

JUNE 1975 ★ 10p

SOLDIER





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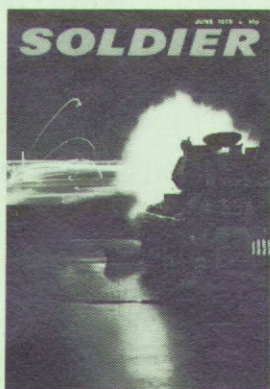
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The car for our times

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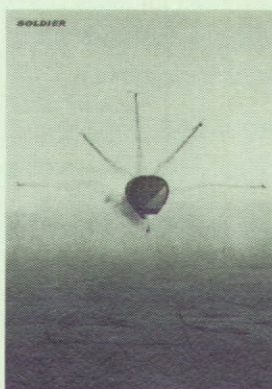
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FRONT COVER

A Scorpion of the 14th/20th Kings Hussars night firing on Hohne ranges in Germany.

Picture by Lance-Corporal R Long, PR 4th Division.



BACK COVER

Blue Eagles helicopters salute the Royal Armoured Corps' hot air balloon Chieftain over Middle Wallop.

Picture by Corporal Tom Brydon, PR UKLF.

Editor: PETER N WOOD (Ext 2585)

Deputy Editor: JOHN WALTON (Ext 2586)

Feature Writer: MICHAEL STARKE (Ext 2590)

Art Editor: FRANK R FINCH (Ext 2589)

Research: BILL SMITHERMAN (Ext 2591)

Picture Editor: LESLIE A WIGGS (Ext 2584)

Photographers: ARTHUR BLUNDELL, PAUL R G HALEY (Ext 2584)

Advertisement Manager: K PEMBERTON WOOD (Ext 2583/2587)

Distribution: Miss D M W DUFFIELD (Ext 2592)

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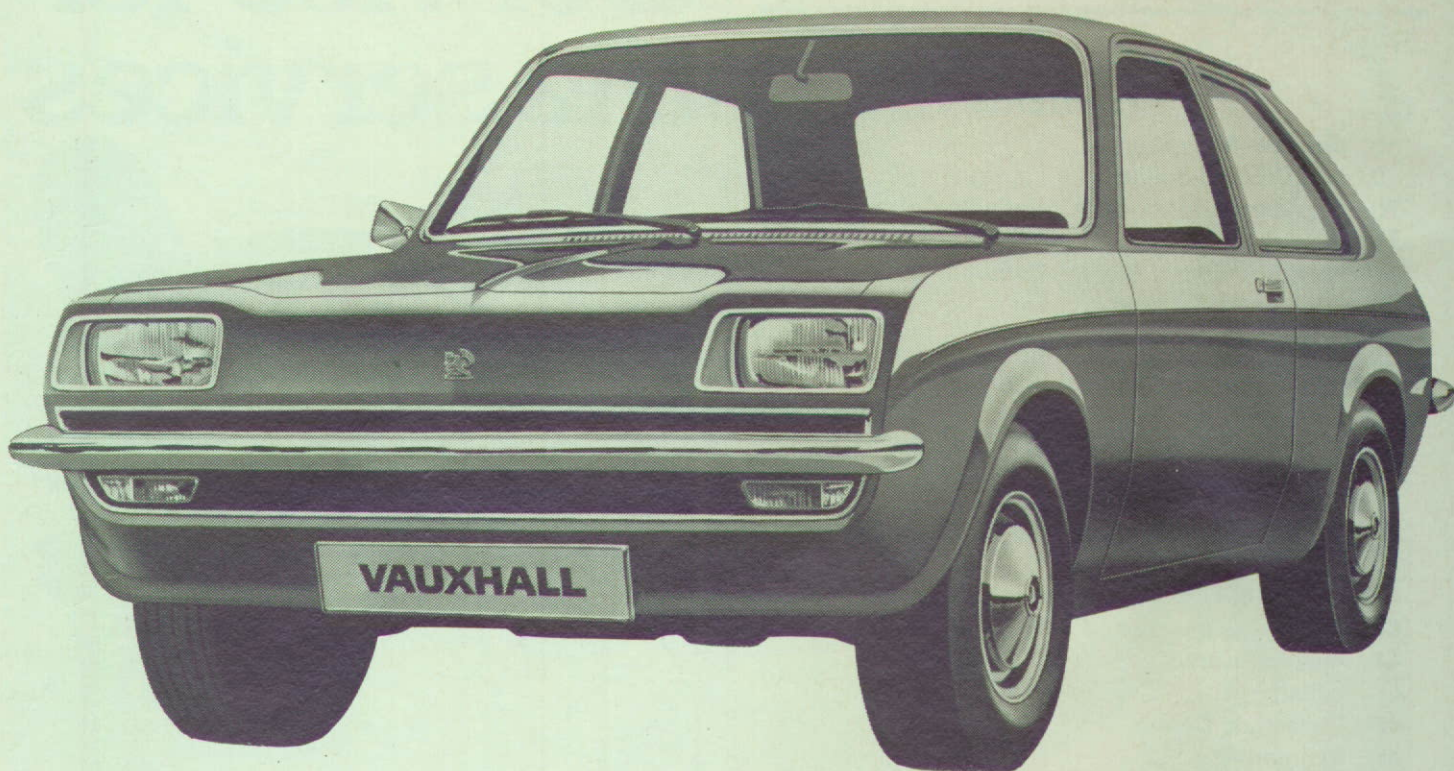
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*Performance figures from Vauxhall's own tests. [†]AMA cargo volume index.

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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

MAY 1975

- 30 Wigan Army Display (30 May-1 June) (Royal Artillery motorcycle display team; Junior Parachute Company Pegasus gymnastic team; Royal Military Police mounted display team Red Caps; Blue Eagles helicopter display team; Red Devils freefall team; three bands).
- 31 Salisbury Hospital Fête (band).
- 31 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 31 Bluecoat School, Sonning, Berkshire (Red Devils).

JUNE 1975

- 2 Isle of Man TT races (Blue Eagles 2-5 June).
- 2 King's Troop RHA gun salute, Hyde Park, London (Coronation).
- 3 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (3-5 June).
- 4 Kneller Hall Band Concert.
- 5 Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge (5-7 June), (Royal Signals motorcycle display team White Helmets; bands, pipes, drums).
- 5 South of England Show, Ardingly, Sussex (5-7 June) (Red Caps; Red Devils).
- 5 Richmondshire Festival, Richmond Castle (two bands, drums, bugles).
- 7 Lord Mayor's Parade, Sheffield (band).
- 7 Stanley (Co Durham) Community Centre Show (band).
- 7 Glasgow KAPE (7-17 June) (band).
- 7 Chester Army Display (7-8 June) (Red Devils; White Helmets 8 June; Blue Eagles; three bands).
- 7 Second rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 7 Wolverhampton Fiesta Carnival (Red Devils; bands; display teams).
- 7 Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse (Scottish Division freefall team Golden Lions; displays; three bands).
- 10 King's Troop RHA gun salute, Hyde Park, London (Duke of Edinburgh's birthday).
- 10 Three Counties Show, Malvern (10-12 June) (Red Caps).
- 11 Kneller Hall Band Concert.
- 13 Open Day USAF Upper Heyford (Blue Eagles).
- 13 Scunthorpe Families Day (13-15 June) (display team). **Blue Eagles (14-15 June); (band).**
- 13 Essex Show, Chelmsford (13-14 June) (Red Caps; band).
- 14 Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps Fête.
- 14 Branksome, Darlington, School Fayre (band).
- 14 Laing Gala Day, London (White Helmets).
- 14 Vauxhall Motors Spectacular, Luton (RA motorcyclists; band).
- 14 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 15 Laying-up Colours 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, Guildford Cathedral.
- 18 Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln (18-19 June) (display team; Household Cavalry Quadrille).
- 18 Kneller Hall Band Concert.
- 19 Mercedes Show, Eastbourne (Red Devils).
- 21 Shipley (Yorkshire) Agricultural Show (Blue Eagles).
- 21 South Tyneside Sports Week (21 June-5 July) (band).
- 21 Leighton Buzzard Carnival (Red Caps; band).
- 21 Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot (Red Devils; Pegasus gymnastic team).
- 21 Round Table Fête, Accrington (Red Devils; White Helmets).
- 21 Ripon Weekend Open Day.
- 21 Metro 75 Leeds (21-22 June) (Blue Eagles).
- 22 Barnsley Show (White Helmets).
- 22 Priory School (Barnsley) Fair (White Helmets).
- 22 SSAFA Air Display, RAF Church Fenton (Blue Eagles, Royal Corps of Transport Silver Stars freefall team).
- 23 Mounted Military Tattoo, Paris (23-28 June).

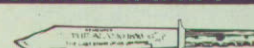
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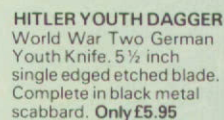
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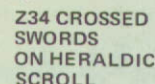


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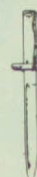
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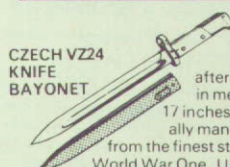


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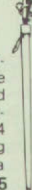
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PERSONAL EXPORT



DIARY

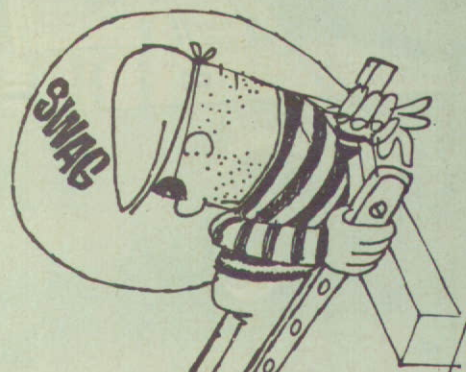
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- 25 Royal Norfolk Show, Norwich (25-26 June) (display team;
band).
25 Kneller Hall Grand Band Concert.
27 Open Day USAF Lakenheath (Blue Eagles).
27 Aldershot Army Display (27-29 June) (White Helmets;
Red Devils; Red Caps; 16 bands).
28 Open Day USAF Alconbury (Blue Eagles).
28 Duxford Air Display (Blue Eagles).
28 Esher Show (Pegasus gymnastic team).
28 Welwyn Garden City Carnival (band).
28 Rushden Show, Northamptonshire (display team; band).
29 Stamford Steam Engine Rally (Blue Eagles).
30 East Kent Army Week, Dover (30 June-5 July) (Royal
Engineers Junior Leaders Regiment gymnasts).

JULY 1975

- 1 Royal Agricultural Show, Kenilworth (Red Caps) (1-4 July)
- 2 Kneller Hall Band Concert.
- 3 Portsmouth Field Gun Show (Pegasus gymnastic team).
- 4 Hook (Yorkshire) Gala (4-6 July) (displays).
- 4 Poole (Dorset) Carnival (4-5 July) (band).
- 4 Royal Artillery (Woolwich) At Home (4-5 July).
- 4 Birkenshaw (Yorkshire) Show (4-5 July) (displays).
- 5 **Air Display, Bembridge, IOW (Blue Eagles).**
- 5 **Swindon Air Display (Blue Eagles).**
- 5 Battle of Sedgemoor anniversary (5-6 July) (band; displays).
- 5 Military Musical Pageant (Army Benevolent Fund), Wembley Stadium.
- 5 Signal View, Worcester (White Helmets).
- 5 Hanworth (Middlesex) Carnival (Pegasus gymnastic team).
- 5 Village Fête, Bedmond (Herts) (Red Devils).
- 5 Chichester Combined Charities Show (Household Cavalry Quadrille).
- 5 Exeter Air Day (junior band).
- 5 Wordsley (Stourbridge) Gala (White Helmets).
- 6 Leeds Horse Show (displays).
- 6 Oxted (Surrey) Village Fête (Red Devils).
- 7 Plymouth Services Week (7-12 July) (massed bands; freetail and PT displays).
- 8 Great Yorkshire Show (8-10 July) (Household Cavalry Quadrille).
- 9 Kneller Hall Band Concert.
- 10 Dorchester Carnival (band).
- 10 Finchley Carnival (10-12 July) (Pegasus gymnastic team).
- 10 Catterick 1875 (White Helmets).
- 11 Southampton Show (11-13 July) (Red Devils 12 July).
- 11 Kent County Show, Maidstone (11-12 July) (Red Caps).
- 12 Basingstoke Tattoo.
- 12 Open Day, Depot, Queen's Division, Basingstoke, Hertfordshire (Blue Eagles).
- 12 Dagenham (Essex) Town Show (12-13 July) (Red Devils).
- 12 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 12 Dengie 100 Fête, Southminster (Red Devils).
- 13 **Northampton Nene Round Table, Castle Ashby (Blue Eagles).**
- 13 Preview march, Royal Tournament participants, The Mall, London.
- 13 Newport (Monmouth) Carnival (Pegasus gymnastic team).
- 15 East of England Show, Peterborough (15-17 July) (Household Cavalry Quadrille; three bands).
- 16 Kneller Hall Grand Band Concert.
- 16 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (16 July-2 August).
- 17 Bournemouth Fiesta (band, pipes, drums, bugles).
- 17 Malton (Yorkshire) Show (Golden Lions; junior band).
- 17 Liverpool Show (17-19 July) (Red Devils; Pegasus gymnastic team; two bands).
- 18 Cheltenham Tattoo (18-19 July).
- 18 **RNLI Lifeboat Week, Lyme Regis (Blue Eagles).**
- 19 Masham (Yorkshire) Traction Rally (19-20 July) (White Helmets; band).
- 19 Howard School Fête, Welwyn Garden City (junior display; junior band).
- 19 Open Day, Fording Trials Branch REME, Instow, Devon.

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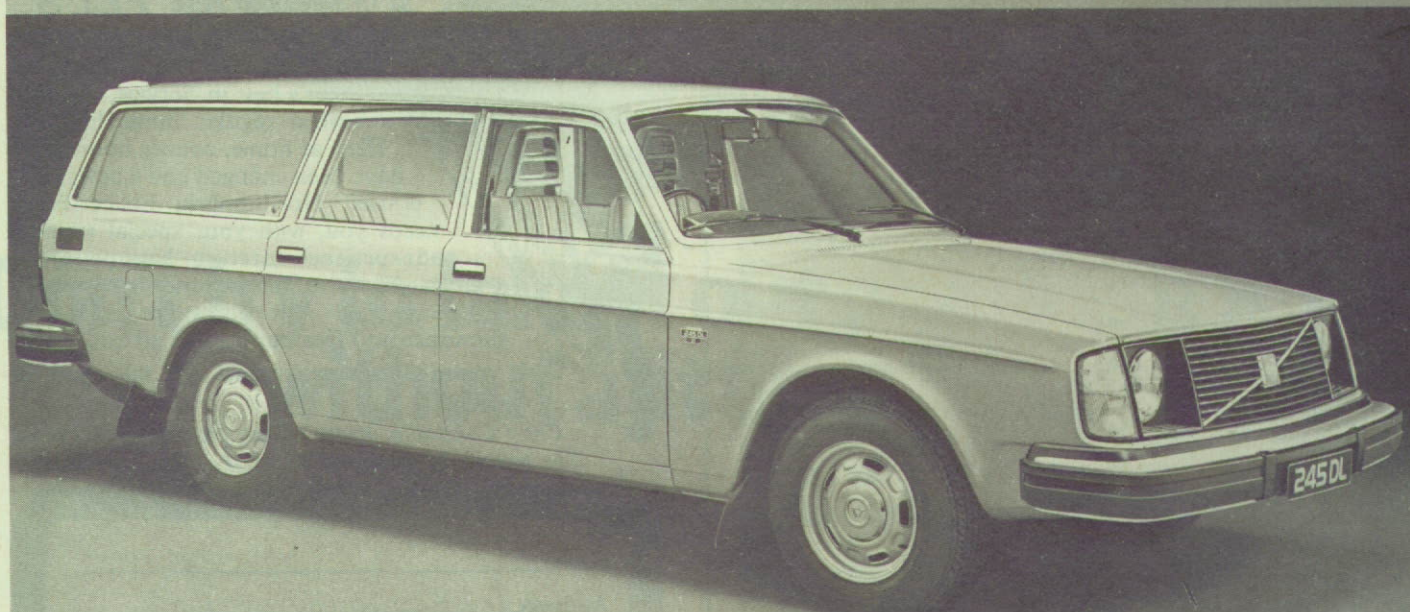
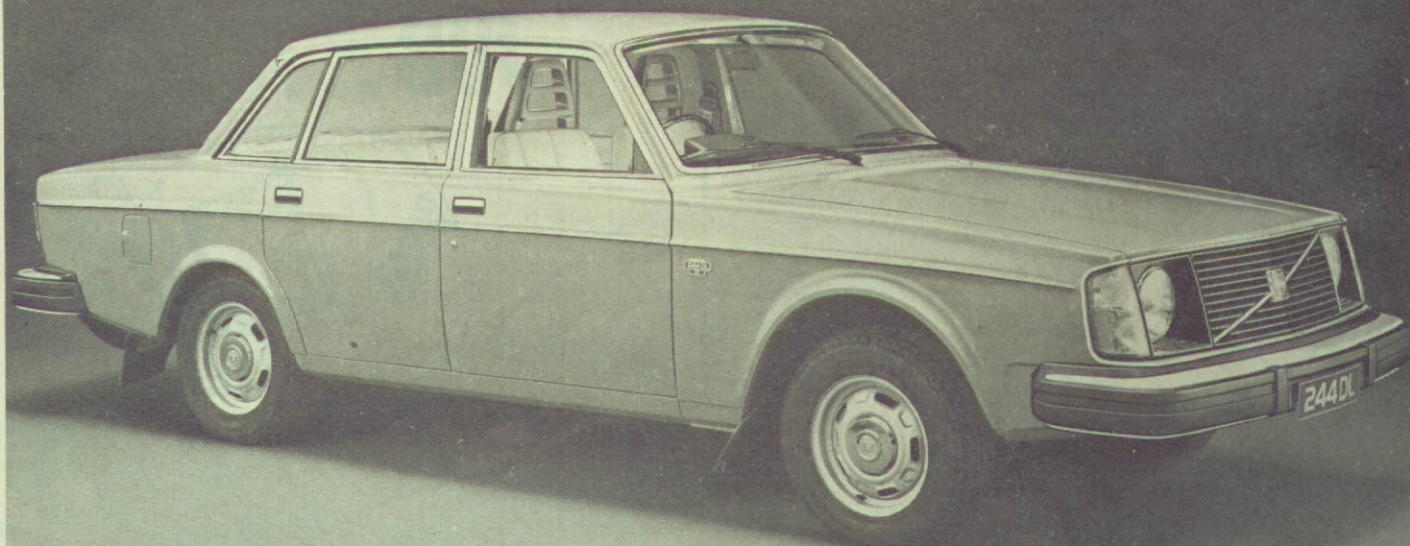
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SOLDIER's price will be increased next month to 15 pence. New subscription rates (one year) will be £2.73 (UK), £2.73 (BFPO) and £2.77 (elsewhere). Current subscriptions will be honoured. The Editor and staff of SOLDIER regret that this further increase has had to be made so quickly on the heels of the last rise, in the January 1975 issue, and also that readers are being given only a month's notice. But, as was pointed out in the January issue (SOLDIER to Soldier), that last increase had been delayed for several years and in the meantime printing costs, particularly, rose sharply.

Readers will recall too that since April 1966 (when the price went up to 7½ pence) the magazine has had more and more pages—this issue has 60 pages and there has not been a 40-page number since May 1972—and more recently SOLDIER News plus colour inside.

After being undervalued for a long time, SOLDIER at 15 pence has now almost caught up with the pricing of comparable magazines—and is still only the price of a pint of beer.

This latest increase has been dictated by SOLDIER'S publishers, HMSO, with Government approval and after consultation with the Price Commission.

LATE NEWS: This issue of SOLDIER has been delayed by an overtime ban at the printers, imposed by members of the National Graphical Association.

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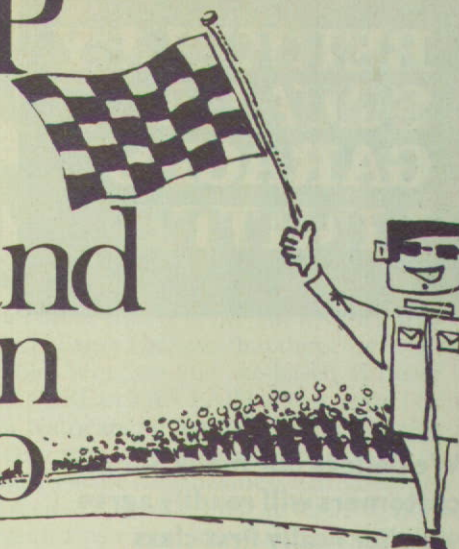
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Military Museums: 29

Royal Army Veterinary Corps

THIS specialised museum is designed to reflect the development of veterinary science in the British Army. The story begins in 1796 with the creation of the Army Veterinary Service to combat the enormous losses incurred in the Army's equine strength through disease and other causes. From that day on the health of the horse, then the prime motive power of the Army, steadily improved, and to demonstrate it a wide range of exhibits traces the evolution of techniques in animal care and welfare.

In 1883 the veterinary services, until then organised on a regimental basis, became the Army Veterinary Department with its own director-general and school. A large wall plaque in the museum lists the names of commandants of the school from its early days in a cottage in rural Aldershot to the present well-equipped establishment with its laboratory and operating theatre. By 1903 the department had achieved corps status and in November 1918, in recognition of its work in World War One, King George V conferred on it the title "Royal."

Setting the scene in the larger of the museum's two rooms is a wooden horse, black and forbidding, on which generations of cavalry recruits had their first "rides." A leather hoof boot for use after surgery, an equine anti-gas respirator, early examples of a balling gun (used for the administration of horse pills) and a drenching horn for liquid medicine, a German pneumatic horse collar, a stomach pump—these are typical of several items illustrating animal care in the horse era.

A different exhibit is an example of the centuries-old anti-cavalry device known as a caltrop. Quantities of this devilish contrivance, designed so that one of its four four-inch spikes always stood up-right, would be scattered before an impending charge, and it is not difficult to imagine the chaos and disarray that followed when horse and rider thundered on to this precursor of the minefield.

