

JULY 1974 ★ 7½p

# SOLDIER







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### FRONT COVER

Queen Margrethe of Denmark, Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Regiment, presents new Colours to her regiment (see page 20).

Picture by Arthur Blundell



### BACK COVER

Winning songstress Private Lesley Clayton, Women's Royal Army Corps, on the stage of the BBC Playhouse (see page 25).

Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

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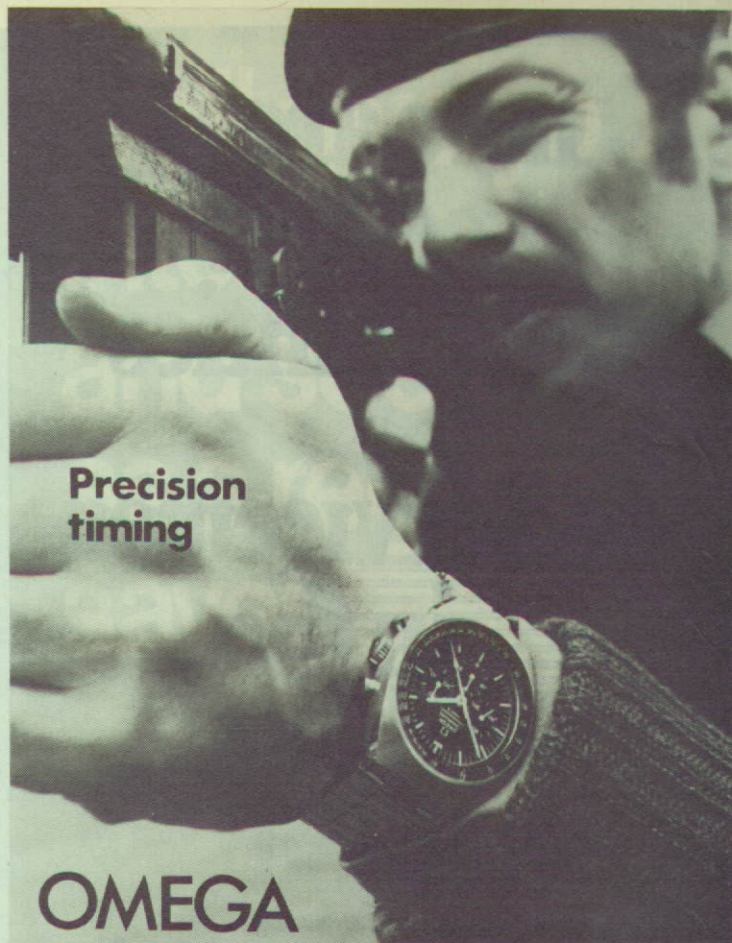
In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

## JUNE 1974

- 19 Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln (band) (19-20 June).
- 19 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 21 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (21-22 June).
- 22 Derby Carnival (band).
- 22 Catterick Army Display (Red Devils freefall team, Royal Signals motorcycle display team White Helmets, Blue Eagles helicopter team, four bands) (22-23 June).
- 22 Bolton Army Display (Red Devils, Junior Para PT, band) (22-23 June).
- 25 Royal Signals freedom march, Richmond, Yorkshire.
- 26 Royal Norfolk Show, Norwich (display team, band) (26-27 June).
- 26 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 28 Aldershot Army Display (King's Troop RHA, White Helmets, RMP tent-pegging, RCT Silver Stars freefall team, Red Devils, 16 Para Brigade spectacular, 20 bands, corps of drums, fanfare trumpeters) (28-30 June).
- 29 Whitburn Gala, West Lothian (band).
- 29 Galashiels Gala (band).
- 29 Princess Anne opens new TAVR Centre, Worksop.
- 29 Scottish Cycling Union Rally, Dundee (Golden Lions freefall team, 29 June, band 30 June) (29-30 June).
- 29 Woodford Air Display (Red Devils) (29-30 June).
- 29 Tamworth Carnival (band).
- 29 Clevedon Lions Show (AAC Chepstow PT display, Royal Artillery motorcycle display team, two bands).
- 29 Lord Mayor's parade, Cardiff.

## JULY 1974

- 3 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 4 Folkestone Tattoo (4-6 July).
- 5 Tynwald Opening, Isle of Man (band).
- 5 Hook Gala (band) (5-7 July).
- 6 Birkenshaw Show (band) (6-7 July).
- 6 Elstree and Boreham Wood Families Day (band, **displays**).
- 6 Basingstoke Tattoo.
- 6 Police Dependents Trust Fair, Ayr (Golden Lions).
- 7 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers tercentenary celebrations, London (7-13 July)—3rd Battalion public duties, Tower of London, 7-13 July. Regimental freedom march City of London, 8 July; regimental parade, march and display, Wandsworth Borough, 13 July.
- 7 Leeds Horse Show (band).
- 7 Hornsey Round Table (RA motorcyclists).
- 7 Bermondsey Carnival (Royal Green Jackets freefall team, band).
- 10 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (10-27 July).
- 10 Massed Bands Display, Larkhill.
- 10 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 12 Newport Carnival Fête (Red Devils, massed junior bands) (12-14 July).
- 12 Queen Mother presents new Colours to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (V) battalions, The Royal Anglian Regiment, Tidworth.
- 13 Moffat Gala (Golden Lions, pipe band).
- 13 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 13 Howard School Fête, Welwyn Garden City (display team, band).
- 13 Bromyard Show, Hereford (band) (13-14 July).
- 13 Finchley Carnival (infantry display, band).
- 13 Cheshunt Carnival (display team, band).
- 13 Leamington Spa Carnival (band).
- 13 38 Engineer Regiment Ripon Weekend Open Day.
- 15 Queen presents new Colours to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th (V) battalions, The Parachute Regiment, Aldershot.
- 16 East of England Show, Peterborough (RMP tent-pegging, Red Devils, band) (16-18 July).
- 17 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 18 Liverpool Show (Red Devils, band) (18-20 July).



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# DIARY continued

- 19 Sheffield Tri-Service Display (RMP tent-pegging, RA motorcyclists, two bands) (19-21 July).
- 20 Corby Highland Games (display team, band) (20-21 July).
- 22 Warrington Army Show (RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, three bands) (22-23 July).
- 22 Plymouth Forces Week and Air Day (Black Knights freefall team, band) (22-28 July).
- 25 St Helens Show (RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, band) (25-27 July).
- 25 Manchester Flower Show (Red Devils, band) (25-27 July).
- 25 Freedom of Melrose, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 25 Inverness ACF Tattoo (25-31 July).
- 27 Peterhead Gala (Blue Arrows).
- 27 Freedom of Wigtown, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 27 Open Day, The Light Infantry Depot, Shrewsbury.
- 28 Royal Armoured Corps Centre Open Day, Bovington.
- 28 National Scouts Rally, Chatsworth (Red Devils) (28-29 July).
- 29 Freedom of Newton Stewart, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 30 Freedom of Kirkcudbright, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 31 Kilmarnock Festival (White Helmets, Golden Lions).
- 31 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (31 July-3 August).
- 31 Royal Lancashire Show (Red Devils, band) (31 July-3 August).

## AUGUST 1974

- 1 Freedom of Hawick, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 2 Worcester City Show (Royal Engineers Junior Leaders gymnastic display) (2-3 August).
- 2 Hull Show (band) (2-3 August).
- 3 Open Day, The Rifle Depot (Royal Green Jackets), Winchester.
- 3 Freedom of Coldstream, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- 3 Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Bridge of Don (Golden Lions, band).
- 4 Kingsway Hospital Show, Derby (White Helmets, band).
- 5 King's Troop RHA salute, Hyde Park (Queen Mother's birthday).
- 5 Turriff Show (Golden Lions 6 August) (5-6 August).
- 8 Bakewell Show (Red Devils).
- 9 Glasgow KAPE Show (Blue Arrows motorcycle display team 10-11 August, pipe band 10 August, Golden Lions) (9-18 August).
- 10 Open Day, King's Troop RHA, St John's Wood Barracks, London.
- 13 Keith Show (Golden Lions).
- 14 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 14 Bingley Show (band).
- 15 Shropshire Horticultural Society Flower Show (King's Troop RHA) (15-18 August).
- 16 Edinburgh Tattoo (16 August-7 September).
- 17 Ashbourne Show (display team, band).
- 18 SSAFA 25th annual Air Display, RAF Church Fenton.
- 21 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 23 British Timken Show, Northampton (band 23 August, RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, White Helmets) (23-24 August).
- 24 Leeds Gala (band) (24-26 August).
- 24 Town and Country Show, Stoneleigh, Coventry (band) (24-26 August).
- 26 Watford Civic Outdoor Gala (band).
- 26 Walsall Show (Blue Eagles, band) (26-27 August).
- 26 Aylsham Show (band).
- 26 Hemel Hempstead Display (display team, band).
- 26 Rotarama 74, Worthing (RA motorcyclists, band).
- 28 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 29 Sheffield Show (band) (29-31 August).
- 30 Birmingham Show (two bands) (30-31 August).
- 30 Manchester (Heaton Park) Army Display (RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, RMP tent-pegging, five bands) (30 August-1 September).
- 31 Cadet Tattoo, Swindon.

## SEPTEMBER 1974

- 4 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 6 Army Catering Corps Depot and Training Battalion at Home, Aldershot (provisional).
- 6 Bootle Army Display (RA motorcyclists, Red Devils, RMP tent-pegging, Blue Eagles, RAVC, seven bands) (6-8 September).

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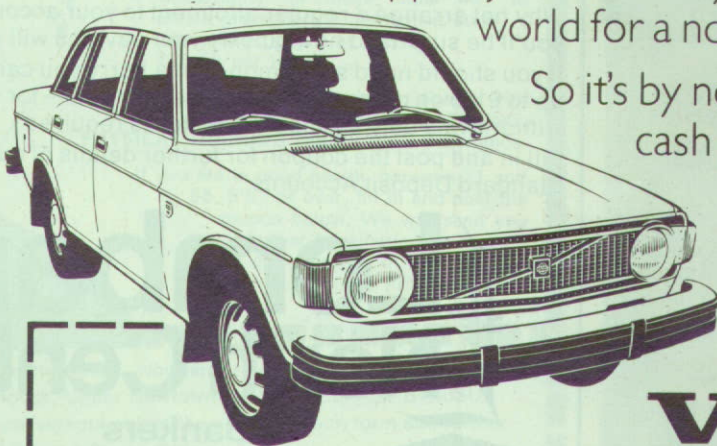
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# SOLDIER

## to Soldier

The 1973 Bound Volumes of SOLDIER are now available—price £3.80 inc p & p to United Kingdom and BFPO addresses and £3.85 overseas. Bound in red buckram they have the title, volume number and year in gilt lettering on the spine.



Record reviews in the May SOLDIER included an LP by the Staff Band of the Women's Royal Army Corps under the former Director of Music, Captain Zara Bowness Smith. This was a reprint of the original record, which quickly sold out, and now the reprint too is sold out. No further pressings are contemplated but the band is producing a new LP in the near future.



An up-dated list of available designs in the popular range of regimental drum ice buckets was published on page 17 of the May SOLDIER. A further addition to this list is The Gloucestershire Regiment (1st Battalion). The ice buckets cost £5.70 (UK), £5.20 (BFPO) and £5.80 (elsewhere), including postage and packing.



## Awards

A 35 year old Staff Sergeant in the Royal Engineers who lost his life when a road grader went out of control while on a civil aid project in Kenya has been posthumously awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct.

S/Sgt Frederick Victor Charles Moth, serving with 60 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, was instructing a learner driver on the grader when it ran out of control on a steep gradient at the approach to a hairpin bend. He pushed his companion clear of the cab to safety, took over control and bravely stayed with the grader, trying to arrest it by lowering the blade. He was still at the controls when the machine left the road and crashed some 30 feet into the valley below. He died of his injuries two days later.

Staff Sergeant Moth, who leaves a widow and 12 year old son, was mentioned in despatches during service in Northern Ireland from October 1973 to February this year.

A girl telephonist at the National Defence College, Latimer, at the time of the February Bomb incident has been presented with the Commander-in-Chief UK Land Forces's Commendation. WRAC Private Helen Kenny was on duty when a bomb exploded adjacent to the telephone exchange. She instantly alerted all emergency services and during the ensuing intense activity continued to man her switchboard in a calm and efficient manner despite an anonymous phone threat and the discovery of an unidentified car only 30 yards from the telephone exchange window.

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## Military museums 18

# The Queen's Own Hussars

THE regimental museum of The Queen's Own Hussars is housed in the Chaplains' Hall of the picturesque Lord Leycester Hospital, Warwick, founded in 1571 by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leycester, as a hospital for aged or infirm retainers and their wives. The exhibits displayed in these historic surroundings cover the histories of 3rd The King's Own Hussars, raised by King James II in 1685 as The Queen Consort's Regiment of Dragoons, and 7th Queen's Own Hussars, raised in Scotland in 1689 as Cunningham's Dragoons. The two regiments amalgamated in November 1958 to become The Queen's Own Hussars.

Prominent in the first of the museum's two rooms is a portrait of the Marquess of Anglesey, Colonel of the 7th Hussars from 1801 to 1842, who, as Earl of Uxbridge, was Wellington's cavalry commander at Waterloo. Close by, as if to complement the painting, is a fine example of a 7th Hussars officer's full-dress jacket and fur-trimmed pelisse of the period.

The shabracque worn by the charger which carried Captain (later Lieutenant-Colonel) Walter Unett, 3rd King's Own Light Dragoons, at the Second Sikh War battles of Chillianwallah and Goojerat in 1849 sets the scene for the next case. For here is the stable jacket clearly showing the savage foot-long slash across the back and left shoulder and spear thrust in the side which Captain Unett received when leading a charge against Sikh infantry at Chillianwallah. Another interesting item in this case is the Peninsular campaign diary kept by Major E Hodge, 7th Light Dragoons.

The decorations and medals of General Sir George de Lacy Evans, 3rd King's Own Dragoons, have a case to themselves. Sir George commanded the British Legion of 10,000 men in Spain during the Carlist War of 1835-36 for which he was made a KCB and awarded the Orders of St Ferdinand and Charles III; for his services in the Crimea a GCB, the Legion of Honour and the Turkish Order of the Medjidie; but perhaps his most interesting award is the Naval General Service Medal with "boat service" bar for the part he played in naval operations before New Orleans.

The central show case in Room Two contains the Victoria Cross won by Cornet W Bankes, 7th Hussars, on 19 March 1858 during a skirmish at Moosabagh, in which he was mortally wounded. Nearby is a bracelet made from the plaited hair of a mare ridden by Captain James Elphinstone, 7th Hussars, in many a campaign. At Genappe on 17 June 1815, the day before Waterloo, he was severely wounded, captured by the French and personally interrogated by Napoleon who ordered his personal physician to dress the captain's wounds.

Relics of the Boer War and two world



wars are also displayed in this room. Noteworthy are Field-Marshal Earl Haig's famous "Backs to the wall" message to all ranks of the British Army in France in April 1918 and the iron-and-brass camp bed he used as a subaltern in the 7th Hussars which he joined in 1885. A diorama of the battle of El Alamein depicts tanks of the 3rd King's Own Hussars in action on 2 November 1942 when acting as the spearhead for the final break-through.

This room also contains uniforms, examples of different types of headdress, including a black-and-white plumed 3rd Light Dragoons officer's shako of 1852, leopard skin saddle cloths and a display of regimental silver.

John Jesse

**Curator:** Major J S Sutherland (Retd)  
**Museum Orderly:** Mr P G Cullen  
**Address:** Regimental Museum  
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"Your firm never fails to impress me"

"One of the few firms who live-up to their adverts! Well done"

"We can sum-up our opinion in one word - delighted"

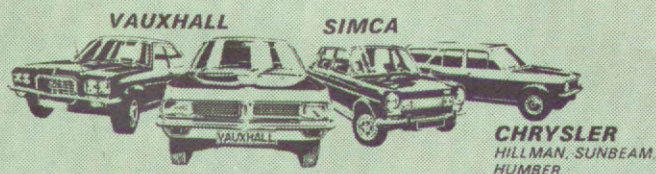
"I never fail to shout "Natocars" to any potential car purchasers"

"Thank you very much for the speed with which you moved on my late request. My friends in Hong Kong were most impressed and I have left your brochure with them"

Each of these remarks is an extract from an unsolicited letter written by a satisfied customer. We have with-held names and postings for reasons of security and to avoid any personal embarrassment, but the originals, and dozens of similar tributes, can be inspected at our Bridgwater office. Comments like these explain why, since 1967 thousands of servicemen and women at home and abroad have entrusted their decision to buy a car to Natocars. For every one car you bought then you buy thirty-four today, which speaks for itself in terms of customer satisfaction. One reason why we provide the personal service you like is that Natocars is the only firm in the world totally dependent upon H.M. Forces for the whole of its new and used car business. Each enquiry is assigned to one person who handles that case from coupon to car - a unique system that guarantees you are a name and not a number. We can't afford to be second best, whereas most of our competitors exist mainly on civilian trade. But the biggest reason for our success is a policy of constant improvement. This year we have introduced *the lowest prices in Europe on export Simcas*, greatly increased new car stocks to give even faster turn-round on rush orders and moved our entire firm to brand new purpose-built premises specifically equipped to meet the special demands of exporting cars to the forces.

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# When a City was fed from the sky

IT was a simple wreath-laying, lasting only about five minutes, in memory of the British and American airmen who died during the Berlin airlift. Yet that the ceremony was able to take place at all at Berlin's Templehof Airport was a direct result of that successful Cold War confrontation just a quarter of a century ago.

During the 11 months from June 1948 to May 1949 the allies, in some 200,000 sorties, flew in to the beleaguered city more than two million tons of food, fuel and other supplies. Eventually the Soviet authorities, realising that the blockade had failed, reopened the land routes from West Germany.

The commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the ending of the siege began at Templehof the night before the wreath-laying. In a giant aircraft hangar on the American air base, several speakers, including the just-resigned West German Chancellor, Herr Willy Brandt, addressed more than 2000 Berliners.

Herr Brandt said the end of the blockade marked an important stage of the post-war era in that it turned victors and vanquished into allies. It created a new political and moral alliance between German, British, French and Americans at a time when the ban on fraternisation had not even been formally lifted.

Story by John Walton  
Pictures by Arthur Blundell

"The airlift was a victory without arms," he declared. "Pilots who only a few years before had brought death and destruction to the city, risked their lives to keep the people of Berlin alive."

Among those who saw wreaths laid at the Airbridge Memorial on behalf of the British, French, American authorities and the Berlin government, business circles and political parties, was Brigadier Peter Downward, now commanding Berlin Infantry Brigade but then a captain commanding 15 non-commissioned officers of the Glider Pilot Regiment who flew as second pilots in the airlift.

The glider men found themselves in Germany because their tug aircraft were commandeered for the airlift. The regiment was virtually grounded and in addition the Royal Air Force was facing a crew fatigue problem with the constant shuttle service from West Germany to Berlin.

"In October 1948 we were drafted out and took our places flying backwards and forwards from Wunstorf to Gatow and from Schleswig Holstein to Tegel," the brigadier

recalled. Flying Avro Yorks, Brigadier Downward was based at Wunstorf, an airfield he had helped to capture following the Rhine crossing at the end of World War Two. Two missions a day with shifts rotating through mornings, afternoons and evenings put quite a strain on the pilots.

