

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 25 PENCE • 20 SEP-3 OCT 1982

SOLDIER



- CANADA'S BIG BASE
- FARNBOROUGH AIR SHOW
- HAVING A DRINK ON THE ARMY

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FRONT COVER

A member of Canada's special forces pictured on exercise at Gagetown, New Brunswick with heavy machine gun. An article on the huge Gagetown base appears on page 18.

Picture by Doug Pratt

BACK COVER

A typically tranquil riverbank scene at last year's Army Open Angling Championships on the Thames near Faringdon. The story of this year's event is on page 47.

Picture by Paul Haley

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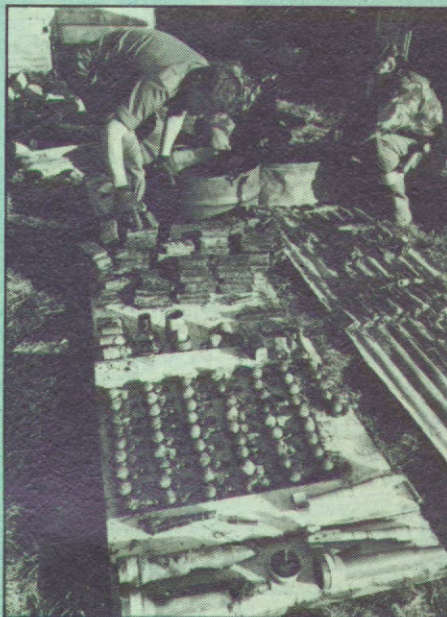
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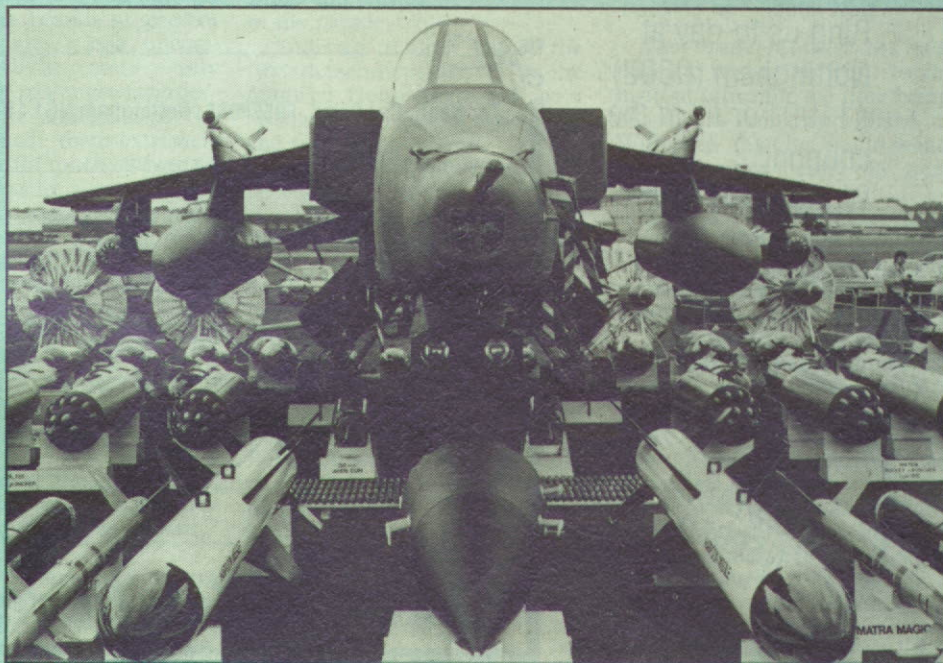
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY



Latest pictures from ▲
the Falklands as the
big clear-up continues
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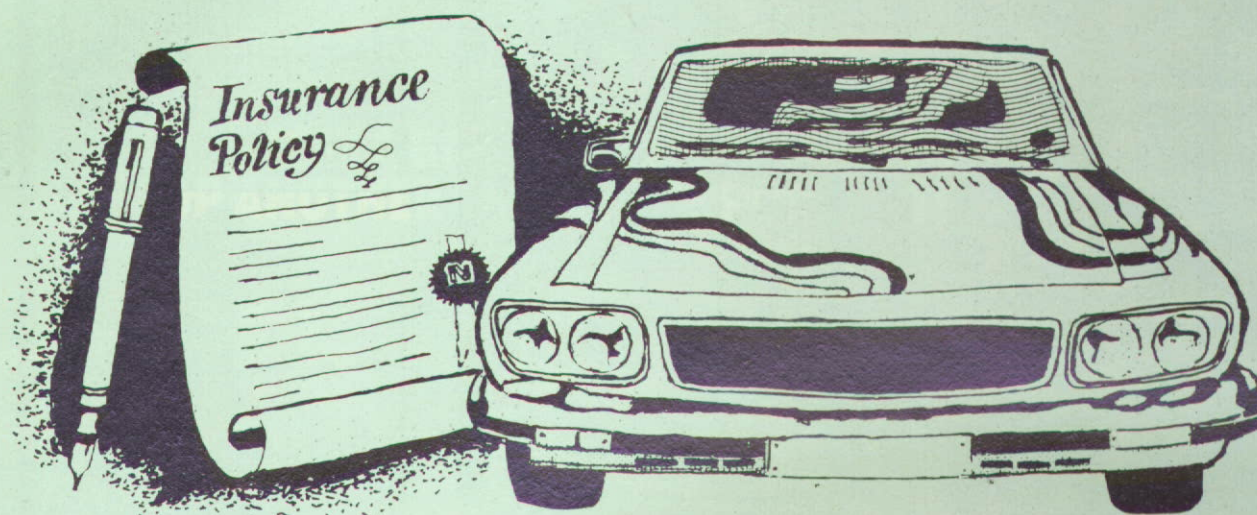
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come? A look at this
year's Farnborough
Air Show — page 26 ▼

Behind the scenes
with the Foulness
firing squad — page 14 ▼



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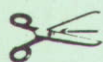
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SOLDIER to Soldier

NOTHING BUT the deepest sympathy can be felt for the bereaved Service families anxious to visit the graves of their loved ones in the Falklands. To be told they may have to wait at least another year must have come as a bitter blow to these, the unsung casualties of the fighting.

Anger has been expressed in the press and House of Commons at the delay. And Armed Forces Under Secretary Jerry Wiggin has promised personally to see whether anything can be done to speed matters up.

But this is not a case of heartless, unfeeling bureaucracy riding roughshod over the popular will. Rather, it is a cruel reminder of the enormous difficulties faced in waging a war so far from home and the legacy of problems left in its aftermath.

For the families of course, it is getting there that matters, not how. Yet the nation would think it had ill served those who have already suffered so much by asking them to endure the sort of discomforts and deprivations that even fit soldiers find hard to bear.

Visiting the graves will be a harrowing and stressful experience in itself. To add to that ordeal with inadequate transport and accommodation would be adding insult to injury.

THIS ISSUE completes SOLDIER's first year in its new fortnightly format. We could scarcely have had a more eventful 12 months in which to launch our new baby. But we hope we have kept our promise to provide a bright, informative, topical magazine reflecting the Army's activities worldwide.

Judging from the feedback we've received so far, most of you seem to enjoy the new look, but we're always open to suggestions for ways of improving the magazine — so if there are any changes you'd like to see, tell us please.

We've already got several new ideas which we shall be trying out in the year ahead. Our aim, as always, will be to produce a magazine worthy of the finest army in the world.

Carry on reading!

Heroes' welcome for Sappers

MORE THAN 200 sappers who prepared a safe path through the Argentine minefields before all the major battles in the Falklands, were given a heroes' welcome when they touched down at RAF Brize Norton.

They were the men of 36 Engineer Regiment, 11 Field Squadron and 59 Independent Commando Squadron — the last operational Army detachment to return from Task Force duty.

Lieutenant-Colonel Geoffrey Field, commanding officer of 36 Engineer Regt who led the detachment, paid a glowing tribute to the bravery of his men and said they had been "absolutely outstanding".

He described how they

had crawled through minefields on their stomachs at night, often within 100 yards of Argentine positions.

"They probed the earth with bayonets trying to trace mines, often while under direct and indirect fire," explained Colonel Field.

On one occasion an NCO dug up Argentine anti-personnel mines and stuffed them in his tunic before crawling back to British lines where they could be given a closer inspection.

The sappers did their job so successfully that no more than half-a-dozen British troops were injured by mines as they moved towards the battle area and no sapper was killed during reconnaissance.



Wifely kiss for Lt-Col Field.

But the sappers lost nine men during the campaign, with around 20 injured. And three more men had a foot blown off during mine-clearing after the ceasefire.

The battles go on — page 10.

VICTORY PARADE FOR TASK FORCE

ONE THOUSAND MEMBERS of the victorious Falklands Task Force will parade through the City of London on Tuesday October 12. They will represent all the units — Army, Navy, RAF and Royal Marines — who helped secure the Islands' liberation.

Widows face long wait

IT MAY BE AT LEAST another year before families of Servicemen buried in the Falklands can visit war graves there. Transport, climate and accommodation are the main problems.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman explained that the only air route to the Islands at present was by Hercules, a long, uncomfortable flight with only rudimentary passenger facilities.

Weather conditions in the Falklands made them extremely inhospitable for much of the time and there was an acute shortage of accommodation.

He pointed out too, that many families had still not indicated whether they wished the bodies of their men to be brought home.

Mrs Sarah Jones, widow of Colonel 'H' Jones who fell in 2 Para's victory at Goose Green is among the wives pressing for an earlier visit to their husbands' graves.

"I do understand the difficulties but I do think it is rather a long time to expect us to wait," she said.

Mr Jerry Wiggin, Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Armed Forces has said he will personally look into the possibility of advancing the date, but he made no promises that the difficulties could be easily resolved.

Nott set to leave

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr John Nott, that he will not be standing for Parliament at the next election has prompted considerable speculation about who will succeed him — and when.



Packing up — John Nott.

The Prime Minister has said that she wishes Mr Nott to remain in office for the time being but it was being anticipated in Whitehall that he would hand over the reins before the next election.

Several commentators have predicted that he will probably stay on until the New Year and the report of the Franks Inquiry into the Falklands crisis.

When the crisis first broke Mr. Nott was one of the ministers who offered to resign but Mrs Thatcher insisted he stay on.

Mr Nott made it clear that his decision to quit as an MP had nothing to do with events in the South Atlantic — he had told the Prime Minister of his intention last December. He said that, at 50, he wished to embark on a fresh career outside politics while he still had time to do so.

Towards the end of October Mr Nott will be paying his first visit to British forces on the Falklands and Ascension.

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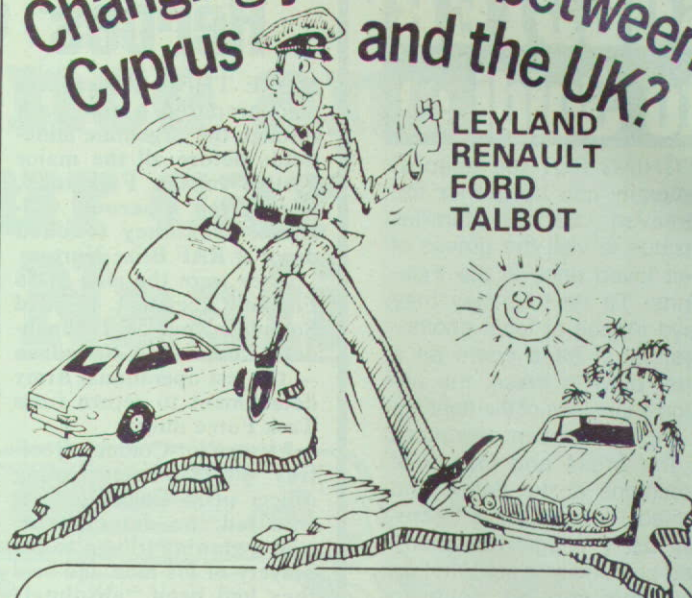
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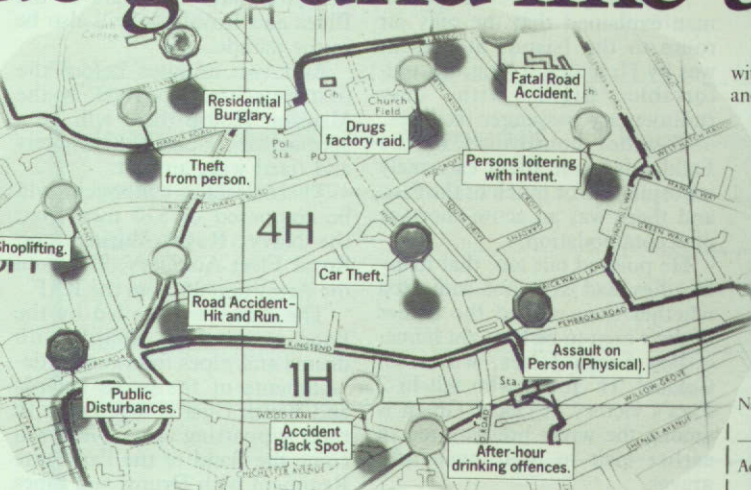
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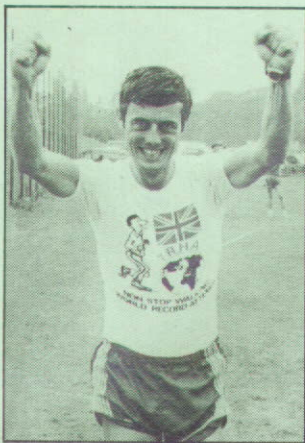
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POLICE OFFICER

IF YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO OFFER US, WE'VE GOT A LOT TO OFFER YOU.

Record beater! Norman walks it



A 35-YEAR-OLD sergeant-major in the Royal Horse Artillery has smashed the world non-stop long distance walking record. Walking for almost six days WO 2 Norman Fox of 7 RHA set a new figure of 645.77 kilometres (401.26 miles) — easily beating the old record of 357 miles.

Sergeant Major Fox had made a previous attempt on the record last year — when he had to give up after four days and 239 miles. An ex-army marathon champion he had been training for six

months for this attempt — by walking between 20 and 50 miles a day.

He wore normal running shoes and socks, which were changed frequently, and was on a 7000-calories-a-day high protein diet. His wife, Elizabeth, was in the regimental support team.

The last hours of the marathon around an Osna-bruck sports stadium were an ordeal for him. He suffered from hallucinations due to lack of sleep and the back up team worked hard to keep him going.

Brewery for Falklands?

A MIDLANDS brewing firm is hoping to set up the first brewery in the Falklands to supply both the troops and civilian population with draught beer. The small brewery will be in East Falkland and Everards of Leicester have several possible sites in mind.

An Everards spokesman said that the managing director of the brewery, Mr Tony Everard, was an ex-military man himself and the proposed brewery was a serious exercise not a publicity stunt.

At present Everards were not able to get out to the Falklands to set up the operation because transport to the islands is restricted to military use. But providing the Government and the islands committee made adequate concessions the brewery would go ahead.

All beer sold in the Falklands at the moment is imported and comes in either bottles or cans. Everards feel that it is important for the soldier to be able to have draught beer as well.

"These guys are a long way from home in reasonably uncomfortable conditions," he said. "We would hope to produce a draught bitter which will have some of the characteristics of our own recipe but would not necessarily be like an English brew. This will give the islands the chance of a new industry of their own."

Everards say that once they are given the green light the brewery could be in operation within six months. The family owned Leicester firm was formed in 1849. It owns 150 tied houses in the East Midlands and produces three bitters, a mild and a lager.



Home win — so Steve's away

THE ONLY THING that Sergeant Steve Longford, 29, of The Royal Army Medical Corps based at Aldershot, had ever won in his life was a razor in a Sergeants' Mess draw. Wife Elizabeth's contest luck had amounted to — a toilet roll holder. Now, they have won £50,000 with which to buy their dream house, thanks to a national tabloid newspaper competition.

The news of the windfall came on an afternoon when Elizabeth was out shopping in Basingstoke.

"The paper had told me I was on a short list but I didn't expect to hear any more," she said. "I was out drowning my sorrows in Basingstoke and when I got home the barrack warden told me there was a message from the newspaper and would I ring them. I used a friend's phone. Reporters and photographers came round and brought bottles of bubbly to celebrate. The win is beyond our wildest dreams."

Elizabeth, a former QA nurse herself and mother of children, Kerri, 10 and Nicola, 6, has already decided — in complete agreement with husband Steve — where they will both live.

They will live in Troon — a famous golfing town in Ayrshire, — two miles from her parents.

"My mum told me I was the toast of their village," exclaimed a jubilant Elizabeth. "Our outlay to win the £50,000 was just £1 for the competition itself, a 15½ pence stamp and a good luck kiss from our daughter."

Steve currently works at the Cambridge Military Hospital but hopes to get a posting to Scotland as he still has another eight years to serve. He said: "We're going for a new, four-bedroomed detached house which will be quite a change from our end-of-terrace married quarters here near Aldershot. For the £50,000 we could buy a castle in Troon. At least, we'll have a house of our own. Our dream has always been to walk into a building society with the money. I don't like HP — never have. We hope to be settled in our new home by Christmas."

Briefly

Bidding will begin at £5000 for Terence Cuneo's painting of Sefton, the Household Cavalry horse wounded in the Hyde Park terrorist bomb attack. Princess Anne will be guest of honour at the auction to be held on September 28 at the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Proceeds will go to the families of the men killed in the attack.

★ ★ ★

Boxes containing slices of Prince William's christening cake have been sent to 183 men of the Parachute Regiment and the Welsh Guards by their Colonel in Chief Prince Charles, the baby's father.

★ ★ ★

Sapper climbers of 12 Field Squadron RE have successfully completed the Swiss High Level Route from Chamonix to Sas Fee via Zermatt. They completed the 75 mile snow-and-ice trek at altitudes of 10,000 feet in ten days.

★ ★ ★

The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces are holding their Falklands memorial service at Aldershot on October 1. A drumhead service, beginning at 10.15am in the Football Stadium, will be followed by a march through Aldershot. All members of the Airborne Family are welcome to attend.

LT ROGER HISCOCK

In one of our 'Briefly' items in the last issue we reported the death of Lt Roger Hiscock of 15 Para in a parachuting accident in high winds over Salisbury Plain. We have been asked to point out that Lt Hiscock's death was not caused by wind conditions but by a mid-air collision, one of the inherent risks of military parachuting.

Massive airlift for North East

IN THE BIGGEST peacetime military airlift from the north east nearly 4000 Regular and TA troops will be flown out from Newcastle upon Tyne to their war positions with Rhine Army.

Civilian airliners will fly the troops into Gutersloh Germany, during the five days 23-27 September.

Among those being flown out will be 3000 Territorials of the recently-formed 15 Infantry Brigade, with Headquarters at Topcliffe, North Yorkshire.

The Brigade will be exercising for the first time its role of reinforcing the Regular Army in Germany.

Vehicles and equipment, accompanied by smaller parties of troops, will be taken to the Continent by sea.



NEWS VIEW

On the Mend

Well on the road to recovery, Sefton — one of the eight cavalry horses injured in the Hyde Park bomb blast — was happy to be in the open again when he was turned out to grass for the first time since his injuries. With him is his groom at the Army Veterinary Centre at Melton Mowbray, Lance Corporal Islay Forbes.

Take Cover

A fountain of 'chambers' made everyone duck when 2 Troop 39 Field Squadron, RE, celebrated the completion of the bridge they have built over the Nette at Wallenhorst Rulle. The new 'British Bridge' replaces an old bridge and increases safety for walkers and cyclists.



New Mount

In action on its new mount, the Ferranti Laser Target Marker and Ranger which has been modified to enable forward observation teams to operate from their helicopter. The new rubber mountings are said to have overcome the problems of vibration from the helicopter.

Soccer Tankies

Appropriately draped over a Chieftain at Paderborn are the Milton Keynes under 15s soccer team who gave a right tanking to two German sides — and one British — they met on their tour. But the combined might of 3 RTR's regimental team was too much for them.

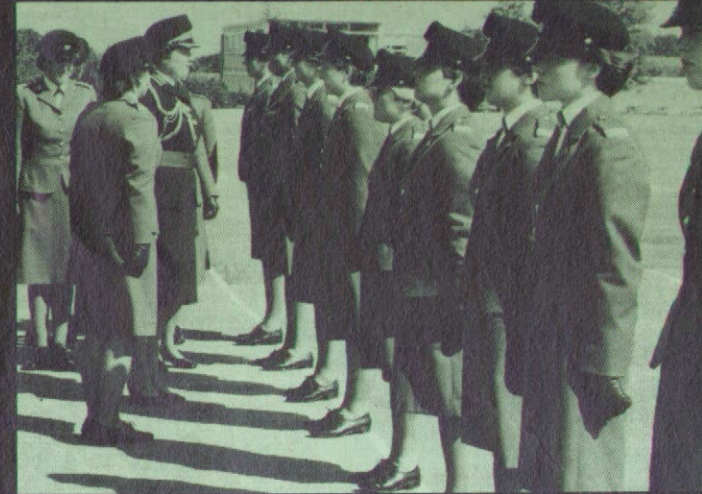
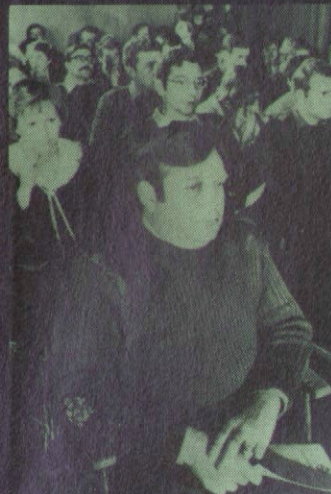


Band tribute

Bandmaster David Little was conducting the Royal Green Jackets Band in Regents Park when a terrorist bomb exploded killing seven bandmen. Though injured himself he was among the nine survivors who attended a special service of Thanksgiving for their dead comrades.

