

# SOLDIER

4 JANUARY 1988

35 PENCE



**DOCTORS TESTED  
IN THE FIELD**

— Pages 38-39

**INSIDE**

Sappers in  
Northern Ireland

New 'company' for  
Coldstream Guards

Rolling Thunder:  
story and pictures

Focus on Belize  
Defence Force



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**FRONT COVER:** New Army doctors undergo a baptism of fire during their first casualty exercise in the field. "Casualties" were flown in by helicopter to keep the military medics at full stretch. Report in Pages 38-39.

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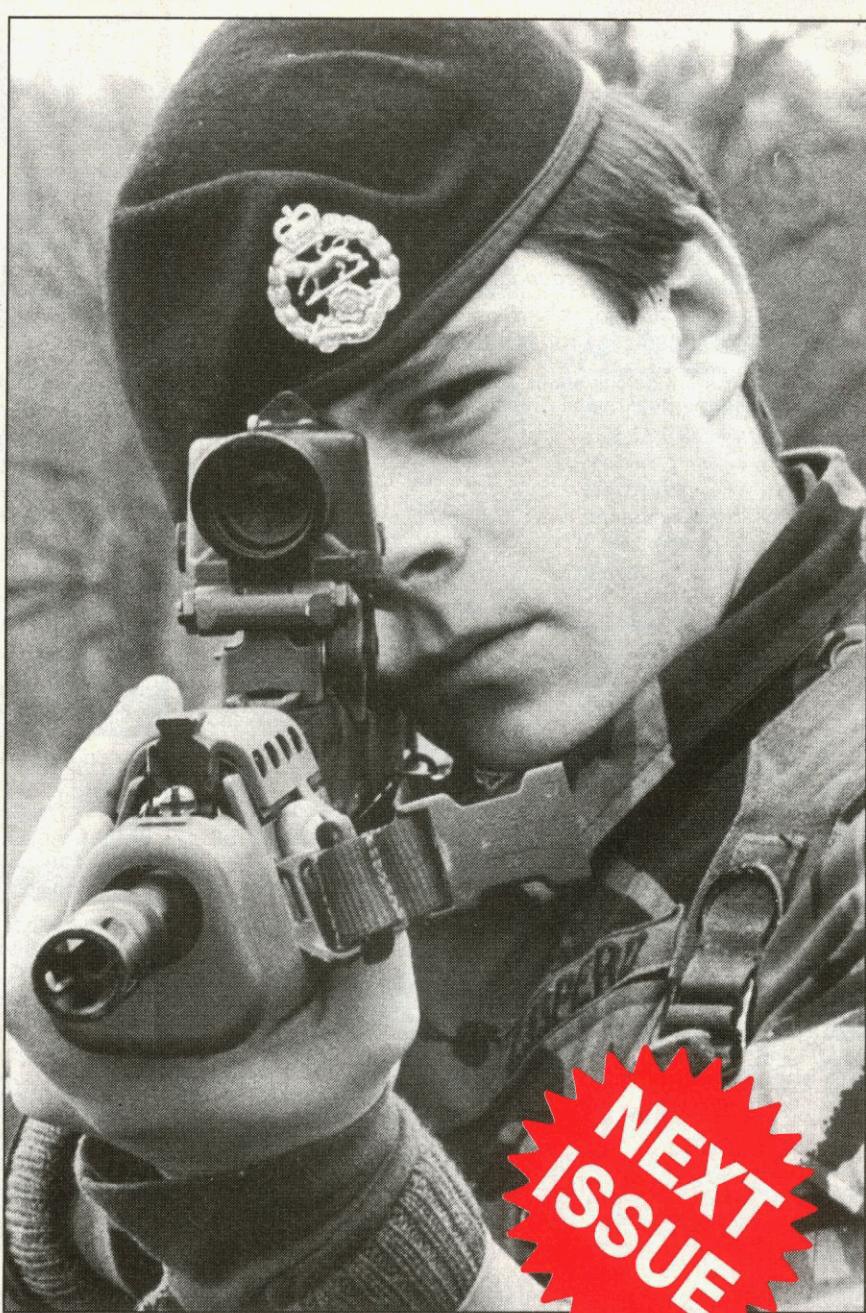
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Subscriptions Annual (25 issues) - UK £14.05, BFPO £8.75, elsewhere £17.80. Send UK postal order or international money order expressed in sterling and made payable to Command Cashier UKLF, giving date when subscription is to start and name and address of recipient. Editorial, photographic, advertising and circulation enquiries should be addressed to the appropriate department at SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, ALDERSHOT, Hants GU11 2DU, phone Aldershot (0252) 24431, or military network Aldershot Military. SOLDIER is published by the Ministry of Defence and printed by Greenaway Harrison, Printing House Lane, Hayes, Middlesex. Phototypeset by RSB Typesetters, Worplesdon, Surrey. Crown copyright 1988.

# SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY  
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



Picture: Mike Weston

On target with the 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment, first British Army unit to win the prestigious Northern European Command Infantry Competition. SOLDIER has been to visit the Tigers at their Tidworth, Hampshire, home to find out the secret of their success. There will also be features from Hong Kong and a look at the Junior Infantry Battalion, Shorncliffe.



# LETTERS

Write to:  
**SOLDIER**,  
Ordnance Road,  
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# Why the Vikings wear two helmets

## Victoria saw mace dropped

Reference your answer to a letter (SOLDIER, November 17) concerning the Drum Major 1st Royal Anglian Regiment wearing Royal Norfolk helmet plate.

There is only one Drum Major in the 1st Battalion, and the Suffolk Regiment was never made Royal; you did my old regiment a great honour though by saying this.

As regards Drum Majors of Foot Guards Regiments never throwing the mace, here is an explanation.

At Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Review, one of the Guards Drum Majors dropped his mace just as he was passing the Royal Box. On investigation, it was found that he was not wearing regulation gauntlets, but silk gloves, and that the chain on the mace had caught in the silk.

On hearing this, Queen Victoria declared: "My Guards Drum Majors shall never again throw the mace while on the march" and they never have. — D G J Matthews, Flat 48, Heather Avenue, Dogsthorpe, Peterborough PE1 3XJ.

## Reunion

● The AGM and reunion of the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Yeomanry Association will be at the TA Centre, 201 (Herts and Beds Yeo) Field Battery RA(V), Camp Road, St Albans, Herts on February 20 at 7pm. Details from Mr R Currell, 28 St Margaret's Road, Old Fletton, Peterborough, Cambs PE2 9EA. Tel 0733-61099.

The 1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment — The Vikings — would like to put the record straight with regard to its tradition of wearing the Royal Norfolk Helmet by the Drum Major (there can be only one).

The battalion, for those who do not know, is an amalgamation of the Royal Norfolk Regiment (9th of foot) and the Suffolk Regiment (12th of foot). The Cambridgeshire subtitle was added later because of the former Suffolk Regiment's association with the Cambridgeshire TA (PSIs were provided by the Suffolk Regiment).

The battalion has two original helmets, one from the Royal Norfolk Regiment the other from the Suffolk Regiment. In honour of those former regiments it has become tradition that on most occasions the Drum Major wears the Royal Norfolk helmet and the Drum Sergeant wears the Suffolk. This is reversed when the drums are on parade in Suffolk. It should be noted that the remainder of the Corps of Drums and indeed the battalion band do wear Royal Anglian plates on their helmets.

In addition, the Vikings also honour the Suffolks by wearing the Minden flash on the right arm on most forms of dress. — Capt D C Coe, 1 R Anglian, Lathbury Barracks, Gibraltar.

## Badge detail

The R Anglian Drum Major's badge of appointment is worn with the crown beneath the drum on his right forearm!

Should not the crown be worn above the drum? — A Coleman, 6 Philips Drive, Whitefield, Manchester M25 7PY.

## A happy New Year!

It's a Happy New Year for Bdr I Moralee of Cleethorpes, South Humberside. He has just won £50 in SOLDIER's HOAY competition.

Why don't you start the New Year right by entering SOLDIER's first competition of 1988? Turn to page 39 for your chance of winning £50.

## Poppy dilemma

In response to the letter from Mr Derek Schofield, (SOLDIER, Nov 30), regarding the wearing of poppies with uniform; the wearing of the poppy leaves only, buttoned over either the cap badge (beret) or the chinstrap button (dress hat), is a common practice throughout the Army.

Whether or not this custom is legal is open to doubt as the subject is only briefly touched on in Queen's Regulations.

That authority gives all ranks the right to wear a poppy on their uniform on Remembrance Sunday and November 11, but also goes on to state that no unauthorised ornament or emblem is ever to be worn.

Is a poppy still a poppy without the centre section? —

WO2(SQMS) K Burton, Det Ammunition Inspectorate RAOC, BAOR, BFPO 38.

## Korean POW in picture

As a regular reader of SOLDIER I was delighted to see a photograph in your November 30 edition of repatriated POWs in Korea, as I was one of the men in the photo.

I remember Joe Pooley from Liverpool, standing to Jock McKells' right. Jock's the one with the guitar. To Jock's left is Cpl Jack Green, then myself next to the cameraman.

I recognise most of the others, but names seem to disappear with time. — D R Butcher (ex 1st Glosters), 14 Mary St, Bovey Tracey, S. Devon.

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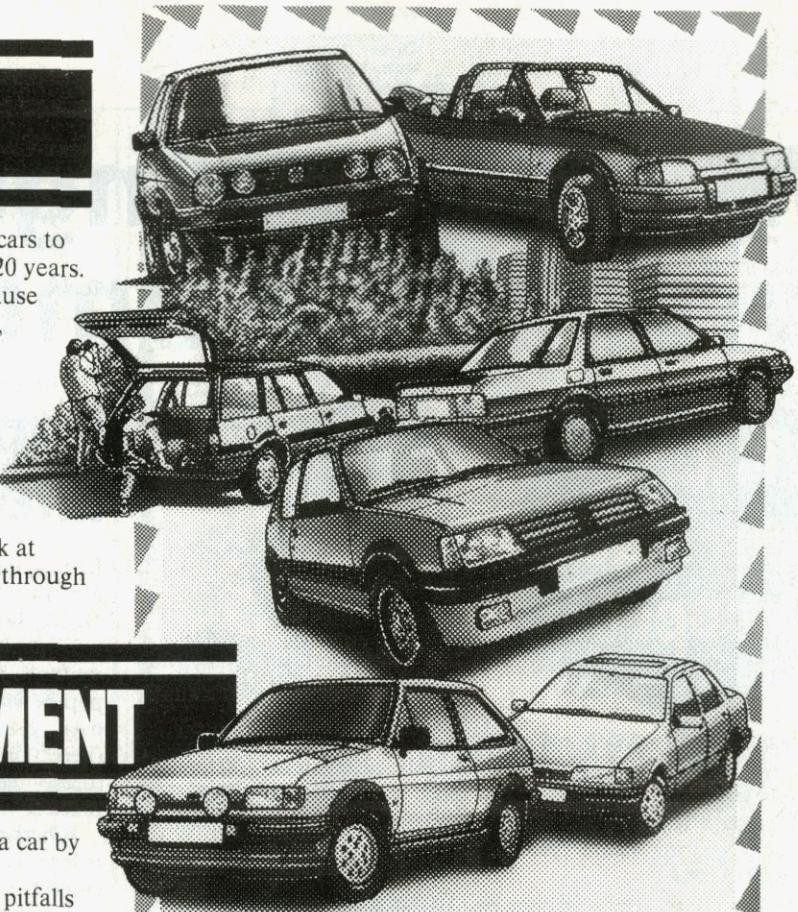
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# Queen's Commendation for NCO who cleared Norfolk minefield

SSGT Michael Cayless of 49 EOD Sqn, 33 Eng Regt, RE (EOD), has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for spending 48 arduous hours in clearing a Second World War minefield submerged in marshy ground and a foot of water. He did it alone.

His cool action took place at Winterton-on-Sea, Norfolk when the surprise discovery was made of 16 beach mines - B-type C mines - and two anti-tank mines.

The team's brief, as always, had been to search areas previously used for live firing, mining and other explosives.

SSgt Cayless, then a sergeant, suddenly came across the dangerous find. He ordered his 16 team members to safety and decided that he alone would deal with the mines, the fuses of which had deteriorated over 45 years. The slightest pressure during excavation could detonate them.

Sgt Cayless, married with two young children, had no way of knowing if the mines were booby trapped. There had been 151 casualties caused by lifting such mines after the Second World War.

He also knew it was one of the most notoriously dangerous tasks that a bomb disposal engineer could be called upon to do.

Working with a shovel and using his hands below the murky water he worked by touch. Carefully, he placed an explosive



Commended for their work in clearing old chemical munitions at Bramley, near Basingstoke, Hants, are (from left to right) Sgt Dave Percy, Cpl Pete Smye, Cpl Kenneth Murphy, Spr Peter McDougall and SSgt Derek Taylor

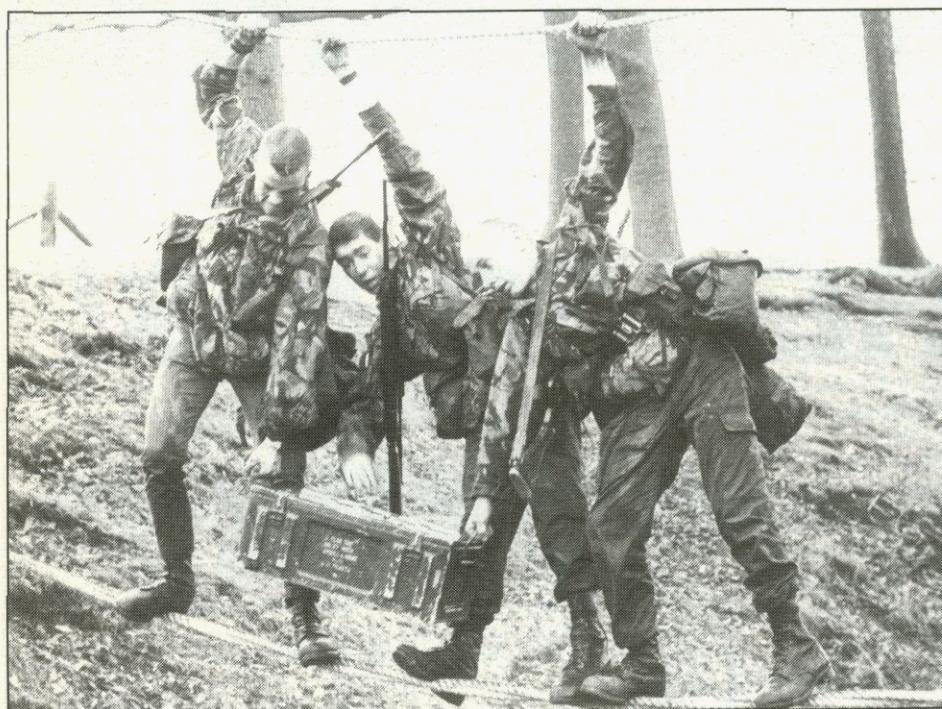
charge on each of the 18 mines laid four decades ago to prevent offshore landings.

Lt Col Alasdair Wilson, CO of 33 Eng Regt, said: "We are delighted for him. It was typical of SSgt Cayless that he went about the task without any fuss. He did what was required coolly and calmly. The regiment is extremely proud of him."

The citation said of SSgt Cayless: "His professionalism and unhesitating display of extreme courage over a 48-hour period set an example to his men and all bomb disposal personnel."

SSgt Cayless (31) is now working with the UKMF Troop of the squadron. It is estimated that there is another 45 years' work of clearance to be done from within the UK. Last year some 20,000 items of ordnance were recovered.

Five more soldiers from the squadron have received GOC South East's Commendations for their work in clearing more than 400 First and Second World War chemical munitions from the former ammunition depot at Bramley, near Basingstoke, Hants.



MEN from C Company, 3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers attempt to move a 50lb ammunition box across a rope bridge during one of the many tasks devised for 270 TA soldiers and University Training Corps members during two north-east exercises, Devil's Leap and Maiden's Scurry. The teams endured 36 hours of

day and night activity on the bleak North Yorkshire moorlands and overall winners in the TA section was D Company, 3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers based at Huddersfield. A team from Northumbrian University OTC took the prizes for the best female team. The same unit won the best UOTC male prize.