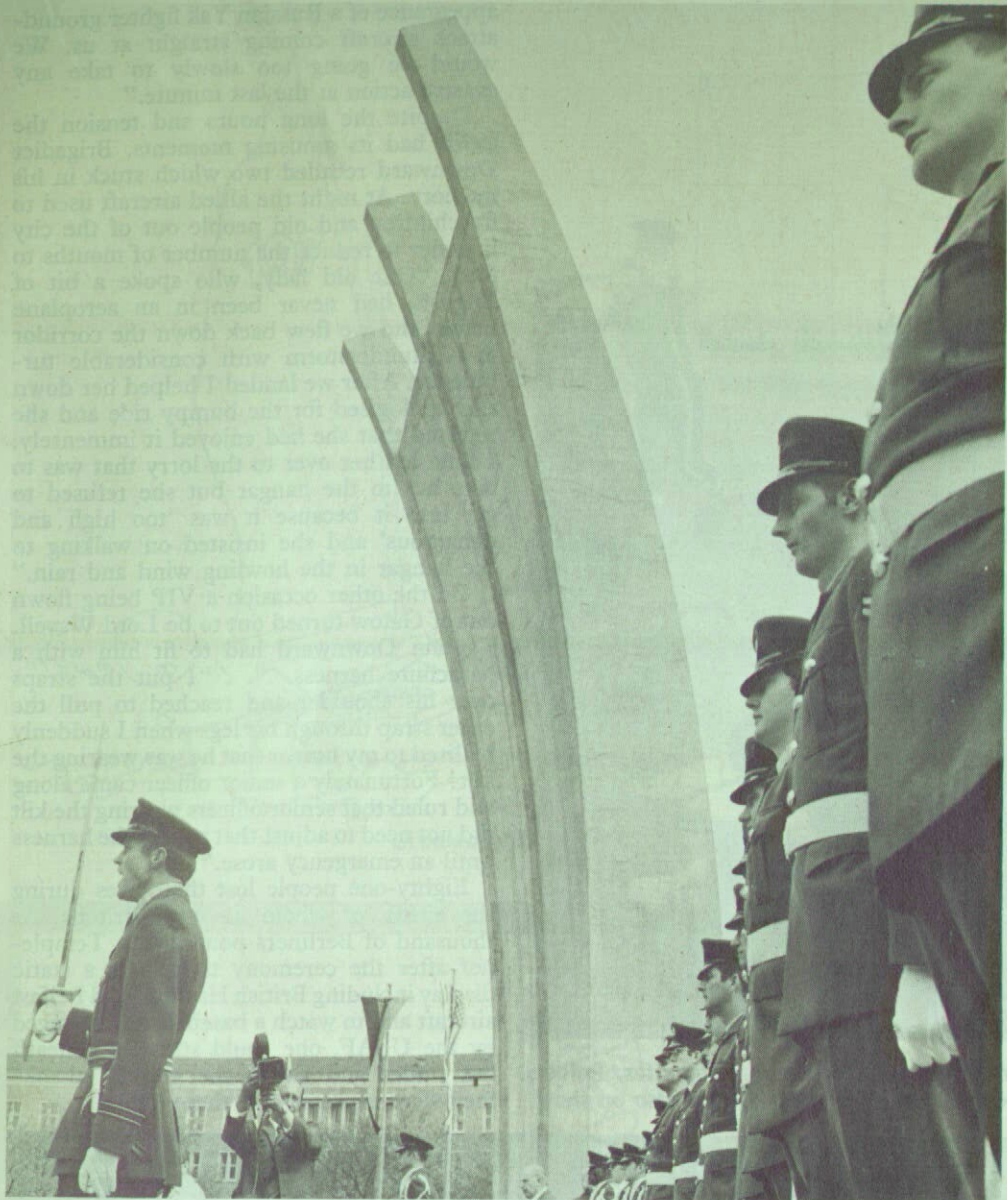
"I think we were useful to the RAF because we could help to lessen the fatigue of the first pilot—particularly in bad weather when we were able to take over some of the instrument flying and also assist with the preparation of the aircraft. It was a marvellous experience for an Army pilot because it was something completely different and one had a sense of purpose. We took pride in making what small contribution we could to a major life-saving operation."

"In bad weather you would get a lot of tension. Once the organisation of the airlift had shaken into place it worked like clockwork. Much of the organisation and planning was based on the Royal Air Force experience of mounting mass bomber raids and of the airborne invasions."

"The system depended very much on the timings in order to avoid mid-air collisions and every airfield feeding Berlin had to time things just right for there was an aircraft in the air over Berlin every 90 seconds, either taking off or landing."

Soldiers were also busy with groundwork including men of 11 Air Formation Signals Regiment who worked on airfield communication links and Royal Army Service Corps loading teams handling the supplies at base airfields. Today, of course, a job like the Berlin airlift would be easier. Aircraft are larger, faster and boast far more sophisticated navigational aids. But in the late 1940s bad weather and harassment from Russian aircraft posed major problems.

Said the brigadier: "One of the most startling experiences would be the sudden



The Royal Air Force contingent on parade by the airbridge memorial at Templehof.

Below: The crowd representing four nations Right: Brigadier Peter Downward puts flowers on grave of an Army sergeant.



Squadron Leader "Chalky" White, flew more than 100 missions in to Berlin in Avro Yorks with Brigadier Pat Downward as his co-pilot. He is still flying with the last four Hastings aircraft in service with the Royal Air Force at Scampton, Lincolnshire.

He says: "The Berlin Airlift was a remarkable experience. The thing I vividly remember is the atrocious weather in the first few weeks. We literally never saw the ground from take off to landing. "I remember seeing a stream of Yorks appearing through a hole in the cloud and landing at Wunstorf airfield and I thought 'I cannot possibly be a part of this!'"

Squadron Leader White said the living facilities for the fliers on shifts were totally inadequate and if a man vacated his bed for five minutes to go to the lavatory it was liable to be occupied on his return.



French and Americans pay their respects.



Original picture shows busy scene repeated thousands of times over at German airfields in 1948-49.





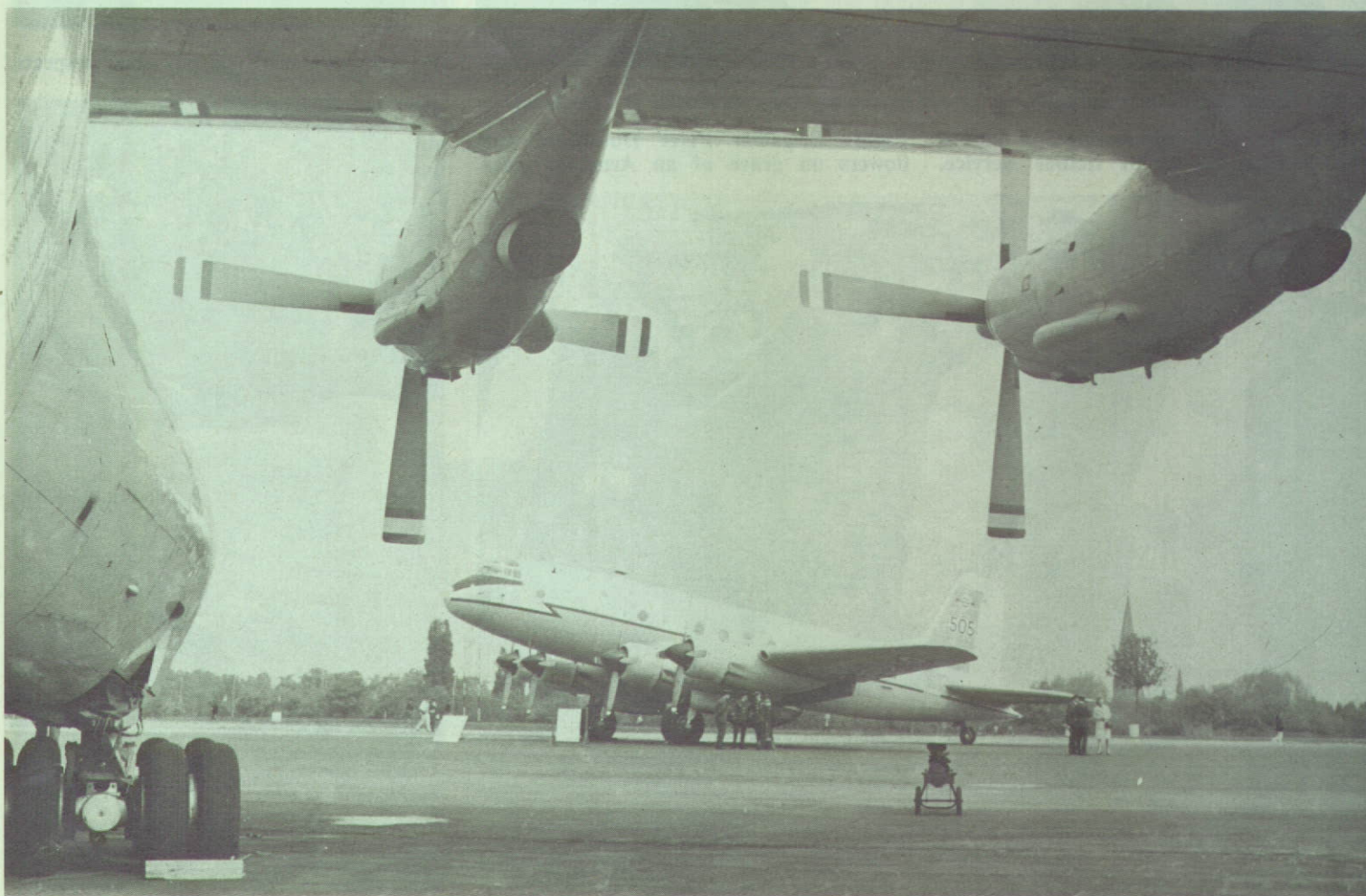
American airmen warm up before showing Berliners their peculiar sporting rites. Below: A veteran RAF Hastings aircraft taken from beneath the wings of a Belfast also on show.

appearance of a Russian Yak fighter ground-attack aircraft coming straight at us. We would be going too slowly to take any evasive action at the last minute."

Despite the long hours and tension the airlift had its amusing moments. Brigadier Downward recalled two which stuck in his memory. At night the allied aircraft used to fly children and old people out of the city in order to reduce the number of mouths to feed. "One old lady, who spoke a bit of English, had never been in an aeroplane before and we flew back down the corridor in a thunderstorm with considerable turbulence. After we landed I helped her down and apologised for the bumpy ride and she retorted that she had enjoyed it immensely. I then led her over to the lorry that was to take her to the hangar but she refused to get into it because it was 'too high and dangerous' and she insisted on walking to the hangar in the howling wind and rain."

On the other occasion a VIP being flown out of Gatow turned out to be Lord Wavell. Captain Downward had to fit him with a parachute harness. . . . "I put the straps over his shoulder and reached to pull the other strap through his legs when I suddenly realised to my horror that he was wearing the kilt! Fortunately a senior officer came along and ruled that senior officers wearing the kilt did not need to adjust that part of the harness until an emergency arose."

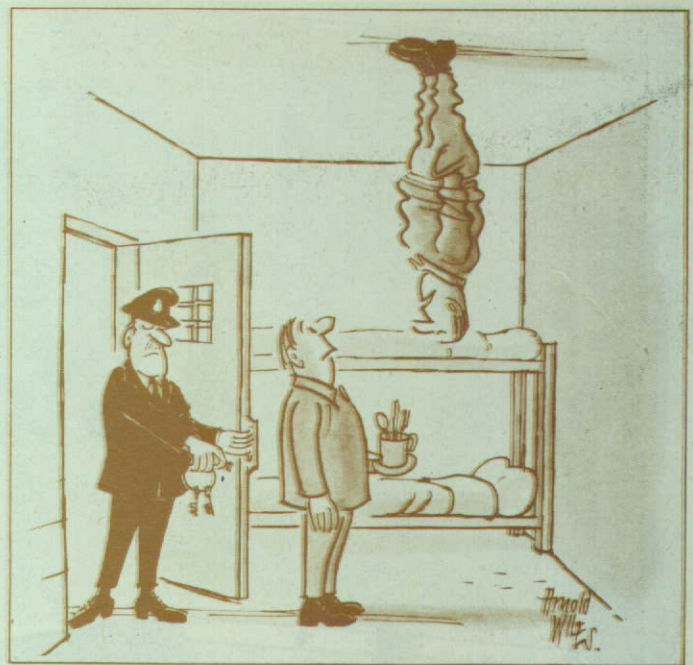
Eighty-one people lost their lives during the airlift, of whom 42 were Britons. As thousand of Berliners poured into Tempelhof after the ceremony to inspect a static display including British Hastings and Belfast aircraft and to watch a baseball match staged by the USAF, one could still feel beneath the smiles and gaiety the grateful thanks they were expressing to these heroes.





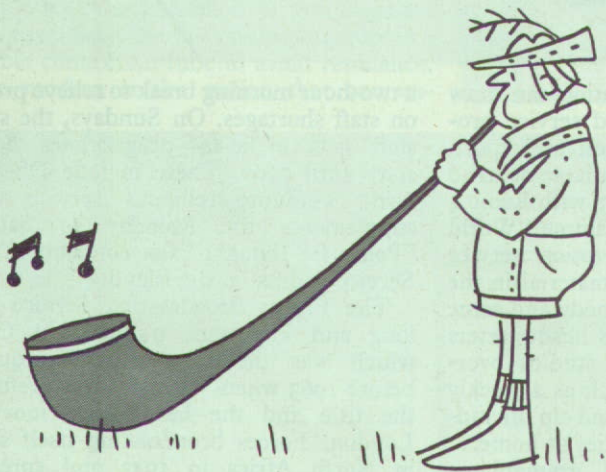


GLYNDWR REES



*"When you've been in as long as I have you develop all sorts of abilities you didn't know you possessed."*

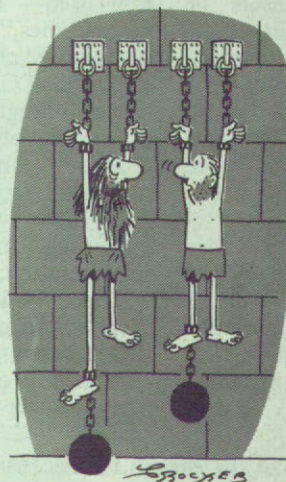
## Humour



Larry



*Today they've got it too damn soft!*



*Been here long?*

Glyndwr Rees



BFBS Cyprus

# The parish pump station

Story by Mike Starke / Pictures by Leslie Wiggs



ON high ground inland from the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area in Cyprus nestles a single-storey complex signposted simply BFBS—it is the British Forces Broadcasting Service station, described by its controller, Mr Roy Morgan, as “the parish pump station.”

He explained: “Forces Broadcasting Service stations are really the forerunners of the local broadcasting that now operates in the United Kingdom. Before the BBC opened its stations it looked at BFBS—this local service is very much our role and much of their operation is a copy of ours. We involve the listener in our programmes and tell them about their areas.”

A lively staff of 22 mans this airy new station—it was opened in 1964—helped by locally recruited secretarial and administrative staff who may be Cypriots or members of forces families. The ten engineering and 12 programme staff are United Kingdom-based civilians on a three-year tour of duty. After Cyprus they may be posted to one of the other overseas stations in Germany, Gibraltar, Malta, Singapore and Hong Kong or to the London headquarters of the service.

The home-grown broadcasts from the Dhekelia station include record programmes, magazines, quizzes and outside broadcasts. A small studio at Episkopi in the island's western sovereign base area contributes to the extensive local news coverage provided from Dhekelia.

But this is not all. The station can draw on relays of the BBC's world service programmes of news, information and sport. It also helps to satisfy the insatiable demand for news of home by linking up with Radio 4 for the news magazine programme “World at One.” The BBC transcription service provides a further source of material in the form of records of drama, comedy and some music. And, of course, BFBS headquarters supplies programmes which studios overseas could not cope with, such as a weekly United Kingdom sports round-up including interviews with personalities at home.

There is no shortage of gramophone records in the Dhekelia station's library. Some 40,000 of them pack the wall-to-ceiling racks and cover everything from the Beatles to Bach and back. This library is well used—“People never tire of request programmes,” commented Mr Morgan. The housewives' choice in Cyprus is the station's own John Crabtree whose “For you at home” programme includes that most up-to-date of broadcasting gimmicks, the phone-in, which is usually linked to a request. Every six weeks or so the station links up with the BBC's “Family Favourites” request programme and local requests are covered five nights a week.

There is plenty to offer the listener, but there is also plenty of time to fill—some 15 to 17 hours of broadcasting a day. The normal day offers programmes from 0545 to 2315. Over part of the year there has been

a two-hour morning break to relieve pressure on staff shortages. On Sundays, the station staff gets a lie-in—programmes do not start until 0700. These include Dhekelia's own 15-minute religious service which supplements the Monday to Saturday “Pause for thought” slot contributed to by Service padres on the island.

The Forces Broadcasting Service has a long and important tradition in Cyprus which was the Near East headquarters before 1963 when “British” was prefixed to the title and the head office moved to London. Forces broadcasting itself started in North Africa in 1943 and spread to Cyprus in 1948 from Palestine. At the time there were also stations operating from Tobruk, Benghazi, Tripoli and Malta which all came under the Cyprus control.

The station's first home on the island was an ex-RAF airstrip outside the capital, Nicosia. This base was destroyed by fire in 1952 just as Mr Morgan was travelling out to take over as chief engineer. He remembers reading about the blaze with horror as he set off from England. But in the true tradition of “the show must go on” the station was soon back on the air and found a new home in two old houses in Nicosia where it stayed until 1964.

There was no broadcasting at all in Cyprus before FBS first came so, in the early days, a few local programmes in Greek and Turkish were broadcast. This established a rapport with the Cypriots.

“We carried on all through the EOKA emergency,” said Mr Morgan. “In fact we were never bothered at all because of the tremendous fund of goodwill that had been built up.” That is not to say the BFBS staff remained unaffected by the crisis. Mr Morgan remembers one Christmas when a few broadcasters were trapped in the station in Nicosia for three days while fierce inter-communal fighting raged outside. But the programmes still went out.

The Nicosia premises became inadequate for the station's needs in the early sixties and the present custom-built station was opened in 1964 at Dhekelia where the biggest concentration of British troops and their families was. Now there are hopes of stereo broadcasting to add to the enjoyment not only of the Service families the station exists to serve but of an outside audience that cannot resist tuning in to BFBS's popular programmes.

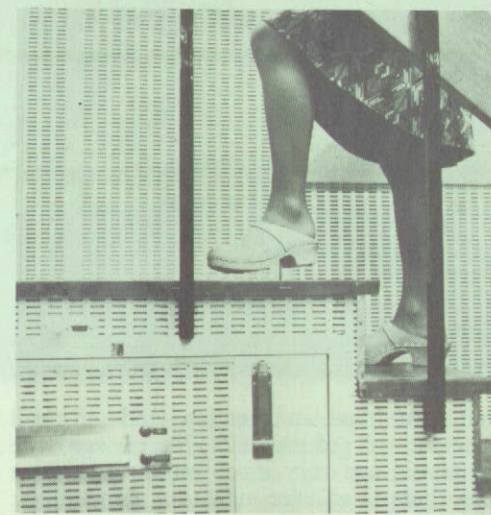
Mr Morgan explained: “Officially we provide broadcasts for Service families. But we have a very large overspill audience of several millions. There are a lot of Cypriot listeners in the Republic and even more in such places as Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Egypt. If you go to Beirut and travel in a taxi with the driver playing a radio, the music is most likely from BFBS Cyprus because we carry such a large pool of up-to-date light and pop music.”

Each studio is a box-within-a-box—enclosed within the outer walls and standing on rubber feet. This isolates the studio from outside noise—C130 Hercules transports sometimes thunder overhead from a nearby airstrip and the insulation is proof against their roar. Even the air-conditioning pipe is a flexible connection tube to avoid resonance.

So modern is the station that one en-



BFBS trainee Nicol Raymond selects some records from the station's vast library. There are 40,000 records on the shelves.



Left: A special effects stair's treads are split into half stone, half wood. A false door beneath offers a variety of latches and door bells used as sound effects.

