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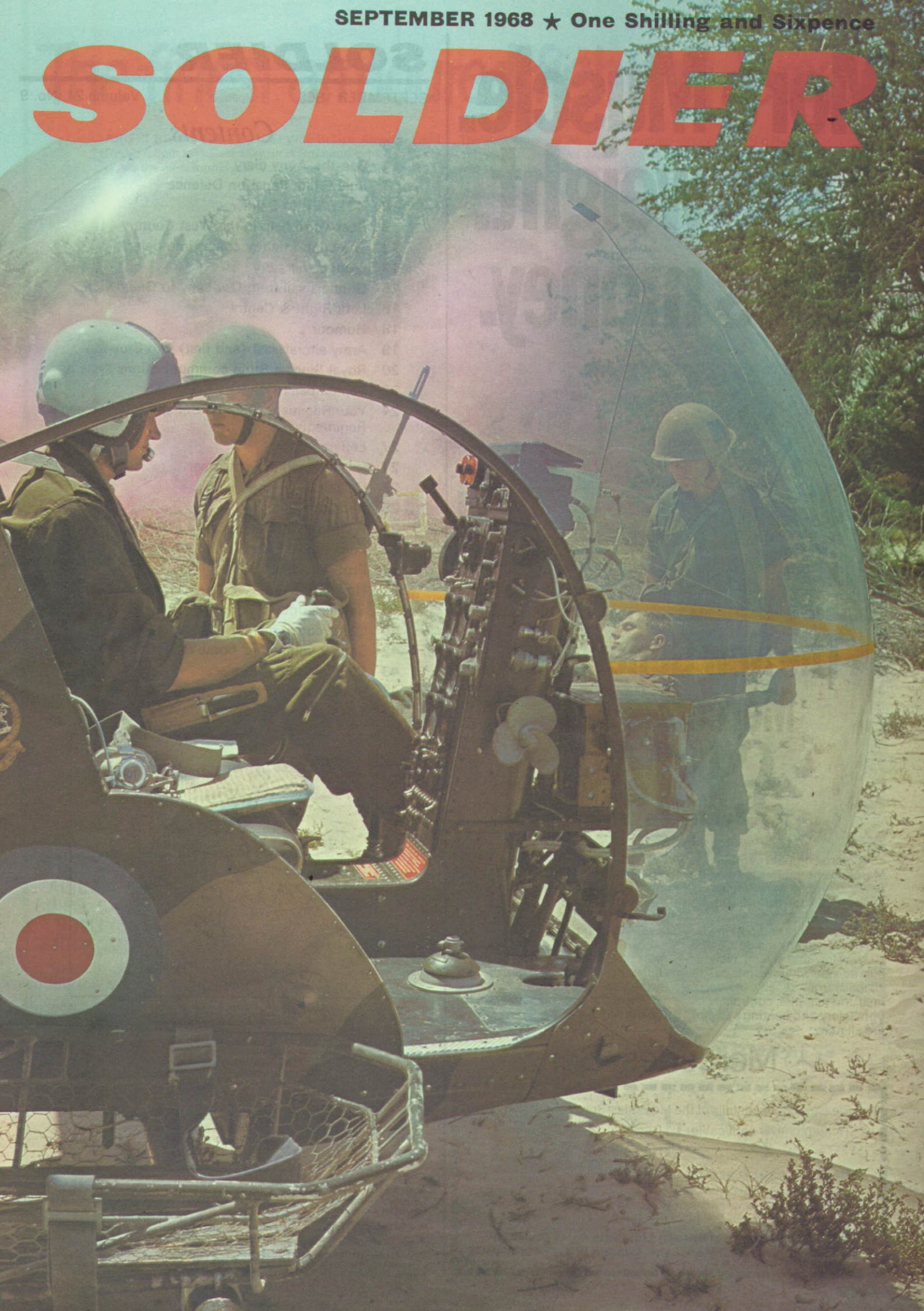

SOLDIER

SEPTEMBER 1968 Volume 24, No. 9

Contents

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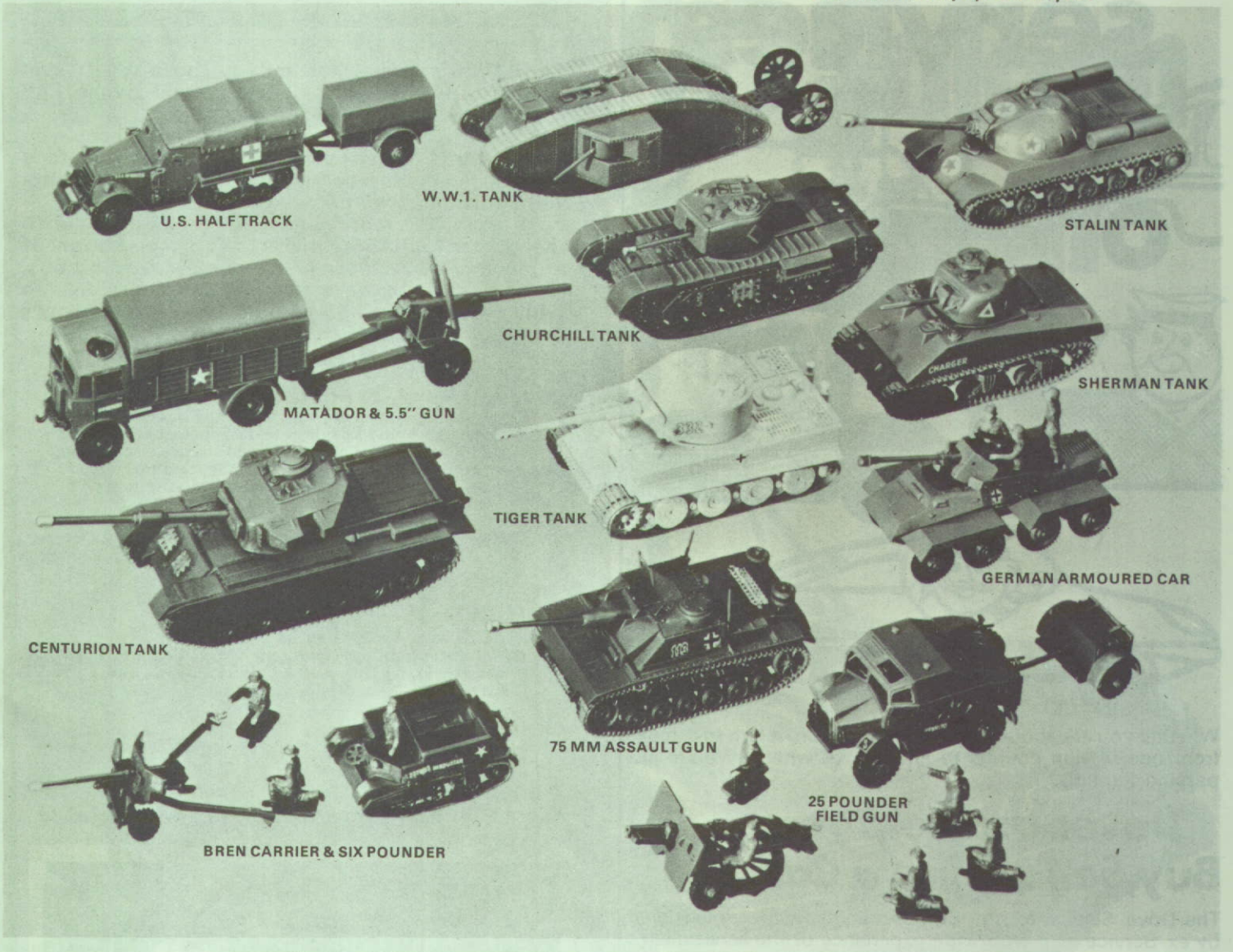

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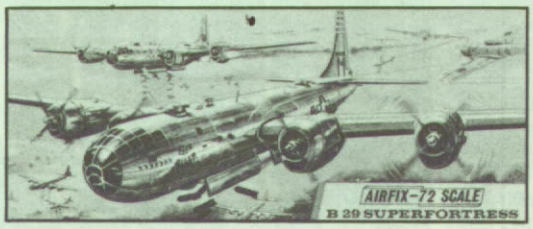

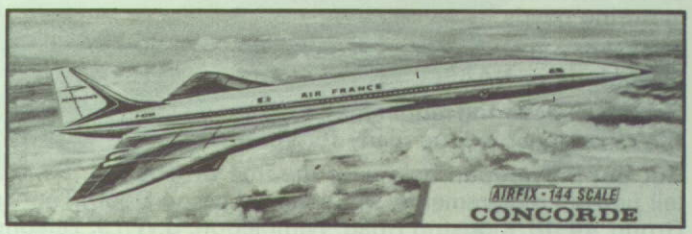

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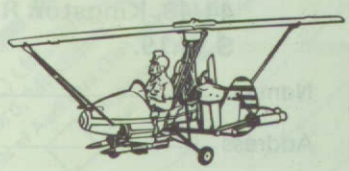

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See-the-Army

DIARY

SOLDIER readers, particularly those who travel around, are always anxious to know when and where Army occasions are happening.

In this regular feature SOLDIER will keep you posted up-to-date. Events will be listed up to a year ahead and repeated monthly. Amendments and additions are indicated in bold type.

To make this feature as valuable as possible to the reader, SOLDIER invites the co-operation of organisers of tattoos, Army displays, exhibitions, at homes, open days and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment.

SEPTEMBER

10 Belfast Army Display (10–21 September)
11 Royal Military School of Music concert, Twickenham (8pm)
14 Manchester Army Display (14–17 September)
18 Royal Military School of Music grand concert, Twickenham
20 Warrington Army Display (20–22 September)
21 Camberley, Staff College and Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Horse Show, RMA Sandhurst
24 Birkenhead Army Display (24–25 September)
27 Wolverhampton Army Display (27 September–2 October)
28 Open Days, Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, Edinburgh (28–29 September)

OCTOBER

5 Birmingham Army Display (5–9 October)
5 151 (Greater London) Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport (Volunteers), At Home, Fairfield Halls area and T & AVR Centre, Sydenham Road, Croydon.

NOVEMBER

9 Festival of Remembrance, Albert Hall, London

DECEMBER

14 Disbandment of The York and Lancaster Regiment, Sheffield.

Royal Military School of Music band practice, Kneller Hall.

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NO SPARE FAT

"WE are going to concentrate on Europe." This comment by Mr James Boyden, Under-Secretary of State for the Army, sums up the spirit of the latest Defence White Paper.

Our Allies, says the Paper, hitherto have acknowledged the military burdens imposed on us by commitments outside Europe and have judged our contribution to NATO accordingly. But as we withdraw from far-flung bases we shall make a larger contribution to the Alliance.

Said Mr Boyden: "If there is serious trouble on the continent there is serious trouble for Britain. This is not necessarily true of the rest of the world. This is not being inward-looking or insular—it is an inescapable fact. And it is equally a fact that thanks to NATO we have averted any really serious trouble in Europe for the last 20 years."

The White Paper reveals that now earmarked for assignment to NATO is the whole of 3 Division, 16 Parachute Brigade (less one battalion) and 22 Special Air Service Regiment—all now United Kingdom based as part of the new Army Strategic Command. With Royal Air Force aircraft they will form a mobile task force. And an armoured reconnaissance squadron is earmarked for the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force.

The movement of one brigade (6 Brigade) from Rhine Army back to England has been completed and it will take part in a NATO exercise to demonstrate its ability to redeploy quickly, the Paper adds.

Of BAOR, Mr Boyden said: "They would not be the superb force they are if they were not imbued with a splendid sense of purpose. I have seen a lot of BAOR and I can vouch that they have the most up-to-date equipment, they are superbly trained and, not least, they are very, very well led."

Reduction of 17 major units announced in July last year will be completed by April 1970, the White Paper continues. Further reductions equivalent to nine major units will be made by September 1972. During this period it may be necessary to reduce by a further major unit or its equivalent. By the end of the period the Army will be concentrating mainly on its primary rôle of defending the central region of Allied Command Europe.

But the units of Army Strategic Command will be available for other tasks—such as additional support for Allied Command Europe, provision of a small balanced force to take part in United Nations peacekeeping, internal security in dependent territories and assistance to Allies in operations outside NATO area.

Britain will continue to maintain a highly-professional and highly-trained Army. By the early 1970s it should be making extensive use of the SA 340 light helicopter, its light air defence will be greatly improved by introduction of the low level surface-to-air missile Rapier, a new light gun will be introduced, a new mortar-locating radar, Cymbeline, will be in service, and major advances are planned in night-fighting equipment.

The Paper states: "It is difficult at present to determine in detail what forces Europe is likely to require for its security in the longer term or how they should be deployed. This will depend among other things on what progress can be made toward disarmament and what contribution is made by Europe's transatlantic Allies. If Britain wishes to exercise the same influence as other European powers with similar resources in a Europe that is expected to become increasingly self-reliant she must be prepared to continue contributing to its joint defence on a scale comparable with them.

"It is therefore the Government's intention that Britain shall play her full part in the defence of Europe. Her all-Regular Army, though smaller in size than some continental armies, will provide the Alliance with ground forces of a professional skill and experience unmatched in Europe."

Mr Boyden said: "The Army will have to be properly manned, properly equipped and properly trained in the future just as it is today. It will be a smaller Army, yes. But if it is going to carry out its rôles it is going to have to be just as professional and efficient, just as versatile and tough as it is now.

"It won't carry any spare fat but it will offer career prospects that are as good as they are today."

Other points from the White Paper:—

FAR EAST

Outline plan prepared for phased rundown and withdrawal of forces and release of local base establishments and facilities; first stages being implemented—but forces remain able to meet commitments.

Withdrawal from Malaysia and Singapore will mean increase to forces in Hong Kong. More support facilities there.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Slightly larger reduction now expected than previously announced £30m by 1970-71. Concentration on Europe will offer new opportunities for collaborating on major items of equipment.

SUPPORT

Reshaping Army training organisation begun. Artillery schools at Larkhill and Manorbier to be concentrated at Larkhill. Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers apprentices colleges at Arborfield and Carlisle to merge. Royal Engineers support group reducing stocks and closing storage depot. REME reducing and amalgamating repair workshops. Explosives storage depots being cut. Royal Army Ordnance Corps support system being reorganised.

In longer term, number of infantry depots will be reduced. System for supply and maintenance of stores and equipment will be further streamlined.

PERSONNEL

"Sufficient men of the right quality must be recruited if the Services are to be able to discharge their newly-defined tasks in the 1970s."

Rundown: Well under way. Between April 1967 and April 1968 Army strength reduced by 6852. So far as possible further reductions will be achieved by normal outflow and adjustment of recruitment and re-engagement. Redundancy will be kept to minimum. Up to April 1968 about 1000 officers and men left Army and Royal Air Force under redundancy scheme—in 1968 to 1969 there will be further 4000, mostly volunteers.

Resettlement: "It is in the national interest that the knowledge and ability of those leaving the Services should be used to the best advantage in civilian life." Vigorous measures being taken to expand and improve resettlement service. Leading industrialist being invited to be adviser on Forces resettlement.

Reserves: Territorial & Army Volunteer Reserve categories I and II "providing the country with more effective reserve forces than any since the end of National Service." Review being carried out to determine what changes might be made in training and other commitments of reserves. T & AVR III to remain on present basis in case modest expansion of T & AVR I and II may be desirable.

Further reductions announced in the latest White Paper are:

Guards Division. 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards.

Scottish Division. 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's).

Queen's Division. 4th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment; 4th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. (These regiments will each reorganise to form three battalions).

Prince of Wales's Division. The Gloucestershire Regiment and The Royal Hampshire Regiment will amalgamate to form a new regiment of one battalion.

Light Division. 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets. (The Regiment will reorganise to form two battalions.)

Royal Engineers. To be reduced by one field squadron and two field support squadrons.

Royal Armoured Corps. One regiment.

Royal Artillery. One regiment.

Royal Engineers. One field squadron and two field support squadrons.

Royal Defence College: Cost of single establishment at Shrivenham no longer justified but all Service colleges still to be federated into single Royal Defence Academy. Increase in officers at universities planned.

THE 70s OUTSIDE EUROPE

Although no special capability for major operations overseas will be retained, Britain must preserve special military skills that might be needed outside Europe—and ability to send forces there. Air bases at Gan and Masirah to be kept. Extensive overseas training to continue—especially when benefiting local people.

A VERSATILE ARMY

By 1972 the Army in the United Kingdom, far from being bigger than it is now, will be smaller, said Major-General C H Blacker, Director of Army Staff Duties.

Despite withdrawals, he said, there will be a higher proportion of the remaining fighting units serving outside this country than at present. "The bulk of these troops outside the United Kingdom will be serving in British Army of the Rhine but there will still be garrisons in Hong Kong and in the Mediterranean.

Said Major-General Blacker: "The past 20 years have been, for peacetime, an exceptionally active period for the Army, and during it the general public and the Army itself have got so used to troops flying off to trouble spots that they have begun to regard it as normal. Well, Army life in future will be different—not less rewarding, but different.

"For many Army officers and men, brought up during the Malaya, Korea, Cyprus, Borneo, Aden saga which is now ending, the adjustment will be hard—but we are very adaptable people. Life *will* be different—as it has been before.

"Officers like myself, looking back to the start of their Army lives in the '30s, can remember a period very different indeed from that of the last 20 years. A period when regiments in the United Kingdom were frequently reduced to cadre form because of the large drafts they had to send to regiments in India, a period when on exercises you waved a flag to represent an anti-tank gun and trundled a truck about with a wooden pole sticking out of it as an imitation tank.

"These were sad days, indeed. But look now at the superbly equipped and professional Rhine Army—the most professional Army in Western Europe—and at their air-mobility and technical expertise of the Strategic Reserve. Quite a contrast!"

He went on: "What I have been trying to say is that in this turbulent and unpredictable world this country more than ever needs—and will continue to have—an effective and versatile Army; and I stress the word versatile . . .

"Only last January we flew a company of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry from Malaya into Mauritius on the same day as the request came in, and in April we had a battalion headquarters and a company of the Inniskillings off to Bermuda within ten hours of the request being approved by the Commonwealth Office (and less than 20 hours after the first whisper of trouble) . . .

"Then only last week a company of 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, flew 2000 miles non-stop from the United Kingdom to Cyprus to carry out a parachute drop. They had 48 hours' notice of the exercise and I am told that they were only 15 seconds late over the dropping zone. A versatile Army indeed!"

General Sir Geoffrey Baker, Chief of the General Staff, pinpointed "three notable misconceptions" about the future of the Army:

That troops will flood back to the United Kingdom where they will tend to sit around with nothing to do.

That there will not be any overseas service in future—the Army will be pegged to Europe so life will become boring and unadventurous, because, after all, a war in Europe is unthinkable.