Featured in the museum are several solidly constructed models which include a closed horse-drawn equine ambulance, a large-scale model of a World War One range hospital, showing the dipping section, an operating theatre in a veterinary hospital and examples of stabling.

With the advent of mechanisation and the virtual disappearance of the Army horse, the corps assumed responsibility



Army dogs parade, trained by the corps.

for developing the use of the Army dog and it is its proud boast that if a dog is needed in any military role, then the RAVC will produce the required animal. Numerous canine exhibits range from a British Mark I anti-gas respirator, and a Red Cross dog harness complete with first-aid pack, to a despatch dog's collar with pouch and the skeleton of an Alsatian. A reminder of the RAVC's interest in animals other than horses, mules and dogs is a primitive pair of shears used in a serious outbreak of mange in Egypt and Palestine in 1916-18.

There are displays of veterinary operating instruments and humane killers, a selection of field dressings, a collection of tribal horse bits from the North-West Frontier, and an array of jars containing pickled medical specimens.

On the human side are a case full of uniforms (circa 1879) and three cavalry swords, a saddler's shop with the tools of his trade set out on a work bench, and a small collection of medals and insignia, including badges and buttons of British and Commonwealth veterinary services. Books, documents and photographs of historic interest are available for consultation on application to the curator.

John Jesse

Curator: Commandant, RAVC School and Stores
Address: RAVC School and Stores
Gallwey Road
Aldershot
Hants
GU11 2DQ
Telephone: Aldershot 24431 (ext 2261-2)
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Next month: The Essex Regiment

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CYPRUS TODAY

Dhekelia

THE NEW FRONTIER

Story by John Walton | Pictures by Paul Haley

JUST a year ago the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area at the eastern end of Cyprus was a dream posting. Nearby were the holiday resorts of Famagusta and Kyrenia and units from Britain and Rhine Army flocked each year for training under cloudless skies with the warm blue waters of the Mediterranean beckoning for swimming, canoeing, diving or just sun-worshipping.

But a few short weeks last summer changed all this. A Greek coup ousted the President, Archbishop Makarios; a Turkish invasion effectively divided the island between the two communities. Dhekelia had become a no-man's-land between Greek and Turk.

Now, apart from occasional incidents, the active shooting has stopped. But although adventurous training has returned on a limited scale, the underlying

tension and the presence of a constantly alert and patrolling infantry battalion, as well as thousands of Greek Cypriot refugees within the sovereign base area, has completely altered its face.

Currently housed in Alexander Barracks are men of 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, in Cyprus on a six-month unaccompanied tour from their home base in Gillingham. Their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Shortis, told **SOLDIER**: "We are beginning to regard ourselves as border specialists. Not too long ago we were on the border in Ireland, then we were looking across the Belize border at the Guatemalans (**SOLDIER**, April 1973) and now we are looking at the Turks."

The task of the Westcountrymen is to preserve the integrity of the sovereign base area. Road blocks are set up from

time to time and in addition there are spot checks on vehicles passing through. The object is to stop arms passing through the base but in their first six weeks the Devon and Dorsets discovered only a shotgun, an air rifle and a few ammunition rounds. Strict neutrality has to be observed—indeed at one stage both Greeks and Turks complained at the same time that their freedom of movement was being limited.

The battalion has divided its men into three areas, each manned by a company, with a fourth in reserve. At Dhekelia, in addition to the road blocks and checks, they man an observation post on a high and windy hill. Below them are the Greeks and on the opposite ridge the Turks—the job of the British soldiers is to watch both and report any developments.

At Ayios Nikalaos a Devonshire and Dorset observation post overlooks a Turkish post only a hundred yards away.



At Athna village and Athna Forest the battalion stands between 3000 Greek refugees and the Turkish Army. Perhaps two-thirds of the refugees are from Athna, now in Turkish hands, and other nearby conquered areas. In the forest the Devon and Dorsets have built a football and basketball pitch in an effort to combat boredom among the displaced Greeks and the regimental band has given several concerts in the camp. In addition they patrol to reassure the forest sanctuary and regularly meet Turkish and United Nations representatives in Athna.

Major J Rennard, liaison officer at the camp, was preparing to pull out as SOLDIER visited. Now there are no British troops permanently stationed in the forest where the refugees have constructed their own main street—J F Kennedy Avenue (named after the main street of Famagusta) containing shops, a church and a restaurant. No permanent structures are allowed because Athna Forest is not intended as a permanent home for those who fled from the Turks.

At Ayios Nikalaos, where the British and Turkish borders are most often infringed, the tension is greater. Orange pickers and shepherds who have either accidentally or deliberately crossed the border have from time to time been captured by the Turks. Usually after a few days of cooling their heels they have been released.

After discovering that some local

orange entrepreneurs were paying double rates to pickers to collect oranges from trees on the other side of the border, the battalion set up a barbed wire fence along the entire orange grove frontier. Said Lieutenant-Colonel Shortis: "At least if they go across now we shall know it was not a mistake."

Others who inadvertently cross the border near Ayios Nikalaos are shepherds with their flocks of sheep and goats. The animals are attracted by the pasture on the other side, which being ungrazed is literally greener. Helping in flock control here are two vehicles borrowed from B Squadron, 1st Royal Tank Regiment, from nearby Pergamos.

While the infantrymen take the strain on the base borders, all of the support units within Dhekelia have found their workload sharply increased since the emergency. Some 35 girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps are stationed there on two-year postings, a circumstance not without advantage among hundreds of British and United Nations soldiers. Says Captain Ann Hanlon, who commands them: "They have a marvellous time. Unfortunately a lot of them get married out here—I just did!"

Postal services tend now to take anything up to ten days between Cyprus and Britain as there are no longer any scheduled civil air services from Nicosia and forces mail travels by Royal Air Force passenger or transport aircraft. Six girl

soldiers work among 40 men on mail sorting and some act as post office counter clerks.

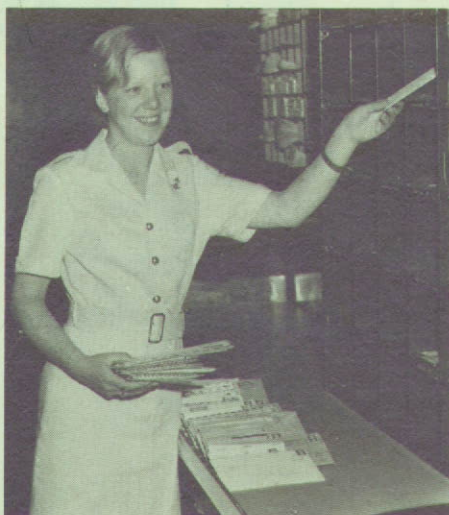
The communications centre at Dhekelia has just won its first silver Comstar award for the fewest number of errors in tape messages. This was gained at a time when the emergency and its aftermath, including the evacuation of tourists and subsequently families, had doubled and sometimes trebled the normal number of messages. Staff-Sergeant Elaine Willacy comcen supervisor, said: "We regard this as quite an achievement at a time when we ran two military exchanges, comcen and a Press cell. Only now is the number of messages getting back to normal."

The bulk of the logistics and support work for the whole of the Army on the island, as well as handling stores and supplies for United Nations contingents, is done by members of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps at Dhekelia and Ayios Nikalaos. Ten officers and 66 men work with more than 400 locally enlisted civilians, 25 per cent Turkish and 75 per cent Greek, who now come to work in buses from behind the various lines.

Barrack services work has increased greatly because of the larger numbers living on the base and the enlarged United Nations force on the island. Still working in the stores is Mr Petros Symeou, who has 30 years' service and who during the emergency slept there and took over the running of the stores. He received a



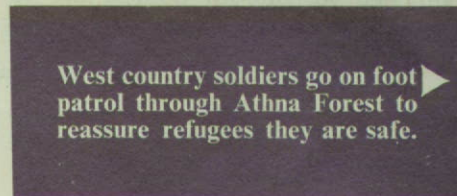
Warrant Officer 1 Wilf Rawstorne looks at partly exploded bomb from Famagusta.



Private Jean Watson sorts through a stack of newly arrived mail from home.



Members of the food tasting panel try out locally produced bangers and bacon.



West country soldiers go on foot patrol through Athna Forest to reassure refugees they are safe.



J F Kennedy Avenue, the main street of the base's refugee camp at Athna Forest.



special commendation from the GOC Near East Land Forces.

Round a table stood a small group of people — an officer, two soldiers, a Woman's Royal Army Corps sergeant and a housewife. All had gone without their breakfasts and were sniffing the air expectantly as sausage and bacon smells wafted towards them. They were members of the tasting panel used by a food chemist Mr John Bell to check food supplied by local manufacturers. Sausages and bacon provided for the British forces in Cyprus are to British recipes but, as Mr Bell puts it, "Even when it complies with our specifications, if the soldiers do not like the taste it is no good. I just select a random sample of the food and get the panel together to make an assessment."

Mr Bell and his staff also check frozen food from England, other local foods and reassess compo stocks every six months. They inspect local factories and their seal of approval is highly prized.

At Ayios Nikalaos there is an enormous shed full of furniture removed from hirings in Famagusta and Larnaca when the families were evacuated last summer.

Chairs, tables, beds, wardrobes, stacked from floor to ceiling, have proved quite a headache for Captain Harold Thomas and his men. "It's taken us five months to sort that lot out," said Captain Thomas as he surveyed the furniture mountain. "We are now finalising the accounts at last."

At Ayios Nikalaos a busy team of local craftsmen, men and women, repairs anything which has potential future life. The cost of freighting furniture out from Britain is high so they are allowed to repair up to 75 per cent of replacement cost.

Ragged armchairs will soon be nearly as new, carpets and curtains altered and remade, haversacks, tents, sleeping bags — all undergo the renewal process. Only what is definitely not useable again by the Army is put into the compound for auction lots. The auctions are held every six months and local businessmen snap up bargains in old tyres and scrap.

Among extra responsibilities taken on by the RAOC at Dhekelia as a result of the conflict were hundreds of cars found abandoned in the base area. They were

rounded up and placed in a compound — gradually the numbers have diminished to around two dozen ranging from old bangers to a nearly new BMW and a boat!

When the bombs began raining on Famagusta last August, Warrant Officer 2 John Kenwright, an RAOC butcher, was in the local abattoir supervising the killing of pigs for British Service consumption. "We had to leave quickly and it was three days before we could go back and bring the rest of the pigs out alive in trucks," he recalled.

Now the killing is done at the Larnaca municipal abattoir, hired for one day a week. British pork and bacon is not allowed into the island because of swine vesicular disease but Mr Kenwright and Captain Andrew Warde, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, ensure that the quality is at least as good.

Up to 1000 pigs a month are killed to produce an annual pork turnover of 1,500,000 lbs. Forty per cent goes to British and United Nations forces, a similar amount to be made into British-style bacon and sausages, and the rest to

CYPRUS *continued*

Naafi for resale. All pigs are inspected by Captain Warde before killing and he examines the carcasses for any signs of disease or damage.

Mr Kenwright told **SOLDIER**: "We are producing as good quality meat as we could by importing from Britain and it is probably cheaper. If a wife buys a pack from Naafi she knows it is top quality meat slaughtered under Army supervision."

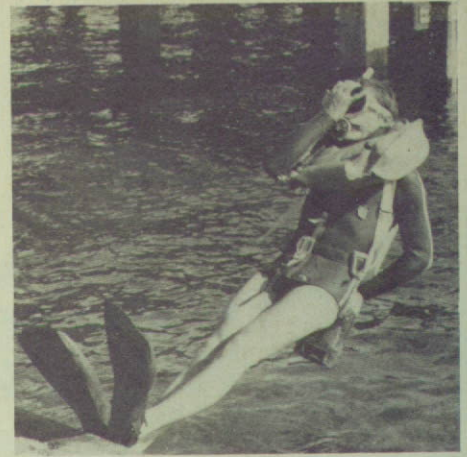
Bread, too, is a major industry at Dhekelia and vast quantities are produced both of ordinary British sliced loaves and to recipes geared to the demands of the various United Nations contingents.

Of course, the sun and sea are still there and opportunities still exist for adventurous training. Of the four main activities, freefall parachuting has fallen on hard days since the conflict—there are now no aircraft available apart from an annual visit from Netheravon. But gliders still hover in full view of the Turkish lines and Chief Technician Bill Dickson, an instructor, can teach beginners to go solo in two short weeks. The learners are winched into the air, involving a terrifyingly steep ascent, while the more advanced pilots are taken to greater heights by a tow plane.

Bill Dickson finds nothing frightening about gliding and says the public has a great misconception of the sport. "People think a glider is just something that floats around out of control whereas in fact the skills are exactly the same as in flying an ordinary aircraft except there is no engine. It is a big moment in people's lives when they fly solo for the first time", he says, adding that in the right circumstances it is possible to glide to great heights and remain in the air for literally days. He has personally been as high as 20,000 feet.

Canoeing and sub-aqua in the clear blue waters of Dhekelia make up the adventurous training quartet. With the holiday resort of Famagusta still deserted and in the hands of the Turks, time can hang heavily on the off-duty soldiers.

Until last year a posting to Cyprus meant two years in the sunshine for a soldier and his family. Today, except in pre-determined continuity posts, the posting is likely to be for six months unaccompanied. And while the beautiful sunshine isle retains all its natural charm, at Dhekelia any sleeping in the noonday sun has gone—replaced by an alert watchfulness. ●



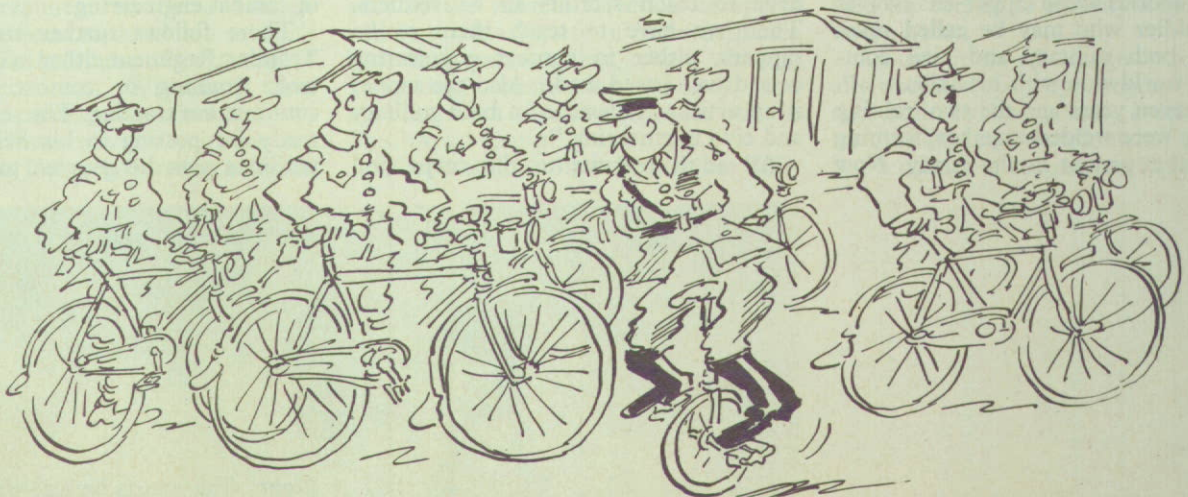
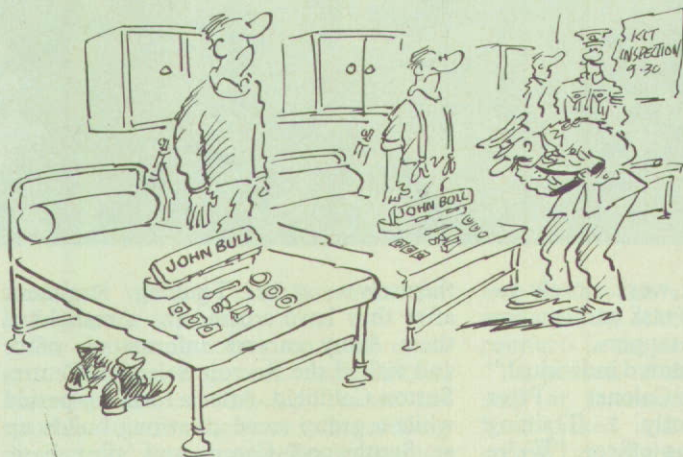
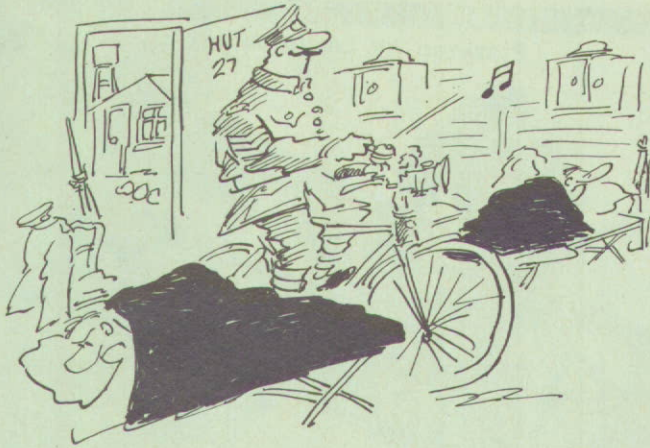
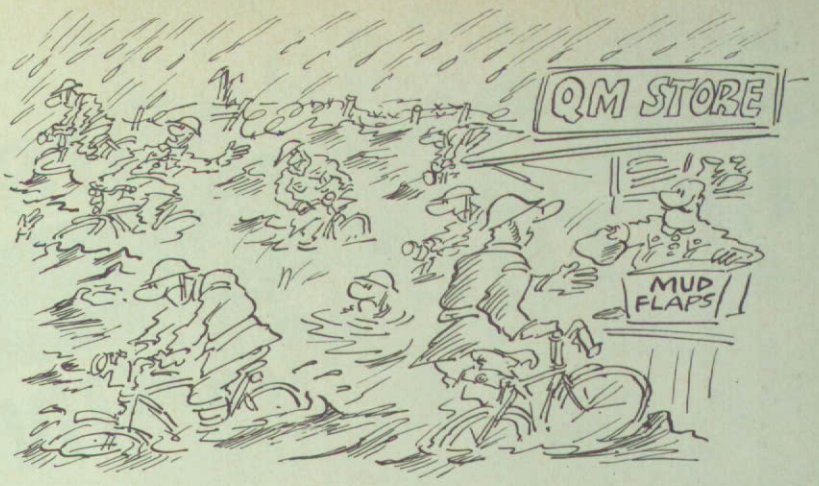
Still time for adventure and fun. Diver plunges backwards into the sea and Bill Dickson (below) shows lady how to glide.



Saladin sheepdog role to stop the flocks from straying across the Turkish lines and causing incidents.



Larry's BICYCLE CORPS



SAPPERS IN THE MAKING

Story by Mike Starke

Pictures by Leslie Wiggs



EVERY soldier and many of the officers coming into the Royal Engineers pass through 1 and/or 3 training regiments. So the 1930s-vintage hutted Southwood Camp, Cove, tucked modestly away in the woods behind the famed Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, is where the specialist species homo sapper-ens evolves into a soldier who may be called upon to serve both military and civil communities worldwide with his skills.

Until seven years ago the two training regiments were welded together, forming the largest regiment in the Army. Now

they are separated but work closely together both in terms of task and location to produce tomorrow's sappers.

"A sapper is a three-hatted individual," declared Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Morrison, until recently 1 Training Regiment's commanding officer. "We're a front-line arm of the Service, so we have to teach recruits to be soldiers. Then we have to teach them to be sappers, either in combat engineering or a driver-based trade. Also the sapper is an artisan tradesman in both military and civil engineering."

All adult recruits to the corps find

themselves at 1 Training Regiment after they have crossed the threshold of their Army careers information office and visited the Recruit Selection Centre, Sutton Coldfield. After a form-up period while a group some 40 strong builds up at Southwood Camp, and after basic training, the recruits get a grounding in combat engineering.

There follows further training in 3 Training Regiment either in driver-based trade training or combat engineering continuation training. The soldier is then ready for posting to his field unit and within a year he goes on to one of the

Above: Learning how to blow up a bridge.

Right: The sports include water ski-ing.



Band-saw cutting makes light work, but it needs great care.

Left: Youngsters learn much about themselves when climbing.

Below: The air-rifle ranges are good fun and good practice.



specialist training establishments for artisan trade training.

For the young adults too it all starts at 1 Training Regiment. And Colonel Morrison—an ex-Outward Bound instructor—is a firm believer in broadening the recruits' outlook as well as deepening their professional knowledge. "We don't want this regiment to be a sausage machine. We want to develop a soldier's interests while he's here. The quality of life is so important. Without it they would not be contented soldiers."

There are two ways to improve the quality of life, Colonel Morrison believes.

One is through adventure training and sport and the other is by improving home comforts in the camp.

In pursuit of the first end he and his staff of instructors—all of whom are hand-picked and have to pass a stiff course run by the regiment—ensure that their charges have the chance to take part in the normal selection of sports and in a wide variety of other activities including parascending, water ski-ing, go-karting, orienteering, archery, and abseiling from a brand-new tower built in Southwood Camp.

Camp comforts have been more diffi-

cult to achieve with accommodation in pre-war wooden huts. But two-thirds of the regiment's barrack rooms have been converted already to give three-man sleeping compartments where details such as individual bedside lamps have not been forgotten. Games rooms with television provide a social focal point to help the recruit to identify with his own intake party.

An indoor air-rifle range with electrically-operated pop-up targets, designed and built by instructors, is not only a training aid and entertainment for recruits but a tribute to the interest the staff take



SAPPERS *continued*

in their work. "The backbone of the regiment is the junior non-commissioned officer looking after the recruit parties," commented Colonel Morrison.

The regiment has two training squadrons—28 and 55—to fulfil its primary role.

Each has a capacity for three recruit parties averaging 50 men per party. The chief instructor has responsibility for that instructors' course and for specialist wings dealing with combat engineering, weapon training, drill, physical training and education.

