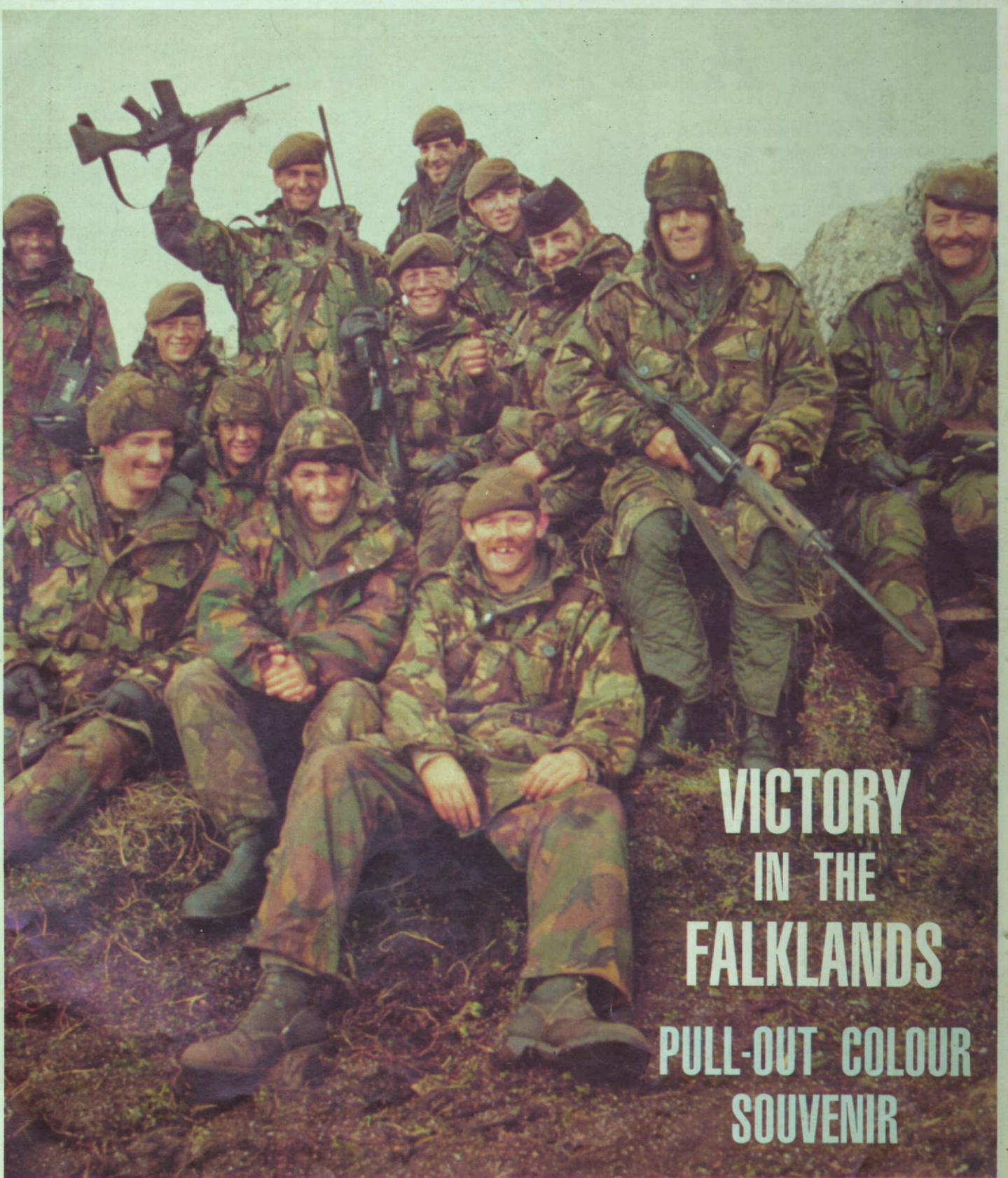


THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

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• 26 JUL - 8 AUG 1982

SOLDIER



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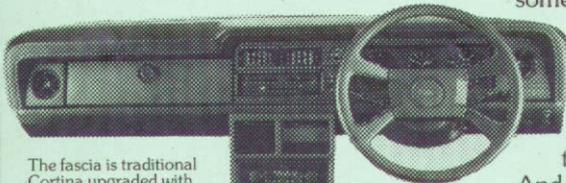
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FRONT COVER

We've done it! Jubilation, pride — and relief — shine on the faces of 7 Platoon, 'G' Company, 2 Scots Guards as they pose on the top of Mount Tumbledown for SOLDIER photographer Paul Haley. Paul had been the first to tell them, just two minutes earlier, that Port Stanley had fallen and the Argentines had surrendered. More of his Falkland Island pictures — including several in colour — are on pages 25-32.

BACK COVER

This Junior Leader from the Royal Armoured Corps seems to enjoy getting his feet wet as he negotiates the rope course at Bovington in Dorset. An article on the Leaders appears on page 14.

Picture by Doug Pratt

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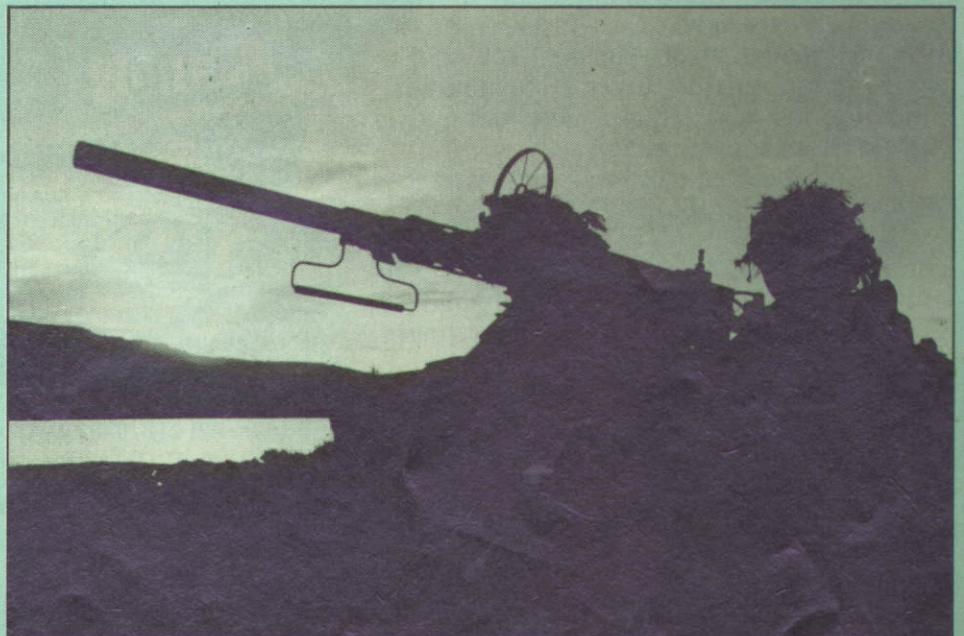
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY



'Busted' five times, but Frankie still has a soft spot for the Army
 — page 17

Victory in the Falklands: an 8-page souvenir including many previously unpublished pictures
 — page 25

How some of tomorrow's Junior Leaders learn to cope with a challenge
 — page 14



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S5-82

SOLDIER to Soldier

THE TRIUMPH of the British Task Force in liberating the Falklands has earned our Armed Forces widespread admiration. But it won't cheer from the 16 Welsh Nationalist governors of the Eifionydd comprehensive school.

Setting a splendid example to their pupils in dispassionate intellectual argument, these pillars of the Principality refused to allow an Army nurse to address a careers convention at the school. And the chairman, County Councillor Mr Maldwyn Lewis, was reported as saying: "If after spending millions to educate children we have nothing better to offer than to put on a uniform and ask them to murder people in the name of the Queen, there is something wrong... Murder is murder whoever it is done by, whether in the Falklands, or Northern Ireland."

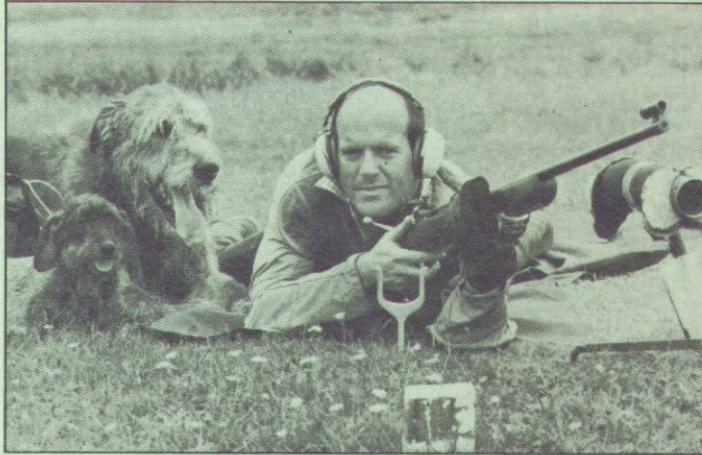
Mr Lewis is entitled to his view of course. And should his freedom to express it ever be threatened by some foreign tyranny, he may derive some comfort from knowing that thousands of British fighting men will be standing by to stick up for his cherished rights.

But it is ironic that he should seek to deny the same freedom of expression to those with whom he does not agree. And even more disturbing — for someone concerned with the education of young, impressionable minds — that he should justify his stance with slurs on the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces.

Pacifism — which Mr Lewis espouses — is an appealing doctrine. We should all feel much safer if war could be wiped out at the drop of a white handkerchief. But until the millennium dawns, our fighting forces remain the surest guardians of our peace and individual freedoms. And to label those prepared to fight for our liberties as 'murderers' is an insult to generations of brave British people.

The Falklands campaign, of course, burns bright in our memory. But it is less than four decades ago that our countrymen were locked in a global struggle for the preservation of every civilised value we hold dear.

If Mr Lewis and his fellow governors have forgotten that simple fact they should go back to the classroom — for a lesson in modern history.



The Rev Major David Cooper, padre to 2 Para, just back from the Falklands, was in action at Bisley with a little support from two of his dogs — dachshund 'Tweed' and Irish Wolfhound 'Dog'. Shooting for the Bisley Cup, the Army's individual trophy, he tied with Col Bob Mackeith, RAMC. In the shoot-off they tied again with 24 out of a possible 25 pts but in the sudden death finish the padre got a bull and the colonel was one point behind with an inner.

PEACE — AND A MEDAL TOO

PEACE HAS FINALLY come to the South Atlantic but although a state of war was never actually declared it has taken several weeks for the Argentine government to acknowledge that the fighting is over.

Finally, an exchange of notes between London and Buenos Aires signified an end to hostilities, 102 days after the Falklands were invaded.

Meanwhile there were scenes of rejoicing at docks and airfields as Task Force ships, soldiers and marines returned home. They included the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Parachute Regiment, who arrived at RAF Brize Norton in a massive airlift from Ascension Island, and the Blues and Royals.

Travelling in the other direction were the 1st Battalion the Queen's Own Highlanders and the 170-strong Gurkha Engineer Squadron.

A more sombre note was struck as Wales honoured her sons with a memorial service in Llandaff Cathedral for all the Welsh Guards and attached personnel who gave their lives in the campaign. The cathedral was packed and the congregation included the Prince of Wales.

And then, the very next day, tragedy again struck the regiment, which lost 38 men in the *Sir Galahad* disaster, when two Sidewinder missiles were accidentally released from an RAF Harrier taking-off from Port Stanley.

Six of the 11 soldiers injured were Welsh Guardsmen. The others included four signallers from 5 Brigade and a sapper.

The Ministry of Defence said that two of the victims were seriously injured.

Meanwhile in London contributions to the South Atlantic

Fund reached the staggering total of nearly £9 million, including a single donation of £1 million from a wealthy businessman living in the Bahamas.

And a 5ft colour poster thanking the general public for its spontaneous and overwhelming support went up on 3250 sites across the country. The entire operation was mounted free of charge with both the sites and the design being donated by specialist firms.

Everyone who served in the Falklands Task Force, military and civilian alike, is to get a campaign medal. The Queen has approved the award which will have a blue, white and green ribbon and anyone who served in the area for at least one day will get it.

Mayoral welcome for Bill on his return from Korea.



£20,000 for VC

BILL SPEAKMAN's Victoria Cross won on Hill 217 in Korea has changed hands yet again. This time it raised £20,000 and the hammer came down after just 90 seconds.

It was sold by Sothebys as 'Lot 522' and all the London auctioneers will reveal is that the medal will stay in this country.

Bill Speakman, the six-foot-six former private in the King's Own Scottish Borderers, now lives in South Africa. He won his VC in November 1951 for leading hand grenade charges against the marauding Chinese.

The news that the medal is to stay in this country — Speakman sold it in 1970 for just £1500 — has delighted Lt-Col David Ward, Regimental Secretary and Curator of the KOSB Museum at Berwick who told SOLDIER: "We have tried to get our hands on the medal for years but with prices today it was completely beyond us. I think the medal must stay in this country. But £20,000 is ridiculous — it is three times as high as the money we pay out in charity every year."

Lt-Col Ward knew Speakman at the time he won the VC. At the time, the colonel was a captain and transport officer.

"I last heard from him 18 months ago when he sent for some badges.

"He is still quite something up here you know. We have even got a Speakman Platoon at the Junior Depot at the Bridge of Don. He is very much alive in these parts."

Lt-Col Ward remembers the giant as a "perfectly ordinary nice bloke".

"When he came to us with four chums it would have taken a trailer to carry all their conduct sheets," Lt-Col Ward recalls. "They were a sort of wild bunch. But I'm delighted the medal is going to stay in this country."

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In-place forces essential

WITH THE REGULAR Army fully manned and the TA only two per cent below its establishment the outlook is that the Army will continue to grow in strength, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, told the House of Commons.

"I am glad to report that the patient is now making good progress," he said in opening the Army debate. "Pay is fully comparable. The number of men leaving voluntarily is insignificant. In Northern Ireland we have only three roulement battalions."

Stating the case for the retention of BAOR, Mr Blaker said it occupied a key sector, the collapse of which could mean the Russians at the Channel. There was no substitute for in-place forces and a reduction in the 55,000 treaty figure would be bound to affect the lessons which the Soviet Union would draw.

Financially it would cost more to bring back our forces than to keep them in West Germany.

This year British Forces Germany would cost under nine per cent of the Defence Budget.

The argument that the very stability of the Central Front, and the fact that it had lasted for 30 years, meant that we could safely make big reductions there was to stand common sense on its head, said Mr Blaker.

"The success of a policy is not a reason for abandoning it."



Back at work in Germany, 'Have a go' hero Gunner Barry Royston.

BARRY IS 'HAVE A GO' HERO

ALTHOUGH HE ALREADY had one arm in plaster as a result of a broken wrist, Gunner Barry Royston, 34, decided to 'have a go' when he saw a gang of louts kicking a young policeman in the head.

Now his heroism has been rewarded by South Yorkshire Police Committee who have presented him with a certificate of commendation.

Barry, a driver with 22 Air Defence Regiment RA in Detmold, was on leave in Sheffield when he saw the gang — some reports said 25 of them — attacking the policeman. With no thought for himself he waded in and put the gang to flight but he got a broken finger for his trouble.

And it all happened while a

crowd of shoppers looked on — then cheered when Barry won the day.

Chief Constable James Brownlow said: "His actions were those of a very brave man and almost certainly prevented more serious injury being inflicted on the officer. He gave outstanding assistance to the police."

Museum gets 'Monty' papers

THE DIARIES and private papers of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein have been presented to the Imperial War Museum and with his wartime headquarters caravans will now form the main part of the Montgomery Collections, which the trustees plan to extend in future years.

Since 1962 the papers have been in the possession of the International Thomson Organisation, as a result of the Field Marshal's close friendship with a wartime comrade, Sir Denis Hamilton, then editor of The Sunday Times and who has just retired as chairman and editor-in-chief of Times Newspapers.

In a letter dated September 1962 'Monty' told Sir Denis: "The diaries tell the whole inside story of what went on in the conduct of the war, and give my personal correspondence with

Alanbrooke."

After he had handed over the first batch of papers he later added much other pre-1942 material, including his letters to his parents from the Western Front 1914-18, and correspondence with Sir Winston Churchill, General Eisenhower and other personalities.

The collection, which fills 12 outside deed boxes, was described by Dr Noble Frankland, the museum's director, as "a real gold mine for historians of both wars."

Wrong house chum!

TEN YEARS after getting the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for tackling a gun-wielding bank robber in Colchester, Bombardier Ronald Spencer, 33, has done it again.

Now he has been honoured for disarming a burglar with a sheath knife at his Army married quarters near Dortmund.

Although the burglar tried to stab him with the knife, Ronald chased him, brought him to the ground and held him in an armlock after a desperate struggle while his wife, Susan, called the police.

Ronald is currently serving with 26 Field Regiment RA.

Briefly

WINNERS of the first-ever Larkhill Gun Run (see last issue of SOLDIER) which involved seven teams of 18 men pulling 25-pounder field guns over a 7.8-mile course, were Signals Wing, the Royal School of Artillery, at Larkhill, who returned a time of one hour 15 minutes and 50 seconds.

In second place were 22 Locating Battery with a time of 1:20:42 while third position was taken by 176 Battery (Support Regiment) in 1:23:27. Gunnery Wing, the unit featured in our report, came fifth.

★ ★ ★

The Colchester Searchlight Tattoo will take place from 4-7 August and this year will include a record number of musicians. There will be over 1000 from 23 military and civilian bands. Altogether 1300 people will take part in the grand finale.

★ ★ ★

Mr Ken Bromley, the Australian who organised holidays for thousands of British and other Servicemen in his country's Gold Coast, has died. But the other scheme which he launched to give holidays to Servicemen severely wounded in Northern Ireland is to continue with the help of funds from his estate.

★ ★ ★

More than 400 old soldiers from all over Britain took part in the annual Dunkirk Veterans Parade at Aldershot.

★ ★ ★

As part of its campaign to raise money for a Land Rover or Mini Bus, 33 Sqn (Royal Signals) ACF has devised a tough map reading competition which it has thrown open to the whole British Army. Write to the squadron at Broadmead Pavilion, Chigwell Road, Woodford, Essex. Entries cost £5 each.

★ ★ ★

The Marconi company has won a £30 million Ministry of Defence contract for the full development of the Battlefield Artillery Target Engagement System (BATES) for the Royal Artillery.

★ ★ ★

The Battle of the Bands organisation is now accepting tapes for the 1982-83 competition. There will be a total of 21 heats covering the whole of the UK later in the year. Interested bands should contact TDK Battle of the Bands, 87 High Road, London N2.

★ ★ ★

The BFBS sponsored Services Folk Competition has been cancelled. It is a casualty of the Falklands crisis.

NEWS VIEW

Prize Beauty ▸

Eye-catcher Julie-Anne Rudkin chose this cuddly pet as her favourite when she went along to help publicise an appeal on behalf of the South Atlantic Fund by the Depot Regt RA at Woolwich. The Gunners thought she was a bit of a pet herself.



Silver Castle ▾

This magnificent silver centrepiece completed recently to commemorate the amalgamation of the 91st and 93rd Highlanders in 1881 was on view for The Queen's recent visit to Scotland.



Helping Hand ▲

Aid was recently at hand when 16 United Nations workers and their families evacuated from war-torn Lebanon arrived at the British Forces leave centre at Troodos in Cyprus. Tired and worn, some without possessions, they were housed at the centre until they could return to their home countries.

Bottoms Up ▾

This American was brave enough to try his hand with the Yard of Ale when the British element at HQ AFSOUTH, Naples, held their annual fete. For one day ploughman's lunches and pints replaced pasta and vino. Profits went to Naples' Anglican church and Service charities.