That there will be large redundancies and consequently Servicemen will be flooding the labour market.

He said: "The combination of uncertainty about the future and these and other misconceptions have resulted in a serious fall in recruiting."

Outside Europe the Army must still be prepared for a wide range of tasks in support of the overseas policy of the Government of the day. "This emphasises the need for great flexibility in the Army of the future and brings out the vital importance of overseas training . . ."

The aims of overseas training, he said, would be to practise mounting drills in the United Kingdom; to keep battle techniques alive and up-to-date in different conditions of climate and terrain; to provide the best possible training in realistic conditions and in frequent co-operation with Allies; and to overcome the limitations of training areas in this country. "Only in this way," he added, "can we make sure that our forces are ready at a moment's notice to tackle any job that crops up.

"Our aim is to send every major unit in Strategic Command on an overseas exercise once a year and to provide opportunities for some BAOR units to train outside Germany.

"This is an exciting challenge to the professionalism of soldiers. In the current training year we shall be exercising in no less than 21 countries and next year in 27."

Major-General R E Ward, Vice-Adjutant General, struck a human note. He said: "We are also conscious that many of the men who wish to spend most of their lives in the Army have to be regarded as family men with commitments extending far beyond their own personal commitments. The new rôle of the Army in Europe and this country means that there will generally be less turbulence for families.

"I know that some families like a lot of travel but when the children get older a good many are concerned about the gaps which occur in their children's education. The turbulence of the post-war years is bound to be reduced. Families are bound to be more united and this is a gain."

Footnote: The comments by these three high-ranking officers and Mr Boyden were made at a press conference following the publication of the White Paper.

SOLDIER *to soldier*

In the July issue, SOLDIER introduced a new range of 18 prints of British military uniforms.

There has been a big demand for these colourful prints which are being offered at special prices.

Many readers have expressed a preference for framed prints and these are now being added to the standard range. Prices, including despatch by surface mail to any part of the world, are:

Series I and III	Per pair	£5 5s 0d
	Set of six	£13 2s 6d
Series II	Per pair	£8 8s 0d
	Set of six	£21 0s 0d

The prints and their blue, black and gold mounts are framed in black and gold Hogarth. Series I and III framed prints measure 9 inches wide by 12 inches deep overall; those of Series II are 12 by 17¾ inches.

★

Like The Royal Anglians and The Royal Green Jackets, The Queen's Regiment has now dropped the subsidiary titles which indicated the origin of its battalions. The four battalions, which have now simply become the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th battalions of the Regiment, previously had the titles of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys); 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Own Buffs); 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Royal Sussex) and 4th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex).

Princess Marina remains Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment. King Frederik IX of Denmark, Allied Colonel-in-Chief of 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Own Buffs), and Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, Allied Colonel-in-Chief of 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Royal Sussex), become allied colonels-in-chief of The Queen's Regiment.

★

The Royal Green Jackets have announced that when the Regiment is reduced from three to two battalions, probably in 1972, it is the intention of the Colonels Commandant to form two new battalions from the existing three, and not to "cut" the 3rd Battalion.

The two surviving battalions, says a statement to the Press, will maintain all that is best from the former regiments — The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, The King's Royal Rifle Corps and The Rifle Brigade—and look forward confidently to enhancing their proud reputation in the future as members of the newly re-formed Light Division.

"Naturally the news that we were to lose a battalion was received with great sadness," adds the statement, "but we in The Royal Green Jackets accept the decision with loyalty in the hope that it is in the interests of the Army as a whole."

When floods hit the West Country the Army quickly came to the rescue with...

SEVEN BRIDGES IN SIX DAYS

NO one living in the River Chew valley in Somerset or the Otter valley in Devon will forget the night of Wednesday, 10 July 1968, for the rest of his life.

Thunder and lightning at teatime that day heralded a deluge that went on relentlessly till bedtime. But for many there was no bedtime that night and for some no beds as normally gentle streams rose to surging, angry brown torrents. Furniture floated, walls crumbled, gardens were flattened.

Dawn, after the worst flood in living memory, revealed desolation. And though the waters subsided almost as quickly as they had risen, many were homeless and hundreds faced the agonising task of salvaging household goods, drying out sodden carpets and bedding—and waiting for the repair men.

The people of Chew and Otter valleys were not the only sufferers. The floods in which six people died spread havoc through large areas of Somerset and Devon and parts of Bristol, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. But it was these two little rivers, funnelling the cloudburst from their high enclosing hills, which left the biggest scars and the greatest need for Army surgery.

When the call for Army help reached Headquarters South West District at Taunton early on the Thursday morning, Operation Giraffe was mounted, a control cell established and, in consultation with police and civil authorities, a rapid assessment made of the damage and the way in which the Services could best help.

Already, because of the rapid ebb, personal rescue had lost its priority though the DUKWs of 18 Amphibian Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, normally Devon-based, were recalled from an exercise in South Wales and deployed in Bristol and North Somerset while, across the border in Wiltshire, Stalwarts from 27 Medium Regiment and 25 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, dashed to the Avon valley town of Melksham for ferrying duties.

Devon and Somerset county councils totted up the list of vanished and broken bridges, some on main roads teeming with holiday traffic, others on minor roads yet forming lifelines for villagers now cut off from shops, schools and jobs.

From 200 miles away in Kent, lorries of 36 Engineer Regiment began rolling westward. In the small hours of Friday, 20 Field Squadron arrived in Honiton, snatched a few hours' sleep, then moved on three miles to where the A30, the great holiday route to Exeter and the South West, ended in a crumbled mass of rubble beside the River Otter at Fenny Bridges.

Meanwhile a fleet of 10-ton trucks of 65 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, from Deepcut, Camberley, had loaded up with Bailey bridge stores at Longmoor in Hampshire and hit the same trail. Early on Friday work began on a 120-foot double-double reinforced Bailey. By lunchtime on Saturday the sappers, who had worked all night in shifts tightened the last bolt and handed over to county council workmen to surface the approaches.

At 3.30pm traffic was flowing, the holiday jams were eased. A tortuous detour was retained for westbound traffic; eastbound drivers blessed the Bailey and sped on their way. Only the difficulties of the site—narrow approaches and mains services which could not be disturbed—had limited the sappers to a single-flow bridge.

Lieutenant-Colonel R B Greenwood, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, signalled Major-General Tom Acton, GOC South West District:

"Have just returned from Fenny Bridges where I saw the first traffic rolling safely over your new bridge. My congratulations to the Royal Engineers on a splendid job, finished right on time, and my grateful thanks to you for such a prompt and effective response to our cry for help."

Back in the Taunton operations room, engineer planning was now in top gear under Brigadier Marston Tickell and staff of HQ 12 Engineer Brigade from Barton Stacey. Helicopters of 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars and 3rd Royal Tank Regiment flew sapper officers on reconnaissance and liaison missions to and from three other bridge sites now selected as priorities—at Pensford and Keynsham in Somerset, both in the hard-hit Chew Valley, and east of Honiton at Marsh where a bridge carrying the A303 Exeter-Andover road had survived the onslaught of the little River Yarty on the night of the storm, but collapsed the next day.

The other two squadrons of 36 Regiment were now deployed—60 Field Squadron at Pensford, with orders to move to Keynsham when Pensford bridge was complete, and 24 Field Squadron at Marsh.

Round-the-clock work at Pensford on a 110-foot double-double Bailey was aided at night by the searchlights of 873 Movement Light Squadron, Royal Engineers, the unique Territorial & Army Volunteer Reserve unit from Acton. Bridging stores had been delivered from Long Marston, near Stratford-on-Avon, by 6 Training Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, of

Traffic flows again on the A30, the holiday route to the West Country, over 20 Field Squadron's Bailey, first of eight bridges, at Fenny Bridges.

Yeovil. Pensford bridge was finished on Saturday and the county council approach works on Sunday, enabling traffic to flow again on the busy A37, linking Bristol with Shepton Mallet and Wells.

Equipment for Marsh bridge was now arriving in 65 Squadron's lorries which had done a rapid turn-round at Fenny Bridges and returned loaded from Long Marston after a 240-mile round trip. During Sunday night the 87½-foot heavy girder bridge was completed and early on Monday A303 opened to two-way traffic again.

Redeployed to Keynsham, 60 Squadron began a 150-foot heavy girder bridge spanning the Chew. Monday's dawn saw it completed—and the last troops of 36 Regiment headed back for Kent with the proud knowledge that four bridges had been built, start to finish, in three days.

But this was not the end. While 36 Regiment was hard at work, 300 Territorial & Army Volunteer Reserve sappers from Scotland were arriving at the Royal Engineers bridging camp at Wyke Regis, Dorset, for their annual summer training.

Summoned to Operation Giraffe HQ at Taunton, Lieutenant-Colonel John Elderkin, commanding 71 (Scottish) Engineer Regiment (Volunteers), found that his prepared training programme must be scrapped. Instead of practice bridges to be built and dismantled, here was the real thing—Baileys which were to carry real traffic for a long time to come.

When the main body of Volunteers arrived, reconnaissances had been finished and the tireless Royal Corps of Transport was hauling stores. And on Tuesday morning, 16 July, Major Jim Weir sacrificed a bottle of Scotch to christen the 70-foot double-single Bailey built by his 102 (Clyde) Field Squadron, from Paisley, across the River Otter at Upottery on a minor road near Honiton. Two members of the regimental pipe band ceremonially piped the first vehicle across.

Two days later 71 Regiment simultaneously opened two other bridges—a 90-foot Bailey over the Otter at Tipton St John, south-west of Honiton, and an 80-foot Bailey over the Chew at Woollard, between Pensford and Keynsham.

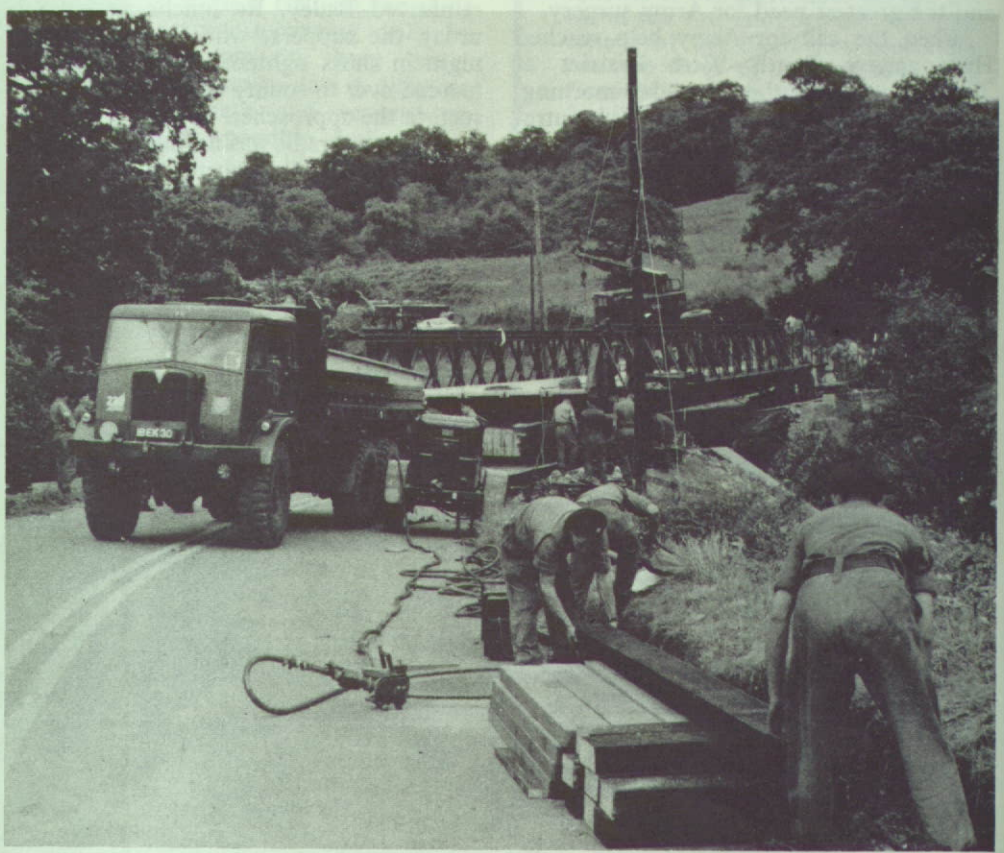
For the villagers of Woollard, still drying their carpets after the night of horror, the day the pipers came was to provide another indelible memory. Major Jack Millar, commanding 124 (Lowland) Field Squadron, from Coatbridge, stage-managed the the opening ceremony with the flair of a practised impresario, thrilling the onlookers and delighting TV cameramen.

As the last decking plank was laid, a ribbon was tied from parapet to parapet. Seventy-three-year-old Charlie Duckett stepped from the riverside bungalow where he had spent the night of the flood marooned in his loft before being rescued by helicopter. Cheers sounded as Charlie cut the ribbon and declared the bridge open. A regimental rosebowl brimming with Scotch became a loving cup passed from hand to hand. Then, across the bridge marched the regimental pipes and drums, led by Drum-Major Harry Millar.

Once was not enough for Woollard. The villagers demanded encores, so to and fro the pipers marched and counter-marched. During a brief respite the Vicar, the Reverend Donald Clatworthy, made a speech of thanks to the sappers. A local farmer presented them with 30 gallons of cider for a celebration party; in return the sappers handed over £21, the result of a whip-round for the local flood relief fund. Fraternisation was complete when soldiers took the ribbon from the bridge and cut it again and again to make hair ribbons for the village girls.

With rather less ceremony, as only one piper could be spared, the Tipton St John bridge was being opened simultaneously by Major Alan Tatham's 104 (City of Edinburgh) Field Squadron.

Now the tally stood at seven bridges built in six days, the last opened just a week after the first call for help. One more was still to come. Where the River Chew joins the Avon below Keynsham, the old stone bridge on the B4427 linking the Somerset and Gloucestershire banks of the Avon had collapsed. Bridging had to wait for work on a gas main, but in the second week after the flood the gap was closed by 2 Troop of 48 Field Squadron, from Ripon, with 65 Squadron again hauling bridging stores.



Above, left: Sappers of 24 Field Squadron working on an 87½-foot heavy girder bridge over the River Yarty on the A303 Exeter to Andover road. Above: Another view of the same bridge, at Marsh.

Right: Discussion during the building of an 80-foot Bailey by Volunteers of 124 (Lowland) Field Squadron over the River Chew at Woollard. Upper right is Charlies Duckett's bungalow where he was marooned in his loft. He opened the new bridge.

Story by Peter Clare, Army Public Relations, Taunton.
Pictures by Army Public Relations.

This eighth bridge—Keynsham B—restored the road to work for hundreds of employees of J S Fry's chocolate factory. The firm showed its gratitude by accommodating and feeding the sappers from Ripon while they carried out the job.

At its peak, Operation Giraffe involved about 1000 Servicemen. The Royal Naval Air Service and Royal Air Force rushed hot-air blowers, normally used in hangars, to dry out homes. Apart from the more spectacular bridging and rescue operations, essential tasks were performed by men of 30 Signal Regiment from Blandford on communications, and redcaps of 158 Provost Company, Royal Military Police, from Bulford, helping local police with traffic diversions. The Royal Corps of Transport fleet was supplemented by vehicles from The Wessex Brigade Depot, Exeter; 2nd, Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, Watchet; 47 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Denbury; and 17 Port Regiment, Marchwood.

So the Army completed its biggest civil emergency operation since the Torrey Canyon—and within two weeks withdrew to get on with its normal business.

But the sappers left their mark in the eight Bailey bridges and their signature with the traditional commemorative plaques bearing the corps badge.

And of course, for Woollard, there will always be hair ribbons and the distant echo of the pipes.

Above: Corporal John Bisset and Sapper Robert Dean, of 71 (Scottish) Engineer Regiment's pipe band, lead the first vehicle across the 70-foot Bailey built by 102 (Clyde) Field Squadron at Upottery.

"REBORN WITH INCREASED SPLENDOUR"

WITH poignancy and panache they faded into history. In Cyprus the Colours of The Durham Light Infantry were lowered to the sounding of the Last Post; in Malaysia the band and bugles of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry beat Retreat at sunset; in Berlin The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry re-enacted their battle honours as a pageant; at Truro the Colours of The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry were slow-marched up the nave of the cathedral and laid to rest near the altar.

But like the motto of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry—*Aucto splendore resurgo*—they are "reborn with increased splendour." They have become one great regiment called The Light Infantry. The 1st Battalion, The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry, is renamed 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry; 1st battalions of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry and The Durham Light Infantry become respectively the 2nd, 3rd and 4th battalions.

The 4th Battalion of the new regiment is being axed in April 1969. But by this time it will have lost all identity with The Durham Light Infantry and be completely integrated into the new regiment (all officers and men coming on a common roll).

The history of the light infantry spans two centuries. It was developed by General Sir John Moore. Soldiers had previously fought in tightly packed ranks rallying round the Colours but the light infantry had open formations moving to bugle calls and whistles. They had no Colours, carried only light packs and observed discipline based on respect rather than fear. They were expert marksmen, self-reliant, and alert in thought and action, as reflected in their marching pace of 140 to the minute. Their rôle was to skirmish ahead, harassing the enemy and giving the main body time to prepare an attack (up to then skirmishing had been done only haphazardly by light companies).

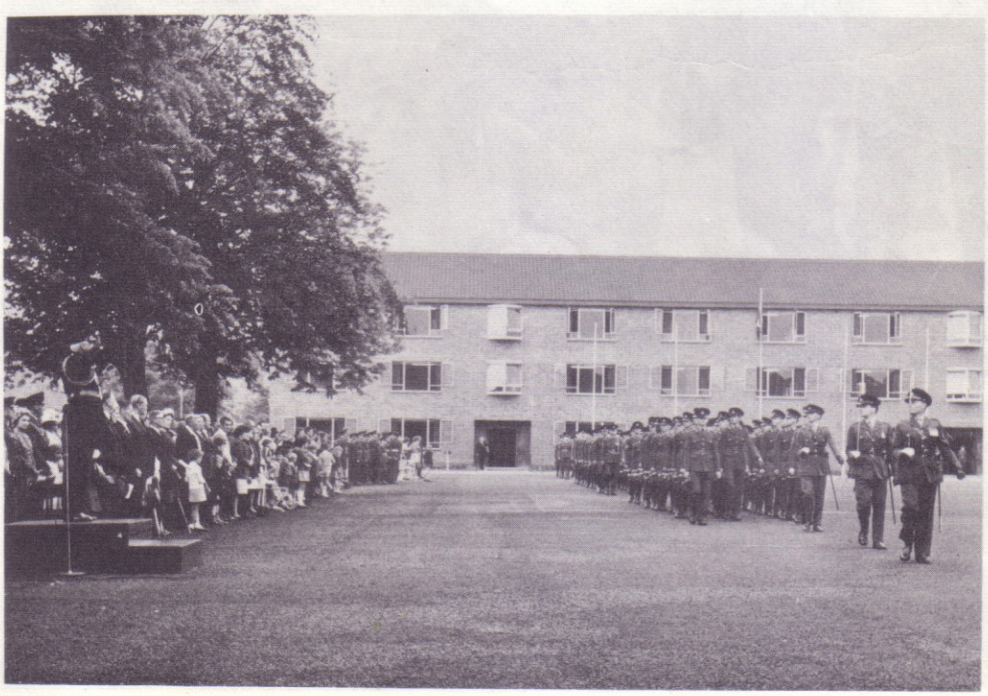
The light infantry distinguished themselves in many battles, but notably at Salamanca on 22 July 1812. In the words of a French observer: "Wellington defeated 40,000 men in 40 minutes." It was a major victory which was the turning point in the Peninsular War. Salamanca, in which all four regiments fought, will be the new regimental day.

