

MAY 1973 ★ 7½p

SOLDIER





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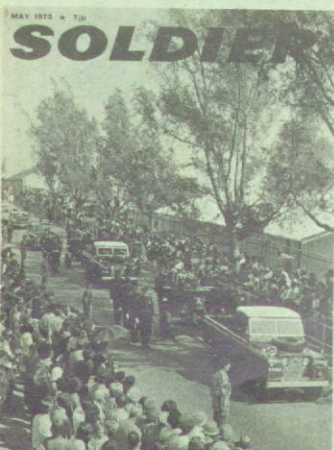
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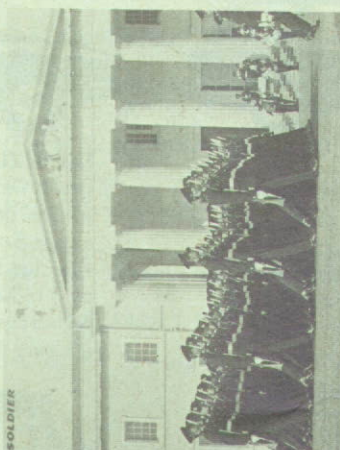
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Front cover

The funeral procession of the Governor of Bermuda, Sir Richard Sharples, and his aide-de-camp, Captain Hugh Sayers, of the Welsh Guards, on its way from Government House to HMS Sirius. The Governor's coffin is escorted by officers of The Bermuda Regiment, of which he was commander-in-chief, and that of Captain Sayers by a bearer party of the Welsh Guards. The route is lined by men of 1 Para Logistic Regiment who were training in Bermuda when the Governor and his aide-de-camp were killed.

Picture by Leslie Wiggs.



Back cover

Cadets of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, march past in quick time at the Sovereign's Parade at which the Queen was represented by General Sir Michael Carver, Chief of the General Staff. The first Sandhurst passing out parade was taken on 14 July 1948 by King George VI who decreed that it should in future be known as the Sovereign's Parade. The band of the Royal Military Academy plays on the steps of the Grand entrance up which the adjutant traditionally rides his charger at the end of the ceremony.

Picture by Arthur Blundell.

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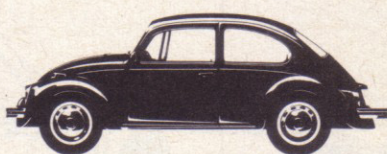
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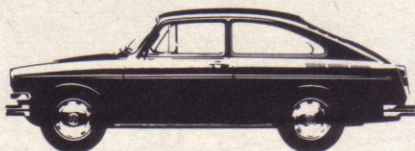
The 1300 Beetle

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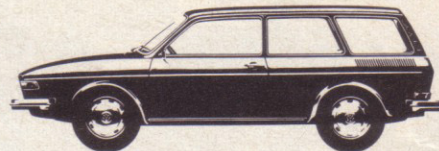
The 1600 Fastback

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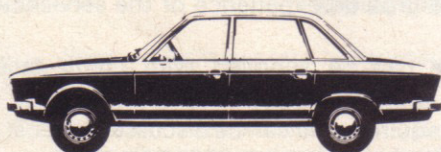
The 1600 Variant

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The 412LE

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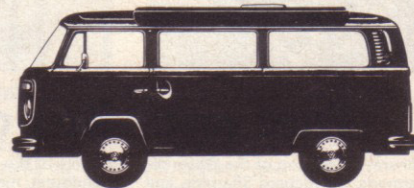
The K70

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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

MAY 1973

- Regiments of Lancashire military exhibition, Towneley Hall Museum, Burnley (13 April-30 September).
- 8 Freedom of Torbay, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.
- 11 Concert by Band of Royal Military School of Music, Royal Festival Hall, London (in aid of Army Benevolent Fund).
- 12 Wolverhampton Army Display (White Helmets, Red Devils, mock battle, bands) (12-13 May).
- 12 Freedom of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars.
- 12 Liverpool Air Show, Speke Airport.
- 14 Brentwood Carnival, Essex (band).
- 16 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 16 West Midland Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury (band) (16-17 May).
- 17 Manchester 73 Festival (band).
- 17 Devon County Show (band, RE freefall and para display) (17-19 May).
- 19 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 19 Walsall Army Display (RA motorcycles, Red Devils, mock battle, bands) (19-20 May).
- 19 Tulip Festival, Birmingham (band, RA motorcycle display team (25-29 May), Blue Eagles helicopter display team, White Helmets motorcycle display team).
- 21 Torquay Army Display (Para Regt, POW Div, RMP, RAMC) (21-24 May).
- 22 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (in aid of Army Benevolent Fund) (22-24 May).
- 23 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 25 Aldershot Horse Show, Rushmoor Arena (Services jumping, RMP tent-pegging, sword, lance and revolver competition) (25-27 May).
- 26 Lord Mayor's Procession, Birmingham (bands).
- 26 Tidworth Tattoo (26-28 May).
- 26 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 26 Watford Carnival (band).
- 28 SSAFA Air Display, RAF Church Fenton.
- 28 Wells Moat Race and Youth Fellowship (band).
- 30 Queen presents new Standards to Household Cavalry regiments, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 30 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 30 Suffolk County Show (bands, RA motorcycles) (30-31 May).

JUNE 1973

- 1 Manchester Tattoo 73 (bands, White Helmets, Red Devils freefall team) (1-3 June).
- 1 Impel 73 Doncaster Civic Week (bands) (1-9 June).
- 2 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 2 Stevenage Day (band).
- 2 Beating Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
- 6 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 8 Chasewater Festival, Hereford (bands, RA motorcycles) (8-9 June).
- 9 Catterick Army Display (9-10 June).
- 9 Glasgow Military Display (bands, Blue Eagles, White Helmets) (9-16 June).
- 9 Birkenhead Army Display (Red Devils, **RA motorcycles**) (9-10 June).
- 12 Monarchy 1000, Bath (bands) (12-16 June).
- 13 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 14 Installation of Governor, Edinburgh Castle.
- 14 Beating Retreat, Chelmsford.
- 14 Coventry Carnival (band, Red Devils, RA motorcycle display team) (14-16 June).
- 15 Essex County Show (band) (15-16 June).
- 16 Open Day, Mercian Depot, Lichfield.
- 16 Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps Fête.
- 16 Open Day, Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn Barracks, Royston, Herts.
- 16 Cadet Forces Tattoo, Swindon.
- 16 Wrexham Garden City Fête (Red Devils).



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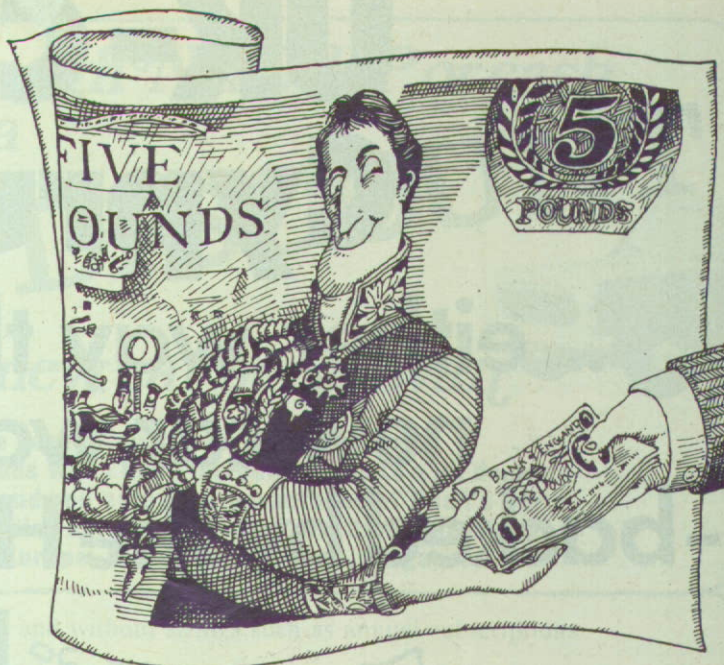
- 16 **Freedom of Newcastle-under-Lyme, The Staffordshire Regiment.**
- 17 Welsh 3000s (17-18 June).
- 20 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 22 Edinburgh Air Show (bands, Blue Eagles) (22-24 June).
- 22 Aldershot Army Display (22-24 June).
- 23 Pontypridd Chamber of Trade Fête (RA motorcycle team).
- 23 **Old Colours of 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire Regiment, laid up, Worcester Cathedral; march through city.** (Provisional). Freedom of Aldershot, Royal Army Medical Corps.
- 27 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 27 Royal Norfolk Show (band) (27-28 June).
- 29 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (29-30 June).
- 30 Hucclecote Fête, Gloucester (band, arena display).
- 30 Open Day, Army Apprentices College, Harrogate (band).
- 30 Tamworth Carnival (band, Red Devils, White Helmets).
- 30 **Chester Festival: Combined bands beat Retreat, Chester Castle.**

JULY 1973

- 4 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 6 Newport (Monmouthshire) Carnival (RA motorcycles) (6-8 July).
- 6 Birkenshaw Show (band) (6-7 July).
- 7 Military Musical Pageant, Wembley Stadium (in aid of Army Benevolent Fund).
- 7 Newport, Mon, Carnival (RA motorcyclists) (7-8 July).
- 7 Exeter Air Day (Blue Eagles).
- 9 Lambeth (London) Safety Exhibition (RA motorcycles) (and 11 July).
- 10 Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate (band) (10-12 July).
- 11 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 11 Royal Tournament (11-28 July).
- 11 Massed bands display, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill.
- 12 Folkestone Tattoo (provisional) (12-14 July).
- 13 Pudsey Show, Leeds (band) (13-14 July).
- 13 Kirkby Show, Liverpool (band) (13-14 July).
- 13 Masham Traction Engine Rally (band) (13-16 July).
- 13 Nottingham Festival (band) (13-16 July).
- 14 Basingstoke Tattoo.
- 14 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 14 Plymouth Air Show (band).
- 14 Weston-super-Mare Dairy Festival (bands) (14-21 July).
- 14 Open Day, 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon.
- 14 Calne Carnival (band, arena display).
- 14 Welwyn Garden City Carnival (band).
- 17 East of England Show (bands) (17-18 July).
- 18 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 19 Liverpool Show (bands, RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, **Household Cavalry musical ride**) (19-21 July).
- 20 Teesside Show (band) (20-23 July).
- 21 Stroud Show (band).
- 21 Bristol 600 (21 July-12 August) (King's Troop RHA 6-11 August, Red Devils 21-26 July, White Helmets 6-11 August).
- 22 Corby Highland Show (band).
- 23 Wigan Display (bands, RA motorcycles) (23-24 July).
- 25 Driffield Show (band).
- 26 Manchester Flower Show (band, Red Devils, RA motorcycles) (27-28 July), White Helmets (26-28 July).
- 26 St Helens Show (band, Red Devils, RA motorcyclists) (26-28 July).
- 27 Northampton Show (band) (27-28 July).
- 28 **Open Day, Rifle Depot, Royal Green Jackets, Winchester.**
- 28 Army Air Day, Middle Wallop.
- 29 Gloucester Carnival (band) (29 July-10 August).
- 29 Open Day, RAC Centre, Bovington.
- 30 Tyneside Summer Exhibition (bands) (30 July-5 August).
- 31 Royal Lancashire Show (band, Red Devils) (31 July-2 August).

AUGUST 1973

- 1 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (1-4 August).
- 1 Rutland County Show (band).
- 2 Hull Show (band) (2-4 August).
- 3 Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo (3-11 August).
- 4 **Open Day, Light Infantry Depot, Shrewsbury.**
- 7 Bingley Show (band) (7-8 August).
- 9 Darlington Army Week (band) (9-19 August).
- 15 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 17 Shrewsbury Musical and Floral Fête (bands).
- 17 Edinburgh Tattoo (17 August-8 September).
- 18 Crewe Carnival (band) (18-19 August).
- 18 Pontypool Carnival (Red Devils).
- 19 Hartlepool Show (band).
- 22 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 23 Southport Flower Show (band, Red Devils) (23-26 August).
- 24 Bebington Carnival, Wirral (band, Red Devils) (24-26 August).
- 24 Leeds Gala (band) (24-27 August).
- 25 Harlow Show (RA motorcycles).
- 26 Aylsham Show (band).
- 27 Swansea Carnival (Red Devils).
- 27 North East Hants Agricultural Show, Alton (RA motorcyclists).



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SOLDIER to Soldier

It has always been SOLDIER's practice, when increasing the cost of the magazine or items in the reader services range, to announce the price changes first in the magazine and put them into effect when this has reached all readers. Subsequently when, for example, insufficient money is sent for a subscription, this is immediately processed but with an appropriate reduction in the number of issues, the subscriber then being invited to cover the difference.

Now value added tax is with us, from 1 April. Price adjustments have had to be made from that date and unfortunately, because details were not available in time, it was not possible to give the normal advance notice. Even at the time of writing not all details have been worked out but readers will be glad to know that the replacement of purchase tax by VAT has enabled some reductions to be made. Small they may be, but they are still reductions!

The UK/BFPO price of the "D-Day" print has been reduced from £1.05 to 95p and the elsewhere price from £1.22 to £1.12.

Full details of all the new reader service rates will be given in next month's SOLDIER. It should be noted that photographic prints now cost more. These were not subject to purchase tax but now carry a ten per cent value added tax.

The magazine itself did not attract purchase tax and under VAT is zero-rated. But as forecast in this column some 18 months ago the cover price will have to be increased from the present 7½ to probably ten pence.

Since the last price increase, from 5p to 7½p seven years ago, there have been percentage additions to printing costs and several increases in postal charges. With the change from 5p to 7½p came an offset in more pages—six 48-page issues and six 40-page issues a year instead of a standard 40 pages.

This promise was honoured for the first twelve months since when SOLDIER has continued to grow—40-page numbers are now rare and 48-page issues are being overtaken by 56 pages. The reader benefited again with the introduction last November of SOLDIER News.

The proposed price increase was deferred during discussions on whether SOLDIER should carry on as a magazine or adopt a newspaper format. The price increase was then announced but immediately overtaken by the price freeze.



The November 1972 SOLDIER offered two sets of wine mats under the titles of "Heroes of Waterloo" and "Wellington's Heroes." Stocks of the latter are now exhausted.

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Military museums 5

Walmer Castle

BUILT by Henry VIII to protect Tudor England from invasion, sturdy Walmer Castle long since relinquished its fortress role. Early in the 18th century it became the official residence of the Lords Warden of the Cinque Ports, some of whom, like William Pitt the Younger and the Duke of Wellington, made it their home while others like the Duke of Dorset visited only occasionally as does the present Lord Warden, the Australian elder statesman Sir Robert Menzies, who has a suite of rooms maintained for holiday visits.

It was at Walmer Castle in mid-afternoon on 14 September 1852 that Wellington died seated in his favourite armchair. That wing chair still stands, faded and worn, in its original position and the simply furnished room which served the duke as bed-sitter is almost exactly as it was.

Alongside the floor-to-ceiling bookshelves is the camp bed with its horsehair mattress which accompanied Wellington on his campaigns. In a curtained window recess is his dressing table and mirror with a tall three-bar towel horse beside it. There is the writing and reading desk specially designed so that the duke could use it in bed; nearby is the adjustable high desk at which he worked while standing.

A neighbouring room, known as the museum, houses an interesting collection of objects directly connected with the Iron Duke—the last coat he wore as Lord Warden, his field-marshal's coat, telescope, original pair of "Wellington boots" and a pair of overall boots, the black Wedgwood tea and coffee service he regularly used, a model of Stratfield Saye, his country house in Hampshire, made of 3500 pieces of wood by the ducal carpenter and shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Here too is one of the most remarkable exhibits—Wellington's death mask taken three days after he died and which, uncannily, seems to bring the great soldier-politician back to life.

Another room houses a splendid collection of Wellingtoniana presented by Wing-Commander T H Lucas in 1966. It includes a multitude of figurines of Wellington, medals and busts and a regiment of Toby Jugs.

Walmer Castle is a museum in itself. Each Lord Warden left his mark—Pitt's elegant furniture, the gardens laid out by Lord Granville, the dining room Chippendale chairs left by W H Smith, the tinted glass in some of the windows said to have been inserted by Lord Liverpool to ease the strain on his wife's eyes.

But it is the "presence" of Wellington that dominates. At the head of the stairs

The chair the "Iron Duke" died in is here.



Next month: The Royal Norfolk Regiment.



Walmer Castle looks sturdy and impregnable.

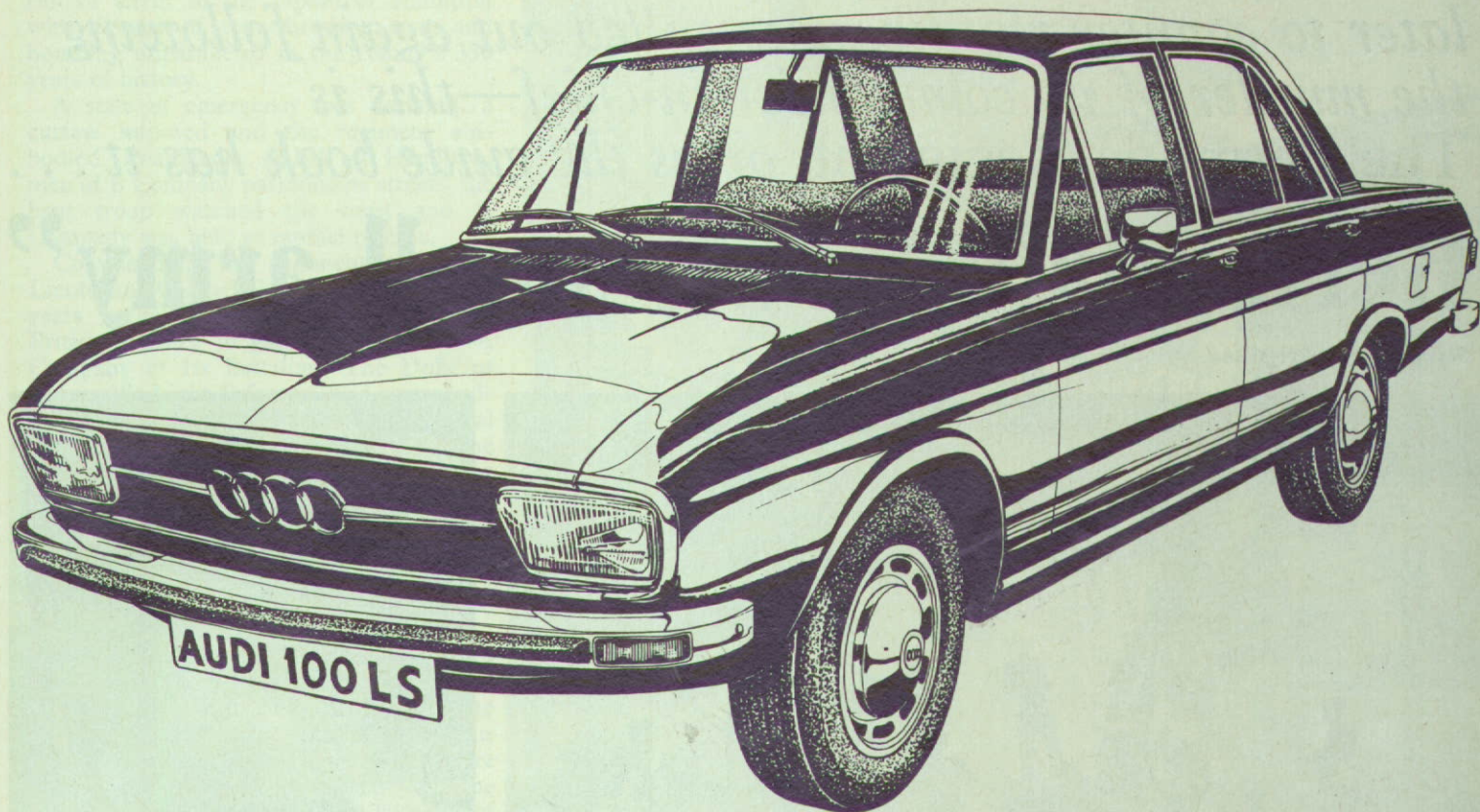
his portrait confronts a glowering Napoleon and his mahogany writing desk stands massively on the landing.