First time

It may have been the 457th passing out parade of regular WRAC recruits but it was the first for Brig Helen Meechie since taking over as the Corps' Director. She also inspected TA recruits.



Still booming

The 5.5in Medium Guns are booming again — two years after being officially phased out of Army use. The Support Regt, Royal School of Artillery, still have plenty of old 5.5 ammo and are firing it as practice for observers.



VIP treatment

Brig Tony Mullens, commander of 7 Armd Bde, got served in style when he lunched with 1 Armd Div Transport Regt in the field. Dvr Stewart Jackson solemnly handed over the culinary masterpiece prepared by Dvr Chris Keenan.



Hi de Hi!

Singing a song that he wrote himself while with the Task Force in the Falklands earned Tony Downes, 1 Welsh Gds, first place in a weekly heat of a Butlins talent competition. Now he is through to a regional contest with the chance of appearing at the London Palladium and picking up a big cash prize.



Prize capture

Switching on Blackpool's famous illuminations this year was Falklands Task Force commander Rear Admiral Sandy Woodward and the Army put on an exhibition in the town that attracted scores of holidaymakers. One of the star attractions was this Argentinian Panhard Armoured Car, captured by the Blues and Royals at Port Stanley.



The fighting in the Falklands may be over but for the troops with the massive task of clearing up . . .

THE BATTLES STILL GO ON

Open for business again — the Stanley airstrip. ▲

Sapper with metal detector on Darwin Road. ▼



THE NIGHTMARE of the Falklands crisis might well be over for the fighting troops who have all now safely returned home, but the grizzly aftermath must still be endured by squadrons of Royal Engineers and other units left to clear the debris of war.

And now, thanks to the Sappers, Gurkhas and members of the Queen's Own Highlanders, Port Stanley has an operational runway once more.

The airport was closed for two weeks while an almost super-human effort was launched to repair the runway foundation and lay a new surface of sheets of American made alloy matting. Each sheet weighs 140lbs and measures 12ft by 2ft and handling these in strong winds is a hazardous business.

So far 4200ft of sheeting has been laid and now, with the air-

port functional again, work is underway to extend the runway by a further 2300ft. This will allow large civilian aircraft to land as well as Phantom jets with their sophisticated weapons systems and radar equipment.

Working in shifts both night and day the 600 men met their two-week deadline losing four days mostly due to bad weather. Colonel Derek Brownson, commanding officer of the Royal Engineers, said "I am proud of the men who worked in sometimes atrocious conditions to complete the work on time."

Another principal task of clearing up has been the painstakingly slow process of mine clearance which is hindered by the lack of failsafe equipment and again the terrible weather. When the only reliable method of detection is the human eye combined with prodding the ground

Men of 49 EOD Sqdn begin clearing the gymnasium.



FALKLANDS FILE



Detonating anti-personnel mines using armoured D6 tractor with flail.



with a hand held metal skewer and in poor light, the dangers are obvious.

Various pieces of equipment are in use to assist in mine clearing including the bulldozer 'flail' but initial tests have showed that this is not as successful as had been hoped and modifications are being carried out. As it is, it is unsuitable for anti-tank mines and its wake must still be humanly checked, but sniffer dogs will soon be arriving to lend their noses to the task (see SOLDIER 23 August.)

Other less dangerous but equally tedious work is the replacement of Port Stanley's street signs which were damaged during the conflict and the retrieving of ammunition stashed away in buildings befouled by the fleeing Argentinians. ■

Queen's Own Highlanders get busy replacing street signs. ▼



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Filling unexploded bomb with plastic explosive for detonation.

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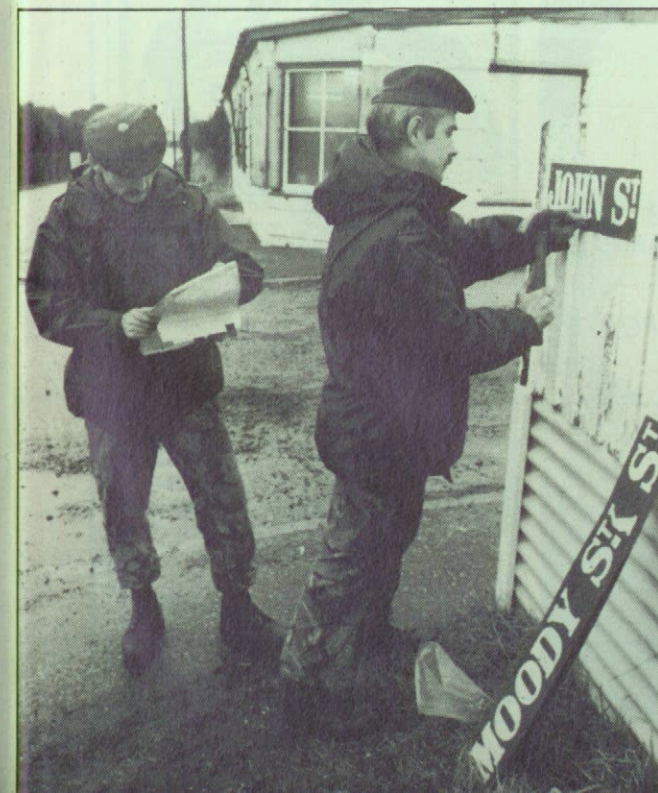
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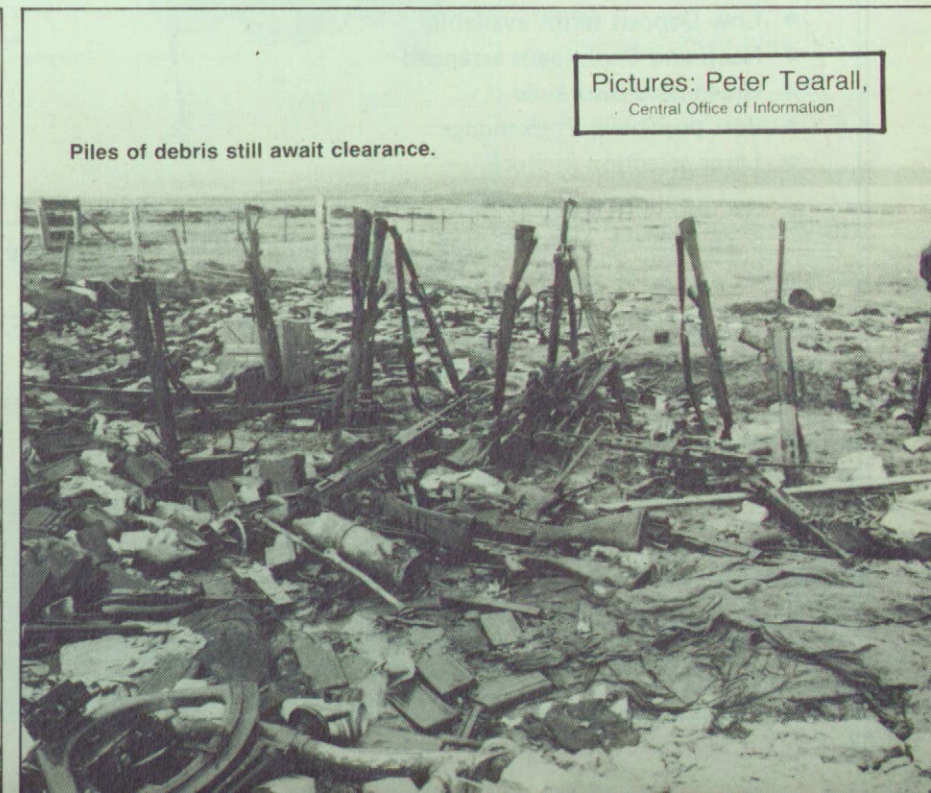
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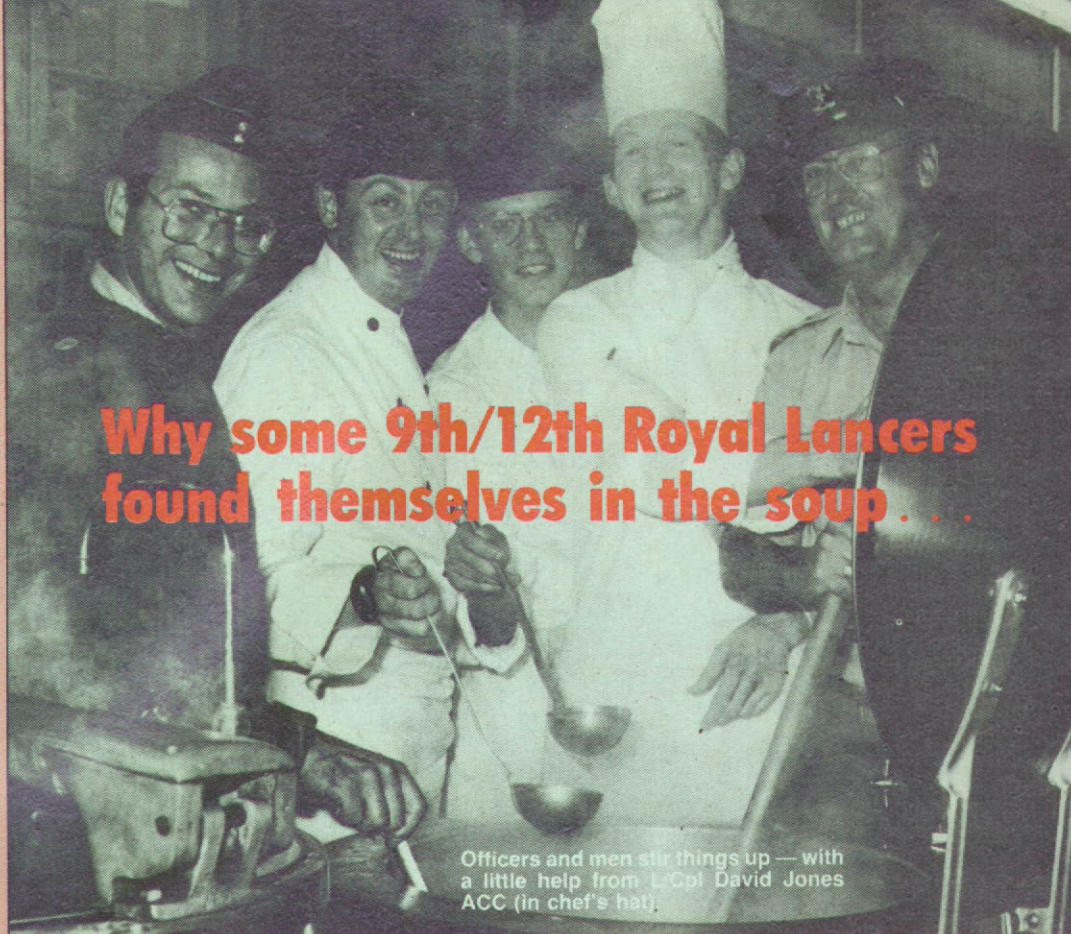
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Why some 9th/12th Royal Lancers found themselves in the soup . . .

Officers and men stir things up — with a little help from L/Cpl David Jones ACC (in chef's hat).

LOOK, NO COOKS!

ANYONE WHO JUST happened to drop in to the cookhouse of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers recently, probably wouldn't have noticed any change to the usual bustle while the regiment's meals were being prepared.

Indeed, listening to the comments from the floor of the house, an improvement was noted in the standard of cuisine! However, this must be taken with a pinch of any approved Catering Corps seasoning and can be put down to fierce but healthy regimental loyalty. For Lancer was feeding Lancer.

Like the beginning of so many bright ideas, it all started with an innocent question by the Commanding Officer of the 9th/12th at his weekly meeting: "What happens to the cooks during the next bank holiday?"

"Well, er um, they feed those who are on duty" . . . "They work shifts . . . and will get time off in lieu."

Today's stringent manning



Come and get it, lads! ▲

levels hardly allow for any leeway regarding leave or sickness where cooks are concerned and as every army marches on its stomach, they have to remain on duty as the unsung heroes in the boiling vessels.

Question: How can this be put right?

Answer: Send the cooks on leave and let the regiment provide the meals.

The rules of the game were soon drawn up:

- All cooks to be banished from the cookhouse, bar one to ensure the gas stoves were used safely.

- Each Squadron to man the cookhouse for one day.

- Only meals from the official ACC cookbook to be served.

- All cooks to be at the hot-plates during the meal.

The scheme worked and the regiment was fed. But the Quartermaster, Captain David Warlow, did admit afterwards that four days was quite enough. Which all goes to show that no-one is indispensable, but it is quite nice to have some experts around some of the time. ■



Tips on preparing savoury rice for one of the German kitchen helpers.

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Proof firing 105mm shell to land (right) in Maplins mud.



**Graham Smith
visits the
Foulnesian islands
and the soldiers
who trial. . .**

SHELLS ON THE SEA SHORE



Preparing barmine for detonation by special hydraulic device that simulates pressure of a passing vehicle.



The little village of Churchend.



WHAT HAVE THOUSANDS of Brent Geese, peas that TV ads allegedly claimed went pop, and the world seaweed championships all got in common?

They share an exclusive 7500 acres of land flanked by 30,000 acres of coastal sands in Essex serving Shoeburyness, one of five Ministry of Defence Proof and Experimental Establishments.

Shoeburyness, set up on the Thames Estuary 132 years ago, carries out trials and proofs on behalf of Research and Development Establishments, the Ordnance Board, Quality Assurance Directorates, Royal Ordnance Factories and the three Services.

Some 20,000 shells a year (15,000 of them Proof and 5000 of them Trials) are fired from within its confines which are three times as big as any of its four sister P & EEs.

Artillery and ordnance have come a long way since the Essex Ranges opened in 1851 with the testing of the first 40-lb breech-loading gun three years later and the opening of the School of Artillery there in 1859.

As Major Bill Hills, RA, GSO 2 (Weapons) told SOLDIER: "Everything we do here, we do with complete safety precau-

tions in mind. We assume the worst is going to happen but, touch wood, we have never had a fatal accident in 50 years.

"We are here to do dangerous things and, on the sea-shore or on land, we make sure there is no-one around before we do certain tests. The ranges, space and wide variety of ground conditions, plus the Maplin Sands from which inert shells are recovered two or three times a fortnight, enable an equally wide variety of proof or trials to be held for comprehensive weapon and explosive testing facilities."

The ranges include all the sites for gun and static firings — there are about 20 batteries, though only half operate at any one time — plus their associated administrative and support elements.

A total of 180 military and 650 civilians work at Shoeburyness, just five miles to the east of Southend, occupying an area which includes the islands of Havengore, New England and Foulness — known as the Foulnesians.

Immediately adjacent are the flat Maplin Sands (three miles wide; 15 miles long) which act as an impact area for the battery guns. Shells splash down in the sea to be

▲ Ready to act as a human cannonball — but this 18 inch Howitzer mounted on a railway sleigh is no longer fired.

recovered at appropriate low tides. Part of this task is soon to be taken on by two Army-manned hovercraft.

The locals are well-used to the noise levels but complaints do come in from Clacton to the north-east and the Army is sympathetic.

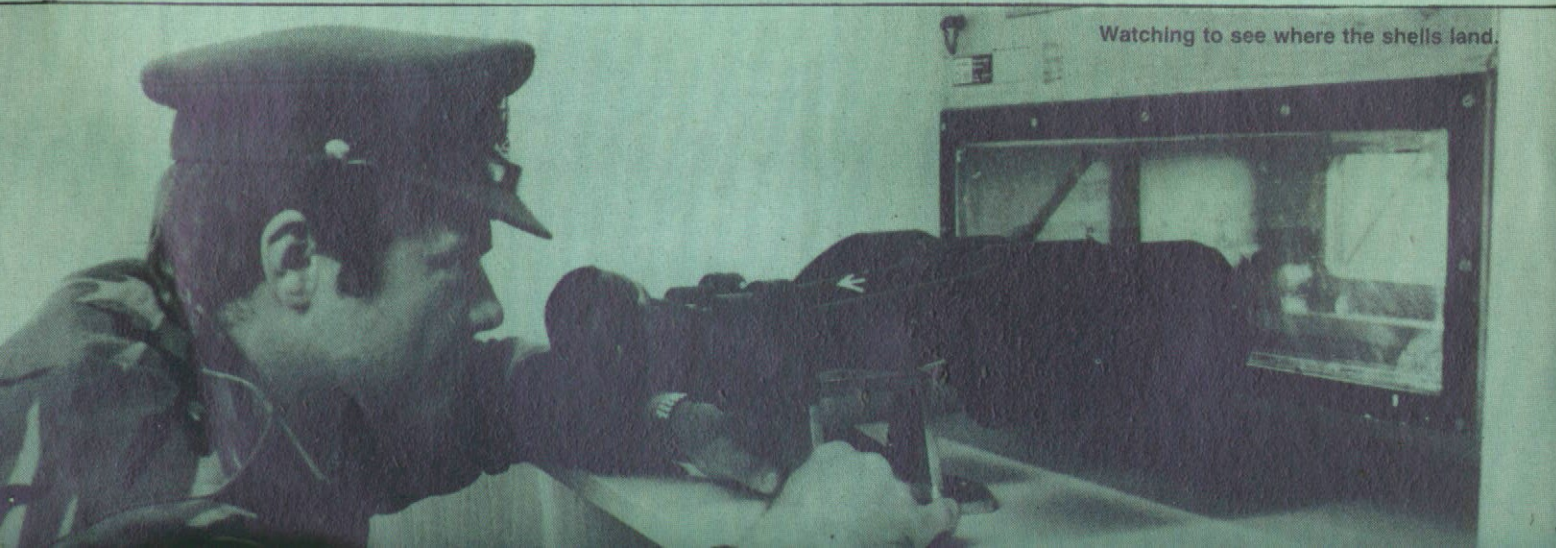
"It's in all our interests at the ranges that we get on well with everyone," said Major Hills. "We fall over backwards to help."

Over 5000 acres is let for agricultural purposes to nine farmers who are not only adept at commercial pea cultivation as advertised on television but sea crops too, producing as they did, the winning formulae for the world seaweed championships of about five years ago!

A thriving 300-strong civilian population makes up Foulness Island with its two villages, complete with pubs and church, of Churchend and Courtsend. And every year the local numbers are swelled by thousands of visitors — of the feathered variety.

"We get the best wildfowl in England with some 15,000 to 20,000 Brent Geese wintering here," explained Major Hills. ■

Watching to see where the shells land.



Pictures: Paul Haley

The lonely road to the Foulnesian isles.



SSAFA SCENE

Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association

Bells, balls and bricks

BELLS, balls, building bricks and all things basic to monitoring the progress of your youngsters are now included in a new "SSAFA Child Development Kit".

The idea for a standard kit came from Miss Ann Vernon, Director of SSAFA's Nursing and Social Work Service.

"At six weeks a child should hear and turn to the sound of a small bell being tinkled," she explains, "and should focus on and follow a ball being dangled on a piece of string. At fifteen months, a child will retrieve a rolling ball and should be able to put one building brick on top of another to build a tower."

Miss Vernon joined SSAFA as a Nursing Sister in Hameln ten years ago, bringing with her a private collection of rattles, spoons and pieces of string.

Because every SSAFA Sister was using different toys for these screening procedures, when she became Director in 1980, Miss Vernon set about producing a universal kit.

The SSAFA Child Development Kit is now used by all SSAFA Sisters in clinics and parent's homes to discover any minor defects, which can be corrected before a child begins school.

WIN A CAR

A bonanza of fantastic prizes awaits the lucky winners of this year's SSAFA 3-Car Draw. Top prizes are three super, new Ford Fiesta cars, sponsored by Natocars of Bridgwater, and there are 50 fabulous runners-up prizes.

Tickets cost just 25p each and are available now in books of 10 from SSAFA, Dept NL, PO Box 5, London SW1H 9BZ or from SSAFA branches and committees at home and overseas.

GIVE A ROSE

The glorious clear yellow Mountbatten Rose has been named Rose of the Year and you can order it now — it makes an ideal gift. The rose bushes, bred by Harkness of Hitchin, sell at £2.75 each plus postage and packing. For each one sold SSAFA receives a donation of 50p.

Send s.a.e. for an order form to SSAFA Rose, PO Box 5, London SW1H 9BZ.

SEND A CARD

A super selection of SSAFA Christmas Cards including a bargain pack (10 cards for 50p), wrapping paper, tags and stationery is now available.

Send s.a.e. for a colour leaflet/order form to SSAFA, PO Box 5, London SW1 9BZ.

When you need a friend

SSAFA IS HERE

THROUGHOUT this sad summer of fighting in the South Atlantic, despicable bomb attacks on soldiers in London and the continuing horrors of Northern Ireland, SSAFA has been ready as always to reassure the families, share their worries and give immediate, practical help and advice when needed.

Backed by nearly a century of experience of family welfare, SSAFA's vast nationwide network of voluntary representatives went into top gear to support the Task Force families left behind.

Godsend

Financial help to an elderly mother enabling her to buy decent clothes to attend a memorial service for her son killed in the Falklands ... grants to help relatives with rail fares to travel across the country to visit their injured family heroes in military hospitals...money for relatives unable to afford decent overnight lodgings whilst they visit their wounded...this is the daily work of SSAFA. To each recipient it represents a godsend.

Week after week, as the toll of dead and injured mounted, voluntary workers in SSAFA's London Headquarters wrote letters briefing SSAFA local representatives in towns and villages all over Britain with

details so that they, in turn, could visit the families to offer help, comfort and good counsel where needed.

This same stalwart support was there following the sickening bomb outrage in London on July 20th against bandmen of The Royal Green-jackets and guardsmen of The Blues and Royals.

SSAFA's Head Office Senior Welfare Advisor was immediately summoned to St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington where injured bandmen were taken. Amidst the carnage and horror he offered every help which SSAFA can give. The same offer was made without delay to the Riflemen's Aid Society.