Although each of the new battalions loses its former individual identity, many of the customs and traditions are being retained—red backing to the cap badge (the Light Company of the 46th South Devonshire Regiment, later the 2nd Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, inflicted such heavy casualties at Brandywine in the American War of Independence that the Yankees swore revenge. So their comrades would not suffer, the Company dyed its cap feathers red); sergeants' and warrant officers' sash worn over the left shoulder, knotted on the right side, as in The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry (authorised in 1865 in view of the length of time the practice had existed); the silver whistle and Inkerman chain (a relic of former dress) of sergeants and warrant officers of The Durham Light Infantry; no Loyal Toast in the officers' mess (a right conferred on the 85th, later the 2nd King's Shropshire Light Infantry, by George IV after officers of the Regiment had dealt with rioters who insulted him in the theatre at Brighton; also a privilege of The Durham Light Infantry originating from a campaign against the Caribs in the West Indies).

New Colours, incorporating some of the battle honours of the former regiments, have been designed and will be presented in 1969 or 1970.

The regimental march will be "The Light Infantry" (used previously). "The Keel Row," of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and The Durham Light Infantry, will become the regimental double-march past.

The Queen Mother is Colonel-in-Chief of The Light Infantry and Princess Alexandra the Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. The Queen Mother was Colonel-in-Chief of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and Princess Alexandra of The Durham Light Infantry.



Shrewsbury

It was a mixture of the old and the new at Sir John Moore Barracks, Headquarters of the former Light Infantry Brigade. At the same time as the change-over ceremony, a platoon of recruits passed out at the end of basic training.

The parade was taken by the Adjutant-General, General Sir Geoffrey Musson, who was Colonel of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry and is now Colonel of The Light Infantry.

Afterwards, he opened the new light infantry museum in the barracks. The day's programme of marching and displays was brought to an end by a sounding the retreat ceremony by the junior soldiers' band.

Left: March past in quick time led by Lieut-Col P Johnson, commanding the depot. Badges top (left to right): SCLI, KOYLI, KSLI and the DLI.

Gravesend and Truro

The Colours of The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry were trooped for the last time through the streets of Gravesend (their present station) and Truro. The Battalion marched through the streets of Truro with Colours flying, band playing and bugles sounding—thereby exercising its privilege of the Freedom of the City.

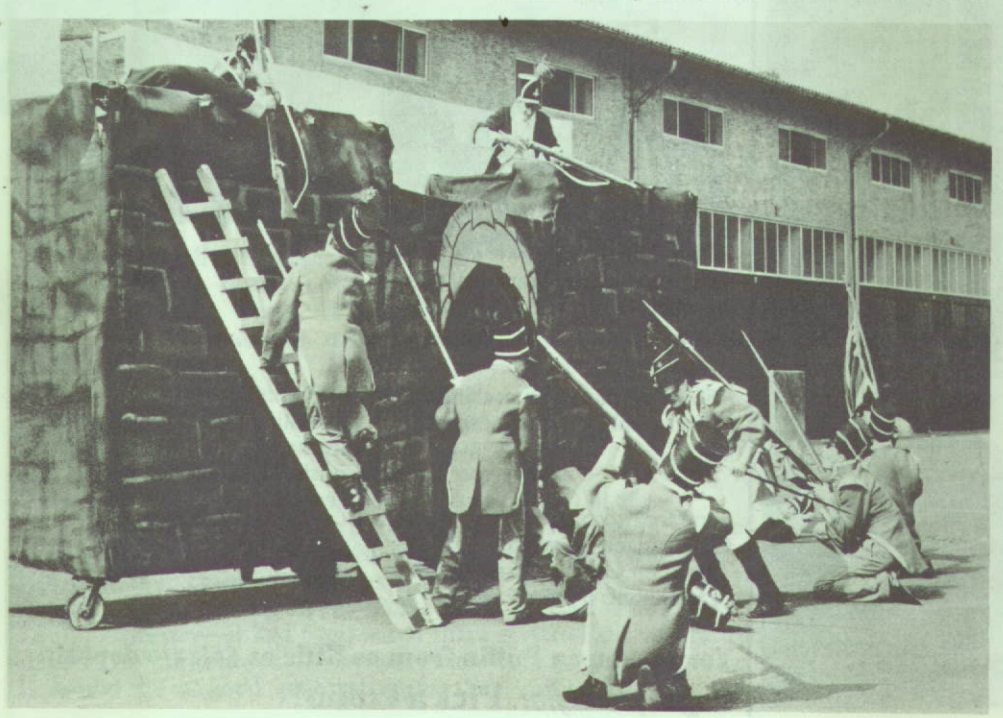
After being slow-marched up the nave of Truro Cathedral, the Colours were presented to Field-Marshal Lord Harding who handed them to the Dean. They were laid to rest near the altar.

Field-Marshal Harding took the salute at the vesting day parade in Gravesend two days later.

Top: The regimental band leads the SCLI through Truro to the cathedral where (left) Field-Marshal Lord Harding hands the colours to the Dean.

Front Cover

SOLDIER's front cover shows a Sioux helicopter of the air platoon of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, in a practice casualty evacuation in Bahrein. The helicopter is "parked" and its rotors are not revolving—otherwise the soldiers would not be wearing steel helmets and carrying rifles. Picture by Sergeant K Lloyd, a platoon sergeant in 1st Queen's and a keen photographer.



Berlin

A floodlit pageant, depicting incidents in the history of the light infantry, performed by men of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry at their present camp, Kladow Barracks. The pageant, although treated light-heartedly, demonstrated the vital and world-wide rôle of the light infantry. Beginning with early methods of recruiting, it featured the ceding of Gibraltar, storming of Badajoz and slaughter at Culloden, leading up to actions in the two world wars and the present disposition of the various battalions. At the end of the 90-minute programme, the floodlights were symbolically faded out.

Left: Part of the Berlin pageant—Ensign Dyas's party storming the fortifications at Badajoz.

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Malacca

Sounding Retreat in the setting sun marked the end of 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, at Terendak Camp, Malacca.

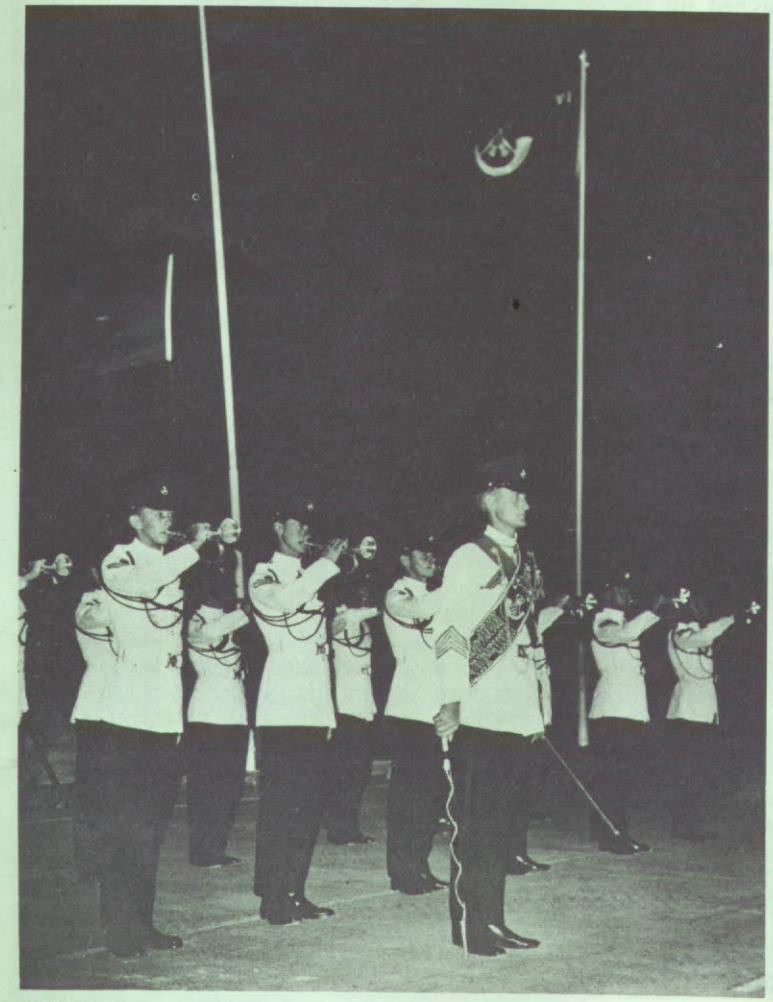
The following day, as 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry, they played hockey against a New Zealand infantry regiment and soccer against a Royal Artillery team. At lunch time the warrant officers and sergeants were entertained in the officers' mess.

A day old, 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry, plays 14 Light Regiment.

Limassol

The still night air resounded with the Last Post as the flag of The Durham Light Infantry was lowered for the last time over Kitchener Lines, near Limassol, Cyprus. The new flag was unfurled the following morning at reveille.

Buglers parade before half-masted DLI flag and new Light Infantry flag.



TWELVE DAYS TO GREENWICH

DOWN the Thames they came, down to land at Greenwich—six small boats, 18 young soldiers and 280 eventful miles behind them.

They had negotiated rapids, a canal, locks and gale-force winds; they had manhandled their 60-pound sailing dinghies across country. The journey from Oswestry to Trafalgar Steps, Royal Naval College, Greenwich, had taken 12 days.

It was Captain Geoffrey Miller's idea. His unit, 17 Training Regiment, Royal Artillery, was moving from Park Hall Camp, Oswestry—it had been based there since 1939—to new quarters at Woolwich. It would be a good plan, thought the captain, to take some of the soldiers the hard way.

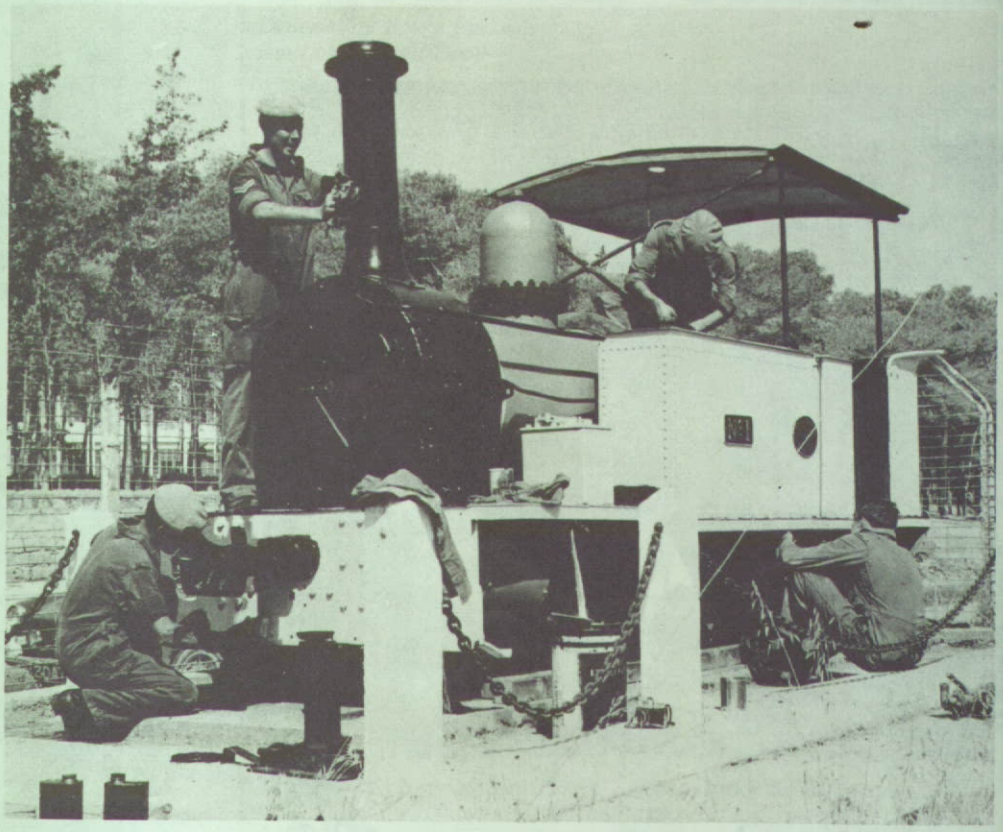
They obtained the boats, each seven feet six inches long, from the firm that is manufacturing them, and set off—down the River Severn from Shrewsbury to Gloucester, along the Gloucester, Berkeley and Stroudwater canal to Stonehouse near Cirencester, then across country to the Thames.

And as they sailed through the heart of London the Press cameramen went to work. They even got their picture in the *Times*! Their achievement was hardly of Alec Rose magnitude but considering that most of the youngsters had no previous sailing experience it was pretty good.

Top: Three of the Puffins reach journey's end—Trafalgar Steps, Greenwich, and (right) Captain G H Miller is greeted by the Mayor of Greenwich.

LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTRE

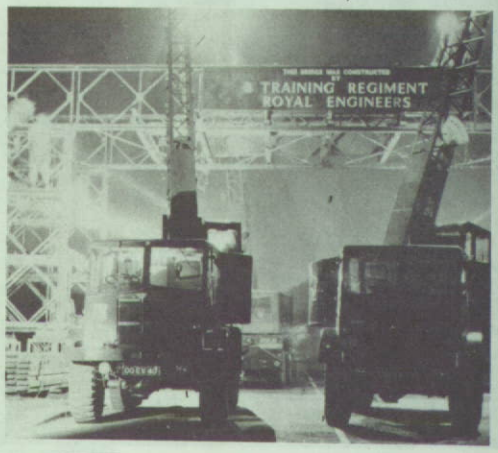
It's a shaggy dog story—"How Rifkah Koh-I-Noor of Ludhiana became mascot of T Light Air Defence Battery (Shah Sujah's Troop)." The tale begins in 1838 with the formation of the battery as part of a force to back Shah Sujah—owner of the famous Koh-I-Noor diamond—in his claim to the throne of Afghanistan. It later came under the Bengal Horse Artillery and, when converted to a European troop in 1924, was granted the subsidiary title "Shah Sujah's Troop." The present battery commander, Major Brian Brown, bought Rifkah (above), a three-month-old Afghan hound, from Mrs Claire Race, wife of radio and television personality Steve Race. When Rifkah arrived at the barracks in Dortmund, the 60 gunners of the Battery paraded specially for him and he was ceremoniously ushered into his comfortable kennel, built in the shape of an Afghan archway. But then when you are called Rifkah Koh-I-Noor of Ludhiana, and have a pedigree as long as your name, you take this sort of thing in your stride. It's just called breeding.



The sight of this fine antique locomotive (above) left to rust in a Famagusta forecourt so upset the aesthetic sensibilities of some members of 8 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, that they offered to renovate it. They worked day and night for a week shining its brasses and patching up the paintwork. The 0-6-0 side tank, built in Britain in 1904, was the first to be imported into Cyprus and was fully operational until 1951. It has now become something of a tourist attraction.

Visiting the Women's Royal Army Corps Centre at Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Guildford, the Queen Mother talked to recruits in a map reading class (above) viewed The Princess Royal's Memorial Rose Garden, met warrant officers and sergeants in their mess, lunched in the officers' mess and visited the Regimental Museum where she saw the Queen's World War Two uniform.

When Major-General W G S Mills, GOC West Midland District, formally inspected the Combined Cadet Force of Old Swinford Hospital School, Stourbridge, he decided to look the boys up later in camp. They were cooking a stew for lunch in the Black Mountains of Herefordshire when the general appeared. He gave them a hand (above)—and joined them for the meal.



Police closed the road when sappers of 3 Training Regiment, Royal Engineers built this 240-foot-long Bailey bridge (above) over the Guildford bypass in Surrey. They worked all night under floodlights, with the aid of four seven-ton bridging cranes. The bridge enabled the thousands of spectators at the Surrey County Show to travel safely from the car park to the main show ground.

The long and the short and the tall, 188 men and three women—often called the bravest people in the world—met for tea on the lawns of Buckingham Palace. Every one was a holder of the Victoria Cross or its civilian equivalent, the George Cross. The three (left) are Brigadier Sir John Smythe, president of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association; Mrs Odette Hallowes (as Odette Churchill she won the George Cross for working with the French Resistance against the Gestapo) and Captain Charles Upham from New Zealand who is the only living holder of a double VC. It was probably the last reunion of the Association on such a scale. Many of the members are getting too old to travel.

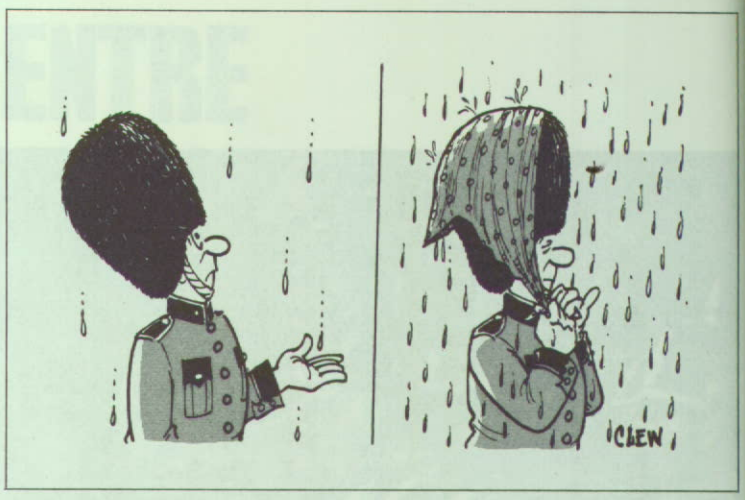
They make history by playing together (above) for the first and last time. Bands and corps of drums of regiments of The Yorkshire Brigade beat Retreat at the brigade's headquarters at Strensall, York. They represent The York and Lancaster Regiment (to disband in December), The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire and The Green Howards. The Yorkshire, North Irish and Lancastrian brigades were re-formed on 1 July this year into the new King's Division.