Also worth visiting is Deal Castle, a mile to the north. With its 145 gun ports—none of which has ever been used against an invader—this was the largest fortress in Henry VIII's network of Channel defences. An entertaining hour or so can be spent exploring the maze of passages in the outer walls and the various items on view include a memorial tablet in the chapel near the medieval kitchen to commemorate the residence of Field-Marshal Lord French as Captain of Deal Castle from 1923 to 1925.

Eight miles to the south of Walmer stands mighty Dover Castle with its great square 12th century keep overlooking the town from the heights of the white cliffs. Here can be seen an interesting collection of 16th century hand weapons, the 24-foot gun presented to Henry VIII by the Emperor Charles V and known as Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol and, down a flight of echoing steps, in a room to itself, a large model of part of the battlefield of Waterloo.

John Jesse

Housekeeper:	Mr H J Seath
Address:	Walmer Castle Walmer Kent Telephone: Deal 4115
Open:	March weekdays 0930 to 1730, Sunday 1400 to 1730. April weekdays and Sunday 0930 to 1730. May-September weekdays and Sunday 0930 to 1900. October weekdays 0930 to 1730, Sunday 1400 to 1730. November - February weekdays 0930 to 1600, Sunday 1400 to 1600.
Closed:	Monday (except Bank Holidays), Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and when Lord Warden is in residence. Also closed every day 1300 to 1400.
Admission:	Adults 7½p, OAPs and children under 16 4p, children under 5 free.
Amenities:	Parking facilities available.
How to get there:	80 and 80a bus from Penchester Gardens, Dover.



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Born eight years ago, briefly embodied three years later to counter rioting, now called out again following the murder of its commander-in-chief—this is
The Bermuda Regiment, or as the guide book has it . . .
Bermuda's "own small army"

Story by Peter N Wood



Above: Under its Director of Music, Lieut Horace Gibbons, The Bermuda Regiment band practises to play at the Governor's funeral.

Above right: The regimental badge incorporates the symbols of its forebears—The Bermuda Rifles and Bermuda Militia Artillery.

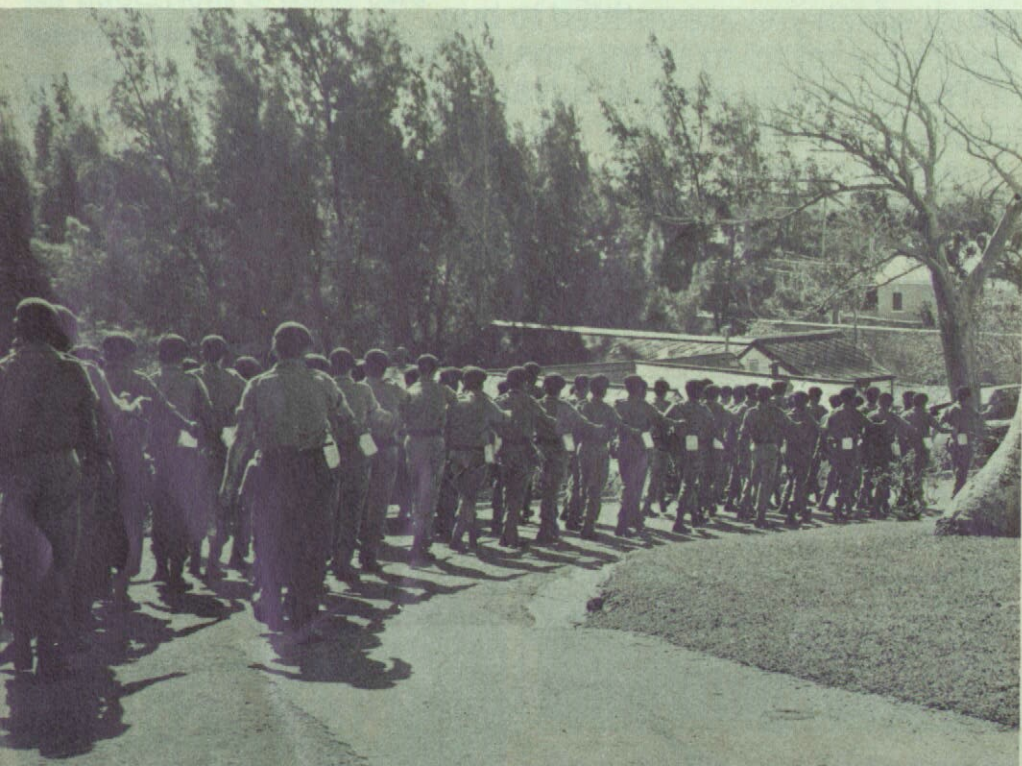


IT is a regiment as unique as its home—the 21-square-miles of Bermuda, an Atlantic outcrop 750 miles from New York but 3500 miles from London. An amalgamation in 1965 of The Bermuda Rifles and the Bermuda Militia Artillery, The Bermuda Regiment is a mixture of conscripts and volunteers with a strength of 400.

Its regimental headquarters and two rifle companies are on British lines but the support company has an odd make-up designed to meet local requirements—headquarters, signal platoon, boat troop, gun troop (of two 25-pounders), engineer troop, medical section and band. And, as backing organisations, there are the comparatively new volunteer reserve and the junior leaders.

Although Bermuda is now a self-governing Crown Colony, Britain retains responsibility for foreign affairs, defence and internal security, and the British Governor is in fact commander-in-chief of The Bermuda Regiment, appoints its commanding officer and commissions its officers who, like the island's cabinet, are drawn from both black and white Bermudians.

The regiment's first role is that of internal security, to "assist the civil police in the maintenance of law and order." It was only three years old when on



Left: B Company musters at its headquarters, Admiralty House, Hamilton, to guard and search the grounds of Government House.

17 April 1968, the day of the annual festival of flowers, the riot of colour turned into a riot of terror in the capital of Hamilton with 48 hours of stone-throwing, arson and bombing unparalleled in the colony's 350 years of history.

A state of emergency was declared, a curfew imposed and the regiment embodied. Roadblocks sealed off Hamilton, men of B Company patrolled its streets, the boat troop watched the coast and A Company was held as mobile reserve.

Commanding the regiment then was Lieutenant-Colonel J A Marsh who 11 years earlier had commanded the last British infantry to garrison Bermuda—A Company of 1st Battalion, The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. And commanding the reinforcing 1st Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, flown in from the United Kingdom for the emergency, was Lieutenant-Colonel W J C G Copinger-Symes, now back in Bermuda again as Colonel Copinger-Symes, Army Staff Officer Caribbean and deputy to the Senior Naval Officer, West Indies, whose headquarters are on Bermuda.

Now The Bermuda Regiment has been called on again to maintain law and order. In the late hours of 10 March the Governor, Sir Richard Sharples, and his aide-de-camp, Captain Hugh Sayers, were shot and killed as they walked with the Governor's Great Dane in the grounds of Government House.

A state of emergency was declared and the regiment's B Company was called out to guard and search the grounds of the Governor's residence.

The regiment's second role is to help the civilian community with disaster relief, particularly in the wake of hurricanes (though there has not been one for 20 years), for which it maintains two disaster relief teams in its engineer troop.

Further roles are to "participate in projects which contribute constructively to the good of Bermuda" (these have included providing children's swings, clearing oil from beaches and cleaning old people's homes) and organise outward bound camps and other youth activities.

The regiment provides ceremonial guards and parades for the annual traditional peppercorn ceremony at St George, the old capital, Queen's birthday parade, opening of Parliament and remembrance services at Hamilton and St George. The final role is external defence.

For Bermuda's annual 400,000 visitors—tourism is the island's main industry—most of whom are from the United States, the regiment's band, in white helmets, scarlet tunics and gold, is an attraction in keeping with the zealously guarded old colonialism of little changed colourful houses, the narrow winding roads with their rigid speed limits of 20 miles an hour (15 in towns) and the restrictions on size, age and number of cars.

As soon as tourists drive from the airport along the causeway to the main island, they are introduced to the regiment by a Bailey bridge erected in three days last October by men of the Bermuda Regiment Volunteer Reserve. It is a temporary replacement bypassing a swing bridge undergoing repair.

The volunteer reserve, commanded by a



Above and left: An old tradition and tourist attraction in which the regiment takes part in the annual peppercorn ceremony in the old capital of St George. It originated in 1816 when the Government moved to Hamilton. The then Governor granted State House "to the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of St George in trust for the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Lodge St. George and their assigns forever for the yearly rent of one peppercorn, payable on demand at the Feast of St John." The ceremony is now held near St George's Day when the Governor accepts the key from the Mayor and holds a council meeting in State House.



Below: Training in Jamaica where for five years the regiment has held annual camp.



Above: Jamaica provides opportunities for training in jungle conditions, as here in a wet but warm crossing of the Rio Grande.

aircraft. The Jamaican Defence Forces have given generous support with water, cooking equipment and tentage, and the regiment has been able to practise map-reading and jungle skills.

Twenty-eight per cent of the regiment is made up of men who volunteer at 18 or later and may select their own period for national service and those who stay on after their three years or come in at a later date. The volunteers include one man who served in the British Army and another who was in the Royal Air Force. Six volunteers, all sergeants, have just completed a month's training with British Army depots in the United Kingdom.

The regiment's 24 officers include the managers of a furniture store and paint firm, chartered accountant, customs and excise officer, computer programmer—and a bulldozer driver, a young subaltern in the booming construction industry which, like the china business and antiques of the commanding officer, is like almost everything in Bermuda directly related to tourism.

Of the two medical officers, the senior is a general practitioner, his junior is Bermuda's Chief Medical Officer. The Government's Director of Public Relations is also a captain in the regiment.

Four of the 18 permanent staff are two-year tour British Army personnel on loan service, as secondment is now called. They are the adjutant, Captain B A J Drinkwater, Royal Anglians, Regimental Sergeant-Major D W Wackett, The Light Infantry, and Company Sergeant-Majors S L Warden, Gordons, and A J Rumbold, Royal Hampshires.

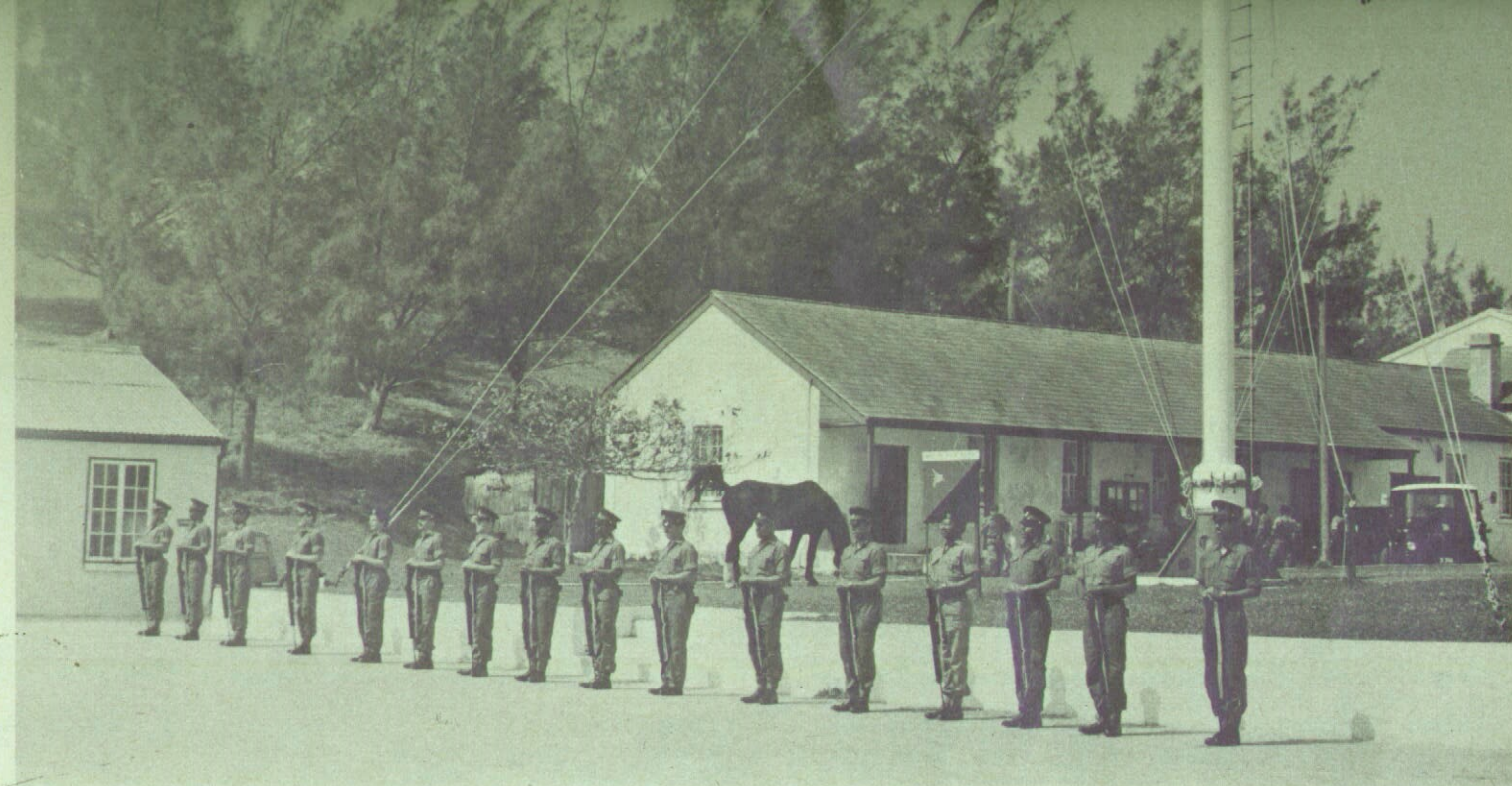
There has always been a strong link with The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, now embodied in The Royal Anglian Regiment, which has first call on secondments, and The Bermuda Regiment is also affiliated to the Lincoln and Welland Regiment of Canada.

The quartermaster, Major (QM) Bob Swift, was a regimental sergeant-major of the Lincolns, retiring from the British Army to become RSM of the Bermuda Local Forces.

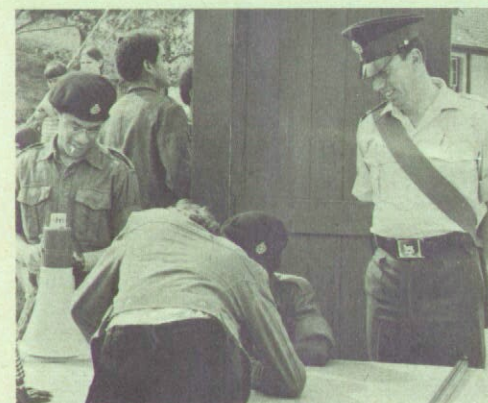
Because both the two previous regiments had bands, The Bermuda Regiment has a director of music, Lieutenant Horace Gibbons, a bandmaster, Warrant Officer I E E Calabras—and also a student bandmaster at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. The other permanent staff include the regimental quartermaster sergeant, a company sergeant-major, four colour-sergeants and a civilian gardener and girl secretary.

In yet another field, that of vehicles and equipment, The Bermuda Regiment is certainly unusual. Its self-loading rifles were bought from Australia and Canada, the ammunition from Belgium, the Uzi submachine-guns from Israel. The regiment's Minimoke came from Australia, the Toyota pick-up from Japan and one of its Land-Rovers, still a runner, was bought ten years ago from the Royal Navy—for just £10!

And although Bermuda has a higher standard of living—and cost of living—than even the United States, its "own small army" last year cost only \$348,000, less than £3 per head of population.



Above: Funeral drill rehearsal on Warwick Camp barrack square. The horse, 20 years old, was put out to grass from Government House and is now looked after by two women.



Left: The Bermuda Regiment Junior Leaders open day, which included a weapons display and para freefalling, attracted hundreds of Bermudians—and here a potential recruit.

Below: When President Nixon met Mr Edward Heath for talks at Government House, The Bermuda Regiment provided a security guard and Guard of Honour, here being inspected.



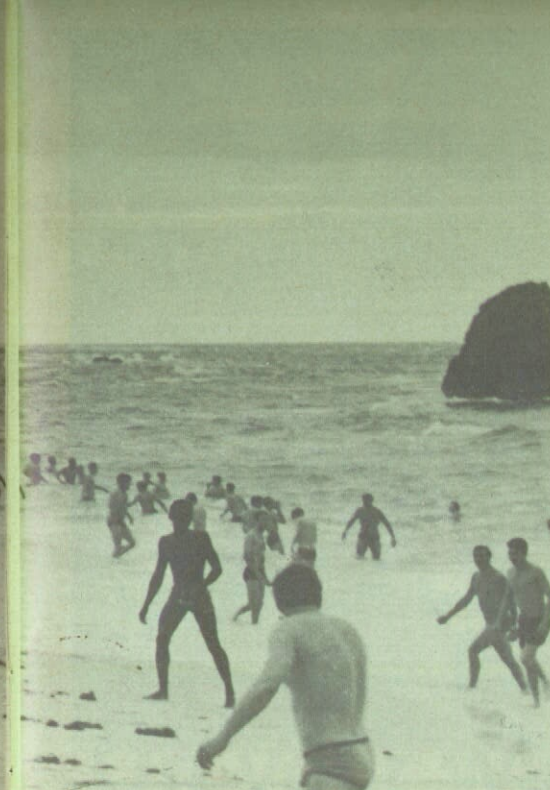
Longest-serving member of The Bermuda Regiment and its predecessors, with 24 years, is Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant H W Burnard, pictured here with part of his collection of cap badges. His father, a Royal Engineers sergeant, married a Bermudian and settled in Bermuda where RQMS "Bubbles" Burnard was born. "Bubbles" joined the Bermuda Volunteer Engineers, which were disbanded in 1946, and five years later he joined The Bermuda Rifles. When The Bermuda Regiment's sergeants mess was rebuilt after a fire, Mr Burnard incorporated in the bar counter 6000 dollars-worth of his cap badges, which he has been collecting since he was eight years old. These are mainly British and Commonwealth and are sealed in layers of fibreglass.

Highlights in the history of Bermuda's forces:

- 1892 Bermuda Militia Artillery formed.
- 1895 Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps formed.
- 1897 Small contingent of Rifle Corps at Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.
- 1914 Two contingents Militia Artillery, totalling 250, serving at
- 1918 ammunition bases in France and Belgium. Regiment also manned coastal forts in Bermuda, later trained as infantry.
- Two contingents of Rifle Corps served with Lincolns in France. Regiment granted Lincolns' battle honours.
- 1929 Rifle Corps affiliated to The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.
- 1939 Militia Artillery manned to examination batteries in Bermuda.
- 1945 Five officers and 100 men served in Caribbean Regiment, Italy and Egypt.
- 1945 Two contingents of Rifle Corps, totalling 100, served with Lincolns in North-West Europe and Burma.
- 1949 Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps renamed The Bermuda Rifles.
- 1951 Bermuda Artillery and Bermuda Rifles reformed at company strength, as separate entities and with own bands, under HQ Bermuda Local Forces.
- 1957 Conscription introduced into Bermuda Rifles.
- 1960 Conscription introduced into Bermuda Militia Artillery.
- 1965 Bermuda Rifles and Militia Artillery amalgamated into The Bermuda Regiment (Colours presented by Princess Margaret).
- 1968 Regiment called out to counter rioting.
- 1971 Guard of Honour and security guard for meeting of President Nixon and Prime Minister Heath in Bermuda.



The day of 1 Para Logistic Regiment began with reveille at 6, a road run for all and a quick mass dip in the Atlantic at Warwick Long Bay followed by breakfast and lessons.



When you need to get down to basic military training away from the demands of operational exercises and the chores of routine administration, there's nothing like a month in sunny Bermuda . . .

Beside the seaside

Story by Peter N Wood
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs

LAST year 1 Parachute Logistic Regiment was on exercise in Kenya, Malta, Cyprus and Jamaica. Part of its transport squadron was driving three-tonners in Northern Ireland where the para troop was operating as infantry in the centre of Belfast.

This year the regiment has been away in Cyprus and later will be on exercise in Germany, Denmark, Greece, Turkey and the Persian Gulf. And while the regiment, or most of it, has been able to train as a regiment in its operational role, there has been little opportunity for individual training in military skills.