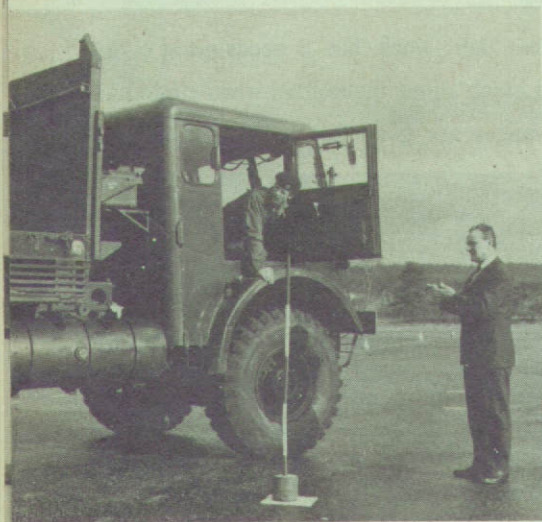
Coupled with this, the regiment takes on Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve training by running a series of two-week recruit courses throughout the year after which the part-timers leave as trained sappers. The fortnight represents the Terriers' annual camp period.

A potential officers' course has recently been added to the tasks. For this, recruits enter as normal and do their basic training. This is followed by an outward-bound course then a special course with special staff which has been described as "semi-Sandhurst."

Cadets are not forgotten either. The regiment sponsors the 2nd (Cadet) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, and trains Combined Cadet Force contingents in various Surrey schools.

Recruits often find themselves involved in aid to both the civil and military communities—a role they will continue throughout their career in the corps. Anything from recovering a lost wedding ring to building a garage for a school for backward children has featured on the syllabus.

The recruits leave 1 Training Regi-



Backing a ten-tonner is not that easy!

Right: Sappers must take to water too.

Below: Bridging makes a ticklish task.



ment to go next door to its big sister, 3 Training Regiment, to complete their combat engineering class 3 training and preparation for service with a unit.

The young sappers have to learn about mine-laying and clearing, bridging, watermanship and several other skills that make a battle-fit engineer. Half a dozen special projects are taken on such as bridging at the Farnborough Air Show, the Aldershot Army Display or Surrey County Show at Guildford, not only to provide a useful service but also to give a bit of pressure in terms of a timetable

and even working at night to bring to life what has been learned in classrooms.

The climax of this part of training is a competitive exercise where the recruits live out for three or four days in small teams working against the clock.

The regiment also trains the adult recruits to drive either to the corps' class 3 standard or that required for those allocated to driver-based trades.

At 3 Training Regiment, the now seasoned adult recruits work alongside the corps' ex-apprentices from Chepstow Army Apprentices College and lads who

have passed out from the Junior Leaders Regiment at Dover.

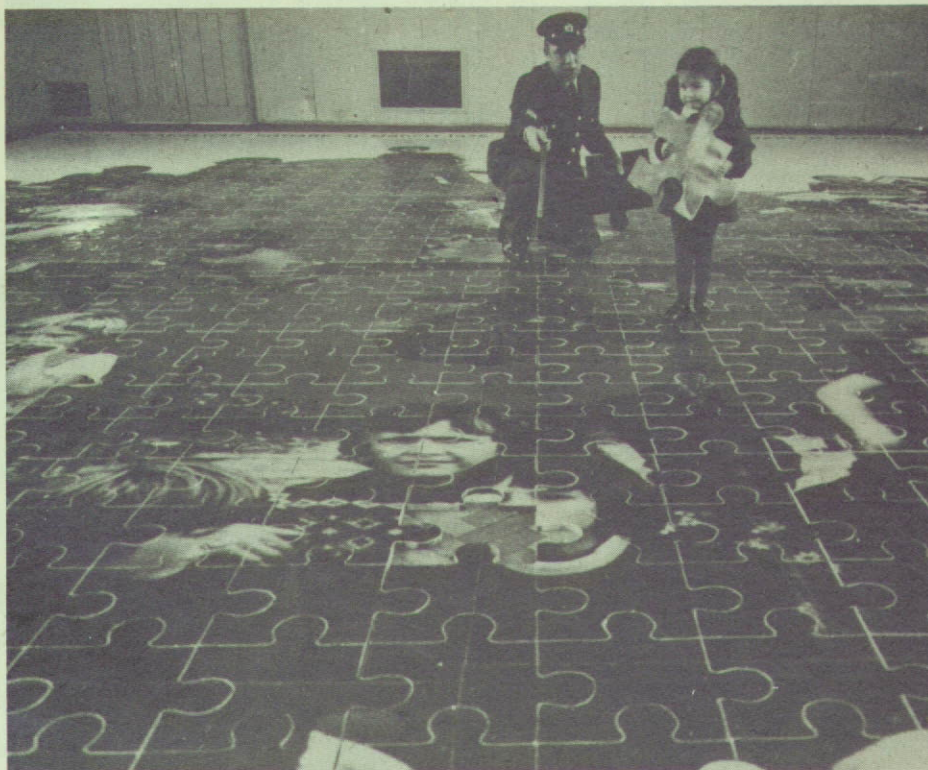
These youngsters learn combat engineering too, but to class 2 standard, and learn to drive where appropriate. The heavy goods vehicle licence has been given to a recruit after as little as a day's training in one exceptional case, but 70 hours' training is as long as it can take. Continuation training after passing the test introduces the recruits to the mysteries of tipper lorries, winching and towing plus long hauls of some 300 miles behind the wheel to get the new driver used to different road conditions and long journeys.

Seasoned sappers from Regular and reserve units come to the regiment for upgrading driver courses and advanced combat engineer training. Specialist courses—which have built up a 100 per cent pass rate thanks to careful selection—include training with the 35-ton tractor and semi-trailer and crane handling on the Coles Mark VII bridging crane and Hydra-Husky model.

Driver training is divided between the basic and advanced training troops of 56 Squadron while the massive 57 Squadron, with an average of 400 men and 50 staff on its strength at any one time, maintains a troop each for ex-apprentice and ex-junior leader trainees plus two troops for continuation training.

On top of this, the regiment also mans 66 Army Youth Team in Worcester and is responsible for cadet training.

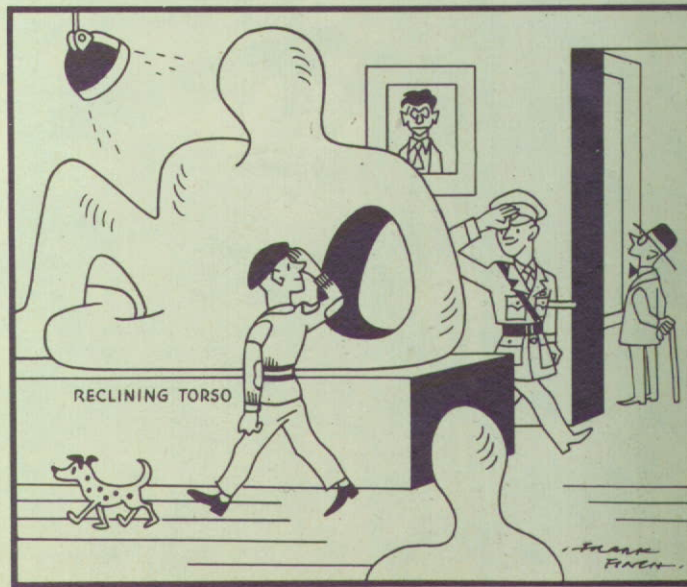
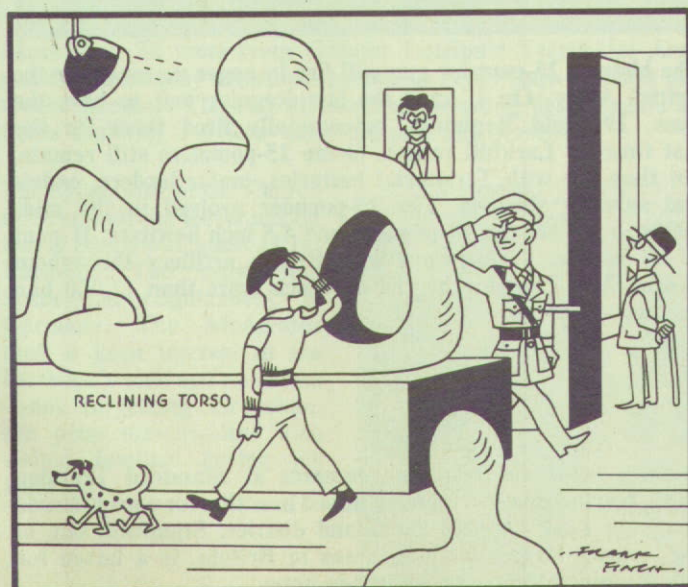
The myth has it that Neil Armstrong met a sapper surveying the moon when he stepped from his spacecraft. Reality is not out of this world, although sappers turn up in practically every country under the sun at one time or another. And the down-to-earth grounding in the skills demanded in faraway places was learned in Cove's twin training regiments. ●



The world's biggest jigsaw puzzle—30 by 35 feet with 1020 pieces—made by 3 Training Regiment not only to create a record but also to make money for charity.

How observant are you?

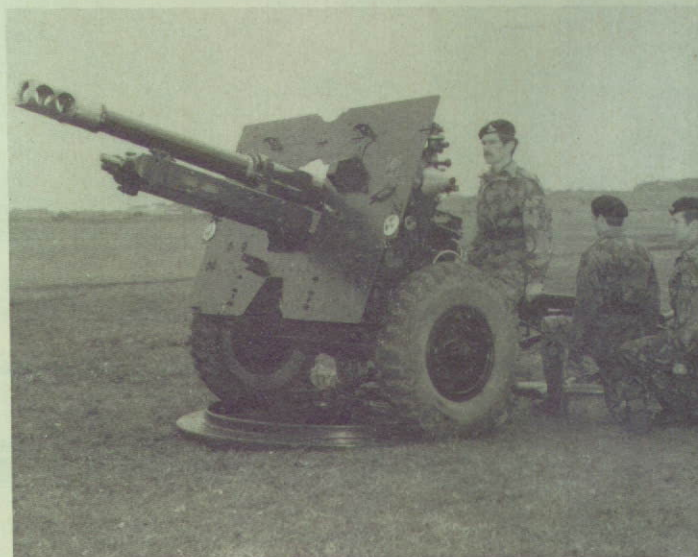
These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 48.





Left, right and centre

The American-made Honest John missile, capable of delivering a nuclear warhead, was fired for the last time in a practice on Larkhill ranges on 4 April. Honest John came into service with the Army in 1960 and is to be replaced by the more up-to-date Lance system.



The historic 25-pounder gun will fire in anger no more for the British Army. On 1 April the last Regular unit to have the guns, 19 Field Regiment, ceremonially fired them for the last time on Larkhill ranges. Some 25-pounders still remain, but they are with Territorial batteries, junior leaders, cadets and saluting stations. The 25-pounder evolved in the mid-1930s to replace the 18-pounder and 4.5 inch howitzer. It went on to become synonymous with British artillery throughout World War Two, by the end of which more than 12,000 had been produced.

◀ Sappers posed for television cameras at Stamford Training Area, Norfolk, when they were filmed in action for a programme featuring East Anglia's Breckland district. Stamford, one of the Army's largest training areas in Britain, is a haven for wildlife which thrives on its woody acres.

General Alexander Haig, the new Supreme Allied Commander Europe, fresh from his job on the staff of ex-President Nixon of the United States, is busy getting to know the NATO forces he now commands. He spent two days with Northern Army Group seeing the soldiers and equipment of the German and British armies in the field, and had a look at 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force too.



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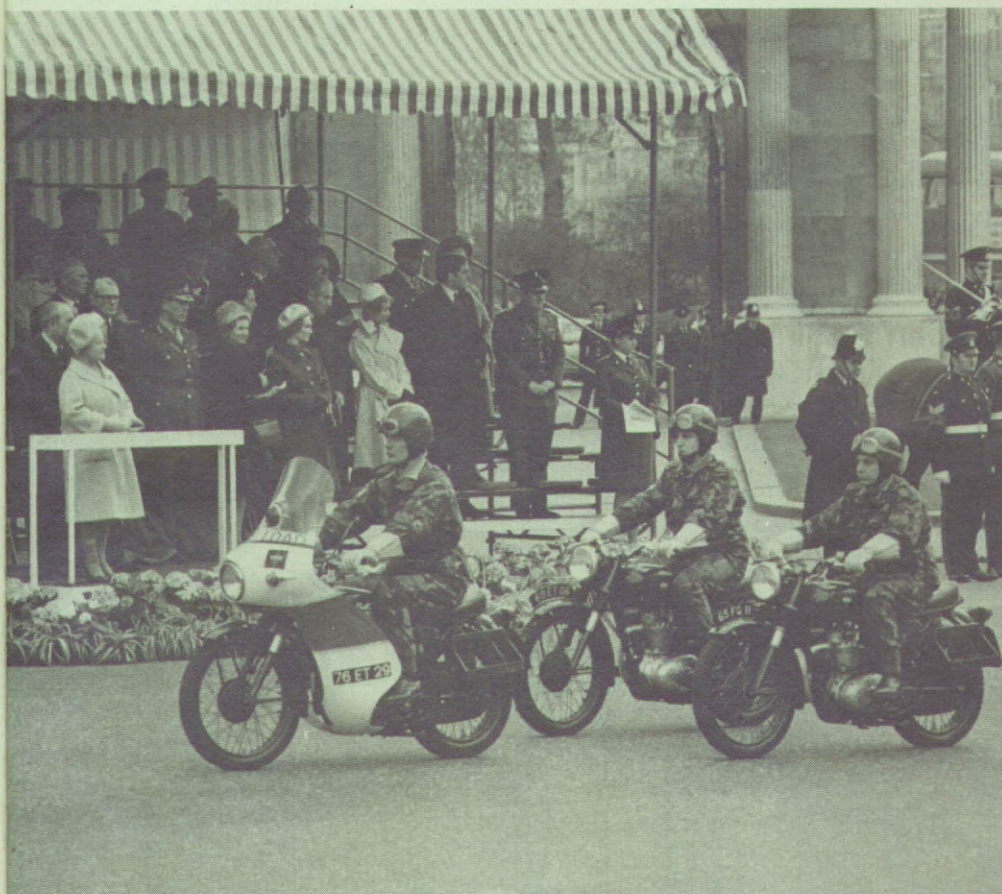
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More than 30 units from Greater London's Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve made up a Sunday afternoon parade in Hyde Park in front of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. The two divisions of parading detachments sandwiched a series of floats depicting Terriers' activities past and present.

The Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Reverend Dr David Steel, was guest of 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, in Germany. The Moderator took a keen interest in the battalion's men and machines—not forgetting Cruachan, the pony mascot—and also visited families during his brief stay.



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Sapper bridging in the Sudan sun

FOR the second year running Royal Engineers from 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon, have completed a road bridge in the Southern Sudan after working in temperatures of up to 130 degrees Fahrenheit. This year it was the turn of 11 Field Squadron which, with Sudanese Army engineers, rebuilt the Mundri bridge over the River Yei on the route from East Africa to the Sudan.

The three-month project, named Exercise Mirza II, followed on Mirza I, the rebuilding of the Tonj bridges on the same route but 260 miles to the west (SOLDIER, June 1974). Major Mike Stancombe, commanding the squadron, explained that the bridge building was technically straightforward. The main challenge was logistical—moving stores and personnel in an inaccessible region within the strict time limit. Some 600 tons of stores and bridging materials were shipped to Port Sudan and then carried 1000 miles by single-track railway, which was affected by flooding for a while, to the railhead at Wau. From there it was a 30-hour journey over 340 miles of badly rutted and potholed dirt roads.

As detachments of the sappers were at outstations, the squadron set up its own local station, Radio Mundri, with nightly broadcasts and interviews with visitors.

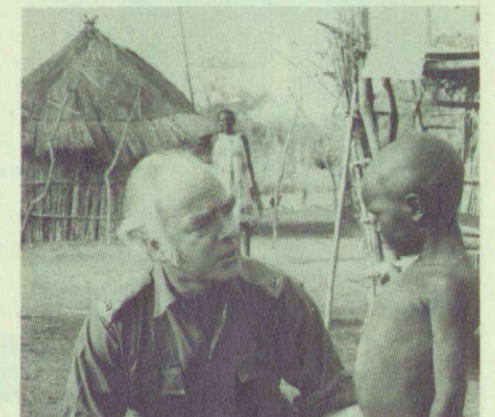
During the day the suntanned sappers worked so hard that the project was completed three weeks ahead of schedule, leaving time for two more small bridges, the laying out of an airstrip for light aircraft and advising an American aid team on how to put a "do-it-yourself" building together.

(From a report by John Westing (photos: Mike Butler), Public Relations, UKLF).



British and Sudanese sappers wheelbarrow cement up wooden planks on the bridge.

Below: Major L Tinckler, consultant surgeon, chats to a young local patient.



Happy sappers "stand to" the scaffolding after finishing the reconstruction of the Mundri bridge. They had completed the project three weeks ahead of schedule.

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THEY came, they went, and busy Bristol hardly knew. But that's life in an Army mobile display team, the show that takes to the road, sets up stall, chats happily and equally to enthusiast and disinterested, then packs up and moves on again.

It's a hard life—roll, unpack, pack and roll again, all in the best part of the year with only a few breaks home—but although there is no immediate end product, there is ample job satisfaction in meeting thousands of people.

The Royal Military Police "road show" is one of 15 corps mobile displays—the Royal Artillery and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers each have two in that total—which will be on tour during this summer and autumn, as every year, visiting towns, cities, Army and civilian

ROAD SHOW

events. The displays vary in size and of course in attraction to the public with perhaps the "teeth" arms having the edge with their "hardware," but the aim is the same, to bring the Army to the public and individually promote their own corps. The interested are not signed up on the spot but pointed in the direction of the local Army Careers Information Office which has already had a hand in bidding for and siting the mobile display.

All the displays start a season with a mixture of old and new hands. This year's Military Police team of eight includes two men and three Women's Royal Army Corps girls all new to the job. After a training period at base—the corps depot in Chichester—and a one-day stand in pouring rain at Gordon Boys' School, they were all set for the final "dry run," a pre-season weekend at Bristol. The locally selected area, a large council house complex at Southmead,

had a promising history of fruitful recruiting. The actual display site was not so happy a choice, as the team found when it started to position its vehicles on soggy turf—and 48 hours later had to get them towed out.

The dry run turned out to be far from that but fortunately only one other grass site lay ahead in a programme taking the team to Wales then up and down the country between Dover and Glasgow. Hard standing it may be during a display but the other hard standing, of concrete or tarmac, is more than welcome.

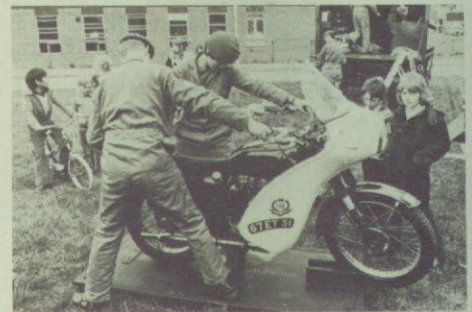
The Military Police take to the road with a gleaming VIP escort Land-Rover, a workaday Land-Rover and generator trailer, two four-ton lorries (one carrying display equipment and stores, the other an accommodation truck) and the large modern trailer caravan which forms the basis of the display.

Once on site the convoy disgorges tubular frames, bright striped awnings, corps flag, winking blue police lamp and a BSA motorcycle, shortly to be updated with the Norton Commando Interpol 850cc machine which comes into service with the Royal Military Police in September. Men and girls—Sergeant Pat Gooding, Corporal Babs Hyndman and Lance-Corporal Jennifer Franc (snatched away for brief duty with the Prime Minister at the Commonwealth



Left: L/Cpl Jenny Franc makes a youngster's day by taking his fingerprints.

Right: Manhandling the BSA motorcycle, soon to be replaced, on to its stand.



Below: Formal group of display and its team ready and waiting to open up shop.



The Provost must have a horse allowed him and some soldiers to attend him. And all the rest commanded to obey and assist or else the service will suffer. For he is but one man and must correct many and therefore he cannot be beloved. And he must be riding from one garrison to another to see the soldiers do not outrage nor scathe the country.

Articles of War, Charles 1st, 1629.

conference in Jamaica)—share equally the task of setting out the display with Warrant Officer 2 Norman Job, on his second tour, ironing out the wrinkles. Then a night's rest—with always one or two of the men sleeping on site in the accommodation truck, rigged out in homely fashion with bunks, sink, cooker, personal television set and soon a fridge—and the team is sprucely on parade, ready to open the show, start the demonstrations and answer the questions.

Although the film shows, four-star VIP Land-Rover and the motorcycle always attract attention, the do-it-yourself photokit and the fingerprinting have a fascination of their own for the youngsters. Older people drop in to reminisce and ask questions about service in Northern Ireland. The youngsters, insatiable, want to know if there are dogs, are there any horses, where are the guns?

Patience can be strained by the end of the day but the team's courtesy, the explanations, the smiles for everyone, are still there and the enthusiasm unabated.



Men and girls, all in their working rig, share the task of erecting the display.

That was today. Tomorrow the show rolls on, and on, and on—with just those three breaks to home—until in mid-September the team heads back to base

for a fortnight's refurbishing of vehicles and equipment before final dispersal to other duties.

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Pull-out supplement SOLDIER June 1975

PENSIONS

The third stage of the review of armed forces' pensions, which began in 1972, has been completed. This particular stage was concerned with terminal benefits of those who complete a specified minimum period of service but do not serve long enough to qualify for an immediate pension and terminal grant. The new arrangements, which came into force in April, do not apply to officers serving on gratuity earning short service commissions for whom existing arrangements still apply.

The general objective was to bring Service arrangements into line with general Government thinking about occupational pensions and specifically with the provisions of the Social Security Act 1973, relating to preservation of pensions, which recently came into force. Those who leave the Services, after serving a minimum period of five years after the age of 21, but not long enough to qualify for an immediate pension, will in future qualify for a preserved pension and terminal grant which will be paid when they reach 60. The gratuities previously payable after a minimum of ten years for officers and 12 years for servicemen and servicewomen will no longer be payable.