◀ Whip Round

A cheque for £1023.15 and another for £150 were handed to Maj David Stephenson RE on behalf of the South Atlantic Fund by Paul and Shirley Bedford of the Londesborough Army Hotel at Selby, N Yorks. The big total was collected in only 18 days, mainly from young people, and the hotel's directors added the other £150.

Motley Crew ▲

It was all in the best traditions of Blackbeard and Long John Silver when Brownie-Guides from Verden and Nienburg in Germany celebrated their revels — a mixture of games competitions and singing — with the theme "Pirates". The 2nd Verden pack won the Revels Shield and the 1st Verden pack took the fancy-dress prize.





◀ Smart Escort

Six-year-olds Ian Powell, left, and Darren Savage provided an unusual escort for the Queen Mother when she paid a fleeting visit to 9th/12th Royal Lancers at Hohne, of which she is Colonel-in-Chief. The regiment has become known as 'The Jokers' since SOLDIER reported in April that they were to be decimalised.

New Guidon ▶

Not even a torrential downpour could dampen the spirit of 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars when Princess Margaret, their Colonel-in-Chief, presented them with a new Guidon (the cavalry equivalent of a regimental colour). The parade at Paderborn went ahead despite the weather and much to the pleasure of 130 old comrades who had travelled to Germany especially for the occasion.



◀ Shoot Salute

Lt Col Larry Orpen-Smelley, captain of the Army Rifle Team, prepares to fire the 7.62 L1A1 rifle at Bisley to mark the watershed of 75,000 rifle overhauls by the Small Arms Repair Branch of 34 Central Workshop REME, Donnington. Major Geoff Cook, Branch Manager, left, fits the magazine.



On Target ▶

Pictorial proof that Pte Cathy Barrett of 55 Signal Squadron (V) from Liverpool, knows how to get her man. At Summer camp with the squadron at Shorncliffe she did it three times with an SLR — and all in the inner.



◀ Climb Three

For the third time 'C' Coy of Princess Marina College, Aborfield, have climbed all three of Britain's highest peaks in one weekend. Setting off after work on Friday they conquered Ben Nevis, 4406ft, Sea Fell Pike, 3210ft, and Snowdon, 3560ft, and still managed to get back before 1am on Monday morning.

GRAHAM SMITH SEES 600 RED BERETS FLY IN TO A ROYAL WELCOME

HOME ARE THE HEROES

SIX HUNDRED HEROES of the Falklands fighting — the 'Red Berets' of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, The Parachute Regiment — are home again. And there to welcome them at RAF Brize Norton was their Colonel-in-Chief, Prince Charles, who himself had flown in just ten minutes earlier by a Queen's Flight Andover.

Even he, though, was upstaged on this emotional occasion by the arrival of the Paras who had made the ten-hour flight

through the night from Ascension Island, to be joyfully greeted by 2000 members of their families — many of them with babes-in-arms — and friends.

The mass homecoming in four RAF VC 10s and a civilian charter DC 10 took place under black, threatening skies but the reception could not have been warmer.

There were forests of miniature Union Jack flags, an abundance of hats and skirts with the same motif, 'Welcome home, lads' banners, personalised cardboard placards with like sentiment and, of course, countless bottles of bubbly just ready to have their corks popped.

And there was mighty cheering and applause the moment both Battalion COs — Lt-Col David Chaundler (2 Para; Aldershot) and Lt-Col Hew Pike (3 Para; Tidworth) descended the steps of the first VC 10 to a greeting by Prince Charles, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse the C-in-C Fleet and General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, Colonel Commandant of The Parachute Regiment.

The VC 10 had taken ten tan-



Pictures: Doug Pratt

Lt-Cols Pike (left) and Chaundler disembark at Brize Norton.

talising minutes to taxi over to the Terminal apron and shutdown. But only six minutes later, the men — 50 from each Battalion — were back on British soil to be greeted by ecstatic shouts of welcome from their loved ones.

The Prince of Wales, meanwhile, was already moving among the families to tell them: "They all did an incredible job. An astonishing spirit. The least we can do is to give them a decent welcome."

In front of the wind-buffed Terminal Building, topped by the fluttering Royal Standard, the Band of the Parachute Regiment added their own musical tribute to the safe return of their comrades-in-arms with a repertoire which, not surprisingly, included a rendition of 'Congratulations!'

Protocol and customs clearances completed, it was time for families and friends to be reunited with their returning heroes. Rapture and sheer relief expressed in countless hugs, kis-

ses and tears bridged the separations of 8000 miles of ocean and three months of private anxieties.

Private Jimmy Johnson, 21, of 3 Para's 'A' Company, stepped into the embraces of his family to be hoisted shoulder high clutching a bottle of champagne. Ahead of him was another ordeal, but this time a pleasant one — a VIP street party in his honour and ten days of continuous jollifications!

His aunt, Mrs Margaret Thompson of Wythenshawe, Manchester, told SOLDIER that 56 of the family and friends had hired a coach, complete with driver, for £250 to bring them to Brize Norton.

Bulford Avenue, Wythenshawe, she promised, would be decked out with bunting. "He's our hero!" she shouted. As for Jimmy, he could only grin: "It's great to be back!"

Captain Stephen Hughes, the Medical Officer of 2 Para who celebrated his 25th birthday on Wireless Ridge, was welcomed back with a bottle of Sainsbury's



Major Mike Argue, wife Glyn and daughter, Joanna.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE PAID BY THE CGS

BEFORE THEY BEGAN the final leg of their long journey home, the battle-weary Paras were given a memorable send-off by General Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the General Staff.

He visited them aboard the requisitioned North Sea ferry *Norland*, moored off Ascension Island, where they were waiting for RAF and RN helicopters to take them to Wideawake Airfield and the flight back to Brize Norton.

The General was accompanied by Lt Gen Sir Richard Trant, Commander of the Army's South-East District and Land Deputy to C-in-C Fleet. Aboard the *Norland* both men had a chance to learn at first hand of the heroism, determination and sheer hard slog which characterised the battles for Goose Green and Port Stanley.

Speaking to a packed audience of Falklands campaign veterans, General Bramall praised the pivotal role which 2 and 3 Para played. "You have done an outstanding job by any standards", he said, "and you can fully take your place alongside those of the previous generation who fought with great glory at Bruneval, in North Africa, Sicily, Normandy, across the Rhine and at Arnhem."

Confirming that a special medal would be issued for a campaign which he described as "one of the most brilliant and bravest in military history" he ended with a word of heartfelt thanks on behalf of the millions of people worldwide who had followed the Paras' progress with such interest and concern.

While he was on Ascension, CGS also took the opportunity of making a whistlestop tour of the many Army support units on the island. Units such as the RAOC pipeline detachment at Wideawake airfield had a vital but largely unsung role to play in the vast logistic backup operation which made the Task Force a viable proposition. The

General was told of the peak demand of 250,000 gallons of aviation fuel which the unit had supplied each day at the height of the crisis. Without their

Post Office, manned by a detachment from 2 Postal and Courier Regiment RE, have rapidly and accurately processed hundreds of bags of mail to



A meeting on the bridge for CGS with (left) the RN Commander Christopher Esplin-Jones and (right) the *Norland*'s captain, Captain Ellerby.

efforts, RAF long range operations would have been impossible.

Similarly the island's Forces

and from the Task Force over the past months. Both received a richly deserved pat on the back from General Bramall.

◀ **Capt Steve Hughes, 2 Para's Medic, amid tears and bubbly.**

Wife, Glyn, who was there with 10-year-old daughter, Joanna, simply said: "I just want to take him away and talk to him for a few hours. Besides, the grass wants cutting!"

For Lance Corporal Paul Grundy of 'C' Company, 2 Para, there were three people he wanted to meet more than anyone else in the world — his wife, Sheila, daughter Kelly of 22 months and the son he had not yet seen — seven-week-old, Stephen.

"It's fantastic. Just what I wanted — a boy," he beamed.

Another new dad was Lance Corporal David Guthrie, of 'B' Company, 2 Para, who learned by signal that he was going to be a father. Lesley, his wife, and three-and-a-half-week-old son, David, were there to meet him. He had been born just four days before the fall of Port Stanley.

Dad's verdict: "He's cute!" And mum? "It's a great relief to see David again".

Later, both COs gave a short press conference.

Asked about his para drop into the sea as the new CO of 2 Para — replacing Lt-Col H Jones who had been killed in action — Lt-Col Chaundler replied: "It was not nearly as exciting as some of the Press would have us believe. I jumped into the sea about 100 miles off the Falklands, picked up the frigate, then Hermes and then made for the Islands."

He said that 2 Para was an "extremely fine" battalion and that he had known it of old. The Falklands victory, he said, was a "marvellous achievement by the British Forces as a whole."

His opinion was warmly endorsed by Lt-Col Pike who said the feats in the Falklands ranked alongside those achievements of World War Two. He had told his soldiers so.

"I have never had anything but the greatest possible confidence in everything they were asked to do. I feel immense pride and humility that I was fortunate to be commanding them at this

Anxious families await their loved ones from Customs clearance.



'best bubbly'.

There to meet him was girl friend, Naomi Harrison, a trainee nurse at Charing Cross Hospital who was too overcome to pay much attention to the Press interest in the return.

Captain Hughes said: "It's so nice to see a tree again. Apart from Ascension Island I haven't seen a tree for three months. I'm going to see our Falklands casualties in Aldershot's Cambridge Military Hospital and Woolwich, put in a working week and then go on six weeks' leave."

Also at Brize Norton was Michele Dance, and her children, Sheridan, 2 and four-month-old Charmaine.

She wanted not only to see husband, Neal, of 2 Para's 'B' Company, but her wedding ring, too.

He had carried her ring into the Falklands campaign next to his 'dog tag' while she carried his on a slim, gold chain round her neck.

"I'm so excited," she said. "I told him he had to bring my wedding ring back — and he has!"

Major Mike Argue, 35, 'B' Company Commander, 3 Para and a former SAS Troop commander, enthused: "It's marvellous to be back. It's tremendous. We didn't know when it was all going to end."

The look tells all from L/Cpl Guthrie's wife, Lesley, with baby son, David.



Reunion of wedding bands. Michele Dance and husband.

particular moment in their history."

On a different tack, he went on to suggest: "The Army needs to have another look at its intervention forces, at its reserve brigade, a genuine reserve brigade which is not committed to any particular task and which can be used for this sort of contingency.

"Experience shows that train-

ity with everything one did because one had practised it many times before."

Looking back at the defeat of the Argentinians, Lt-Col Pike remarked: "It was clear, psychologically to me, that they were so demoralised that they must accept they were on a loser."

Lt-Col Chaundler recalled in particular the battle for Darwin and added: "I subsequently walked the battlefield. It was a most remarkable battle. To me, the Argies were a lot stronger than we thought but our battalions just kept going forward. I think the fighting qualities of the Argentinian soldier in that particular engagement could not be more clearly demonstrated than by the number of men killed and wounded."

Of the final moment of surrender at Port Stanley, he said: "It was very interesting to see how they collapsed. Standing on that ridge and looking down the valley towards Stanley there were just these black ants all streaming back. They were not running, they were beaten and they were dejected and streaming down off Sapper Hill. It was a great moment.

"When it became clear to the soldiers that the Argentinians had really collapsed they started to take off their steel helmets and put on their berets. It was really a great, proud moment in my life."

Together again — L/Cpl Paul Grundy, wife Sheila, Kelly and Stephen.



Lt-Col Hew Pike and family.

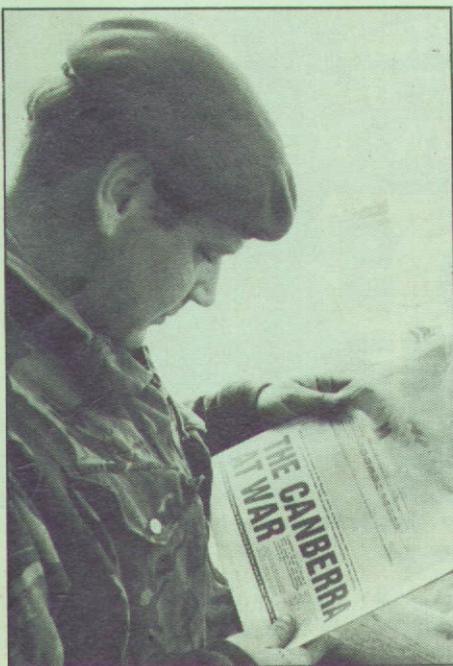
ing works. Everything we did was similar to things we had done in training with the fundamental difference that men were actually getting killed and wounded. But there was a high level of familiar-

Lt-Col David Chaundler, 2 Para's replacement CO: "marvellous achievement".



How thousands said 'thank you' to the Canberra and those who sailed to war with her . . .

A WHALE OF A WELCOME



Pte Shaun Jennings of 3 Para reads ▲ special souvenir prepared by local Southampton paper.

Banners bedeck the rails as Canberra sails in. ▼

SOUTHAMPTON HADN'T seen a homecoming like it since the heady days following World War Two. Thousands packed the quaysides and dock sheds to shout a tumultuous welcome to the *Canberra* with its precious cargo of more than 2,000 marines and soldiers. And there was a veritable armada of small boats jamming Southampton Water to swell the triumphal procession.

The commandos on board the P&O flagship — known to them affectionately as The Great White Whale — crowded the rails for sight of their loved ones and the Band of the Royal Marines played a stirring medley of unashamed patriotism.

It was the end of a 27,187 mile, 94-day trip by the liner and her gallant civilian crew — a journey that had seen her go right into the heart of the war zone and survive a

10-hour air attack in San Carlos Bay.

On the way to the Falklands the ship had taken out 2000 members of the Forces and during her voyage into danger her troop strengths had varied from 600 to nearly 5000. Her battered decks were testimony to the thousands of miles of exercising done by the fighting men.

As well as landing the majority of land forces on the Falklands, the *Canberra* also saw duty as a hospital ship and prisoner transport and berthed alongside only twice in her South Atlantic odyssey.

Now, for her too, the war is over and after extensive refit and refurbishment she will return to her normal cruising role when those perambulating her ten passenger decks will take to the sea with special pride.

Pictures: Les Wiggs



OFFICIAL FALKLAND ISLAND TEE-SHIRT OFFER

ONLY £3.50 (Incl. p. & p.)

Sukey Cameron, Executive Secretary to the London Falkland Island Office, is seen here wearing the Tee-Shirt. She and her colleagues have been bombarded with requests from the public to make these freely available, since Islanders arriving in the U.K. were seen wearing them on television, when they were only available in Port Stanley. You can now purchase them and demonstrate your support for the Islanders' cause.

The Tee-Shirts, which are entirely British-made, are of 100% cotton, and come in 5 sizes, white only. There are also sweatshirts available with the same slogan, 'Happiness is knowing he's British - Falkland Is.' These also British-made are 75% cotton, 12% viscose, and 13% polyester.

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Mike Peters in Port Stanley reports on how the Welsh Guards have been helping win the second battle of the Falklands . . .

Operation Tidy Town

A BRIGHT NEW SOUND came whistling down the chill wind that woke Stanley to another day of clattering helicopters. It was the bugle call reveille of 1st Battalion The Welsh Guards as they started their mammoth task of clearing up the rubbish of war.

The Welsh dragon flies stiffly in the breeze of Stanley Harbour as the Guardsmen tackle wrecked buildings, scattered Argentine ammunition and mud. Slick and slippery mud coats the pavements of many roads in this picturesque town and the constant flow of vehicles doesn't help. But the Guards are winning their second battle of the Falklands — Operation Tidy Town.

While the Guards provide the men for the many tasks in the streets and gardens of Stanley the experts of the Royal Engineers have an even deadlier task. Stanley is surrounded by minefields and laced with dug-outs, trenches and sangars.

Some are traps for the unwary. Hand grenades set on instant fusing are lodged in crevices and others are linked by flattened pins that could set off a killer blast. Picking up souvenirs is easily discouraged.

In one trench today I saw what appeared to be a brand new transistor radio lying alongside a pair of binoculars, a shattered rifle and handfuls of loose ammo. It was still

there hours later — no one is prepared to take the risk!

Commanding Officer of the Welsh Guards, Lt-Col Johnnie Rickett said: "There's a lot of mines, munitions and unexploded bombs around the place and in conjunction with the Sappers we go around as they clear away the bombs and we clean away the rubbish afterwards.

"We found three mines in our back garden yesterday. What is so depressing, frankly, is to see the indiscriminate sowing of anti-personnel mines in ordinary people's back gardens. To give you an example, where No. 2 Company is stationed there was a row of anti-personnel mines which had been sown in somebody's back lawn between his back door and his garden gate.

"It will take a very, very long time to clear up Stanley. We can't really clear the rubbish until the Sappers clear the booby traps first. The whole of Stanley has one solid minefield all around it — all the beaches are mined. And it's going to take years to clean it up.

"As regards the ordnance, the Argentine weapons and equipment lying all around the place you can't go in and pick it up because of the booby traps. I can see the next battalion coming down here doing it and perhaps the one after that.

"The people of Stanley are really pleased to see us. I make no bones about it, my regiment has always had a good name in community relations in Northern Ireland and they like to chat to people. The Falkland Islanders are very friendly and welcoming and they like having us here."

The Welsh Guards are looking forward to their return to Pirbright and leave. But they are also waiting for that welcome in the hillsides they know there is in the Principality. The delayed laying up of colours is being planned again and a tour of Wales is also part of the future for the Welshmen. ■

Welsh Guards begin the long, slow task of clearing up ammunition.



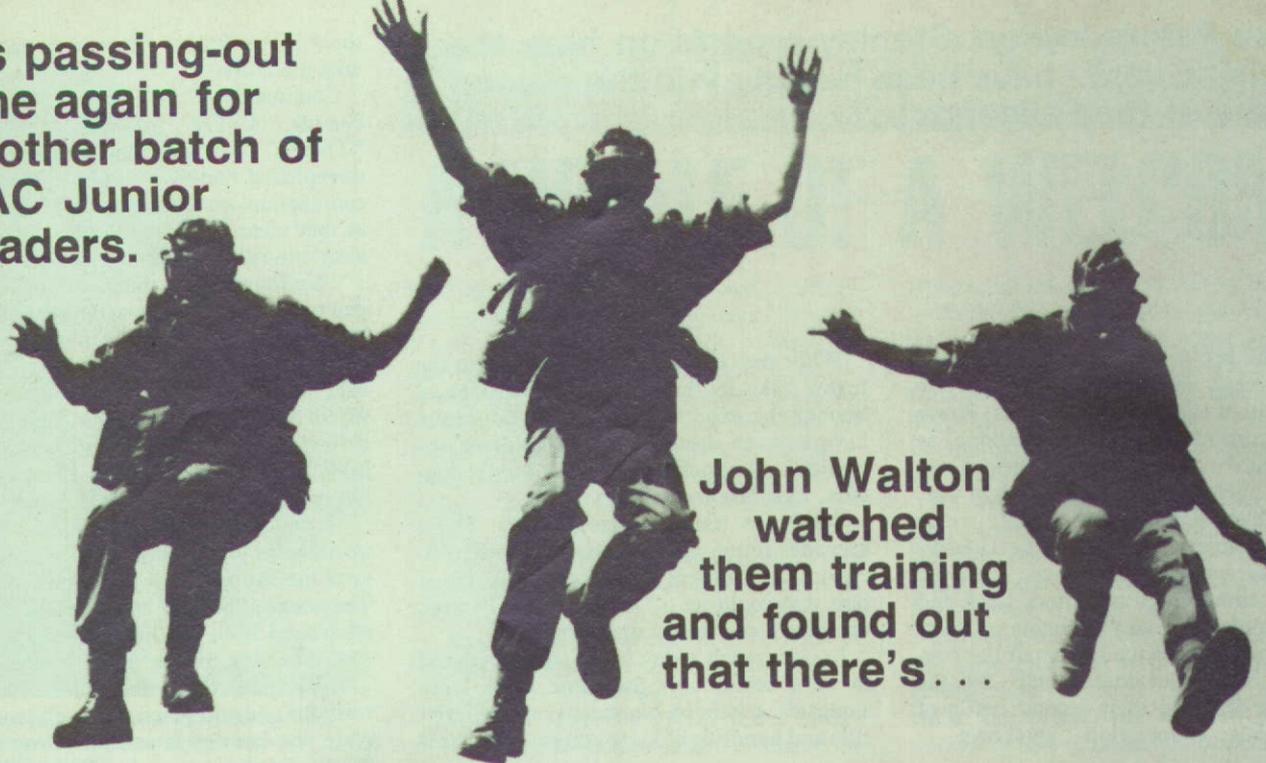
Photograph by
Ron Hudson

Rapidly becoming a familiar sight on the streets of Stanley are an 18-strong detachment of 160 Provost Company, Royal Military Police, from Aldershot who patrol the town in conjunction with the island 'bobby', Constable Anton Livermoor.