The answer was to get away from it all—leave the demanding routine of between-moves life in the regiment's base at Arnhem Barracks, Aldershot, and take five weeks in Bermuda for an intensive programme of military, fitness and adventure training, and sport.

Normally individual proficiency training is met by sending men on courses back to their corps depots but for its Bermuda

visit 1 Para Logistic Regiment was given a special dispensation to carry out this training within the unit.

Two courses were run, six mornings a week, to qualify soldiers for promotion to corporal and from corporal to sergeant. Subjects covered were weapon training, drill, military law, map-reading, first aid, methods of instruction, signals, and nuclear, biological and chemical warfare.

The regiment occupied The Bermuda Regiment's Warwick Camp, facing out to the Atlantic across the coast road, a strip of heathland and the beautiful rock coves and golden sands.

In temperatures around 70 degrees Fahrenheit—in summer it rises to a humid 90—the day started with an early reveille, a road run and a mass dip in the sea before breakfast and "school" at 8 am. After a late lunch came adventure training—freefalling, sub-aqua, abseiling and cliff assault, boating and survival, sailing—and sport—rugby, soccer, tug-of-war, golf, volleyball, fishing,

continued on page 18



Between training, adventure and sport there was still time to help others. This mobile crane at the Royal Navy's shore station of HMS Malabar, suffering from corrosion by humidity, was refurbished by REME experts.



Sgt Alec Berkley, REME, with an Israeli Uzi submachine-gun in The Bermuda Regiment armoury. He helped with weapon maintenance and was recalled from leave to make a last-minute substitution on the exercise.



A detachment of 23 Para Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, provided medical training for the paratroopers and the band and drums. This ugly-looking injury was simulated by using bread and red ink.



No self-respecting postman walks when there is an alternative. L/Cpl ("Postie") Barry Loftus used an officially hired moped for journeys between Warwick Camp and HMS Malabar. Other soldiers hired mopeds for fun.



Above: Another helping hand as a REME technician examines the outboard motor of Bonefish, a dory belonging to The Bermuda Regiment's boat troop and used to patrol the island's coastline.

Left: Bonefish at speed with men of 1 Para Logistic Regiment to which it was made available for recovery when the regiment's freefallers dropped on the narrow strip between beach and camp.



A steady 70 Fahrenheit makes warm work of dressing up in "noddy" suits. Nuclear, biological and chemical warfare training was one of the qualification subjects. Lessons were held in the open air when possible.

squash, tennis, swimming, water-skiing, basket-ball and .22 shooting.

Added to 1 Para Logistic Regiment for the exercise were small detachments of 23 Para Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps; 216 Signal Squadron and 3 Divisional Postal and Courier Communications Unit, Royal Engineers; Royal Military Police and the band of 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

The band's engagements included the opening of an hotel annexe, the Bermuda Regiments' Junior Leaders open day, playing for handicapped children and beating Retreat in Bermuda's capital, Hamilton.

Between band practices the musicians were given medical training and the bandmaster helped The Bermuda Regiment's band with the training of individual musicians. Other assistance to The Bermuda Regiment included maintenance of weapons and signals training.

While 1 Para Logistic Regiment was not involved in the emergency following the assassination of the Governor and his aide-de-camp, the band combined with The Bermuda Regiment's band to head the funeral procession and paratroopers lined the route.



Engagements of the band and drums of 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, included a visit to a handicapped children's school. Above: Band and drums playing. Below: Making his day for one of the youngsters. Below left: Spit-and-polish or whatever is still a chore but more pleasant in the sun.



When savings were ordered in 16 Para Brigade its commander decided to make them in the support "tail" rather than in the battalions.

The result was the birth on 31 March 1969 of 1 Para Logistic Regiment, formed from 63 Para Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport; 16 Para Ordnance Field Park, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; 16 Para Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and various REME light aid detachments.

The regiment is made up of a headquarters and transport, ordnance and workshop squadrons. Operational role is to parachute in and set up a maintenance area to back the para battalions with food, fuel, ammunition, vehicles, repairs, recovery, spares, postal and medical facilities.



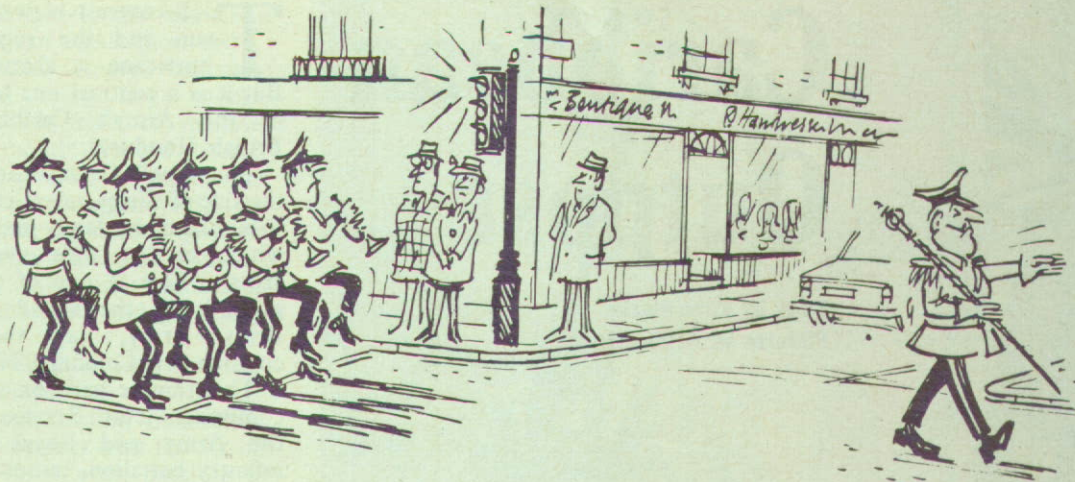
The tug-of-war team practising in the public car park on the beach near camp for a sports tournament with the Bermuda police. The team, pulling against a rock, wears the 63 of the old 63 Para Squadron, RCT.



Introduction to Bermuda—a "do's and don'ts" lecture by a senior police officer. Drinks are expensive, from 50p for a beer . . . Wear jacket and tie in evenings. . . Swearing and drinking are forbidden in the streets. . .

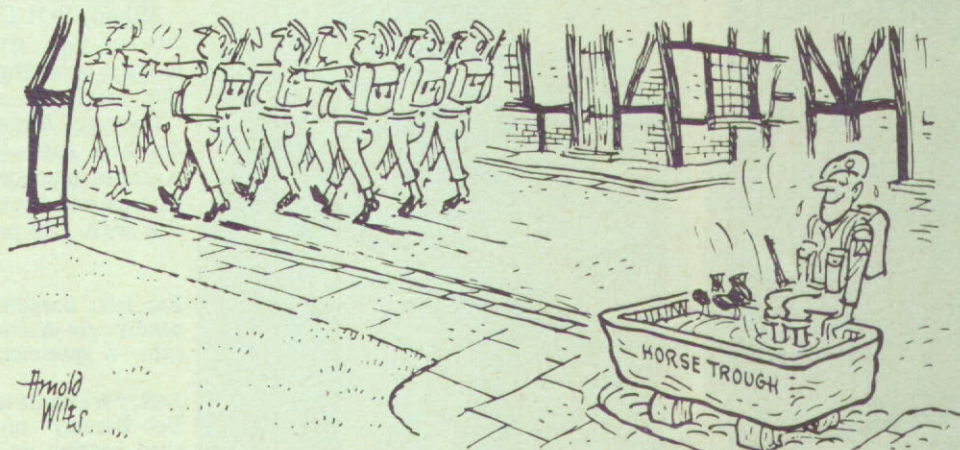
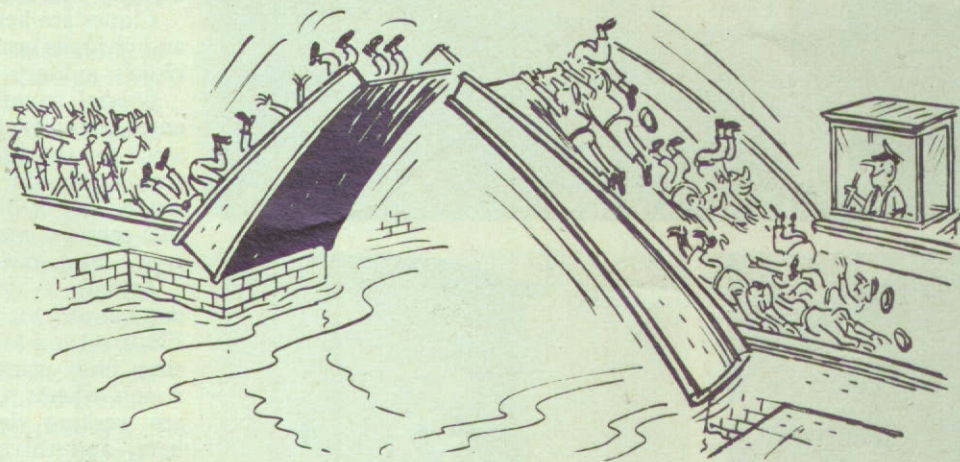
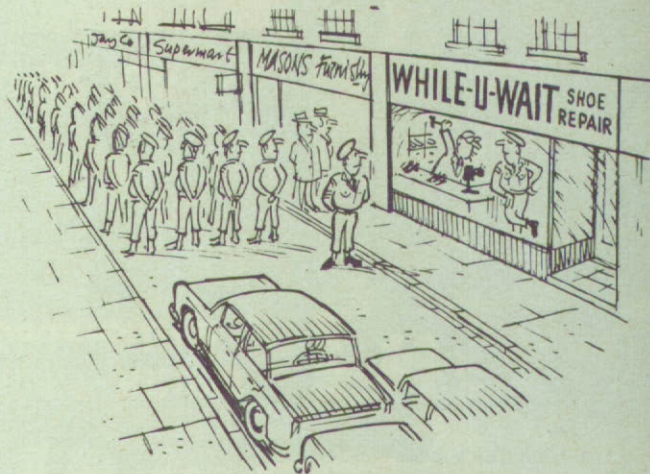


Haircut in Bermuda costs £2.50 so the regiment set up Cpl Norman Webster of the MT section in a PRI "salon." Customers were not forthcoming until SOLDIER'S photographer offered himself as the first "victim."



Anything can happen On your way, soldier

by ARNOLD WILES



Arnold
Wiles

Caribbean Outpost

Story by Mike Starke
Pictures by Arthur Blundell



THE contrast between balmy tropical sun and the raging force of a hurricane is shatteringly dramatic. But it is a contrast one learns to live with in the Army's Caribbean outpost in British Honduras.

This small Central American Country, the size of Wales, offers contrasts of terrain—highland, lowland, jungle and swamp—which give a wide variety of training areas. "This is one of the best training grounds in the world available to the British Army," says the British Forces commander, Colonel J N Shipster.

This remote garrison of some 600 men comprises joint Service elements from the Army and Royal Air Force. An infantry battalion, minus one company, is based at Airport Camp on a six-month tour of duty and many of the garrison troops serve in British Honduras for the same length of time. Some key posts are held for two years.

At first glance, Airport Camp looks much like many other garrison bases although the swaying coconut palms and the exotic emblem—a silver sailfish on a red background—hint that it is not quite the same.

A visit to the medical centre gives a glimpse of the difference. The waiting room is decorated with bottled specimens of snakes, scorpions and spiders. A deadly *fer-de-lance* snake shares shelf space with a small red-and-black banded coral snake caught in one of the office's "in" trays one day. In fact only two snake bites have had to be treated in five years on a station which abounds with reptiles. Despite the sub-tropical climate, influenza victims have occupied much of the medical staff's time recently.

Clinics are held for the local community and civilians are treated as well as the garrison's military personnel.

Special supplies and up to two days' emergency medical stores are kept in stock for the July to November hurricane season. Should a hurricane devastate the nearby city of Belize, as happened in 1961, the centre's medical staff would be the area's most important men.

Behind a doorway dominated by a large locally made corps symbol the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' workshop finds plenty to do to keep the garrison's wheels turning. "Young tradesmen are working virtually in field conditions here, and this is really good training," said Artificer Sergeant-Major Bob Barclay. "Men actually get to work on a lathe and make nuts and bolts."

When SOLDIER saw the workshop, current jobs were repairing a film projector, servicing an anti-tank gun and the inevitable maintenance on vehicles. "They get literally shaken to bits driving on these roads," commented Mr Barclay. Another menace to the motor pool is the rust caused by the high level of humidity. But with a 90 per cent availability of some

Far left: Corporal John Lowe poses with a deadly *fer-de-lance* snake, but it's quite safe—a specimen from the medical centre.

Left: "Welcome to the workshops" smiles WO I Bob Barclay—no-one could miss this REME shed bearing its locally made corps symbol.

5000 items in the stores, the workshop staff is confident it can tackle most tasks.

The nearby Royal Army Ordnance Corps stores also carry large stocks. Between 150 and 180 tons of matériel are handled each month. Special disaster supplies include large stocks of rations for people cut off in an emergency. In the accommodation stores, Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant John Mills holds on his shelves everything from air-conditioning fans to babies' high chairs and gardening tools.

Communications form a vital link between Airport Camp and the outside world. A highly sophisticated transmitter can establish direct contact with the far-off United Kingdom—it is even possible to join the system to the Post Office's telephone network back home.

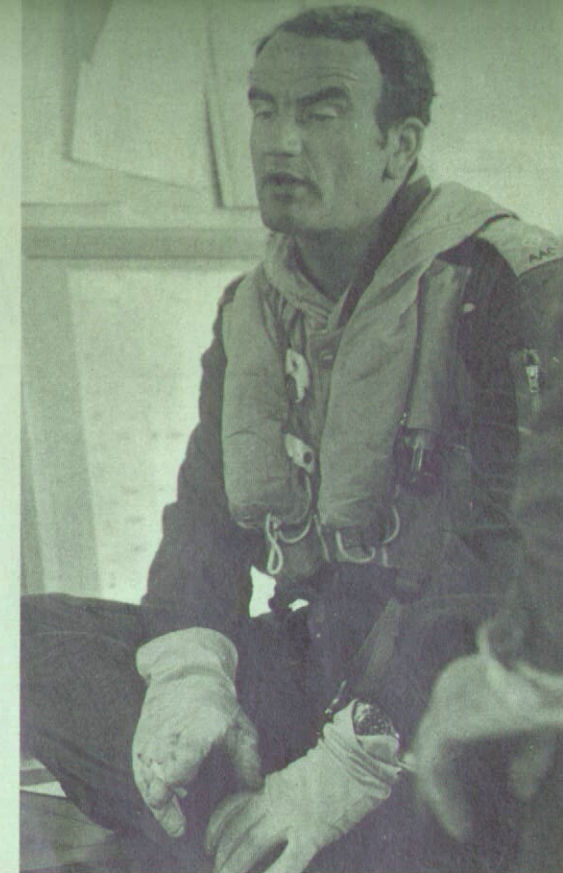
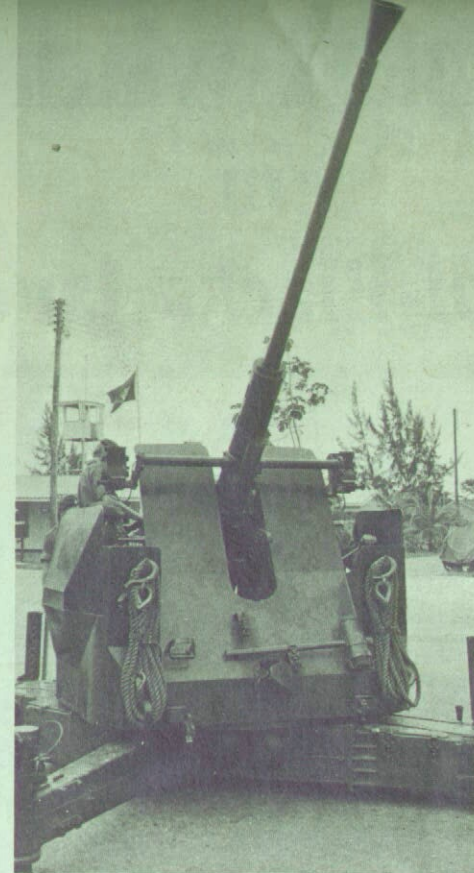
Operating separately from this is 663 Signal Troop, Royal Signals, which provides rear link communications via Nassau and Washington to the United Kingdom. The camp's 60 telephone lines are also its responsibility. The troop mans a transmitter site used for "hurricane watching" and co-operates with radio "hams" and the Florida-based meteorological service to help predict a hurricane's path of destruction. The troop's base is fitted out as a hurricane shelter for the garrison with strong concrete walls to withstand the freak blasts of wind that uproot trees and buildings and send coconuts whistling through the air like cannon balls.

The Royal Air Force is represented by a tactical air traffic control radar detachment and part of a squadron from the RAF Regiment manning Bofors anti-aircraft guns sited on the camp. A Royal Engineers troop is always kept busy working on and off the camp.

In off-duty hours local entertainment opportunities are limited. But the garrison has seen to it that there is plenty to do to take advantage of the sub-tropical climate. There are regular trips to the offshore Cayes for swimming and fishing in boats owned by the Army and a house and hut have been converted as bases for these pursuits.

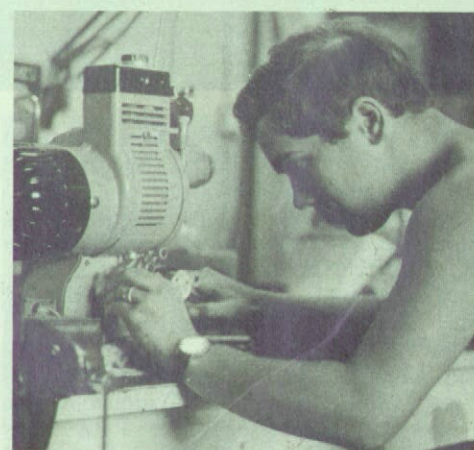
Recently the Nuffield Foundation provided a mini-bus which soldiers can hire out for the day at a small fee. On Airport Camp itself the recreations on offer include a large open-air swimming pool which is a boon to the handful of families accompanying the men on long postings.

Colonel Shipster sums up: "This garrison is of particular interest because there is a sense of purpose. This is, in fact, to safeguard the country from external aggression. We're not here in a strict colonial sense; our presence here is against a backdrop of public goodwill. British Honduras has its own self-government for internal affairs. Also, the country is in the hurricane belt and the Army has a big role to play helping with this. Ours is a very compact force—there's no other garrison quite like it."



Above left: A Bofors gun defends the skies of British Honduras manned by RAF Regiment experts working side-by-side with the Army.

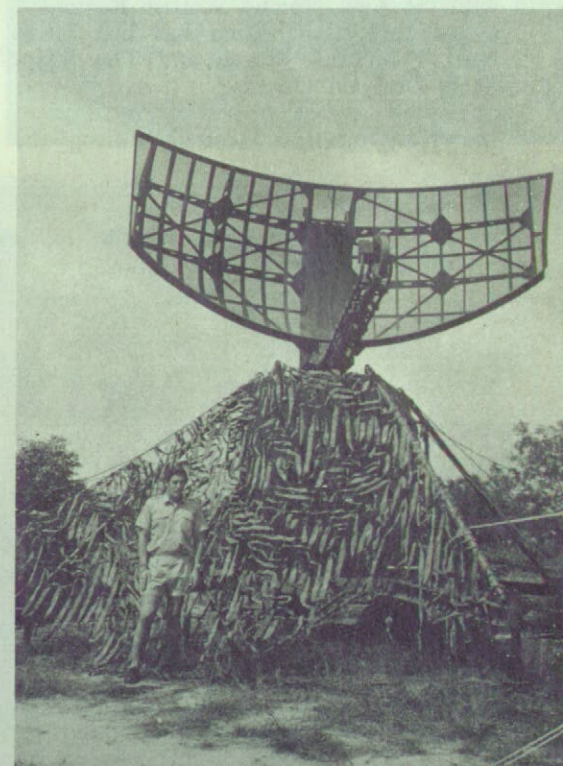
Above: Captain John Greig commands Army Air Corps detachment which operates three Sioux helicopters from Force Headquarters.



