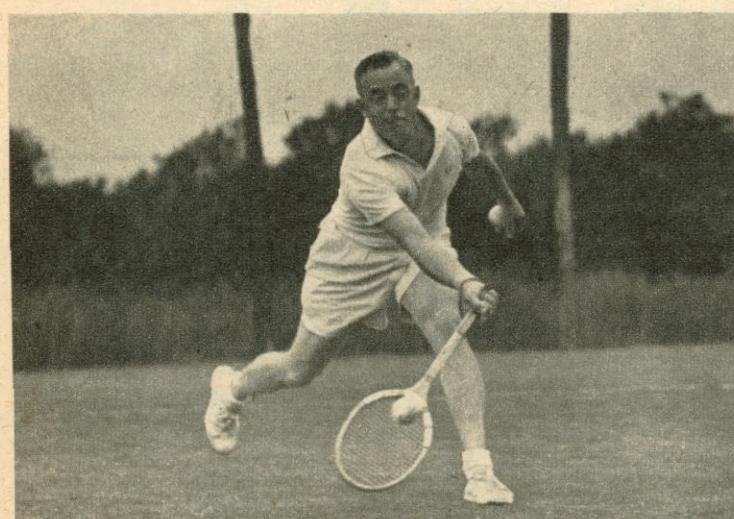
Corporal I. Noble, also of 3rd Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, he won the inter-regimental doubles championship, beating Second-Lieutenant W. A. Davidson and Private J. K. Livesey, of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment, 6-3, 6-1. The Border Regiment pair had previously knocked out Stubbs and his partner, Second-Lieutenant J. Flint.

The singles champion and runner-up joined forces in the men's doubles which they won after a stern tussle against Major E. Fraser and Gunner S. Yeff, 6-3, 12-10, 6-1.

In the mixed doubles final, Stubbs and Lieutenant-Colonel C. de Garis Martin, Women's Royal Army Corps, were much too strong for Gunner Yeff and Captain M. E. MacLagan, WRAC, and won 9-7, 6-3.

The women's singles champion, Captain D. J. Temple,

Lieut-Col. M. D. MacLagan, RE, who has now won four Army titles, angles a forehand drop shot in the veterans' single final which he won 6-4, 6-0.



WRAC, also retained her title, beating Captain MacLagan (an Army doubles winner in 1956 and 1957) 6-2, 6-3.

The Army Plate competition, for competitors knocked out in the first round of the singles championship, was won by Major A. R. Worthington, Royal Army Medical Corps, who beat Corporal R. Lawrie in the final, 6-1, 6-2.

There was some remarkably

fine play in the veterans' events (open to officers over 45) in which Lieutenant-Colonel M. D. MacLagan, Royal Engineers (a doubles winner in 1949, 1950 and 1952) beat Major R. Ninnis, 6-4, 6-0. In the doubles, Brigadier E. Percival and Lieutenant-Colonel H. Horne, beat the holders, Major Ninnis and Major W. Ghey, 7-5, 6-1.

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## THE SAPPERS'

**I**N the history of Army sport, few achievements can equal the astonishing feat of 3rd Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, at this year's Army inter-unit team athletic championships.

At the Military Stadium in Aldershot these Sappers from Cove, taking part in their last championships before the unit is disbanded, sang a triumphant swan-song, scoring 118 points out of a possible 126 (easily the highest any unit has ever obtained), breaking three Army track records and comfortably retaining their championship title of 1959 by winning nine events and gaining second place in four others.

So thoroughly did they drub their opponents from the other five unit finalists that the runners-up—2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards, from Rhine Army—scored only 88½ points.

The Sappers began the day in fine style by winning two of the first three events before lunch—

the pole vault (with an aggregate leap by two competitors of 22 ft 6 ins) and the three miles team race, in each case repeating their victories of last year.

Immediately after lunch, the Sappers scored their third victory, winning the high jump with an aggregate 11 ft 1 in, and then took second place in the javelin.