Swift aid

The wife of one seriously injured bandsman left her two children with their grandmother while she rushed to be with her husband. SSAFA's local representative called to see the grandmother and straightaway gave financial aid, for she had temporarily given up work to look after the children.

The families of all those Servicemen killed were visited by their local SSAFA representative a few weeks after the bomb incidents. Whatever problems the future might hold — housing, schooling, financial or compassionate — it is a tremendous help to have an understanding.

SSAFA IS FOR YOU

The Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association works independently offering confidential help, advice and friendship to the families of Service and ex-Servicemen and women, including those with the Reserve Forces, wherever they may be.



caring SSAFA representative, who knows the area and is a trusted friend, to depend on.

And long after the Falklands have faded from the headlines and in the years to come SSAFA in the cities and the shires will still quietly be at the service of the families of those who served us all so gallantly.

VITAL LINK

WHEN the grandmother of a soldier serving in Germany died, his mother asked SSAFA to get the news to her son.

Her local SSAFA representative asked the Ministry of Defence to pass the message to the soldier's Commanding Officer. Within two hours the soldier telephoned his mother.

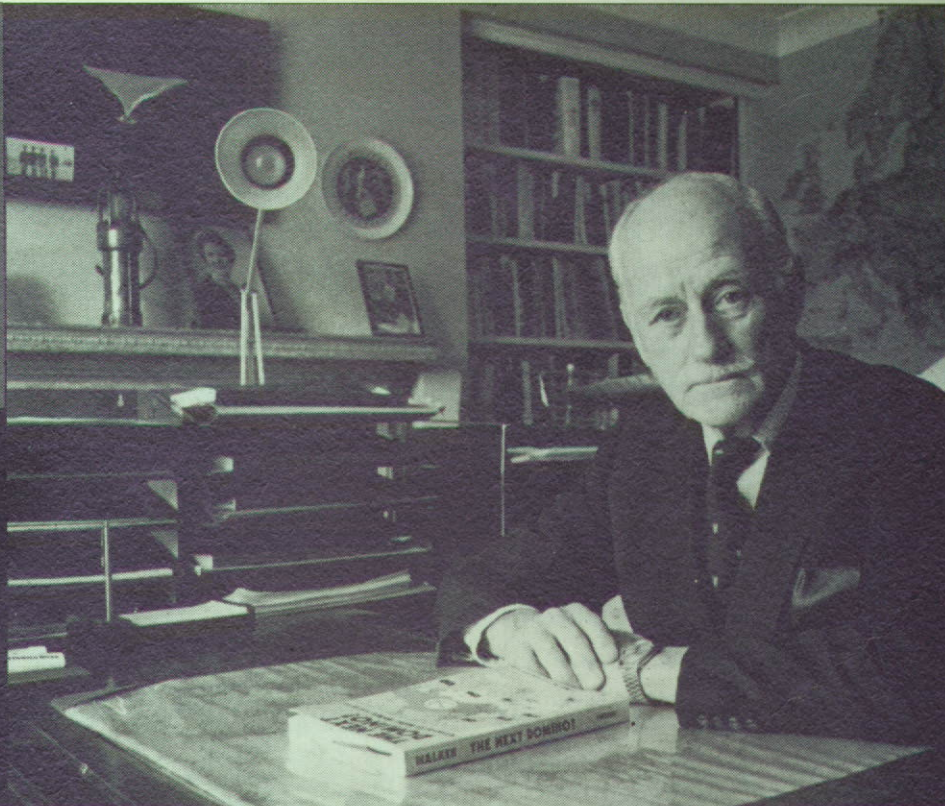
One recent case concerned a Naval Rating, badly injured whilst serving in a remote part of the world. The RN Family Welfare Officer contacted SSAFA's local representative who broke the news to the Rating's family.

For the next ten weeks the only communication the parents had with their son was through SSAFA, who acted as go-between, comforter and friend.

Every SSAFA division can reach — and can be reached — from any location overseas where UK Servicemen and women and their families are stationed. Thus SSAFA acts as an international communications link between those abroad and their families or dependents wherever they may live in the UK or Republic of Ireland.

Formerly a top Nato commander, now a hard-hitting author and lecturer, General Sir Walter Walker takes a gloomy view of Britain's defences and Nato's readiness to counter the Soviet Threat

SEEING RED



THE BUCOLIC CHARMS of the Wiltshire countryside have such a tranquilising effect on the casual visitor that it is hard to imagine its denizens having anything more momentous to worry about than the latest fatstock prices or the quality of their favourite ale.

But for at least one resident of a quiet hamlet near Salisbury the issues of immediate concern could scarcely be further removed from the parish pump.

Mega-patriot General Sir Walter Walker takes the occasional utterances of eventual Soviet world domination made by Leonid Brezhnev and his military advisers very seriously. So seriously, in fact, that he thinks Nato, like the Soviets, should adopt a global strategy.

"Brezhnev during a secret Warsaw Pact meeting ten years ago said that by 1985, the Soviets would be able to impose their will wherever they wished. Britain's defence is fig leaf protection amounting almost to full frontal nudity," declared the 69-year-old general when SOLDIER tracked him down at his rural retreat.

Not a man to mince his words, he speaks with the authority of one whose distinguished military career took in five momentous decades of world history and who retired ten years ago as C-in-C Allied Forces Northern Europe, one of the top Nato commands.

Awarded the DSO for his part in the Burma campaign against the Japanese in 1945 he spent two-thirds of his career in the Far East, was given the equivalent of two knighthoods by the governments of Brunei and Malaysia and was mentioned in despatches five times.

Sir Walter lists his recreations in *Who's Who* as shooting and tennis but he devotes much of his time to writing and lecturing. His first book, *The Bear at the Back Door* was published four years ago and his second, *The Next Domino?*, came out last month. Now he is busy at work on a third, *Red Alert*.

Interview by Graham Smith

As their titles suggest, the Soviet Threat is the dominant theme of his books. And he is quick to emphasise his concern in conversation.

"They know they cannot infiltrate the Army so they are penetrating the trade unions, the schools and the church. We are in mortal peril. In the next three years — by 1985 — something has got to be done to sharpen our sword.

"We must build up our conventional strength. Three per cent of our GNP on

'We are in
mortal peril.

In the next three
years — by 1985 —
we have got to
do something
to sharpen our
sword.'

defence expenditure is not enough. It is not going to give us what we require. We've got to stop feeding foie de gras to lame ducks. What is British Steel, British Rail and, now, British Air losing this week? We spend more money on cosmetics than we do on defence. It's absurd to say we cannot find the money."

Nato, claims Sir Walter, is "so inward-looking." It takes little notice of what is going on outside its defined boundaries.

"What about a sort of South Atlantic Treaty Organisation taking in the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and other sea areas?" he postulates. "The Soviets, according to their Ministry spokesman, already regard the

Falklands as a key to fuel supplies in the event of the closure of the Panama Canal.

"Eleven years ago, Brezhnev said the Soviet aim was to gain control of the two treasure houses of the world. One, the treasure house of oil in the Gulf, the other, the mineral wealth of Central and Southern Africa. It's all happening. Without oil you can say good-bye to Nato. Why don't we believe Brezhnev?

"The Russian Bear has gone to sea following our example, the British example. Gunboat diplomacy is the name of the game and we used to be the best in the world at it."

By comparison, he believes the Falklands conflict has shown just how short Britain is of warships and of early airborne warning capability.

Sir Walter has just visited Pakistan at the personal invitation of its president and on the strength of his book, *The Next Domino?*. Before he left, he told SOLDIER: "I'm going there because the President said that the Russians were already at his front door — in Afghanistan."

He remains convinced that a nuclear weapon will always deter an opposing nuclear response. "The next war will be a conventional one," he assures us — but he is far from convinced of Britain's readiness to meet the challenge.

"If someone would employ me, I could save the country millions in defence costs, cutting down on over-stuffed and over-stuffed command HQs and cutting desk jobs" at the Ministry of Defence. I was offered such a job once and turned it down. I'm a field operator. We've no Home Guard, no Civil Defence and the strength of the Territorial Army should be doubled.

"If you had 100,000 young men now sitting on the dole queue in the Home Guard, I'm sure the Russians would say this country has got the will and resolution to defend itself. As one Soviet general pointed out, the role of the Red Army was to stand by, ready to shake the tree waiting for the ripened fruit to fall. Why don't we believe him?"

Members of the British Army on exchange postings to Canada return home full of admiration for the facilities at Gagetown. Graham Smith has been taking a closer look at the massive base that plays such a key role in training soldiers of one of our major Nato partners.



ROOM FOR MANOEUVRES



Tactics training at the Infantry School. ▼ Firing the 50 calibre Browning on the range. ▲



THE CANADIAN FORCES base at Gagetown is said to be the second biggest Army complex of its kind within the Commonwealth. It covers some 275,000 acres or 427 square-miles — about one-seventieth of the New Brunswick maritime province — and is well endowed with training facilities to meet its Nato and homeland defence commitments.

Snow and humidity levels are above the national average. There are open stretches with scattered woods ideal for practising infantry and tank tactics with artillery support. CFB Gagetown has very thick forest and swamps, some of which are used to simulate jungle conditions. And there are 'mountains' too — albeit only 850 feet — for training troops in mountain warfare.

Additionally, unlike the UK, it houses its armoured, infantry and artillery schools at the same vast location with one HQ for the Combat Training Centre (CTC) and Base Gagetown.

Apart from the size and excellent training potential of its terrain, Gagetown was chosen as home for the base because of its proximity to an eastern Canadian all-weather port, its good rail and air links and its temperate climate. Building started in 1953 and the first large-scale exercise was held in the summer of the following year.

The perimeter runs for 120 miles and

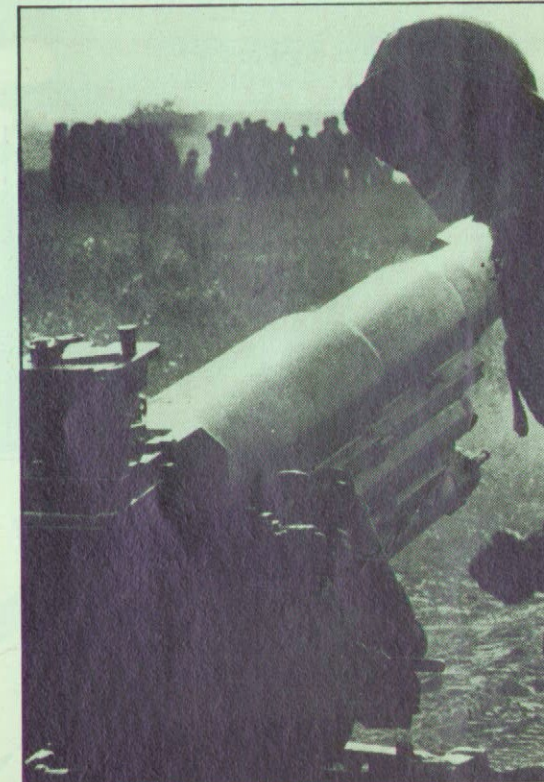


Cleaning out barrel of M109. ▲



Pictures:
Doug Pratt

Left, above and below: three views of firing drill on the 105mm Field Gun.



Instruction on the Leopard Tank. ▼



more than 35,000 acres have now been cleared giving 300 miles of improved roads.

Training areas include small arms, grenade, mortar, rocket launchers, anti-tank, artillery and air defence ranges plus tracked and wheeled vehicle driving areas.

Access to the main exercise area in the centre of the camp is by two military roads — one running south from the permanent camp-site to join up with the existing road network and the other linking up the ranges and artillery deployment areas.

CFB Gagetown has 2200 married quarters and permanent accommodation for 3500 troops. The heating plant alone can consume up to 300 tons of coal a day.

Everything at Gagetown is on a big scale. There are 230 military buildings, more than 1100 vehicles, some 50,000 supply items, 10,000 travel claims handled annually, 13 million dollars' worth of operations and maintenance and a five million dollar — and still growing — public fund budget.

Most of the training at Gagetown is at the advanced level. More than 600 men at any one time undergo instruction in the fields of armour, artillery and infantry and the majority of these students are regular and militia officer cadets attending 'classification training'.

The Armour School has a squadron using tanks for tactics for armour leadership courses while a gunnery squadron teaches all aspects of gunnery theory and practice. The communications squadron and driving and maintenance squadron conduct advanced instruction for all three combat arms, not just for armour students. Tactical training is also done with Cougar Variant general purpose armoured vehicles.

There are three instructional batteries in the Artillery School. The gunnery battery is the artillery leadership training unit. The locating battery instructs and maintains the gunner art of detecting enemy artillery and mortars and is the only organisation remaining in the Canadian Forces which teaches gunners surveying skills.

The Infantry School is organised in a manner similar to that of an infantry battalion and more than 300 officer cadets from regular and reserve units take part in summer training under its wing.

During the course of a typical year more than 3300 students will pass through well over a hundred courses. And the base is now embarked on a five-year expansion plan. The sum of 50 million dollars has been ear-marked for an improved training complex covering over 600,000 square feet. ■

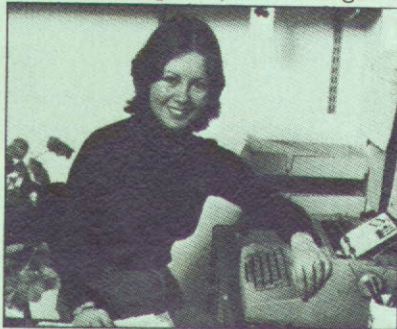
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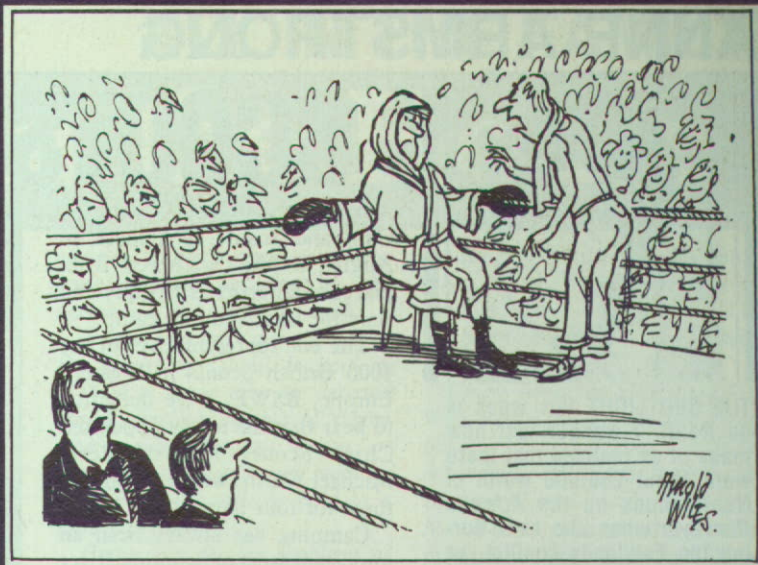
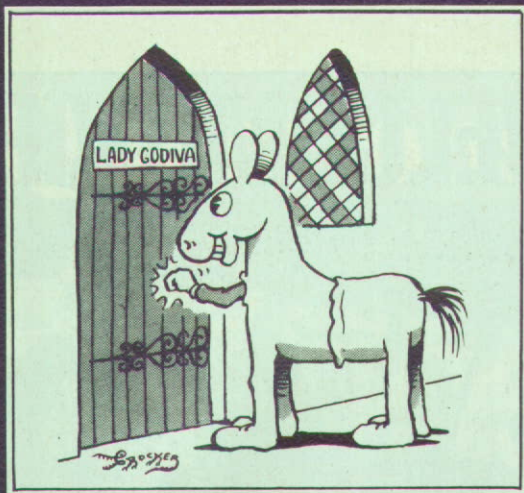
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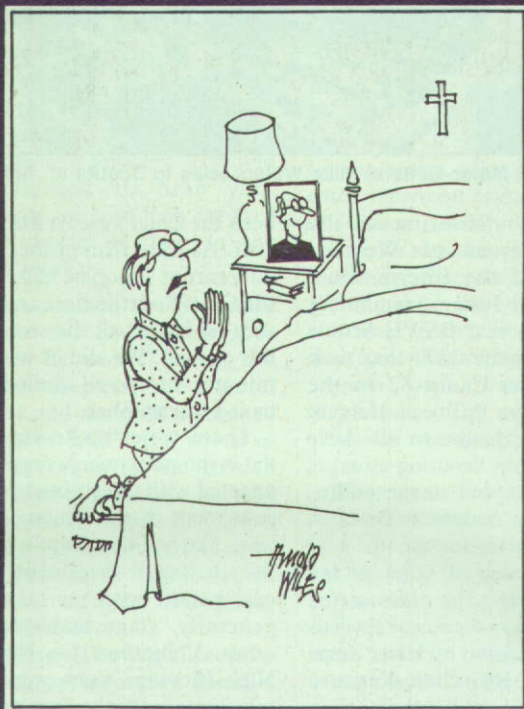
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"Sure he's got a lightning punch. It never strikes twice in the same fight!"



"How about a little of the Pope's charisma?"

Humour



"I'm the beautiful nurse who looked after you when you were delirious"



THE SPOTLIGHT this week is on Naafi. I wonder just how many of us realised that there were about £60,000 worth of Naafi goods on the *Atlantic Conveyor* when she sank during the Falklands conflict, or that the Naafi lost almost the same amount again as the *HMS Sheffield*, *Coventry*, *Ardent* and *Antelope*, went down. And Naafi supplied more than goods in the conflict. 20-year-old Paul Mileham was lucky to escape with his life as he abandoned ship along with the crew of the *Atlantic Conveyor* and Dave Atkinson and Tony Weighall were among the Naafi employees who worked their passage south as canteen workers, disc jockeys and first aiders as the need arose.

For Naafi, as for many Servicemen, there is still a job to be done in the Falklands. Said Ken Redpath, controller of supplies: "The Naafi lads did, and are doing, a wonderful job. For one can hardly ring up the store just down the road if you run out of an item."

He explained that priorities have now changed and that Naafi's new battle is to beat the boredom. "While the war was on, we only had shipping space for the bare essentials. Once the action was over we had to move quickly to cater for the men's activities in their off-duty hours. 'Now radios, cassette recorders and tapes along with sports equipment, games and paperbacks are on their way to the Falklands."

Back home, September brings new rounds of Naafi Customer Relations Committee meetings and the 1982 discussions are under way. Every garrison or station has a committee.

If you have any suggestions, criticisms or ideas that could improve the Naafi facilities, this is your chance to put up your views for discussion. It may be that your idea won't win the support of the committee, or that the item you want is not available for export or simply that it's been tried before and failed; but if you don't let Naafi know, they cannot even consider additions or changes. Use your Naafi and help make it work for YOU.

Anne Armstrong

SCOUTS WELCOME VIP

A REAL VIP SCOUT joined Cubs and Scouts at Arsbeck in August as they gathered from places as far apart as Norway and Italy for their summer camp.

The 600 representatives of the 4000 British Scouts in Western Europe, BSWE, were delighted to hear that the newly-appointed Chief Scout, Major-General Michael Walsh, would be joining them for four days.

Camping has always been an important facet of Scouting. Ever since the Founder's first camp on Brownsea Island, Scouts have spent much of their time outdoors living under canvas and facing the challenges and tests that it brings as well as the fellowship it engenders.

The Chief Scout joined the Scouts for their Saturday night campfire and for Sunday service in the field. He listened to Padre Colin Gibb giving thanks for the outdoor life, "thanks for a movement which encourages initiative amongst its members and which seeks to help those less fortunate than ourselves", and he met many of the Cubs and Scouts in informal conditions.

This was Major-General Walsh's first visit to BFG as Chief Scout but he reminded the Scouts at Arsbeck that he had served a number of times in BFG and that his visit this time was like coming home. He praised the efforts of the BSWE and said he was delighted with their enthusiasm and achievements, giving them full credit for their money-raising projects, the latest of which provided four wheelchairs which will be given to Ssafa for the use of families and handicapped children in Rheinland and a further wheelchair for a handicapped child in Egypt.

He continued by drawing



Chief Scout, Major-General Mike Walsh, talks to Scouts at Arsbeck.

attention to Scouting in the beautiful areas of Western Europe and the International scene that it fosters, reminding his listeners that BSWE Scouts were among the 2000 that took part in Inter-Camp 82 in the Moselle earlier this year. His talk ended with thanks to all those who help keep Scouting alive.

His visit added to the enthusiasm of the Scouts at Arsbeck but there was one Scout who breathed a sigh of relief as the Chief Scout left the camp across the footbridge — erected specially for the occasion by Uwer Zorzi of 1st Geilenkirchen Venture Troop — and that was Christopher Ashford who had

been the Chief's escort during his visit. As Chairman of the Tornado Venture Troop he had to keep the Chief Scout to time and make sure he visited all the sections in the camp. "We did it with five minutes to spare" smiled a relieved Christopher.

There were 'backroom boys' too at the camp who were equally infected with the enthusiasm and enjoyment of the Scouts. These were Major Tony Gibb's men of the 16 Signal Regiment Team who helped erect marquees and generally 'stage managed' the camp. Volunteers Joe Hall and Nick Hawkins were even ready to volunteer for the next camp as they had enjoyed it so much.

Carving a pathway to Paradise Park

I MUST CONFESS that I had to ask where Dulmen was when I was invited to see for myself what changes had been made there in the last two years.

I discovered that this isolated

Royal Army Ordnance Depot is some 30 minutes away from Munster, the nearest military town. Its facilities suffer inevitably from its isolation as families live inside a wire fence in blocks of flats with no play space, but I discovered what can be achieved with a little imagination and much hard work.