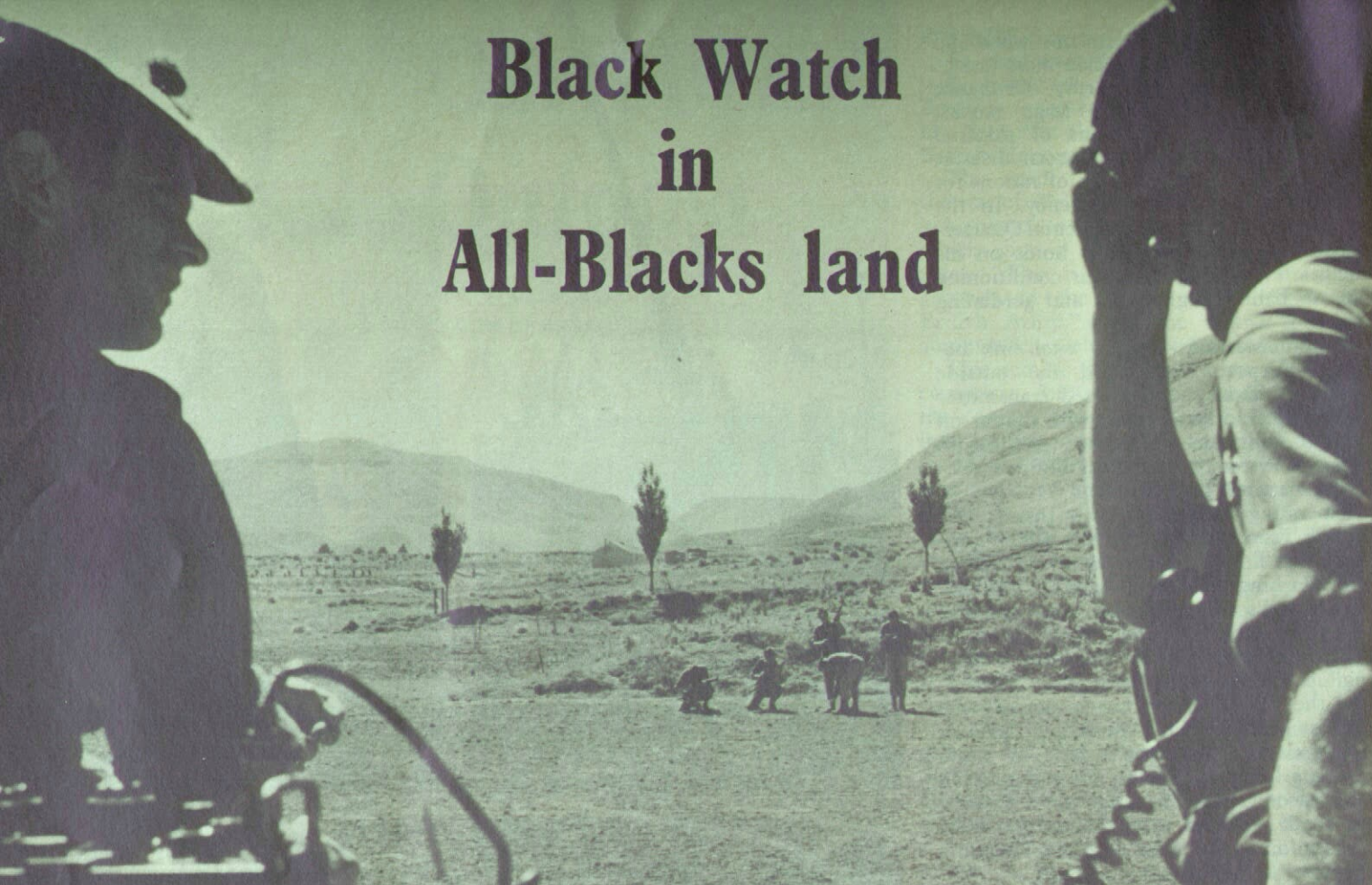
Left: So remote is the garrison that REME tradesmen get a chance to test their skills in many fields. Here a projector is mended.

Bottom left: The force commander, Colonel J N Shipster, feels his garrison is unique.

Below: An RAF tactical air traffic control radar flight scans the skies 24 hours a day from a site near the Airport Camp complex.



Black Watch in All-Blacks land



"IT'S just like Scotland" was the verdict of A (Grenadier) Company, 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, after a seven-week exercise in New Zealand. The 140 Jocks, normally stationed in crowded Hong Kong, were delighted to get back to open farmland with very un-Scottish summer temperatures in the high eighties.

During their spell in New Zealand the Black Watch men trained in both North and South Island. They also got together for the first time since World War Two with the New Zealand Scottish Regiment, a part-time unit which has links with both The Black Watch and The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

The Jocks met men of 1 Squadron of the New Zealand Scottish during the

latter's annual camp at Waiouru, the main training area in North Island. The two units were exercising in the same brigade and the Black Watch went into "battle" in the American M113 armoured personnel carriers of their New Zealand colleagues. Later they were entertained in South Island by both squadrons of the New Zealand Scottish.

A number of other "auld acquaintanceships" were renewed. At Waiouru Camp the mechanical overseer is Mr Tom Hogg, who served in The Black Watch from 1944 to 1948. On arrival the visitors found they had no flagpole for their battalion and company flags—an SOS went out and it was Tom Hogg who was able to help out his old regiment.

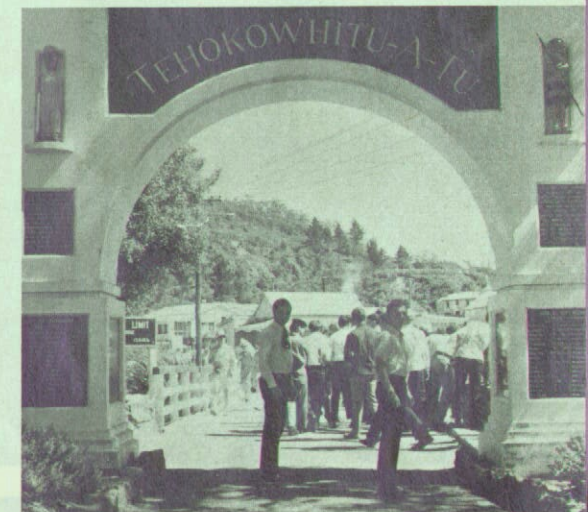
Captain Duff Henderson, quarter-

master of the battalion, met his sister and brother-in-law, Mr and Mrs William Semple, after 18 years. Mr Semple joined The Black Watch in 1922 and spent eight years with the regiment. Later he was civilian caterer in the officers mess at the old depot in Queen's Barracks, Perth. Said Mrs Semple: "It's marvellous. When we said goodbye to The Black Watch in 1955 we thought we would never see them again."

The Black Watch became such favourites with the New Zealanders that at the end of the exercise they were invited to march through the streets of Wellington.

Above: On the Waiouru ranges a Black Watch radio post frames a group of training Kiwis.

Below: Och, what's all this? A Maori concert party provides entertainment for the lads.



Top: Colonel of The Black Watch and former Governor-General of New Zealand, Lord Balmorra, chats to the Jocks out in the field.

Above: Mr. Tom Hogg (white shirt), an ex-Black Watch soldier, inspects the flagpole he provided for the regiment at Waiouru.

Above centre: Captain Duff Henderson (right), meets his sister and brother-in-law Mr and Mrs William Semple after a gap of eighteen years. Mr Semple joined the Jocks in 1922.

Above right: The Black Watch pass through a ceremonial arch to the famous Whakararawa geysers. The arch is also a war memorial.

Right: Black Watch soldiers embark in the American armoured personnel carriers used by men of New Zealand Scottish Regiment.



Cyprus 1: UK-based men of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps break away from routine for a welcome adventure in the sun . . .



. . . Not in vocab

THE figures dropping from the sky and landing with consummate ease looked every bit like expert freefall parachutists. Yet only a few days earlier they had been introduced to parachutes for the first time—and their usual Army role was likely to be in the confined spaces of a store.

Men from Royal Army Ordnance Corps units within 3rd Division, stationed at Bulford, Tidworth, Colchester and Barnard Castle, were getting their first look at the Army's newest and potentially biggest adventure training area at Dhekelia in Cyprus.

It was the first time in recent years that as many as 160 RAOC men had been gathered together for a four-week exercise on their own. The exercise incorporated basic training and military skills to platoon level and introduced the men to freefall parachuting, horse riding, skin-diving, sailing and canoeing.

Major John Janes, commanding Exer-

cise Hadrian, said: "We have brought as many young soldiers as we can because we have had a lot posted in during the last nine months and we feel it is important for them to get the feel of a unit quickly—which they can do on this sort of exercise."

"Working in a store can be hard going and we want to get the men away from their normal working environment and refresh their military skills. By using adventure training we can increase their fitness and their desire to do things. It is very important for the whole of the Services that the RAOC should maintain its military skills and awareness."

Among the men on the course was a small group of part-time soldiers from 44 Para Ordnance Field Park (V) based on Heston, Middlesex. Other units represented were HQ RAOC 3rd Division, 3rd Division Airhead Ordnance Company, and 5, 19 and 24 air-portable ordnance field parks.

At the Dhekelia Saddle Club seasoned

Story by John Walton
Pictures by Martin Adam

riders looked on in amazement as some of the young RAOC men sat on horses for the first time. In the Troodos mountains another group was learning to ski and sleeping in tents in temperatures well below freezing.

Cyprus's Joint Services Adventure Training Centre was opened last October and at the moment is not fully operational. Major David Bird, 14th/20th King's Hussars, who commands it, hopes to have a full squad of instructors and will feature potholing, climbing and gliding in addition to the present attractions.

He is certainly no desk-bound commandant. A sub-aqua enthusiast, he acts as one of his own diving instructors. This summer he plans to lead a diving expedition to the Great Barrier Reef.

At present he operates with a perm-



Above: It is not as easy as it looks to get a dinghy's boom attached to the mast when the tiny craft is bobbing about on the sea.

Below: "Blimey, it's a long drop down the other side!" A student gets a saddle's-eye view of the world for the first time ever.



Top: The slight sea swell makes it look as if these two adventure trainees are sinking but they are very much afloat and likely to stay so thanks to some expert instruction.

Above: A pause to "watch the birdie" before this instructor wheels downwind to collapse his Para-Commander 'chute before repacking.

Right: The sea off Dhekelia provides ideal water for adventure training students to explore the strange environment beneath the waves where you swim weightless as in space.



anent staff of one officer, regimental quartermaster-sergeant, one parachute instructor and others on loan.

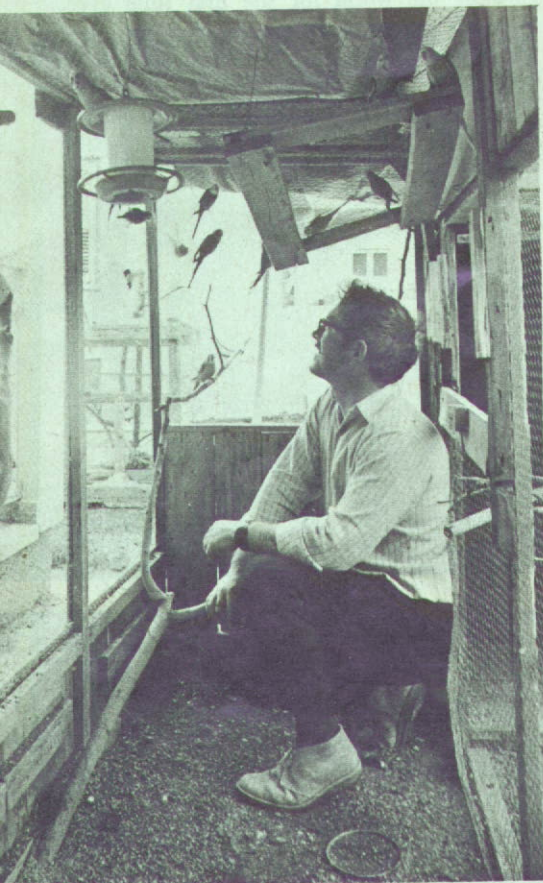
"When we do get up to strength this will be the biggest and best centre in the British Army," he says.

With plains and mountains, sun and snow, sea and land all within a few miles, who can disagree?

Purely Personal

Homing budgies

When **Lance-Corporal Pete Rigby**, Royal Engineers (below), was posted to Barton Stacey after two years as a draughtsman at Nearelf Headquarters in Cyprus, he couldn't bear to part with the budgerigars which he bred on the island. So he picked out his special highly coloured favourites and sent them home by civilian flight. Among them was a pied (recessive) light green, an unfamiliar sight in British budgie circles. "Budgies are smashing pets—real company," says Corporal Rigby.



"Mr Land-Rover"

The only Briton in a camp full of Swedish soldiers, **Sergeant Bruce Wallace**, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, sometimes has trouble with his postal deliveries. The trouble is that the Swedes, in an UNFI-CYP camp near Famagusta, Cyprus, know Bruce as "Mr Land-Rover" and letters addressed to him by his real name tend to be delayed. He is on a six-month attachment to the Swedish contingent and runs the vehicle workshops. Picture (left) shows him looking at a Land-Rover (what else?) brought in by **Corporal Bob Jean**, one of four Canadian signallers also in the camp.



Rallying round

Driving in his first international rally, **Staff-Sergeant Paul Morgan**, Royal Corps of Transport (above), beat international ace **Timo Makinen** in this year's Hong Kong Rothman International Rally. Staff Morgan and his navigator, **Captain Mark Weatherly** (above, right), finished sixth overall and took the 1st Land Rover-class prize and the 1st Army team prize.



Four-star operator

Mrs Pat Atkinson is an extremely efficient teleprinter operator, four-star in fact—she has been awarded her fourth successive commendation for signals transmitted accurately and rapidly. The bronze star diploma was presented to her (right) by **Brigadier T H Garner**, Commandant of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Training Centre at Arborfield, where she works.

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Pull-out supplement SOLDIER May 1973

FEWER SQUARE PEGS FOR ROUND HOLES

New discharge documents were introduced on 1 April 1973 to help people leaving the forces to find jobs in civilian life to match their abilities.

The aim of the Ministry of Defence is to help break down some difficulties which have often existed between the service applicant and his would-be civilian employer, making fewer square pegs for round holes.

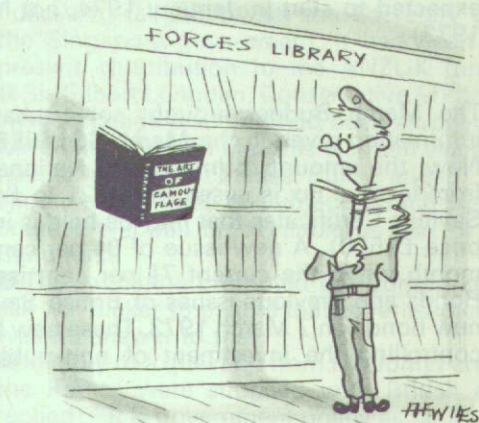
A new plastic wallet, in the appropriate Service colour with a crest, holds three vital documents. The current legal paper issued at the end of a man's service career containing brief details of his record and personal matters—the certificate of discharge/service—is first.

Second comes an entirely new document, the certificate of qualifications. This summarises Service and civilian qualifications and experience. It includes a man's trade or occupation before joining up, Service trade or occupation, civilian and Service educational qualifications, specialised courses of civilian value, driving licence groups held and national insurance number.

Complementing the new document is a detailed description of the individual's basic and additional trade qualifications with any supervisory or managerial experience gained. It also indicates eligibility for recognition by trades unions and professional bodies.

One of the most important features is that a real attempt has been made to set out the information in terms civilian employers can easily understand, cutting out Service jargon that has been a source of confusion before.

The plan is for men leaving the Services to have the new document wallet in their hands four to six months before discharge to help with finding civilian jobs. During service, the documents will be continuously updated.



NEW EQUIPMENT

Officers' clothing scale

The following items are issued and maintained free for all officers of the Regular Army:

Item	Scale	Remarks
Combat smock	1	At the appropriate unit scale.
Combat trousers		
Drawers ECW		
Combat liner		
Combat cap		
Combat hood		
Combat shirt	2	In the course of issue in accordance with the Ministry of Defence programme.
Heavy wool jersey	1	Not yet issued. Awaiting production in new material.
Field dressing	1	
Identity discs with cord	1 set	
		From the unit quartermaster's stores when on active service.

continued ►

NEW EQUIPMENT

(continued from previous page)

Officers' clothing scale (continued)

The following items are issued free, but maintained on repayment out of the annual uniform allowance:

Item	Scale	Remarks
Anklets	1 pair	
Beret (or bonnet)	1	Worn on training duties only.
DMS ankle boots	1 pair	
George boots	1 pair	Issued only to certain categories.



"Honest—you have my word as an officer and a gentleman."

Updating

The new "easy care" working belt (SOLDIER News, April 1973) is now being issued to 3rd Division. Worldwide troops trials of the new parachute helmet are now expected to start in January 1974, not November this year (SOLDIER News, April 1973). (D of CP)

THE BUDGET, SAVINGS AND YOU

The March Budget brought some changes for National Savings to add to the information given in the March SOLDIER News.

Now, the amount of interest on National Savings Bank ordinary Accounts exempt from income tax is raised from £21 to £40. The maximum number of Decimal Issue Savings Certificates that may be held is increased from 1000 to 1500 units (purchase price £1500). A new issue of 8½ per cent British Savings Bonds will be on sale this month when the current 7½ per cent issue is withdrawn. Holders of Development Bonds and previous issues of British Savings Bonds were offered conversion to the new bonds on 7 March 1973. These new bonds may be of particular interest to officers controlling the investment of non-public funds. (FSC)

IN PARLIAMENT

● The fate of servicemen discharged through mental illness was the subject of a question asked in the House of Commons by Mr C P Mayhew, Labour MP for Woolwich East. In a detailed written reply, Mr Ian Gilmour, Minister of State for Defence, revealed that 5351 men and women had been discharged due to psychiatric disorders from 1968 to 1972. The Army's share of the total was 2137 men and 225 women.

Mr Gilmour added that the medical care of these patients after discharge becomes the responsibility of their civilian doctors and the National Health Service. But special care is taken by the Services in preparing patients for discharge. There is close liaison with local health and social service authorities and job resettlement is carefully considered. Where appropriate, industrial rehabilitation courses are arranged. Another source of help to these patients after discharge is the Ex-Servicemen's Mental Welfare Society, a charitable organisation existing to help all ex-servicemen with psychiatric illnesses.

● Asked by Mr John Cronin, Labour MP for Peterborough, what steps were being taken to increase families' quarters for servicemen in Gibraltar, Mr Peter Blaker, Under-Secretary of State for Defence (Army), replied that the current building programme will provide 31 officers' and 105 servicemen's married quarters there between 1975 and 1976. He added: "To reduce family separation we have provided 30 mobile homes and have taken over some local hotels. Further measures are being planned to provide homes for all entitled Service families in Gibraltar."

● In the last decade some 191,000 acres of military land has been released and the trend continues. This was pointed out by Mr Blaker when answering a question from

Mr David Clark, Labour MP for Colne Valley, who asked what plans there were for allowing greater public access to land held by the Ministry of Defence in the countryside.

Mr Blaker said: "Our policy is to allow the public access to land held by the Services provided this is consistent with Service use and with the safety of the public. This policy is currently under review by the committee under the chairmanship of Lord Nugent of Guildford which is examining defence land holdings."

The Nugent Committee is expected to report soon.

● Mr Bryant Godman Irvine, Conservative MP for Rye, asked Mr Blaker what monetary award is paid to soldiers who served in World War One and were awarded the Military Medal and what was given to their World War Two counterparts. What, he asked, were the reasons for the difference between the two.

Mr Blaker replied: "No special payment is made to soldiers of the 1914-1918 war on account of the award of the Military Medal. Men who were awarded this medal after 2 September 1939 received a one-time gratuity of £20. When the £20 gratuity payable to recipients of certain gallantry awards was extended in 1945 to recipients of some other awards, including the Military Medal, the government of the day decided it would not backdate the extension to a date earlier than 3 September 1939, for reasons of cost and because it would have been impracticable to trace all of the 116,000 people awarded the medal in the 1914-18 war. Successive governments have endorsed this decision."