Below: Beyond soundproof glass a BFBS programme takes shape under the eagle eyes of the studio's production staff.



The nine-year-old Cyprus station of the British Forces Broadcasting Service, on high ground near the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area.





from previous page

thusiastic broadcaster quipped into his microphone one day that his radio show was being transmitted in colour. But back came the complaint from a listener that this was no use to him as he had only a black-and-white receiver!

Mr Morgan summed up: "Like the British Constitution we have no written mandate as such except an internal one. We are expected to provide mainly enter-

tainment plus information and a small element of education." Years ago the emphasis was very much on entertainment but there is an ever-increasing demand for information and the programmes are designed to reflect this trend.

He added: "A very important aspect of our work is to maintain a link for the Serviceman and his family with the United Kingdom and keep him informed about what is happening there."

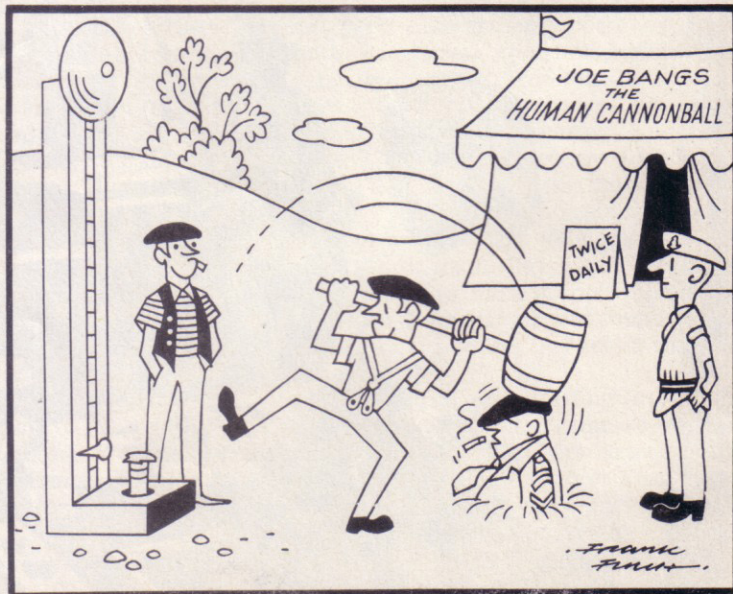
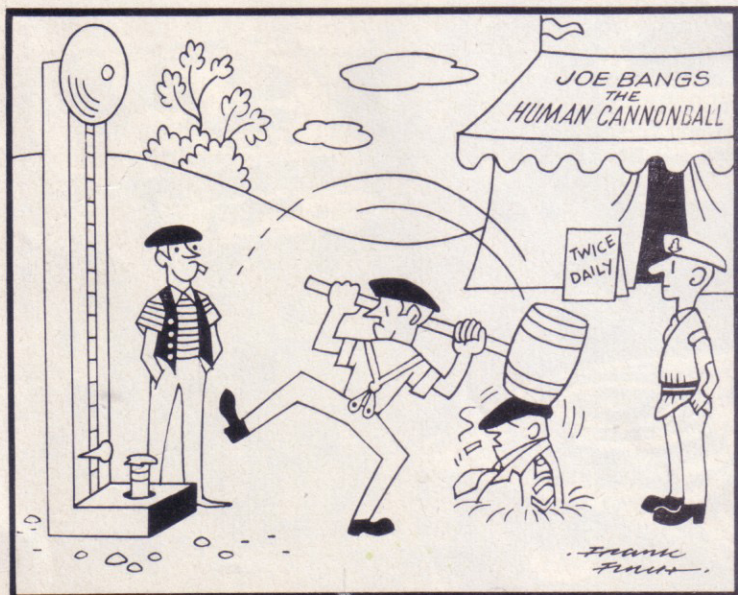
The "parish pump" station sets out to

**Programme controller Alan Grace (right) interviews a soldier about a soccer game.**

give a sense of identity to people whose work keeps them on the move every couple of years with new postings. BFBS makes them feel at home wherever they are.

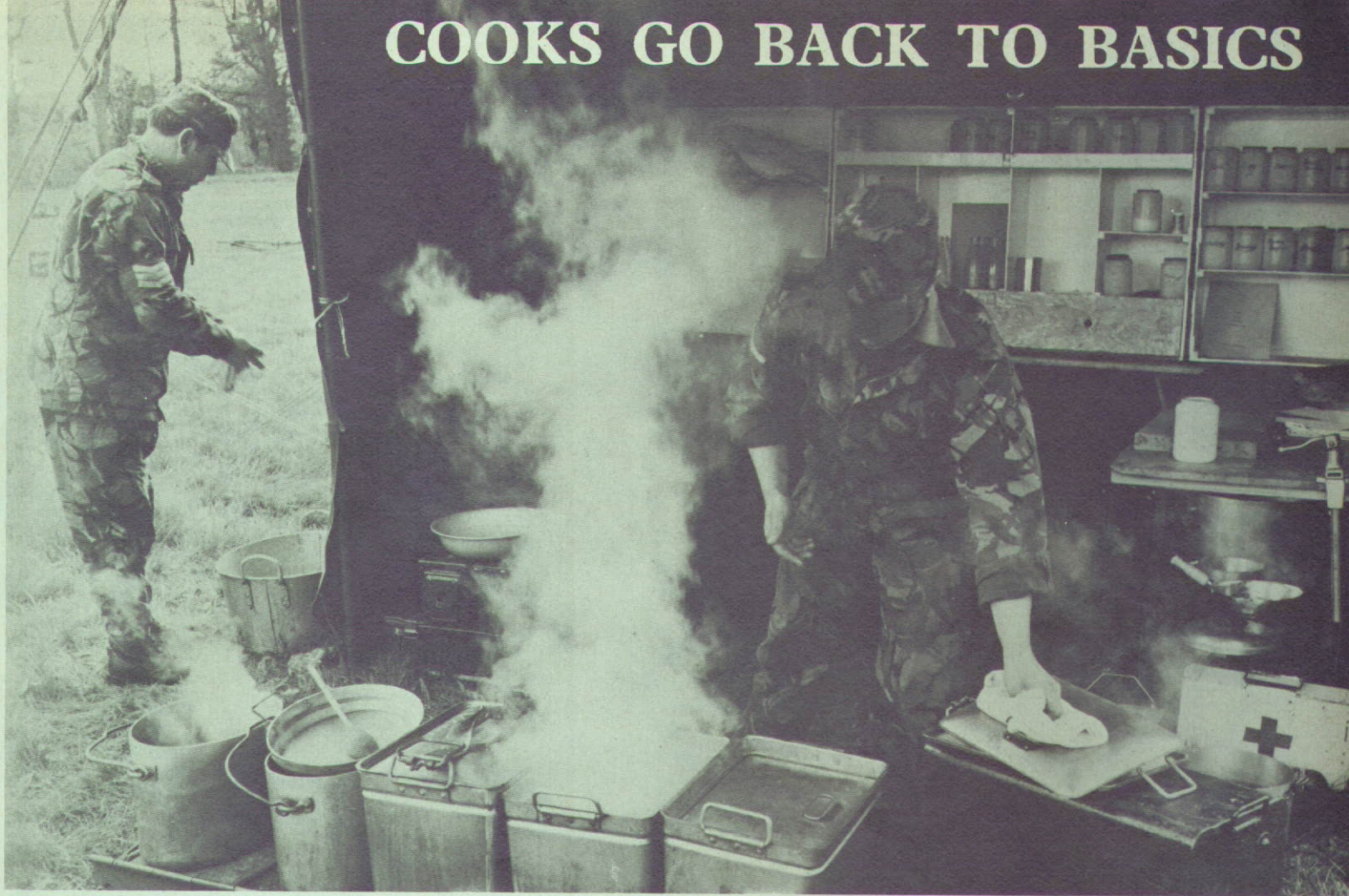
# How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 46.





# COOKS GO BACK TO BASICS



**T**HE Army cookery contest had a "new look" this year. Out went such gourmet favourites as works in pastillage, petits fours, galantine chaudfroid and decorated cakes with royal icing. In their place—beef broth, brown stew, carrots and black cap pudding with custard!

Astonishing though it may seem, this year's finals at the Army School of Catering were the first at which the cooks were required to produce a meal in field conditions. The fact that the ornate specialities disappeared was said by Major John Smith, one of the competition organisers, to be unconnected. The fuel crisis had kept down the number of competitors—the eight missing classes could well return next year.

A smell of carrots wafted through the air

as, under canvas, seven teams of two cooks prepared the field fare using hydro burners of a type which came into service in 1937 and which are still used. On display nearby were cooking outfits four and five, still on troop trials, but having the great advantage in that the cook can do his work standing up. Each pair of cooks in the field had two partners working in the Catering School's ultra-modern kitchens. Their marks were combined to give the overall unit winners—eventually the team from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry.

The prizes were presented by the Quartermaster-General, General Sir William Jackson, who said that in 38 years in the Army the thing that had impressed him most had been the improvement in catering. Now

it was his job to improve kitchens which in places consisted of gloomy dungeons.

Winner of the advanced individual senior event was Corporal Fred Creese, from the School of Infantry, Warminster; the corresponding junior award went to Lance-Corporal A Greaves of 18/26 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport.

Other results—Hospital team: 1st, Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank. Women's Royal Army Corps team: 1st (equal), 17 Training Regiment and Depot Royal Artillery, Woolwich, and Royal Army Educational Corps Centre, Beaconsfield. Gateau: 1st, Lance-Corporal Millar, Queens Royal Irish Hussars, Rhine Army. Omelette: 1st, Lance-Corporal Yetton, 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry.

Oswestry cooks receive team prize from Quartermaster-General Sir William Jackson.

Flying high. Corporal Fred Creese is hoisted aloft with his individual cookery trophy.

Too many cooks? . . . The judges test broth produced outside under field conditions.







Left: Queen Margrethe takes the salute.

Below: The Colonel-in-Chief, accompanied by Deputy Colonel (Surrey) Maj-Gen R S N Mans, chats to some of the old comrades.



**I**N presenting new Colours to four battalions of The Queen's Regiment, in the City of London, Queen Margrethe II of Denmark continued a traditional link of nearly four centuries' standing between the regiment and the Danish royal house.

Represented on parade at Armoury House, home of the Honourable Artillery Company, were the 1st, 2nd and 3rd battalions plus the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion. Because the 2nd Battalion is in Germany and the 3rd in Gibraltar, the four guards on parade were from the 1st Battalion, recently returned to Bulford from duty in Northern Ireland.

The old Colours trooped for the last time were of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment (presented in 1960); 1st

Battalion, The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment (presented in 1962); 1st Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment (presented in 1954); 1st Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) (presented in 1953); 4th Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) TA (presented in 1960).

Special invitations to the ceremony went out to the five living holders of the Victoria Cross and George Cross who served in one or other of the regiments from which The Queen's Regiment was formed and to seven widows of VC holders. Queen Margrethe was introduced to them and to members of the old comrades associations.

The four bands and corps of drums of the

  
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The Colours are trooped past the ranks—an age-old custom once used to show troops which flag to rally to in battle. The brightly coloured standards were unmistakable to them.

regiment, numbering 160 musicians, took part in the parade under the Director of Music, Captain Donald Pryce.

Denmark's connection with the regiment dates back to 1689 when command of The Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot or The Lord High Admiral's Regiment was given to King James II's son-in-law, Prince George of Denmark. Shortly afterwards this regiment was dis-

banded and Prince George was appointed Honorary Colonel of the next regiment in order of precedence, The Holland Regiment, which had sprung in 1572 from the London Trained Bands and which, as the Third of Foot, now became known as Prince George, Hereditary Prince of Denmark's Regiment.

The prince held the post until his death in 1708 and the connection was not revived until 1906 when King Edward VII, on his

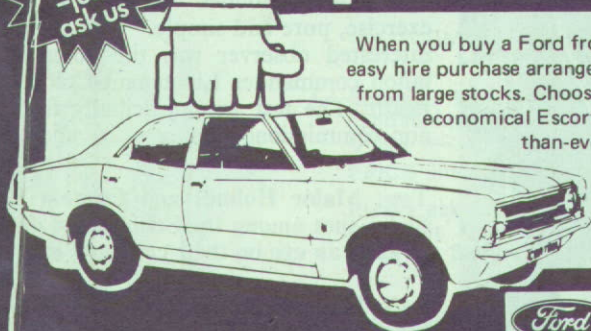
birthday on 9 November, appointed Denmark's King Frederick VIII as Colonel-in-Chief of The Buffs—as the Third of Foot had been known since 1754.

Ties with Denmark have been kept up until this day and in 1941 the enrolment of eligible Danes into the British Army was authorised and more than 1000 young Scandinavians passed through the regimental depot at Canterbury. The Queen's Own Buffs Regimental Association has a Denmark Branch made up of the survivors.

Queen Margrethe, Denmark's present monarch, was appointed as an allied Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Regiment in June 1972. The other allied Colonel-in-Chief is Queen Juliana of the Netherlands.

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S7/74



# Soldiering in the Scillies

Story by Mike Starke  
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs



**S**OLDIERING," said the colonel, "is what we do in between wars," as he observed the carefully selected hide a four-man patrol had sought in a craggy Scilly Isles headland during a tough 24-hour Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve exercise.

Nearly 60 men of A Company, 5th Battalion, The Light Infantry (Volunteers), plus three teenage cadets and a Welbeck College student who hopes for a Regular commission in The Light Infantry, gave up a spring weekend to take part in Exercise Island Hop. And the island they hopped to was the spectacular St Mary's in the Scilly group where farmers tend crops of waving daffodils in fields that warm long before mainland soil has been released from the iron grip of winter frosts.

The object of the exercise, in the words of the company commander, school teacher/Major John Holmes was an "intelligence exercise, pure and simple." And there as an interested observer was the colonel—battalion commander Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Beath. The test was principally for junior non-commissioned officers to show their

**Top: Major Holmes and Captain French find a spot among the Scilly Isles' daffodils to keep an eye on their company exercise.**

**Left: Sunny skies and smooth seas greeted the Cornish Volunteers when they made the ferry journey from Penzance to St Mary's.**



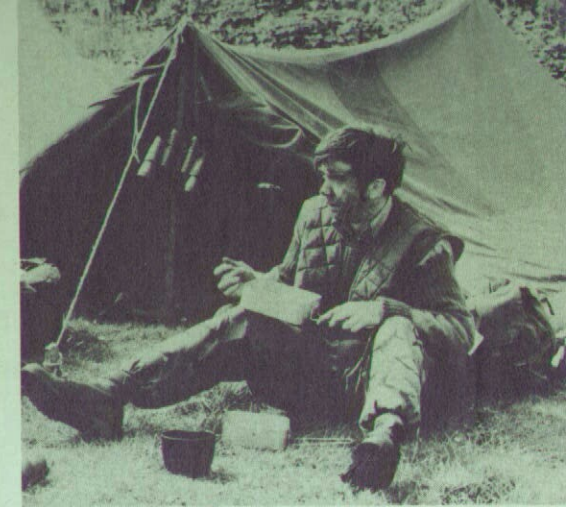
**Private Alan Reynolds is used to the outdoor life—he took a 15,000-mile motor-cycle ride to work in Australia for a while.**

skills in controlling a patrol in a hide, moving at night with no radio and only the scantiest of maps, accurate observation and recording of intelligence gained plus the discipline of the domestic problems of resting, eating and working unobserved.

No contact could be made with the local population, except for "agents" who passed sealed orders to the eleven patrols of three or four men each. Civilian clothes smuggled

on to St Mary's with the advance party some days earlier were brought to light after the patrols had left and donned by Major Holmes, Lieutenant-Colonel Beath, second-in-command Captain Tom French and the company's permanent staff instructors who then set out to spy on the spies to gather useful tips for the debrief.

The patrols operated from a series of remote dropping-off points—simulated helicopter landing pads—from which they made a dash for cover to wait until dark. The "agents" who passed on the sealed orders were co-ordinated by Captain Bill Rees,



**Above: After a night of hard work, fatigue is etched into the camouflage-smudged face of this Terrier—food was really welcome.**

**Below: A company prides itself on its cooks; they have made special equipment to get the best results. But spud-bashing is by hand.**



a local man who commands the Scillies' 15-strong cadet force—surely the most westerly command in England.

Captain Rees's cadets benefited from the Terriers' visit while the exercise was on. As Army Cadet Force liaison officer for the Scillies, Major Holmes loaned instructors from his company to coach the cadets in weapon training, battlecraft and radio voice procedure.

Back in the exercise the patrols recorded the results of their daylight observations. After a night reconnaissance they moved to new locations and next morning made more

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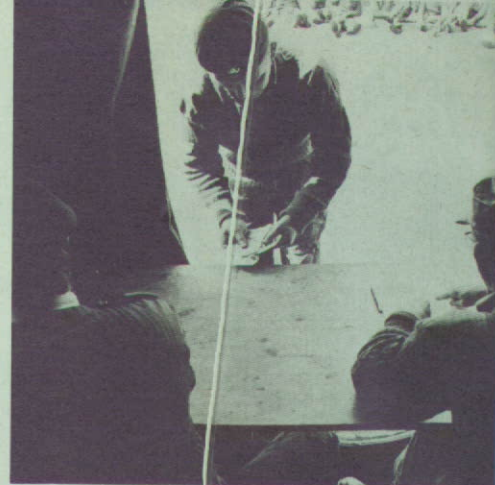
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A well-hidden patrol breaks cover for a moment to pose for the camera while keeping a sharp eye on the island coastline for the "enemy." All movements were noted down.



All this, and pay too! The company took the opportunity of paying out the annual bounty to the Volunteers at exercise-end.

daylight observations. The exercise over, the patrols broke cover and trudged across country to a rendezvous to march back to the company camp overlooking the island's "capital" of Hugh Town. Work was not quite over yet for eleven members of the company—they faced a shin-cracking soccer match against a local team.

After a visit to the quiet island paradise of Tresco the weekend literally ended with a bang as a Land-Rover crashed on to the deck of the ferry to the mainland. But the vehicle was retrieved and drove off into the night at Penzance with the combat-suited Cornishmen filling the evening air with a buzz of anecdotes from their weekend.

Below: Keen eyes peer through bushes, pen poised to note a point for "intelligence."



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# 'Hexagon' Is No Square



THE ROBIN CHEER SOUND  
DAVID STEELE  
GING SIMON  
THE IRISH FOLK FIVE  
DICK LABORDE  
HEXAGON  
LESLEY CLAYTON  
THE DOTTED MINIMS

**T**HE three-man rock group "Hexagon," from 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, flashed and crashed a strobe-lit path to the winning position in this year's Army music group and singer competition. "Hexagon" dominated the stage at the BBC Playhouse Theatre, London, with flashing coloured lights, synchronised to the heavy beat of their music, and the trio's red-and-yellow outfits topped by Slade-like flat-hats.

The group did not expect to win. They are not musicians by trade. Drummer/vocalist Lance-Corporal Gus Boyd stressed: "We're all straight off the tank park." But the championship trail has been paved with experience and success playing regular spots in Germany where Gus, guitarist/vocalist Lance-Corporal Geoff Mills, bass guitarist/vocalist Sergeant Dave Trasname and back-stage electronics wizard Lance-Corporal Reg Helmore are serving.

Their transport is a 37-seater converted Mercedes coach with three bunk beds. "We travel a lot in Germany playing two or three gigs a week," Gus explained. On top of this "Hexagon" did a Keep-the-Army-in-the-Public-Eye tour last year and hopes to repeat that success this year.

In a vividly contrasting style the individual singer winner was Private Lesley Clayton (pictured on back cover), a 21-year-old ex-drama student now serving with 12 Company, Women's Royal Army Corps. She emerged top in the United Kingdom finals and clinched her Army-wide win at the BBC Playhouse with a melifluous folk song she accompanied with the guitar she taught herself to play.