From then on there was no holding them. They won the long jump (39 ft 10½ ins), the 4 by 120 yards hurdles relay in the record time of 1 min 5.5 secs; set up a new record of 1 min 29.9 secs in the 4 by 220 yards relay and another of 43.7 secs in the

S/Sgt Instructor C. Andrews leaps the final hurdle in the Sappers' record-breaking attack in the 4 by 120 yards relay event which they won in 1 min. 5.5 secs. It was their third Army record in one day.



Above: Yards ahead of his nearest rivals, Corporal D. Hann breasts the tape to win the 4 by 220 yards relay race for 3rd Training Regt., Royal Engineers, in the record time of 1 min. 29.9 secs.

Below: Corporal H. Watt comes home first to win for 20 Company, Women's Royal Army Corps, Northern Command, the 440 yards relay race—the only women's event—in the fine time of 55.5 secs.



A team mate grimaces with effort as S/Sgt Andrews hands over the baton during the 4 by 440 yards relay race. In this event 3rd Training Regiment, RE, equalled the 32-year-old Army record which they themselves had broken several days before the Army championships.

## TRIUMPHANT SWANSONG

*It's a long pull and a hard pull for 18 Field Regiment, RA, as they heave their opponents over the line to win the 100 stones tug-o'-war.*



4 by 110 yards relay; won the one mile team race in 4 mins 21.6 secs and the 4 by 440 yards relay in 3 mins. 27.6 secs, equaling the former Army record set up in 1932, but 0.3 seconds slower than their own Army record established in the Southern Command championships only six days before.

In the discus, 4 by 880 yards relay and weight, 3rd Training Regiment were runners-up.

A fourth record was broken at the meeting when the two-man team of 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards, threw the hammer 282 ft 8½ ins, beating the 1958 record set up by the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, by 6 ft 9½ ins.

Outstanding in the Sapper team were Staff-Sergeant Instructor Colin Andrews, APTC (the Army decathlon champion and

the unit's physical training instructor), who ran in two of the record-breaking events, and two of the Army's best sprinters—Second-Lieutenant John Judge and Corporal Derek Hann.

Although 6th Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, from Chilwell, came last in the final team placings, their two middle-distance runners—Private Alan Taylor and Private Mike Kiely—finished first and second respectively in the three miles race and repeated the performance four hours later in the one mile event.

Taylor is the Army cross-country champion and the inter-Services one mile and three miles titles holder.

In the 100-stones tug-o'-war, 18 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Larkhill, repeated their success of last year, beating 3rd Battalion, The Parachute

Regiment, in the final, but failing to complete their expected "double" by losing the 80-stones event to 5th Training Battalion, Royal Army Service Corps, the holders.

For the first time in the history of the championships, three Guards battalions—the 1st Scots, 1st Welsh and 2nd Grenadiers—

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**A**THLETICS—in which four members of the unit have represented the Army and six others have been awarded their Army inter-Services colours—is not the only sport in which 3rd Training Regiment, Royal Engineers, have shone this year.

They won the regimental and open doubles titles and were runners-up in the singles of the Army lawn tennis tournament (see page 33), were second in the Army swimming and fourth in the Army cross-country championships; reached the semi-final of the Army hockey tournament and, at Bisley, were second and fourth in the falling plate match.

As well as winning many Aldershot and District competitions in athletics, soccer, cricket, shooting, tennis, swimming and golf, the Regiment have been represented in seven Army sports teams, including athletics. Sapper Wilson (Glasgow Rangers) and Sapper McGuffie (Luton) played for the Army soccer team and Sapper Cooper turned out for the Army's amateur eleven; Sapper G. D. Parker played in all the Army's inter-Services rugby matches and was awarded an England trial and Sapper J. K. Millar was also selected for the Army XV. Four members of the Regiment represented the Army at lawn tennis and three in the inter-Services cross-country race and Lance-Corporal T. C. Smith was in the Army's water polo team.

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# LETTERS

### WEAR AS ISSUED

A lot has been written recently about the dress and smartness of British soldiers. In my humble opinion much criticism would be overcome, and a lot of money saved, if the troops were allowed to wear uniforms as they are issued.

Recently, soon after my unit received the appropriate clothing for a tour of duty in the Far East, the order went out: "All belts will be removed." Why, if they are not to be worn, are belts issued?