Preserved pension details are as follows:—Officers: For each year of service over the age of 21, three per cent of the "full career" pension obtaining for the appropriate rank at the time of leaving the Service. Servicemen and women: For each year of service over the age of 18, two and three-quarters per cent of the "full career" pension for the appropriate rank at the time of leaving the Service. Preserved terminal grants will be at three times the annual preserved pension.

When the preserved pension and terminal grant become payable at the age of 60 they will be enhanced by the appropriate amount of pension increase which has been applied to Service pensions in the meantime. If a husband dies before the age of 60 an immediate pension will be paid to his widow plus the terminal grant he would have received. The pension will be at a rate between one-third and one-half of the preserved pension, depending on certain factors. If death is after the age of 60 the widow will receive a similar pension. But these provisions apply only if the marriage took place before the husband left the Services. It is hoped subsequently to introduce arrangements under which the title to a preserved forces pension and terminal grant may be exchanged for a credit of service in the pensions scheme of the subsequent civilian employer.

Although the new arrangements replace existing gratuities it has been agreed that to help, resettlement tax-free grants may be made outside the provision of the pensions arrangements. In order to qualify for these a serviceman will need to have completed 12 or more years from the age of 18 and an officer nine or more years from 21.

(DPS (Army))

MORE AND MORE VISITORS

The Imperial War Museum was the only national museum which did not have a drop in attendance during the period from 1 January to 29 March 1974 when charges for general admission were levied, the museum's five-year report reveals. It goes on to state that during that time, thanks to the popular Colditz exhibition opened on 4 January, there were twice as many visitors as in the previous year. Since the museum's last report in 1968, several notable advances have been made in the development of collections and the services and activities based on them. Despite a purchase grant the museum claims is inadequate, the collections have grown and a varied programme of special exhibitions flourished. A start has been made on reorganising the permanent exhibitions, an extensive range of educational services has been introduced and many new publications have been produced.

As a result of this growth, attendance has swelled accordingly during the whole five years and in the financial year 1973-74 the number of visitors topped the 750,000 mark.

The museum was founded in March 1917 to collect and display material relating to World War One. It was first named the National War Museum but the wish of the Dominions to be associated with it and to be represented on the governing body led, within the year, to the present-day title. It was formally established by Act of Parliament in 1920 and opened by King George V in the Crystal Palace on 9 June 1920.

There it stayed for four years until it moved to two galleries next to the former Imperial Institute in Kensington. In July 1936 the museum, which had outgrown its limited accommodation, was re-opened by the Duke of York in its present building once the central portion of the Bethlehem Royal Hospital (Bedlam).

MORE AND MORE VISITORS

continued

At the beginning of World War Two the museum's terms of reference were enlarged to cover both world conflicts and in 1953 were again extended so that the museum's present-day function is to collect, preserve and display material and information on all military operations since August 1914 which involved Great Britain and other members of the Commonwealth.

Although other museums deal with the history of particular services or periods, the Imperial War Museum, which is a civil institution, is the only organisation in the country concerned with all aspects of warfare both military and civil.



The scope of the terms is embodied in the museum's arms on its red-and-gold flag—a chain representing the Commonwealth, an anchor, wings and crossed swords depicting the armed forces and a pick and shovel showing the civilian effort in wartime.

The massive collections which have been gathered together since 1917 are a unique source of evidence. They include an art collection of more than 9000 works, 50,000 posters, coins, medallions, paper currency, stamps and printed matter, an exhibits collection of aircraft, naval vessels, weapons, vehicles, uniforms, equipment, insignia, medals and other relics and trophies, a printed books collection of 100,000-plus, 15,000 maps and 5000 sets of periodicals, 40,000,000 feet of cine film and 4,000,000 prints and negatives of still photographs.

MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

● Secretary of State for Defence Mr Roy Mason told Mr Cranley Onslow (Conservative, Woking) that the sterling cost in 1974-75 of maintaining British forces in Germany was estimated at £335,000,000.

● Mr Mason assured Mr Onslow that the defence review would not alter the practice of not earmarking the same forces to more than one major NATO commander.

● Mr Antony Buck (Conservative, Colchester) asked what alternative arrangements were being considered to provide cover for servicemen and families in the Colchester area on the closure of the military hospital there. He also asked for the earliest date in mind for the closure and what consultations were anticipated with civilian medical authorities in the area. Mr Robert C Brown, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, said consultations were proceeding with the Department of Health and Social Security and full account was being taken of the contribution which the Colchester Military Hospital made in respect of the civilian population. He could not at such an early stage say more.

● Accommodation problems at the British sovereign base area of Dhekelia in Cyprus had already eased for single men and would further improve as a result of force reductions referred to in the Defence White Paper, Mr Brynmor John, Under-Secretary of Defence for the Royal Air Force, told Mr Peter Blaker, who held Mr Brown's position in the last Conservative government. He admitted, however, that a shortage of married quarters was likely to persist.

● Another question from Mr Blaker was answered by Mr Mason. Asked about policy on secondment of personnel between British forces and other NATO countries, Mr Mason said it was one way of strengthening ties. In reply to a further question from Mr Blaker he said 325 posts were filled on a reciprocal basis in the last 12 months. There were 201 exchanges with the United States, 92 with Canada, 11 with West Germany, eight each with France and Holland, three with Italy and two with Norway. With the exception of two one-year exchanges with Holland, all were for two years.

● Irish regiments had not been stationed in Northern Ireland since 1933, Mr Brown told Mr John Biggs-Davison (Conservative, Epping Forest) who had

asked if the policy might be reconsidered in view of the depletion of the forces and the frequent tours served by many British units in the Province. Mr Brown said there was no intention of changing the policy and added: "It has always been considered that it would not be right to involve them in the sectarian bitterness which is such a tragic feature of the situation in Northern Ireland."

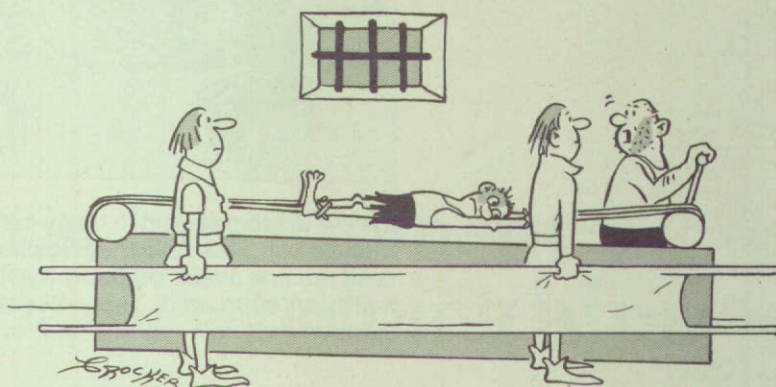
● Rear-Admiral Morgan Giles (Conservative, Winchester) asked what the policy was on the admission of officers from non-aligned countries as students at the Staff College, Camberley. Mr Brown said priority was naturally given to countries with which Britain had particular ties but applications from other countries were considered on merit.

● Mr M J Mates (Conservative, Petersfield) tried to find out how many officials in the Ministry of Defence were employed in assessing terms, pay, conditions of service and allowances for both Civil Service and civilian members of the department overseas. He also asked how often these conditions of service were reviewed and what the cost was to the Exchequer in making the assessments. Mr Rodgers could not give meaningful figures for staff numbers and costs since much of the work was undertaken by staff concerned with pay, allowances and conditions of service generally and not with the overseas aspects separately. He said pay of servicemen and civil servants and many of their conditions of service were the same at home and abroad. But local overseas allowance for the forces was normally reviewed every three years.

● Monocles may not be too common in officers' messes these days but Mr Keith Stainton (Conservative, Sudbury and Woodbridge), asked the Secretary of State for Social Services what decision had been reached regarding the availability of monocles under the National Health Service in suitable cases. Mr Alfred Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled, said he was making arrangements to obtain the advice of the Standing Ophthalmic Advisory Committee but could not say when he would be ready to announce a decision. Traditionalists should keep an eye on SOLDIER News for further details.

● Mr Robin Cook (Conservative, Edinburgh Central) wanted to know how many selected Service personnel had undergone voluntary torture as part of their training. He accepted Mr Rodgers' reply of "None, Sir" but said many MPs were gravely disturbed that techniques such as hooding, wall-standing, the use of a noise-making machine, restricted diets and deprivation of sleep were being used on volunteer servicemen.

Mr Rodgers said these were difficult and sensitive questions which were being carefully considered. All were volunteers and in his view in the last resort a man



"Leave the stretcher here—I'll call you when I've finished."

should have the freedom to choose how to resist those who might seek to take away his larger freedoms. Sir David Renton (Conservative, Huntingdonshire): "If the need for such training should arise, would it not be much simpler to ask volunteers to listen to the Budget statement?" (Mr Healey introduced his budget shortly afterwards).

● Mr Neville Trotter (Conservative, Tynemouth) tried to get some further detail about changes in the Army's structure outlined in the recent Defence White Paper (SOLDIER, May). Mr Brown told him it was probable that the proposed reinforced brigade group formation would include five battalions (three Regular and two TAVR) of which at least one Regular battalion would normally be a parachute battalion, the actual role of which was still under study. It was intended to retain all three Regular battalions of The Parachute Regiment.

● Mr Mason told Mr Trotter that the size of the future garrison in Hong Kong and its financing was the subject of discussions with the Hong Kong Government. In the meantime there had been agreement on some early reductions. These

MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT *continued*

included the withdrawal of an armoured reconnaissance squadron, an artillery regiment less one battery and the disbandment of an engineer squadron and transport troop.

● Britain's contribution to NATO in the 1974-75 financial year was estimated to have been £34,219,115, Mr Mason told Mr Cranley Onslow.

● On 1 January 1975 there were 270 defence establishments in Scotland at which 17,310 servicemen were stationed, Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, said in reply to an oral question from Mr Tam Dalyell (Labour, West Lothian).

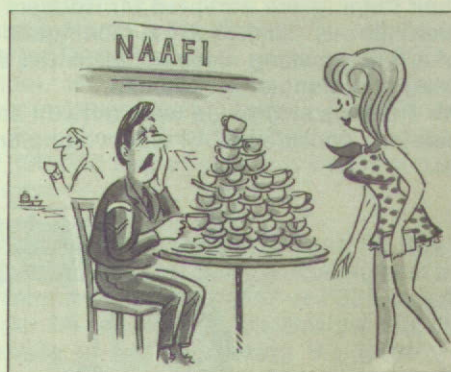
● Rhine Army's new television service should begin with an interim recorded service to 17,000 servicemen in the Celle area by Christmas, Mr Brown told the House. He said the service would gradually be extended to the whole of Rhine Army and from 1978 all programmes would be broadcast direct from this country. Mr Blaker welcomed the fact that the service was proceeding and added: "The project is very important for the morale of our forces in Germany and their families." Agreeing, Mr Brown said the service would be a balance of BBC and ITV programmes.

PHANTOM TO JAGUAR

The first of Royal Air Force Germany's new Jaguar aircraft has arrived at RAF Bruggen where the three Phantom squadrons will be replaced by four squadrons of Jaguars over the next two years. No 2 Squadron at Laarbruch will also exchange its Phantoms for Jaguars. During the same period the Gütersloh Lightning squadrons 19 and 92 will get Phantoms in the air defence role.

NAAFI REBATE DOWN

Naafi rebate—the percentage of a unit club's turnover paid back to the unit's welfare fund whether the club makes a profit or not—was reduced from five per cent to three per cent from 4 May 1975. Discount and dividend paid to individual shoppers is not affected. The decision was taken to help offset the shortage of working capital Naafi was suffering as a direct result of inflation. Accepting that



"I thought you'd never come!"

the cut in rebate could in many cases impose problems for unit funds, Mr Edward MacGowan, Naafi's managing director, said that Naafi's board was determined to raise the rate again, probably by stages, just as soon as the ill-effects of inflation had been countered. This process would be hastened if units gave their Naafi clubs maximum support.

RECRUITING

The general level of adult and young soldier recruiting remained unchanged in February. A drop from February 1974 is attributable to unusually high recruitment that month. In all there were 1253 adult and young soldier recruits.

EEC REFERENDUM

Special arrangements have been made by the Ministry of Defence to enable Army personnel and their spouses to vote in the referendum on 5 June whether or not they are registered as electors. The forces scheme will provide facilities for virtually all those who are entitled to be registered as Service voters. Within the United Kingdom, Service personnel who have already registered may choose to vote under the civilian arrangements. Alternatively they may use the forces voting facilities.

There will be more than 550 forces voting units with their own polling stations at Service establishments in the United Kingdom and abroad. Voting will take place at most on 5 June but in order to ensure that all votes will be counted in time in the United Kingdom there will be some advanced voting. This will be on 3 June in Hong Kong, Honduras and Suffield (Canada) and on 4 June in Germany, Cyprus, Malta and Gibraltar.



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Soldiers from many corps and arms traced the footsteps of explorer Henry Stanley the 2718-mile length of the Zaire River. To expedition member and author of this account, Major Derek Jackson, it was . . .

"... Like going to war without gunfire"



ON a raw wintry day earlier this year, one of the largest international expeditions ever mounted returned to England after a four-and-a-half month exploration of the 2718 miles of the Zaire—formerly Congo—river and a far-reaching programme of medical and scientific research.

While a placid commercial waterway in many places, the Zaire—with its 100-plus cataracts—can boil into a cauldron of white water flowing at anything up to 16,000,000 gallons a second at speeds reaching around 40 miles per hour. All but five unnavigable miles of the mighty river were conquered and almost all the scientific projects completed.

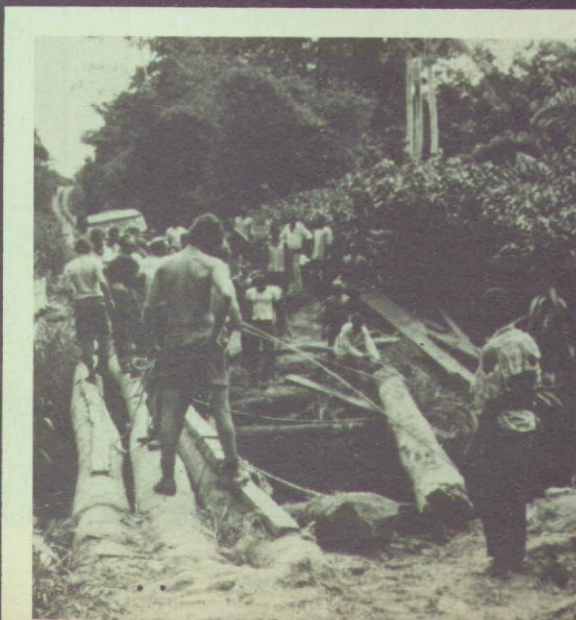
This incredible achievement of the 163-strong expedition was the culmination of four years' hard work in planning and fund-raising. The £120,000 cost was found by donations and members' subscriptions. In addition the British and United States armies gave or loaned equipment and provided warehousing and freighting facilities—in particular the Royal Engineers central stores park at Long Marston which packed more than 40 tons of stores and rations and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers who overhauled eight long-wheel-base Land Rovers destined for the scrap

heap. These were to run until they could run no more—one of them consumed eight sets of rear springs.

The leader of the expedition was Major (local Lieutenant-Colonel) John Blashford-Snell, Royal Engineers, one of the world's most experienced explorers. His right-hand man in charge of logistics and day-to-day coordination of all activities was Major Derek Jackson, Intelligence Corps, veteran of several expeditions.

But this was essentially a team operation in which all arms and services of the Army, including four Gurkhas, took part. Royal Marines were also represented as were United States servicemen, Royal Air Force personnel, liaison officers from the Zaire Army had 53 civilians, many of them experts in their fields of science or medicine.

But not all the scientific workers were civilians. Stuart Gelder, of Leeds



Four men, five oars and all their strength plus concentration are needed to keep an inflatable on course in the turbulent waterway pictured above.

Left: Major Ernie Drurys, of the Royal Engineers, improving a rough track.

Zaire Expedition

continued

University Entomology Department, is a lieutenant in a Royal Corps of Transport Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve unit. He joined forces with Regular RCT Major Mike Gallagher to study the changing ecology of forests.

The scientific programme was co-ordinated by Dr Humphrey Greenwood, of the British Museum, who said: "Without the Army the scientists simply could not have gained access to these remote areas and covered the amount of ground they did in the time—and time costs money." A colleague, Professor Geoff Haselwood, of Guys Hospital, added: "It is a wonderful thing for a scientist to have such support. If I had this every day I am sure that science would progress at twice the rate."

As well as men from all walks of life there were ten women, one of whom—botanical artist Dorothy Bovey—was over 60. For her work on the expedition she was awarded a Royal Botanical Society Gold Medal. Among the other ladies was Maggie Bush, a scientific assistant and daughter of the Assistant Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and Marie-Thérèse Guichard, a Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association sister from Moenchengladbach, Germany.

At various times all the womenfolk took a hand in nursing the sick. Despite rigidly enforced precautions the expedition was plagued by chicken pox, hepatitis and fevers of all kinds including 14 cases of malaria.

The move out to Zaire began only after a very thorough preparatory phase including survival, radio and equipment

training culminating in a weekend of tests and lectures at Sandhurst. First in Zaire were Major Tom Hawkins, Warrant Officer 1 Jim Winter and Lance-Corporal Tom Simm, all sappers, the first two having had two years' previous experience of the country as members of the British Army training team at the Zaire Army Engineering School.

Meanwhile, Major Jackson was journeying across Angola to bring up the eight Land-Rovers and the first 15 tons of stores. After a 1000-mile trip during which he was accused of being a mercenary and held up in Tixera de Sousa when the station and army post came under rocket attack from Frelimo guerrillas, he was finally arrested on crossing the border into Zaire.

Communications are almost non-existent in the Zaire hinterland, parts of which are well over 1000 miles from the capital, Kinshasa. For this reason—although all papers were in order—Jim Winter thought the most prudent way to get Major Jackson across the border and up to Kolwezi was to have him arrested.

The expedition proper began with the airlift of the main body of the explorers from Gatwick to Lubumbashi. From here they moved to the advance base at Kolwezi where the boats were unpacked, assembled and tested. The three forward support teams, each led by an Army officer, deployed to move parallel and in advance of the fleet, ferry in stores, give general support, move the scientists and recover specimens. The sapper, Gurkha and Coldstream Guards leaders were coordinated by a Royal Signals major. Army Physical Training Corps Warrant

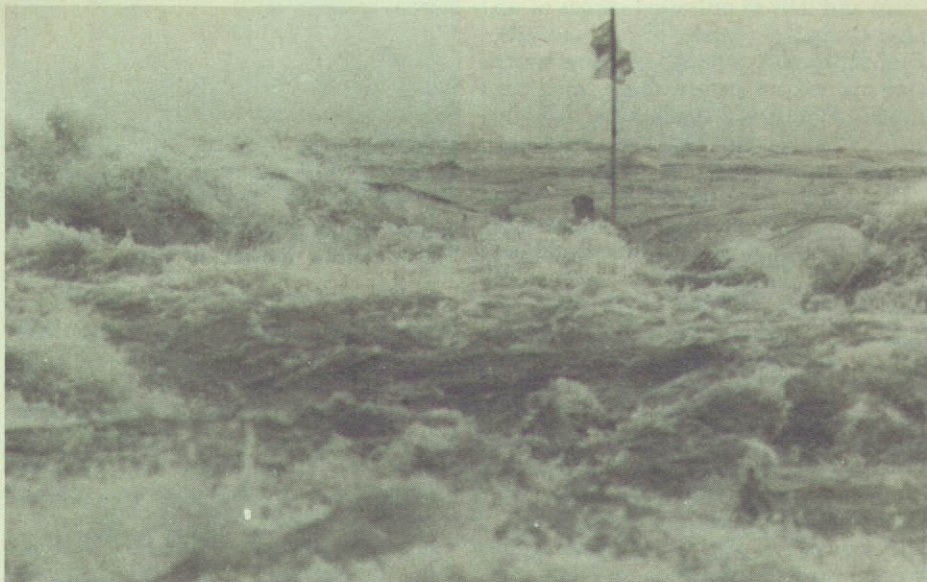


The intrepid Blashford-Snell cutting a characteristic dash at journey's end.

Lt-Colonel Blashford-Snell said in his address to the expedition at journey's end: "Although over the past four months over half of us have become casualties from sickness and injury, I am relieved that no lives have been lost. There has been strain, disappointments and some moments of great danger—thank you for your selflessness, loyalty and the way in which you have all used your military skills to enable us to succeed." The Queen added her congratulations in a message to the expedition leader on "this very notable achievement."

Portaging a giant inflatable below the Inga dam complex.





Wild water hides the seven crew members of this boat; the helmsman alone shows. Left: SSAFA Sister Guichard went too.



Officer 2 Eddie McGee saw to their day-to-day needs and helped with the construction of jungle camps.

The first of the inflatable Avon craft was launched just below the river's source at the highest point wide enough to take the 15-foot boat. The first 200-mile phase of the journey was packed with excitement including several cap-sizes and a savage attack by a hippopotamus which bit a three-foot section out of one of the boats.

Below: The Army Air Corps Beaver light aircraft making a welcome postal drop.



The Reverend Basil Pratt, expedition chaplain, said: "It was a good job it was inflatable as the sudden escape of air frightened the beast off. I thought I was getting nearer to head office at any moment." Basil Pratt had another unique experience later when he successfully negotiated the Porte d'Enfer, or Gate of Hell.

At Bukama the three 40-foot giant inflatables, each of 20 tons capacity, were launched. For ten days they carried up to 35 people each but in difficult water only a seven- or eight-man crew. Power was provided by 40 horse-power outboard motors backed up by a second engine fitted amidships to assist steering.

The major falls of the Zaire are awe-inspiring and during the voyage the river changed dramatically from a peaceful commercial waterway to raging cataracts and waves higher than 30 feet. A century ago Henry Stanley—the explorer/journalist who presumed, correctly, he had found Dr Livingston—wrote of the same waters: "Ah! the hateful, murderous river now so broad and majestically calm . . . as though we had never seen it rage with fury and mock with thunder. What a hypocritical river."