Lesley, too, was surprised by her win but adamant that the panel of judges had not been swayed by the fact that she was the only girl in the final. She added: "I don't believe in women's lib—I know when I'm well off!" She joined her corps last year and

started training for a commission in May this year. Asked if she might ultimately take up a musical career she replied guardedly: "Yes, I'd like it—but I'd go into it with my eyes open."

The Army music group contest started eight years ago, the brainchild of ex-Bombardier Harry Secombe, the international star. In 1970 the individual singer competition was added. Every year eliminating rounds are held in the United Kingdom and Germany. The first and second groups and singers from the two areas then compete in the finals. The winning group receives the Royal Artillery Cup and Army Benevolent Fund Cup and the best singer gets the Francis, Day and Hunter Cup presented by the music publishing firm. In addition, the winners are given a recording audition. Last year's winning group, "The Patriots," has made a new record to be realised by Mitch Murray, one of the 1974 judges, who runs his own record company and, as a song writer, has a string of hits to his name including "Bonny and Clyde" and "Good-bye Sam, Hello Samantha."

Chairman of the judges this year was Geoff Love, composer, conductor and musician. He told the live audience in London and British Forces Broadcasting Service listeners in Germany: "This is my fifth year as a judge and every year the standard of this contest gets higher. This year it's exceptionally high. And remember, these are amateurs—they only make music in their spare time."

Presentation and musical ability were the two criteria the six judges applied to the finalists. The programme was heard in Germany and edited highlights were sent to BFBS stations in Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus and Singapore.

From the "big band" swing sound to the hard rock beat, the finalists proved the

Army has some top-class musicians. The leader of the Danny Hodgson Trio, on stage to accompany some of the finalists, told **SOLDIER** he had been an Army musician in the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, band corps. He left in 1967 and has made his name as a full-time musician in Civvy Street—two of Danny Hodgson's long-playing records now on the market have so far totalled sales of 82,000.

## The finalists were:

**Hexagon** (2nd Royal Tank Regiment) (First group, Rhine Army final) 46 points

**Irish Folk Five** (2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers) (Pictured above) (First group, United Kingdom final) 44 points

**The Dotted Minims** (17 Training Regiment and Depot, Royal Artillery) (Second group, UK) 40 points

**The Robin Cheer Sound** (Royal Artillery Alanbrooke Band) (Second group, Rhine Army) 38 points

**Private Lesley Clayton** (12 Company, Women's Royal Army Corps) (First singer, UK) 40 points

**Corporal David Steele** (1st Royal Tank Regiment) (Second singer, UK) 39 points

**Corporal Dick Laborde** (3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment) (First singer, Rhine Army) 34 points

**Lance-Bombardier "Ginge" Simon** (45 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery) (Second singer, Rhine Army) 12 points



# Left, right and centre

Prince Charles took the salute at the fiftieth anniversary of the dedication and laying of wreaths at the Combined Cavalry Old Comrades memorial in Hyde Park, London. On parade with the old comrades were six cavalry bands from The Life Guards, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, The Queen's Own Hussars, 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars and 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers.



Private Derby XXI may become the first mascot to serve in Northern Ireland since the present troubles started. Derby, six-and-a-half years old, is well equipped to attack—his chief handler, Ram-Major Lance-Corporal T Cheetham suffered a broken nose and two black eyes when only brushing the ram—but is somewhat vulnerable in defence. Hence the flak jacket to which Derby is being introduced in Berlin before his unit, 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, moves to Northern Ireland in September for an 18-month tour. The battalion leaves Berlin next month and Derby will be going on leave to the depot at Lichfield.



The 4th (V) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, has welcomed new recruit Sospan II as its mascot. Sospan I died seven months ago. The name of the goat is in honour of the battalion's long connection with Llanelli, home of Sospan Fach—the "little saucepan" immortalised in song at the drop of a rugby scarf. And by coincidence Sospan's Goat-Major Barry John is the namesake of the Llanelli and Wales rugby legend-in-his-lifetime. Sospan II comes from the royal herd of Kashmir goats, source of goat mascots since the reign of Queen Victoria.



Lord Ballantrae, once Brigadier Sir Bernard Fergusson, and now the Lord High Commissioner, was the Queen's representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Here he inspects a guard of honour from 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, in the square outside Edinburgh's St Giles Cathedral.

◀ Informality was the keynote when the Army Under-Secretary of State, Lord Brayley, paid a flying visit to 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry, in Germany. The battalion of North Country-recruited soldiers has only recently started a tour in Rhine Army and is getting to grips with its new role of mechanised infantry. Lord Brayley offered some old soldier's advice to Corporal Pete Shepherd of the Bugle Platoon who explained that he is more used to blowing his bugle than handling the weightier problems of an FV 432 armoured personnel carrier.





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Pull-out supplement SOLDIER July 1974

## THE ARMY GETS ITS PAY RISE

The Army's long-awaited pay rise has been announced and the £100,000,000 deal shows clearly that the present administration sees soldiers as special cases. On top of the wage boost, which can lift a private's pay by up to £5 a week and give him a maximum of £43.30 and minimum of £24 on pay day, comes a 50 pence a day bonus for duty in Northern Ireland. This bonus is not regarded as "danger money" but as a compensation for the exceedingly long hours soldiers are forced to work trying to keep the peace in the strife-torn province.

The new rates (full tables in next month's SOLDIER News) will be back-dated to 1 April this year. It is claimed that for the first time a private soldier will be able to earn more than the country's average weekly wage which now stands at £41. The rises represent increases of between five and 15 per cent, the latter of which applies to the lower paid man.

Before the announcement in the House of Commons there had been growing concern among soldiers of all ranks about the waning value of their pay as prices rocketed. The new rates, it is hoped, will give a boost to the Army's manpower as would-be recruits realise that they can now command a competitive pay packet in uniform as opposed to Civvy Street.

## MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

● Apart from the pay rise, the most interesting announcement from the House of Commons as far as the Army is concerned has been a series of improvements outlined by the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Roy Mason, for soldiers serving in Northern Ireland. He told the House that one important concession being introduced of special interest to the permanent garrison troops was that they were to be allowed to take their cars home to mainland United Kingdom twice a year at public expense. A free travel warrant is being introduced for single soldiers on emergency tours so that the warrant used for mid-tour leave would not be deducted from annual entitlement. Wives of servicemen left in Germany while their husbands are in Northern Ireland are to be allowed a free return trip to the United Kingdom to stay with their families in addition to the free trip allowed per three-year tour in Rhine Army. A limited number of free phone calls is to be allowed each week for soldiers ringing families in mainland United Kingdom and those with families in Germany will be allowed one free call to them a week. Soldiers and their families travelling overnight by ferry from Northern Ireland will be provided with sleeping berths at public expense. Free lightweight airmail for the forces to both the United Kingdom and Germany from Northern Ireland is now allowed. And, for the benefit of soldiers whose homes are in Northern Ireland and who find difficulty in going home for leave, free civil air travel is to be arranged for parents to leave the province to holiday with their soldier sons. A SSAFA social worker for families in Northern Ireland has been approved.

● Mr Rodgers outlined the think tank behind Ministry of Defence research in answer to a question from Mrs Renée Short (Labour, Wolverhampton North-East). He said the ministry had one main research body, the Defence Research Committee, which provides policy guidance on the research programme which is designed to meet the Services' requirements for future conventional weapons and equipment. The chairman is the Chief Scientific Adviser and there are 13 members representing the central staffs, the Service users and the Procurement Executive. The Treasury and Department of Industry also attend. But the control of spending on research is in the hands of the Chief Executive, Procurement Executive, through his Controller of Research and Development Establishments and Research. In 1973-74, expenditure on the defence research programme came to about £70,000,000.

● The Army's total strength at 31 March this year stood at 171,705, Minister of State for Defence Mr William Rodgers told the House. This figure is nearly double the manpower of the RAF and more than twice that of the Royal Navy. But the Army figure is some 7000 down on the same time last year. All three Services show a drop in strength since March 1973.

● Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath) asked how many Regular soldiers in Greater London and at Windsor are required on an average day to carry out ceremonial duties as sentries and how many sentries are posted in each location. Mr Rodgers told him about 100 men are involved each day—from them are drawn six sentries at St James's Palace, six at Buckingham Palace, five at the Tower of London, nine at Windsor Castle and four at Whitehall.

● The training of officers in the knowledge of the Emergency Provisions Act in Northern Ireland was the subject of a query from Mr James McCusker (Armagh). Mr Rodgers told him that all officers posted to Northern Ireland get six to ten weeks'

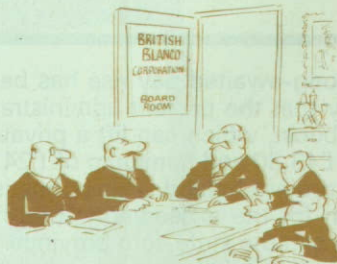




## MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

continued

special training before their tour of duty. This includes instruction in the Emergency Provisions Act of 1973 and practical exercises involving likely situations which involve the application of the Act. They are also issued with an aide-memoire on those aspects of the Act relating to arrests.



● In 1973-74 there were 1578 Service and 596 civilian personnel employed either in, or on work run from, the Services' careers information offices, Mr Rodgers said in answer to a question from Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Conservative, Walthamstow East). Mr Rodgers added that the only readily identifiable costs are staff costs and rent which in 1973-74 amounted to £5,900,000.

● British military forces in Germany are estimated to cost the taxpayer £400,000,000 in the current financial year, Mr Rodgers told Mr Ronald Atkins (Preston North). The foreign currency cost, Mr Rodgers added, is estimated at DM 1,800,000,000 (about £294,000,000). Both figures exclude the cost of equipment.

● A special unit under a senior retired officer has been in existence since last September to co-ordinate "after care" of soldiers injured in Northern Ireland including the question of compensation, Mr Mason told Mr Walter Johnson (Labour, Derby South). The Minister also outlined procedures for claiming compensation for injury in answer to another question from Mr William Molloy (Labour, Ealing North). Compensation must be pursued through the Criminal Injuries to Persons (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 as individuals through the county courts, using the services of a Northern Ireland solicitor. Under the Act, claims have to be lodged within 28 days. Mr Mason added: "While the Ministry of Defence has no jurisdiction over the amount of compensation awarded—which is decided by the courts—or over the court's procedures, the Department ensures that soldiers are fully aware of their rights under the Act. The Army engages a solicitor to act for the soldier." The "after care" special unit also helps with information needed to process the claim.

● Scottish regiments make up 14 per cent of the total Army strength, Mr Rodgers told Mr Gordon Wilson (Scottish Nationalist, Dundee East). These include both Royal Armoured Corps and infantry units.

● An English soldier can expect to spend less than half a 12-year engagement in his home country, Mr Rodgers told Mr Gordon Wilson in answer to a further question. Mr Rodgers explained: "English infantry battalions can on average expect to be based in England for five years in each 12-year period. During this time they will be available for overseas exercises and unaccompanied tours, including emergency tours in Northern Ireland."

● A new leaflet outlining disablement allowances for Reserve Forces suffering injury or death on peacetime exercises or training is being prepared, Navy Under-Secretary of State Mr Frank Judd told Mr John Loveridge (Conservative, Havering, Upminster). Mr Judd said there is already a leaflet revised in 1972 about disablement allowances



*"I suppose you'll deny you're working  
'and in glove with the Cabinet?"*

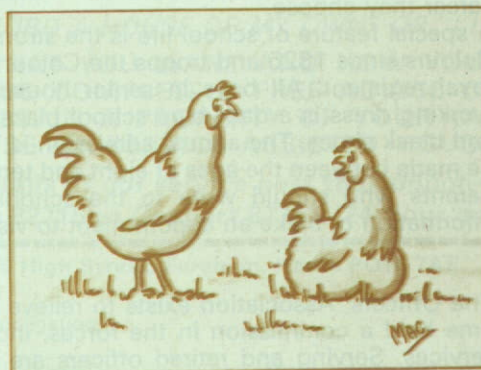


available for Territorial Army Volunteer Reservists and members of the Ulster Defence Regiment. But there are as yet no leaflets for Royal Navy or Royal Air Force reservists although entitlements for them are set out in regulations. The new leaflet being prepared will cover all three Services.

● The nation's defence costs each taxpayer about £65 a year, Mr Mason said in reply to a question from Mr Neville Trotter (Conservative, Tynemouth).

## SOLDIER STUDIES WITH OPEN UNIVERSITY

The Open University has given Army dental radiographer Paul Bye his only chance to study for a degree while he fulfils a tour of duty in Londonderry. Paul will be in one of two groups of younger students between the ages of 18 to 21 taken on by the Open University—started in 1971 to provide higher education for adults—in order to



*"I thought that it was about time I sat for my first."*

assess whether the university's teaching methods are suitable for younger students. Those who take courses work at home in their own time from correspondence material backed up by radio and television programmes. No qualifications are needed to study for a degree with the university. More details about the Open University can be had from Miss Jean Ritchie, Open University, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.

## MORE GET THE STRENGTH OF ADATS AROUND THEM

The Army Dependants Assurance Trust Scheme has now attracted more than 9000 soldier-members in less than a year since its launching and the dependants of six who have died or been killed since joining the insurance scheme will receive a total of some £147,000. The father of a gunner shot in Northern Ireland will get £64,000.

The best response to the scheme has come from The Royal Highland Fusiliers, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and the Scottish Infantry Depot at Glencorse. More than 200 canny Scots in each unit have invested in the scheme's premiums. Close behind with more than 100 members each are The Queen's Own Hussars; 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards; 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers; 12 Light Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery; 94 Locating Regiment, Royal Artillery; 32 Engineer Regiment and 9 Signal Regiment.

Two sapper adventurers are numbered among the members. One, Major Neil Carlier, was a skipper of British Soldier, the Army's official entry in the recent round-the-world yacht race; the other, Major John Blashford-Snell, led the daring Darien Gap expedition in Central America and is shortly to head a Zaire River expedition.

A 30 pence weekly premium, on which tax relief can be claimed, buys a unit which assures £10 a week to a dependant from the time of a soldier's death from any cause until he or she would have reached the age of 55. A premium of 50 pence weekly continues the income for a further five years. Anyone engaged to be married to an ADATS member is considered a dependant.

## RECRUITING

Adult and young soldier intakes dived by 25 per cent last year. The raising of the school-leaving age has been the main factor affecting junior recruiting. But there was an improvement in the intake of Army adults and young soldiers in the last quarter of the 1973-74 period, and recruiters forecast that the 7000 target of junior entrants this year will be met.

(DAR)

## THE DUKE OF YORK'S ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL

The Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, offers free secondary boarding school education for the sons of soldiers. The only qualification for application for admission is that the boy's father or mother must have enlisted in the ranks of the Regular Army and must have served in the ranks for not less than four years. A boy must be between 11 and 12 years old on 1 September of the year of entry. The school was founded at Chelsea in 1801 as an institution for the children of Regular soldiers with priority of admission for orphans and compassionate cases.



## THE DUKE OF YORK'S ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL *continued*

This principle continues. The school moved to Dover in 1909 into purpose-built accommodation on the high ground east of the town above Dover Castle. The school buildings are fully centrally heated and completely modernised with well-equipped classrooms, science block, language laboratory, workshops, gymnasium and swimming bath. The 150-acre grounds contain extensive playing fields catering for the widest possible range of sports.

Over 60 per cent of the school's 450 boys are the sons of serving soldiers, 30 per cent are the sons of ex-soldiers and ten per cent are orphans. There are two junior boarding houses for boys aged 11 to 13 years and six senior houses for the older boys. All remain at school to the age of 16 and take either GCE O level or CSE examinations. Boys who qualify for admission to the sixth form stay on for a further two years to take the GCE A level with a view to entry into the Services, professions or universities. A comprehensive careers advisory service is maintained and boys may aim at any career they choose.

A special feature of school life is the strong military tradition. The school has carried Colours since 1825 and troops the Colour in July every year in blue No. 1 dress as a royal regiment. All boys in senior houses belong to the cadet force. The normal working dress is a dark-blue school blazer with pocket badge, grey flannel trousers and black shoes. The annual admission is 75 boys. Registration for admission should be made between the ages of eight and ten years. Enquiries are welcome from eligible parents who should write to the school or telephone Dover 203012 for further information or make an appointment to visit.

## OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

The Officers' Association exists to relieve distress among all those who have at any time held a commission in the forces, including the women's services and nursing services. Serving and retired officers are eligible for membership. The association, started in 1920, operates worldwide and is run largely by volunteers. It receives cash support from the Services benevolent funds and receives a share of the annual Earl Haig poppy appeal collection. It welcomes donations, particularly covenants, from officers. The association helps to find suitable jobs for ex-officers and is linked to the Regular Forces Employment service and works in close co-operation with the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Employment. Consideration is given to helping ex-officers, their widows and dependants who are in financial difficulties. Pensions advice can be given and assistance can be had in the preparation of appeals for the granting of war disability or war widows' pensions. Free representation is arranged for cases taken to the pension appeals tribunals.

The association runs a country home in Devon for elderly and lonely ex-officers with low incomes who are not in need of constant medical or nursing care. A register of suitable homes for the elderly throughout the United Kingdom is maintained. Enquiries about the association should be made to the General Secretary, Officers' Association, 28 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8QE.

## NEW CHAIRMAN

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has announced the appointment as vice-chairman of General Sir Noel Thomas in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Walter Cheshire who was in the post from 1970. General Thomas took up his appointment on retirement from the Army in which he had been Master-General of the Ordnance since 1971. The commission's chairman is the Secretary of State for Defence and its president the Duke of Kent.

The new Secretary and Director-General of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is Mr A K Pallot who has been Director of Finance and Establishments and an assistant secretary since 1956. He joined the commission in 1947. Mr Pallot succeeds Mr W J Chalmers who is retiring.

## BRITISH LEGION ATTENDANTS COMPANY

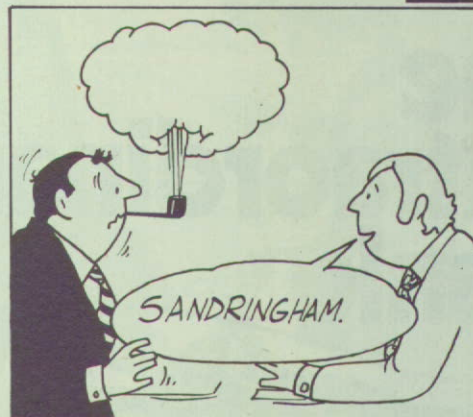
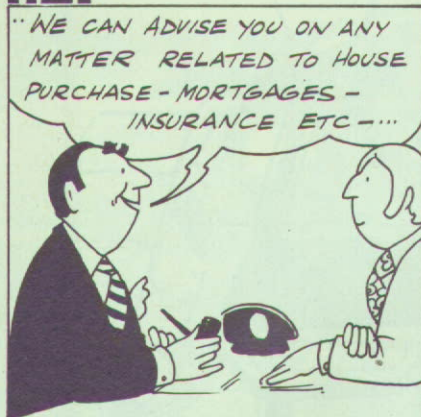
The Royal British Legion Attendants Company has launched a national recruiting campaign to attract ex-servicemen back into uniform. They are needed to reinforce the 1000 men already serving in the company's navy blue as security wardens, crowd controllers, car park attendants and commissionaires. The general manager of the company, Mr John Fry, said: "We are looking for fit and capable men up to the age of 57 for security duties. But we also have many openings for disabled men up to the age of 65."