Here's something to take your breath away—the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers have become corsetières! No, they are not muscling in on feminine fashion, but doing a special job for the British Military Hospital in Cyprus—48 Command Workshop offered to help out on hearing that patients with spinal trouble had to wait up to ten weeks for special corsets. Artificer Sergeant-Major Gordon Turrell (above) helps "patient" Warrant Officer Gordon Jones, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, to adjust a trial model. After all, as the officer commanding, Major Bill Barker, explained with tongue-in-cheek: "We are convinced that the design of foundation garments is just another extension of engineering."

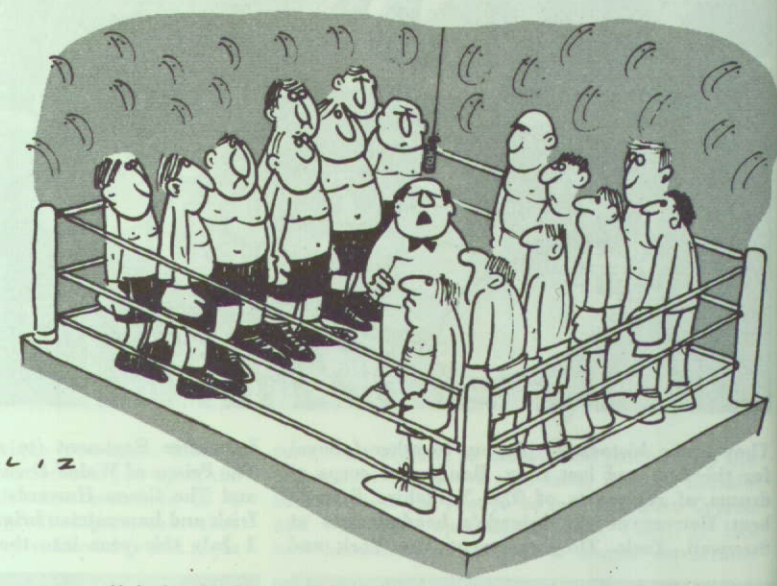
This model soldier (above) wears battledress and is equipped with 1937 pattern webbing and a self loading rifle. Called "The Territorial" and made of silver, it is the new centrepiece of 6th (Territorial) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment. Funds were raised by auctioning the silverware of the former battalions, amalgamated to form the new battalion last year. The centrepiece was designed by Mr Charles Stadden of Rustington, Sussex, who was a member of 4/5th Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment (TA), until it was disbanded last year. Mr Stadden, a member of the Society for Army Historical Research and the Military Historical Society, is widely acknowledged as one of the world's leading military modellists.

A model post office (above). This was the British Forces Postal Service contribution to the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. The centrepiece is a representation of London's Post Office Tower. Mail posted here was franked with a special Combined Services date stamp. They were "Backing Britain" at Dortmund too. The 2 Division Postal and Courier Communications Unit, Royal Engineers, raised £710 by selling British stamps at an exhibition organised by Dortmund Philatelic Society which was held for two-and-a-half weeks in a large local department store. The display included 228 Penny Blacks valued at approximately £18,000 and every British stamp issued during the past 20 years.

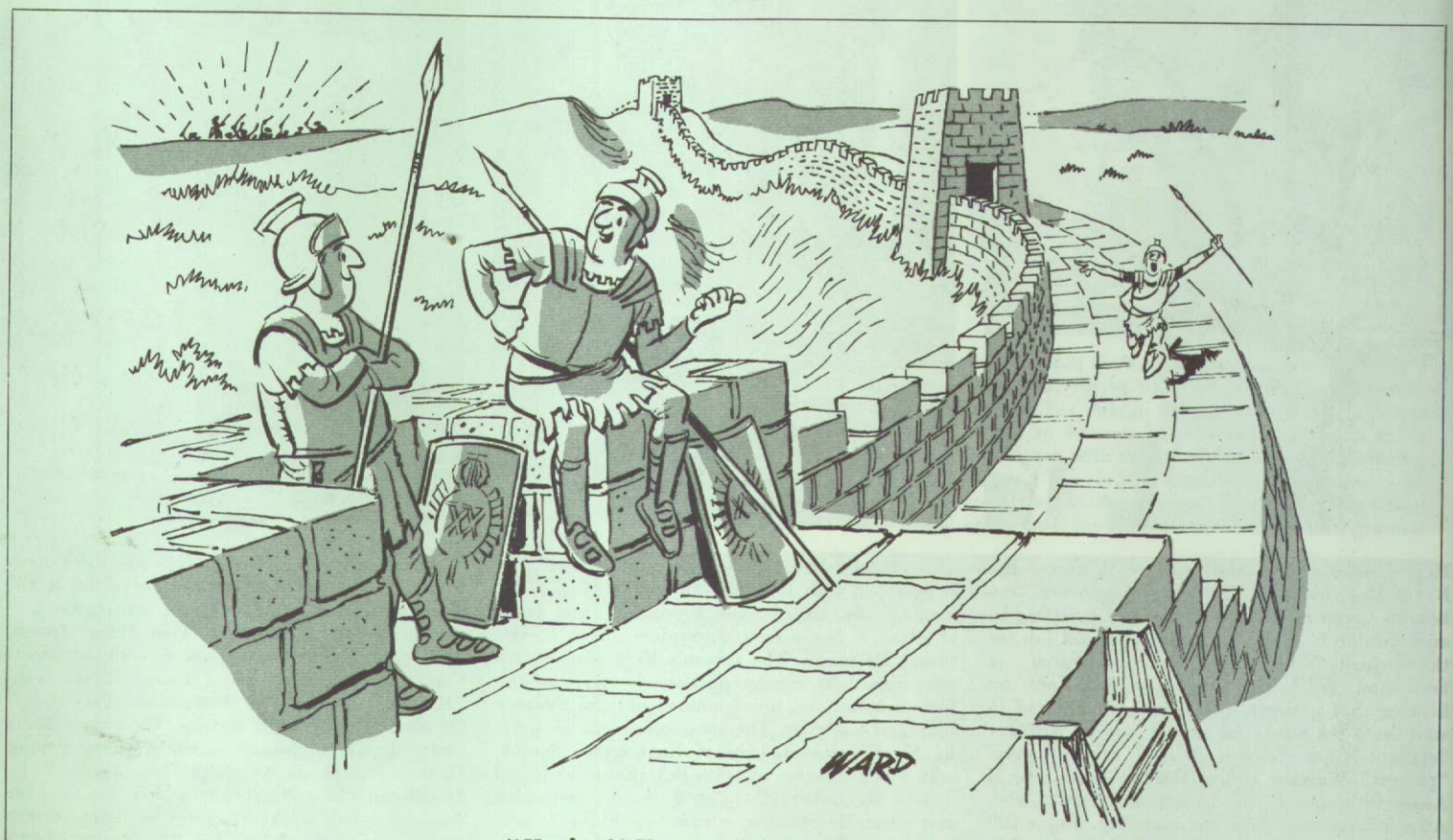
HUMOUR



"Unlucky for some 13."



"And now, ladies and gentlemen, by way of a change..."



"Here's old Sixtus with his Gael warning."

LAST FLIGHT TO CROYDON

IT was a day for nostalgia, the end of an era. An Army Scout helicopter came down among sprouting blocks of council flats to complete a cycle in the history of military aviation.

The scene was the old Croydon Airport, now being developed as a small town by Greater London Council and the London Borough of Sutton; the helicopter was the last aircraft to land there.

First aircraft to land at Croydon, then called Waddon Aerodrome, was a Royal Flying Corps one in 1915. In the years since then aircraft have flown from there to hunt Zeppelins and marauding fighters.

The Scout, piloted by Brigadier D W Coyle, an ex-gunner who first flew in 1943, and Captain I C Scott of the School of Army Aviation, Middle Wallop, had a very important passenger—Mr Desmond Plummer, Leader of the GLC.

Accompanied by his wife, he flew in to make a presentation to Mr and Mrs Henry Cooper, first tenants of the Roundshaw estate of 1200 homes. He gave them a necklace and a key-ring, each bearing a helicopter motif to commemorate the last flight into Croydon.

Mr Plummer made his first military flight on Salisbury Plain in World War Two; Mr Cooper served in that war in The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. So all in all the day of Croydon's last visitor from the sky was quite a day for the Army!

Above: The Scout flies between flats under construction.

Right: Mr Plummer makes the presentation to the Coopers.

Pictures by Arthur Blundell and Trevor Jones

SOLDIER went to Rhine Army to look at Bruin, the new communications system, and found it

A SIGNAL SUCCESS

"IT is unique and almost one hundred per cent British." This is Bruin, the trunk communications system developed by the Royal Corps of Signals, which provides in the field sophisticated communications previously restricted to permanently located formation headquarters.

Bruin has been compared to STD (subscriber trunk dialling). But it is more than that. It has teleprinter and picture telegraph as well as telephones.

Staff officers in the field are able to talk to each other on conventional telephones, linked not by lines or cables but by radio. The caller dials a number which is obtained automatically.

For example, if the chief of staff at corps HQ wants the brigade major at brigade HQ he has only to dial the correct sequence of numbers to be connected through the corps, division and brigade telephone exchanges without any assistance from an operator.

Normal conversation can be carried on without the necessity for code-names and terms like "over" and "out." Several telephones can be linked together enabling officers, scattered over hundreds of square miles, to carry on a conference. Bruin can

Above: Bruin works only in static locations. So conventional radio—carried by vehicles like this FV 432—has to be used when on the move.

Left: Teleprinter testing. Bruin vehicles have formica tables, air conditioning, ashtrays and electric hotplates for another kind of brewing.

Top left: Businesslike message centre at 2nd Division (Main) Headquarters. At Brigade, Bruin is contained in the FV 439 (a modified FV 432).

also be connected to the civilian telephone networks of the GPO and Deutsche Bundespost.

The teleprinter uses punch-tape (it can transmit to up to seven destinations at once) and master duplicating sheets (which can each produce as many as 300 copies on a duplicating machine). Equipment called "Mufax" operates on a similar principle to newspaper's radioed photographs. It is intended mainly, however, for charts, maps and diagrams.

Bruin went into full-scale operation for the first time on Exercise Summer Sales—involving the headquarters of 1 (British) Corps and 1st, 2nd and 4th divisions, and their supporting Royal Signals detachments—in the Bielefeld-Hamelin area of Germany.

Staff officers using it for the first time were full of praise.

Colonel Roy Redgrave, a senior staff officer at HQ 2nd Division, described it as "incredible." "Dialling a number is rather like working a fruit machine," he said, "You wait in suspense for each number to come up and have a sense of satisfaction—like winning the jackpot—when you finally get through."

Speech discipline would have to be observed, he stressed. "We will have to become more crisp. We tend to treat it like an ordinary telephone and over-use it."

There were reservations though. Some officers said they preferred normal radio during a live action because they could listen in and catch the "atmosphere" and progress of the battle. One distrusted the Mufax system, quoting an example of an operator in a foreign army who, working in semi-darkness, transmitted a correct vehicle route card but used the wrong map co-ordinates.

Understandably, Bruin has to be restricted to important calls and messages. It has only a limited number of lines and could very easily become congested.

Nevertheless, it has great advantages over former systems. Formation main (operations) and rear (logistics) headquarters, which were often more than five miles apart, had to be physically linked by cable.

Cable laying is a laborious, time-consuming process which restricts the mobility of formation headquarters. There is a size saving too. Divisional headquarters in the field formerly had more than 20 Royal Signals vehicles. This has been reduced to about eight.

Bruin—it comprises complex radio and electronic equipment in specially fitted lorries and armoured personnel carriers—has been designed by Royal Signals officers at the Ministry of Defence in London and developed at the Signals Research and Development Establishment at Christchurch and the Fighting Vehicle Research and Development Establishment, Chobham.

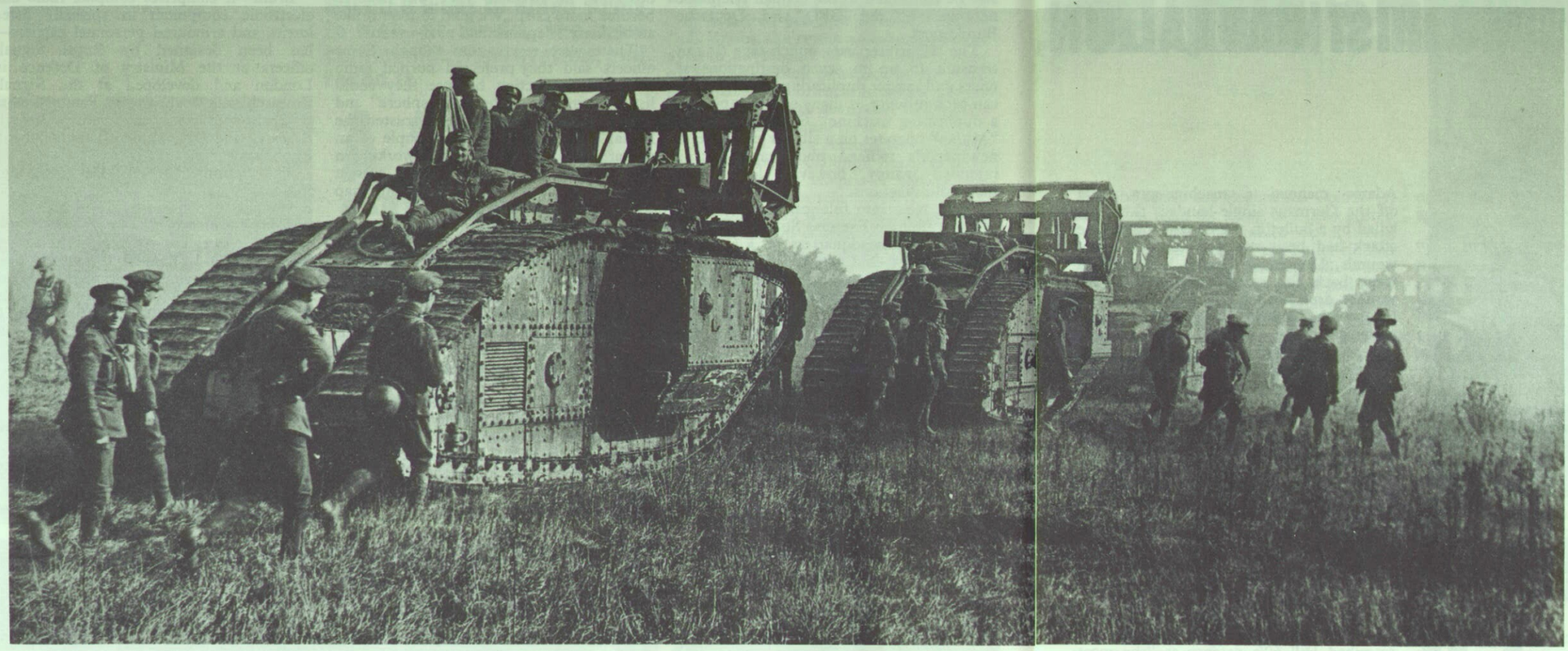
The equipment—145 UHF (ultra-high frequency) radio sets alone cost £6750 each—has been made by 16 British firms and one German firm.

"The Americans recently went to see Bruin at HQ 1 (British) Corps and they seemed very envious," commented Major Peter Gahan, one of the Royal Signals' design team. "I believe that several NATO countries are already interested in buying it."

Below: Some of Bruin is classified. So this military policeman keeps a keen vigil at this camouflaged complex in a farmyard by the Weser.

Above: Blow-up. Not dynamite but pneumatically operated aerial mast. It is worked here by hand but normally the vehicle's compressor is used.

Below: Royal Signals officers who designed the Bruin communications system wear a special tie with this rather ferocious-looking bear motif.



SEPTEMBER 1918

The Hindenburg Line was a symbol of Prussian militarism —unyielding concrete, cruel barbed wire, and the cold steel of guns.

This fortification, which stretched for approximately 75 miles, was the strongest and last-ditch defence of the Germans. It was broken by the British on 28 September 1918.

The 46th (Territorial) Division, the first through after crossing a canal with rafts, lifejackets and portable bridges, routed four German divisions at Bellenglise, capturing more than 4000 prisoners and 70 guns.

These Mark V tanks (left), carrying "cribs" to enable them to cross the Hindenburg Line, wait to go into action at Bellicourt, five miles from Bellenglise, the following day.

On 19 September, Allenby's Army broke out in Palestine. He rode over the battlefield at Arsuf where Richard the Lionheart had vanquished Saladin, destroyed two Turkish armies and advanced hot-foot to Damascus. On 28/29 September the Allies captured Passchendaele Ridge, so bitterly contested in 1917 and abandoned during the April emergency. But the crowning blow to the Central Powers' imperialism was the surrender of Bulgaria on the 29th.

The German High Command forgathered at Spa, ironically at the Hotel Britannique where the atmosphere was funereal. Ludendorff, the supreme commander, condemned his military staff for disloyalty, flayed the Kaiser for weakness, accused the German people of cowardice then collapsed on the floor in a convulsive fit. The next day Foreign Secretary Hintze was instructed to appeal to President Wilson of the United States to instigate immediate negotiations for an armistice.

1st BATTALION, THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Attacked from three sides, deafened by exploding shells and choked by smoke, the East Surreys held Hill 60 for two days against overwhelming German forces.

HEROES OF HILL 60

HILL 60—pock-marked with shell holes and scarred with burnt grass and splintered trees—was an insignificant excrescence near Ypres. Yet it was coveted by the Germans for artillery observation on that key town and it was vital to the success of the British advance under General Sir John French.

Historians hail it as the height of heroism. But surviving Surrey soldiers still call it the "Hell of Hill 60."

The hill was 120 feet high and overlooked a railway cutting two miles from Ypres. Sappers mined it underneath the unsuspecting Germans and on 17 April 1915 the hill shook from a series of gigantic explosions. Units of 13 Brigade mopped up the survivors.

Men of 1st Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment, took over the hill. They held it for two days and nights, pounded with shells, raked by machine-guns and torn by shrapnel. The trenches were choked with dead and wounded, mud and débris. Flame, smoke and dust at times reduced visibility to ten yards. All telephone cables were cut and most of the messengers sent out never returned. . . .

There were many heroes. Five of his comrades had been killed trying to sight their rifles over the edge of a trench, but Private Edward Dwyer jumped up on top and hurled bombs at the enemy, enabling his company to break a threatening German attack. Part of his jaw shot away, his men lying dead around him, Corporal F W Adams manned a machine-gun, held off the Germans single-handed, then was killed by a bullet in the head just after the attack had been repulsed. Despite eight wounds, Lieutenant George R P Roupell went back for reinforcements, had his wounds dressed then returned to his front-line trench. Later he led in reinforcements under heavy fire.

