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FRONT COVER: The face of a Canadian soldier, 1989. Master Cpl (a rank between corporal and sergeant) Roland Tammlinga, serving with the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, photographed during Exercise Caltrop Force in California. See feature beginning on Page 25.

Picture: Mike Perring

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



The massive vehicles of 7 Tank Transporter Regiment RCT in convoy on a West German autobahn. The regiment is taking part in a lease hire trial involving commercial vehicles. Read all about it in the next issue of SOLDIER. Also a visit to the Depot of The Royal Irish Rangers at Ballymena and more from Exercise Caltrop Force.

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Weighty bergens

In reply to Mountain Memories (SOLDIER, February 6), I served with the 1st Bn, Glasgow Highlanders, 52nd Mountain Division at Blairgowrie in 1943. I remember well the special gear issued with the steel framed bergen rucksack, and the snowshoes with the short broad skis attached.

To get the fully loaded rucksack on to your back, it had to be placed on a top bunk, and with arms placed through the straps it was heaved on to your back.

As ex Major R A Hill stated (SOLDIER, March 6), we were in Holland in 1944 below sea level in places. Incidentally, most of my company were taken prisoner during the Ardennes offensive, including myself, but that's another story. — **Bernard Ricketts, 197 Pretoria Road, Bordesley Green, Birmingham B9 5LN.**

Vickers hardly stopped firing

I am an ex soldier who has your magazine on subscription and enjoy every page I read. But in your April 3 edition in the PEOPLE section story about the Vickers MMG at the School of Infantry, Brecon, the passage read "the history of the Vickers is not recorded, although it is believed to have been fired in anger in the Second World War".

Hair to-do

Reference your article and photograph Hair is the News (SOLDIER, April 3), never mind the bun, you take the cake with the April Fools gag! How many readers fell for this? — **Alec Coleman, 6 Philips Drive, Whitefield, Manchester M25 7PY.**

As an old Vickers gunner I have a good sense of humour, but was this a tongue in cheek remark? For some readers perhaps a little information is forthcoming. In 1940 the Middlesex Regiment had five battalions made into machine gun battalions.

Each division in Europe had a Middlesex MMG battalion serving with them and all commanders used us as many times as possible. The enemy when under Vickers fire knew when we were about.

Ammunition expenditure for the 8th Bn in Europe June 44-May 45 was 9,843,050 rounds, all fired in anger! —

Eddie Byatt, ex NCO, 8th Bn LCpl J S MacDonald, R Black Rod Close, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 4QJ.

Clwyd-up reader!

SOLDIER's £50 prize for the winner of HOAY competition No 458 is on its way to Wales to Mr R W Owens, of Nant-y-Coed, Holywell, Clwyd.

Runners-up prizes of books go to Mr R A Hamilton, Faulkner Gardens, Ainsdale, Southport, Cheshire, and Cpl Tomblin, 66 Sqn RCT, Jellalabad Barracks, Tidworth.

There's another competition on Page 39.

SSP badge explained

I believe I can clear up the mystery of the acronym SSP found on a badge discovered with other military paraphernalia by workmen at Stonehenge, Wiltshire (SOLDIER, February 20). The letters stand for *Submarine Scout Patrol*. —

LCpl J S MacDonald, R Signals (address supplied).

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Reunions

● All ranks luncheon of **15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars Regimental Association** will be held in the Strand Palace Hotel, London on May 14. Details from Maj (Retd) J F Walls, Regimental Secretary, Fenham Barracks, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4NP (tel: 091-261 1046 ext 3140/3141).

● Fiftieth anniversary of the raising of **5 Regiment RA** will be marked by a cocktail party at Armoury House on Sept 9, and an officers'/sgts' dinner and JNCOs' party in Dortmund on Nov 24, followed by church service and lunch the following day. Details from Maj W D Nicol, 5 Regt RA, BFPO 20.

● **4th Devonshire and Dorset Regiment** reunion on May 13. March forms up at Dix's Field, Exeter, followed by memorial service at Exeter Cathedral, reunion at Wyvern Barracks, and dinner at St George's Hall. Reservations 0392 410389.

● **Darland Boys** golden jubilee reunion will be held at King Charles Hotel, Brompton Road, Gillingham, Kent on September 2. More information from George Young, 6 Dane Court Gardens, St Peter's, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2SB (tel: 0843 68982).

● The fourth reunion of **25th Regiment RA** takes place on July 16 at The Waggon Lines, Larkhill, Wilts. Details from Len Haddow, Oaktrees, 11 Chapel Lane, Hempstead, Gillingham, Kent ME7 3TD (tel: 0634 388156).

● Reunion ball of **1 Bn Manchester Regiment** takes place at Town Hall, Ashton-Under-Lyne, on September 22. Details from secretary Mr J O'Carroll, 57 Langdale Road, Leyland, Preston PR5 2AR.

● A special reunion of the **15th (Isle of Man) Light AA Regiment RA (TA) OCA** will take place in Douglas, Isle of Man, starting on August 31. Details from E L Kissack, 5 Fort William, Douglas, Isle of Man (tel: 0624 23069).

Calling . . .

● Members of **19th General Hospital RAMC** in Egypt during the Second World War are asked to contact Alfred G Ball, 1080 Boss Rd, McKinleyville, California 95521, USA, who served with the hospital.



Picture: Mike Weston

Duke at Sandhurst

The Duke of Edinburgh was the Queen's representative at the 99th Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst. The Sword of Honour was awarded to 2nd Lt Senior Under Officer Angus McGillivray, who will serve with The Black Watch. There was a double award for 2nd Lt Senior Under Officer Simon Dennis who received the Graduate Sword of Honour and the Queen's Medal. He will serve with the Royal Tank Regiment. The Sash of Honour went to 2nd Lt Senior Under Officer Isobel Stewart.

New line for the Guards

THE Household Division is to go back to the custom of wearing embroidered shoulder titles on No 2 Dress. This is believed to be because the SA 80 was found to be catching on the metal insignia – initials such as "CG" and "IG" – during ceremonial drill and damaging uniforms.

Embroidered cloth titles used to be worn on the shoulder of the battledress tunic. The fit was much broader than the modern uniform so in the case of long titles such as Grenadier Guards and Coldstream Guards, new patterns have been designed to fit the tighter curve of the shoulder.

The original titles for the Grenadiers and the Coldstream used to be in white letters on a red background.

A new embroidered title has been designed for the Blues and Royals as battledress was no longer worn when they amalgamated in 1969 – Royal Horse Guards (Blues) and Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons).

Stocks of shoulder titles which were held in store after the introduction of combat dress were



Picture: Sgt John Harding, HQ London District

disposed of some years ago, an MoD spokesman told SOLDIER, but the sealed patterns were retained. The Life Guards, The Blues and Royals and all five regiments of Foot Guards will wear the new titles, it is understood.

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Wreck of Argentine Mirage found

THE wreckage of an Argentinian Mirage fighter-bomber has been found in a remote area of West Falkland. The Royal Engineer's Explosive Ordnance Disposal team based in Stanley searched the crater and identified the aircraft. It was shot down by Harrier aircraft during the 1982 conflict and its pilot parachuted to safety and was

repatriated. During the conflict 11 Mirage Dagger aircraft were shot down, six over West Falkland and five over the sea. All have now been accounted for. Seven years after the conflict, the EOD is still busy dealing with mines and other ordnance abandoned by the Argentinians. The unit believes that some 16,000 mines are unaccounted for.

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Boer War veteran Tom dies aged 103

MR Tom Rone, who served with The Worcestershire Regiment in the Boer War and in the First World War, has died at the age of 103 at the retirement home in Hertfordshire where he had lived for the last few years of his long life. He was believed to be the British Army's oldest surviving ex

soldier. Taken prisoner during the Battle of the Somme in the First World War, he spent three years in a POW camp.

His 103rd birthday last summer was marked by a visit from the Band of the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, who played for

him and fellow residents in the gardens of the retirement home.

Two officers from his old regiment attended the funeral at Much Birch village church in Hertfordshire. The coffin was draped in the Union flag with Mr Rone's medals resting on top.

Skynet order

PLESSEY has won a £50m Ministry of Defence order for ground facilities to support the Skynet 4 military satellite system, providing secure communications links for Britain's military network. The new project will build on existing facilities at the RAF centre at Oakhanger, Hampshire, for which Plessey completed a £30m enhancement, and the Berlin satellite terminal, which they also built.

Paras killed

TWO men of the 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment killed in a traffic accident in Monterey, California, where their unit had been on exercise, were named as Pte Darren Bull, 24, of New Romney, Kent, and Pte Greg Sandall, 21, of Nottingham.



Thumbs up from men of 30 Signal Regiment about to fly from Gatwick to join the UN force in Namibia

Picture: SSgt Arthur Thomson, UKLF

Sailor Colonel for Staffords

THE Duke of York, a serving lieutenant in the Royal Navy, has been appointed Colonel in Chief of The Staffordshire Regiment.

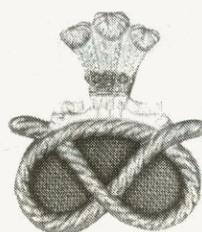
In all, four appointments involving the Royal Family have been announced by the Ministry of Defence.

- The Princess of Wales becomes Colonel in Chief of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own).

- The Princess Royal becomes Honorary Colonel of the University of London Officer Training Corps.

- The Duchess of Gloucester, becomes Colonel in Chief of The Royal Irish Rangers.

The Staffordshire Regiment has never had a Colonel in Chief before (its origins go back to 1705). It is the first such appointment for the Duke of York who is at present serving in the Type 42 destroyer *HMS Edinburgh*. The regiment's cap badge



which include the Regular battalions, Territorial Army, and cadets.

They are nearly always members of the British Royal Family, though Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and Queen Margarethe of Denmark are Allied Colonels in Chief of The Queen's Regiment and King Olav of Norway is Colonel in Chief of The Green Howards. The Duke of Wellington is Colonel in Chief of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

features the Stafford Knot, a symbol which should ensure the sailor prince feels at home among soldiers.

Note: Colonels in Chief are the titular heads of regiments,

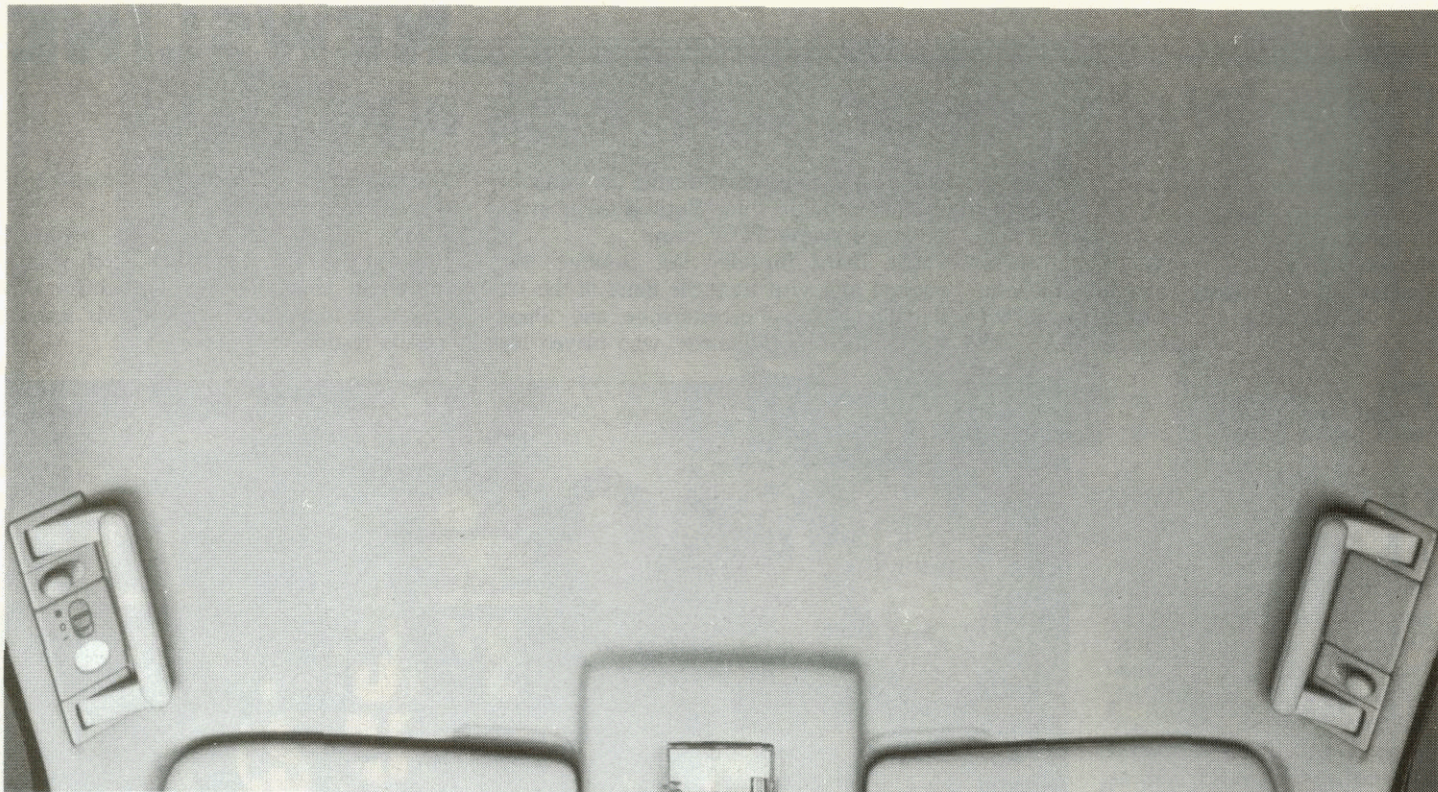
More signallers fly to Namibia

NINETY more men from 30 Signal Regiment based at Blandford, Dorset have flown to South West Africa to join the multinational United Nations force deployed to help Namibia's move to independence. An advance party of 70 men left a month ago.

In addition to providing communications for the UN force, the signallers have been manning assembly points established for Swapo guerrillas attempting to cross the border into Angola.

The bodies of two of the advance party who died in a road accident were flown home for their funerals. They were Cpl Matthew McLeish (11 Sig Regt) and Cpl George Elliot (30 Sig Regt).

● **RESULT** of the annual 52 Lowland Brigade military skills competition was a first place tie between B Coy 15 Para based in St Andrews and Glasgow and Strathclyde UOTC.



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Sporting Bill in comeback

THE remarkable progress of an RCT corporal who broke his neck in a rugby scrumage has made it possible for him to travel to America to compete in a wide range of sports.

Thirty-year-old Bill Blackburn was left paralysed from the neck downwards while playing for the corps in October 1987.

He spent two months at the Cambridge Military Hospital in Aldershot, before transferring for intensive rehabilitation to the Duke of Cornwall Spinal Treatment Centre at Odstock, near Salisbury, and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich.

He said: "Most of the treatment has involved strengthening my upper body and arms. For seven months I could not even lift my fingers off the bed. My parents say I have come a long way."

Bill is one of 13 members of the British Ex Servicemen's Wheelchair Sports'



Bill Blackburn

achieve. The hospital staff have been really fantastic in helping my progress."