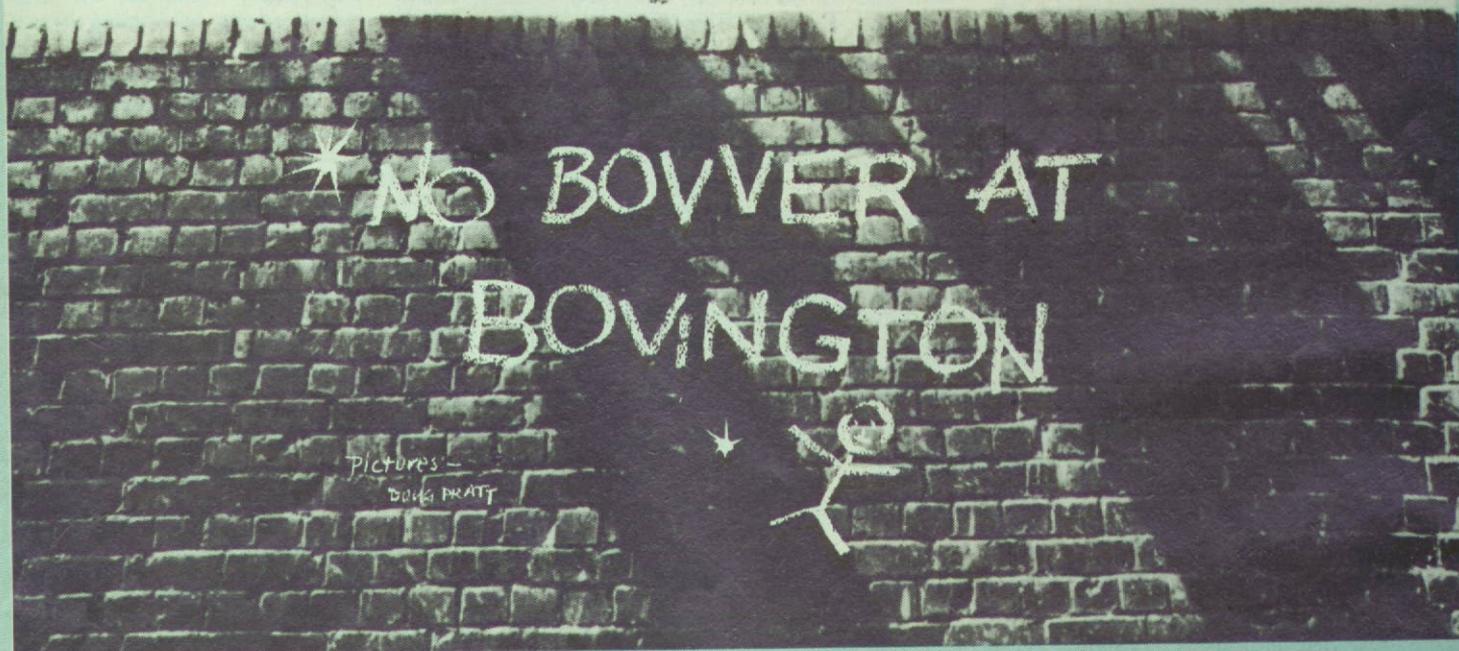
Before they took up their duties the Redcaps were all sworn in as special constables before the Chief Magistrate, Mr Harold Bennett. Then he and Constable Livermoor watched Captain Alan Barley sign the document giving effect to the RMP's new role. *Picture by Paul Haley*



It's passing-out time again for another batch of RAC Junior Leaders.



John Walton watched them training and found out that there's...



Over the assault course wall in respirators. ▲ Stephen Houghton, a musical junior RSM.



JOINING THE Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, is certainly a big change for the predominantly town and city lads who make up the regiment's numbers. For their home for the next 15 months or so will be Bovington Camp, far from the madding crowd in the Hardy country of Dorset.

Says the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Neil Winship, RTR: "To many of us it's an absolutely lovely part of the country but some blokes from the cities look out of their barrack room windows and wonder where the street lights and discos and music halls are."

In addition to Junior Leaders for the Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps the centre also trains those bound for the Royal Military Police and Army Air Corps, both only too glad to use the facilities and organisation for their smaller numbers. And there are 40 junior bandsmen, who spend six terms at Bovington honing their musical skills.

Most Junior Leaders' regiments these days are for three terms — at Bovington the fourth is used for the special-to-arm training which will enable the youngster to go direct

to his operational regiment without further preparation. The AAC lads spend their fourth term on clerical and special training as ground crewmen.

At the moment the Regiment is way down on its 700 maximum capacity. Colonel Winship does not expect this figure to be reached or required in the immediate future. The biggest intake each year is in September and the youngsters have six months in which they are free to leave at any time.

"We try to encourage them to stay for at least a fortnight before giving up this splendid opportunity in life," says the Colonel. "Even after the six months are up it's not like a prison and it doesn't necessarily mean we will keep them in against their wishes."

There is a fall out rate of approximately 20 per cent — most leave because of homesickness or because they do not take to the new regime. Colonel Winship is philosophical about this: "The Army is not for everybody in this country. It is a disciplined life and you have got to be able to give up self in the interests of a team. You have also got to be prepared to stomach a certain amount of enforced discipline while you are learning



'You're in the Army now' — new boys arrive. ▲

the attributes of self discipline."

One person who really has to listen to the boys' homesickness problems is Mrs Helen Irving. When SOLDIER last met Mrs Irving, in 1977, she was the WRVS representative with the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars at Paderborn and was due to be one of the last to leave in the WRVS pull out from BAOR.

"They were so short of WRVS that three months after I returned from Germany I was asked to come down here and stand in for five weeks — and from that I've been here four years."

Mrs Irving has as her base the Centurion Club, a complex of snooker, table tennis, reading and TV rooms which dwarfs the facilities she ran in Germany. But she has found an enormous difference with the Junior Leaders.

"With a regiment it is like a family — you know everybody from the time they arrive onwards. Here you are just beginning to know people and they have gone. They are often homesick — especially at the beginning when the first night away from home can be torture to some."

The chaplain, Captain David Tickner, also finds homesickness is a common problem. "There is a lot of confusion to begin with. They arrive in a totally strange environment, people start making demands on them and they have a crisis of confidence.

Make sure you don't disturb the frogs. ▼



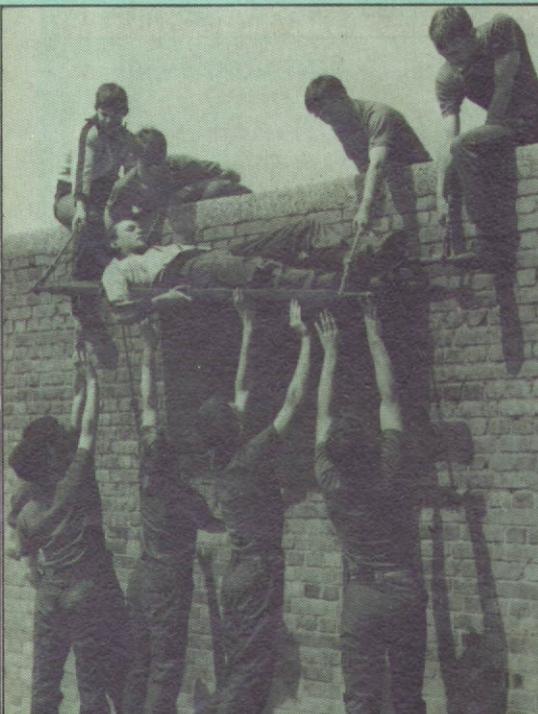
Jeremy Rose and Paul Gamble on the sax.

They think they have made a terrible mistake but very often it is enough to reassure them that other people have been there with the same feelings and have come out the other side of it."

There is a lot of pastoral work for a chaplain with such a unit and Captain Tickner finds that the youngsters talk about their problems in a much more open way than older people.

Surprising, but true, is that not infrequently he has to talk to 16-year-old soldiers who are considering getting married. "I

Getting a patient across the obstacle. ▼



Drill must be as good as the Guards. ▲

consider it very important to look at all of the reasons why they think they should get married. It is very often because a girl is pregnant or because it seems like a good idea. I hope they will think deeply about it — they have a very romantic but not very realistic view of life."

According to Major Colin Beet, RAEC, who is the senior education officer, it comes as something of a shock for the young men who have just left school to find that part of their time is spent in a classroom.

The Regiment has a staff of 11 civilian and eight military lecturers. The course is totally integrated with every working day comprising all aspects of their training and education.

About 20 per cent of the time is spent on education leading to the award of the Junior Army Education Certificate with some getting the chance to take the Education Promotion Certificate.

Special-to-arm instruction is on tanks for the RAC, motorcycles for the RMP and the theory of flight for the Army Air Corps. All do subjects such as map reading, military calculations and military affairs.

Since most of them will serve in Germany during their Army careers and many will go straight from Bovington to Rhine Army, there are also courses on conversational German.

continued on page 16

Sgt Alan Holloway explains Chieftain barrel. ▼





Lessons in tank camouflage. ▲



J-Tpr Lee Bradley starts communicating. ▲

In the third term the Command Studies syllabus gives all youngsters an introduction to leadership through a series of graded exercises in which all of them will get the chance to lead a group.

Warrant Officer 1 Keith Hanning, Queen's Dragoon Guards, is the first ex-Junior Leader to return as RSM of the Regiment. When he joined up 24 years ago the course lasted three years.

"On the academic side the current boy does exactly the same as we were doing — but in only half the time. What he misses out is on sporting and recreational activity — in those days it used to be every afternoon.

"The whole camp has changed — there are only two buildings left from when I joined up and then it was virtually a hatted camp. The food has improved too — you used to be entitled to one-third of an egg per man per day so if you weren't in the first 200 out of 600 you didn't get one. The master chef manages to lay on a fabulous scoff now."

Mr Hanning describes his job as "the most rewarding RSM's position in the Armoured Corps — because you are dealing with the soldiers of tomorrow". He also feels that today's youngsters are every bit as good as 20 years ago and in some respects they are better.

"When I joined up a lot of them had been given the choice of Borstal or the Junior Leaders Regiment. A lot were thugs and rogues and bullying went on to a large extent. Because you had a troop system you

had boys of 15 and 18 in the same troop and the younger ones had to do the others' boots. That has disappeared from the Army now."

The Redcaps are just changing their system at Bovington. The fourth term is being spent at Chichester on police training. This means that this summer two groups will pass off at the same time.

The Junior Bandsmen stay for six terms and are completely different to the boys with other JLR's, who do music as a hobby. These musicians are trained for the bands of the cavalry and RAC as well as a small RAOC and REME element.

Before their arrival they are auditioned by the Director of Music, Captain Gordon Leask, who tests their aptitude on woodwind and brass instruments. Exceptionally, a lad who is good on a stringed instrument will be accepted for training for one of those bands which also has a small orchestra.

To begin with the young bandsmen spend about one-third of their time on music and the rest on other activities, but as their course progresses the emphasis on musical studies increases. At the end of the day the standard of music at pass-off parades is exceptional according to Captain Leask.

His words were echoed in respect of drill by drill sergeant, Trevor Rolfe of the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, who declared: "We reckon we are pretty sharp down here. I would put these boys on their pass out parade against the Guards Depot."

This term, for the first time for many years, the Junior RSM is a Junior Bandsman, Stephen Houghton, from Yorkshire brass band country. He plays french horn

and trumpet.

There may not be quite such an emphasis on sport as years ago but the Junior Leaders still find plenty of time for it and for physical training. The chief PT instructor, QMSI James Millward, told SOLDIER: "When they first arrive they have weaknesses in the arms, shoulders and trunk. Most schools have stopped doing physical training and are more inclined towards freedom of movement with music. To the Army this means that we have got to do a lot of remedial PT in the evenings with a lot of the boys to build them up to the required standard. When they are at the end of the third term, that's when the man arrives."

It's also the claim that every boy who passes out from Bovington can swim. Mr Leslie Stopher, swimming instructor for the last 17 years, finds that about 20 per cent cannot do so when they arrive.

"And the great majority of those who can swim use a glorified doggie paddle. I have to teach them the breast stroke so that they can learn survival and life saving."

In the fourth term the RAC boys go onto their own trades. They will leave badged to various regiments as qualified crewmen/gunners. The Chieftain course takes ten weeks but those going to a reconnaissance regiment will learn about both Scimitar and Scorpion. And they are all able to fire live on the range at Lulworth a few miles down the road.

Communications skills also have to be learned. By the end of the third term all will have passed their radio trade tests and they will have continuation training throughout the final term.

Says Lieutenant Tim Checketts, OC radio wing: "For armoured reconnaissance regiments it is our bread and butter to be able to communicate. But it is quite difficult to get it over to them how important it is because they don't have any clear idea of how the real Army works."

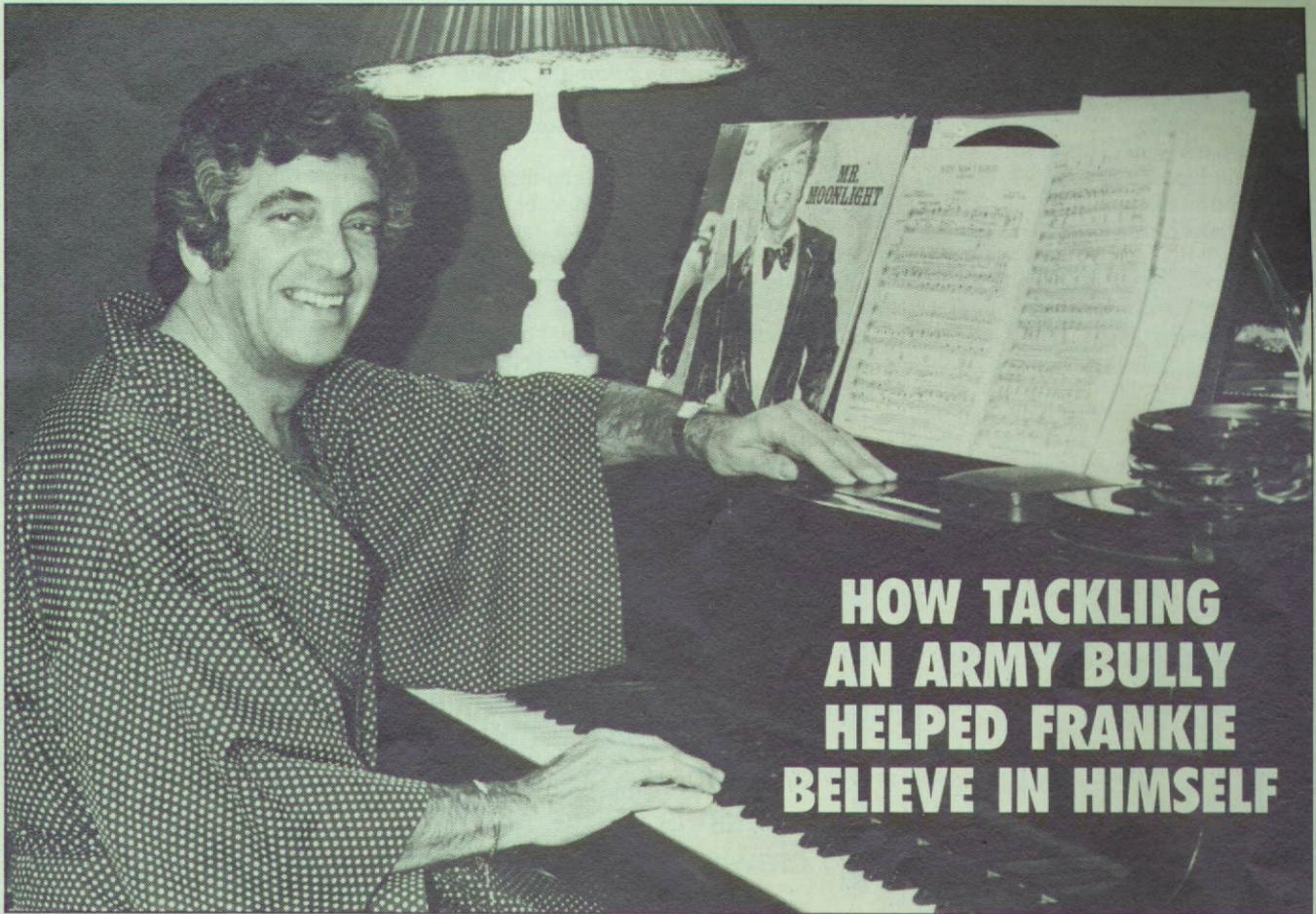
Statistics show that Junior Leaders have a better chance of reaching NCO rank comparatively quickly and that, despite the extra amount of training, they do not cost the taxpayer significantly more money. They also tend to stay in the Army longer than the adult recruit.

Life is always busy and hectic with the Junior Leaders Regiment at Bovington but Lieutenant-Colonel Winship makes no apologies. "They didn't join the Army to learn to knit, did they?" he says. ■

Not the most buoyant of rafts!



Pictures: Doug Pratt



HOW TACKLING AN ARMY BULLY HELPED FRANKIE BELIEVE IN HIMSELF

FRANKIE VAUGHAN who, thousands of times, has pleaded for "the moonlight... the girl"... and carte blanche thereafter, has fond recollections of his chequered Army career as a National Serviceman in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

The Liverpool-born singer of Jewish parents — his mother and grandmother were Russian refugees — readily admits that he was a "naughty boy but not bad" even if he was 'busted' five times — three of them during his first year in khaki.

Now 54, the entertainer with the straw boater, cane and high-kick at 120 degrees to the vertical who saw service in Carlisle, Catterick and the Canal Zone from 1946 to 1948, says the Army helped launch him into show business via concert parties giving him the confidence to survive as a singer in the tough, cold world of London's commercial tin-pan alley.

Frankie has made eight films and one of the earliest *These Dangerous Years* — was, he says, largely based on his Army experiences with the story-line of a young soldier who got into trouble through high spirits.

At the time of his call-up Frankie was a promising commercial artist still striving after his teacher's diploma. He passed his Army medical at Preston but was given six months' deferment so he could pursue his studies at Leeds College of Art.

His family had moved to the city from Lancaster after his father — a sergeant-major in The Royal Pioneer Corps — had been invalided out of the Army with a lung complaint.

In his spare time Frankie had already

become immersed in Boys' Club activities, a commitment that would earn him an OBE 19 years later in 1965. He was also an accomplished welterweight, reaching the county finals.

"I was a bit useful and although I had longish hair I was a pretty fit kid," Frankie recalls.

"The sergeant-major came in and I think I hit him. An officer tried to intervene and I clouted him, too."

