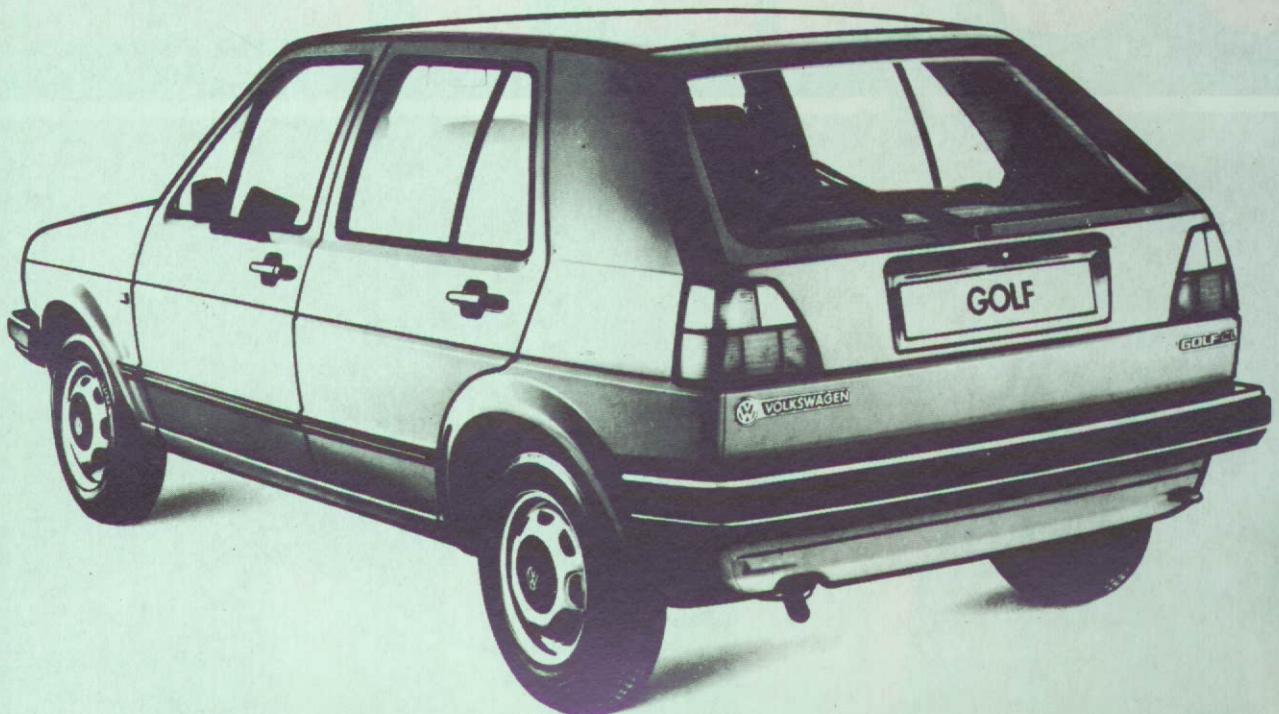


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CONTENTS

- 6 News
- 8 People
- 10 N Ireland TA Special
- 12 TA Extra
- 13 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 14 DLA — The Difficult Balance
- 16 Warriors' Land Back to the Plough
- 18 Tercentenary Spectacular
- 22 All in the Family
- 25 Your Guide to New Drill with New Rifle
- 30 Infantry of the Future
- 32 The Biggest 'Bug Hunt'
- 35 New Image for Pioneers
- 37 Your Cap Badge
- 38 On The Record
- 39 Competition
- 40 Mail Drop
- 41 Reichswald: the Soldiers' Battle
- 49 Sport

FRONT COVER: Moving to the 'Present' with the new rifle.

BACK COVER: 'At Ease' with the new rifle.

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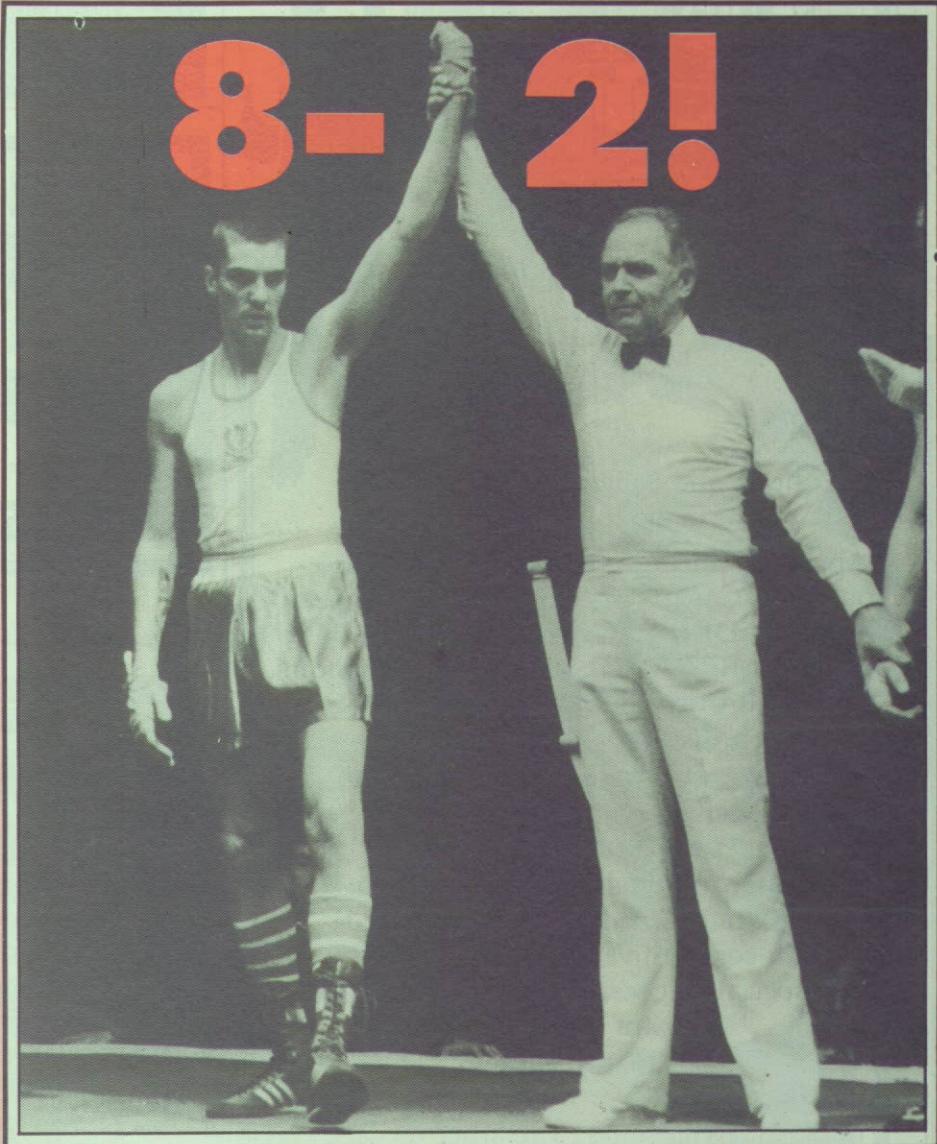
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SOLDIER

INCORPORATING
THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE



In one of the best performances by Army boxers for many years in the Combined-Service Championships, the Royal Navy were beaten 8-2 at Portsmouth. Now the Army team is all keyed-up for the meeting with the Royal Air Force on 22 February.

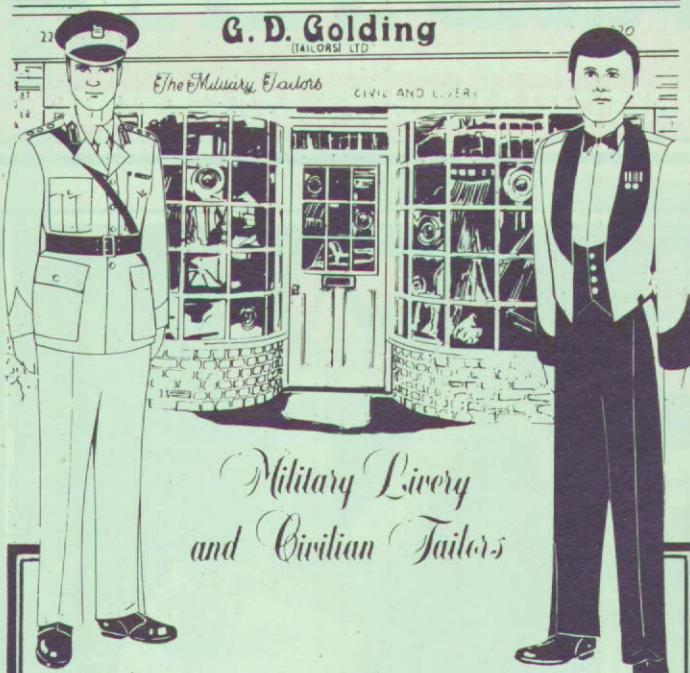
Above — one of the eight! Lance Corporal Eddie Gajny, Royal Signals with hand raised by the referee.

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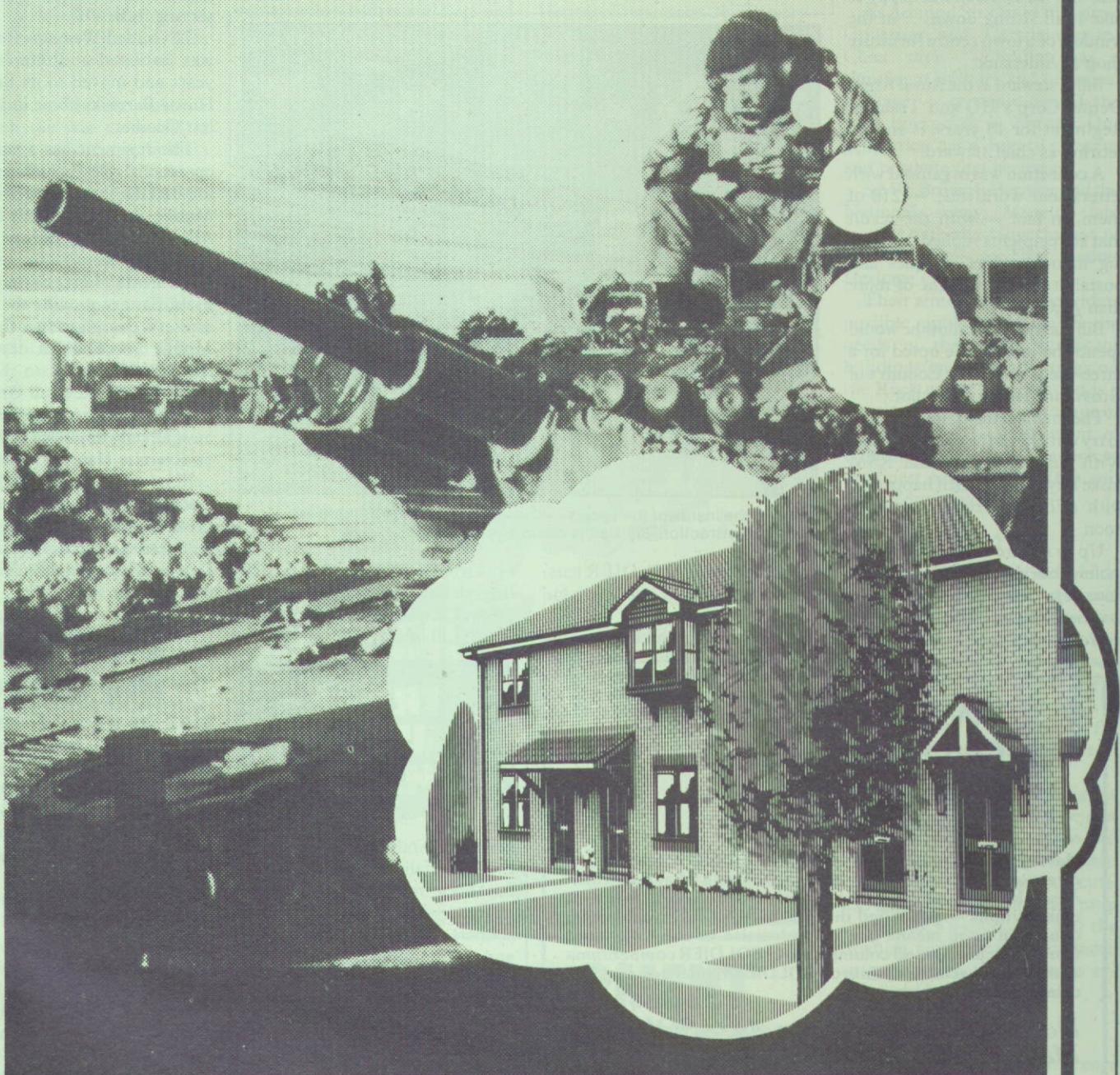
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ANGLIANS GET RARE MAXIM

AFTER rusting in a Suffolk village churchyard for over half a century and then gathering dust in a village shed, a captured World War 1 German machine gun has been restored and presented to the Army.

The gun, a Maxim, was displayed on the war memorial at Theberton, near Saxmundham after the war.

Many towns and villages which had connections with particularly gallant soldiers were given examples of captured enemy equipment; in Theberton's case, the link was Lieutenant Colonel Charles Doughty-Wylie, who was killed at Gallipoli and posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

In 1976 the gun was removed in a very rusty condition and kept in a local shed, but last year it was decided at a public meeting that the gun should be given to the local regiment, now 1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment.

The gun has been restored by Mr Richard Ashley of Pakenham, Bury St Edmunds — a Territorial Army staff sergeant and armourer to the Royal Anglian Regiment's 6 (Volunteer) Battalion — and was officially handed over at the battalion's TA headquarters in Bury St Edmunds.

Making the presentation was Mr Richard White, chairman of Theberton Parish Council, and Mr Charles Johnson, a veteran of the former Suffolk Regiment.

Receiving it on behalf of 1st Battalion — which is at present in Northern Ireland — was Regimental Sergeant Major Paul Ludbrook and Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Brian Bear.

Bid to save constable

MEN of his old regiment — 150 of them — rallied round in the life-saving blood transfusion efforts for PC George Hammond, formerly of the Coldstream Guards from 1955-64, who was stabbed in the stomach during a Dulwich, London, sweet shop robbery.

PC Hammond, had several transfusions in the round-the-clock bids to save his life. Among those on stand-by to give their blood were 150 Coldstream Guardsmen.

During his service, PC Hammond served four years with the first battalion and five years with the second battalion. As SOLDIER went to press PC Hammond was still critically ill.

BID TO SAVE GIBRALTAR'S MAGNIFICENT HERITAGE

Plans to preserve Gibraltar's remarkable wealth of buildings and military fortifications of historical and architectural merit are being laid in London this month with

the opening of the Gibraltar Heritage Conference, 26 February.

The excitement which the Rock's many superb old buildings arouse, individually and as a group, has

prompted considerable comment.

As Admiral Sir David Williams, Governor and Commander-in-Chief says: "Gibraltar has a significant military and historical heritage — certainly one of the most interesting in Europe. Our generation has a duty to preserve and promote that heritage."

SAVE Britain's Heritage and the National Army Museum are joining with the Government of Gibraltar to sponsor The Gibraltar Heritage Conference.

Their aim is to draw the widest possible public attention to the needs of the many significant buildings and military works on the Rock whose preservation is a massive task, beyond the scope of the people and Government of Gibraltar, but which form one of the finest collections of 18th and 19th century architecture.

GOOD STATE

Many of Gibraltar's old buildings are in a good state of repair and many others are sufficiently well preserved to allow complete restoration and, in some cases, conversion for modern-day use.

The sponsors believe such a legacy must be preserved for posterity and shared with the rest of the world.

It is felt particularly appropriate that this challenge should be met at a time when the famous old Naval Dockyard has been closed because of British defence cuts, leaving tourism as the chief prop to the Rock's economy, and the Spanish Government announced suspension of the Frontier restrictions from 5 February.

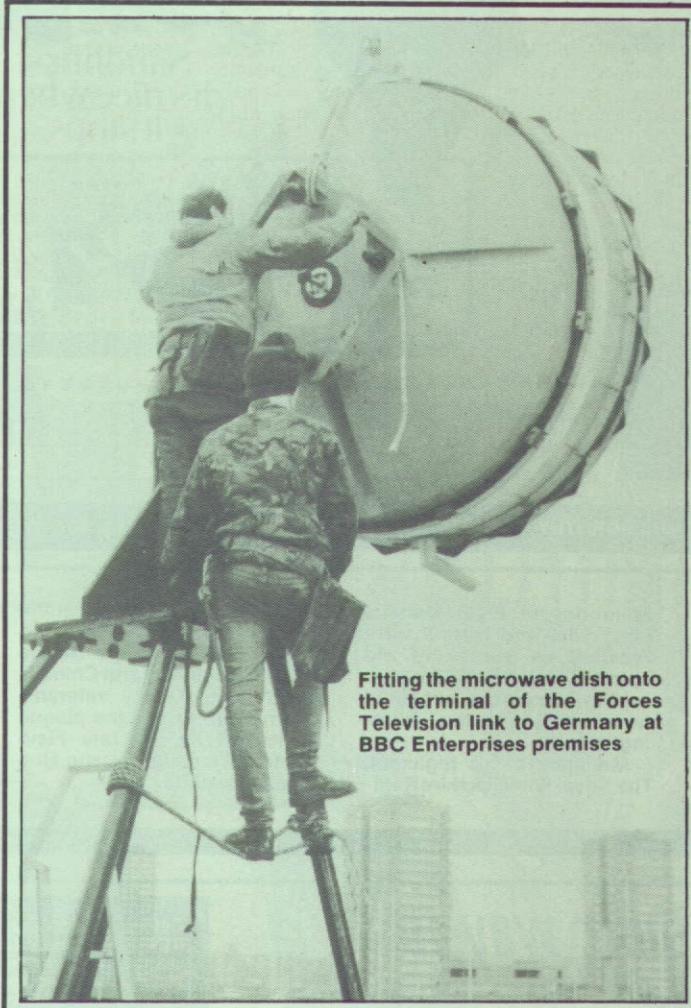
IMPORTANT

The first part of the Conference opens in London with The Duke of Gloucester, an architect himself, giving the opening address.

Other speakers will include Admiral Sir David Williams, Sir Joshua Hassan, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Lord Boyd-Carpenter, General Sir William Jackson, a former Governor, and Marcus Binney, President of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

The second part of the Conference is being held in Gibraltar April 19-22 and will include visits to the more important sites.

Those attending the Conference will include leading figures from industry and commerce, Members of the House of Lords and House of Commons, Service chiefs and those concerned with architecture and conservation.



Fitting the microwave dish onto the terminal of the Forces Television link to Germany at BBC Enterprises premises

VITAL EQUIPMENT MOVED SMOOTHLY

The Services Sound and Vision Corporation who let their operational contract to BBC Enterprises Ltd at Wood Lane have moved the source of the live Television Link to British Forces in Germany. The relocation of the microwave equipment from LWT at Wycombe Road to the Woodlands site was organised by SSVC's Project Group who sub contracted Alan Dick of Cheltenham for the physical move.

The 1½ ton container housing the

technical equipment was lowered by a 50 ton crane with 180 ft of jib to a pre-prepared foundation so precisely that a perfect siting was achieved. The microwave dish was equally accurate in its positioning and the whole move was achieved in about six hours. After reconnection and testing, the link is expected back in service in a few days. It carries live news, sports and other special programmes to servicemen and their families across Northern Germany to West Berlin being transmitted in garrisons and stations along the way. Teletext is also transmitted on a trial basis at present, BBC's CEEFAX having been available for the past six months and Oracle starting this month.

'MOD COMMS'

THE FIRST vehicle-borne satellite communications equipment to enter British military service is to be supplied by Racal-SES Limited.

Cricketing Sapper takes guard at APTC school

A former skipper and opening bat of the Army cricket team has taken command of the Army Physical Training Corps school at Aldershot.

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Brooks, Royal Engineers, is the first Sapper to be appointed to the post which carries the dual role of Deputy Commandant of the APTC.

Since his occupancy as CO was just hours old, he

was not anxious to forecast any changes in his command, but guarded his wicket with a verbal straight bat confining himself to an 'impression' that there appeared to be a lack of trained cricket and football coaches in the Corps.

"While we have top specialists in many minor

sports such as judo, athletics, gymnastics and the like, there doesn't seem to be too many qualified coaches in the more major sports."

He added that, while he would like to see more coaches in the popular games, it was easier said than done as "much de-

pended on individuals and whether they had the skill and experience to be trained in coaching."

On a personal note the Colonel, 41, married with two children, said he played squash and went running to keep fit.

"I don't exactly enjoy pounding around," he confessed, "but the adjutant, Major Tudor Quare, is a keen runner and speeding along with him will make it a good deal easier."

But when asked if he was a speedster of note Major Quare replied: "Good heavens, no. I hate it, too. But we can't tell other people to do it and not do it ourselves."

"It's all part of retaining the image as well as keeping



Lt Col Richard Brooks

fit. That's why I run six miles a day during the lunch break!"

Sounds like the Colonel's in for a real jolly time.

Quick response commended

A road accident in which two people died and four were injured has led to Sergeant Brian Michael, REME, receiving a commendation from Lieutenant General Sir Geoffrey Howlett, GOC South East District, for 'demonstrating the very best qualities of a soldier.' Brian called the police and ambulance, stopped passing traffic and gave first aid to the victims of the crash which happened outside his home.

£500 heralds quest for adventure

A big smile from Private Stephen Carter ... and no wonder for he's just collected £500 and permission from the CO of the 1st Armoured Field Ambulance, RAMC, to take part in Operation Raleigh — the scheme which allows



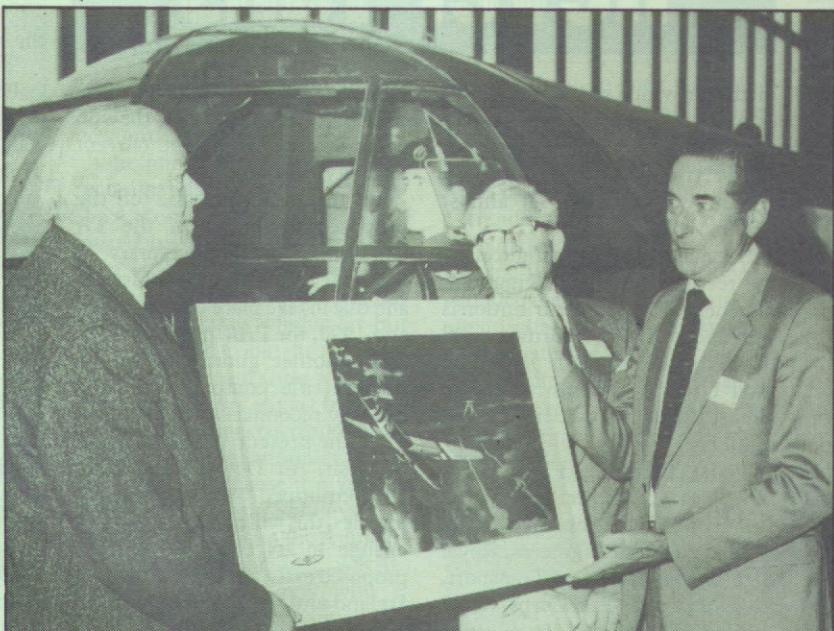
Private Stephen Carter

young people to 'do their thing.'