The BEWS party, with coach Maj Peter Douglas (standing, left) and Bill Blackburn on the right, about to embark at Heathrow for Miami

Association team competing in the Paraplegic Veterans' Association Sunshine Games in Miami. They have paid for the trip themselves. Bill has entered the shot put, weight-lifting, discus, table tennis, swimming and swinging the Indian club classes.

He said: "Every day at physiotherapy and weight training I kept thinking about the games. They really motivate me as a goal to

Sgt Yip to the rescue

A MEMBER of the Hong Kong Military Service Corps (HKMSC) has been awarded the Commander British Forces Commendation for brave conduct.

Sgt Yip Wing-hong, currently attached to the Hong Kong Physical and Adventure Training Centre at Sek Kong, was walking with his wife one night in San Po Kong area when they saw two men beating another man on the ground.

The two men immediately boarded a taxi and fled. Sgt Yip gave chase, caught one and held him until the police arrived. Subsequent investigations revealed that a man had been robbed and assaulted.

The citation said that Sgt Yip acted in a gallant manner and but for his prompt and selfless action, the victim could have been more seriously injured and the culprits not apprehended.

Queensmen on Freedom march

THE Queen's Regiment is to take part in two Freedom ceremonies. On May 13 a contingent from the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, led by the Kohima (Volunteer) Band, will exercise the Freedom of the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling. And

on June 24 a contingent from the 1st Battalion and the Quebec Band will take part in a similar ceremony at Crowborough, East Sussex, the first granted by the town and the 20th civic honour to be bestowed on the regiment.

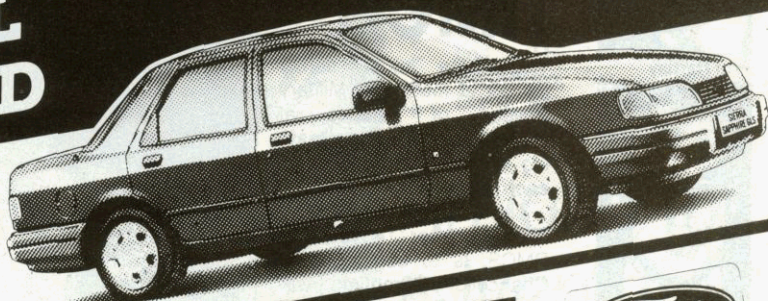
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275 Railway Squadron Royal Corps of Transport (Volunteers), made up mostly of British Rail employees, has been given an inter city restaurant car by BR chairman, Sir Robert Reid.

Two years ago BR gave the squadron a Drury 03 shunter, and the new acquisition will be used for briefings and recreation.

The part time soldiers, who come from all over the UK, do most of their training in West Germany. They also use the track at Long Marston Army depot, where for realism they even adopt German signalling methods.



ON LINE: Sir Robert Reid presents a plaque to Col Ian Gardner, Colonel of 275 Railway Sqn RCT (V)



Sgt George Cox



Sgt Daphne Cox

PEOPLE

It's a family Service

A husband and wife who are both sergeants have served a combined 50 years with the 217 London General Hospital RAMC (V).

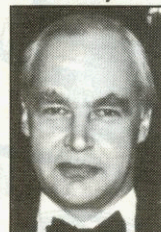
They are **Sgt Daphne Cox**, WRAC, and her husband, **George**, ACC.

He has been dined out after 29 years.

George joined the regular Army at 15 after falsifying his age. He received Certificates of Merit in 1972 and 1985. His two sons have also served with 217 at the same time.



Prof Hartley



Maj Gen Blacker



Brig Canterbury

Top trio to quit RMCS

The three most senior figures at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham, Wilts are leaving within several weeks of each other.

The Principal, **Prof Frank Hartley**, after 14 years at RMCS, is to become Vice Chancellor of Cranfield Institute of Technology; the Commandant, **Maj Gen Jeremy Blacker**, is now Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff Operational Requirements (Land); and the Deputy Commandant, **Brig David Canterbury**, is retiring to become Chief Executive of the Battle of Britain Jubilee Appeal for the RAF Benevolent Fund.



THANKS, GIRLS: Julia and Elke with Cpl Ken Sparks of The Queen's Own Hussars

HELLO SAILOR!

Friends of this 'sailor' did a doubletake when they realised he is more at home in green kit. WO QMSI **Mike 'Spike' Rowbotham** hitched a lift to the UK on HMS *Alacrity* after a

South Atlantic tour where he was an adventure training instructor. En route they stopped off in West Africa and the Canary Isles, where he borrowed some naval kit.



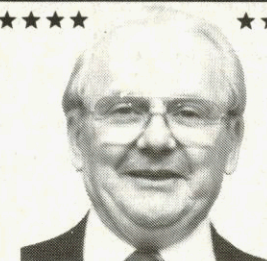
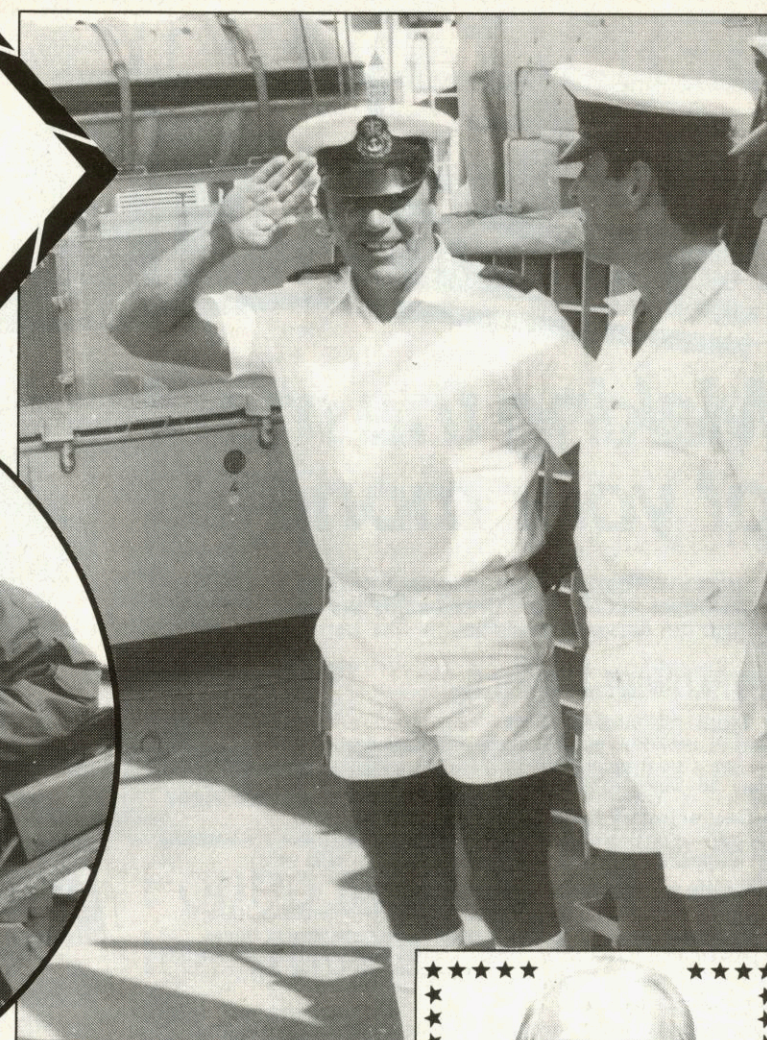
Christopher Ray (4) has a close look at dad's armoured personnel carrier during the SSAFA fair at Verden, West Germany. Dad is **Sgt Mick Ray** of Verden Training Wing

Note of thanks

The Band of The Queen's Own Hussars have been reunited with their music, thanks to the enterprise of two German schoolgirls.

After the music, complete with Hussars stamp, was accidentally left behind by the band, it was passed to **Julia Rowher** and **Elke Anklam**, who both play trumpet in their local band near Hanover.

They in turn sent it to the Queen, asking her to pass it on to her soldiers. The sheet music duly arrived back in BAOR, and the Hussars arranged a special hand-back ceremony for the girls at their barracks in Fallingbommel.



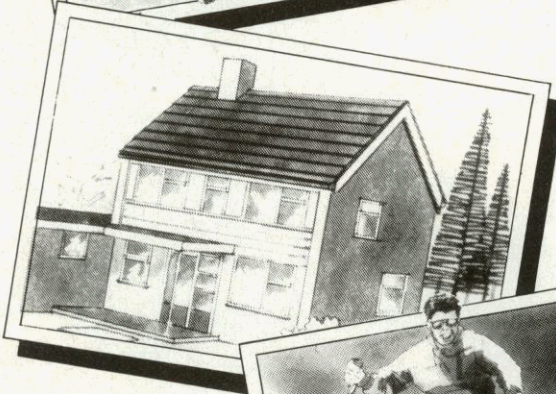
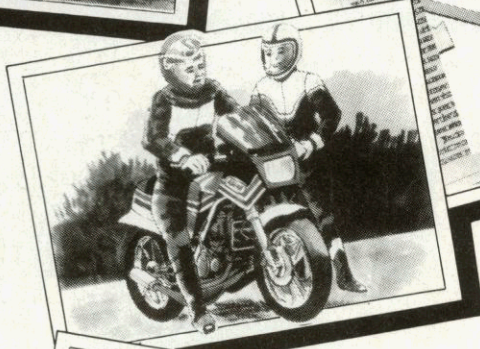
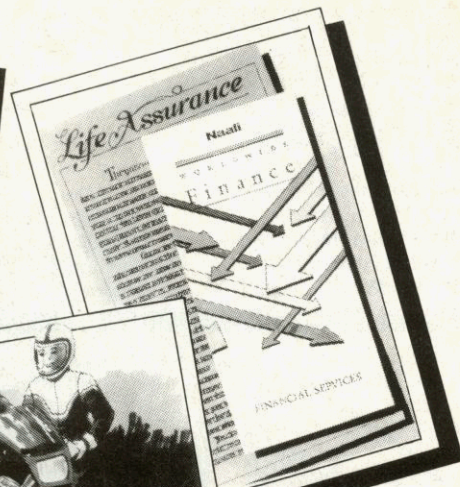
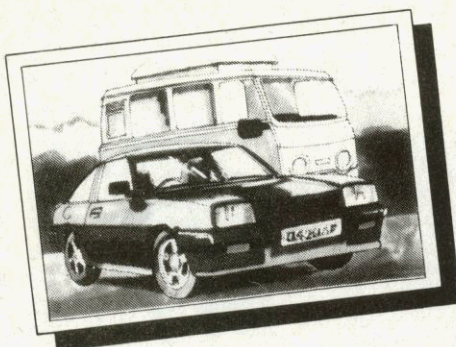
Herr Willi Adler (above) retires this month from the YMCA at Hohne, West Germany as the YMCA's longest serving German employee. To mark his 40 years' service, during which he provided catering for soldiers on Hohne Ranges, he was presented with a GOC's Commendation by **Maj Gen Richard Swinburn**, Cdr 1 Armd Div at Verden.

Anyone for adventure?



The Army is setting up Army youth teams throughout the country to introduce youngsters to adventurous pursuits, and pictured are members of the first which will be based at Imphal Barracks, York. They are: front, 2nd Lt **Jim Bosomworth**, team leader, and a

member of 1st Bn PWO; behind, from the left: **LCpl Joe Cawood**, also PWO, **SSgt Gordon Firby**, 16 AD Regt RA, **LBdr Andrew McCullough**, 27 Fd Regt RA, **Cpl Roy Kendal**, 38 Eng Reg, and **Bdr Peter Syrat**, 16 AD Regt RA.



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FINDing out Down Under

Down under in Australia, soldiers and their families can now find information on Service and personnel matters at the tips of their fingers.

A Family Information Network for Defence (FIND) has been set up in Canberra at which, for the cost of just a local phone call, Servicemen and their families can obtain confidential advice on anything from housing and allowances to compensation and resettlement.

Army, the Australian army newspaper, quotes Maj Gen Peter Phillips, the Army's personnel chief, as saying that although FIND has been introduced primarily for the benefit of families, calls from soldiers will be accepted.

The network, which is available to soldiers and families anywhere in Australia, is not intended to be a replacement for the unit orderly room, says Mrs Lyn Bateup, leader of the advice team. But families don't have contact with the orderly room.

And she added: "Not only will the information be up-to-date, but it will be in plain, simple English!"

No frontiers for bully-boys

The British Army is not alone in having had problems with bullying.

According to a report in Jane's Defence Weekly, the



"Hair of the dog" takes on a whole new meaning with the news that the Finnish army has issued gloves made from the fur of husky dogs. Just the thing to keep out biting winter winds.

Soviet armed forces have also experienced "non-regulation relations" - that's apparently a euphemism for bullying.

The magazine quotes the head of the Main Political Directorate of the Politburo as saying that a radical improvement in military discipline had not been achieved, and "not everything has been done to put an end to such disgraceful phenomena as non-regulation relations and the evasion of military service".

But things are improving. It is reported that since the peak bullying year of 1985 there has been a reduction of 25-30 per cent each year in the number of instances.

SOLDIER to Soldier

NCO boost in US Army

It's the Year of the NCO - in the United States.

The United States Army apparently started a series of "Years of..." in 1981. In previous years, the theme has been such things as physical fitness, excellence, families, leadership, and training, and NCOs are the first section of the Army to be featured.

"This year's theme is especially appropriate and long

Paws for thought!

Found in the woods

Where are you now 14095532 Pte Peter Atkinson, ACC? The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards have found your ID card while spring cleaning Lumsden Barracks at Falling-bostel, West Germany.

The cleaning operation involving 500 soldiers was completed as the regiment moved from Edinburgh to begin a long tour in "Fally".

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

overdue," say the Editors of Army, which is published by the Association of the US Army. "As in any profession, the military has key persons who, although their importance may never be fully appreciated outside of the forces to which they belong, are the vital mainstays whose expertise and strength are essential to success. He, or she, is... invariably an NCO."

Suggestions please...

The Ministry of Defence is looking for suggestions about how to publicise its staff suggestions scheme.

There are cash prizes of £250, £150 and £100 for the person, civilian or Service, who puts forward the best name for the scheme or designs the best logo or poster. Special entry forms are obtainable from admin branches and orderly rooms and "all printable suggestions will be considered".

Confusing the issue

Our headline on the story (April 3) about the philatelic cover produced by The Royal Welch Fusiliers to celebrate their tercentenary incorrectly attributed the project to the RRW. The RWF covers are available from Lt Col N Channing Williams, FHWS, Tidworth, Hants SP9 7BU.

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Annika Rice tests her Gurkhali on two bemused members of the 2 GR team



Easy does it! Lt Lawrence, 2 GR team captain (left), marks a trip wire during Combat 89

Lights . . . camera . . .

ACTION!

SEEN anything strange on your local training area recently? The chances are you have, for a number of readers have reported sighting small groups of sweating squaddies struggling through the undergrowth pursued by exhausted teams of TV cameramen.

SOLDIER decided to investigate the assignment after a tip off mentioned the name of Annika Rice.

At a secret location near Aldershot our intrepid news team abandoned their car and marched briskly towards the sound of gunfire.

"CUU-UTT!" screamed the producer as scribbler and snapper burst out of the bushes in full view of the Central Television cameras.

Their secret out, the production team came clean and admitted they were filming heats for a forthcoming television series featuring the British Army.

Combat 89 is a military competition devised to test the combat skills of infantrymen,

and involves one regiment from each of the Infantry Divisions, as well as the Brigade of Gurkhas and the Parachute Regiment.