● Arms for South Africa was a topic raised again in the Commons when Portsmouth West's Labour MP, Mr Frank Judd, asked if the Minister of State for Defence would take steps to see that military vehicles supplied to South Africa are not used for suppressing African and other internal opposition or against neighbouring countries. Mr Ian Gilmour replied: "Her Majesty's Government does not permit the supply of British military fighting vehicles or spares to South Africa and has not done so for many years."

In a further question, Mr Judd asked how long the government felt obliged to supply spare parts, including arms, for military vehicles previously supplied to South Africa. Mr Gilmour told him the obligation ceased in 1968.

● Britain will remain part of ANZUK Force as long as the governments of Malaysia and Singapore wish. This was the clear message from a reply by Mr Gilmour to a question from Mr T Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian.

Following talks between the Secretary of State for Defence, Lord Carrington, and the Singapore government, it had been confirmed that Britain would maintain its present contribution to the ANZUK force and this was welcomed by Singapore.

● Sir Gilbert Longden, Conservative MP for Hertfordshire South West, wanted to know why language teaching had been stopped at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Mr Blaker told him that this was still available at Sandhurst for those who stay on and need it for degree courses. But he added: "It is preferable that young officers generally should concentrate on subjects which are professionally essential to them." Language courses will still be available as part of an officer's further education after leaving Sandhurst.

● The exchange prompted the Conservative MP for Cannock, Mr Patrick Cormack, to ask Mr Blaker to ensure that advertisements for the Army are written in English. There was no answer to that.

● In reply to a question from Mr John Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, asking if the Forces were supplied with British equipment as far as possible, Mr Gilmour replied: "It is government policy as far as is practicable to procure defence equipment from British sources or in collaboration with our allies."

● A warning note was struck in a question from Mr Richard Crawshaw, Labour MP for Toxteth, who asked whether it was agreed that NATO was spending less on defence than the Warsaw Pact countries and that they continue to have a "considerable preponderance" in manpower and in all conventional weapons. Mr Gilmour said Mr Crawshaw was "perfectly right" and added: "There is a preponderance of force on behalf of the Warsaw Pact in Europe."

● A suggestion that Florence Nightingale relics at present housed in the Royal Army Medical Corps museum in Aldershot should be moved to the Imperial War Museum or St Thomas's Hospital was rejected following a question by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Conservative MP for Cheltenham. Mr Blaker said the museum is expected to be rehoused in the rebuilt RAMC Training Centre at Mytchett. Sir Douglas's concern had been that the relics were not readily available for public viewing and were subject to fire hazard at present.

Mr Blaker said: "We must bear in mind that the Florence Nightingale relics are RAMC relics and it is right that they should remain in the corps museum where they are accessible to more members of the corps than if they were elsewhere."

● Mr Norman Tebbit, Conservative MP for Epping, asked what progress had been made towards agreeing on common operational requirements for weapons systems in Western Europe and Mr John Cronin reinforced the query by asking for a progress report on the standardisation of NATO equipment.

In reply, Mr Gilmour said Britain and her allies had undertaken to launch no new

IN PARLIAMENT

(continued from previous page)

major equipment programmes without "determined efforts" to agree common requirements and "co-operative procurement." He agreed with Mr Tebbit that it is "obviously not only sensible but essential to increase collaboration among allies" in this field.

● In the House of Lords, Lord Brockway asked what British troops had been seconded to the Government of Oman and what casualties they had suffered during the last year. The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Baroness Tweedsmuir, replied that 117 British loan Service personnel are at present seconded to Oman and that one officer has been killed and four wounded since January 1972.

Lord Brockway pursued the point, asking Baroness Tweedsmuir to explain how British troops came to be involved in Oman. "Oman is the only part of the world, except tragic Northern Ireland, in which British troops are involved in a conflict. Have we not withdrawn from the Gulf and are we not intervening in an internal conflict?"

"No," came the firm reply from Baroness Tweedsmuir. She explained: "It is established policy to loan personnel to certain governments for service with their forces under an exchange of letters of 1958, and we have agreed to loan personnel to the Sultanate and to assist in the training of its forces."

Pressed on the question of a more peaceful approach in view of political initiatives in the area recently, Baroness Tweedsmuir added: "These men are required to carry out a wide range of duties including operations against communist-supported rebels in Dhofar Province. While I should agree that one would like to see peace in that area, the rebels obtain supplies, support and shelter in the neighbouring state of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen."

Lord Harvey said he had recently visited the area and found officers and men "extremely happy" in their duties and that the local governments are very pleased to have them there. "These men are all volunteers, of course," Baroness Tweedsmuir added.

● Northern Ireland is never out of the news. And it is rarely out of the thoughts of MPs as well. Next month's SOLDIER News will feature a roundup of Northern Ireland military topics raised in Parliament.

NEW AWARDS FOR ARMY WIDOWS AND INVALIDS

It is hoped to announce details soon of improved cash benefits for Servicemen invalided out, widows' benefits and for death or disablement attributable to service. These improvements will be effective from 1 April 1973 and will apply to men and women who serve on or after 31 March 1973.

In the meantime it has been decided to introduce a scheme of "ex gratia" annual payments to those invalided and to the widows of those killed since 1 August 1969 as a direct result of terrorist activity in Northern Ireland. These special arrangements will apply not only to members of the Regular Forces but also to members of the Ulster Defence Regiment.

The maximum amounts payable under this scheme from Ministry of Defence sources will be:-

Widows—£300 a year plus £100 for each dependent child to a maximum of four

Invalided servicemen—80-100 per cent disabled	£400 a year
50-70 per cent disabled	£300 a year
20-40 per cent disabled	£200 a year

The payments will not be related to rank or length of service.

These sums will be in addition to any war widows or disability pensions paid by the Department of Health and Social Security. But they will be cut by the annual rate of any Service pension which is payable and also in respect of any award that has been made under the Criminal Injuries to Persons (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1968.

Where a payment is made under the "ex gratia" scheme before any award being made by the courts under the 1968 Act it will be left to the courts to take it into account when making their award.

Payments will be effective from 1 April 1973 for those invalided or killed between 1 August 1969 and that date. Awards will be increased at the same time as pensions generally are increased under the Pensions (Increase) provisions.

The scheme will go into operation as soon as possible and individual servicemen or widows who will benefit will be notified direct of the award. No claims need be submitted.

(DPS(A))

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION ENTITLEMENT

Ex-warrant officers granted short service commissions who complete a minimum of five years' commissioned service before retirement and become entitled to retired pay as applicable to permanent Regular commissions and special Regular commissions, will retain their rank on retirement as is now the case with PRC and SRC officers. This new ruling took effect on 1 April 1973.

(DM(A))

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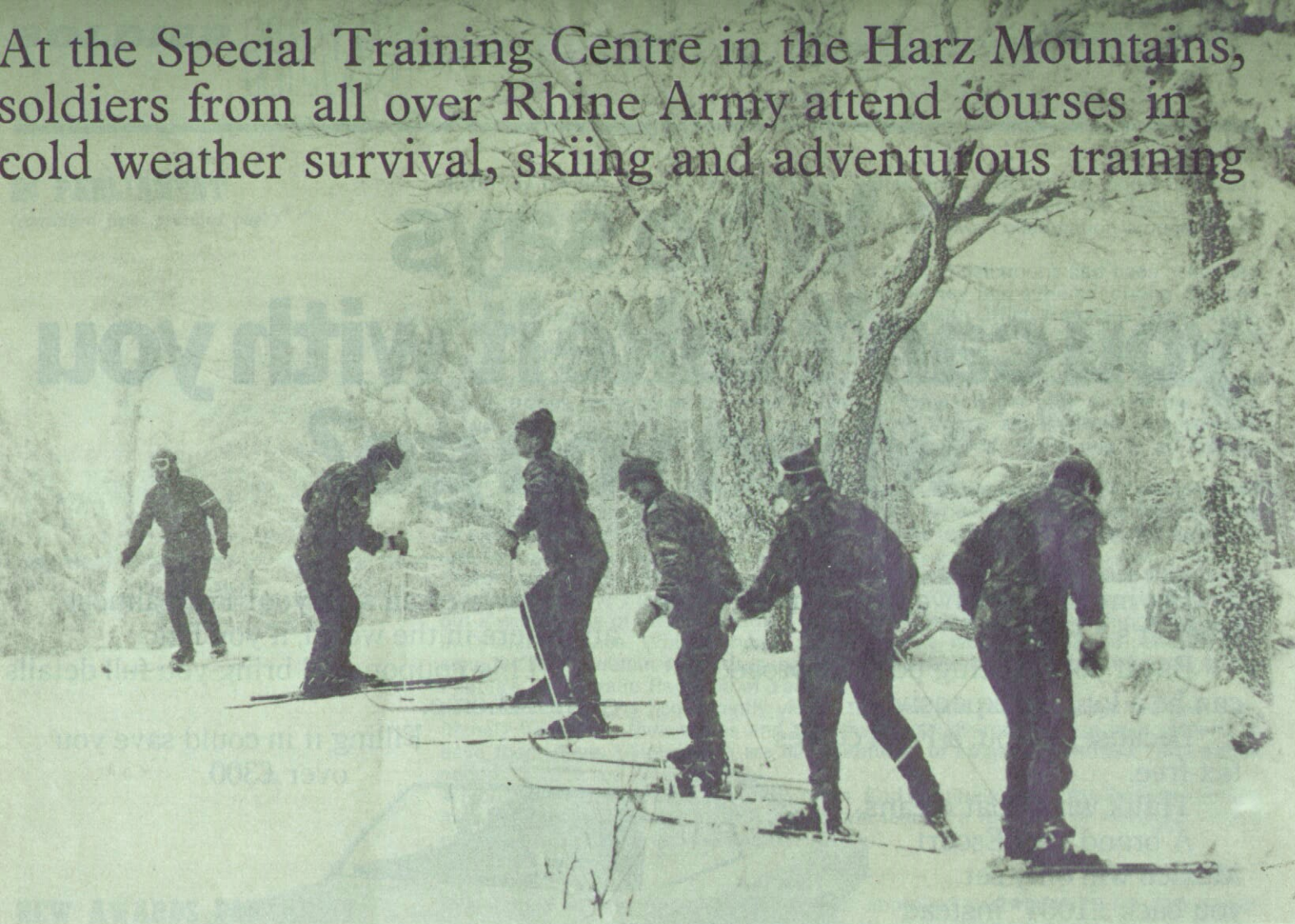
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At the Special Training Centre in the Harz Mountains, soldiers from all over Rhine Army attend courses in cold weather survival, skiing and adventurous training



Story and pictures by Lewis Huelin

Snowmen of Silberhütte

SOME 80 miles south east of Hanover lies the mighty Harz mountain range which straddles the border between West and East Germany. Here, at Silberhütte in a valley below St Andreasburg, is the British Army's Special Training Centre, located in what was once a factory turning out munitions for Hitler's Wehrmacht. The Centre has the largest student capacity of any British adventure training centre.

Winter courses are run from December to April for all units within Rhine Army to give soldiers an introduction to living out in cold climates, to introduce them to langlauf and downhill skiing and to train instructors.

Basic courses are organised on a platoon basis of one officer or senior non-commissioned officer and 19 soldiers. Each platoon is found from a single major or minor unit. When a minor unit is not able to produce a complete platoon, the numbers are made up from other units. Thus, on any course, the cook, the craftsmen, the physical training instructor and the infantry company clerk can find

themselves working together as a team on tasks from igloo building to a gruelling cross-country patrol race. The basic courses for unit groups are of three weeks' duration of which one week is spent on cross-country and two weeks on downhill skiing.

Instructors courses are for those who are already good skiers; they attend the Centre for four weeks to qualify as unit instructors.

The langlauf courses, lasting three weeks, are designed to teach the basic skills to those particularly interested in this form of skiing. Langlauf means literally "long run" and this form of cross-country running on skis requires tremendous fitness and a very high standard of technique.

It was snowing hard and visibility was down to 40 yards as a group of soldiers trekked in after a night out on the mountain. They carried snow-digging shovels and heavy packs containing their sleeping bags, change of clothing and eating and cooking equipment.

They had just experienced the kind of

night which, without their training and survival know-how, would probably have resulted in casualties. It had snowed steadily for most of the night and the temperature had been well below zero. As it was, they were all fit and in good spirits, if a little tired. At the rendezvous they spoke about their first night in eskimo-style igloos. Some had found it a little on the damp side and others somewhat cramped but all agreed they had been warm enough and had managed to get quite a good night's sleep.

Transport was provided to take them back to Silberhütte but those on the instructors' course were to return on foot—another two hours' hard skiing.

At the border town of Braunlage, students and their instructors were at the cable car station which sits at the foot of the towering Wurmberg reaching up to more than 3000 feet above sea level. The Centre's students enjoy concessional rates on the cable way. In camouflaged combat clothing the soldiers mingled with the civilian skiers in their brightly coloured



ski kit and there was a friendly, relaxed air as pairs of skiers were whisked away in the two-seater cabins.

It takes 20 minutes to reach the top of the mountain and normally one would have a view across the border to East Germany. Now the whole mountain top was shrouded in falling snow and only occasionally could one glimpse the grim watchtowers and wire mesh fence forming the "iron curtain" between East and West.

Under the watchful eyes of British and German instructors a group of students practised techniques. Captain Ron Reilly, Army Physical Training Corps, The Centre's chief instructor, explained how the introduction of the modern downhill ski had helped to speed up instruction considerably. These new skis are much shorter and more manageable and techniques which used to take many weeks to master are now often picked up in a matter of days.

Captain Reilly typifies the Centre's instructional staff who are drawn from many different arms and services. They all radiate enormous enthusiasm for their work in a way which inspires trust and confidence in their understanding, patience and tremendous ability.

Researchers into "job satisfaction" could do no better than talk to these instructors. As Captain Reilly said: "I can't imagine anything I would rather do than this. I love all outdoor activities—skiing, canoeing, rock-climbing, even living out in the snow, which is OK when you know what you are up to. It is a tremendously satisfying feeling to pass on these skills to the young soldiers who come here; they are great lads. All this and I get paid for it too."

During the winter months the Centre can take up to 300 students at any one time. The staff of 145 includes drivers, cooks, medical orderlies, administrative personnel and 32 instructors, nine of them permanent (four British officers and non-commissioned officers and five German civilians). The 23 temporary instructors comprise four British from the Army Outward Bound Centre in Norway, six from units in Germany and 13 German civilians.

Getting about on skis is second nature to the German folk living in this mountain area so there is no shortage of German instructors for the Centre. They know

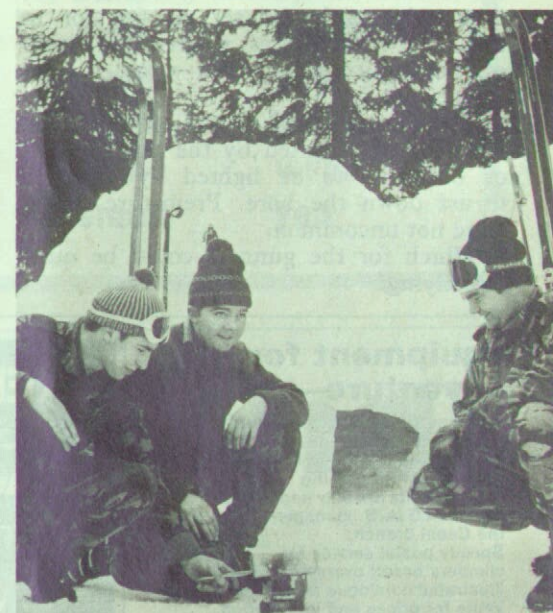


Above left: Cable car at Braunlage passes over trees uprooted by recent freak storm.

Above: STC instructors blast away at targets with machine-guns during a langlauf race.

Below: Off for a family "walk" on skis are Sgt Peter Pagnanelli, his wife and two daughters.

Below: Three soldier-Eskimos brave the cold outside the igloo in which they are living.



both the skills of sport skiing and survival techniques in conditions of extreme cold. Also they know the mountains like the average man knows his back yard.

Major John Nash, The Queen's Regiment, Commandant of the Special Training Centre, is obviously very proud of his instructors and is well qualified to judge their abilities. From 1946 to 1949 he was chief instructor at the War Office Alpine Training School in Austria and in 1948 was the British national and Army cross-country ski champion. He was in the British national cross-country ski team in 1949, 1950 and 1955 and still taking part in races as recently as 1970. He assisted with mountain training at the Army Outward Bound School in North Wales in 1967 and from 1968 to 1970 was commandant of the Outward Bound Centre in Norway.

He is probably the only man to hold his international cross-country ski colours and at the same time the Ski Club of Great Britain gold awards for skiing and ski mountaineering. He has climbed in most of the main mountaineering regions

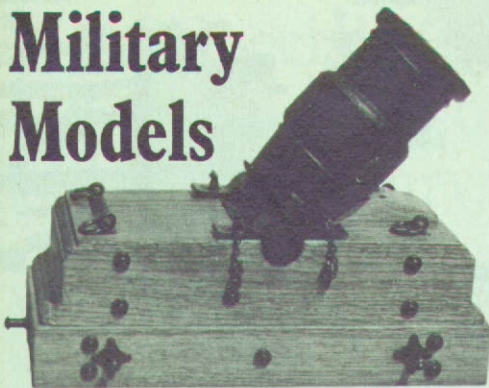
including the Himalayas and had just completed a ten-day survival course in Scotland's Cairngorm mountains.

During the summer months there are huts and camping sites in the mountains for the use of unit parties for adventurous training activities. The Special Training Centre permanent staff provides instruction in mountain trekking, pot-holing, rock climbing, canoeing and sailing.

In these days when soldiers can be called upon to face extreme danger and stress when operating in small and sometimes isolated groups, there is a need for the man who has both mental and physical toughness and self-reliance. The adventurous training provided at centres in the United Kingdom, at the Outward Bound Centre in Norway and at the Special Training Centre in the Harz mountains of Germany, plays an important part in developing these qualities.

At the same time, the skills learned on these courses can open up a new world of sporting interest for the individual which will, in many cases, remain with him throughout his life.

Military Models



MEDIEVAL besiegers welcomed by the slamming of iron-studded gates, a rain of arrows and liberal drafts of boiling oil, long dreamed of a more lethal attacking weapon than the ballista.

And eventually along came the mortar, used as early as the mid-1500s to lob explosive shells over the granite walls of besieged cities.

A contemporary chronicle records that the shells were filled with "wild fire or firewoorkes and a match (fuze) that the firewoork might be set on fire for to breake in small peeces, whereof the smallest peece hitting any man would kill or spoyle him."

The fuse of the shell was either turned inward to be ignited by the main charge or outwards to be lighted by a match thrust down the bore. Premature bursts were not uncommon.

Which for the gunners could be quite mortifying!

Mortal Mortar

Laying and firing were involved procedures. Mortars had a fixed elevation of 45 degrees and the range was determined by the size of charge. For traversing, a chalk line drawn from the centre of the base to the muzzle had to be aligned with a plumb line held by the layer standing behind the mortar. Before loading, a wet sponge was used to extinguish smouldering remnants of powder. After loading, a "pricker" was jabbed down the vent to pierce the serge wrapping of the charge. A goose quill, filled with a composition of mealed powder and spirits of wine, was then inserted into the vent. This was lit by a portfire (a quick match).

This month's model is a 13-inch land service mortar of 1790, the largest calibre in general use. The real thing fired a 200-pound shell 1200 yards with a four-pound charge and 2700 yards with an eight-pound charge. It weighed some five tons.

Not surprisingly, this large 1:8th scale

model is somewhat bulky. Although its 11-by-five-inch base is unsuitable for most mantelpieces, it makes a formidable-looking desk top ornament. It comes as a kit in authentic iron and oak at £7.95 plus 50p post and packing direct from the manufacturer, Mr Harry Pearson, 5 Ruskin Avenue, The Straits, Sedgley, Dudley, Worcestershire, DY3 3DN.

All the metal parts are finished and painted and all wood parts are partly shaped. Construction is straightforward by following full-size drawings. I found it best to use a pistol-type electric drill mounted in a vertical stand to facilitate accurate drilling of holes, cutting of the trunnion grooves with a 7/8th inch bit and hollowing out the barrel bed with a rotary burr. However you can use simpler tools such as a hand-drill, gouge chisel and round rasp file.