Second-Lieutenant Handley Geary fired his rifle and threw bombs from an exposed position, encouraging his men to repulse repeated attacks. After three messengers failed to return, he went for reinforcements himself. Just before dawn he was shot in the face, losing the sight of his left eye. The East Surreys handed over the hill intact but lost seven officers and 106 soldiers killed, and 166 wounded.

Lieutenant Geary survived the hell of Hill 60 and emigrated to Canada; Lieutenant Roupell was to be the last Colonel of the East Surrey Regiment; Private Dwyer was killed in action aged 20. All three were awarded the Victoria Cross.

Corps Commander Sir Charles Ferguson described Hill 60's defence as "the most magnificent thing yet in the whole war."

The heights of glory—an echo of Sobraon (Second Sikh War, 1846). Sergeant Bernard McCabe seized the Regimental Colour—it had fallen from the grasp of a dead ensign—leapt a ditch, scrambled up a steep, sandy slope and planted the bullet-riddled flag atop the enemy's fortified hill. Waves of British troops trying to take it had been broken by shell, grape and canister. Now the tide was turned and Sergeant McCabe's comrades of the 31st Foot (later The East Surrey Regiment) drove the Sikhs into the river. There was no mercy and the blood of nearly 10,000 Sikhs dyed the swollen water. It was revenge for British wounded hacked to pieces by Sikh sabres.

Sobraon is still celebrated as a regimental day. The sergeants march the Colours from the officers' mess to their own mess on 10 February, the anniversary of the battle.

The Queen's Regiment—the second oldest infantry regiment of the line—traces its history back to 1661. It was raised to garrison Tangier which was part of the dowry of the Portuguese Princess Catherine of Braganza on her marriage to King Charles II of England.

It won the Army's first battle honour—Tangier 1662–1680. Its name was changed in 1684 from The Tangier Regiment to The Queen's Regiment (after Queen Catherine) and it fought in the last battle on English soil at Sedgemoor, Somerset, against the Duke of Monmouth.

Both The Queen's Regiment (it became "Royal" in 1715) and The East Surrey Regiment served as marines, the former in the naval battle of The Glorious First of June 1794 and the latter was called "Villiers' Marines" after Colonel George Villiers who raised it in 1702 for service in the ships of Queen Anne.

The relief of Wexford (1798) and Ladysmith (1900) were both fateful for the Raitt family which served in The Queen's Royal Regiment for generations. At Wexford, Lieutenant G E Raitt had to hang a rebel leader, Father Murphy, but the rope broke and the cursing clergyman was executed on the second attempt. When the unfortunate lieutenant opened the prison gates he found it full of women and children who were expecting to be massacred but "upon discovering it was the Redcoats and not the insurgents, they almost smothered the officer by their embraces." At Ladysmith, Captain A D Raitt was killed when two companies of Queen's were ordered to make a suicidal frontal assault on a Boer position.

During World War Two, The Queen's served in every major theatre with the exception of Norway. The Surreys saw action in Europe, North Africa and the Far East. The 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, and the 1st Royal Leicestershire Regiment, both severely depleted, were amalgamated to form the famous "British Battalion" which fought more than 300 miles down the Malay peninsula from Ipoh to Singapore from December 1941 to January 1942.

But history played a strange trick. Many of the Malays who aided the British against the Japanese became the Communist terrorists who harassed them a dozen years later. The Queen's—many of them National Servicemen—carried out cordon-and-search operations in dense jungle. The toll was 46 terrorists killed for the loss of one officer and six men.

In 1959 The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) and The East Surrey Regiment were amalgamated at Bury St Edmunds to form The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. Less than eight years later there was yet another amalgamation, this time to form The Queen's Regiment, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment becoming the 1st Battalion, and the Queen's Own Buffs, Royal Sussex and Middlesex regiments the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions respectively.

The Paschal Lamb—believed to be the House of Braganza's crest—was the badge of The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey). The swaggering, swashbuckling Lieut-Col Piercy Kirke became Governor of Tangier and Colonel of the Queen's in 1682. Hence the Regiment's former nickname of "Kirke's Lambs."

Badge of The East Surrey Regiment with star of the Order of the Garter, castle and key (arms of Guildford, county town of Surrey), and on the keep is a three-fish crest (arms of Kingston-on-Thames, home of the Regimental Depot).

Nowadays they would probably call it gamesmanship. But only the British would ever have the nerve to dribble a football into battle. It happened at Montauban Ridge during the Somme offensive on 1 July 1916. Captain W P Neville of the 8th (Service) Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment, provided four balls, one for each of his platoons. Captain Neville himself kicked off in the match against death. The goal was 1½ miles away. The courageous captain and many of his men never reached it. They were among the 60,000 British troops killed that day. The nation was stirred and the *Daily Mail* inspired to commemorate them in verse:

"On through the hail of slaughter where gallant comrades fell,
Where blood is poured like water, they drove the trickling ball.
The fear of death before them is but an empty name;
True to the land that bore them, The Surreys play the game!"

The Germans, who did not understand, reproduced this picture as propaganda which scorned "British stupidity."

One football is preserved at the National Army Museum, Camberley, and another at Howe Barracks, Canterbury.

Letters

HOSPITAL MASSACRE

I was interested in the article "Dark Days of February" (July) as I was Deputy Judge Advocate-General of the War Crimes Section (Legal) in the Far East in 1947-48. My headquarters were at Goodwood Park Hotel, Singapore, and I had a detailed knowledge of the case known as the Alexandra Road Hospital Massacre.

There was then a large file on the case consisting of affidavits from several survivors of the massacre at the British Military Hospital, but a war crimes trial was never held owing to failure to identify the accused. I presume the file has long since been destroyed.

My memory now is not too clear on the details but I can state with certainty that during the Japanese advance over the Island of Singapore an attack was launched by them from the country at the back of the hospital. I think the date was 9 or 10 February 1942. It was amply proved from affidavits of several survivors that Indian troops—regiment unknown—took up positions on the roof and in the wards on the top floor of the hospital and fired on the advancing Japanese. This circumstance, although not an absolute bar to trial, was an awkward factor in this case as it was a clear breach of a Geneva Convention by which we were always bound, although the Japanese never paid the slightest attention to any convention.

From Japanese operation orders we traced the division, the brigade and finally the regiment which attacked in that locality and established that its commanding officer and many of the men responsible were subsequently killed or died in Sumatra. The men responsible for the massacre were never identified despite exhaustive inquiries.

As I recall, the Japanese bayoneted a few people in the sisters' quarters and then rushed into the main front hall of the hospital where the commanding officer and many of the nurses and staff were congregated. They massacred several doctors and nurses where they were huddled under the stairway in the main front hall. At this stage the Indian troops had withdrawn. Several of the staff were pushed into a room on the left adjoining the hallway, where they remained for that night in constant threat of death.

The Japanese then rushed through the hospital bayoneting some patients in bed and murdered a doctor in the operating theatre as well as the patient on the operating table.

On the following day the survivors, who had spent the night in terror herded in various rooms, managed to get food and water.

The bodies of the victims were buried in the grass plots between the hospital blocks and at the far end of the front garden and subsequently reinterred in the military cemetery. As far as I know none was identified.

Several of the staff made affidavits after the war and some must be alive today. The commanding officer of the hospital was either a New Zealander or a Canadian.

Incidentally, the officer carrying the Union Jack in the coloured picture on page 46 of the June SOLDIER is Colonel Wild, who was an interpreter on General Percival's staff at the time of the surrender in Singapore. He spoke fluent Japanese. He was a prisoner-of-war in Changi and later on the Burma-Siam railway and, after the war, stayed on in Singapore where he did a magnificent job as a war crimes investigator. On a mission to Hong Kong he was killed in an aircraft accident at Kai Tak Airport. He was a very gallant officer; details of his death may be found in the 1947 files of the *Straits Times*.

There was another frightful massacre of Australian Army nurses on Banka Island, of which there was one survivor —Sister Bulteel. Unfortunately she could not identify any of the Japanese soldiers whom we held as suspects.— **Col F C A Kerin, c/o Glyn Mills & Co, Kirkland House, Whitehall, London SW1.**

Gunner James Park VC

Gunner James Park was elected for the award of the Victoria Cross by his fellows of 2nd Company, 4 Battalion, Bengal Artillery (now 39 Battery, Junior Leaders Regiment RA) for gallantry at Lucknow in 1857. He was born in the Barony district of Glasgow in 1834/5 and enlisted there for service in India in 1855.

As the commander of a recently formed troop named after James Park, I am anxious to trace any surviving relative. Perhaps one of SOLDIER's wide circle of readers may be able to help.—**Lieut R A Miller RA, Park's Troop, 39 (Roberts) Battery RA, Junior Leaders Regiment RA, Gamecock Barracks, Bramcote, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.**

Long service

Although I am a complete outsider who has to wait until my boy friend has finished with SOLDIER before I can get a look at it, I felt sure the Royal Regiment could do better than the nearly 69 years' service of Gunner Samuel Parsons (Letters, June).

I was right. Sir Hew Ross, who in 1867 was the first gunner to become a field-marshal, had 74 years' service when he died. Can anybody beat that? —**Miss C Nelmes, 10 Tierney Road, Brixton Hill, London SW2.**

★ *Field-Marshal Sir Hew Ross was commissioned as a gentleman cadet at the age of 15 years and seven months in October 1793. He was over 76 when appointed full general in November 1854 and nearly 90 when appointed field-marshal in January 1868. He died on 10 December the same year.*

Lyke Wake Walk

I read with interest the article (June) about a Lyke Wake Walk by a squadron of The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry in a time of 14 hrs 35 mins.

There have been many crossings since the walk was started in 1955 and many regiments claim various records. I would suggest the effort made by 77 (Wardrop) Battery of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, deserves special mention.

In May of this year the 115 members of the Battery attempted the 40-mile crossing and 113 were successful, the fastest time being by the leading group of ten in 12 hrs 44 mins.

The 5th annual Lyke Wake Walk race took place on 6 July and a Junior Leaders team from the Regiment took part. Times were: J/L/Bdr Mallinson 7 hrs 36 mins, J/Gnr Bolderson 7 hrs 52 mins, J/Sgt Toy 8 hrs 0 mins, J/Bdr Sugden 8 hrs 3 mins, J/Bdr Kinsells 8 hrs 10 mins, J/L/Bdr Brown 8 hrs 10 mins, J/Gnr Forsythe 8 hrs 41 mins, J/Gnr Benjamin 8 hrs 52 mins, J/Bdr Eger 9 hrs 1 min.

The route was the more difficult east-west crossing from Ravenscar to Osmotherley and, considering the average age of 16½, I feel this was a very good performance. The Chief Dirger personally presented the Chief Dirger's Prize to J/L/Bdr Mallinson and said this was a record for Army personnel.— **S Hughes, Education Wing, Junior Leaders Regiment RA, Gamecock Barracks, Bramcote, Nuneaton, Warwicks.**

Balaclava

I was most interested to read your article "Browne, Brittain and the Balaclava Bugle" (June), and particularly of Gunner Browne's distinguished military background, of which he must be very proud.

While I agree with most of what you say I feel I should try and put the record a bit straighter.

There are two instruments in existence. One is the bugle you mentioned, owned by the 17th/21st Lancers, which was carried by the orderly trumpeter of the day to the Earl of Lucan. The second is a trumpet, in our possession; this was carried by Trumpeter Keats, 11th Hussars, who was Lord Cardigan's orderly trumpeter on 25 October.

As you rightly mention, the majority of authorities believe that no call was sounded, although Sergeant-Major Loy Smith of the 11th does state that trumpets sounded the "Advance."

Incidentally, my great-great-uncle was adjutant of the 11th at Balaclava.— **Lieut-Col P M Hamer, Commanding 11th Hussars, BFPO 30.**

As a private contractor living at Andover in the late 1920s and early 1930s, and being familiar with most of the messes, let me assure you that the accepted fact was that it was the orderly trumpeter of the 11th Hussars who sounded the charge.

Incidentally, why was it thought necessary to parade a Royal Artillery gunner and pass him off as representative of the trumpeter? Would it not have been more representative to have dressed Gunner Browne in 11th Hussars uniform, thus giving an authentic touch to the whole thing?

Be that as it may, I wonder how many of the public are aware that the most successful episode of the Balaclava affairs was the "Charge of the Heavy Brigade?" What made the historians overlook what has been described as the most desperate but successful cavalry-versus-cavalry charge in history?

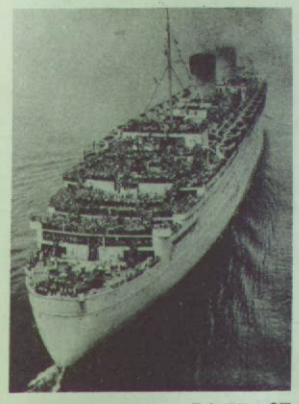
Two squadrons of the Scots Greys and one of the Inniskilling Dragoons, 300 men in all, charged a Russian force of 3000 men and routed them! As a result of this action the Army gained its first Victoria Crosses, awarded to Sergeant-Major J Grieve and Sergeant H Ramage, both of the Scots Greys.— **J Brooke, 60 Primate Road, Sunderland, Co Durham.**

Once again the Balaclava Bugle myth! W H Pennington, who rode in the charge as a private in the 11th Hussars, said in the 1870s, after the sale of an alleged Balaclava trumpet, "As a matter of stern, incontrovertible fact, I can positively state that no trumpet sounded in the Light Brigade that day." Again, writing in the *Standard*, he says: "My old friend, Troop Sergeant-Major Keyte of the 1st Royal Dragoons, states that 'no bugle or trumpet sounding took place in either Brigade.'"

W H Pennington was the "Unhorsed Hussar," the central figure in Lady Butler's painting, "The Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava." He was

It happened in SEPTEMBER

Date		Year
2	Omdurman captured by Lord Kitchener	1898
12	Korean People's Republic (North Korea) proclaimed	1948
13	Chiang Kai-Shek elected president Chinese Republic	1943
16	Formation of Malaysia	1963
20	Salisbury Cathedral consecrated	1258
21	Reichstag fire trial opened at Leipzig	1933
27	Queen Elizabeth launched	1938
28	Radio Times first published	1923



rescued by Troop Sergeant-Major Harrison ("Old Bags"), of the 8th Hussars, who was leading a riderless grey mare; he was known as "Old Bags" by the men because he wore his overalls loose and easy.

Another link with the Crimea—my grandfather, when serving with the 15th King's Hussars in Dublin in 1860, was soldier-groom to Sir George Brown, who led the Light Division at the Alma. His brother was serving with the 8th Hussars in India when Mrs Duberly was still with the regiment.—**W E Thomas, 1298 Argyle Street, Glasgow C3.**

I have a pamphlet written by William Butler, who served in the 17th Lancers and who took part in the Charge of the Light Brigade. Sergeant Butler, who served for 21 years in the 17th and later the 18th, wrote his memoirs while living at South Shore in Blackpool.

Dealing with the famous charge, Sergeant Butler writes:

"At last Captan Nolan, riding at full speed, came towards our Brigadier, Lord Cardigan. Major Morris (17th) and Colonel Dougherty (13th Light Dragoons) were talking together mounted when the order to mount was given. The order was quickly obeyed. Walk, trot, gallop, was sounded by Lord Cardigan's trumpeter, Wm Britton, who on that day was killed."

Sergeant Butler's description of the ride back up the valley is very graphic. "Coming back I was attacked by two Cossacks. I engaged one on my right and despatched him. At the same time the other made a cut at me which just caught my nose, chin and bridle hand—but he never cut another, for I left him on the ground.

"Going a little further my horse was shot beneath me and I lay weltering in blood and swooned. I should think I must have lain there two or three hours before I came to. I did not know where I was until a French sentry challenged me and I was taken to a French doctor who dressed my wounds."

Butler eventually became a master bootmaker but, after being discharged at Aldershot with a pension of 1s 3½d a day (he had not been a sergeant long enough to qualify for more), he fell on hard times. A failed business and family sickness seems to have given the doughty old warrior a difficult few years. His memoirs were probably written in the hope of raising a few shillings.—**G H Corr, 182 Chiswick Village, London W4.**

Another version

I was interested to read "Your Regiment: 65" (June) as I am at present reading a book entitled "With the Guards We Shall Go (A Guardsman's Letters in the Crimea 1854-55)." This guardsman was Captain Strange Jocelyn, of the Scots Fusilier Guards.

The author's description of the Alma states that the Guards, in their hurry to advance, had to break down a stone wall. Chafing at this delay, an officer's shout of "Forward! Forward! What are you waiting for?" was enough to make the line hurl itself forward without even fixing bayonets. Captain Jocelyn wrote: ". . . one of our Colours had 24 bullets through it and the staff shot away . . . some regiments have suffered dreadfully—the 23rd and 7th."

"A History of the Regiments and Uniforms of the British Army" (Barnes) mentions this regarding the same battle: "Soon afterwards a bugle sounded the 'Retire' and the call was repeated all down the line. The officers of the 23rd, now The Royal Welch Fusiliers, had many casualties as they stood in a group discussing this unaccountable incident. The call was repeated . . . and all the troops began to retire, except the 7th, now The Royal Fusiliers, who refused to move. This Regiment shortly afterwards held off a Russian force of twice its own number."

SOLDIER's account of this incident is again different, though the number of bullet holes in the Colours coincides with Captain Jocelyn's figure.

We now have three different descriptions of presumably the same incident; I would welcome further enlightenment. —**B A Everett, 35 South Drive, Cheam, Surrey.**

Imperial Guard Grenadiers

In his letter "Grenadier Guards" (June), Lance-Sergeant Lusty states that at Waterloo the First Regiment of Foot Guards "defeated the French Imperial Guard who were grenadiers." Also that the British 1st Guards adopted the bearskin cap after defeating the French Guard Grenadiers. I would point out that although this is a popular belief it is in fact wholly incorrect.

The French Imperial Guard was made up of the Old, Middle and Young Guards, each consisting of units of all arms. It is true that it contained four regiments of foot grenadiers all of which were present at Waterloo, two being Old Guard regiments and the other two belonging to the Middle Guard.

The regiment which actually faced the British 1st Foot Guards during that last desperate attack by the French was the 3rd Chasseurs of the Middle Guard. No doubt they were thought to be grenadiers because of their similar uniforms, including bearskin caps.