The combat courses the men have to negotiate are designed to be difficult, being intended to test both infantry skills and physical endeavour.

Said a Central TV spokesman: "It is not just a straightforward contest, for the

Writer **Laurie Manton** and photographer

Mike Weston watched Central Television's new infantry contest being filmed

participants require not only physical fitness, but initiative and tactical knowledge – qualities every infantry soldier needs."

Cross country driving, mine-field clearance and negotiating a death slide are just some of the tasks to be practised by the contestants who have been in training since September.

Each regiment has provided

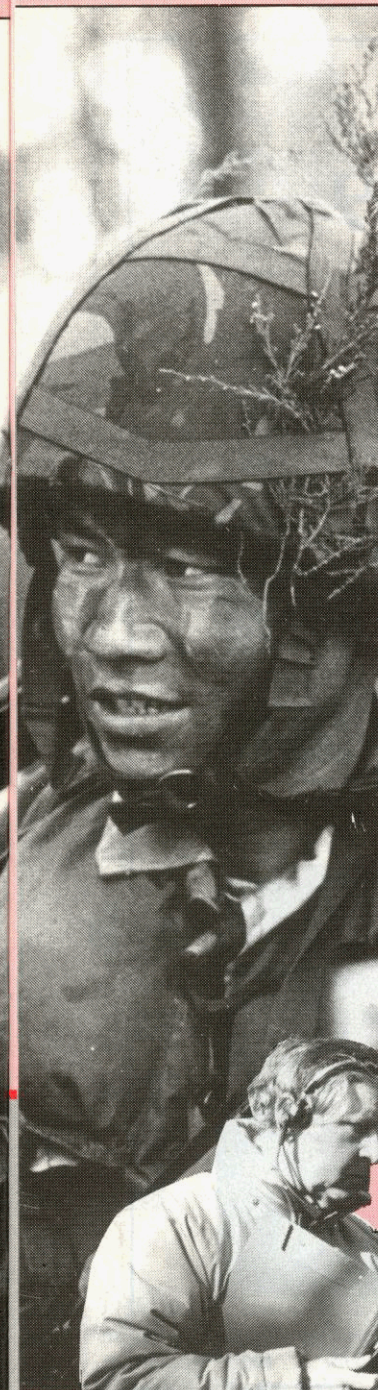
a team of four – a subaltern, senior and junior NCOs and a private soldier – plus four reserves. Throughout the contest men have demonstrated a good deal of competitive spirit, determined to uphold regimental pride.

Said the programme's project officer, Lt Col David Godsall, RGJ: "The winning team will be presented with a solid silver statuette depicting an infantryman of the 90s, and a £5,000 cheque for the charity of their choice."

Six weekly half hour programmes, starting on May 20, and an hour-long final will be broadcast on the independent television channel. If you want to know the result it is no good ringing SOLDIER. The name of the winners remains a closely guarded secret.

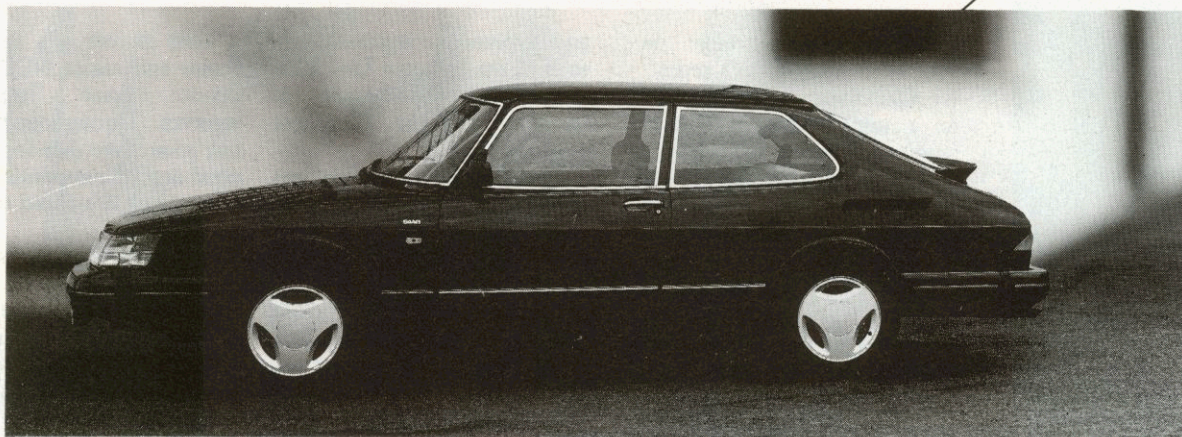
And Miss Rice's part in all this? Annika and fellow TV personality Emlyn Hughes are co-presenters of the series.

Contesting regiments are 2 R Irish, 2 Para, 1 Queens, 2 LI, 2 SG, 2 GR, 1 RRW and KOSB.

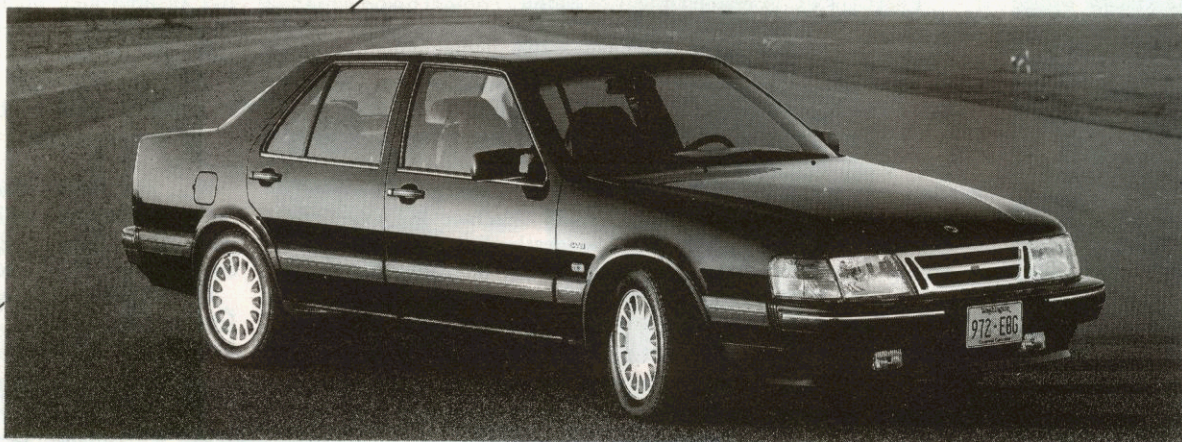


Executive producer Phil Pilley (with clipboard) looks on as Capt Gus Howells, RRW, briefs Lt Craig Lawrence, 2 GR

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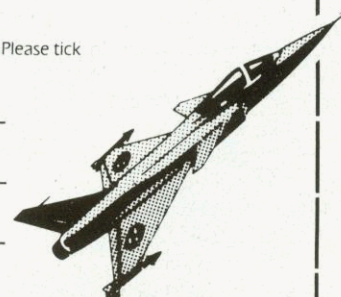
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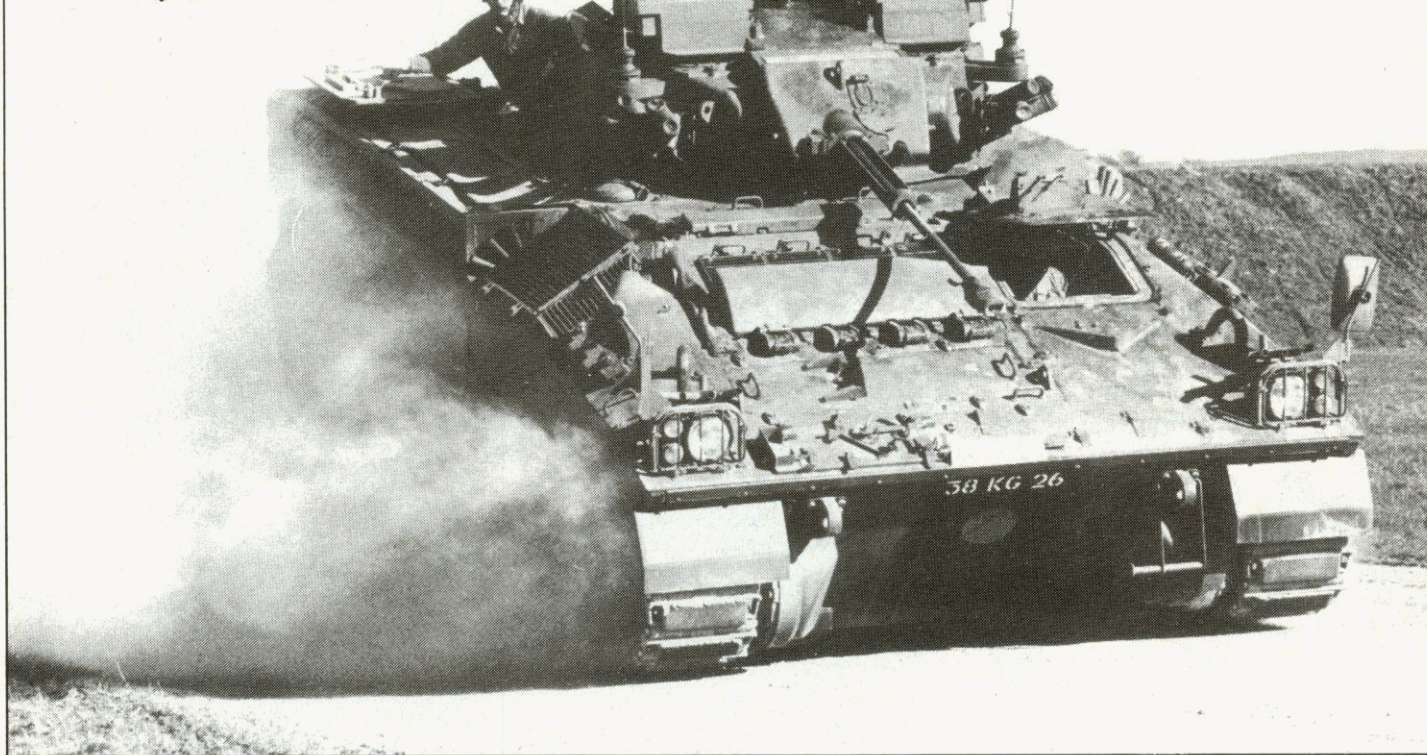
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Words by
Jennifer Griffiths
Pictures by
Terry Champion



The Royal Scots learn new driving skills for Warrior, 25 tons of heavy metal and capable of speeds of up to 55 miles an hour

The Royal Scots go flat out for Warrior

THE Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) are delighted with their latest challenge of converting from a mechanised to an armoured infantry role.

"The First of Foot", raised in 1633, is the oldest and senior infantry regiment of the line in the British Army, and the first in the Scottish Division to convert to Warrior.

The Grenadier Guards and The Staffordshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's) have already made the change.

Lt Col Martin Gibson, CO, said following their successful conversion their next challenge was to become the best Warrior equipped regiment.

Since arriving at Werl in BAOR in 1985 The Royal Scots have exercised in Canada and completed a tour in Northern Ireland.

Their present tour, extended by two years to six, ends in 1991 when they face something completely different . . . a popular home posting to the newly-renovated Fort George near Inverness.

There their duties will include guarding



Lt Col Martin Gibson

Edinburgh Castle, guards of honour, Royal Week, the Royal Guard of Balmoral and the opening of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. There could be the chance of exercises in Belize, Portugal and the USA, and a possible return to Northern Ireland. They have completed eight tours in the Province, more than anyone else. Their present tour is their fourth in BAOR.

Col Gibson said the Scottish posting offered a variety of tasks and the opportunity to do all sorts of training "in and around Inverness where you have

super countryside and friendly landowners. It is a different role and a new challenge.

"And everyone speaks English there, which is something that must not be scoffed at. Though we have made great inroads here with people learning German, it is still easier to speak the mother tongue. There will be greater job opportunities for wives, and it will be easier for families to get home.

"There are innumerable adventure training opportunities, and good skiing at Aviemore. Inverness is a boom area. The Scots are looking forward to it."

The Royal Scots are up to strength at a time when some regiments are well down on manning. Lt Neil Brownlie, unit Press

● Turn to next page

To battle — in a Porsche!

HOW do you compare a Warrior with a 432? The APC is a bubble car, the Warrior a Porsche!

That is the opinion of Capt Danny McMeenan, a Royal Scot who is part of the Armoured Infantry Training Advisory Team (AITAT), attached to RS for three months during their conversion to the new vehicle.

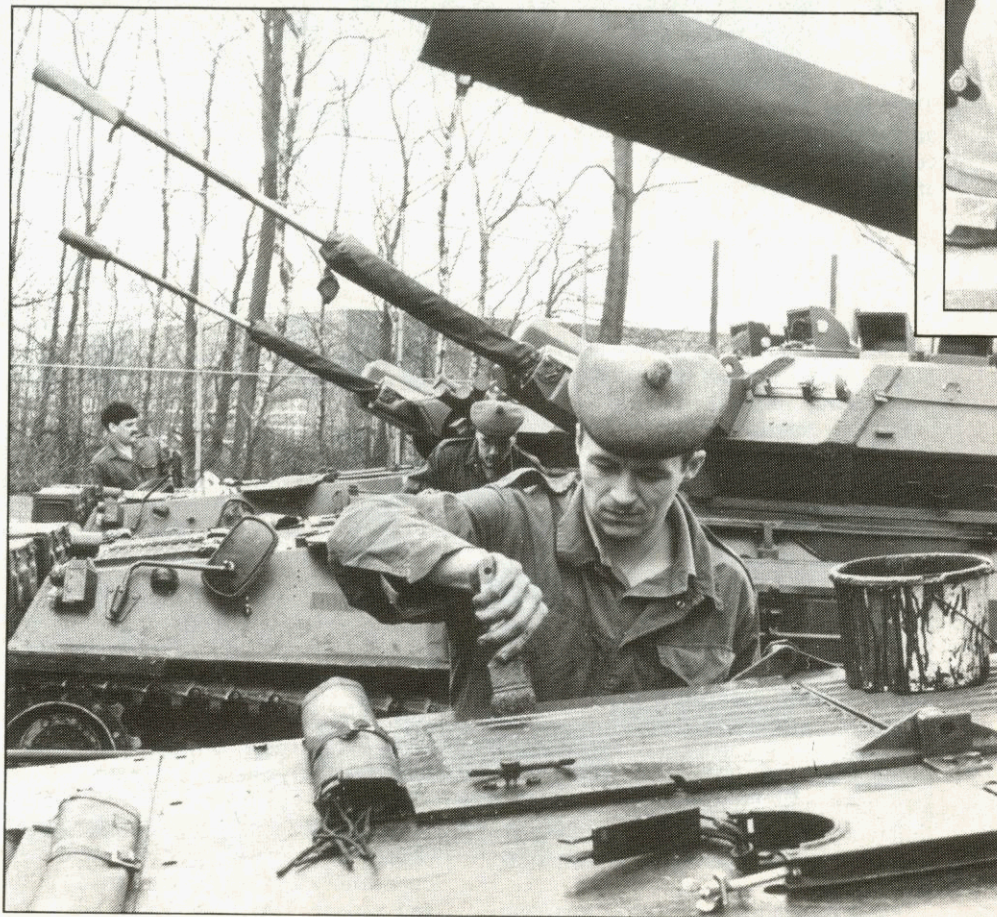
He said: "Here we have a battlefield taxi and the RS have to get used to its speed, manoeuvrability, steering and brakes. It is ten tons heavier, and at 55 miles an hour nearly twice as fast, and a completely different vehicle with which to go on exercise."