Today little has changed. If anything, it is worse, with the river swollen by hydro-electric projects. One such area is Red Gorge, five miles of seething water speeding along at some 40 miles an hour. After a three-day survey of the gorge with its 1500-foot sheer sides and pool of hungry crocodiles at the end waiting for hapless victims of the torrent, it was decided to portage around the hazard.

Meanwhile the scientists were hard at work. They caught many of the 400 or so species of Zaire's fish, among them a giant catfish four-and-a-half feet long, which shoots its newly hatched young from its mouth and sucks them back in when danger threatens.

An epic journey as great as the main expedition itself was the navigation by a four-man team led by Lieutenant Bob Hudson, Royal Marines, of the 500-mile stretch of the Lomani river. Accompanied by Warrant Officer Eddie McGhee, they paddled two dugouts for two months during which time they were resupplied only once and never failed to make daily radio contact. Their aim was to enable scientists to catch dwarf chimpanzees for Washington University. Bob Hudson is a great-great-grandson of one of Stanley's 1873 expedition, Henry Nelson.

In the first 1000 miles the explorers passed through only two little settlements, each not much bigger than Pirbright. And all the time the great logistic battle was fiercely waged against the elements. Using rail, trucks, hired aircraft and an Army Air Corps Beaver, the support group kept ahead of the main body and never failed them.

Planning and reconnaissance included some 70 flying hours and travel over 30,000 miles. At one stage a train was hired for six weeks to haul the stores in its seven 40-ton capacity wagons, the biggest

freight problem being bulk—especially of fuel in 200 drums of 40 gallons each. On one occasion the train party had to repair broken points.

All this meant an extensive radio network—including a twice-daily schedule with the United Kingdom—which was handled by the expedition's signal officer, Captain Richard Scaife, and his party from 8 Signal Regiment, including 17-year-old Junior Sergeant Eddie Cameron who had just started his last term in the Junior Guards Company.

The expedition was spread over a wide area with up to 500 miles separating parties and some 1000 miles between them and base camp in Kinshasa—run by Jim Winter. He and “posty” Corporal John Winterbottom, from Mill Hill Postal Depot, performed miracles sending mail up-country on anything that moved. Zaire is the size of Europe and has only a tenuous air service, a couple of single-line railways on which nothing should travel unaccompanied, and no more than some 700 miles of tarmac road.

Additional support came from Warrant Officer Cliff Taylor, Army Air Corps, who captained the Beaver with co-pilot Flight-Lieutenant Steve George, a Cranwell instructor. They had to fly without any radar or advanced navigation aids, at maximum endurance and often not knowing the state of either runway or fuel availability at journey's end. Frequently they flew with a 40-gallon drum lashed in the rear of the cabin and a small hand pump for refuelling en route.

Christmas was spent in Kinshasa with a six-day rest before tackling the formidable rapids on the next stage to Inga. In four days nine of the outboards were stripped down and rebuilt by Staff-Sergeant Les Winterburn, Royal Elec-

trical and Mechanical Engineers.

Such is the power of the river here that it rises and falls in pulsating surges of up to five or six feet in three or four seconds. As the inflatables came downstream, water holes opened up before them, each big enough to swallow a small truck. Luckily none of the inflatables fell into one although one of the jet boats did.

These craft were powered by a water jet and were invaluable for reconnaissance as their 300 horse-power could get them out of most difficulties. On smooth water they are capable of 50 miles an hour. In the section below Kinshasa the river at one point narrowed from two miles to 400 yards and was a mass of cross currents and whirlpools, the main problem being the continuous complex of rapids with no easy route or still water between. Upset in the first rapid, one could be swept to death in the second.

Because of the certainty of death in the two-mile stretch from Inga to Yalala, the expedition portaged. By picking their way around the edge of this terrifying water the recce group, using Avon inflatables, negotiated about half of it.

Even so there were difficulties. Corporal Neil Rickard, Royal Marines, was nearly swept away but was caught by the ebb flow and managed to grab a rock. The party watched helplessly as his grip weakened and he slid back into the water. A second eddy threw him up exhausted against another rock from which he was plucked to safety.

Two days later, in the Inkisi rapids, the second boat went over, throwing Corporal Barry Llewellyn, Captain Alun Davies and Captain Paul Turner into a raging torrent moving at about 10,000,000 gallons a second. With cool, calculated courage, Corporal Neil Rickard, Royal



Author Major Derek Jackson (right) with Major Ashley Barker, of Royal Signals.

Marines, and Zaire Army Commando Lieutenant Somwe, took their craft into the watery jaws of death and got them out. The boat went past underwater to surface some three-quarters of a mile downstream with its outboard still attached. (Corporal Rickard has been awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal for his act.)

The last 50 miles to the final destination, unbelievably named Banana, was an undramatic cold slog through the choppy estuary. But for all it was a poignant moment looking out at the sun sinking into the Atlantic.

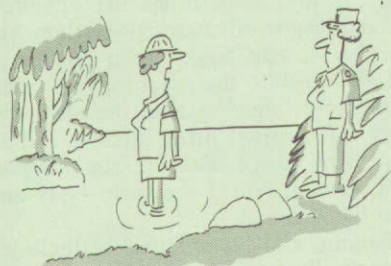
Success and failure hung in the balance many times before that sunset and much of the eventual achievement was as a result of the work of the quartermaster, Major Gordon Mitchell, Scots Guards, whose meticulous planning ensured that out of 16,800 rations only 15 remained on the last day. An indication of the margin between success and failure was that when approaching Banana one of the inflatables ran out of fuel just 500 yards from the shore after buffetting its way down one of Africa's mightiest rivers, as long as the breadth of the Atlantic Ocean between the British Isles and America.

WRAC Expedition

by John Power



"It's all right, Mavis, they're not poisonous."



"It's deeper than it looks ma'am; I'm standing on Corporal Potter."



"What have you done with Sergeant Dewsnap?"



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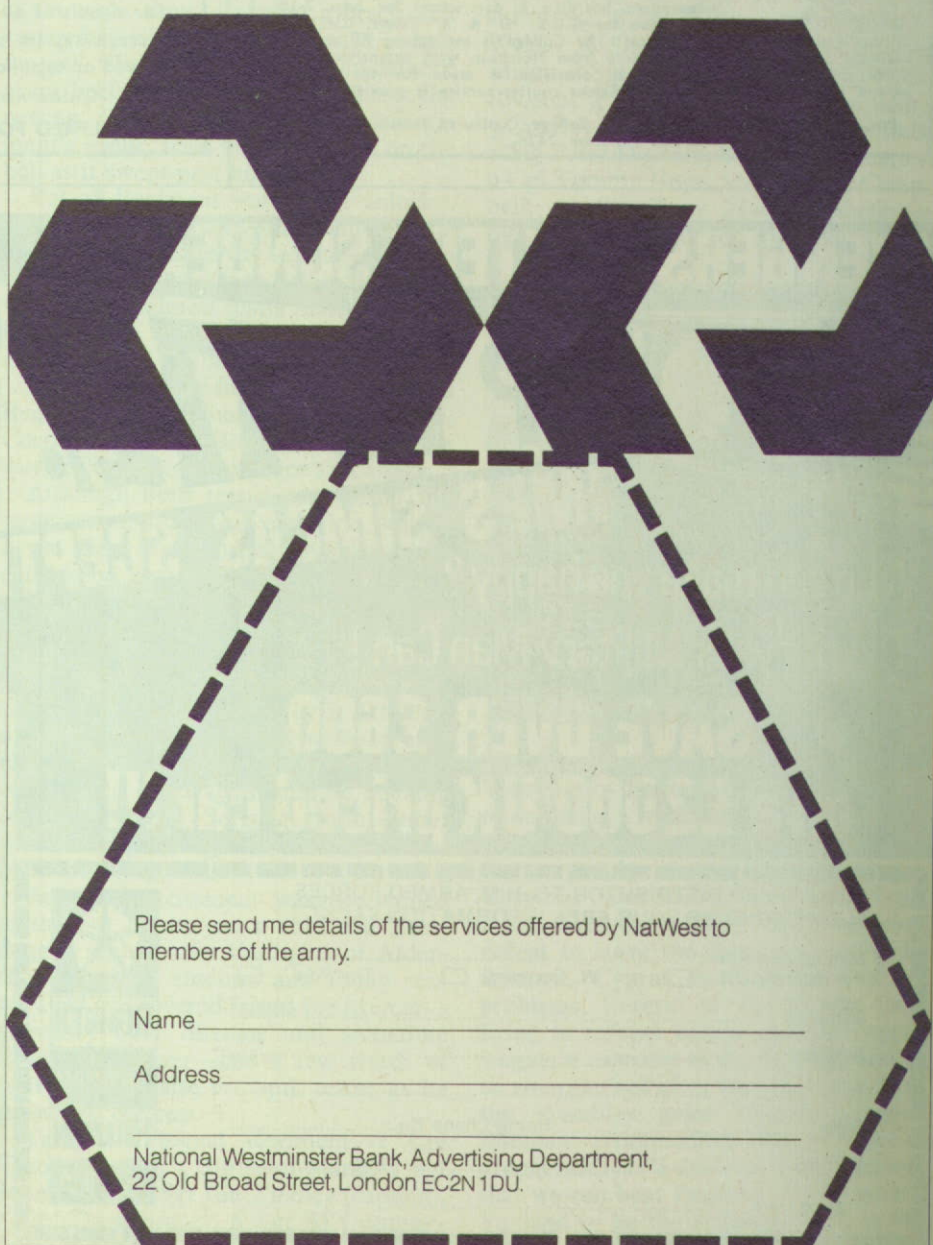
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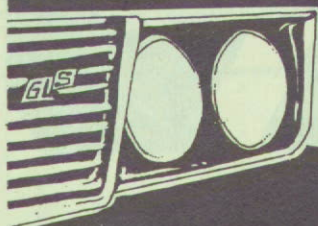
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SPORT



Cup Final a signal success

FOR only the third time in its history, the Army Challenge Cup final was this year fought out between two soccer teams from the same corps or regiment. Victors after 90 minutes of often fast-moving and entertaining football were 8 Signal Regiment, the United Kingdom finalists, 1-0 against 28 (BR) Signal Regiment from Germany.

The two previous "family finals" were between two Royal Army Service Corps teams in the 1960-61 season and way back in 1891-92 between two battalions of the Scots Guards.

Runners-up for the last two years, 28 Signal Regiment fought hard for a third-time-lucky win but a sizzling shot from outside the box in the first couple of minutes of the second half dashed their hopes. Scorer of the single goal was Lance-Corporal John Boyd, three years a player for his corps after considerable boyhood experience of soccer in youth sides in his native Scotland.



Sergeant Jim Tierney, the winning team captain, gets a pat of congratulations from Joe Mercer. Top: Goalkeeper Tommy Reilly in mid-air drama for 8 Regiment.

The defence was completely wrong-footed and Boyd was in the right place at the right time to exploit a practically empty half of the field and make a dash for goal. With a loosely re-formed defence at his heels, he cracked a long shot at the netting. Corporal John Mizen, 28 Regiment's goalie, tried vainly to drop on the ball as it swept past him.

But 28 Regiment were often unlucky. Some spirited attacks—especially in the first half and late in the second—came to naught and at one stage before the interval it looked almost just a matter of time before their consistent pressure would end in a goal. But it was not to be.

No corner of the field was safe from 28 Regiment's fleet-footed number nine, Corporal Tommy Hope, and he did the work of two men in defence and attack.

Although both teams came from the same corps, from the very first whistle it was clear this cup final was not being considered a mere "friendly" by either side. A few hard tackles, trips and unnecessary harassment of both goalkeepers looked as if it might begin to sour the match. But seasoned referee Staff-Sergeant Roy Pearson, Royal Artillery, used his 17-odd years' experience as a class one Army referee to establish his control and an eleventh minute booking of 8 Regiment's Sergeant John Fuller was warning enough to calm the more blatant infringements.

Pace and excitement was maintained to the last minute on a cold and sleet-dogged night under the lights of Aldershot's military stadium and Army soccer's old and revered friend Joe Mercer—Coventry City director and sometime England manager—had a few words of well-earned praise for both teams as he presented the cup.

Teams: 8 Signal Regiment—1 Cpl Tommy Reilly, 2 Sig Alan Mann, 3 Sgt John Fuller, 4 Sgt Jim Tierney (captain), 5 Cpl Dave Bracey, 6 Sgt Al Cunningham, 7 Sgt Pat Gallacher, 8 Sig Alun

Colman, 9 Cpl Jim Murray, 10 L/Cpl John Boyd, 11 Cfn John Yeardsley, substitutes S/Sgt D Osbourne, Sig Nicky Welsh. 28 Signal Regiment—1 Cpl John Mizen, 2 Sgt Brian Parkhill, 3 L/Cpl Don Robson, 4 Sgt Jackie Snaith (captain), 5 Cpl Roy Pickersgill, 6 Sig Taffy Moulds, 7 Sig Peter Dignam, 8 Sig Dave Charles, 9 Cpl Tommy Hope, 10 Sgt Peter Campbell, 11 Sig Tony Horan, substitutes Sgt Jim Smith, Sig Joe Murray.



The Cyprus footballers thrashed 5-0 at Wembley by England had the consolation of defeating a week earlier a British team—an Army eleven in Cyprus. But even then a penalty slotted home by Lance-Corporal John Smith, of 9 Signal Regiment, saved the soldiers from a walkover defeat to leave the final score 4-1. In fairness, Cyprus football has had its problems. Several of the players were living in refugee camps and the Cyprus league, a casualty of the fighting, had to be re-organised after the conflict. Before the Wembley game Cyprus manager Bambos Avraammides told SOLDIER prophetically: "I don't have any illusions that we can beat England . . . I consider England to be the strongest team in the world now."

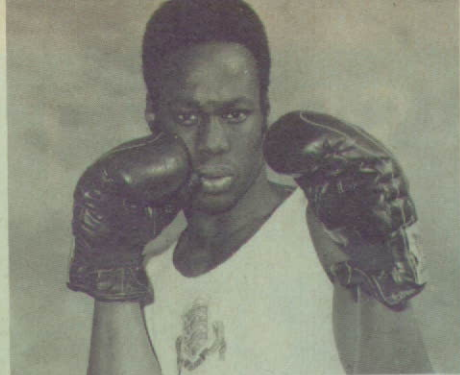
Phillip misses ABA crown

AFTER boxing his way through some of the toughest opposition the nation's amateur clubs can offer, Lance-Corporal Norman Phillip just failed to clinch the bantamweight title in the Amateur Boxing Association finals.

Phillip was the last Army boxer to survive until the final of several who started out on the title race. Up until the British semi-finals he was accompanied by three other soldier boxers. In the earlier England semi-final, flyweight Lance-Corporal J Spring, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, beat

Southern Counties ABA boxer J McCabe. But C Magri (London) put him out in the British semis when the fight was stopped in the first round.

Light-heavyweight Sergeant J Matthews, 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, suffered a points defeat by M Heath (Hull) in the British semis after beating J Waldron (London) in the England semi-final. Lance-Bombardier C Williams gained his place in the British semi-finals by beating D McCann (London) in the England round but failed to make the final by losing to G McEwan (Midlands).



Phillip, beaten on points in the final.

Phillip lost on points to S Ogilvie (Scotland) in his title fight at Wembley having beaten D Kinsley (Wales) in the British semi-finals. Phillip is serving with 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards.



Smiling Jackie Smith, the only girl Red Devil, in practice for the new season.

Red Devils on show

ANEW season of displays by the Red Devils, The Parachute Regiment's freefall team, has opened and more than 100 public shows are already planned. Another side of the team's work is its competition parachuting and in this field the Red Freds hold a formidable fistful of titles.

They include: Army champion (L/Cpl Scotty Milne—last year awarded his regimental gold lanyard for having made 1000 descents); Army champion runners-up (2nd Cpl Dane Kenny, 3rd Sgt Jackie Smith (WRAC)); Army team accuracy title, Army individual accuracy (1st Sgt Bob Harman, 2nd Milne, 3rd Kenny);

Army style (1st Milne, 2nd Kenny); overall team, first place.

British national championships: Men's overall parachuting (4th Kenny, 5th L/Cpl Deak Wright, 6th Milne, 10th Pte Steve Slater, 12th L/Cpl Andy Sinclair, 15th Harman); individual accuracy (3rd Smith, 6th Kenny, 7th Wright, 14th Harman, 19th Milne, 20th Sinclair, 22nd Slater); style (2nd Milne, 5th Kenny, 6th Wright, 9th Slater, 10th Smith, 12th Sinclair). Jackie Smith is also the current national women's champion.

The Red Devils number 27 this year, including many of the winning names mentioned above.

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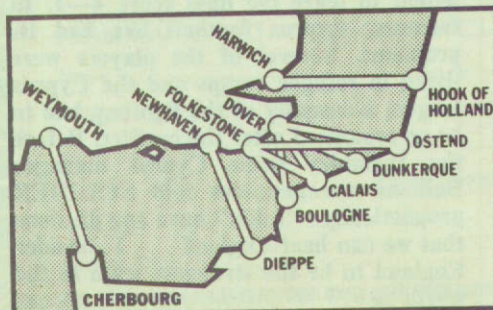
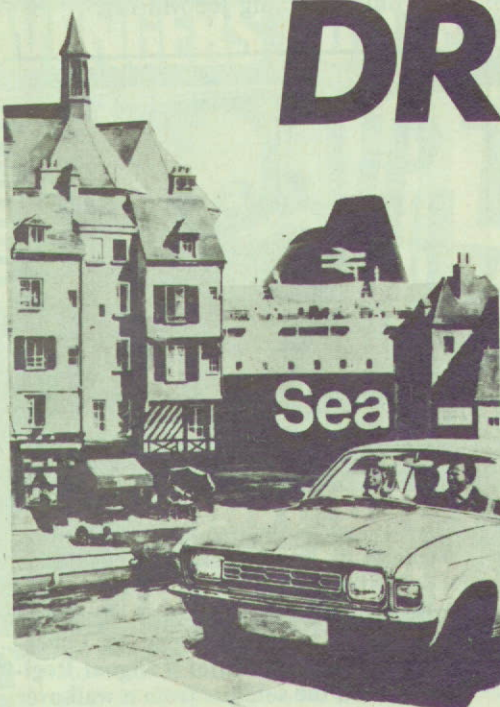
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Seven-a-side

SEVEN-A-SIDE enthusiasts from as far afield as the Hebrides and Humberside flocked to Aldershot to make up the 20 teams battling for honours in this event's first major tournament.

Competition was fierce throughout the day-long contest as four pools of five teams tussled for places in the quarter-finals. First and second teams in each pool were channelled into the play-offs for the main competition and the third- and fourth-placed teams entered a plate competition.

Locally based 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, favourites from the start following their convincing win in the Army rugby cup final, defeated 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, 22-8, in a hard fought final.

In the semi-finals the two finalists had beaten 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, and 1



The Welsh heave against the Dukes in a scrum during their seven-a-side final.

Parachute Logistic Regiment. Quarter-final casualties were 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, 7 Parachute Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, Depot the Queen's Division and the Royal Military College of Science A team.

The plate contest was not without its drama too when 22 Locating Battery, Royal Artillery, snatched a 14-12 victory over 4 Light Regiment who had led until the last minutes. These two had seen off 22 Engineer Regiment and the School of Electrical Engineering in the semi-finals after 9 Independent Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers, 40 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, 39 Engineer Regiment and a team from the Hebrides ranges had been knocked out in the quarter-finals.

The handsome trophies were provided by Courage, the brewers, in this latest of their sponsorships of Army sport.

GUNNERS TOP JUNIOR TITLES

FOUR young soldiers of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, rallied strongly in front of a home crowd at Bramcote to win four Army titles in the junior boxing individual championships. Three titles each went to the Army Apprentices College, Arborfield, and Junior Parachute Company.

Junior Gunner R Daniels beat Junior Gunner R Deal in the 51-54 kilogram B class, Junior Gunner K Adhyaru beat Junior Lance-Corporal M Hillisdon (Depot, Prince of Wales's Division) in the 54-57kg B class, Junior Gunner S Blackwell beat Junior Sapper C Thorneycroft (Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers) in the 57-60kg C class and Junior

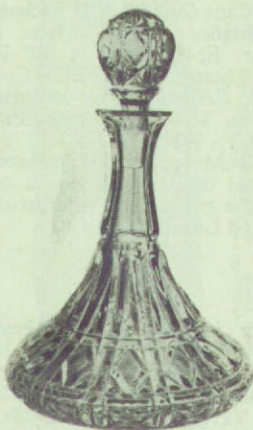


A fistful of finalists. Left to right: Junior Gunners Richard Daniels, Kim Adhyaru and Steve Blackwell, all JLRRA.

Gunner S Jenkins beat Junior Gunner D Turner in the 67-71kg C class.

Other results—Class B, 48-51kg: A/T I Moore (AAC Arborfield) beat J/Inf P Baker (Depot POW Div); 54-57kg: J/L/Sgt P Harper (Gds Depot) beat J/Inf M Guest (Depot POW Div); 60-63.5kg: J/Inf C Russett (Jun Para Coy) beat J/L/Cpl P Wale (Depot Queens Div); 63.5-67kg: A/T B Prescott (AAC Arborfield) beat J/Fus S Cooper (Depot Queens Div); 67-71kg: J/Inf J Elliot (Jun Para Coy) beat J/L/Cpl M James (11 Sig Regt); 71-74kg: J/Inf Turner (Jun Para) beat J/Sgt M Pinches (JLR RA). Class C, 48-51kg: J/Pte S Benns (Depot Queens Div) beat J/Spr A Griffin (JLR RE); 51-54kg: J/Cpl I Gill (JLR RE) beat J/Fus D Bertram (Depot Queens Div); 54-57kg: J/Ldr V O'Brien (IJLB) beat J/Fus Gardner (Depot Queens Div); 60-63.5kg: J/L/Cpl R Boulton (11 Sig Regt) beat A/T R McLarty (AAC Arborfield); 63.5-67kg: A/T/Cpl A Byers (AAC Arborfield) beat J/Pte P Castell (Depot Queens Div); 67-71kg: J/Spr P Boswell (JLR RE) beat A/T Stobbart (AAC Arborfield) and J/L/Cpl W Clarke (Gds Depot) beat J/L/Bdr R McCrindle (JLR RA).

