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FRONT COVER: Maj Eddie Bell RCT, captain of the Arakan, makes friends with young Pioneers at the memorial to the siege of Leningrad. Full story and more pictures appear in a colour feature starting on Page 25.

Picture: Terry Champion

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



A detachment of Waterloo Company, 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment marches past the Governor of the Falkland Islands, Mr William Fullerton, during the Queen's birthday parade at Stanley. The unit is the current Resident Infantry Company in the Falklands and was joined on parade by members of the other Armed Services and the FI Defence Force. The DWR band provided the music.

NEXT ISSUE

Leading the way in an issue with a strong BAOR content will be Gen Sir Peter Inge, the Commander-in-Chief BAOR, who talks about his command, the new operational concept and the future. Also featured will be the map makers and the mail men. Plus lots more.

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LETTERS

Write to:
SOLDIER,
Ordnance Road,
Aldershot,
Hants GU11 2DU.

Donald Bell VC was never a professional footballer

I SHOULD like to correct a statement in your article "Sound the Charge!" (April 16). You seem to have been misled unintentionally by a member of the regiment.

Donald Bell was not a professional footballer. He was a schoolmaster and also an outstanding athlete. While at school at Westminster College he was captain of athletics, and in the first college team for cricket, rugby, soccer, hockey and swimming.

On leaving the London University in 1911 he was appointed an assistant master in the Starbeck Council School, Harrogate.

In order to supplement his meagre salary he played six or seven games at full back for

Bradford in the 1913/14 season when they won promotion from the second to the First Division. The club had two outstanding full backs at the time named Blackman and Watson, hence Bell's somewhat limited appearances.

The story about him being a professional footballer grew up after 1918 and became part of regimental folklore, so I hope this puts the matter right once and for all.

Incidentally, Donald Bell was a close friend of another Green Howard VC, Archie White, who, in the 1970s provided the truth about his friend's footballing career. - Lt Col Neil McIntosh, Regimental HQ, The Green Howards, Richmond, N Yorks.



Donald Bell

Haggis-bashing yuppies!

WHILE I admire my fellow clansman Capt R A Hamilton's spirited defence of the inedible (April 16), his portrayal of the Clan Hamilton as gallant Scots raiding the hated English is somewhat wide of the mark.

The Hamiltons were Anglo-Norman entrepreneurs who settled in the Scottish Lowlands to take advantage of the business opportunities offered by the region and who gradually assumed a tartan camouflage in order to con the ungrateful Gaels into accepting the technological benefits of the feudal system.

First leader of the clan was Walter Fitz-Gilbert, the English commander of Bothwell Castle in the 13th Century, who was rewarded by Robert the Bruce with the Barony of Cadzow (later Hamilton) for his co-operative attitude in surrendering the castle to the Scots.

The Hamiltons can therefore be classed as early Sassenach Yuppies with their eye to the main chance. Even the name of the clan is derived from the English place-name of Hambleton. - R A Hamilton, Flat 4, Faulkner Gardens, Ainsdale, Southport.

Was King's Shilling in circulation?

WHEN I joined the RAF in 1940 the recruiting officer presented me with the King's Shilling - a Queen Victoria coin with an enamel shield on the reverse. Were these coins specially minted, or in everyday use?

Another puzzle - I served three years in India and was told it had been proposed that all Servicemen from abroad should be identified by a red armband. Who proposed this, when, where and why? - G Weaver, 51 Farmington Drive, Brampton, Ontario, Canada L6W 2V4.

PAYD schemes go under microscope

IN response to CSgt Wood's letter (April 2) on the food charge and Pay As You Dine (PAYD), I would like to clarify some of the points raised:

- The food charge, which is paid by individual Servicemen, was introduced with the military salary, and is

linked with the expenditure on food of an equivalent salary civilian. The food charge is abated to take into account weekend absences.

- The Daily Messing Rate (DMR) which is credited to a mess to feed an individual, is calculated from a basket of

food items costed at Service and Naafi issue prices.

- Most living-in-Servicemen eat 100 per cent of their daily food requirements, even though they attend only one or two meals daily.

The subject of PAYD is being reviewed along with other options in order to enhance the quality of Service feeding. There are disadvantages as well as perceived advantages to the Servicemen, inherent in PAYD systems identified in the trial of 1976 and in other nations' forces.

Senior personnel officers are concerned that Servicemen get the most beneficial conditions of service, and naturally will support a system which enhances their feeding, but PAYD systems may cause more problems than they solve and will be thoroughly studied prior to any introduction. - Maj P Scott RAOC, for DGST(N), Ensleigh, Bath.

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7124

Ouston
windfall

Winner of HOAY competition No 485 is JLD Lindsay, of JIB Ouston, Newcastle, who receives a cheque for £50. Book prizes go to the runners-up, Mr A J Redman, of Willow Park, Guildford, and LS(M) Grenfell, of HMS Ambuscade. Another competition appears in Page 43.

Reunions

● **The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment Association:** Saturday July 7, dinner and dance at Bibury Suite, Salisbury Racecourse, 1930; Sunday July 8, AGM at The Wardrobe and Festival of Flowers, 1030; Cathedral service 1200; luncheon, Wardrobe Garden 1300. Enquiries to RHQ DERR, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts.

● **The Queen's Regiment:** Grand reunion Basingstoke Barracks, Royston, Herts, July 8, 1200. Enquiries to Maj R Waite, (tel: 0227 763434 ext 4254).

● **The Royal Berkshire Regiment Old Comrades Association:** Annual meeting and reunion, Brock Barracks, Reading, July 28-29. Wreath will be laid at the Maiwand Memorial, Forbury Gardens. Details from Hon Sec, R Berks OCA, c/o The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EX (tel: 0722 336222 ext 2683).

● **France/Germany Star Veterans Association:** Army, Navy or RAF personnel who served in north-west Europe, June 1944 to May 1945 invited to join. Details from Mr L Parkinson, 130 Cranfield Road, Marus Bridge, Wigan WN3 5QE.

● **25 Regiment RA (1947-84):** Fifth reunion, Sunday July 1, at Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill. Details from Len Haddow, Oak Trees, 11 Chapel Lane, Hempstead, Gillingham, Kent ME7 3TD (tel: 0634 388156).

● **The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association** annual memorial service in Ely Cathedral, Sunday June 10, 1400, followed by reunion tea. Details from Mr R Stubbings, Hon Sec, 25 The Vineyards, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4QG.

● **Monte Cassino Veterans Association** will open a Cassino Remembrance Plot at Westminster Abbey Poppyfields, St Margaret's Church, on November 8. All veterans, widows and descendants invited. Details from J Clarke, Hon Sec, 41 Aldermar Road, Manchester M21 2QW (tel: 061-881 4594).

Searchline

● **Badges:** Military and civil badge collector wishes to hear from others. Contact Hans K Johannsen, Ternevej 2 st tv, 7500 Holstebro, Denmark.
● **WO2 R M Keasey,** R Signals

1951-72, wants to contact those who served with him, particularly former pupils at Blandford. Please write to his son, Andrew Keasey, School House, Wood Leasow, Birmingham B32 2SE.

Services MS group launched

SEVERAL readers will know a lot about the letters MS because either they, a close relative, or a friend have Multiple Sclerosis.

Leading Wren Sue Smith and I have started a tri-Service self-help group to prove that life does exist beyond diagnosis. Under the title Mutual Support, we intend to launch the group officially later this year with a charity event to help not only MS but also the Royal National Institute for the Blind. The choice of bedfellows for this venture has been careful.

The event in question is a bowls match against a team of very skilful blind bowlers on Sunday, August 19, probably at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Please contact me if you would like to take part. - Flt Lt Kim Bartlett, 6 Luton Down, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8AB.

Nothing 'split' about the RAC

I REFER to Mr Rial's letter "RAC split personality" (April 2). Unfortunately there is no one here with wartime experience to call on in commenting on his split personality allegations but I do not agree that remustering a returned POW into the RAC indicates a personality problem for the corps.

In these piping days of peace all our recruits are enlisted into the Household Cavalry or the Royal Armoured Corps before being badged to a regiment.

Once badged a recruit's loyalty is to his regiment, but occasionally the central computer may lose track and place him in the undignified slot called "RAC Unspecified" from which we rescue him as quickly as possible.

The indignity will be noticed by the soldier only when he reads his record of service in his discharge book.



A proud moment for father and son. Dvr Paul Kech was one of 45 soldiers who passed out at the Depot and Training Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, Aldershot, watched by his father Richard (left), who served in German U-boats during the Second World War and was awarded the Iron Cross. Also pictured is section commander Cpl Gordon McNaughton. Reviewing Officer was Brig Graham Bartlett, Director of Army Movements

Picture: Mike Weston

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Major P - BAOR)

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(Continued on separate sheet)

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Colonel picks up his medal – 45 years late

A RETIRED Indian Army doctor has received his MBE – 45 years after he was awarded it. In a special ceremony at the RAMC Officers' Mess, Millbank, London, Lt Col Charles Emmett was presented with his medal by Maj Gen Tony Shaw, Director General of the Army Medical Service.

Col Emmett (pictured) qualified as a doctor in 1936, the same year he won a gold medal at the Berlin Olympics with the Indian hockey team. Two years later he was

commissioned into the Indian Army Medical Service, as an anaesthetist, and served in South Sudan and on the campaign in Eritrea and Abyssinia.

During that period he administered an anaesthetic to the then Brig Bill Slim,



pouring ether on to a face mask. In the Second World War he volunteered for service with the commandos and took part in the Sicily beach landings, remaining in Italy until 1945 when the 8th Indian Division returned to India for jungle warfare training. Those skills were never used and he resigned his commission in 1946.

When he went tea-planting in Assam after the war the medal office lost contact with him – for the next 45 years.

QLR takes over in Blackpool

THE Queen's Lancashire Regiment picked up 35 young Blackpool recruits all in one night. The youngsters, all Army cadets serving with the Blackpool detachment of the Lancashire ACF, previously wore the cap badge of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment.

But in a special ceremony at Blackpool TA Centre they formally changed allegiance to their county infantry regiment and were presented with QLR badges by Lt Col Ray Aldis, commanding officer of the regiment's 4th Battalion.

The switch was an attempt to correct an anomaly which has arisen because of changing regimental recruitment areas.

Once the traditional preserve of Kings Own Border, the Blackpool area is now QLR territory because of boundary changes over the years.

Skill factor

A TEAM from 7 Armoured Workshops won the annual military skills competition for 1st Armoured Division logistic troops, with 12 Ordnance Company second and 11 Ordnance Company third. Organised by 1 Armd Div Tpt Regt RCT, which won last year, Exercise Log Pot 90 was based on Birdwood Barracks, Bunde, West Germany.



Cpl Keith Edwards searches a prisoner during Exercise Western Approaches on Salisbury Plain while Cfn Andy Pritchard stands guard. Both are members of the REME attached to 104 Light Air Defence Regiment which carried off the march and shoot trophy, the military skills trophy and had the best individual leader in Capt Tony Cooke

Musical tribute

MUSICIANS in the Band of The Queen's Own Hussars based at Hohne, West Germany have put together a cassette of their favourite music as a special 90th birthday present for their Colonel-in-Chief, the Queen Mother. Clarence House confirmed the Queen Mother's approval of Bandmaster Ian Stewart's selection. The QOH musicians were joined by four bandsmen from 19/12 L.

Anglians in lead

MEN of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment played host to more than 300 male and female cadets from all over the United Kingdom at the 19th UKLF Cadet Leadership Course based at Wretham Camp, Norfolk.

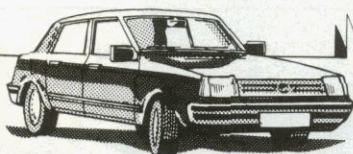
The cadets, who included 16 from Canada, spent ten days developing their military skills, and the course culminated in a 24-hour exercise.

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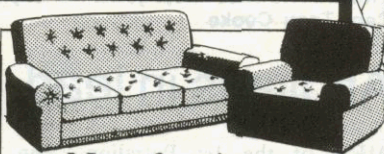


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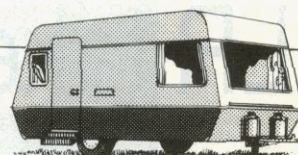


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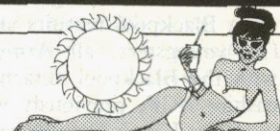
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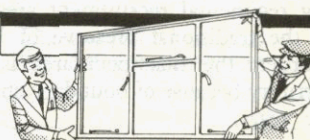
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Masters of the road

PRE-RALLY favourites SSgt John Lloyd and WO2 John Turton of 4 Armoured Workshops REME made a clean sweep of all the major awards during Exercise Roadmaster, the biggest annual Land Rover navigational rally staged in the United Kingdom.

Based around Longmoor Training Camp, Hampshire, the event attracted 120 crews and was organised for the BAMA UK by rally expert Capt Bernie Stevens of 93 Ord Coy RAOC (V).

Driver Lloyd and navigator Turton were first overall (BAMA Trophy), first Regular Army crew (Daimler Trophy), first BAOR crew (Rhine Army Trophy), first REME crew (REME Trophy), first off-road crew (SOLDIER Trophy), and with SSgt Trev Hinds and Capt Jeremy Thwaites captured the NE District Trophy for the best unit team.

Hinds and Thwaites were fourth overall. The BAOR pairing of Maj Hayes and WO2 Trumper (HQ 1 Armed Div) were second.



Return visit for 2 RRF

MEMBERS of the Norwegian Parliamentary Defence Committee spent a morning with the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers during an official visit to the United Kingdom. Based at Bulford, the 2nd Battalion spends three months every winter in Norway as part of Nato's multi-national Allied Command Europe Mobile Force.

Capt John Ball (left) of 4 ADTR briefs members of his 14-man Anglo-German skiing expedition which crossed Austria and Switzerland. It was the first joint adventurous training project between members of the Bundeswehr and the Rhine Army. The party was escorted by mountain guide WEO2 Mac Mackay APTC, Exercise Snow Queen training adviser in Sonthofen



In Cyprus, Defence Secretary Tom King is shown one of 17/12 L's Saladin armoured cars by squadron leader Maj Rupert Wieloch (centre) and LCpl John Smith

Defence Secretary visits USSR

DEFENCE Secretary Tom King paid a four-day visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of his Soviet counterpart Marshal Dmitri Yazov, who visited the UK last year. It was the first trip to the USSR by a British Defence Secretary.

Earlier, Mr King toured Sovereign bases in Cyprus after attending the Gallipoli 75th

anniversary commemoration in Turkey. He met the Commander British Forces Cyprus, Gen John Friedberger, and other senior military and civil officers at Episkopi.

Mr King visited garrison personnel at Salamanca Square, men of the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, recently arrived on Cyprus, and B Squadron, 17/21st Lancers.

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Lone Star Cherrypicker

The Cherrypickers laid on a "warm" British welcome for Maj **Robert "Nadge" Sweeney** (pictured left), the only American officer serving in the Royal Armoured Corps. His first exercise with the Tidworth-based Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) was on Salisbury Plain during the 90mph winds that hammered the

United Kingdom during late February. But Nadge survived and, as commander of a squadron of Chieftain tanks, is familiarising himself with the workings of the British Army.

It's all a far cry from Texas, home of his unit, 32 Armoured Regiment. His normal posting is to Germany.



Intelligence Corps members Cpl **Jez McKinnon**, LCpl **Nibs McNally** and WO2 **Roger Ramsay** pictured on Everest during a Joint Services expedition to the region by ten Cyprus-based soldiers. The team included personnel from the gunners, R Signals, 2 Coldm Gds, RAMC, REME, Int Corps, WRAC and a UK-based RAF medic.

The expedition achieved all its targets, including the high level

High level of Intelligence!

route to Everest base camp, the summit of Goyko Peak (18,000ft), Tshola pass (17,620ft), Kala Platar (18,000ft) and the crossing of Ngozumpa glacier.

ENGINE DRIVER:

Maj Gen Tony Crowfoot raises steam

Driving ambition

A boyhood ambition was fulfilled for Maj Gen **Tony Crowfoot**, GOC North West District, when the Embsay Steam Railway in Yorkshire allowed him to drive one of their trains from Embsay, Skipton on a line which a specialist Territorial Army unit is extending.