A huge community project along self-help lines has transformed this erstwhile desolate camp into a pleasant and useful recreation area — Dulmen Park. Old huts have been converted into a library, a playgroup and a newly-dedicated church in which weddings and christenings are now held as sunlight pours through ingeniously-made stained glass windows. The gymnasium was, luckily, one project that the community did not have to undertake but the energy of the drama group was poured wholeheartedly into the creation

Questions in the House

THE CORRIDORS OF power in the House of Commons have been echoing to the sound of questions being asked about welfare in the Services in the Army Debate.

Clement Freud, MP for the Isle of Ely, brought to light many of the problems of Service families without, I must add here, any prompting from me, and asked several extremely pertinent questions which should be of interest to us all.

I have reproduced below extracts from Hansard, the official record of Parliament, and added my own comments to the questions and answers. I should be delighted to hear your comments too and look forward to a bulging postbag in the coming weeks.

Mr Freud asked the Secretary of State for Social Services whether he would list in the Official Report the social security and national insurance benefits to which the wives of men serving with the British Army of the Rhine are or may be entitled; and in what respects the qualification rules differ from those applicable to wives of United Kingdom civilian citizens.

Mr Rossi: The social security and national insurance benefits to which wives of men serving in BAOR are or may be entitled

are listed below together with any different qualification rules which would apply. It has been assumed that the wife has accompanied her husband on the posting to Germany and that, where appropriate, she remains insured in the United Kingdom national insurance scheme and fulfils the normal contribution rules governing entitlement to contributory benefits.

AA: The answer continued with the list mentioned by Mr Rossi. There are no different qualification rules for sickness, invalidity, injury, disablement or child benefits; nor for maternity allowance, death grant, retirement pension, widow's allowance, guardian's attendance, invalid care or mobility allowance.

There are differences with maternity grant, unemployment benefit, non-contributory invalidity pension and family income supplement, all of which I have mentioned numerous times on these pages.

What was unfortunate, perhaps, is that Mr Freud did not ask what benefits are denied Service dependants in BAOR. There was no mention, for example, of NI credits unpaid after the end of a mere three months' EEC unemployment benefit. In UK these would be paid for a further nine months as would the benefit, if it

gets paid at all, to wives who have gone abroad because of the demands of their husband's job.

Neither was there any mention of the plight of school leavers in BAOR or wives who are deserted whilst overseas, neither of whom receive supplementary benefit, or that the attendance and mobility allowance may only be paid to a third party in UK.

Berlin has its own problems as all working dependants there are employed on the German economy — wasted effort as far as their UK contributions record is concerned.

Just one more point that I feel is worth noting here is that, although there are no different qualifications for maternity allowance, claimants must remember that, whereas in UK both the maternity allowance and grant should be claimed in the 14th week before birth, in BAOR, the allowance must be claimed in the 14th week even though the grant is not claimed until the 11th week as it is paid directly by the Pay Office.

Mr Freud asked the Secretary of State for Defence what provision there was for dependants of men serving with (i) the British Army of the Rhine and (ii) the British Army stationed at home, to voice opinions on the availability of welfare services to which they have access; and whether he was satisfied that such provision is comparable to that available to civilian UK citizens.

Mr Wiggin: A variety of ways exist, both in this country and overseas, for the dependants of Servicemen to represent their views to the military authorities on relevant matters of concern to them. Generally it has been found that the best channels are to the commanding officer of the unit concerned, or through other local organisations, such as wives' clubs.

Dependants are represented also on garrison welfare committees and on certain Ministry of Defence committees dealing with matters of particular relevance, such as furnishings. I am satisfied that the views of dependants are available to the military authorities at least as well, and probably better, than those of civilian citizens to their local authorities.

AA: Clement Freud referred to the problems of communications that Service dependants have, on an

earlier day in the Army Debate when he said "There are Service families overseas who have much to complain about and no-one to hear their complaints."

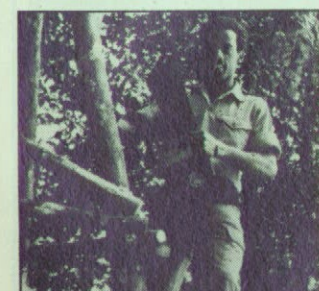
I have asked the MOD and Mr Wiggin for a full and detailed list of the committees that include dependant representatives as I am sure it will greatly interest wives.

Mr Freud asked about the medical care and facilities which are available to dependants of personnel serving with the British Army of the Rhine. In a written answer, Mr Wiggin quoted some interesting statistics. There is one Family Planning Clinic per 253 wives per month, one Child Health Clinic per 343 children per week, one Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic per 1630 personnel per month and one doctor per 1622 personnel in Primary Health Care. Some of the facilities are provided jointly by the Army Medical Service and the nurses of Ssafa under contract to the MOD.

Mr Freud: Housing is one of the most important and most ignored aspects. A soldier who joins at 18 and leaves the Army 22 years later invariably does not have a home to go to. The Army does nothing to facilitate the purchase of houses for men who have given the best 22 years of their lives to their country. I know of soldiers who cannot put down deposits on homes when they leave the Army. I know that housing lists are often long but even if proper notice is given to a local authority, it is difficult to find a house for someone who has been demobilised after serving his full term. Some local authorities do not accept them because they live outside the area. Some military families have no right to council housing in any area because of the peripatetic nature of their lives."

AA: Mr Wiggin outlined the various options and schemes available to Servicemen throughout their careers on the subject of saving and buying a house and expressed himself satisfied that extensive advice, information and assistance on housing matters is given by commanding officers and others.

Other points were raised during the debate and I shall be continuing with these extracts in the next issue of *SOLDIER* so watch out for more 'Questions in the House'.

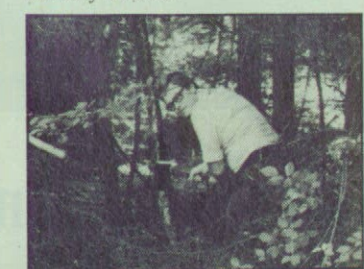


Corporal Tony Franklin lends a hand with the building of the adventure playground.

of a stage at one end of the canteen which has been the base for a pantomime and various variety shows that the group has been able to produce.

The project has involved everyone down from the CO, Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Ewens, in its realisation. Off-duty hours are often spent in the jungle undergrowth and vegetation, some 31,000 square yards of it, that remains to be cleared. The

task seems gigantic but, with the help of the local Forstmeister, trees have been felled, roads cleared and streams uncovered to make way for an adventure playground, a barbecue area where four families can cook at any one time, and a picnic area. Nobody escapes the CO's Dulmen Park clearing party and, as a result, the project is well on the way to completion and the finishing touches should soon mark the end of a success story in community action.



Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Ewens in the 'jungle' of Dulmen Park.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE FORCES RAILCARD SCHEME is to continue until the end of December 1984. British Rail have agreed to renew existing cards which are due to expire on December 31 this year. The new issue will be governed by the same regulations as now but there are some significant changes in the scheme.

First, it is hoped that there will be some extensions of the categories of eligible personnel to iron out the existing anomalies.

Second, there will be a replacement charge of £10 for lost cards. Despite appeals for greater care over the safekeeping of railcards from British Rail, the level of losses remains unacceptably high and British Rail have been forced to levy a charge on carelessness. Any loss which is the result of an incident clearly outside your control may not be charged for.

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THE ALDERSHOT MILITARY HISTORICAL TRUST

HIGH AND MIGHTY

RAF VC10 K2 tanker.

John Walton takes a look at the military side of this year's Farnborough Air Show

Injured motorcycle ace Barry Sheene was among the visitors to the show.



THE WEEK LONG Farnborough International Air Show always gave something like a quarter of a million enthusiasts the chance to see all of the latest aviation developments.

Each day the three hour flying programme started with something which harkened back 50 years to the halcyon days of airships. But the Skyship 500, the first ever airship at a Farnborough display, intrigued spectators with its versatility. The makers, Airship Industries, see its future role in naval reconnaissance.

Sea Harriers, fresh from their Falklands successes, Tornados and the RAF's VC10 K2 tanker took part as well as old favourites like the Short Skyvan. On the helicopter side the flypast included Westland's Sea King and W 30-100 as well as both the naval and Army versions of the Lynx described by the makers as "the finest combat helicopter in its class".

Concluding each day's flying was an extended version of an RAF Hercules C-130. Marshall of Cambridge are modifying 30 of the Air Force's Hercules by installing 15 feet of additional

◀ Lynx 3 mock-up — a speculative build by Westlands.

Pictures: Paul Haley

fuselage to bring them to the same size as the civil L-100-30. The programme will be completed next year.

There were lots of interesting new sights outside the actual flying display. The US Air Force's new B1 bomber, 100 of which are already on order, made its first appearance outside the USA after an 11½ hours non-stop flight from California.

And British Aerospace produced a mock-up of an experimental Agile Combat Aircraft. It will be one beneficiary of a new £40 million research programme which will also embrace short take-off and vertical landing engine and hovering techniques.

The Agile Combat Aircraft is a light 1300 mph single seater fighter plane intended to super-

The Dassault Super Etendard — used by the Argentinians in the Falklands campaign to carry Exocet missiles. ▼

sede the Jaguar and the first of them could be flying in about three years.

Also in mock-up form was the Lynx-3, a follow up to the current Army helicopter, equipped for current and future versions of HOT, TOW, or Hellfire guided weapons.

A Westlands spokesman told SOLDIER at the show that the new version would have many advantages over the current Army Lynx including a new main rotor, more powerful Rolls-Royce engines, sand filtration capability and a wheeled undercarriage rather than the present skids. It will weigh half as much again as the present version.

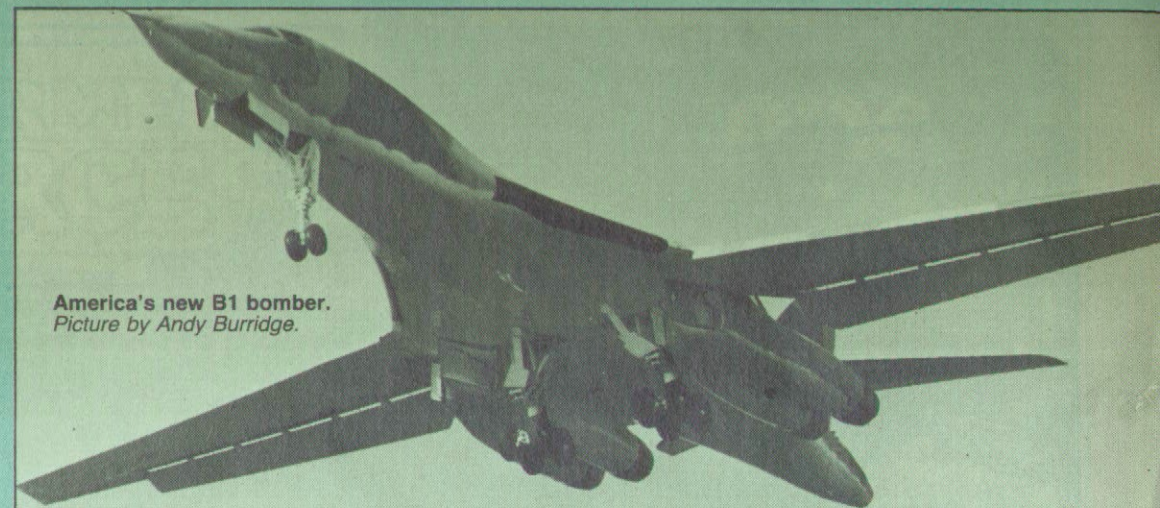
He added that the Lynx 3 was a speculative build and would be ready from the middle of 1984 with first deliveries in 1986. The Army Air Corps had shown interest in the new version but if the money was not available they might still be able to have their present Lynxes upgraded to take in some of the new specifications.

Ground vehicles were not entirely absent at the show. GKN-Sankey took the opportunity of showing the world's defence experts the MCV80 anti-tank missile launcher, carrying the Euro-missile HOT system. Their claim was: "This combination of a highly mobile-tracked vehicle and very accurate missile system with a hit probability close to 100 per cent at up to 4000 metres must make MCV 80 ATML a very effective tank destroyer."

British Aerospace Dynamics Group has developed an air cycle cooling and heating system for tanks and other military ground vehicles which they say has brought airliner cabin conditioning to ground level. The system was fitted to the German Air Defence System 'Wild-

continued on page 28

America's new B1 bomber.
Picture by Andy Burridge.



Aerospatiale's Super Puma.



American Apache with Hellfire missiles — more details on page 28.



Sea Harrier jump jet — one of Britain's major successes in the Falklands

'Stretched' Hercules flies in.



Wildcat air defence system — latest in crew comfort.



MCV80 with HOT missiles — "a very effective tank destroyer".

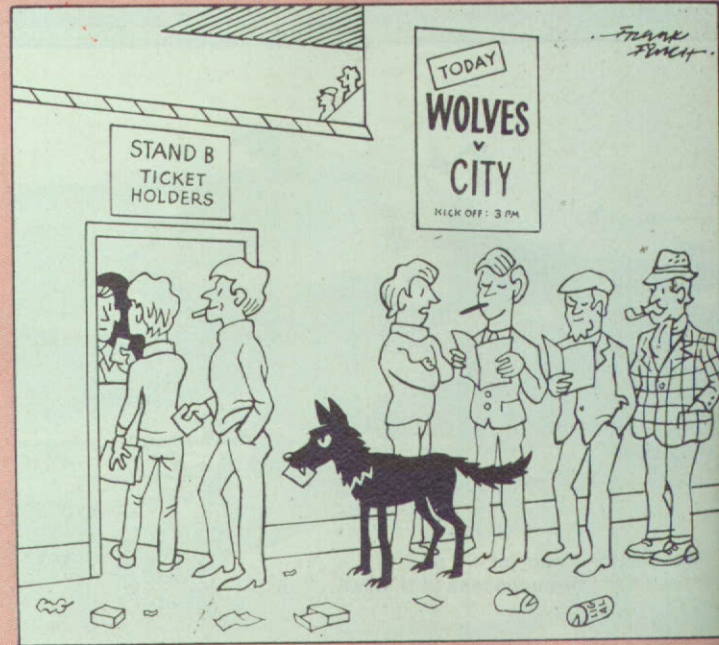
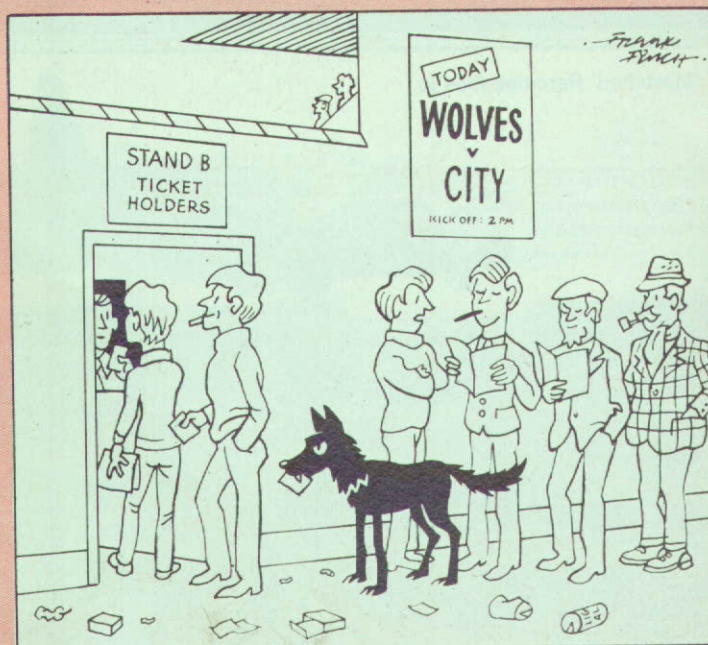


The Hughes AH-64 Apache firing 2.75 inch air-to-ground rockets during desert tests. Mounted on each inboard pylon are four laser-guided anti-tank missiles. The US Army plans to purchase over 500 of the helicopters for the anti-tank role.

cat' on show at Farnborough. Economic difficulties beset the airline world. And this year at Farnborough the commercial applications had to take second place to the military. In particular there was a great interest in aircraft and systems used in the Falklands. After a press furore the French firm, Aerospatiale, decided that no version of the Exocet anti-shiping missile would be taken to Farnborough. The aircraft which carried it, the Dassault Super Etendard, appeared in the static park without any underwing ordnance. ■

How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 39.





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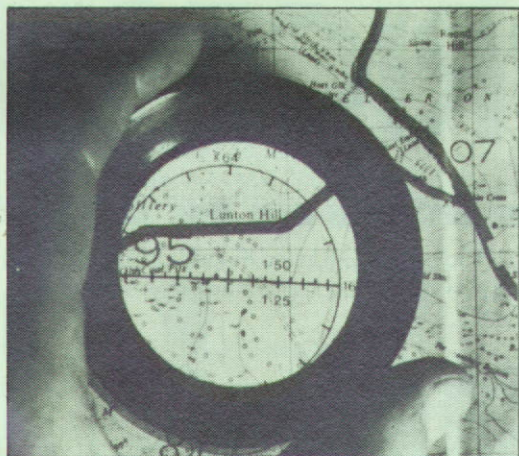
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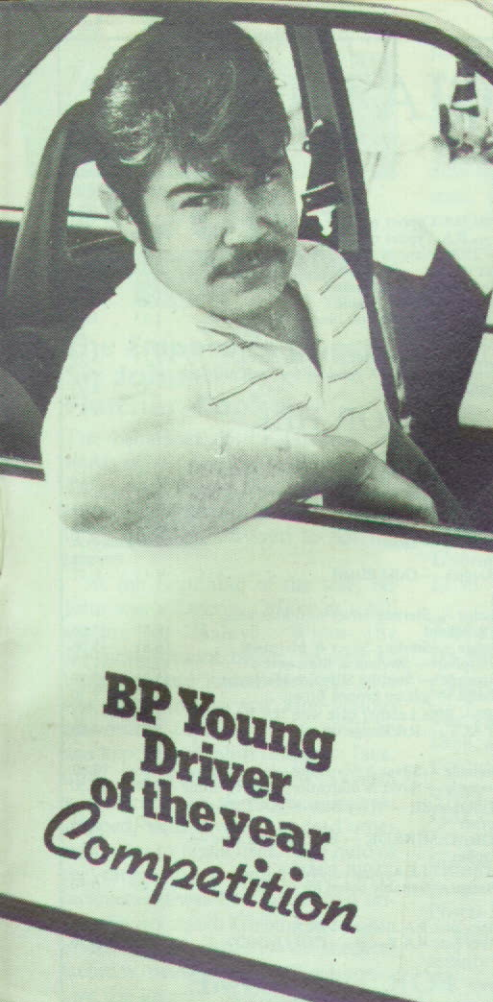
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S9



**BP Young
Driver
of the year
Competition**

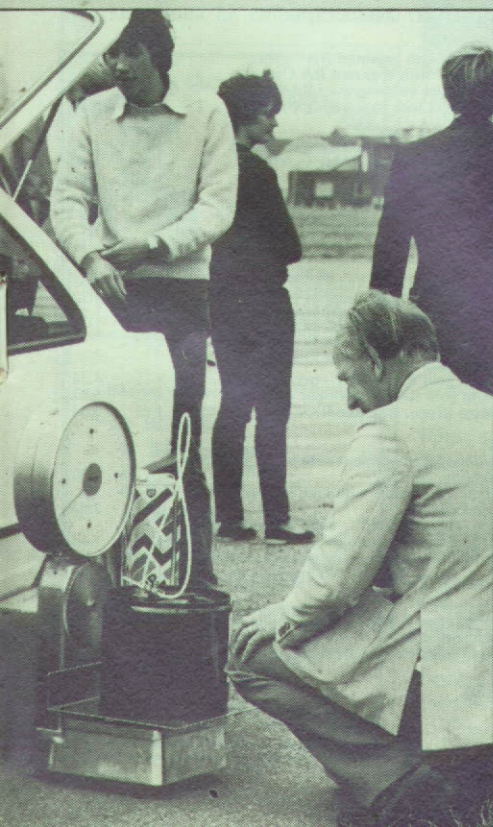
THE EFFECT OF A ROOF RACK on a car travelling at 60mph is to add 10 per cent to the fuel consumption. True or false?

Surprisingly, the answer is true — and that's when the roof rack is empty.

But if the question had you stumped — as it stumped us here at SOLDIER — it didn't fool Driver Philip Davies from 44 Squadron, RCT at Sandhurst who was amongst the twelve finalists at the first ever BP Young Driver of the Year competition.

To get that far, Driver Davies, together

BP's John Anderson weighs fuel tank before the start of a three lap drive. ▼



**A young RCT
driver challenges
the nation's
best in the
art of . . .**

RUNNING SMOOTH

◀ Driver Philip Davies ready for the off.

with a thousand other young people from all over the country, filled in a questionnaire on how to drive economically with skill and responsibility.

The sixty whose answers most clearly matched those of the judges went forward into six regional finals. Driver Davies was one of the successful ten who won through in the London area to be faced with a challenging series of driving tests.

"When I sized up the competition I thought I had a good chance of making the finals," said Driver Davies. And his confidence proved justified as he finished in the top two places in his region.

The national finals were held over two days, first at the old racing track at Brooklands, Weybridge, and then at the Police Driving School at Hendon.

Two road tests accounted for fifty per cent of the marks available and the third part was a test of manoeuvrability — a tricky



One of the road tests at Brooklands.

exercise which involved driving forwards and in reverse to points of contact, and also a slalom.

To measure performance in the road tests an auxiliary fuel tank was fitted to the cars — all Ford Escorts 1.6 with five speed gear box — and the fuel weighed before and after.

"We're not looking for budding James Hunts," explained one of the organisers, "just sensible and responsible drivers."

The prize for winning the competition was £1000 which Driver Davies would have spent on the car he hopes to get when he goes to Germany in January. Unfortunately he did not finish 'in the money' but BP said he came close and that the standard was generally high.