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The Long long walk

AFTER four-and-a-half days on his feet, Royal Army Ordnance Corps Sergeant Fred Long smashed the world "literally non-stop" walking marathon record by passing the 231-mile previous best and going on another nine miles before taking a breather.

The "literally" non-stop record means what it says. The British, European and Commonwealth non-stop and world non-stop records—290 and 304 miles respectively, which are also held by Sergeant

Long—allow five-minute breaks an hour.

Although the champ took a break at 240 miles, he struggled on to attack his own non-stop bests, the "literal" point having been passed. But at 260 miles the craving for sleep caught up with the marathon walker, who hopes to raise cash for charity by his efforts, and the 26 walking race medals on his track suit top ceased to jingle as he sank to the ground.

Sergeant Long was unhurt and as right as rain after a round-the-clock sleep.



Long by name . . . long-distance by nature is the foot-slogging Cyprus sergeant.

SPORTS SHORTS

RUNNING

A run across Germany from east to west is planned by athlete Sgt Fred Howell, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, in a one-man charity chase for 450 kilometres on behalf of a German spastics' organisation. Sgt Howell has concentrated on long-distance running since 1973 and averages 120 kilometres a week in training.

SKIING

Results of the Army Ski Association 1975 Scottish meeting—

Army junior championships, best ACF cadet: Cdt McCulloch (N Highland ACF); novice: J/Int J Gladas (Jun Para Coy); inter-unit Alpine: JLR/RA (J/Gnrs Blore and Jones, J/BSM Hall, J/Sgt O'Down), runners-up Jun Para Coy (J/Infs Gladas, Langford and Snowdon, J/Sgt Paterson); individual Alpine: 1st J/Sgt Paterson, 2nd J/BSM Hall, 3rd J/Inf Gladas.

Regular WRAC and QARANC race, novice prize: 2/Lieut C Cardwell (WRAC). WRAC (Reg) inter-unit championship: West District (Capt Cowley, Lieut Day, 2/Lieut Cardwell, Sgt Mapley (all WRAC). WRAC (Reg) individual championship: 1st Capt Cowley, 2nd Cpl Parry (WRAC), 3rd Lieut Day.

Regular Army race, novice winner: Cfn Tervit (7 Fd Wksp REME); veteran winner: WO2 Wyartt (7 Fd Wksp REME). Regular Army in Scotland TAVR individual championship: 2/Lieut Lord Balgonie (QOHdrrs). RAOC Regular team prize: Defence Stats MoD (Maj Steele, Capt Murray, Cpl Kelly). Regular Army inter-unit championship: QOH (2/Lieut MacInnes, 2/Lieut Kemmis-Betty, Tpr Wall, L/Cpl Hunt), runners-up Scots DG (Lieut Ramsden, Maj Swanston, Lieut Leslie). Regular Army individual championship: 1st 2/Lieut Kemmis-Betty, 2nd 2/Lieut MacInnes, 3rd Lieut R Ireland. Scottish inter-Service championship: RAF.

TAVR championship, novice winner: Pte P Barney (4 Para); veteran winner: Sgt Gilbert (REME). Army in Scotland TAVR individual championship: Lieut R McLean (QOY). Reserve Army inter-unit championship: HAC A (L/Sgt Pengelley, Tpr Beale, Lieut Wilson, Tpr Walls, runners-up A Sqn QOY (Lieuts Mitchell, McLean, Burton, Kennedy). TAVR individual championship: 1st L/Sgt Pengelley, 2nd Tpr Walls, 3rd Lieut McLean. Open race, ladies' individual championship: Cpl A Rarry (WRAC). Open inter-unit championship: 1st QOH, 2nd 7 Fd Wksp REME, 3rd Scots DG; open individual champion: Lieut Ireland, runner-up Lieut MacInnes).

LAWN TENNIS

The 1975 Army lawn tennis championships are to be held at the Officers' Club, Aldershot, from Monday 28 July to Saturday 2 August.

These championships are open to all ranks, men and women, still serving on 2 August 1975 and—as far as the veterans' events are concerned—to retired male officers. The events for men will be Army singles, inter-arm and corps doubles, open doubles, veterans' singles, veterans' doubles and Army (under-21) singles. Events for ladies will be Army singles, Army doubles and Army (under-21) singles. There will also be an Army mixed doubles. Entries close on 30 June and entry forms are available from Lieut-Col C Baete, Hon Tournament Secretary ALTA, Army Dental Centre, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester, SO23 8TS.

RUGBY

The Army team failed to win any of the trio of games played on a Welsh tour but acquitted itself well against three of the principality's top sides. Results: Army 8, Llanelli 15; Army 6, Neath 21; Army 20, Bridgend 29. A Combined Services XV trounced French Armed Forces 12—4.

WATER POLO

The Army beat Avondale Swimming Club 10-2 in their match played to replace the scheduled game against Otter Swimming Club at Chelsea Barracks.

In the quadrangular match Army v Ulster v Scotland v Royal Navy, the Army came second on goal average having beaten Royal Navy 9-3, drawn against Scotland 4-4 and lost to Ulster 2-3. Overall first was Ulster with Scotland third and Royal Navy last.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Combined Services, with a weakened team, came fourth in the annual match against the English Cross-Country Union, British Universities Sports Federation and the British Colleges Sports Association. Wet conditions meant the event being run over a shortened course of five laps of the Navy's HMS Mercury course to complete six miles. The first serviceman home was 15th, Sgt S Harrison, who came 9th in the inter-Services championship. Overall placings: 1st ECCU (46 points), 2nd BUSF (52), 3rd BCSEA (105), 4th Combined Services (127).

BASKETBALL

The RAF have emerged inter-Service basketball champions. They beat the Army 76-48 and the Royal Navy 78-49. The Army beat the Royal Navy 68-62. But Army juniors beat the Royal Navy 70-62 in the inter-Services under-18 championship at the same tournament. Other results: Army 76, Middlesex League Select 40; Army 60, Oxford City 75; Army 67, Wickham Pirates 52.

CYCLING

Spring Cup 10-mile road time trial results. Team: 1st JLR RA, 2nd AAC Harrogate. Individual: 1st Cpl B L Hampson (28 AER) (27.08), 2nd WO2 M C Beech (D & T Sqn AAC) (27.09), 3rd A/T S E Wyles (AAC Harrogate) (29.31).

Open 25-mile RTT: 1st P Jefferies (Gordon Valley CC) (1.00.30), 37th Hampson (1.10.49), 48th Beech (1.11.59), 73rd WO1 R E Foster (1.17.20).

Guernsey Velo Easter Festival—25-mile RTT: 1st Army CC (Finney 1.7.04, Hampson 1.10.24, Foster 1.11.43). Hill climb, team: 4th Army CC (Finney 2.26, Wyles 2.33, Hampson 2.35). 10-mile RTT, team: 4th Army CC (Finney 25.48, Hampson 26.14, Foster 27.29). 3/1 road race, team: 2nd Army CC (Fisher, Wyles, Inman). Senior road race: 14th Finney. 10-mile circuit race (B event): 2nd Foster. 25-mile 2up track time trial: Foster/Finney 1.8.51, Wyles/Fisher 1.15.58.

FENCING

Just one victory separated the Army and RAF in the former's last club match of the season before embarking on the Army and national tournaments. Winners by that narrowest of margins were the Army fencers. But, in International Women's Year, the Junior Service gained a revenge in a concurrent ladies' match with a convincing WRAF score of 6-3 against Army Women as opposed to the men's 14-13 scoreline.

Full results—Foil: Army 3 (QMSI D D Truman, SSI J V Larkham (both APTC), A/T G L McDonnell (ACC)), RAF 6. Sabre: Army 8 (Capt (MAA) A E Richards, QMSI D T Hughes, SSI Larkham (all APTC)), RAF 1. Epee: Army 3 (SI P J Brierley, SSI Larkham (both APTC), Cpl S Birley (REME)), RAF 6. Army women 3 (S/Sgt S Coleman, SGT G Horton, Pte J Bissett (all WRAC)), WRAF 6.

Lieut-Col J A G Moore (RA) captained a Combined Services team which won a consolation prize in the 5th military international epee tournament in Luxembourg.

ROWING

The number six in the narrowly beaten Oxford crew in this year's universities' boat race from Putney to Mortlake on the Thames is thought to be the first Regular Army officer to row in the 121-year-old event. He is 2/Lieut Robert Mason (19), who is reading geography at Keble College. A civilian at the beginning of his degree course, he successfully applied for an Army university cadetship and is now commissioned in the Welsh Guards. On graduation in 1977, and after a short course at Sandhurst, he will be promoted to lieutenant. At present there are more than 250 undergraduate officers in the Army cadetship scheme who are paid by the Ministry of Defence while studying.

TETRATHLON

Sergeant Jim Fox and Sgt P J Twine maintained their domination of this swimming/fencing/shooting/running event when, with Cpl S Birley, they emerged the victorious 1975 Army champions for the School of Electrical Engineering. Fox was also the top individual in the championship. Second placed team was RMAS A and third was MPAGB. Birley was the second individual and third was SI P J Brierley, a member of the second-placed team.

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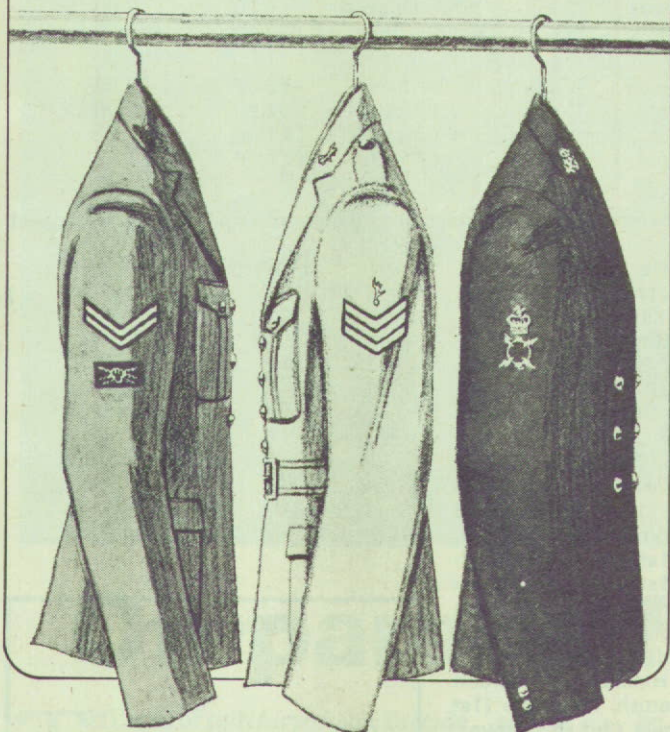
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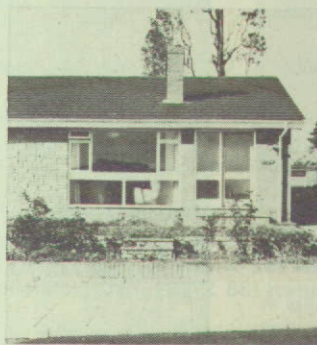


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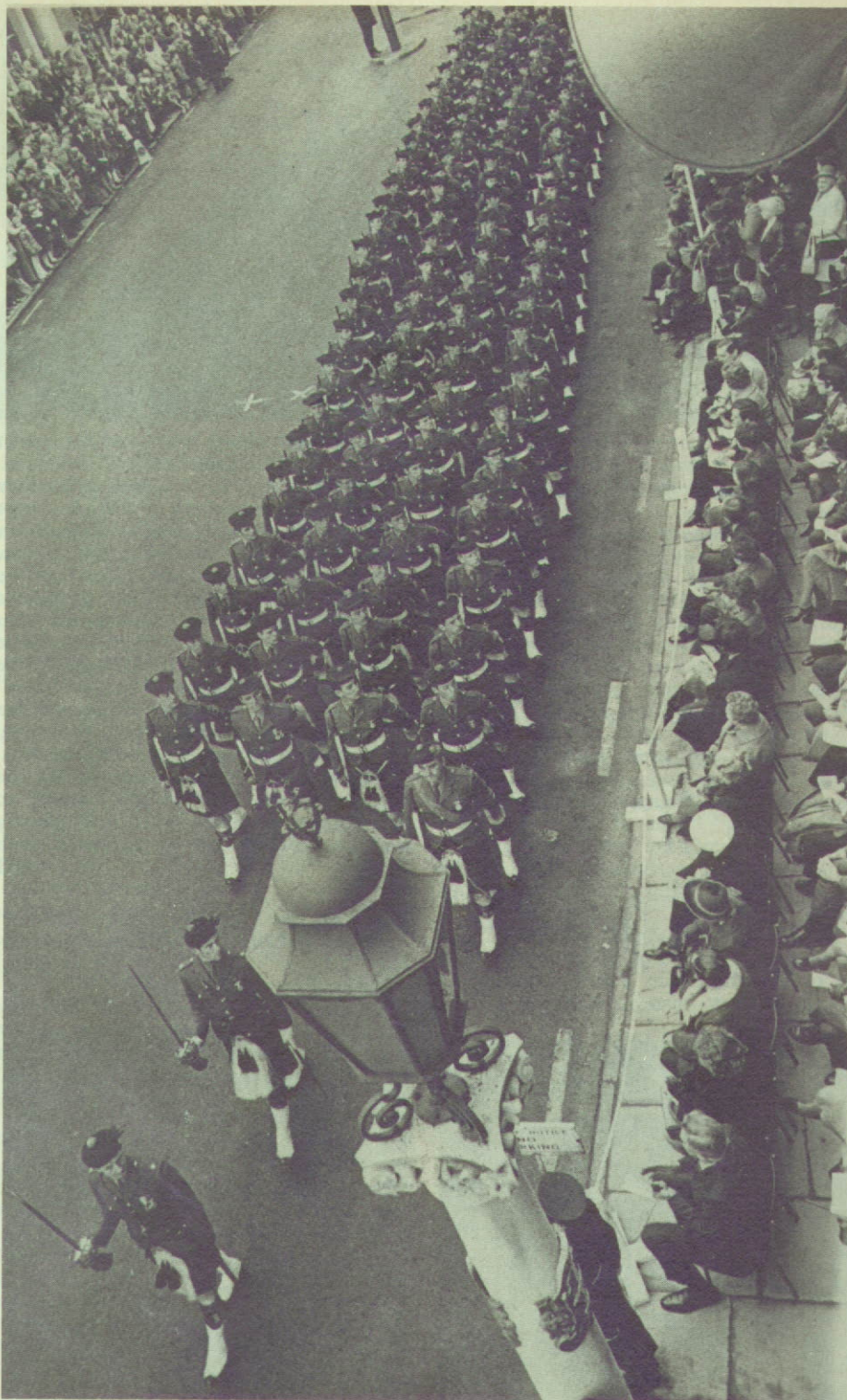
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A smart salute from the camouflage-clad vehicles says farewell to Colchester's retiring mayor (below), Coun J Jackson.



On parade for Farmer Jim

THE men of 19th Airportable Brigade are always ready to dash into action at a moment's notice, so when the mayor of their garrison town of Colchester, 69-year-old farmer James Jackson, called for their help, they sprang to attention.

The occasion was not an advance by an enemy on the ancient Army town but a

retreat . . . by Mr Mayor as he retired from his civic duties.

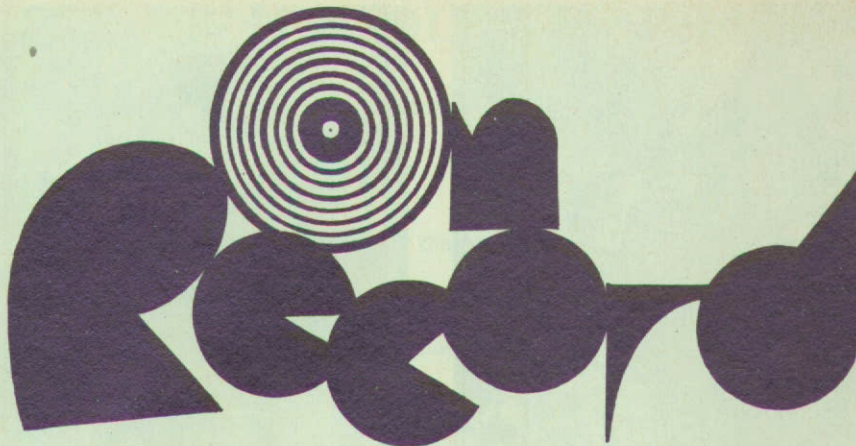
For the first time ever, the brigade marched through the town in a parade some 900-strong including four bands and a column of 70 vehicles. Air cover was provided by four helicopters which flew past the mayoral dais.

The brigade took the march-past in its stride. Six guards were formed from 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, and 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry. Each battalion's band was on parade plus the pipes and drums of The Black Watch. Support arms were represented in the

mechanised column by 1 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, 19 Ordnance Field Park, 19 Field Ambulance and 8 Field Workshop. The helicopters came from 665 Squadron, Army Air Corps.

As the tidy ranks of soldiers marched past the mayor to the strains of "Remember You're a Womble," Councillor Jackson enjoyed his finest hour before buying the parade a round of beer by way of a "thank you." He commented afterwards: "I organised the parade to show my appreciation for all the Army has done for the town". And of course, it'll be something to talk about down on the farm for years to come . . .

Above: A guard from 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, marches past the mayor.



"With Brass and Strings" (A Sampler of Radio 2 Bands and Orchestras)

(BBC Records RBT 107)
Sunday nights on BBC Radio 2 have the popular programme "Brass and Strings," a title which, as here, is sometimes misleading—as often as not it is a military band and orchestra.

The Welsh Guards Band, under the late Major Desmond Walker, plays "Music on Command" (a fanfare by the late Lieutenant-Colonel "Jiggs" Jaeger), our over-exposed friend "Colonel Boogie," Terence Brien's "Spinning Wheel Samba," a now dated "Eye Level" and Trevor Sharpe's theme music for the "Heritage" series.

BBC Radio orchestras play "Embraceable You," the theme "Owen MD" under its proper title of "Sleepy Shores," the theme music from "Softly Softly" and a medley of three tunes.

Pete Winslow and the King Size Brass provide "Adeleta" and "Waiting in the Rain" and the Full Score Orchestra plays "Sailing By" and three marches already on "The Vanishing Regiments" disc. **RB**

"The Standard of St George" (Band of the Honourable Artillery Company)

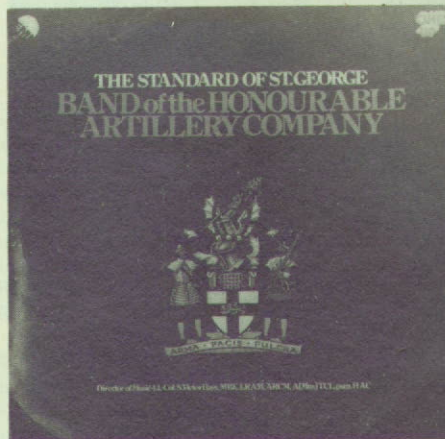
(Director of Music: Lieutenant-Colonel S Victor Hays) (ONE-UP OU 2063)
I had purposefully wine and dined well before reviewing this record, for I know this to be the proper state of well-being when partaking of anything offered by this particular band. I have never been sober in their presence and have no intention of ever so being; initiates to the hospitality of Armoury House will know what I mean.

Like the hon gentlemen of the regiment, with their pikemen, musketeers, ostlers, saddlery, and echoes of skulduggery long ago (and my critical faculties remaining as keen as ever in post-prandial euphoria), this whole enterprise is utterly charming

and magically conveys the mystique of that particular end of City Road where their forebears were wont to in and out The Eagle.

A fine LP by any standards but it has, in addition, an indefinable something which can only be the product of a maturity conferred on its makers by association with a unique and historic institution.

Side one, of regimental music, starts with a fine fanfare by Colonel Hays (previously Director of Music, Royal Artillery), "Arma Pacis Fulcra." Alford's "Standard of St George" of course, then a medley of regimental quick and slow marches, trot and canter. Squadron marches are "Prussian Glory," "I'm Ninety Five," "Men of Harlech," "The Merry Month of May" and "The Farmer's Boy," with the marvellous sound of the corps of drums joining in to 17th century effect from time to time. The march "Berliner Luft" could perhaps be a reminder for the corps of drums of a visit in 1969 to the Berlin Tattoo, but it really comes into its own in "Dashing Away



with the Smoothing Iron" and a modern march, "The Tambour Major."

Nowadays no HAC dinner-night ends without performances of "Post Horn Galop" and Owen Geary's coach horn solo "Stage Coach," and these duly appear. A march by the conductor, "March of the Antelope," is a clever mélange of gunner and 10th Hussar tunes. Also on side two are "On the Square" (Panella), "The Trombone King" (Karl King), "The King's Guard" (Keith), "San Lorenzo" (Silva) with fifes and band, "March of the Peers" (Sullivan) and that very fine rarity "Royal Birthday" by Major Alf Young.

The band and corps of drums, like the regiment itself, are Volunteer units, so perhaps it is the sheer pleasure of playing for love that comes across with such clarity. **RB**

"Live at the Sydney Opera House" (Second Military District Band)

(Musical Director: Captain T P Wahlin) (Festival Records L 35302)
This is an odd lot which, apart from the presence of "the electronics" in a few numbers, you could be forgiven for mistaking for a remake of an old Paul Whiteman disc. The acoustics of the hall do not help.

This Australian band is an efficient machine in the "big band" type of music, which is what you get here, but one would like to hear it in more military band-like material.

Side one has yet another "The Big Country" theme, a not very inspiring Gershwin medley and two items for piano and band played and arranged by a former member, Phillip Crawshaw—"He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother" and "MacArthur Park."