## Rare limber to go to Woolwich

BERLIN based 62 Transport and Movement Squadron RCT has parted with an old and distinguished friend.

The squadron has had on its vehicle establishment, for more years than anyone can remember, a 25-pounder gun carriage and train.

Now it has been signed over to a new custodian, Major David Richards, Chief of Staff of the Berlin Infantry Brigade, and will eventually pass to the Royal Artillery Institute in the Old Royal Military Academy at Woolwich.

Converted to carry a coffin in a funeral cortège - but never used for the purpose - the 1942 limber and gun carriage has been kept in pristine condition in readiness for an occasion when such ceremonial honours were appropriate.

Twenty-five pounder guns are quite common and still in service in the Third World, but the limber vehicle is rare - most were withdrawn from service and sold for scrap in the mid 1950s.

# Tidworth Pioneers on move

187 (Tancred) Pioneer Field Force Unit, Royal Pioneer Corps, has left Tidworth after five years to take up residence in Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northampton, home town of the corps.

The 190-strong unit is tasked by 23 Group Royal Pioneer Corps (Bicester) to take part in operational and non operational tasks worldwide.

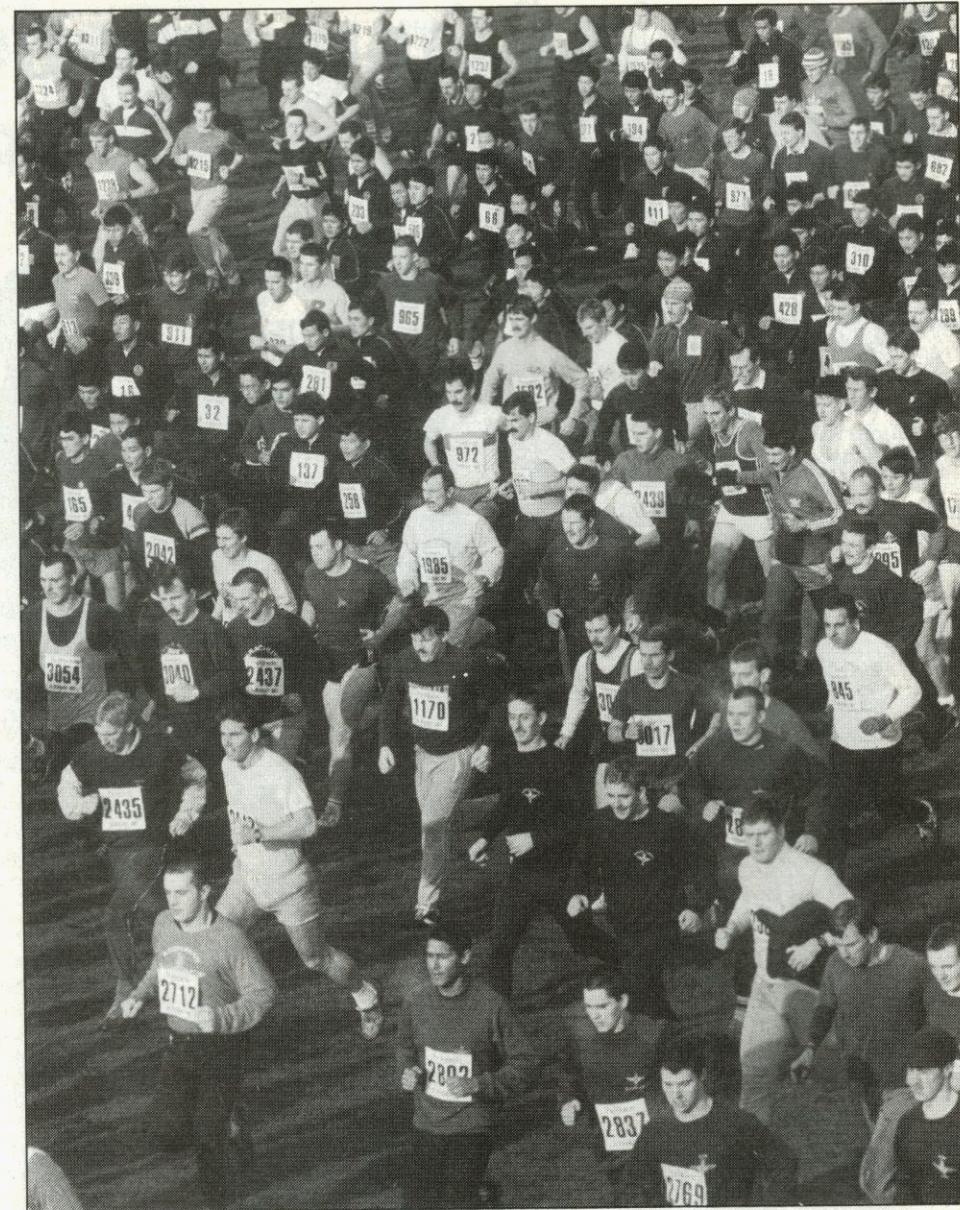
As it moved to Northampton - the corps received the Freedom of the borough in March 1984 - the unit had men on detachment in Belize, Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Germany, Canada and the Falklands.

During the Second World War the unit saw action in Algiers, Salerno, the second battle of Camino, the attack north of the River Garigliano and Trieste.

Formed at Clacton in 1940 the pioneer unit got its name from Pte John Tancred, who carried a wounded officer on his back for 16 hours over difficult terrain to a RAMC medical post during the Camino battle. Tancred then collapsed and died.

## Fire rescue award

CPL Ian Davidson, REME, serving with the 1st Bn, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, Catterick, has been awarded the county fire officer's certificate in recognition of his actions in saving the lives of a family of three who were trapped in their blazing home at Catterick Garrison in July.



Picture: Terry Champion

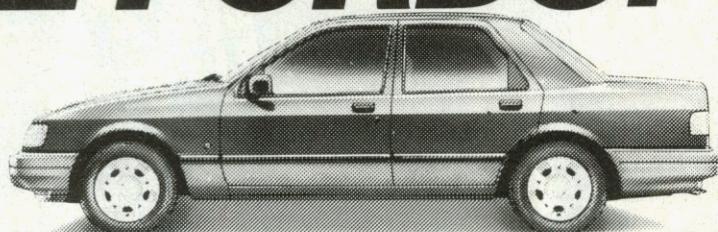
**THEY'RE OFF!** More than 4,000 soldiers - male and female - set off at the start of the annual 6½ mile Aldershot fitness run around the outskirts of the military town. The event, which is compulsory for soldiers under the age of 50, raises considerable sums of money in sponsorship to improve garrison sporting facilities

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# Wendy's hot stuff!

CURRIE by name and a top TA cook by nature is 22-year-old Cpl Wendy Currie of Ballymena.

A member of the ACC(V) detachment of 152 (Ulster) Ambulance Regiment RCT(V), Wendy was the first-time winner of Northern Ireland's new TA Chef of the Year competition.

Wendy took the top slot competing against cooks from most of Northern Ireland's 13 TA units.

Wendy knew that the principal judge was Maître Chef Etienne Brissaud, so she went straight for the winning post with a menu inspired in style by cuisine a la mode nouvelle. A meal for four limited to a cost of £12, it comprised a starter of spiced chicken and orange, a main course of stuffed noisettes of lamb with glazed mangetout, carrot ribbons and château potatoes. The pudding featured poached pears with chocolate sauce.

The Chef of the Year competition is the prestige competition of a series run annually in Northern Ireland, known as the Northern Ireland Culinary Arts Competitions.

The competitions were organised by Lt Col Jack Bannister, Commander Catering at No 7 Catering Region, HQNI.

## Howitzer decision

THE ARMY is expected to receive delivery of a new 155mm self-propelled howitzer before the mid-1990s, the Hon Tim Sainsbury, USoS for Defence Procurement, has told the House of Commons.

It is intended that a decision will be reached this spring on the current competition for the howitzer, which will have a conventional and nuclear capability.



MEET a bed with a balance sheet. Members of the WRAC collected more than £800 when they organised a Bed Push around Imphal Barracks, Yorks, to raise funds for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. Their dress (above) was definitely fancy.

Six buglers, 11 musicians and a Fox

crew with vehicle did even better for the 3rd Bn The Light Infantry.

They hauled in cash by the bucketful from shoppers at Preston, Blackpool and Lytham St Anne's and after nearly a day spent counting coins the pay staff reported a total of £1,500 – also for the BBC Appeal.

## Z Coy wins again

A TEAM of 12 Territorial soldiers from Z Company 6th Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers based at Ashington, Northumberland, has triumphed for the second successive year in the North East's 15th Infantry Brigade march and shoot

competition held at Catterick.

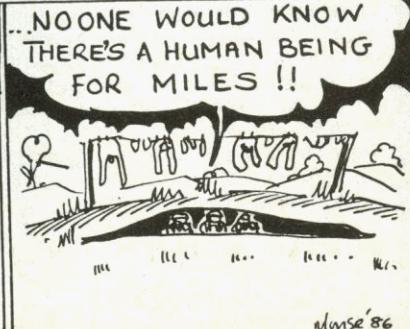
More than 70 teams from TA units in Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire took part in the gruelling test of stamina, shooting and infantry skills on the bleak moors of North Yorkshire.

## Royal Scots relieve 2 LI in West Belfast

THE 1st Bn The Royal Scots has relieved the 2nd Bn The Light Infantry on tour in West Belfast. Last act of 2 LI was to bake and decorate a number of Christmas cakes as a parting gift for the incoming roulement battalion.

### MOBB

by Mouse





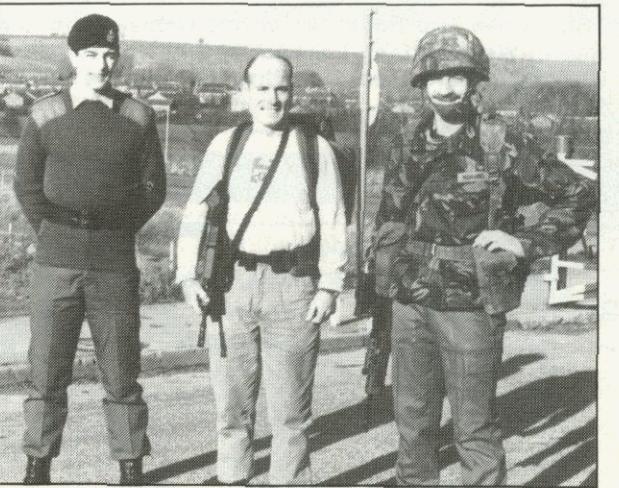
**HIGH THERE:** Bridge train drivers Sprs Stephen Kupfers, Tex Houston, Paul Dean and Billy Johnson give Anneka Rice a sapper lift at Tower Bridge

## Fusilier in charge



NEW CO of the 6th Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers – the Fusiliers of Northumberland – is Lt Col Keith Whiteman, who took up his appointment on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Montgomery of Alamein.

Col Whiteman joined Monty's old regiment, the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in 1962. It was subsequently renamed The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers and became part of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in 1968.



**BEFORE THE RUN:** Rfn Mark Jones, Scarf Jones and Cpl Pete Manning

## So fit Scarf boosts Army charity funds

Mr Scarf Jones, an ex-Green Jacket, visited 2 RGJ in Battlesbury Barracks, Wiltshire, to attempt the standard Army fitness test of eight miles with a 40lb pack and rifle in aid of charity. He completed it in a very creditable 92 minutes.

Scarf (52) served with the regiment in the 1960s in Borneo and Cyprus. There to see him off at the start was his son Mark, UK karate champion in 1986. Scarf raised £500 for the Army Benevolent Fund and the new Royal Green Jackets Museum.

## Sappers rise to the big occasion

BUBBLY TV action girl Anneka Rice likes a good challenge. So do the lads of 3 Training Regiment, RE, based at Hawley, near Aldershot. They diverted from training at Walton on Thames to help the vivacious blonde reach a barge in the Thames near Tower Bridge via an air portable floating bridge – and all in support of the BBC's Children in Need Appeal.

The operation was organised by regimental ops officer, Capt James Symonds and watched by millions of television viewers.

Anneka was not slow to show her appreciation for the efforts of the 28 sappers. Capt Clive Dyson, senior instructor of 3 Trg Regt, RE, said: "She was forever saying how good the lads were and it was a good thing the Army was there to help organise things. She could just not praise the Army organisation enough."

Anneka's challenge, put to her by the Lord Mayor of London, was to ice up the river by Tower Bridge, have an orchestra playing the 1812 Overture to fireworks in the middle of it and an ice dance display. The results were screened on BBC TV's Children in Need Appeal.

Besides helping out the effervescent Anneka the Hampshire-based sappers also helped to arrange the orchestra's seats and laid power cables for the television crew.



**WELL DRILLED:** Ex-British Army police recruits on parade

# PEOPLE

## TOP DOC

TOP job in the Army Medical Services has gone to Maj Gen Tony Shaw. He is to become the Director General following three years as Commander Medical UKLF and Commander RAMC Training Group based at Keogh Barracks, Aldershot. His successor at Keogh Barracks is Maj Gen Peter Beale.



**GENERAL JONES:** complete with real live general

## NAME THAT CAB!

WE can't all have battleships named after us, but 617 Tank Transporter Squadron RCT found something almost as big on which to put the name of GOC 3 Armoured Division, Maj Gen Charles Jones.

After the general had visited the squadron at Hamm, West Germany, and presented long service medals to Sgt Alan Hayward and Cpl Peter Robinson, he was given the opportunity to drive one of the squadron's massive new Scammell Commander tank transporters, complete with tank.

The tank transporter has been named the General Jones in honour of the GOC.

## We've done this before, Sarge!

IF there was just a glimmer more polish about the drill of this Colour party passing out from the Metropolitan Police Training School at Hendon, there could be a simple explanation. All six members of the Colour party are former members of the British Army, as is their drill sergeant.

They and 160 other recruits were reviewed on parade by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Mr Peter Imbert, before being posted to various police stations throughout London.

It's the first time the passing out parade Colour party has been made up of all ex-Servicemen.

From left to right are PC Kevin White (ex-Life Guards), PC Brian Corner (Life Guards), PC John Seabrook (1 Bn The Queen's Regiment), PC James Tunn (2 Bn The Parachute Regiment), PC Mark Williams (1 Bn Grenadier Guards), PC Simon Gill (REME) and Police Sgt Tony Crisp (1 Bn Welsh Guards).

## Museum boss Bill bows out

MR Bill Reid, Director of the National Army Museum in Chelsea since its move there in 1970, retired at the end of last month. He has been succeeded by Mr Ian Robertson, Curator of the Passmore Edwards Museum in East London and President of the Museums Association.

Last year Bill, who is a Glaswegian, was made honorary life president of the International Association of Museums of Arms and Military History and was also awarded a CBE in the Birthday Honours List.

Bill will remain closely involved with the museum world in his retirement. He is to become a consultative director of the Heralds' Museum at the Tower of London, and will advise the Spanish MoD on establishing a new military museum in Madrid.



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# LEADING THE WAY IN CAR TECHNOLOGY.

# Queen Mum gets a new badge

Royal watchers may have noticed that the Queen Mother has had a new silver badge pinned to her lapel – the badge of the Old Contemptibles.

Ten of the old veterans from the early campaigns of the First World War, with ages totalling almost 900 years, presented the Queen Mother with the badge when they met her at Clarence House.

Among them was 94-year-old Mr William Thompson, a Territorial who was harvesting in the fields with his wagon team when called up on August 4, 1914. Mr Thompson, who still occasionally drives a tractor on his family's farm in Yorkshire, is one of five survivors of the "Wolds Waggoners" recruited by local squire Sir Mark Sykes and sent straight to France to transport supplies for the cavalry.

William won the Military Medal during the closing weeks of the war while attached to the Rifle Brigade as a stretcher bearer.

The veterans had lunch in the Sergeants' Mess of 20 Sqn RCT, and had a ride in a reminder of their Army days – a 1917 GS Waggon from 151 Transport Regiment RCT (Volunteers) pulled by two percherons, Kitty and Rosy.

## Trigger problem

Perhaps the report lost something in its translation from French into English. French army chiefs had decided, it said, that if it came to the crunch, women officers could not give the order to "pull the trigger".