Based in BAOR, Stephen leaves in April for three months in Panama where he will explore old gold mines and wrecked ships, and help excavate the ancient city of Acia.

Stephen's cash came from the central fund of Army Medical Services and his selection for the adventure from his home county of Hampshire.

Glider men bridge the years



BRIGADIER CHATTERTON, ALAN RICHARDS, ROY HOWARD: heroes remembered

A painting depicting the heroic attack by six Horsa gliders of the Glider Pilot Regiment on the Caen and Orne bridges, is now on show at the Museum of Army Flying, Middle Wallop.

The painting was handed to the regiment's wartime leader, Brigadier George Chatterton (left), by former Staff Sergeant Roy Howard, one of the glider pilots involved in the famous D-Day action.

The picture was painted by Alan Richards (centre), who also donated to the museum a wartime portrait of Brigadier Chatterton.

The handover of the paintings was followed by the presentation of £4,443 for museum funds. The money was raised at an international balloon day at Winchester last autumn.

PEOPLE

FACES and PLACES

Waldorf weekend for Billy and Chris

For Corporal Billy Paton (now Sergeant) and his wife Christine the smashing news was: "You've won a long weekend in New York's famous Waldorf Astoria hotel and you're flying there in Concorde and returning on the QE2."

Sergeant Major Tommy Wharton of the 1st Battalion The Green Howards, followed this with another surprise by handing

Billy his third stripe and welcoming him to the sergeants' mess.

News of their win and Billy's promotion came as they returned to Osnabruck from UK leave with their daughters, Jane, 15, and Joanne, 13. Unfortunately for the girls they can't accompany their parents as the prize from a competition organised by BFBS, is for two only.

Said Billy: "I hear the taps at the Waldorf are gold plated. I reckon I'll need a sergeant's pay for a weekend in the States."

One discouraging note for Billy is that if the £ continues to plummet against the dollar, he'll need a lot more than that. News from sunny Florida was that four ice creams cost £10. The handout didn't say whether the prize included pocket money!



SPOTLIGHT ON TA IN NORTHERN IRELAND



WHAT is it about the Ulsterman that makes him so ready to volunteer?

Nobody seems able to answer that question satisfactorily yet the evidence of his nature is overwhelming.

For a Province which has never known conscription or national service, the call to arms in peace or war has never failed to find Ulstermen and women responding in strength.

In a century of hideous wars, the consequence of this volunteer spirit has often sadly lead to equally

— by —
Sally Daniell

hideous casualty figures: men of the 36th (Ulster) Division, for instance, died in their thousands during the battle of the Somme in 1916. As did men from other regions.

Today, in the fight against terrorism in Northern Ireland men and women of the Ulster Defence Regiment give much of their free time, some paying for it with their lives: 147 members of the regiment have been murdered since its formation in 1972.

Yet, the potential volunteer pool

A call that never fails

in the Province seems as keen as ever to serve the Crown — a fact clearly reflected in the strength of the Territorial Army in Northern Ireland which stands at almost 4,000.

Set against recruiting figures for the rest of the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland's contribution is well ahead. If Great Britain were to recruit at the same level, the total UK TA strength would be almost 130,000 — twice its current number.

Today, there are 13 TA units in the Province representing the Infantry, Royal Yeomanry, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Signals, Royal Corps of Transport, Royal Army Medical Corps, Royal Military Police, the Intelligence Corps and Officers' Training Corps.

All TA units in Northern Ireland are dedicated to a NATO role except for one signals squadron which has a wartime Home

Defence commitment. Not to be confused with the UDR, they do not play any part in the current Security Forces.

In the second phase of the proposed expansion of the TA announced by the Secretary of State for Defence earlier this year and due to take place between 1986 and 1990, the Province is asked to raise another gunner battery, a further rifle company and two infantry reconnaissance platoons.

To the present 102 (Ulster and Scottish) Air Defence Regiment (V) equipped with Blowpipe missiles, this will mean a significant change in its constitution. The proposed extra battery in Northern Ireland and two for Scotland will mean the regiment will split in two — amoeba-like.

The formation of 102 (Ulster)

● 102 (Ulster & Scottish) Air Defence Regiment fire a salute at Stormont

Air Defence Regiment (V) will revive the earlier tradition of Gunner volunteer regiments in the Province which from 1947 to 1956 boasted seven regiments of the Royal Artillery.

The strange thing is that, despite half being in Scotland (Edinburgh, Arbroath and Glasgow), the other half in Ulster (Newtownards, Holywood and Coleraine) and the attendant administrative problems, the regiment has come together as a cohesive and effective unit.

Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel John Steele, himself a Territorial and a senior civil servant explained:

"The regiment is a bit like an elephant designed by a committee, but for some reason it works."

"Perhaps it's because there is some sort of affinity between the Scot and the Ulsterman. In fact, I believe there to be more rivalry between the batteries in Scotland than there is between those in Scotland and the batteries here."

"Commanding the regiment is a challenge even for a regular officer



● Members of 40 Signal Regiment setting up a command centre during Exercise Lionheart

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'This year will be even better...'

because of its geography. My five predecessors were all regular and my successor will be, too.

"Just occasionally you get someone in the TA mad enough to take it on — and that's me! But even though I find it difficult finding the time for this and my civilian job, I really enjoy it."

For ceremonial purposes 102 has hung onto 12 25lb field guns with which to fire the Royal Salutes at Stormont six times a year.

A few miles down the road from the Newtonards Gunner HQ is 40 (Ulster) Signal Regiment (V) based

at Clonavon Park in Belfast. With another location in Lurgan the unit is no different from many other TA units in the Province which spread around.

The regiment is one of the first TA units required on the continent on mobilisation and its function as part of 12 Signal Group (V) is to provide extensive communications in the Communication Zone which runs from the channel ports to the Rear Combat Zone.

Equipped with radio relay and some high frequency kit, once in position the regiment can provide message handling facilities using teleprinters and, with the same relay equipment, a telephone network for staff users.

Like its regular counterparts, 40 Sigs makes good use (about one third of its personnel) of the WRAC who fill a whole range of Signals trades from data telegraphists to switchboard operators, clerks and Land Rover drivers.

Learning trades such as these can prove to be highly rewarding for part-time women soldiers like Carol Garnham, 18, who is a sales assistant and finds her evening and weekend training a completely new outlet for her energies.

She joined last August on the recommendation of a friend when she was out of work and has never looked back: "It's good fun and there is always plenty to do."

Helen Monaghan is 17 and has a job as a clothes wholesaler but was persuaded to join the regiment by her brother and sister who were already members. Apart from the opportunity for extra training she gets as a data telegraphist Helen likes the TA because it gives her something to do on Sundays!

Another woman in the regiment is Officer Commanding WRAC Major Robyn Wymbs who is shortly to take over command of Headquarters Squadron. Then she will be the first TA female squadron commander in the Province.

She told me proudly: "The regiment would not be half the regiment it is without the girls — they keep morale up."

Morale it seems is not a quality in short supply amongst the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, the Royal Irish Rangers, one of the regiment's two volunteer battalions which represent the Infantry in Northern Ireland.

Each of its companies takes the name of its former parent regiment and three are spread all over the Province with another, D (London Irish Rifles) Company as far away as Duke of York's HQ in Chelsea.

The battalion's headquarters are at Portadown in Co Armagh where

Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Tom Brooke has the job of co-ordinating the battalion's activities whilst leaving the day-to-day administration to his company commanders.

Despite its physical geographic problems, 4 R Irish had a good year in 1984 winning the Queen's Cup for TA sport for the third time, becoming the TA champions in football and the winning TA team in the Cambrian March — the first time these two honours have gone to a Northern Ireland TA unit.

Exercise Lionheart featured strongly in the battalion's training programme. Hard work both before and during the exercise paid off earning the praise of Commander 5 Airborne Brigade who said, given the difficult nature of their task, 4 R Irish performed exceptionally well.

"It was a fantastic year for us and this year will be even better," said Lieutenant Colonel Brooks confidently.

"We are a highly motivated and enthusiastic battalion and I put that down to good leadership right the way down the line. Good leadership from the Company Commanders and the Sergeant's Mess is what it is all about!"

In addition to the 13 TA units in Northern Ireland and their RAOC, RAPC, ACC and REME support there are also two other organisations which help bind and co-ordinate the force giving it a truly territorial spirit whilst at the same time representing its interest

within the 'one Army' concept.

The first is the TA headquarter staff co-located with Headquarters Northern Ireland at Lisburn and headed by Colonel TA, Ned Falloon. He has responsibility for the training of recruits as well as for the mobilisation and efficiency of the Home Defence Signal Squadron plus the management of all TA officers.

He also acts as local advisor on TA matters to the GOC Northern Ireland. His staff maintain close liaison with the units and their activities although the chain of command can sometimes become confused since, for operational purposes each unit comes under the command of a higher formation.

The second body, in common with other districts, is the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve Association whose president is the Lord Lieutenant of Londonderry.

Its responsibility is threefold: recruiting, the provision of accommodation and its maintenance and the nebulous third function comes under the heading of morale.

Although high morale comes from within a unit rather than outside influence, the TAVRA can and does help resolve problems relating to pay, conditions of service and the TA's relationship with employers and the community as a whole.

That said, the real motivation behind the Ulster Terrier is his loyalty to his unit, his commitment to the TA and his self-dedication to the defence of his country.



● WRAC volunteers sharpen their skills

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● Blowpipe team in action during Lionheart

Entry scheme gains pace

GETTING a commission in the TA, as in the Regular Army, is not easy. The standards are high and the competition tough, but the opportunities are there.

One way is by the Direct Entry Scheme (DES) which is gaining momentum in Northern Ireland.

As yet, the scheme is young (this is just the third year of its operation) but it has already met with approval — particularly from successful applicants.

Designed to prepare the potential officer, drawn either from outside or from the ranks, for the rigorous two-week course at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, DES consists of two admin/initial training weekends held at the Depot, The Royal Irish Rangers at Ballymena, followed by six further training weekends and a 10-day battle camp. If they don't fall at any fences on the way, the students face the last hurdle at Sandhurst.

Because DES standards are high (the TA does not have time to train their officers from scratch) the success rate throughout the course is largely determined by a process of self-selection. If an applicant feels at any time he is not up to the mark, he will either voluntarily drop out or push himself to new limits of personal achievement.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Reid, who is in overall charge of the

scheme, explained that about 50 per cent of applicants eventually pass out from Sandhurst. From last year's intake of 46, 23 went on to Sandhurst and 19 passed out.

"We find that on these two initial weekends we have a drop out of about 20 per cent," he said. "Once they see what we expect of them in terms of fitness and leadership, some of them realise it's not for them."

"These weekends are as much for their benefit as ours. After all, we are looking for men with something special to offer. We only want those with the right education qualifications and leadership qualities."

Acting as assessors on the recent initial training weekend were two of last year's successful direct entrants — Second Lieutenants Colin Ewart, R IRISH and Stephen Hare, RA. Both are champions of the scheme yet can see where it might be, and has, improved.

"Our being here today for instance," said Stephen, "I think is an improvement. Because we have done the course ourselves the guys can talk and relate to us knowing that this time last year we were in the same position as themselves."

"We can also tell them about Sandhurst," added Colin. "There is this majestic aura about Sandhurst and the two-week course

there is hard but not impossible if you go with the right attitude."

One criticism the pair did have of the course was that the amount of pressure over several weekends did not adequately prepare them for the heightened and sustained pressure they were under at Sandhurst.

"The difference is," recalled Colin, "that after a tough two days you can't just pack up and go home. The pressure is unrelenting."

Perhaps the last word should go to Captain Felix Spender, the Regular training officer at Depot Royal Irish, who had the task of running the initial weekends. He believes the new scheme is beneficial because students come



EXTRA

from all arms and have a chance to learn about units other than their own.

"I have found it is the former DES students who support the scheme most. Also, they seem to have a broader approach and wider understanding of the Army as a whole. Their whole attitude is much more professional."



Students take note during lecture on mortars

SURVIVAL IN PIRBRIGHT.



Chicken and veg cooking over an open fire. Note the improvised spit!

A group of volunteer soldiers, drawn from most TA units in London District, recently found themselves coping with one of the coldest spells of the year on survival training at Pirbright.

The weekend was run by the London District Specialised Training Team to give the students some experience of the basic problems of self-sufficiency in the field.

A morning of instruction was followed by the practical appli-

cation of survival techniques when the students made camp in various parts of the Pirbright training area. Navigation exercises in full NBC kit were thrown in for good measure.

The weather conditions were particularly severe — temperatures were below freezing for most of the time. Nevertheless the part-time soldiers said they had enjoyed the weekend and some even complained it hadn't been arduous enough!

SHINTY RULES OK!



A new variation of Shinty — a sort of Scottish hockey — has been developed by 156 Transport Regiment, RCT, in Liverpool, as part of their winter training sports programme.

What makes this new look Shinty interesting is that the men play the girls with the handicap of having to wear NBC gear. Respirators can come into play to aid the levelling process.

Recently the Liverpool Terriers took on nurses from the Charles Marshall Wing of the Liverpool Women's Hospital. Picture shows RSM Dennis Melia briefing the nurses on how the game is played.

AS SOLDIER prepared to go to press, we were still awaiting details on the form British commemoration of the 40th anniversary of VE Day will take.

This magazine will be marking the event and once again, as with D-Day and the last Christmas of the war, invite readers who will remember 8 May 1945 with considerable clarity, to tell us what they were doing on that particular day.

We will welcome letters of not more than 200 words, with number, rank, unit and full name if you were serving — together with full current address though this, with telephone number if you have one, will not be published. These details help us to follow-up the information. Please mark your letters 'VE Day Memories'.

Later in the year we shall appeal to readers who recall the final stages of the war in the Far East. Some people tend to forget the war did not end with the defeat of Nazi Germany.

Plans have already been laid by some organisations for their own marking of VE Day, and the Imperial War Museum is mounting a festival.

The main events will comprise a chamber opera, *The Emperor of Atlantis*, composed in Theresienstadt concentration camp in 1944 by Viktor Ullmann; an entertainment of poetry, prose and music performed by Virginia McKenna and Joss Ackland; a jazz concert by Humphrey Lyttelton; a specially commissioned play by Roger Stennett called, *Tomorrow, Just You Wait and See*, produced and performed by the National Youth Theatre; a fashion show of wartime clothes organised in association with the London College of Fashion; and a demonstration of wartime economy

SOLDIER to Soldier

cooking.

There will also be talks, film shows, a VE Day street party workshop and a free quiz sheet for children.

★ ★ ★

CITIZENS of the Isle of Man will be devoting a week (4-11 May) to their efforts, with arrangements in the hands of the island's Joint Ex-Services Association, with strong support from the local Tourist Board and others.

The Isle of Man Branch of the Royal Artillery Association has asked us to tell fellow gunners that if you are interested in paying a visit during the week, a brochure will be available soon.

If you want to take part, further information can be obtained from E L Kissack, RAA Branch Treasurer, 5 Fort William, Douglas, Isle of Man. He and his colleagues are ready to extend a warm welcome.

★ ★ ★

NEW badges don't come along often and on 13 February The Royal Pioneer Corps has a badge changing ceremony at Northampton in the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, The Duke of Gloucester.

There is a feature on the Pioneers depot (see page 35), and we have used a little journalistic licence to change the order of procedure in

our series 'Your Cap Badge' and show the new badge (page 37).

We understand the last regiment or corps to receive a replacement design not resulting from an amalgamation or change in title was the Army Catering Corps in 1972.

★ ★ ★

Copies are still available of the book which SOLDIER is offering FREE to new annual subscribers.

SOLDIER is offering you a copy of *British and American Tanks of World War II* by Peter Chamberlain and Chris Ellis, the complete illustrated history of British, American and Commonwealth tanks, gun motor carriages and special purpose vehicles from 1939-45.

In addition to the text and photographs which describe each vehicle, concise specifications are given.

The book, published by Arms and Armour Press and normally priced at £11.95, is offered FREE by SOLDIER (except for the cost of postage and packing) when you take out an annual subscription to the magazine. You pay £13.55p for the magazine including postage (which in itself means you get two issues FREE during the year), plus £2 to cover the cost of postage and packing of your book. So for a total of £15.55p you will receive 25 issues of SOLDIER Magazine

and your free copy of *British American Tanks of World War II*. The package would normally cost £27.50p.

The offer is open only to new subscribers to the magazine — those resident in the UK.

A special subscription can be found on page 6 of SOLDIER. Photocopies of the form are acceptable from those who do not wish to cut their copy of the magazine. Please allow 21 days for delivery.

★ ★ ★

FURNITURE and fancy goods manufacturers Lord Roberts Workshops, whose products are hand-made by disabled ex-servicemen, have re-opened their refurbished London showroom.

On display is a complete range of products including their entirely new range — Lord Roberts Military Chest Collection. The distinctive, practical and quality range designed in traditional military chest style has been built to exceptionally high standards of craftsmanship with brass inset handles, corner brackets and a mahogany hand finish.

Six different units in the range measuring 3' x 1'6" x 1'6" can be placed one on top of the other, thereby resembling those traditionally used by forces and families travelling and living abroad. The units are secured by simple connecting plates.

Their Brompton range of occasional furniture includes sofa, lamp, nest and telephone tables, all teak finished, hand made and again of extremely high quality.

Finally, an excellent selection of brushes are displayed.

Price and details of availability can be obtained from the London Showroom, 122 Brompton Road, London SW3 1JE.

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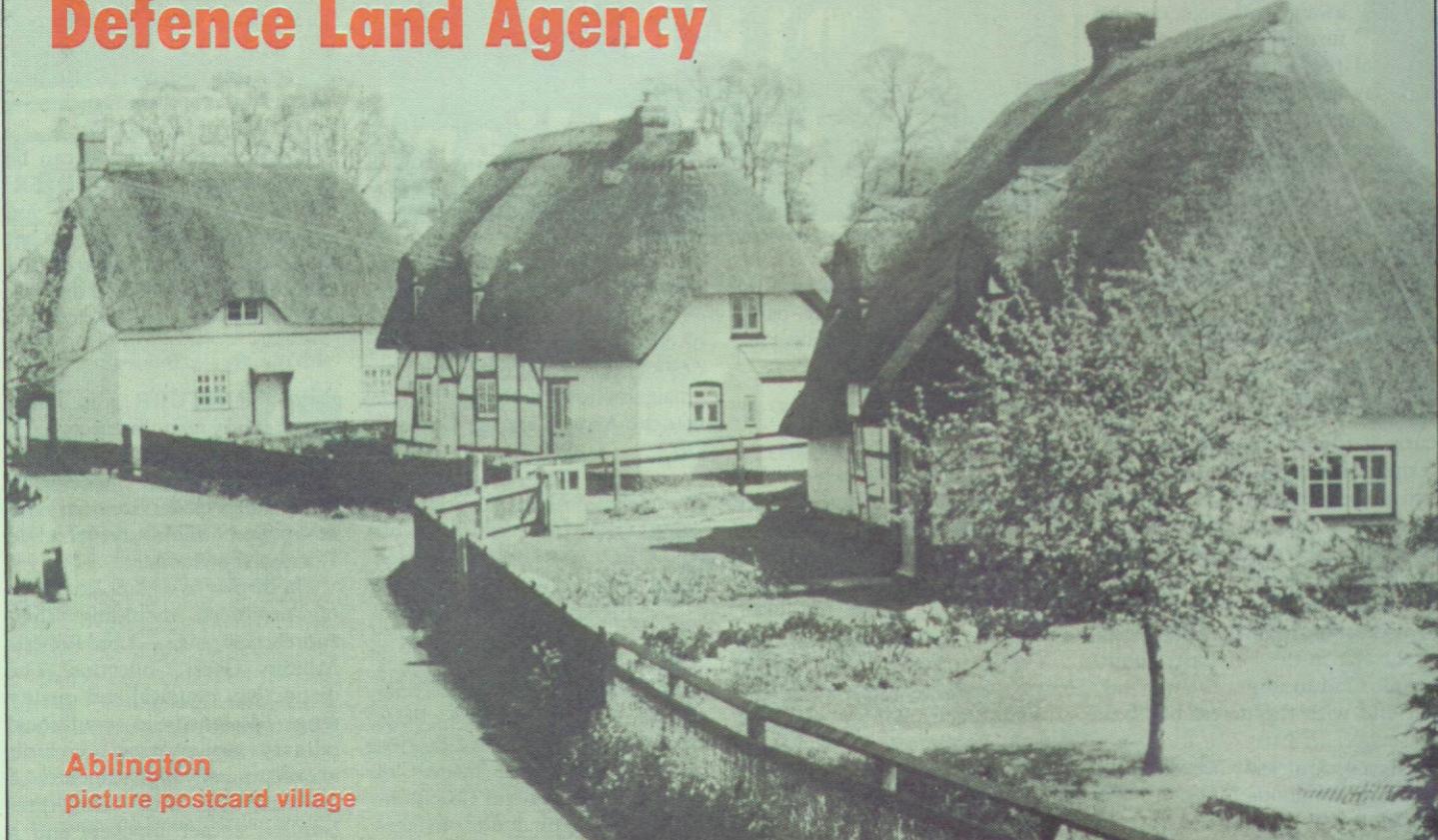
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Defence Land Agency



Ablington
picture postcard village

BALANCING ARMY AND PUBLIC NEEDS

IT'S A 'battle' which has been going on all over the 91,000-acre Salisbury Plain training area for years, yet the public seldom sees or hears it; though occasional verbal salvos have been fired at parish and county council meetings from time to time.

But it is a 'battle' well worth the winning in the public eye by the tireless and scattered 150-member Defence Land Agency (part of the Property Services Agency) who strive to 'keep the balance' of all interested users of Britain's most famous Principal Training Area (PTA).

Its headquarters is at Durrington near Bulford with three complementary satellite works depots set in the heartlands of the Plain.

The DLA has the daily managerial responsibility for keeping the balance on all MoD land matters providing a vital link between Service and local community.