Again, some units are made to remove the web belt retaining straps on battle dress trousers because they show. This kind of thing seems an awful waste of money and time and is not popular with the soldier because when he is found to be minus bits and pieces on posting to another unit he is told, "You'll have to pay for it!"

It is high time that all units, irrespective of regiment or corps, were made to wear uniforms as they are issued. Only then will we begin to look smart.—"Pay Sergeant."

★ Army regulations forbid units to alter uniforms issued by Ordnance.

### SIX BROTHERS IN THE 24th

You published a letter in August from an officer in the 17/18 Infantry Battalion, North Shore Regiment, Australia—which is affiliated to my own regiment—asking if any British Army unit can beat their record of having four brothers serving in the unit at the same time?

I submit a claim on behalf of the brothers Davies, of the South Wales Borderers. Of seven brothers every one has served with the 24th, though the second eldest transferred to REME in 1952 and has since left the Service.

The remaining six, however, continue unswerving in their family allegiance to the Regiment. At the beginning of July this year five brothers—Corporals Haydn and Richard, Privates Graham and Frank and Bandsman Gwyn Davies—were serving with the 1st Battalion while the sixth—Private Roy Davies—had just begun his recruit training at the Brigade Depot in Wales. Needless to say, all are Regulars. Unfortunately, because of postings, the Battalion contingent of brothers will be

### OLD COMRADES OF 'L' (NERY) BATTERY RHA/RA

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● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your orderly room or from your own officer.

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reduced to four in the near future.

I doubt if any regiment can better this record of which we in the 24th are very proud.—Capt. B. M. Pim, Adjutant, 1st Bn., The South Wales Borderers (24th Regiment), BFPO 29.

### JUNGLE BASHERS

In the article "Twelve Years of Jungle Bashing" (SOLDIER, July) you said that 22 Special Air Service Regiment hold the record for the longest time spent in the jungle—122 days.

While this is true of troops on patrol, I should like to point out that a detachment of 410 Independent Plant Troop, Royal Engineers, spent 311 days in the jungle without relief in 1954-5. These Sappers were engaged on airstrip construction in Kelantan, about 40 miles from the nearest habitation, and throughout this period they were supplied by air-drop and helicopter, lived in bamboo and *atap bashes* and worked nine hours a day on six and a half days a week.—"Aborigine."

### PAT O'LEARY

Lieutenant-Commander Patrick O'Leary, who was mentioned in your thrilling story of Major Newman's escape (SOLDIER, July), was trained as an agent in England and is now a medical officer in the Belgian Army. He volunteered on the outbreak of the Korean War and was awarded the Order of Leopold II and the Korean Chung Mu for outstanding bravery.—Ch. de Huccorne, 65 Rue de la Regence, Brussels, Belgium.

### ELEGANT EXTRACTS

In your report (August) of the recruiting march of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry you say that their nickname of "Elegant Extracts" is an allusion to the officers of the 2nd Battalion of the 85th Foot (later the KSLI) who were once selected from other regiments.

I always thought that the nickname belonged to the 7th Foot, or the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). As they are the senior fusiliers regiment (raised by James II as the Ordnance Regiment at the Tower of London in

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1685) I would assume that theirs is the rightful nickname. Until 1854 no newly commissioned ensigns were appointed to the 7th Foot; its junior officers were second lieutenants who had served as ensigns in other regiments. Thus the junior second lieutenants of the Royal Fusiliers took precedence over all ensigns in the British Army.

The only link I can see between the KSLI and the Royal Fusiliers is that as the fusil or flintlock became the general small arm for the Army the Fusiliers took on the role of Light Infantry.—J. Hobbs, 33 Redland Road, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

### "LOST" BADGE

"Junior Trooper" who asked (Letters, July) if the 11th Hussars had their cap badge taken from them in disgrace (it was probably confusing that untrue story with that of the Regiment's supposed loss of their red plume during the Peninsular War.

I have read that during (I think) the Battle of Fuentes d'Onoro some of the 11th Light Dragoons caused the loss of two guns when acting as escort to the Artillery and that the 42nd Foot (later The Black Watch) were ordered to retake the weapons, which they did. Afterwards the commanding general told the 11th that their red plume would be taken from them and given to the Black Watch.