And to add a little more fighting talk to the subject, a senior (un-named, perhaps for his own safety) officer was claimed to have said: "We have had some embarrassing experiences. Women just do not seem to take to the discipline."

It seems that the French armed forces had been told to achieve ten per cent staffing by women in all ranks of the army, navy and air force, but at the end of the five-year experiment



they admitted failure. They had found, according to a French newspaper, that women were "too timid".

How about it, British military ladies? Do you take to discipline? Are you "too timid"?

## Veterans returning to Malta

An "army" several hundred strong is expected to invade the George Cross island of Malta later this month.

For many of them it will be a return to the island where more than 40 years ago they endured, with the people of Malta, all the might that the Axis powers could throw at them.

Members of the George Cross Island Association, they will spend ten days on the island during which they will hold their annual meeting and spend a much more pleasurable time than when they were in Malta during the war.

"This is the biggest reunion that Malta has seen," says ex-Sgt Fred Kisby, who has been campaigning for official recognition for Servicemen who were in Malta during the siege.

# SOLDIER to Soldier

## Putting on a brave face . . .

Cambrai veteran Thomas Rooker would have been hard pressed to recognise himself in our feature on the anniversary of the battle (SOLDIER, December 14). Having survived all the enemy could throw at him, he could not escape the dreaded printer's gremlin and was scythed down by a rampant letter "a".

To make amends, here is another picture of Thomas (back row, left) with his Cambrai veteran pals. Next to him is Val Field and in the front row on the steps of Cambrai Cathedral are Robert Barber, George Judkin, George Brown and Frank Siddaway.

Views expressed in SOLDIER are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.



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# PHARMACY FOR ANIMALS



Open wide, please! Maj Andrea McMillan and farrier LCpl Tim Godfrey of 160 Provost Coy RMP take a look at the teeth of Dennis, a 14 year old police horse

FROM within the quiet confines of Aldershot's oldest military buildings drugs and medical equipment worth £48,000 were administered worldwide last year on behalf of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps to ensure many a wet nose, sleek coat, bright and beady eye, writes Graham Smith.

The building, dating back to 1880, is the home of the 12-strong RAVC Support Group which has just changed its name from the RAVC Laboratory and Stores and administers the medical needs of dogs, horses, regimental mascots and the like whether on police patrol or public duties anywhere in the world from Bicester to Belize, from Horseguards to Hong Kong and from Germany to Gibraltar.

The staff, eight of them military, are headed by a triple-hatted OC, Maj Andrea McMillan who is also Administrative, Veterinary and Re-

## RAVC's support group at the hub

mount Officer for the Southern Region which stretches from Bicester to Culdrose. She is also OC of the local RAVC museum. She is married to Maj John McMillan, a nursing officer at the nearby Cambridge Military Hospital in Aldershot.

From its red-brick base steeped in a century of veterinary research, the RAVC Group has five main tasks - laboratory support of veterinary officers worldwide; supply of material and drugs to animal holding units; support in the southern sector; provision of



This will tickle... dog trainer Lcp Phil Hurst holds down two-year-old Sax for Maj Andrea McMillan to make her examination

specialist dogs; and technical support of dog holding units within the sector.

It was from within those same walls that a medical substance called mallein was

produced for use in the control of an insidious disease called glanders which had smitten horses returning from the Boer War.

The RAVC Support Group

offers routine health care and clinics for MoD animals, support to Service organisations and limited veterinary care for Servicemen's pets.

Veterinary officers for the Household Cavalry and The King's Troop RHA come under the group's administration support.

The southern sector has six units with 449 horses, 48 units with 201 dogs, two regimental mascots (Pegasus the Parachute Regiment pony and Connor the Irish Guards' Irish Wolfhound) and a clutch of saddle clubs.

Dogs' records are held on computer. They include the animals' medical history and service number.

The RAVC Support Group also has on its strength a senior dog handler, two dog handlers versed in the art of "sniffer dog" training and two WRAC kennelmaids. Housed in the same building is the RAVC HQ Directorate of Army Re-Mount Service and RAVC (South) TA HQ.

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# BDF TURNS TO PIGS TO BRING HOME THE BACON

PORK means cash and colonel-cum-pig farmer Trevor Veitch knows a useful source of income when he sees one!

Lt Col Veitch, CO Belize Defence Force, decided to boost his unit's ailing welfare fund by starting a pig farm.

A 150 strong herd of swine is forecast for the spring, yielding £750 a month in sales.

This money will supplement government grants to the welfare fund and will help pay for loans and medical assistance.

Lt Col Veitch – on secondment from The Royal Anglian Regiment – is one of 14 British loan service personnel attached to the locally recruited Belize Defence Force (BDF) for periods of two years.

Their job is to groom the 700 BDF regulars and 350 part timers into a self-sufficient unit capable of assuming the mantle of national defence.

Raised ten years ago, the BDF is organised and run on the lines of a British battalion but has a number of other elements in addition.

Because it is the only indigenous unit it must be completely self-contained. To that end it has its own training, logistic, maritime and air wings.

Based at Price Barracks near Airport Camp, the BDF draws its recruits from racial groups countrywide. With five applicants for every post there is no shortage of manpower.

Recruits are drawn by the prospect of a steady job in a country of high unemployment, by a relatively high income and by the variety of the job which takes them the length and breadth of Belize and to Britain and America on training courses.

Basic training is the same as the original 14 week British recruits course – without the NBC tuition – and there are a full range of follow up cadres.

"Their strong points are supreme fitness and physique, an extraordinary sense of humour, a great willingness to learn and a very professional attitude," said Lt Col Veitch.

"The BDF is a developing force that one should not compare with a British unit. It will take another 40 years to be fully fledged," he added.

The unit is supported to the tune of £350,000 by the UK and 500,000 US dollars by America, mostly spent on

weapons, clothing and vehicles.

The armoury includes M16s, GPMGs, SMGs, 81mm mortars, 84mm Carl Gustavs, and shotguns and riot guns from the USA.

They exercise with British Forces stationed in Belize, train with them and are compatible with them in their procedures and communications.

Providing interpreters and trackers for

**Story by**  
**Mervyn Wynne Jones**

**Pictures by**  
**Terry Champion**

British patrols, the BDF also man joint observation posts with British infantry on the Guatemalan border.

The majority of the BDF land element occupy Price Barracks though a rifle company is rotated every three months through San Ignacio further west. A platoon is also rotated on a monthly basis through Punta Gorda in support of Battle Group South.

The maritime wing, which has two patrol craft for search and rescue and illegal immigration operations, is based in the harbour at Belize City where it shares facilities with 24 Squadron RCT.

It is also to get three new Cougar patrol craft which will be the fastest in Belizean waters.

The air wing has two Pilatus Britten Norman Defenders mainly used for passengers and freight. They can also be used for parachute resupply and search and rescue, and gun pods containing GPMGs can be mounted on each aircraft.

A crop sprayer is used to combat the cultivation of drugs in Belize, another aspect of the work of the BDF in support of the civilian power and the police.

Twelve months ago more than 2,000 acres of marijuana were being cultivated in remote corners of the country but then the BDF took over co-ordination of anti-drugs operations and today there are thought to be fewer than 200 acres.

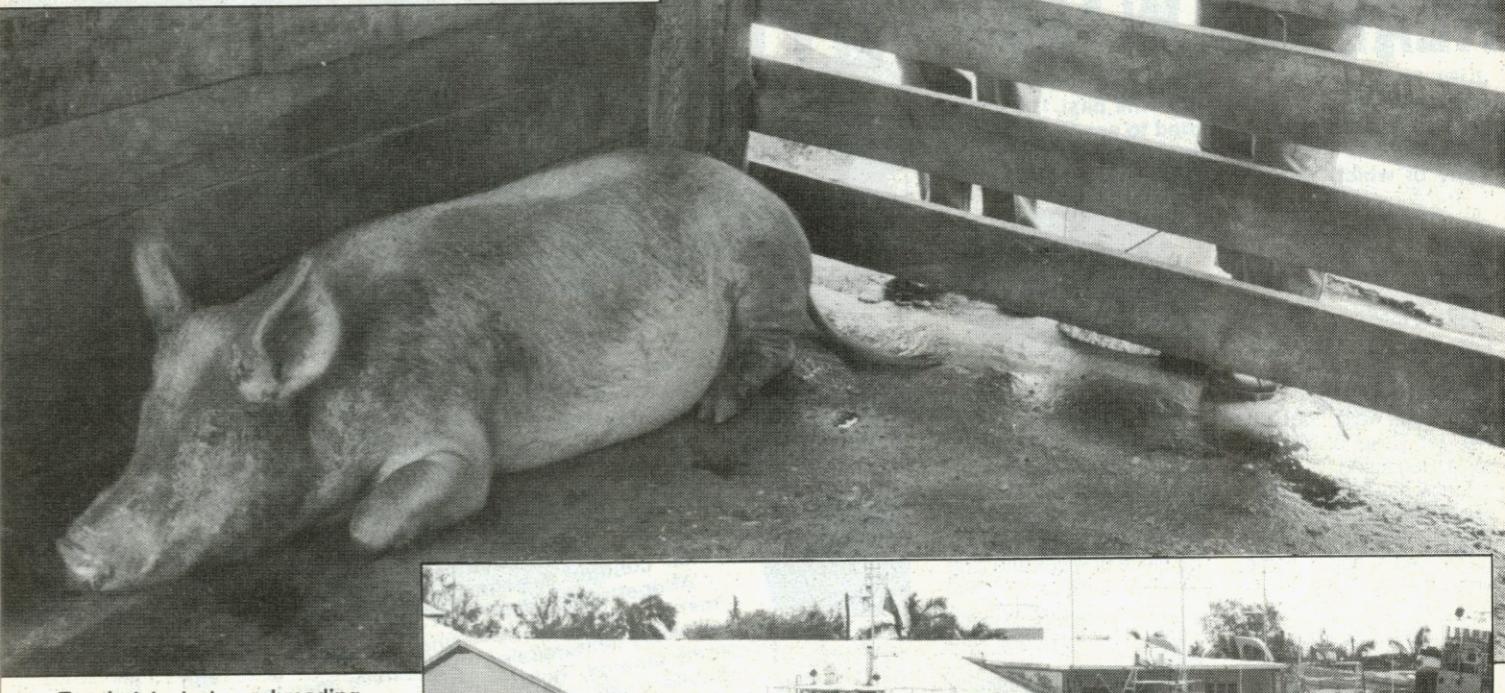
When the BDF was formed the bulk of its manpower came from the Belize Volunteer Guards it superceded and the paramilitary wing of the local police force.

One of the latter was WO1 Ethelbert Cayetano, now Force Sergeant Major, who told SOLDIER: "It is an excellent and very popular job and is one of the best paid in the country.

"There is a lot of room for improvement and though we are progressing slowly experience is vital and that can only come with time."



New recruits to the Belize Defence Force practise drill techniques for their passing out parade at Price Barracks



Too hot to trot – a breeding sow ignores the attentions of Lt Col Trevor Veitch (left) and his driver Pte Alvin Stephenson who run the unit's pig farm. Soon the pig farm should be benefiting the BDF's welfare fund



Force Sergeant Major WO1 Ethelbert Cayetano



MURKY, disease-ridden waters lap against Customs House Wharf, home to the vessels of 24 Squadron RCT and one time film set for the movie *Dogs of War*.

Drawn from UK units of 3 Transport Group at Marchwood and Gosport – 17 Port Regiment and 20 Maritime Regiment respectively – the men of the squadron's maritime troop share their dockland facilities with members of the Belize Defence Force.

24 Squadron is the only RCT squadron with a maritime wing and their Ramp Powered Lighters (RPLs) and Landing Craft Vehicle and Personnel

## Maritime wing has a film set home

(LCVP) are in constant use for the resupply of the adventurous training centre on St George's Caye and Rideau based Battle Group South.

In Belize to provide logistic transport and movements support for BDF, the squadron's transport troop has a fleet of 80 4-tonners and Land Rovers. The manning ratio is roughly two vehicles per man – quite the reverse of UK or BAOR based squadrons.

Squadron OC Maj Stewart Graham said: "It can be hard work but the variety means it is a popular unit in which to serve and we get a lot of applications for tour extensions."

This spring the squadron is celebrating its 101st birthday. 24 Company of the Commissariat and Transport Corps was formed in April 1887 at Shorncliffe in Kent as a horse transport unit.

# A picture to shock poor old hard-hearted Arthur

## HE DIDN'T ALLOW ANY SOLDIERS' WIVES NEAR HIM IN 1843

JUST how much the Army has progressed in its treatment of soldiers' wives in the past 105 years was a question I was prompted to ask myself after studying the letter reproduced on this page, a copy of which was sent in by a reader.

The original went in 1843 to Sir John Phillipart, editor of the *Naval and Military Review*.

The writer was Maj Arthur Trevor of the 95th Foot (later the 2nd Sherwood Foresters) who had fought at Waterloo (with the 33rd Foot which became the 1st Duke of Wellington's Regiment).

I must say that though he reported to the Great Orderly Room in the Sky many years ago I sometimes feel as though I have met him.

To open the door of a military office was a little Waterloo in itself when I first began writing this column 12 years ago.

Once entry was gained another battle had to be fought.

To receive an official reply which could be printed was victory indeed.

Times have changed. The open door policy is there at all levels.

Maj Trevor wrote: "I am obliged to appear hard-hearted and stern not allowing women of the regiment to come near me."

He could never have thought that the day would arrive when wives were invited to attend and address the Adjutant General's conference.

Indeed it is not many years ago that I was invited to it but firmly told that I must not speak.

Who, three years ago would have thought that the Federation of Army Wives' chairman, Lady Reilly, could have said that although FAW enjoy the best of relations with HQ

### In my view...

UKLF, they were not their creature and would keep their independence?

Right: Extract from Major Trevor's letter of 1843 - the major went on to become a colonel and ended his career as a major general

... these wretched creatures are allowed to crowd into Barracks, with their starving children - some with families of 5, 6, 7 & 8 taking up the room, bedding, tables, fires of the men - destroying their comfort, and all attempt at cleanliness - making the Soldiers discontented & driving them to the Canteen or Beer Shop and frequently to Desertion. Soldiers' wives, are generally the greatest nuisances - and I have had more trouble to control their conduct & behaviour than I can describe. Altogether the system of admitting them into the men's rooms is revolting to decency - and certainly demoralising - there have been too many inducements held out for marriage amongst Soldiers and what is the consequence - the man is starved - his children are naked & starved - and the wife - she is not to be described. It is a sad case - and to keep up anything like propriety I am obliged to appear hardhearted & stern - not allowing a woman of the Regiment to come near me. If she has anything to say she must make her husband her attorney - I manage to keep up with washing according to the families, which I distribute myself, not leaving it to the Captains of Companies...

## HUNT THE PASSPORT - AT A PRICE

A WIFE WROTE:  
FIVE months ago I sent my passport to the Passport Office in London and I still have not got it - or a new one for my son - back.

My son has been on it since birth, but now needs one of his own so he can spend a summer holiday in the UK. Last summer!

Because the passports

were not available in time I had to get him a temporary three-month document costing DM45 from the British Consulate in Dusseldorf the day before my son was due to travel to the UK.

With Christmas on us we were faced with the same problem - no passports. Again I have to part with DM90 for the two of us. What do I have to do to get my passport back and

refundable.

A month or so later I received a stereotyped letter from the Passport Office in London asking for a further £4. It was duly dispatched.

Three weeks later I had to get myself a DM45 temporary passport so that I could travel to the UK to collect my son. The money for those passports is not

a new ten year one for my son? - Mrs W, West Germany.

I tried to telephone the Passport Office on Mrs W's behalf but found that it was permanently engaged. Armed with her letter I marched into the office on a Friday, to be told that they needed the applicant's date of birth before they could trace the

missing documents. I got it and passed it on to the Passport Office on the Monday.

Four days later the passports had not been traced! I said that I would call the following morning.

Surprise, surprise! When I arrived soon after 9am on the Friday the passports were being prepared for postage by registered mail.



# WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

## Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:  
Camberley 29653

## LET'S HOPE 1988 WON'T BE SUCH A TRI-ING YEAR

THE EDITOR asked me for my New Year wishes for Army families taking into consideration the problems which have crossed my desk in 1987.