Guns of the day were normally painted grey but some modellers may prefer a natural wood finish. This can be achieved with beeswax (shredded, mixed with turpentine and left to emulsify for 24 hours) or linseed oil. Oil-polishing is a laborious business though since about six coats are required and it takes a whole month for each coat to dry out.

Note that the bore and vent-hole are only partially drilled out. This is deliberate. Converting any model or toy gun into a lethal weapon is an offence. To do so without breaking the law involves having the barrel proofed and obtaining a firearms licence. Local police stations can advise on this.

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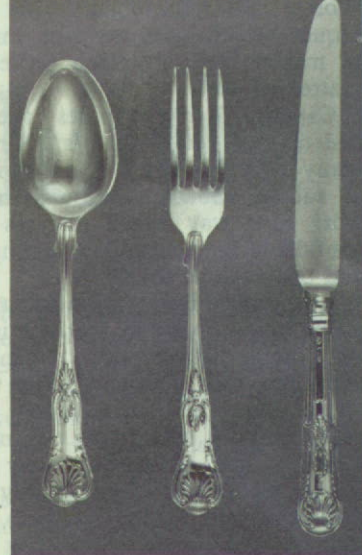
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This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 6 August. The answers and winners' names will appear in the October SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 180" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

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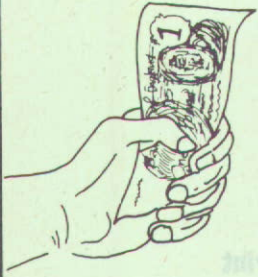
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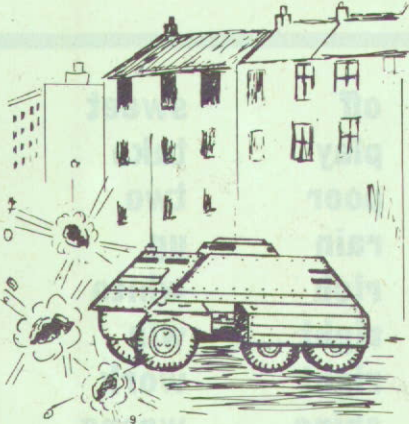
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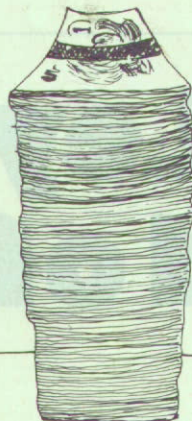
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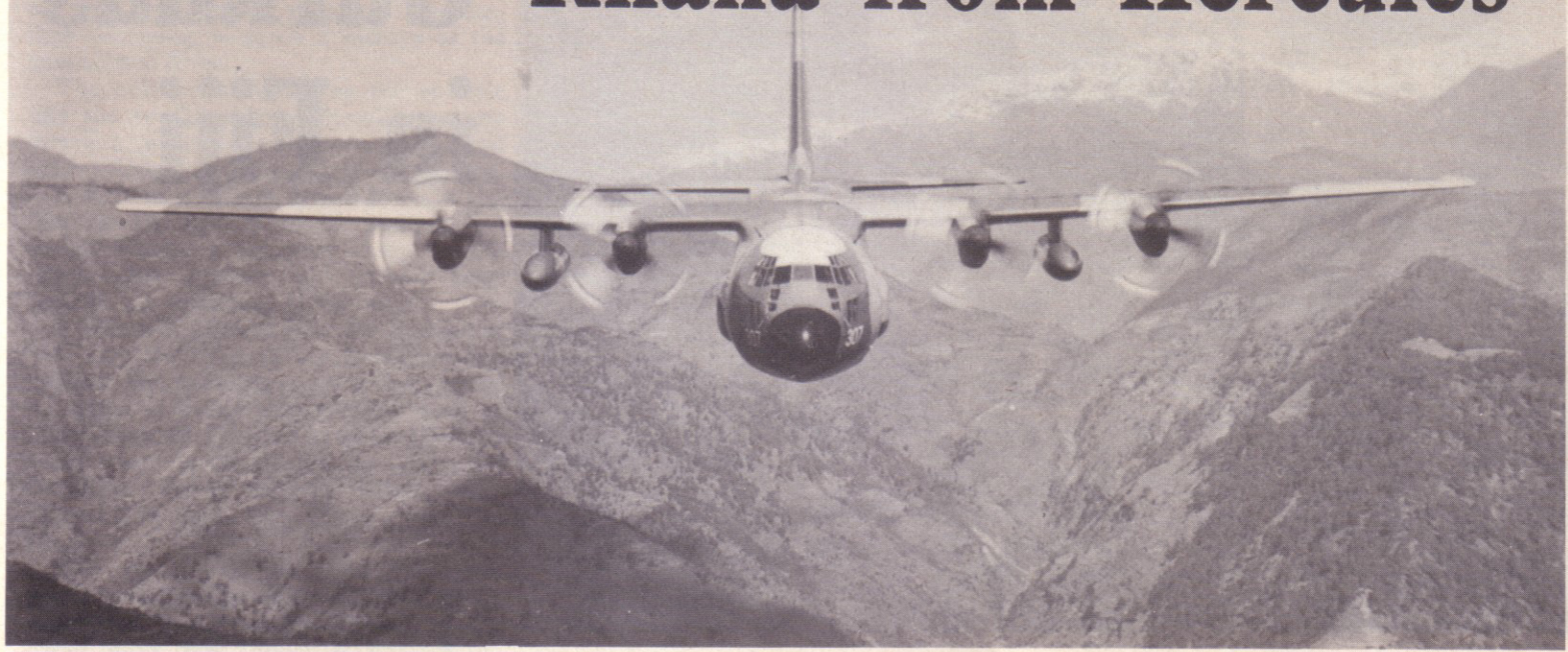
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Khana from Hercules



DESPERATELY needed famine relief supplies have been flown to Nepal in a joint Service effort described by the RAF as the biggest airlift since Berlin. Operation "Khana Cascade" (khana is Gurkhali for food) was mounted in response to an appeal from the Nepalese government for help after poor harvests for the past two years had brought remote communities near to starvation.

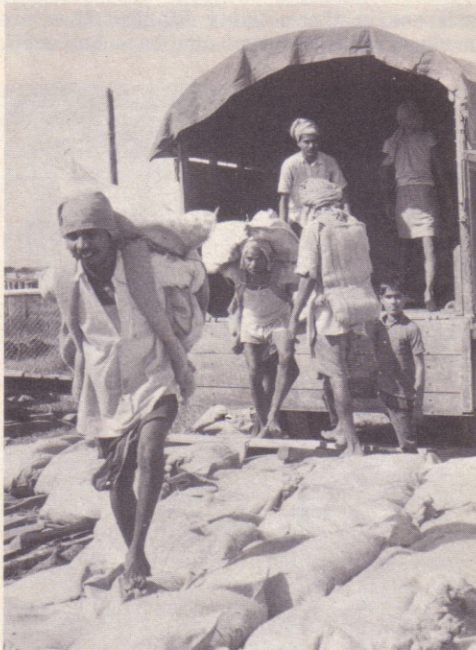
Lyneham-based Hercules transport aircraft crewed by men from the five tactical squadrons of RAF Strike Command carried nearly 2000 tons of supplies loaded at two airheads in Nepal by men of 55 and 47 air despatch squadrons, Royal Corps of Transport, during a mercy mission which lasted 30 days.

As testimony to the aircrews' skills, flying as low as 50 feet to make the airdrop, and the packing expertise of the air despatchers, there was less than two per cent of burst sacks among the ten-ton loads launched in one-ton units lashed to plywood platforms. In addition to the low-level passes there were 800-foot high parachute drops using some 3000 parachutes provided by the Hullavington packing centre.

Pilots had to fly into narrow valleys and over 8000-foot ridges in the spectacular Himalayan landscape to find the small grass airstrips from which porters carried 87lb packs to where they were needed.

Planned to take up to 60 days to complete, the operation became a race against time as the monsoon season approached. The already difficult task was not helped by the onset of the worst storms in the area for 11 years, producing the Paklihawa—the local "mad wind"—and hailstones as big as marbles. The 1100-yard-long runway at Bhairawa, a small civil airport used as a centre of the operation, was in danger of breaking up after the storms but a spell of dry weather halted the deterioration.

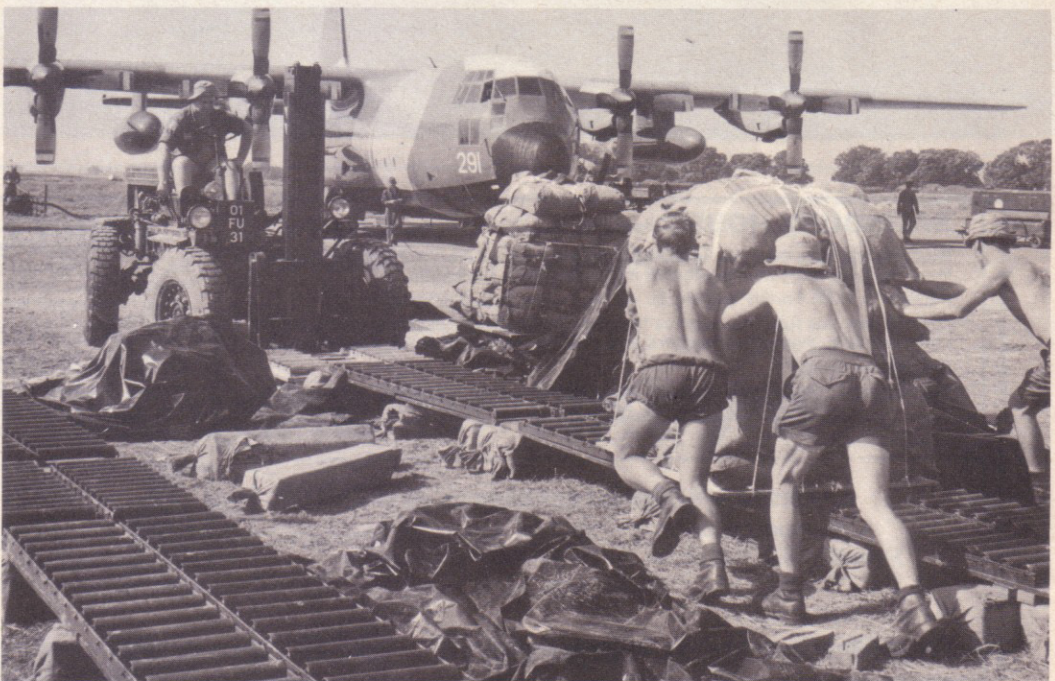
A second operation centre was at Biratnagar in Eastern Nepal where a total of 200 tons of food was dropped.



Above: The command tent of 55 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, in Nepal.

Left: Nepalese porters start famine relief supplies on the last leg of their journey.

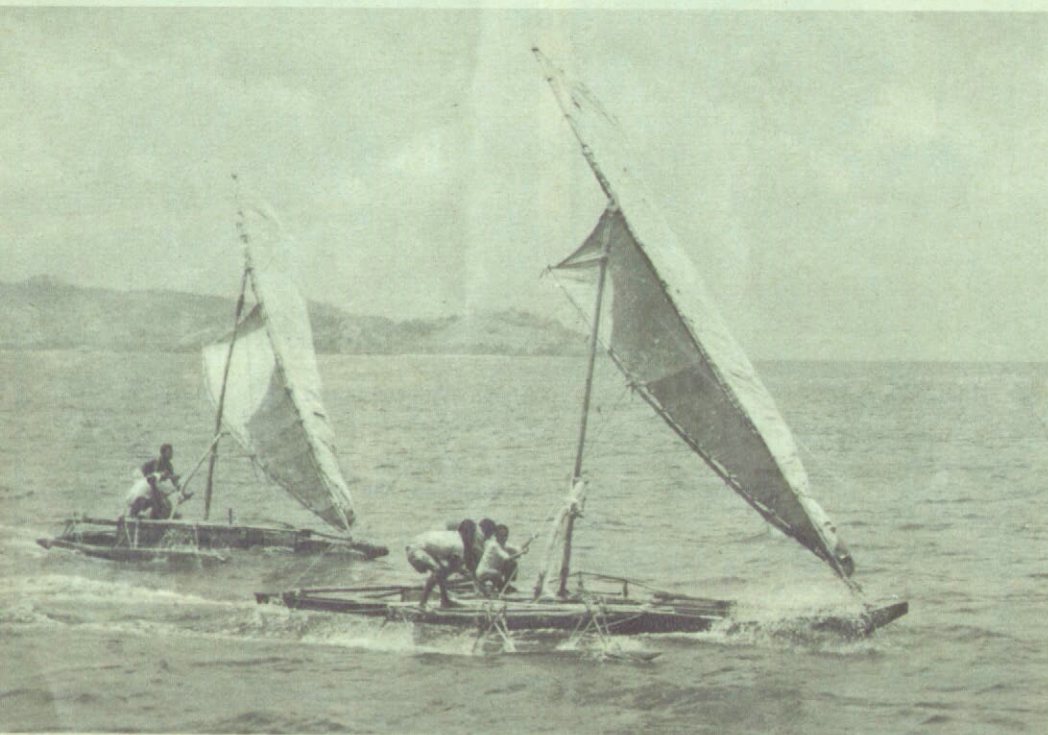
Below: Load upon load of food and grain is packed into the mighty Hercules transports.





Above: Outside the barracks which were home to the Gurkhas during their stay in Fiji, two members of the local forces admire a kukri.

Below: Traditional outrigger canoes Fijians still use in the outlying islands. They are made of hollowed logs and have leaf sails.



Gurkhas in Fiji

THERE were visions of a tropical paradise when men of A Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Goorkhas (Sirmoor Rifles), left their Hong Kong base for a training exercise in Fiji. They arrived to find it pouring with rain.

But this weather was no deterrent to the tough Nepalese troops as they got down to work on Viti Levu, the main island of the 300 making up the Fijian group.

Their task was to carry out jungle and conventional "open warfare" training. Apart from being a tremendous change from the now fairly familiar training areas of Hong Kong, Viti Levu with its unusual climate and varying vegetation provided an ideal setting for all kinds of rifle company training—except winter training. Barely 90 miles wide at its broadest, the eastern half of the island is wet with jungle-clad ridges while the western sector is very dry with rolling grassy hills.

The company had been away from a jungle environment for over a year but soon recalled the specialist skills needed to cope with it. Fijian jungle is slightly less hostile than elsewhere. There are few thorns and no leeches. Only two snakes were seen during the eight weeks the Gurkhas were there. This was put down to the presence of mongoose,

introduced many years ago to cut the snake population. So effective have these small animals been that they have had to turn for food to domestic chickens, thus becoming as much a menace as the snakes used to be.

The only problem during the exercise was the southern hemisphere's magnetic variation which affected compasses and made soldiers think their maps were wrong.

A visit to a smaller island brought the Gurkhas a glimpse of that tropical paradise image. During a three-day camp on the beach, crab chutney and coconut milk became the delicacies of the week.

A trek was planned into the interior of Viti Levu to some of the less accessible villages. But the company was intercepted en route by police who warned them to hurry back to Queen Elizabeth Barracks where they were staying as guests of the Royal Fijian Military Forces—hurricane Bibi was fast approaching the island.

Bibi was one of the worst hurricanes ever to hit Fiji. It left several dead in its wake and a trail of destruction. In the west, water supply lines were fractured and strict water rationing had to be introduced. In the east there was widespread flooding. A sturdy iron bridge built at the turn of the century to span a hundred yards of river estuary was swept away by water which rose 40 feet in a few hours.

Metal telegraph poles were bent at right angles by the wind and concrete poles snapped off like fresh celery sticks. Traffic signs folded like paper and roofs ended up hundreds of yards from the buildings they had covered. Trees and crops were uprooted and huts flattened.

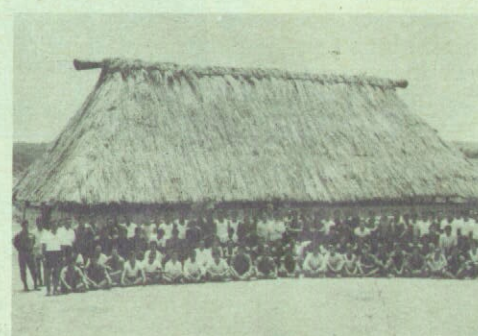
Throughout this period, men of C Troop of 67 Squadron, Gurkha Engineers, were building a bridge for the Fijians. There were fears the hurricane would tear this away but not a plank was moved—a tribute to the sappers' skill.

During its stay the company took part in six exercises, one of which used a platoon of the Fijian Infantry Regiment as "enemy."

The Gurkhas returned to Hong Kong with happy memories of their friendly hosts—some of the more senior Fijian soldiers had served in Malaya alongside Gurkhas—and the cheery welcome of "Goorkha, Goorkha!" still ringing in their ears.



Above: Gurkhas are experts at volleyball—but their Fijian hosts soon got the hang of the game and they made worthy opponents.



Left: The whole company lined up for this picture. The massive Fijian hut behind them was destroyed by hurricane two days later.



Below: These two pictures capture something of the devastation caused by hurricane Bibi. The South Sea island paradise of Fiji was suddenly plunged into chaos as winds and flood water swept ashore with a terrifying force. Pictures: The Fiji Times and Herald.

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Mons to Monastery

THE scene, a deserted monastery, lately a resting place for sheep. Taking advantage of the protection offered by its crumbling walls, a group of Gurkha soldiers expecting attack by the minute from a numerically superior enemy. The terrain is barren and inhospitable.

Suddenly one of the sentries gives a short low whistle and immediately the Gurkhas are on full alert. A head has popped over a wall, perhaps a quarter of a mile away to the right. A few seconds later

more whistles, and more heads appear on the skyline. . . the enemy is coming.

Waiting for the attack recalls Stanley Baker in the film "Zulu"—at any second there may be a fanatical charge down the hillsides from several directions. But the experienced Gurkhas know differently. . . they signal SOLDIER's photographer to watch a gully just below the monastery.

Almost immediately one, two, ten, perhaps 20 soldiers rush out of the gully and make for the sandbagged defenders. The Gurkhas fight back bravely but they are hopelessly outnumbered and soon all are dead or captured.

The victors look a little young and fresh-faced. They are officer cadets from Mons College of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. The battle of Arkhangelos Monastery is merely a small skirmish in 12 days of exercising in counter-revolutionary warfare in Cyprus by 260 cadets approaching the end of their first six months at Sandhurst.



Above: A Gurkha keeping a watchful eye on the "hostile" world outside the safety of a stone sangar before an expected attack.

Left: Sandhurst cadets from Mons College in a torrid Cyprus *wadi* search for remaining "enemy" elements who might be hiding there.

Below: Wary cadets gingerly frisk prisoners for concealed weapons. One captor stands at a distance, rifle ready in case of trouble.



Left: The Battle of Arkhangelos Monastery is over. The Mons cadet victors examine an ammunition dump and check "dead enemy."

Below: Attackers ignore a fallen foe during the final assault on the monastery, the Mons cadets' objective in this exercise phase.



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▲ Members of the Monday Club of Garrison Wives' Club at Lisburn, Northern Ireland, turned out on Shrove Tuesday with a traditional pancake race. Winner was Mrs Kay Dadd who ran the 415-yard course in 1 minute 40 seconds. The pancake tossers were all sponsored and as a result the club raised £63.36 which has been used to buy a portable television set for wounded soldiers in Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast.



Left, right & centre

◀ Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun. . . and here, British soldiers prove they're "up the pole" riding a fork-lift truck to make fast a flag. The scene is Bhairawaha, Nepal, where tons of food supplies were stockpiled during the recent airlift to bring famine relief (see page 33).