There is no doubt that the Guard did take its first real beating at Waterloo as a direct result of inept handling by senior commanders but the two Grenadier regiments of the Old Guard, "the Old of the Old," retired in square formation as ordered at the end of the day and were never defeated.—**Capt C W T Lumley, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, Normandy Barracks, Felixstowe, Suffolk.**

Badges

I have a collection of badges and would be most grateful for suggestions of ways in which to keep or display them.—**C O Pigott, 22 Melwood Grove, Acomb, York.**

UNEF medal

In reply to Lance-Corporal Toms (May) I, too, thought I was unique in the British Army by wearing the United Nations Emergency Force medal ribbon. Whenever I have been in uniform the ribbon has always aroused interest and, as Corporal Toms must know, it takes some explaining away.

It is quite likely we were on opposite sides of Rafah Camp in the Sinai, as I served from February 1960 to April 1961 as a trooper with Recce Squadron, 1st Fort Garry Horse, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps.

In a way it is a pity that Corporal Toms wrote his letter—now we have both lost our claims to unique possession of this medal!—**Lieut G R Browning, Royal Signals, School of Ordnance, Deepcut, Surrey.**

Bandmaster Miller

This is a sequel to the letter you so kindly printed in the June edition regarding what happened to William Miller after he left 69 Wood Street, Woolwich, in 1897.

The grave of this famous "Green Jacket" has been traced to the historical Dorsetshire seaport of Weymouth. His obituary was finally found tucked away on the back page of the *Southern Times* of 9 March 1901, stating that he had died peacefully two days earlier.—**D Marks, 39 Morpeth Road, South Hackney, London E9.**

Sporting twins

In "Purely Personal" (June) there appeared a photograph of the Korpalski twins enlisting at Derby.

Readers may be interested to know that both these young boys represented The Mercian Brigade Depot at the Army Swimming Union junior championships (minor units) on 1 July 1968.

Andrew came second in the 100 yards backstroke.—**Maj A J Bartholomew, The Sherwood Foresters, Junior Soldiers Company, Mercian Brigade Depot, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs.**

Gibraltar's "moles"

Major J H Sunderland's comments (July) that all the "mucking out" was performed by men of the wartime fortress garrison infantry battalions stationed on the Rock is not acceptable.

He has obviously forgotten the Royal Regiment of Artillery, whose participation was considerable, especially in the early stages of the war, in addition to a fair share of all the garrison commitments. In fact the gunners were tunnelling in the Rock in co-operation with the sappers long before the war, and continued to do so throughout.—**Maj J G McAndrew RA, 22 (Gibraltar 1779-83) Loc Bty, Horne Barracks, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts.**

Academy sergeant-major

I have no doubt it has been pointed out to you that Regimental Sergeant-Major Brand, not Regimental Sergeant-Major Lord, was the first academy sergeant-major at Sandhurst after World War Two.—**P A Harrington, 30 Pleasant View Road, Crowborough, Sussex.**

★ *RSM Brand* (1946-48) *did indeed precede RSM Lord at Sandhurst. However, it was during the latter's term of office* (1948-1963) *that the appointment of academy sergeant-major was instituted.*

Disappearing regiments

I have been reading this correspondence with great interest. The reductions are now reaching such a stage that it would seem useless trying to preserve any of the old Cardwell regimental names.

I feel Mr R A Hamilton is right in suggesting the formation of seven or eight large regiments, provided each one is regarded as the successor of a group of the old regiments, and that the names of these old regiments appear in the Army List under the names of the new large regiments.—**K G L Mills, 2 Second Avenue, Bez Valley N, Johannesburg, S Africa.**

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 37)

The two pictures vary in the following respects:

1 Height of space capsule. 2 Lines in porthole. 3 Oblong shape on man's right arm. 4 Square panels on man's back equipment. 5 Crease on right boot. 6 Fingers of right hand. 7 Curve on helmet. 8 Shape of Italy. 9 Number of stars. 10 Man's left heel.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

P J McGrath, 39 Engineer Regiment, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire.—*Requires British and Colonial military cap badges, especially T & AVR.*

M Harrap, 15 Lamborne Road, West Knighton, Leicester.—*Wishes purchase pre-war gramophone records of British Army military bands. All letters answered.*

REUNIONS

Master Gunners, Past and Present. Annual reunion at Victory Ex-Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2, 7 pm, Saturday, 2 November. Details from H Watling, 55 Orpin Road, Merstham, Surrey.

The East Yorkshire Regimental Association. Reunion 21/22 September. Details from Secretary, 11 Butcher Row, Beverley, E Yorks.

The Middlesex Regiment. Annual reunion at Porchester Hall, Queensway, London W2, 7 pm, Friday, 11 October. Details from Secretary, Regimental Association, TA Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex. (Tel: 01-952 2625).

Glosters WOs and Sgts. Reunion 5 October. Apply Mr R Panting, Robinswood Barracks, Gloucester.

DCM League, London Branch. Annual dinner and dance, Saturday, 28 September, church parade Sunday, 29 September, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 1015. DCM holders write Secretary, E Crook, 224 Portman Buildings, Lisson Grove, London NW1.

Gordon Highlanders London Association. Reunion 7 pm, 9 November, 59 Buckingham Gate, London SW1. Refreshments free. Contact Secretary, 59 Buckingham Gate.

Old Lawrencians (Lovedale). Reunion Saturday, 28 September, Royal Horticultural New Hall, Greycoat Street, London SW1. Details from F A Bamford, 64 Helmsdale Road, Streatham, London SW16.

OVER TO YOU

As might be expected, faces predominated in the subjects chosen by readers for completion of the doodle in Competition 120 (May). Next most popular were animals (including dogs, horses, elephants, cats, camels, kangaroo etc and even a prehistoric monster), then birds (with the swan predominant). Other subjects included headgear, fish, snakes, guns, umbrellas, musical instruments, a devil and a pirate.

Originality and simplicity were the keynotes in selecting the six prize-winning entries, all of which were the only ones of their subjects.

Prizewinners were:

1 Mrs M Mannock, 21 Wilton Avenue, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

2 Cpl P G Smith RMP, 1 (Br) Corps Pro Coy, BFPO 23.

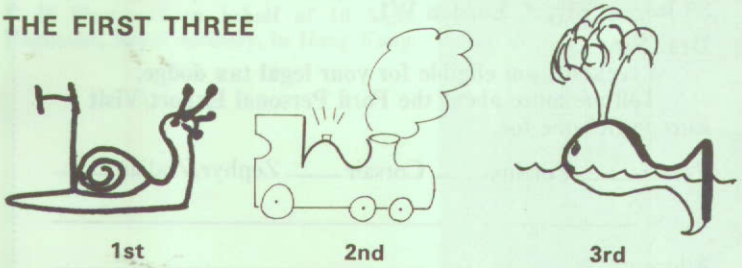
3 Jane C Ellis (aged ten), c/o Maj J D Ellis RE, PR HQ Far East Command, c/o GPO Singapore.

4 J A Broadfield, 3 Ludlow Road, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, Hants.

5 Michael J Raistrick (aged 12), 50 Rothmans Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex.

6 A E Bowell, Ramillies, Rutland Close, Chessington, Surrey.

THE FIRST THREE



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It was made in London in 1799 and awarded to Lieutenant Samuel Snook, Royal Navy. Mr Healey examines the original Sword of Peace. It is kept in the National Army Museum (Indian Section).

SAMARITAN SOLDIERS

THE Army's Wilkinson Sword of Peace has again been won by the Royal Artillery, this year by 18 Light Regiment.

The sword—one each is awarded annually to the three Services for outstanding work as peacemakers and ambassadors—was presented to Major G M Fleetwood, adjutant of 18 Light Regiment, by Mr Denis Healey, Secretary of State for Defence. The ceremony took place at the Cutlers' Hall in the City of London.

The Regiment was honoured for charitable work in Hong Kong last year. The gunners and their families rebuilt part of the banks of the Sek Kong river, thereby saving a nearby village from certain flooding; repaired and improved a home for spastic children, also providing furniture and toys; ran a recreation centre for 1000 Chinese children; carried out mercy flights by helicopter (one elderly Chinese was saved from blindness by a prompt dash to hospital); and raised 3500 dollars for a bed in a children's hospital.

Swords of Peace were also awarded to HMS Gurkha (for medical aid and food distribution in the Persian Gulf) and the RAF on Gan (for controlling a typhoid epidemic in the Maldive Islands).

The original sword—awarded by the East India Company in 1802 to a Royal Navy lieutenant who supported Filipino refugees on his slender pay and finally restored them to their families—was bought by Wilkinson Sword Limited and presented to Field-Marshal Lord Slim on behalf of the nation in 1965.

"The Sword of Peace is the sole recognition for the tremendous amount of time, effort and sheer friendship which our Armed Forces give outside the line of duty," said Mr Denys Randolph, a director of the company.

In reply Mr Healey referred to 18 Regiment's work, pointing out: "It was this type of service to the civil population which helped us to win that remarkable victory last year against Communist confrontation in Hong Kong."

Right: Symbol of chivalry. The Sword of Peace for the Army is received by Major G M Fleetwood on behalf of 18 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, in Hong Kong.

A BROTH

WHEN there is talk of Rangers you think of tall-in-the-saddle Texans pursuing bandits into the Badlands rather than platoons of infantry moving across damp pastures in arrowhead formation.

But to young Joseph Murray of Gough Avenue, Armagh, Northern Ireland, and 17 comrades the word Rangers very definitely means infantry. These young men made history when they passed out of The North Irish Brigade Depot, Ballymena, on 21 June. They were the Egypt Squad—the first recruits to join a new regiment. And, like his comrades, Joseph Murray, the squad's champion recruit, bore the name Ranger.

If he had passed through the depot before that date he would have been a rifleman or a fusilier. But the regiment he joined—the regiment that came into being on 1 July—was The Royal Irish Rangers, a bright, shiny unit that emerged from the melting pot into which had been placed The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, The Royal Ulster Rifles and The Royal Irish Fusiliers.

The Royal Irish Rangers (27th (Inniskilling), 83rd and 87th). A new Regiment with three battalions—its first formed from the Inniskillings, its second from the Ulsters and its third from The Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Inevitably on such an occasion there was sadness at the loss of three fine regiments; inevitably, too, in these times of the hard-working axe, there was more to come—in December this year the Rangers' 3rd Battalion will disband. But because the British soldier is the man he is the sadness was overcome by a feeling of identity with the new Regiment and confidence in its future.

The new Regiment is Northern Ireland's own infantry regiment and the dress of the Rangers was chosen primarily for its Irish heritage and with regard for the history and traditions of the rifle regiment and the two fusilier regiments it superseded.

The Rangers wear a Ranger-green caubeen (headdress) with green hackle, khaki service dress jacket with black buttons and Ranger-green trousers. Instead of a Sam Browne the officers wear a cross belt. And the pipers wear a saffron kilt with a green jacket and green cloaks lined with French grey.

The march is an amalgam of the airs of the three former regiments—"Rory O'More," "St Patrick's Day" and "Garryowen."

And that unusual title is not new to Irish military nomenclature—until disbanding after the formation of the Irish Free State the 88th Regiment of Foot were known as The Connaught Rangers. It is a word to put a swing into a soldier's step!

Colonel-in-Chief of the new Regiment is the Duke of Gloucester, who is the Earl of Ulster; Colonel of the Regiment is Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Harris and Deputy Colonels are Major-General T P D Scott and Major-General R H W Grimshaw.

The depot remains at Ballymena but has a new title—King's Division Depot, The Royal Irish Rangers. In addition to training Rangers it also prepares young soldiers for the two Irish cavalry regiments, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, and the Royal Artillery.

The Rangers' 1st Battalion is now at Worcester and at the end of the year will move to Catterick where it will merge with 3rd Battalion to form the new 1st Battalion. The 2nd Battalion is in Gibraltar with one company in Tobruk.

The cap badge of the new Regiment is hardly changed from that of The North Irish Brigade except that the words North Irish Brigade are replaced by Royal Irish Rangers. The marching pace is 120 steps a minute and the 2nd Battalion retains its distinction of having bugles, band, pipes and drums—the other battalions will follow suit in due course.

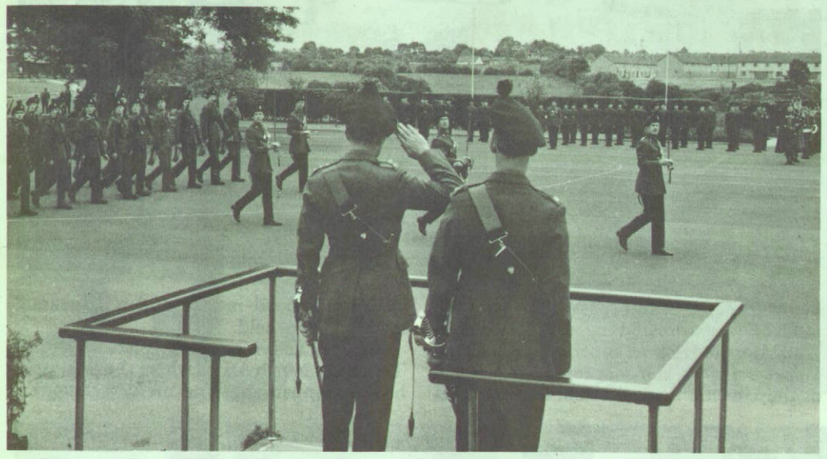
The Royal Inniskillings, raised in 1689, were heroes of Waterloo, the Dardanelles and Burma, to mention just three of the areas in which they fought. The Royal Ulster Rifles shared similar honours; they were, as 2nd Battalion of the 83rd of Foot, the only unit to fight out the Peninsular campaign as a complete unit. The Royal Irish Fusiliers were an equally honoured regiment, famous for capturing the French Imperial Eagle at the Battle of Barrosa. Both the latter regiments originated in 1793.

These things will never be forgotten, but now the new Regiment—the Regiment of Rangers—is seeking its own traditions, is eager to be honoured in its own right. And that's not just blarney!

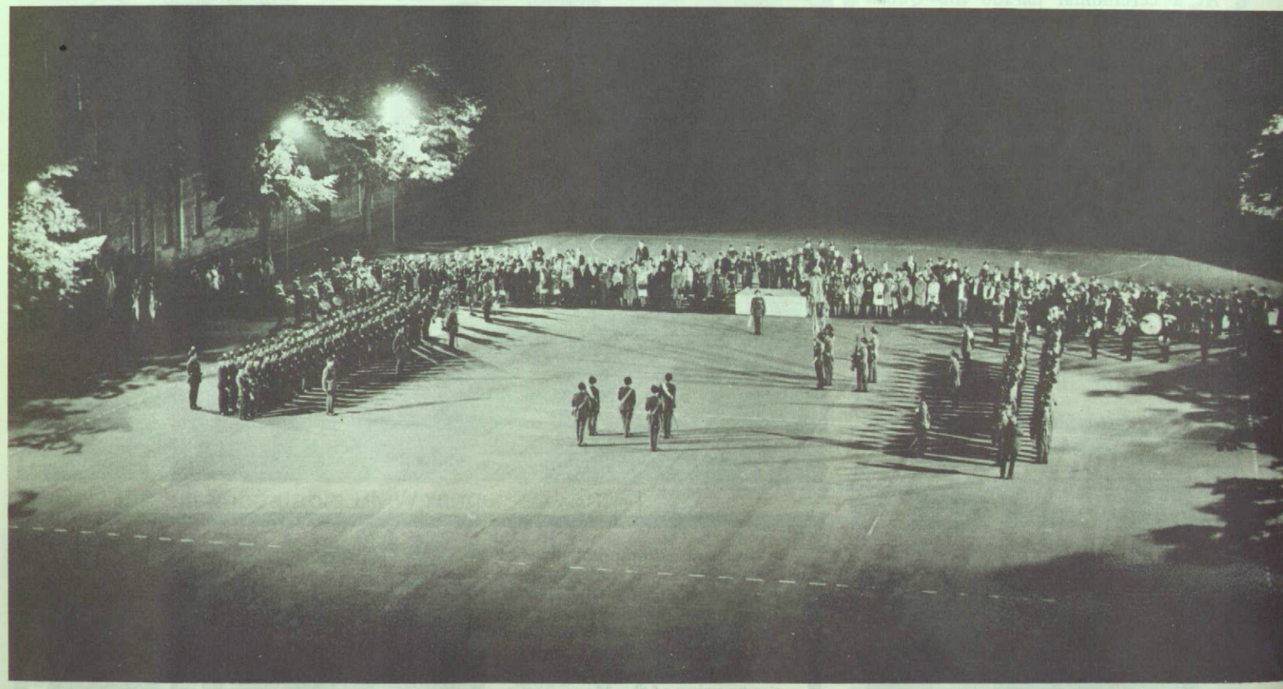
OF A REGIMENT

BALLYMENA

Here, at the "home" of the new Regiment, 300 soldiers took part in a ceremony to welcome vesting day. The Regimental Colonel, Colonel Charles Linford, read out special orders of the day for the old regiments, the regimental flags were lowered, Auld Lang Syne was played and, heralded by buglers sounding the new regimental call, the flag of The Royal Irish Rangers was broken. Then the Regimental Colonel read a special order of the day from the Colonel-in-Chief of the new Regiment, the Duke of Gloucester, and the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Harris, and the troops marched past in review order.