As some of them have been unresolved for 12 years my simplest response is to hope they will at last be dealt with and tri-Service difficulties will not be offered as an excuse for delay.

The words "we are different" are always being used. But in the areas of housing, DHSS benefits and education are we really?

In my opinion the so-called differences between the Royal Navy, RAF and Army are purely imaginary. Let us hope reality prevails ... and commonsense.

And talking of commonsense, I hope more than anything that steps will continue to be taken to seek the views of Service wives - not simply as a token gesture but as a genuine wish to involve the people to whom the policies most apply.

Other fervent hopes ...

PLAYGROUNDS ...

that a more constructive policy will be followed.

QUARTERS ... that the

Local Works Maintenance Budget will be introduced where possible in the light of its success at Arborfield.

EMPLOYMENT ... that the problems and misconceptions which often surround job finding overseas are solved and the Federation of Army Wives, FOCUS and FRED, extend their hold in this field.

That all employers state whether or not British National Insurance is to be paid and if employees must pay Class I contributions into the UK system.

HOUSING ... that after years of in-depth studies, a way is found to enable Service personnel to save for a house and have a realistic amount to enter the private housing sector on leaving the Service.

That a concerted information plan be mounted to help all those concerned with local authority housing lists, and that Government proposals on housing schemes will be looked at by the Services, and the long awaited report on housing will be published in 1988.

MEDICAL ... that the new system to prevent medical documents stockpiling at Smedley Hydro (they reached a total of 100,000) really works.

### BRIEFLY

It may help to note that the following education pamphlets are available.

Grants to Students 1987/88, A Brief Guide.

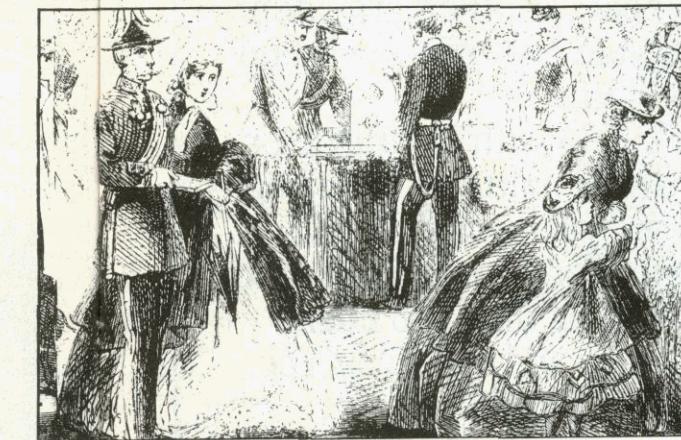
Supplementary Facts Sheet, Grants to Students, Awards for UK students working overseas.

Designated Courses.

They are all available from The Dept of Education and Science, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH.



Wives and senior officers at HQ UKLF seminar at Bagshot Park (above) and below officers' wives at Aldershot in the 1860s



Industrial Exhibition in the Royal Officers' Club, Aldershot 1864

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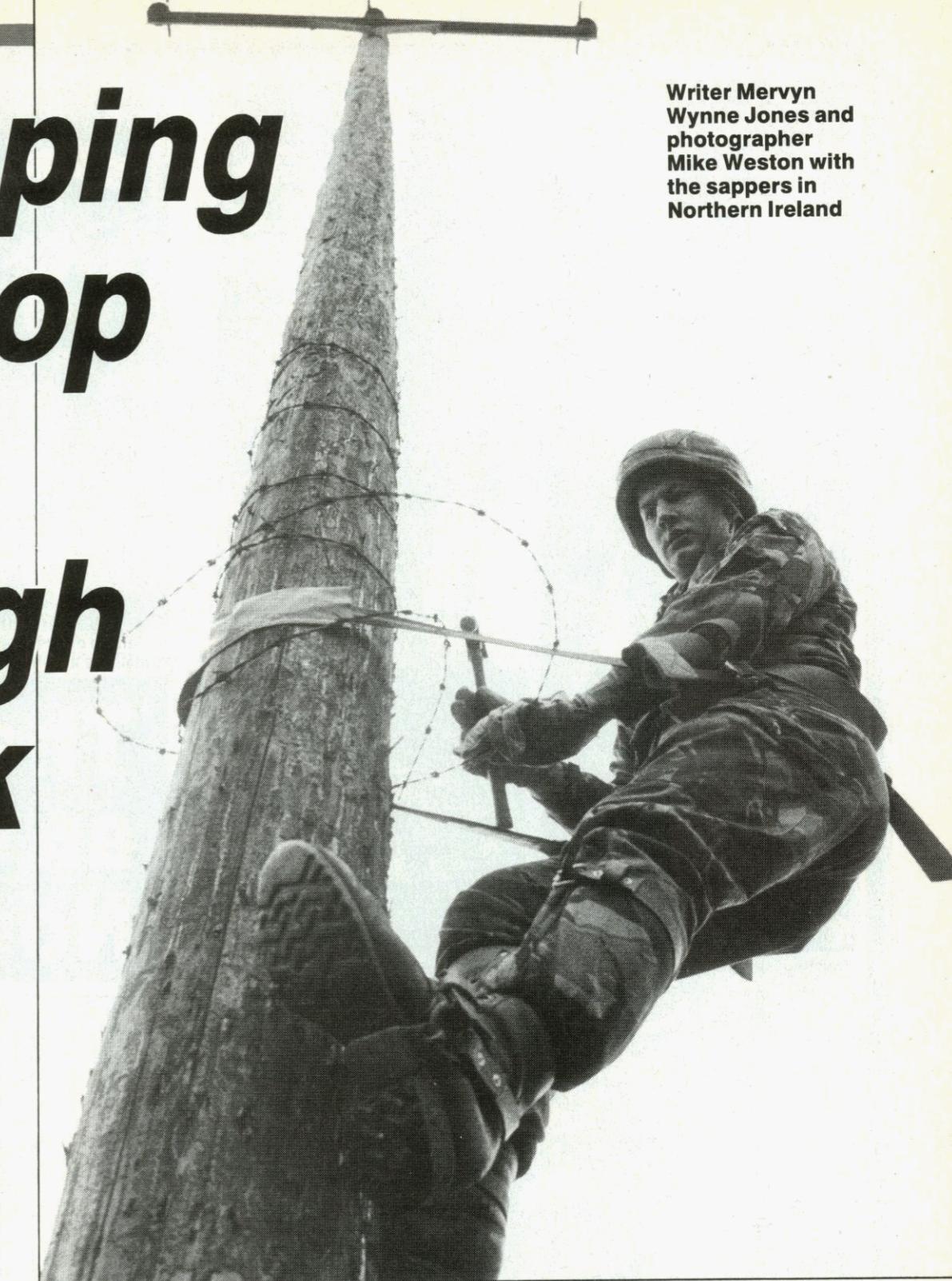
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# Keeping on top of a tough task

Writer Mervyn Wynne Jones and photographer Mike Weston with the sappers in Northern Ireland



Spr Zed Zalewski scales a telegraph pole during training for the repair and installation of electricity supplies

## It's the biggest independent squadron in the sapper corps

A MINI regiment in many respects, Northern Ireland based 33 Independent Field Squadron RE has seen its ranks swell over the years to meet a task that is encyclopaedic in its variety.

Backed up from time to time by sapper units passing through the Province on a roulement basis, the squadron provides engineer support to both 8 and 39 Brigades.

One of the few independent squadrons in the corps, it is – with some 350 men – the largest and is a popular posting for personnel from both the mainland and BAOR. Men frequently apply for extensions to their tour of duty.

The squadron is based at Massereene Barracks on the shores of the vast inland water of Lough Neagh, a site that was once a torpedo factory and which they now share with 325 Engineer Park who provide support in equipment and resources.

Boasting a full range of sapper trades, the squadron tackles both short and long term projects, the former often in reaction to terrorist incidents and the latter lasting from two weeks to three months.

An increased workload for the Northern Ireland sappers

has included such tasks as mortar proofing police stations and Security Force bases.

The construction of a chain of observation posts on high ground overlooking the border in South Armagh has kept the

squadron busy too.

with concrete obstacles.

Other tasks include the erection of "button-on" fencing around Security Force bases to ward off prying eyes, the building of sangar type OPs such as the one on the market square at Crossmaglen, and the closure of cross border routes

They are backed by men

Turn to next page



Treading carefully as sappers practise the detection of explosive devices



Sappers of 2 Troop clear waste ground around Bessbrook Mill before erecting a screen around it. The chimney, now being pulled down, has been a navigational aid to helicopter pilots for years



Squadron divers re-stage the recovery of an M16 Armalite from Lough Neagh. The Armalite is a favourite weapon among terrorists

## The many faces of an engineer in Northern Ireland

### From Page 21

drawn from the squadron who, having served for a year in the Province, are sent to Chattenden for training in search techniques.

A plant team is on permanent standby to remove riot debris and is also used in more traditional roles such as the excavation of OP positions.

Among their equipment is the "Scooby Doo", a medium wheeled tractor with an armoured cab used for clearing burning wrecks and barricades. It is often the butt of a crowd's fury and is sent in to relieve the pressure on foot soldiers faced by a mob.

Boat operations are mounted on Lough Neagh and the squadron's combat support vessel and rigid raiders are used for inserting patrols and searching water-borne traffic on Lough Neagh.

The squadron also boasts a highly skilled element of "backroom boys" who can, for example, build a prefabricated sangar in their workshops to avoid the risks of prolonged

exposure at a worksite.

Stores and resources sections are also on hand to procure and provide all that is necessary for the job - from bags of cement to lengths of steel girder.

A Royal Pioneer Corps section turns round within the squadron every four months and members of the WRAC now staff the operations room.

The squadron's large motor transport pool means that there are several REME attached as well.

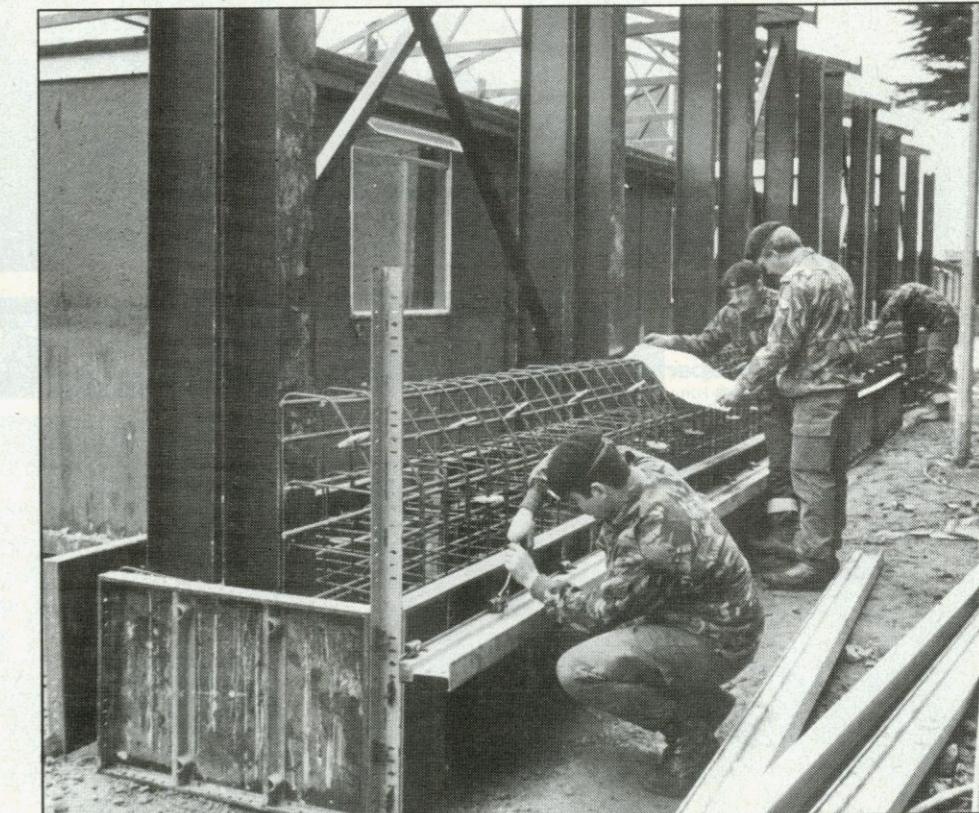
The unit's Army Catering Corps members also boast management of the Province's only Number 4 cookset, a much sought after mobile kitchen capable of feeding 150 men on location in the field.

33 Independent Field Squadron have a hefty job - but satisfaction is good and morale very high.

Sgt Maj Jim Higham told SOLDIER: "You cannot prise them away from here - virtually to a man they ask for an extension. They are doing something constructive here and they enjoy it."



Lt George Buckingham RE looks at one of the mortar tubes used in an attack on Bessbrook Mill in 1986. The attack was launched from the lorry behind



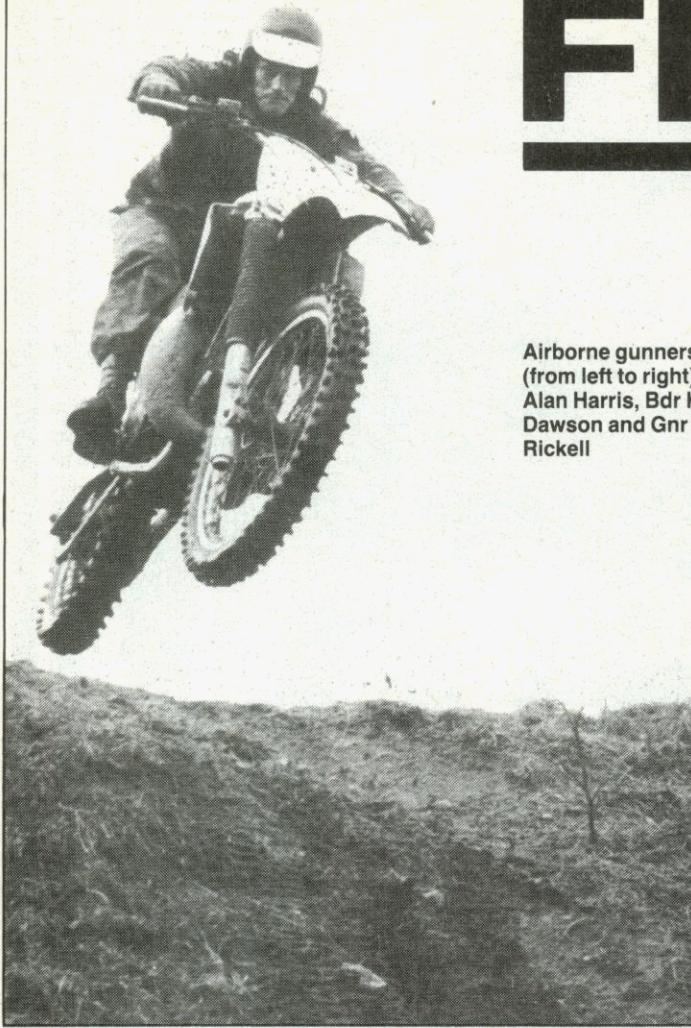
Building mortar-proof shelters for buildings inside Security Force bases



Rigid Raiders are put through their paces on Lough Neagh

# FLYING GUNNERS!

The Royal Artillery motor cycle display team



Airborne gunners are (from left to right) Gnr Alan Harris, Bdr Kevin Dawson and Gnr David Rickell



THE delightful prospect of appearing in another Benny Hill Show among the pouting, cavorting Hill's Angels is, they say, a possibility... but it wasn't the sole reason for their annual motor cycle display team trials!

At St Martin's Plain Camp, Folkestone, Kent, 18 hopefuls were vying for eight coveted places in the 26-strong Royal Artillery's Flying Gunners, the regiment's motor cycle display team which was looking at new talent for this summer's programme of displays. It is a programme of motor cycle stunt riding that will take them to 60 venues in the UK and BAOR and involve some 16,000 miles of travelling.

The 18 aspirants were taking part in

the tough annual trials selection process and spending long, windswept days astride £700 Suzuki SP370-400 single cylinder, four stroke machines. This year the team expects to switch to another well-known brand of Japanese machine.

Words by  
Graham Smith  
Pictures by  
Mike Weston

For a fortnight the candidates negotiated obstacles of differing varieties and difficulty watched by established members of the team.