His first posting was to a Holding and Drafting Centre in Carlisle. From there, he sailed from Stranraer to Ulster and initial training with The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

"It was a bastard. A dreadful crossing. Everyone was as sick as pigs. There we were; tearful, smelly and very home-sick. Because my name was Abelson I was first in line for a hair-cut. They cut everything off including the quiff in front. Nobody wanted to go out at night. I felt a real dog. But there was no point in fighting it. I had to stick it out although, in the first week, three guys were sent home to the mainland. It certainly sorted out the men from the boys."

Life soon improved though for Private Abelson. His background as a boxer became known and he was soon in demand to show off his prowess — against Regulars.

These encounters in the ring, he acknowledges now, were good for him.

"It showed I was not going to be mucked around by the Army. I could use myself. Physically, I was showing up well in initial training. Academically, I was there, too. I had my diploma by now as an art master."

Because of his Boys' Club leadership experience, Frankie was invited to join the Royal Military Police. But he declined and was promptly put on a charge with the punishment of running round and round the parade square in full kit.

"I've nothing against the RMP," says Frankie, "but it was just not for me. I couldn't see myself in that role."

Abelson was asked to re-consider but his answer was the same — negative. So he was immediately posted to the Royal Army Medical Corps at Aldershot.

"I thought this was going to be a real cushy number! But they were really red hot on medical matters and discipline. I had the shock of my life."

Promoted to lance-corporal in charge of a platoon, Frankie became home-sick for his family in Leeds. He contacted his father telling him he was "really fed up" and wanted to come home. His dad advised him to apply for a compassionate posting.

The RAMC were not so tender. They told the youngster that he would have to forfeit his rank. It was his first 'busting' but it took

continued on page 18

him to Catterick which he recalls as a "smashing" posting where he enjoyed the hard work involved in outdoor decontamination duties.

Catterick was the place, he says "when the fun and games started" including a punch-up with the Camp bully — "a big corporal" — in one of the Mess dining halls.

Frankie was doing well at the time. He was playing football. He boxed. And he took great pride in his turn-out.

"I was a bit keen about my uniform," he said. "My brasses were highly polished and my blanco was right."

But this pride in his appearance was to lead to a second fall from grace.

The uncaring corporal in the dining hall slopped some soggy food onto Frankie's plate during the line-up and bits of it splattered his unsullied uniform. He told the corporal he would like some more. The corporal obliged with even more damaging

effect.

Frankie takes up the story. "I just went for this guy. The sergeant-major came in and I think I hit him. An officer tried to intervene and I clouted him, too. I didn't know he was an officer. I was fighting everybody. I went up before the captain."

Abelson got ten days' stoppage of pay, two weeks' confined to barracks and was 'busted' to private once more.

But the matter was not to end there — for young Abelson. Honour had to be avenged and a challenge was thrown out to the corporal to meet him in the ring in the gym one Friday night. He did not show up.

Frankie and a friend sought out the corporal and found him, drunk and quite helpless, on a bar stool in the Naafi. They finished up, arms round each other's shoulders, singing *Don't Fence Me In*.

Violence avoided, Frankie says now that his self-confidence soared after that incident. "He was a big guy and maybe he could have killed me, but I had to make a showing."

"I really did think of deserting. I had dreadful dreams of finding myself cut up on barbed wire and all kinds of things crawling over me."

Two months later he was a lance-corporal again.

"I got stuck into my work really hard as a medic. I was interested in the job. I was acting Staff Sergeant and due to go to the OCTU."

But 'bust' number three was looming because of Frankie's fondness for Leeds and his family.

Caught out by a fiddled pass — forgetfully unsigned by a pal pulling the same stunt as himself — coupled with the worst winter in living memory, young Abelson was a full week late returning to duty.

He was placed under open arrest for that freezing infringement, demoted for the third time in less than a year, and given a new posting. A month later he was on the troopship *Empire Cheshire* heading for Port Said in Egypt.

During his training in Egypt the artist in Abelson came out and, with it, a further reprimand for drawing "rather nice, nude ladies" on the walls of his hut. But his time there was put to good use. Frankie learned to speak — and sing — in fluent Egyptian and one of his tunes, of Bedouin origin, was adapted for his film *Wonderful Things*, a melody he picked up while working at the British Military Hospital at Fayed.

"It is there I started to go places," says Frankie. "We did a show at El Balah camp, a double act — a pal and me. On the medical side, I did three months in surgery and then on the psychiatric wards. I could do remedial work. I was made up to full corporal right away and then acting staff sergeant again."

He waited again for a place on an OCTU course but a certain Hermann Schmeisser, one of 20 German prisoners-of-war working

for Frankie at the hospital and once an officer in the Hitler youth movement, inadvertently put paid to that hope by a blunder.

"The POWs were doing the heavy work. Hermann had been a real Nazi. I told him I was Jewish and not to forget it. We became very good friends. Another German there, incidentally, was boxer Max Schmeling's trainer. A hard case. He used to hit a brick wall with his fist. Anyway, I used to give them a bit of food and they used to like to make their own shirts from mis-appropriated sheets."

Somehow, the scheme went wrong. Schmeisser confessed, with Frankie's agreement, thus averting a possible two-year extension to his prison sentence.

"I really did think of deserting. I had dreadful dreams of finding myself cut up on barbed wire and all kinds of things crawling over me. The sergeant major said I could go to the worst British Army prison in the Sinai Desert for 30 days."

Abelson was demoted for the fourth time — to lance corporal — docked ten days' pay, given a fortnight's CB — and an immediate posting.

His new job involved dealing with casualty evacuations into and out of Port Said as part of the Holding and Drafting facility.

But 'bust' number five was not far off!

"One of the boys was teaching me to drive one of the ambulances. Unfortunately for me, the vehicle rolled down a hill and I had to steer into the side of a wall, tearing out the side of the ambulance," said Frankie.

He was Private Abelson yet again.

But Frankie was to finish his Army career literally on the crest of a wave — blue Mediterranean ones. Re-instated again as a full corporal, he was ship's doctor for ten-day trips aboard a corvette, the *Empire Shelter*, out of Malta.

There was one dramatic moment which defused itself into laughter when Frankie found himself on a fast-moving motor torpedo boat heading for Palestine.

One of his chums yelled out to the crew that Frankie was Jewish and joked that he would probably sell them the boat in Palestine once he was there. Abelson was taken ashore.

Malta was, for him, a "marvellous posting" and his singing career in front of the Forces and in the Cafe Premiere — for "25 bob a night" — gained him the recognition he craved.

Frankie Vaughan, as he came to be known, was demobbed to become a heart-throb crooner with 35 singles hits — only four more people in the world have had more, he says — and a total of 380,000 album hits in a two-and-a-half year period.

The versatile entertainer, a grandfather now, who has starred with Anna Neagle and Marilyn Monroe, still remembers his Army career with affection.

He has long since been presented with a plumed hat by The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and still performs for the Forces, last year, in Ulster.

"Mr. Moonlight" as he has now become universally known, says: "I think very highly of today's Army. I have tremendous regard for them and I feel very good when I see the lads. I don't mind how many times they ask me to do shows for them — I will always do them. I wish I could do more for them. I find them a terrific audience." ■



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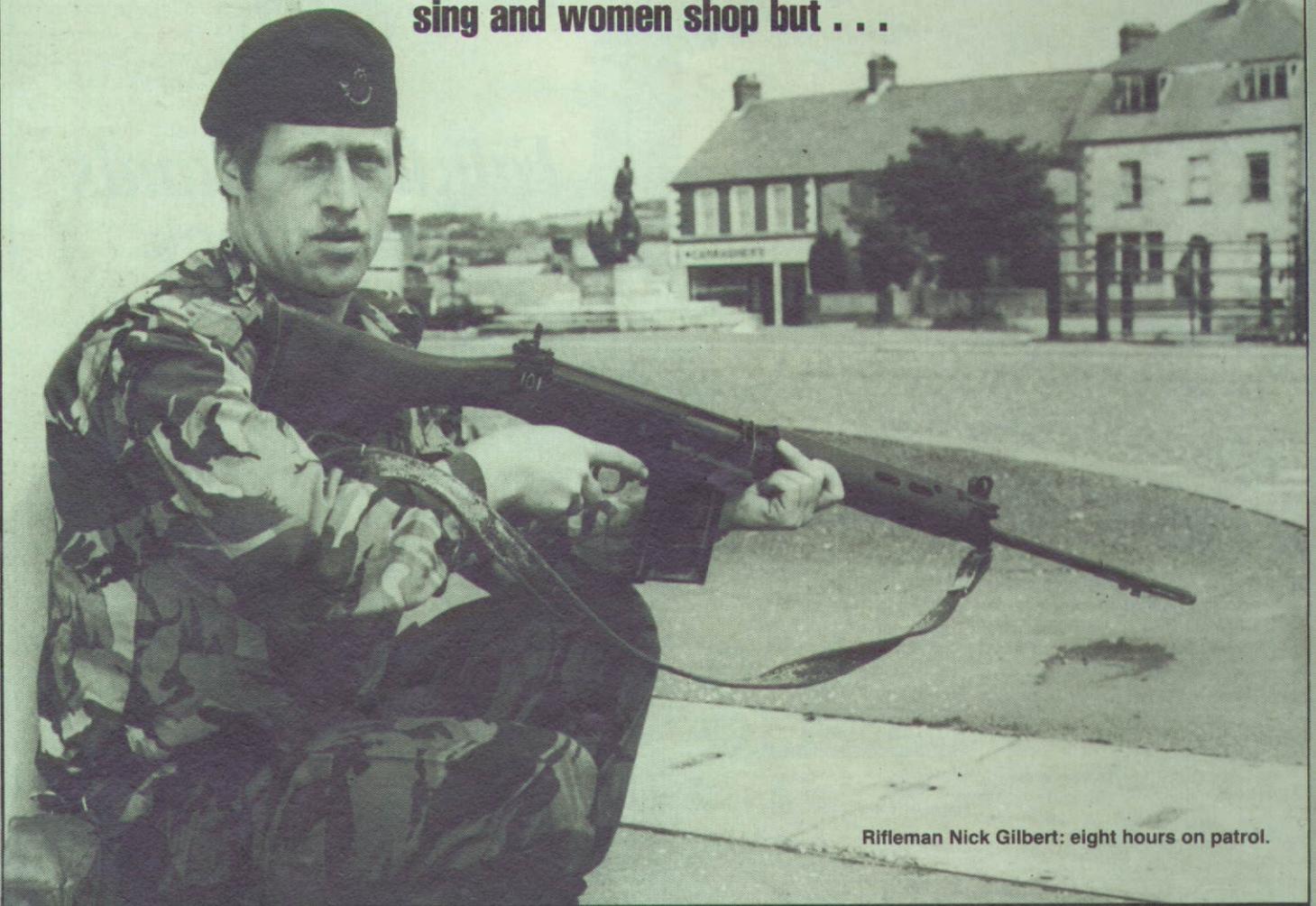
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**In Crossmaglen, like any other village, the birds
sing and women shop but . . .**



Rifleman Nick Gilbert: eight hours on patrol.

THE QUIET FOOLS NO-ONE

MID-SUMMER AND ALPINE SWIFTS swoop and screech over the village square as women shoppers wander by. An idyllic summer scene, but it hasn't always been so quiet. For this is Crossmaglen, South Armagh, a notorious terrorist trouble-spot close to the border with the Irish Republic.

And it's no place for complacency as the two watchful soldiers huddled high up in

their overlooking sangar know only too well.

Both are members of 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry, whose unit role is to provide support to the police and to protect and patrol 35 miles of undulating countryside including a 12-mile stretch of border.

From their 'eyrie' Privates Mal Roach and Bob Bloomfield keep a wary look-out for

suspicious movement on the streets below.

Nicknamed Baluki, after the paratrooper who was murdered at that spot some years ago, the fortified watchtower provides a forward guard position for the Crossmaglen Army base less than a 100 yards behind.

Inside the purpose-built camp near the village centre, troops are being briefed by Sergeant Willie Williams of 'A' Company before embarking on an eight hour long foot patrol.

With the aid of wall maps and a regional relief model he points out danger points on their route.

Among those listening are patrol leader Sergeant John Carr, Lance Corporal Sam Holden and Privates Stephen Bennet, Geordie Morrice, and Nick Gilbert.

But debriefing after an operation is just as important as dog handler Lance Corporal 'Ossie' Osborne of 2nd Battalion the Grenadier Guards can testify after he and his golden labrador Shandy, both on attachment to the Light Infantry, discovered 350 lb of explosives in a dry stone wall close to Crossmaglen military base.

It was Shandy's first big find. His reward — a giant chocolate bar.

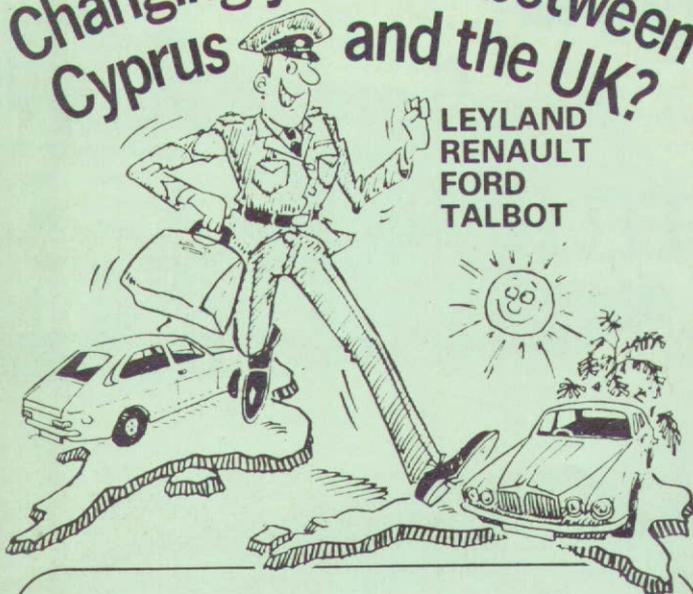
All food and equipment — including chocolate bars — are ferried to Crossmaglen by helicopter from Bessbrook, the Light Infantry's Battalion Headquarters, just 12



Saracen rumbles through the quiet streets.

continued on page 21

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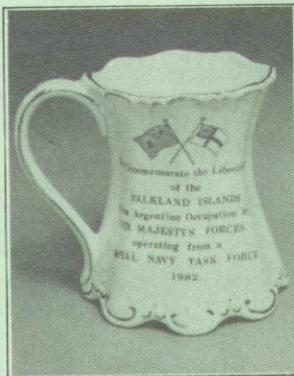
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minutes flight time away.

The man who arranges the almost non-stop aircraft schedules at Bessbrook, which is renowned as one of Europe's busiest heli-ports, is Sergeant Wilf Marshall popularly called 'Buzzard' by aircrews and troops.

Just across the road from Buzzard's office is Bessbrook Mill itself, the temporary home for several hundred infantrymen and support soldiers.

A regimental policeman keeps a vigilant eye on all entrants to the high warren-like complex. Explained Lance Corporal Jeffrey Wilkes: "Everyone arriving is checked by me or my colleague. We have to and it makes sense."

Deep inside the Mill is a hive of activity with troops constantly coming and going on patrol and other operations.

The Arms Kote, where all unused guns are stacked for safety, is a particularly busy department. From his window hatch Private Brian Pollitt issues and receives scores of rifles, machine guns and pistols.

Meanwhile, around the corner in the orderly room, chief clerk WO2 Tom Byrne

Cfn Andy Card (left) and Cpl Chris Cawley: ▼ looking after the first line repairs.



▲ Rifleman Mal Roach: forward guard position in the Baluki sangar.

leave."

Making sure that nobody at Bessbrook is disappointed and that vehicles are serviced and ready to move anywhere instantly, is LAD top man Corporal Chris Cawley of REME. Together with Craftsman Andy Card, he does first-line repairs, tunes engines and adjusts brakes. But the big bogey of the service bay is the 'hub seal' dilemma.

"We seem to get inundated with tasks to remedy oil leaks on the brake shoes," says Chris. "But we don't mind the hard work, it puts muscles in the right places."

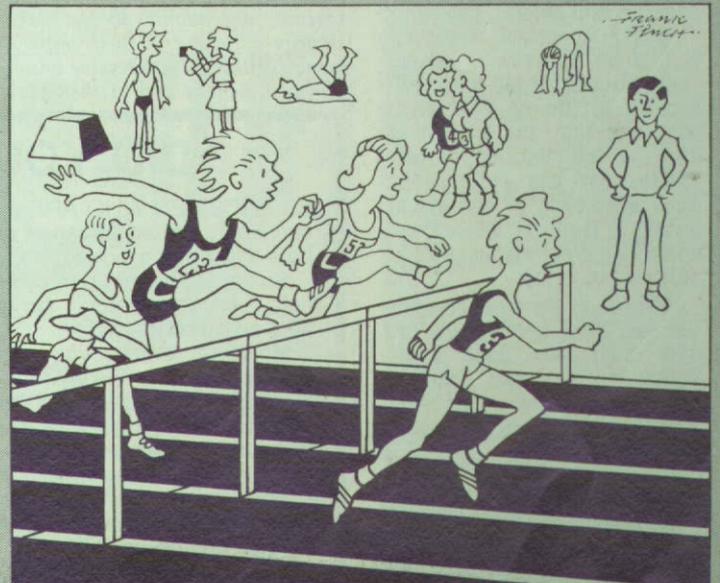
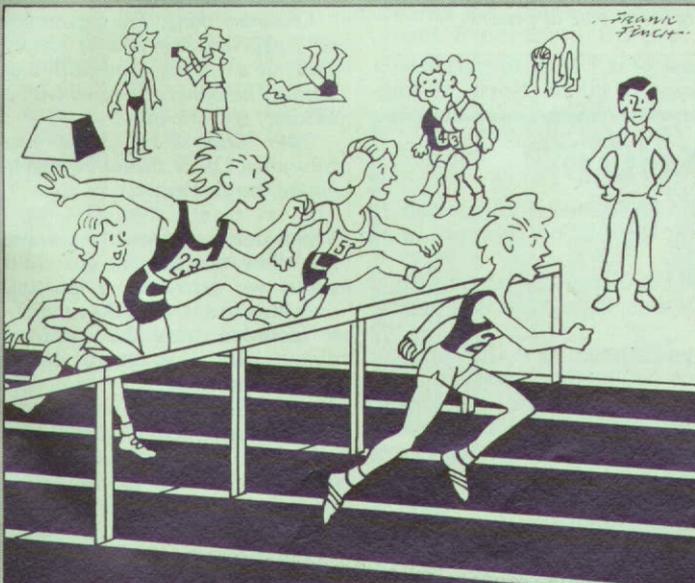
Getting fighting fit to meet any conflict is something every front-line infantryman of 2LI takes very seriously. As Field Marshal Montgomery once said and the Falklands campaign has underlined: "We may have aeroplanes, tanks and atom bombs, but without infantry we can do nothing, nothing at all."

Story by
AMBROSE MOORE



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 turn to page 43.



ANNE ARMSTRONG



With our second UKLF Wives' Seminar just a few months away, a report given to me by Major General Schuneman on the fourth meeting of the Bundeswehr (German Army) wives made interesting reading.

The meeting covered a comprehensive agenda of welfare considerations for the families of German Servicemen.

Speaking about housing welfare, the Bundeswehr President described it as the "darkest chapter since the Forces were set up" and added that such planned measures as the increases in interest rates and rent would mean considerable financial hardship for many.

The Federal Republic's school system does not allow for movement from one school to another and school leaving certificates are not acknowledged everywhere in the Republic; children often have to repeat a year at a new school.

A working wife too, faces problems when her husband moves locations. Her occupation is regarded merely as a private pleasure in the eyes of the Federal Administration Court and she often becomes unemployed, having to leave the support of the family entirely to her husband.

There are, of course, similarities and differences between the situation of the Bundeswehr wives and those of British Servicemen. Generally we are better off and do not face such severe problems as our German counterparts, although there are areas of general, and mutual, concern.