Volunteers from Manchester-based

202 Field Squadron RE, part of 75 (Volunteer) Regiment RE, have been helping to extend the permanent way of the popular tourist line.

Appropriately, the loco in which Gen Crowfoot travelled has a military connection. It is a Second World War vintage ex-Army Hunslett Austerity 0-6-0 saddle tank engine.

Dougie's a mine of information

WO2 **Dougie Black** became one of the most filmed soldiers in the South Atlantic during his six-month tour on the Falkland Islands as Quartermaster Mines of the Joint Services Explosives Ordnance Detachment at Stanley.

He appeared on television and was featured in magazines and newspapers in the UK, United States, West Germany, Switzerland, Poland and

Japan. Yorkshire Television featured him giving a minefield safety lecture – in a minefield. The film was shown in the departure lounge of RAF Brize Norton to drive home the message of the mine menace.

Dougie is part of a team which controls 117 Argentine minefields around the Falklands. The mines – an estimated 30,000 of them – are plastic and undetectable.

Left – **MINE MAN**: WO2 Dougie Black with his deadly charges



Champagne celebrations for six pilots from Netheravon-based 658 Squadron AAC who clocked up flying milestones during April. They are (from left) Sgt **Brian Troughear**,

1,000 hours; WO2 **Steve Green**, 2,000 hours; SSgt **Graham Dew**, 3,000 hours; SSgt **Dave Tudor**, 4,000 hours; and SSgt **Dave Caldwell**, 5,000 flying hours.



These four likely lads are all brothers, and they were all signed up in the Army Careers Information Office at Dover by WO1 **Barry Routledge**. They are the sons of former Staffordshire Regiment sergeant **Terry Wiles**. In the back row are **Karl** (REME apprentice) and **Jason** (ACC Aldershot); and in the front **Lee** (JIB Shorncliffe) and **Stefan** (a private based in BAOR with the Staffords).

★ Signing copies of his new book *The Encyclopaedia of the Modern Territorial Army* (reviewed in *SOLDIER*, March 19) is Maj **Bob Peedle** of the RMP (TA). ★ Attached to the MoD as a TA Public Information Officer, he heads a small team of volunteer officers from all three Services providing PR support for the current Volunteer

Reserve Forces campaign.

Bob, a former Scotland Yard superintendent, is being assisted by Sgt **Sue Hensby** WRAC (V), pay sergeant for 253 Provost Company based at Tulse Hill in South London. Sue is a civil servant, currently personal assistant to the Director of Army Reserves and Cadets, Brig **Peter Woolley**, also at the MoD.

PEOPLE

Cpl **Steven Haswell** of A Coy, 7th (Durham) Battalion, The Light Infantry, has received the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for his excellent record of attendance and work at the Horden TA Centre preparing new recruits for their two-week course at the LI Depot in Winchester. Steven is a clothing designer in civvy street.

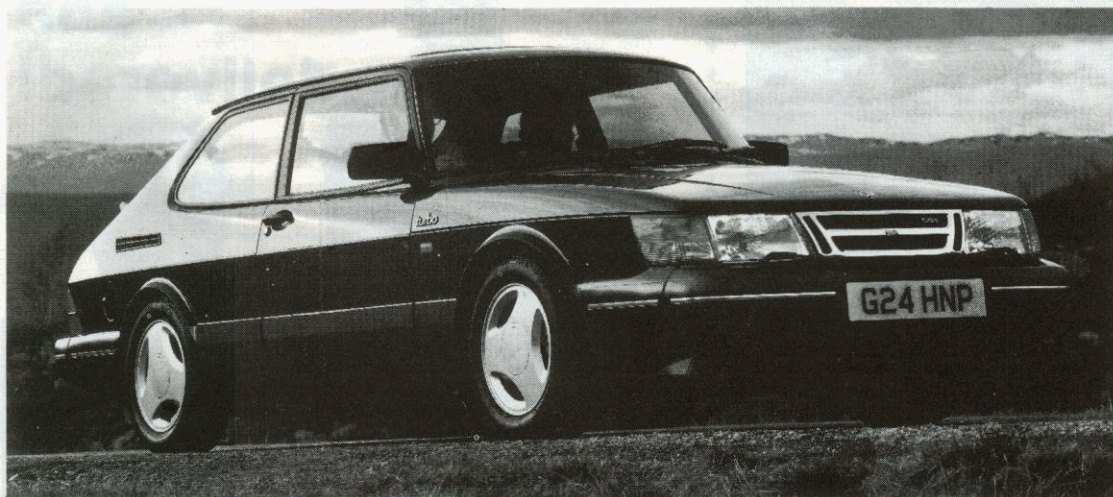


Maj Gen **Simon Cooper**, Major General Commanding the Household Division and GOC London District, pauses to talk to Gdsm **James Arnold** WG during his inspection of the Household Division's stables at Hyde Park Barracks. From left to right are Maj **Charlie Graham** (Staff Captain and OC Household Division Stables); LSgt **Alan Grant** SG; Maj Gen Cooper; LSgt **David Sloan** IG (NCO i/c Household Division Stables); Lt Col **Christopher Langton** IG (Brigade Major), having a few words with the major general's charger; and Gdsm Arnold.

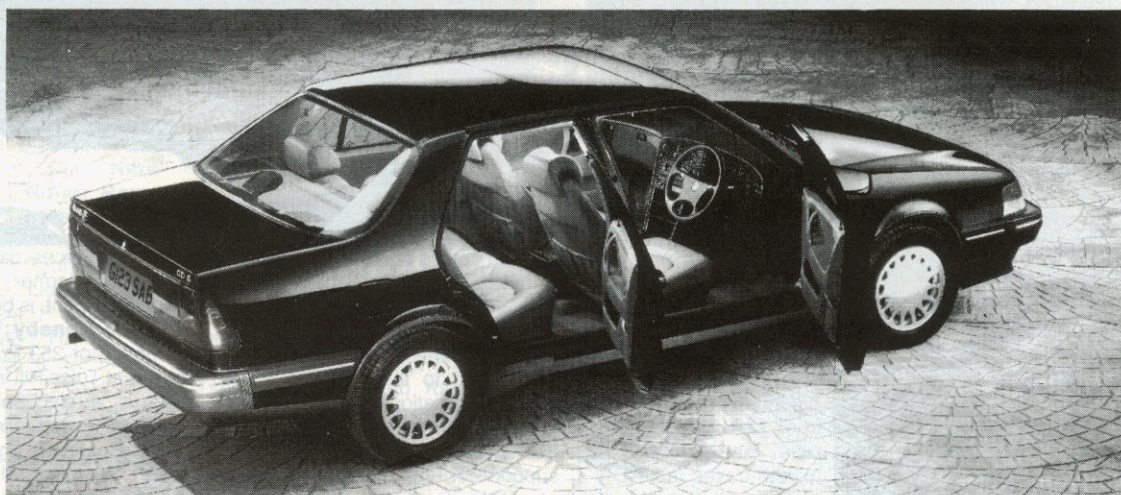


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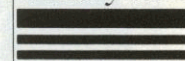
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Falklands conflict exhibition

Eight years on, the Falkland Islands are re-living the crisis months of 1982 – in pictures.

The Falkland Islands Museum is mounting a permanent exhibition of paintings and reproductions of actions that took place during the war.

Among the 15 already in the museum's collection are several featuring the 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, The Parachute Regiment, the Royal Engineers and the Royal Army Medical Corps, by a variety of artists including Terence Cuneo and David Cobb.

Now the museum is seeking more exhibits and is appealing to units which may have commissioned other paintings. It is willing to pay for reproductions and can do its own framing and mounting but any gifts would, of course, be gratefully received.

Contributions should be sent to John Smith, Curator, Falkland Islands Museum, Britannia House, Port Stanley, FI. Battle Day, June 14, is being marked by a special show.

Return to Gallipoli

Two Lancashire Fusiliers have taken up permanent residence in Turkey – as a gift from the British Government.

They are mannequin dummies dressed in the Lancashire Fusiliers uniform of the First World War, provided by the Fusiliers Museum in Bury.

The dummies were presented during the visit of Mrs Margaret Thatcher to the 75th Anniversary Gallipoli Commemorations on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey.

Complete with full webbing, the dummy lieutenant and private stood to attention during the parade and later settled into their new home – a museum.

The Lancashire Fusiliers were heavily involved in the Gallipoli campaign. They won six VCs in the first two hours.

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

SOLDIER to Soldier



Blyth-based Territorial Army gunners of 203 Battery RA (V) were given the honour of firing a Royal Salute at York to mark the 64th birthday of the Queen. York is one of the saluting stations at which guns are fired on royal occasions. The Northumberland gunners were led by Capt John Docherty. Music was provided by the Band of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, including Ed Irvine (pictured right) who hopped into position after sustaining a leg injury while playing hockey for his unit.



Pictures: Roger Keen

University Officer Training Corps, 27 Commonwealth allied regiments from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Malaya, and two Gurkha affiliated regiments.

"It will be a myriad of colours for the uniform experts, particularly as everybody will be in No 1 Dress Ceremonial and the Keepers of the Ground will be in 1900-1914 Full Dress," the colonel writes.

"It will be a feast of Scottish music for the military band connoisseurs. In no other part of the three Services are the skills of piping, drumming, bugling and military band music mastered together."

The parade starts each evening at 6 pm, with the bands marching off at 7.30 pm. Tickets, at £8, £5 or £3 per seat, are available from Retreat Booking Office, HQ Scottish Division, The Castle, Edinburgh EH1 2YT. Telephone bookings, using Visa or Access, on 031-220-4100.

Normandy monument

When the Surrey Branch of the Normandy Veterans Association visited the beaches of Arromanches last year for the 45th anniversary of the landings, they returned with a large slab of stone.

After being suitably treated and dressed, the stone will form part of a monument and will bear a copper plate inscribed in dedication to the 10,200 Servicemen who died on the Normandy beaches on June 6, 1944.

It will form the focal point of a commemorative service to be held in the grounds of the Garrison Church of St Barbara at Blackdown Barracks, Deepcut, Surrey, on July 22.

Gathering of clans

Prompted by an item about the Royal Tournament in this column last month, Lt Col Philip Halford-MacLeod, Black Watch, has written to remind SOLDIER readers of another spectacular London event this year – Beating Retreat by the Massed Bands of the Scottish Division.

The Division's seven regiments, Regular and Territorial,

will be represented by 560 pipers, drummers, buglers and military bandmen at Horse Guards on June 12, 13 and 14.

They will be joined on parade by representative contingents from the four Scottish

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Left - Slim's statue dominates a march by 170 standard bearers of the Burma Star Association

Right - Burma campaign veterans meet the Queen

Below - The long and short of it. W01 Perry Mason, Coldm Gds, London District's Garrison Sergeant Major, inspects soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles) who provided the guard of honour



Pictures by Mike Weston



BURMA STARS

HUNDREDS of Burma veterans from as far afield as Australia, Canada and Nepal battled through the jungles of London traffic to attend a unique reunion, writes **Jennifer Griffiths**.

They were there to honour their leader, Field Marshal The Viscount Slim, and though he died in 1970 his presence was very much felt.

That was because a statue to him, commissioned by the Burma Star Association, was unveiled by the Queen. She was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh who is patron of the association.

Present were more than 1,000 guests, including many veterans. Also present were the Field Marshal's widow, Aileen, Viscountess Slim, their son, the present Viscount, and his wife, and other members of the family.

Gen Sir John Chapple, Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir Robert Pascoe, the Adjutant General, Field Marshals Lord

Veterans gather in homage to Slim

Carver, Lord Bramall and Sir John Stanier, Earl Alexander of Tunis, The Countess Mountbatten of Burma, and the 2nd Viscount Montgomery of Alamein were there too.

The ceremony and dedication began with a march by 170 standard bearers of the Burma Star Association. Air Vice Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield spoke on behalf of the Burma Star veterans.

The statue was sculpted by Ivor Roberts-Jones, a holder of the Burma Star. The plinth was engraved by David Kindersley, whose work includes the

Falklands Campaign memorial in St Paul's Cathedral.

Music was by the Band of the Welsh Guards, the Peninsula Band of The Royal Green Jackets, the St George's Band of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and a piper of 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles. Guard of Honour was provided by the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).

During the evening, many of those who fought in the Burma campaign were in the Albert Hall to renew acquaintances and swap anecdotes. Forces Sweetheart Dame Vera Lynn received a special award from the American contingent.

Next day more than 5,000 holders of the Burma Star marched through Whitehall on their annual reunion memorial parade. The present Lord Slim took the salute.

● Slim's men got it right. See book review on Page 40.



The present Viscount Slim and the Field Marshal's widow, Aileen, Viscountess Slim



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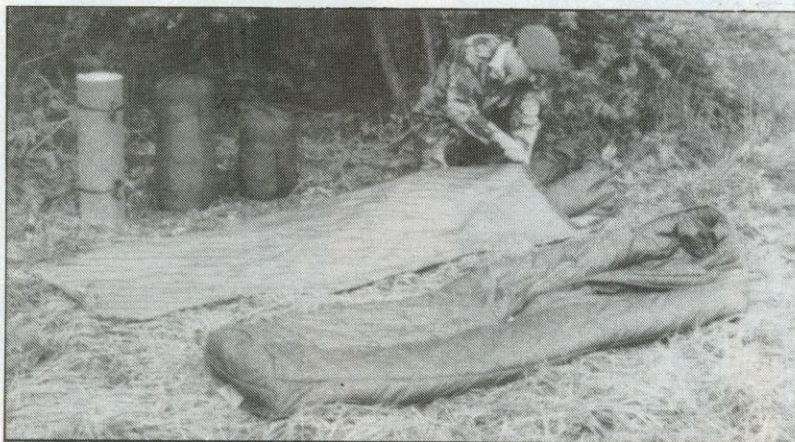
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Hussars take a late delivery from the tankies

MAJ Bill Watt and Capt Phil Nunn thought they'd just about finished checking the long inventory for their stations in West Germany when they discovered one more item they almost missed – a newly-born foal!

Among the five million or so items on the regimental inventory were four horses, belonging to the saddle club. But no one knew one of them was pregnant.

Atina, a ten-year-old German pony, was being treated by the vet only for a cough but proved to be a dark horse – and when her groom, Tpr Scott Crowhurst, spotted the new foal late

one evening he could hardly believe his eyes.

The youngster was promptly added to the saddle club complement on the inventory, now held by Capt Phil Nunn, as Quartermaster of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, newly arrived in Germany.

The presence of the foal came to light as Capt Nunn and Maj Watt, Quartermaster of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, were in the final few days of their two-month handover.

The 2nd Royal Tank Regiment has returned to the UK, to be based at Catterick, Bovington, and Lulworth after six years at Fallingbostal.



Tpr Scott Crowhurst baby-sits at Fallingbostal

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars have replaced 2 RTR in Germany on a straight "swap" from their old camps in England.

It was Bill and Phil's job to ensure a smooth handover of every regimental item of military and office equipment and the contents of the messes – from silver cutlery to 65-tonne Challenger tanks.

Among the more unusual

items to be accounted for, apart from the new foal, was a Sherman tank – which has stood as 2 RTR's gate guardian for the past six years.

When 2 RTR returns to Germany in two years time, to be based at Osnabrück, a return to Fallingbostal is planned, to reclaim the Sherman. Meanwhile the QRIH have been asked to "tank sit".



Maj Bill Watt (right) hands over the regimental keys of the camp to Capt Phil Nunn

This looks a good place for a scrap!

Copehill Down, fighting village, settles down to a life of strife

NATIONAL and local Press had their first view of Copehill Down, the Army's new £8m purpose-built training village on Salisbury Plain, and the chance to be in the thick of part of Exercise Phantom Bugle.

Their briefing was in the village church – doubling up as a conference room with its tower giving a bird's eye view of the FIBUA (Fighting In a Built-Up Area).

Copehill Down, spread over 30 acres and costing £250,000 a year to run, features 87 buildings representing a Continental village. It was developed from a central cross-roads and includes a variety of residential and commercial buildings and some farms.

But the "houses" are uninhabitable and without domestic services. The village is for dry training only.

The Army's aim is to provide conveniently sited training facilities as near as possible to battlefield conditions, no easy task in peacetime.

FIBUA is not a specialist skill like jungle or mountain warfare, but a normal, all-arms skill. At present there are two sites in operation – at Catterick in Yorkshire, and Longmoor in Hampshire, where former married quarters enable defence practice for a platoon and attacks up to company level.