Riders are expected to stay with the Flying Gunners for two years once selected. Many stay on. They are drawn from across the board of gunnery and include field gun operators, locators, air defences and even commandoes from within the Royal Artillery. About three-

quarters of them are north-  
erners.

Team leader since 1985 is WO2 Ivor Mason, a former bombardier team member himself from 1970 to 1976 who returned to his parent unit, 3 RHA, until three years ago.

The Flying Gunners are proud of their separate identity divorced from that of the Royal Signal's famed White Helmets. They have performed at events ranging from the prestigious Berlin Tattoo to Seal Village Fire Brigade's gala in Kent. The team's high season is from April to September.

Cromer and the north-east of England are two of the more popular venues for these gunners who live most of their professional lives on two mud spattered wheels.

Charities all over the country have benefited from their breath-taking feats. So far they have helped raise £3,500 towards the BBC's Children in Need television appeal, appearing live during the phone-in telethon.

Recently they delighted many youngsters by appearing on BBC 1's Saturday morning show, Going Live.

Then there was their appearance on the Benny Hill Show, which called for some dare-devil motor cycle stunts with a team member doubling as the portly Benny, himself an ex-National Service REME soldier.

WO2 Mason said: "There is a slight chance we could be appearing on another Benny Hill Show. He had spotted us in action at a show in the south of England.

"What we are looking for here today apart from riding skill and aptitude is team spirit, compatibility with others and, of course, a good regimental record."

Stunt riding aside, the Flying Gunners have a military obligation to real soldiering as part of the AMF(L) gunners back-up. They also go langlauf skiing in Scotland.

Meanwhile, they will continue to build their 17-man pyramids atop one motor cycle and accelerate into the racy Russian roulette of high speed cross-overs to the delight of appreciative crowds all over the country.

## You've got to be good to join this team



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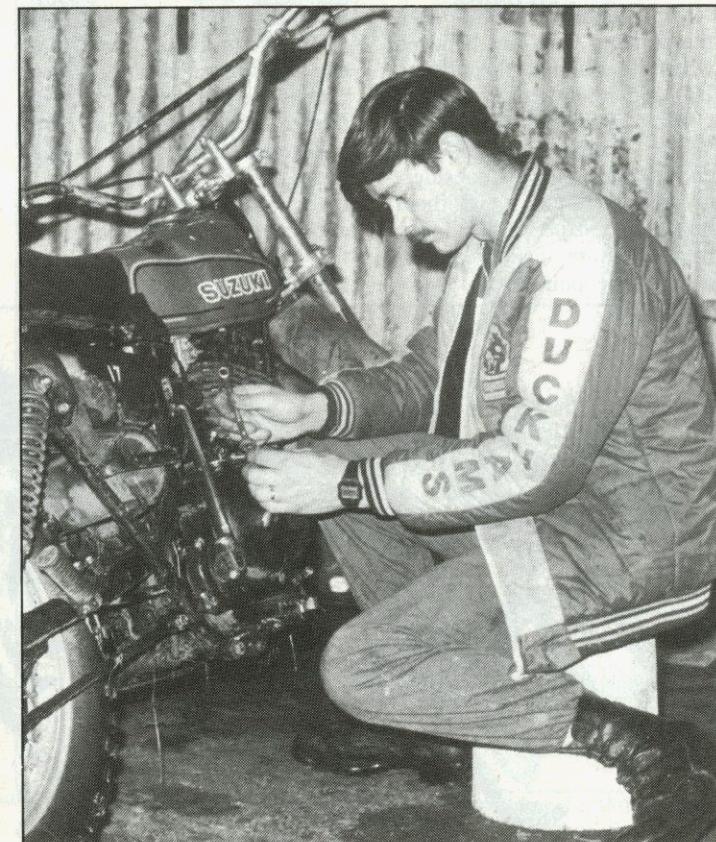
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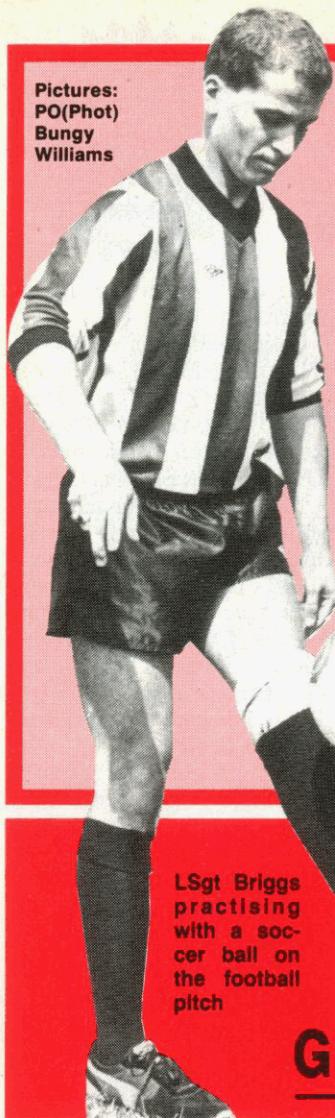
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LBdr Michael King in investigative mood as he tends his team bike during a service inspection



# How brave Coldstream Guardsman soldiered on despite losing most of his left leg

LSgt Mark Briggs, 26, did a ten-mile sponsored run for the blind, completed his basic fitness test as required, had a game of soccer and thought about water skiing later on the same day.

What is so special about that?

Simply that LSgt Briggs of the Coldstream Guards is short of most of his left leg below the knee. It is something you would have found hard to believe if you had seen



LSgt Mark Briggs receiving the BEM from the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson.

him march up to receive the British Empire Medal from the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson.

LSgt Briggs had part of a leg amputated following a traffic accident near the depot at Caterham, Surrey, in 1981.

He spent three months in hospital but reported for duty the following year, complete with artificial limb.

Aware that the Guards expected the same from him as from any other soldier he gave them something extra... an outstanding example of dedication to his chosen profession.

He had always wanted to be a guardsman and joined the Coldstream in 1978 after training as a Junior Leader

at Shorncliffe. Today he is still a guardsman. Since his accident he has served for six months in the Falklands and completed a two year tour in Hong Kong as Technical Sergeant to the 1st Coldstream.

He did his share of duty on the border when the battalion took its turn searching for illegal immigrants.

According to the BEM citation the one-legged lance-sergeant took heat, rain, rough ground and steep hills 'in his stride'.

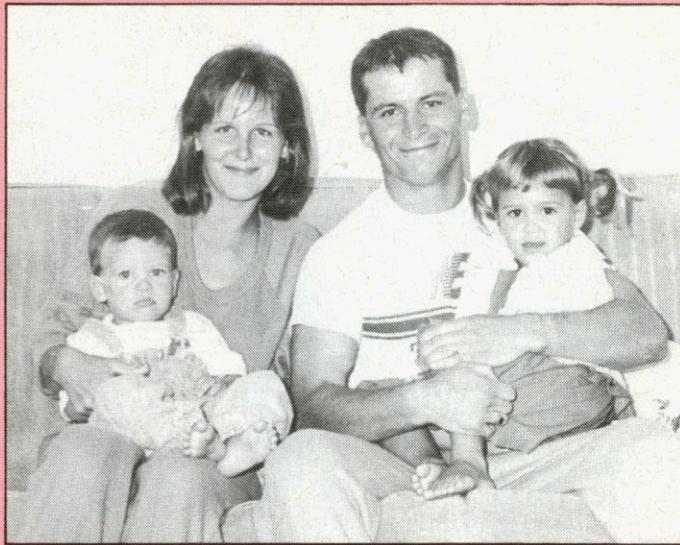
LSgt Briggs, who is

married with two children, comes from Borrowash, Derbyshire, and from a family with a military tradition.

His older brother was in the Coldstream Guards and another served in the Royal Artillery.

His great uncle, Pte Jacob Rivers, was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously when the Sherwood Foresters took part in the battle of Neuve Chapelle in 1915.

LSgt Briggs is joining the 2nd Coldstream Guards in Cyprus after leaving Hong Kong.



All smiles – well almost – from LSgt Briggs, his wife Zena, holding Vincent, 1, and Shiarn, 3

## MUM'S ARMY

### Guards return from Hong Kong with 'mechanised company'

THE 1st Coldstream Guards move to London from Hong Kong about a company stronger than when they arrived in the Far East two years ago.

And a mechanised company at that!

Push chairs are essential for the mothers who produced 106 babies during the battalion's tour.

Fort Stanley is a beautiful part of Hong Kong Island but decidedly hilly.

"It's kept us all fit," said one bronzed young wife. "It's been smashing out here – though we're looking forward to going home."

The fathers of the extra Coldstream company and their bachelor comrades were kept fit and lean by a tougher regime.

Nearly 25 per cent of their time was spent patrolling the border with China, searching scrub covered valleys and steep hills for illegal immigrants.

The total score of captures amounted to 3,928. The Guardsmen felt a certain amount of sympathy for them and especially for a boat load which had the bad luck to land beside the pier on Stanley beach.

It so happened that the

battalion was deployed on the border at the time but the rear party quickly rounded them up.

Capt Richard Clowes, then the adjutant, was not believed when he phoned through to HQ and told them.

After all it was April 1.

The captives were real enough and showed considerable initiative, one of them trying to escape in a laundry basket before being handed over to the police.

Even more unlucky were a couple of illegal immigrants who holed up in a building block which was nearing completion.

They could not know that the Coldstream had been given permission to use the site for an internal security exercise.

Two startled individuals saw the place surrounded and when the guardsmen threw open a door and rushed into a room they were found crouching there.

They thought the whole British Army had been turned out to find them. It was impossible to convince them it was only an exercise.

And talking about exercises...

The Coldstream covered thousands of miles during their stay.

Three company strength exercises took place in Brunei, one in Fiji before the political upheaval there, and another in New Zealand (an exchange

with a company of Kiwis).

Two honour guards were

provided for the UN forces in

Korea (each at platoon

strength) and the Milan platoon

went to Australia – a six hour

flight from Hong Kong.

It wasn't all work however.

The troops were full of praise

for the Hong Kong Leave

Scheme.

Serve there for a year and a

soldier qualifies for a travel

grant in lieu of taking home

leave.

"We had a great time in

Thailand," said LSgt Nigel

Sotheran, "three nights in

Bangkok and ten in a couple of

beauty spots up country."

LSgt Sotheran's wife Jutta

and their daughter Carina, 6,

went with him under the

scheme.

Thailand was probably the

most popular leave country but

other soldiers travelled to the

Philippines, Bali, the exotic

Indonesian island, and to

Australia.

It will be something to think

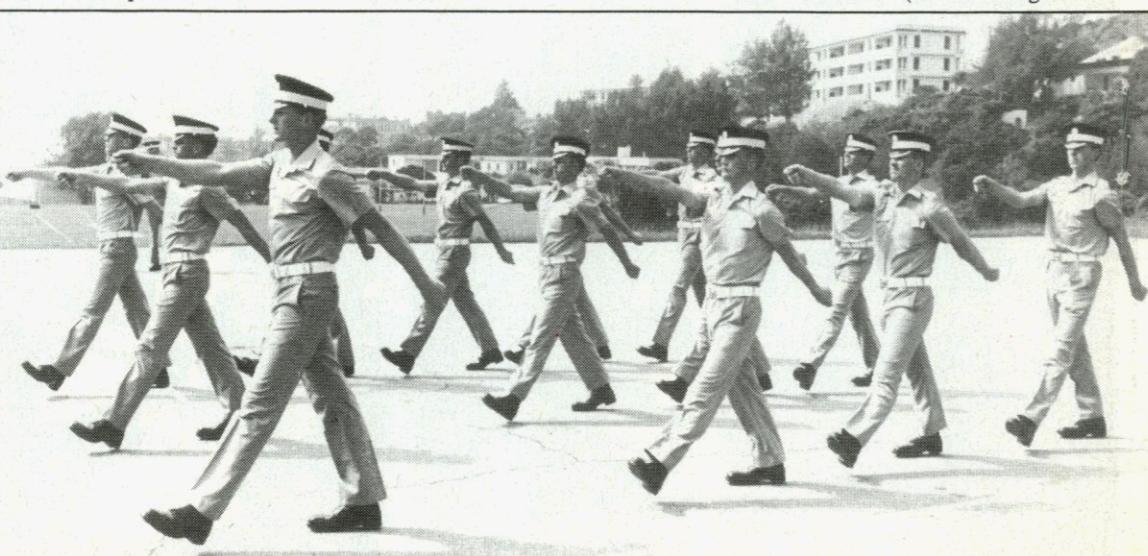
about as they go marching

through the chill grey streets of

London to fulfil their public

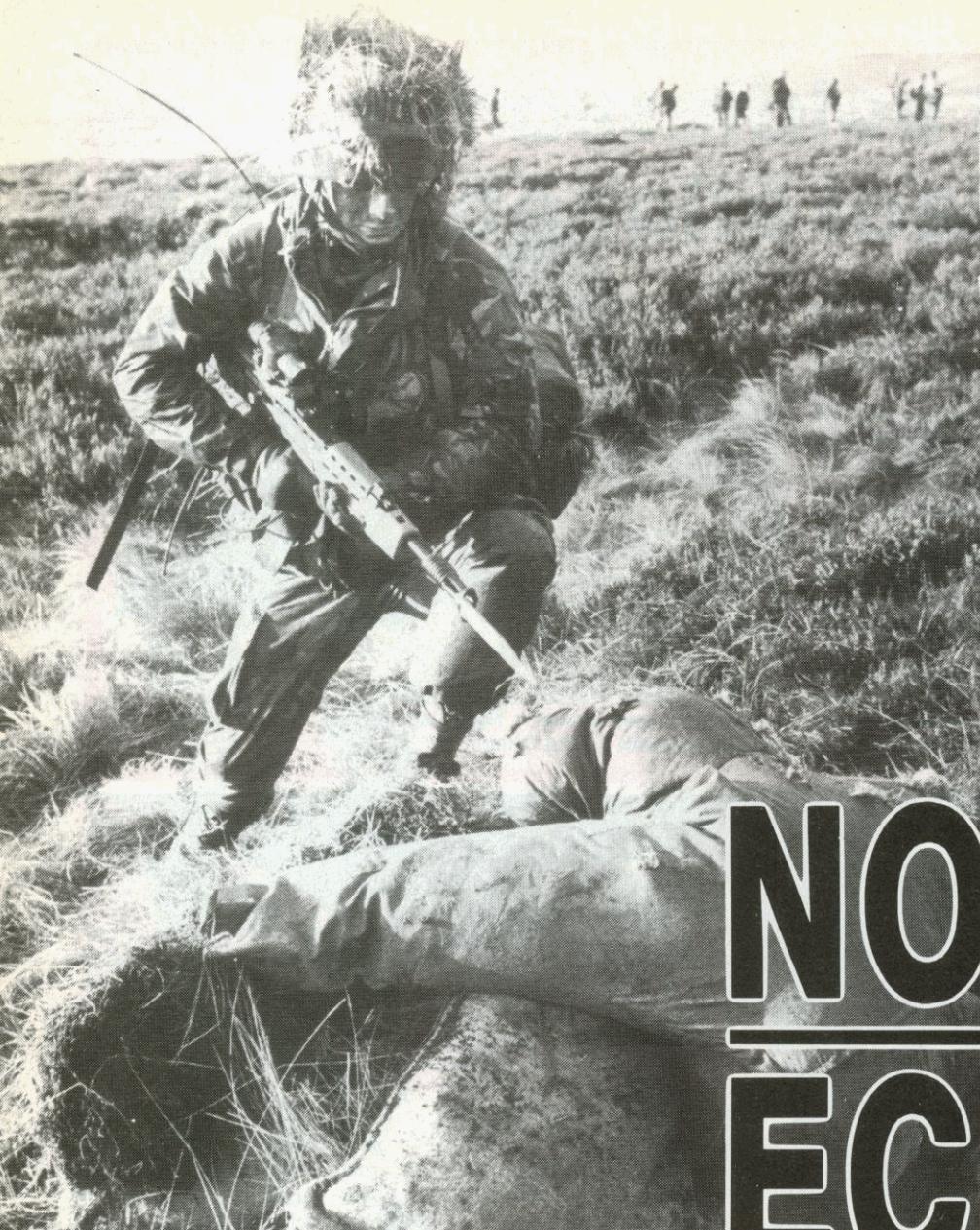


"It ain't arf hot chum," eight-month-old Christopher Tomlinson seems to be saying to Coldstream Guards regimental policeman Cpl Andrew Simmons. Son of LCpl Darren Tomlinson, young Christopher was part of the battalion's Hong Kong baby boom. His mother Diane was taking him for a stroll in the grounds of Fort Stanley with friend Mrs Marianne Hayes and 14-month-old Anthony, whose dad, Paul, is also a lance-corporal



They may be in the tropics but the drill goes on. A lance-corporals' course marches across the barrack square at Fort Stanley, Hong Kong

Stories by  
Bill Moore



# NORTHUMBERLAND ECHOES

This enemy "soldier" had already been peppered with either mortar fragments or 5.56 rounds but LCpl Aidan Fordham delivered a bayonet thrust as the coup de grâce



Pte Tony Martin (left) a Newcastle man, carried the GPMG on sustained fire mount for three kms. He's been with 3 LI for ten years. LCpl Graeme Dawson, from Carlisle, carrying his companion's SA80 and extra ammunition, has been with 3LI for seven years.