"The Royal Scots have acquitted themselves excellently. You don't really appreciate Warrior until you come directly from a 432 and are used to lumbering around the German countryside in a 25-year-old vehicle."

LCpl Kenneth Croy, who has been instructing drivers, said at first there had been one or two small problems because some of the soldiers had not driven a tracked vehicle before.

"It is a very big step to a Warrior. But there has been nothing that time and practice won't solve."

Pte Gerald Nicholls, used to driving a 432, reckoned it was a bit like driving a 25 ton sports car. Pte Robert Baxter said he had not been intimidated by Warrior, even though he had only previously driven a car and a van. "It is also comfier for the guys riding in the back," he said.



Above — Vehicles used by The Royal Scots, such as this Warrior, have been named after colonels of the regiment, battle honours, and towns in which the regiment recruits. The list includes Musselburgh, where the regiment has been granted the Freedom of the burgh. Musselburgh's own Pte Robert Baxter polishes the nameplate of his home town while Pte Gerald Nicholls (left) and LCpl Kenneth Croy look on

Above left — Three Jocks in a Recce Platoon Scimitar are driver Sgt Iain Copeland (front), gunner Pte James Bramham (left), and commander, Sgt Stuart McDonald

Left — A touch of cosmetics for the Scimitars before Recce Platoon move off for training tests

Right — LCpl Paul Cassidy instructs Cpl Michael McCann in Milan missile techniques



Raised to serve King of France

THE Royal Scots dates back to 1633 when Sir John Hepburn was allowed by Charles I to raise 1,200 men in Scotland to serve Louis XIII of France. The regiment was restored to Charles II in 1661 and took its place at the head of the infantry of the line.

Its first British battle honour was won in Tangier in 1680. It has since gained a further 146 battle honours. The regiment's nickname, Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard, dates from 1643 when considerable rivalry existed between it and the French Regiment of Picardy (now the First Regiment of Line of the French Army) on the subject of precedence.

During the First World War the regiment had 35 battalions and more than 11,000 men lost their lives. In the Second World War the 1st Battalion suffered heavy losses at Dunkirk, and the 2nd Battalion bore the brunt of the main Japanese assault in Hong Kong.

Battalions have fought with distinction in Burma, Italy and North West Europe. They have also seen active service in Korea, Cyprus, Egypt, Aden and Northern Ireland.

Recruiting is in Edinburgh, the Lothians and Tweeddale in Scotland. The Hunting Stuart tartan is worn, except by the pipers who wear the Royal Stuart, a royal privilege granted in 1933 to commemorate the tercentenary.

In July 1980 the regiment was presented with new Colours by the Princess Royal, who was appointed Colonel in Chief on the regiment's 350th anniversary.

FLAT OUT

● From page 17

officer, explained: "We are very much a family regiment, continually recruiting from the Lothian and Edinburgh areas, and maintaining strong links there. We also put great emphasis on being very professional, and offer a good mixture of sport and adventure training."

An expedition to Papua New Guinea is in the pipeline, and follows one to the Himalayas last year.

The regiment's golf team are the BAOR inter unit champions and The Royal Scots are the first infantry battalion to win the title three times.

Their Nordic skiing team are the division's top infantry team, a notable achievement as most of the team were novices.

On camp at Werl facilities have been improved and single soldier accommodation upgraded. The Globe Cinema has been reopened, a sauna installed in the gymnasium, and the ten pin bowling alley improved.

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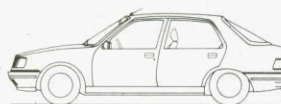
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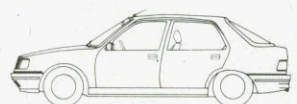
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Above – The bowling alley has been refurbished and is well patronised. Determined the skittles won't get the better of him is Cpl George Watson

At home with the RS

Right – Soldier's wife Mrs Pauline Gilhooly helps run a commercial German travel agency based in the Werl married quarters estate. It is mainly used for booking ferries or air flights to the UK. Looking on is another "dependant", the Gilhooly's daughter, Gemma Rose, aged eight months



Right – The camp's new sauna is very popular. Sweating it out are (left) Nordic skiing team captain 2nd Lt Graeme MacKenzie, soccer captain LCpl David McRitchie and other members of the battalion football team



Bandmaster WO1 Tom Hodgetts discusses a score with his musicians. The first mention of a "Band of Musik" in the Royal Scots was an inspection request of the 1st Battalion in 1767. In 1971 the band was presented with eight fanfare trumpets and banners by the towns in the regiment's recruiting area in Scotland. At its last inspection by the Director of Army Bands, the band was given one of the highest gradings possible



Maj Brian de la Haye, president of the mess committee, with some of the impressive Royal Scots silver. The centre piece was commissioned towards the end of the 19th century and designed to depict the many aspects of the regiment's history. It took four years to complete

Leeds factory shapes up to Challenger 2

BIDDING for success in the race to provide the British Army with a replacement for its ageing Chieftain main battle tank is Vickers Defence Systems.

At the end of last year the company was awarded a £90m development contract by the Ministry of Defence to produce nine Challenger 2 MBTs for evaluation during the next 21 months.

To secure the contract the company had to beat off strong competition from the manufacturers of the other contenders – the American M1A1 Abrams and West German Leopard 2. SOLDIER visited the Vickers factory at Leeds to see how the Challenger 2 project is shaping.

The massive Leeds complex houses not only the production line for the seventh and final regiment of Challenger ordered by the Army, but also the building of cabs for the European-built Multiple Launch Rocket System

(MLRS) due to enter service in BAOR.

A line of Challenger hulls stands to one side of the cavernous interior of the building, opposite the completed turrets ready for fitting.

At the end of the line, turrets are craned into position atop the hulls. After all the connections have been made, another completed MBT is ready to roll.

Elsewhere in the factory, Challenger 2 is taking shape and the SOLDIER team was able to view at first hand the manufacturing process.

There is not much to see at this stage for the hull and turret shells are being forged and machined in readiness for the internal components.

In technical terms the new tank differs in three main respects from existing Challengers.

ONE – The company took a

Challenger hull and improved it by using the more advanced TN54 gearbox already in service on the Challenger Armoured Repair and Recovery Vehicle (CARRV).

A new electronic engine management system will further improve the tanks' performance, and the crews of Challenger 2 will be inside the best protected tank in Nato, for it

will be fitted with the very latest version of Chobham armour.

TWO – Challenger 2 will be armed with a high pressure L30 120mm gun. The L30 CHARM gun, using ammunition still being developed, will be able to deal with the predicted threat until the 21st century.

THREE – It is in the turret that the major advances on the current Challenger will take place, for the obsolete electronics on Challenger 1 will be replaced by an advanced system

based on the Vickers experience in its Mark 7 tank and the Osorio turret. Both of these tanks achieved outstanding results in firing.

The fire control system has been designed by Vickers and uses the best components available in the world. The computer is from CDC in Canada, and is an improved version of that used in the M1A1. It employs the same superb thermal imaging system as the existing Challenger.

The commander's gyro-stabilised sight is made by SFIM in France, where it had been developed for the Leclerc MBT.

The gunner's sight combines parts from SAGEM in France and Barr and Stroud, while Marconi is providing the advanced solid state drive motors for the turret and gun.

In short, Challenger 2 will, the manufacturers say:

- be better protected than any other tank;
- have superb cross country performance;
- provide maximum safety for its crew;
- have firepower able to match the threat for the foreseeable future.

By the end of the year, the first of the Challenger 2 prototypes will be rolling off the production line and the long round of trials and evaluation exercises can begin. Late in 1990 the Government will decide which tank is to replace Chieftain.

A long history of tank building

Innovation

VICKERS has a unique place in the history of the development and manufacture of armoured fighting vehicles. Besides its part in the design and manufacture of the first true tanks, it has been making tanks for longer, continuously, than any other organisation in the world.

Vickers' innovations include the first British tank with a fully rotating turret; the first

rotating turret floor; the first use of air-cooled machine guns in tanks; the first spaced armour; the first 120mm tank gun in service; the first amphibious tank and the first stabilised tank gun.

Main battle tanks

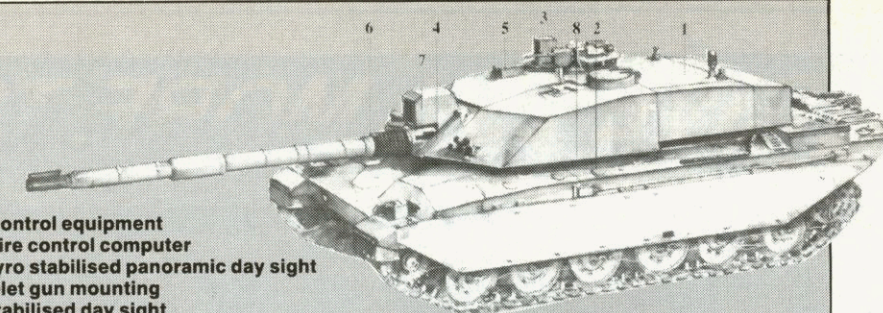
At the end of the Second World War, Centurion – the world's first main battle tank – was developed. It was capable of fulfilling a wide variety of roles,

ending the need of separate Cavalry, Cruiser and Infantry tanks.

A total of 4,000 Centurion gun tanks were made at Vickers on Tyneside and Royal Ordnance Leeds, and variants of Centurion are still in service with the British and other armies.

The successor to Centurion was Chieftain and a total of 2,265 were built at Leeds and Newcastle.

- 1 Solid state gun control equipment
- 2 2nd generation fire control computer
- 3 Commander's gyro stabilised panoramic day sight
- 4 Rotor and mantelet gun mounting
- 5 Gunner's gyro stabilised day sight
- 6 Gunner's telescopic sight
- 7 Thermal imager – TOGS
- 8 2nd generation Chobham Armour



First picture of the new tank in the early stages of production. A Vickers employee checks the machining of the hull of the first prototype main battle tank

Dreadnought birthplace for the new tank

VICKERS are producing the Challenger main battle tank at their new purpose-designed factory in Leeds.

Codenamed Dreadnought 2, the factory was constructed in just 48 weeks and it has reduced overheads, improved on-site communications and increased the flexibility of the company's operations.

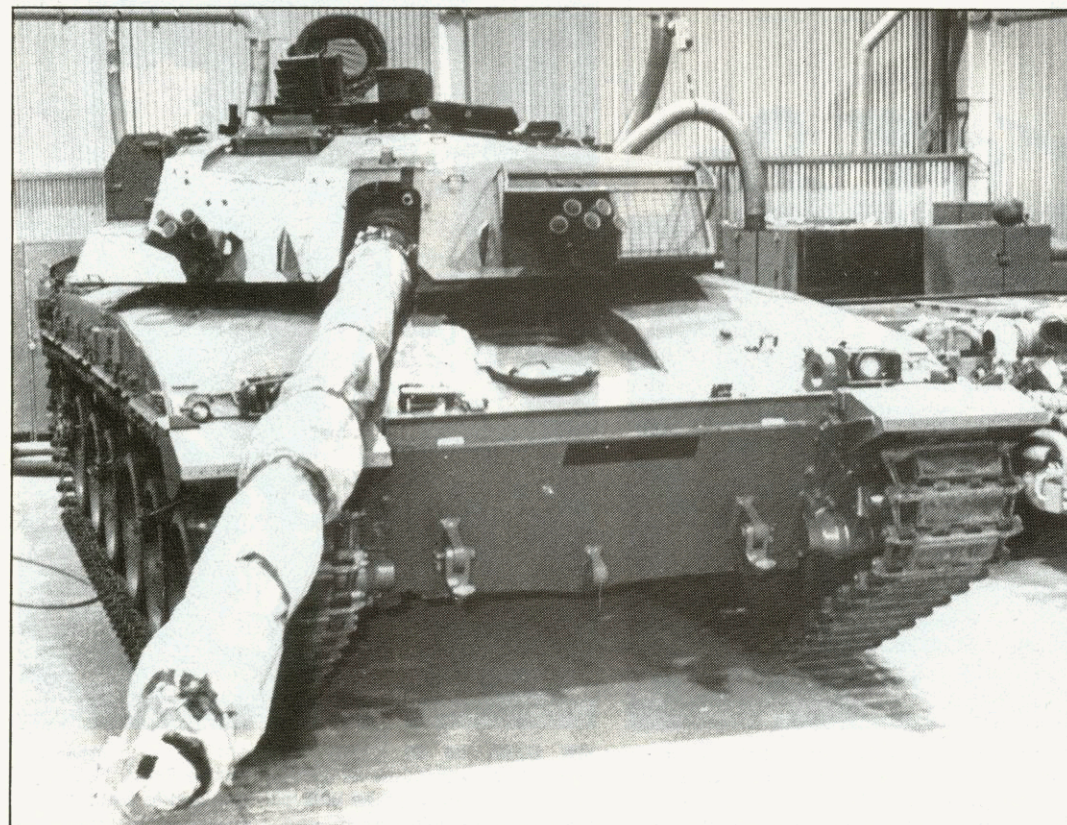
Work began on Dreadnought 2 shortly after Vickers acquired the Leeds fighting vehicles business – formerly owned by Royal Ordnance – and a total of £14m was invested in the new development.

Delivery of Challenger tanks to the British Army was not disrupted during the construction phase or during the transfer of 840 employees and more than 500 machine tools and other items of plant.

Vickers believed that investment in the new factory at Leeds was vital to the future success of the fighting vehicle business there. The former premises dated back to 1939 when the site was enlarged to accommodate wartime gun production. The factory switched to tank production in 1945 and over the years many additional buildings were constructed on the 60-acre site.

The new factory – 546 metres long with 39,000 square metres of space – houses all operations. Draughtsmen, clerks and accountants have to walk past the massive hulks of new tanks on their way to their desks.

The location of all employees in one building ensures good communications and a greater understanding among employees of their role in the business.



Lacking camouflage paint scheme and registration number, another completed Challenger awaiting delivery to a front line unit

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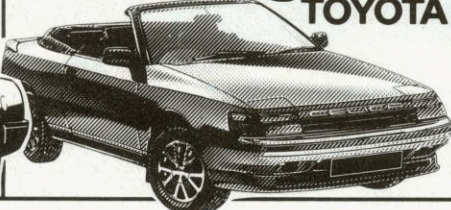
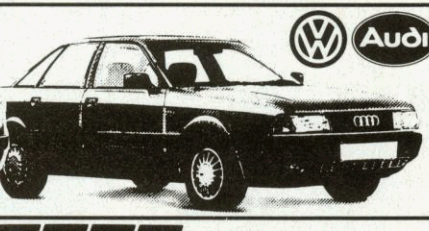
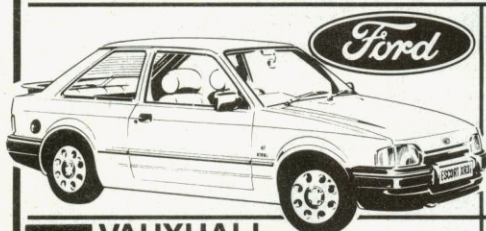
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Delivery date required _____

I have a _____ for part exchange



A machine-gun detachment of 1 Para dug in with a .50 calibre Browning. The MG platoon had dropped with GPMGs (7.62) but took over the Brownings when they were airlanded and handed over their original weapons to the rifle companies. Gun and tripod weigh 120lbs. The rods and fluted muzzle shown here round the barrel are fitted when firing blank ammunition. Left to right are Pte Fitz Fitzwater, Cpl Clive Mills and Pte Steve Imrie

CALIFORNIAN STAR FLIGHT

“YOU all keep yourselves well back from the ramp; those brutes chuck dirt, rocks and anything else that’s lyin’ around at you.”