But the Catterick and Longmoor facilities are expensive to maintain, were never intended for long-term use, cannot cope with demand, and are inconvenient for units elsewhere. To overcome this, purpose-built facilities of about 25 houses are being built at Sennybridge in Wales and Stanford in East Anglia. They should be in use later this year.

But there is still a need to practise operations using a company supported by tanks in defence, and up to battalion strength with tanks in attack.

Salisbury Plain, which is within two hours travel time of half the Army in UK, is the only training area where infantry can exercise with tanks on the scale required for realistic all-arms training at



Brig Ian Townsend ... a sensible balance achieved

battalion level, so there was no other choice of site for the new FIBUA.

A number of factors were considered in pinpointing the site. Most importantly it had to interfere as little as possible with residents. It also took into account safety and access, environmental damage, rights of way and sites of scientific and archaeological interest.

The Army operates three conservation groups on Salisbury Plain, and major tree planting and landscaping will cover the complex, making it invisible from nearby villages.

Brig Ian Townsend, Assistant Chief of Staff G3 Training, Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces, said the area had previously been heavily used for training.

"We believe the presence of the village and a change in the balance of training will have little effect on wildlife. In fact, within the training area more wildlife exists than on surrounding farmland.

"It would be naive to pretend that we have built this excellent training facility without some difficulty. In outlining our plans for its use, the removal of some more traditional training elsewhere and continuing to protect the environment, we have sought to allay the fears of local villagers, particularly about noise and disturbance.



"We have trained on Salisbury Plain for nearly 100 years, and on this part since 1933, frequently for 350 days a year. (It is expected the new facility will be used for 280 days.)

"We think the choice of this site is the best compromise of all factors to enable the Army to train effectively in a built-up area for the first time since the Second World War.

"It is our intention to continue to live in harmony with our neighbours, but we are under pressure to maximise the value-for-money aspects of our use of training land. We

think we have achieved a sensible balance on this tricky tightrope."

Maj David Smith, OC FIBUA Training Team, said most exercises would involve planning and preparing the village for defence. Defending company commanders would carry out a reconnaissance, make a plan and issue orders for occupation, preparation of defences and the conduct of the battle when the "enemy" attack came in.

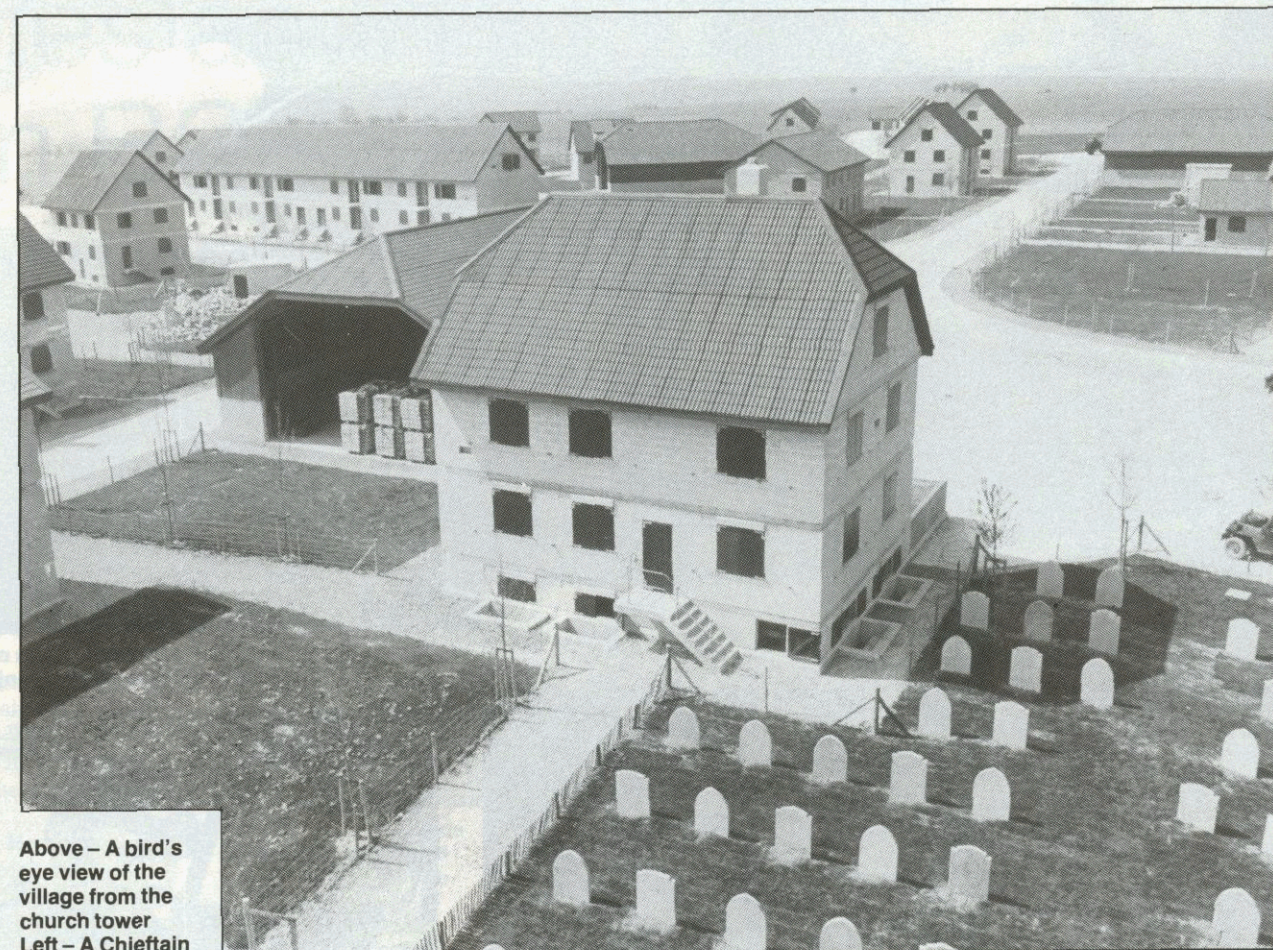
Although "live" ammunition is not used, defences must be prepared as if it were. This would involve, for instance,

baulking up ceilings, preparing weapons' positions, co-ordinating arcs of fire, sandbag emplacements, creating barbed wire obstacles, and laying mines.

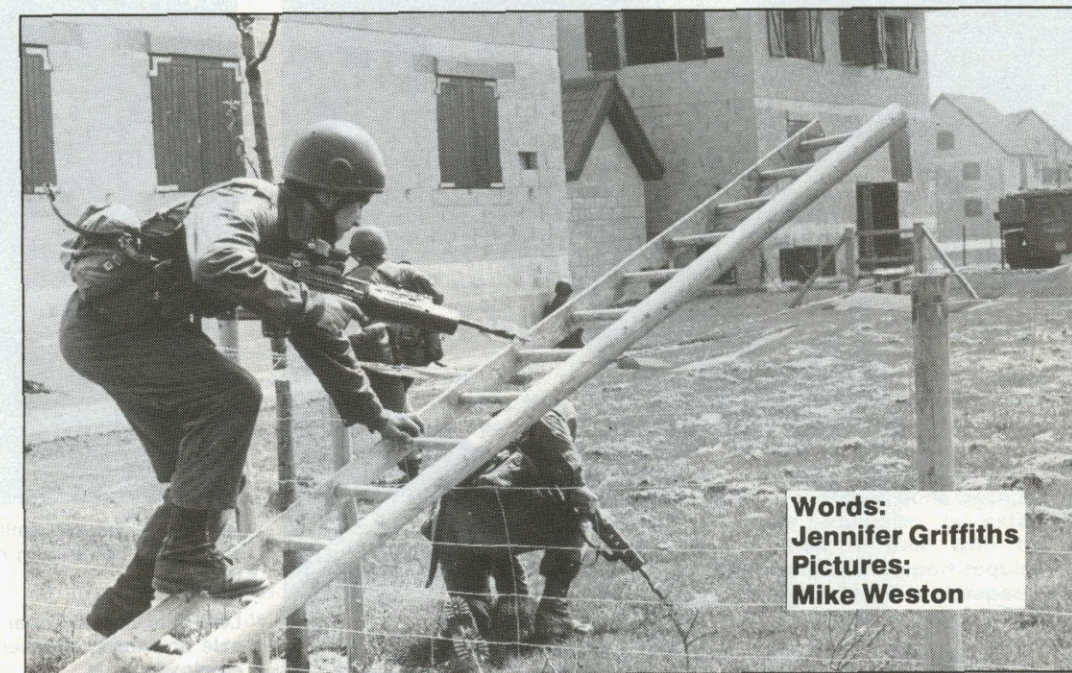
Most fighting would be in and around the complex. Soldiers defending the village would use the access route or tank crossings, while the attacking force would not pass through local villages en route.

Because staged battles at night are particularly dangerous for the attacker, most battles will be in daylight, though there may be night-time patrols.

No ordinary village. Copehill Down pictured from the surrounding plain



Above – A bird's eye view of the village from the church tower
Left – A Chieftain commands the street during Phantom Bugle
Right – A fence proves no barrier to attacking troops



Words:
Jennifer Griffiths
Pictures:
Mike Weston

BIG WHEELS!

Over to the ladies as 41 Sqn RCT reorganizes

A reorganisation of the administrative transport in South East District puts 41 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, in the running for the title of the largest minor unit in the Army. It has 540 vehicles of all shapes and sizes in various locations.

It also poses an interesting challenge. A requirement to release as many men as possible for field force units means that at Aldershot the squadron will have what is believed to be the first totally WRAC-manned heavy goods vehicle troop used in support of the initial training organisation.

Lt Col John Hambleton, OC of 41 Squadron, told SOLDIER that problem areas likely to be identified were trailer expertise, towing – “the chances are that they have not been towed either on ropes or a rigid two-bar” – and troop-carrying vehicle experience.

Drivers must have at least a year's HGV experience before they can carry troops in a four-tonner.

“That is something they will not bring with them from the Army School of Mechanical Transport, but we will develop it.”

Lt Col Hambleton is optimistic about the new-look squadron.

“Though as far as the girls are concerned we will have to find ways of dealing with the heavy work which sometimes arises – moving batteries and changing wheels, for example – I reckon that with continuation training the WRAC will become fitted



Above – LCpl Linda Dean who is engaged to a soldier in The Parachute Regiment, steam cleans an engine Right – The WRAC will be learning to cope with heavy work such as wheel changing, which must be done by two people on lorries. LCpl Elaine Buff, who is married to a Para, gets to grips with a wheel weighing 1cwt



The show never stops

LIKE the old Windmill Theatre, they never close. Last year, giving a 24-hour service, 41 Sqn and the units which now make up its detachments clocked up 8,000,000 miles and used 500,000 gallons of fuel.

They also delivered 44,000 rations daily. The squadron is re-

sponsible for supporting 400 units in an area covering 6,500 square miles.

About £1m was spent on hire. This is done because the squadron is established to deal with the norm of transport requirements and it is cheaper to hire vehicles when peaks occur.

for the role.”

Their general tasking in the HGV sections will included movement of general stores – spare parts, bedding, ammunition, machinery and mail.

Under the reorganisation, 41 Squadron will retain its HQ at Mons Barracks for the time

● Turn to Page 23

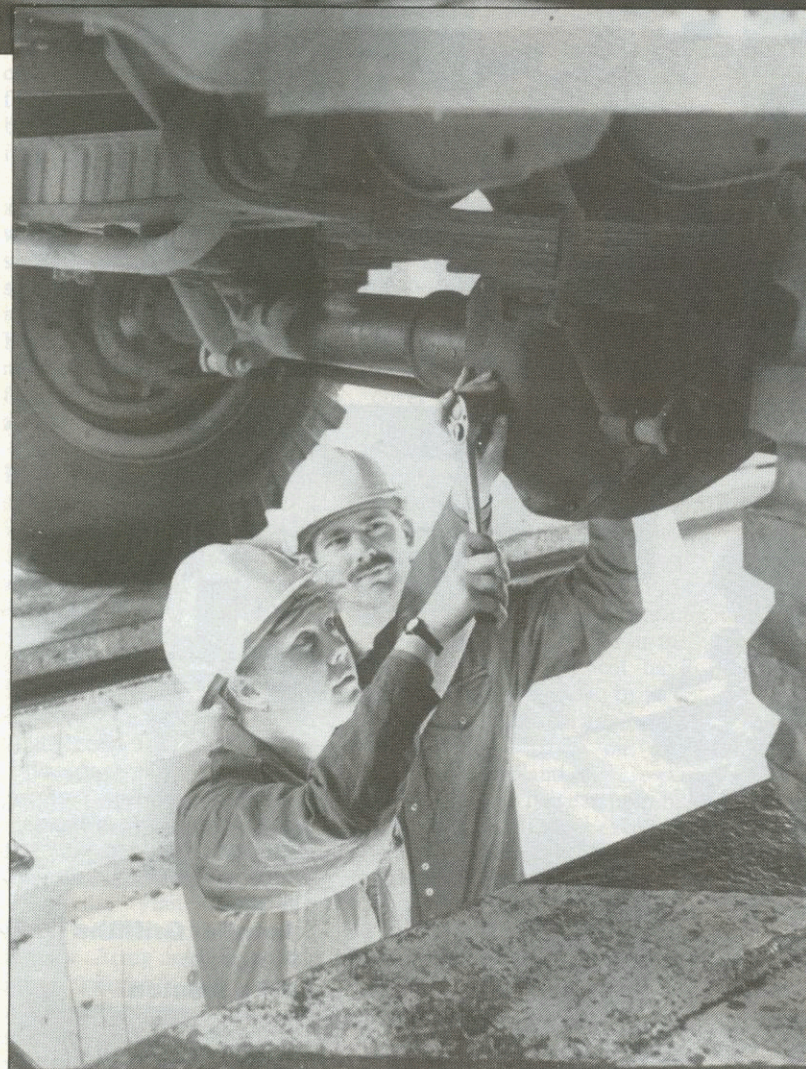
Words:
Bill Moore
Pictures:
Terry Champion

Nothing like elbow grease to put a shine on a staff car. Cpls Nicky Middlemiss and Joanne Marr enjoy their work



Above – A cheerful smile from Pte Vicky Thrower before she began training on reversing with a Land Rover and trailer

Left – Pte Louise Roper checks the engine oil in the front axle of a lorry, watched by Mr Allan Machon, a civilian employee



Ex-soldiers help to oil the wheels

A SUCCESSFUL partnership is one way of describing the operations of 41 Squadron, in which the civilian staff outnumber the military by about three to one.

In this situation the large number of ex-soldiers helps (literally) to make the wheels go round . . . veterans like 64-year-old Nick Carter, who spent 25 years in the RASC/RCT and has commanded D Troop for the past nine years.

Equally dedicated is John Henry Smith (always referred to as "John Henry") who began as a tank transporter driver and now runs C (heavy freight) Troop at Aldershot.

Another stalwart is Mrs Terrie Raine, who became the first "lady chargehand" in 1971 and still works at HQ . . . where a namesake in WO2, Terry Rayne, is the TCWO.

There are also two father-and-son combinations in the civilian staff . . . making the squadron more of a family affair than ever.

Boer War origins

WITH all the sleek and powerful vehicles and computers around, it is hard to believe that 41 Squadron is 91 years old.

A photograph of the original 41 Company Army Service Corps hanging in the OC's office was taken in Pretoria in 1900 during the South African War.

The company was formed at Woolwich in 1899 and immediately went on active service.

Its history can be traced on the unit shield designed by Mr Billy Behan, who works in the stores and is also a military historian.

It depicts the Drakensburg Mountains (Boer War); a triangle/pyramid (for the Eighth Army); Roman numeral XLI (Italian campaign); crossed swords for the military function and Aldershot borough; all enclosed in a laurel wreath signifying its base at Mons Barracks, the old officer cadet school.



LCpl Elaine Buff and chargehand Brian Ridges fit a wheel



Above left - Old hand Cpl Wallie Skimshaw checks the coolant level. Above right - Husband and wife team at Blackdown. Cpl Nicky Middlemiss, who commands one section of staff cars, watches husband Mal, a lance corporal in the REME, at work on one of her vehicles



Mrs Terrie Raine, who became the first lady chargehand at Mons Barracks and still works at HQ, discusses a detail with W02 Terry Rayne, the Transport Control Warrant Officer (TCWO)



A WRAC driver takes a tip from an RCT expert. Sometimes it is

easier to push a trailer than pull it into position

They're better than the men!