Captain Wahlin's own "Centenary Fanfare" leads to an item from the band's

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centenary concert, "Colonial Dance Memories," comprising a polka, waltz and galop composed by the band's first conductor, Bandmaster D G Callen, in the late 19th century. After that it's pure Whiteman with a 15-piece band in "Big Beat No 1," an arrangement by Jim Lally of "Black Bottom" and Paul Nero's old fiddle solo "Hot Canary." Three tunes from "Jesus Christ Superstar" sound 1930-ish too.

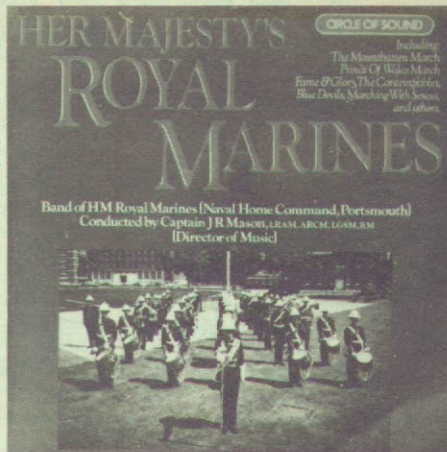
Obtainable from Hon Secretary, Army Charities Appeal, Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW 2021, Australia, £3.40 (including postage). **RB**

"Sounds of Brass Series Vol 15: City of Coventry Band (Conducted by Albert Chappell) (Guest Cornet Soloist: Maurice Murphy) (Decca SB 315)

This comparatively young band, formed in Coventry's fateful year of 1939, now has a training band to keep the supply of talented players flowing—the satisfactory results of this can be heard here and on other of the band's recent records.

In a programme comprising well-known repertory items and arrangements of popular classics there are a few cases of raggedness, especially in scherzo passages, and a couple of unwanted tempo changes, but I enjoyed it for its virility and wholly committed involvement of players. This approach rarely produces faultless performances but how preferable to the careful, spineless playing we sometimes get.

The band's signature tune, by Sam B Wood, leads to Sullivan's overture to "The Yeomen of the Guard" which, as always, is beyond the reach of brass in its entirety. Maurice Murphy is the virtuoso soloist in Denis Wright's "Concerto for Cornet," a nostalgic work saved in its more banal moments by the soloist's commanding, no-nonsense technique. Peter Haysom Craddy's variations on the beautiful "Lark



in the Clear Air" are almost wholly acceptable but spoiled by lack of continuity and a ludicrous pomp-and-circumstance march version of the tune.

In "Rococo Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky," Allan Street is surely barking up a wrong tree? His variations are far from rococo in style and the opportunity to playfully twist Tchaikovsky's original title ("Variations on a Rococo Theme") seem to have landed him in deep water. Lollipops in the shape of Saint-Saens' "Marche Militaire Française," Paderewski's "Minuet in G Major" and two movements from "The Swan Lake" ballet complete an enjoyable programme. **RB**

"Her Majesty's Royal Marines" (Band of HM Royal Marines (Naval Home Command, Portsmouth) conducted by Captain J R Mason (Director of Music)) (Polydor Circle of Sound 2383 302 SUPER)

Captain Jim Mason and his Portsmouth marines have always played marches well but with this record just about prove themselves the masters of the art. Fine precision, even tempo and exciting dynamics are all here. All I would ask, and most listeners may well feel the same, is an occasional let-up in what becomes a relentless 130 or so paces to the minute. Fine for Sousa but Alford and others call for the traditional 116-120 pulse for best effect. On record it is possible, and marvellously effective, to make a sudden change to a slower tempo at the trio tune.

Very few of these marches are over-recorded, though nothing is entirely new, I think. Gordon Langford, as always on Royal Marine records, supplies special arrangements which are most acceptable, shedding as they do new light on old

material and in many cases demonstrating what the composer might have done had he the wit and dexterity of Gordon Langford. His "Marching with Sousa" may not please the pundits but for me the brash open-air tunes beg for just this treatment. In "Famous British Marches" Langford is rightly more restrained and strings together "British Grenadiers," "Lilliburero," "Men of Harlech," "Hielan' Laddie" and "Rule Britannia" so as not to offend.

The "Prince of Wales' March" is an original composition of his and a superb one at that. The tunes themselves, and their rhythmic setting, place HRH immediately as a sailor prince. These three items alone are worth your money and in addition you have "The Mountbatten March," "Preobrajensky March," "The Red Cloak," "Fame and Glory," "Old Panama," "Our Director," "The New Colonial," "The Contemptibles" and "Blue Devils." **RB**

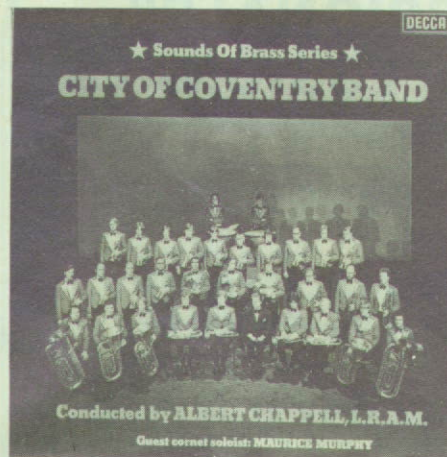
"The Sound of Brass and Voice" (Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band) (Conductor: Robert Oughton) (West Mercia Men's Chorus) (Conductors: Jack Cleevely and Harvey Boucher) (Polydor 2460 237)

Many years ago this programme would have been heard in any public hall on a Sunday evening—the next most accepted thing to going to church, only warmer. Nowadays it is thought old hat, sentimental, sanctimonious and unacceptable.

West Bromwich's town hall is the venue, with band, choirs, organ and pianos in for what amounts, on side one at least, to what can only be called a programme of silent-film music, and of the same quality. So, circa 1926, the credits in your local Bioscope roll to "Invincible" march and hero and heroine are introduced by Hartmann's cornet solo "Fatherland," which can also serve to set the scene for their love and the melodrama to come.

The hymn tune "St Theodulph" sees the heroine praying for her mother, in the clutches of the dastard J Gilpin. "John Gilpin's Ride" is pure Keystone Kops, depicting the hero in full flight. Well may a passing yokel ask "Quo Vadis," a silent-film score in itself, which works out the dirty deeds to final walk into sunset.

Sung with every ounce of "soul" rung out of them on side two are the "Soldiers' Chorus" from "Faust," "Go Down Moses," "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen," Eric Coates's "The Dam Busters" and Malotte's setting of "The Lord's Prayer." Then it's hats off for three rousing choruses from "The Yeomen of England." **RB**



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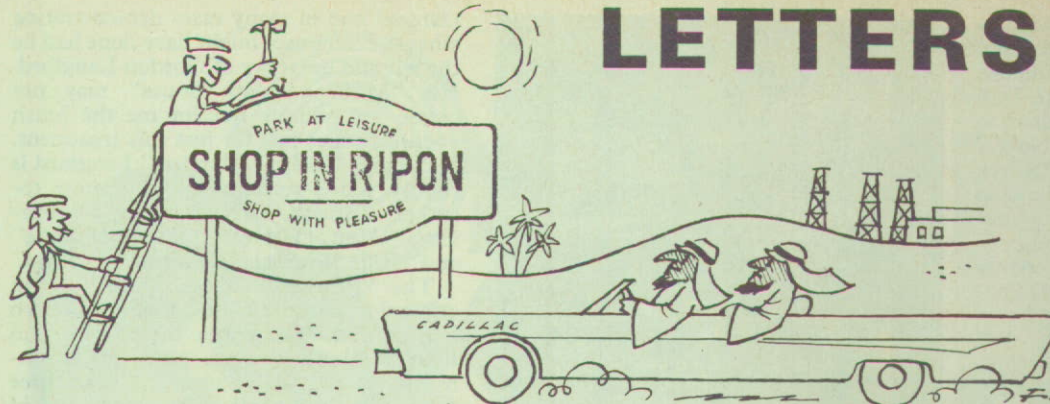
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LETTERS

being formed in Britain in connection with the bi-centenary of the American Revolution.—Philip R Smith Jr, 3712 Terrace Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, USA.

★SOLDIER cannot help but perhaps secretaries of any such associations would like to contact Mr Smith direct.

Missing medal

My grandfather, Lance-Corporal A S White, was awarded the Military Medal when serving with Colborne Battalion of The Cheshire Regiment during World War One. I am anxious to locate this medal and would appreciate it if any reader could give me any information as to its present whereabouts.—WO1 (SSM) R J White, RAOC, Fortress Headquarters, BFPO 52.

Paging page ten

I am anxious to obtain numbers 1-6 on military museums published in the 1973 issues of SOLDIER. These articles normally appear on page ten and if any reader could spare that page from his copy I would be most grateful.—GH Stokes, SASRA, 75/79 High Street, Aldershot, Hants.

Khud—and did

I read with particular interest the article on khud racing (Sport, April). In my days we called it khud climbing. I was surprised to see the contestants wearing soft shoes—no wonder your

Oops!

Being observant by nature I was somewhat puzzled by the battle honour RHINE on the Queen's Colour of The King's Own Scottish Borderers shown in the picture on page 20 of the May SOLDIER.

On closer examination it was also interesting to note that all the officers of this regiment appear to be left-handed and that they have an ancient and closely guarded tradition of wearing their medals on the right breast!—Sqn-Ldr P Biegel, Officers Mess, RAF Boscombe Down, Amersham, Wilts.

—Thank you, Squadron-Leader Biegel, and apologies to 1 KOSB and all other observers. We spotted the reversal—but beyond abort point; every editor seeing a reversed picture in another publication says a small prayer and murmurs "There but for . . ."—but it still happens to him too.

SOLDIER welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received. All correspondents must give their full names and addresses to ensure a reply. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

Loyal American Legion

For several years I have been trying to find information about the uniforms facings, crest, motto and colours or standards borne by the Loyal American Legion between 1780-83. Raised among American loyalists, it was commanded by Brigadier-General Benedict Arnold. My own ancestor was cornet of cavalry and paymaster of the unit. I would be

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published. Please do not ask for information you can get in your orderly room. SOLDIER cannot admit correspondence on matters involving discipline or promotion within a unit.

very grateful for any information.—Harry R Fletcher, 2057 Commodore Circle, Montgomery, Alabama 36106, USA.

USA links

I was interested in the article (December) on the Southern Skirmish Association and wonder if you can put me in touch with other associations of this type. I would also like to know whether there are any groups

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picture shows one of them falling. I'm afraid they wouldn't have got very far on the khuds of the North-West Frontier of India. We wore the old Army boots and took up picquet positions among rocks and shrubs. I was astonished to see that The Royal Hampshire Regiment came only fifth in the competition. I served for nine years with the regiment in the 1930s on the frontier. Come on, you Tigers, you ought to do better than that! We were "nulli secundus" to British, Indian and Gurkha soldiers in those days.—**T Parrot, Robin Hood Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2AW.**

Thanks for the memory. We of The Royal Hampshire Regiment used to man the heights on the North-West Frontier of India (1935-38 and earlier) in full fighting order, ie everything less pack. The leading platoon of the battalion ran forward along the road (built by the Army), up the steep, rocky, sun-scorched khud-side to secure the peak and dominate the forward ground. When the column had passed, it was helter-skelter, run, jump and fall down the stony mountainside before any sniper could gain our evacuated positions. Hard, heart-pumping, breathtaking running up; dangerous limb-twisting, toe-stubbing rushing down. Then the double march in tropical heat to rejoin the battalion as rear platoon. Yes, thanks for the memory—glad that is all it is now.—**George Hogan, 5 Queenswood Road, St John's, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1XJ.**

Kukri book

We have surplus copies of the 1972 edition of *The Kukri*, the journal of the Brigade of Gurkhas. This is an interesting publication which gives a resumé of the year's achievement in all units of the brigade as well as personal articles on a wide range of subjects. The normal cost of the magazine is £2.00 but anyone requiring a private copy of the 1972 edition is requested to send a cheque or postal order for £1.00 to—**Editor, Kukri, HQ The Brigade of Gurkhas, BFPO 1.**

Medal for wounds?

In supporting Captain Purvis's remarks on medals (Letters, April), I would like to suggest that a medal be awarded to Service personnel wounded in action. The tiny slip of gold braid previously worn on the sleeve was far too inconspicuous. The Americans award a very impressive medal, the Purple Heart, and though most people think it to be a medal for gallantry, it is in fact awarded to personnel who are wounded. The German serviceman is also awarded a medal when wounded—gold, silver or bronze according to the number of times wounded and the severity of the wounds. I really think it is time the British Services had a medal to signify that a person has been wounded in the service of his country.—**W MacGregor, 145 Lower Granton Road, Edinburgh.**



Military stamps

Guernsey have released a second definitive issue of stamps which depict soldiers of the mid-nineteenth century. The price of the stamps and the soldier depicted are: 20p, driver, field battery, Royal Guernsey Artillery, 1848; 50p, officer, field battery, Royal Guernsey Artillery, 1868; £1.00, cavalry trooper, Light Dragoons, 1814.

Competition

"Figure it out" (Competition 200, February) was a new type of teaser, a "crossfigure" which had to be converted into a crossword—and it brought in a huge entry. The required one-word answer was **CHARTED**.
Prizewinners:
1 L/Cpl Bozward, 464 GLS, RAF Wildenrath, BFPO 42.
2 Gnr Heafey, 18 Bircham Crescent, Kirton Lindsey, Gainsborough, Lincs.
3 Mrs P E Rogers, 30 Elles Quarters, Farnborough, Hants.
4 Miss E H Beaton, ACIO, 84 Charles Street, Leicester.
5 Pte Harris, 153 Willems Park,

Aldershot, Hants.
6 H J Tipping, 22 Nightingale Close, Romsey, Hants.
7 F E Ellison, 12 Fields Crescent, Hollingworth, Hyde, Cheshire.
8 Bdr I R Smith, HQ Bty, 16 Lt AD Regt RA, BFPO 16.
9 S/Sgt T J Walton RE, 118 Churchill Avenue, Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wilts.
10 V A Hooper, 37 Old Cote Drive, Heston, Middlesex.
11 Bdr M Baker, 39 (Roberts) Bty, Jun Ldrs Regt RA, Bramcote, Nuneaton, Warks.
12 Sgt R Saunders, RHG 16/5 L, BFPO 33.

Reunions

XVIII The Royal Irish Regiment and South Irish Horse Old Comrades Association. Annual reunion dinner, Irish Club, 83 Eaton Square, London, 7 June. Details from P J Boyce, 13 Sticklepeth Terrace, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 2AY.
The Royal Hampshire Regiment Comrades Association. Annual reunion, Winchester, 14 June. Tickets and details from Secretary, Serle's House, Winchester, SO23 9EG.
6, 8 and 10 Btys, 1st Light Brigade RA (Ewshot & Scotland). Reunion at Eastbourne, 13 September. Details from D A Knight, 79 Tyrrell Avenue, Wellington, Kent.
15 Heavy (Coast) Battery RA OCA (Hong Kong, Ceylon, Singapore Gunners) and King Edward's Five Ways School Cadet Corps. Diamond Jubilee dinner, Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, 12 July. Details from
over ▶

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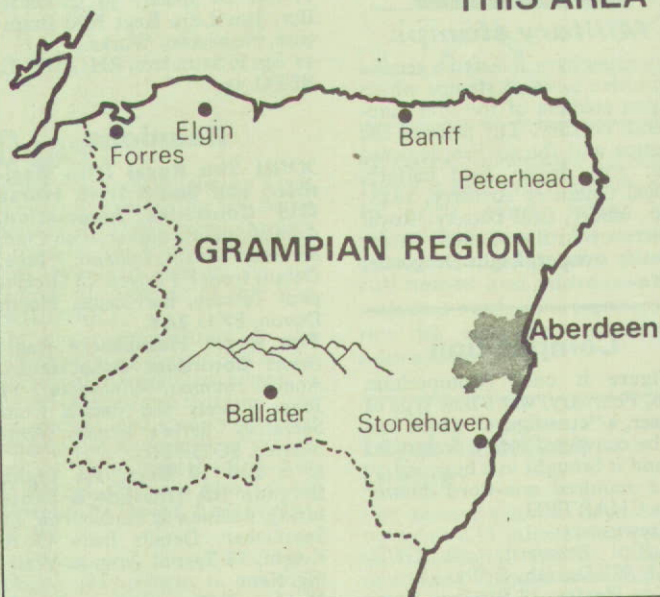
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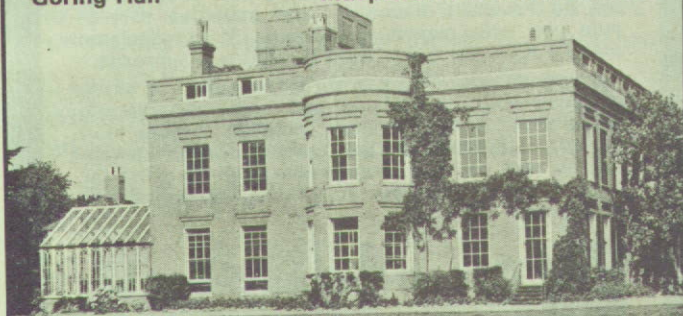
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from previous page

Maj E L Ohwend, King Edward's Five Ways School, Scotland Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham, B32 4BT.

REME/AER OCA. Reunion dinner, The Drive Hotel, Oldtown, Eastbourne, 13 September. Details from Hon Sec, D A Knight, 79 Tyrrell Avenue, Welling, Kent.

The Dorset Regiment Association. Annual reunion and dinner, TAVR Centre, Poundbury Road, Dorchester, 13 September. Details from Secretary, The Keep, Dorchester, Dorset.

Collectors' Corner

Yves R Arden, 1 Hallam Grange Rise, Fulwood, Sheffield, S10 4BE.—Wishes purchase miniature medals. State details and price asked.

W A Gesswein, 269 Division Avenue, Massapequa, New York 11758, USA.—Has US military publications, manuals and US Marine insignia for sale or exchange for British metal badges and insignia. N Smith, 27 Winchester Way, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 8DD.—Seeks hussar other rank busby and tunic.

Gregory Singer, 2743 Adrian Street, San Diego, California 92110, USA.—Wishes trade US Army enamelled crests (distinctive insignia) for British Army cap badges and headgear.

R G Giles, 48 Brent Road, Plumstead, London, SE18 3DT.—Seeks offers for SOLDIER Sep 66-Mar 75, three issues missing. Also has 11 various issues.

C E Prescott, Prescott House, 9 Cooperage Lane, Gibraltar.—Requires officer's helmet plates 1901-1914, KC of Royal Scots, East Yorkshire, Royal Irish Regiment, KOSB, South Lancashire, Notts and Derby Regiment, Connaught Rangers, Royal Berkshire, Chaplains' Department, Army Pay Corps and Corps of Military Police.

C T Walker, 11 St Aubyns, Hove, Sussex, BN3 2TG.—Has shako plate badge South Middlesex Rifle Volunteers circa 1865 (original Victoria

crown is missing) and regimental record from 14 Oct 1859 to disbandment in June 1921. Any offer or exchange for Scottish Volunteer badge considered.

John Swan, 265 Compton Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2B 5A8.—Wishes buy or exchange Canadian post-1920 and WW2 cap badges. Has badges, a few CEF, to exchange.

Henry de Pinchart, 14 rue des Balkans, 1180 Brussels, Belgium.—Seeks copies SOLDIER 1945-46. Would like to contact BLA members stationed in Belgium 1944-46.

P R Burke, 65 Ricardo Street, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.—Wishes exchange postcard-size photographs British military vehicles, AFVs, artillery weapons, aircraft and other equipments for British, Commonwealth and foreign cap badges.

Michael Wackers, 4154 Toenise-vorst 1, Weberstr 95, West Germany.—Wishes buy SOLDIER Mar, Apr, May 1963.

B J Christopher, 14 Chapel Street, Workington, Cumbria.—Seeks British regimental badges. Particular interest infantry and airborne WW2. Wishes correspond with others with same interest.

David Delaney, 26 Leyster Street, Morecambe, Lancs, LA4 5NE.—Wishes exchange British badges for worldwide tank and artillery cap, collar, beret and breast badges. V Brown, Northwell Pool, Swaffham, Norfolk.—Seeks Japanese and allied WW2 militaria, documents, leaflets, photos, banknotes—literally anything.

How observant are you?

(see page 26)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Length of tie on portrait. 2 Length of officer's stick. 3 Bow tie of man on right. 4 Pocket of man on right. 5 Lines in bottom right corner. 6 Dog's right ear. 7 Soldier's right elbow-patch. 8 Officer's medal ribbon. 9 Depth of officer's right lower pocket. 10 Width of bottom of picture frame in far room.

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SO popular was the new competition in the February SOLDIER that the midnight oil just had to be burned to produce another one. Here again the first step is to fit the figures into the left-hand grid—as encouragement you are given the figures 871.