"We were delighted with the response," said Mr Alec Jones of the Institute of Advanced Motoring, who chaired the panel of judges. "Young drivers today are obviously thinking about road craft and have realised that it isn't necessarily the fastest driver who is the best." ■



Competitors prepare to move off.

**Story: Sally Daniell
Pictures: Doug Pratt**

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S15A RA Cypher (Black)	1.68	1.55
S16 RAA (Navy)	5.43	4.96
S16A RAA (Black)	5.43	4.96
S16B RA Badge (Navy) } Gold and Silver Wire	5.43	4.96
S16C RA Badge (Black) } Pocket Sized	5.13	4.70
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S17A RA Cypher (Black)	5.03	4.60

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S104 RA Small	1.33	1.24
S104A RA Large	1.13	1.07

CAR BADGE

S112 RA Cypher	3.22	3.49
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S12 COMB Blue leather case with RA Badge	1.28	1.33

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S18 Valiant — Raised Gun Badge on curved edges	8.43	8.28
S19 Valiant — Raised Gun Badge on normal design	8.43	8.28
S84C Heraldic — Painted on Red background with scroll on normal design	9.03	8.78

SWEATERS

S25 Courtelle — Blue v-neck RA Cypher	14.38	13.75
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SWISS ARMY KNIFE with RA Badge

S31 Picnic Knife	5.72	5.27
S32 Camper's Knife	8.77	7.97

TANKARDS

S59 Glass 1 pint — RA Cypher in circle	9.53	10.21
S70 Pewter 1 pint — RA Badge	9.88	10.39
S71 Pewter 1 pint — RA Badge	8.11	8.40
S120 Pewter 1 pint — Engraved RA Cypher	23.08	22.08
S130 TIE PIN — Gold RA Grenade	16.18	14.58
S28 TIE TACK — RA Badge	0.88	0.98



CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS



TIES

S62 RAA — RA Cypher on Blue — 4" Blade	3.73	3.73
S63 RAA — RA Cypher on Blue — 3" Blade	3.18	3.25
S63A RA — 250th Anniversary — RA Cypher CCL on blue	4.33	4.25
S64 RA Regimental — 3" Blade	3.03	2.93
S64A RA Regimental — 4" Blade	3.48	3.51
S66 RA Single RA Cypher on blue — 3" Blade	1.13	1.47

WALLETS

S105 Black Leather — RA Badge — for notes	5.78	5.29
S106 Brown Leather — RA Cypher — for Passport/Cash cards NOT notes	5.32	4.93

FOR HER

BRACELET CHARMS

S47 Silver Medallion — St. Barbara	3.73	3.46
S47A Silver Medallion — RA Badge	6.73	6.12
S49B Gold Plated Medallion — RA Badge	12.33	10.99
S49C Gold Plated Medallion — St. Barbara	12.33	10.99
S48 Gun Replica — Silver	9.33	8.38
S50 Gun Replica — Gold	67.09	60.99

S50A Gun Replica — Gold Plated	9.43	8.47
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BROOCHES

S79 RA Badge — Sterling Silver with Marcasite laurel surround	16.81	15.06
S80 RA Badge — Sterling Silver & Marcasite	16.81	15.06
S80A RHA Cypher — Sterling & Marcasite	12.91	11.67
S128 RA Grenade — Sterling Silver & Marcasite	15.31	13.29
S111 RA Badge — gilt on brooch fitting	1.13	1.20
S12 COMB — Blue Leather case with RA Badge	1.28	1.33
S110 COMPACT — RA Badge on lid	5.01	4.80

EARRINGS

S125 RA Grenade — Silver & Marcasite — screw fitting	11.56	10.50
S126 RA Grenade — Silver & Marcasite — pierce fitting	11.56	10.50

S39 HEADSQUARE — Navy Blue — RA Cypher in one corner	3.73	3.51
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S6 HANDBAG MIRROR — Blue Leather case — RA Cypher	1.52	1.62
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S7 CHILDRENS LEATHER BADGE — Gun Badge — suitably holed for sewing	0.48	0.50
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PILLBOX

S42 Porcelain Box RA Badge — BLACK	4.91	4.45
S42A Porcelain Box RA Badge — COLOURED	6.41	5.76

FOR THE HOME

S108 ADDRESS TELEPHONE BOOK (Large) — Blue RA Cypher	5.38	5.62
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S109 ADDRESS BOOK (Small) Blue RA Cypher	3.01	2.99
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ASH TRAYS

S1 Glass Black RA Badge	1.41	1.65
S1A Glass Blue RA Badge	1.41	1.65
S2 Glass Blue RA Cypher	1.26	1.54

S33 Glass — Large Mounted on Rubber Base with RA Cypher	9.52	10.18
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S40 BOOK MARK — Blue Leather RA Badge	0.78	0.77
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S129 CLOTHES BRUSH — RA Cypher on Blue Leather	3.22	3.35
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ICE BUCKET AND TONGS

S92 RA Drum Replica	13.13	13.39
S92A Tongs — Engraved RA Cypher	8.06	7.45

S143 MAGNETIC PAPER CLIP/PIN DISPENSER	1.26	1.54
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S107 PVC COASTERS RA BADGE red	0.58	0.48
S107A PVC COASTERS RA BADGE blue		

MATS TABLE

S87 Blue Melamine RA Cypher in Gold size 9 1/2" x 7 1/2"	5.78	5.46
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S88 Blue Melamine RA Cypher in Gold 11 1/2" x 8 1/2"	7.20	6.56
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S93B RA Badge Gold and Red on blue perspex covered — size 9 1/2" x 7 1/2"	3.98	3.55
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S34 PAPERWEIGHT with RA Cypher	12.06	11.29
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SILVER PLATE

S118 Wine Goblet with engraved RA Cypher	13.08	12.27
S119 Water Goblet with engraved RA Cypher	15.27	14.32

S122 Liqueur Goblet with engraved RA Cypher	7.45	6.68
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S123 Brandy Goblet with engraved RA Cypher	7.88	7.06
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TEA TOWELS (Irish Linen)

S85 The Royal Regiment of Artillery	1.67	1.80
S85B Guns and Gunners, Yesterday and Today	1.67	1.80
S85C Gunner Animals	1.67	1.80

S60 WINE GLASS RA Cypher in circle	7.15	7.35
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GENERAL

S152 Canvas — RHA Horse Team — Red	2.17	2.32
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S153 Canvas — RHA Horse Team — Blue	2.17	2.32
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S150 Hessian/Jute — RA Badge — Red	1.07	1.26
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S151 Hessian/Jute — RA Badge — Black	1.07	1.26
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DINNER CARDS, etc.

P63 Menu with gold RA Cypher per 50	3.75	4.38
P20 Place with gold RA Cypher per 100	4.55	5.07
S58 Serviettes — Paper with Red RA Cypher per 100	1.63	2.14

STATIONERY

P48C Notebook — Head opening — Blue with RA Badge and telephone index	1.13	1.20
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S23 Black base Pen Holder with Gun Badge and Biro Pen	2.31	2.62
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S21/22 Biro Pen — Blue or Red — with Floating 25 Pdr., Limber and Quad — state colour	1.28	1.33
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P64 Pencil — Blue — Royal Artillery Association each 12 pencils for	0.26	0.55
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PRICES TO H.M. FORCES ABROAD WILL BE CHEAPER THAN THOSE SHOWN.



The Emperor's Guest: Sir John Fletcher-Cooke

The behaviour of the Japanese towards their prisoners in World War Two is well known. Sir John Fletcher-Cooke considers himself one of the lucky ones; he survived to tell the tale.

At the beginning of the war, Sir John was a District Officer at a hill station in Malaya. When the Japanese advance began, he went to Singapore and joined the RAF. He was posted to Java and, after various adventures, captured. For a while he was kept in makeshift camps on Java, until the Japanese POW system sorted itself out. From here he was shipped, with several hundred other prisoners, to Japan itself. The hold of the cargo ship in which they were incarcerated was hot, airless and impossibly cramped. Given a minimum of food, and deprived of medical facilities, many prisoners did not survive the journey. For those that did, the next few years brought constant degradation and unbelievable hardship. The Japanese had not only contempt for their charges, but seemed to fear them too; the wantonly cruel could indulge themselves in whatever brutality they wished. Interrogation was an excuse for torture and orders were routinely enforced with beatings. The less harsh were merely callous and neglectful, unthinkingly depriving the prisoners of the simplest life-sustaining commodities.

It says much for Sir John's character, not only that he survived to be liberated by the Americans — a liberation which he believes would

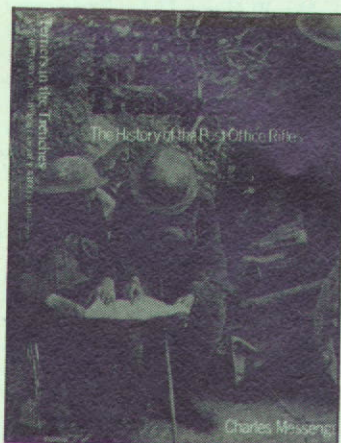
never have come but for the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki — but that he kept a secret diary throughout. More extraordinary too, it is a diary remarkably fair, balanced and free of bitterness. Sir John recalls not only the cruelties but the occasional unexpected kindnesses — like the gift of cigarettes from a Japanese worker when the PoWs were forced to work in a dock-yard — and attempts to gain some insight into the complex Japanese character. Able to forgive the Japanese people, and even some of his individual captors, Sir John cannot forgive the system of government which made them what, between 1941 and 45, they were.

Compelling, harrowing stuff.
Corgi Books, Century House, 61-63 Uxbridge Road, London W5 5SA — £1.95 **IJK**

Terriers in the Trenches: Charles Messenger

The Post Office Rifles were born in 1868 as the 49th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers. They made their most lasting contribution to the Army in 1882 by giving birth to a 100-strong Army Postal Corps for service in the Egyptian campaign of that year: that corps was the start of the Army Postal Service.

This well-presented little book is mainly an account of the climax of the regiment's existence, when it went to war in 1914 as the 8th Battalion City of London Regiment (Post



Office Rifles). It was blooded at Festubert in May 1915 when it went into the trenches 900 strong and came out sixteen days later down to 300. Heavy casualties were to be its lot.

A second battalion was formed as the first left for France and supplied drafts of reinforcements, but this too went off to the Western Front and a third was formed to keep up the supply of drafts to the other two. Between the end of 1915 and the Armistice, the 3/8th sent 222 officers and nearly 5000 men to the line battalions, even though the first was disbanded early in 1918. By the end of the war 12,000 men had passed through the two line battalions, 1800 had been killed and 4500 wounded. They had amassed a tidy number of decorations including a Victoria Cross to Sergeant A J Knight whose gallant exploits included several with the bayonet, a weapon even then better known for its effects on morale than for blood letting.

The Post Office Rifles did not survive the changes that hit the Territo-

rials in the 1930s and finally disappeared when the battalion that still bore its name (in brackets) was converted to anti-aircraft artillery. But the veterans of World War One have not disappeared and their dwindling numbers still make an annual pilgrimage to the graves of their comrades across the Channel.

Picton Publishing, Citadel Works, Bath Road, Chippenham, Wilts — £12.95 **RLE**

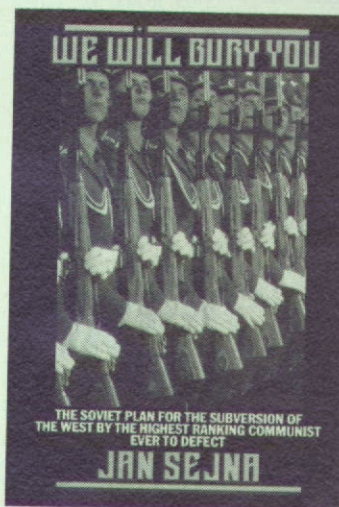
We will Bury You: Jan Sejna

This is the story of a disillusioned Czech commissar who, in desperation, abandoned the system that raised him from poverty to power and privilege. The commissar was Jan Sejna, a high ranking political officer in the Czech army, who fled his homeland and now lives in the United States.

From being a dedicated Communist with 20 years service to the party we read of his gradual disenchantment culminating in his decision to start a new life. His description of his final dash for freedom told without frills makes exciting and compelling reading.

A revealing character sketch of Nikita Khrushchev and his de-Stalinisation policy is of particular interest for the frank and sympathetic light in which it presents the Soviet leader. Another top Soviet personality, Leonid Brezhnev, is seen in a different light however. Sejna opens his assessment with the phrase: 'When Brezhnev smiles he looks as if he wants to bite you.'

Relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, the split with China, an intriguing chapter on the Soviet strategic plan for Western Europe including Britain with Australia regarded as the stepping stone to Asia and, inevitably, a review of the problems besetting the Balkans are just a few of the subjects in this



unique peep behind the Iron Curtain.
Sidgwick & Jackson, 1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SG — £9.95 **JFPJ**

Dieppe 1942 — Echoes of Disaster: William Whitehead

The Dieppe raid in 1942 is a bitter memory in Canada, for most of the men who landed and most of the nearly-4000 casualties were Canadian. Mr Whitehead lists seven Cana-

dian units which between them lost 2906 men out of 3716, killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

About three years ago, two films were made about the raid for Canadian television, and this book is a spin-off from them. Like a television documentary, it is superficially pleasing but basically unsatisfying.

Its main virtue is in the contemporary photographs which are well chosen and well printed. The text and presentation are snappy and emotive, with large type and great areas of blank white or black. The book takes two pages (including three pictures) to make the profound observation, "War games are one thing . . . war is another," and a complete page to say, "And then it was 04:50, August 19, 1942. Almost 250 ships silently approached in the pre-dawn darkness."

For all the razzmatazz, the author, as briefly as a tabloid newspaper, gives fair answers to the questions about why the raid was mounted and was a disaster, what it accomplished and whether it was worthwhile.

Richard Drew, 20 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6BE — £9.95 **RLE**

Recollections and Reflections 1940-45: J G Beever

There have been a great many books concerned with the back room and undercover work of the combatant powers in World War Two.

J G Beever joined the Special Operations Executive within weeks of its formation in 1940, the purpose of which organisation was, in the words of Winston Churchill, 'to set Europe ablaze' or, less poetically, to co-ordinate sabotage and subversion against the enemy.

Between January 1941 and June 1944, Beever headed the SOE mission in Lisbon, later being appointed assistant to the Executive's chief, Sir Charles Hambro. Other staff planning work followed until the war ended and Beever was able to return to being a solicitor, eventually to become prominently involved in the world of finance. He is therefore a most appropriate author for a book on this subject, in contrast to some with secondhand knowledge of war in secret places.

Throughout the war, resistance movements grew up in some thirteen enemy-occupied countries of Europe and south-east Asia, contributing in varying degrees to the success of Allied operations. Britain participated in all these underground organisations through the SOE.

What emerges is the low success rate that can be expected from widespread subversive organisations contrary to what film makers would have us believe! Human frailty, personal incompatibility, difficult communications, and the fact that the enemy is not entirely composed of blundering fools, all contribute to putting this kind of warfare well into second place behind the conventional strategy of regular and professional forces.

The book is to be recommended for those who want an honest and authoritative account of Allied wartime sabotage organisations.
Bodley Head, 9 Bow Street, London WC2 — £8.95 **BJ**

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PEN PALS WANTED

My name is Marie and I am 22 years old. I like jazz funk music and scooters. — *Marie Taylor, 17 Dixon St, Bankquay, Warrington, Cheshire.*

My name is Jan and I am 29 years old, divorced with a little girl. If possible, I would like to write to someone stationed in Northern Ireland. — *Jan Bremner, 121 Ardrossan Gardens, Worcester Park, Surrey.*

My name is Lorraine and I would like to have a penfriend in the Forces. — *Lorraine Cooper, 48 Green Lane, Ecclesfield, Sheffield, S30 3WY.*

My name is Kathryn and I would like a penpal in Hong Kong or Germany. I like all sports and my favourite groups are Status Quo, Black Sabbath and Iron Maiden. — *Kathryn Bamforth, 1 Avisford Road, Wadley Bridge, Sheffield, S5 8LA.*

My name is Jane and I am 19 years old, average height with fair hair and brown eyes. I like going to discos, concerts and theatres. — *Jane Ward, 31 Barton Crescent, Holme Hall, Chesterfield, S40 4UH.*

My name is Sue and I am 17 years old. I am 5ft 6 ins tall with light brown hair and blue eyes. My hobbies are badminton, tennis, music, reading, writing and walking. — *Sue Hollick, 59 Holmwood Road, Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex.*

My name is Brenda and I am 46 years old. I am 5ft 5ins tall with blonde hair and blue eyes. I would like to write to a sergeant of the same age. — *Brenda Barwick, 1 Clive Ave, Prestatyn, Clwyd.*

My name is Julie and I am 23 years old. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. My interests are travel, cookery, letter writing. I would like to write to anyone over the age of 24. — *Julie Evans, 8 Newton Road, Odstone, Nuneaton, Warks, CV13 0QT.*

My name is Carol and I am 16 years old. I like collecting records (especially The Beatles) and going out and meeting people. All letters answered. — *Carol Travis, 100 Frederick St, Luton, Beds, LU2 7QU.*

My name is Rosemary and I am 18 years old. I am 5ft 2ins tall with brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are playing records and collecting costume dolls. I would like a penpal between the ages of 19 and 21 years old. — *Rosemary Taylor, 120 Canonsleigh Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 4DH.*

My name is Irene and I am 15 years old. I have got long brown hair and brown eyes. I would like a penpal between the ages of 16-19 from this area. I will write every week if you write to me. — *Irene Taylor, 120 Canonsleigh Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 4DH.*

My name is Anne and I am 19 years old. I am enlisting in the South African Defence Force next year and would like to correspond with British soldiers, male and female. — *Anne Castanho, 19 Boekenhout St, Birchleigh, Kempton Park, 1620 Transvaal, South Africa.*

My name is Colleen and I am 17 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall, slim-built, with brown hair and blue eyes. I like new romantic music, going to discos, ice-skating and having fun. I would like to write to a soldier between the ages of 18-20 at home or abroad. Photos appreciated. — *Colleen Daniels, 5 Fairlawn Green, Shinfield, Reading, Berks.*

We are stationed in West Germany and would love to write to someone to keep our days happier. We all like modern music and all kinds of sport. *Pte Rowlandson, age 22; Pte Gibb, age 20; Pte Clark, age 23; Pte Farquharson, age 23; A Coy, 1 Black Watch, BFPO 106.*

My name is Rita and I am 33 years old. I am 5ft 3ins tall with short fair hair and green eyes. My interests are cooking, dancing, entertaining, reading, music, sports and just simply enjoying life. I would like to write to a soldier in this country or Germany, roughly the same age with the same interests. — *Mrs Rita Light, 8 Lister Avenue, East Grinstead, W Sussex, RH19 4AZ.*

My name is Angela and I am 22 years old. I would like to write to someone around my age. All letters answered. — *Angela Teasdale, 139 Lumley Close, Oxclose, Washington, Tyne & Wear.*

My name is Heather and I am a telegraphist in the WRAF. I am 5ft 6ins tall with blonde hair and blue eyes. I would like to write to any squaddies who like a good time. All letters answered. — *LACW Undy, 6SU, RAF Rudloe Manor, Hawthorne, Corsham, Wilts.*

My name is Columba and I am 24 years old. I am 5ft 3ins tall with short brown hair and blue eyes. I like all sorts of music and can play most instruments. I really like the night life and would like to write to a fun loving soldier older than myself. — *Miss C Cambell, 36 Orbain Road, Fulham, London SW6.*

My name is Lesley and I am 19 years old. I am 5ft 2ins tall with brown hair and blue eyes. I have travelled a fair deal and my main hobbies are listening to music, especially Diana Ross, reading and watching Tottenham play. I hope to start training to become an SRN soon. Photos if possible, all letters answered. — *Lesley Lawrence, 57 Lord Avenue, Clayhall, Ilford, Essex, IG5 0HN.*

My name is Glynis and I am 26 years old. I have brown hair and blue eyes.