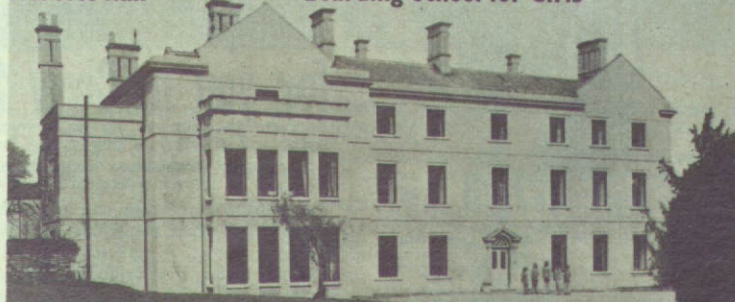
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Left, right & centre

▼ Children of Kent School (British Families Education Service), Hostert, Germany, think of children less fortunate than themselves. They donated £1150 to pay for a variety Club of Great Britain "Sunshine" mini-coach for pupils of Moatsbridge Special School in Eltham, London. Picture shows happy Eltham children waiting for their first ride in the van.



▲ For the first time ever the Royal Corps of Transport took up the ceremonial duties of mounting the guard at Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace, the Bank of England and the Tower of London. The duties were performed by a detachment of 14 Air Despatch Regiment which was accompanied by the RCT staff band and corps of drums. At the same time, 14 Air Despatch Regiment was engaged in famine relief in Nepal (see page 33) and was manning armoured personnel carriers in Northern Ireland. Another detachment was in Cyprus at the time. In the forecourt of Buckingham Palace to see the new guard take over was a distinguished former member of the corps, Major P R Reid, author of the best-selling "Colditz Story" who, as an officer in the Royal Army Service Corps, was a prisoner at Colditz and acted as escape officer.

► These inscrutable ancient Chinese warriors turn out to be Staff-Sergeant Brian Bailey (left) and Warrant Officer Geoff Harrop, serving with the tri-nation ANZUK Base Transport Unit in Singapore. The occasion was a procession of 2000 people to welcome the Chinese New Year and the two Britons with five other ANZUK men, were the only Westerners to take part.

▼ That popping-eyed master of the double entendre, Frankie Howerd, raises smiles as he quaffs from a silver-plated tankard presented to Lieutenant Henry Upton (right) by his platoon of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment. On left is Hilary Pritchard from Frankie's "Whoops! Baghdad" TV programme. Frankie presented the tankard at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, where Lieutenant Upton is recovering from a throat wound received in Northern Ireland in January.



▲ Royal Engineers from Chatham hard at work restoring the 18-ton funeral carriage of the Duke of Wellington. The carriage, which was hauled by 12 dray horses, stood in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral for 120 years and had become rather dilapidated. The sappers offered to restore it and took the timber frame and six highly ornamented wheels to Chatham, overhauling other parts in the crypt itself. The carriage is now said to be fit to withstand another 100 years.

◀ A casualty evacuation with a difference at Slaughtmanus, Northern Ireland. The casualty was a sick cow stranded on a small island in the middle of a bog. A Scout helicopter of 658 Squadron, Army Air Corps, flew in with a cargo net for underslung loads and farm-workers loaded up the beast which was flown to safer ground for treatment. Next passenger for the helicopter was Mr William Whitelaw on an aerial tour of Londonderry.

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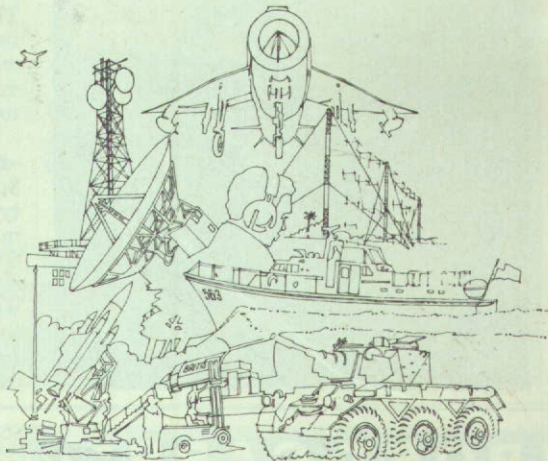
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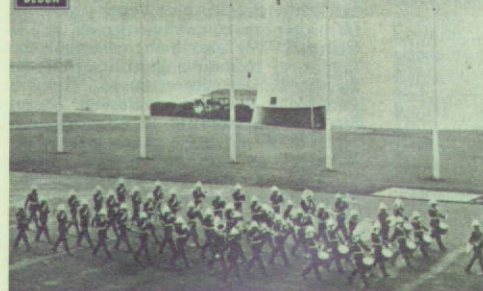
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ON RECORD



"By Land and Sea" (The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Commando Force) (Music Director: Captain W W Shillitto) (Owen Brannigan) (Decca SB701)

Kenneth Alford himself conducted this band from 1930 to 1942 when it was known to all as simply the Plymouth Marines or Rickett's Boys. A band without peers and very few equals.

Although they are now Shillitto's Boys and still a fine band, the magic of a name is missing. Difficult for anyone to make his name these days, in the Forces anyway; he can but lose it. In a non-event called "Trumpetino" (a concertino for trumpet) Captain Shillitto, in the presence of Alford, Ansell, Arnold and Sullivan, offers himself as a composer and duly dies the death. Alford's wonderful slow march which gives the disc its title is here, plus the quick march "HM Jollies" and his arrangement of "A Life on the Ocean Wave." Malcolm Arnold's uproarious march "The Padstow Lifeboat" adds to the scheme of life ashore and afloat.

Other wavy escapades are portrayed in John Ansell's *tour de force* "Plymouth Hoe," a pedestrian affair as played here with no hint of Demerara's gift to the world nor yet a yo-ho. Zehle's march "Army and Marine" is always a winner but Richard Rodgers (as I have said before) should have stuck to ballads instead of writing "Song of the High Seas." Non-naval occasions are represented by Henry Mancini's "Swing March" and the final dance from the ballet "Pineapple Poll."

To add a finishing touch to what should have been a brilliant record we have that fine chantyman Owen Brannigan, alas with no Ernest Lush to accompany him, in "Drake's Drum" and the "Sentry's Song" from "Iolanthe." But not even he can rescue a record from which the blown spume and crying seagulls are sadly missed. **RB**

"White Heritage" (St Austell Band) (Conductor: Fred Roberts) (Carnival 2928 012)

It can only be for geographical reasons that this is the debut on record of this famous old band. There is some very fine playing and the general musicianship is very apparent. My quarrel is with one of the arrangers and with one composer; otherwise I found it a most enjoyable LP.

Alfred Ashpole's march "White Heritage" includes snatches of "The Floral Dance" and the whole of a tune I seem to remember as "Trelawney." Two solo items are separated by a rather insipid arrangement of Joe Meek's once-popular "Telstar" and it is these solos I find unforgivable. Said to be "entirely new" and recorded for the first time, they are in typical mid-Victorian style and full of the worst clichés of the period. Much talent is completely wasted on them by the soloists. "Scherzo Four-Four" is a euphonium solo and "Melody on the Slide" a non-sliding trombone solo.

In his arrangements of two classics, a Schubert "Marche Militaire" and excerpts from the ballet music of Gounod's "Faust," George Hawkins makes totally unnecessary alterations and additions.

A solo for the cornet section, "Cornets to the Fore," is a harmless blues-tempo piece and the "Rondo" from Mozart's Fourth Horn Concerto is well played by A Helleur. The meat of the programme is Sir Granville Bantock's classic early work for brass band, "Prometheus Unbound." He was one of the first famous composers to take an interest in bands and this work still sounds just right even though its former difficulties are child's play to modern virtuosos. The record ends with an original hymn tune "Cornwall" by the blind Ernest Floyd. Well worth your money in spite of my reservations. **RB**

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Letters

Bombay bloomers

Referring to a recent decision to abolish drill shorts, newspapers wrongly described them as "Bombay bloomers." Army KD shorts were a neat and smart item of uniform. The garments referred to were manufactured in 1942 and were long baggy pants with tape-threaded leg bottoms and button holes above the white tapes which could be turned up and fastened to cheap alloy buttons when used as shorts or turned down and taped around the ankles when required as trousers.

Drill slacks were also issued with the amazing "trouser-cum-shorts" garment but with legs generally too tight for full knee-bending. The tightness was seriously explained as intended to prevent mosquitoes getting up the legs. These sartorial blunders were issued in Britain during the spring of 1942 to re-inforcements destined for North Africa via the Cape and who eventually comprised the Eighth Army, or most of it. A Wolseley sun helmet was issued with the "bloomers." Those helmets had an extra tinfoil lining. However, shortly after disembarkation not a single topee or pair of the unpopular "Bombay bloomers" were to be seen either at base camps or in the desert. I noticed that subsequent drafts and units were not issued with the unpopular convertible netherwear nor the conspicuous, useless sun helmets. We heard rumours that the issue of these useless items of dress had caused trouble in various official departments and headquarters. Could any reader provide further information about the sudden appearance and disappearance of topees and

"bloomers" on the Middle East scene in the middle of the war? Many of us "old hands" would be interested to know.—**R Rimmer, 21 Glyn Garth, Chester, CH1 5RY.**

Disbanded Irish regiments

Colonel Holt (Letters—Royal Munsters—March) may take comfort. The disbanded Southern Irish regiments (including his own beloved "Dirty Shirts") may be out of sight but far from out of mind. And who better to be included in the "Famous Regiments" series? To my own very great pride I have spent more than a year in writing them up for publication. I stood on Castle Hill, Windsor, on that sad day in 1922 when they marched up to leave their Colours with King George V. Last year I watched in Whitehall while they held their final old comrades parade.

My book will by my own small tribute to the XVIIIth Royal Irish, the Connaught Rangers, The Leinsters (Royal Canadians), The Royal Munster Fusiliers and The Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Soldiers will never forget!—**Lieut-Col. R J T Hills, 4194 Hau bei Kleve, Waldstrasse 33, Germany.**

Wrecked troopship

I was interested to read the review of "Drums of the Birkenhead" (Books, January). A few years ago I discovered a single-sided wax gramophone record produced by The International Zonophone Company, number X-41027 (XII), with the label "English-Descriptive."

This disc re-enacts the last few minutes aboard a ship sinking after an unspecified mishap. References are made to the 74th Highlanders (2nd Battalion, The Highland Light Infantry) and "gallant men of the king." The hymn "Old Hundred" is sung by all and after it the assembled company is ordered to meet its doom in marching order. After three cheers for the king, bayonets are fixed and the parade brought to attention. The ship sinks to the strains of the band playing "Rule Britannia." I had heard of the Birkenhead incident and had assumed that the record referred to that sinking. However, as it appears that that was in 1851 the compliments to the "king" do not fit. Was there indeed another similar incident, perhaps in Edwardian times—contemporary with the issue of this gramophone record?—**Capt Bryan Johnston, 25 Valley Drive, Yarm, Yorkshire.**

★ This record can refer only to the wreck of the Birkenhead. Bearing in mind the age of the record we think the word "queen" may have been misheard as "king" in the "gallant men" context. There was no similar disaster in Edwardian times.

Meritorious Service Medal

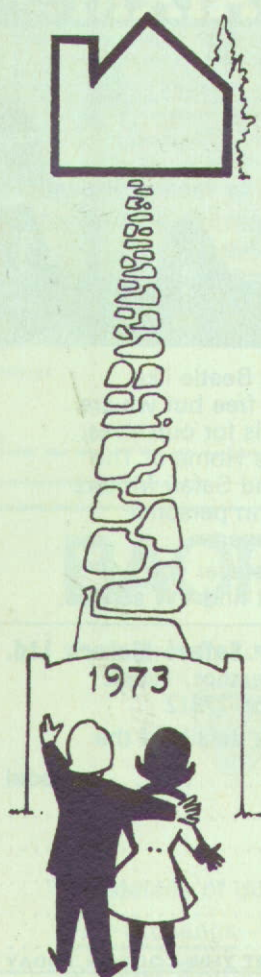
Captain (QM) H W Corke's letter (November) referring to Mr Gay's letter (September) prompts me to put pen to

paper. I will not argue with either gentlemen but will only state facts regarding two recipients of the Meritorious Service Medal who do not seem to come up to the usual standards believed to be connected with the award but who, nevertheless, had the medal with pension.

Firstly, Sergeant-Major Kester Knight RE, referred to in Connolly's Sappers and Miners' history as being promoted from corporal to colour-sergeant in the Crimean War and being awarded the Legion of Honour and Military Medal by the French Government. He was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal for his services as acting sergeant-major of the Royal Engineers contingent in the China War 1857-60. He enlisted in 1846 and took his discharge in 1869 having completed 22½ years' service. At the time of his discharge he was already in receipt of an annuity of £10 in respect of the MSM. He was not, of course, awarded an LS & GC medal. Knight's photograph is among Cundall's "Crimean Portraits, 1854-56" in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle.

Secondly, Colour-Sergeant Thomson Cross, 2nd Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, was severely wounded and awarded a DCM for his bravery with the Tirah Field Force in 1897. He was discharged as "... ceasing to fulfil Army physical requirements." At the time of his discharge in August 1899, due to the wounds, he had not quite completed 14½ years' service. On 31 October 1899, Cross was recommended for the MSM by the officer commanding the regimental depot and on 1 April 1904 it was granted with a £10 annuity.

Possibly these are uncommon awards of the MSM but by the mere fact that they exist there must be many more awards where the man had the annuity to say nothing of the medal before he was 80 years old. I realise that these £10 annuities were not the maximum possible. At the time I understand the maximum was £15 per annum.—**Matthew E Taylor, Ardlea, 11 Horselethill Road, Glasgow, G12 9LX.**



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Sergeant E Sawyer correctly states (Letters, February) that the eldest qualified candidate receives first consideration for the annuity irrespective of the dates of registration of names in the Army Pensions Office. May I also add that I received a letter from the Pensions Office dated 3 Feb 1970 in reply to a letter of mine regarding the probable date for the annuity award. Like the other candidates I received the medal many years ago and I am now 74 years of age. My information in February 1970 was that medallists being awarded annuities at that time were born in 1894 which means that the successful candidates must have been 76 years of age. I was also informed that the Royal Warrant allows for the payment of only 750 annuities at any one time. The above information may be useful to other medallists like myself who still have years to wait before qualifying for the annuity.—**G A E Gavey (late capt, Royal Signals and ex-yeoman warder), Flat G11, Le Squez Estate, St Clements, Jersey CI.**

May I call on one of our senior officers, either serving or retired, to explain why meritorious service should cease at "other rank" level? A soldier with the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal and with 27 years' service is entitled to be "considered" for this award, but supposing that man is commissioned at the 25-year period and then goes on to complete 33 years and subsequently retires with the rank of captain—he then fails to qualify for the MSM although his eight years' commissioned service is just as meritorious. Why? Why should he be penalised for adding another period of faithful service to that earned in the ranks? Let me quote two examples. Warrant Officer X: 28 years' service; LS & GCM at the 18-year period; no war service overseas; eligible for consideration for the MSM award. Warrant Officer Y: Commissioned from the ranks at the 20-year period; holds the LS & GCM; awarded the DSO in Normandy, while serving with the airborne forces, and the MC at Arnhem, twice mentioned in despatches; not eligible for award of the MSM.—**Maj Chas Cowie (Military Historical Society, York & District Branch), 5 Warwick Crescent, Harrogate, Yorks.**

Marines and Guards

Warrant Officer II J Evans (January) must have written with tongue in cheek when he said the Royal Marines' parent was the Coldstream Guards. Lest there are readers glibly enough to swallow such a contradiction of military history I should like to set the record straight. At the start of the Second Dutch War in 1664 there was a need to raise a permanent force of soldiers to serve aboard naval ships. However, there was still considerable suspicion of any standing army but the navy bore no restrictive penalty and when by Order of Council dated 28 October 1664 a force of 1200 soldiers was to be raised for sea service, the king directed that they should be placed under the control of the Lord High Admiral (his brother, the Duke of York, later to become James II). Part of this force was raised from the strength of the Trained Bands of London who were officered by the Honourable Artillery Company. Apart from 250 who were immediately distributed to the fleet, the remainder were sent to Southampton for training in the art of soldiering. If Mr Evans still maintains that most of the Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot (as the Marines were then known) were serving or ex-Coldstreamers, then he is suggesting that even in 1664 the training of a guardsman was not sufficient for the Marines! —**Lieut D J Glossop SCC (Royal Marines Reserve), Kingston and District Sea Cadet Corps, T S Steadfast, Thames Side, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT1 1PX.**

Bunker Hill debunked

I don't quite know what Mr W MacGregor wishes to imply (Letters, December). Prescott was entrenched on Breed's Hill whilst the nearby Bunker Hill was more heavily entrenched and defended. Prescott and his men were soon shifted from Breed's Hill and had Howe followed this up in force he would have enfladed Bunker Hill and possibly forced the colonists to get out. But General Gage's orders were explicit. Had he sent his troops by Charlestown Neck Causeway and aided by the guns of the fleet he would have completely cut off the forces on both hills. A way round, however, was "undignified, neither British, nor frank, nor manly," some of us have heard that before from general officers like Buller at the Tugela in the second Boer War and the unfortunate infantry on 1 July 1916 on the Somme. To his troops, incidentally, Gage was known as "Greengage."

Howe had no alternative but to clear Bunker Hill to save Boston and it took three assaults in line to do it. For the first two failures the men carried full packs plus their rations and blankets—125 pounds—in blazing sun. For the final assault Howe ordered these to be dispensed with and led the assault, as he had the other two, to success. British casualties were 1200 while the provincials' totalled 400. The heaviest losses among the British were the officers—caused by the Pennsylvanians, using rifled muskets, with orders to "shoot at the fancy waistcoats."

Mr MacGregor is correct as to the tune "The World Turned Upside Down" being played at the surrender of Yorktown when the troops, led by General O'Hara, came out to surrender, Cornwallis being too distressed to do so. Typically this Irishman, when he came to hand over his sword, exclaimed: "I salute the new Colours and Mister Washington." Nothing derogatory in this as general officers in those days were often in correspondence addressed as Mister.

At Saratoga, where (Gentleman Johnny) Burgoyne had to give in, the bands played "The Grenadier's March" but as one officer, Lieutenant Digby, afterwards wrote: "The drums seem to have lost their former inspiring sounds." The recruitment of the Hessians for service in North America at a guinea a head was a mistake and a personal matter between George III and a "buddy" of his, The Margrave of Hesse-Darmstadt. Few British troops understood their language and the Guards disliked them. They were never where they were wanted and when they moved at all it was slowly. According to their commander, General Baron von Riedesel, whom they drove to blasphemy, much of their time was spent in singing hymns and reading the psalms. As a military force the Hessians were negligible. Washington, with 3000 men, gave them a pasting at Trenton on the night of 1 January 1777. On 3 January he defeated Cornwallis at Princeton.

Somehow the lights were fading for old associations, loyalties and friendships in North America. And it must not be overlooked, as it often is, that these men at war were British. Washington had been a British officer; he had fought with General Braddock at the disaster on the Monongahela River in the French and Indian wars. Major-General Horatio Gates, also a British officer, took Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga. He was christened Horatio in honour of Walpole.

It has not been British policy to award honours for wars or disputes when the antagonists are of the same race and often hold the same views and similar privileges under the law. There were no honours for the rebellion in Dublin in 1916. **Lieut-Col The O'Doneven, Gold Mead, Lymington, Hampshire.**

Lance-sergeant

Reading Mr Sawyer's letter (February) about the cost of being appointed

RAMC 75th

A commemorative philatelic cover is to be issued on 23 June 1973 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Royal Army Medical Corps. It will carry a 3p definitive royal blue stamp which will be cancelled with a special cancellation stamp bearing the BFPO number 1347. To preserve the rarity value of the cover only 5000 will be issued. Although the Army medical service is as old as the Regular Army and can trace an unbroken existence since the restoration of King Charles II in 1660, it was not until 23 June 1898 that both officers and other ranks were incorporated in one unified corps. The medical service has been represented in every campaign and battle which the British Army has waged, and the gallantry with which it carried out its duties on the battlefield is indicated by the 31 Victoria Crosses its members have gained. These include two double VCs and one recipient of both the Victoria Cross and the Iron Cross. The commemorative cover may be purchased for 25p at the Aldershot Army Display on 23 and 24 June. Advance orders can be sent to:



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lance-sergeant took my mind back to my own appointment.

In January 1939 I was serving in 1st Battalion, The Essex Regiment, stationed in Egypt. I was married but not "on strength" because I had not reached the age of 26. I made a compulsory allotment of 3s a day to support my wife and child who were in UK. As a corporal I received 4s 9d a day under Hore-Belisha's new deal for the Services (1938) which was the biggest laugh of pre-war days.