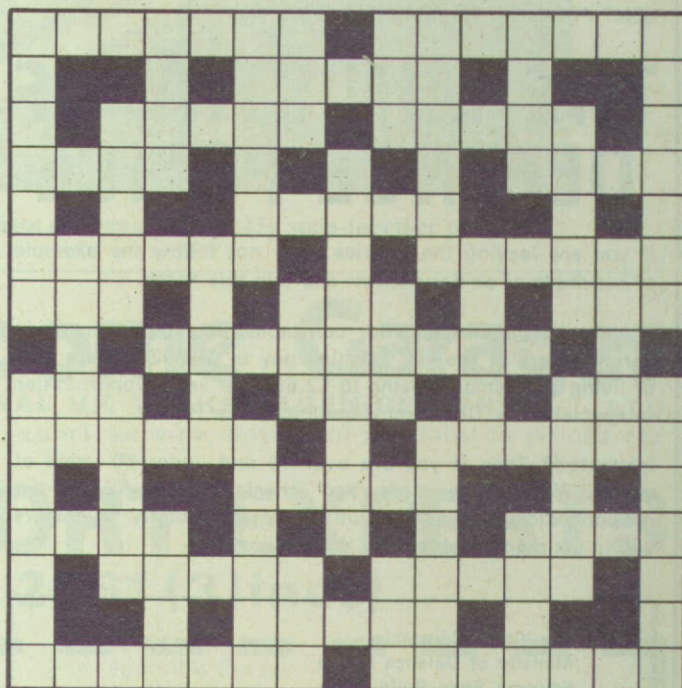
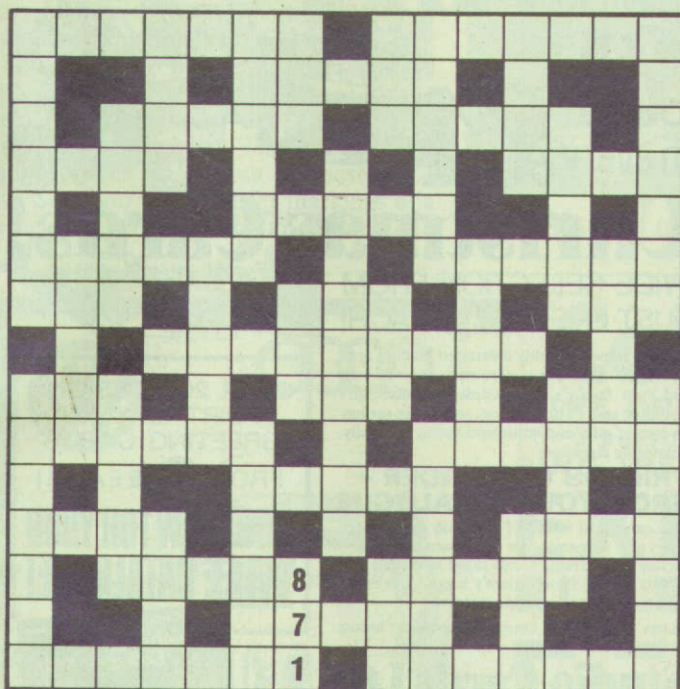
Stage two, using the right-hand grid, is to convert the "cross-figures" into a

crossword by substitution of nine different letters for the nine different figures. Note that 871 is not going to help because these are random letters—all other figure combinations, some of which are duplicated—convert to dictionary words.

One word, reads in reverse—what is this word? Send your answer on a post-card or by letter (not a palindrome), with

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 11 August. The answer and winners' names will appear in the October SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 204" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

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786	7892	38672	891498	8342491	
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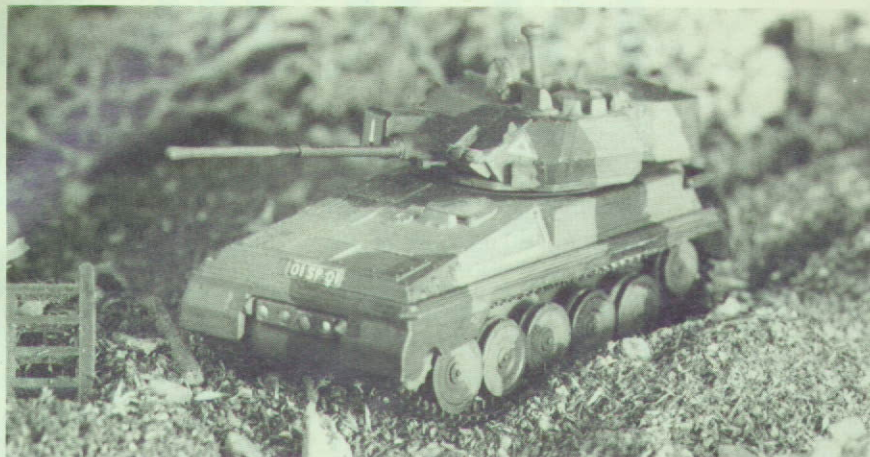
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SCORPION - sting in the turret

ROARING and rumbling, bulky and slow, the tracked vehicle has never been popular with the British Army for reconnaissance operations. That is, until the development of Scorpion, an armoured fighting vehicle which can steal up on an enemy, impart a deadly sting and then scurry away at speed.

This first all-aluminium armoured vehicle is even quieter than many wheeled vehicles because its new design of track incorporates rubber bushing and is shod with rubber treads. Its sting is imparted by a 76-millimetre gun and 7.62-millimetre co-axial machine gun mounted in the turret.

The British firm of Airfix, facing strong competition from Japan in the field of plastic model tanks, has scored first with its Scorpion. This kit, moulded in dark-green plastic, can be constructed as a Scorpion with transfer markings of a vehicle in service with The Blues and

Royals at Windsor in 1973 or alternatively as a Scimitar mounting a 30-millimetre Rarden gun. The 65 parts include tracks, spotlight and Radiac mast (for nuclear fall-out detection). It is in tiny HO/OO scale with a price to match of 25 pence.

Sixty-five pieces make up the Scorpion.

Two other AFVs in 1:32nd scale are planned by Airfix—a Crusader Mark III used in the North African campaign in World War Two and a Sd Kfz 250/3 half-track which saw service as Rommel's command vehicle.

In the meantime, figure fans are offered a 48-piece set of Waterloo French Imperial Guard also in HO/OO scale at 25 pence and, at 34 pence, General George Washington on horseback, in the 54-millimetre "Collectors' Series."

Airfix has taken to the air with kits of the Spitfire Vb and Sopwith Pup both in 1:72nd scale at 34 pence; and to the sea with a pair of Tribal class destroyers in one pack at 25 pence in the 1:1200th scale "Waterline Series" and a 1:600th £1.19 kit of the Prince Eugen, victor of the battle with HMS Hood and survivor of the daring "Channel dash" in 1942.

HH



One of a pair of tribal class destroyers in the 25p snap-together pack.



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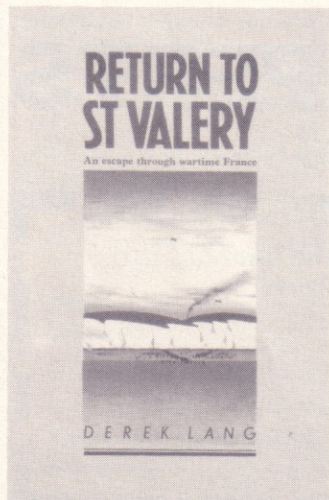
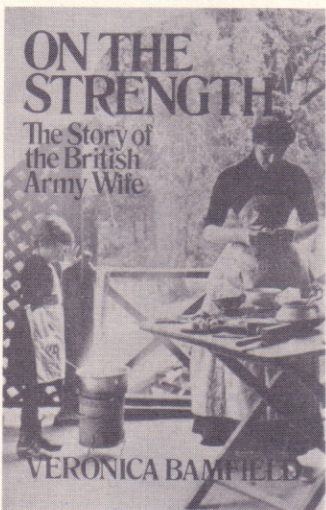
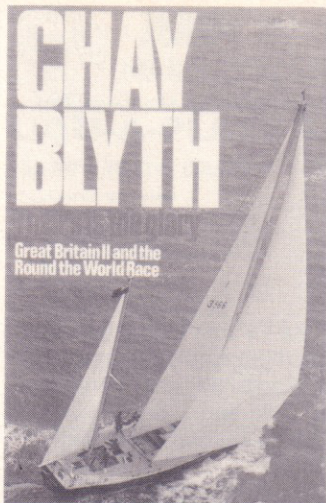
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BOOKS



Round the world

"Theirs is the Glory" (Chay Blyth)

... That being the case—and it's his crew he refers to—Chay Blyth might have spent a little more time and effort on the description of the feat he believed earned them that glory. It was only a short while after the end of the Whitbread round-the-world-race, in which Mr Blyth and his crew of paras won honours, that this book was published. This implies it was rushed, and it shows.

Unlike his gripping *"The Impossible Voyage,"* in which Mr Blyth described his solo "wrong way" circumnavigation in British Steel, this second book has little depth. It consists of extracts from the log of Great Britain II and not much else. And the rush to print is apparent in a number of errors.

His second career as a professional adventurer has rightly earned Chay Blyth national hero status, whether he likes it or not. So his public is naturally eager to read of his exploits and attitudes to the extraordinary life he leads. *"Theirs is the Glory"* will not wholly satisfy them.

It is to be hoped that at the end of the next exciting adventure—an Atlantic criss-cross race this year in a multi-hull craft with another para crew—more thought will go into the preparation of any book Chay Blyth might produce. There can be no need to rush into print to beat competitors for, it is believed, Chay's crewmen agree never to publish their own memoirs. The other signature required of them is a "blood chit" exonerating Chay from liability in what is a dangerous and demanding business—and one we armchair adventurers like to read about. Hodder & Stoughton Ltd, St Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4P 4AH, £3.50 MJS

Army wives

"On the Strength" (Veronica Bamfield)

Dr Johnson once said: "Every man thinks meanly of himself for never having been a soldier or not having been to sea." Until comparatively recently, and for 300 years before, to be a British soldier meant both—and that went for wives and families too.

British Army wives, the world's most experienced homemakers, went wherever their husbands were posted—India, Malaya, Malta, Bermuda, Shanghai, Gibraltar. Having reached journey's end, more often than not there were dangers to be faced—mutiny and rebellion, fever and sickness, kidnapping and sudden death. Never was this more true than in the Indian Mutiny, and Mrs Bamfield recalls some harrowing tales.

But there were good times too, and she goes on to discuss taboos and traditions, snobberies and superstitions and metes out equal treatment to colonels' ladies and

Judy O'Gradys. Mrs Bamfield herself was born into an Army family in 1908. Her grandfather, father and husband were soldiers and in this truly delightful little book she fulfils a lifelong ambition to tell the story of the British Army wife.

She makes an excellent job of it with a book which will stand as a tribute to them all.

Charles Knight & Co Ltd, 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3JA, £3.25 JCW

Waterloo umbrella

"Uniforms of Waterloo" (Philip Haythornthwaite)

The Duke of Wellington wore a semi-civilian uniform of his own design at Waterloo—a low cocked hat bearing the cockades of Britain, Portugal, Spain and Prussia, a dark-blue "surtout" coat covered by a cloak and cape of the same colour, and a white neckcloth. Lord Hill wore an old boat-cloak and General Picton, who habitually donned a shabby greatcoat and battered beaver hat, arrived carrying a green-lined white umbrella.

Dress regulations were adapted to the rigours of campaigning. In seeking to depict the appearance of the 19th century soldier in the field, Mr Haythornthwaite has chosen Waterloo as his backcloth. In 80 colour plates he shows not what the opposing armies should have been wearing but what they actually wore, whether versions of full dress modified for the cut-and-thrust of battle or completely non-regulation outfits.

Napoleon is in his familiar grey greatcoat and plain cocked hat; Blücher's Waterloo uniform was "in all probability" the simple service dress of a Prussian staff officer. Each plate is supported by an explanatory note providing, in most cases, a happy combination of history and anecdote.

An introductory chapter sets the scene with a brief description of the Waterloo campaign and there is a useful appendix giving the order of battle and strengths of the Anglo-allied, French and Prussian armies.

Blandford Press, 167 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6PH, £1.90 JFPJ

Away and back

"Return to St Valery" (Derek Lang)

The trouble with escape stories is that the pace, the edge-of-the-chair, nail-biting, simply cannot go on too long, and one is apt to read and read and read until the book is done and the story told. So it is with this book—not just another escape from France and the clutches of the Nazis, but an attractive, sensitive and, toward the end, unashamedly sentimental tale.

The author had the possibly unique experience of being captured in, and subsequently sheltered around, a town which in later years he was personally to

liberate; the reunions at the end of the war between this young Scots officer and the French who risked big trouble in aiding his escape, must have been almost too much to bear.

His story starts with the French débacle and the subsequent rush, with its attendant chaos, for the Channel. Into the bag went Lang only to escape and then be re-captured and then to escape again and to flee, via Marseilles, to the "safety" of Egypt and re-employment in the desert.

It was in 1944, and this time at the head of the conquering 5th Camerons, that St Valery received its second visit from the gallant author. The scenes of reunion have been almost too heart-rending to describe.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.95 PC

Cornish corner

"Military Insignia of Cornwall" (D Endean Ivall and Charles Thomas)

The Institute of Cornish Studies and The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry Regimental Museum joined forces in an effort to produce a publication about the military insignia of their county; this resulting booklet proves their efforts worthwhile. Though of only 69 pages, it gives a wealth of information covering buttons, cap, collar and buttonhole badges, helmet and shako plates, shoulder titles and other insignia of Cornish units ranging from the Volunteer battalions to Regular units and Cadet Forces to Home Guard.

There are more than 250 very clear line drawings, much better than some seen in more expensive books. This book is a "must" for specialist collectors of Cornwall militaria and even the general badge collector will not begrudge its modest price.

Institute of Cornish Studies, Trevenon House, Pool, Redruth, Cornwall, £1.20 WS

AFV update

"Armoured Fighting Vehicles of the World" (Christopher F Foss)

Many developments have taken place during the last three years in the field of armoured fighting vehicles. Vehicles like Scorpion and Fox which were under development when the first edition of Mr Foss's book came out in 1971 have now entered service. Others—the US mechanised infantry combat vehicles and the armoured reconnaissance scout vehicle, for instance—were then only projects. Today their prototypes are under construction.

Mr Foss comments: "Recent conflict in the Middle East has focused attention on armoured vehicles again. Once again, certain people have been saying that the tank is dead; people have been saying this on and off for some 40 years. The tank is far from dead and the tanks that are at present under development,

for example the American XM-1 and the new German/British MBT, will ensure that tanks will be around for a good many years yet."

This new edition is, in effect, a new book. It has gone metric, all the photographs are new, many new vehicles are included and the text has been fully revised and updated. It must be the most comprehensive book in the English language on the subject.

Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8AS, £2.95 JCW

For connoisseurs

"A History of the Uniforms of the British Army: Volume III" (Cecil C P Lawson)

This reappearance in reprint of Volume III, first published in 1961, of this classic work, is welcome news for the student of British military dress. Volumes I and II, published in the early part of World War Two, cover the periods 1660-1714 and 1714 to 1760. Volume III takes the study of infantry uniforms forward another 37 years to 1797.

An interesting point to emerge from Mr Lawson's researches is the genuine effort, even in early days, to reproduce a practical uniform suitable for both environment and wearer's needs.

Well illustrated throughout, the book is noteworthy for a particularly interesting section on the American colonies. Other chapters include a contribution on bodyguards with descriptions of such picturesque bodies as the battleaxe guards of Ireland, the King's Spears (forebears of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms) and the Yeomen of the Guard.

Drums, Fifes and Bands; Saluting; Invalid Companies; Fencible Regiments; Militia; Volunteers; are other chapter headings which give an idea of the scope of this masterly work. Volume IV takes the story of uniforms up to the Napoleonic wars and Volume V covers the late 18th and early 19th centuries. A sixth volume, in active preparation at the time of the author's death, is now unlikely to be completed.

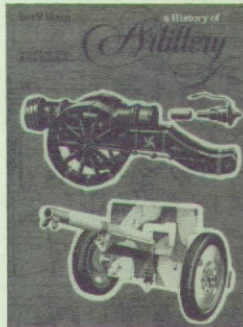
Kay & Ward Ltd, 21 New Street, London, EC2M 4NT, £3.95 JFPJ

IN BRIEF

"A History of Artillery" (Ian V Hogg)

The author was a Master Gunner when he retired to Portugal to write full time. Some 360 photographs and drawings illustrate his clear and interesting text and

include such gems as a pictorial explanation of how to examine the inside of a muzzle-loading gun by reflecting sunlight down the barrel—a chore for the 1685



gunner apparently. The history gets right up-to-date with the rueful caption from the ex-gunner author to a picture of a Corporal missile as "the writing on the wall" for the gentle art of long-range sniping.

Hamlyn Publishing Group, Astronaut House, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 9AR, £3.95

"Firepower: Weapon Effectiveness on the Battlefield 1630-1850" (Major-General B P Hughes)

There is something a little discomforting about a clinical assessment of the killing power of weapons. But it is perhaps no

bad thing to remind students of arms both in—and especially out of—uniform that the ultimate aim of a gun is to destroy or disable an enemy. General Hughes's detailed account of the effectiveness of smoothbore firearms on the battlefield up to the time when rifled weapons made the whole business more efficient is a fascinating document and provides a valuable background to many actual campaigns he analyses. Both historians and militaria enthusiasts, not to mention wargamers, will find interest in the well-illustrated discussions of battles such as Blenheim, Dettingen, Albuhera and Talavera. Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London, NW3 1PR, £4.50

"The Bayonet: A History of Knife and Sword Bayonets 1850-1970" (Anthony Carter and John Walter)

Devotees of the cold steel will relish this thorough work which traces the development of the bayonet and contains more than 300 fine drawings by John Walter. There is a handy appendix for collectors, giving the marks to be found on German, American and British and Commonwealth blades, and a section on Japanese arsenal marks. The period covered runs from the American Civil War to Vietnam via the

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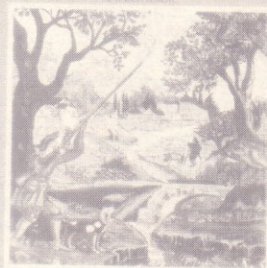
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this pocket-sized 28-page pamph-
let is priced at £1 and at that
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"Airfix Magazine Guide 3: Mili-
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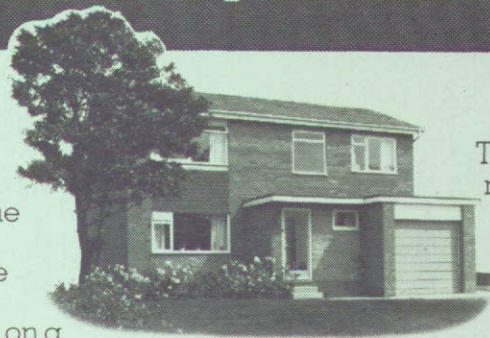
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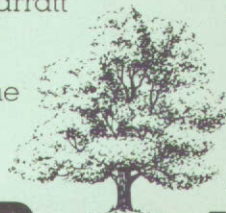
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<input type="checkbox"/> Bolton – Little Lever	7,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Bolton – Top o' the Moss	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Burnley – Briercliffe Park	6,650
<input type="checkbox"/> Chorley	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Manchester – Whitefield	13,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Orrell – Bell Lane Park	6,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Preston – Fulwood Park	9,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Preston – Penwortham Gardens	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Radcliffe – Cams Lane	7,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Radcliffe Hall	7,250
<input type="checkbox"/> West Houghton	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Wigan – Blackrod	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Wigan – New Spring Park	6,750

NORTHUMBERLAND

<input type="checkbox"/> Bedlington	6,850
<input type="checkbox"/> Cramlington New Town	6,600
<input type="checkbox"/> Darras Hall – Hadrian Court	28,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Darras Hall – Meadowvale	22,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Darras Hall – Pembroke Drive	19,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Heddon-on-the-Wall	19,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Killingworth New Town	6,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Morpeth – Ulgham	18,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Newcastle – Denton Burn	6,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Wallsend	†

NOTTINGHAM

<input type="checkbox"/> Nottingham – Hucknall	6,900
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TEESSIDE

<input type="checkbox"/> Billingham	6,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Darlington	9,200
<input type="checkbox"/> Guisborough	6,700
<input type="checkbox"/> Marton	8,600
<input type="checkbox"/> Nunthorpe – High Gill	11,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Nunthorpe – Runnymede Park	10,700

YORKSHIRE – WEST

<input type="checkbox"/> Burley-in-Wharfedale	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Churwell Morley	9,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Hunsworth – Cleckheaton	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Barwick Road	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Blue Hill Lane	8,600
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Farnley	8,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Farsley	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Rawdon	8,800
<input type="checkbox"/> Leeds – Rothwell	8,700
<input type="checkbox"/> Otley – Burras Lane	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Otley – Weston Lane	10,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Wakefield – Kirkthorpe	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Wakefield – Oulton	10,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Wakefield – Potovene Lane	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Wakefield – Wrenthorpe	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetherby – Badger Wood Glade	10,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetherby – Partridge Wood Hill	16,595

YORKSHIRE – EAST

<input type="checkbox"/> Bridlington	7,295
<input type="checkbox"/> Driffield	9,295
<input type="checkbox"/> Hull	8,778
<input type="checkbox"/> Market Weighton	7,700

YORKSHIRE – NORTH

<input type="checkbox"/> Askham Bryan	17,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Copmanthorpe	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Catterick	7,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Easingwold	9,250
<input type="checkbox"/> East Ayton	8,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Harrogate	10,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Hunmanby	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Knaresborough	12,450
<input type="checkbox"/> Northallerton	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Malton – Norton	8,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Pickering	7,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Richmond – Scotton	8,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Ripon	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Stamford Bridge	9,935
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarborough – Springhill Lane	11,100
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarborough – Castle Mount	16,250
<input type="checkbox"/> York – Headlands	7,950
<input type="checkbox"/> York – Sipton Road	11,950
<input type="checkbox"/> York – Dunnington	†
<input type="checkbox"/> York – Haxby	11,995

Wales – North

<input type="checkbox"/> Prestatyn	7,550
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Scotland

Prices from £.

SCOTLAND – CENTRAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Alloa	10,900
<input type="checkbox"/> Alva	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr – View Park	11,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr – Doon Bank	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Bo'ness	7,950
<input type="checkbox"/> Cairneyhill	7,200
<input type="checkbox"/> Carlisle	11,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Falkirk – Laurieston	11,300
<input type="checkbox"/> Kennoway	10,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Larbert	17,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Law	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Milton of Campsie	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Overton	9,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Polmont – The Glade	7,950

SCOTLAND – NORTHEAST

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboyne	19,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Cruden Bay	7,345
<input type="checkbox"/> Elgin	7,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Ellon – Castle Road	12,495
<input type="checkbox"/> Ellon – Meiklemill	7,995
<input type="checkbox"/> Ellon – The Square	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Inverurie	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Old Meldrum	13,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Stuartfield	†
<input type="checkbox"/> Turrit	7,030

†Future developments

To: Barratt Developments, Wingrove House, Ponteland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3DP.
I would like all the details of the developments in the areas I have ticked.

Name _____
Address _____

SOLDIER