I am divorced with a little girl and am very lonely. No married men! — *Glynis Comeau, 3 Silwood Close, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.*

My name is Sally and I am 18 years old. I am 5ft tall with brown hair and blue eyes. I am a shorthand typist and work for a building society. I enjoy tenpin bowling, swimming, reading, foreign food and so on. — *Sally Hearn, 49 Sunna Gardens, Sunbury-On-Thames, Middx, TW16 5EE.*

My name is Jennifer and I am 17 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall with auburn hair and brown eyes. I enjoy most music and like acting, reading and writing letters. — *Jennifer Robertson, 63 Yew Tree Lane, Northern Moor, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M23 0DU.*

My name is Mary and I am 34 years old. I would like to write to someone in the 4th Field Regt in Aldershot. — *Mary Chapman, 81 Furnival St, Workshop, Notts.*

My name is Karen and I am in my early 20s, and separated. I am 5ft tall with blonde hair and blue eyes, and a good cook! I am looking for someone who will write regularly as I am on my own. — *Mrs Karen McShane, 40 Island Close, Hayling Island, Portsmouth, Hants.*

My name is Wendy and I am 20 years old, and a university student. I enjoy most sports, travelling, reading and a variety of music. I would prefer to write to a soldier stationed in West Germany, Northern Ireland or UK. — *Miss W Horne, 77 Lattice Avenue, Ipswich, IP4 5LN.*

My name is Karen and I am 14 years old. My hobbies are dancing, ski-ing, cooking, walking and camping. — *Karen Russell, 145 Mowbray Rise, Dedrige, Livingstone, West Lothian, Scotland.*

My name is Thelma and I am 22 years old. I am an ex-Army wife with a four-year-old son. I am 5ft 5ins tall and slim. I would like to write to a soldier between the ages of 22-30. — *Thelma Buscombe, 69 Old Heath, Heath Gates, Shrewsbury, Salop.*

My name is Irene and I am a 31-year-old divorcee. I am 5ft 5ins tall with short brown hair and glasses. I like reading and writing and collect cuddly toys. I would like to write to a soldier or soldier's wife from 28 upwards. — *Irene Bettridge, 49 Queensview, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 6PQ.*

My name is Julie and I am 17 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall with dark hair and blue eyes. I am a student and have a zany sense of humour. I love writing letters and like Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder etc. I'd like to hear from anyone with a sense of humour. — *Julie Evans, 60 Gough Road, Coseley, W Midlands, WV4 8XP.*

My name is Frances and I am 19 years old. I am 5ft 5ins tall with blonde hair and blue eyes. I like swimming, dancing, reading, writing letters etc but mainly having a laugh with my friends. I am looking for a penpal with a sense of humour and over 20 and over 5ft 6ins! — *Frances Price, 12 Pindock Mews, Warwick Avenue, London W9.*

My name is Lorraine and I am a 27-year-old divorcee with two small children. I am 5ft 2ins tall, with long

light brown hair and green eyes. My hobbies are reading, writing, country & western music. I would like to write to a soldier who is lonely and sincerely wants a lasting relationship. — *Lorraine Tompson, 64 Chaucer Road, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, NR30 4HA.*

My name is Narayan and I am 19 years old. My hair is black and so are my eyes. I am 5ft 5ins tall. My hobbies are writing letters, listening to music, dancing and enjoying myself. Photos if possible. — *Mr Narayan Pakhrin, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, GU13 0RJ.*

My name is Linda and I am 30 years old. I am 5ft 7ins tall with dark hair and have two daughters. I have varied interests. — *Linda Mortimer, 325 Hameln 1, Heinestrasse 21, W Germany.*

We are two sisters looking for penfriends between the ages of 18-24 years old who are interested in music, TV, theatre etc. Debra is 20 years and Denise is 23 years old. — *Denise and Debra House, 28 Ilford Road, Short Heath, Birmingham, B23 5HH.*

My name is Elaine and I am 20 years old. I am 5ft 1in tall with light brown hair and blue eyes. I am a Government typist. I like soul, jazz and reggae music and am interested in judo. Photos if possible. — *Elaine Armstrong, 45 Slades Drive, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 6JX.*

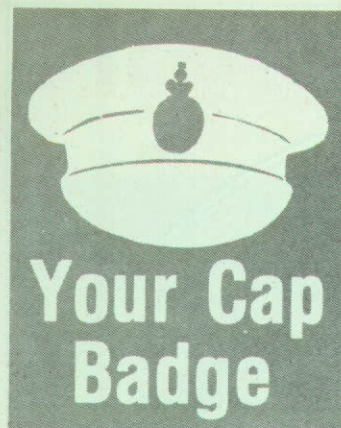
My name is Sally and I am an ex-Army wife. I am 31 years old with two daughters, 5ft 3ins tall with short brown hair and blue eyes. I like the countryside, enjoy gardening and keep a few pets. I would like to write to a soldier with a sense of humour in the 32-40 age group. — *Sally Hammon, 54 Allendale Crescent, Studley, Warks.*

My name is June and I am 18 years old. I am 5ft 7ins tall with blonde hair and brown eyes. My interests are sport, reading, writing and listening to music. I would like to write to a soldier between 18-21 years of age. Photos if possible. — *June Robb, 68 William White Court, Green St, Upton Park, London, E13 9JW.*

My name is Pam and I am a 30-year-old divorcee, with two young girls, and I am disabled. I love animals and have two German shepherd bitches. I like archery, training my dogs and writing letters, and like to think I have a good sense of humour. — *Pam Walker, 99 Coatbridge Road, Glenboig, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, Scotland.*



MORE PEN PALS
ON PAGE 39



No 25

THE WELSH GUARDS

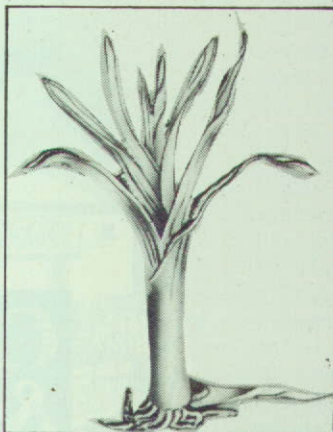
THE LEEK is an ancient badge of Wales which, according to Shakespeare, was worn by Henry the Fifth at the Battle of Agincourt on St Crispins Day, 25th October 1415. This is open to question but it is known to have been used as a Welsh

emblem as early as the seventh century AD and to have had connections with St David.

Like the Irish Guards, the regiment was formed in time of war. It was on February 6th 1915 that King George the Fifth commanded that, in accordance with the wishes of the Welsh people, and his own, a Welsh Regiment of Guards be formed. A mere twenty days later, by drafting volunteers from existing Guards regiments, these wishes were made fact and further, on St David's Day 1st March 1915, the First Battalion The Welsh Guards undertook public duty at Buckingham Palace. Later that year, on 27th September, came their first action at Loos, to give them the first battle honour to be borne on their Colours and to be followed by many more in the comparatively short time that the regiment has been in being.

At first a single battalion regiment, it remained actively so until the formation of the Second Battalion in 1939. Both

took part in the opening stages of Hitler's War during the Battle of France and were to be found working together on September 3rd 1944 when they re-entered Brussels in triumph having fought their way through France. This event is still commemorated each year when the



celebrated 'Mannikin Pis' statue is dressed in the full ceremonial of the Welsh Guards. A third battalion saw service in North Africa and Italy. Since the

end of that war active service in Palestine and Northern Ireland has been followed by more recent gallant action in the South Atlantic.

Besides being the head-dress badge, the leek is to be found repeated on the collar and the shoulder strap. Dress distinctions are the black band round the forage cap, the buttons arranged in groups of five on the full dress tunic and the white, green, white plume worn on the left side of the bearskin. As one would expect, these men of the Principality boast an excellent choir and on the Rugby field shine as brilliantly as the toe-caps of their boots. Those who have spent time in their company are often puzzled by the toasts given in their native tongue; it does not always pay, however, to enquire too closely their exact translation.

Hugh L King

Next issue
The Royal Scots

MORE BOOKS

The Secret Battle: A P Herbert

"... Harry was shot for cowardice, and he was one of the bravest men I ever knew." That is the basis of and the reason for this book. The author, A P Herbert, well known as a light-hearted poet and masterly writer of humour, served in World War One and the story is said to be based on an officer in his own unit. However, no officer of the British Empire forces was executed for cowardice during the war. Nevertheless, Herbert, like many other impressionable young men of the time, was inspired by the endless slaughter, the bitterness, the tragedy, the hardships and the torments that affected men's minds as well as sapping the strength of their bodies.

In a foreword, Winston Churchill says the tale is founded on fact but is not an authentic account. He says it "should be read in each generation, so that men and women may rest under no illusion about what war means". It was first published in 1919 and is now reproduced in paperback cheap enough for all to study.

To quote Churchill again: "It is a soldier's tale cut in stone to melt all hearts."

Oxford University Press, Walton Street, Oxford OX2 6DP — £2.50

GRH

The Hut Six Story: Gordon Welchman

Nobody likes to be accused of learning to fight the last war, but Mr Welchman, in this vigorous book, tells a story which he believes still has some useful lessons for the West's security in the future.

He was teaching mathematics at Cambridge when World War Two

broke out and he joined the Government Communications Headquarters at Bletchley Park, where attempts were being made to break the German Enigma communications. He was set to study "call-signs and discriminants", only to sweep ahead and make a couple of break-throughs. He was ticked off for exceeding this brief and duplicating work others had already done. But the experience stood him in good stead as he progressed to the head of the Enigma-breaking Hut Six and later took charge of the mechanisation of communications traffic and cryptology.

His descriptions of the technical problems and how they were beaten by a combination of hard work, inspiration and luck are likely to appeal most to the technically or mathematically-minded reader, but there is much else in his story of the thousands of people who worked in Bletchley Park and its associated establishments.

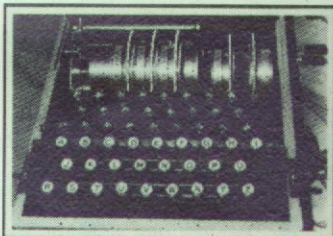
Mr Welchman was employed by the Foreign Office, but by some red tape had to be called up into the Army. He solemnly visited a Royal Artillery unit where he was enlisted and, twenty minutes later, discharged. A colleague, owing to the rules of his peace-time employer, stayed longer in the Army, nominally attached to an Intelligence Corps unit whose adjutant would sometimes get a phone call: "This is Lance-Corporal Fletcher's secretary speaking. He's very sorry but he's too busy to come to pay parade this afternoon."

It was all very hush-hush, and the author himself was unwilling to talk, let alone write, about this war until Enigma began to be public knowledge in the 1970s.

Hut Six was facing new cryptanalytical problems to the end of the war, as the Germans made changes in their procedures to tighten security, but the Germans made plenty of mistakes, too. Mr Welchman gleefully recalls a German officer in North

Africa reporting daily that he had nothing to report, thus giving Hut Six the key to the day's code.

From these mistakes he leads on to his own post-war studies on defence



and communications in the United States, of which he is not a citizen and comes to the conclusion that "our national defence is in shockingly bad shape". To remedy that state of affairs, he believes Hut Six decodes still have lessons for planning future military communications and security procedures.

Allen Lane, 536 King's Road, London SW10 0UH — £8.95

RLE

The Sharp End of War: John Ellis

Despite its lurid publicity blurb — 'The Real Blood-and-Guts of Modern Warfare' — John Ellis' book, now available in paperback, is in fact a serious study of the effect that World War Two had upon the ordinary soldiers who fought in it. The largest-scale war ever and, at the time, the most sophisticated, World War Two involved millions of men, most of whom were plucked from their civilian occupations and exposed to a bewildering and terrifying variety of modern weapon types with scarcely three months training to prepare them for the experience.

Mr Ellis attempts to chronicle that experience in a balanced and sympathetic manner. With skilful and comprehensive use of eye-witness accounts, mostly culled from lowly

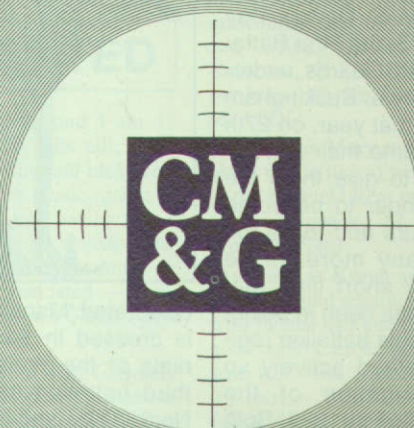
privates and NCOs, he takes us through from training to combat, describing the sort of treatment soldiers received and their reaction to it. He vividly captures the feelings of disorientation which marked the entrance into military life, the long periods of boredom and sudden flashes of fear which characterised active service, the debilitating effects of disease born of foul weather conditions and the percentage chance of being hit — a relatively high risk amongst those actually in the front line. He describes, too, the psychological collapse which inevitably came to any man too long in the line, and considers the attitudes of the men — towards each other, their officers, the lofty principles they were fighting for, and to the peace which would follow the war.

A revealing, perceptive and occasionally gruelling book; compulsive reading.

Corgi Books, Century House, 61-63 Uxbridge Road, London W5 5SA — £1.95

IJK





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VILLAGE CRAFTSMEN

COMPETITION 301



IN THE VILLAGE of Kneerly Green lived six craftsmen who owned among them the names: Painter; Carpenter; Slater; Tiler; Mason; Smith. Their occupations, though not necessarily in the same order as their names, were Mason, Tiler, Carpenter, Slater, Smith and Painter.

Mr Tiler was the smith's brother; Mr Carpenter's sister was married to the painter and the painter's sister was married to Mr Tiler. Willie Painter and May Painter were the children of Mr Painter who, in his spare time, was an amateur artist. Mr Smith wore a beard and the smith wore a moustache.

Also, Mr Mason's sister-in-law was perhaps the most beautiful woman in Levesar Green.

The painter, his wife, Mr Carpenter (who wasn't the tiler) and the smith often enjoyed a quiet game of bridge.

The mason was a better skittles player than the slater and Mr Smith and Mr Mason could nearly always beat Mr Slater and Mr Tiler at bowls.

At the local inn 'Ye Olde Craftie Dogge' the painter and the smith would often challenge Mr Mason and Mr Painter to a friendly game of dominoes.

Mr Mason's sister-in-law did not live at

Kneerly Green but at Levesar Green some distance away (and we have already remarked on her beauty).

If the occupation of each of the six craftsmen was different from his name, the carpenter did not play dominoes, Mr Mason could beat the tiler at cycling and the smith was a mighty man . . . who was the painter?

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 22 October. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 15 November. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 301' label. In the case of ties winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 301' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants., GU11 2DU.

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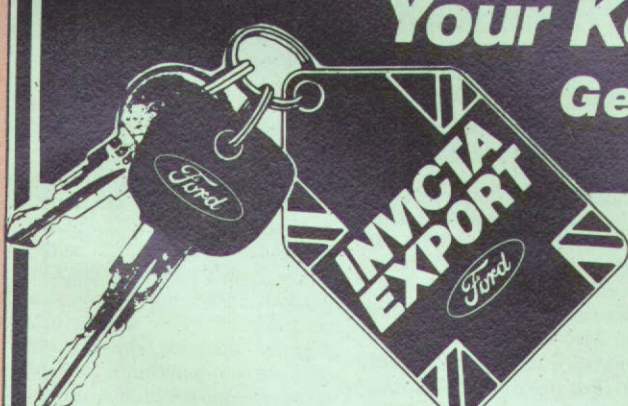
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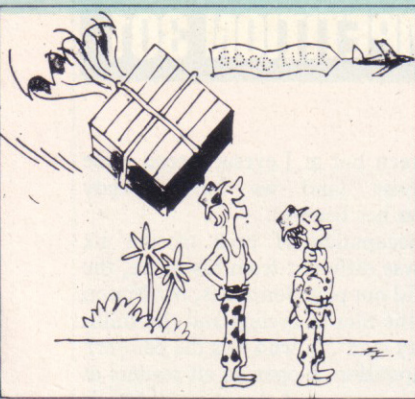
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POSTIES

I am writing in reference to all of the coverage your magazine has given to the postal and courier units involved in the Falklands campaign.

I have yet to see, however, a mention, a mere mention, for the Postal and Courier Troop, Royal Engineers, which have operated postal and courier services in the Falkland Islands since 24 May of this year.

The first Forces Post Office opened was on Ajax beach at San Carlos. As more of our troops came ashore with the 5th Infantry Bde we also opened up at Teal Inlet and Fitzroy, before moving into Port Stanley.

I am not saying that the glorious Depot and the detachment on Ascension, should not have received any recognition in the major roles they played. I am just saying that this detachment with which I serve, should not be forgotten. — **L/Cpl R B Cooke, 2 PC Regt Det RE, BFPO 666.**

Hear, hear, Lance Corporal Cooke — keep up the good work! We're sending you £5 for your letter — we hope it reaches you! — Ed.

KIT GOODIES

I feel that Cpl Howat's letter (9 August) deserves a reply in that he appears to be unaware of the superb range of equipment available to 'front line' soldiers in the Mountain, Arctic or Amphibious roles.

We have the option of boots DMS, boots, Ski-March and the new combat boot which we were issued with early in the South Atlantic conflict.

Our white pure-wool socks are the envy of the sailing fraternity!

Has Cpl Howat tried wearing his 'Compo' spectacles and tightening the chin strap on his steel helmet?

Gloves — the variety is endless — from black leather to contact and mittens with overgloves.

Waterproofs are reversible with a choice of colour — white or green.

The list goes on and on and I do not intend dwelling on fur caps, snow gaiters, windproofs, arctic sleeping bags or thermal underwear to name

but a few of our 'goodies'!

I have yet to hear of a member of the UK Trade Training organisation being struck down with frost bite, or suffering the effects of mind-numbing cold, but can confirm that on our annual three month deployment to the Arctic with the Commando Brigade we have yet to experience these problems, even in temperatures below minus 40°. — **WO1 R G Randall, 2 Postal & Courier Regt RE, Duke of Gloucester Bks, South Cerney, Cirencester, Glos, GL7 5PW.**

JEEP FLEET

It was with interest that I read your article on World War Two American vehicle restoration (23 August).

I have the same hobby as Peter Gray and am a member of the Military Vehicle Conservation Group. In fact I've been involved with WW2 military vehicles for eight years, my first vehicle, like Peter's, being a jeep bought for £175 in 1974.

Unlike Peter though my preference went to British vehicles and the second acquisition soon arrived, a 1940 Hillman Utility.

By then I had already joined the Army but my enthusiasm for the vehicles never waned and the 'fleet' now consists of a 1941 Bedford MWD 15cwt truck and three motorcycles, a 1943 Matchless G3L, 1939 BSA M20, and 1941 Royal Enfield WDC.

The vehicles are shown at steam and transport shows throughout the summer and I have recently taken part with the Bedford in the Colchester Tattoo for the second time.

In 1979 I was lucky enough to go on one of Peter's Liberty Highway tours and spent an enjoyable two weeks in Normandy and a very interesting Saturday afternoon adjusting the tracks on Peter's tank. — **L/Cpl D Whitehouse, AMF(L) Wksp REME, Ward Bks, Bulford, Wilts.**

MAIL SAIL

I am writing in reference to 'Sail of the Century' (News Lines 23 August).

I should like to point out a minor inaccuracy in the article on the journey of the first Army Post Office Corps in 1882. The party was in fact only 45 strong (two officers, four sergeants, four corporals and 35 privates), not 100 as quoted in the article. The remainder of the Corps (two corporals and 55 privates) remained at home as a Reserve.

I sincerely hope you will be including further articles on the voyage of the *TY Sabre* as she makes her way to Egypt to commemorate the first journey by members of the Army Post Office.

Meanwhile keep on the excellent job of putting out what is still an excellent magazine; it never fails to bring back memories, not always fond, of my own Service time. — **Barry Boon, 235 Dunsfold Way, New Addington, Surrey, CRO 0TR.**

SERVICE BONDS

As an ex-National Service soldier (driver RASC) I have read SOLDIER since first it became available to the public. Over the years I have read of regimental reunions with envy. Having served (on detachment) with 2 Bn Grenadier Guards, at Sungei Besi, a Hussar Regt, the 4th I think, at Raub, 26 Field Regt RA at Mentakab, and with other famous and valiant regiments in Malayan Command 1948-49, I scan through your magazine for news of these regiments of whom I was once a temporary member.

Recently I saw for the first time a mention of my parent unit, 16 Field Ambulance. Unfortunately the reference was to a casualty list when 16 Fd Amb personnel suffered loss during the Falklands Campaign.

It would appear that Corps men lose out on the family ties which bind together regimental personnel.

If any members of 16 Field Ambulance, 2nd Guards Bde, 1948-49, Malayan Command, care to correspond, I would be pleased to hear from them and will answer their letters. — **Jack Beasley, 6 Finney Drive, Chorlton cum Hardy, Manchester, M21 1DS.**

OLD METHODS

Reading your article 'New Mailcall' (page 5, 23 August) I was reminded that there was a drill set out in a manual of the '30s, in which two rifles were stuck into the ground by their bayonets and a loop of strong cord supported on the butt plates, which was snatched up by a hooked arm suspended from an aeroplane. I saw this demonstrated.

In *The Times* of 28 August, there was a letter saying that in the '20s something similar had been practised, with the message bag hanging from between two poles. — **Major J W G Cocke, 12 Grosvenor Hill, London, SW19 4SA.**

HOLS FOR HEROES

From Ms Linda Miles of Gravesend. During the Falklands conflict my aunt said many times that she wished there was something she could do for the soldiers and their families but did not know what.

Now that most of the troops are home — she is willing to offer holidays at her home in Norfolk for any of the servicemen (and their families) who served in the conflict.

Anyone interested should contact my aunt: **Mrs H Bradley, 36 Sharman Avenue, Watton, Nr Thetford, Norfolk. Tel: (0953) 882040.**

THE OLD . . .

Reading 'Task Force '39' (9 August) prompted many veterans to write to me, having tried many times to bring our fight for 'recognition' to the attention of the MOD — but without avail.

We requested a Bar for the 'Dunkirk' episode, but the MOD stated

that it would have started a flood of claims for other campaigns, and so it was never considered. I complained that the other campaigns hadn't even started, and indeed would never have started if we had failed at Dunkirk.

In 1943 it was decided to issue the 1939-43 Star. We received the ribbon, and this was well worth having as it covered some of the worst campaigns of the 1939-45 war, including land, sea and air. But with the prolonging of the war, the medal was extended to 1945, and we veterans who 'fell in' in September 1939 lost our coveted 1939-43 Star. Many veterans today can open their paybooks and show the entry '1939-43 Star'. We had a medal, which does not now exist. We have tried for a Bar inscribed 1939-43 to affix to the 1939-45 ribbon, to cover all the campaigns of that period. We survivors of 40 years ago still hope for 'recognition'.

But good luck to all those who served in the Falklands, and may they wear their campaign medal with pride. — **Harold Jubb, 18 Grammar School Road, Hull, HU5 4NZ.**

... AND BOLD

Colonel Newton's letter (14 June) reminded me of the little pang of regret I experience on Armistice Day that no campaign medal was issued for the Canal Zone crisis thirty years ago.