It is an agency able "to negotiate the requirements of one to meet the needs of the other" while maintaining a close working relationship with the Army.

It was the DLA who spearheaded the restoration of the razed wartime Ogbourne St. George

GRAHAM SMITH
studies a
'battle'
you seldom
see or
hear . . .

camp (see page 16) to prime agricultural land again.

The DLA not only supervised the work but saw it culminate through contract stage and, hopefully, the eventual sale to former owners at a going rate of at least £1,700 an acre.

Other such old camp sites or buildings deemed to have become surplus and averted from becoming eyesores have included the former Parkhouse Camp, Durrington Down Farm of 20 years ago and, more recently, just four years ago, Chiseldon Camp.

Odd-ball requests also come the way of the DLA staff headed by immediate postwar trainee farmer and now chartered surveyor Mr Cyril Bayliffe in post since 1977

(he was deputy land agent in 1975) and the 13th incumbent of the post since 1902.

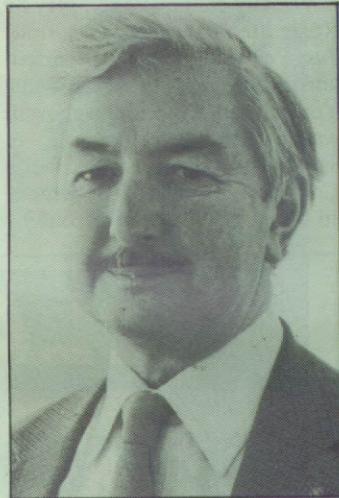
Bids like the two letter writers seeking information about the Tidworth ghost . . . the circus that suddenly needed emergency accommodation for its forlorn pride of eight African lions . . . and a troupe of high-wire acrobats who begged for a hangar to regain confidence and perfection again after an accident. Those were the lighter side of stories on record.

DLA takes its year-round tasks seriously as the unsung heroes of estate management on the grandest of scales acre-wise comprising one-seventh of Wiltshire (including 7,000 acres at Porton) and 6,000 acres in neighbouring Hampshire.

These roles are varied as the Agency, with its millions of pounds of dealings annually, concentrates on four main lines of operation — military training areas, farming tenancy management, conservation and public access (five land wardens ensuring the latter).

The Wiltshire-based and entirely bucolic-biased DLA has some interesting statistics on file.

It owns the nearby 17th-century picture postcard thatched-roof village of Ablington (population:



CYRIL BAYLIFFE
— "pressures grow"

some 300) not far from Figheldean.

DLA also has responsibility for 59 farms spread across 25,000 acres, 60 agricultural licences on 40,000 acres, sporting rights on 89,000 acres, 90 business premises (excluding a dozen banks), 500 farms and other cottages, 400 miles of track, 300 miles of rights-of-way, 127 miles of hedgerows, 105 allotments and 5,500 acres of tactical training and amenity — the latter near military townships and camps — plantations.

The Agency also holds 1,970 Deeds, collected £1.8 million in rents for the year 1983/84 and, over the past three years, sold an estimated £8 million of property and land.

As Mr Bayliffe explained: "The Defence Land Agent is responsible for the management and co-ordination of the many and varied activities on the Plain."

"A further important aspect relates to the issue of licences — 571 temporary licences, for example — and permits for leisure and sporting activities ranging from traditional shooting and fishing (we have 14 miles of fishing) to the more contemporary pursuits such as parascending, parachuting and hang-gliding.

"It's not a nine-to-five job here. You can be called out in all weathers at any time. Call outs in cold spells to deal with stranded cattle to burst water pipes in the villages."

Licences are also granted for filming. 'The Razor's Edge' and 'Return to Oz' were two of the most recent. Fees for all activities range from a few pounds to thousands.

Yet another role played by the Durrington-based DLA is the training of some 60 students annually on courses involving basic forestry and agriculture, professional competence assessments for 'graduates' and the training of Army chain-saw operators.

But military training implications and its inter-face with the local community is the over-riding factor combined with the needs of conservationists.

"When you have extra military training activities due to fewer overseas facilities, pressures grow. Pressures on other users of the



CHISELDON: BACK TO THE SOIL . . .

Plain," said Mr Bayliffe. "But you can't please everyone all the time.

"We have, for instance, made our woodlands reasonably acceptable from the landscape point of view. In the last ten years we have now moved from a situation where we were criticised by county councils. Now, we are praised for our activities on woodland planting.

"I think it's a big step forward. It's all a question of communication, discussions with people."

The Plain, he said, had some 2,000-plus ancient monuments and

archaeological sites, and nine others of Special Scientific Interest (SSI).

"When I first came to this area in 1958, although one never heard the word conservation mentioned," said Mr Bayliffe, "we were still very actively engaged in conservation and conscious of the need to preserve.

"In addition to the rehabilitation of woodlands after the war, we were involved in star-marking and clearing tumuli and even providing bathrooms and other facilities in old thatched cottages in a sym-

pathetic manner and many other similar tasks including the provision of new and the restoration of old farm buildings.

"In short, as the Land Agents of a responsible landowner, we were doing what we could to preserve and improve the estate.

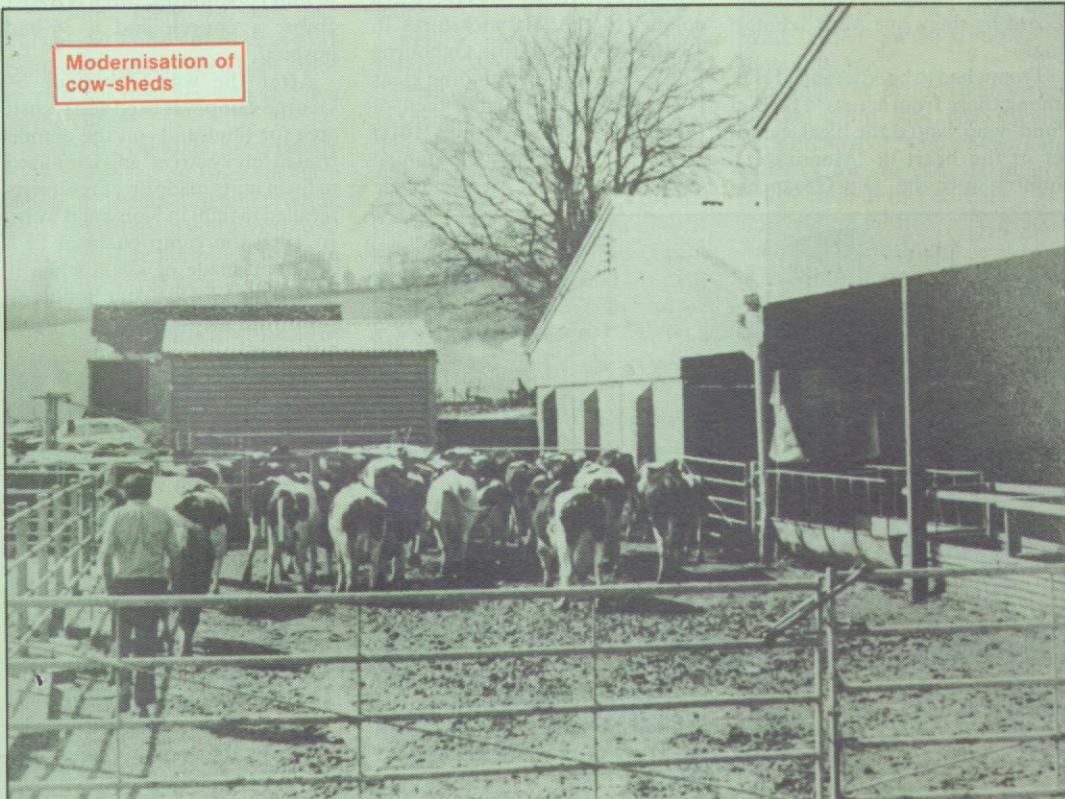
"We are the only rural Defence Land Agency, our counterparts at sites like the 61,000-acre or 95-square-mile Otterburn Training Area and Stanford are known as SES (Senior Estate Surveyors). Whereas we deal exclusively with MoD, they deal with every other department imaginable.

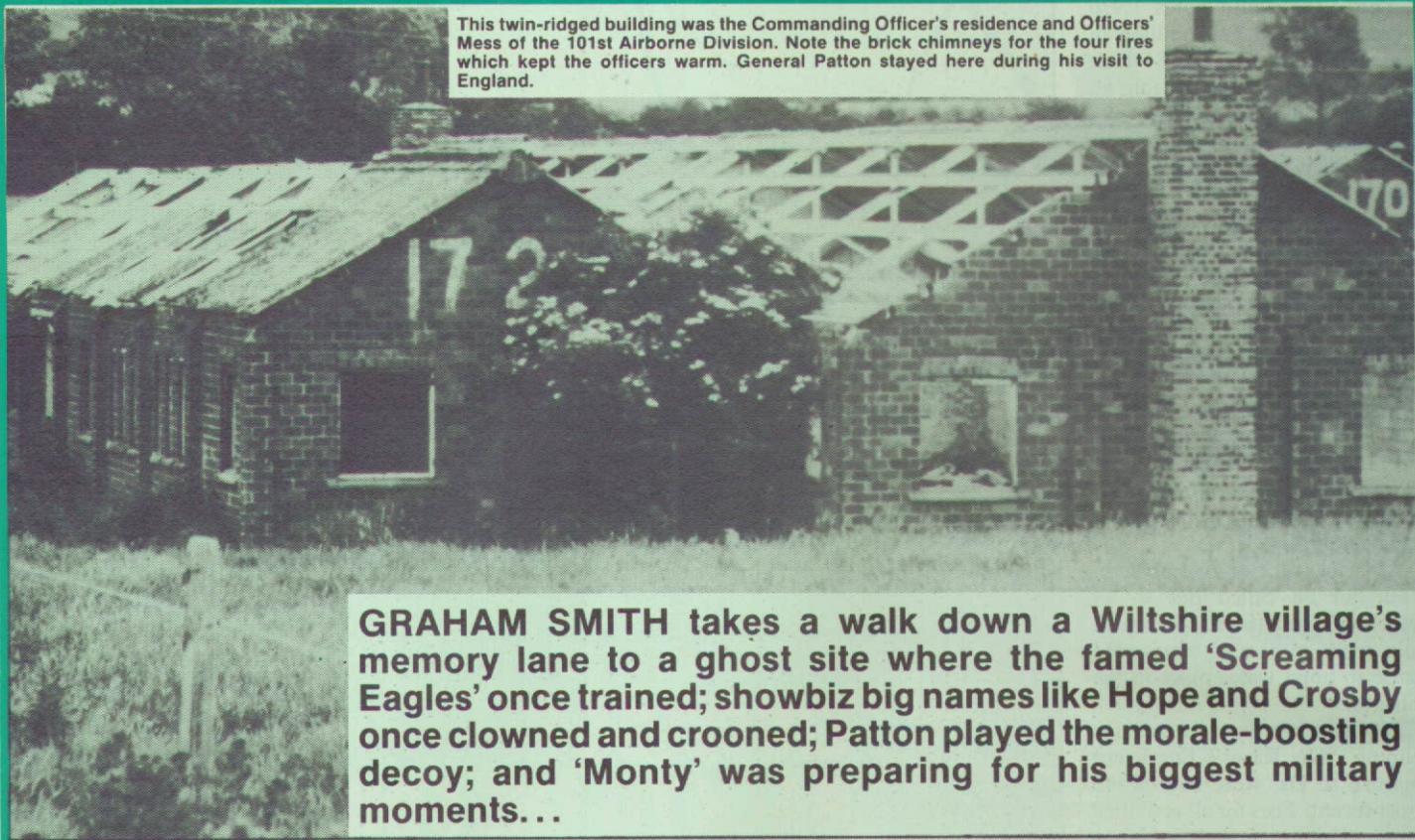
"Yet Defence Land Agent management is not getting easier over the years; the emphasis is changing. We are in the public eye and we have to keep that balance between the needs of the public at large while maintaining the assurance that Army training continues."

Current on-going projects include awaiting the outcome of a major survey on the Plain's archaeological sites and continuing planning permission negotiations at county level on the proposed 90-building, purpose-built FIBUA (Fighting in Built-Up Area) facility at Copehill Down near Tilsham. (See SOLDIER 22 October).

All a far and busy cry from 83 years ago and the appointment of the first land agent who lived in Ablington House (now demolished), received a horse allowance of £70 a year and a further £150 annually for the provision of offices and office expenses.

Modernisation of cow-sheds





This twin-ridged building was the Commanding Officer's residence and Officers' Mess of the 101st Airborne Division. Note the brick chimneys for the four fires which kept the officers warm. General Patton stayed here during his visit to England.

GRAHAM SMITH takes a walk down a Wiltshire village's memory lane to a ghost site where the famed 'Screaming Eagles' once trained; showbiz big names like Hope and Crosby once clowned and crooned; Patton played the morale-boosting decoy; and 'Monty' was preparing for his biggest military moments...

Now Ogbourne St George is truly rural again

BARLEY now grows peacefully where Allied army boots once drilled defiantly for the D-Day assaults against Hitler's grip on Normandy.

For, in just 14 months, the Property Services Agency (PSA) has transformed 182 acres of derelict but historic former Army camp back into prime arable farmland in a scheme costing £100,000 in deepest rural Wiltshire.

Still a focal point of nostalgic pilgrimages by former 'old sweat' Canadian, American and British soldiers, now in their 60s, the site is at Ogbourne St George, half-a-mile from the 307-population village of the same name and three miles north of Marlborough.

The camp, of which nothing tangible remains, was the launching point for two major European offensives in 1944 — those of D-Day and Operation Market Garden.

The first hurried buildings to spring up amid the lush farmland acres were those of Canadian Redwood housing the fighting sons of that Dominion.

It was a busy camp, split into three sections, with a resident population of up to 5,000 men at a time.

It was also a camp patronised

by the famous of those dark years. Men like the late Joe Louis, the 'Brown Bomber' and former world heavyweight boxing champion, a PTI among the paratroopers.

Another paratrooper had already smashed his peerless professional record by then; one Max Schmeling!

Troops had to be entertained and among those from across 'The Big Pond' who visited the bleak camp set in the heart of 'Moonraker' country were the 'Old Groaner',

Bing Crosby and ex-patriate buddy from Erith, Kent, wise-cracking Bob Hope.

Generals, too, made their impact. Patton was there for about a fortnight during one of his decoy sequences. 'Monty' was there as a colonel in the Warwickshires in 1940, two years before Ogbourne St George and surrounding areas became home to 10,500 men of the United States Army's 101st Airborne Division, the famed 'Screaming Eagles'. Men who were

launched into Normandy from nearby Ramsbury, Membury, Lambourne and Welford.

In 1941 the rapid-build wooden buildings were soon supplemented by brick constructions culminating in four cookhouses, three NAAFI clubs, a church and a 34-bed hospital.

After the war Ogbourne St George camp was used as a transit area for thousands on the demob trail to 'civvy street' and later used to form units made up of reservists recalled to fight in Korea and Suez. In 1960 the camp changed to a different shade of khaki when it hosted the World Scout Jamboree before the site was finally de-commissioned.

Up until 1982, Ogbourne was used for urban warfare training.

Before that, however, the southwest's most famous Army camp had been shown in sequences in films such as 'The Longest Day' and the 1967 celluloid adventure, 'The Dirty Dozen'.

The return of Ogbourne St George camp to its pre-war appearance has involved the removal of 175 buildings, 77 concrete bases, road and an underground bomb and ammunition store.

During the restoration 250,000 tons of soil were imported and graded to the natural contours,



Commander-in-chief Home Forces, General Sir Bernard Paget visits the camp which was part of Southern Command. The General is climbing onto a tank for a closer inspection of the 2nd Northants Yeomanry.

some 200,000 tons of concrete and brickwork were crushed and sold for use as road-fill while 80,000 tons of scrap metal was recovered from the once bustling site.

Mr Cyril Bayliffe, the Defence Land Agent for the PSA told me: "The former camp lies in an area of outstanding natural beauty and the Wiltshire County Council requested that we restore the site back to first class farmland. We are now in the process of selling the land."

The County Council has recently inspected the site and has expressed its pleasure in the quality of the restoration. Certain concrete areas will, at the planners' request, be used for open storage."

He estimated the cost of the 14-month restoration to be about £100,000 and the price per acre, at today's prices, to be 'at least £1,700 an acre' making the total value of the 182 acres about £275,000.

Ogbourne St George camp was well-sited four decades ago because of good rail connections nearby, Southampton to the Midlands, and because of tank training exercise areas in the locality. Chiseldon, the adjoining community, had been the site of a First World War camp.

The 'Yanks' at Ogbourne are remembered with affection by the villagers of a settlement dating back to 946 AD.

People like the Honourable Mrs Joyce Frost, the 75-year-old sprightly chairman of the parish council for the past seven years.

"We came to the village in 1937 and when the Americans first came here there were mixed feelings," she recalled. "It was felt they were doing something to help the war effort. The only people who were unsure were the farmers who were a bit upset at first."

"I think there was only one village girl who went away as a GI bride and she has been back since to visit her relatives who still live in the village."

"Now the camp site has certainly been improved on since the days when it became derelict being transformed again into agricultural land. We were supposed to be an area of natural beauty but that became hard to live up to."

"It would be nice if a plaque or

Former soldier George Wright, camp electrician Frank Mitchell and historian Bill King now stand on arable farmland where once stood Ogbourne St George Camp.



The Hon Mrs Joyce Frost recalls mixed feelings.

belt of trees were planted on the site as a sort of memorial to the Allies who served here. But that all depends on the availability of money."

Fellow councillor and wartime resident Douglas Grove recalled: "The Americans drank all the beer in the local pubs, The Crown and The New Inn. We met some very nice chaps among the troops and we got on really well with them."

"They used to invite us to their shows on camp. The Americans had a bit of a reputation for hell-raising but they did us no harm."

Another villager, Mr Frank

Mitchell, 73, who worked on the electrical installations some 40 years ago said the village children, in particular, liked the American guests for their chewing gum.

A "lot of ladies, too" came from the cities and towns to visit and sometimes stay in improvised tents bolstered against the bleak breezes by borrowed blankets and probably a very personalised bonhomie.

He enjoyed the variety shows put on for the troops there which not only involved Americans like singer Frances Day but comics appearing for ENSA like Charlie Chester and a certain suave Mr David Niven.

"The Americans livened the place up a bit. They were well-liked. I never saw any trouble with them," he said.

Among the Britons who served at the camp was Mr George Wright, now 63, who was with the infantry for the last six months before demob in February 1946. Previously, he had served at El Alamein and in Italy.

Back on a nostalgic visit, he said: "Everything for the soldier was here. The camp was very, very

tidy — it had to be."

Local historian and training manager for a pharmaceutical company, Mr Bill King, said that other units who had passed through Ogbourne St George included the Northamptonshire Yeomanry, the RASC and the RAMC.

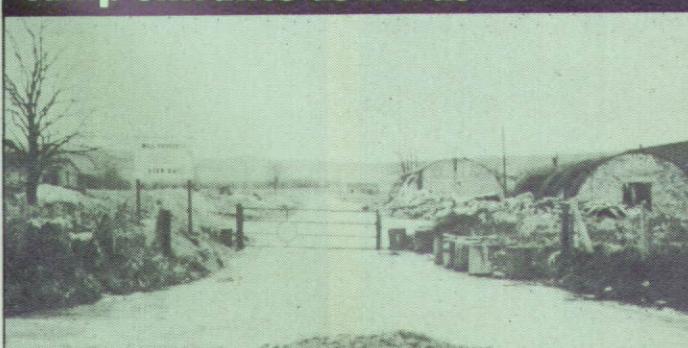
The three camps-in-one had been built initially in temperatures below freezing. Accommodation additions had been progressive.

"It was the 101st Airborne Division who launched their offensive on Europe from here on the night of 5th/6th June, 1944," he reminded. "Operation Market Garden was launched in September of the same year. Patton reviewed his troops here when he was being used as a decoy. He was here for about 14 days. Joe Louis was here as part of the United Services Organisation and a PTI on the site."

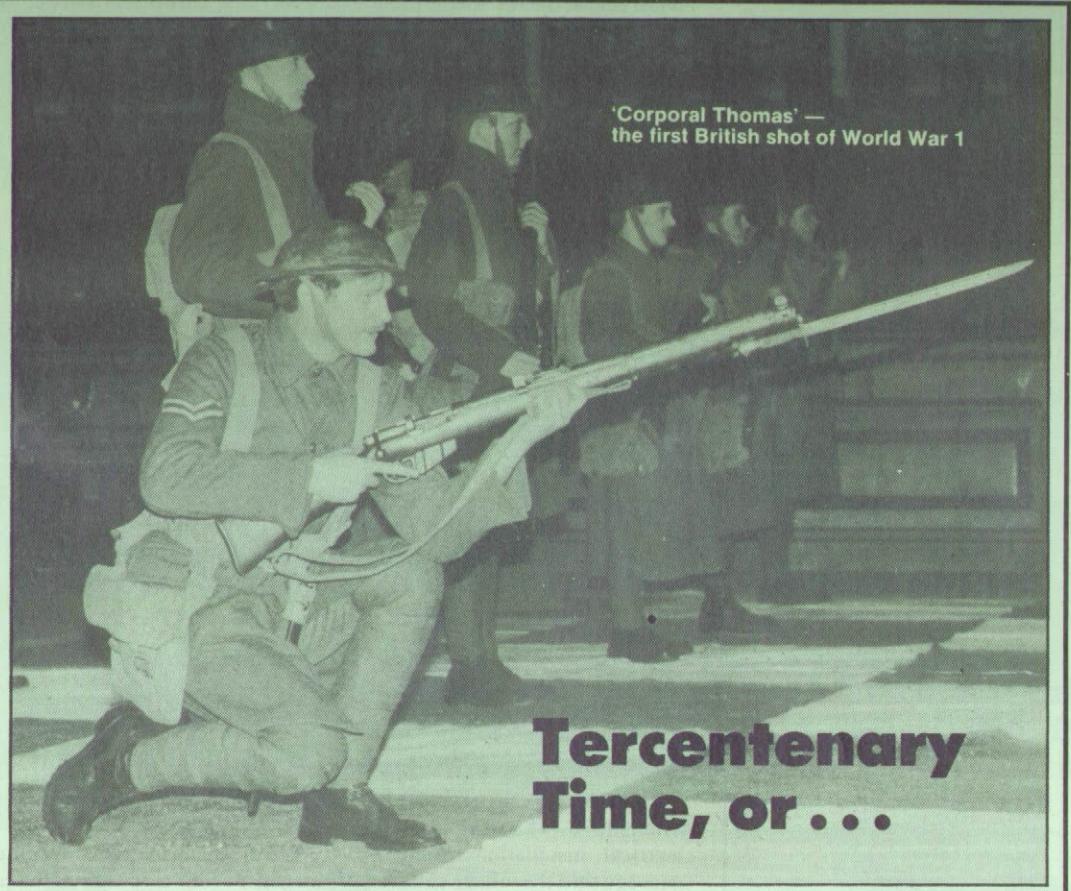
All have long gone but, it is said, locally their ghosts linger on. Fond memories of the 'Yanks' still abide among those old enough to remember them and the sacrifices they made; an era of the Allies' finest hours.