TO some staff car drivers at Blackdown, AQMS Noel Dancy, with 18 years REME service behind him, probably looks a bit of an "old crusty".

They may be surprised to learn his views on their performance.

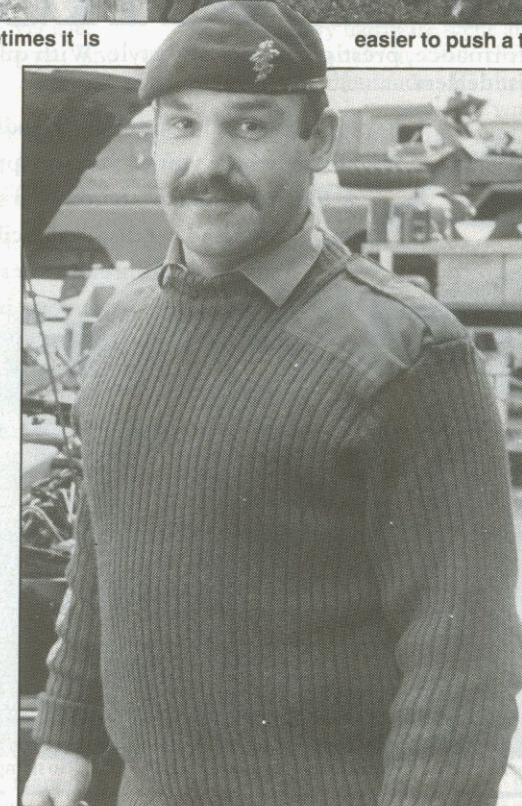
"On maintenance, general upkeep and cleaning and reporting defects, girls are often better than men.

"No matter what time it is, if they're late back from a detail you'll find them out at the back cleaning their cars down. They'll make sure they're washed and polished, and they keep them smart and tidy.

"I've even known them go to the trouble of paying out of their own pockets for things like little air fresheners for inside a vehicle.

"And they buy their own polish at times if they can't get hold of any elsewhere. In a word, they're conscientious."

Praise from a seasoned "Spanner" is praise indeed.



W02 Noel Dancy is full of praise for the girls

Squadron changes

● From Page 21

being, embracing 37 Sqn at Blackdown, 45 at Arborfield and 405 Troop at Worthy Down - all now disbanded to become sub-units of 41.

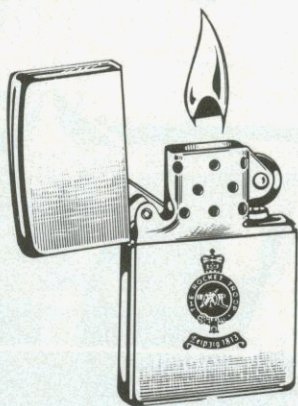
To man and repair its fleet of vehicles, which range from pantechnicons to Metros, the squadron has 110 military personnel and 245 civilians.

Of these the best-known to the Army are the WRAC staff car drivers based at Blackdown under Maj Fred Roberts. In his opinion "they are smart and tend to look after their cars better than men."

Most posts at Blackdown could be filled by either men or women, opening the way for the RCT to get its first WRAC WO1 in the transport field.

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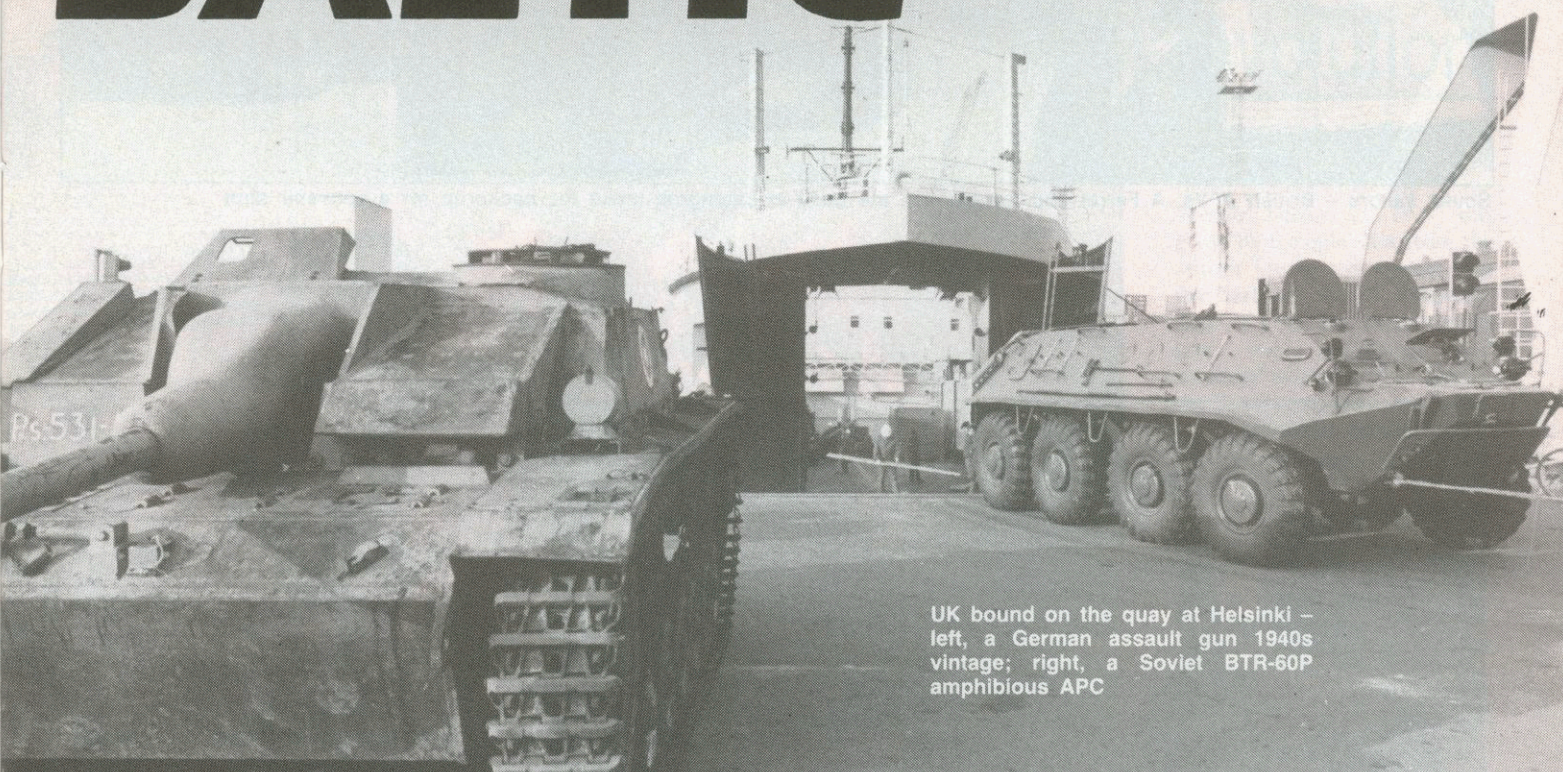
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A SOLDIER team joined Her Majesty's Army Vessel Arakan on her 1,500-mile voyage to Leningrad to exchange military museum exhibits. Words by **Bill Moore**; pictures by **Terry Champion**

BALTIC



UK bound on the quay at Helsinki — left, a German assault gun 1940s vintage; right, a Soviet BTR-60P amphibious APC

EXCHANGE

BOVINGTON's Tank Museum will be richer for the voyage of the Arakan.

At Leningrad WO1 Steve Barker and his gang of stevedores from Marchwood Military Port unshackled a Ferret and a Saracen for two representatives of the RAC Centre.

Both vehicles were in mint condition, but in accordance with regulations contained only the minimum amount of petrol necessary to get them on and off the ship.

One of them ran out of juice on the ramp and stopped before reaching the quayside.

Lt Simon Dennis of 2 RTR leaped smartly out and siphoned fuel from one of the Soviet exchange vehicles waiting to be driven aboard. All was well.

Lt Dennis and Cpl Mark Roy, also 2 RTR and an instructor at Bovington, took over the controls of a Soviet BTR-60P armoured personnel carrier (the P stands for *plavayushchiy*, meaning

amphibious) and a BRDM 1 reconnaissance vehicle.

Like the Ferret and the Saracen, both were in mint condition.

The BTR-60P had only a few kilometres on the clock and could have come straight from the factory.

Though it is now obsoles-

cent, having first appeared on the military hardware scene at a Moscow parade in 1960, there are still thousands of these machines in service with countries all over the world. They were used in action in Afghanistan.

The BTR-60P has a crew of two and, depending on the

variant, carries 14 or 16 fully armed troops. One version (not the one supplied in this case) has a turret, and all are armed with heavy machine guns.

They can make a speed of 10km an hour in water.

The BDRM (also amphibious) was the standard Soviet reconnaissance vehicle of the 1960s and, like the Ferret, refuses to lie down.

In Helsinki the Arakan delivered a Saladin and a Humber "Pig", a 25-pounder "gun-how" and a 5.5in medium gun of the type much beloved by earlier generations of gunners.

She collected a well-preserved STUG-3, a self-propelled 75mm gun mounted on a Mark III Panzer chassis.

It was supplied by the Germans when the Finns, having narrowly lost the Winter War to the Russians in 1940, took the field again against Stalin in June 1941.

There was also a rare Soviet T-26, a four-tonner based on a



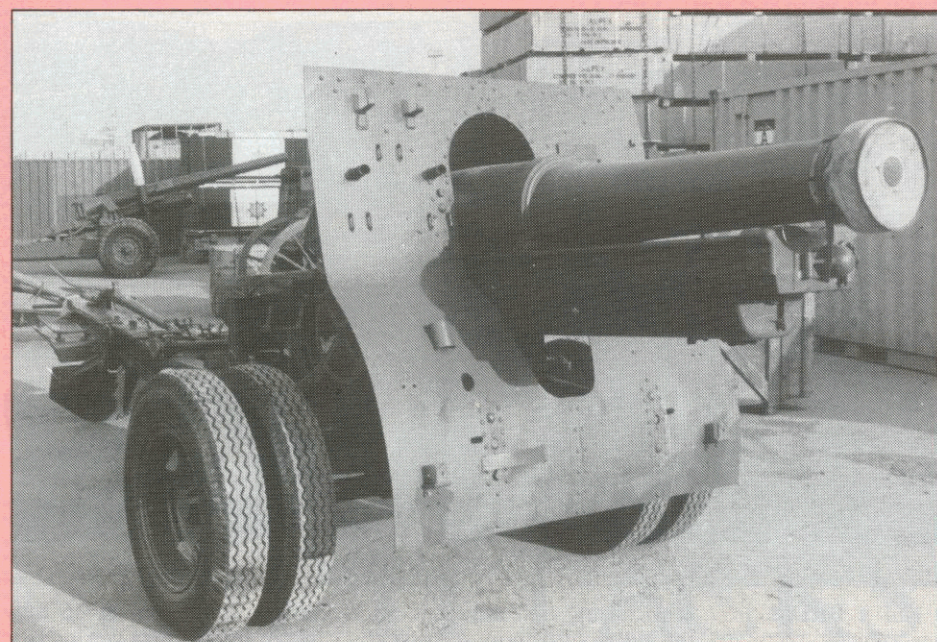
Soviet officials inspect a Ferret at Leningrad. Looking on are Lt Simon Dennis and Cpl Mark Roy RTR and Lt Comd Richard Moore RN, British naval attaché Moscow

● Turn to next page



Soviet sailors – British AFVs. A Ferret and Saracen on the quay at Leningrad make the backdrop for a souvenir shot

Leningrad: City that defied Hitler



French 155mm M.17 howitzer

BALTIC EXCHANGE

● From Page 25

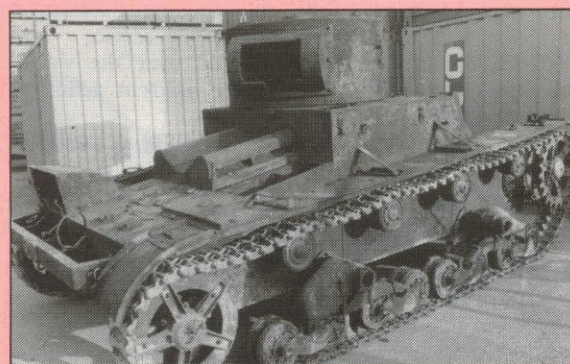
British design, which was in production in the 1930s.

"These are valuable additions to our Second World War collection," Lt Col George Forty, Tank Museum curator, told SOLDIER.

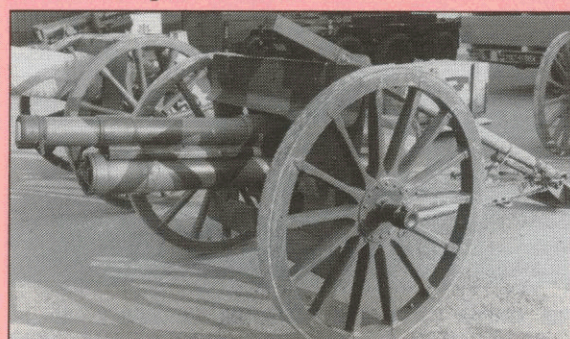
The Finns also supplied a selection of vintage artillery pieces for the Imperial War Museum . . . including a 150mm French M-17 howitzer with a shaped shield; two 76mm Russian field guns, one of the 1902 pattern with limber; an American 75mm circa 1918.

British veterans of 1939-41 will be interested to learn that a Boyes anti-tank rifle was among a container of small arms returning home.

As they used to say . . . you couldn't give them away!



Soviet T-26 light tank of the 30s



Field gun from horse-drawn days

IN THE heart of the Soviet Union's most important naval base, once the capital of the Czarist empire, laughing Russian children held a British officer to ransom.

Maj Eddie Bell, captain of Her Majesty's Army Vessel Arakan, had to buy his freedom by surrendering his cap – for the purposes of a photograph.

In exchange for his headgear with its gleaming Royal Corps of Transport badge, he received a silky red and white side hat which he immediately put on. One of the young Pioneers (a Soviet youth organisation) posed proudly with Capt Bell's hat at a rakish angle.

It was a touching scene.

Three British officers, a Soviet naval captain, a city policeman and the SOLDIER team were standing at the memorial to the blockade and siege of Leningrad.

"Nine hundred days and nine hundred nights," said the big English-speaking policeman who had appeared from nowhere and arranged for the party to visit the memorial museum, though it was closed to the general public.

He repeated the figure with the emphasis on the "nine hundred nights".

The memorial stands on the outskirts of the city on the road to Moscow (500 miles south-east).

A towering pillar, giant statues of workers and soldiers, an encompassing iron ring broken to symbolise the raising of the siege, are impressive reminders of a truly "heroic" struggle.

But their impact was dwarfed by a tiny grey rectangle measuring perhaps three inches by two in a glass case in the museum under the monument.

Three million people were trapped when



Comrades: Soviet children visiting the memorial to the siege of Leningrad flock round Maj Eddie Bell RCT, Arakan's captain, and insist on trying out his cap. In return Maj Bell wears a young Pioneer's side hat

the Germans seized the approaches to the city in September 1941. The Finns cut it off to the north.

No one had foreseen such a situation and there were no appreciable reserves of food or fuel.

Because of the impossibility of feeding such numbers if he captured the city, Hitler ordered that no surrender would be accepted. Fugitives were to be driven back within its defences.

Came winter and the soldiers defending Leningrad went hungry – very hungry – and the citizens starved.

Many of them dropped dead at workbenches in the great Kirov works which produced munitions throughout.

The little grey rectangle was a sample of

the daily bread ration for civilians at the height of the famine.

And it was not made from wholesome flour. Sawdust, glue . . . anything that might provide bulk was used.