What is important, however, is that 50 Bundeswehr wives could discuss, at top level, all aspects of life as a Service wife and that the gathering had the full blessing of the Bundeswehr and Parliament. Such a meeting of our wives would, I fear, be viewed by some with great suspicion as a militant gathering.

As soon as the delegates for our own UKLF Seminar on the 17th September have been nominated, I shall publish their names so that we all have a chance of passing our points to our representative.

It is with dismay that I have discovered that locally employed Service dependants are not entitled to compassionate leave of absence. I have been in my present job for two and a half years and have considerable experience and responsibility. I am amazed that locally employed dependants such as myself have to take either our entitlement of paid leave or unpaid leave in these cases.

Surely, when it is a question of dying parents — the majority of us only have one or two — the employing units could release us for these compassionate reasons without us losing our entitlement to annual leave or loss of payment.

Most employers are very understanding and would have no objection to their employees being away from their place of work in these unhappy times. Would it be too much to ask that the Service employers in BAOR release Service dependants in these circumstances, especially when Category A and B flights have been organised? Where is the justice for us poor Service dependants?

In spite of my complaints however, may I just add how marvellous the Category A and B service is for personnel. The staff could not have been more helpful or understanding.

Mrs D, BFPO 40

There is a staggering difference in conditions of employment relating to locally employed dependants and, for example, their German counterparts.

As far as I can discover, dependants employed locally are entitled to 20 days leave a year which is not increased until you have worked for 10 years in BFG. A German employee however starts with an entitlement of 27-30 days according to age and length of service. He/she can take two or three days paid leave in the event of family death as well as further days of unpaid leave.

German employees are also entitled to unemployment benefit, redundancy pay and maternity pay whereas dependants do not have security of tenure in their employment. Neither do they receive unemployment benefit even if they have

paid Class I contributions for the correct year, nor redundancy or maternity pay.

Personally I agree with you, Mrs D, that the difference in the rules applying to the same employment are unfair to Service dependants and an anomaly.

I have heard from a friend that there have been sales of furniture here in Germany. Can you tell me if this is true as I thought these were only held in UK?

Mrs L, BFPO 48

Yes Mrs L, your friend is correct. The first sale of single lot surplus accommodation furniture was held in Viersen earlier this year. Over 500 single lots were put up for sale and these included chairs, cupboards, bedside and dressing tables among many other items.

Bidding was by tender. Prices can be difficult to gauge but after viewing the lots people placed their offers in a ballot-type box and then went home to await notification of their success or failure. It is entirely up to each individual to decide what the value of each article is and bid accordingly.

I understand that this first sale was successful and that there are hopes to extend these to other areas of Germany.

Whilst I was home on leave I discovered, quite by accident, that my voting card had been returned to my mother for no apparent reason.

Can you please find out for me why my name has been removed from the electoral register as I will not now be able to vote in the next election?

Pte F, BFPO 40

I took up your case with the Central Clearing Wing and they have corrected the error and replaced your name on the electoral register.

One piece of advice for anyone who is in doubt as to whether they are on the register; check that you have a vote. The next time you can be added to the electoral roll is October 82 and this will mean that you can vote after February 83. Ask in your unit for more details and for F Vote 34 if you are not eligible to vote at present.

Last year I tried to purchase a property in the North of Eng-

land. The vendor agreed to sell and I left an initial deposit of £1000, instructed my solicitors to proceed with the purchase and applied for a mortgage. After about two months my solicitor informed me that the vendor had subsequently sold the property even though he had phoned me on three occasions, reiterating that he would definitely sell to me.

ASK ANNE

The outcome is that I have lost £60.95 in surveyor's fees and £130.95 in solicitor's fees. Can I recover any of these costs by legal or any other action through the military system?

Mr C, BFPO 102

You have, I'm afraid, fallen foul of a practice known as 'gazumping' which happens all too often in England and Wales. Purchase rules differ in Scotland.

In England there is no way to claim back any fees incurred prior to a contract being signed. Survey fees are paid by the purchaser as he makes the decision to buy or not and even if he decides to buy and the sale subsequently falls through for some other reason, the fees cannot be reclaimed. Similarly, the work done by a solicitor must be paid for regardless of the success or failure of the purchase. I would, however, ask to see a breakdown of the bill and make sure you know what you are paying for, as it does sound rather high in the circumstances.

The problem is that until the contract is signed the agreement is not binding, the time span giving both vendor and purchaser the opportunity to make sure they are doing the right thing.

One other thing. The deposit has no legal standing and is simply made as an act of good faith and intent. The money, if lodged with a solicitor, is returnable.

Your Unit Pay Office and Education Office should be able to advise you further.

When can we expect to receive the allowance due for our child when we move to a posting overseas in a few weeks time? Is it included with the ordinary disturbance allowance or do we apply separately?

Mrs B, Shrivvenham

The child element of the disturbance allowance may be paid up to a month in advance of the family move to which the claim relates — at the same time as the basic allowance is payable. Your pay office should have full details.

DID YOU KNOW?

SERVICEMEN WHO ARE about to finish their Army service can apply for an advance on their termination payment to help them buy a house.

Subject to salary, a maximum of £3500 may be payable to help towards a deposit, surveyor's fees, legal expenses and land registration costs.

However, before you apply, you should find out what expenses you are likely to incur as any money not used for the expenses above must be returned. You cannot use any extra for furnishings or rates for example, so it makes sense to ask for an estimate from your solicitor to avoid claiming too much public money which then has to be given back.

Your unit pay office will advise you on the amount you should claim so discuss it with them if you are making plans for your retirement home.

Anne Armstrong

Taking a look at just a few of the things people are doing, we've been

Here, there and (almost) everywhere

I went to my Naafi soon after we arrived on station, hoping to put a deposit on a small freezer. We did not want to write a cheque for the whole amount until we had made sure that our money had gone into our new bank account. However, we were told that we could not do this because of an Army rule that says we must have permission from the CO before we have an agreement. Consequently my husband went into the Naafi a couple of days later with cash for the freezer — only to find it had been sold. Naafi could not produce another so we have had to shop elsewhere.

A friend of mine went to the same shop for a different freezer but found, when she went to pay for it, that it had been wrongly priced and they could not afford the extra DM 100. If they had been in UK they could have insisted on the right to buy at the marked price.

Doesn't the Naafi customer have any rights at all? We are not all rogues. My husband has been in the Army for 12 years and we have been married for 11 years during which we have never been in trouble over money matters and have always paid off our agreements with Naafi on time if not before.

Naafi tell us it is not their ruling but an Army one, but Naafi seems to be a law unto itself.

Mrs I, BFPO 15

First, Mrs I, this is not a Naafi ruling and is therefore not universal. Every Commanding Officer has the power to implement this ruling in his unit if he feels it is necessary and, as so often happens, those with good credit ratings suffer because of the few defaulters.

Naafi tell me that it is perfectly acceptable to leave a deposit, which can be quite small, while you arrange further cash or HP payments. If you decide not to buy, Naafi will return the deposit.

Second, Naafi regret the mistake with the pricing on your friend's freezer but these errors do occur even in the best establishments!

I am thinking of buying a secondhand car here in Germany but do not know if there are any rules and regulations for Servicemen wanting to do this.

Cpl T, BFPO 36

There are some rules to follow for your own protection as any BFG member unknowingly buying a stolen German owned vehicle has not got the power of the English Criminal Courts behind him.

You should take note of the make, type, chassis number and German registration number of the vehicle you intend to buy and notify the nearest SIB detachment (by 'phone) of these details. They will check the details with the Kriminal-polizei and let you know whether it is safe to go ahead. You must then start the normal German deregistration and BFG registration process.



THE LADY OF THE CAMELIAS in Berlin is Georgia Farnell. Georgia works for a German flower shop located inside the American PX complex in Berlin and loves every minute of her job.

She had given up her own florist shop some time before in UK and could not think of life without flowers so, within weeks of arriving in the city, she sallied forth and, although she speaks no German, found her present job.

Of course, she had a great deal of experience behind her but it was not all roses... "I had to learn quickly the different tastes in flowers, the different colour mixtures and the important anniversaries," Georgia explained.

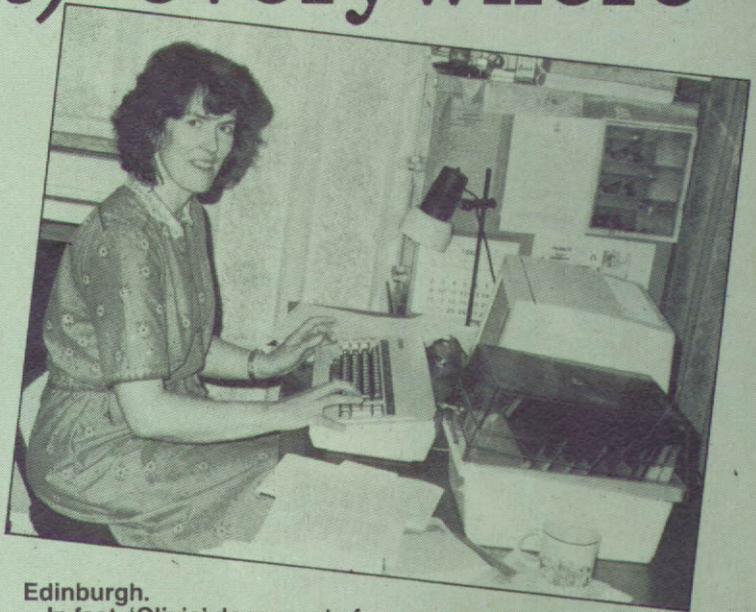
★ ★ ★

LUCY AND OLIVIA are a great team. Between them they deal with the growing list of clients that come to Datatype Word Processing Bureau in



YOU MIGHT MISS some of the best things in Berlin if you never find the British Military Welfare Service.

This service is manned by voluntary helpers and can give advice on buying tickets for everything from pop concerts to performances at the Berlin Opera including seats at international tennis tournaments.



Edinburgh.

In fact, 'Olivia' does most of the work but then, for an 860 Word Processor, that is not unusual.

Life has changed for Lucy Delacombe in the three years since she and her husband and family returned from a posting in Malaya. She took a six-and-a-half week TOPS refresher course to brush up her secretarial skills and landed a local part-time job. However, the big break came for Lucy when she decided to branch out on her own and, armed with a four figure loan from an Edinburgh bank manager, set up the Bureau.

"As a new business, I qualified for postal concessions given by the GPO's mail shot offer: 1000 first class letters and 1200 second class letters. We scanned the Yellow

Pages, licked and addressed hundreds of envelopes and then waited," explained Lucy. The average response produced from this initial list started the business.

Word processing, as Lucy states in her publicity material, "can benefit every office by saving time and improving the quality of work produced. Whether you send standard letters or prepare complex reports, we can help.

So what will happen when the next posting looms on the Delacombe horizon? "Well, the machine can move although the clients cannot, so we'll just have to cross that bridge when it happens."

THERE'S A LOT going on behind the Celle door but it's all well above board.

Alan Harper — ably assisted by wife Audrey and the rest of his family — has revived the Celle Players. A small but well-rehearsed cast staged an opening revue that might well be the proverbial start of something good.

Amateur dramatics in general are enjoying more popularity now than in recent years.

Alan has been spreading the gospel as he has moved from posting to posting and is confident that each production of the Celle Players will generate more enthusiasm and more members.

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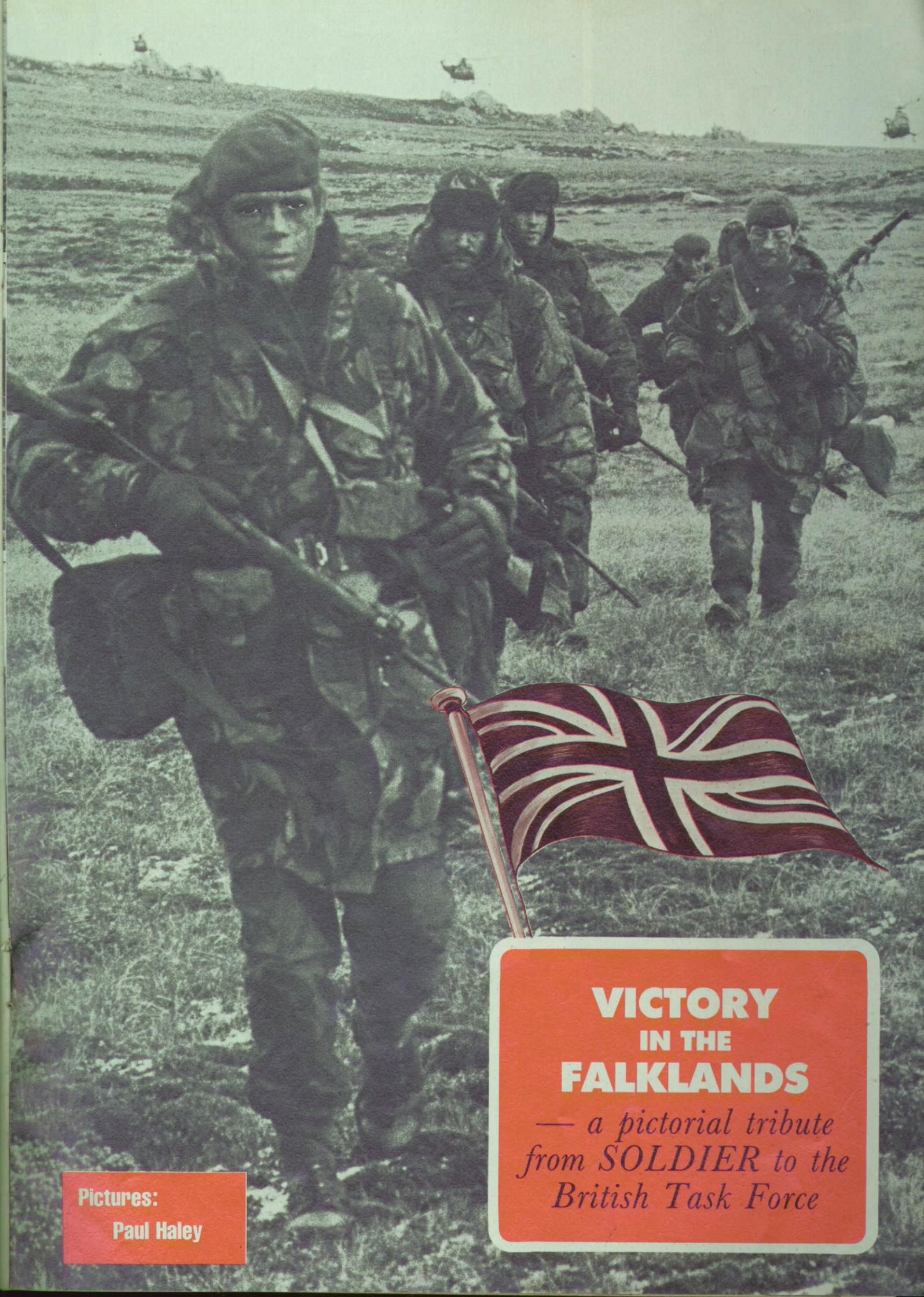
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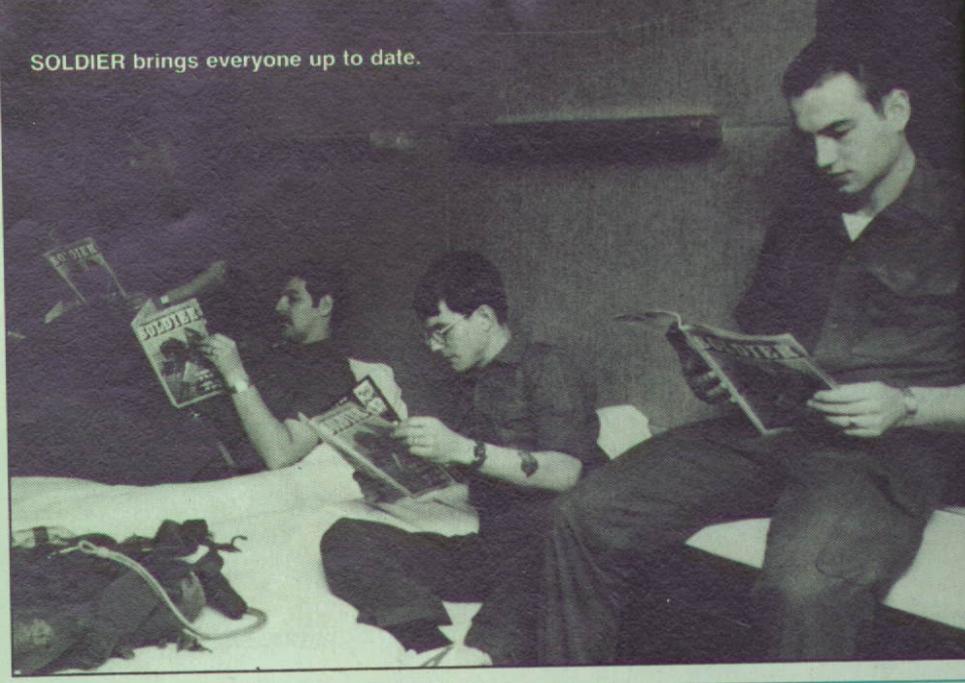
Paul Haley

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IN THE
FALKLANDS**

*— a pictorial tribute
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VICTORY in the FALKLANDS



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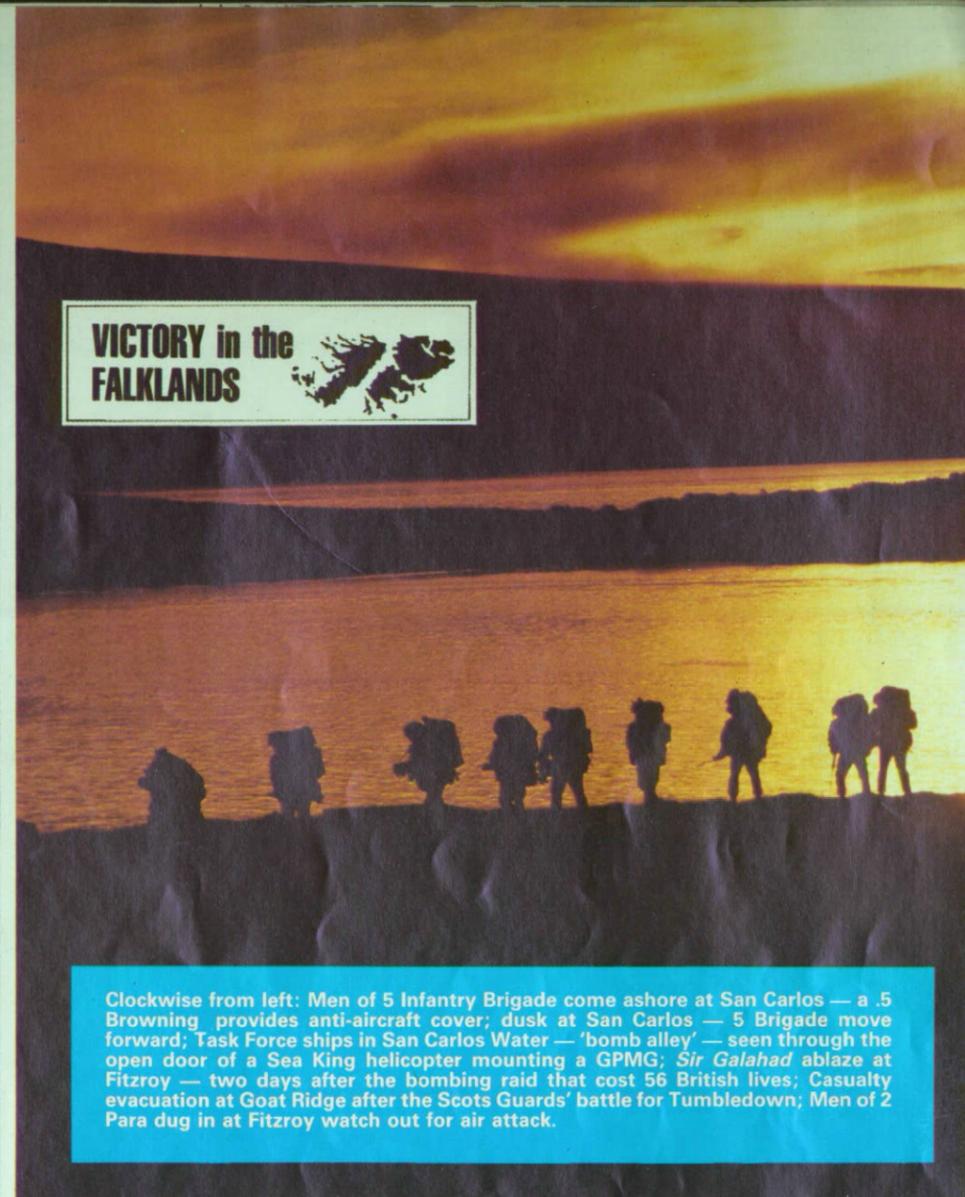
Heading for San Carlos Bay



**VICTORY in the
FALKLANDS**



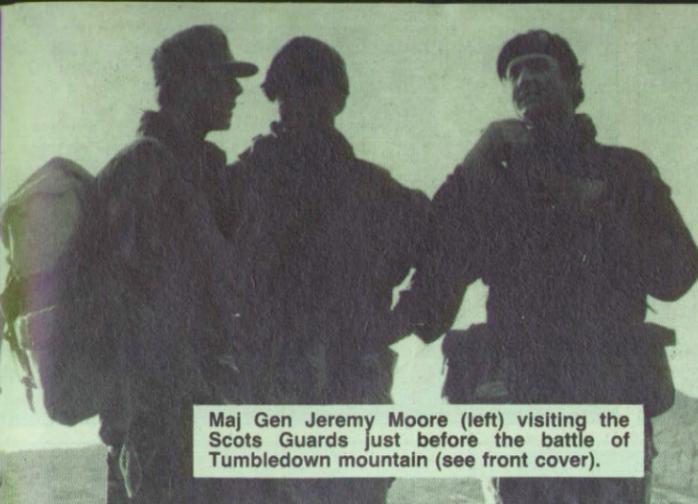
Taking supplies off QE2 at South Georgia —
the Canberra in the background.