A friendly US Air Force sergeant gestured at five ominous shapes wheeling in the clear sky over the California holiday resort of Monterey.

A flight of C-141 Starlifters was swooping on the military runway of the airport where the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment was waiting.

Capt Ben Baldwin, the Air Adjutant, responsible for the mounting details, began making swift calculations as only five aircraft had appeared and the Paras had been split into six tactical groups.

Starlifters are 52 yards long with four jet engines but the pilots landed and lined

them up on the ramp (the American term for parking area) as if they were Tiger Moths.

The dust storm they raised did not seem to contain any rocks.

US parachutes were worn and US drill applied. Instead of pre-loading the planes British style, and fitting their equipment on the approach to the DZ, all fitting was done on the ground.

Laden with chutes and carrying bundles weighing up to 120lbs the Red Berets (including men of 7 Para RHA and 9 Para Sqn RE) lumbered, waddled or shuffled clumsily up the ramps in the tail of the Starlifters.

Some had previous experience at Fort Bragg, the US airborne HQ, but for most it was the second time they had jumped

from a jet (as opposed to a C-130 Hercules turbo-prop aircraft).

Three days earlier the Paras had done a daylight practice drop after an extended bout of low flying.

Travelling in a noisy and virtually windowless aircraft is not good for the digestion and a colourful US lieutenant colonel told them beforehand:

“Jumpers, after you’ve been up there awhile this is going to be Puke City.”

Airborne forces have had to contend with flight sickness since they were formed (the normal stomach’s reaction to the appalling conditions in wartime gliders has been graphically recorded by Lt Gen Sir Napier Crookenden, a D-Day veteran) so not everyone enjoyed the trip.

All landed safely, though Sgt Kes Newcombe and Cpl Clive Mills had an interesting mid-air encounter.

Words: Bill Moore Pictures: Mike Perring

● Turn to next page

New boot put through its paces

THE NEW Boot Combat High Mk 2 was being trialled by 1 Para on Exercise Caltrop Force, having been issued a few days before the battalion left Aldershot for California.

First reactions were generally favourable though there were some criticisms.

The troops were measured for the boot while wearing a 45lb Bergen to take account of the spread of their feet.

In some cases this led to a boot fitting laterally but being too long and thus causing blisters.

However, many soldiers reported them as being very comfortable and preferable to the old boot (Mk1 BCH).

LCpl Smudge Smith, speaking at battalion HQ the day after the night drop and subsequent "tab" to a position where the Paras dug in, said: "They're comfortable enough. When I first got them they felt like they had been made for me... like slippers almost."

"They're OK for walking around but they make your feet hot on a long march."

RSM Ivor Pringle added: "The boots are extremely comfortable but I think that for our role - covering long distances with heavy loads - they tend to draw the feet in warm weather."

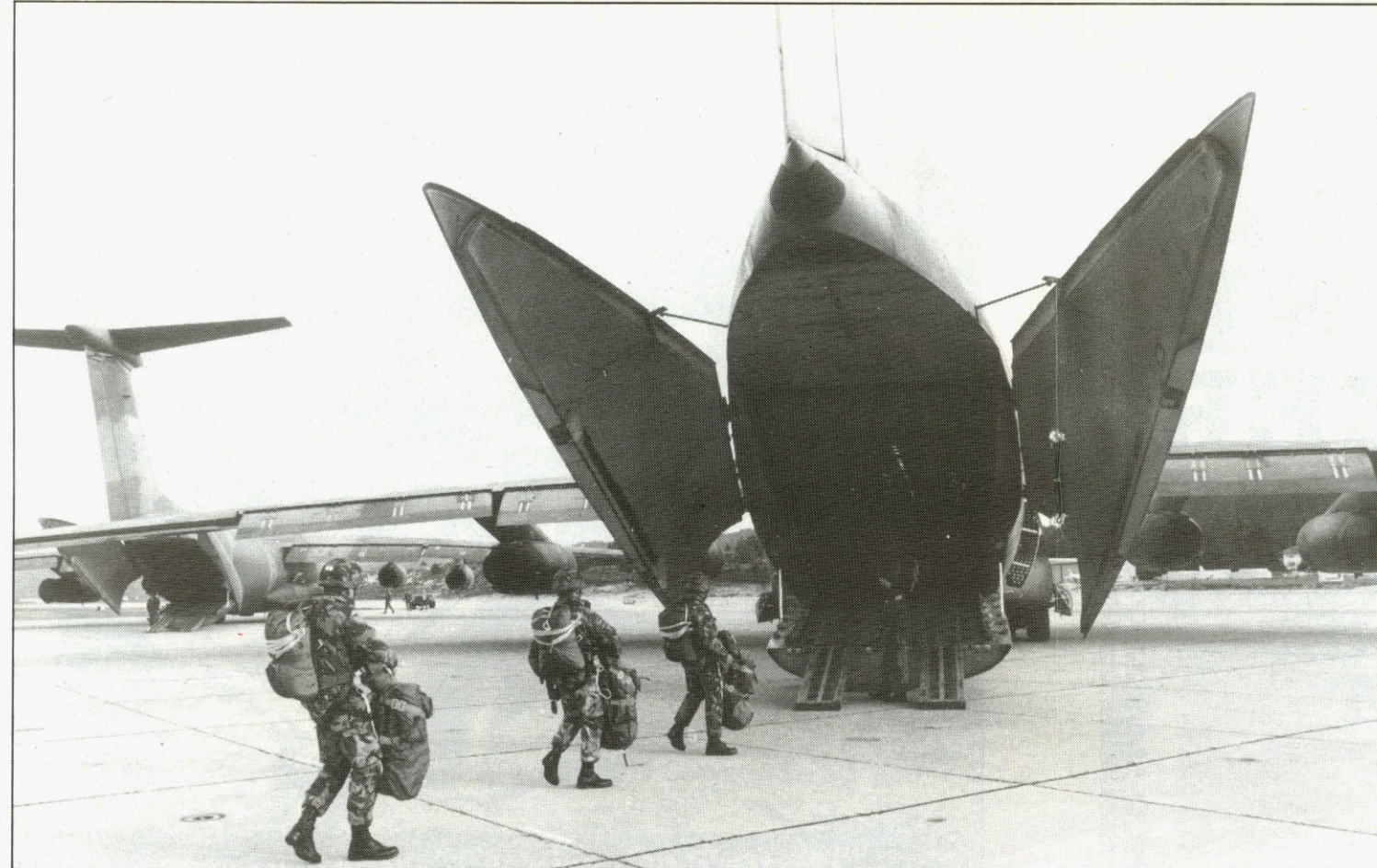
The RSM was speaking on a day when the temperature was officially expected to reach a high of 78 degrees.

Trials are to continue for nine months. About 3,000 pairs are being issued to a cross section of units.

Maj Paul Blaber, RAOC, of HQ Directorate of Clothing and Textiles (Logistic Executive) Andover told SOLDIER the new boot had been designed to be worn with the MVP (moisture vapour permeable) inner sock, thus ensuring maximum waterproofing.

A major consideration in the design - following footwear shortcomings revealed in the Falklands - had been to make the boot as watertight and as comfortable as possible.

"We are looking forward to receiving the trial reports," he said. "Comments from soldiers who wear boots day in and day out in all sorts of conditions are invaluable."



The American way. Paras heave their bundles up the ramps of the Starlifter. They are wearing US chutes. British drill is to pre-load

A CADILLAC OF CARRIERS

THE C-141B Starlifter transport has been nicknamed the Cadillac.

An earlier version saw regular service during the Vietnam war, evacuating 103 stretcher cases at a time from South East Asia to the USA. The fuselage was stretched in 270 aircraft

between 1979 and 1982.

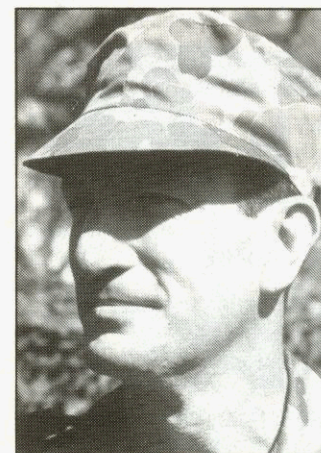
It has a crew of five and its maximum take off weight is 144 tons.

The huge plane can accommodate 155 fully-equipped paratroops.

It is operated by the Military Airlift Command of the United States Air Force.



Men of 7 Para Regt RHA in a newly dug indirect fire control trench. With them is an American from the Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company team attached. Blobs on helmet and harness belong to the laser weapons effect simulation MILES equipment



D Inf Australia - Col Paul O'Sullivan, an observer on Exercise Caltrop Force

Spikey problem of standardisation

EXERCISE Caltrop Force got its name from a device which is believed to date back to Roman days - a four pointed piece of iron shaped like a crow's foot (and sometimes called that) which when thrown on the ground always presented a sharp spike to an unprotected foot or horse's hoof.

In the Middle Ages the spikes were sometimes sunk into a ball with the same effect.

And the caltrop is still in service today with the British Army in Northern Ireland where a version is available to puncture tyres at road blocks.

The significance of the term when applied to the multinational exercise held on the California coast will not be lost on observers - none of the four

countries involved may be kicked around with impunity.

Caltrop Force was visible proof of the persistence of a 1947 concept initiated by Gen Eisenhower, Supreme Commander Allied Forces Europe, and Fd Marshal Viscount Montgomery, then Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

After the Second World War they were acutely aware of problems which had been caused by inter-Allied differences in weapons, techniques and training.

At the instigation of the two great commanders a "Plan to Effect Standardisation" was produced embracing America, Britain and Canada.

This became the Basic Standardisation Concept in

1950, and in 1964, Australia becoming party to it, the four nations signed an agreement commonly known as the ABCA programme.

ABCA gets its directions from the Chiefs of Staff of the four armies who regularly call a conference distinguished by the acronym TEAL (believed to come from Tactics, Equipment and Logistics).

TEAL XXVI was held at the Staff College, Camberley when Caltrop Force was initiated. The strategy for the next 20 years was also laid down.

Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, re-affirmed Britain's commitment to the ABCA aims:

- (a) to ensure the fullest co-operation and collaboration among the ABCA armies,
- (b) to achieve the highest degree of interoperability among the signatory armies through material and non-material standardisation.
- (c) to obtain the greatest economy by the use of combined resources and effort.

If the existence of the ABCA programme is not better known in the British Army it could be because of the Edward Lear-style menagerie forming its constituent parts.

Besides TEAL, there are 19 QWGs ("quigs") or Quadripartite Working Groups; the Military Attaches in the four Washington Embassies act as

● Turn to Page 29

Para NCOs had a mid-air 'encounter'

● From Page 25

After Cpl Mills sat on the sergeant's canopy and then went through his rigging, both came down virtually on the sergeant's chute, the corporal's fluttering to one side.

Vivid weals on Cpl Mill's hands showed where he had hung on to the sergeant's main risers.

Once down, the Paras wasted no time in celebrating with a barbecue recorded by the American media.

When the exercise proper opened, the Starlifters took off at sunset as planned, the sixth plane having arrived late and embarked its passengers in record time.

A fast direct flight in the dusk over Los

Padres National Forest, a green light, and the sticks went through the doors at 1,300 feet (500 feet higher than the normal British jumping height) over the Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation.

The bulk of the battalion landed on the DZ but some sticks were scattered and landed up to two kilometres away.

Lt Col Dick Trigger, CO 1 Para: "The practice drop was excellent but the exercise drop was not as straightforward for a number of reasons. But we recovered from it all right."

"We had ten casualties but only one of them was significant - a dislocated shoulder.

"In fact, the exercise drop posed the problems we train for. In other words, there were individual soldiers in places they didn't expect to be - in the dark."

"The fact that we got the battalion together in quite difficult circumstances reflects well on the men."

All the injuries, he said, were suffered on the drop zone.

Having landed and assembled, 1 Para then deployed to hold a blocking position to cover units coming up in support.

As Gen Boy Browning and (then) Brig "Windy" Gale, the founding fathers, laid down in the 1940s it is the battle that matters, not the jump.

Something in common

SOLDIER encountered Col Paul O'Sullivan, Director of Infantry, Australian Army, while visiting the HQ of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

He said the important thing about the exercise was that it provided an opportunity for members of the ABCA countries to "examine those areas of professional interest where there is a perceived need for some form of standardisation."

Though "we might never standardise on some of the

issues, we should at least address them to come to understand the working procedures and attitudes of member nations so that if we ever have to operate together in a combat situation we will know what we're about."

One objective he did think would be realised in the near future was the standardisation of 5.56mm ammunition (now used in the SA 80, the Steyr and the US and Canadian M16 rifles).

The standardisation of maga-

zine chargers was also being looked at.

The SA 80 magazine, for example, can be charged with 30 rounds in 12 seconds by a trained soldier whereas manual loading might take anything up to half a minute.

Other points of standardisation being studied were the tactical employment and procedures of the different nations; anti-armour weapons; repelling (descending by rope) from helicopters - and the treatment of prisoners of war.

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Members of an American ANGLICO (Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company) team line up with soldiers of 1 Para for the drop which opened the exercise. Note the steel helmets resembling the Wehrmacht wartime "coal scuttle". The team was in touch on a secure net with US warships able to bombard positions inland

'We all speak Queen's American'

● From Page 27

(WSOs or "Wossos") and under them are PSOs or Primary Standardisation Officers who look after the day-to-day running of the ABCA programme. They work closely with National SOs in their home countries – in Britain's case an officer in MoD.

The offspring of QWGs, WSOs and PSOs are QSTAGs – Quadripartite Standardisation Agreements. More than 900 have been produced and 120 of them were being evaluated during Caltrop Force.

Despite the zoological terminology the ABCA programme draws strength from the fact that all four armies speak what one Alabama soldier called "The Queen's American".

Unlike the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the signatories to the agreement are not bound to prepare for a



Paras running wire up to the Fire Support Co-ordination Centre

defensive war on a grand scale. They study the requirements of "low intensity" and "out of area" operations of the type for which the 5th Airborne Brigade at Aldershot is ready . . . hence the presence on the exercise of 1 Para.

Capt Joe Cruz, of the 363rd Public Affairs Detachment (or PAD) summed it up: "ABCA is not a treaty organisation . . . but rather a valuable forum for discussing how participating armies can prepare to operate alongside each other, so that if

in the future the four armies wind up in the same area again, they can be interoperable in their techniques, their supplies and their equipment."

And to think the little old caltrop was once just a spike to lame horses.

The cost of combat stress

70 years on and still a need



Guests at Tyrwhitt House

'FOR EVER A POW...'

always emerge immediately. Some can be dealt with – some not. One Second World War victim whom the society visits in a psychiatric hospital still thinks he is in a German prisoner-of-war camp where he spent five years. To him the patients in the other wards are American and French prisoners.