VANISHING ACT BY OLD CAMP BUILDINGS

Camp entrance as it was and now



'Corporal Thomas' — the first British shot of World War 1



**Tercentenary
Time, or...**

PACKING 300 YEARS INTO 150 MINUTES

IT WOULD have been fitting if the ghost of King James II was lurking somewhere in the shadows of the Royal Albert Hall for the Tercentenary Tribute to 12 famous British regiments.

James wasn't the most successful British monarch. His attempts to alter the religious balance of the country in the decidedly unecumenical atmosphere of the late 17th century cost him his throne.

But his well justified fears of his own subjects provided a great boost for the establishment of a professional British Army. In the aftermath of the abortive rebellion by the Duke of Monmouth, illegitimate son of Charles II,

James extended the tiny standing army by eight regiments of horse and nine of foot.

The irony is that when James needed the support of his fine new army three years later in 1688 it was not forthcoming. An invitation

had been dispatched to William of Orange, the husband of James's daughter Mary, and the unhappy king found himself isolated.

He fled to permanent exile in France, dropping the Great Seal of England into the Thames as he went. But the regiments he had raised lived on and, through name changes and amalgamations, survive to this day.

The Tribute in the Royal Albert Hall was organised by the Royal Tournament and launched a year of tercentenary celebrations with

Captain George McFarlane, D and D being made up by Mr George Rawlins



British and German uniforms, World War 1



Modern soldier, old uniform, help with old-fashioned drill from RSM Alec Dumon, Coldstream Guards, Garrison Sergeant Major London District



a pageant which undertook the Herculean task of summarising three centuries of history in two and a half hours.

At the start 18 modern soldiers, dressed in the height of late 17th Century military fashion, took a bow as a Herald called the roll of the regiments raised in 1685. At the end, 12 standards, guidons and colours with 1,000 battle honours were marched in by representatives of today's descendants of those formations.

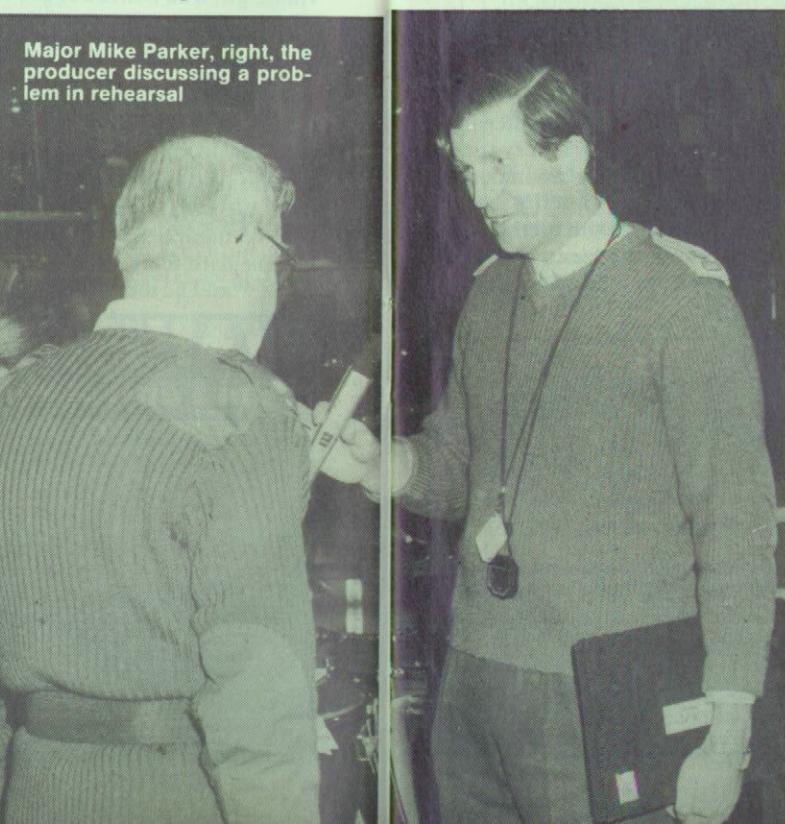
In between there was a story to be told of courage, steadfastness and service covering the deeds of a

dozen units through the intricate upheavals of the last 300 years.

It was, as the producer, Major Michael Parker, confessed, impossible to do justice to everything. Major Parker, whose own regiment, The Queen's Own Hussars, was one of these celebrating the anniversary, is no stranger to military pageantry: among other things he has produced the Royal Tournament for the past 12 years.

But the Royal Albert Hall is not the place for horses or large formations of men and he and his co-writer, Major C. R. M. Messenger, RTR (V), were hard put to

'Queen Victoria' and 'Prince Albert' take the floor



keep the story within manageable limits. At one stage their script ran to around seven hours!

Their main problem was acknowledging memorable incidents for each regiment spread evenly across the chronological scale of the story.

But they had formidable support in the presence of a massed band, 360 strong, made up of musicians from all 12 regiments, plus the Grenadier Guards, whose band, fortuitously, is also celebrating its tercentenary this year. The baton of Lieutenant Colonel Derek Kimberley, the Grenadiers' Director of Music, welded the whole lot together.

Down on the floor, which had been made to resemble a chess board to symbolise the gambits of history, the bugles of The Light Infantry and the pipes and drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards added to the musical component.

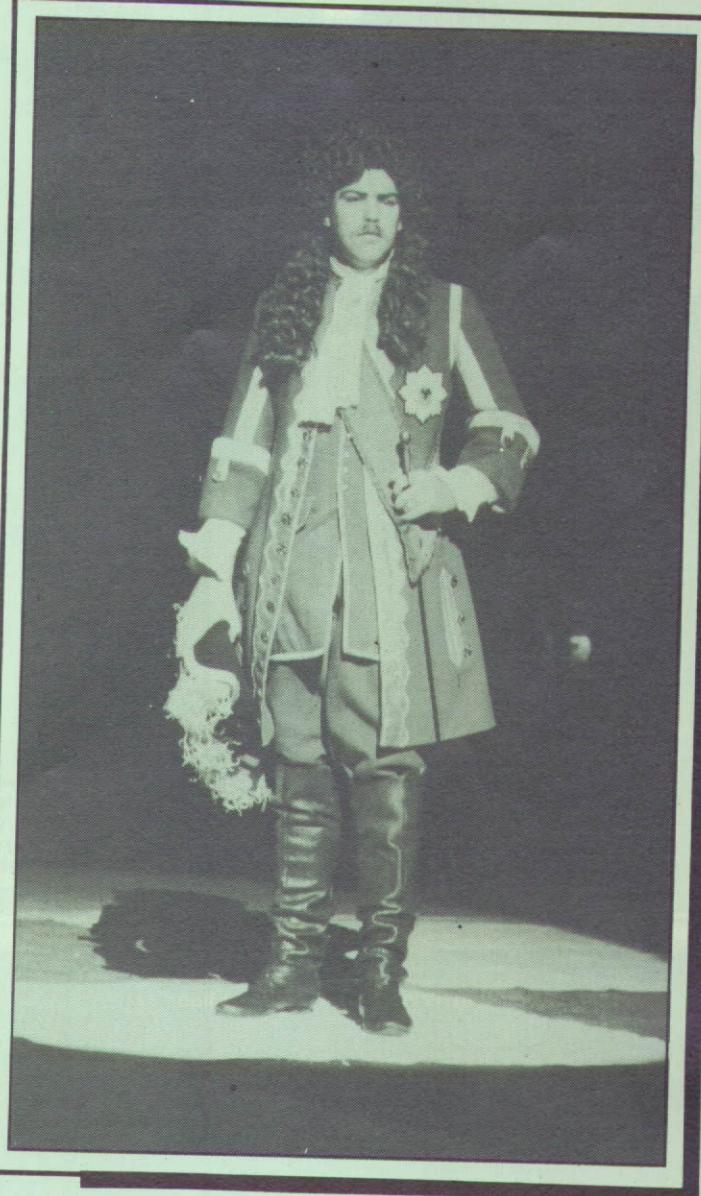
Seventy-two soldiers — six from each of the 12 regiments — undertook three costume changes each to portray everyone from monarchs to private soldiers. George II, for example, had to have a quick change after the Battle of Dettingen to emerge, a century later, as an Afghan tribesman.

It was a complicated story they had to tell — starting with the seven bishops sent for sedition by James II to the tower, where the King's recently raised Regiment of Fusiliers asked for their blessing and earned the Royal displeasure. It went on through William of Orange's campaign's in Flanders and the seemingly interminable quarrels with the French which ended only at Waterloo.

Trooper Thomas Brown, of the Kings Own Regiment of Dragoons (now The Queen's Own Hussars) was knighted on the battlefield of Dettingen by George II for rescuing his regiment's Guidon despite his appalling wounds.

The 12th of Foot collected roses from a garden to wear at the Battle of Minden, a custom their descendants, The Royal Anglian Regiment, observe to this day.

Lieutenant Colonel Hill, of the 9th of Foot (Royal Anglians) stripped the Regimental Colours



'James II'...
the monarch who started it all

from their staffs to prevent them from falling into enemy hands after defeat at Saratoga in 1777. Having hid them for eight years in captivity he presented them to George III.

In Flanders in 1793 the Colonel of the 14th Foot ordered his drummers to strike up the Revolutionary air, 'Ça Ira,' which the enemy had been singing ('Come on lads, let's break the scoundrels with their own damn tune') and so established the regimental march for today's Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

At Waterloo The King's

Dragoon Guards had so few men left that their officers and sergeants messaged together — a custom continued by the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards on the anniversary of the battle.

During the Crimean War, Private Samuel Parkes of the 4th Light Dragoons (Queen's Royal Irish Hussars) was at the Charge of the Light Brigade. He received his country's newest and highest award at Queen Victoria's first investiture for recipients of the Victoria Cross.

At Jellalabad in 1841, the 13th Foot (The Somerset Light Infantry) held the last remaining

YOUR GUIDE TO ARMY MUSEUMS — 5 —

SALISBURY. Museum of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire), The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EX. Telephone Salisbury 6222 ext 2683. Hours: Mon to Thurs 10-5, Fri 10-4.30.

SHREWSBURY. The King's Shropshire Light Infantry Regimental Museum, Sir John Moore Barracks, Copthorne Road, Shrewsbury SY3 8LZ. Telephone Shrewsbury 52234 (or Shrewsbury mil) ext 415. Hours: Mon to Fri 10-12 and 2-4.

The Light Infantry Museum,

Light Division Depot, Sir John Moore Barracks, Copthorne Road, Shrewsbury SY3 8LZ. Telephone Shrewsbury 52234 (or Shrewsbury mil) ext 415. Hours: Mon to Fri 10-12 and 2-4.30. Closed public holidays.

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards Regimental Museum, Clive House, College Hill, Shrewsbury SY1 1LZ. Telephone Shrewsbury 54814. Hours: Mon to Sat 10-5, closed Sun, Good Friday and 25 Dec.

The Shropshire Yeomanry and Shropshire RHA Museum, Territorial House, Sundorne Road, Shrews-

bury SY1 4RL. Telephone Shrewsbury 50605. Hours: Mon to Fri 9-4.

STAFFORD. 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and The Staffordshire Yeomanry Regimental Museum, Kitchener House, Lammascote Road, Stafford ST16 3TA. Telephone Stafford 45840. Hours: Mon to Fri 10-1 and 2-4 except public holidays.

STRENSALL. The Yorkshire Regiments Museum, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strengsall, Yorks. Telephone Strengsall 233 (or Strengsall mil) ext 25. Hours: Mon to Fri 10-12.30 and 2-2.30.

outpost against Afghan tribesmen in a long and arduous siege. They were there when Doctor Brydon staggered in — the sole survivor of a column of 4,500 which had been making its way from Kabul back to India.

In South Africa the section led by Corporal Knight, the King's (Liverpool) Regiment, (The King's Regiment) was virtually wiped out by a strong force of Boers. Corporal Knight got two survivors back to his own lines, carrying one of them over two miles, and won the VC.

Down in the Antarctic, in a very different type of conflict, Captain Lawrence Oates (5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards) walked out into a blizzard to prevent himself being a burden to the remaining members of Captain Scott's polar party.

Corporal Thomas, 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards (4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards) fired the first shot for the British Army in World War 1. Some four years later the 2nd Battalion, The Devonshire Regiment, was decimated holding back a German onslaught at Bois de Buttes. They received a Croix de Guerre which is still retained on the Colours of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiments.

Story: Robert Higson
Pictures: Paul Haley

In World War 2 Squadron Sergeant Major Craddock, 3rd Carabiniers (The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards) pressed home an armoured attack at Imphal after all officers had been killed and with Subadar Ranbir Singh, 1st Dogras, won the position.

It could only be the most cursory glimpse of three eventful centuries, but it gave a hint of the depth and range of regimental tradition and service. Appropriately the Tribute was held in the presence of The Queen Mother, who, as Colonel-in-Chief of half the tercentenary regiments, is due for a busy time during this summer's celebrations.

● How the regiments will celebrate their 300th birthdays. A report in the next issue of SOLDIER.

The Regimental Museum of the York and Lancaster Regiment has been transferred to the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham and will be housed in the Brian O'Malley Arts Centre. The new museum will be officially opened on Saturday, 16 March.

Correction: The Museum of Army Flying at Middle Wallop (featured in this series in our 14 January issue) has altered its opening hours. They are: until 31 March Tues to Fri 10-4; Sat, Sun and Bank Hols 12-4. 1 April onwards 11 year round open daily 10-4.30 (closed Christmas and New Year).

FROM PROFESSIONAL SOLDIER

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S2/85



'Perhaps the bravest man I ever knew...'

and now, he cannot bear to turn a corner



Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G*t*r*e, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

But now, after seeing service in Aden, after being booby-trapped and ambushed in Northern Ireland, Sergeant 'Tiny' cannot bear to turn a corner. For fear of what is on the other side.

It is the bravest men and women from the Services who suffer most from mental breakdown. For they have tried, each one of them, to give more, much more, than they could in the service of our Country.

We look after these brave men and women. We help them at home, and in hospital. We run our own Convalescent Home and, for those who are homeless and cannot look after themselves in the community, our Hostel gives permanent accommodation. For others, there is our Veterans' Home where they can see out their days in peace.

These men and women have given their minds to their Country. If we are to help them, we must have funds. Do please help us with a donation, and with a legacy too, perhaps. The debt is owed by all of us.

"They've given more than they could – please give as much as you can."

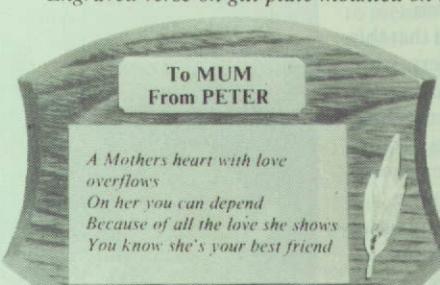
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To be a Mother is my aim
One day I will be too
I only hope that when I am
I'm half as good as you

V16

Who's the one who wipes your tears
And holds you tight when you have fears
Who turns your wrongs into rights
And stays beside you through the night
Mother dear you know it's you
This is to tell you I know too

V17

When you fall down who helps you
When you feel blue who cheers you
Who pulls you out when you get stuck
Who pushes prods and steers you
Mother dear these things you do
Reward you never mention
To show my special thanks to you
Is now my first intention

V18

Thanks you MUM for what I am
To you I owe so much
No other teacher could I name
For you they could not touch
I hope that when it comes my turn
And I'm a parent too
That I am to my children
Just as good as you

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PERSONALISED PLATE

Verse No.

THE January cold spell took many by surprise: and low temperatures naturally put an extra strain on central heating.

This was especially the case in Army quarters where one winter you may have gas, and next posting solid fuel, electricity or oil, not to mention storage heaters.

Unfortunately, some of the systems installed have been less than reliable or adequate.

They are expensive to run, but at the time of installation were thought to be ideal.

Some, 10 years or more on, are proving disastrous.

So I was not surprised when I had a phone call one evening regarding a heating problem concerning a number of houses on an Army patch.

The faulty heating system had first been reported in early December, and others before that. In fact, the central heating was not working. Secondary heating, an electric fire and one or two convector heaters were given.

This is totally inadequate for families when temperatures dip.

The delay in repairing central

heating may be the lack of spare parts, the contractor not doing his job, no contractor yet appointed, inadequate supervision or a hundred other reasons.

This is no consolation for the family, who cannot withhold the rent, like council house tenants, rush to their local councillor, or speak to the newspapers.

They report it, hope, and suffer—or go out and buy second hand or new expensive forms of heating—paraffin or gas cylinders at nearly £10 a week if kept on for most of the time.

So what goes wrong when the 48 hours emergency repair system fails? What remedial action should be taken? What explanation is given to the families?

Surely the tricky central heating systems are known... the ones that cause problems, the ones for which spares are difficult to find, the ones which are due to be replaced. In these areas there must be a system to cope with the unexpected.

Yet one phone call from me the next day to the correct person, ensured that within 12

hours adequate secondary forms of heating could be found. The problem I am told is "communication".

If on the other hand, heating systems cannot be repaired in a reasonable time, then surely perhaps an automatic rent reduction percentage return of fuel bills paid, would give some recompense for the inconvenience and extra expense.

On the other hand, in quarter patches where systems are suspect or prone to break down then an automatic issue of adequate alternative forms of heating should be available. And that in such quarters at the beginning of winter, new occupants are advised of the procedure to acquire extra forms of heating.

But whatever is decided then let's try and ensure that the families are kept in the picture. In very cold weather many Service families buy second hand heaters. To such purchasers I say: check and be safe—rather than sorry.

Portable heaters can cause fires if they're not properly looked after. If you have

portable electric heaters, check that the heating element is free from dust and make sure that the wiring isn't frayed or brittle.

Oil heaters should be cleaned regularly, especially the heating and reflective surfaces, and tested in the open air until properly adjusted.

If you've a butane gas heater, check the tubing isn't cracked, especially at the connections. Ideally, any rubber tubing used with gas appliances should be replaced every two years.

If you're not sure whether your portable heater is safe, why not get an engineer to check it for you?

Anne Armstrong

Home tel: Camberley 29653

on 747 and rear gallery purser on the Tristars.

Arriving at Terminal 3 Hostesses wearing a distinctive new uniform will have the responsibility of handing over the young flyers to the parent/guardian or escort.

These are only some of British Airways new initiatives. They are undertaking to make travelling for their young fliers easier, safer and more enjoyable and with no extra cost on the ticket.

This positive help can only relieve the worry parents go through, especially when delays occur. Once in the BA Young Fliers lounge your child will be well looked after.

BA EASE THAT TRAVEL WORRY



Smiling welcome from hostess

or guardians worried about catching their train home.

All problems are solved in this bright modern facility. When formalities were over I found first-time traveller nine-year-old Suzanne Matthews sitting in the TV lounge.

Her journey from Northern Ireland to Belize via Heathrow and Miami was made so much

easier now she was under the wing of her in-flight hostess. Likewise brother and sister Edward and Helen Hughes glued to 3D video games, also en route to Belize.

Their guardians were much relieved at not having to check-in at the main terminal.

One member of the cabin crew is given special responsibility for care of young children, 'B' Lady

TIP

Legal help, with Legal Aid
IF YOU have a problem concerning divorce, maintenance, hire purchase, road or work accidents, tribunals, jobs, housing, rent, eviction, repairs, debt, Social Security claims, crime, wills and most other problems, there are leaflets with a coupon on which you can request the name of a solicitor near to your home.

The leaflets 'Want Legal Help?', 'Get Legal Aid' and 'Legal Aid' are available from CABs AFABS or write to: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC24 1PL. 01 242 1222.



Last week I was informed by my husband's Unit Pay Office that my claim for an 'ex gratia' payment of Maternity Allowance by MoD has been turned down. I still think the decision is unfair — and I do not want to give up trying yet. However, I do not know the next best course of action.

It seems to me that I have been in the wrong place at the wrong time as far as eligibility for benefit goes. I worked in the UK and paid full-rate NI contributions for six years up to April 81.

I then accompanied my husband on posting to Hong Kong. Although I worked full time in Hong Kong from June 81 to November 83 (employed by the Army), I did not pay any NI contributions for that period.

I was not aware that I was able to, and I was certainly not aware that by not doing so I would be ineligible for benefit when I started a family.

I became pregnant whilst we were on inter-tour leave in UK on route from Hong Kong to Hamelin.

Had I fallen pregnant within my first year in Hong Kong (I

tried) I would have been eligible for benefit.

As soon as I got to Hamelin I started looking for a job — but there were none to be had at that time. If I had not fallen pregnant until I had found a job I would also have been eligible for benefit. It would appear that, after two years of trying, I fell pregnant at the wrong time.

I do understand the system — and I realise that I have no contributions in the 'right' year. But, surely, the other six years must count for something?

Surely there is a case — especially for Army wives who,

altered, and it was.

Some service wives put place of employment down as Germany. Yes, you were stationed in Germany but NOT EMPLOYED on the German economy.

If you worked on the EEC German economy, for a German firm, then you will have to complete this form.

The PCLUs should have a copy so you can check the information you will need prior to leaving Germany or EEC countries.

The following is a guide to Army wives in completing CF(N) 982A — if they were employed by a British source of payment:

CF(N) 982A. Example —

Q Please state whether you have at any time been employed in Germany.

A Yes, but paid by the British, NOT on the German economy.

Q Whether you have at any time been insured under that country's scheme for unemployment benefit.

A No, pay UK Contributions Class I.

Q Whilst abroad did you work for the employer by whom you were employed in Great Britain?

A Write the UK address ie NAAFI, SSVC, YWCA, MoD etc.

through no fault of their own spend periods of their working life abroad for the system to be amended so that benefits could be paid on a 'pro rata' basis. Women could then be sure of getting some return for the amount of contributions they had paid.

I would be most grateful for any advice you can give.

MRS E, GERMANY

● I am extremely disturbed at the growing number of cases where our wives are falling into this trap.

The loss of Maternity Allowance is a considerable blow, especially when it is solely due to a husband's posting, and in some cases full

ASK ANNE

employment has continued overseas. Wives appeal! And continue to appeal against such decisions. It is the only way to highlight this injustice.