The casualties included Major Pringle Patterson and Private McIver of the 1st Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, 1st Guards Bde, 1st Infantry Div at whose joint funeral I had the honour to be on the firing party. They were caught in a terrorist ambush at Tel-el-Kebir, one area where there was always some sort of sniping activity or infiltration. We had three-man 'killer patrols' inside or outside the perimeter to deal with the infiltrators. Admittedly the action was certainly not comparable to that in, say, Northern Ireland, but good men died — and a little 'gong' would have been nice to show the children! — **Gordon McKenzie Booth, 16 Chenier, Blainville, Quebec, Canada, J7C 2P7.**

SHIP SLIP

Lt Col Austen of Towcester says that *SS Uganda* is the renamed *SS Nevada* ('Three in One' Mail Drop 23 August). I would like to point out this is in fact incorrect, the *Nevada* (20,500 tons) being a purpose-built troopship of 1956, serving in this capacity alongside the *Oxfordshire* (also purpose-built) until 1963, when it converted to educational cruises. It was broken up in 1975.

The *SS Uganda* (14,450 tons) of 1951, and her sister *SS Kenya* served British India's East Africa run, *Uganda* being the last survivor of these ships. As many of your readers no doubt remember these ships I hope this letter ends any confusion that may surround *Uganda*. — **Mr T Bolton, 3 East Wing, Ashby Road, Northchurch, Berkhamstead, Herts.**

Can You Help?

This Headquarters is preparing a history of 6th Infantry Brigade and 6th Armoured Brigade. Would any reader contact me if they have any information, photographs, articles or any other items that may be of assistance in the project. Any photographs, articles etc will be returned to the owner. — **WO1 (SSM) Hartley RAOC MISM, HQ 6th Arm Bde, BFPO 106.**

On 11 May 1951 the last salute was fired by four 25 pounders from Landguard Fort in Suffolk to mark the departure of the King and Queen of Denmark. These guns were sent over from Colchester especially for the occasion and I would be most grateful for details of the battery and to be in touch with anybody who was present. An old print shows the fort firing a salute in 1638 so this was the end of a very long sequence. — **Mr Frank Hussey, 40 Cotswold Avenue, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 4LJ.**

Does anyone know the whereabouts of David R Smith of 61 C intake at AAS Hadrians Camp (training camp for vehicle mechanics) and John Robinson of 61 intake both of 1960? **Michael D Barnard, 208 Mortlake Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 2TB.**

I am the daughter of the late Major Denys Symons, RAC, and I am trying to find people who knew him. All the information I have on my father is what MOD archives have been able to disclose. He was commissioned into the Royal Tank Corps in August 1937 serving throughout the war making substantive captain in August 1948. He retired from the Army in 1948 with 1939/45 Star, Africa Star with 8th Army Clasp, Defence Medal and War Medal 1939/45. — **Mrs S Encinas, 38 Duncan St, Kitimat, British Columbia, Canada V8C 2N7.**

Collectors' Corner

Capt D J Lupson, Officers Mess, 1 RRF, Elizabeth Bks, BFPO 29. *Has for sale older copies of SOLDIER Magazine: March 1950, August 1950, September 1950, January-March 1951, July 1951 and August 1951. All in good condition, any offers.*

Mrs S Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx HA0 2QT. *Is disposing of medal collection. Austria, Belgium, Congo, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Netherlands. Reasonable prices. Sae for list.*

Dean Gordon, 62 Mourneview Ave, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co Armagh, Northern Ireland BT66 8LA. *Wants colour photos of Guards especially Irish Guards in ceremonial dress. Also any photographs of Royal Marine Commandos.*

Mr Peel, 31 Drayton Crescent, Crewe, Cheshire. *Wants campaign medals and awards. Especially GSM Korea, Vietnam. Will buy or swap.* Bent Ritz, Hvedemarket 14 IIM, 6400 Sonderborg, Denmark. *Seeks military LP records. Reasonable prices paid.*

A B Burdett, 54 Gaydon Road, Solihull, Warwickshire, B92 9BN. *Wants South Africa Intelligence Corps cap badge, UK Para Regt black anodised cap badge, Canada Para Regt buttons and cloth S/T Royal Canadian Regt. Cash or exchange.*

Derek Fisk, 10 The Birches Close, North Baddesley, Southampton, Hants, SO5 9HL. *Wishes to purchase any badges of special forces, especially SAS, SBS and para insignia. Will also swap current issues of WW2 magazine with binders for a substantial collection of any military badges.*

Capt D Cooper, A Coy, 4 (V) R Irish, St Lucia Bks, Omagh, BFPO 804. *Wants WW2 plastic economy issue cap badges, particularly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.*

A H Wright, 94 Bank Side, Eccleshall Road, Walton, Stone, Staffs, ST15 0HP. *Has over 400 British cap badges for sale. Send SAE for list.*

Pen Pals

I am 25 years old and my name is Valerie. Writing letters, reading and music are a few of my hobbies. — **Valerie Laurie, 44 St. John's Avenue, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear.**

My name is Rose. I am 35 years old and a single parent of 4 children. My hobbies are dancing, keep fit and meeting people. — **Rose Patterson, 81 Lemon Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE33 4RQ.**

I am a girl of 18 and 5ft. in height. I have shoulder length dark hair. My

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interests are night discos and writing letters. All letters will be answered. — **Joanne Bradshaw, 154 Denman Gardens, Radford, Nottingham.**

My name is Julie and I am 21 years old. I am 5ft. 3in. and have brown hair and brown eyes. I work for local government and enjoy most sports. I have my own car and love to go out and enjoy myself. I would like to write to a soldier between 23-28 years old. Photograph if possible. — **J. Sanders, 22 Botha Road, Bordesley Green, Birmingham B9 5LT.**

I am a divorced woman aged 39 and would like to correspond with someone about the same age. — **Norma Rivers, 60 Raleigh Street, Nottingham. Tel 702686.**

Would any of the men in Northern Ireland care for a pen-friend? I am 28 years old. My hobbies are keep fit, squash, reading, swimming and dancing. — **Mrs Pauline Partridge, 56 Grange Close, Horam, Nr Heathfield, Sussex.**

My name is Jackie and I am 25. I am divorced with 3 young children. I like a variation of music. I love meeting people and making friends. I also love receiving letters and will write to anyone over 22 years regardless of rank or where they are posted. — **Jackie Harnwell, 6 Sebastian Court, Meadow Road, Barking, Essex IG11 GPE.**

Reunion

The Annual Reunion of the Gordon Highlanders London Association will be held on Friday 12th November at the London Scottish Drill Hall, 59 Buckingham Gate, London

SW1. Details from: Hon Secretary, R W Harman, 52 Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

Competition

Competition 297, 'Ruined Castles' attracted a disappointing number of entries — and we thought this one would get you all going! First you had to fill in the crossword puzzle and then from the anagram answers find 16 castles. These were: A Arundel, B Manorbier, C Maiden, D Kenilworth, E Conisbrough, F Stokesay, G Balmoral, H Corfe, J Caister, K Windsor, L Conway, M Herstmonceux, N Bodiam, O Carisbrooke, P Tintagel, Q Featherstone. Prizewinners were: 1st T M Brown, 17 Tenneyson Avenue, Gedling, Nottingham NG4 3HJ. 2nd Col Lawrence Smyth, Kilbronogue, Schull, Co Cork. 3rd Mrs F E Gehringer, 14 Windmill Drive, Burgess Hill, W Sussex RH15 8JW. 4th Mrs H C Dawson, 3 Southlands Close, Escrick, N Yorks YO4 6JE. 5th Mrs A Rose, 1 Roundway Court, Andover, Hants SP10 3EA.

How Observant Are You?

(see page 28)

1 Ear of lower spectator in stand; 2 Cigarette-end by wolf's foreleg; 3 Kick-off time on poster; 4 Top of ticket-box window; 5 Hair of spectator fourth from right; 6 Pipe of right spectator; 7 Jacket lapel of spectator second from right; 8 Triangular hole of drink can second from right; 9 Left angle-tile of wall above entrance; 10 Size of stand roof.

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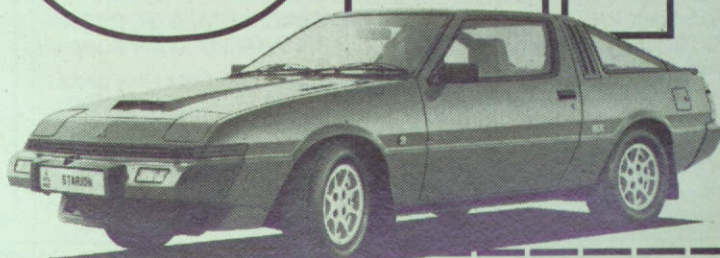
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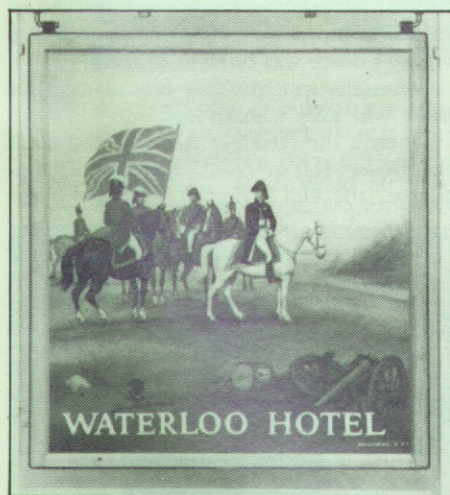


TURBO TECHNOLOGY
THERE'S NO GETTING AWAY FROM IT



Skilful brushwork from Mr George Mackenney

Up and down the country Britain's pubs present a fascinating picture of Britain's colourful military past



Waterloo — a popular source of inspiration.

On guard — this beefeater at Nuneaton.



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

IT MUST HAVE BEEN an assuredly anonymous cynic who claimed that work is the curse of the drinking classes. But the military over the years, at least, has always been well looked up to near the portals of licensed premises — thanks to the swinging inn sign.

Ever since Roman times and that military occupation of our shores, inn signs have given identity to the houses selling wines and 'other excisable liquors'. Among the most vividly recalled of these hanging art forms was the weather-beaten, ill-oiled advertising space — tongue lashed then by light sleepers — adorning the outside of the 'Jamaica Inn', still standing on the 29 miles of road from Bodmin to Launceston, a hostelry reviewed in the chapters of Daphne Du Maurier's classic of the same name.

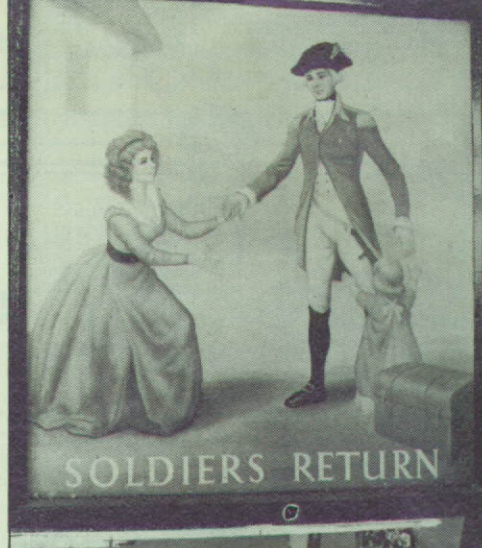
Blind Pugh — and he could be forgiven for the oversight — must have blundered and tapped his way past a similar sign in his desperate quest to find and plant the fated 'black spot' into the clammy palm of young Jim Hawkins, hiding out in the top of his mother's tavern, 'The Admiral Benbow' at the start of Stevenson's swashbuckling *Treasure Island*.

While examples like these, and many more, have found their way into the well-thumbed pages of literature and flickered on to cinema screens world-wide, the Army has been proudly on parade at double-decker bus level all over the United Kingdom commemorating one aspect or another of its colourful past.

Battles, campaigns, regiments, illustrious leaders, weapons — even individual ranks — are all held in high regard at pubs up and down the country.

Two of the more popular al fresco military memorabilia are The Alma and the Royal Standard.

And one of the most prolific painters of such four-by-three metal tableaux is Mr



The other half of the famous sign at Basingstoke.

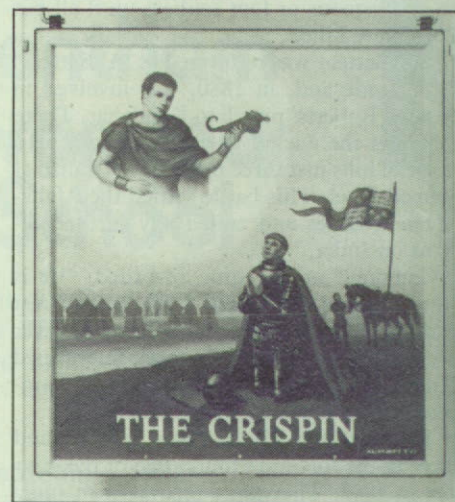
George Mackenney, 65, a freelance artist and self-styled 'failed portrait painter' of Aylesbury.

His assignments have included artwork for the Rifle Butts at High Wycombe, the Waterloo at Crowthorne, Berkshire, The Cannon, at Ash, near Aldershot, the Gurkha at Shredding Green and The Rifle Volunteer at Wokingham.

He was also responsible for The Soldier's Return at Basingstoke depicting both an 18th century family reunion and a World War Two 'Tommy' with his girl friend.

"I usually do one side every day", he said. "I'm very fast with the brush. Military themes need a lot of research such as details on the uniforms and my wife, who is keen on history, goes down to the local library and does it for me.

"Sometimes pub signs have to be two-faced. I don't like to repeat the same picture. For instance, if the requirement is for a



Winkfield's monument to Agincourt.

white horse I might depict a stallion on one side and a shire horse on the other."

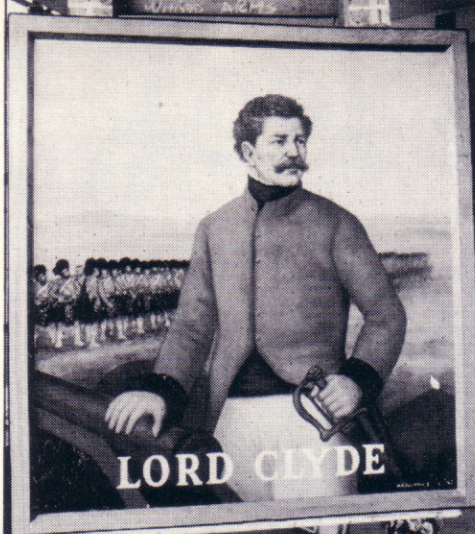
Mr Mackenney has been creating pub signs for 28 years and nowadays produces 185 a year. "I stopped counting at five and a half thousand!" he confided.

Actual photographs and extracts from regimental histories are vital aids to artists like Mr Mackenney.

His version of The Cannon at Ash near Aldershot, depicts the Ahmed Khel Cannon and was based on data supplied by F (Sphinx) Parachute Battery, Royal Horse Artillery.

In November 1841 the 1st Troop of the

continued on page 42



Another of Mr Mackenney's recent works.

1st Brigade Royal Horse Artillery, as F Battery was then known, was sent as part of a force under General Elphinstone to Balla Hissa on the Indo-Afghan border, where there was a local rebellion.

Operating from a firm base, the force conducted several quelling operations resulting in a treaty made on December 14, but throughout the campaign there had been a scarcity of provisions. The winter was setting in and the maintenance system began to fail completely.

From first to last, say the records, the gunners never had a full meal or obtained their normal rest.

On January 6, 1842, the troops were withdrawn through the barbarous country that divided Kabul from India, but the starved battery horses were unable to drag the guns through the deep snow and rugged mountain passes.

One by one the guns were spiked and abandoned while the surviving men fought on as dragoons or foot soldiers until all but three were killed.

The Battery was re-formed as 'A' Battery, 'B' Brigade and, in 1880, was involved in General Roberts' march to Kandahar. There they met the enemy in great strength on a range of hills just three miles from Ghunzi at Ahmed Khel. This battle settled the Afghanistan troubles and ended any further designs on India.

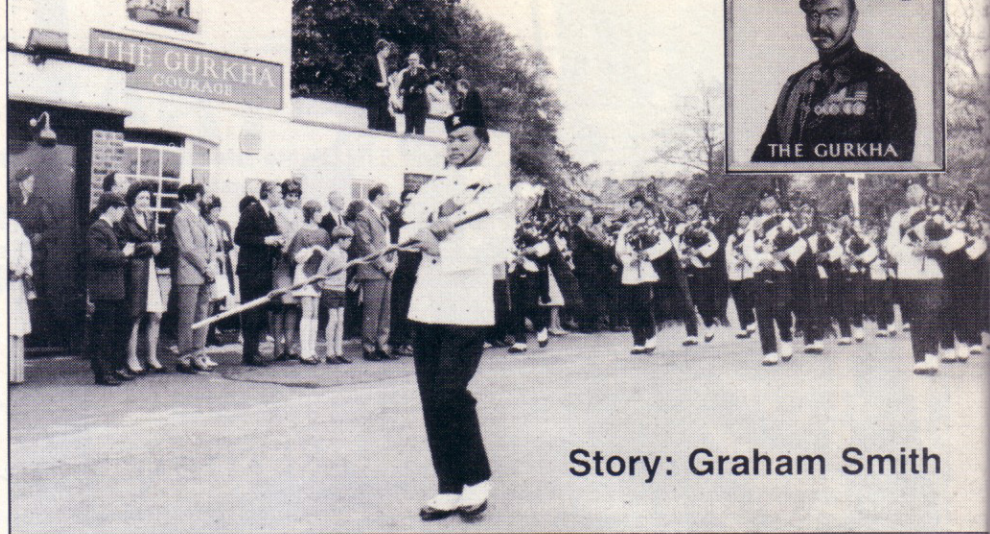
Comment at the time recorded: "It is admitted that the honours of the day rest with the Guns, and that no artillery has ever been called upon to repel a more determined charge upon them, a charge which no European would probably ever adventure."

The next day Ghunzi was reached and there in the fort were found two of the guns lost in 1842. They were recovered to India and one of the guns was finally presented to the Battery as a trophy in 1889 by the Indian Government.

This is the cannon depicted by Mr Mackenney and inside the pub his original sketches for the inn sign are still there 12 years later.

The Ahmed Khel Cannon, which remains with 'F' Battery to this day, is still in firing trim.

The sign outside the Waterloo at Crowthorne in Berkshire shows the Duke of Wellington, mounted on Copenhagen, surrounded by his staff officers, as evening falls on his field of triumph. And the Black Horse at Iver in Buckinghamshire departs from the conventional study of a black horse



Story: Graham Smith

normally associated with pubs and shows, instead, a spirited black charger mounted by a colourful Life Guards Trooper.

Still in Buckinghamshire, at High Wycombe, The Rifle Butts sign shows a member of a Rifle Volunteer Company during the 19th century at practice on the butts.

Companies were raised in towns and villages all over England to combat the threatened invasion by the French during the Napoleonic Wars. The volunteers wore dark green uniforms with tall black shakos and were armed with anything from shot-guns to muskets.

High Wycombe would undoubtedly have had such a company. The enthusiasm and potential as fighting units resulted in the raising of the 95th Rifle Regiment as part of the British army, trained to fight as individuals and skirmishers rather than in familiar formations. The 95th wore green jackets and black equipment in contrast to the red coats of the infantry regiments, and were armed with the Baker rifle.

They had the distinction of being the only British rifle regiment at Waterloo and were involved in the final repulse of the French Imperial Guard and the victorious allied advance at the end of the battle.

For the Brigade of Gurkhas, public house posterity came with the unveiling of an inn sign at Shredding Green in 1971. Even the Band was there to celebrate the name of the pub being changed from the Red Lion to The Gurkha.

One side, based upon a water colour portrait by Major (later Brigadier General) A C Lovett in 1910, shows Subadar Major Santabir Gunung of the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles, who not only had the distinction of being the last Indian Orderly Officer to King Edward VII but was also the first Indian Army soldier ever chosen to stand guard over his sovereign's bier at a Lying-in-State.

On the other side of the sign is a Subadar major of the 7th Gurkha Rifles of the same period.

The Cannon at Ascot shows one of the type carried aboard *HMS Victory* at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. Although she was about 50 years old at the time of the battle and had been twice re-built, the *Victory* was, if not the largest, the most formidable ship-of-the-line.

The Crispin at Winkfield, near Windsor, shows King Henry V kneeling in prayer amid the camp fires of his army, invoking the spirit of the martyred St Crispin as dawn breaks over Agincourt on October 25, 1415.

Flashback to 1971 as the Gurkhas celebrate the naming of 'their' pub (see inset).

St Crispin — one of two cobbler brothers — was beheaded in France in the Third Century by a Roman Emperor for showing compassion to the poor during Christian persecutions.

Henry V became heir and regent of France by the subsequent Treaty of Troyes and his children became the rightful kings of England and France by virtue of his marriage to Princess Katherine, daughter of the French King Charles VI.

The sign hangs at Winkfield and was thought appropriate because Queen Katherine and her infant son were in residence at nearby Windsor Castle when the news of Henry's death was brought to them.

Inn signs with military bias abound for those who keep a sharp look out.

There's the Artillery Arms at Southsea, the Desert Rat at both Reigate and Scunthorpe, the Old Drum at Petersfield, the



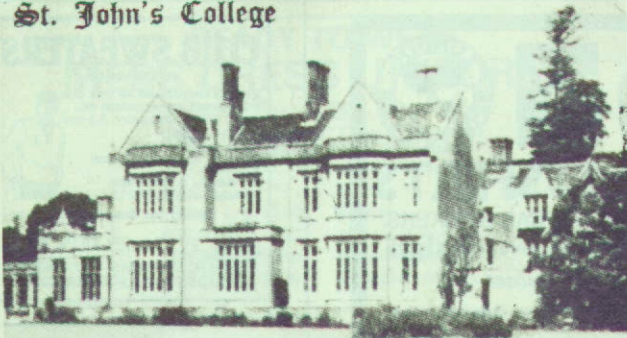
Black horse — and Life Guard — at Iver.

Volunteer at Dorking, the Army and Navy at Aldershot, the Rifleman at Sevenoaks, the Valiant Soldier at Bridgwater, The Parade at Bridlington, The Generals Tarleton, Napier and Wolfe (at Knaresborough, Redhill and Westerham respectively), the Florence Nightingale in Leeds, The Flarepath at Doncaster, Montgomery of Alamein at Warwick, the Guards Inn at Nuneaton, The Derbyshire Yeoman at Derby, the Bugle at Reading and, with no concession to modern-day vernacular, the Gay Cavalier at Staines.