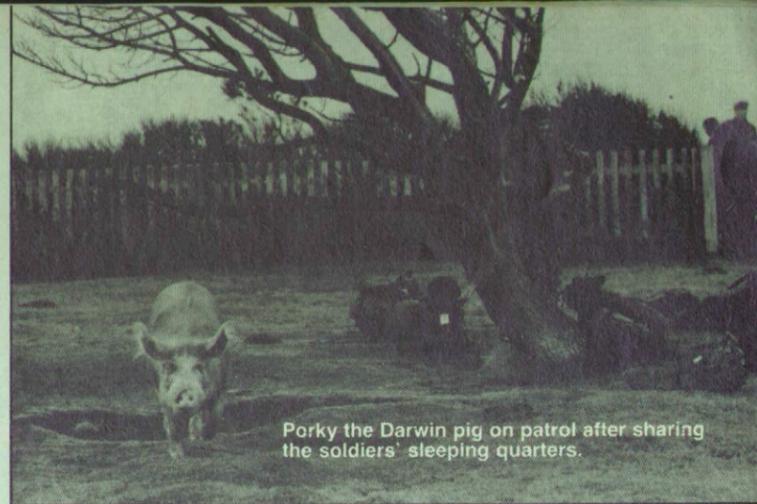
VICTORY in the FALKLANDS

Clockwise from left: Men of 5 Infantry Brigade come ashore at San Carlos — a .5 Browning provides anti-aircraft cover; dusk at San Carlos — 5 Brigade move forward; Task Force ships in San Carlos Water — 'bomb alley' — seen through the open door of a Sea King helicopter mounting a GPMG; *Sir Galahad* ablaze at Fitzroy — two days after the bombing raid that cost 56 British lives; Casualty evacuation at Goat Ridge after the Scots Guards' battle for Tumbledown; Men of 2 Para dug in at Fitzroy watch out for air attack.





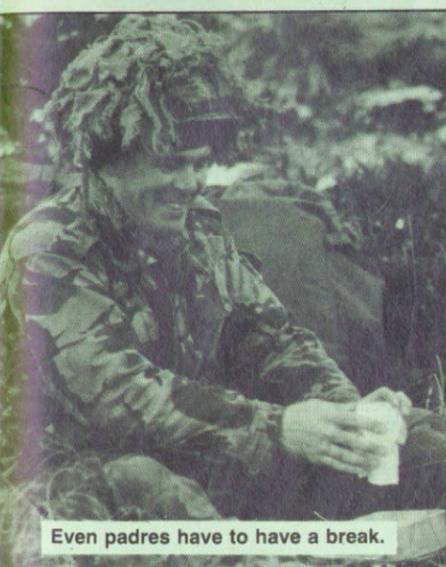
Maj Gen Jeremy Moore (left) visiting the Scots Guards just before the battle of Tumbledown mountain (see front cover).



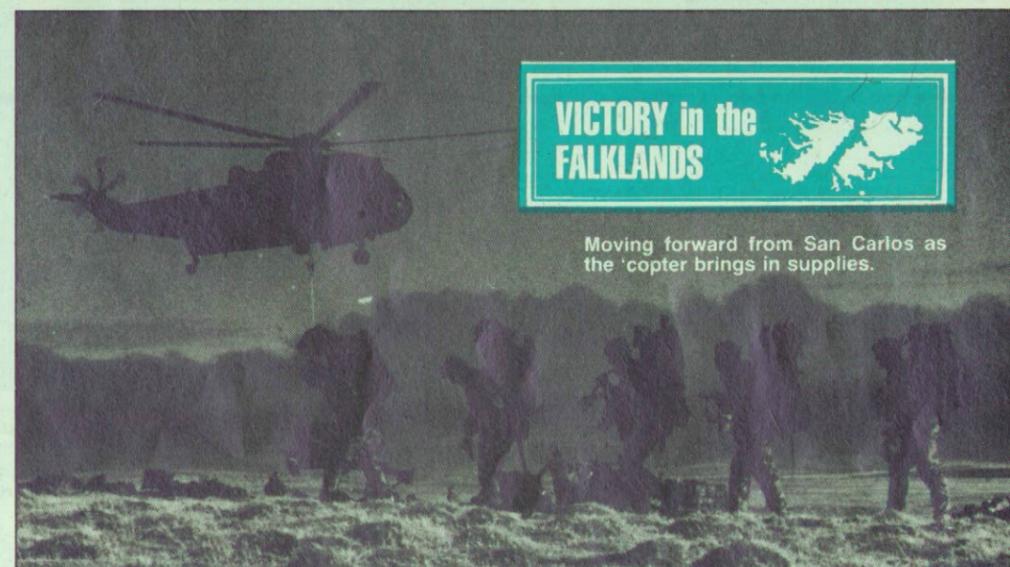
Porky the Darwin pig on patrol after sharing the soldiers' sleeping quarters.



Clockwise from top left: Argentine prisoners surrender arms at Stanley airfield; Gurkhas with captured anti-aircraft gun; The grim aftermath — Argentine helmets and field dressings litter the battlefield; Capt Alan Barley RMP clears the weapons of young Argentine conscripts; Prisoners in one of the Goose Green sheep-shearing sheds; The road into Stanley — and two Argentine soldiers who sadly were not to make the journey home.

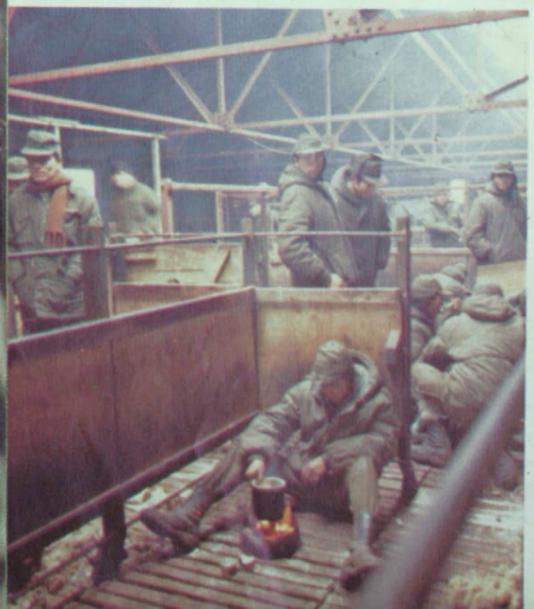


Even padres have to have a break.

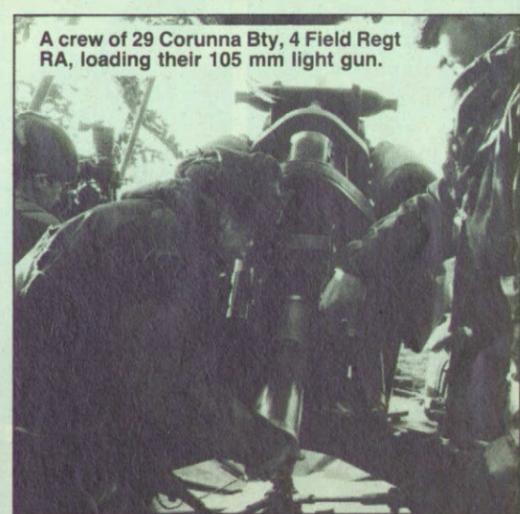


VICTORY in the FALKLANDS

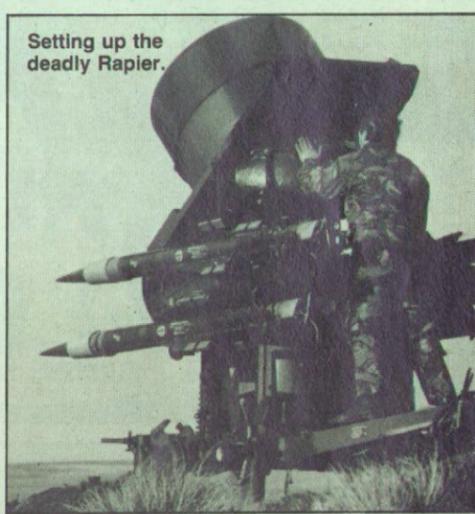
Moving forward from San Carlos as the 'copter brings in supplies.



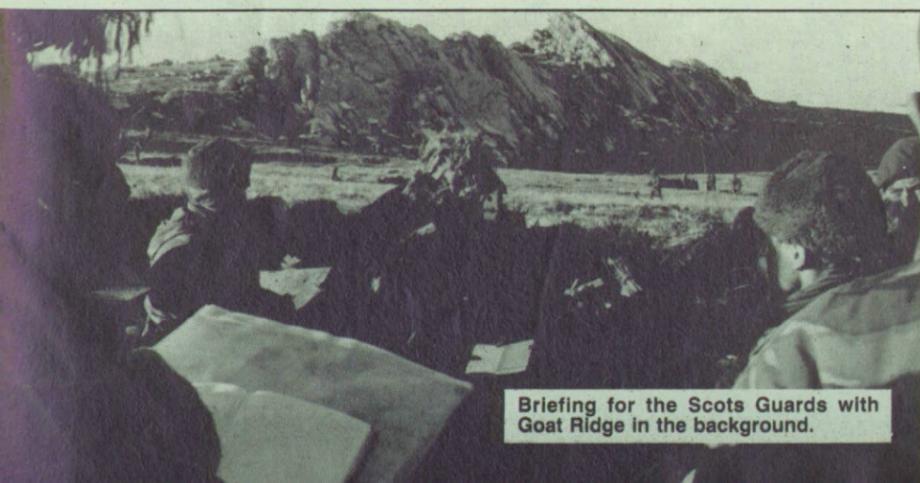
Blowpipe team in action.



A crew of 29 Corunna Bty, 4 Field Regt RA, loading their 105 mm light gun.



Setting up the deadly Rapier.



Briefing for the Scots Guards with Goat Ridge in the background.



Scorpions heading for the front.

Burial service for Argentine dead at Darwin.



Argentine dead awaiting mass burial.



VICTORY in the FALKLANDS



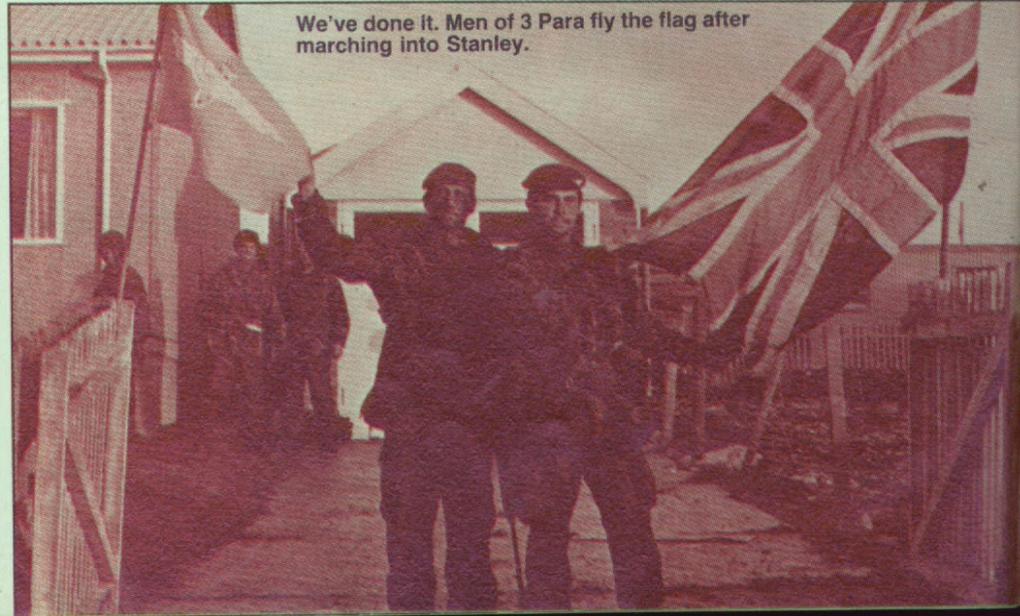
Islander and son with wrecked Puccara.



Piles of discarded clothing litter the quay at Port Stanley as prisoners leave for home. Beaten but still smiling at having survived — prisoners head towards the airfield.



More spoils of victory.



We've done it. Men of 3 Para fly the flag after marching into Stanley.



An accurate, detailed map is one of the most vital weapons of war. But when a crisis like the Falklands blows up, how do you suddenly get hold of 654,000 of them? Graham Smith has been finding out from the Army back-room boys who specialise in . . .

IT LOOKED like being another routine Thursday with the prospect of a pleasant weekend at his Winchester home for Major Mike Stanbridge, Royal Engineers. Then the office phone jangled on its cradle. He picked it up and a familiar voice at the other end inquired: "What map cover have you got for the Falklands and South Georgia?"

Certainly, it was April Fools' Day but Major Stanbridge knew the call was no joke. He is responsible for the supply of land maps and air charts to meet tri-Service contingency plans at the Directorate of Military Survey at Feltham, 13 miles south-west of London.

He was speaking to his counterpart at C-in-C Fleet at Northwood, Middlesex and already had an inkling that trouble was afoot in the South Atlantic.

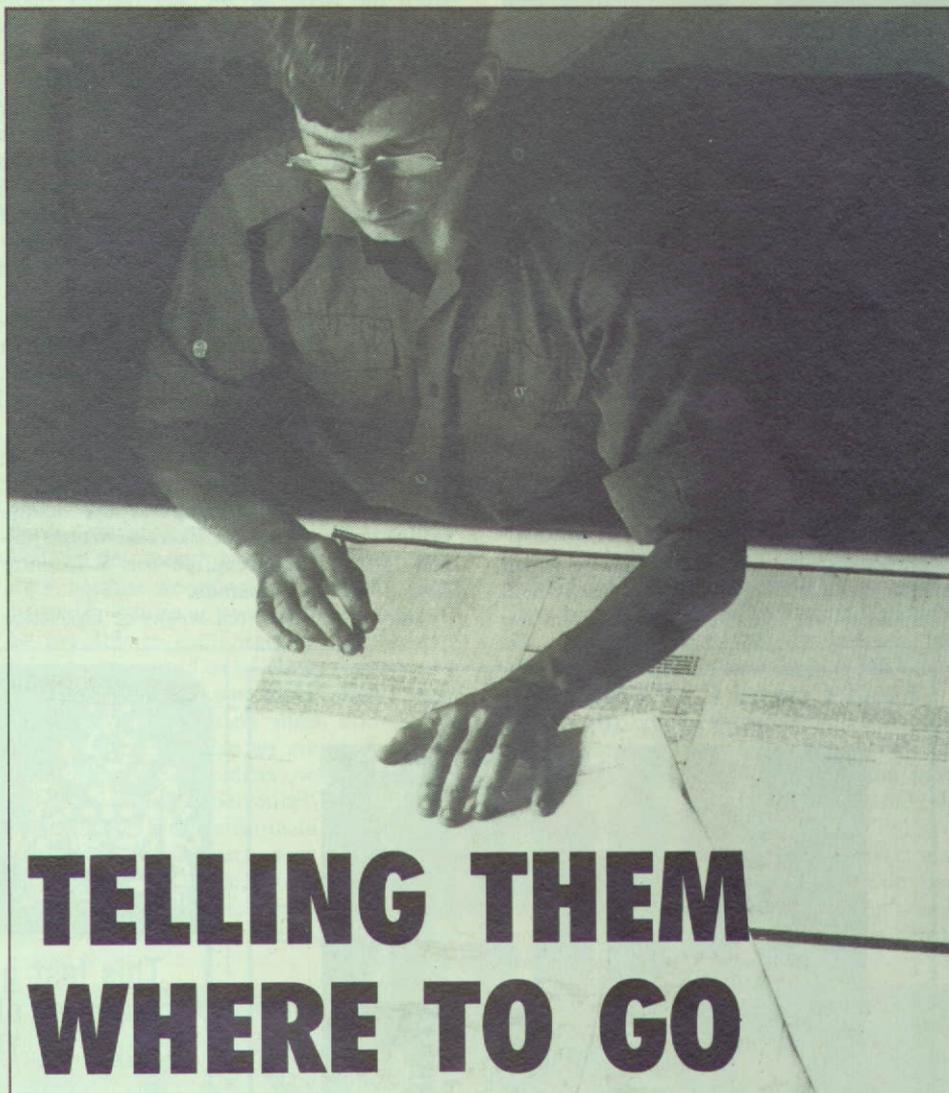
That call at 0900 hours heralded the start of a map-making marathon — Operation Corporate — right on the eve of the Argentinian invasion of the Falklands. It was the start, as he put it, of the first "hot weekend" for the Directorate and its UK survey units.

Maps, thousands of them, would be needed for the Task Force then being assembled, and which was to sail just five days later, on Monday April 5.

A quick check with the main map supply depot — 8 Mapping and Air Chart Depot, RE, at Guildford — revealed that limited

► Spr Michael Forsdick revises map on to positive film for printing.

▼ Major Keith Butt, OC at Guildford, surveys some of his stored maps



TELLING THEM WHERE TO GO

numbers of Falkland Islands maps were available among the immaculately-kept shelves in one of two giant warehouses (former armoured vehicle repair sheds) sprawled like a couple of cathedrals over two acres of floor space.

There was, however, one major snag from the military point of view in the field. None of the available Directorate of Overseas Survey-produced maps at 1:50,000 scale had any grids on them and, even then, it was known that the currency of some of the maps was suspect.