For this ex officer there is little that can be done except to continue with the visits.

But for others the sheer peace and friendship which can be found during a stay at a fine old country seat like Tyrwhitt House is highly beneficial.

When I visited it I discovered one ex Serviceman enjoying his first holiday in 23 years. It had taken the society five years to persuade him and he regretted not having taken the opportunity earlier.

The case history of "Mac" was similar. A docker, he had been shot in the stomach while on active service and then developed a further abdominal condition which required surgery.

His previous wound caused additional complications and operations extended over a number of months during which he became more depressed and convinced he would never work again – even

After entering Hollybush House for a month Persuaded to enter Hollybush House for a month he improved so much that he persuaded his local branch of the Royal British Legion to contribute £50 to the society when he returned home. And he went back to work.

A gunner who had served five tours in Northern Ireland and been selected for flying training suffered head injuries in a helicopter crash which ended his career.

His marriage broke up and today he lives with his two sons, getting by on his pension but suffering from a feeling of humiliation – that he is an unemployable civilian single parent.

The society arranged for him to see its honorary consultant and the result has been a marked improvement in his self-confidence.

The 82-year-old guest at Tyrwhitt House was thoroughly enjoying his rest when I visited.

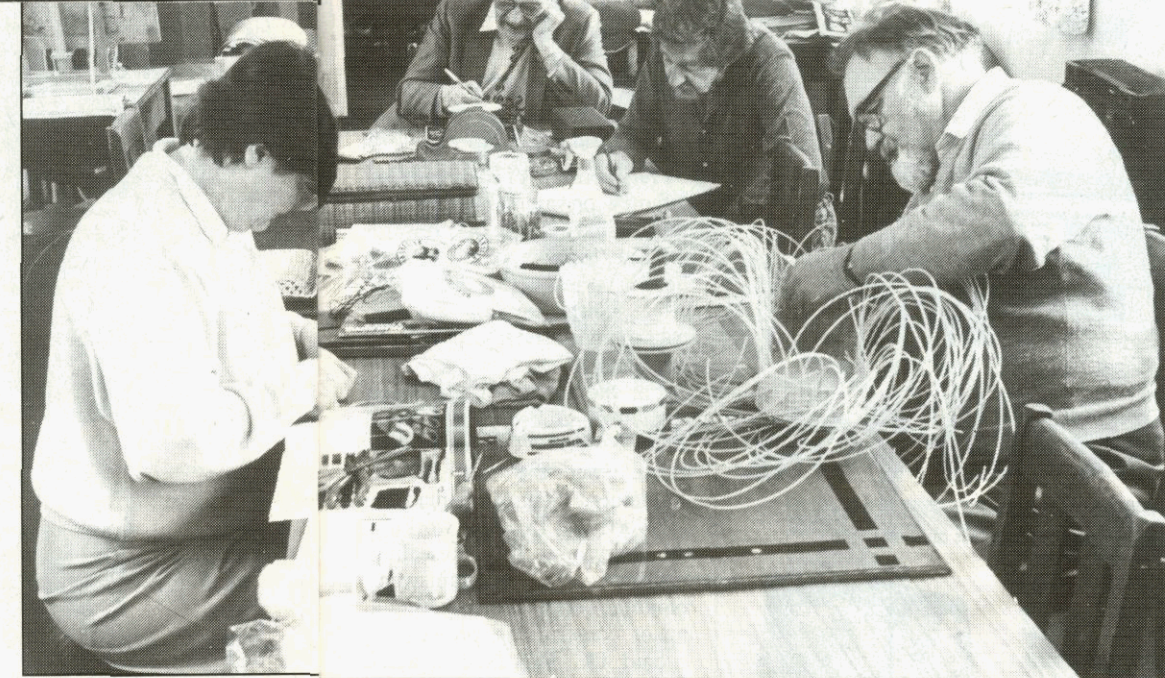
But there was also a bomb disposal expert, an RAF pilot, an ex infantry private who suffered from recurring nightmares...

Former chief consultant Brig Desmond Murphy wrote before he retired last year: "It is probable that few survive severe or prolonged battle stress

psychologically unscathed. "Fortunately for most the damage is resolved with time, but for others the trauma persists resulting in disturbances in psyche which in turn impair the ability to readjust to the many facets of living in the community."

Dr Graham Lucas, of King's College Hospital, the present consultant, told me at Tyrwhitt House: "We do see improvements here... It's rather like an à la carte menu. If guests want to be on their own they can be; they can sit at a table with or without others, play a game, take part in occupational therapy, seek help or come to see me."

Dr Lucas visits once a week but is always contactable.



When I saw him he had just persuaded a talented ex soldier to consider writing a book... so maybe a best seller will be born at Tyrwhitt House.

THERAPY class. An instructor (left) is on hand to advise guests who have chosen a variety of ways of passing the time. The option is open. If you don't want to join in you don't have to. Many, however, find they make friends while they are working and that the friendship lasts

If you're going 'To Let' take good advice...

I HAVE had a spate of enquiries raising problems facing Service personnel who wish to let property under the Housing Act which came into force in January.

With the abolition of Cases 11, 12 and 20 letting must now be either through an Assured Tenancy or Assured Shorthold Tenancy. The latter is advised for Service personnel.

It is important that the correct agreement is drawn up at the start of the tenancy which is especially difficult if you are negotiating from overseas.

The Solicitor's Law Stationery Society has produced a series of specimen

agreements that cost approximately £1.

Professional help is essential in completing these agreements – one small mistake could cost you dearly and at worst delay getting your house back.

Shorthold tenancies are advised for Service personnel but seek advice from your building society.

The specimen agreement forms can be obtained from OYEZ, The Solicitors' Law Stationery Society, 24 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8HR.

Housing Booklet Number 19, England and Wales Assured Tenancies Lettings under the Housing

Act 1988, gives guidance in question and answer form on many issues which arise under the new Act. It is available from Citizens Advice Bureaux.

X-TRA!!

IF YOU are on a course, exercise or holiday on the date of some county council elections or on June 15 when the European elections are held, don't lose your vote. Contact your electoral registration officer at the local council office or read the current DCI. By filling in Form RPF9 you will be able to vote by post or by proxy.

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone: Camberley 29653

NEW BENEFIT RULES BRING PROBLEMS

WITH effect from March 1 many Service benefits and allowances relating to dependent children have been revised.

The first major change is the new tri-Service definition of a child which now means up to 18 years old for both sons and daughters.

So on posting MoD approval will be required for the travel of all children aged 18-21 years.

Children who accompanied their parents overseas on posting will be returned to, for example, the UK, at public expense provided the journey is taken before the family returns.

If a child wishes to return after the departure of the family then MoD approval must be sought otherwise the parents will have to pay the costs.

An exception is made if a child stays on to finish his or her education i.e. exams, but permission still has to be sought.

Local overseas allowance changes mean that parents of a child who has left school and is visiting them overseas are entitled to LOA for that child providing they are still in receipt of Child Benefit.

But many children leave school at 16 and are the parents' responsibility under UK law until they are 18, and unless they are in full-time education have no entitlement to LOA.

This seems a harsh rule. If children cannot be guaranteed a Youth Training Scheme place in every country then how are they supposed to support themselves in clothes, food and travel, especially when they are not entitled to claim any Social Security benefits overseas?

Strict rules have been laid down over the transfer of railway warrants to dependent children, covering those under 18 years, school leavers, those in higher education or dependent on the parents due to illness.

In my view...

Changes have also been made for children of divorced and separated parents.

All parents are advised to read these new rules as it will take at least a month for permission to be granted in cases which require MoD approval.

Cases have to be submitted to the unit, district, or command – then to PS4 MoD.

'Right to Buy Scheme' – Changes help UK wide

THE Government has recognised that in London and the south-east council tenants cannot afford to buy property under the Right to Buy Scheme even with substantial discounts.

They are raising from £30,000 to £50,000 the discount available to sitting tenants.

This should be of interest to Service personnel who wish to help their parents acquire property which can by legal agreement subsequently become theirs.

Under the Services Discounted Scheme the maximum has also been increased from £35,000 to £50,000 and will apply UK wide.

This came into effect from April 11. The limit of five years before a house can be sold remains.

Help make it a six hit...

Brig Tony Dixon, General Secretary of the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (second from left with some of his staff) says his aim this year is to raise enough to fund a new regional officer for Avon, making a total of six in all.

The 16-bed extension to the Kingswood Grange Veterans' Home

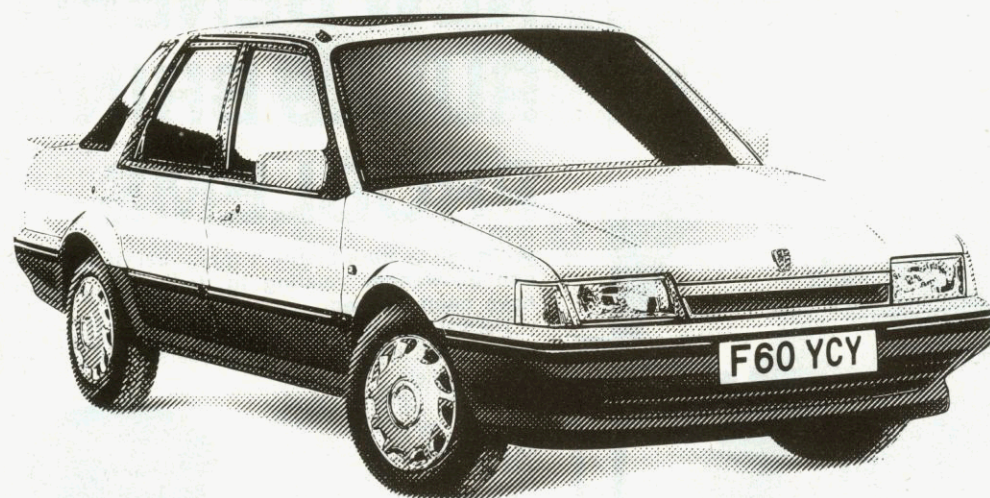
will cost a million pounds.

The special 70th anniversary appeal newsletter out this month outlines what anyone who wishes to help can do.

The Ex Services Mental Welfare Society operates from Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1RL.



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LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING FOR 12 (NOVA SCOTIA) FIELD SQUADRON RE

Bomb finding builders back home

"THANKS MATE!" from an infantry private taking over a new facility was the best reward for the sappers of 12 (Nova Scotia) Field Squadron RE after completion of another tricky engineer task in Northern Ireland.

For the past 4½ months the squadron, now back at Osna-bruck, West Germany has carried out the role of the Roulement Engineer Squadron in Northern Ireland, working on everything from resealing windows on a rainswept mountain base to completing a major construction project.

Said OC Maj Neil Sutherland: "The very wide range of tasks which faced us have been a great challenge. The tour has definitely brought out the very best in everyone."

Search Troop was permanently employed on difficult search tasks. Traditionally the Army's battlefield explosive and booby trap experts, their success was measured by the discovery of many command wires and radio controlled devices planted to injure or kill the unsuspecting.

Search Troop Commander, Capt Ben Whitworth, said: "Large hauls of terrorist weapons found in house walls and roofs, under kitchen floors and even under a gravel car park kept up the morale of the troop."

A major project completed by 2 Troop was the construction of an enormous building within Cookstown UDR base where 30 men laboured night and day throughout the tour.

Mortared on their first day on site, they used every ounce of skill to overcome the odds.

Statistics for the project tell their own story: 500 tons of steel, 6½km of reinforcing wire, 1,500 tons of aggregate,



A major building task in Cookstown, Northern Ireland for men of 2 Troop, 12 (Nova Scotia) Field Squadron

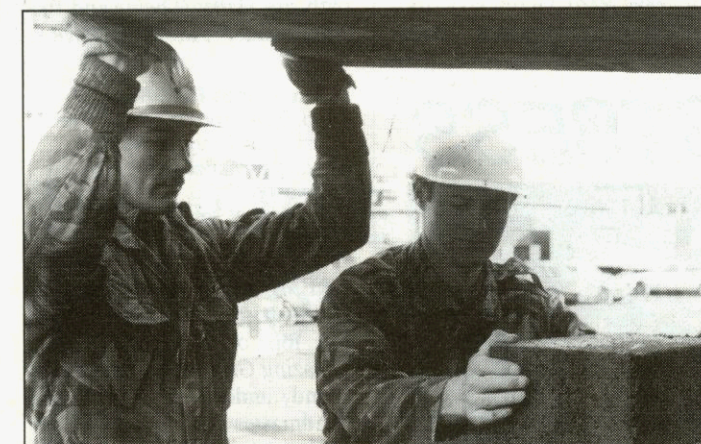
2km of timber and 750 cubic metres of concrete were used to produce cover for a variety of internal facilities.

Excellent support from 325 Engineer Park helped to make the task possible, but SSgt Ken Moffat, the site foreman, reckoned the terrible site conditions, unavoidable delays and the enormous size of the project really tested his team's skills and sense of humour.

For 3 Troop, the final tally of 80 different tasks carried out mainly for 3 Infantry Brigade in 4½ months illustrated the diversity of the calls made upon them.

Often deploying by helicopter, they were constantly available to help with urgent tasks. One such event took place when high winds blew down the fence between a base and a strongly nationalist housing estate.

The fence was repaired within four hours of the first



Spr Steve Watson (left) and Spr Paddy Meehan at work in Cookstown

telephone call. In quite a different task, Cpl Paul Chapman and his men used 6,000 blocks (each weighing the same as a full jerrycan) to provide protection for a dining room and kitchen for a base in Fermanagh.

Headquarters Troop also played a full part. The Plant

Section operated every different type of military and civilian plant throughout the Province to support the efforts of the field troops. Border closures required the deployment of the ubiquitous Light Wheeled Tractor, heavy tracked excavators and concrete pumps, all of them operated in complete darkness.

The Operations staff, Resources Cell and REME fitter section helped to keep the wheels in motion.

Squadron drivers clocked up more than 150,000 miles during the tour and travelled to every part of the Province. The "combat chefs" and RAPC played a major part in sustaining the morale of the squadron.

WALSH'S WALL

AGAINST all sane advice, LCpl Eddie Walsh decided that mixing pain and money would be a good way of supporting the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Wishing Well Appeal. One of the pleasures of serving near the Maze prison is the opportunity to run round the

2.2 mile perimeter wall. After completing 130 training laps, Eddie put his best foot forward and ran, non stop, round the wall 17 times (37½ miles)! Volunteers helped to take the monotony out of the run and a foot sore Eddie later collected a handsome £236 for the appeal.

Squadron founded in Canada

12 (Nova Scotia) Field Squadron traces its history back to July 21, 1784 when a Royal Warrant laid down that ten stations in Canada should enlist local men for construction and fortification duties.

One of these companies, commanded by officers from the Corps of Royal Military Artificers, was raised in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Reformed as the "12th", records for 1808 reveal that "the materials the Commanding Officer had to work with were mostly old in years, unused to strict discipline and somewhat addicted to intemperance".

The squadron served with distinction in the Boer War, at Ypres, the Somme and at Cambrai. One Military Cross and eight Military Medals were awarded in one action alone.

Active service during the Second World War in Egypt, Syria and Burma; in Aden and during seven Northern Ireland tours almost complete the picture.