One authority gives the ration table for November 1941 as follows:

	Workers and Engin. and tech. staff	Office workers	Dependants	Children
Bread	9 oz.	4 1/2 oz.	4 1/2 oz.	4 1/2 oz.
Fats	2 3/4 oz.	1 3/4 oz.	1 1/4 oz.	3 5/8 oz.
Meat	1 3/4 oz.	1 oz.	1 1/2 oz.	1 1/2 oz.
Cereals	1 3/4 oz.	1 1/8 oz.	3/4 oz.	1 1/2 oz.
Sugar and conf.	1 3/4 oz.	1 1/8 oz.	1 oz.	1 1/2 oz.
Total	15 oz. or 1087	8 1/8 oz. or 581	7 oz. or 466	8 1/3 oz. or 684
Calories				

At the war crimes tribunals the Soviet official figure for the death toll due to the

Shot that signalled Bolshevik revolution

LENINGRAD is known as the Home of the Revolution. The signal for the storming of the Winter Palace in 1917 was given by a single shot from the cruiser Aurora still preserved in the harbour. In the desperate days of 1941 her most famous gun was unshipped and mounted ashore for use against the Nazi invaders.

The city itself was founded in 1703 on the orders of Peter the Great after wresting the area from the Swedes. Thousands of workers died during its construction on marshy ground which meant most buildings were erected on piles.

Peter was also the architect of Russian naval power and the Admiralty Building lies in the exact centre of the city with wide avenues (or "prospects") radiating from it.

The city's original name of St Petersburg was considered too Germanic when war broke out in 1914 and it was called Petrograd until Lenin gave it his name in 1920. The government had moved to Moscow two years earlier.

● *Greenhouse effect* – until fairly recently the Neva which reaches the sea at Leningrad was expected to be frozen from the end of November until the third week of April. As HMAV Arakan sailed into the port this year only distant stretches of "grease ice", looking like little ridges, were seen on the harbour approaches.

blockade was put at 625,000. (This is in addition to the thousands who fell on the battlefields around the city.)

The composer Shostakovich, who was present in Leningrad and inspired to write the Leningrad Symphony, believed 900,000 perished.*

To lose a ration card was equivalent to receiving a death sentence. Families hid corpses for days to be able to draw food for them.

Death itself was the first relief column to reach the city. For the more who died, the more food there was for those left.

* Britain's total civilian fatal casualties during the Second World War are put at roughly 150,000

● Turn to next page



Sightseers glasnost-style. Soviet Navy Capt (3rd Grade) Loshkarev Valery gives a guided tour to the Arakan officers, from left are Cpt Kim Dunstan (chief engineer); Maj Eddie Bell (captain) and Lt Andrew Couper (first officer). In the background is St Isaac's Cathedral with its gilded dome

No choice but to fight

● From Page 27

Famine, evacuation by air and across the frozen Lake Ladoga further reduced the population until in 1943 about 500,000 remained. Starvation was no longer a threat, though the Germans were still within two miles of the Kirov works. The people of Leningrad fought for their city because they had no choice.

Stalin sent his "fireman", General (later Marshal) Zhukov, to organise the defence a week after the siege began.

The tough ex-sergeant major sacked the faint-hearted and threatened to shoot the Army group's chief engineer if he didn't fulfil a certain task.

When the sapper complained to General Feduininskii, newly-appointed army commander, he was told he was lucky.

Fedininskii was to be hanged publicly if he failed.

Leningrad held out until relieving armies broke through in January 1944... after 900 terrible days and 900 terrible nights.

The city's contribution to victory in the Second World War must be unique. It absorbed the attention of a million of Hitler's soldiers and his allies.

In the museum under the memorial the young Pioneers saw a film of the siege. They laid flowers at the foot of the tablets on which the names of heroes are inscribed with gold. Then they went out past the terrifying bread ration and into the sun to swap hats with a British soldier.

It was as if Leningrad had been relieved all over again.



Part of the massive memorial commemorating the siege of Leningrad September 1941 – January 1944. Note central figures casting shells

Inside navy's holy of holies

A SCENE that only a few months ago would have been incredible took place in the Admiralty Buildings of the Leningrad Naval Base.

On one side of the table sat the Chief of Staff, Vice Admiral Igor Koudryashov, with an interpreter and three of his staff. Opposite them were Maj Edward Bell, captain of HMAV Arakan, Capt Kim Dunstan, chief engineer, and Lt Andrew Couper, first officer, accompanied by Lt Cdr Richard Moore RN, a Russian-speaking member of the British Embassy's staff in Moscow.

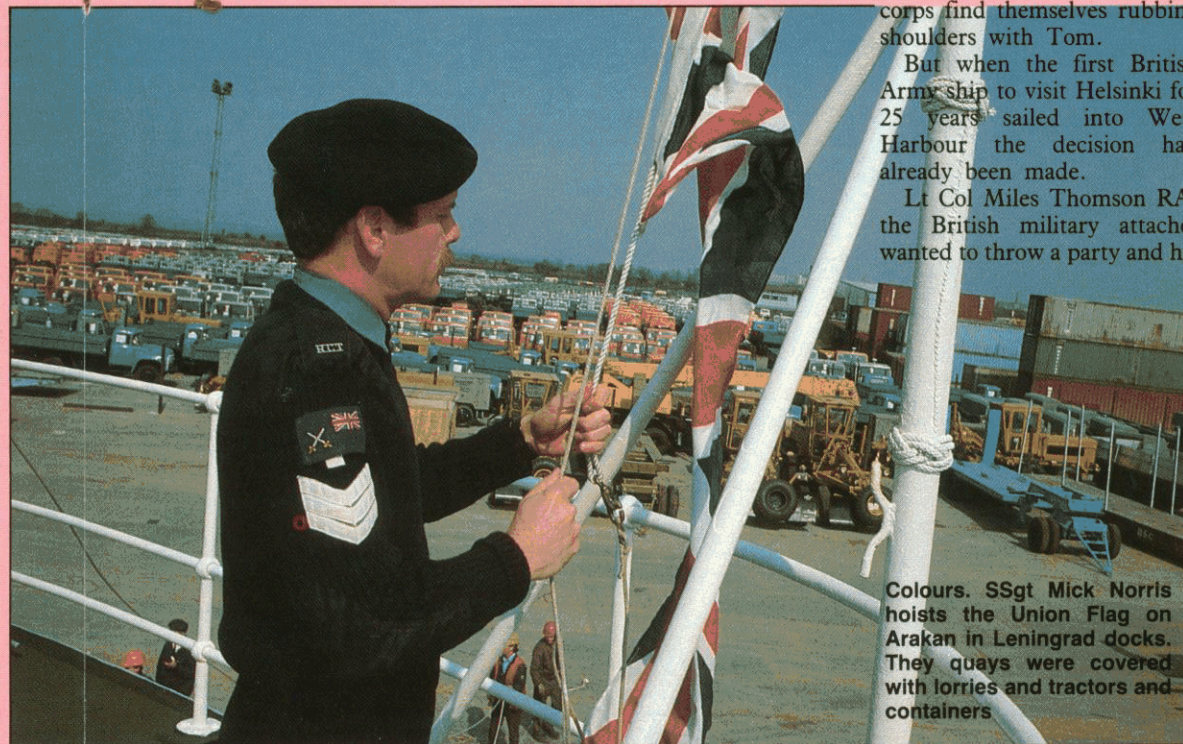
Coffee was served, Maj Bell presented mementoes

of his ship's visit and then Vice Admiral Koudryashov gave his guests a personally-conducted tour of the Soviet Navy's holy of holies.

Instead of handing over to a

staff officer he did it himself through the interpreter.

As he led the way down a magnificent staircase he paused at the busts of Russian naval heroes, explaining good-



Colours. SSgt Mick Norris hoists the Union Flag on Arakan in Leningrad docks. They quays were covered with lorries and tractors and containers

humouredly the history of each of them.

On one side were the famous figures of Imperial Russia, down the other the heroes of the Second World War. Then he led the way to the famous Blue Room used by the Minister of Naval Affairs, and through it to the Council of War conference room where Russian naval history has been made.

A huge oval table stood on the polished marquetry and the walls were covered in murals. The building was furnished throughout in the period-style of Peter the Great, founder of the Russian Navy, who drew much of his inspiration from a visit to Britain.

The famous Baltic city was once known as Petrograd. Vice Admiral Koudryashov only smiled when asked if there was any truth in the rumour it was to get its old name back.

Welcome ashore – Ferret and Saracen parked on the quayside after unloading from Arakan's tank deck



Diplomatic to a man, that's the Arakan

IT WAS a cocktail party with a difference. You could see it on the faces on some of the guests. It is not every day that members of the diplomatic corps find themselves rubbing shoulders with Tom.

But when the first British Army ship to visit Helsinki for 25 years sailed into West Harbour the decision had already been made.

Lt Col Miles Thomson RA, the British military attaché, wanted to throw a party and his

wife Jean told Maj Eddie Bell, the ship's captain: "Bring 'em all."

That's Scottish hospitality for you. And that is how the whole ship's company (minus the duty watch) – 31 in all – turned up at the Thomsons' spacious flat overlooking the waterfront.

Khaki was the predominating colour – officers in SD, other ranks in No 2s, toe caps like mirrors – contrasting sharply with the grey of the Finnish officers and the East German attachés but not dissimilar to the uniform of the Soviet colonel, a cheerful infantryman.

It was an impressive demonstration of the ordinary British soldier's adaptability. Glasses of beer, champagne or wine in their hands, they looked as though they'd been on the cocktail circuit for years as they chatted easily to the guests, regardless of rank.

"Who was that nice chap I've just had a word with," asked Cpl Dave Gibbons, pointing to a dinner jacketed late-comer.

"The British Ambassador, Mr Neil Smith."

"Just as well I called him 'Sir' then."

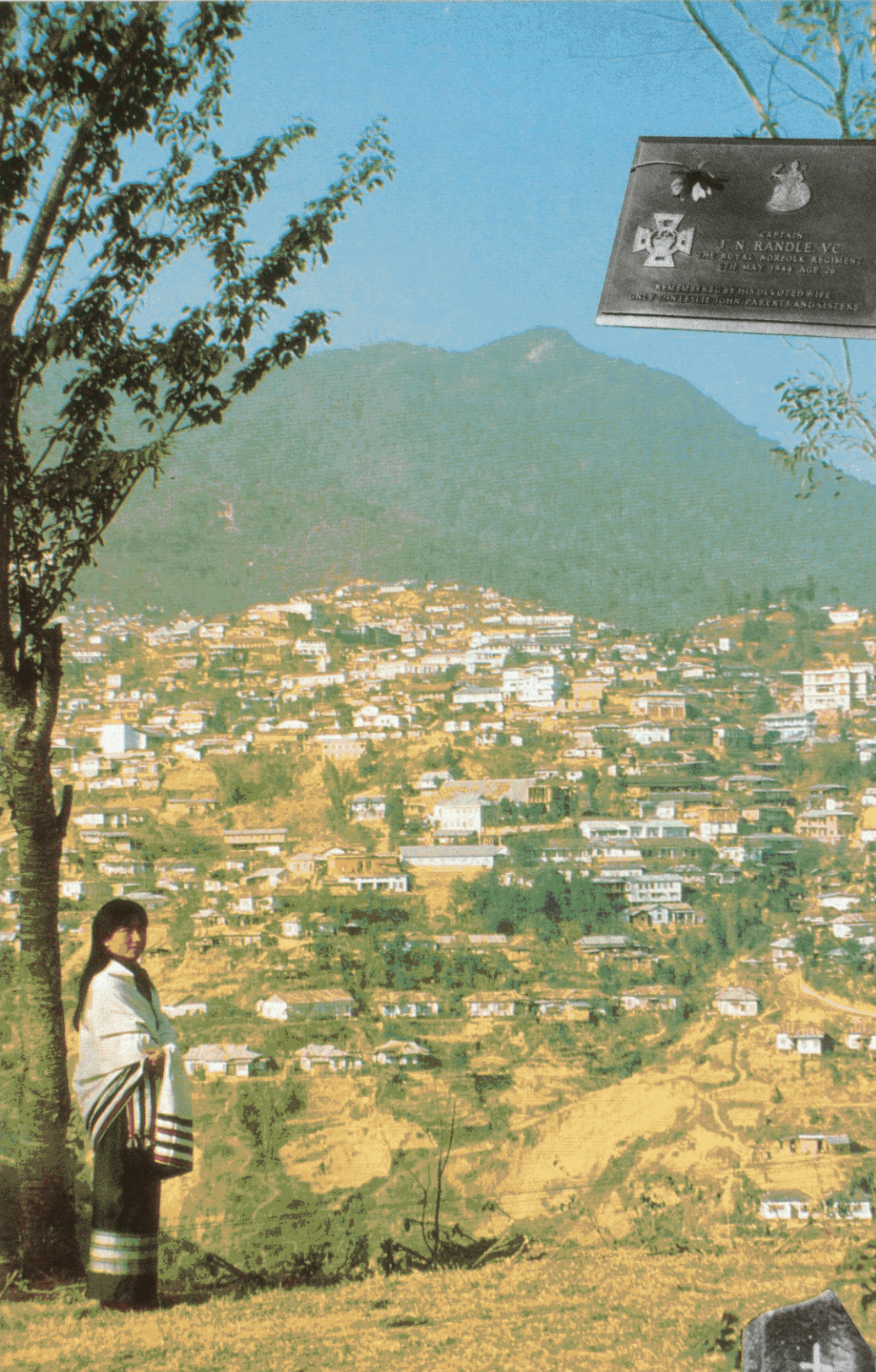
One couldn't help wondering if such a scene would have been a starter at the parties of some of the avowedly proletarian powers.

One advantage enjoyed by the crews of Her Majesty's Army Vessels is that they are used to going ashore in foreign parts and some of them are diplomats in their own right.

In downtown Helsinki, when someone – either a drunk or a provocateur – tried to pick a quarrel with SSgt "Doc" Driver-Williams and WO1 Ken Saunders while they were enjoying a quiet drink, they didn't argue.

They moved away, and when he tried physically to push them around they refrained from "dealing" with him but simply called the police and had him removed.

Now that's real diplomacy for you.



Above – Part of the main battle area as it is today, photographed from Assam Rifle Ridge looking towards Phulebadze peak. Right – The famous Naga memorial

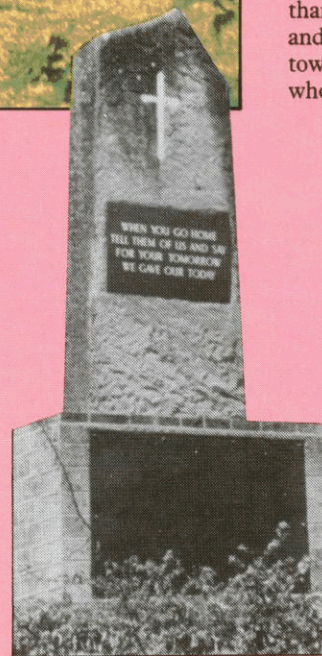
Ridge cost many lives

KOHIMA, capital of Nagaland, stands on a ridge in the Assam hills which was the scene of 64 days of bitter fighting in the spring of 1944 when the Japanese launched an offensive to break into the Indian plain and cut a vital railway line.

Held by the 4th Royal West Kents and supporting troops when cut off on April 5,

Kohima's garrison was relieved by the British 2nd Division on April 20.

The battle for the ridge continued to rage until early June and cost 4,000 casualties, a high proportion of them officers, among British, Indian and Gurkha units. The Japanese 31st Division involved lost 3,000 dead and 4,000 wounded.



For your tomorrow we gave our today . . .



Former 7th Gurkhas' officer, **George Mackenzie**, now living in Australia, was recently allowed to go to Kohima. This is a brief account of his visit.

Piper's lament for the Kohima heroes

SITUATED at 5,000 feet among the rugged, green hills of North East India lies Kohima, capital of Nagaland – home of the famous Naga tribes.

Forty-six years ago it was little more than a muddy scrapheap of devastation and destruction. Today, a sprawling township is spread out over hill features whose names have been woven into the fabric of military history.

Apart from regimental memorials, the war cemetery and an old Japanese tank, there is little left to remind today's inhabitants of the ferocious 64-day battle that took place in 1944 and halted the Japanese advance into India.

It proved to be the turning point in the war for Burma for Bill Slim's "Forgotten XIVth Army".

For security reasons, few foreigners are allowed into Nagaland and I was very fortunate in having a permit which allowed me to spend several days in this historic place.