I have written to both Hong Kong and MoD to help clarify this position.

Meanwhile, do check your position on ALL benefits BEFORE you are posted to Hong Kong.

Both expeditions will complete a full scientific programme, and train and execute group expeditions in an arctic-alpine environment.

The youngsters learn from the experience of working as a member of a team under adverse conditions and for a long period, but work too is included.

General reports have to be filed, along with specific scientific papers for publication, so all the young explorers hope that they will gain the maximum benefit and enjoyment.

The cost, £850 to SE Iceland and £1,450 for Alaska, means raising the money!

This is considered to be part of the individual challenge to an expedition member's drive and initiative, but the Society can help and advise.

No-one who has made the commitment and effort to raise the contribution, but has been unable to meet it in full has been denied a place.

Application forms may be obtained from the Executive Director, The BSES, The Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR. Large SAE please.

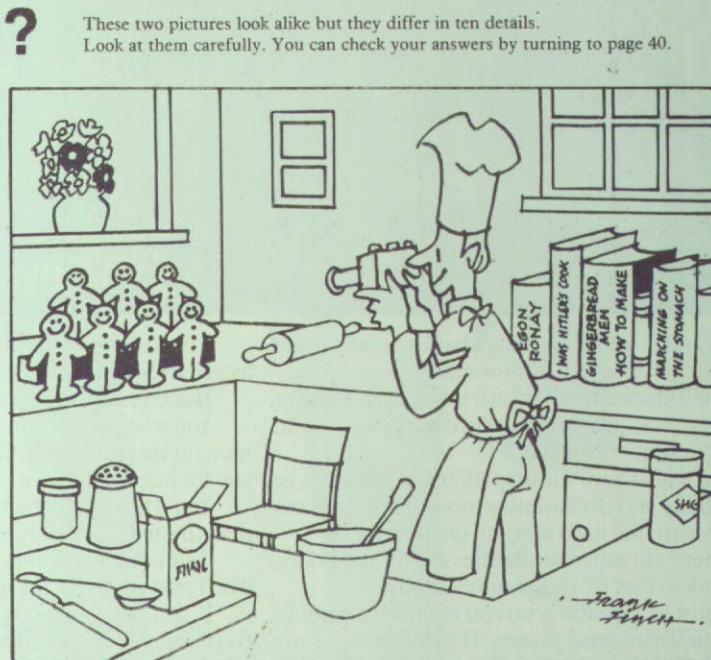
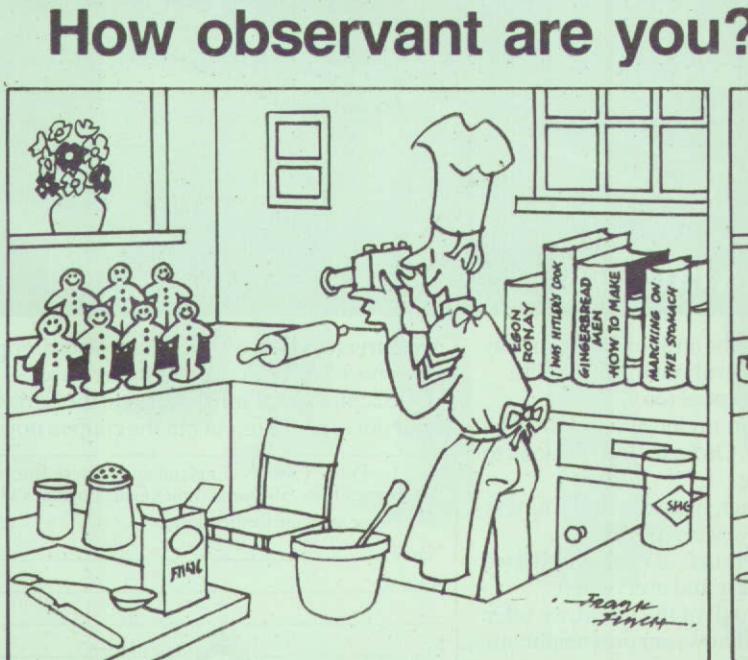
EXPLORATION EXCITEMENT

THE British Schools Exploring Society 1985 Summer programme will take two expeditions of 16½ to 20 year olds to the exciting and adventurous areas of South East Greenland and Alaska.

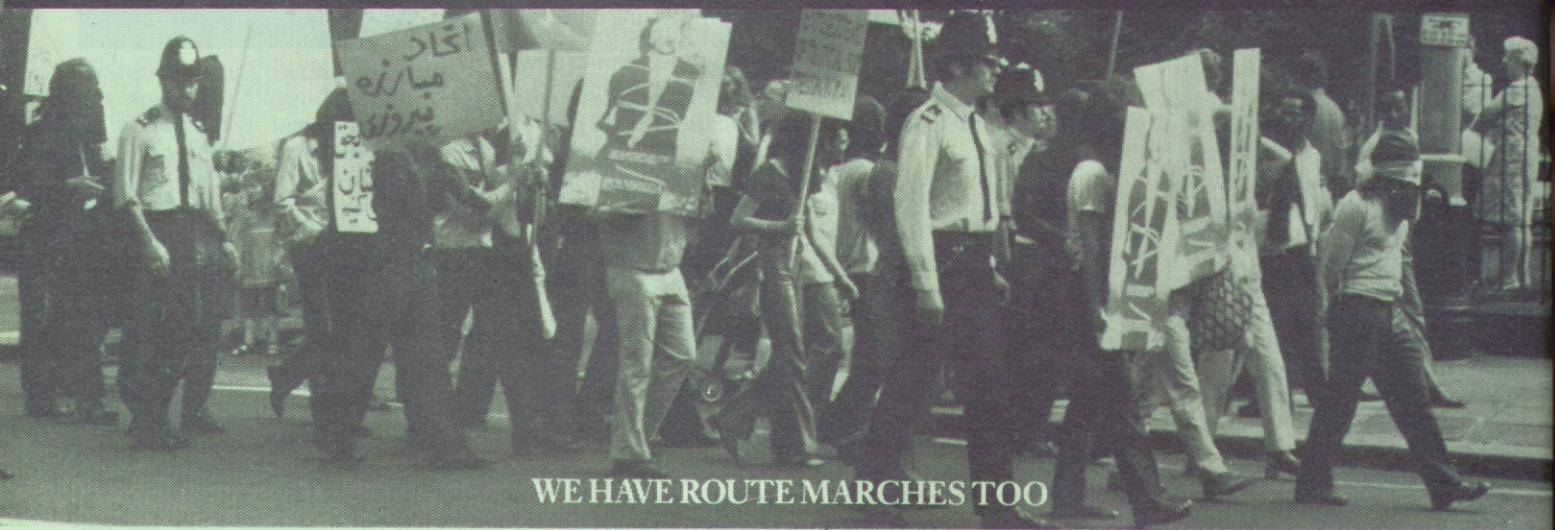
The month-long expedition to Greenland has been opened up to those with a disablement which would normally debar them from joining a major youth expedition overseas.

The six week expedition will go to the Copper River area of the Chugach mountains, America's 'last frontier'.

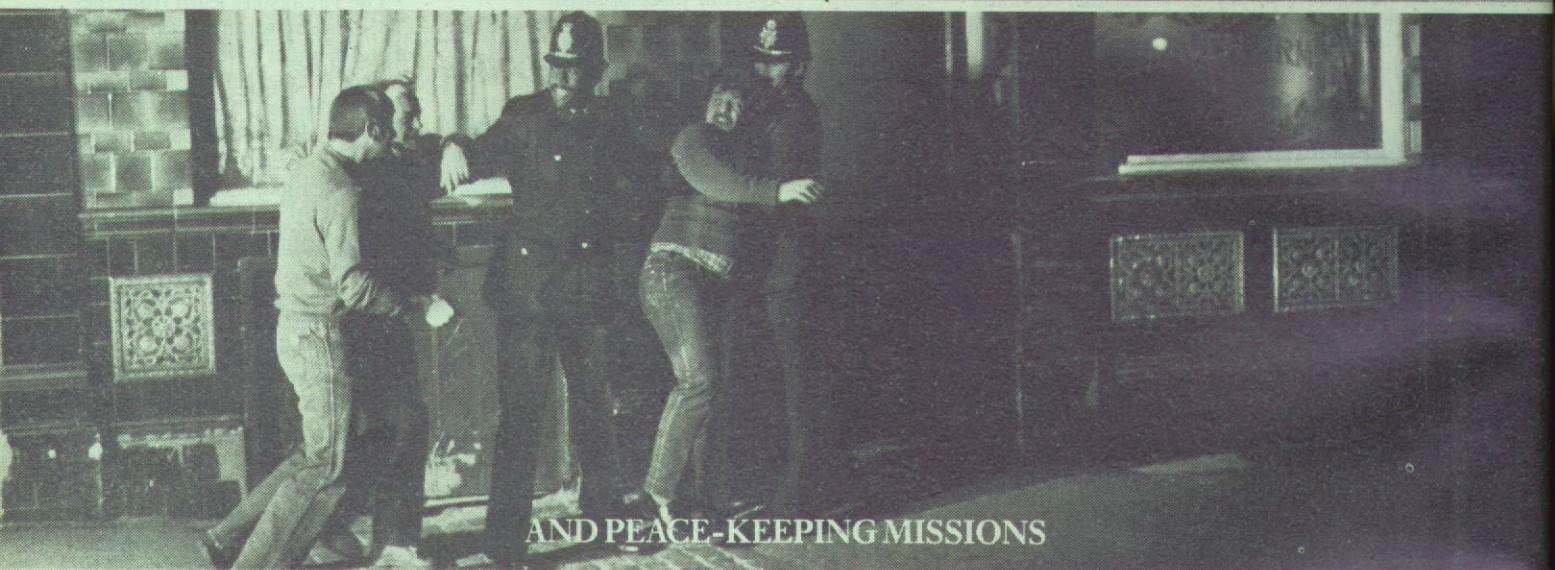
These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 40.



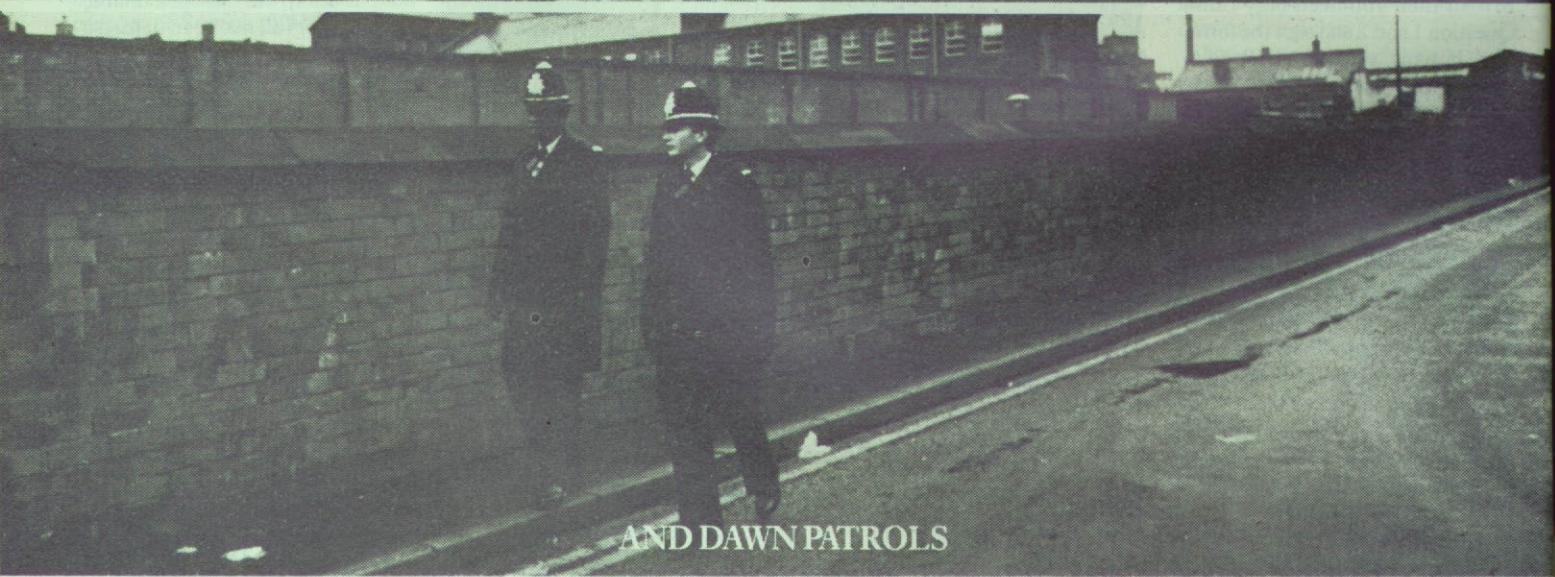
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There are other similarities too. In the Police you work as part of a team. You'll rely on your mates just as they'll rely on you in times of trouble. And you'll earn good money. If you're over 22 you start on £8,442, and there's free housing or a generous rent allowance on top. It's even more in London.

From day one you'll be on about the same pay as a Staff Sergeant. But without the mess bills.

But there are differences too.

You won't have a gun any longer. And you'll be more in the public eye. Ordinary folk will look to you for help and advice.

You'll need more tact, sympathy and courtesy than the army probably ever expected.

The other big difference, of course, is that we won't post you here, there and everywhere.

If you've seen enough of the world, we offer you the chance to get to know your own neighbourhood at last.

If you're under 40, and fit, you could go far in

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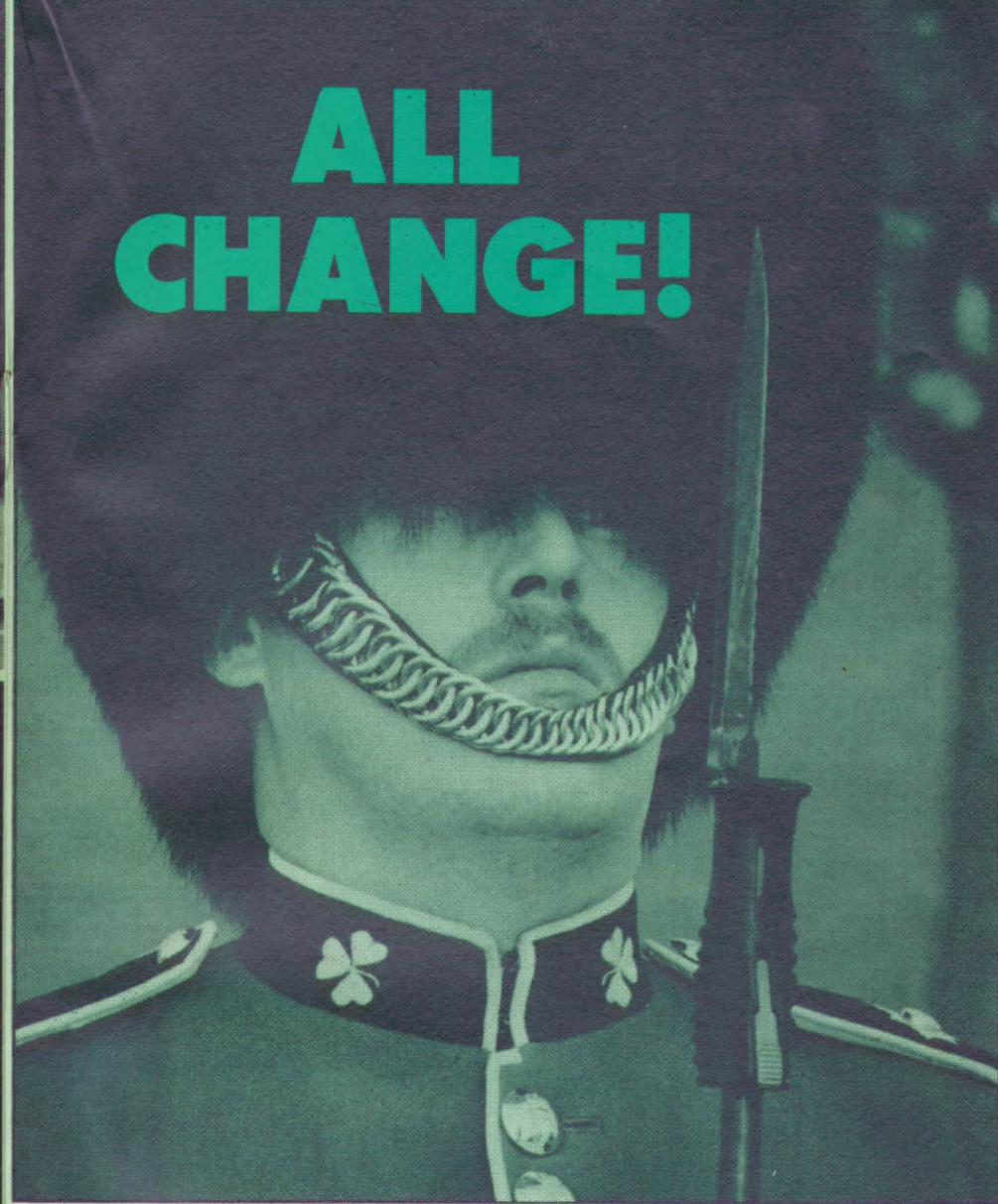
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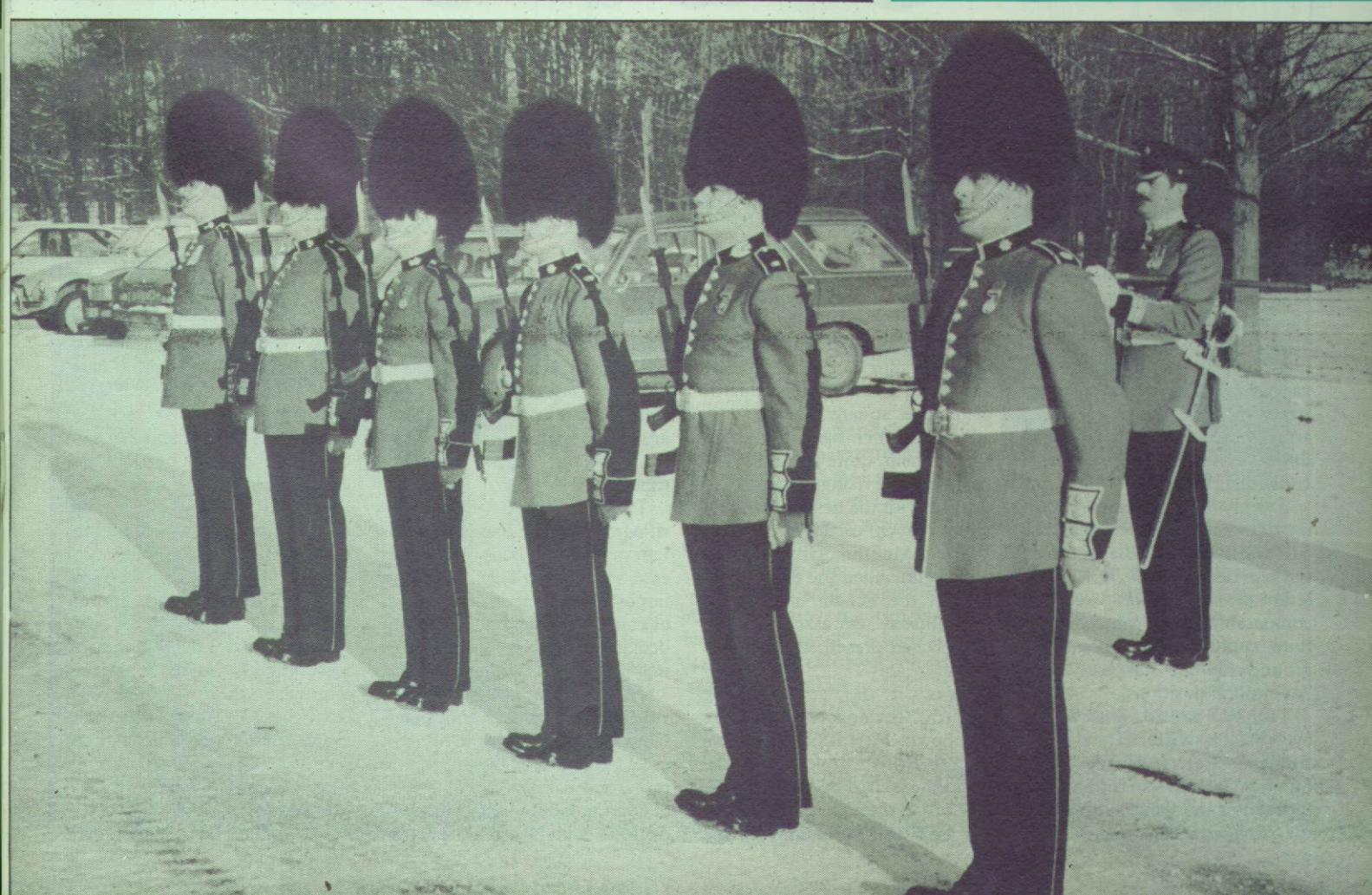
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ALL CHANGE!



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reveal
drill
for
new
rifle

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ATTEN-



PREE-
SENT!

AT FIRST sight it looks a bit odd. The rifle, for all its aggressive modern appearance, seems no bigger than a child's toy. At the shoulder it nestles under the arm with the butt supported in the palm of the hand: "at ease" it is held across the body in a manner not unlike an axe ready for the next strike.

But as Lance Sergeant Nigel James, of the Coldstream Guards, said, it is all a question of what you are accustomed to. He was one of six instructors from the Guards Depot, Pirbright, who gave the first public demonstration of the British Army's arms drill, revised to meet the dimensions of its new SA80 Individual Weapon.

Twenty years ago some modifications had to be made when the SLR (self loading rifle) replaced the old Lee Enfield .303. But at least those firearms were of comparable length which meant they could be rested on the ground for the "at ease" and "attention" positions.

"Yes, it did actually," he replied, "because of the factors laid down. First it had to have a typical British style to it. We couldn't deviate by bringing the rifle across the body and swinging the arm as, for example, the

YOU'LL GET
USED TO IT

overall length of 785mm (2' 7").

For those units, whose activities these days concentrate on field exercise rather than drill, it may all seem a matter of academic interest. But the Guards are obliged to maintain the standards of parade square smartness in addition to their fighting abilities and to them, quite naturally, fell the job of devising a method of drilling with the new weapon.

Warrant Officer 2 Drill Sergeant Vincent McEllin, Irish Guards, who commanded the demonstration at the School of Infantry Warminster, was asked whether the job had presented any problems.