SOME time around mid morning the squalls stopped flattening the marsh grass and a magnificent rainbow arched over Otterburn's soggy acres.

If Pte Tony Martin wasn't too impressed by the beauties of nature in Northumberland it was probably because he was lugging a general purpose machine gun and its sustained fire mount on his back.

Pte Martin, 27, who comes from Elswick, Newcastle, and has been ten years in the 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry, propped his load on the edge of a convenient shell crater without letting go of it while the team took a breather.

A man of few words is Pte Martin.

How far had he carried his burden? "About 3ks."

How did he feel: "----- warm!"

Well he would wouldn't he. The gun weighs 24lbs and the mount 30.

Left - Lt Col Richard Sale, CO 3 LI, carried an SA80 rifle with fixed bayonet during the exercise

## Safety first

Right - Safety experts from Regular and TA units kept a close watch on the troops using live ammunition. They were identified by orange arm bands



**ENEMY  
WERE A  
LOAD OF  
DUMMIES!**  
— Pages 30-31



Words:  
Bill Moore

Pictures:  
Mike Weston

## THE WEIGH IN...

WITH weapon, ammunition, equipment and helmet plus perhaps spade or picket a rifleman on Rolling Thunder was carrying about 70lbs — similar to the burden of the infantry attacking on the Somme in 1916. Each man was toting eight 30-round magazines of 5.56 ammunition plus either bandoliers or boxes of cartridges making 400 to 500 rounds in all. Leading elements carried less than the follow up platoons who dropped off extra ammo as they went through the position.

business — as did the Milan teams and the 66mm rocket launcher operators (soon to be re-equipped with LAW80).

Then there were the crews of the eight Foxes with their Rarden cannon.

Even bayonet fighting had to be looked at all over again. The razor sharp short bayonet of the SA80 is more like a Bowie knife than anything else and is used to slash at close quarters. The days of "give 'em the point" and the lunge are going.

Throw the running of a tattoo at a battalion when it is in the middle of a training programme (3 LI were presented with the Cardiff task as no Welsh unit was available) and time becomes more precious than ever.

The battalion was already slated for a part in Keystone 87 as part of 24 Inf Bde and successfully took part in this highly mobile exercise between Hanover and the Harz Moun-

tain centres around the Weser crossings. On that occasion only blanks were used.

But by then Lt Col Richard Sale, CO of 3 LI, had been planning Rolling Thunder for more than four months.

Capt Tim Martin, the Ops Officer, was a constant visitor to Otterburn where the variety of weapons to be used involved a very complex layout of templates and firing arcs.

A close relationship developed between the representatives of the battalion and Lt Col Richard Cross's Range Liaison Staff.

"We were put in the picture early and informed of every development" said Capt Bernie Wetherell RA, his deputy.

"The LI worked very hard to make this a good exercise and deserved to succeed."

To achieve this a call went out to Regular and TA units for

● Turn to Page 32



The day before... unpacking mortar rounds

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Lobbing packets of ammo from man to man is a highly



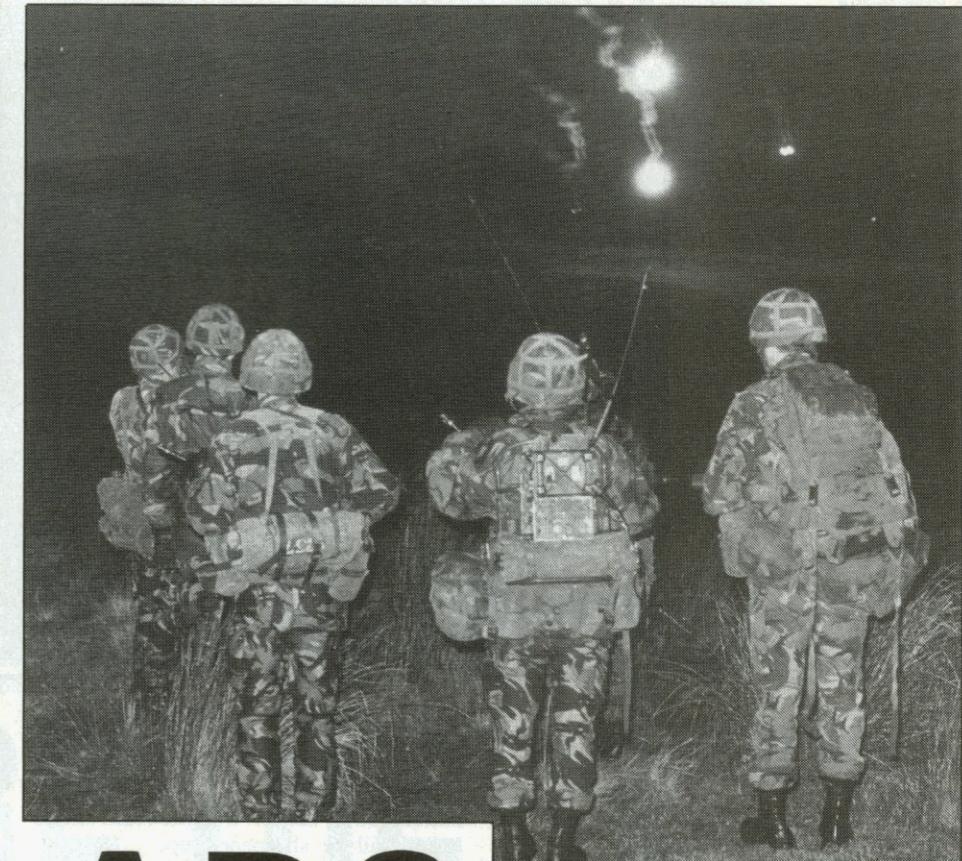
developed art in 3LI



Moving up in support during the assault

**FITNESS  
FACTOR**

Every member of 3 LI is required to take part in a round barracks run of 3½ miles twice a week. Par for the course is now 31 mins. In Rolling Thunder the troops took Otterburn's rough terrain in their stride.



Flares fired by mortars illuminate the objective as the troops form up in the darkness before the dawn assault on craggy Crigden Hill

# HOWWAY THE LADS ... and the Tykes!



The bangalore torpedo team goes in carrying metal pickets to which explosive is attached and thrust under barbed wire

THE OBJECTIVE was a defended location on Crigden Hill, a craggy hump more than 1,000 feet above sea level held by a detachment of dummies - well-stuffed NBC suits.

The "enemy" were dug into well-sited positions covering minefields protected by wire entanglements - some of the heavy S-pattern.

In Otterburn's A Camp reveille was at 0330 and by 0515 the Saxons were leaving, full of heavily armed infantrymen.

That was the easy part of the exercise, the taxi ride to the battle ground. The Saxons were non-tactical with headlights on, which avoided any unpleasantness with Cheviot ewes and excitable Galloway steers playing "chicken" on the roads.

After debussing some five or six kilometres from the objective play began in earnest, the laden infantry filing through the darkness across saturated moorland criss-crossed with small streams and drainage ditches.

During a pause the mortars of Support Company opened up and flares lit the barren slopes which had to be stormed. The GMPGs started to fire.

By daybreak the mortars were raising black clouds on flanking positions.

The orders were for C and A Companies to attack (left and right) and for B Company to emerge from a valley and storm the final objective.

Two live firing movement boxes were in operation simultaneously for small arms with Support Company engaging targets

on the flanks with the bigger weapons.

So much for the plan. In practice it meant that the troops spent hours walking, waiting, running, crouching and creeping with the men with the orange armbands always on the scene to make sure reality didn't spill over into disaster. Everyone got wet and cold and muddy.

There was a fair amount of waiting and a lot of shouting. Geordies abound in 3 LI and without an interpreter's diploma anyone might have been excused for thinking he had fallen among foreigners.

A tall American liaison officer, a sightseer from his desk at UKLF, was mystified by the language.

"Ye knaa ye've got to gan on, Aaaay Platoon," had him completely stumped.

As the sections were talking to each other and as Yorkshiremen, of whom there were plenty in the battalion, seem to understand Tyneside, no harm resulted.

The universal password seemed to be "Howway ye bugger . . ."

What needed no interpretation was the effort made by everyone on the ground.

There was no 1916-style pheasant beat advance when the enemy position was



The light support weapon (LSW) is brought into action

approached.

"This is going to take time," said Maj Tim Weeks OC of C Coy.

Each trench was kept under fire by three members of a fire team while the fourth lobbed in a grenade (thunderflash) and rushed the position with the bayonet.

Then the whole process was gone through again. Gradually the "opposition" was winkled out and riflemen scurried past tattered dummies looking unpleasantly

like bloated bodies.

The ammunition bergens grew lighter. Magazines were refilled time after time.

"Do you think aam a — octopus?" bellowed a harassed private who was being deluged with empty mags for the LSW.

But he filled them all the same.

In fact the passing of magazines back or packets of rounds forward was highly impressive.

● Turn to next page

A mortar is readied for a ranging shot with the safety supervisor in attendance a day before Exercise Rolling Thunder started

## Northumberland echoes

### • From Page 29

qualified personnel to act as safety supervisors.

The response was impressive.

For once "Orange Force" was on the right side and the men wearing fluorescent waistcoats and armbands came from 1 PWO, 1 Kings, 3 RRF, 1 LI, 4 King's Own Border, 3 Cheshire, 5/8 Kings, 7 LI, 4 QLR and DLOY... among others. There were more than 70 in all.

Sister units were also generous in supplying live ammunition which they had been unable to use themselves in training.

As a result more than 2,300

rounds of 81mm HE were accumulated ("more than were fired at Goose Green" someone said), plus 140 "allume".

There were 250 Rarden cannon shells, (Prac. and APDS) around 15,000 7.62 rounds for eight SF GPMGs, eight Milan rounds and 46,000 rounds of 5.56 per company for the SA80 and LSW, plus thunderflashes galore.

Just to add to the realism a pyrotechnics firm laid a wide range of battle simulation charges to indicate enemy shell fire - including air bursts - and machine gun flashes.

As one Geordie soldier carrying a bergen stuffed with SA80 magazines put it: "Nee expense spared on this one."



### • From Page 31

Not everything went absolutely right. There was a hiccup with some of the pyrotechnics supplied by a civilian firm and the machine-gun simulation (a sort of giant jumping jack effect) didn't work at the minefield. A spectacular few seconds of artillery bursts was followed by silence.

Again, sometimes the minor tactics fell out of "sync". Sections started their rush before the covering fire was coming down.

But that is what exercises are for. The minor tactics, hardest thing to teach and to learn, will be sharpened up.

It was all right, of course for sightseers. SOLDIER's team was able to pack up at

endex and head for drier parts.

The men of 3 LI spent almost 12 hours of daylight that day and the next picking up the pieces - clearing the barbed wire, reeling in 30kms of cable for pyrotechnics, extracting pickets, refilling trenches.

That is when it is just as well that some people don't understand Geordie.

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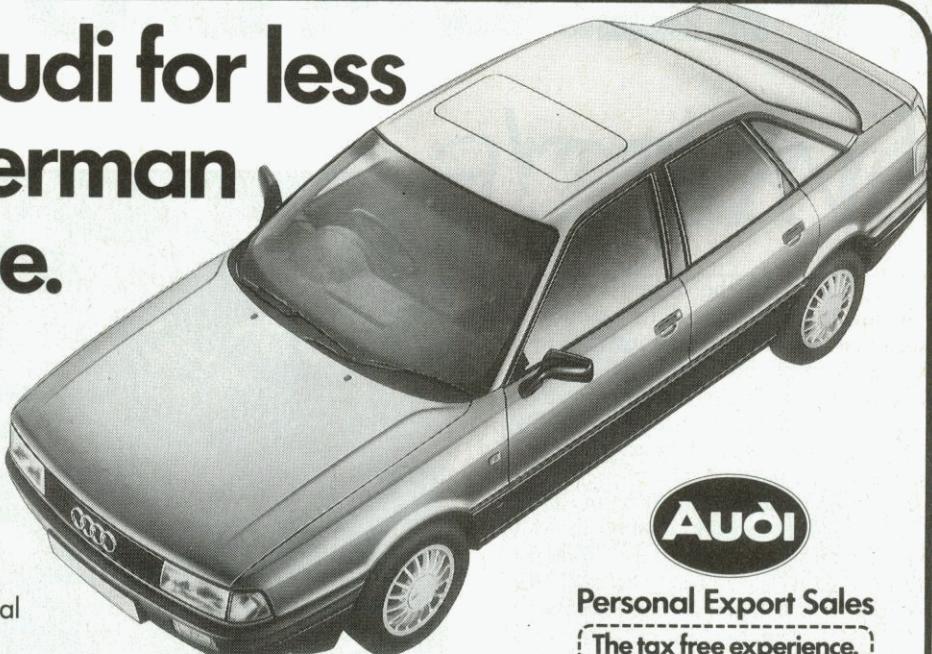
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HARD GOING: The B team reach the half way point

# WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Commando gunners set new world best

GUNNERS from 29 Commando Regiment RA have broken the world military marathon record after just a month in training.

Three teams from the Plymouth based commando gunners attempted the official Devon course of 26 miles and 365 yards and two finished inside the previous best of 4hr 48min 9.71sec set by 42 Commando Royal Marines.

The marathon is recognised by the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Rules of the competition require challengers to move as a squad of nine men, each carrying a 40lb bergen.

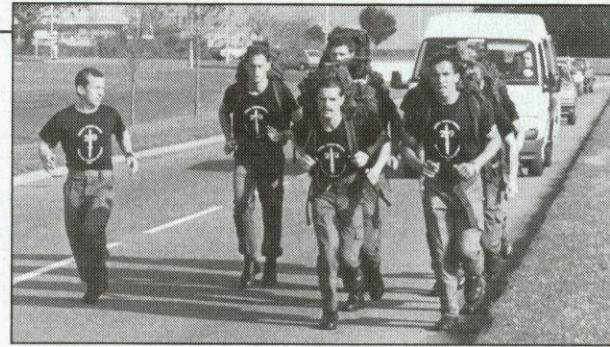
The commando gunners were set on their way from Plymouth Hoe by the Lord Mayor who fired a 25 pounder to signal the start.

First home were the A team in 4hr 35min 47.28sec, knocking more than 12 minutes off the previous record. The B team were also inside the previous record, bettering it by nearly 7½ minutes, and the C team recorded the fourth fastest time ever.

Royal Marines pride is expected to ensure several attempts this year to regain the record.

The new world champions are WO2 Harden, Bdr Broad, Price and Gilbert, and Gnrs Godfrey, Evans, Gatehouse, Durn and Cramer.

GOOD GOING: The C team finishing in style



RECORD GOING: The A team in impressive form



## Tankies on tip top tour

FIVE soldiers from 1 RTR based at Hildesheim in West Germany went up in the world to enjoy a trekking expedition in the Indian Himalayas.

They walked nearly 300 miles from the lush vale of Kashmir to the remote and desert-like region of Ladakh, crossing eight major passes in the process.

To reach their starting point, the tankmen flew to Delhi then spent 26 hours in a crowded coach through the Punjab to Srinagar, capital of Kashmir.

On the way through the mountains they hired local villagers to help carry food and equipment.