However, I was appointed lance-sergeant and the following costs were involved: Drinks all round in the sergeants mess, two sets of stripes for serge jackets, one red sash, one regimental cane, three sets of stripes for KD tunics, one set of gold wire stripes for blue patrols, one set of detachable gold wire stripes for white patrols, a white monkey jacket and purple cummerbund, gold stripes, poplin shirt, high stiff collar and bow tie for mess functions. On top of that I was deducted three days' pay under King's Regulations for mess funds.

My pay rose from 4s 9d to 5s 6d a day on my appointment and I was in debt to the battalion "dherzi" up to my neck but fortunately I was promoted full sergeant a couple of months later and managed to survive.

How I existed on my pittance I don't know and the night I was "caught" for drinks all round in the mess for having my eagle collar dogs the wrong way round was a major monetary disaster.

There must have been thousands of NCOs in the same boat those days but, like me, I'll bet they would do it again.—
W A Lay, Brentwood, Cross Hands Road, Pilning, Bristol. BS12 3JB.

LS & GC and two bars

I have been reading with much interest letters about long service in the forces.

In Navy News of February 1973 there was mention of Chief Petty Officer Harry Dudley who left the Service in December after 46 years and holding the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal with two bars. I think this is unique. Fifteen years for the medal, 15 years for first bar, 15 years for second bar—45 years.—D C Woollett 34 Green Lanes, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 9JU.

Medals

I never expected such a weird and wonderful collection of comments on my letter (June 1972). They were written no doubt by a minority that failed to get the point. Making other comparisons it is quite obvious that a man who slogged it out in the jungle in Burma was entitled to more recognition for his services than a non-combatant working in the Naafi in Bombay who received the same medal (once again with all due respect to Naafi).

I said Why bother? simply because in my unit, which I can safely say produced some of the finest soldiers to come out of World War Two, most men could not have cared less about medals. Destroying the opposition was the main thing they had in mind.

After the battle of Walcheren, November 1944, a close friend of mine received a Dutch decoration for services rendered. He declined to receive it personally from one of the royal family and it was eventually delivered through the post. He did not bother. Call it modesty if you like. No doubt some of the bravest men in the world could not care less about medals. Also, why bother about a campaign medal that holds little significance?

The one medal I have got that has some significance is the Territorial Army Efficiency Medal. It has one's name and rank engraved on it. I served for 17 years in the TA after the war. Being in the building trade

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it was not everybody's cup of tea, after slogging away on a building site, to go home, get changed and then rush up to the city for a couple of hours' soldiering. No doubt there were hundreds like me but the medal has to be earned.
So I say to those of you who think you deserve a medal but did not get it: Do not worry, you are not alone. There are thousands like you but most are dead!—W H Bidmead, 8 Blériot Road, Heston, Middlesex.

POW exhibition

We are preparing an exhibition on the subject of prisoners-of-war in the Far East during World War Two to be held at Monks Hall Museum, Eccles, Manchester, in September.

Material is being sought from ex-POWs and I am wondering if any of your readers may possess suitable items which they would be willing to lend for the occasion.

The aim of the exhibition will be to show not so much the horrors of the camps but the sense of community developed by the inmates; not so much the privations they endured as the ingenuity they showed in overcoming some of them.

I shall be most grateful for any help.—Miss M Patry, Curator, Monks Hall Museum, 42 Wellington Road, Eccles, Manchester, M30 0NP.

Gallantry awards

I am compiling a book on British gallantry awards and their recipients and would be glad to hear from any readers who have been awarded such medals in unusual circumstances or whether they know of any such persons. I am particularly interested in recipients who have received multiple awards eg DCM and two bars, DFM and bar. This book will take the form of a biographical account relating the circumstances of the awards and a synopsis of recipients' careers.—Gordon C F MacL McConnell, 80 Kyle Avenue, Whitechurch, Cardiff, CF4 1SS.

DROP ME A LINE...

The maze of lines in the December Competition 175 attracted the expected hundreds of entries—of which more than half were incorrect. There were in fact 30 outlines: Axe (chopper, hatchet), bobbin (cotton reel), book, bulldog clip, chisel, coat hanger, cup (teacup), drawing pin, egg, elephant, envelope, fork, hammer (claw hammer), kettle, key, magnifying glass, milk bottle (bottle), nail, nut, paperclip, penknife (pocket knife), pliers, razor blade, revolver, screwdriver, spanner, spectacles, stool, telephone receiver, tweezers.

Prizewinners:

- 1 A J Dunn, 23 Thodays Close, Willingham, Cambridge, CB4 5LE.
- 2 Sgt F Shorrocks, ACIO, 13 Church Street, Blackburn, Lancs.
- 3 Robert Taylor, 11 Churchfield, Westfield, Hastings, Sussex.
- 4 WO I R D Marshall, RAOC, COD Chilwell, Beeston, Notts.
- 5 Sgt J Campbell, Scots Guards, ACIO, Carlisle, Cumberland.
- 6 WO II D C Phillips, AAC, ATC, RAF Gütersloh, BFPO.
- 7 Miss D Read, 41 Hill Street, Stockingford, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

8 G L Potts, RAF Chivenor, Barnstaple, N Devon.
9 Sgt Sandra Cox, WRAC, ACIO, 43A Queen Street, Wolverhampton.
10 M Peddie, 8 Hoscote Park, West Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire.
11 Sgt E Boyle, RAPC, 26 Engr Regt, BFPO 24.
12 WO I M Pritchard, 21 Engr Regt Wksp REME, BFPO 48.
13 P D King, 67 Grosvenor Crescent, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB10 9ES.
14 Mrs J M Roets, Snowdrop Cottage, Ball Lane, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.
15 Sgt B Brigg, 13/18 H, ACIO, Barnsley, Yorks.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

H Ripley, 42 Chatsworth Crescent, Pudsey, Yorkshire, LS28 8LD.—Collects world-wide army buttons. Lists available post-1800 buttons for exchange; can also exchange some cap badges for buttons.

John Harland, 12 Vawdrey Road, Drayton, Norwich, Norfolk.—New collector, £50 available for collection badges (cloth and metal) and medals. Single items welcomed. Please describe and state price.
F G Tyler, 1250 Uxbridge Road, Hayes End, Middlesex.—Seeks details Army Air Corps insignia, particularly air troops/platoons before squadron reorganisation 1969.

L A Mayor, 2 Arlington House, Tunis Road, London, W12 7EP.—Requires World War One medals; group trio 17th Lancers. Good price given.

Martin, 7 Druids Way, Arrowe Park, Woodchurch, Birkenhead, Cheshire.—Requires good model ship, sail or steam, in exchange large German flag/other militaria.

R E Hurst, Caldry, 7 Queensway, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.—Seeks postcards, envelopes etc sent from or issued in POW camps.

H F Hansen Ribelandevig 12, DK 6270 Tønder, Denmark.—Wishes purchase SOLDIER vols 1, 2 and 3.

Frank H Chard, 9 Grove Road, Church Crookham, Hampshire.—Requires badges, belt buckles, buttons, flashes, medals of any period relating to 24th Foot, South Wales Borderers; Monmouthshires; 23rd Foot, R Welch Fusiliers; 41st/69th Foot, Welch Regiment. Please state if items are for sale or exchange with full details.

Cfn R Waring, c/o ET Wing, AAS Balcombe, Victoria, Australia.—Wishes sell one of 400 medals struck for 1947 British Services tattoo at Dortmund, Germany.

Andrew J. Simpson, 480 43rd Avenue, Lachine, Quebec H6T 1G1, Canada.—Collects orders, decorations, medals all countries. Wishes exchange with other collectors.
Regimental Secretary, Royal Irish Rangers, 5 Waring Street, Belfast, BT1 2EW.—For sale: Set seven colour prints by Charles Stadden depicting uniform R Irish on formation. Each print (approx 11in by 8in) £1, or £6 for set, postage/packing included for UK and Ireland only.

REUNIONS

The Middlesex Regiment. Annual reunion, Porchester Hall, Queensway, London W2, 7pm, Saturday 12 May. Service of remembrance 2.30pm same day, St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4. Details from Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
The XVIII, The Royal Irish Regiment and South Irish Horse OCA. Annual reunion dinner, Irish Club, Eaton Square, London SW1, Saturday 2 June, 7.30pm. Annual service at Cenotaph, Whitehall, Sunday 3 June, 11am. Details from P J Boyce, 13 Sticklepath Terrace, Barnstaple, N Devon.

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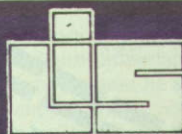
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Books

Conquest of Burma

"The Pagoda War: Lord Dufferin and the Fall of the Kingdom of Ava, 1885-6" (Dr A T Q Stewart)

The British conquest of Upper Burma in 1885 and 1886 is a backwater of British imperial history. Dr Stewart rescues this strange little war from obscurity. In scholarship and grasp of essentials, his book could well be a blueprint for this type of history.

In 1885, Burma began to trouble the British authorities in India. Under the weak King Thibaw, lawlessness was rife and British merchants in Rangoon were lobbying for something to be done. There was talk too of French influence in the Mandalay kingdom.

The Viceroy, Lord Dufferin, sent some 10,000 British and Indian troops to Mandalay. They travelled in steamers of the Flotilla Company and after a few skirmishes occupied Thibaw's capital. The king and his queen, Supayalat, were exiled to India. Upper Burma was formally annexed on 1 January 1886, becoming part of the Indian Empire.

On the surface it had been a well-conducted, almost bloodless campaign, but was to arouse bitter controversy. Investigating this aspect, the author wends his way surely through the maze of Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Irish politics from which the bitterness stemmed. *Faber & Faber, 3 Queen Square, London WC1, £3.00* **JCW**

Oldest cavalry

"The Royal Dragoons" (R J T Hills) The oldest cavalry regiment in the British Army, the Royal Dragoons were formed in 1661 to defend Tangiers from the Moors. Recalled home, they played a vital part in the civil war conflicts at Sedgemoor and the Boyne. Although the Royals first served in the Netherlands their hardest campaign in the 18th century was in Spain. With victories at Almenara and Saragossa behind them they suffered defeat at Brihuega. The French presented the next enemy and the Royals saw very hard fighting at Warburg and Willems.

In the Peninsular War they charged at Salamanca and won a fortune in booty at Vittoria. At Waterloo, against French cuirassier and lancer, they more than proved their merit. The Boer War provided the Royals with excellent experience in open warfare with massive sweeps across the veldt in pursuit of Boer commandos but in World War One they were never really able to find their moment of glory.

That moment finally came in 1942 when they spearheaded the armoured breakout at El Alamein and chased Rommel the length of North Africa and into Sicily. They repeated this in Normandy and took 10,000 Germans prisoner in one day!

After the war the Royals served in the Canal Zone, Persian Gulf, Malaysia and Singapore. In March 1969 they merged with The Blues.

Leo Cooper, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £2.10 **AWH**

Slatin Pasha

"Between Two Flags" (Gordon Brook-Shepherd)

Lieutenant-General Baron Sir Rudolf von Slatin Pasha must surely be about the oddest of all the odd characters who have served the British Crown. Of Jewish descent but Roman Catholic faith, he left his native Vienna to get a job in a Cairo bookshop. Instead he became a soldier and at 24 he was one of Gordon's ablest commanders against the Mahdi in the Sudan. He spent 11 years in Mahdist custody until making a spectacular escape across hundreds of miles of desert and returned to Omdurman in triumph with the Anglo-Egyptian expedition which smashed Mahdism for good.

Slatin became Inspector-General of the Sudan and in the years that followed became famous throughout Europe and a favourite and companion of royalty. He was ennobled by his own sovereign, Emperor Franz-Josef of Austria-Hungary, whose subject he remained even though twice knighted by Britain and even though he was a lieutenant-general in the Egyptian Army and an honorary major-general in the British Army.

BETWEEN TWO FLAGS

The Life of
Baron Sir Rudolf von Slatin Pasha
GCVO, KCMG, CB



Gordon Brook-Shepherd

Duality was the keynote of Slatin's life. He balanced both sides successfully most of the time but his world fell apart when Britain and his native Austria went to war in 1914. But he made a comeback, appearing at Versailles in Austria's delegation and eventually reclaiming the friendship of Britain and her king.

Mr Brook-Shepherd paints a sympathetic portrait of a fascinating figure in our imperial history.

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 5 Winsley Street, London W1, £4.95 **JCW**

From the towns and farms

"The Lowland Regiments" (W Pratt Paul)

Many people think of the typical Scottish soldier as kilted and from a lonely croft in a misty glen. In fact, as the author shows in this companion study to his "Tigers in Tartan," just as many come from the Lowlands towns and farms.

From 1420, Scottish mercenaries provided the bodyguard for the kings of France and when they were incorporated into the British Army in 1681 they rightly earned the title "First of Foot and Right of the Line." They were of course The Royal Scots.

In contrast, The Royal Highland Fusiliers are comparatively young, but their roots go back to The Royal Scots Fusiliers and The Highland Light Infantry. The King's Own Scottish Borderers have flourished since 1689 and their story is equally glamorous. The last regiment men-

The Lowland Regiments



W PRATT PAUL

tioned in this interesting little volume is The Cameronians who, alas, are no more. The words of their former padre are a fitting tribute: "As you march out of the Army List you are marching into history and from your proud place there no man can remove your name, and no man can snatch a rose from the chaplet of your honour."

Impulse Publications, 28 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB1 2NB, £3.25 **AWH**

Supremo

"Eisenhower as Military Commander" (Major-General E K G Sixsmith)

Lord Montgomery is on record as saying that no one but Eisenhower could have carried out the task of Supreme Commander for the liberation of Europe. It would have been a splendid tribute if he had not added: "But he knew nothing about how to fight a battle."

That Ike was far more than a tactful committee chairman is ably demonstrated by General Sixsmith in this eminently readable study of Ike's career. For his critics forget that the whole idea of a supreme commander was Ike's. When he wrote a paper on allied command structure he imagined Marshall would have that role but, having been given it himself, Ike knew better than anyone how to fill it.

He knew the problems of dealing with allies and inter-service rivalries and had as firm a grasp of air and naval matters as he had of military affairs. He fully realised that his vast forces could not all be engaged at once and accepted that it was vital to have a single commander for a particular battle.



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The main controversy between Ike and Monty was the broad front versus narrow thrust issue. General Sixsmith points out that Monty's only narrow thrust foray ended with failure at Arnhem and is of the opinion that Ike's was probably the soundest plan.

It was his job to lay down a plan and to see that it was carried out. This he did superbly, and in doing so he laid the foundations of an allied command structure which has survived in the NATO alliance. *B T Batsford, 4 Fitzhardinge Street, London, W1H 0AH, £3.50 JCW*

Indian gunners

"History of The Regiment of Artillery, Indian Army" (edited by Major-General DK Palit)

It was not till 1935 that Indian mountain artillery regiments were formed and they were restricted to frontier activities against the Afghans. But war and increasing mechanisation extended their opportunities and they soon showed their worth, as at Bir Hacheim where Naik Jagannathan destroyed eight panzers and in the Kaladan Valley in the Arakan where Havildar Umrao Singh won the Victoria Cross.

On partition in 1957, 18½ artillery regiments went to India and 9½ to Pakistan. Communal riots followed and Indian units were used throughout 1947-49 against Moslem raiders in Jammu and Kashmir. Further experience was gained in the Congo and at Goa.

Not long afterwards came a quarrel with China. The Chinese, angered by Indian sympathy for the Tibetan rebellion, invaded Indian

History of The Regiment of Artillery INDIAN ARMY

territory and an "eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation" ensued. The Indian troops were at a considerable disadvantage in the high altitudes and bronchitis proved to be their most effective enemy. It was almost inevitable that Pakistan would try to take advantage of the situation and the result was heavy fighting in the Rann of Kutch in 1965.

An interesting study, clearly written and furnished with good maps, but destined to sadden British readers who have regard for both India and Pakistan.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £4.00 AWH

1833 reprint

"Twenty-Five Years in The Rifle Brigade (Diaries of the Napoleonic Wars No 2)" (William Surtees)

This rather expensive facsimile reprint of an 1833 publication is a fascinating source book for those who would see the Peninsular War through the eyes of the ordinary soldier.

William Surtees, a tradesman's son, enlisted in 1798 at 17 and with musket, bayonet and knapsack joined the Duke of York's futile expedition to Holland. In 1802 he was fortunate to be admitted into the new "Corps of Riflemen." His parents tried to buy him out but Surtees was determined to make the Army his career and before long rose to quartermaster.

After soldiering in Germany and Denmark he was sent to the Peninsula. The campaigns were long and hard and Surtees saw more than his share—victory at Barossa, the execution of deserters, the assault and plunder of Badajoz, wolf-hunts, the

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IN THE RIFLE BRIGADE

William Surtees



Diaries of the Napoleonic Wars
NUMBER 2

lovely Ebro Valley and the high Pyrenees.

As a member of one of the best British regiments he was sent to New Orleans to fight the Americans under General Jackson. Later service took him to Ireland, Scotland and Canada.

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Frederick Muller Ltd, 110 Fleet Street, London EC4, £5.00 AWH

Unvarnished tale

"A Soldier's Life 1806-1815" (John Green)

Of all the recent republications of early 19th century military memoirs this photographic reproduction of an 1827 work is by far the best. Apart from the author's gift for

A SOLDIER'S LIFE 1806-1815

JOHN GREEN



detailed observation its great merit lies in the fact that it is, as he says, "a plain unvarnished tale."

Born in Nottingham in 1790, John Green, apprentice in a carpet factory, ran off at 15 to join a privateer at Hull. In three months at sea he won no glory and received no wages so he enlisted in the 68th (Durham Light Infantry). In the Peninsula for three years, Green saw lots of action. Ciudad Rodrigo, Salamanca and Vittoria were bloody, but nothing to the fierce battles in the Pyrenees. Discipline was severe and men were hanged for theft or even sentenced to 800 lashes for sacrilege. Despite this, plunder was uppermost in the men's thoughts. In 1813, near San Sebastian, Green was badly wounded and invalided out of the regiment.

Few accounts convey such a vivid picture of what the devastation of war can mean to a country as does Green's description of Spanish towns and villages. An excellent volume which should be compulsory reading for all those who think that yesterday's wars were less horrific than our own.

EP Group of Companies, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF3 2JN, £2.50 AWH

In brief

"The Costume of the 46th Regiment, by Michael Angelo Hayes 1837" (WY Carman)

Endowed with such gloriously extravagant names by his artist father, young Michael Angelo Hayes could hardly fail to be anything but a painter. He had already made his mark as an accomplished military artist by the age of 17 and at 22 was military painter-in-ordinary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

The 46th Regiment, at one time also known as the South Devonshire Regiment of Foot, was in Dublin in 1836-37 preparing for yet another spell overseas and it was during this period that Hayes must have painted the pictures for his book on the 46th—described in a short introduction by the Director of the National Army Museum as the most comprehensive pictorial account of any regiment's uniforms to come to light.

The penetrating and authoritative text contributed by the museum's Deputy Director, Mr WY Carman, give piquancy and added interest to this rewarding 24-page booklet. *National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3, 60p*

INDEX TO BRITISH MILITARY COSTUME PRINTS

1500-1914



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This remarkably thorough work of nearly 500 pages lists with as much detail as possible all known British costume prints from 1500 to 1914. They fall into five categories: Costume, battles, incidents, caricatures and portraits. Three supplementary indexes list artists, authors, engravers, lithographers, printers and publishers; regiments, corps and subjects; and persons and places.

This quality production has all the virtues of accuracy, authoritativeness and authenticity which one has come to expect of its publishers. Army Museums Ogilby Trust, Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2, £9.50

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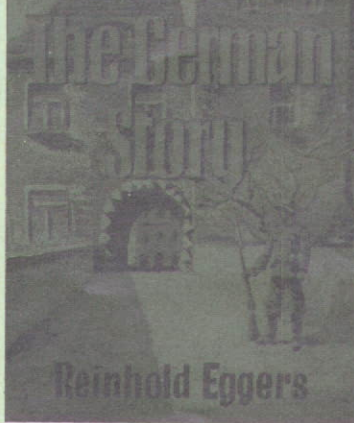
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COLDITZ



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