"The solution was to have the rifle held by both hands horizontally across the body in the "at ease" position. This meant an important change in the method of coming to attention, for it was decided that it would look too messy to do everything at once.

"I suppose it looks funny to start with, but that's what they said when the SLR took over from the 303," said Lance Sergeant James. "Once it has been seen it will get accepted. I don't think it will pose any real problems.

"It will be a lot quicker for the

recruits because they don't know any arms drill and you can teach them straight away. But if you've done SLR drill and you're converting back it doesn't take long at all. Most of the move-

**Story:
Robert Higson**



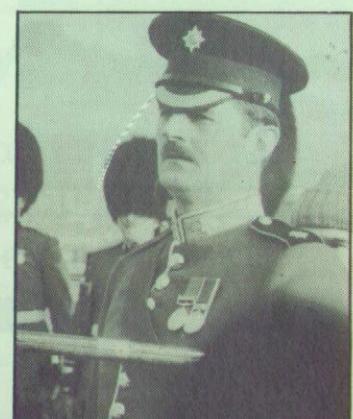
ments are the same except the stand-at-ease and the order arms. All the drill movements you do with the SLR can be done with this rifle equally as well, if you can get used to the size of it — that's the main thing."

Another member of the demonstration squad, Lance Sergeant Steven Bartholomew, Coldstream Guards, gave the new drill his full endorsement — "Once you get used to it it's very good — very simple to learn."

And Lance Sergeant Paul Cunliffe, Welsh Guards, had a special word of commendation for the optical sight which will be issued with the new weapon only to infantry units.

His interest, on this occasion, wasn't solely with its undoubtedly improved marksmanship. He said it provided a very good grip for the forearm when the rifle was at the shoulder.

The new rifle, of course, comes with a new bayonet, and the demonstration squad wore theirs in the special scabbard which again will be issued only to



Warrant Officer 2 Vincent McEllin
infantry units. An arms drill demonstration, however, was not the time to show off the special properties of this new kit — its self contained hacksaw blade and its ability, by slotting the bayonet onto the scabbard, to form an effective pair of wire cutters.

Footnote: It is unlikely that



Major General Colin Shortis

NEW RIFLE AND NEW COMBAT NUMBERS



New rifle is not just for ceremonial, of course, but for the infantryman of the future in action

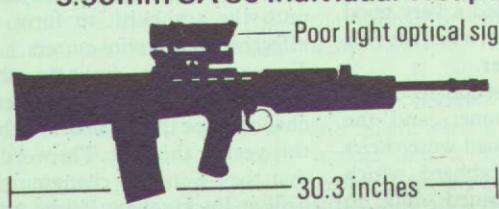
Lee Enfield .303, 1902



7.62mm Self-loading rifle (SLR), 1955



5.56mm SA 80 Individual Weapon, 1985



EARLY 4,000 posts in the Army have been re-allocated to combat elements after a very close scrutiny of the support sector, Major General Colin Shortis, the Director of Infantry, told a gathering of journalists at Warminster.

The occasion was a Press visit to the School of Infantry at which a whole range of new kit — from the most modern Mechanised Combat Vehicle to the latest pair of socks — was put on show.

The Director spoke with enthusiasm about the equipment which will be introduced over the next 10 years or so at a cost spread over the same period of some £2.5 thousand million. There was great confidence, he said, in the decisions that had been made and the new kit that was coming in. But manpower was another matter. The infantry was still the Army's largest corps, representing 27 per cent of the total, but it had been examined particularly carefully in the rigorous search

for savings in manpower.

"If you've got a tank that requires three men to operate it — driver, commander, gunner — then there's no argument about the number of men required," General Shortis said. "But if you are dealing with something like the infantry whose job it is to work on their feet and close with the enemy it is very difficult to produce objective evidence that you must have eight men in that section otherwise it will fail."

Nevertheless the Director of Infantry was confident that the Army's mechanised battalions in Germany could cope with their numbers and that the NATO reinforcement battalions were of adequate size and strength.

However it was acknowledged that the home defence battalions had been reduced to inadequate strength. Work was now going on to put men back into those battalions by the close scrutiny of the support sector.

"I would like to have something like 24 men extra for each," General Shortis said, "but I think I will probably end up with something like half that number which, on the principle of half a cake being better than no cake at all, I'll settle for."

**Latest
on new
equipment
- Page 30**

Nothing cantankerous...

DIVISIONAL HQ of the Light Division at Winchester hasn't yet acquired an SA80 so they are unable to say how their distinctive drill style will be maintained with the new rifle.

Traditionally troops of The Light Division have preserved certain parade ground differences to emphasise their separate origins. In the days of muskets, serried ranks and scarlet jackets they were green-clad riflemen trained to move quickly. Even now they carry their rifles at the trail rather than the shoulder as a symbolic reminder that they are always ready for action.

Lieutenant Colonel Robin Gamble, the Divisional Chief of Staff, told SOLDIER that they had noted with interest what was proposed by the Guards for the Army as a whole. In due course they would see whether traditional aspects of Light Division drill could be incorporated.

"I promise you there will be no cantankerous ways of doing it simply to be different," Colonel Gamble added.

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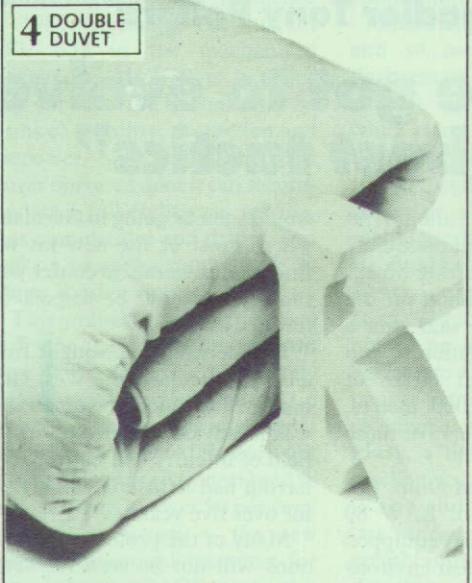
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KAYS
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THINKING THROUGH EFFECTS OF NEW...

THE infantry has always prided itself on the resource of its individuals. In no other arm, they say, can the ordinary soldier achieve such responsibility for his own destiny.



New rifle — new look

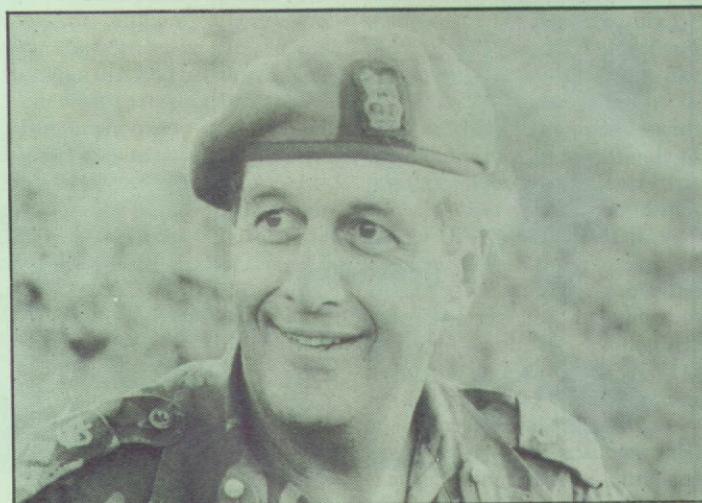
Major General Colin Shortis, the Director of Infantry, put it this way: "The sailor in his ship or the crewman in his tank doesn't control his destiny. It's his captain or commander who decides which way they are going to head and what they are going to do."

"But it is the infantryman on the ground, though he may have his mates around him, who will make the decision when the time comes whether he gets up and goes forward or whether he stays where he is. And therefore anything which is going to give him the moral strength and the courage to go forward must be totally justified."

General Shortis was talking about the British Regimental system as a tried and tested method of giving the soldier this sort of moral support. But his remarks were also applicable to a range of new equipment which will come into service over the next decade to give the infantryman the assurance of greater mobility, greater firepower, better surveillance and more protection.

It's been 20 years since the introduction of the self loading rifle and the first tracked APCs, but now the infantry is preparing a much greater enhancement of its fighting capabilities.

For somebody like Brigadier Tony Pollard, the Commandant MCV80 — quantum jump



Brigadier Tony Pollard

"We've got to evolve the best tactics"

of the School of Infantry at Warminster, this is undoubtedly a challenging and exciting time.

"You saw the cannon on the MCV 80 today," he said after a firepower demonstration, "you saw it knocking out pieces of armour at up to 1,000 metres. There are going to be 45 of those in a battalion."

"That's a quantum jump. Put that alongside Milan, LAW 80 and the soldier properly equipped to survive in the nuclear environment and you've got a very tough nut to crack."

"What we've got to do now is to think through the effects of the new equipment, how it will effect the infantryman's ability to fight and survive. And when we have done that we've got to evolve the best tactics and put them into practice. Now we are going to have to start teaching those probably in two years time."

Brigadier Pollard added that he

would soon be going to Germany, where most of the new kit will find its first home, to confer with those who would be responsible for its use.

Advice would be sought from allies, particularly the West German Army which, in some ways, was in advance of Britain in the field of infantry combat vehicles, having had its Marder in service for over five years.

Many of the promised innovations will not be seen for some time, but this year will see the first issue of the **Small Arms for the Eighties (SA80)**, probably around November. The Individual Weapon is designed to replace both the SLR and the SMG, while the SA80 Light Support Weapon (LSW) will take over from the GPMG in its light role and the LMG. Both weapons fire new light weight NATO standard 5.56 mm ammunition.

LAW 80 (Light Anti Tank



Spyglass — light with it



... INFANTRY EQUIPMENT

Weapon for the Eighties) will commence issue to units next year. This platoon level close range anti-armour weapon has the capacity to attack tanks front on and will replace both the 66mm M72 and the Carl Gustav. It incorporates a spotting rifle developed by the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield.

Improvements to the long-serving **81mm Medium Mortar** will be trialled this year for introduction in the following two years. These include an improved bipod and a series of simplified wet efficient charge systems.

Full deployment of the **MCV80 (Mechanised Combat Vehicle for the Eighties)** will commence in 1988, replacing the current AFV 432 in the mechanised companies. MCV80 is a major step forward for the infantry in terms of mobility, protection and firepower. Now equipped with a power operated door it can accommodate a full eight-man section, plus commander and driver, and packs a powerful punch with its 30mm Rarden cannon.

This vehicle is also equipped with the new **Hughes Chain Gun** — a 7.62mm electrically driven weapon which can let rip with 520 rounds a minute. Spent cartridges are ejected forward out of the vehicle in a way designed to reduce fumes by over 90 per cent.

In time, **Saxon** — the new wheeled armoured transport for non mechanised BAOR-committee battalions — will get the Chain Gun. But the first Saxons, which

Otis: man portable

have now been on issue for about six months, have had to make do with the GPMG for self defence.

Early in 1987 mechanised battalions will start to be equipped with the capacity to fire and guide missiles from under armour. This will come with the introduction of the **Milan Compact Turret (MCT)** which has been incorporated into the Alvis Spartan light tracked armoured vehicle.

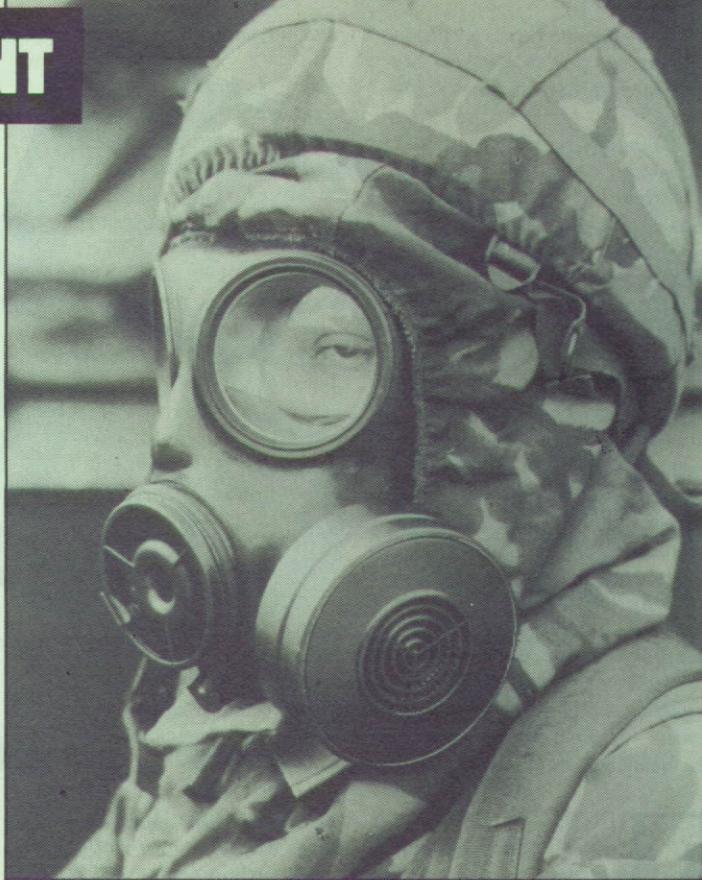
Milan itself has been in service with infantry battalions for some years, but the capability of this medium range anti-tank guided missile system has been enhanced by one of the new range of Thermal Imaging sights now coming into service.

Thermal images register heat and so can be used in total darkness or dense fog, unlike the current vision intensifier sights which need some degree of light to register anything.

MIRA (the Milan Infra Red Adaptor Thermal Imaging sight) commenced deployment six months ago, but two other TI sights, designed to enhance mortar fire direction capabilities, will not be on issue until mid 1986. These are **Otis**, a man portable imager intended for mechanised reconnaissance platoons, and **Spyglass**, a lighter version for non mechanised surveillance.

The ability of these sights to 'see' through smoke or dust is greatly improved by having their detectors super cooled to temperatures below — 190° Centigrade.

This is achieved with compressed air from small bottles

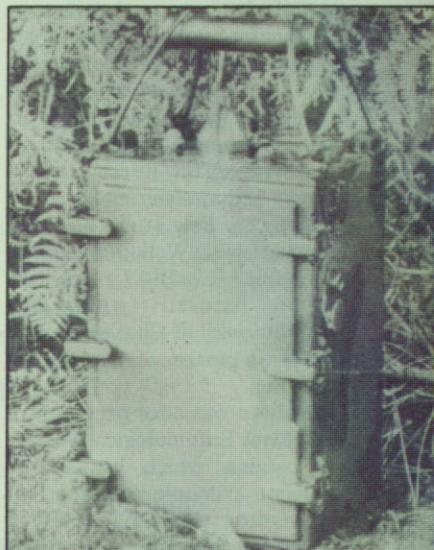


New mask: drinking facility

NAIAD: NBC warning device

which are tested to 9,000 lbs a square inch, but usually filled to no more than 4,000. The air has to be completely free of contamination and moisture which means that special equipment and special care is needed to replenish the bottles.

Apart from being able to see better the modern infantryman will have a better chance of detecting chemical weapons before they get to him. **NAIAD (Nerve Agent Immobilised Enzyme Alarm and Detector)** and **CAM (Chemical Agent Monitor)** are both NBC warning

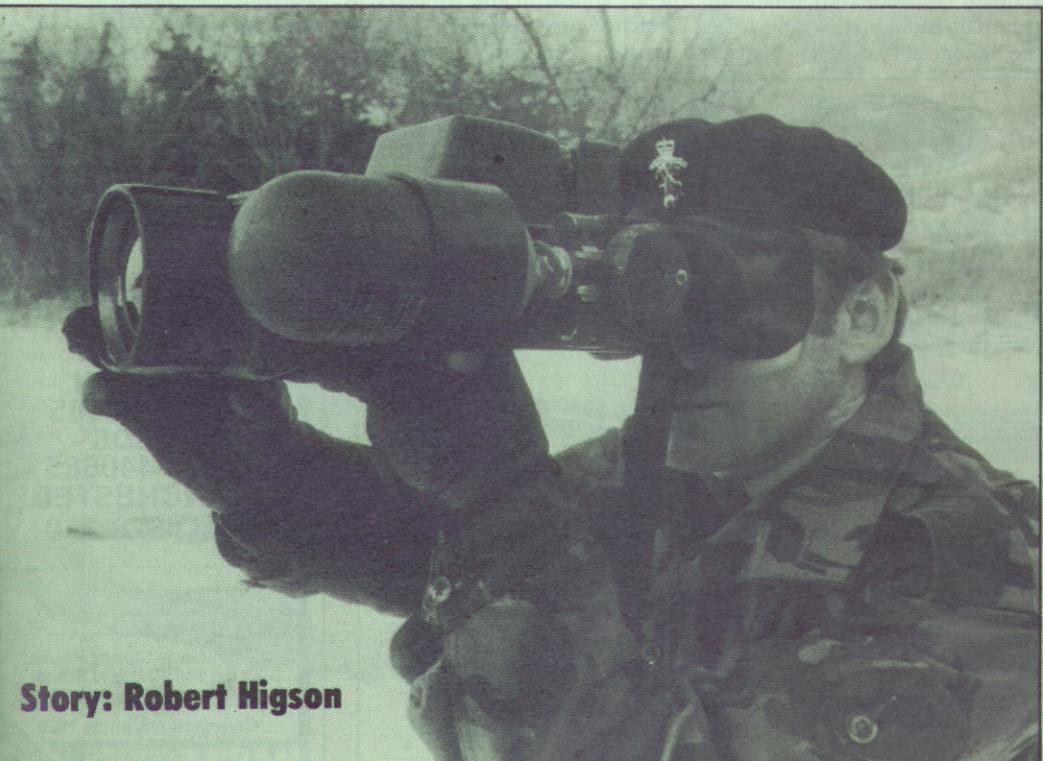


systems.

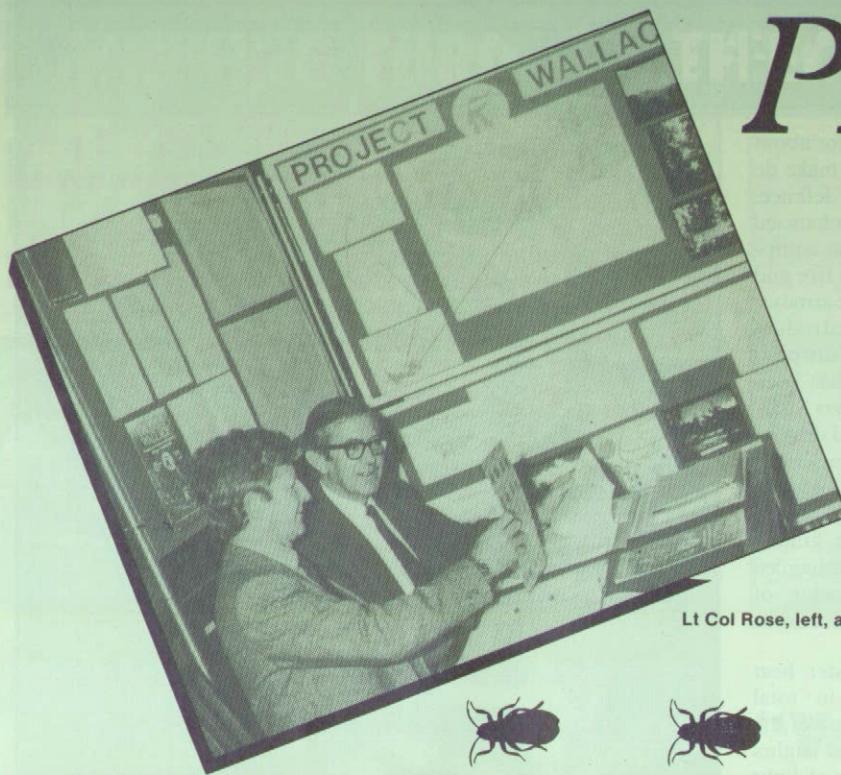
NAIAD, can be located away from a troop position and give either visual or audible alarms on indicators connected to it by landline. It commenced deployment to the Infantry eight months ago.

CAM, a hand held monitor designed to give a continuous and reliable reading of the degree of contamination, will be issued early next year.

Finally the **Personal Load Carrying Equipment (PLCE)**. The new design, with its detachable patrol packs, is intended to replace the 1958 pattern of personal webbing equipment currently in service, and incorporates many of the lessons learnt in the Falklands campaign. PLCE is still undergoing troop trials but should be in full production in 1987.



Story: Robert Higson



Lt Col Rose, left, and Dr Bill Knight thrash out the planning details of the project

THROUGHOUT this year sixty-five British servicemen and women, mostly from the Army, will be part of what has a good claim to be the biggest bug hunt in history.

Divided into three teams, each of which will do a four month tour of duty, they are providing support for 150 international scientists investigating the insect life of a remote Indonesian rain forest.

The year long study has been named Project Wallace in honour of Alfred Russell Wallace, the famous naturalist who was a contemporary of Charles Darwin and also a pioneer of the theory of evolution.

Wallace was once president of the Royal Entomological Society of London which has at the moment a couple of important anniversaries to celebrate, its 150th

birthday in 1983 and the centenary of its Royal Charter in 1985.

According to Dr Bill Knight, the society's honorary secretary and the scientific director of Project Wallace, the idea was to mark the anniversaries by retracing the steps of their illustrious former president.

Wallace travelled extensively in South America and what were then the Dutch East Indies during the mid-19th Century, and his observations led him, independently, to the same conclusions as Darwin on the evolution of life.

Efforts

It was eventually concluded the most useful results could be obtained by concentrating efforts on a small, comparatively unknown region of Indonesia, not far from the biological line which Wallace

said divided placental mammals from the marsupials of Australia and New Guinea.

Project Wallace has been designed to look closely at some 100 square kilometres of rain forest in the newly created Dumoga-Bone National Park in northern Sulawesi — the island formerly known as Celebes.

Insect diversity and conservation is obviously an important concern but the scientists will also be looking to the effects of insects on agriculture, health, and, at a time when rain forest is vanishing at an unprecedented rate, they will explore the role of insects in forest regeneration.

The Armed Forces became involved in this venture as the result of an appeal to the Ministry of Defence for equipment and expertise. Originally Lieutenant

Colonel Mike Allen, a Gurkha officer and an entomologist in his own right, was appointed field leader.

Unfortunately his current posting was as defence attache in Kathmandu which meant that he was too far away for much of the planning. Another Gurkha officer, Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Rose, chief instructor at the Small Arms Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster, was nearer to hand and gradually the job devolved on him.

Environment

Colonel Rose is now not only field leader, he is also the programme director for the geo-physical survey which servicemen will undertake as their contribution to the expedition's quest for knowledge.

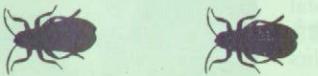
But the main purpose of the

PROJECT WALLACE

— the biggest bug hunt in history!