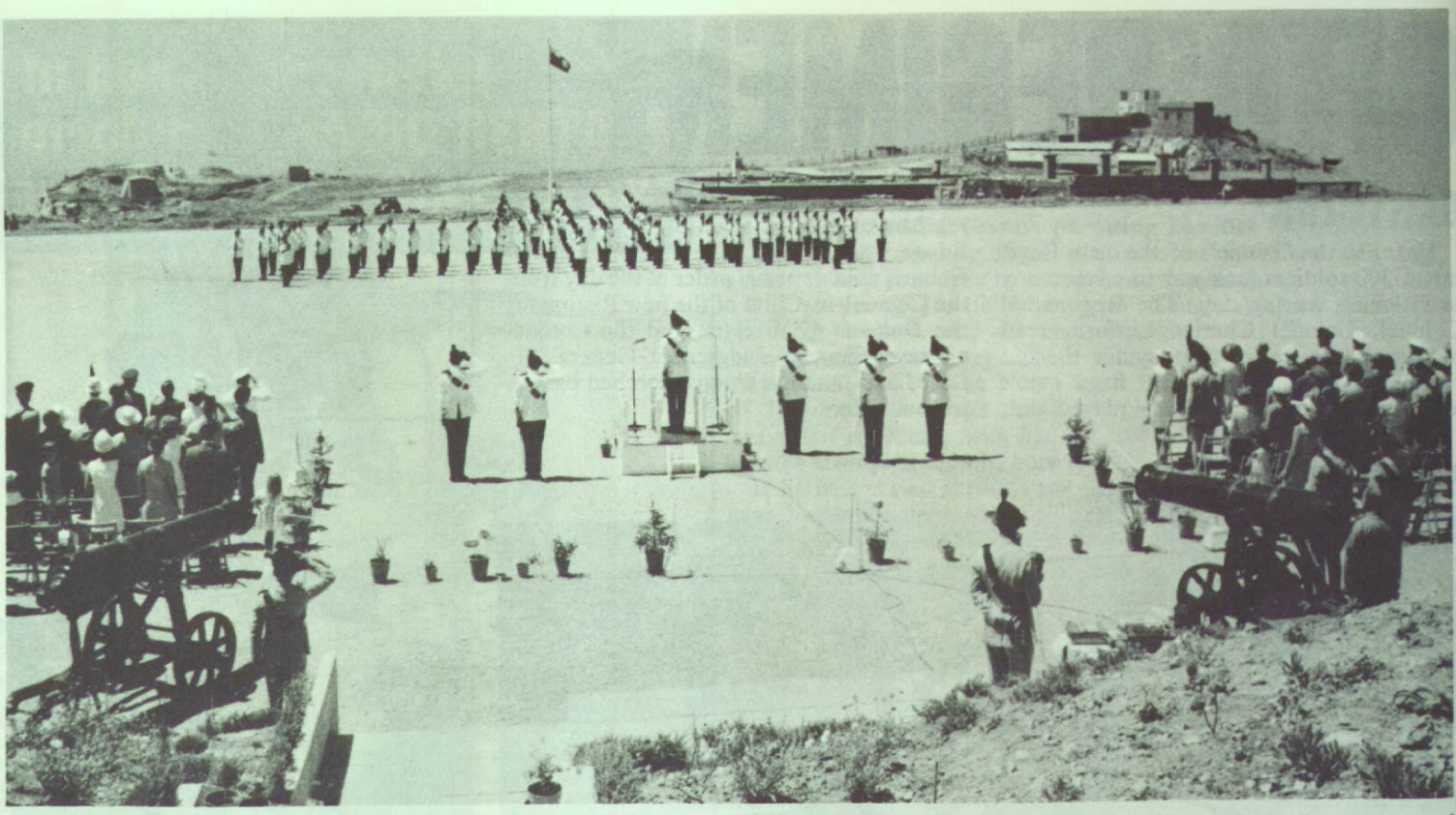
Hackles up and bayonets bared, the proud new Regiment marches past; and a summer breeze ruffles the old flags as they are lowered for the last time.



WORCESTER

The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers chose midnight to celebrate their transformation into Rangers. At Norton Barracks, at a small symbolic floodlit parade (above), a guard of Inniskillings handed the Colours to a guard of The Royal Irish Rangers. The Inniskilling flag was lowered to music by the drums and pipes and the flag of the new Regiment was raised to music by the regimental band. Present at the parade was Major-General R H W Grimshaw, a Deputy Colonel of The Royal Irish Rangers, who was formerly Colonel of the Inniskillings.

OVER ▶



GIBRALTAR

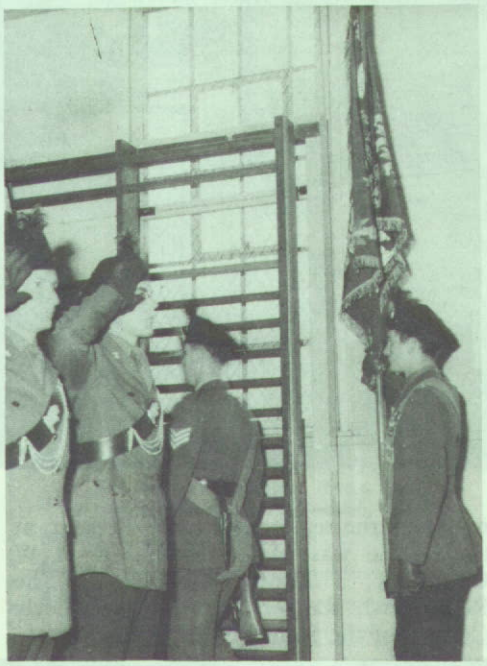
Vesting day for The Royal Ulster Rifles was another historic link with Gibraltar where the Regiment has been stationed many times in the past. The parade (above) was attended by the Colonel of The Royal Irish Rangers, Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Harris, previously Colonel of the Ulsters. Special celebration lunches were held in all messes and a sergeants' mess ball was held.

Similar activities took place over in Tobruk in North Africa where the Regiment had a company serving on detachment.

CATTERICK

At a ceremonial parade the Queen's and Regimental Colours were handed over by The Royal Irish Fusiliers to a guard of The Royal Irish Rangers. On parade, at which the salute was taken by Major-General T P D Scott, the new Regiment's other Deputy Colonel and formerly Colonel of The Royal Irish Fusiliers, were four guards of 54 men each and the regimental band, drums and pipes.

Below: Colours were paraded in the gymnasium at Catterick because of heavy rain. Right: A gallant sergeant emulates Sir Walter Raleigh.



The first ceremonial duty of the new Royal Irish Rangers took place on the Isle of Man when the band, pipes and drums of 1st Battalion, with 100 soldiers of B Company, took part in the Tynwald Ceremony, the opening of the Manx Parliament. The soldiers also assisted in the Viking Festival at Peel. About 30 of the men, dressed in Viking fashion, "invaded" the island.

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as easy as wink

BACK to playing around with words, and it's as simple as ..... or is it? The first two groups of seven need little thought but the last group may provoke some head-scratching. Dashes indicate the missing letters.

Send your 28 words with the "Competition 124" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

The Editor (Comp 124)
SOLDIER
433 Holloway Road
London N7.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 18 November. The answers and winners' names will appear in the January 1969 SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 124" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

prizes

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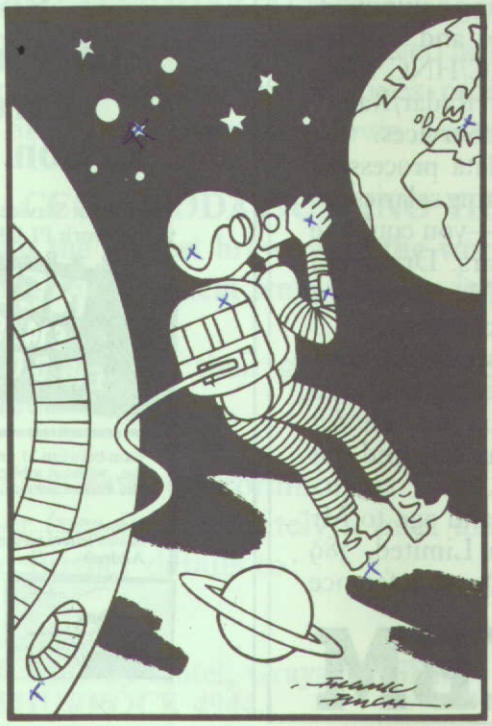
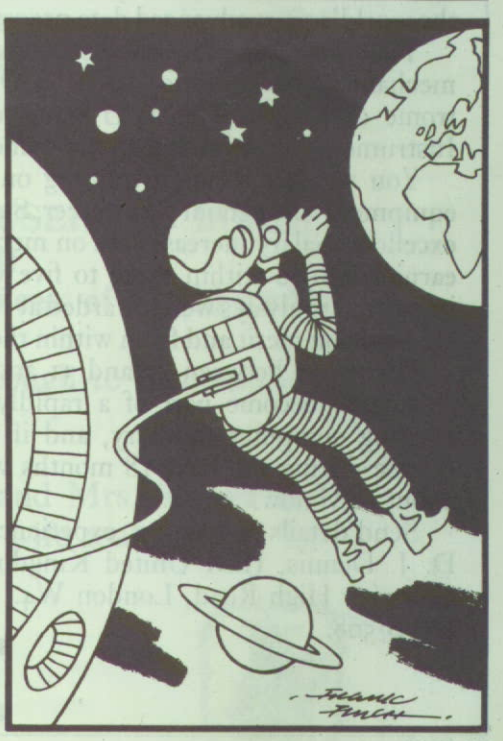
7 As miserable as sin
8 As clear as crystal
9 As – – – – – as dirt
10 As – – – – – as lead
11 As – – – – as sin
12 As hard as nails
13 As good as ninepins
14 As – – – – as mutton
15–16 As g – – – as g – – – –
17–18 As d – – – as d – – – – – – – – –
19–20 As r – – – as r – – –
21–22 As b – – – as b – – – –
23–24 As t – – – – as t – – – – – –
25–26 As l – – – – as l – – –
27–28 As g – – – as g – – – –

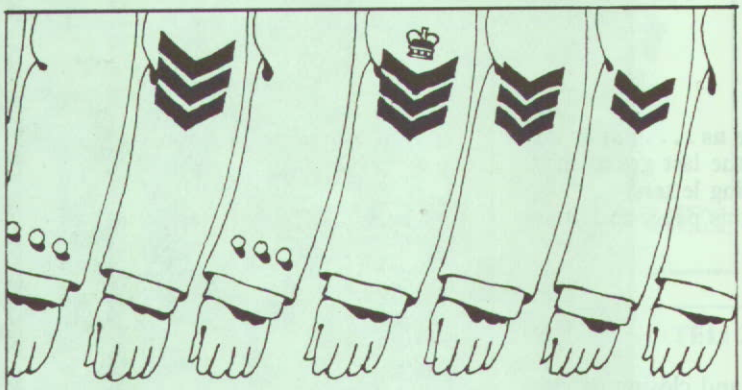
How Observant Are You?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the difference see page 29.





SERVICES JOBFINDER



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To: Establishment Officer, Prison Dept. PSB52/1A
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O-37

Capt. Barnes

Cpl. Turner

WHAT have these men in common!

A LOT

Capt. Barnes and Cpl. Turner have both served in Her Majesty's Forces. They both left the service recently each receiving a good gratuity. They wanted to hold on to as much of this as they possibly could for the future. Both were going to miss the life of their mess, where they had made lots of friends. The problem was, how could they save their gratuity. Get a HOME, a SECURE well-paid job and the feeling of the mess life.

SIMPLE

They applied to BASS-CHARRINGTON'S for management training of a TOBY INN or TAVERN. Charrington's solved all their problems. Capt. Barnes, Cpl. Turner and their respective wives received excellent training from Charrington's and were given their own Tavern to manage PLUS

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SECURITY (with the largest brewery in the world)
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and all they had to take out of their gratuity was enough to furnish their own private quarters.

If you want to have the same in common as Capt. and Mrs. Barnes and Cpl. and Mrs. Turner (yes it is definitely a man and wife team), write for application form and further details to:

Mr. R. Howard,
Copes Taverns Limited, Railway Hotel, Grays, ESSEX.
or telephone GRAYS THURROCK 4944.

SERVICES JOBFINDER

Under this heading every month SOLDIER will list jobs available to officers, men and women of the three Services who are about to complete their Service engagement

FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL TO CADET

Heads back and thumbs down seams. The mini-soldiers earn a royal smile.

CLASS CORPS

IT is a unique corps, wearing Army, Navy and Air Force uniform, which began as a Sunday school class.

The class—formed 65 years ago by a Miss Grace Reynolds and her father at Camberley—took the name of the Maple Leaf Boys' Club after her visit to Canada and became the Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps five years later.

Its claim to be a unique cadet corps is based on taking recruits at the age of seven and being entirely dependent on voluntary contributions for all cadets under 14—and there are 120 of these. The Corps, which includes C Company of the 2nd Cadet Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, is run by retired Army officers and civilians. The main source of income is profit from the new year's eve ball, held in the gymnasium at the Royal Military Academy, and an annual day at Krooner Park, Camberley.

The annual day was a special event this year—it was the Corps' diamond jubilee. To mark the occasion, Princess Alexandra took the salute at the march past. Seated next to Miss Reynolds, who is now approaching 90, she watched a pageant representing 60 years of the Corps' history with cadets dressed in uniforms of each decade. Several old comrades also took part, including Mr Bob Cattermole who was a member of the original Sunday School in 1903. Members of the Corps have fought in the three Services with gallantry and distinction—25 were killed in World War One and 33 in World War Two.

There was a display of infantry in action by The Queen's Regiment, a demonstration of unarmed combat by Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' recruits, and concerts and marching by bands of the RMA 2nd Queen's and 3rd Para.

Posy of roses for the Princess. Miss Reynolds, founder of the Cadet Corps, is on the right.

VOLUNTEERS FOR DANGER

THEY call Penang Island the Pearl of the Orient. Lying just off the west coast of Malaysia, it has almost perpetual sunshine, golden beaches, palm trees, exotic fruits, Chinese temples and Buddhist shrines, colourful inhabitants—Chinese, Malaysians, Indians—and a leisurely East of Suez way of life.

It has also many hundreds of rotting, rusty Japanese missiles—lethal left-overs from World War Two.

There are aerial bombs, torpedoes, sea mines, depth charges and shells. They lie in caves and pits long since caved in by a rainfall of more than 100 inches a year and covered by jungle.

And it was among this tangle of TNT that 40 men from Kent—men who normally pass their days in peaceful offices and shops—chose to spend a fortnight. They are members of 590 Specialist Team, Royal Engineers—part-time soldiers of the Territorial & Army Volunteer Reserve—who flew 8000 miles to spend annual camp assisting Regular sappers with the problem of Penang.

The Volunteers, Rochester based, are commanded by Major Norman Woollven, whose civilian occupation is technical author with Standard Telephone and Cables. The men he took to Penang from a dozen towns and villages around Rochester are just as unlikely types to be manhandling bombs left behind by a defeated enemy.

Second-in-command is a bank official, Captain Antony Spark. Midland Bank is quite happy about his explosive habits—"But," says Captain Spark, "my colleagues think I'm crazy."

Among other occupations represented among Penang's deadly refuse by men of 590 Team were postman and coal miner, plumber and exciseman, tyre depot manager and roadman, welder and surveyor, chemical engineer and fitter's mate.

And for some it was a family affair. Joe Witt, Civil Servant, and his brother Chris, who works on a building site in Canterbury, went from their home in Chatham; both are sappers. Sapper E J A Bird came from Unity Street, Sheerness, and was joined by his cousin, Sapper B W Bird, from nearby Alma Road.

One man did not change his job for the trip—the unit's permanent staff instructor, Warrant Officer II Peter Brook, 21 years a Royal Engineer.

The story that took the Volunteers from Kent to Penang started more than 26 years ago when the Japanese overran the Malayan Peninsula and set up a base on the island. They dug storage tunnels and pits for ammunition, most of it geared to naval use.

Regular Royal Engineers spent some time in the late 1950s on clearance work but it was not until March last year that a Regular bomb disposal team was formed to find the tunnels and clear them.

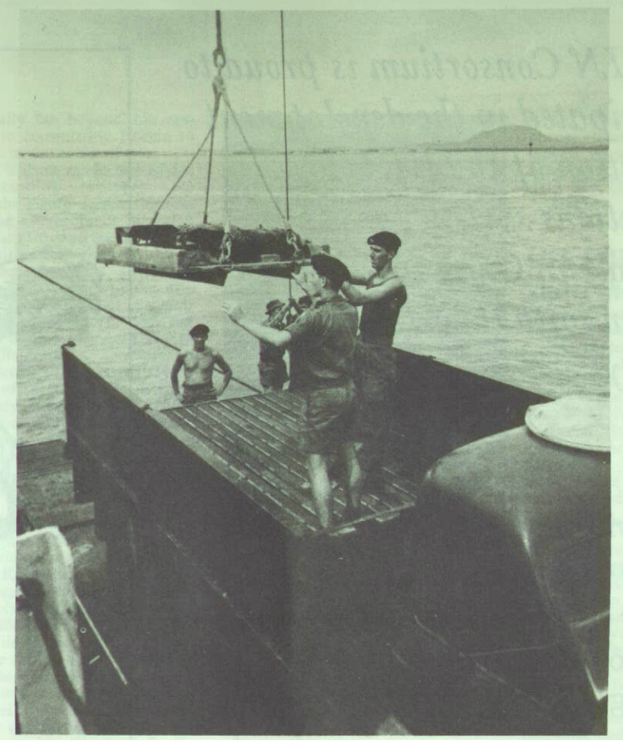
Found so far have been 70 500-kilogram bombs and 95 of 250 kilograms, and the Volunteers hauled out the 2000th 60-kilogram bomb two days after their arrival. Also unearthed have been 120 shells, 35 torpedoes, 10 sea mines, a depth charge and 16 other explosive devices. They are dumped 25 miles out at sea by Royal Corps of Transport landing craft.

The Volunteers took on the task of checking a site near the Waterfall Gardens, one of the beauty spots of Penang's capital Georgetown. In searching for the hidden bombs, civilian labourers clear the jungle, then probes are made with electronic equipment and then the tunnels are dug out by earth-removing plant.

Army dogs, trained to detect underground metal, are used and soldiers have copper wire shaped like a divining rod which reacts to hidden metal.

For two weeks the Volunteers of Kent helped their Regular comrades to eliminate these wartime death traps. Then it was back to nine-to-five routine in Kent with this tribute from Major Mike Hoskins, commanding the Penang bomb disposal unit: "These men came out here, bang into a sweaty temperature of up to 100 degrees, and plunged right into the job—and the mud—with tremendous enthusiasm. It has been a delight to work with them."

Story and pictures by Army Public Relations, Headquarters, Far East Land Forces



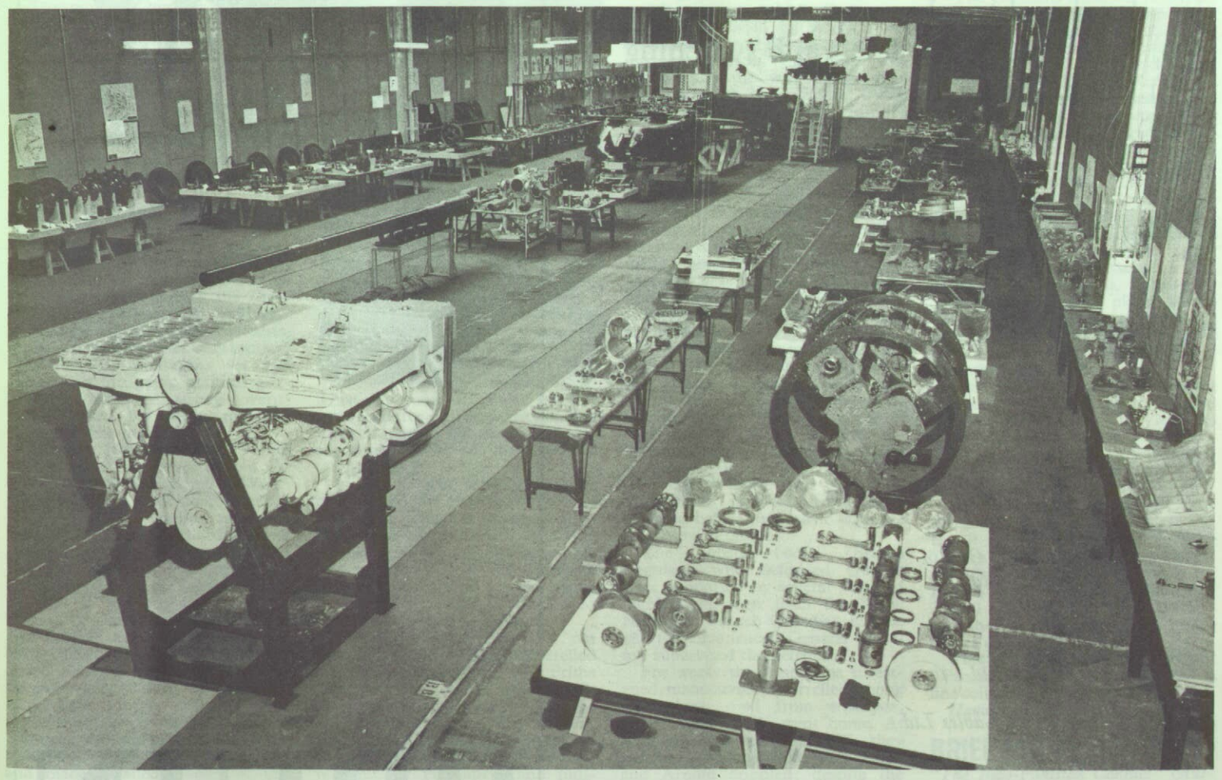
Left: Recovered bombs being loaded on a Royal Corps of Transport landing craft to be dumped in the Andaman Sea.