I took my pipes and wore my



The war memorial cemetery pictured from the top end looking towards Naga Village. On the right is the famous cherry tree, grown from the original used by a Japanese sniper

kilt, which made me more of a rarity among the hospitable Nagas, many of whom are staunch Christians and wonderful singers – a legacy, perhaps, of long - departed Welsh missionaries.

The Kohima war cemetery is well maintained by Atuo Angami. His father, Samuel Mezur Angami BEM, was a scout for the Chindits and, until his recent death, the graves supervisor for 39 years.

The cemetery is located below the old Deputy Commissioner's bungalow, on the terraced slopes of a once wooded ridge known as Garrison Hill. It was this area of garden and, in particular, the tennis court that witnessed one of the fiercest close-quarter battles in history.

A Cross of Sacrifice stands in the centre of the reconstructed tennis court. Close by is a

Graves in good hands

cherry tree – used as a sniper's post by the Japanese. Both sniper and tree were obliterated, but an offshoot from the original tree was replanted and is, today, in good shape.

Many of the inscriptions on the bronze plaques are deeply moving; some are very simple – "Goodnight Daddy". Sadly, there are many graves to an "Only Son" and others who remain "A Soldier of the 1939-1945 War".

I can assure those who have friends and loved ones buried in Kohima that the remains are in good hands. The Nagas are very conscious of their custodial role on behalf of all the

relatives in far-off lands.

The famous Naga memorial to the Heroes of Kohima stands outside the entrance to the cemetery. It is simple in form, as is its evocative inscription:

*When you go home
Tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today*

Overlooking Kohima is Naga Village, reputedly the largest and most populous village in Asia today. This is where the Cameron Highlanders crept up to the Japanese HQ during the night.

With local help I managed to locate their memorial among the rabbit warren of houses, pigs and chickens. A bronze plaque on a rough stone lists the names of the fallen, surmounted by a piper and the words "Lochaber No More" – the Cameron lament.

Beside and above the

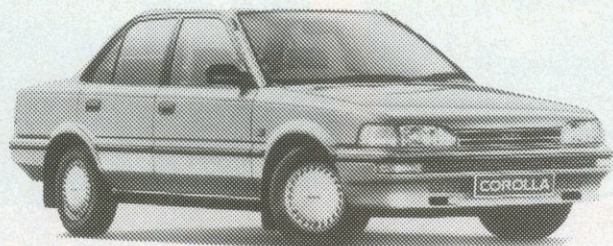
memorial, the villagers have erected a scimitar of buffalo horns on top of a long pole – an Angami Naga tribute to bravery and valour. My tribute was played on the pipes.

On my last day, a special dawn service was organised for my benefit in the war memorial cemetery. I was asked to participate with the lament on the pipes.

Nagas, in their tribal shawls, attended in their hundreds and, as the sun came up over the hills, the solemn silence of the chill air was shattered by the glorious volume and harmony of a Naga choir.

Finally, with a Naga shawl over my shoulders, I piped slowly over the graves and, as I read their inscriptions, with moist eyes, I thought of all those brave men who had given "their today for my tomorrow".

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Canadians get their battle honour, after a fight!

TWO battles in one have been celebrated in the little town of Wagenborgen, Holland, writes **Bill Moore**.

The first was fought by the 1st Battalion, The Canadian Scottish Regiment, in the last days of the Second World War.

The second began in 1956 and ended last September. That was how long it took for Lt Col (Retd) Jack Fawcett, of Toronto, to secure Wagenborgen as an official Battle Honour for the unit.

In 1956 veterans were shocked when the Canadian Battle Honours Committee omitted Wagenborgen from its list of actions meriting recognition.

A controversy followed but by the time the Canadian committee had been convinced of the justice of the case, the Commonwealth Battle Honours Committee had been dissolved.

Lt Col Fawcett, who had served in the battalion throughout the North West Europe Campaign, never gave up.

He knew that when two companies attacked unsupported by armour because the ground was extremely soft the Germans had put up desperate resistance. They were defending the port of Delfzijl to enable trapped troops to escape across the Ems.

Slim Bradford, who settled in Britain after the war and now lives at Liphook, Hants, where

he runs a glass engraving business, took part in the battle.

"I think the mistake about the action took place because Wagenborgen was thought to be clear, but the Germans infiltrated back.

"We were up against Marines and the German naval artillery.

"They had registered every group of abandoned foxholes and when we jumped into them they blazed away.

"If a man was hit he would try to prop himself up to save himself from drowning in those waterlogged rifle pits, but anyone who went to the rescue was machine-gunned. One guy finished up with 14 slugs in him

and survived.

"There was a lot of close-quarter fighting. Very few prisoners were taken."

A high proportion of the 54 Canadian casualties were dead—23 officers and men. Two hundred Germans were killed.

Two DSOs, an MC and two MMs were awarded to the Canadian Scottish who fought their battle on the 30th anniversary of another celebrated action during the first gas attack at Ypres in 1915.

Lt Col Fawcett established that the casualties had been as numerous as in other engagements which qualified for a major Battle Honour.

He continued his campaign

and in 1987, through the regimental board of trustees, submitted another claim to the Canadian Defence authorities.

Two years went by before the Governor General, on September 8 last year, approved the award.

Lt Col Fawcett considers it unique "not only for the Canadian Scottish but as the first Battle Honour initiated, approved and awarded under the exclusive authority of Canada as a sovereign nation".

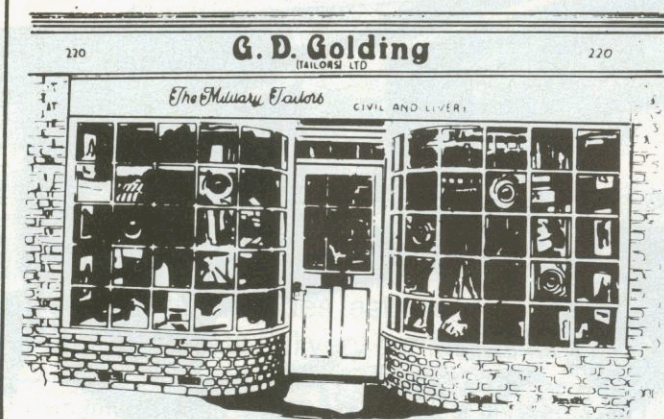
On the anniversary this year, he and Slim Bradford were among the veterans who took part in the Wagenborg celebrations.



Lt Col Jack Fawcett (left) and Slim Bradford celebrate a reunion, 45 years on, at the Prince of Wales pub in Haslemere, Surrey. The pub was synonymous with Canadian soldiers during the Second World War. Based at nearby Bramshott camp and hospital, they made it their "local". The goblet has since been presented to the people of Wagenborgen

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Picture: Mike Weston

This course isn't so bad after all

THE famous (or infamous!) course used for the gruelling P Company test has a kindly side to its nature - it helps raise money for charity.

A record 1,300 runners entered for the annual Para 10 cross country race - which takes the athletes over part of the selection course - and in

doing so raised £1,500 for the Airborne Forces Charities Development Trust, a charity dedicated to helping serving and former members of The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces and their families.

This year's race, coinciding with Para 90, the golden anniversary of British Airborne

Forces, was sponsored by Coloroll.

The Para 90 Appeal formed to mark the anniversary aims to raise £4m for the trust.

Para 10 is organised by the Depot, The Parachute Regiment, at Aldershot. The men behind it were Maj Malcolm Steggles and Capt John Wilson.



Picture: Terry Champion

Cheque mates! Three soldiers severely injured in a training accident in Canada a year ago are pictured at Wellington Barracks, London after receiving sizeable che-

ques from former Grenadier Guardsman Mr Marmaduke Hussey (second from right), Chairman of the BBC. The money, totalling £24,000 was raised for (from left) Gdsm

Adrian Hicks, Gdsm Shaun Povey and LCpl John Ray by their colleagues and families of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards based at Munster, West Germany.

Capital show by marathon men



Hundreds of Service personnel took part in the ADT London Marathon last month, raising thousands of pounds for a variety of charities. Typical of that commitment were the Gurkhas from 1/2 GR (above) who collected for Leukaemia Research and the Guy's Hospital Kidney Appeal, and Col Patrick Shervington (right), serving at HQ UKLF, whose beneficiaries included the Fusiliers Aid Society (he is a former commanding officer of 1 RRF), the Army Benevolent Fund, the Gp Capt Leonard Cheshire VC World War Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief, and a number of church and sporting organisations in Bath, where he lives.

The "space blankets" issued to runners to keep them warm at the end of the marathon are put to a variety of uses. Rfn Khar-kabahadur Gurung, who two years ago completed the Everest Marathon, will be sending his to his son in Nepal "for his bed".



Court gives ex-wife a share of gratuity

AN eight-year-old piece of American legislation which financially benefited the ex-wives and widows of Servicemen has had an encouraging sequel in the British Appeal Court.

In 1982 the US Congress passed a law allowing military retirement benefits to be divided by state courts in divorce settlements – so nullifying the previous controversial ruling by the Supreme Court that pay and other benefits belonged only to the spouse who served.

American divorcees are treated very differently, especially if they have been married for 20 years or more – for example, they have access to military health facilities and commissaries until they remarry.

Now Mrs Jennifer Happe has become one of a handful of wives who have been awarded part of their husband's service gratuity.

In March this year, in the case of Happe v Happe, the Appeal Court ruled in favour of an ex-Serviceman's wife that her ex-

husband could be ordered by the County Court to pay a lump sum to his former wife representing half the gratuity he had received on discharge from the Army.

The case seems to call into question the interpretation of both the 1955 Army Act Section 203 and the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act Section 23.

I have had letters and phone calls from former wives of Servicemen of all ranks, especially officers, who have found themselves in financial difficulties.

Although ordered to pay maintenance, ex-husbands would keep their gratuities intact. Many wives have said the marriage break-up occurred shortly before the husband was due to leave the Services and the court did not take into account the husband's gratuity,

British ruling follows US law

which they felt was extremely unfair.

As the Army's policy was one of accompanied service, wives explained that they were unable to build a career or make financial provision for themselves during their husband's time in the Service.

While explaining that every case is different, a solicitor involved in the Happe v Happe case said: "The Registrar made an order under Section 37 of the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act preventing Mr

Happe from disposing or dealing with £5,000 of his gratuity."

Mrs Happe was awarded a lump sum of £7,330 plus all her costs, and the court confirmed an increased child maintenance order.

Mr Happe's lawyer argued that Section 203 of the Army Act should be extended in its meaning to protect the Serviceman for a period of time after receipt of the County Court Order, which might recover from him all or any part of the gratuity received on his retirement.

It is extremely important for Service ex-wives that the gratuity is not legally dispensed with before an order is made; ideally, an order should be served on an ex-husband before he actually receives the money.

A husband who then

acted inconsistently with that money could be committed to prison for contempt of court.

The result of the Happe case meant that the ex-wife and two young children were able to obtain a portion of the gratuity, a judgment which could help others in a similar position. But we have a long way to go to catch up with the way the Americans treat their Service ex-spouses.

The Ministry of Defence has sought the guidance of the Treasury Solicitor in this matter. Official comments were not available at the time of going to press.

In Happe v Happe, Peter Duckworth (for the husband) was instructed by Campbell and Hooper of Camberley and Giles Har-rap (for the wife) was instructed by Richards and Morgan of Bournemouth.

Anne



Armstrong

WITH

OUR

FAMILIES

IN

MIND



To ensure that Hameln Garrison school children are riding to school in safety, a cycle clinic was organised for Hameln and Hastenbeck Schools. The technical

"know-how" was provided by 35 Engineer Regiment and 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment which each supplied one fitter to examine every bike, completing an inspection

report for all of them. Cpl John Brown is pictured above inspecting the bikes at Hameln School. Watching him are the headmaster, Mr Kelly, and four of the pupils.

MQ rent option allowed

ESTRANGED wives will benefit from new rules which require married Servicemen and women changing their marital status by signing AFO 1700 to give 93 days notice of intention to vacate a quarter.

This means, for example, that a wife can use and occupy a married quarter for those 93 days, during which time her husband will continue to pay the rent.

Before signing AFO 1700, counselling should have taken place. If after the 93 days there is no reconciliation and the wife has not found new accommodation, she may remain in the quarter at the current market rent. Meanwhile, her husband will sign the AFO 1700 change of marital status form.

For estranged wives overseas, may I offer a word of caution: finding accommodation in the UK can be very difficult.

One option would be to apply for a surplus married quarter, but these are not always available in the chosen area. If a wife does wish to occupy a surplus quarter in the UK it is advisable for her to take it over before the AFO 1700 is signed.

If wives overseas receive Child Benefit through the husband's pay account, the benefit will cease to be paid in this way once the AFO 1700 has been signed. The wife will then have to make her own arrangements with the DSS.

could advise me as to what steps I might take to help me with this extremely frustrating situation. – Mrs W, London.

Anne Armstrong writes:

The increasing need for wives to contribute to the family budget is highlighted by Mrs W's letter. Her wage is essential, but through no fault of her own she is to be deprived of both it and Unemployment Benefit. If you have views on this subject, drop me a line.

Not eligible for benefit

Dear Anne,
We arrived in London in December 1987 from West Germany. I did a little temp work there for SSAFA but nothing serious as my daughter was only 4½ when we left.

I then worked briefly in a supermarket. (This was evenings only so my husband could care for our daughter and to pay for our two dogs' quarantine as our three-year tour in Germany turned out to be only 27 months.)

At the end of 1987 I was fortunate enough to be offered part-time work in the school my daughter attends. My hours gradually increased until last summer when I was offered the position of Primary Helper.

I work 21¼ hours a week with 8 to 11-year-olds and sometimes this includes working with special needs children and children for whom English is a second language.

I really love the work and the whole atmosphere is so pleasant.

Last month my husband learned that he would be posted to Catterick at Easter 1991 – so, with the poll tax looming, and the necessity to save enough money to go to Denmark next year to be at my oldest son's wedding – we carefully planned a budget until next Easter which included my wage (about £68 per week including holidays).

Then, about three weeks ago, the posting was brought forward to August this year. I now discover I am not yet eligible for Unemployment Benefit in spite of the fact that I have absolutely no desire to leave my present employment.

I have never claimed, in spite of being in the same position on a number of occasions. This time we do need my earnings.

We also have a mortgage to repay, which is helped to a certain extent by our tenants, but as you will appreciate this situation is precarious.

Of course, I will try to gain similar employment in the Catterick area. I have already contacted the local Education Authority.

I would be grateful if you

Insurance and the X factor

INSURANCE premiums necessary because of the soldier's way of life make a big hole in his pocket – so why no adequate compensation?

During my recent interview with the Adjutant General, Gen Sir Robert Pascoe, I pointed out that the soldier's extra insurance payments did not

feature in the Armed Forces Pay Review Body's assessment of the X factor.

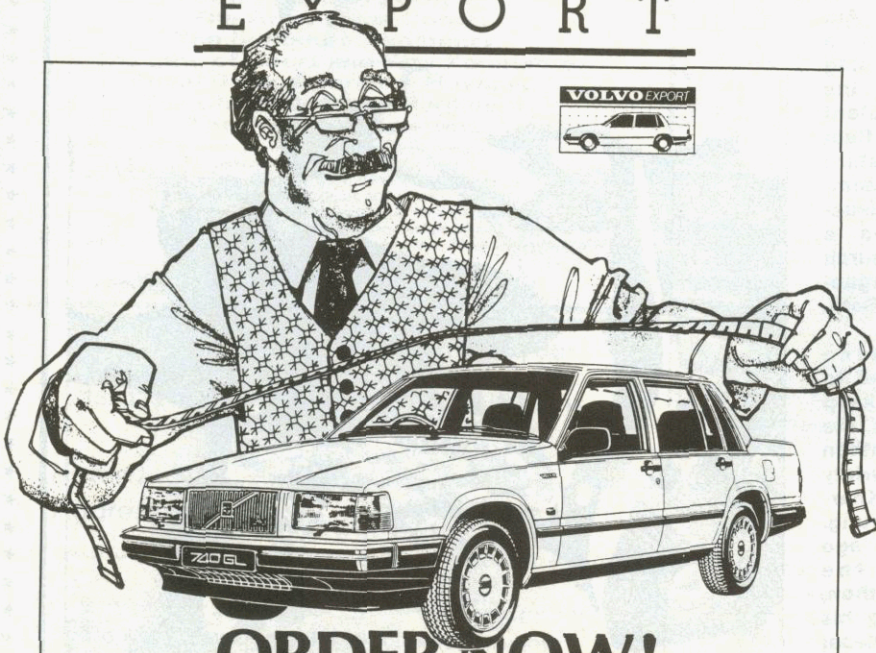
Gen Pascoe explained that compensation did exist – for example for those who had high car insurance premiums – and the MoD's ADAT and PAX schemes offered competitive rates.