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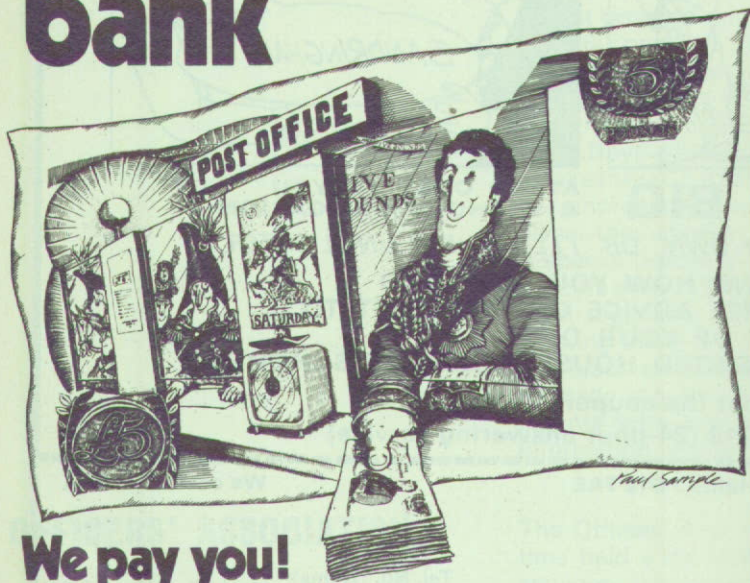
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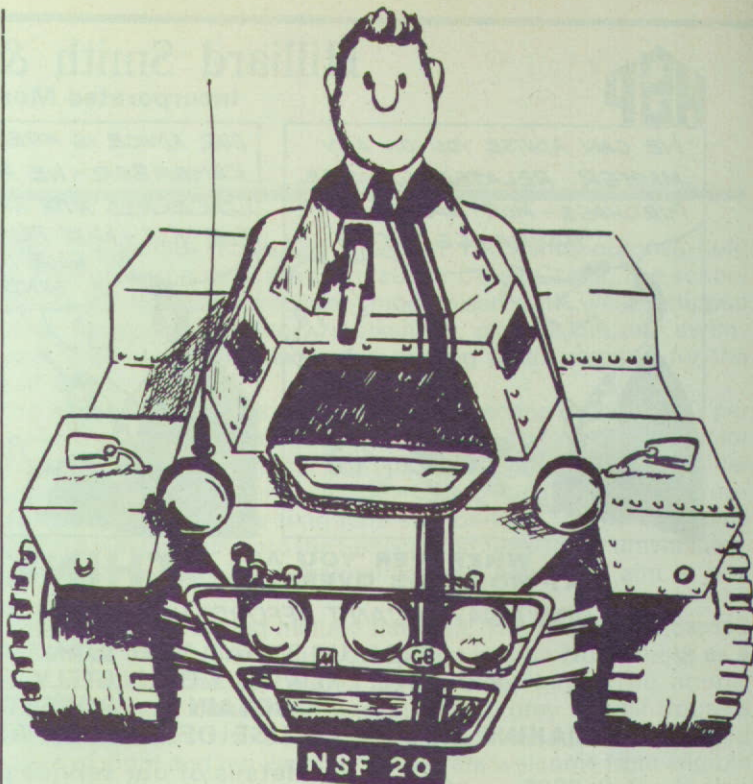
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# Green Beret Gunners

Story by Mike Starke. Pictures by Leslie Wiggs.

**T**HEY joined the Army. They mastered gunnery. Then they became commandos. The men of 79 (Kirkee) Commando Light Battery, Royal Artillery, are living proof of their battery commander's belief: "The keynote of being in the commandos is that you've got to be flexible."

The battery is part of 29 Commando Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, formed 12 years ago (see *SOLDIER* Sep 1962) to support the tough, mobile infantry of the commando forces. This is where much of the flexibility comes in. They will have to work on land, sea and air during the course of an assault. Captain Gerry Ackhurst, one of the battery's officers, explained: "We come ashore on a commando assault to provide fire support for 41 Commando. Half our men are parachute trained and we are equipped to light scales." Weight is a constant problem for the battery has to carry some of the inevitable heavy equipment needed for gunnery while trying to retain

the lightness demanded of commando forces.

It is a relatively simple task to airlift the battery's six 105mm pack-howitzers by Wessex helicopter from a heaving deck on to the shore once you know the drill. But great care has to be taken with the field artillery computer equipment—FACE—whose sensitive electronics, squeezed into a Land-Rover, could be damaged by salt water.

To the casual observer, FACE looks like a computer, console and teleprinter. It does all the gunner's sums for him and treble checks them. Not only does it store details of up to 30 targets but is programmed to adjust its calculations for the gun type being used and even to make allowances for the idiosyncrasies of each individual gun in the battery. Then it checks its own calculations three times in milli-seconds before feeding out the instructions. As an extra touch of magic, it stores information of the positions of the battery's observation posts so that it

can calculate a reference as from the observer's-eye-view.

For the past three years 79 Battery has been committed to its NATO southern flank defence role in support of 41 Commando. Home has been Malta but in the first 12 months of the battery's tour of duty it visited ten countries, including Cyprus (where *SOLDIER* met the battery on exercise), Greece, Turkey, Sardinia, Corsica, Southern France and Gibraltar.

Major Doug Dowling, the battery commander, explained: "Training in Malta is very restricted by the size of the island although there are good rifle ranges and the social life is good. The battery has been going to Cyprus about twice a year. It's an ideal training area. The ranges there give a good variety of territory in which to practise gunnery."

Next month the battery returns to the United Kingdom to "rotate" with one of the two batteries based in Plymouth supporting 40 and 42 Commando. In 29 Com-

above: The commando gunners manhandle a 105 mm pack howitzer across rocky terrain.



# Green Beret Gunners

continued



Gun plotters busy with their calculations.



Right: FACE (Field Artillery Computer Equipment) is mounted in a Land-Rover.



The battery commander, Major Dowling.

mando Light Regiment, 79 Battery's sisters are 145 (Maiwand), 8 (Alma) and 7 (Sphinx) commando light batteries.

As an indication of his battery's wide travels, Major Dowling estimated that a third of the wives were of worldwide origin including the United States of America, West Indies, Malaya and, of course, Malta.

This battery of commando gunners is about 100 strong. Volunteers come from the Royal Artillery's Junior Leaders Regiment—they can do the commando course on boys' service—or from 17 Training Regiment or on transfer from other gunner units. "The make-or-break is the Marine commando course," said Major Dowling. The eight-week course is divided into three weeks at The Citadel, Plymouth—"A sort of make-your-mind-up-time"—followed by five weeks at the Commando Training

Centre, Royal Marines, at Lympstone.

Major Dowling said: "Winning a green beret is not easy but once a man has gained one the worst punishment he could have is to be threatened with a posting out of the Commandos."

Then there are the Royal Navy terms to be learned in order to be able to communicate on board ship. Gunners soon learn there is more connection between "heads" and "tails" than the two sides of a coin! Coffee time becomes "stand easy", the kitchen is the "galley" and "going for your rabbits" is not a hunt for fresh meat after weeks at sea but a shopping expedition to buy presents for the family back home.

But a gunner is still a gunner, and once ashore the skills mastered as a soldier come into their own. As battery commander, Major Dowling does not see the guns he

commands since he acts as a liaison officer with the infantry his artillery is supporting.

The six guns will race into position in an irregular pattern over an area some 150 metres square. The gunnery officer does not want to show the flash and smoke of his guns to the enemy and will use the natural terrain for camouflage as much as possible. The battery can move under the cover of darkness to avoid being spotted from the air. But at daybreak there must be as little as possible for a pilot to see—such as a pattern of wheeltracks—for a gun battery has a distinctive "footprint" from the air.

Vital to the success of the battery's task are the observation posts it mounts. "The necessary equipment is radio and the Mark One eyeball," said Major Dowling. Keeping well out of sight, the observers may be in

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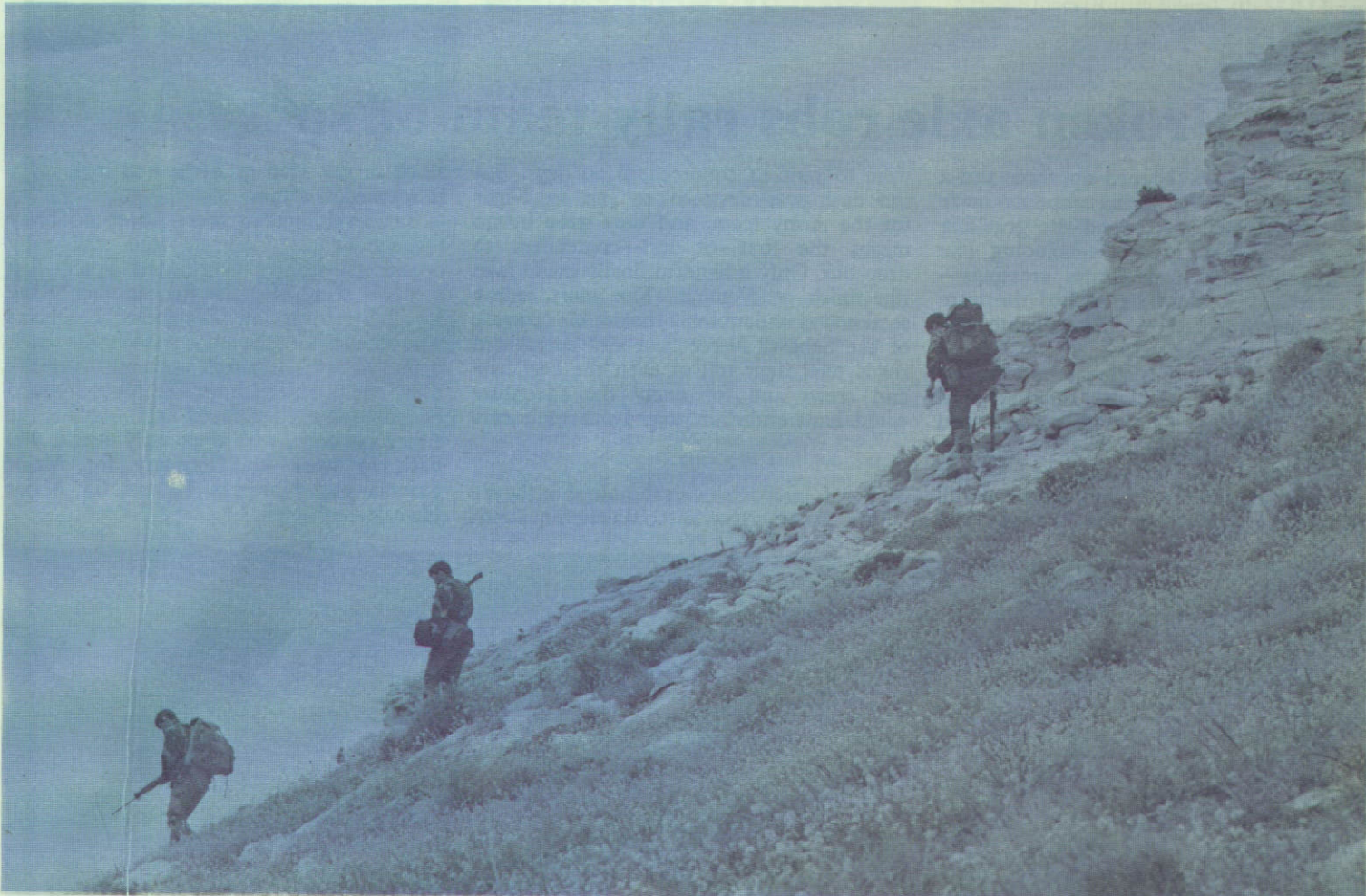
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Observation party in the rocks moves on.

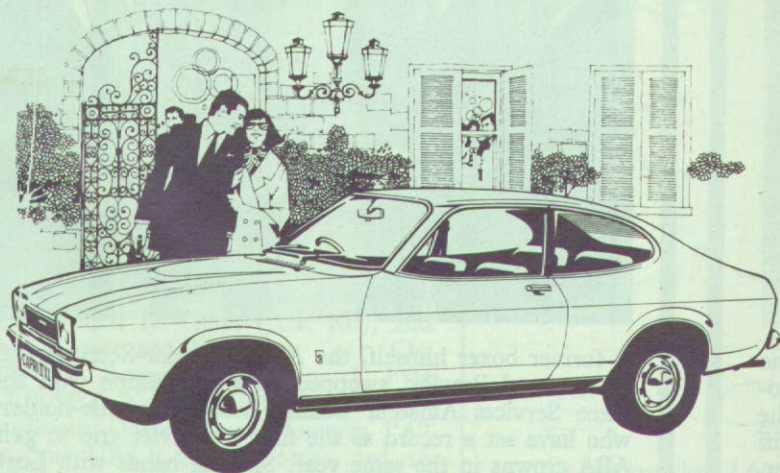
for a long and monotonous job but must always be alert for the slightest change in terrain that could indicate an enemy—or even friendly—move. Aerials are the trademark of an observation post and must be concealed at all costs while the detailed information gleaned is being quickly and quietly relayed. "Like everything else in the Army, it's a drill," said one observer from his hide, "and drills compensate for people being tired or stupid."

Ever since it was raised in India in 1797, 79 Battery has been on the move. It served

extensively in India, including the Battle of Kirkee on Guy Fawkes's day, 1817. After distinguishing itself in many actions in World War One, the battery returned to India in 1930 where it served on the North-West Frontier. World War Two brought action for the guns in the Western Desert and the battery was overrun at the defence of Tobruk in 1942. Reformed a year later, it went on to fight in North-West Europe until victory. Since the war, postings have taken the battery all over the Far East and Near East.

Now the battery cheerfully gets on with an important and unusual role for gunners as commandos—a job that evidently gives satisfaction. Major Dowling smiled: "Once a man's in the battery he tends to stay . . . it's too much fun to leave!"

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## Broken axle robs rally team of success

**T**HE Army's souped-up three-and-a-half litre V8 Marina coupe was more than half way round the gruelling World Cup Rally course—including one of the two scheduled Sahara crossings—when a broken back axle robbed the team of success with the car well in contention for the £10,000-plus prize.

At the wheel were Majors John Hemsley (1st Battalion, The Light Infantry) and Richard Skinner (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers), both rally veterans. Major Hemsley set off on the 11,000 mile trek with an injured arm and ankle but still managed to stay among the 70 teams who

were to visit 14 countries in 20 days. But the dash was destined to end in Niger for the Army team, and they were by no means the first—or last—contenders to drop out. Only a handful finally made it to the finish at Munich. The most telling section was undoubtedly the double crossing of the Sahara. Fierce heat and corrugated roads took their toll of even the best cars and crews and for many the adventure could have ended in tragedy as their cars

stuck in the sand or navigation took them into trackless dunes.

But service teams were never far away throughout the journey and the rally organisers—United Dominions Trust—had a special word of praise for the men of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers who made up the Army back-up staff. They made their name welcome wherever they went with their helpfulness and hospitality, a spokesman said. As for the Army car crew, with their rally over it was back to work—to Germany for Major Skinner and Northern Ireland for Major Hemsley.

**Major John Hemsley at the wheel of the V8 Marina on stage two of the World Cup Rally.**



Signalman Dave Bishop, of the Army Cycling Club, who is a staff member of the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, pictured on his way to victory in a ten-mile race at the Easter Cycling Festival in Guernsey. Dave faced stiff opposition in the race from speedsters like Brian Lidster, of the Caesarean Cycling Club, who rode in the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand finishing 15th.



A former boxer himself, the Army's Under-Secretary-of-State, Lord Brayley, swopped tales of triumph with the three Services Amateur Boxing Association title-holders who have set a record as the first tri-Service trio to gain ABA crowns in the same year. Shaking hands with Lord Brayley is Lance-Corporal Roger Maxwell (3 R Anglians), who retained his light-middleweight title this year.





## Low water-high entry for canoe slalom

**W**ITH almost drought conditions prevailing on most of Britain's rivers, the Army Canoe Union managed to find enough water for thrills and spills on the Teifi at Llandyssul in Wales for the canoe slalom championships.

The low water meant that course builders had to rely on the positioning of the gates to test the skills of contestants. And this year's entry of 159 continued the steady increase shown since 1968.

Prize for the best turnout at Llandyssul would have gone to the team from the 16th/5th Queens Royal Lancers had there been such a trophy. Jealous bystanders were heard to herald the approach of the cavalier-canoeists, resplendent in matching red lifejackets emblazoned with their unit initials, with the cry: "here comes flash Harry . . ." But the Lancers proved they weren't just pretty faces when they featured in the top placings in the results, which were: Novice event: 1st Signalmán M I Barkworth (16 Sig Regt), 2nd Signalmán S McAlister (16 Sig Regt), 3rd J/Spr Pead (JLR RE). Junior Serving Soldier event: 1st J/Tpr C Phillips (JLR RAC), 2nd J/Spr Pead. C1 event: 1st Sergeant W White (36(E) Sig Regt), 2nd Sergeant K Dyer (ASPT AT Wing), 3rd Driver G King (52 Port Sqn RCT). C2 event: 1st Sergeant White/Sergeant Dyer, 2nd Company Sergeant Major I Cooper/Private Shaw. Ladies event: 1st Lieutenant A Gillespie (QARANC), 2nd Corporal J Greenwood (22 Sqn RCT). District Team winners: South West District (Captain J Crawford, Trooper L Ross, Trooper J Thompson, all of 16/5 QLR). Intermediate event: 1st Lance-Corporal D Thom (JLR RE), 2nd Second Lieutenant C Brown (521 Coy RPC), 3rd Sergeant Instructor J Fyfe (UKLF SPT (North)). Unit Team event: 1st 16th/5th Queens Royal Lancers "A" team, 2nd UKLF SPT (North), 3rd 16 Signal Regiment. Open event: 1st Trooper Thompson, 2nd Corporal J Moore (JLR RAC), 3rd Captain Crawford.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### ATHLETICS

The Army Athletic Association's annual match against Cardiff College of Education ended in a resounding win for the Service competitors. Despite strong winds, the competition was keen and interesting with an eventual score of Army 136 points, Cardiff 81.

### GLIDING

The Army gained second place in the Standard class of the major National Gliding Championships at Dunstable thanks to sport-pilot Lt-Col E G Shephard (RAOC), a leading light in Army gliding. An Army team came second in the Inter Services contest at RAF Cosford. In the Open class, with 14 entries, the Army's only two competitors S/Sgt D Webber (REME) and WO2 G Brindle (R Sigs) came 6th and 8th respectively. In the Sport class (25 entries) Sgt J Mitchell (REME) came 12th, Brig P Goozee (late RAOC) came 20th and Pte N Nisbett (RAOC) came equal 23rd. In the Club class (15 entries) Sgt G Berry (REME) came 2nd and S/Sgt M Law (REME) came 14th.

### HOCKEY

In the June issue of *SOLDIER* we inadvertently stated that 36 Engr Regt were the victors over 42 Hvy Regt RA in the final of the army hockey cup. The actual runners-up were 35 Engr Regt.

### JUDO

The Army swept the board—or mat—in the inter-Services Judo championships, beating the RAF 9-1 and the Royal Navy 8-2. In the Navy-RAF clash, the Senior Service beat the Junior by 7-3.

### FENCING

Lieut-Col J A G Moore (RA) won the Scott Cup as Army champion-at-arms in the APTC and Army fencing championships. Senior individual results—Foil (final pool): 1st Lieut-Col Moore, 2nd Cpl S A Graham (R Sigs),

3rd SSI J V Larkham (APTC), 4th Maj P V Kendall-Jones (R Irish Rngs), 5th SI P J Brierley (APTC), 6th Capt M S Compton (REME). Epee (final pool): 1st 2/Lieut T E Belson (Glosters), 2nd CSM B R Matlass (Gren Gds), 3rd SI Brierley, 4th Cpl Graham, 5th Lieut P J Underwood (RE), 6th Lieut L S Burr (RTR). Sabre (final pool): 1st Lieut-Col Moore, 2nd SSI Larkham, 3rd Maj A M Bell (RE), 4th CSMI D J Hughes (APTC), 5th CSMI T J Cooper (APTC), 6th SSI D D Truman (APTC).