Above: Regulars and Reservists uncover a Japanese bomb. Corporal Roy Acott (second from right) of 590 Specialist Team, was a Regular for three years and then joined the old Territorial Army.

Left: Sapper Chris Witt is using an electronic probe as he searches for bombs on the island.

Below, left: Another Volunteer, Lance-Corporal D Hammond, takes readings while 100 feet away, on the top of a hill, another sapper similarly takes readings from a probe sunk in the earth.

Below: Sapper Jeffrey Jee (left) and Corporal Douglas Davies manhandle a rotting bomb.



Striptease

Picture by Trevor Jones

Here is something for those who love to play with assembly model kits to boggle at! There are some 250,000 pieces to fit together, and even if you managed the mammoth job the end product might be a bit of an embarrassment—a Chieftain tank, in fact.

Technical Group, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, at 38 Central Workshop, Chilwell, Nottinghamshire, took apart a Chieftain to assess its reliability after high-mileage trials—and displayed the components in this shed for a top-level inspection.

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BRUIN

BOOKS

WORLD WAR TWO

"*Battles Lost and Won*" (*Hanson W Baldwin*)

"Military history and drama are compatible; in fact, they are inseparable; one without the other is incomplete."

This is Mr Baldwin's guide-line, and he sticks to it as he describes eleven battles of World War Two—Poland, the Battle of Britain, Crete, Corregidor, Stalingrad, Sicily, Tarawa, Normandy, Leyte Gulf, the Bulge and Okinawa.

His style is the crisp style of the most popular journalism. There is plenty of colour, provided by dialogue, individual action and vivid description. The following samples are culled from a single page in the account of Tarawa:

"Colonel Shoup, weary, bearded but indomitable feels the pulse of change, says to Sherrod, 'Well, I think we are winning, but the bastards have got a lot of bullets left.' "

"A Marine stops beside a burned-out Japanese tank and gives the kitten some precious water from his canteen."

"And 'Sergeant Siwash,' the duck mascot of a pack howitzer unit, won at a raffle in New Zealand, waddles, quacking in alarm, past the riflemen and the flame-throwers . . ."

"But that night, the animal cries of men about to die echo over Betio . . ."

The author's verdicts are neatly presented. They offer little new but, as might be expected from the military editor and analyst of the *New York Times* who is an ex-war correspondent, they are sound. They also clearly set the engagements he describes in the general progress of the war. There are 140-odd pages of useful notes and bibliographies.

Hodder & Stoughton, 55*s* **RLE**

MAN OF AMBITION

'*The Lost Dictator*" (*Bernard Ash*)

Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wilson was a man of huge ambition, an Irishman who regarded the Irish and most foreigners as "natives," who believed all trade unionists, strikers and suffragettes were traitors, who despised politicians yet was himself an intriguing political general, who advocated strong government backed by troops and saw himself at the head of it.

Between 1880 and 1882, young Wilson failed five times to join the Army through Sandhurst or Woolwich, so took a back-door commission via an Irish militia unit into The Rifle Brigade. He dodged a posting to India so that he could marry and attend Staff College. Then he wriggled out of another India posting—it was too far from the sources of power and promotion—and became a staff captain at the War Office. Then his career went apace—in ten years he rose to brigadier-general and commandant of the Staff College.

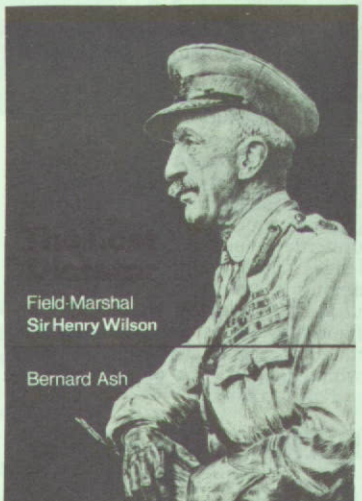
He now developed a School of Thought, devoted to preparation for war with Germany alongside France, and made detailed studies of the frontiers of Europe which were to stand him, and his country, in good stead. As Director of Military Operations he rendered a most notable service by planning the move of a British Expeditionary Force to France. In doing so he went typically far beyond his responsibility in committing Britain to help France in the event of war.

In 1914, Wilson made one of his most outstanding mistakes. He created in the Army a false impression that the Government intended to use military force to coerce Ulster into accepting government by an Irish parliament. This provoked much unrest and in particular the notorious Curragh incident in which a large number of officers declared they would accept dismissal rather than fight Ulster.

Wilson went to France in 1914 as Sub-Chief of Staff of the British Expeditionary Force. As the Chief of Staff was an ailing, broken reed, and Sir John French, the Commander-in-Chief, was putty in Wilson's hands, Wilson found himself the power in GHQ as a junior major-general.

Remembering Wilson's part in the Curragh incident, and his intrigues with the Parliamentary opposition, Kitchener and the politicians in London refused to sanction Wilson's promotion to Chief of Staff. When Haig took over as commander-in-chief, Wilson was virtually demoted to the command of a corps.

Instead, he became a full general on an abortive mission to Russia. When Nivelle became Supreme Commander on the Western Front, Wilson became his Chief of Staff.



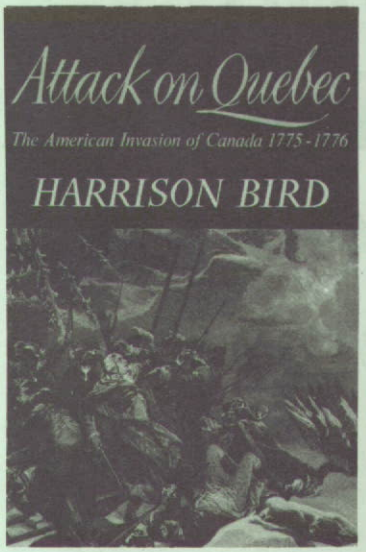
Then he was Britain's military representative on the Supreme War Council, and in February 1918 was appointed Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

It was in this capacity that he campaigned for the pacification of Ireland by a regular military operation which was to include "shooting by roster" of republican leaders. He also raised a special defence force and deployed troops to take strong action in the event of threatened industrial troubles in England.

The industrial unrest did not materialise and Wilson quarrelled with Lloyd George, the Prime Minister, over the Government's more peaceful settlement of the Irish problem. He left the War Office and immediately became an Ulster Unionist Member of the Westminster Parliament and military adviser to the Ulster Parliament.

Four months after leaving the War Office he was shot down outside his Belgravia home by two members of the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

Cassell, 50*s* **RLE**



AMERICAN DEFEAT

"*Attack on Quebec*" (*Harrison Bird*)

Within months of the outbreak in 1775 of the rebellion in the Thirteen Colonies of North America, the Continental Congress planned to extend the revolt by sending an "army of liberation" to assist the "oppressed inhabitants of Canada."

Unfortunately for the Americans the French-Canadians did not care too highly for the Protestant Bostonais, a fact which Parliament cleverly exploited by safeguarding their religion and law by statute. To join the American rebels would lose the French the very things they most cherished. Nevertheless, Washington and his aides master-minded a two-pronged attack on Quebec, which was both the administrative capital and the very heart of Canada.

Richard Montgomery, son of an Irish baronet, and Benedict Arnold, later the famous traitor, were selected to lead the assault by the citizen army of wig-makers, medical students, grocers and frontiersmen. Montgomery followed the traditional invasion route by Lake Champlain and the Richelieu River to Montreal.

Arnold took his men along an old Indian trail, following the Kennebec and Dead Rivers, crossing the mountains and then down to Quebec by the Chaudière River. It took two full months to cover the 600 miles of appalling terrain. Many volunteers turned back, the others ate mouldy food, their dogs and ammunition pouches. When they emerged before the walls of Quebec they were in tatters.

The "lobster backs" (British Regulars) who defended Quebec were supported by several hundred highlanders, men from the Royal Navy and French-Canadian militia, and the experienced General Carleton supervised the defence.

For weeks the Americans threatened, manoeuvred, quarrelled among themselves, died from smallpox, deserted or simply went home. At last, on 31 December 1775, they attacked. Montgomery was killed and Arnold crippled; despite the most gallant efforts the leaderless Americans could not win the city. Canada was saved to become the great nation she is today.

Few 18th century campaigns are so well documented as this; no fewer than 27 of Arnold's men wrote descriptions of their experiences. The author has skilfully woven these into a dramatic and exciting account.

Oxford University Press, 200 *Madison Avenue, New York, NY* 10016, *USA*, $6.50 **AWH**

LIFE EXPECTANCY—EIGHT WEEKS

"*The Royal Flying Corps*" (*Sir Robert Thompson*)

"A useless and expensive fad, advocated by a few individuals whose ideas are unworthy of attention." This judgement of General Sir W G Nicholson, Chief of the Imperial Staff, on air warfare in 1910, was not so silly then as it may seem now. Man had dreamed of flying since Daedalus and Icarus but had made little progress whether by balloon, kite, airship or glider. But within a few short years the comment had become laughable.

The Royal Flying Corps was created in April 1912, put on a war footing at an early stage and within a fortnight of the declaration of hostilities was in action, mainly on reconnaissance work, detecting gas attacks and troop movements, landing agents behind enemy lines and all the time trying to develop techniques in bombing, air photography, mapping and radio communication. In the few air battles it was a matter of pistol, rifle, grenade, even hooks!

The Germans made the first technical breakthrough—a Fokker monoplane with a machine-gun firing through the propellor arc. Max Immelman, Oswald Boelcke and Baron Manfred von Richthofen were soon household names. The RFC was really up against it but under Trenchard's inspired leadership fought back with Sopwiths and Nieuport Scouts. Other names became famous—Major McCudden, Captain Albert Ball, Captain Billy Bishop and Major Edward Mannock.

Great feats of bravery and chivalry were performed by both sides as the pilots made their four patrols a day, often in their pyjamas. Frequently more than a hundred planes would be involved above the trenches in desperate dog-fights which by 1917 gave a fighter pilot a life expectancy of under eight weeks.

War took on a new and terrible meaning as even civilians became involved in air raids. The Germans used a Zeppelin to carry ammunition from Bulgaria to troops in Tanganyika; the British used a BE 2c to rout a Dervish army.

In 1918 the short-lived RFC merged into the Royal Air Force. But it had done its job gloriously. The end of the war saw the United Kingdom with 99 squadrons in France and Belgium alone and 22,000 aircraft. At a cost of 18,000 men they had destroyed 8000 enemy planes and 300 balloons.

This exciting addition to the "Famous Regiments" series has a fine collection of plates and drawings.

Hamish Hamilton. 25*s* **AWH**

BRIEF BUT BITTER

"*The Indo-Pakistan Conflict*" (*Russell Brines*)

At the time of the brief but bitter war which broke out between India and Pakistan in the autumn of 1965, little direct news of the conflict reached the outside world. Foreign officials and the world press were

BOOKS *continued*

excluded from direct observation and forced to rely largely upon second-hand reports. Since then little has been written other than articles largely based on biased reports of the two participants.

Russell Brines was in India at the time of the conflict. Later, after the Soviet-sponsored Tashkent conference, he revisited both India and Pakistan. He has now produced the most authoritative account of the brief hostilities and events leading up to them.

He concludes, and most old 'India hands' will agree, that Kashmir, the publicised objective, was only secondary to the basic conflicts between India and Pakistan. These stemmed from mutual insecurities; each nation feared invasion and conquest by the other, each had suffered internal political, economic and social insecurity, and in both religious fanaticism had been fed by doubt and uncertainty.

At the dissolution of the British Raj in 1947 the Punjab was divided and an arbitrary border drawn on a map. It was here, in September 1965, that the modern armies of India and Pakistan fought a major battle involving hundreds of tanks, heavy artillery and low-flying fighter planes.

Hostilities had begun the previous month with sharp guerilla action in Kashmir, some 200 miles to the north. A succession of counter moves transferred the centre of action quickly and logically to the Punjab, where each army then fought to destroy the other's striking power. The campaign ended quickly but indecisively when, after feverish diplomatic activity, the United Nations concluded a truce arrangement on 22 September 1965.

The brief conflict was of immense significance for the whole world as well as for the participants, and particularly so for the rest of the underdeveloped nations. The challenges posed are multiple; and among them is the fundamental, unanswered question raised by Pandit Nehru: 'Can the newborn nations escape the cycle of wars which plagued the old nations?'

Pall Mall, 42*s* **D H C**

FRIEND OF THE FRENCH

"*Liaison* 1914" (*Major-General Sir Edward Spears*)

Major-General Spears was a subaltern of the XIth Hussars, serving a short attachment to the French War Office, when World War One broke out.

As soon as Britain declared war he went to the French GHQ as a liaison officer—the first British officer at the front—and a few days later transferred as liaison officer to the French Fifth Army, representing the British Expeditionary Force.

He was a great friend of the French and saw the French officer corps as having inherited the qualities of the old orders of warrior knights. He had nothing but praise for the French infantrymen's courage though he deplored their lack of training.

His job with Fifth Army was not made easier by the fact that its commander, General Lanrezac, had a poor opinion of the British Army and sour relations with its Commander-in-Chief.

One of Spears's most dramatic moments came on 22 August when he discovered that the Fifth Army had been driven back, leaving the British Expeditionary Force dangerously exposed. He could get no official news from Lanrezac, who refused to see him, so decided on the strength of what he had discovered for himself to drive to British GHQ and warn Field-Marshal French who then cancelled a planned attack.

With justice, John Terraine has commented, "The British Army was saved by the skin of its teeth more, perhaps, by the efforts of Spears, a subaltern, than by any other single man."

Spears's beautifully written, day-by-day account of events up to the middle of September 1914, as seen by a busy liaison officer, was first published in 1930. This second edition includes a new chapter on events on the left of the front on the eve of the Battle of the Marne, throwing new light on the respective roles of Joffre and Gallieni.

The period covered includes the sacking of Lanrezac and his replacement by General Franchet d'Esperey, a ball of fire who, in contrast to his predecessor, was anxious to co-operate with the British Allies.

Eyre & Spottiswoode, £5 5*s* **R L E**

IN BRIEF

"*The Anatomy of Courage*" (*Lord Moran*)

In 1919 a young doctor, recently demobilised after being a medical officer in France, wrote to *The Times*, prompted by a Royal Commission on shell-shock.

The first letter, more or less an essay on courage, made a deep impression on a young officer who decided that if ever he reached a position of responsibility he would ask the writer to talk to his men on courage and fear. The officer's name was Goschen—and 15 years later, as Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, he invited the letter's writer, Lord Moran, to deliver a lecture.

This was the first of many lectures to all commands and services, and for several years to the Staff College, Camberley. Eventually they were enlarged into book form—and a classic of war literature.

Lord Moran's thesis is simple—that the martial spirit of a race is in a measure the crucial test of its virility, and that a man of character in peace is a man of courage in war.

Sphere Books, 5*s*

"*The Sherman*" (*Peter Chamberlain and Chris Ellis*)

Of all World War Two's weapons none deserves the title "war-winner" more than the Sherman tank, the M4 Medium. It was built in greater numbers and in more variants than any other tank in the history of armoured warfare. The British, United States and Red armies drove to victory in the Sherman since when almost every army in the Western World has used it. Alamein was its battle début.

Many are still in service. They featured in the Indo-Pakistan conflict and more recently in the Egyptian-Israeli war. The Israelis used at least three distinct types, some of them captured from Egypt in 1956.

The Sherman was not the "best" tank of World War Two but its versatility and availability—it was the simplest to build, service and maintain—made it the most important. The authors have compiled a unique history.

Arms and Armour Press, 30*s*

Above: From ski troops and mountain rescue team to the neat ranks of Scots Guards. The Duke of Edinburgh (below) takes the salute as lorries and a mobile crane drive past.

ROUND THE RANKS WITH LAND-ROVER AND UMBRELLA

HOLYROOD PARK — where Bonnie Prince Charlie's army encamped in 1745 before the ill-fated march to London to usurp the English throne—was the setting for the Royal Review of Scottish troops.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, inspected more than 1000 men and women of the Armed Forces. They represented Regular and Volunteer Army units (the first time both have been on parade together in Scotland) and the Royal Air Force (who took pride of place on the march past to mark their 50th anniversary this year).

The Royal Scots, The Royal Highland Fusiliers and The Black Watch were on parade for the first time since the birth of the new Scottish Division. With the Scots Guards they formed the main body of the ceremonial troops.

For the drive from the Palace of Holyroodhouse the royal car had an escort of four Ferret scout cars of The Royal Scots Greys with junior soldiers lining the route. The Queen was received by the GOC Scotland, Lieutenant-General Sir Derek Lang. She then went to the royal dais for the salute and the fly-past by jets of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. Afterwards she drove round the ranks in a Land-Rover.

The programme included abseiling down a cliff face and crossing a small loch by Army youth teams, a demonstration by an RAF mountain rescue team, and a display of Army weapons and equipment.

Scotland braved the weather. Thousands turned up to watch despite a downpour. It was almost a repeat of the Royal Review of 1881 when 40,000 troops parading before Queen Victoria were drenched in a storm.

One of the few moments the sun came out. Massed bands, pipes and drums march over the turf before the royal dais at Holy rood Park, Edinburgh. Photo by SOLDIER Picture Editor LWiggs.

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