So if you fancy an interesting pub crawl one day — and need a convincing excuse — just say you're off to study a bit of military history!

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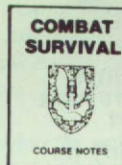


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Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx. HA0 2QT.

Cap badges, regimental ties, blazer badges, all militaria. SAE free list. Cairncross (Dept S), 31 Bellevue St, Filey, North Yorkshire, YO14 9HU.

Battle of Kohima: A small number of prints of Terence Cuneo's painting are still available. The painting depicts the moment when the 2nd Battalion The Dorset Regiment, accompanied by a tank of 149 Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, and supported by guns of 16 Field Regiment, attacked the Japanese bunkers across what had earlier been the district commissioner's tennis court. Full colour prints (29" x 24" including border) are obtainable from: Capt D G Lee REME, HQ 2 Armd Div (G1/G4), BFPO 22 at a cost of £6 which includes postage. Cheques should be made payable to the 'GOC's Welfare Fund'.

Autobiography 'Winged Messenger' Royal Signals RSM Retd 1935-1964. Author signed dedicated 401 page deluxe hardcover £9.30 inc post. Cheques to:

P E A Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx, HA0 2QT. 01-908 0202.

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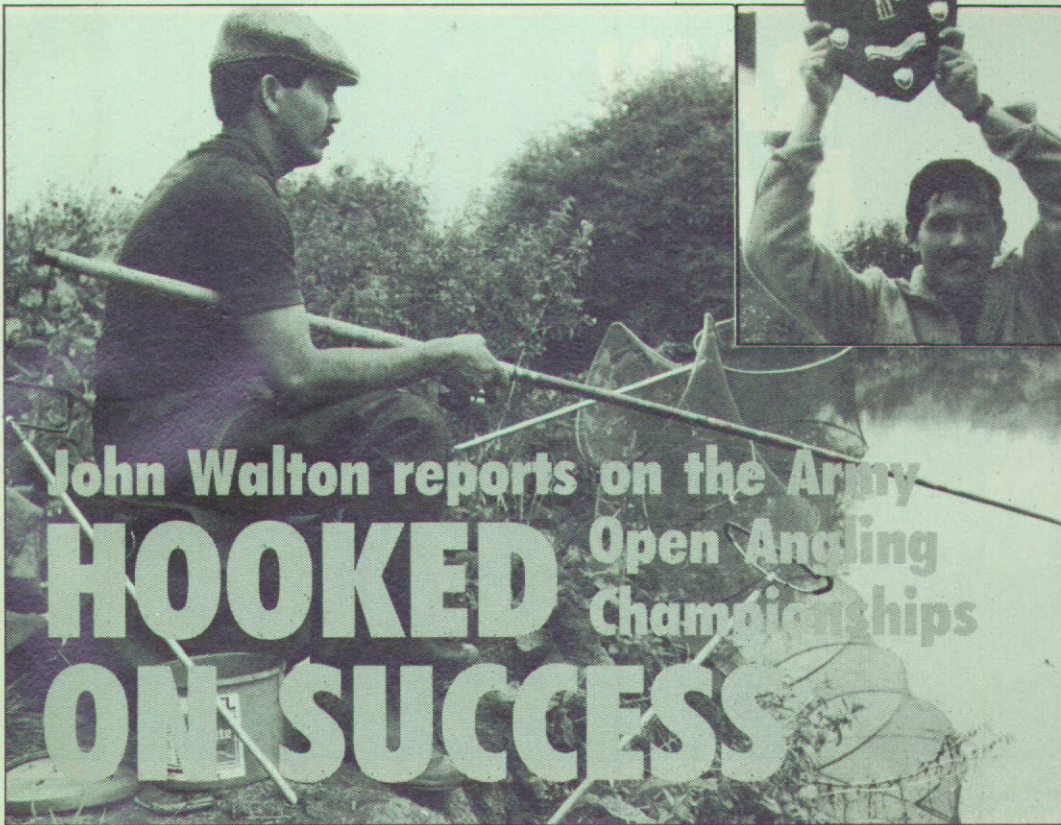
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John Walton reports on the Army HOOKED Open Angling ON SUCCESS Championships

The Army Open Angling Championships are always a pretty wet affair — not just for the fish, for whom a wet environment is a must, but for the competitors. Every autumn, as if pre-ordained, the heavens open as the Army's fishermen gather to do battle along the banks of the Thames.

So it was again this year — 80 anglers strung along a mile-and-a-half of meandering river east of Tadpole Bridge near Faringdon

although he had netted about 20 fish he estimated his total catch as only half a pound.

"I am just getting small dace and bleak from off the surface at the moment," he explained. In fact, while skill plays a big part in winning such a competition, there is an element of luck in that you need a good draw. High numbers were reckoned to be better this time and No 101 was said to be the favourite position. "The river bends just right and you have the right flow of water there," said Major Emery.

All you need to enter the Army open championships is an Army Angling Association membership card. So the experts are pitted against the novices and there are often surprises. A bad draw does not mean that you have nothing to compete for — there are prizes for each section of the river.

Maggots, caterpillars, worms, slugs — even cheese and luncheon meat — are some of the baits used by the anglers to catch their fish. A little further along the bank Warrant Officer 2 Peter Perrow of Woolwich was expertly flicking maggots to the further side of the river with the aid of a catapult.

"The catapulting stems from a bad boyhood", he grinned. "I gave up fishing when I first came into the Army but then I found it enabled me to get away from the barrack room. If you didn't go drinking and things like that you just had no chance to get away from the four walls."

Fishing competitions some-

times carry big money prizes but few people actually make money after taking out their expenses. A good rod costs something like £110 and a carbon roach pole could set you back something like £400.

On to Peg 101 and Sgt Dave D'Silva, from 8 Signal Regiment, Catterick, was already well away with five chub and several smaller fish. "I heard it was a hot peg but I didn't know definitely until I got here. I took virtually half of my fish in the first 20 minutes and lost a really big one, which straightened out my hook."

Sgt D'Silva usually does his fishing in the fast flowing River Swale and other northern rivers. But with his experience (fifth last year) and the favourite peg he was obviously the man to beat.

Last year's champion at both this and the UKLF championship was Corporal Bill Howell, who is the driver for the Commandant at RMA Sandhurst. He was less favoured — on peg 69 — but already had a few pounds in his net.

"I'm not bothered about winning the championship. I shall be happy to win this section. I've got my name on the trophy so let someone else get it this year," he said, not entirely convincingly, as he concentrated on his fishing.

There is only one lady member of the Army Angling Association, a member's wife, and no WRAC or QARANC girls have shown any interest. But women in civilian life seem to be taking it up and Major Emery feels it is

Sgt D'Silva on the riverbank and (insert) holding his trophy aloft.

only a matter of time before this spreads to the Army.

But one lady was on the bank. Sitting on a chair in persistent rain, watching your husband fish may not appeal to many women but Mrs Margaret Clark likes doing just that.

"I just love the peace and quiet. The whole thing fascinates me but I would rather watch than fish myself," she said. Husband, Brian, a staff-sergeant from the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, added: "The last time she came a pike kept pinching all the little fish. Every time I reeled one in this thing came out of the depths like 'Jaws' and pinched it."

Fishing rights to the stretch of river are owned by Mr Tom Tomlinson, landlord of 'The Trout', a 17th century riverside inn at Tadpole Bridge. He has become a firm friend of Army fishermen in recent times and has agreed to allow next month's Inter-Services match to be held there free.

It was in the car park of 'The Trout' that the anglers gathered after the weigh-in. Many were the stories of the ones that had got away. Major Bob Coe, the founder of the Association, who has now left the Army, was on hand to present the championship trophy which he donated last year.

The winner went according to the form book — Dave D'Silva weighing in a total of 11 lbs 15 ozs. But runner-up was a newcomer, Sergeant Malcolm Read, from the 1st Battalion, The Devon and Dorsets, stationed at Colchester. His 14 fish weighed a total of 11 lbs 2 ozs.

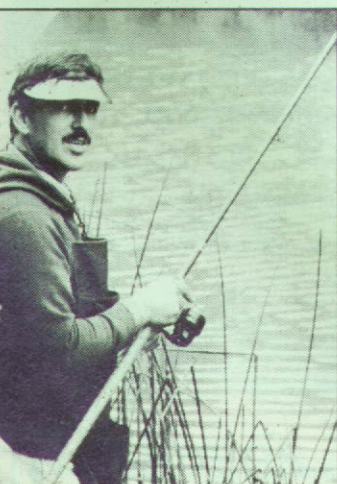
Third place went to last year's

Pictures: Doug Pratt

runner-up Sergeant Colin Colclough RE. He is stationed at RAF Brize Norton just five miles away. He said afterwards: "This is really my local water. I had a reasonable draw — but next year will be my last chance to win before leaving the Army so I shall have to really do my best."

Fourth was Corporal Howell at 9 lbs 10 ozs and fifth WO2 Perrow at 8 lbs 9½ ozs.

Angling is still not a fully recognised Army sport. But in four years since the association was formed it has gathered 1600 members. As Major Emery commented: "To get 1600 without recognition shows it is a very big sport. If we can persuade them to give us recognition as a sport in our own right we shall be even bigger."



Last year's winner, Cpl Bill Howell, had to settle for fourth place this year.

and a persistent drizzle which made the green umbrellas of more than academic interest.

Not that the anglers minded at all. "I like rain. It helps," declared Major Peter Emery, the Army coarse fishing secretary, as he surveyed his 'peg'. Major Emery had drawn No 82 and



RAIN MARS MINOR FINAL

IN A BADLY RAIN AFFECTED FINAL the Depot of the Prince of Wales's Division, Lichfield, emerged as minor units cricket champions. The match at Aldershot came to a premature end due to rain and bad light and although an attempt was made to restart the result was eventually decided

on run rate.

The Communication and Security Group UKLF, who batted first, built up a score of 125 for 6 before they ran out of time after only 36 overs. Their opponents appeared to be heading for a fine win at 85 for one but then came a sudden collapse.

Wickets tumbled in the gathering murk until the umpires called the players off with the Prince of Wales's score at 99 for 6. But as they had only taken 20 overs to amass this total they took the trophy. Paul Haley's picture shows the Lichfield fielders waiting for a chance behind the slips.

SET FOR BERLIN'S BIG RUN

BETWEEN four and five thousand runners, many of them British, are expected to take part in the second Berlin Marathon on 26 September. Last year the first three runners home were British and among the expected 1000 Britons this time will be teams from as far away as RSA Larkhill.

Two years' graft for top fencing title

ROBERTS BARRACKS, Osnabrück, is the home of this year's Inter-Services Fencing Team Champions, 25 Engineer Regiment. The title comes as the result of two years of hard work by the regimental fencing squad.

Last year the sappers had a very small squad but nevertheless won the Rhine Army championship and were Army runners-up. This year they aimed for the six man team event and the long trail began in March when they almost fell at the first hurdle.

But they took the Divisional and Rhine Army titles and in the Army final met last year's Army and Inter-Services champions, AAC Middle Wallop. At the half way stage it all looked plain sailing when they led 6 - 0, but the Army Air Corps team gradually whittled this away to make the score 6 - 5 with just one bout to go.

The last person to fence for the Engineers was Lance-Corporal Joe Davies and he managed to win his encounter by five hits to four. So it was on to the Inter-Services championships where both the Navy and 25 Engineer Regiment beat the RAF 7 - 5.

Once again all rested on the final bout and a new hero emerged — Sapper Gary Clark-

son, who won his bout after a shaky start to give the Army team the Inter-Services trophy.

FALKLANDS MINI MARATHON

THE FALKLAND ISLES, recent scene of much 'yomping', will stage their first mini-marathon shortly. The 13 mile event, organised by 266 Signal Squadron (South Atlantic) in conjunction with HQ Land Forces Falkland Isles, takes place on 10 October.

The run will start at Moody Brook, the site of the old Royal Marine barracks, go through Port Stanley out to the airport and back into the capital. Commemorative medals will go to the first 150 home and all finishers will get a certificate.

SQUASH

There is a new venue for this year's REME Corps Squash championships. They will be held 18-20 November at Havannah Barracks, SEME, Bordon. Entry forms from Major G J Mead, C Company, SEME, Bordon, Hants.

SALE OF SURPLUS MARRIED QUARTERS UNDER THE NON DISCOUNTED SCHEME

Bulletin No 42 contains details of the following surplus Married Quarters offered for sale through the Joint Services Married Quarters Sales Office at UKLF Wilton (Salisbury Military 2684/2693).

Bulletin 42

Type 2	1 in Gaydon, Warwickshire	£37,500
Type 3	3 in Gaydon, Warwickshire	£29,000- £29,750
	1 in Colchester, Essex	£100,000
Type 4	11 in Gaydon, Warwickshire	£25,600- £30,000
Type 5	28 in Gaydon, Warwickshire	£22,000- £27,000
Type C	1 in Clapham, Bedfordshire	£19,500
Type B	1 in Shrivenham, Oxfordshire	£19,500

This Bulletin has been distributed to all Units. Further information and application forms will be available through your Unit/Ship/Station.

The closing date for all applications for properties offered in Bulletin Number 42 is 6 October 1982

ARMY MAJOR UNITS CRICKET FINAL

Veterans get their Pay Day

EXPERIENCE FINALLY TRIUMPHED over youth in the Army major units cricket final as the Royal Army Pay Corps Training Centre took the trophy for the first time since 1974. But it was a close run thing with the last pair scrambling the final few runs needed to beat the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, in gathering gloom.

The RAPC team contained only three men under the age of 30 with the oldest, Major Peter Wright, their top scorer, approaching retirement from the Army at the age of 55. On the other hand Chepstow included four apprentices from their winning junior side.

Once again the notorious pitch at the Officers' Club ground restricted the scoring. An uneven bounce with most balls keeping low meant that the Chepstow batsmen had to struggle hard for runs. Apprentice Corporal Stephen Bunn (20) and Captain Tony Jones (24) saw them to a fairly respectable 60 for 3.

But a sensational collapse was to follow. Five wickets fell for only six runs as the batsmen fought not only the pitch but the cacophony from the nearby Farnborough Air Display.

Architect of their dismissal for only 87 was seam bowler, Captain Brian Ballard. He said after-

wards: "It's not a very nice wicket at all and has been very well watered just to hold it together. It was quite helpful to me and after two or three overs I had got the measure of it. It was then moving off the seam both ways."

Spry fielding from the veterans had also helped to keep the score down and when their openers, the skipper, Staff-Sergeant Ken Blowes and Sergeant Phil Bradbury, went into bat Worthy Down confidence was high.

Needing not much more than two an over the RAPC went slowly towards the target. Blowes went at 18 when he snicked a catch behind to Staff-Sergeant Derek Andrews. Elder statesman Wright got his innings off to a thumping start with a boundary and at the other end, Bradbury — who took an hour to score five — led a charmed life. He was dropped three times and bowled from a no-ball before finally holding out to Staff-Sergeant Billy



Skipper Ken Blowes and his men celebrate their win.

Melville off Draper's bowling.

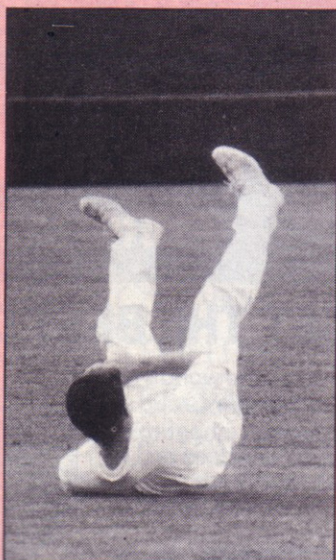
By this time it was Worthy Down's turn to suffer noise distractions with fleets of helicopters buzzing over the ground on their way home from the Air Show. At 48 for 4 Wright was joined by Staff-Sergeant Gess Miles, who laid about him with gusto including a mighty six to the sight screen.

Wright finally went down lbw to the apprentice bowler, Martin-dale, having scored 23 valuable runs. But as the light faded Miles and the diminutive Corporal Jim Hobbs took the score to 79 be-

fore another Miles swipe saw a running catch by Jones.

Suddenly what had looked an easy task became a nightmare for the RAPC. Three more wickets tumbled and six runs were still needed as Staff-Sergeant John Chaplin joined Hobbs at the wicket.

Ten minutes of nail-biting suspense followed as Chaplin defended stoutly while the slightly built Hobbs gathered the remaining runs. Finally a glorious hit for two saw Hobbs throw his bat in the air in delight and Worthy Down had won.



The perils of Phil. RAPC opener Bradbury is 'bowled' from a no ball, survives three catches and (above) is finally caught by S/Sgt Billy Melville.

ROUNDERS

Just one rounder made all the difference to WRAC Woolwich who took the trophy in this year's Army Women's Rounders Inter Unit Tournament. Running equal with Northern Ireland Women's Services for almost two thirds of the tournament, Woolwich made the vital rounder early in their innings in the match against their closest rivals. Full report in next issue.

NAVY'S NEW COURTS

The Royal Navy Lawn Tennis Association has opened three covered tennis courts at Burnaby Road in Portsmouth. The new centre will be available both for Navy personnel and others. New on-site changing facilities will be completed next Spring.

Canada Goldrush

THE BRITISH ARMY RIFLE TEAM has just returned from its fifth and most successful visit to Canada competing in the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association's Centenary meeting.

The 15 man team was led by Lieutenant-Colonel Don Gillam, the 1962 Queen's Medallist and consisted of an eight man team from the 6th Gurkha Rifles, the current Army champions and six of the Army's top all round individuals.

The team spent two weeks at Kingston on the shores of Ontario for acclimatisation and practice before the meeting at Connaught Ranges outside Ottawa. The weather did not run to form. Reported the team adjutant, Lieutenant-Colonel Tom Hutchison: "After expecting hot and humid conditions we found ourselves shooting under very difficult wet and windy conditions similar to those at Bisley."

The rifle championship was won in impressive style by this year's Queen's Medal winner, Corporal Dharmendra Gurung who beat the Canadian Queen's

Medallist by 34 points. The Gurkha corporal was the outstanding marksman of the meeting.

Other individual match winners were SMI Richard Silk SASC, Sgt John Ash D & D, Cpl Des Gilles 1 Gordons, L/Cpl Mick Frape 1 RGJ and L/Cpl Khusiman 6 GR. The SMG championship was won by Rifleman Sherbahadur of 6 GR with members of the Army team taking the next six places and all the team matches.

It was a similar story in the GPMG events with Rifleman Narainsing and Sherbahadur winning the championship and the rest of the team taking the next three places. They also took the first three places in the section match.

Final tally for the team was eight major trophies, 16 gold medals, ten silver, nine bronze and 15 silver spoons.

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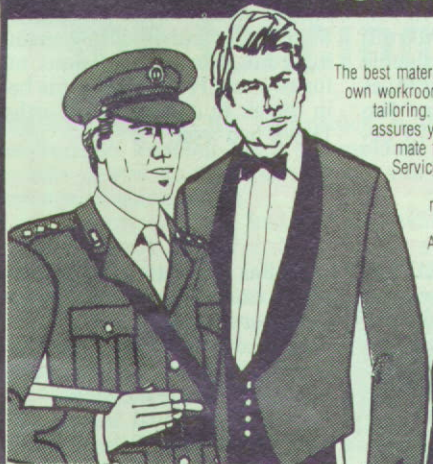
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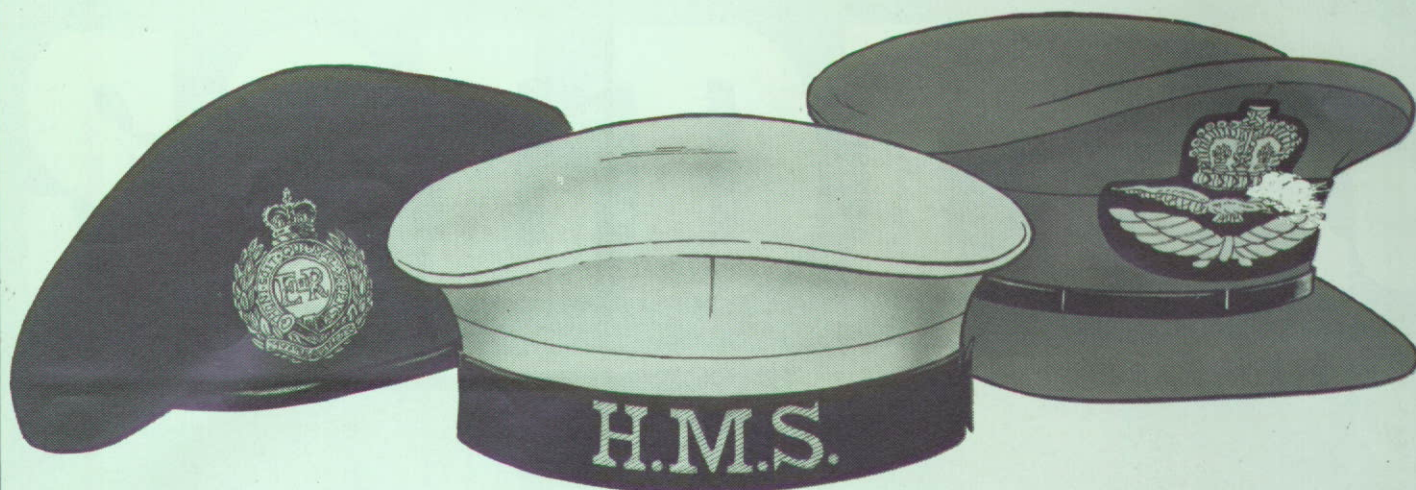
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