Under-20 championship results—Foil (final pool): 1st Gnr R C Laird (94 Loc Regt RA), 2nd A/T Cpl P Bale (AAC Arborfield), 3rd J/Spr Thomson (JLR RE), 4th O/Cdt S Sessions (RMAS), 5th Gnr P L Eames (94 Loc Regt RA), 6th Gnr G Hayes (36 Hvy Regt RA). Epee (final pool): 1st O/Cdt Sessions, 2nd Gnr Laird, 3rd O/Cdt A Shaw (RMAS), 4th J/Spr Thomson, 5th A/T Cpl Bale, 6th J/Pte S Brown (IJL Bn), 7th Gnr G Hayes (36 Hvy Regt RA), 8th J/L/Bdr Harkins (JLR RA). Sabre (final pool): 1st Gnr Laird, 2nd J/Sgt G E Egglestone (IJL Bn), 3rd Sigm A Jones (30 Sig Regt), 4th J/Spr Thomson, 5th Spr C Waterfall (33 Engr Regt), 6th J/Pte Meithbauer (IJL Bn).

Army women's foil championships: 1st Capt R Wheelock (WRAC), 2nd Capt L D Cowley (WRAC), 3rd Cpl L Carslake (WRAC), 4th Sgt G Horton (WRAC), 5th S/Sgt C Coleman (WRAC).

Army senior inter-unit team championship—1st RMAS, 2nd RMCS, 3rd 16/5 L, 4th 2 RTR, 5th 1 R R Rngs, 6th 4 RTR (RAC Trg Tegt). Army junior inter-unit championship—1st IJL Bn Oswestry, 2nd JLR RA, 3rd AAC Arborfield, 4th AAC Chepstow, 5th JLR RE, 6th Welsh Depot.

IPAT competition—Foil (final pool): 1st SI S G McNeish, APTC, 2nd SI P Iles, APTC, 3rd CSMI D T Hughes (APTC). Epee (final pool): 1st SSI J V Larkham (APTC), 2nd CSMI Hughes, 3rd SI Iles, 4th SI McNeish. Sabre (final pool): 1st CSMI T J Cooper (APTC), 2nd SI Iles, 3rd SSI D D Truman (APTC), 4th SI P Higham (APTC).

APTC championships—Foil (final pool): 1st Capt (MAA) G W Gelder, 2nd SSI Larkham, 3rd SSI Truman, 4th SI McNeish, 5th SI Iles, 6th CSMI Cooper, 7th CSMI Hughes. Epee (final pool) 1st SSI Truman, 2nd CSMI Hughes, 3rd CSMI Cooper, 4th SSI Larkham, 5th SI Iles, 6th SI McNeish. Sabre (final pool) 1st Capt Gelder, 2nd SSI Larkham, 3rd CSMI Cooper, 4th CSMI Hughes, 5th SI Iles, 6th SSI Truman, 7th SI Higham. This was the qualifying competition for the Army individual championship. The Professor Coulon Cup for the APTC champion-at-arms went to SSI Larkham.

### SAILING

The Army's new Dinghy Sail Training Centre at Netley, on the east side of the Solent near Hamble, has been opened. The centre—mostly built by the Royal Engineers with a grant from the Army Central Fund—is the hub of activities which include courses for beginners, facilities for corps and regimental races and regattas and the provision of recreational sailing for all ranks and their families. There will be a small permanent staff of NCOs to look after instruction and maintenance.

### SHOOTING

The Army's second annual target rifle club meeting attracted a best-yet 93 entrants to shoot at 300, 600, 900 and 1000 yards. After the 600 yards stage, the Royal Signals and Airborne Forces marksmen were neck-and-neck with 353 each but the Royal Signals triumphed in the end with 707. Second came Paratroops and Airborne Forces with 686 and third—more used to long-range sniping—was the Royal Artillery with 682.

### SKIING

The Parachute Regiment at Aldershot has been recruited to help train Britain's 12-man ski team for a fortnight this month. The skiers are to use a wind tunnel at the Farnborough Royal Aircraft Establishment to practise the best positions to reduce drag in high-speed runs on the pistes. Team manager and ex-parachutist Robin Bailey claims his is the first ski team to go into aerodynamics in any detail and adds that the efforts are geared to making a concentrated effort in the 1976 Olympics.







**"Sounds of Brass Series Vol 6: The Band of Yorkshire Imperial Metals"** (Conducted by Trevor Walmsley) (Decca SB 306)

With the exception of two items this LP comprises well-known solos by the band's incomparable leading players. Thank goodness these virtuoso gentlemen have avoided the usual hack Victoriana of their trade, for although the titles may be familiar the arrangements are not. Strangely enough the two non-solo pieces, Sam B Wood's march "Yorkshire Imperial"—in typical brass band mould—and a "new" "Meditation for Brass" by Garry Beresford and Gilbert Field, owing much to Brahms and about as modern, are unwelcome poppies in this field of corn.

The first movement of a "Trumpet Concerto in F Minor" new to me, by Franz Boeme, is lushly played by Graham Walker who also rattles off Frank Simon's old "Willow Echoes" in true Sousa-Band style. This latter piece has much in common with George Hespe's popular "Mélodie de Caprice" which precedes it, except that the trombone soloist (William Rodgers) is not in very capricious mood.

A soprano cornet solo is unusual enough, but "Musetta's Waltz Song" from "La Bohème" was hardly the vehicle for Roy Roe's beautiful tone and technique. Operatic arias just will not make good cornet solos. Fred Muscroft still retains all his skills from his days with the Scots Guards and gives two fine examples of his art, the "Carnival of Venice" variations in Del Steiger's arrangement, and a muted cornet obbligato in Victor Herbert's "Indian Summer," played here as a flugel horn solo by Carl Bamford.

Which leaves only an unbelievable performance of "Napoli"—variations on "Funiculi-Funicula"—by the band's euphonium player, Ian Craddock. His is the crowning glory of a most distinguished record, one which all admirers of all that is fine and traditional in our best brass bands should have. I offer a Distinguished Conducting Medal for Trevor Walmsley to add to his DFC, and RBCs to all six soloists. **RB**

**"Sounds of Brass Series Vol 7: City of Coventry Band—1973 BBC Band of the Year"** (Conducted by Albert Chappell) (Decca SB 307)

This very much a sister recording of the LP reviewed above gives me the opportunity to compare two famous bands and their conductors. Yorkshire Imperial win my private contest but the programmes of each have something to offer the buyer, Coventry's having only the one solo item thus giving variety and interest to the whole.

A march "The President" by German (not Sir Edward surely?) leads to an appropriately chosen suite from Bizet's "Carmen" in which the Spanish flavour is nicely caught. The one solo is Henry Geehl's "Romanza" for trombone, played by Trevor Hargreaves, a worthy piece by one of the stalwarts of the brass band movement. A selection from "The Mikado" completes side one.

For once we are given an operatic overture without cuts or conductor's quirks (apart from a maddening ritard in the last two bars) and I found Borodin's "Prince Igor" a wholly acceptable performance. This was a taut and dramatic rendering marred only by some lack of barbaric attack in the trombone section. The march paraphrase "Men of Harlech" from German's "Welsh Rhapsody" (definitely Sir Edward this time) finds the band in fine form and giving a highly idiomatic performance.

A clever arrangement of "Bobby Shaftoe" and two arrangements of Beethoven's "Love Song" and "Creation's Hymn" complete a disc I could live with.

I'd like to hear this band recorded in Coventry Cathedral—I know the acoustics are wonderful for brass. **RB**



**"Friday Night is Music Night presents March of the Champions" (The Band of HM Welsh Guards)** (Director of Music: Major D K Walker) (BBC Records REB 154S)

Once you're over the shock of hearing "Sons of the Brave" played at 100 paces to the minute there are some goodies in store by the way of TV signature tunes, all of course BBC.

Signature tunes naturally gain much from their association with a visual subject. "Spartacus and Phrygia" by Khachaturian appeals not at all, but call it "The Onedin Line" theme and all is plain sailing. Except for a few choral societies, Elgar's "Caractacus" cantata is an unknown—its "Triumphal March" heralded goings on among officers of "The Regiment." Anthony Isaac's theme for "Warship" portrays might, majesty and armour-plating and proves that these composers know what it's all about. Another theme is Dudley Simpson's "The Brothers."

"Match of the Day" march I also find on the slow side and lacking in the required excited anticipation. Other marches are

"Marching Sergeants" by Edrich Siebert, "Entry March" from "The Gypsy Baron" by waltz writer Johann Strauss, "Tyrolean Holiday" by Ernest Waite and associated with the 1972 Olympics, and the title march written by Stanley Laudan and hitched to Olga Korbut's bandwagon.

The BBC's "Friday Night is Music Night," much mentioned on the sleeve, serves as reason for inclusion of any piece suitable for that most long-lived of light music feasts. Hence "Trumpet Spectacular" by Ronald Binge in his Mantovani-Charmaine style, "Spinning Wheel Samba" by Terence Brien, and what should be a riot for the clarinet section in "Clarinet Cascade" by the same composer. **RB**

**"Rule Britannia" (Band of HM Royal Marines Naval Home Command Portsmouth)** (Director of Music: Captain J R Mason) (POLYDOR Circle of Sound 2383 231 Super)

Five marches at a cracking military pace comprise side one of this lively LP. Captain Jim Mason and what used to be called the Portsmouth Marines don't put a foot wrong, nor do they drag one, in Kendall's "Glorious Victory," Zehle's "Viscount Nelson," and Vaughan Williams's "Sea Songs" march, which appropriately includes the folk-tune "Portsmouth." The South African song "Sarie Marais" provides the theme for the fourth march and Sir Vivian Dunn provides all the notes for his "Cockleshell Heroes."

Side two is more varied and the band is joined by that well known Friday-Nighter John Lawrenson (baritone) and the Milton Glee Club, conducted by Stanley Mortimore. "Rule Britannia" is heard in an unusual version for tenor singer and chorus and even more unusual is to hear "A Life on the Ocean Wave" and "Heart of Oak" sung; we are so used to hearing the Royal Marines play them as band marches that very few of us know the words.

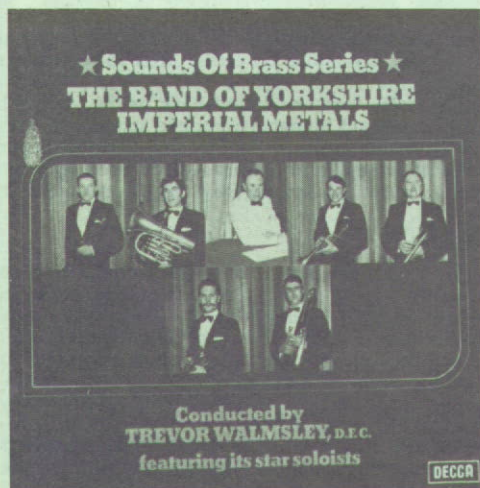
John Lawrenson on his own sings two favourite sea songs, Stanford's "The Old Superb" and John Ireland's setting of Masefield's "Sea Fever." This salty offering is brought to a brilliant end by a new arrangement by Gordon Langford which he calls "Fantasia on British Sea Songs." A pity, since it is good enough to deserve a catchy up-to-date title not reminiscent of Sir Henry Wood's old warhorse. **RB**

## Trooping the Colour

I would like to draw your attention to several errors of fact contained in the review in the April edition of SOLDIER of our record "Trooping the Colour 1973" (Music for Pleasure SPR 90033).

It is quite incorrect for your reviewer to say that the genuine article has been interfered with and that we have resorted to using artificial sound effects. In fact the recording was made from one static position using a very simple and direct technique which could not possibly embrace the sort of phoney interference which your reviewer claims to have detected.

Obviously he is entitled to his opinion and it is on that basis that we submit records for review. However, we do take strong exception to critics' hypotheses being used as if they were a matter of fact. In every possible way our recording of "Trooping the Colour" is a faithful representation of the parade, a fact which has been widely recognised elsewhere.—**John Boyden, A and R Director, Music for Pleasure Ltd, Astronaut House, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 9AR.**





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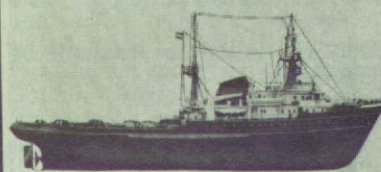
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## Hairy, bald and bawdy



**M**ANY a mantelpiece miniature is the epitome of elegance—a plumed shako helmet worn at a rakish angle... scarlet pelisse trimmed with fur... epaulettes dripping with gold braid... and mirror-like boots.

But such a theme is anathema to the model soldier firm The Old Guard. "We just don't go in for fashion plates," managing director David Winter insists with feeling. "All our figures are hairy working soldiers trudging through mud or leaping about doing things in actual battle."

Hairy indeed. For the four-figure set of the Wehrmacht is available painted to special order for about £30 with soiled uniforms, muddy boots and a couple of days' chin stubble. On the other hand there is an elderly Napoleonic grenadier with a terrier dogging his heels, a patched greatcoat, two beer bottles slung on a string round his neck, a bulbous nose—and a bald head.

The Old Guard (UK) is an associate company of The Old Guard Inc which was established in Pennsylvania in the 1950s. It is run by Mr Winter and his wife Yvonne, both former flight-lieutenants in the Royal Air Force and familiar faces at monthly meetings of the British Model Soldier Society. Aiming for the high quality market (their cheapest is a 54-millimetre foot figure in kit form at £1.32), they have built up a thriving trade of which two-thirds goes to export. Their United Kingdom customers range from a member of the Royal Family to a guest of HM prisons.

Business has so expanded that they are moving from their fashionable but cramped

West End premises at 30 Baker Street, London, W1M 2DS, to an open-plan factory in the village of Rothbury, Northumberland. Production has so far been restricted to cellar workshops. The figures, of a tin/lead alloy, are centrifugally cast in a rubber mould. The process is conventional but the Winters claim to have mastered techniques which reduce shrinkage to a minimum.

Plans for the future include dramatic dioramas of British, Australian and Turkish troops in the abortive Gallipoli campaign and a German mortar crew in a dank dug-out on the Western Front.

Already they have made a daring venture into the field of metal tanks. Their kit of a Stuart, in 1:32nd scale available in three versions, costs £13.20 and they say they have so far sold 600, which is remarkable considering the competition with exquisitely detailed Japanese plastic tank kits at one-tenth the price.

Perhaps also surprising is that their best seller is a figure of Heinrich Himmler which, at £1.98, comes complete with two small pieces of clear plastic to make those characteristic pince-nez.

While Himmler might be all the rage, their most outrageous figures are listed under the evocative epithet of "barrack bawds." There is Heidi "wearing SS cap only, giving Nazi salute," Jeannie "doing Highland fling, wearing bonnet, sporran and socks only," and Tamara "wearing hat and long coat of Guard Cossacks, carrying a whip." "Ah yes," explains Mr Winter, "they are produced for those interested in the low scene in a limited edition only." They have gone not only to the odd member of the turned-up coat-collar, turned-down hat-brim brigade but even, by mail order, to some really rather respectable addresses.

HH

Above: Wehrmacht group of flame-thrower, assault engineer officer and grenadiers.

Left: Heinrich Himmler and his pince-nez.





## Berlin Belles

Of the 40 Women's Royal Army Corps provost girls serving in Germany, about a dozen are in Berlin working with the Royal Military Police. When the men on regular Land-Rover patrols of the frontier need an item urgently, the WRAC mobile patrol will take it out to them. This rendezvous was near Staaken station and the girls, **Corporal Mary Allen** and **Lance-Corporal Liz Whale**, are taking a look over the roller-topped concrete Wall at East German workmen repairing the electronic fence.



## Marine marriage

**Marine Tom Rivenberg** (20), who lost both legs in a Belfast bomb blast a year ago, pictured with his bride, **Jenny Bracey**, after their wedding at Widford Parish Church, Chelmsford. When Jenny accepted Tom's proposal he promised her he would walk to the altar, and he did . . . on artificial limbs. Tom proved himself a first-class graduate of the Joint Services Medical Rehabilitation Unit (see SOLDIER, September 1973).



## Snapper snapped

Left: the tables were turned on Army photographer **Sergeant Alec Harrower** when he faced the lens himself as a recipient of a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, presented to him by the Army's Under-Secretary of State, **Lord Brayley**. Alec, who had been covering the visit of Lord Brayley to Headquarters, United Kingdom Land Forces, with his camera had to lay it aside at a special ceremony in the sergeants' mess to receive his medal. Alec has been a Royal Army Ordnance Corps photographer for 12 years. He began his 18 years of Army service in the Black Watch and served as a machine gunner in the Korean War.

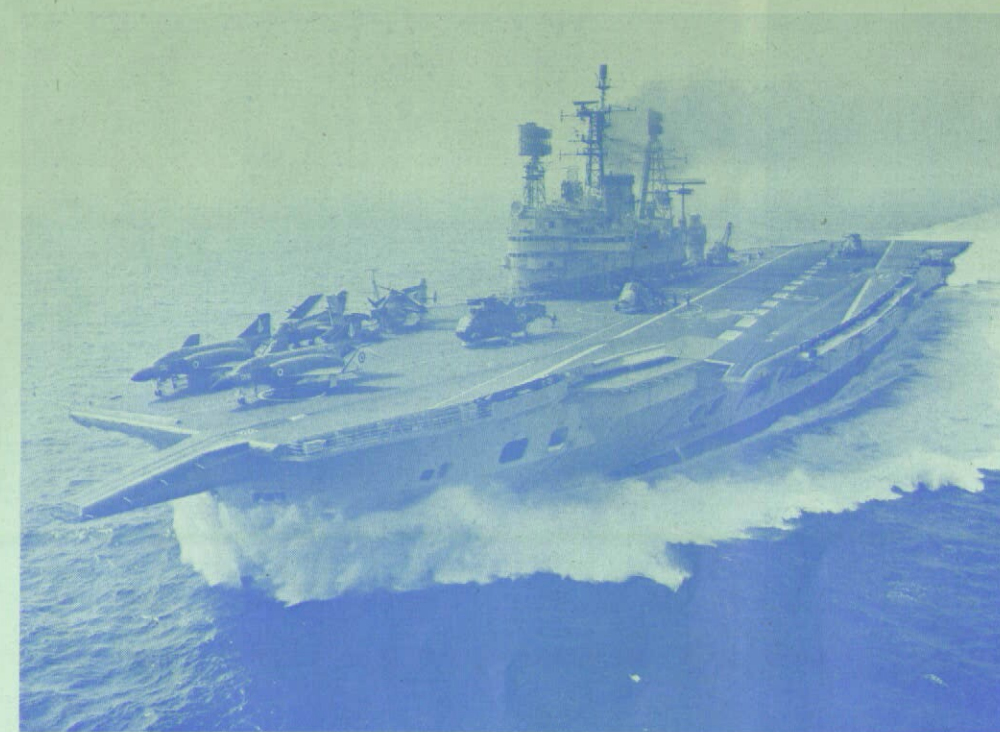
## Farewell fanfare

When he emerged from the annual conference of directors of music and bandmasters at the Royal Military School of Music, Twickenham, the comments of **Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Bashford** were lip-readable but hardly printable. It was his final conference as the school's Director of Music—he has now retired from the Army but remains at the school in a civilian post—and awaiting him, a well-kept secret, were a decorated Land-Rover and ceremonial drive past the Kneller Hall trumpeters. He then continued along a route lined with applauding directors and bandmasters and the school band, its four companies playing in turn the marches of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, 17th/21st Lancers and Grenadier Guards, with which he served, and the Kneller Hall school march. Picture—John Pope.