Story: Robert Higson

Picture: Les Wiggs



service presence will be, as Colonel Rose put it, to create the environment in which the scientist can work.

"It is our job to make sure the base camp is running properly," he said. "That there is food for them to eat, that repairs are done to generators or vehicles. We will run the communications network: we will be responsible for medical health, and evacuation from the forest if anyone is bitten by something nasty or falls out of a tree."

As far as the Ministry of Defence was concerned the venture was in the nature of a Joint Services adventurous training expedition.

Obviously, said Colonel Rose, there was plenty of adventurous training available for anyone who had not been in a jungle before simply in the business of learning to operate in such an environment.

Access

But the adventurous training aspect did mean that servicemen would have to be given the

opportunity to go diving, or caving or climbing.

Climbing, not rocks but trees, had the virtue of being highly relevant to the main scientific purpose of the expedition. In order for the scientists to collect insects from tree canopies, which could be over 200 feet from the ground, the servicemen would have to provide means of access with their climbing equipment.

So service personnel with climbing experience have been among Colonel Rose's requirements, along with those who knew something about jungle survival, navigation, entomology, ornithology, forestry, geology and photography.

There was also a need for surveyors, medical assistants, signallers, mechanics and cooks.

Initially there were no volunteers from the Army Catering Corps, but this was corrected by a direct approach to the Director of the ACC who put out his own trawl to come up with a list of names.

"One of the biggest concerns," said Colonel Rose, "was not just the physical aspect of cooking, but catering supervision, the ordering and design of menus so that we didn't all go down with scurvy."

Scientific expertise among the servicemen had to be looked at carefully. There are several fellows of the Royal Entomological Society serving in the forces and one from each three services has a place in the expedition.

"But, of course, I didn't want to overload the service teams with entomologists," Colonel Rose explained, "because their interests

would be torn between collecting and working in a supportive role which is what the servicemen are there for."

As field leader, Colonel Rose is in charge of the first team which will be in Sulawesi for the first four months. They will be there during the wet season and will have the job of establishing the base camp and the various sub camps that will be located around the 2,000 metre ridge which runs through the park.

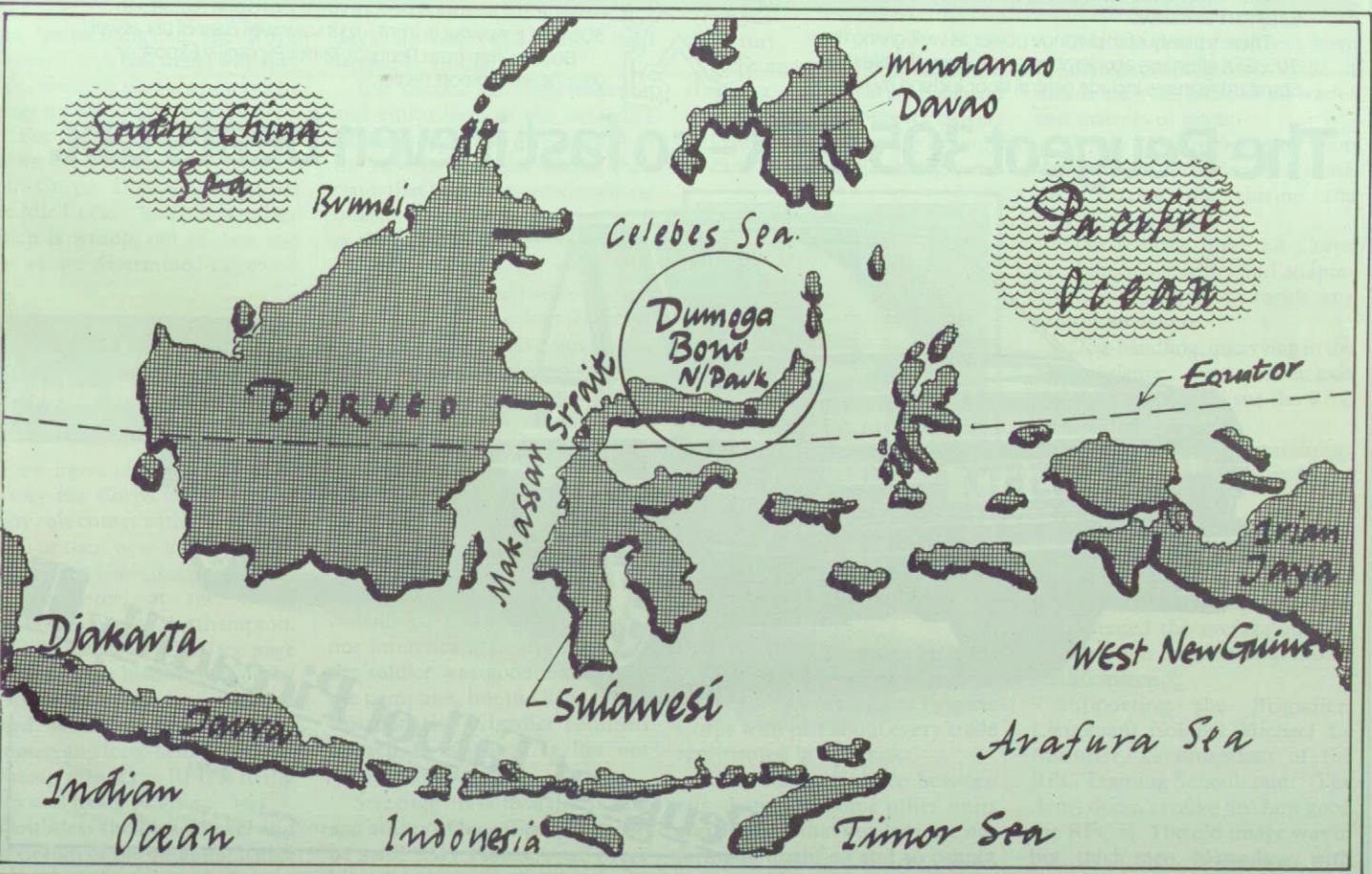
Conditions are likely to be hot and sticky — the national park lies just above the equator — and there should be plenty to keep the servicemen occupied. They will be dealing with scientists from Indonesia (the Indonesian Institute of Sciences is a co-sponsor of the venture) and from Europe, America, Australia and South East Asia, including Japan. They will also have to deal with a lot of non human local inhabitants — snakes, spiders, mosquitoes, leeches, ticks and many others.

Bitten

"Masses of nasties," said Colonel Rose with relish. He is not an entomologist himself, he just likes expeditions.

"I think people should be warned that these things do exist, but I think there is a danger of overplaying them."

"Nonetheless there is always the chance — and I suppose that's why they call it adventurous training — that you will be bitten by something, or that you will catch something, or that something will fall on you."



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New Badge for Royal Pioneer Corps



Soldiers first! Pioneers in winter warfare setting

and a strong bid for a new image

The 're-badging' of the Royal Pioneer Corps this week, will, they hope, mark the start of a new public image for the 2,000-strong Corps. "For far too long we have been known as a 'pick and shovel mob,'" said Corps Director Brigadier Freddie Lucas, "and it is an image which is wrong, out of date and one we are determined to get rid of."

by
John Margetts

First move in the campaign to portray the Corps in its modern Army role comes with the presentation of their new-look badge by their Colonel-in-Chief, the Duke of Gloucester, at the Corps Training Centre at Northampton.

While the new badge (see page 37) depicts the historic role of the Corps with crossed axes and a sword, it should help squash a common and long-held belief that the main role of the RPC is to dig holes and mend roads.

Doubtless the pick, shovel and rifle design of the outgoing badge encouraged this view, "but those

days are over and gone," said Brigadier Lucas.

But despite the determination and enthusiasm of the Brigadier and his officers to give a boost to the new-look of the Corps, they claim that help from certain official quarters (not Army) has not been of the best.

To strengthen his point the Brigadier produced two recruiting posters, one in full colour featuring a Royal Pioneer (now out of the Army) going into action with an SMG and his cap badge clearly recognisable; the other pamphlet, a small production for the Armed Services Youth Training Scheme, shows the same soldier flanked by a sailor and an airman, but in this picture his badge is distorted and obscure.

Obviously bitter at what he considered a slur on his Corps, one inference to be drawn is that the soldier was good enough for the pamphlet, but the RPC badge was not, the Brigadier confined himself to saying: "It has not escaped our notice."

Stressing his faith in the quality and ability of his officers and men he said: "My Pioneers are every bit as good as any other soldier in

the Army.

"The image of the 'Chunkies' is changing — even that is a hangover from the war years when Pioneers unloaded ships carrying millions of cans of pineapple chunks with

"But because our soldiers have so many unrecognised skills it means they are jacks of all trades and masters of many.

"Every job is represented from slaughterman to undertaker, a task they carried out during the Falklands conflict.

"These skills give the Corps flexibility, versatility and adaptability, allowing us to tackle any project anywhere.

"Dog-handling, quarrying in the South Atlantic... you name it, look closely and you will see the RPC involved.

"The net product, after training, is a great Pioneer, a great and loyal soldier as good as any."

"When they join the Corps these young men get the chance to develop latent talents which evaded them earlier because most have been denied the average start in life through lack of educational qualifications."

Supporting the Brigadier, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Le Masurier, Commandant of the RPC Training School, said: "The Army doesn't realise just how good the RPC is. The old image was of big, thick men. Nowadays, with the new badge adding to our new



Brigadier Lucas: 'Flexibility...'

the initials PC, hence the nickname.

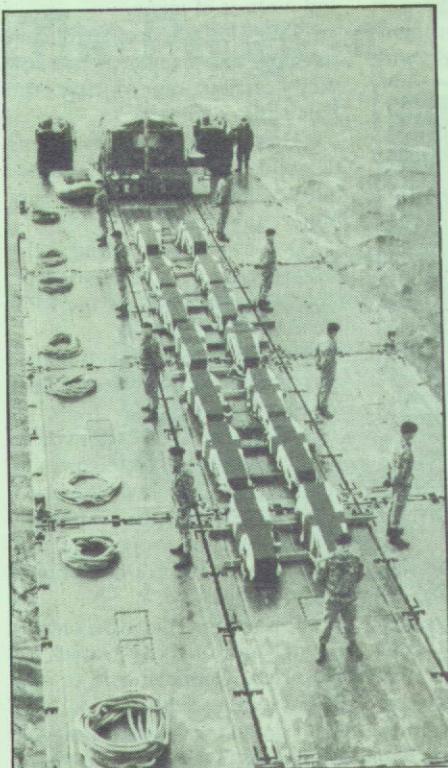
"We are a working and fighting Corps with just about every trade represented in our ranks.

"The only difference between our chaps and some other units and corps is that our lads are not formally qualified and so cannot claim trade pay."



Sergeant John Latimer, right, instructs Private Kevin Tyller on Hyster fork lift truck

MELANCHOLY TASK



Escorting some of the dead following the Falklands conflict



A warmer setting for these Pioneers to demonstrate their fighting skills

look, we are a trained fighting force in addition to being a large logistics Corps.

"We have bright, young men coming in who ask intelligent questions and want intelligent answers."

To prove the point four recruits, all with less than 36 hours experience of Army life, told why they joined the RPC and, in each case said it was 'because I wanted to be a Pioneer'.

Only one, Tony Evans, 18, from Cardiff, expressed a preference and that was for the Paras. But seemingly his eyesight let him down. The others, Dave Bladen, 23, from Barnsley, John Hay, 20, from Liskeard and Henry Young, 19, from Lanarkshire, all said it was a Pioneer's life for them and, while it was early days, all agreed it was 'great so far'.

Said Major Eddie Ferguson, OC Pioneer Training Centre, and who will be responsible for them over the next 16 weeks: "We are not looking for whiz kids or boy wonders, just good lads with common sense."

But while whiz kids and boy wonders may be thin on the ground, the Corps has had its fair share of 'stars' with newspaper tycoon Robert Maxwell topping the list.

It's well known that he arrived penniless in the UK in 1940 after fighting in France with the Czech army. He joined the Pioneers, building roads and bridges with

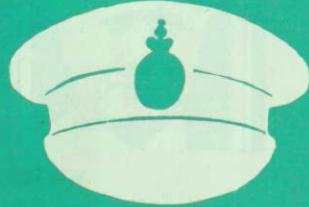
the Corps till 1944 when he returned to France as a sergeant in the Normandy invasion.

He was commissioned in the field for outstanding bravery and served with the West Surreys later being decorated with the MC by Field Marshal Lord Montgomery.

But Mr Maxwell is just one of many top names to have served in the Corps. Others include Christopher Fry, playwright; Sydney Wooderson, world mile record holder; Nat Gonella, jazz trumpeter; Coco the clown; Larry Gains, boxer; Prof. A. M. Law, scientist; Louis Hagen, author; Alf Gover, England and Surrey cricketer and a host of other England and county players.

With this foundation to build on and the introduction of a new-style badge linked with a will to stop being the underdogs of military life, the future for the Corps can't be anything less than rosy.

The New Badge



Your Cap Badge

No. 72

ROYAL PIONEER CORPS

IN MARCH last year The Queen graciously approved the design of a new badge for the Royal Pioneer Corps and we are breaking the usual order of precedence to allow this feature to coincide with its introduction into service on 13 February.

A parade at Simpson Barracks, Northampton will be



◀ OLD
▼ NEW



held in the presence of their Colonel-on-Chief Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who made a major contribution to the design of the new badge.

It is described as two pioneer axes crossed in Saltire beneath their heads and surmounted of a pioneer sword and a laurel wreath below, the same a scroll inscribed Royal Pioneers and the whole ensigned by a Royal Crown all Argent.

By removing the pick and shovel of the current badge the outdated image of labouring is eradicated; instead, the inclusion of the axes and sword is at the same time traditional and symbolic of the skills required by members of the Corps in discharging their military support tasks.

On 17 October 1939 the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps was formed and took as its badge that of the Labour Corps which came into being in February 1917.

The title of the Corps changed on 22 November 1940 to Pioneer Corps.

The distinction "Royal" was given to the Corps by King George VI on 28 November 1946.

The Corps, at its peak, was probably the largest Corps in the Army, including 12,000 officers; 166,000 British and 400,000 Commonwealth personnel.

The former badge is worthy of mention described as a rifle, a shovel and a pick "piled" on them a laurel wreath, all ensigned with a crown.

Beneath, the motto "Labor Omnia Vincit" (Work Conquers All).

It was in gilding metal for soldiers, officers badges were silver plated HUGH L. KING

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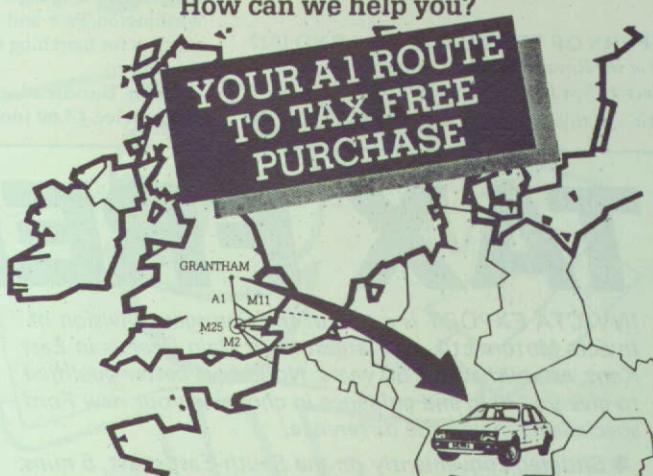


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BANDS ACROSS THE SEA BND 1032
The Volunteer (Warwickshire) Band of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
Bands of The Lorne Scots (Canada)
Director of Music: Captain M Rehill
Pipe Major: D McEachern

The 5th Bn of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and the Lorne Scots have had a long association of exchange visits, culminating in the making of this record in St George's Barracks, Sutton Coldfield, earlier this year. So the musical programme reflects the association of all the many regiments from which the Fusiliers and Lorne Scots were originated.

Gone, but not forgotten by any means, for such tunes as *Royal Fusiliers' Arrival in Quebec*, *Farewell to Nova Scotia*, *Mon Ami*, *Northumbrian Airs*, *Alouette*, *Die Normandie*, and a medley of *Cockney Songs* perpetuate their memory as here revived by their successors. And nicely done too, by players who probably don't rehearse all that much. I found the programme totally captivating, as will any old soldier who hears it, for its evocation of times past, and cementation of friendships present, a musical confirmation of what soldiering is all about.

Variety is skilfully maintained by alternating the combined bands, the pipes and drums, and both together in 24 tracks which, in addition to those already mentioned, include *Mull of Kintyre*, *Marching Songs of 1939-1945*, *Cockney Jocks*, *Now is the Hour*, Vaughan Williams's lovely *Linden Lea*, Fucik's march *Children of the Regiment*, *The Black Bear*, and *Sunset* with the *National Anthems* of both countries.

From RRF, TAVR Centre, Green Road, Coventry, price £5.60 inclusive.

KEEPERS OF THE PEACE BND 1017
Band of the Royal Air Force Germany
Conductor: Sqn Ldr H B Hingley

The title of this one refers of course to the RAF's

On the Record

with Rodney Bashford

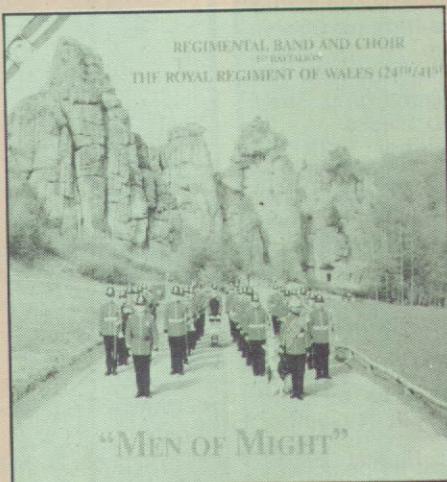


MEN OF MIGHT

Band and Choir of The Royal Regiment of Wales
Conductor: Bandmaster A G O'Connor

The title of the record is taken from the opening march by one Maretta, or perhaps vice versa. Maretta is a name unknown to me but his march is fluent if foreseeable. The men of might include HRH The Princess of Wales, Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, and Prussian cavalrymen, but presumably refers to the Welsh in general and its Royal Regiment in particular. A very pleasant tribute though, whoever the recipient. *The Princess of Wales* is a tune dedicated to her at the time of the wedding, and the bridegroom on that occasion is represented by a *Salute to the Prince of Wales* by Major Derek Kimberley. The only other Welshery is Ellis's effective *Welsh Patrol* and a well sung *Gwahoddiad* by the choir.

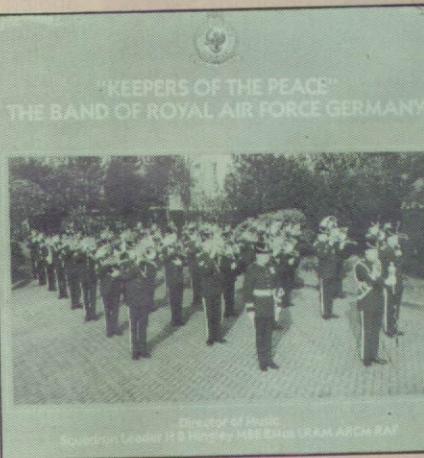
Salute the Duke is an arrangement by Paul Yoder of four of Ellington's greatest, *Tribute to Sinatra* three of his, including *My Way*, all of which are sung by Jones the Voice his way, which is to me much more preferable. In *September Song* L/Cpl Neville is the saxophone soloist, and in the *Fehrbelliner Reitermarsch* it's Mr O'Connor, who achieves an authentic Prussian beat and tempo in this oft ill-performed march. My only reservation is the choice of 'overture' for the programme, a misnomer if ever there was one. It is *Pacific Waves* by Joseph Olivadoti, an American whose speciality is kiddy music and tunes for tots. Not a worthy item for these mighty men to take forth into battle. Very professionally played and produced, available from IRRW, BFPO 41 price £5.60 inclusive.



Squadron is Anthony Isaacs' music for the TV series of that name, and highly atmospheric stuff it is. Former Organising Director Roy Davies's march *Skywatch* was a must, as was Jo Bergheim's old favourite *The Skywriter*. Paul Lincke's great *Berliner Luft* was perhaps stretching the meaning of *luft* a bit, but RAF Gatow justifies its inclusion. Alford's *Holyrood* seems to me a strange, and misguided, choice of official march for the RAF Regiment. As we in an older service know, a march familiar to all in other contexts deprives the 'owners' of its ownership.

A very fine programme indeed, and played by a skilled band of players. But march lovers be warned. The Motto Marches take up the whole of side two and are extended essays in what we might call symphonic language. Not for the lovers of Washington Post and Colonel Bogey, which are marches for marching to. These are for sitting and listening to.

From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2, price £5.60 inclusive.



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- 1) Give me chastity and continency — but not yet.
- 2) What Englishman will give his mind to politics as long as he can afford a motor car?
- 3) You are ordered abroad as a Soldier of the King to help our French comrades against the invasion of a common enemy.

4) How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle!

5) 'Tis better to have loved and lost,
than never to have loved at all.

6) Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.

7) Delight of lust is gross and brief
and weariness treads on desire.

8) What an artist dies with me!

9) I have only one eye — I have a right to be blind sometimes... I really do not see the signal!

10) They also serve who only stand and wait.

WHEN you consider that a dispute still continues as to whether William Shakespeare was, in fact, the author of the works which bear his name, it's not surprising that quotations are often wrongly attributed. And that the quotations themselves have taken a battering down the years, some of them being considerably distorted.

"All that glisters (yes, glisters) is not gold" is a favourite quotation. But, even if you get it right, who said it? One dictionary of quotations gives it three authors. One of them — Shakespeare — uses that exact wording. But was it the original quotation of any one of them? Or someone else?

SOLDIER is not offering gold if you can correctly give the attribution of the quotations in this issue's competition. But it will give one lucky winner £50. So, who said what? Look at the quotations, and then send to SOLDIER the names of the ten authors.

The rules of the competition are the same as usual. The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is 29 March. The answer and winner's name will be announced in our issue of 22 April.

Each entry must be accompanied by the 'Competition 356' label at the top of this column. For two entries send two labels (not photo copies), three entries three labels, and so on.