In a history of The Black Watch I have also read a description of a parade held near Cambridge after the Peninsular War during which the Regiment formally received their red plumes. It was mentioned, I believe, in a letter from one of the 42nd Foot.—Capt. C. W. Westley, 66 Wychwood Ave., Canons Park, Edgware, Middlesex.

### ARRAH

The 50 Sikhs who helped to defend Mr. Boyle's house at Arrah ("Gallantry, Grape Shot and Cold Steel," SOLDIER, August) belonged to the Bengal Military Police Battalion raised, about 18 months before the Mutiny, by Captain Thomas Rattray for service in Bihar.

Every man volunteered to help against the mutineers and the Battalion was fully employed in the restoration of government in that district. This Battalion later became the 45th Rattray's

### "LOST" LANYARD

Is it true that the Royal Artillery used to possess two lanyards and, if so, when and why did they lose the second one?—Gunner P. Windsor, 67/19 Field Regiment, RA, BFPO 29.

★ Three lanyards have been authorised for use by the Royal Regiment of Artillery—the one used to fire the guns; the one worn round the waist with a jack-knife attached and the white shoulder lanyard worn as a dress embellishment. The Regiment has never been deprived of the use of a lanyard.

### ROUGH RIDER

The leading mounted soldier shown in your photograph depicting the march past of 81 Company (RASC Pack Transport) in the New Territories (SOLDIER, May) is WO II T. Barnfather who has served with Horse Transport in the Royal Army Service Corps since 1935. He is now the last pre-war Rough Rider serving with Horse Transport in his Corps.—Major J. N. Mottram, RASC, 81 Company, RASC (Pack Transport), BFPO 1.

any regiment bearing a name corresponding to these initials. Can ROYAL help?—D. Sage, 26 Buckingham Road, Brighton, 1, Sussex.

★ The letters 'R.S.D.M.' probably stand for 'Royal South Down Militia.' This Regiment's name was changed in 1857 to "Royal South Down Light Infantry."

### MORE LETTERS OVERLEAF

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any information about it.

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## more letters

### ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

Many of your readers will be glad to know that other ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals, both past and present, may now become members of the Royal Signals Institution, previously restricted to officers.

Application forms can be obtained from me.—Brigadier W. T. Howe, Royal Signals Institution, 88 Ecclestone Square, London, S.W.1.

### INNISKILLING'S SONG

The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Regimental Association is anxious to obtain a copy of the original music for the song "The Royal Inniskilling Fusilier" on which, it is believed, "The Star Spangled Banner" was based.

Can any SOLDIER reader help?—Captain J. Curley MC, 10a Waring Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

### STAMPEDE

I wonder if any other of your readers were present at an incident which occurred in 1903, when I was a young soldier in 'Y' Battery, Royal Horse Artillery?

We were in camp on manoeuvres near Southampton when one night a veterinary officer had to shoot a horse

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See page 28)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1. Direction of second arrow from left. 2. Lower circle of cross-shaped window. 3. Expression of third man from left. 4. Sword of top man on ladder. 5. Rung of ladder next to bottom. 6. Thickness of battering ram at left. 7. Pennant on right-hand tent. 8. Slope of far hill behind castle. 9. Spikes on defender's mace. 10. Petals on black flower.

which had been kicked by another and sustained a broken leg. This caused a panic and more than 2000 Cavalry horses broke loose and started a stampede through the lines. Some of the animals eventually returned to Aldershot, some fell into ditches or dykes and the final outcome was that about 50 horses were so badly injured they had to be destroyed.—E. Mayer (ex-Trumper), 4 Doleham Hill, Guestling, Nr. Hastings, Sussex.

### OLYMPIC BOXER

Private J. Lloyd who represented Britain at boxing in the Olympic Games is not in the Royal Army Service Corps as you stated in your article "Soldiers in a Roman Arena" (August) but in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, belonging to 3 Basic Training Battalion, RAOC.—RSM D. W. Wallen, 3 Trg Bn, RAOC, Hilsea Bks, Portsmouth.

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