# TARTAN TALE OF THE SCOTS IN UNIFORM

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**Tebessa, Whatever's That?** by F E Potter. The "trials and tribulations" of a young lieutenant recorded in his diary during the Anglo-American invasion of French North Africa in 1942, and subsequently. Published by Merlin Books. Price £2.50.

**War Annual 2** by John Laffin. A guide to contemporary wars and conflicts. Published by Brassey's Defence Publishers. Price £16.95.

**South African Honours and Awards 1899-1902**. Details of the actions, the heroism and the honours of British Army and Royal Navy personnel during the second Boer War. Published by Greenhill Books. Price £19.95.

**Gunga Din** by Rudyard Kipling. Kipling's famous poem, written in 1890, about British soldiers' hardships in India and the regimental water carrier Gunga Din who dies saving the life of a soldier. Full page illustrations by Robert Andrew Parker. Published by J M Dent. Price £6.95.

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

**Invisible Armies** by Stephen Segaller. Revised and updated paperback edition of an investigation into international terrorism. Published by Sphere Books. Price £4.99.

**Battlefield Tour** by Godfrey Barker Harland. A history of some

**SCOTTISH MILITARY DRESS**  
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Illustrated by Jeffrey Burn

of the battles of the 1st/4th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Infantry in the NW Europe campaign 1944-45. Obtainable only from The Light Infantry Office (Yorkshire), Minden House, Wakefield Road, Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF8 4ES. Price £9.50.

**My Wartime Escapades** by C N Beattie. Wartime experiences of the author in the RASC – and an expedition to Everest. Published by Pentland Press. Price £8.50.

**My Dear Walter** by R W Morland-Hughes (Portland). A series of illustrated letters written by Morland-Hughes to his teenage brother between the wars, and pages from his Second World War sketchbook. Morland-Hughes served with the 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles (Frontier Force) and was killed in action in Italy in 1944. Published by Quiller Press in aid of Gurkha Welfare Trusts. Price £6.95.

**Tank Warfare** by Frank Mitchell. The story of tanks in the First World War. First published in 1933, reissued by Spa Books. Price £15.

**Compendium of Armaments and Military Hardware** by Christopher Chant. The salient technical and operational details of all the most important modern weapons for land, sea and air forces throughout the world. Published by Routledge and Kegan Paul. Price £45.

**Mark of the Lion**, by Kenneth Sandford. The story of Capt Charles Upham, VC and Bar. Reissued by Stanley Paul. Price £12.95.

**US Army Cloth Insignia, 1941 to the Present**, by Brian L Davis. Illustrated reference guide for collectors. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £7.95.

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# Secret diaries of a death railway legend

SIR Edward 'Weary' Dunlop elected to stay with his patients and became a prisoner-of-war when, in 1942, No 1 Allied General Hospital in Java was surrendered to the Japanese.

At the start of his imprisonment Lt Col Dunlop began his diaries of meticulous observations of POW camp life in Java and on the Burma-Thailand

Railway. The result was a unique record that had to be concealed from his captors until 1945.

*The War Diaries of Weary Dunlop* have now, over 40 years later, been published. To have published earlier, Sir Edward believes, might have added "further suffering to those bereaved, and add to

controversy and hatred . . . I publish them now to record the enduring brotherhood shared by all survivors . . . and to pay tribute to the men of the Thai underground who risked their lives to help us."

Commanding officer and surgeon, 'Weary' Dunlop was to become a legend to the prisoners who knew him. He

saved their lives with the meagre medical supplies and simple surgical instruments that were available to Allied doctors.

It was a constant struggle to protect sick men from being forced into Japanese work parties on the Burma-Thailand Railway.

The diaries graphically describe the organisation of the camps, the epidemics, operations, torture and despair, the latter infrequent in the case of the author but still inevitable when, as he records, "of some 22,000 who entered captivity, more than 7,000 died or were killed. Only those who were present can fully comprehend the seeming hopelessness of it all as their bodies wasted and their friends died."

There are, paradoxically, brighter moments when the author records the beauty of the mountain railway camp at Hintok, Thailand, where "the light of great cumulous clouds appearing over the clear rim of our mountain world is most startling. The morning and evening sometimes positively hurt with their beauty."

There are also entries that cause a smile; for instance, when a Japanese boasted of bombing the Australian mainland. "Bullshit" retorted an Aussie soldier. "Yes, a bullshit bomb" the Japanese enthusiastically exclaimed.

Illustration of prisoner-of-war memoirs is usually difficult but in the case of his diaries Sir Edward has the advantage of a wealth of 138 historic drawings and watercolours, the works of fellow prisoners.

It is a harrowing book to read, but it also has the fascination that only an analysis of traumatic times can possess. As Col Sir Laurens van der Post says in his comprehensive foreword to the book: "These diaries . . . are of great human and historical importance." — BJ

**The War Diaries of Weary Dunlop** by E E Dunlop, published by Lennard Publishing. Price £16.95.

## Napoleon rated fortitude above all else

THE first qualification of a soldier is fortitude under fatigue and privation. Courage is only the second. Hardship, poverty and want are the best school for a soldier.

This wisdom is attributed to Napoleon and was quoted in *The Military Maxims of Napoleon*, first published 86 years after the battle of Waterloo.

David G Chandler, Napoleonic historian and head of the Department of War Studies at RMA Sandhurst, introduces a new edition of the maxims, and writes a commentary which puts Napoleon's work into the 20th century perspective of two world wars, the Falklands and other conflicts.

Of the soldier's qualifications maxim, he comments: "This plea for hard, realistic training cannot be rebutted. The dangers of 'soft' peacetime soldiering have often been revealed at the outset of the next war. The same can be said for the lack of proper motivation."

**The Military Maxims of Napoleon**, published by Greenhill Books. Price £9.95.



Hintok cutting on the Burma railway — one of POW Jack Chalker's many drawings reproduced in *The War Diaries of Weary Dunlop*. Inset — Lt Col Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop

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# Green Jackets in Greenland

TWO officers and six soldiers from the 2nd Bn The Royal Green Jackets have returned from an expedition to the east coast of Greenland during which they climbed for the first time several major peaks and travelled about 600 miles in Arctic waters in small boats.

Having been flown by a Hercules of No 1 Group RAF to Constable Point, Greenland, the Green Jackets spent three days in thick fog and freezing winds transporting three tons of provisions and equipment

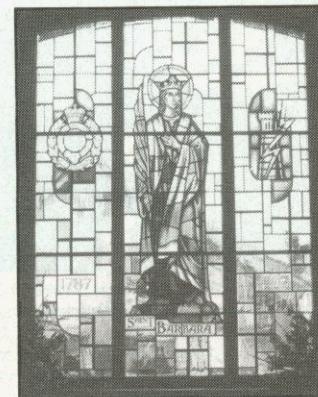
120 miles by boat.

An advance camp was later established in Paul Stren Land with several members of the team reporting close escapes from irritated musk ox.

Nine major peaks were scaled, five of them for the first time.

The return journey on West Fjord began with some difficulty when the soldiers found the end of the fjord had frozen. Two boats were holed as the party made their escape to their main fuel and boat dump.

## Hameln windows mark RE presence



TWO stained glass windows celebrating the presence of the Corps of Royal Engineers in Hameln, West Germany, have been dedicated in the garrison church by the Chaplain General, the Rev James Harkness.

One of the windows was presented by the Stadt Hameln and features St Boniface, an English saint who took Christianity to the German nations. It contains the Arms of the Stadt and was

given to mark the tenth anniversary of the granting of the freedom of Hameln to the Royal Engineers.

The other window was presented jointly by the corps and the garrison to mark the 200th anniversary of the granting of the Royal Warrant to the corps.

The service was the last to be held by the Rev John Webb at the end of his four year tour in Hameln as garrison chaplain.

## Glasgow TA ordnance company in new home

A NEW Territorial Army centre for 94 (Scottish) Ordnance Company (Volunteers) has been opened in Glasgow by the city's Lord Provost.

A ceremonial parade was commanded by the company's Regular CO, Maj John Tidmarsh RAOC. Guests included the GOC Scotland, Lt Gen Sir Norman Arthur.

94 Coy, a sub-unit of 9 Ord Bn, is based in Kings Park, Glasgow and is Scotland's only

RAOC TA independent ordnance company. Its origins dated back to the early 1920s when the first RAOC TA unit was raised in Glasgow.

From the reconstitution of the TA in 1947 to date, 94 (Scottish) Ord Coy has been re-roled and re-titled on no fewer than five occasions.

Its current mobilisation role is the 2nd/3rd line supply to the UK Mobile Force of material and rations.



Capt Kate Dolan makes a point to her fellow Army doctors on exercise for the first time. Making sure they miss it are (foreground) Capts Robert Weeks, John Etherington, Matthew Roberts and Mark Smith!

THREE dozen former civvy street doctors, including four women, who have given up the world of house calls in favour of a life in combat kit and the rigours of Army training have undergone their "baptism of fire" on Salisbury Plain.

In khaki for just four months, commissioned and barely out of a short Sandhurst course and tutorials at the RAMC Depot at Keogh Barracks, Aldershot, the new Army doctors turned out for a 48-hour casualty exercise designed to consolidate what they had learned in training, to test their performances under pressure and to give them a taste of working with the Royal Air Force.

Sponsor unit and supplier of 50 "casualties" effectively made up to look like film set extras was 16 Field Ambulance, RAMC. This 140-strong Samaritan force which saw action in the Falklands has been based at Bulford for the past three years.

The pace was brisk for the mercy mission medics new to outdoor field hospital work.

"Casualties" were flown in by an RAF Strike Command Puma based at Odham. Lifted ten at a time, they came in thick and fast to be treated by the doctors who had been split into four Regimental Aid Post (RAP) teams.

Rent-a-casualty volunteers hammed it up to the full as they lay about groaning.

The doctors saw young men ferried in with shattered limbs darkened blood red by the deft application of food colouring dyes. Some "casualties" had necks and faces scalloped hideously to portray the effects of bullet or shrapnel.



Lt Gen Sir Cameron Moffatt reads up on a well documented casualty played by Pte Steven Watkins

The medics, most of them combat medical technicians, enjoyed their morning's acting. They included LCpl Tony Johnson and make-up master Simon Leake.

Most of the "wounded" had full colour prints affixed to their combats showing real wounds from a grisly collection of

## What's up, Doc?

battlefield medical memorabilia drawn over the past 25 years including the Falklands.

The four RAPs were supposedly supporting an infantry battalion or armoured formation in the field.

One section flew in with its netted supplies swaying beneath the Puma.

The team quickly started to set up its MASH-type saline drips and lay out its medical boxes. Seven minutes later the Puma was back with Lt Gen Sir Cameron Moffatt, Surgeon General RAMC.

Explosions added to the confusion as a figure in black lobbed thunderbolts to jangle the slightly ruffled nerves of the medics as they tried to manipulate instruments into wounds, administer morphine and tie bandages.

The general was looking on to add pressure in this first sortie into "war".

All the doctors will deploy to BAOR, the UK and Hong Kong as unit or regimental MOs.

Gen Moffatt, soon to retire from the Army, said: "We get a good look at them and they get a good look at us. We like to be sure that they know what it is all about.

"There have been changes over the years in operation but the basic principles of casualty management have not really changed. That is to get the casualty to

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

The pictures below differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer. Just circle the differences in the right hand picture, cut out the whole panel, and add your name and address.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is February 1. The name of the winner of the £50 prize will be announced in our March 7 issue.

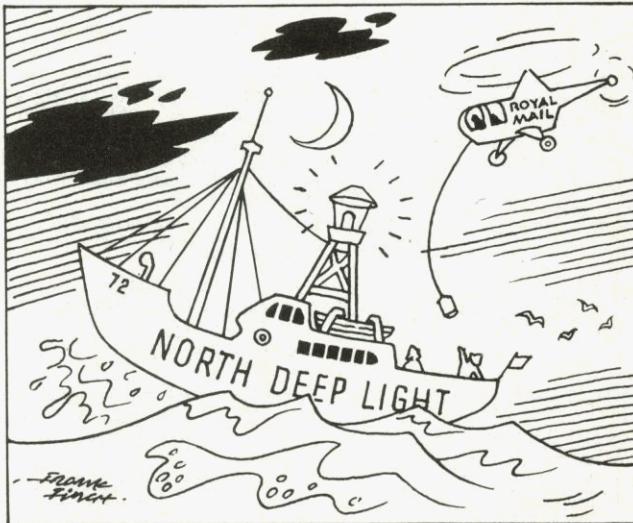
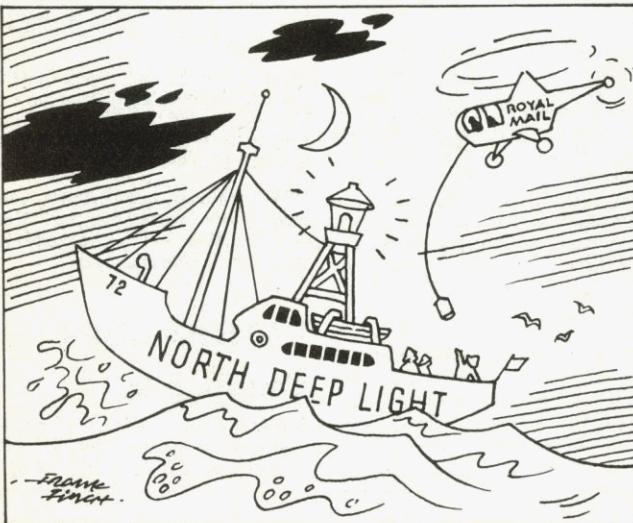
More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

The first correct entry drawn will be the winner. No correspondence can be entered into. Answers to: HOAY No 429, SOLDIER, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

Do not include anything else in your envelope.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



### Baptism of fire for new field hospital MOs

medical treatment as quickly as possible after wounding. A lot has been taught to us by the Americans in Vietnam.

"We deploy our field hospitals as near as we dare to the point of wounding."

As he surveyed the scene of simulated carnage in a quiet copse on Salisbury Plain the doctors rose to their task. Most had been medical cadets, having joined the Army while still at university. Others were older, direct entry specialists. Three were vets.

Lt Col Bob Leitch, CO of 16 Fd Amb, RAMC, who was awarded an MBE in the Falklands said: "Although I have been in command for only a short time I'm already impressed by the morale of the unit. It's strength, I believe, stems from the high regard in which it is held by HQ 1 Infantry Brigade which we support as part of UKMF."