Last year 12 (Nova Scotia) Field Squadron took part in Operations Flogger and Jural in the Falkland Islands and South Georgia while under command of 25 Engineer Regiment. The regiment was later awarded the Wilkinson Sword of Peace 1987 for its work in the South Atlantic.

Pictures: Stephen George

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

To protect those concerned, this is an amalgam of several such case histories of Patients in our care.

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Various Bands
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THIS, I think, is the first CD from Music Masters featuring military bands, and comprises recordings made between 1978 and 1988. So perhaps *Some of the Best* would have been a fairer title. While conductors are all given some prominence in the accompanying booklet, composers are given short shrift.

Thirteen different bands and massed bands are represented, and the programme is designed to please those who enjoy light music and appreciate a blockbuster to end with.

In fact the programme is a fair representation of what you might hear at a Retreat Beating ceremony, opening with a concert arrangement of *Rule Britannia* and Elgar's 4th *Pomp and Circumstance March*. The popular Russian tune *Cavalry of the Steppes*, followed by the *American Patrol* is a juxtaposition right for the times, with *Here's a Health unto Her Majesty* and *Rose of England* (Ivor Novello's song) vying with the *Dallas Theme* and the *ET Theme*. The Scots have a

Some of the best done well

Pipe Medley, and two marches are *Borough and Bayonet* and *Sir John Moore*.

The meat of the programme is the finale, beginning with a setting by Bandmaster D Cresswell of *Abide With Me* for pipes and band, followed by a new compilation by Bandmaster C Robinson of *The Battle of Waterloo*.

All very well done and quite a change for those of us who must suffer these end-of-tattoo junketings. *Sunset* and *No More Parades Today* bring to a peaceful close what I consider an attractive selection by some of our best bands.

• From Music Masters, End House, Gurnell's Rd, Seer Green, Bucks. Prices - cassette £6 inc, CD £9 plus 65p postage.

In The Finest Tradition
Band, Pipes and Drums, of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
Conductor: Bandmaster D Thompson
Pipe Major: SSgt J Bruce
BND 5017

I REMEMBER being with the regiment the day they went to the top of the charts with *Amazing Grace*. Champagne all round, and a new car for the bandmaster no doubt! So in the finest tradition we have (lest we forget) a reminder of that great day for starters. Never kill the goose that lays golden eggs.

After that the band and pipes and drums get down to more serious business with a programme slanted more to the Scots element of the regiment than the Carabiniers, though that fine old march by a former bandmaster, John Brophy, is given an infrequent performance; it is of course *The 3rd DGs*, the regiment which was amalgamated with the Royal Scots Greys to form the Scots DG.

There are two pipe sets of nine tunes altogether, and solo piper with the band in *Send in the Clowns* by Stephen Sondheim from his show *A Little Night Music*, *The Way Old Friends Do*, and *Carillon* by two members of the pop group

There, by the Grace, go I . . .

Sky. You can't say the pipes have a restricted repertoire! The band with the pipes and drums play that popular tune by a German admirer of Scottish music *Highland Cathedral*, the 79th Farewell to *Gibraltar*, an *Irish Air*, and what we sassenachs call *Mutt and Jeff* - *Scotland the Brave* and *The Black Bear*.

The band alone has a fling of its own with *Symphonic Marches of John Williams*, he of *Jaws* I, II, III and no doubt IV, V and VI, plus all those sci-fi films.

The whole thing justifies the record's title and shows what an aura of quality one unforeseen slice of luck can do for a regiment. I have one or two arrangements of my own that might do the same for the East Grampian Light Horse if they're interested.

• From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2E 9AR, CD price £10.50; LP and cassette £6.49 inc.

BOOK REVIEWS



A soldier of 4 Bn, The South Wales Borderers carrying out frisk and search duties in Aden during 1967

Man of the mountains

MOUNTAINS are usually said to have been conquered when climbers reach the summit. Not so, says 'Brummie' Stokes. "You cannot conquer big mountains; all you can hope is to sneak up and down when nature is looking the other way."

Brummie - mining village lad, former Green Jacket, and SAS soldier John Henry Stokes - should know. Mountaineering has been his real passion, climbing many of the world's most demanding peaks, including Everest.

Even after losing his toes through frostbite, Brummie persevered. He was eventually caught in an avalanche which broke his neck and killed a friend.

But, as he concludes: "Everest . . . will not go away. And neither shall I."

Soldiers and Sherpas by Brummie Stokes. Published by Michael Joseph. Price £14.95.

How to survive Nato exercises

UNLESS one has taken part in large scale Nato exercises it is difficult to understand what they are about.

Certain Strike was the name given to Nato's 1987 exercise which is in the main subject of *War Games! Rehearsal for Battle*, in which author Arnold Meisner and photographer Will Fowler tell the story of their travels with British and American troops covering on West German plains in hi-tech confrontation.

The book is aimed at answering questions which occur naturally to a student of defence: Who sets the parameters of the exercise? How do the personnel and hardware reach the battlefield? How are the advanced weapons proved without firing live ammunition?

And who decides the winning side?

Old soldiers will find some

Celebration of the Welch

IS IT Welch or is it Welsh? Since 1831 the 41st and its descendants, The Welch Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Wales, have fiercely maintained that the "c" spelling is not only the correct version, but the one originally authorised.

Their claim is based on a copy of the Adjutant General's letter of December 19, 1831, now framed and displayed in The Welch Regiment Museum.

In this the word is quite clearly "Welch" (and someone has heavily underscored the "c"). But in the copy of the same letter held in the Public Record Office, the word is equally clearly Welsh . . .

And so the controversy continues, even after the publication of this thorough and detailed book, *A History of the Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) 1689-1989*, in which J M Brereton presents an authoritative account of two of Wales's most distinguished regiments, The South Wales

Borderers and The Welch Regiment, amalgamated since 1969 as The Royal Regiment of Wales.

It is, in fact, the history of three regiments: the 24th, 41st and 69th, to which the present regiment traces its origins.

The author tells the whole story, warts and all: "By 1767 it seems that the 41st Regiment had become one not so much of invalids as of geriatrics. An Inspection Return by General the Earl of Pembroke, dated 18th May of that year, recorded that 'the officers are old, mostly wounded and infirm, and many have lost limbs'."

The senior major was aged 82; there was a lieutenant of 80 (who was blind); one ensign was 79, another was 71 (and also stone blind). Most of the other officers were in their 60s.

Of the soldiers, 27 were totally unfit for the lightest duties and the majority were described as 'stout'.

In the Vellore Mutiny of 1805 the 69th were seriously short of ammunition but, coming across bags of Arcot rupees scattered by the mutineers, the coins were put to a novel use with blank cartridges.

There is a story that as an Irish private fired off a hail of silver coinage he yelled 'I'll trouble ye for the change out o'that, ye black soor!'

Some readers will be surprised at the brevity of the mention of the Antwerp Docks clearance, and to read: "The Rhine crossing was effected with virtually no opposition."

Soldiers of the 51st (Highland) Division and the 3rd Canadian Division might well be excused for wondering if it was shadows they were fighting at Rees and Emmerich! But this is a minor criticism of a most readable regimental history.

It is appropriate that this book should be published in the year that The Royal Regiment of Wales celebrates its 300th birthday. - BJ

A History of the Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) 1689-1989 by J M Brereton. Published by The Royal Regiment of Wales, Regimental Headquarters, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff CF4 3YE. Price £25.

War Games! Rehearsal for Battle by Arnold Meisner and Will Fowler. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £16.95.

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On the island beat

KEEPING the peace in the military community of the Falkland Islands 8,000 miles from home is a challenging task for the men and women of the Joint Service Provost and Security Unit (JSPSU) based at RAF Mount Pleasant.

The Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force are all represented in the South Atlantic military theatre which has installations deployed over an area the size of Wales.

The JSPSU is proportionately staffed and its beat varies from port and harbour installations to mountain top radar stations.

Like any British police force anywhere, JSPSU is dedicated to protecting life and property, preventing crime and detecting crime.

Serious crime is extremely rare in the colony which has a population equivalent to a village in Britain.

Additionally, there is a commitment to provide airfield and airport security. When the Royal Navy is in port, the Joint Service police are reinforced by naval shore patrols.



B-b-b-beat up a Penguin! A light hearted JSPSU view of life in the Falkland Islands



The JSPSU headquarters is appropriately located on Letsby Avenue. It is the most photographed road sign in the Falklands and a convenient rest stop for (left to right) L Regulator Robert Preston (RN), Cpl Kim Clarke (WRAC) and Cpl David Barclay (RAF)

—by—

Philip Simpson

JSPSU also works closely with the civil Falkland Islands police based in Port Stanley. This local liaison is important because the military population can exceed that of the indigenous population. There is a permanent military police presence based in the civil police headquarters.

Though normally self-reliant, the civil force has, at times, to rely upon back-up from the military police. All JSPSU officers are sworn in as reserve constables by the Falkland Islands senior magistrate.

Sports days in the Falkland Islands are, in reality, sports weeks of gymkhanas, polo matches, cowboy-style rodeos and sheep-shearing contests. They require policing as do horse race meetings in Stanley, parades on the Queen's Birthday and Liberation Day, and social events over the festive season.

As with their military role, it is all in a day's work for the men and women of the JSPSU.



All JSPSU personnel are sworn in as reserve constables to back up the Falklands Police Force. Cpl Alan Jopling, RMP, takes the oath before Falklands senior magistrate Mrs Rose McIlroy



Officers of the 1st Armoured Division and 1 (GE) Panzerdivision line up for the camera at Hohn, West Germany during their annual Anglo-German tactical picnic, the highlight of which was the signing of a letter of intent by the two divisional commanders. The document was an agreement to confirm and strengthen links between the divisions. Equipment stands were arranged by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, 22nd Air Defence Regiment and the 1st Bn, The Staffordshire Regiment.

War widows on pilgrimage to Hong Kong and Japan

IN THE aftermath of the 1982 Falklands war Government assistance became available to give war bereaved relatives the chance to visit distant graves of husbands, fathers, brothers and sons who died on active service.

A war graves pilgrimage under the auspices of the Royal British Legion has just taken six war widows, a bereaved brother, three daughters and one sister to Hong Kong for a week. During that time three of the party travelled to Japan to

visit graves at Yokohama.

The men whose memories were honoured in Hong Kong had either died in the defence of the territory in December 1941 or later of wounds, sickness or ill-treatment at the Stanley prisoner-of-war camp.

A special service of remembrance was held at the Sai Wan Bay Military Cemetery where some are buried. It was conducted by the Rev Andrew Burt, the chaplain of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of

Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, the resident British infantry battalion in Hong Kong. Cpl Jim Calcutt, a bugler from the Corps of Drums, sounded Last Post and Reveille.

Wreaths were laid by the Deputy Commander British Forces, Brig Giles Arnold, the Royal British Legion's national chairman, Mr Robert Scaife who travelled with the party, and the Legion's Hong Kong president, Col Henry de Barros Batelho.

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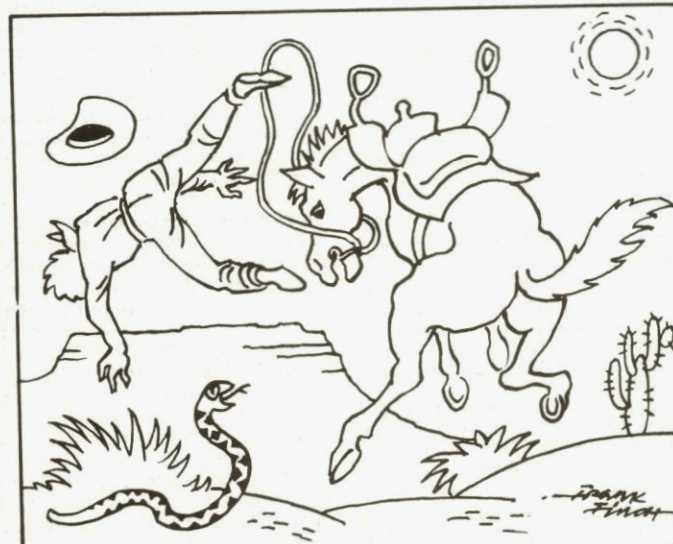
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It's all go for Belize sappers

THE recovery of the body of a drowned Guatemalan soldier and a rebuild of a Jamaican hospital and children's homes in the wake of Hurricane Gilbert were just a few of the diverse tasks faced by British soldiers on a six month emergency tour of Belize.

34 Field Squadron RE, normally based in Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire, had a diving team permanently on standby during their Central American tour, and under the supervision of Sgt Mick Sheedy were called to a sensitive task.

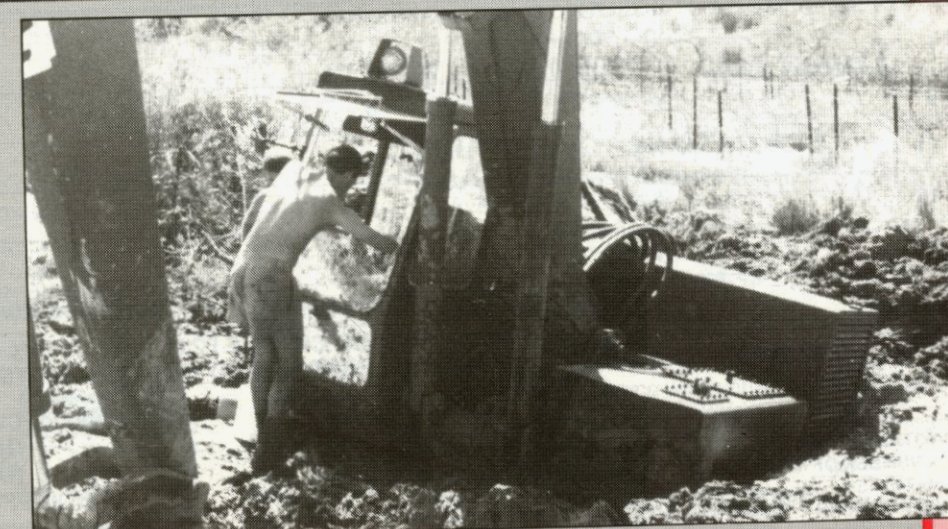
A Guatemalan boat patrol had strayed across the border, and in their attempt to get back a soldier fell overboard and



Mud lark

Left — Men of 34 Fd Sqn on their 240 mile relay run from Rideau Camp to Airport Camp via Holdfast Camp, Belize to raise money for Cpl Colin Richards, a member of the squadron who was casevaced to the United Kingdom suffering from leukaemia

Below — Heavy rains made life difficult for the squadron tasked to build a road in Ladyville ammunition compound. Despite heavy plant almost disappearing into the mud the job was completed on time



drowned. A truly international operation followed, with the divers crossing into Guatemala and joining Guatemalan soldiers and divers in the fast flowing Rio Mopen River for what was a successful mission.

34 Fd Sqn put together a small relief team to fly to Jamaica, badly hit by Hurricane Gilbert. They were able partially to restore power and water to a hospital, where they made buildings safe, cleared debris, installed roofing and a waste disposal system. They then carried out similar work at a series of children's homes.