Something was better than nothing but they would be of limited use to soldiers wanting accurate reference points. Without them, it was rather like having rifles with no bullets, as Major Keith Butt, RE, the Depot's OC pointed out.

The might of Feltham's 750-strong, civilian-staffed Mapping and Charting Establishment, RE, in concert with the Army's

own 42 Survey Engineer Regiment, RE, at Barton Stacey, six miles from Andover, swung into round-the-clock action to produce and print successive second and third editions — this time, with the full military grids and up-dated topographical information gleaned from aerial photographs.

This was done within a week to replace the interim stocks. The Guildford Depot handled the distribution.

Meanwhile, as an interim measure, the original 1:50,000 series had been re-printed — ungridded — and sent out to meet the original requirements.

But there were other major snags.

The series spread over 29 sheets and the strife-torn islands lay right in the middle of a grid zone change; two halves of the island group fell into different zones, as the 60 degree West meridian bisected the "area of interest".

continued on page 34



Spr Stephen Tarling updates air photography.

continued from page 33

"People ordering them didn't realise or appreciate the sheer bulk of the maps," said Major Stanbridge. "For instance, 200 maps stand about one-inch high while 1000 maps weigh about 100 lbs."

He recalls one amusing incident in which a customer for 57,000 maps ordered them over the phone and then blandly posed the

rider: "Oh . . . and what time shall I send the Land Rover down to pick them up?"

It took three 4-tonne trucks to "pick up" the maps, cocooned in 104 cartons and lashed to 11 pallets!

Later, Military Survey had to produce cover at 1:100,000 in five sheets to ease the handling problems for planning staffs.

Major Stanbridge added: "Having issued the limited supplies on the first day we were told more would be needed within a very short space of time and we knew we were in for a very busy time."

But that was not all. The Middlesex-based map-makers had to meet an urgent demand from the RAF for the Sea Harrier pilots acting in the ground attack role, which involved producing film strips for the moving map display systems in each aircraft.

In all, up until the end of June, military survey units had produced a total of some 654,000 maps — 210,000 of them by Barton Stacey — of the contested Falklands and "associated areas", of which about half had been distributed for South Atlantic operations and others to various UK tri-Service agencies.

By the time the Task Force sailed, Military Survey had met its initial deadline. But other units had since been put on standby, notably 5 Infantry Brigade. They would need maps, too.

Earlier, in preparation for its possible involvement in the conflict, the Directorate had to provide 3500 maps of the Sennybridge training area for Exercise Welsh Falcon, a training preamble for 5 Infantry Brigade in the Falklands,

During the next ten weeks of Operation

Corporate, more than 350 'products' — 178 of them from Barton Stacey — including new revisions were printed in connection with the dramatic events in the southern hemisphere.

"We initially produced a very rapid ad hoc catalogue for all users to refer to," said Major Stanbridge, "which was later refined and published as Edition Two. The catalogue included Harrier moving map displays, Maritime Patrol Charts for the Nimrod crews, pilotage and navigation charts, maps of South Georgia — which also needed a grid — and three editions of the Falklands maps including large-scale maps of Stanley and the airstrip showing such details as terminal buildings and fuel dumps.

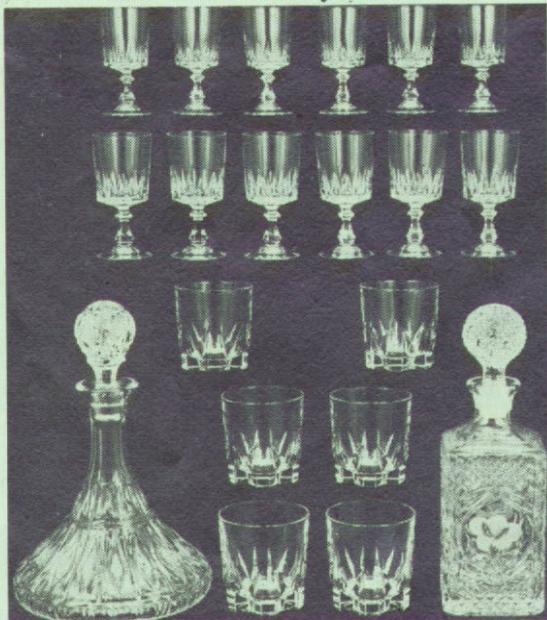
"In conjunction with the Engineer-in-Chief's Branch in MoD we also compiled goings or cross-country maps, called Royal Engineers' Briefing Maps, giving access and movement details for troops and vehicles. In addition, we produced Topographical Information Overprints (TIOs) for Ascension Island which was being used as a huge mounting base for the Task Force."

Large-scale maps for Darwin Settlement, Fox Bay, Port Howard, Pebble Island, Port San Carlos and Stanley — household names now — were secretly produced in maximum detail.

Demands for the maps came to the Guildford Depot by what are familiarly called "Wantamap" signals, a standard procedure that posed no problem for Major Keith Butt and his 41-strong staff who operate in the warehouses and have a staggering turnover of five million maps a year!

This figure includes issues to Regional

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L/Cpl Andrew Howe prints revised Falklands mapping.

HQ reserve maps stores in the UK and others in Cyprus, Belize, Northern Ireland, BAOR and Hong Kong.

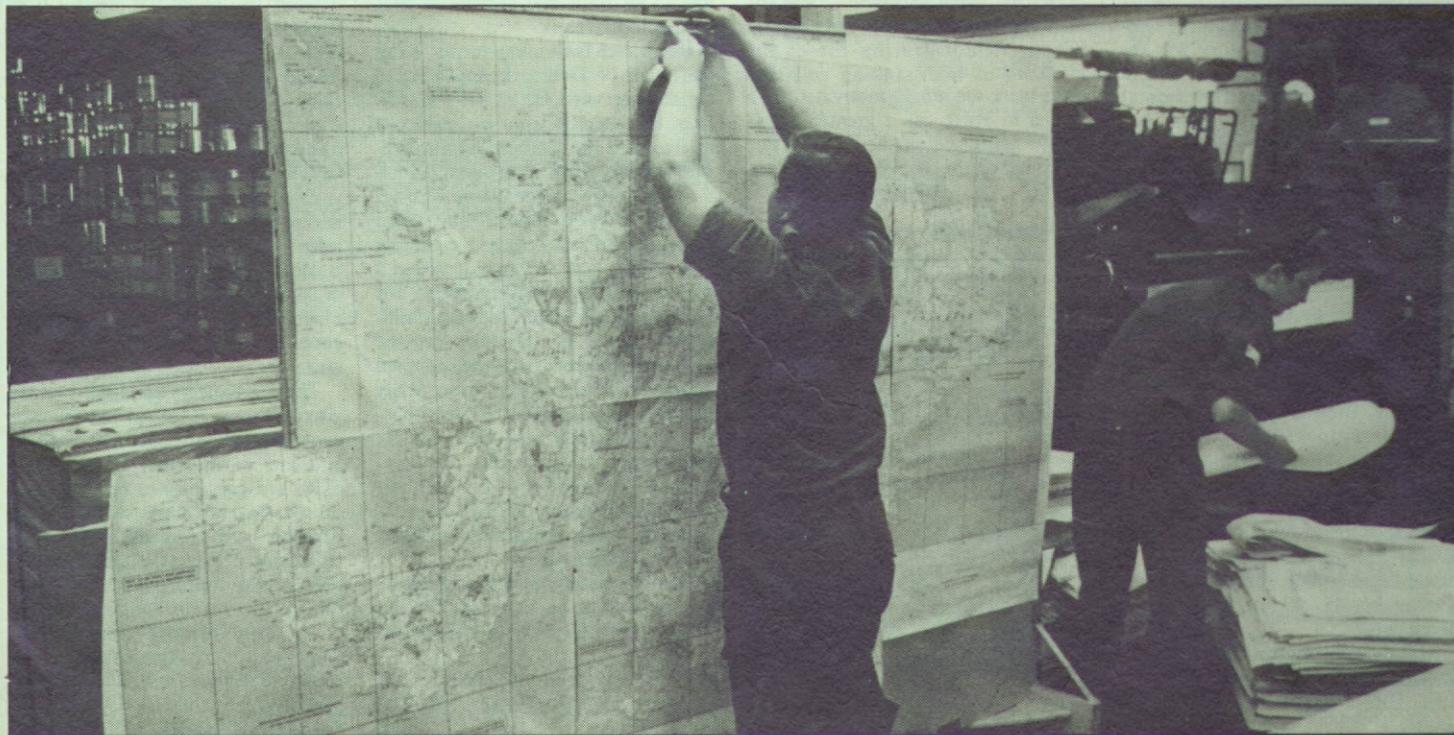
Amid the warehouse floor space, the ten-foot-high shelf racking holds 30 million maps incorporating 40,000 'line items' or different sheets.

For instance, the UK map series — M.726 at 1:50,000 scale — spills over into 204 sheets. At the outset, the Falklands Islands were covered by 33 sheet items — now, there are a further 26 line items covering either the whole or part of the islands!

Major Butt explained: "We hold maps for anywhere British troops are serving and for any location included in MoD contingency plans. Map stocks are also held for all regular training areas both in the UK and overseas.

"In addition to land maps we also keep air charts for the RAF's worldwide needs. The maps on issue to units are normally moved from here by road or are sent by post. Our peak periods for map demands are during summer camps and autumn exercises. Obso-

How the final five sheets looked as a set.



lete maps are sent for salvage under contract and taken away in ten-ton palletised loads to be re-cycled."

Lieutenant-Colonel John Himbury, who heads the Directorate's Survey 2 Branch, told SOLDIER: "During Operation Corporate we set up a 24-hour Ops Cell which remained in force for nearly 12 weeks and, throughout, military survey units at Feltham and Barton Stacey worked at maximum capacity for seven days a week with production help from the School of Military Survey, The Directorate of Overseas Survey and some contract work by government and civil firms for specific assistance.

"It is true to say that great versatility and flexibility has been shown but most important of all, has been the splendid response of all those who were involved in this enterprise. The urgency of the situation was very clearly recognised and great enthusiasm was generated. There were many instances of individuals working well over 18 hours a day."

That enthusiasm and response were very much the order of the day for the men of 13 Map Production Squadron, one of two Squadrons forming part of 42 Survey Engineer Regiment, RE — the other is 19 Topographical Squadron — down at Barton Stacey.

As Lieutenant-Colonel Noel Charles, CO of the Regiment, pointed out to SOLDIER: "A lot of people wanted the maps in bulk and I always remind people that maps just don't grow on trees.

"The first month was helter-skelter. We, here, because we are soldiers in uniform can be told to get up at two in the morning and be available to the Directorate of Military Survey to respond to an emergency.

"In peacetime, we support tri-Service directors by producing maps and survey data. If there is a flap we are used straight away because, as soldiers, we do maintain 24-hour standby personnel continuously which makes it easier for us to respond to an emergency tasking very, very quickly.

"Also, if a Force, anywhere, wanted someone to go with it, then someone would go. We had an adviser on Ascension Island."

The Regiment's Cartographic Troop within 13 Map Production Squadron compiled about 100 drawings spread over 2500 man-hours during the conflict.

Captain Peter Wood, its Troop Commander, said: "These 100 jobs included re-gridding and revising other topographical information. We are the Regiment's main drawing capacity and we, as a Troop, do everything from map compilation to appreciation and ensuing fair drawings. We also carry out revision tasks and pre-print work — checking and re-checking negatives before printing plates are made. We plot, accurately, all grids and graticules on a co-ordinatograph."

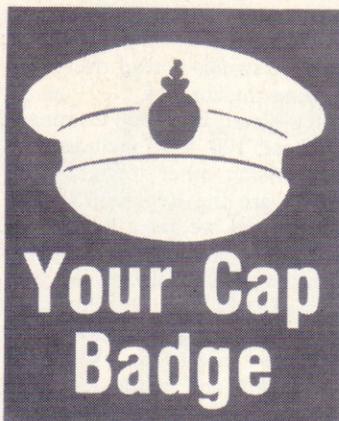
"It's very, very important to get the gridding right," emphasises Captain John South, the Squadron's Technical Staff Officer. "You could end up with a situation where our troops are firing on our own chaps. That's not to say there were no map cock-ups. All the major ones were spotted before they went out. Human nature being what it is, no one is infallible. The most fiddly bits to put on the maps were the sheep fences and gates."

At the peak of production, the Squadron's five massive, German-built printing presses worth an estimated £1 million were churning out 10,000 maps an hour while soldiers, on 12-hour shifts, were man-handling eight tons of paper into and out of the machines in as many times a day.

Captain South summed up the efforts of his men thus: "An operation like Corporate gives the lads in the back room, as it were, a tremendous boost to know the maps they have produced have been used in a particular action. Pebble Island, for instance, was produced about six days before the action took place."

And still the map-making men and women at Feltham and Barton Stacey are producing maps of the Falklands and those "associated areas" during what is termed the "rehabilitation stage".

The last word came from the Director of Military Survey, Major-General Eric Barton: "In our business, if you haven't done your homework in peace then it's too late in war!"



Your Cap Badge

No 21

THE GRENADEIER GUARDS

THIS REGIMENT, together with the Coldstream Guards and the Scots Guards, was born officially in 1660 but in fact had been

in existence for several years before that date having gone through the unsettled years of the Civil War and the Inter-Regnum. From the very first it established an enviable reputation for unswerving loyalty and steadfast bravery that remains unsullied to this day. Its many battle honours, gained over three centuries and displayed so splendidly on the Colours on official occasions, started with Tangier 1680 and include Gibraltar 1704-5, Corunna, Waterloo, Inkerman, Khartoum, Somme 1916 and a host of others.

In 1685 the title '1st Regiment of Foot Guards' was bestowed upon the Regiment but in 1815, after the defeat at Waterloo of Napoleon's Old Guard, this was amended to be 'The 1st or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards' and — together with the distinction of wearing the bearskin cap — was given as a

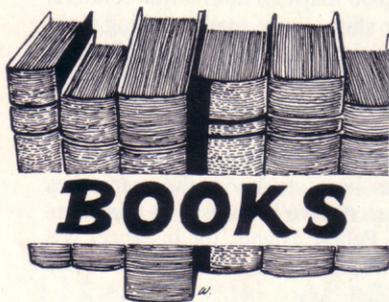
compliment for their valorous conduct. Other distinctions in dress are the white plume worn on the left side of the bearskin cap, the buttons evenly spaced on the tunic, a red band on the forage cap and the fused grenade cap badge. The grenade was granted as a badge in 1768 about the time that the weapon bearing that name went out of fashion, to return during the Great War with a vengeance. The cap badge familiar in recent times dates from the latter part of Victoria's reign, being a fused grenade with a plain ball, as depicted here. More recently worn in anodised gold finish material, it was for a short period issued, but not accepted with grace, in plastic.

The basic design is worn by local sergeants, lance corporals, guardsmen and drummers. Sergeants and musicians wear the same badge except that the Royal Cypher, consisting of the



entwined letters reversed surmounted by a crown, is embossed on the ball. Warrant officers, Orderly Room sergeants and band sergeants wear a very similar badge but the device of cypher and crown is mounted in silver or white metal on the ball of the grenade. *Hugh L King*

Next issue
The Coldstream Guards



The Unknown Battle : Metz 1944 : Anthony Kemp

There have been two battles of Metz, one in 1870 the other in 1944, and both posed similar problems. In *soixante-dix* the Germans attacking the French in costly frontal assaults suffered appalling casualties until they settled for a siege. Seventy-four years later, in 1944, history was repeated — only this time it was the Americans launching fruitless frontal onslaughts against the Germans before switching to flank attacks.

In the second half of 1944 General George Patton and his Third Army were on the Meuse at Verdun heading for the Rhine, but barring his way was the Moselle and the redoubtable fortress of Metz which was to take him three months to subdue and then only after the Germans had well and truly mauled him.

Dealing with this, perhaps understandably, little known episode, the author introduces his subject with the advance through France and the general strategic background confronting Patton. There follows a detailed account of the battle for Metz fought in abysmal conditions — a battle, incidentally, for which Patton had neither the talent nor the temperament.

Maps, photographs and diagrams contribute to the overall thoroughness of this welcome addition to the history of World War Two.

Frederick Warne Ltd, London — £7.95 JFPJ

Life With the Enemy: Werner Rings

Of all the popular stereotypes of the Second World War, those of the collaborator and resistance fighter in occupied Europe are perhaps the most clear-cut. The former is invariably depicted as treacherous and self-seeking, the latter courageous and idealistic. Like so many stereotypes, it is not a complete picture.

'Werner Rings' is a highly readable account which paints in the subtle shades of grey that fall between the black and white extremes. It looks at the moral dilemmas which confronted people in the countries Hitler had overrun, and considers the way they reacted to them. Only a very few openly sided with Nazism and supported its worst excesses — and the book includes several ghastly photographs demonstrating these; the majority of high-ranking collaborators were seemingly motivated by a desire to stave off a greater catastrophe by placating the enemy. For the bulk of the population in occu-



piated Europe, grand issues of principle or morality could not enter into it. Few had the opportunities to flee the country and continue the struggle elsewhere open to their leaders; they had to sit tight and survive as best they could.

Resistance took many forms. King Christian of Denmark appeared to collaborate with Hitler on the surface, but secretly used his influence to frustrate the German administration at every turn. Many people took a similar stance in the course of their everyday lives. Those who lived underground and operated a guerilla war of sabotage and murder were a minority and, though crucial for national morale, had little effect militarily. Over all, Hitler's regime gained much more from the occupied countries than they cost him. Many of the resistance groups were hopelessly politically and ideologically fragmented and on at least one occasion — Athens, 1944 — British liberating troops found themselves openly fighting their Communist-backed former partisan allies.

An interesting and thought-provoking look at an aspect of the last War which still arouses strong passions.

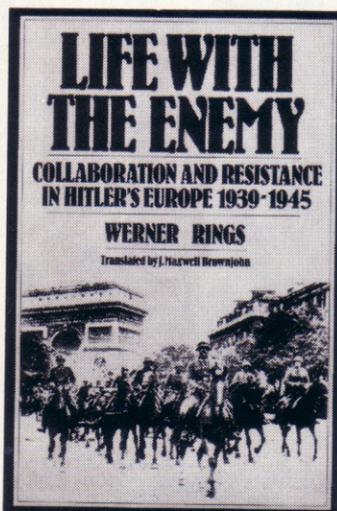
Weidenfield and Nicholson, 91 Clapham High St., London SW4 7JA — £9.95 IJK

The Defence of the Reich: Werner Held & Holger Nauroth

Though you might not guess it from the title, this is an account of Hitler's nightfighter aircraft and crews in World War Two. In fact it is something of a picture essay, containing over five hundred carefully chosen photographs and not much text. Given the problems of compiling such a record — nightfighting by its nature does not lend itself to photography — the authors have succeeded in conveying the atmosphere of such operations, from the earliest moonlit sorties to the later sophisticated ground and air combined attacks.

There are plenty of pictures of the aircraft flown, from old warhorses to experimental purpose-built models, and lots of informal snaps of the crews at work, play or on inspection parade. Aircraft buffs will no doubt find this book a delight and revel in its many previously unpublished photos; the uninitiated might wish that the brief introductory texts at the start of each chapter were longer and more illuminating.