**Story: Graham Smith**  
**Pictures: Mike Weston**



The new doctors swing into field action as casualties arrive from the front

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**Anyone with information or material** regarding the Imphal and Kohima Battles 1944, contact the following address. All material acknowledged and returned. N L Rylatt, Croft Cottage, Near Bank, Shelley, Huddersfield, W. Yorkshire. (0484) 602391. 3 88

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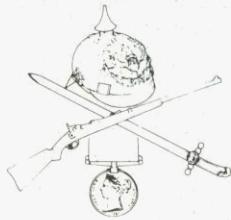
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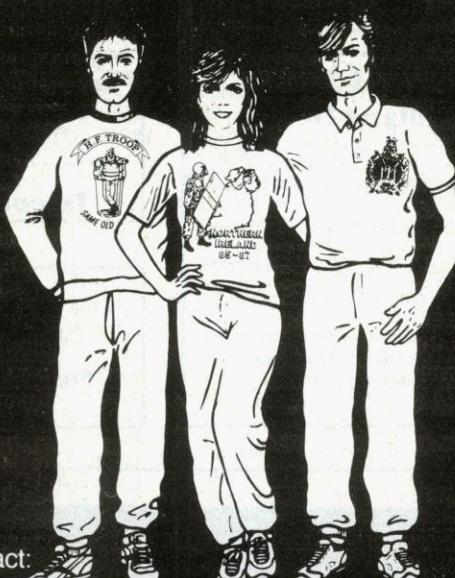
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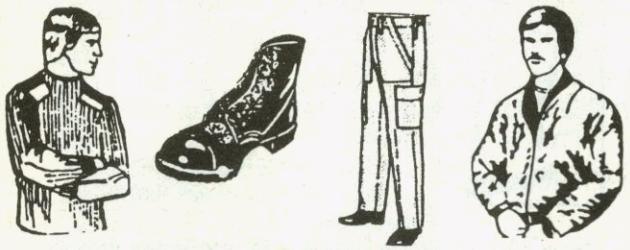
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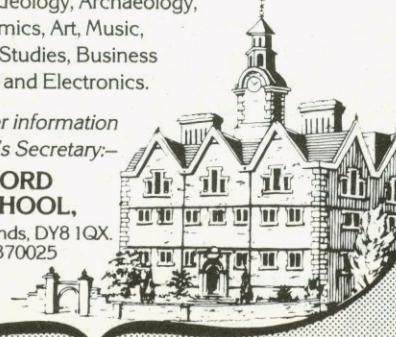
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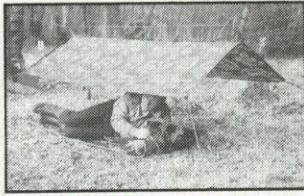
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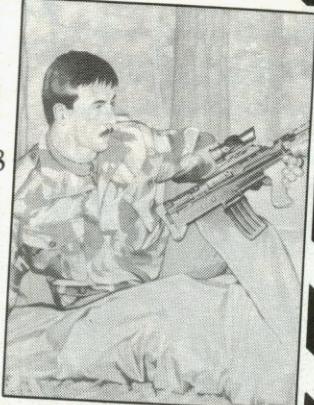
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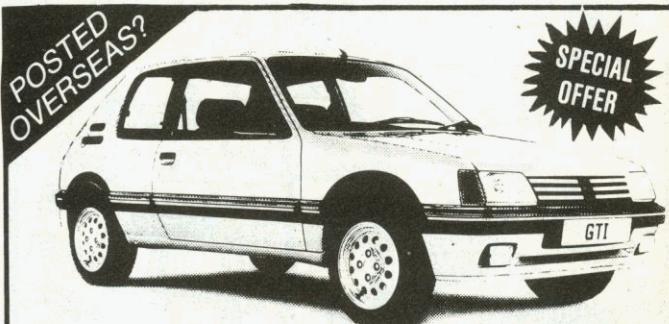
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# Bill races on to a hat trick

THE British Army motor cycle championships were held on the Tidworth to Netheravon section of Salisbury Plain in generally dry conditions although overnight rain meant that the final day was heavy going.

Due to abuse of the training area by civilian motor cyclists the championships were confined to military riders on military machines, with the bulk of the prizes going to Armstrong riders. The course was over a 12.5 mile circuit.

On the first day a convoy of 97 motor cycles left Westdown Camp for the exercise area, causing more than a few heads to turn en route. As defending champion Sgt Bill Buckley of JLR RCT/RAOC led the field away from the start in perfect conditions.

Only three riders cleared the first stage - Sgt Buckley, Capt Johanson of the Swedish Army and LCpl Greaves of 150 Regt RCT (V) with eight other riders within three points. At the other end of the scale Dvr Nicholson (20 Sqn RCT) totalled a massive 120 penalties after a very unhappy morning's work.

The afternoon stage was the start of the weeding out process with three laps in three hours over the same course. The extra 12.6 miles caught many riders out as they began to tire towards the end of the day. Four managed to clear the second stage but LCpl Greaves was dropped from the leading group. Sgt Buckley and Capt Johanson were still in front, pursued by Cpl Gorse (REME), BAOR champion LCpl Braithwaite (REME) and Cpl Skinner (RCT).

LCpl Hird (23 Regt RCT) began what was to be a horrific series of events for the 38 Sqn team when he hit a tree and became the first casualty of the event. Fortunately he suffered only a torn muscle but spent several days in Tidworth MRS.

Heavy overnight rain promised a difficult ride for the Enduro Stage and with 94

riders still in the competition the timings were made deliberately very tight.

The less experienced riders set off at full throttle and rapidly became casualties of the mud, the wise set off gently making full use of the 40 minute per lap allowed and consequently finished with good results.

Another casualty of the day was LCpl Lucey (23 Regt RCT) who removed three fence posts some considerable distance off course. Initial fears that he had broken his hip proved unfounded after hospital treatment.

Fastest of the day was Cpl Shaun Skinner (JLR RCT/RAOC) and one of the leading Enduro riders in the country who cleared the stage and took 15 seconds on the special.

Sgt Buckley was a second

slower to ensure that he won the championship for the third year in succession.

JLR RCT/RAOC took the team prize away from Bunde for the first time with 1 Armoured Div Tpt Regt just 14 points behind.

The TA prizes went to LCpl Greaves who was 9th overall and 150 Regiment RCT (V) took the team prize as well as third overall.

The championship also marked the 31st battle between the British Army and the Swedish Army, the 30th challenge having taken place the week before in Sweden when the British lost giving them a 16 to 14 lead in the match.

But the home team of Sgt Buckley, Cpl Gorse and LCpl Braithwaite won all three stages to pull the series score back to 17-14.



Royal Air Force, Combined Services and England wing Rory Underwood dives across the line for one of his two tries against South Korea at Aldershot Military Stadium

FORTUNES were mixed for Army Rugby Union Colts in their first excursion into the Colts County Championship. They were included in the London Division whose eight teams were divided into two pools.

The Army joined Kent, Hertfordshire and Eastern Counties in one pool while Surrey, Middlesex, Sussex and Hampshire contested the other. It was thought at the outset that the Army were in the hardest half of the draw and so it proved, writes Peter Salisbury.

In their first match they came up against a very powerful Kent side which beat them 34-0. They showed improved form against Hertfordshire going down 21-10, but had their early place kicking been better the result would have been much closer.

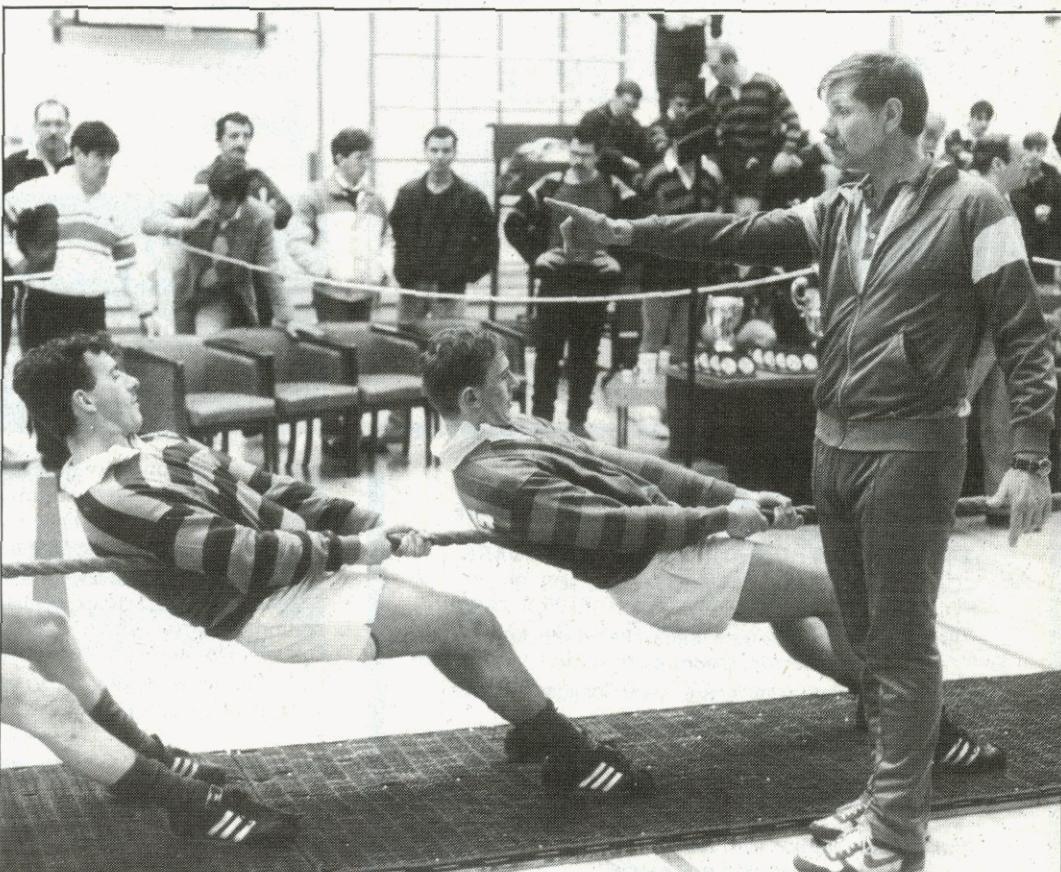
Spr David Robinson (24 Fd Sqn RE), who took over the place kicking in the later stages, kicked two penalties to add to a try by flanker Cfn Nick Gould (39 Engr Regt), who with AT Jonathan Murley (PMC Arborfield) on the other flank were the Army's stars.

A third flanker ASgt Paul Browning (AAC Harrogate) made a promising debut in the centre!

Meanwhile Eastern Counties had beaten Kent so the Army knew they would be up against it in their final pool match. At half time Eastern Counties led 11-6, AT Matthew Haley (AAC Harrogate) getting the Army's try which was converted by Robinson.

In the second half and playing with the wind Eastern Counties predictably got on top and went on to win 25-6.

The Army then had to play off for seventh and eighth places with Hampshire who had finished bottom of the other pool. For this match



Picture: Terry Champion

WO2 Ray Perry urges 14 Fd Regt to victory in the 560kg class of the Army indoor tug of war championships at Aldershot. They beat fellow gunners 49 Fd Regt in the final. 4 UDR beat 40 Fd Regt in the 640kg final while in the 680kg final the tables were turned with 40 Fd Regt defeating 4 UDR

## Eastern test for Services

THE KOREAN national rugby team, who are made up entirely of soldiers and students, visited the Military Stadium at Aldershot to play Combined Services, writes John Quin.

The Army had four players in the side, Capt Edward Gordon-Lennox (2 Gren Gds) at full back, Cpl Chalkie Atkins (R Signals) on the wing, 2nd Lt Will Carling (RRW) - the England B centre - and Capt Brian McCall (REME) at lock.

Last year the Koreans played in the inaugural World Cup in Australia having won their place by beating Japan in the Asian tournament in Thailand.

They held the much heavier Services pack very well and there was some rather uneasy shuffling of military feet when at half time the visitors led 7-6.

In the second half the Services at last began to dominate and scored tries by Scotland B against Italy B and has been tipped for the senior Scottish side. Funny business this selection business!

## Best of the Welsh

A RUGBY match between the 3rd and 4th Battalions of The Royal Regiment of Wales played at Skewen, Wales ended in a win for the 3rd Battalion by 15 pts to four. In a clean, hard game refereed by Mr Clive Norling, one of the best referees in world rugby, it was a credit to both sides that not one harsh word was spoken by him to anyone.

# Regulars hold on to beat TA

## The Army 2 Territorial Army 1

THE annual football confrontation between the Army and the Territorial Army ended in victory by the odd goal in three for the Regulars, writes Pat Massey.

But the small crowd at Aldershot Military Stadium had to sympathise with the Terriers who were unlucky not to have gone away with a draw.

Cpl Spider Lomas (RE) made some important saves in the "home" goal during the first quarter of an hour, although the Regulars went close themselves on a couple of occasions. Pte Dave Woodhead (2 Yorks Vols) used his legs to good effect to deny Gnr Tony Holgate (RA) a certain goal.

Rgr Danny Rogers (4 V) R

then blocked LCpl Steve Welsh's shot from the rebound.

No goals came in the first half and the TA ended it looking marginally the better side.

They almost scored first after

the restart when Gnr Steve Nicol (289 Cdo Bty RA (V)) raced clear, only for substitute

goalkeeper Dvr Mark Reeves (RCT) to save bravely at his feet.

The Army finally broke the deadlock on the hour when LCpl Colin McDonald (RAOC) headed home a cross by LCpl Davy John (1 Cheshire).

Sgt Mickey Spencer (APTC) finally broke off the TA shackles ten minutes from time to let in LCpl Mark Carmichael (RA) for the Army's second. Rgr Danny Rogers (4 V) R

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Picture: Mike Weston



Regular Army defenders double up to

snuff out a Territorial Army attack at the Military Stadium, Aldershot. The Regulars won 2-1

## Middlesex 2 The Army 0

Middlesex, making a reappearance in senior representative football after an absence of 15 years, honoured the Army with their first fixture. Unfortunately, several Army players had

been involved in eight Inter-Corps or Combined Services matches in the previous ten days and other automatic choices were missing through injury or duty.

Wealdstone's Hirst scored the county's first and Fidler of Staines Town the second.

## Slick REME edge out the gunners

A VERY entertaining Corps quadrangular tournament was won by REME who dropped just one point in their final game when the Royal Signals scored an equaliser in the last minute of the game, writes Pat Massey.

The gunners were impressive throughout the tournament at Chatham and their finest achievement was a 5-0 drubbing of the signalmen, last year's winners.

Only a single goal defeat in their opening match against REME prevented them from lifting the coveted trophy.

Biggest disappointment was the form of the Royal

Engineers, the host corps, who in celebrating their 200th anniversary failed to gain a single point and scored only one goal.

One of their strongest footballing regiments, with ambitions in the centenary Army Cup, were said to have withheld leading corps players for a BAOR Cup tie.

SEME and the School of Signals, who have similar ambitions, had no hesitation in releasing the bulk of their sides for their competing corps.

Results: RA 0, REME 1; RE 0, R Signals 3; RA 5, R Signals 0; RE 1, REME 3; R Signals 1, REME 1; RA 1, RE 0.

## Shorncliffe lads keep our shield!

PENINSULA Company of the Junior Infantry Battalion Shorncliffe retained the SOLDIER Magazine Shield in an exciting final to the Army Junior inter battery squadron and company boxing final at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe.

Cheered on by their own "home" supporters they beat Waterloo Company from the Guards Depot, Pirbright by five bouts to four. The final result was in doubt until the end of the eighth bout.

Last year Peninsula took on the Junior Parachute Company at Pirbright and beat them by the same 5-4 margin.

The final at Shorncliffe was not decided until Peninsula Company light heavyweight JLdr Larcombe scored a third round knock out against JLdr Hood (Waterloo Coy) to give his team an unassailable lead.

CPL Ted Heath of 12 RSME again won the open title at the Army canoeing white water championships held on the River Swale, Richmond, Yorkshire.

He raced away from one of the biggest entries for years, with Lt Allison Mann of 16 Sigs taking the women's K1 championship.

The event, organised by Olympic canoeist Capt Stephen Jackson (2 Inf Div Sig Regt)



White water action on the River Swale at Richmond, Yorkshire. About to finish is the three man team of 3 RTR from Bovington

## HEATH RETAINS WHITE WATER CHAMPIONSHIP

with the help of 8 Sigs attracted 52 teams and 225 individual paddlers.

In the individual section

LSgt Ellis of the Guards Adventure Training Wing won the men's slalom and LCpl Nicky Bevan from HQNI won the women's event. Junior champion was JLCpl Downey (AA Coll Harrogate) while the first three junior slalom prizes

all went to the Guards. WO2 Neil Martin (ACC)

## Tykes run the rest ragged

YORKSHIREMEN made a clean sweep of the Army cross country relay championships at Rushmoor, Aldershot.

First were 1 PWO whose A team covered the 12-mile course in 58min 12sec. Second were 1 DWR in 60min 28sec while 1 PWO B team was third.

More than 100 units (minor and major) competed. The minor unit winners were FOD Dulmen, placed first after successfully objecting to Depot Para, the first team to finish.

The major unit results means that 1 PWO have virtually run the rest of the Army off its legs.

The battalion, stationed at Catterick, won the cross country championship last year for the fourth time in a row.

It also won the Army marathon in October at Swinderby, Lincs, coming in first of any Service team (including Army, Royal Navy, RAF and Civil Service).

In taking the relay, 1 PWO are re-establishing their supremacy. They won in successive years from 1983 to 1985 but were beaten into second place in 1986 by 2 Inf Div HQ and Sig Regt... based in York.

The triumph of 1 PWO in the cross country field is a tribute to Capt David Moffat who has just been posted to be QM of 2 Yorks (Vols) in York after two years as trainer of the champion runners.

# SOLDIER

## THAT WILL DOO NICELY!

A "Scooby Doo" tractor makes short work of a burning car during a riot debris clearance exercise involving sappers of the Northern Ireland based 33 Independent Field Squadron RE. Read about their work on Pages 21 to 23.

Picture: Mike Weston