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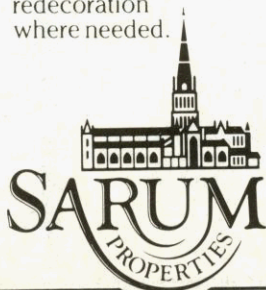
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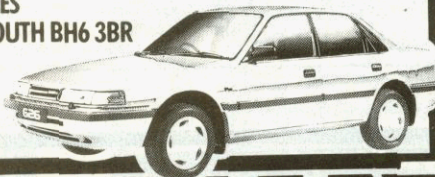
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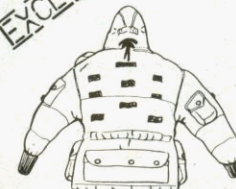
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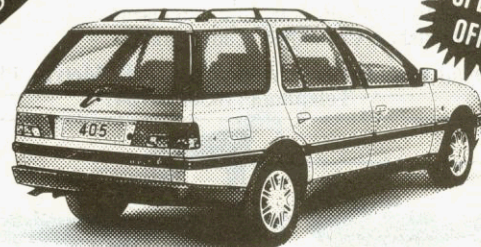
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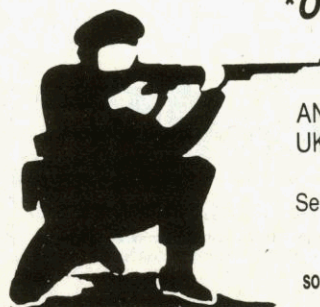
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County champs

Royal Navy 1, Army 4

THREE second half goals in four minutes by Cpl Whittingham (REME), Sgt Sandy Brown (R Signals), penalty, and LCpl Gerry Glasgow (RE) sunk the Royal Navy at Portsmouth in the final of the South West Counties championship, writes Pat Massey.

Two Service sides in the same final for the first time was a feather in the cap for Armed Forces football, and for a long time it looked as though the Navy would thwart the Army's attempt to retain the cup.

But they did not put their chances away and were punished by an Army team inspired by skipper Sandy Brown and Sgt Mick Johnson (APTC). Sgt Mickey Spencer (APTC) got the fourth.

Signallers topple Dukes in the snow

AS USUAL at the end of the rugby season there has been a flurry of activity. The Army Challenge Cup Final for 1989, the Combined Services U21 entry into the international arena and the annual fixture for the Securicor Trophy produced a few raised eyebrows to say the least, writes John Quin.

On a snowy, miserable day at Aldershot the UK holders, 1 Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, met 7 Signal Regiment, the BAOR champions, for the Major Units Army Challenge Cup, the senior prize in Army rugby.

The Dukes were heavily backed favourites, but the signalmen had other ideas and the Dukes were sent packing to

the tune of 20 points to seven.

The Combined Services U21 side after a few warm up games, the most notable of which was the 12-7 defeat of English Students U21, took on the might of Scotland and Wales. At Murrayfield they lost to a very good Scottish side and suffered the same fate later against Wales at Aldershot.

The boys stuck to their task in both games, earning return fixtures next year. England come into the U21 scene next season so the structure of this level of rugby could change.

Finally, at RAF Halton the senior Combined Services took on the British Police in the third annual game for the Securicor Trophy. The police having suffered two previous defeats included Wade Dooley and Paul Ackford, the English and now British Lions locks. Dean Richards had to drop out at the last minute but was replaced by Turnbull, the Scotland back row forward. The Combined Services made six forced changes to the team originally selected and by sheer guts won by the unbelievable margin of 49 points to nine.



Dukes on the attack, but 7 Sig Regt (dark strip) won the Major Units Challenge Cup in snowy Aldershot

Titley hat trick

Welsh international Mark Titley scored a hat trick of tries as Crawshay's Welsh RFC XV beat The Royal Regiment of Wales 46-11 in a game to mark the regiment's tercentenary.

Green ousted

FOR the first time since the competition began, Maj Roger Green was beaten in the final of the Combined Services individual badminton championships singles final at HMS Sultan, writes Alan Lees.

Winner was the Royal Navy's All England U21 player Sub Lt Simon Gregory.

But Green teamed up with RAF partners to win both men's doubles and mixed doubles titles. In the men's event, he and Sgt Paul Ruthven beat the Navy's top pair, Gregory and Lt Steve Williams.

QPte Karen Siddle, QARANC, also teamed up with an RAF player, SACQ Evans,

to win the ladies' doubles title.

The RAF dominated the Inter-Service tournament at the same venue, beating the Army 9-4 and the Navy 9-5. The Army also lost to the hosts 4-9.

Sapper champs

BAOR's inter-unit badminton champions are 35 Engineer Regiment who won the title at Caernarvon Barracks, Dusseldorf without losing a match.

In their semi-final they demolished RCZ champions and pre-tournament favourites 16 Signal Regiment 7-0, before going on to defeat 12 Air Defence Regiment RA 6-0 in the decider.

COLTS PIPPED ON THE LINE

THIS year's Inter-Services colts championship was probably the most closely contested ever. As reported earlier the Army beat the Royal Navy 4-0 at Portsmouth and the RAF beat the Navy 6-3 at Locking. The stage was set for an even final at Aldershot, writes Peter Salisbury.

The RAF scored a try after 20 minutes and that proved to be the only score. The RAF front five dominated the set pieces although hooker Spr Derwyn Pugh (24 Fd Sqn RE) stole four against the head.

The Army pack were going backwards for most of the game and it was only excellent work by the back row and

resourcefulness of scrum half Fus Julian Davies (1 RWF) that kept them in the game. Davies, together with flankers AT RSM "Bem" Bembridge (AAC Harrogate) and Cfn Jason Jeffrey (SAE Middle Wallop), was rewarded with selection for the Combined Services squad for the match against Cardiff and District Youth at Cardiff Arms Park.

Wingers Cfn Lee Morris (SEME Bordon) and AT LCpl Richard Thomas (AAC Chesham) were also selected.

Combined Services were also due to play an under 19 match against Bridgend and District as they did for the first time last year. The Army have better representation in this squad with nine, including four who were capped in this year's Inter-Services, JTpr David Hall (JLRRAC) prop, AT Ray Hayes (AAC Harrogate) lock, AT LCpl Mark Parr (AAC Harrogate) No 8 and Air Tpr Sam Deignan (Depot Regt AAC) centre.

While the RAF were playing the Navy, the Army had a fixture against Bristol. Forced to field a number of reserves, they were outclassed by a very powerful combination and went down 30-4. Thomas scored the Army try.

New man at top

AFTER the Army-RAF game a presentation was made to Lt Col Peter Salisbury (CDE Porton) who retires after six years as chairman of Army Colts

prior to leaving the Army later in the year. He is to be succeeded by Lt Col Clive Arthur (School of Signals) who like Peter Salisbury is still an active referee.

Nations gather at ASPT

SEOUL Olympics competitor Cpl Peter Hart (SEE Arborfield) was the best placed of four Army athletes in the Great Britain teams which took part in the international modern pentathlon competition hosted by the Army School of Physical Training at Aldershot.

Hart was 13th overall in the meet, which was a qualifier for the world championships in Budapest in August. Teams from Portugal, Spain, Finland, Sweden, France, Italy (the team and individual winners) and Hungary took part.

The GB A team was in pole position until the riding event when Richard Phelps had a disastrous round on Mons, a horse from RMA Sandhurst. The team finished fifth.

Cpl Andy Price (36 Engr Regt), LCpl Shaun Morgan (21 Engr Regt) and Gnr Kim Lee (26 Fd Regt RA) competed in the British B and C teams.

Col Clive Bogie, Commandant ASPT, presented the prizes at a splendid closing ceremony. The event was run by the ASPT on behalf of the Modern Pentathlon Association of Great Britain. The fencing was staged at the school, the run (won by Peter Hart) at Blackdown, the swimming at Minley, the shooting at Bisley and the riding at an indoor arena at Liphook.

Small bore title for SE

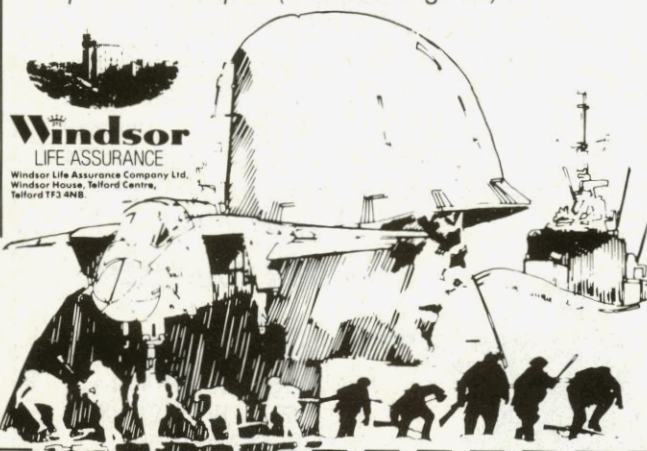
South East District beat BR (RCZ) in the final of the Army's inter-district small bore match fired at 3 BAD Bracht, West Germany.

Joint top scorers in the SE District total of 4,662 out of a possible 4,800 were WO2 Tony Cheese, Int Corps, and Sgt Mike Bagot, RAPC, with 595 out of 600.

RAPC Worthy Down won the UKLF inter-unit small bore target rifle championship for the second consecutive year when they edged out Cambridge UOTC and School of Infantry in the finals fired at SEME Bordon.

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Howlett, McLean win through

A BRILLIANT performance by LCpl John McLean (39 Engr Regt) and an adequate one by Sgt Keith Howlett, APTC (Light Div Depot), brought them victories at the All England finals of the George Wimpey ABA national boxing championships and a place in the British semi-finals at Blackburn, writes John Elliott.

McLean, a Wembley finalist two years ago, was outstanding as he picked off John Armour, Kent's powerful challenger for the flyweight crown.

Armour put the most severe pressure on McLean but could not find a way past the sapper's much straighter punching and thudding right crosses. It was a classic confrontation between fighter and boxer, so cleanly contested that the referee played no part at any point in the three rounds.

McLean, who a fortnight before had won the Scottish ABA title to put down his marker for the Commonwealth Games, was given a unanimous decision.

Howlett, the reigning bantamweight champion, got off to his now customary sluggish start against Dean Samsudin of Crawley, but visibly stepped up the pace in the second round



Capt Grant Baker (64), Capt Tom Riall (60), LCpl Geordie Crawford (67) and Sgt Tony Mortimore (56) pictured with Britain's top two skiers, Graham and Martin Bell, at Courcheval

ARMY'S DOWNHILLERS CHALLENGE THE BEST

A SIX-MAN Army downhill ski team led by Capt Tom Riall of the 15th/19th Hussars found themselves up against the country's top skiers, including Martin and Graham Bell, when they took part in the British national championships at Courcheval in France.

The Army team, which also

included Capt Grant Baker (17th/21st Lancers), Sgt Tony Mortimore (35 Engr Regt), LCpl Richie Lock (1 ADTR), and Cpl Andy Brown and LCpl Geordie Crawford (22 Sig Regt), was selected from the team which defeated the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force at Megeve in February.

They found themselves racing on the piste being prepared for the 1992 Winter Olympics, and despite lack of preparation did exceptionally well. In the slalom five of the six Army skiers finished in the top 30 of 70 starters. LCpl Crawford was the odd man out, crashing on the first run.

and overwhelmed Samsudin in the third, forcing the referee to stop the contest midway through the round.

Heavyweight LCpl Dave Abbott (2 Gren Gds) had the misfortune to draw 1988 champion and Olympic repre-

sentative Henry Akinwande, at 6 ft 8 in one of the tallest and certainly the most mobile of heavyweights in Europe.

Abbott, to his great credit, had a real go at an impossible task until he took a barrage of punches in the second and was pulled out by the referee.

The Royal Navy had a miserable night, with only Mne Les Hudson progressing at light-heavyweight. Tom McPhee (points), Quinton Shillingford (ko 2), Rob Wileman (disqualified) and Andy Ellison (retired 2) all lost, as did the RAF's super heavyweight Daz Crawford.

● The 1st Bn, The Royal Welch Fusiliers came from behind to beat BAOR based 1st Bn The King's Regiment in the final of the inter-unit team novice Grade 3 boxing championships at Ballykinler, Northern Ireland.

Gary's big chance



PTE Gary Cross of 1 DERR (above) was given the rugby chance of a lifetime when injury to Capt Peter Dennis, also 1 DERR, took him into the Hong Kong side as a late replacement for the colony's famous international sevens festival.

Gary helped Hong Kong to victory over Holland and the American Eagles before losing to the Fijians in the quarter finals.

After rubbing shoulders with the world's best players from Wales, Scotland, Australia and New Zealand Gary joined the Hong Kong team for an end of season tour of Scotland.

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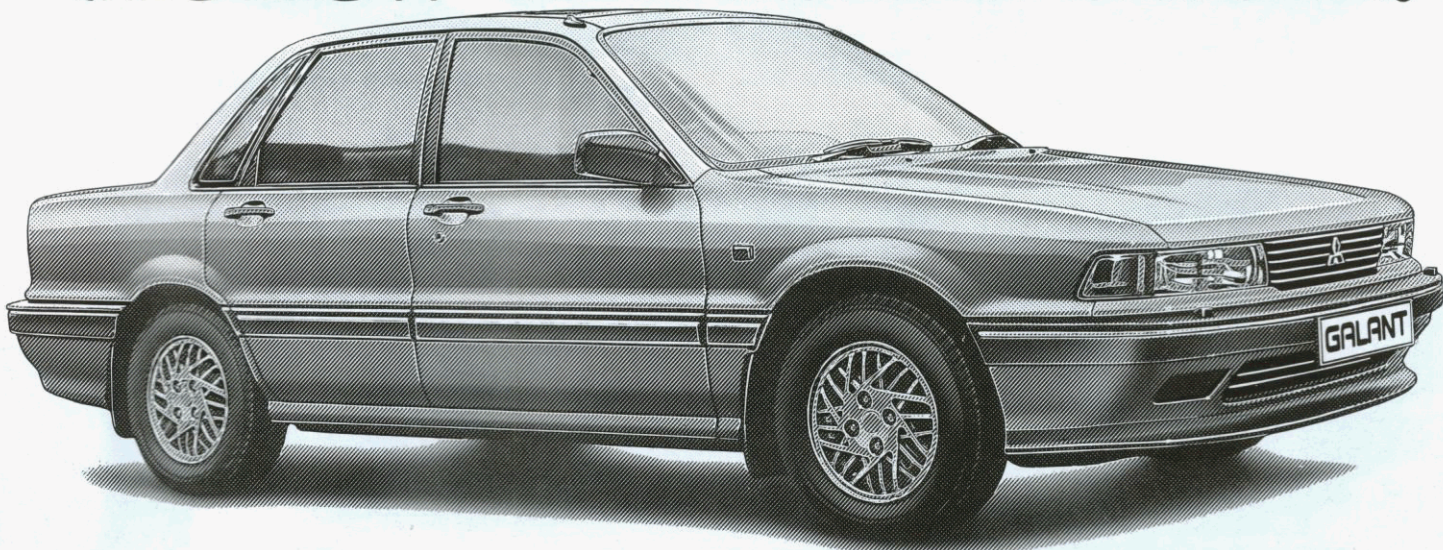
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Colour Party, Exercise Caltrop Force. From left to right: American woman soldier armed escort; Specialist Benjamin Musick, 7th US Infantry Division (Light); Lt Ross Mackie, 1 Para (GB); Capt Pat Henneberry, 3 PPCLI (Canada), and Lt Peter Griffiths, 6 RAR (Australia).

Picture: Mike Perring