## Anchor man

**Major Joe Aylward**, Royal Artillery, helped anchor HMS Ark Royal when she put into Plymouth. Wielding a hefty maul, he "slipped" the ship's port anchor. Major Aylward had served on board for 23 months as the carrier-borne ground liaison officer. Among his other responsibilities he has acted as editor of the ship's daily newspaper, *Noah's News*, which has a readership of some 2700. Major Aylward's new posting is to 665 Aviation Squadron in Germany.



## Rose between...

Escorts fit for a queen—**Trooper Paul Marchant** of The Blues and Royals and **Lance-Corporal Peter Rothwell** of The Life Guards. Their charge is beauty queen **Kay Shaw** (20) who, as the Army's Miss Junex 74, is the darling of the Household Cavalry as well as the pin-up of The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters. Kay, whose home is Uttoxeter, also has the title Miss Stafford among her collection of crowns.



## Highland lassie

This bonny lass from Banffshire was chosen from entries hailing from all over Scotland to be Miss Queen's Own Highlanders. **Lorna Ann Watt**, an 18-year-old student nurse, will be visiting the 1st Battalion when it moves to Germany after the current tour of duty in Northern Ireland.



## Danish double

It was a nostalgic moment for **Lieutenant Derek Mirams** of 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, when he watched the colours of the old 4th Battalion, The Buffs, being marched off before **Queen Margrethe** of Denmark (see page 20). For Lieutenant Mirams was on parade as Quartermaster of the 5th Battalion for the presentation of the new colours and had also been a sergeant in the escort to the old colours when they were presented by the Queen's father, **King Frederick IX** fourteen years before.





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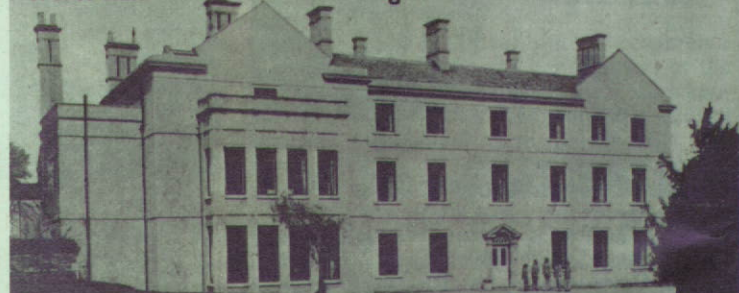
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# Sappers help famine fight

**I**N the heart of one of the world's serious famine areas a dozen sappers of 524 Specialist Team, Royal Engineers, based at Barton Stacey, Hampshire, have been working alongside international relief organisations to help the Ethiopian people.

The sappers went out at the beginning of this year to help the Ethiopians build and maintain a road in Wallo province. Communications provided by this project are vital for the transport of urgently needed supplies. There was so much enthusiastic support—especially from the Ethiopian authorities themselves—that the team achieved far more than originally planned.

All the work had to be done by hand and in many cases the sappers had to show local workers how to use picks and hoes. Plant equipment was not available and, even if it had been, it would have been impossible to get it to the remote road sites.

The final target was 100 kilometres of road—more than double the original quota of 40 kilometres. During the task, the engineers employed some 10,000 men under the Ethiopian government's "food for work" scheme operated out of eight sites in an area to the north and east of Dessie, the provincial capital of Wallo.

The specialist team, split into twos and threes, lived on site in tents with a base at Dessie. On site the senior non-commissioned officers had sometimes to act as judge, jury, lawyer, doctor and nurse to many of the villagers who came to them with problems. Staff-Sergeant David Stevenson recalled the day he was marking the line of the road ahead when he met one of the Affar tribes on the Danakil Desert ready for war. The road was moving into their territory and only their men could be employed on it. With skilful diplomacy Staff-Sergeant Stevenson arranged a meeting between the two tribal chiefs and agreement was reached.

Scout helicopters of 665 Squadron, Army Air Corps, from Colchester, supported the team throughout the exercise and were used for aerial reconnaissance and re-supply.

**Left: Nurse Stephanie Simmonds with some of the children staying at the famine relief centre at Dessie, Wallo's provincial capital.**



**Major Guy Edwards meets the Emperor, Haile Selassie. Below: Sappers sign on some labour for their road building gangs. Right: The relief road winding past native huts.**



The efforts of the Royal Engineers were recognised in many quarters—they even got honourable mention in the House of Commons (see SOLDIER News June 1974)—and among other plaudits was one from Oxfam's field director for East Africa, Mr Toby Gooch, who said: "There is a great need for teams of this nature consisting of road and



water engineers to supervise and train the Ethiopians so that they can continue the work after the experts have gone."

The whole project was launched by the Overseas Development Administration in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence as part of the massive aid programme to Ethiopia.

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The positions are premanent, one based at Royston in Hertfordshire, four at Enfield in Middlesex and one at Harlow in Essex. The work is among colleagues of a similar background and requires an average of 42 hours per week consisting of three 12 hour shifts in one week followed by four 12 hour shifts in the next.

Salaries are reviewed annually and there are opportunities for increasing earning capacity. Other benefits include staff status, four weeks' paid holiday per annum, made to measure uniforms and an excellent superannuation scheme. Free meals are provided while on duty.

If you are interested and suitably qualified, please write in your own handwriting giving personal details to Box No. 400.



## That vexed question

I was very surprised that a senior officer (Major I A S McEwan, Letters, May) should say long hair looks smart with a uniform. I am a member of a local youth band which has a military style dress uniform and we insist on a short hair style because we feel that hair over the neck of a tunic looks very scruffy. The band is a voluntary non-Service organisation with about 100 bandmen from nine to 45 years old and all accept that short hair is necessary for our uniform.

I have had about 18 months out of uniform and grown long hair but I am about to return into uniform and am therefore prepared to get a haircut. I cannot agree that long hair is the simple answer to recruiting; short hair is necessary for discipline and smartness and in many cases should be shorter than I have seen. —M Hefford, 3 Turner Road, Coventry, CV5 8FS.

I was most surprised to read Major McEwan's letter (May) on hair length—I thought only the 16-26 age group was for long hair. As he said, hair is the simple answer to recruiting. Whenever I was told on parade to get my hair cut I spent half the day thinking how ridiculously Victorian some regulations were—and consequently did not give my full attention to the task in hand.

I suggest the Ministry of Defence gives a trial of say 18 months to longer hair and assesses whether there is any effect on recruiting



## LETTERS

figures and whether the soldier's life is thereby happier.

Some people, particularly old soldiers, will disapprove, but which takes priority—recruitment, morale or public opinion?—R C Jones, Exeter Road, Salisbury, Wilts.

### N.S.M.?

I have read with interest the correspondence on Service medals. Has there ever been any thought given to recognising the contribution made by humble National Servicemen

who served in many regions for two years and, in some cases, more? Although some were reluctant, many served willingly and cheerfully. Surely some mark of recognition should be made to them.—A S Batley, 683 Manukau Road, Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand.

### The odd blot

As an ex-Regular soldier with long service I would like to put the case for recognition of people in my position. We all know of the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal for 18 years of "undetected crime" but what of the many men who have given good years in service to the Crown without anything to show because of some minor offence committed in their youth, especially in the old days of more stringent discipline.

I suggest the award of a long service medal with, if you must, a bar for good conduct. I know many who feel cheated by the basis of award of the present LS & GC Medal.—A J Brown (ex-gnr), Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

### Op Bodenplatte

I have been commissioned to write a book on the events of New Year's Day 1945 when nearly 1000 German aircraft made surprise low-level coordinated attacks (code-named Operation Bodenplatte) on allied tactical airfields in Belgium, Holland and Northern France.

Little has been published in the

English language on these spectacular raids: Aircraft losses were heavy on both sides. Anti-aircraft claims by the RAF Regiment, 21 Army Group, First Canadian Army and American ground formations were impressive.

I would be grateful if eye-witnesses then serving with the allies or Luftwaffe in North-West Europe would contact me. Particularly useful would be the loan of diary entries or notes jotted down immediately after the attacks. I am also anxious to trace personnel who examined wrecks of downed German aircraft on behalf of air technical intelligence, or helped interrogate the 63 Luftwaffe pilots captured on that day.

Contact with readers holding photographs of damage inflicted and the scores of German fighters lost on the operation would also be most welcome.—Richard P Bateson, 8 Lawford Road, Chiswick, London, W4 3HS.

### Service life

I am endeavouring to compile a collection of stories, poems, parodies, songs etc on Service life—Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force—and also of Service newspapers and magazines. I would appreciate any material which readers might be able to supply.—Douglas S Carstairs, 53 Bread Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AH.

### There's a welcome

Ex-servicemen contemplating emigrating to the Vancouver area of British Columbia may be interested to know that Branch No. 1 of the British Ex-Servicemen's Association will be happy to meet them and their families on arrival so as to make their initial contact with Canada as pleasant as possible.

The association was founded in 1958 with the primary object of safeguarding the interests of ex-members of the British armed forces who might be in need of financial or other assistance. Membership, which has grown from the initial 11 to more than 600, is not re-

## Last Shaftesbury Day

The "Arethusa", the floating school of the Shaftesbury Homes, is to close on 23 July—the last of a line of large sailing vessels which the Society has maintained for 108 years.

The last celebration of 'Shaftesbury Day' (Commemoration), on board the ship will be on 20 July and the Society hopes that Old Boys will be among the guests to pay tribute

to an illustrious past and to hear about the Society's plans for the future.

The Society hopes that the Old Boys' response will be sufficient to justify a special Supper Party that evening for them and retired members of the ship's staff. Those who are interested should contact the Captain Headmaster at "Arethusa", Lower Upnor, Rochester, Kent.



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stricted to British ex-servicemen. Associated membership is open to all who served in the Canadian or any allied force.—**Leonard Payne (President), 1143 Kingsway, Vancouver 10, BC, Canada.**



## Drummers' dress

I have read with interest the recent letters about the dress of the corps of drums of 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment (Mr M J E Mead, February, and Mr J T Thompson, May). The picture above might settle the discussion on the helmet. I consider this to be a good copy of the 1878 original as worn by other

## Gurkha Museum opens

The Gurkha Museum due to be opened at Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Church Crookham, near Aldershot, on 21 June 1974, by Field Marshal The Lord Harding of Petherton commemorates the services of Gurkha Soldiers to the British Crown since 1814 and will be open to the

ranks. I think those in the photograph taken at the Hong Kong premiere of "Young Winston" look larger than they are because of the shadow cast by the photographer's flash.

The reproduction badge backing plate is based on the old universal officers' pattern modified for present-day use. The crown is the queen's and the scroll "The King's" has been added. The original WM title scroll below the garter has been omitted. The centre, which would have been open with black material backing, has been left solid and the current Staybrite beret badge is fitted. I am not sure if the sphinx was worn on the original plate. Also of interest are the belt buckles—those worn in the Hong Kong photo are a Staybrite copy of the Victorian type (apart from the QE crown) and worn by many regiments. The King's have partially

public at the following times: Mondays to Fridays (excluding Bank Holidays)—10 am to 12.30 pm, 2 pm to 4.30 pm. There is no charge for admission. Brochures and souvenirs are on sale and donations may be made for the upkeep of the Museum.

changed to a regimental pattern, rectangular brass with a Staybrite collar badge fitted in the centre.—**R C Cornish, 29 Hilldale Road, Backwell, Bristol, BS19 3JZ.**

## Horse de combat

I have been commissioned to write a history of the horse in war from earliest times to World War Two and am anxious to consult unpublished material for the later periods. I should be most grateful if any readers with memoirs, diaries, photographs or personal recollec-

next page ►



Does this wedding cake look familiar? It should—it is an exact replica of the one made for the wedding of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips (SOLDIER, January 1974). Both were made by Warrant Officer David Dodd, of the Army Catering Corps, Aldershot, who has presented this one to the corps' museum.



## New Military Stamps

Antigua has recently once again issued a series of stamps showing British military uniforms. The half cent shows an Officer of 59th Foot 1797 and other values and designs are: 10c—Gunner, Royal Artillery 1800; 20c—Private 1st West India Regiment 1830; 35c—Officer 92nd Foot (Gordon Highlanders) 1843; and 75c—Private 23rd Foot (Royal Welsh Fusiliers) 1846.

Another interesting series of military stamps is the new Guernsey definitive set featuring uniforms of the Guernsey Militia. Full listing is as follows: halfpenny—Private East (Town) Regiment 1815; 1p—Officer 2nd North Regiment 1825; 1½p—Gunner Guernsey Artillery 1787; 2p—similar 1815; 2½p—Corporal Field Battery Royal Guernsey Artillery 1868; 3p—Field Officer Royal Guernsey Artillery 1895; 3½p—Sergeant 3rd Regiment 1867; 4p—Officer East (Town) Regiment 1822; 5½p—Colour Sergeant of Grenadiers East (Town) Regiment 1833; 6p—Officer North Regiment (Light Infantry) 1832; 8p—Field Officer Rifle Company (2nd Royal Guernsey Light Infantry) 1868; 9p—Private 4th West Regiment 1785; 10p—Field Officer 4th West Regiment 1824.

## Erratum

The obvious was stated, to his embarrassment, in the first sentence of WO1 Boak's letter (Dual Role, May) because of a typing error (SOLDIER's, not Mr Boak's). In line 5, "aircraft" should have read "tank."

## Kilts for Lovat Scouts

A remote island company of weekend soldiers recently achieved the distinction of becoming only the second infantry "regiment" in Scotland this century to be newly kilted.

The O and Z (Lovat Scouts) Company of 2/51 Highland Volunteers, whose 90-odd members are drawn from Orkney and Shetland, are further distinguished by being the only company in the British Army to wear the Fraser tartan. From their formation in 1900, the Lovat Scouts have always worn trews.

Originally a mounted regiment, the Scouts fought as infantry in Italy during the last war, afterwards becoming a Royal Artillery regiment of the TA, with batteries as far

apart as Inverness, Stornoway, Kirkwall and Lerwick. On the reorganisation of the volunteer army in 1967, Lovat Scouts in Orkney and Shetland remustered to infantry, becoming a company, drawn from both groups of islands, of 51 Highland Volunteers. In 1971 they became the only Lovat Scouts company of the newly-formed 2nd Battalion 51 Highland Volunteers. The only other Scottish infantry unit to become kilted this century was the Highland Light Infantry in 1949. In addition a number of regimental pipe bands have received kilts or new tartans since 1900, while several Canadian Scottish infantry units also adopted the kilt this century.

  
**SERVICES**

J  
O  
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SEE PAGES:  
6, 20, 37,  
43, 46, 47,  
49, 50, 53  
& 55



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## LETTERS

*continued*

tions of any aspect of the cavalry, artillery or transport horse, in peace or war, would contact me. All letters will be acknowledged.—**J M Brereton, Wern Newydd, Painscastle, Builth Wells, Breconshire, LD2 3JW.**

### REUNIONS

**Royal Tank Regiment Association.** Winchester Branch annual dinner, 28 September, RAPC Sergeants Mess, Worthy Down, Winchester. Details from H A Tremeer, 5 Edward Terrace, Sun Lane, Alresford, Hants.

**The Dorset Regiment Association.** Annual reunion and dinner, TAVR Centre, Poundbury Road, Dorchester, 14 September. Details from Secretary, The Keep, Dorchester, Dorset.

**The Staffordshire Regiment.** Annual reunion dinner 7 September, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs. Details from RHQ, Whittington Barracks.

**14/28 Fd Regt RA OCA (1, 3, 5 and 57 fd bty).** 8th annual reunion dinner, HQ RA Sgts Mess, 2000 hrs, 14 September. Overnight accommodation can be arranged. Contact Secretary, A Dufall, 51 Church Walk, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 3AA, for further details.

**The West Yorkshire and Prince of Wales's Own Regimental Association.** Annual reunion and White Horse Ball, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, 7 September. Details from Secretary, RHQ, Imphal Barracks, York.

**Boys Bty RA 1151-1157.** Reunion dinner 16 November, HQ RA Sgts Mess. Contact T C Holden, 6 Ingress Walk, Sholver 2, Moorside, Oldham, Lancs.

### COLLECTORS CORNER



Capt Gary Tanghe, 105-B Butts Street, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905, USA.—Collects telephone and electric insulators, would like correspond anyone interested this hobby.

W R Younghusband, 6 Gledhow Park Road, Leeds, LS7 4JX.—Starting collection British military cap badges, hackles. Would appreciate any help.

Allen B Calder (12), 18 Castle Road, Grantown-on-Spey, Scotland.—Seeking WW2 German steel helmet. State price, postage.

Lieut K Goldsbrough, Cleveland ACF, 27 Bennett Road, Hartlepool, Co Durham.—Wishes purchase Sam Browne belt, wearable condition, 48-50 chest, 46-47 waist.

Capt J H Walsh, PO Box 82, CFB Borden, Ontario, Canada.—Wishes exchange Canadian corps and regimental shoulder flashes for envelopes mailed from British forces in Cyprus, particularly those serving with Britcom. Cpl L M Stillman, c/o MMS Balcombe, Victoria, Australia.—Wishes exchange British Army cap and collar badges, buttons, of cavalry, infantry etc, for WW1 brass and WW2 plastic, infantry only, and infantry titles, collar badges, buttons. Also wishes buy any pre-1881

OR infantry buttons.

W Field, 12 Dolland House, Newburn Street, Kennington, London, SE11 5LR.—Requires 1914-39 manuals and books of small arms training, infantry training, Lewis gun, Vickers MG, RE field training and searchlight and sound locators to complete unit library. Postage refunded.

R H Carey, PO Box 277, Maitland, Cape Town, South Africa 7405.—Wishes exchange badges R Dragoons (QVC)(B), EVIR RE (V) KC WM, R Irish Regt (QVC) (B), Connaught Rangers (QVC) (B), Royal Munster (Bl/M) and others for South African cap badges pre-Republic only.

Paul Fauché, PO Box 9967, Johannesburg, South Africa.—Collects British, South African (main interest) and Rhodesian badges. Has large selection, many rare, of exchanges British, South African, Australian, New Zealand and Canadian. Will send lists "wants" and "exchanges to anyone interested."

W R B Allen, Woodside Cottage, Dipley Common, Hants.—Wanted, Gauge 1 steam loco.

S Dinsdale, 79 Thirlestone, Lemsford Road, St Albans, Herts.—300 infantry and yeomanry cap badges for sale as a collection.

### COMPETITION

By one of those odd quirks, the March Competition 189 (Scipio and Co) contained an additional name to the four sought. The four deliberately hidden generals were Giraud (France) and Naguib (Egypt) in column 4, with Buller (British) and Steele (USA) in column three. The alternative, also in column 3, was Spaatz (USA).

The generals in the acrostic were: Scipio, Rustam, Morgan, Butler, Dobell, Napier, Paulus, Godwin, Halder, Trajan, Moltke, Alaric, Crerar, Plumer, Koenig, Blamey, Tanaka, Patton, Hodges, Suzuki, Raglan, Kleist, Talbot, Seeckt, Gordon.

Prizewinners:

1 R G Garner, 3 Marne Rd, Whittlesey, Peterborough, PE7 1UQ.

2 Maj R G Reed, Isington Farmhouse, Alton, Hants.

3 F K Forrester, 30 Great Tattenhams, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5SB.

4 WO1 W E S Wood RE, 79 Asquith Rd, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent.

5 D R Hollis, 180 Crammavill St, Stifford Clays, Grays, Essex.

6 Lt-Col P W Lonnon, Ponderosa, Park Rd, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2QP.

7 K Richards, 11 Westwood Drive, The Mount, Shrewsbury, SY3 8YB.

8 Lt-Col M K Wilson, Ord Branch, HQ UKLF, Wilton, Salisbury.

9 Lt H M Whitehead, 2 Vale Court, Westcliff Rd, Ramsgate, CT11 9JR.

10 Maj F H Blackburn (Retd), 53 Devonshire Rd, Mill Hill, London, NW7 1NG.

11 R H G Travers-Bogusz, 77 St Thomas's Rd, Hardway, Gosport, Hants.

12 P Rutland, 238 Trent Valley Rd, Oakhill, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST4 5LQ.

### HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 18)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Number of stripes on showman's left sleeve. 2 Shape of top cloud. 3 Flag on marquee. 4 "G" in "BANGS". 5 Height of bell frame. 6 Length of mallet handle. 7 Number of buttons on showman's waistcoat. 8 Ear of soldier with mallet. 9 Tip of lance-corporal's cigarette. 10 Width of marquee entrance.