To give some idea of the huge sums involved when

any adjustments are made to items such as the X factor, Gen Pascoe offered the example: "One per cent of X factor on pay is £40 million a year."

But he agreed to consider my representations about the burden on the Serviceman and his family of the various covers that were officially encouraged.

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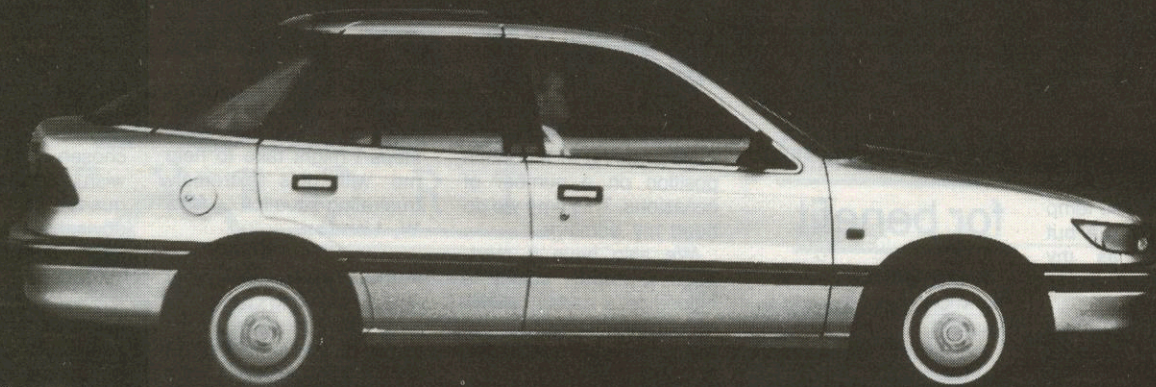
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If you, or a friend, would like a sympathetic ear, contact SSAFA at Room 15, 19 Queen Elizabeth Street, London SE1 2LP. Tel: 071 403 8783/962 9696.

Or, if you live in W. Europe phone JHQ 3392/2263; Gibraltar: 05 5480; Cyprus: Episkopi 3900/3647; Hong Kong: Tamar 3125.

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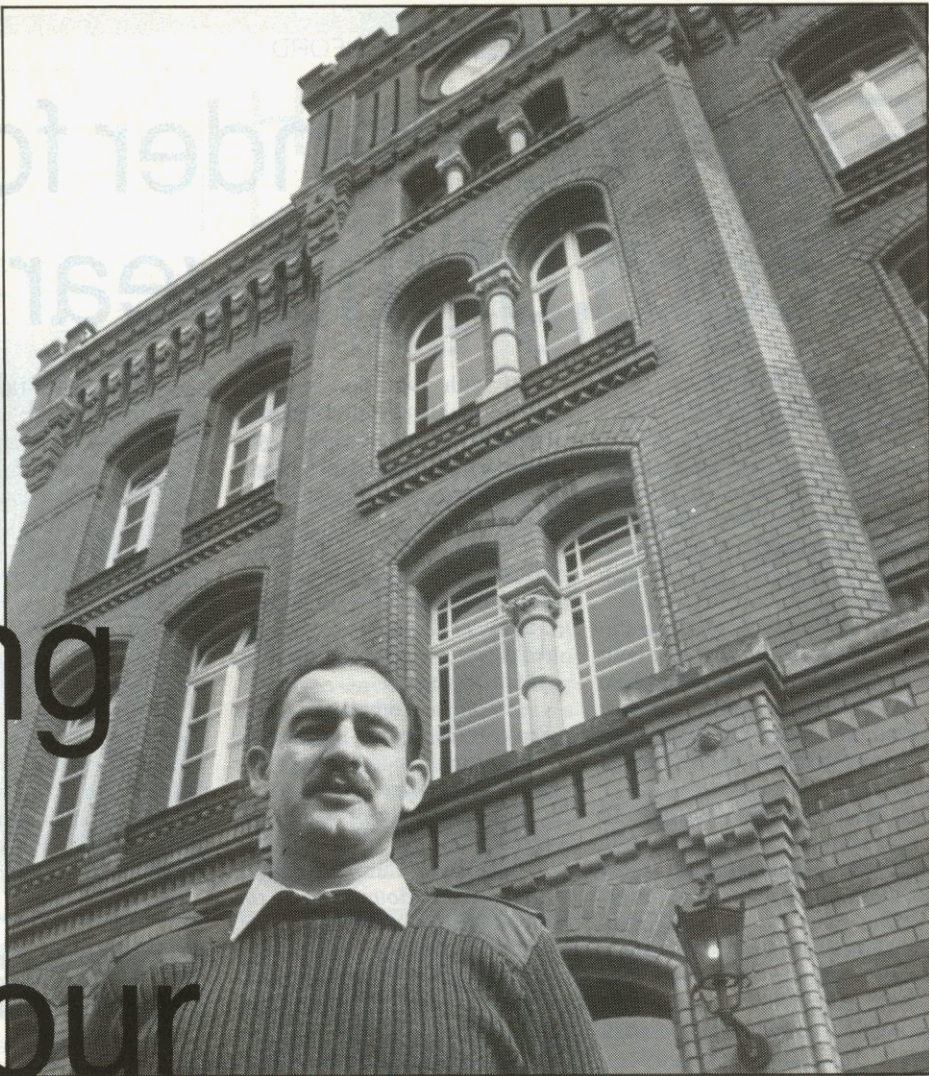
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Maj Colin Hunter (above and right) who leads the RAEC Berlin Team, pictured at Smuts Barracks, where tasteful restoration has won an award



Learning in splendour

Berlin's
RAEC team

MAJ Colin Hunter works from one of the most attractive old buildings in Germany, offering resources and facilities second to none, writes **Jennifer Griffiths**.

He leads the Royal Army Educational Corps team in Berlin, based in Smuts Barracks, a former German cavalry barracks, the restoration of which has won the Property Services Agency (PSA) an award.

Main function – like all RAEC centres – is to prepare soldiers for their promotion exams.

Second priority is language teaching – especially important in Berlin because of the Allied Powers situation – with lessons in German, French and Russian.

Maj Hunter explained: "Demand is increasing all the time, so we have exceptional facilities to meet that need."

The centre accommodates a wide range of pursuits, including woodwork, pottery and art, and is one of the few to have its own computer room and facilities for open university study.

His military team consists of Capt David Green and Lt Mike



Lt Mike Mahoney and soldiers studying for promotion

Mahoney, who are supported by a large civilian staff of more than 50. Units who wish to have their own guide for tours of East Germany can send their chosen soldier for training at the centre.

The centre also arranges a variety of exhibitions, produces a wide range of literature, and gives Open University and re-settlement counselling.

Maj Hunter said there had been a striking increase in

interest in computer classes.

"There is enough demand from wives and dependants, who are thinking of their long-term employment when they return to the UK, to run classes 24 hours a day."

Early contender for record of the year

From the Highlands
Band of the Scots Guards
Conductor: Maj D E Price

MAJ David Price, a sassenach, seems to have changed his spots very successfully. He'll be ooh-aying before we know it, albeit with a Nether Wallopish accent.

In this marvellous programme, which includes just about every classic Scottish item from the old days to great modern examples, band and conductor are on top form – and they need to be.

Three overtures, no less, all well-known terrors of the repertoire, plus a suite and a fantasy. Quite like old times.

But fear not, you non-musicians, for you will know almost all the tunes and love those you don't.

Maj Price does his Scottish

duty with two fine marches with a highland lilt, *Alma* for a famous battle where the Regiment distinguished itself, and *Nairn*, a highland town near Elgin.

Duncan Beat's *Highland Gathering* sets the scene for Malcolm Arnold's uproarious *Tam O'Shanter*, a work requiring virtuoso playing, which it gets.

The same composer's *Four Scottish Dances* are in the same rumbustious mood except for the sublime third movement, a song-like melody of wonderful simplicity.

Hamish McCunn's overture *Land of the Mountain and the Flood* has become almost as popular as Mendelssohn's *Fingal's Cave* (The Hebrides) due to its use as a signature tune for a TV series.

Set among these jewels of Scottish music are four old favourites of bandstand audiences – *The Wee MacGregor*, the ITMA version of *Loch Lomond*, *The Swing O'The Kilt*, *Celtic Melody* (a more recent piece), and finally Robert Farnon's fantasy *From the Highlands*.

The Scottish "snap" is very present of course, but the programme as a whole is far from monotonous, as pipes and drums programmes so often are. This has everything you could wish in variety of mood, and if it doesn't qualify as my record of the year I shall be very surprised.

● **From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2E 9AR, price CD £10.50, cassette £7.00 inc, and dealers.**

Slim's men got it right!

THE public image of the famous soldier who has come down in history as "Bill Slim" is of a man so respected that one wonders if the pigeons will dare leave their mark on the pristine bronze of his statue outside the Ministry of Defence.

So, 45 years after he retrieved victory from an almost lost campaign, the re-issue of an award-winning biography is timely.

It shows that the ordinary men who called him "Uncle Bill" were better judges of the man's character than some who might have been expected to know better.

In May 1945, before the Allies revealed possession of the atomic bomb and the war with Japan still to be won, he was told that he was to hand over the victorious Fourteenth Army to one of his corps commanders for Operation Zipper, the invasion of Malaya.

Slim was to take over the newly-formed Twelfth Army to mop up and garrison Burma.

The reason, suggested by Gen Sir Oliver Leese, who had become head of Allied Land Forces South East Asia, was that Slim was not familiar with amphibious operations and that he was tired. He seems to have overlooked the fact that Slim was also proud (having conquered Burma, he had a lot to be proud of).

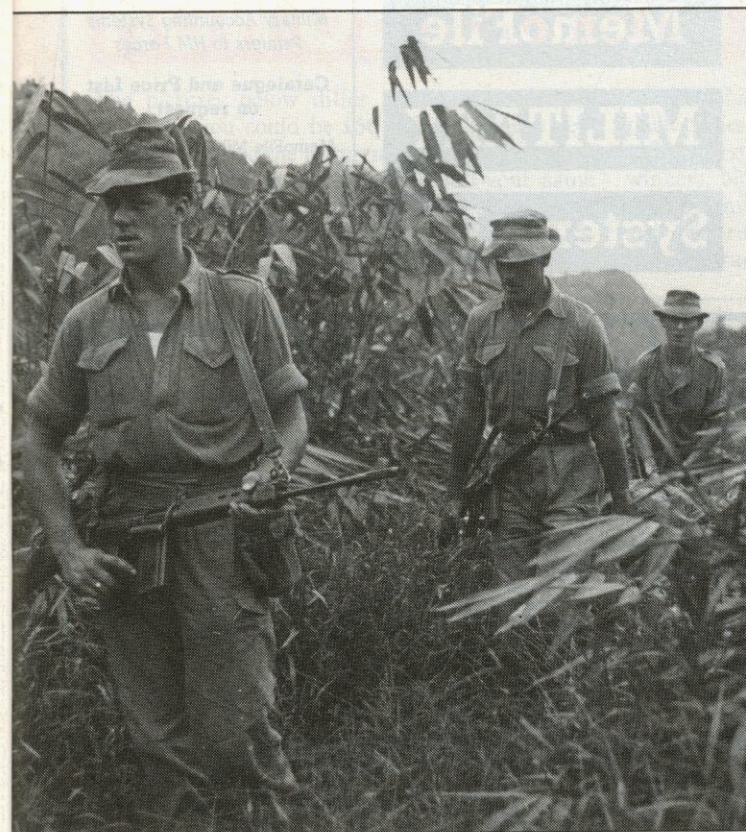
Slim's diary for the day is brief: "May 7. Meiktila airstrip still out. Sack 1530."

It does not mention that he had immediately "put in his papers" (resigned) rather than be removed from "My baby".

Leese, otherwise a competent, amiable Guardsman, was startled by the reaction and asked Slim to think it over. Once again a misjudgement of character.

The role of Lord Mountbatten, Supremo in South East Asia, is not made altogether clear in the book.

But that of the CIGS in London, Field Marshal Lord Alanbrooke, probably the only



How the Allies learned to cope in the jungle

"THE jungle is never silent. Day and night, animals prey upon lesser breeds and each other for survival, shattering the green gloom and the shrieks of their life cycle."

This is how Bryan Perrett paints the jungle backdrop in his book, *Canopy of War*, in which he describes warfare in such an environment, starting with the defeat of Varus's Legions in the Teutoburger Wald in AD 9.

But it is warfare in Malaya

Left – A Royal Army Service Corps patrol in Borneo in April 1965

and Burma, initially against the Japanese, that immediately comes to British minds when we think of jungle battles, and Perrett understandably details the history of these conflicts, beginning with the situation facing British and Indian forces in December 1941 which resulted in the fall of Singapore and more than 130,000 men becoming prisoners.

The tide began to turn in September 1942 in Papua New Guinea, where the fighting at Milne Bay gave the Allies their first clear-cut land victory over the Japanese. The Allies were learning the new trade of jungle conflict!

In 1943 the British in India opened the Jungle Warfare Training Centre at Gudalore in the Nilgiri Hills, and Orde Wingate's Chindits in Burma were creating military legend.

The Malayan Emergency, declared on June 18, 1948, brought innovations at tactical level. The SAS developed their "tree jumping" technique which involved a team dropping directly through the jungle canopy and lowering themselves to the ground by rope when the parachutes snagged among the branches.

The book features a remarkably good and concise account of the American involvement in Vietnam. To the more traditionally minded, Vietnam may seem a war of over-sophistication. One of the more bizarre devices used was the "people sniffer", fitted to aircraft to detect gases given off by decomposing faeces on the ground.

Considerable embarrassment was caused when, after a spectacularly large reading, the area was hammered by artillery, air strikes and gunships.

When the ground troops moved in they found only the bodies of several elephants – "the most expensive manure heap in history". – BJ

Canopy of War: Jungle warfare from the earliest days of forest fighting to the battlefields of Vietnam by Bryan Perrett. Published by Patrick Stephens. Price £17.50.

The Spy Who Disappeared by Reginald Teague-Jones. Extraordinary account, taken from a personal journal, of a British intelligence officer forced to change his name to Ronald Sinclair and disappear 70 years ago to escape the vengeance of the Bolshevik death squads. Published by Gollanz. Price £14.95.

When the Barrage Lifts by Gerald Gliddon. Topographical history and commentary on the Battle of the Somme, with foreword by Corelli Barnett. Published in large-format softback by Leo Cooper. Price £14.95.

Challenge of War and World in Torment by Martin Gilbert. Volumes 3 and 4 in paperback of the author's much-acclaimed biography of Winston Churchill, covering the years 1914-16 and 1917-22. Published by Mandarin. Price £9.99 each.

Blackburn Beverley by Bill Overton. Detailed portrait in words

man in the wartime hierarchy of whom everyone, Churchill included, stood in awe, was unequivocal. Slim was not sacked and after a spell of leave in England, returned to South East Asia as commander-in-chief.

Slim retired after the war and became Deputy Chairman of the Railway Executive in spring 1948.

But his extraordinary military career was not over.

In the autumn, Montgomery, who had become CIGS, accepted a post as Chairman of

In brief

and pictures of the medium-range transport aircraft which served from the mid-50s to the late 60s, notably supplying British forces in the Yemen and the Kuwait crisis. Published by Midland Counties Publications. Price £17.95.

Even the Brave Falter by E D Smith. Re-issue of Brigadier Smith's study in courage in battle, with particular focus on the Gurkhas he commanded. Published by Telematica Ltd on behalf of Allborough Press, Cambridge. Price £4.95.

A Subject Bibliography of the Second World War and the Aftermath by A G S Enser. Revised edition of an earlier volume, this invaluable reference work covers books published in English between 1975 and 1987 and includes more than 1,500 new entries. Published by Gower. Price £45.

the Cs-in-C of the Western Union.

When Mountbatten, who had returned to Britain after serving as the last Viceroy in India, suggested Slim for the post of CIGS the objection was raised that he was retired.