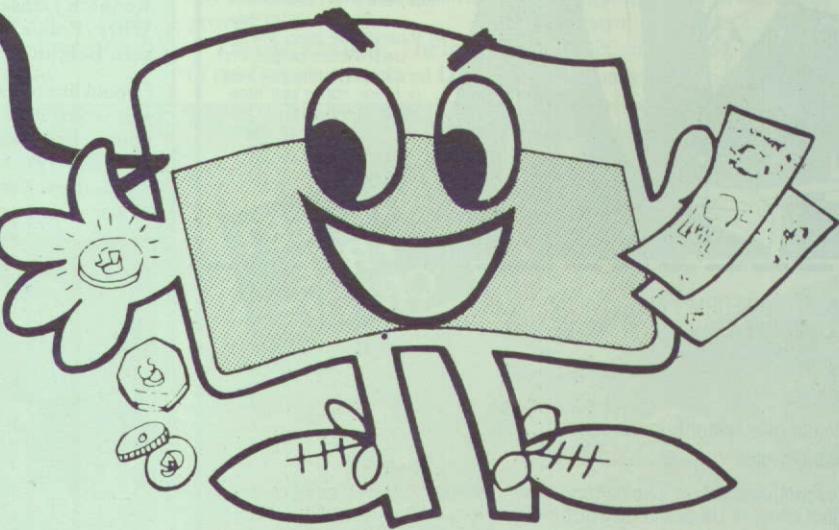
In the case of more than one correct entry being received, the winner will be drawn by lots. No correspondence can be entered into.

Send your answers by postcard or letter to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

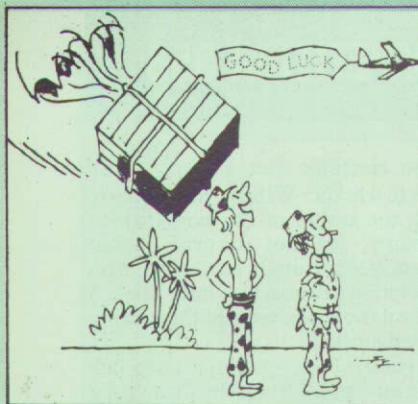
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PRIZED

I have been interested to read the recent letters concerning officers who have been awarded both the Territorial Efficiency Medal and the Territorial Decoration. The award of either is an equally prized achievement — to have received both is outstanding.

I am curious to know why the TD is a decoration and the TEM a medal and why the TD can be used after the name but not the TEM. I am proud of my TEM and would like to be able to use it after my name. I wonder if other

readers feel the same way. — WO2 (AQMS) M A Cattell, 210 Sqn RCT Wksps REME (V), TA Centre, Farringdon House, Stonecot Hill, Sutton, Surrey.

At its inception the TD was awarded to officers with 20 years of commissioned service and the accompanying Royal Warrant granted permission for each recipient to use the initials after his name. The length of qualifying service has since been reduced to 12 years but otherwise the terms of the Royal Warrant remain unchanged.

The Efficiency Medal (Territorial) is awarded to other ranks for 12 years service but the Royal Warrant in this case does not make provision for the initials to follow a name. Officers may be awarded the medal if only part of their 12 years service has been commissioned. Years of service in other ranks may count towards the qualifying period.

So, we understand the difference between the two to be historical, that is, that initially the decoration was awarded after 20 years and therefore qualified for extra recognition. (Our information comes from Territorial Regulations.) — Ed.

YEOMANRY

I wonder if a few corrections could be made to the article on the Yeomanry (Looking at Books 17 December).

Obviously the article could not list all extant Yeomanry regiments/squadrons although the book will do so. For the record the Kent and

Sharpshooters Yeomanry has two squadrons: the complete signal regiment is 71st (Yeomanry) Signal Regiment (V); and the second Scottish transport squadron is the Highland Yeomanry. It was the 'Castlemartin' Yeomanry which was involved in the French surrender near Fishguard in 1797.

Those readers with keen eyes will have spotted the Rose of Lancaster carried on the sabretache of the Orland Norie inset print. It depicts an officer of the Lancashire Hussars of 1879. —

Major P J Mileham, RTR, Logistic Executive (Army), Portway, Monxton Road, Andover, Hants.

Major Mileham is the author of the book The Yeomanry Regiments — a Pictorial History. — Ed.

Sappers interested in joining the RE Association to contact him at the above address. Those outside his area of responsibility he will put in touch with the appropriate secretary.

Competition

Yes, so we know Competition 352 was easy and we apologise to those who like a bit more weight to their puzzles, but we were pleased with the heavy response. The solution to the riddle 'What Am I' was of course the letter N. Winner of our £50 prize was Major E Maarup from Denmark. Another £50 is being offered in this issue's competition on page 39, so don't delay in getting your entry off.

How Observant Are You?

1 Number of black flowers; 2 Mouth of gingerbread man in middle of back row; 3 Right handle of rolling pin; 4 Left flap of open box in foreground; 5 Height of book on right; 6 Cook's sideburn; 7 Window pane at top right; 8 Cook's left hand; 9 Cook's chevrons; 10 Handle of cupboard below drawer.

Reunions

Royal Engineers Association, North-East London Branch. Saturday 13 March 1985, 218 Army Troops Company RE, OCA, Annual Reunion Dinner. All replies to: Mr J Wilkinson, 182 Fulbourne Road, London E17 4EU. Mr Wilkinson also appeals to all

Call-signs

My father was Sgt Arthur Kidd of the Irish Guards. He was taken prisoner at Anzio and was sent to Stalag IVB in Muhlberg, East Germany. Does anyone remember him or the camp? — **Margaret E Sluman, 18 Brighton Avenue, Elson, Gosport, Hants PO12 4XB.**

My father, Jack Heselwood (born 13 December 1915) was in the 8th Army and served at El Alamein, Tobruk, Tunisia, Italy etc. I am not sure of his rank (private, I think) or his regiment but I do know he was a good tank driver. He married my mother in Brussels in 1946 but left us in 1954. Since then we have heard nothing from him. Any information regarding his wartime service or what happened to him post-1954 will be welcome. — **Kenneth J Haselwood, 30 rue A De Witte (Police Bureau), 1050 Brussels, Belgium.**

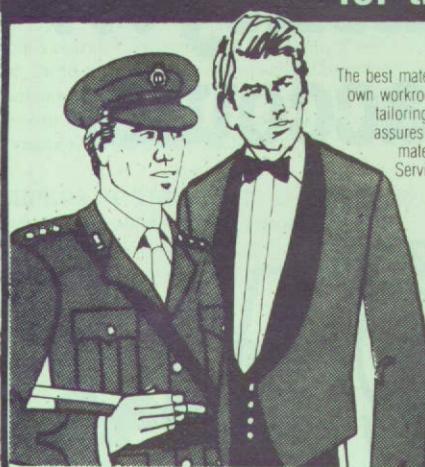
I would like to contact fellow Tankies who served with the 10th Hussars at Epsom Barracks, Iserlohn between 1950 and 1952 — particularly with B Squadron. Also, crewmen from the Westminster Dragoons who served at

anytime but especially those who took part in the 1955 exercise 'London Pride' when the whole of the 56th Armoured Division worked together. — **Alan Tizzard, 220 Kingsground, Eltham, London SE9 5EW.**

Are there any ex-57 Coy RASC personnel who are interested in having a get together? I am sure it would be a great night and would be grateful to hear from anybody interested. — **R J Keep, 29 Harold Road, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2ND.**

1945 saw me as a member of the Guards Composite Bn Pipe Band (Scots and Irish Guards). We played at various functions, one of them being a football match between the British Services Team and the Pick of Stockholm. Eventually I was sent this photograph of our team which lost by two goals. I recognise John Drysdale of Rangers and Kilmarnock but none of the others. Does anyone else? It would be interesting to know where they all are now. — **G W Rawlinson, 60 Harpenden Road, West Norwood, London SE27.**

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THE SOLDIERS' BATTLE!

Infantry advance through a shell-torn copse

SIR Brian Horrocks was right when he forecast that the Rhineland battle of 1945 would be passed over by historians as dull. Who, 40 years on, has heard of the victories at Cleve, Goch or Xanten?

Thanks to the national obsession with disasters, Dunkirk, Dieppe and Arnhem are much more familiar names.

The pity of it is that in a month-long struggle on the banks of the Rhine the ordinary foot-slogger gave of his best.

The task which faced a group of veteran divisions was to roll up the Siegfried Line from the flank and clear the west bank of the river.

Paradoxically it was at a time when less, not more, might have been expected of the 'PBI'. The Army was running out of infantry and the ranks were being filled with returned wounded, surplus anti-aircraft gunners, and young conscripts. The 2nd Scots Guards alone absorbed 200 RAF ground personnel!

Two Canadian and three British divisions were to attack on 8 February—Operation 'Veritable'. Three days later the US Ninth Army was to thrust from the south in operation 'Grenade'.

The secret concentration of the assault force in the cramped Nijmegen 'Corridor' was done brilliantly. Then the temperature rose and the rains came. The frozen ground on which the mass of armour counted simply dissolved.

To add to the natural obstructions, 400 RAF planes created a lunar landscape in the path of the attack blasting the key town of Cleve with high explosive instead of the requested fragmentation bombs.

After a five-hour barrage fired by more than 1,000 guns, five divisions (2nd and 3rd Canadian, 15th Scottish, 51st Highland and 53rd Welsh) plunged into a morass worthy of Passchendale.

Flail tanks sank into the mud before reaching the minefields. Flame-throwing Churchills could only creep forward.

Surprise had been achieved. Mobility lost!

The next 48 hours produced what has been described as "a situation unrivalled in its complexity throughout the campaign!" To boost the attack Horrocks, GOC 30 Corps, sent up 43rd Division along the only road to Cleve. The result was a ten-mile traffic jam with 15th, 43rd and the Canadians hopelessly intermingled.

From the Americans came the news that their attack would have to wait until the man-made floods subsided on their front.

The enemy was left free to concentrate panzers and paratroops and hundreds of guns against the Cleve sector.

The poor performance of British radio sets in the gloomy glades of the forests did not help... nor the weather restrictions on aerial activity. The omens were not good.

Seven months previously a German report said: "The fighting morale of the British infantry is not high. They rely largely on artillery and air support. The enemy is extremely nervous of close contact..."

AND YET... once the traffic jam had been resolved it was at the closest quarters that the enemy was bombed and Bren-gunned out of Cleve; driven from house to house out of Kranenburg and bayoneted out of the Reichswald's splintered groves.

The cost was high. The infantry of the Guards Armoured Division

reinforced the depleted 51st. The 52nd (Lowland) Division came up. The experienced 3rd British Division relieved the battered 15th.

Guns, tanks, specialised armour, sappers — all gave ungrudging support but it was the weary man in the mud-stained leather jerkin, carrying a .303 Lee-Enfield or humping a two-inch mortar, pockets stuffed with grenades, who had the last word... only too often his very last.

'Grenade' which finally 'went off' on 23 February made things better but it was not until 10 March that comparative quiet fell on the desolate scene. The Germans had been driven across the Rhine with the loss of 90,000 soldiers.

"After the initial attacks this was a battle in which generalship played no part... it developed into a slogging match in the mud," said General Horrocks.

Which is how it should be remembered — as a soldiers' battle.



Mud... one of the big problems

By William Moore

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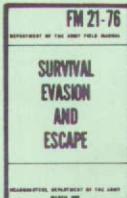
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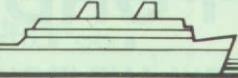
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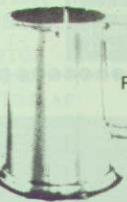


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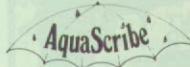
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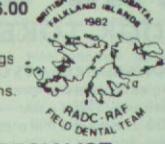
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ARMY boxers stormed into the Navy's citadel at Portsmouth and handed out the biggest hiding the sailors have suffered in the Combined Services Boxing Championships for many years. Navy boxer after Navy boxer found himself outboxed or outfought as the Army powered to an 8-2 victory.

Last year, when the Army ended the Navy's six-year run as top dogs in Services boxing there were Navy complaints that they had been 'robbed' by the judges. This time, apart from some half-hearted boozing and whistling at a couple of decisions, the massive crowd at HMS Nelson were shocked into a stunned acceptance of their team's downfall.

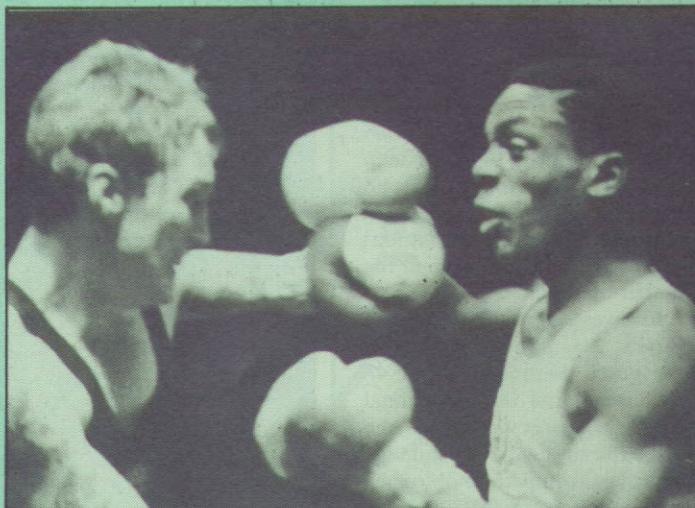
The Army began in style with the impeccable Sapper John MacLean, last year's big find, facing the strong and aggressive Cook Dave Pope. For three rounds MacLean backpedalled away from Pope's remorseless pursuit — all the way picking away at his man with clean-cut jabbing.

Pope never gave up but MacLean skilfully avoided most of his best shots and gained a unanimous points verdict.

A one-sided bantamweight contest lasted less than two rounds. Lance Corporal Keith Howlett, Royal Engineers, took control from the opening bell. As the game AB Tony Martin soaked up the punishment his corner retired him and the Army were two up.

At featherweight the Navy had something to cheer. Marine Colin Day, who has a cherubic face but a devastating punch, waded into Gunner Kevin Catherine and floored him with a left jab and right cross to the chin. Catherine still had a vacant look and rubber

VICTORY MARGIN REMOVES DOUBT!



legs when he was helped from the ring minutes later.

Driver Neil Haddock, an ABA semi-finalist last year before he came into the Army, faced another determined marine, Dave Robb. Robb attempted to carry the fight to Haddock — but this Haddock was not for battering!

The southpaw RCT man boxed cleverly and built up an impressive points lead which Robb desperately tried to counter with a knockdown. But Haddock kept out of trouble and got a unanimous decision.

MEM Brian Kearney is a stylish performer and current Services individual champion at light-welterweight. Last year Lance Corporal Eddie Gajny, Royal Signals, had to retire with a cut

Rifleman Velinor (right) on his way to victory over Marine Nicholson

eye when he met him — but he was determined there would be no repeat.

Gajny constantly crowded his man allowing the skilful sailor few opportunities to show his worth. Gradually the contest became more frenetic and it ended in a melee of swinging fists. Gajny's aggression paid off and he got the unanimous decision and both boxers were commended by the referee for their non-stop efforts.

Another marine, Phil Nicholson, came forward in a flatfooted 'yomping' style against Rifleman Tony Velinor, from 3 RGJ. Velinor, who has come on by leaps

and bounds in the last few months, patiently built up a points lead and eventually Nicholson took a standing count. This was greeted with boozing and certainly the strapping marine still looked well able to defend himself. But there could be only one points decision and the Army led 5-1.

AB Wayne Green, winner of five Service titles, made the mistake of mixing it with his young, hard-punching opponent, Fusilier Errol Holder (1 RRF). If the old fox had relied on his superior ringcraft he might have got away with it but Holder's punches told and in the third round the longtime favourite suffered two standing counts after reeling on the ropes. Holder got the majority points decision — the end of an era for Green and the Navy.

The next contest was the quickest. PO Paul Pugh had been touted as a possible winner by the Navy but range Lance Corporal Ken Moore (1 Kings Own Border) had him down three times in a minute before the referee stopped the contest.

Marine Steve Heryet opened each of his three rounds at light heavyweight with a fierce assault on Lance Corporal George Jay (1 RRF). But each time Jay jabbed his way back into contention and he took the unanimous decision — again it did not go down well with the crowd. The Army supporters and most neutrals accepted that Jay had boxed well enough to win.

The "battle of the giants" pitted the redoubtable Corporal Horace Miles (1 RGJ) against the Navy's best known boxer, AB Brian Schumacher. The sailor went to the Olympics last year but is a natural middleweight and had to put on extra weight for the fight.

A strangely out of touch Miles seemed overawed by Schumacher, who combines ring wizardry with flamboyant conceit.

The Navy man, far from looking overblown, was sharper and more aggressive. Miles was only saved by the bell at the end of the second round and although he survived for a points defeat it gave the Navy a consolation win.

Staff Sergeant Mike Gannon's surprise package (more than half the team were meeting the Navy for the first time), had achieved a memorable victory.

Now his men must beat the RAF at Aldershot on 22 February to make sure of the title for the second year running.



Standing proud... the Army team parade before the big match with the Navy

ANNE MARIE THROWS MORE THAN HER WEIGHT ABOUT!

When Private Anne Marie Briody decides to get rough she is fully capable of throwing a great deal more than her weight about. She is less than five feet tall and weighs little more than seven stone, but, in her class, she is a world beater.

Last year she beat the reigning British and world under 48 kilo judo champion, Karen Briggs, twice. And now that Karen has moved up to the under 52 kilo class, Anne Marie has taken her place as Britain's number one representative in the women's superlightweight division.

Aged 19, Anne Marie works as an Army telephone operator with 3 Squadron 10 Signal Regiment in Aldershot, and takes part in judo championships across Europe.

Last year was particularly frustrating for although she beat Karen Briggs at the German Open and the British Open she was not selected for the world championships as Karen still occupied the number one spot.

However 1985 should be Anne Marie's year. Having achieved undisputed dominance of the 48 kilo class at the recent national trials held at Crystal Palace, she will be the automatic selection for every major competition throughout the year, from the European Championships in Sweden right through to the annual tournament in Japan next December.

Looking further ahead there are wider horizons as women's judo moves towards becoming a recognised sport in both the Olympic and Commonwealth Games.



It will be a display sport in the Edinburgh Games of 1986, but will definitely be included as a medal event at Auckland, four years later.

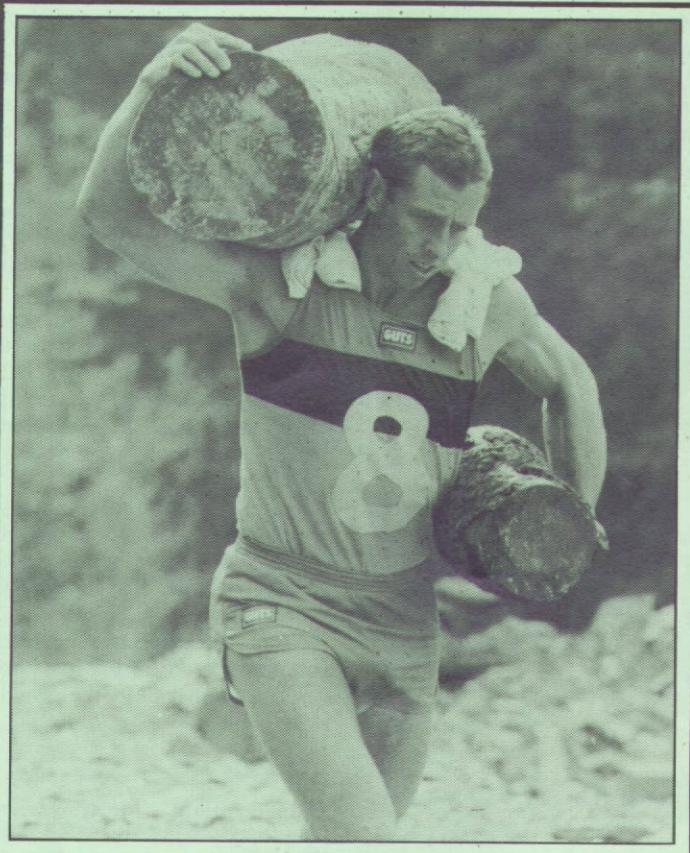
The year 1990 may seem a long



Anne Marie — and a demonstration of her skills

way off but, according to one official at the British Judo Association, Anne Marie should be by then at the peak of her judo career.

JIM WOOD CLAIMS ANOTHER CROWN



Staff Sergeant Jim Wood, APTC, has another title to add to the four British biathlon championships he won in consecutive years.

He beat a group of other endurance athletes to win the latest 'Survival of the Fittest' competition held at Snowdonia.

The biathlon involves cross country skiing and shooting. S/Sgt Wood, a gym instructor with the Royal Signals Junior Leaders Regiment at Ouston, represented his country at both the 1980 Lake Placid and 1984 Sarajevo Winter Olympics.

But he recently retired from the sport as his Corps had indicated his promotion would suffer, and his wife had said his marriage would suffer if he continued.

His biathlon retirement was not, however, going to be the end of a career as a competitive sportsman. At the age of 31 he entered the gruelling 'Survival' event in the face of competition from some of the best Fell runners in Britain.

Staff Sergeant Jim Wood during the 'Survival of the fittest' competition

Two events a day over a period of five days were designed to test fitness to the utmost. The athletes had to run up Snowdon from the bottom of the horseshoe to the top in around 50 minutes, they had to get a collection of logs, weighing between 50 and 150 lbs, 200 metres up a hill and on to a trailer, they had a two mile down hill run, and they had to negotiate a pretty demanding assault course.

S/Sgt Wood found the downhill race positively punishing. He said his legs were so stiff afterwards that he could hardly walk and it took at least 10 days before he had recovered sufficiently to start training again.

But he still had to compete in the Snowdon run in order to retain his commanding lead in the competition. He said, with some understatement, that he found this the most difficult part of all.

Later this year the exploits of S/Sgt Wood and other competitors will be shown on television, as Harlech TV filmed the entire event and are preparing a feature documentary for transmission around August.

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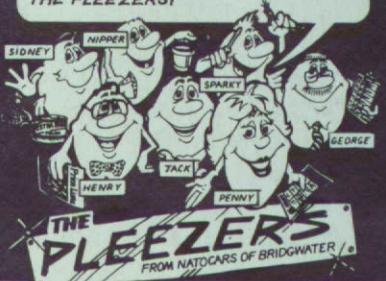
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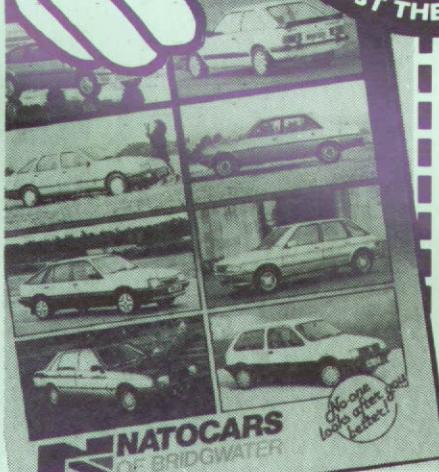
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