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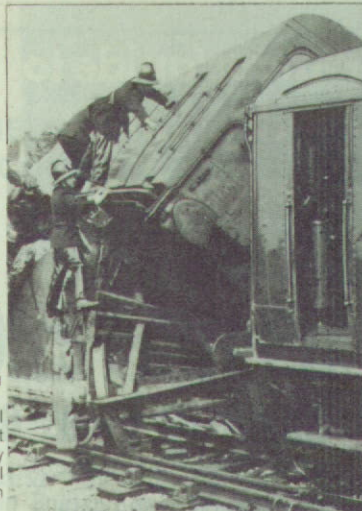
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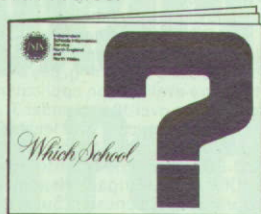
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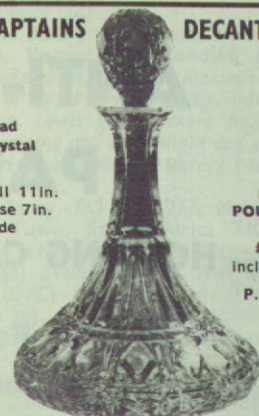
364, High Road, Willesden, London, NW 10 2EA

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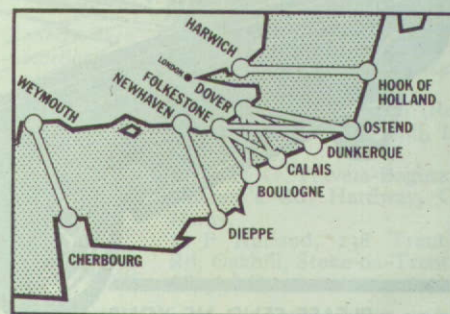
**W. Germany:** 6 Frankfurt/Main, Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 3. Tel 747074 (information only)

**Belgium:** 1000 Brussels, Place Rogier 23. Tel 179702

**Holland:** 5 Leidseplein, Amsterdam. Tel 234133

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# Colour blind?

**M**IXING blue and yellow produces green; mixing red and blue gives purple and, if all three colours are mixed, brown results. With this in mind, take the necessary elements from the three primary colours to produce the four colours.

Each element can be used only once. There are then three elements left unused. What are they? Send your answer, on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 193" label from this page and your name and address, to:

**Editor (Comp 193)**  
**SOLDIER**  
Clayton Barracks  
Aldershot  
Hants  
GU11 2BG.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 9 September. The answer and winners' names will appear in the November **SOLDIER**. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 193" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

## BLUE

hydrogen  
chips  
chips  
100°C  
C  
C  
discount  
pi  
blue  
blue  
25 March  
Roses  
29  
U  
yellow  
a x a  
plum

## YELLOW

plus 4  
tiger  
February  
29 September  
oxygen  
Romulus  
of  
£  
bell  
private  
red  
red  
éclair  
duff  
B  
r  
bacon  
212°F

## RED

S  
D  
stripes  
blue  
squared  
chocolate  
24 June  
tigress  
Remus  
eggs  
5  
rebate  
b squared  
B  
with  
hydrogen  
p  
white

## GREEN

Leap year  
flower  
Picardy  
pudding  
boiling

## ORANGE

corporal  
twins  
money  
sweet  
equal nine  
cub

## PURPLE

everything  
reduction  
America  
circle  
c x c

## BROWN

television  
rents  
area  
grill  
water  
flag

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# Books Books Books Books

## Garde Impériale

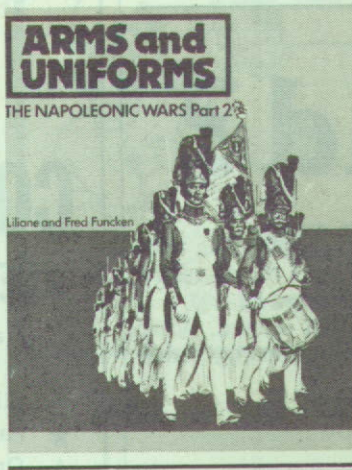
*"Arms & Uniforms: The Napoleonic Wars Part 2"* (Liliane and Fred Funcken)

The Garde Impériale, raised by Napoleon on 18 May 1804 and dedicated to his personal protection, was a corps of some complexity with a French backbone supplemented by soldiers specially picked from the armies of subjugated nations. Polish Lancers, Dutch Grenadiers, Marines and Mamelukes, infantry and cavalry, artillery and engineers all contributed to its mystique and panache.

From general to drummer boy their splendid uniforms and those of the armies of the German Duchies, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Poland, Sweden, Austria and Russia are described and vividly portrayed in this entertaining book. For sheer flamboyancy the musicians of the Garde Impériale were hard to beat and the peacock drum-major with his abundance of gold lace and extravagantly plumed hat was a sight to behold.

This is the second of two pictorial and factual volumes on the Napoleonic wars by the Funckens whose carefully researched and beautifully executed colour illustrations—more than 70 pages of them—should prove a boon to the uniform enthusiast.

Ward Lock Ltd, Warwick House, 116 Baker Street, London, W1M 2BB, £2.75 JFPJ



## Gifted artist

*"An Assemblage of Indian Army Soldiers and Uniforms"* (Chater Paul Chater, edited by Michael Glover)

This book is based on a collection of paintings by Chater Paul Chater (1878-1949), a gifted but little-known artist whose work, as revealed here, is a delight to behold. An authority on military uniforms once observed that it was a "tragedy" that artists who got their uniforms right invariably depicted the wearer as a lifeless dummy while those who could paint real live men fell down on dress details.

Not so with Chater. His uniforms are accurate, the wearers glowing with life—a remarkable achievement for a man who never attended art school and probably never used a live model. Instead he worked from photographs and Indian dress regulations, using a magnifying glass to paint in the final details. Each of the 41 plates is accompanied by a page of concise regimental background and comments on the uniforms.

Michael Glover's brief review of the Indian Army from 1609 to 1914 is masterly and apart from historical interest is sprinkled with odd snippets of information.

Perpetua Press Ltd, 11 Kendall Place, London, W1H 3AG, £4.75 JFPJ



## "Jorrock's"

*"A Full Life"* (Brian Horrocks) Lieutenant-General Sir Brian Horrocks up-dates his autobiography, first published in 1960. His writing has the flowing simplicity and sparkle which endeared him to television audiences, and his adventures were numerous. "Jorrock's" was a prisoner-of-war in World War One and a dedicated escaper. He lived dangerously among the White Russians in Siberia and was taken by the Reds. He was a battalion commander and "very temporary" brigadier at Dunkirk.

His military fame began as a corps commander in Eighth Army. His first battle was Alam Halfa, where his corps stopped Rommel's last attempt to drive to the Egyptian delta. A severe wound, from an aircraft, as he prepared to take his corps from Tunisia to Salerno, kept him out of the war for 14 months. Montgomery called him back to service in Normandy and he saw the war in Europe through to the end.

The up-dating of this book is mainly an account of his 14 years as Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, his directorship of a group of construction companies, his radio and television series and his literary activities. Success in television produced offers to appear in commercials. He turned them down until Texaco, about to give away replicas of Army cap badges, offered

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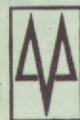
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Appointments Division, Department ASO 0107  
7 Rolls Buildings, London EC4A 1HX.



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# Books Books...

a large sum for Army charities. That, he says, was his last appearance on the "lunatic box." Let us hope he will at least go on writing. *Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.95 RLE*

a further series of wars in 1811, 1819, 1835, 1846, 1850 and 1877.

This most interesting study clearly demonstrates that modern South Africa is the victim of its history. *Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £5.50 AWH*

## Across the beaches

"Battle Coast: An Illustrated History of D-Day" (R H Hunter and T H C Brown)

This year sees the 30th anniversary of D-Day. In this excellent book two former Royal Marine Commandos present an illustrated history of D-Day and in doing so trace the development of amphibious assault from the evacuation at Dunkirk to that memorable 6 June 1944.

Their canvas is broad. D-Day was the biggest amphibious operation in history. And despite the fact that their book runs only to 142 pages, the authors do justice to one of the most hazardous and complicated days in military history.

But the story begins on the beaches of Dunkirk as the defeated BEF headed for home. The brief return to Dieppe was a milestone



and in other major raids—Lofoten, Vaagso, St Nazaire—a priceless experience was gained of landing on an enemy shore. As Lord Mountbatten said later, D-Day was won on the beaches of Dieppe.

The actual story of D-Day breaks up neatly into sections—the British and American airborne assault, the landings on Omaha, Utah, Gold, Juno and Sword beaches, and the German reaction to them. The authors give lively accounts in each case and write with the authority of men who know their subject. Unfortunately their book is marred by grammatical and spelling errors which, though not detracting from its basic value, are nevertheless irritating.

*Spurbooks Ltd, 1 Station Road, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, £3.00 JCW*

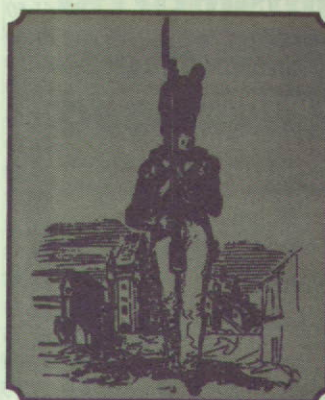
## Sergeant-major's story

"A Voice from Waterloo" (Edward Cotton)

Sergeant-Major Cotton, orderly to Major-General Sir Hussey Vivian, commander of 6th Cavalry Brigade, knew Waterloo so well that he was later appointed official guide

## A Voice from Waterloo

Edward Cotton



and encouraged to write an account of the battle. This reprint comes from the third edition, published in 1849. He tells an interesting story of how his brigade landed at Ostend, sharpened its weapons, made its way to Waterloo and camped in torrential rain. He describes the feverish activity to defend key positions such as Hougomont and the complicated troop movements undertaken by Wellington to get the maximum advantage from the ground.

Although Cotton had many years in which to analyse the battle he still creates an impression of a titanic and confused struggle. After the excitement came the reckoning. Some 50,000 French soldiers, he calculated, were casualties with many generals dead. Wellington wept when he saw the official returns of British losses.

This fascinating little book includes British, Prussian and French accounts of the battle as well as a few of the hundreds of letters written by Wellington as he disposed his men.

*EP Publishing Ltd, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF3 2JN, £3.25 AWH*

## POW

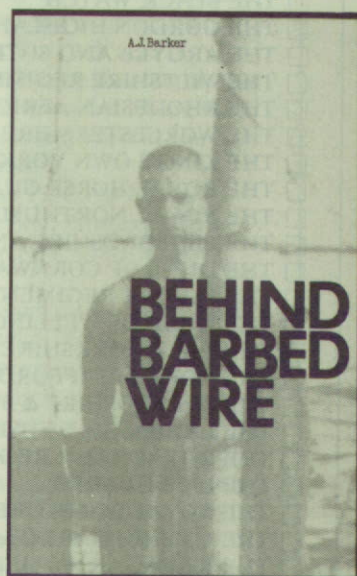
"Behind Barbed Wire" (A J Barker) Colonel Barker indicates some of the ways in which attempts have been made to make the lot of the prisoner-of-war shorter or less miserable, by paroles, exchanges or ransoms, or by international conventions, the last in 1949. But he sees a trend towards barbarism as war becomes more "total."

Treatment of British prisoners of the Germans in the two world wars was generally reasonably humane; for this reason alone the conventions, beginning with the Brussels Code of 1874, were worthwhile. If German conduct was guided by thoughts of possible reprisals against their own men in allied hands, no such considerations worried the Russians or Japanese in World War Two. They had no care for the troops they lost into captivity and so saw no reason to show humanity towards their own prisoners.

The newest factor in the prisoner-of-war scene is the crazy, fanatical cruelty used in the cages of North Korea and North Vietnam to try to convert prisoners into mindless collaborators. It was not very successful, but in Korea 38 per cent of American prisoners died in captivity.

Colonel Barker tries to cover the whole prisoner-of-war field, from capture to after-effects, and with a good deal of history, and he does so interestingly. But there are gaps—for example he has scarcely anything to say about prisoners in British hands and what they thought about their treatment.

*B T Batsford Ltd, PO Box 4, Springwood Industrial Estate, Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, £3.30 RLE*

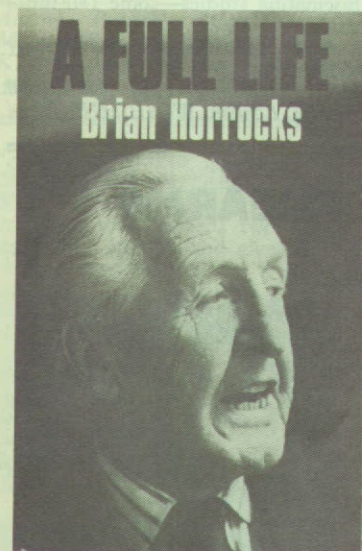
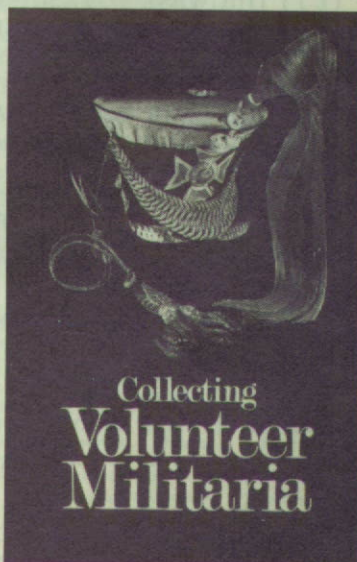


## Filling a gap

"Collecting Volunteer Militaria" (R J Wyatt)

In recent years collecting militaria has become one of the most popular and demanding of hobbies. This book admirably fills a specialist gap, covering in some detail the dress, insignia and equipment of British Volunteer units.

Chapter one reviews Volunteer history from its earliest days to the formation of the Territorial Army and a final fact-packed section on



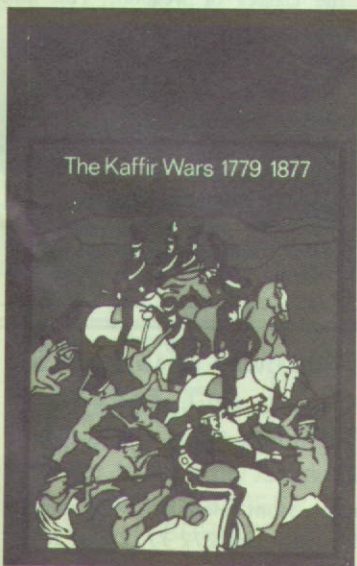
## Boer and Bantu

"The Kaffir Wars 1779-1877" (A J Smithers)

Most people think of "Apartheid" as a modern racial device to keep the Bantu in South Africa in their place. In fact "separate development," as the word means, was discussed as far back as 1804. It is also customary to imagine that the Boers went to South Africa in the 17th century and stole the land from peaceful Bantu tribes. In reality it was practically a vacuum apart from a few nomadic bushmen and Hottentots.

The Boers, self-reliant and fanatical Calvinists, were prepared to risk their lives for more farming land; the Bantu, intelligent and warlike, wanted to extend their tribal territory as far as their chiefs desired. The result was a series of wars—1779, 1789-93 and 1799.

With the arrival of the British the problem passed into the realm of imperial policy. In time, however, the distant pressure of the Zulu nation led to more Bantu activity and



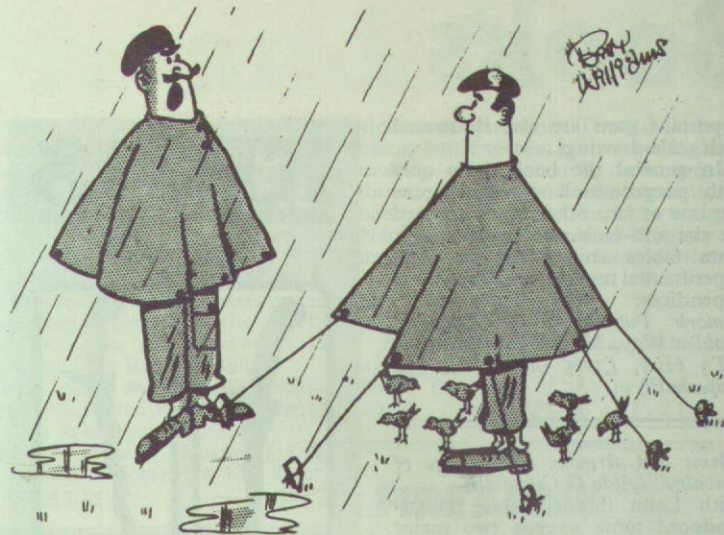




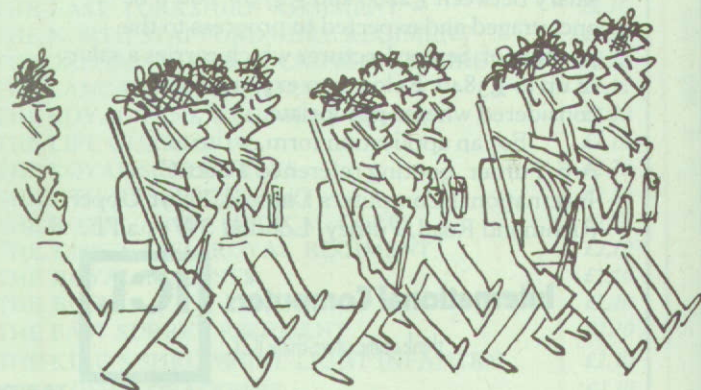


# Feathered friends

Traditionally the British soldier is fond of children, animals – and birds. Here, to make the point, is a selection of ornithological cartoons from our files.



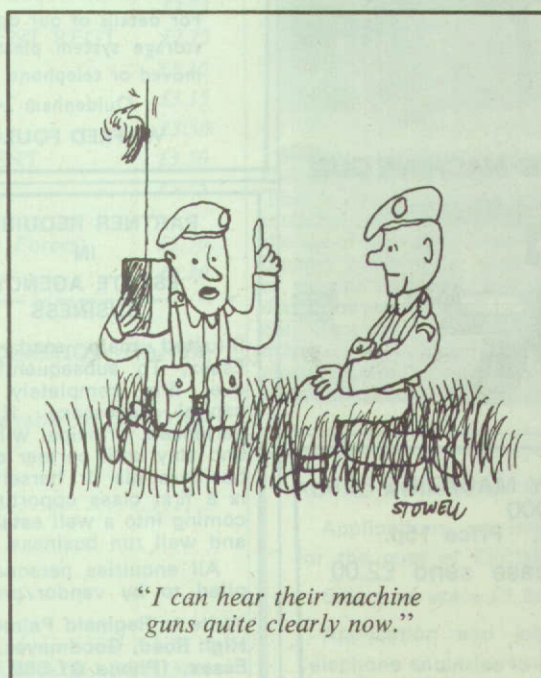
"You don't have to be all that friendly with the birds, Bennett."



FRANK FINCH



CORK



STOWELL

"I can hear their machine guns quite clearly now."



dm.

"Two bulls, two inners and a magpie."



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