Mountbatten said he should be restored to the active list in the rank of field marshal.

Montgomery had a variety of other objections to Slim as a successor and said he had already told another general privately that he was getting the job. Clement Attlee, the Prime

Fighting the Fuzzy-Wuzzy by E A De Cosson. Major De Cosson's classic, first published in 1886 as *Days and Nights of Service* with Sir Gerald Graham's Field Force at Suakin. Published by Greenhill Books. Price £16.50.

The Yorkshire Birdman by Harry Ward with Peter Hearn. These memoirs of a pioneer parachutist range from early RAF days to Ward's involvement in the setting-up, training and deployment of the first airborne troops in the Second World War. Published by Robert Hale. Price £11.95.

Salute to the Soldier Poets. Short biographies of 15 poets complemented by examples of their verse. Published by This England. Price £8.95.

The Jeep Track by Capt John Cattanach (retd). Account of the 1944 counter-attack against the Japanese Army in Burma. Published in softback by Regency Press. Price £4.95.

Minister, said simply: Very well, untell him."

That the statues of Slim and Monty should share eventually the same strip of lawn outside the Ministry of Defence would have amused "Uncle Bill", who had a keen sense of humour. The statues may be cast in metal but viewers should not be surprised if they detect the ghost of a smile about the lips of one of them from time to time.

Slim: The Standardbearer by Ronald Lewin. Published by Leo Cooper. Price, paperback, £9.95.

Musical celebration of Para anniversary

The Paras
Massed Bands of the Parachute Regiment
Conductors: Bandmasters C Hogg and J Taylor

TO COMMEMORATE the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Airborne Forces we have a programme very much devoted to the celebrated doings of The Parachute Regiment, much of it written by past and present bandmasters who have worn the red beret.

A fanfare *Green Light* refers, I presume, to that terrifying signal that it is time to jump, lads. Marches by ex-bandmasters are *Airborne Warrior* and *Bruneval Raid*, both by Robert Ely, *Mount Longdon* by Len Tyler, *The Red Beret* by Frank Renton and Robert Ely, and best of all the great *Arnhem*, by A E Kelly, who was a mere bandsman, though later becoming bandmaster of the Royal Sussex Regiment.



A musical feast for Para 90

The TV programme *The Paras* had a catchy theme, and of course so did the film *The Longest Day* in Paul Anka's lively tune.

Rod Stewart's emotive *Sailing* may seem an odd choice in this programme, but it was endlessly played as the ships left for the Falklands.

The regimental march is, of course, *Ride of the Valkyries* by Wagner, but we are here let

into the secret of three tunes which failed to be chosen at the time: Goodbye, from White Horse Inn, Lilli Marlene, and The Girl I Left Behind Me, under the title *Also Ran*. A happy idea, and a wise final choice given the opposition.

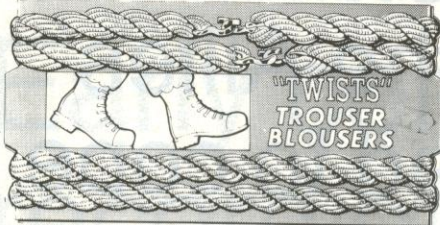
Side two has no fewer than five medleys – 3 *Para Songs*, *Songs of WW II*, *Elvis Presley Hits*, *Echoes of an Era* (a dozen Beatles songs), and a *Space Medley* (Star Trek, Close Encounters, Star Wars). The latter is complemented by a march from another "space" man, Patrick Moore, called *Out of the Sky*.

These are interspersed with *Pomp and Circumstance March No. 4*, *American Patrol*, and the great *Marche des Parachutistes Belges*.

In all, 78 minutes of music for a celebration, and well worth your attention – even if you suffer from air sickness.

● **Details as for From the Highlands, see above.**

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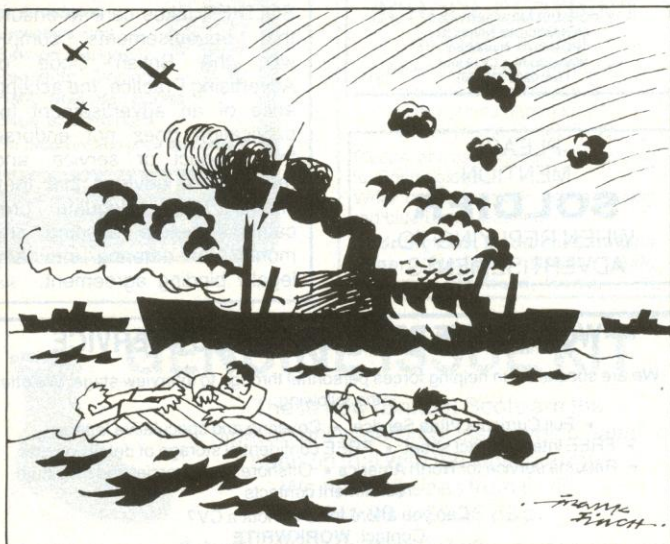
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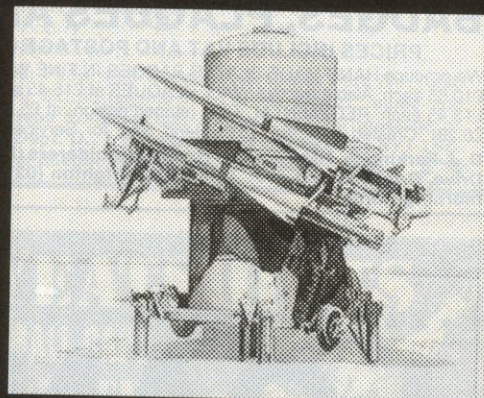
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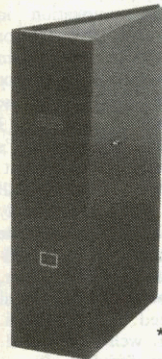
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Welsh set hot pace in sevens

THE Army sevens, the traditional finale to the Army rugby season, took place this year in glorious sunshine, writes John Quin.

It was to the credit of all who took part that the high temperatures, well into the eighties in the afternoon, did not affect the pace and quality of the rugby. There must have been some very tired players in the Military Stadium, Aldershot, that afternoon.

This year saw the start of a new three-year sponsorship deal with the London-based firm of management consultants, Touche Ross, who for the next three years at least will support Army sevens rugby.

They used the day to invite many civilian and military guests to enjoy the fare, not only of their hospitality marquee, but on the field of play as well.

The normal form of the event saw four groups of the 16 finalists from BAOR, Northern Ireland and all the districts of

the UK. These games, played on a league basis, produced the eight teams to contest the main competition and the same number to go for the plate.

There were no real surprises among the teams who crossed the road from the Queen's Avenue pitches to appear in the afternoon on the main stadium pitch.

A large crowd, enjoying the summer weather and the festival atmosphere, saw 1 RRW take on Troops Hereford, before disposing of 2 Queens from BAOR to reach the final.

2 Queens had seen off 1 Glosters and had looked good until meeting the Welshmen.

Their Germany-based counterparts, 35 Engr Regt, also went out in the quarter-finals, losing to one of the favourites, 7 Para RHA.

Despite the strength of that mobile powerhouse, Army and Combined Services prop Cpl George Graham, Depot Scottish Infantry, could not contain



Pte Lewis Davies (64) leaves sapper defenders trailing in the final of the Army sevens. He scored a try and four conversions

1/3 Trg Regts RE, who comfortably went through to the next round, in spite of nearly having their coach dismissed from the ground for touchline coaching.

Referee and coach made it up in the clubhouse, after the offender had publicly declared himself a "wally" and had the statutory pint of ale deposited on his head. Rugby is like that!

The second semi-final brought the Airborne Gunners and the sapper trainers from Minley together. There was a lot at stake here and the game produced all that is exciting about sevens.

The pace was furious, the heat on and off the park was intense, and the outcome of a ding-dong battle saw the sappers progress to the final to meet the impressive-looking 1 RRW.

It could have been the heat, it could have been that exhausting semi-final, it could of course have been both, but there was only one side in it as 1 RRW raced to a massive victory by 40 pts to four.

Quarter-finals - 1 RRW 17, Trps Hereford 4; Glosters 0, 2 Queens 16; 35 Engr Regt 0, 7 RHA 24; Depot Scot Inf 4, 1/3 TRRE 18;
Semi-finals - 1 RRW 20, 2 Queens 0; 7 RHA 10, 1/3 TRRE 14;
Final - 1 RRW 40, 1/3 TRRE 4.

Culwick beaten in final

ARMY light-middleweight champion Pte John Culwick from Aldershot-based 23 Para Fd Amb RAMC was beaten on points in the George Wimpey ABA finals staged in the Royal Albert Hall.

Culwick, in his third year of senior boxing, was matched against London jeweller Tim Taylor of the Newco-Repton club. Taylor, at 29 the oldest man in the finals, was given a unanimous decision.

Working well behind his southpaw lead, the Army medic was in contention until Taylor's relentless two-handed attacks started to tell midway through the second round.

Forced to take a standing count, Culwick battled back bravely, although his straight jabs, as accurate as ever, failed to discourage Taylor from marching forward.



Army loose forward LCpl Kenny Ferdinand, REME, attached to the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill makes ground against SEME in the plate final. RSA won 28-12

Golf gunners on the range

THE first purpose-built driving range for Service personnel in BAOR has been opened at the Royal Artillery and Dortmund Garrison Golf Club by Major General Royal Artillery, Maj Gen Mike Shellard, who was given a lesson by club coach Bdr Stuart Roy.

Aimed at all ranks, the range offers six covered bays and automatic dispensing of range balls. Balls will be retrieved by a collecting machine.

The club also boasts putting, bunker and chipping practice areas, and two new holes on the 18-hole course will be used for

the first time during the club's open championships in July.

NRPS TROPHY

Capt George Collier (10 Para) was the first winner of the NRPS Trophy at the inaugural Non-Regular Permanent Staff golf championships staged at Tidworth Garrison.

The other major competition, the 36-hole scratch, was won by WO2 (RQMS) Ray

Adams (4 Para), who organised the event and donated the main prize. Next year's event at Royal Lytham in May is open to all Non-Regular Permanent Staff. Details from RQMS Adams on Pudsey Mil 4535.

SPORTS BOARDS

Cdr Peter Cantelo, secretary of the Royal Navy Sports Board, won the singles stableford competition at the annual Famous Grouse meeting between the sports boards of the three Services.

HANDICAP

Golfers who find that their Service life interferes with their ability to maintain a handicap should be interested in the international handicap register operated by the Golf Club of Great Britain. Details of how to join appear in an advertisement on Page 48.

Sword-man

Pte David Latus (left) of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire was awarded the Harvey Sword after winning the lightweight title at the Army judo championships held at ASPT Aldershot. David is based at Catterick.



Lilywhites on song

Lt Richard Determeyer (right) was a member of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) team which completed the regiment's best skiing season for many years.

With Lt James Cobb, LCpl Jeremy Starky and Lt Andrew Staples also in form, the Lilywhites (who got themselves sponsored by Lilywhites of Piccadilly) won the RAC championships at Verbier, Switzerland, and also won the UKLF/4 Armd Div championships.

The Lilywhites also did extremely well at the UK championships in Scotland.



RN holds off Army challenge

FOR only the second time in the 29 years of the competition, the Royal Navy won the Victory Trophy dinghy event, staged this year at Littleton, near Staines.

The Army finished a commendable second after two days of training at Blashford Lake near Ringwood using RAYC boats. Two of the Army's best helmsmen in the UK were not available, but they beat the Civil Service and the Royal Air Force after losing to the strong Navy team in the first match.

The Navy's win was a popular one, the more so because the new RN sailing coach, CPO Rita Riach, was present. As an Army competitor put it, the ladies are not only going to sea - they are teaching the RN to sail as well!

Representing the Army were Col John Cooper and Maj Patrick Clarke RE; Lt Col Chris Haskell RE and LCpl James Arnold REME; and Capt David Ellis R Signals and Lt Julian Cramp RE.

Basketball win for 16 Signals

A VERY closely contested Inter-Service basketball championships was won at senior level by the Royal Navy, with the Army second and the Royal Air Force third.

The Army lost 74-88 to the Navy and beat the RAF 90-80, while the Navy pipped the airmen 78-76. The Under-21 competition was won by the Army and the Women's Services challenge match resulted in a 62-43 win for the Army over the WRAF.

Winners of the Major Units basketball championship were 16 Sig Regt who beat 39 Engr Regt 61-58 in the final, while the minor competition was won by 6 Armd Wksp REME, 103-80 victors over ACC Trg Centre.

Happier returns for the Jocks

**Berlin Sig Regt 1,
Scottish Inf Depot 2 (aet)**

SECOND time round was infinitely sweeter for the Scottish Infantry Depot, Glen-course, when they returned to Rheindahlen to contest the final of the Army Minor Units Cup, writes Pat Massey.

Last year the Jocks were hammered 6-0, but this time they surprised the pundits and beat the Berlin Signal Regiment 2-1 in extra time.

BAOR 0, Army UK 0

Defences dominated the annual confrontation between BAOR and the Army UK played at Rheindahlen. Hunt had a fine game in goal for BAOR, while Higgins and Parkins were firm in defence for the touring team.

**AA Col Chepstow 3,
PMC Arborfield 6
(aet and penalties)**

Princess Marina College Arborfield won the Army Youth Challenge Cup final, sponsored by Atlas Hydraulic Loaders, beating the Army Apprentices College Chepstow on penalties after the two sides had been locked at 2-2 after normal and extra time.

Chepstow took the lead from a Thomas own-goal, Ward equalised, Parry put Chepstow ahead again and early in the second half a Ransley free kick levelled the score.

Ransley, McBain, Cresswell and skipper Thomas scored four consecutive penalties for the Arborfield side, and when Brouard saved the first Chepstow attempt, the trophy was on its way to Princess Marina College.

**RAF Brize Norton 3,
SEME Bordon 2**

Two goals in the final minutes of their Naafi Jubilee Cup match against RAF Brize Norton allowed SEME Bordon to salvage some pride and gave them an outside chance of



Cpl Russ Wilson of the Royal Marines leads the Combined Services' attack against Netherlands Armed Forces in their Kentish Cup encounter at the Military Stadium, Aldershot. The British side lost 2-4 in a thrilling match and so surrendered their grip on the trophy to the Belgian Armed Forces. Wilson scored both the Combined Services' goals



Sig James Strouts (centre) of 2 Div Sig Regt receives the Army FA youth team Player of the Year trophy from youth football chairman Lt Col John Smith ACC. On the right is James's father, Mr Colin Strouts. James was the first player to represent the Army in both youth and senior Inter-Service competitions in the same season

winning the competition.

Trailing 3-0, the Bordon team looked out for the count. But Samson scored three minutes from time and Wright tucked a penalty away with the last kick of the game.

**SEME Bordon 2,
CTCRM Lympstone 1**

With the trophy resting on goals scored, either SEME or CTRCM Lympstone, the Royal

Navy champions, had to score three times in the final Naafi Jubilee Cup tie to deprive Brize Norton.

Skipper Wright and Robinson put SEME level with goals against the Marines, so the trophy, sponsored by Grand Metropolitan and Naafi, had to be decided on a penalty shoot-out between REME and Brize Norton. The airmen won 5-4 to claim the trophy.

Youths go north

THE Army Youth team tour of Scotland produced a defeat, a draw and a win. The opening match against Scottish Schools ended in a 7-2 win for the schoolboys, Thomasson (8 Sig Regt) scoring twice for the Army in the closing minutes.

Thomasson (2), Elder (94 Loc Regt RA) and Malcolm (1 BW) scored in the 4-4 draw against Edina Hibernians, a game in which the Army saw their 3-0 lead eroded and then overtaken before they equalised in the last minute.

The final game was against the Association of Scottish Youth FA, which the Army Youth team has never before beaten in ten years of home and away fixtures. At Aldershot in March the Scots won 5-1, but to the tourists' delight the Army finally got on top, Thomasson scoring both goals in a 2-1 victory.

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Mock gravestones in the "village cemetery" provide cover for soldiers attacking Copehill Down, the Army's new £8m purpose-built training village on Salisbury Plain. Men from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own), and the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales took part in Exercise Phantom Bugle in front of the nation's press and television. Story and pictures on Pages 18-19.

Picture: Mike Weston