Arms and Armour Press, Lionel Leventhal Ltd., 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London, NW3 1QQ — £9.95 IJK

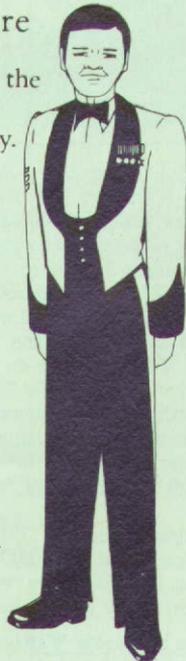


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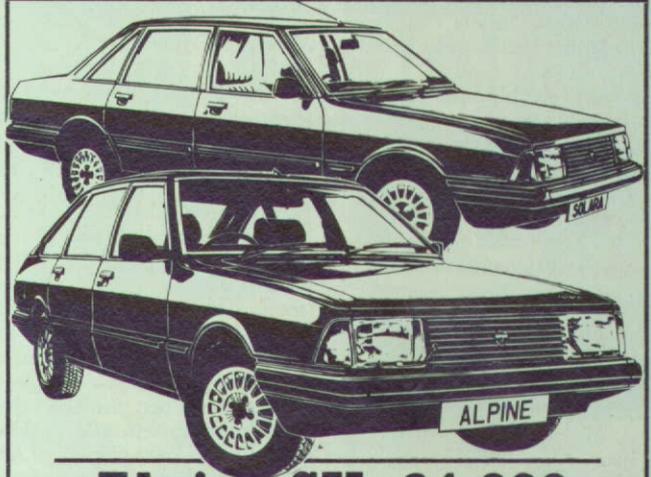
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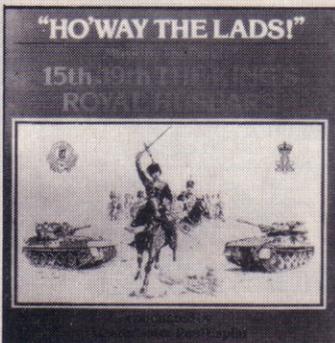
On the Record with Rodney Bashford

Ho'way The Lads

Band of the 15/19th The King's Royal Hussars. Conductor: Bandmaster P Esplin. Music Masters. MM 0582.

The title escapes this southron soul but is no doubt associated with the Regiment's Tyneside ties. These are rightly celebrated later in the programme in a *Northern Echoes Suite* by one G Harrison, and includes Blaydon Races, Cliffs of Old Tynemouth, Bobby Shaftoe, and Georgie Hinney.

Mr Esplin and his band provide a most expert and attractively presented programme of just the right variety to please most of you, as it did me. The band has just endured a Kneller Hall inspection, so I hope for their sakes they played as well for the hierarchy as they do here.



The marches are Alford's least hackneyed *Eagle Squadron* and the brilliant *Minuteman* by R H Pearson, plus the regimental Slow and Quick. Solo items are Gossec's *Tambourin* in which Sgt Davison does a fair imitation of James Galway, a xylophone solo *Helter Skelter* by ex RE Director of Music W G J Lemon, and a couple of well sung pops — Barry Manilow's

All the Time and John Lennon's *Imagine*.

There are also tunes by *Simon and Garfunkel* and an *Italian Festival* medley to complete what amounts to a concert which soldiers of restricted musical awareness and genuine lovers of light music can both enjoy. And that's what life is all about for our beleaguered bandsmen these days.

Ubique

Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers. Conductors: Major R A Hunt and Major D E Pryce. Music Masters. MM 0585.

The bands from Chatham and Aldershot got together in London to make this selection of (hurrah for the RE!) unhackneyed slow and quick marches. Well nearly so.

H B Lovell's *The Triumph of Right* is the greatest march never to have been played on parade, simply because it contains a few held pauses (fermata) and is printed on folio-sized paper. In all other respects it is a marching march in the classic mould and would easily hold a place in the world's twenty best marches. I therefore commit myself, as a final (and about time, say all) offering to Army bands after exactly fifty years in their service, to copying out the parts onto march-cards and omitting the pauses. Since Lovell was our old bandmaster we knew it from memory, and I still recall with hysteria the occasion in the early 1930s when we performed the march, well out of sight, including the pauses with left legs in mid air like a pack of dogs against a tree; every eight paces.

But to lesser composers — like Gounod, Sousa, and Verdi. Two slow marches, Alf Young's *Royal Standard* and Verdi's *Aida*, have been heard on disc often enough, but Sousa's fine *Invincible Eagle*, Fucik's great *Florentiner*, Gounod's *La Ronde*, Ray



Woodfield's *Cavalry of the Steppes*, Celian Kottaun's *The Bullfighters*, and even *Waltzing Matilda* can stand another airing. New to me are Gordon Langford's *Carnival Day*, W Schild's *Engeland-Vaarders*, and the Austrian *Friedlander Marsch*. With *Hurrah for the CRE* and the Corps March *Wings* we have an altogether attractive selection.

Exactly twelve years ago I was called to task for complaining that, as here, the CRE song was not sung, although the words were "not all that filthy".

A correspondent of 1970 insisted they were not at all filthy. If you are still out there sir, they were in my regiment. They were indeed.

Tribute to Harold Walters

Band of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Conductor: Captain D Carson. DR 42.

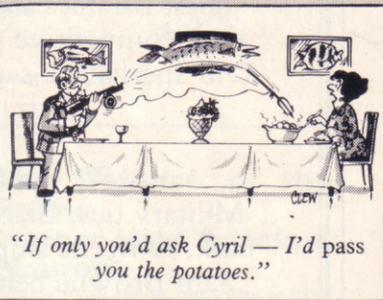
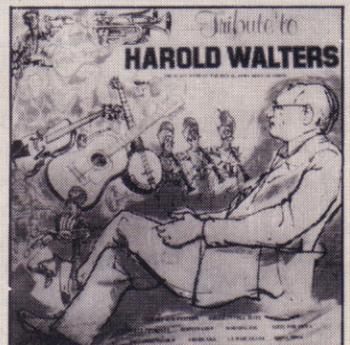
Dr Harold Walters is without doubt the Grand Old Man of American band music although, dammit, a year younger than I am! Here he receives a timely tribute from British bandsmen who, for many years, have been grateful for his always pertinent, useful, and utterly professional light music. His son, Dr Frederick Walters, joined him on a recent visit to Aldershot, and for this disc recorded his father's *Suite for Viola and*

Band. A doctor of dental surgery he yet finds time to appear as soloist with American orchestras.

Harold's medleys of American popular music, *Hootenanny* and *Country and Western*, have been mentioned in these columns many times; his trumpet trio *Trumpets Wild* must have been performed on every bandstand in the world. So, all you lovers of bright and breezy folksy bandology the Corps band begins with *Men of Music*, a march in collaboration with Karl L King, then a *Bossa Nova*, a movement from the suite *Americana*, *Nashville Trumpets* and *La Mascaramada*.

On side two a history in music of jazz, with narration by the composer, called *Jazz Chronology*, *Whoopie Ti-Yi-Yo*, *Jump-Up* and *Capricious Aloysius* in addition to the classics mentioned above. Walters *filis* joins the band in *Morning Fog* and *Night-Tune Up and Hoe Down*, and as a bonus plays two movements from Vivaldi's *Sonata in C major*.

From RAMC Band, Keogh Bks, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants, price £4.50 plus p&p.



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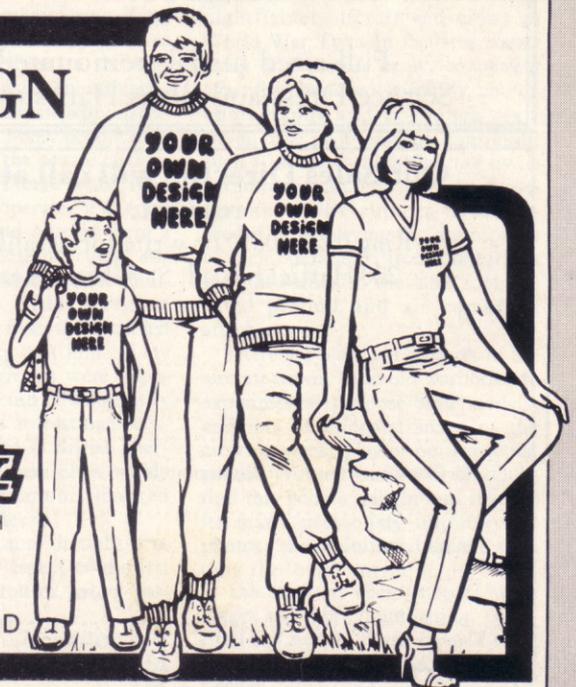
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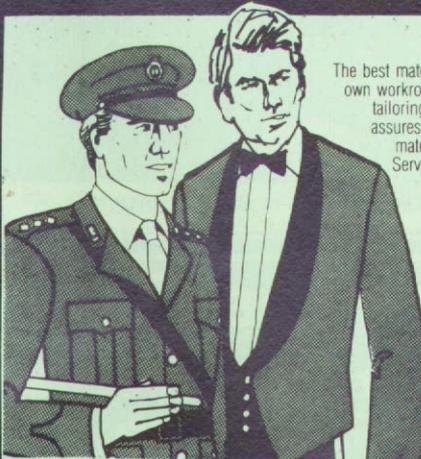
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FIRST FOR EXPORT

Sally Daniell previews the new blockbuster which will soon be coming to your cinema screens ...

SUSPENSE
PLUS
ACTION
SEQUALS
SUCCESS

ACTION, VIOLENCE and suspense mixed with sex, glamour and tenderness ought to be the perfect recipe for success at the cinema box office and producer Euan Lloyd's *Who Dares Wins* certainly has all the ingredients.

The film is not-so-loosely based on the storming of the Iranian Embassy by the Special Air Service in 1980. Since then, though its operations have remained a firmly-kept secret, the SAS has captured the public's admiration and the film shamelessly cashes in on the kudos.

Lewis Collins plays the part of Captain Peter Skellen, the SAS officer who infiltrates a peaceful anti-nuclear lobby to rout the extremists using it as a front for a planned act of terrorism. Attaching himself to the group's leader — the fanatical Frankie



Leith, played by Judy Davis — Skellen becomes involved in the big operation although he never knows what it is, nor is ever quite trusted.

Suspense is built upon suspense and Skellen gets deeper and deeper enmeshed until the lives of even his wife and baby daughter are endangered, not to mention the West's most esteemed politicians and diplomats.

With the siege of the Embassy Residence well under way, both sides start the wearing down process, each hoping the other will crack. But the Establishment has the trump card — the SAS. A quick call to Hereford and the audience breathes a sigh of relief knowing now it is just a matter of time before the crack troops sort the whole nasty business out.

Action takes over from suspense as dark, hooded figures leap in and out of windows and doors, chucking stun grenades about and generally exploding the tension both on and off the screen.

Doubtless the real experts in counter-terrorism drill will be able to find fault with

◀ SAS troops abseil from helicopters as they prepare to storm the embassy.

the screen tactics. But those uninitiated in such specialist skills need have no such reservations to mar their enjoyment.

Even so, there are some inconsistencies that are less plausible even to the casual viewer. Whilst we can suspend our disbelief over the sumptuous pad belonging to the terrorist leader (Daddy was a millionaire), Skellen's fashionable bijou mews house seems a bit unlikely on a captain's pay. The human relationships too, stretch credulity too far and make the protagonists appear like characters in a cartoon strip.

There is not much time to dwell on all this though while Skellen and his chaps are on the rampage knocking down terrorists like nine pins. There is no time either to become bored and the final stages leave the audience excited and breathless, if a little smug since they knew what the outcome would be anyway.

Not a film then to be taken too seriously, but as exhilarating entertainment definitely a winner. My advice — don't try to analyse it, just sit back and enjoy it!



Lewis Collins in starring role.

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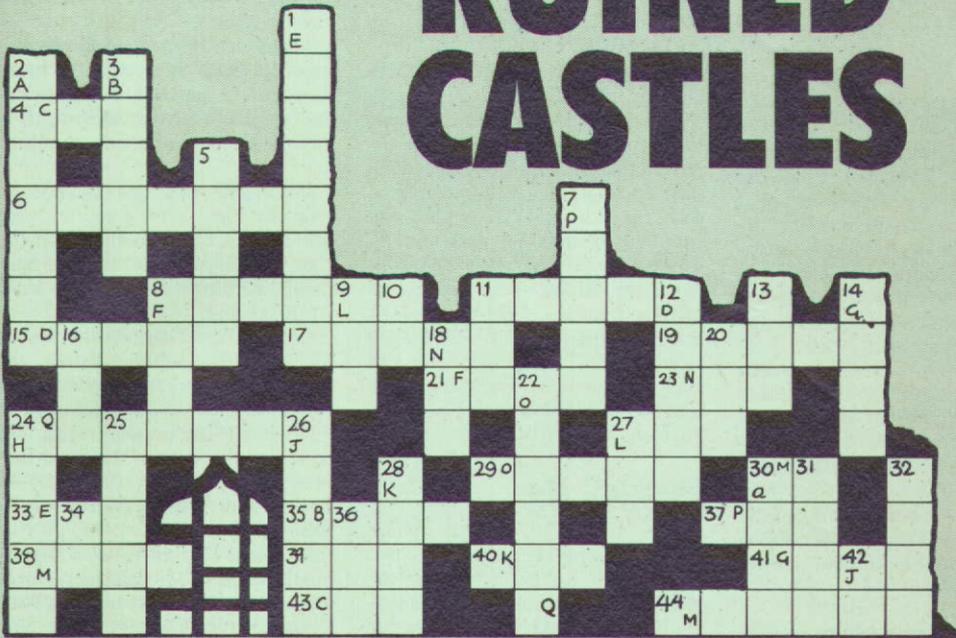
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RUINED CASTLES



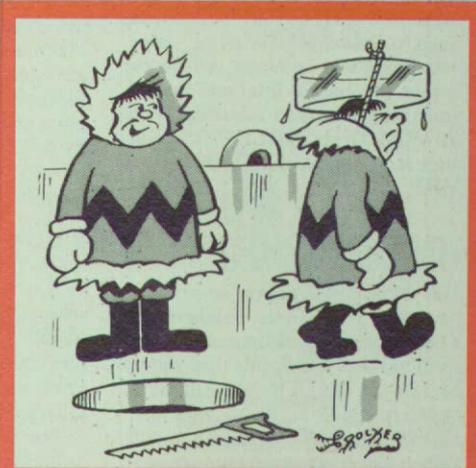
HIDDEN IN THE brickwork of our ruin are the names of 16 British castles. To find them, first answer the clues as for an ordinary crossword; second, using the word or words which start on a square with the same small letter, put the pieces together to unravel the name of each castle. Castle A, for instance has only one piece, whereas Castle K has three.

Can you list all sixteen in order, A to Q? The competition is open to all readers at

home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 27 August. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 20 September. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 297' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 297' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

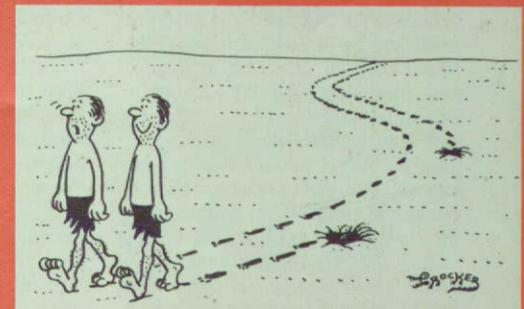
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CLUES

Across

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4 Purpose | 38 Important turning point | 13 America |
| 6 Isle of Wight rocks | 39 Vehicle | 14 Young animal |
| 8 Abduct | 40 Transgress | 16 Paddle |
| 11 Turn | 41 Spoken | 18 Disorderly crowd |
| 15 Part of spur | 43 Conclusion | 20 Strange |
| 17 Goblin | 44 Upright | 22 Kingdom, now part of Yugoslavia |
| 19 Old Testament prophet | | |
| 21 Hop-kiln | Down | 24 Compel |
| 23 Greek mountain | 1 Selecting | 25 Get on a bus |
| 24 Flood of river water | 2 Wash and iron | 26 Moment |
| 27 Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament | 3 Traffic light | 27 Subdue |
| 29 Villain | 5 Threshing tool | 28 Unit of speech |
| 30 Printer's measure | 7 Glitter | 30 Famous school |
| 33 Chafe | 8 Parts of piano | 31 Female horse |
| 35 Golf club | 9 Some | 32 Dissolve |
| 37 Arrival time | 10 River | 34 Ancient city |
| | 11 Drink | 36 Moved swiftly |
| | 12 Consider | 42 Conjunction |

MAIL DROP

to prevail? — **Mr W Dawson**, 12 Pendleton Road, Walton, Liverpool, Merseyside, L4 6UA.

CONTEMPT

Your reviewer has treated Peter Grafton's effusion 'You, You, You, The People out of Step with World War II' with the contempt it richly deserves (25 June).

Space considerations probably precluded the reviewer from making two other points which I think will settle this question once and for all.

First, although some failed in their duty the vast majority did not, and secondly it is because of the discipline and self-sacrifice of that majority that Mr Grafton enjoys the liberty he does.

I trust that we hear no more of this book. — **L S King**, 70 West Hill Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, TN38 0NO.

SAPPER STORY

I would make three observations on your article about the Royal Engineers (Your Cap Badge 25 June).

The word 'Regiment' was foreign to the Corps of Royal Engineers prior to World War Two, it always being referred to as a 'Corps' as in its full title. Previously a Regiment was a battalion comprising some five companies in each and was common only to Infantry regiments of the Line and also to the Royal Regiment of Artillery — the only exception being the 60th Rifles — King's Royal Rifle Corps (now merged into the Green Jackets) although they were Infantry.

The Royal Tank Corps, later to become the Royal Tank Regiment was also a 'baby' of the Corps of Royal Engineers and this has been perpetuated at the Perham Down Barracks of one Regiment of the RTC which was renamed 'Swinton Barracks' after its reconstruction and modernisation fairly recently. A report appeared at the time in SOLDIER.

As Edward VIII was never crowned, the issue of cap badges bearing his cypher is entirely unofficial, these only being obtainable from private sources (mainly through Messrs Shirley Brooks Ltd of Woolwich —

now closed down). As Edward VIII was never crowned he can hardly be quoted officially.

The previous paragraph brings another interesting matter to light, which is denied in official quarters; that concerns a first issue of LS & GC medals following the December 1936 recommendations which were minted with the Edward VIII cypher and supplied to units for presentation. These were very quickly withdrawn, when the mistake was brought to light and medals were replaced by issues bearing the head of HM King George VI in 1937 as soon as he had been crowned. — **Capt Henry W Corke**, 249 Marlborough Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5HS.

Fs AND Bs

I refer to the Lilywhites on the Bayou, singing (14 June). I carried out a minor survey of younger soldiers by asking what does the following bring to mind? "My eyes are dim I cannot see"; "When you reach Pusan don't cause a jam"; "A spud jumped off the table and killed a mate of mine"; and more odds and ends.

My findings were that it seems as if singing on the march died with the advent of the DMS boot.

Has anyone thought of recording the old songs on band or paper with all the Fs and Bs? — **J T Newton**, Saar Str 23, 4930 Detmold, West Germany.

GUIDON

It was with interest that I read the article 'Your Cap Badge' featuring the 14th/20th King's Hussars (5 April). However, there was one incorrect statement that I feel I should mention. The article stated that our battle honours are emblazoned on our standard — this is not quite so as Hussar regiments possess Guidons and not standards. In fact, HRH The Princess Anne, as Colonel-in-Chief of the 14th/20th King's Hussars visited the Regiment in Höhne and presented a new guidon (SOLDIER, 25 June). — **Capt S Lang**, 14th/20th King's Hussars, c/o HQ 24 Inf bde, BFPO 36.

WRONG SWAP

The cap badge shown in 'Hat Swap' (14 June) shows the Prince of Wales' Own Regiment and not the Queen's Own Hussars. — **Sgt B McCann**, RPC, 206 Coy, Long Marston, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

GUNNER CAPS

I read with interest the article on the badge of the Royal Artillery in 'Your Cap Badge' series (14 June).

I would however question that the grenade badge was worn in the Service Dress cap. I thought the large gun badge was worn in the SD cap.

A bronze coloured plastic grenade badge was worn in the Field Service cap, the General Service cap, which

was similar to the Scottish Balmoral, and the khaki beret.

A polished brass grenade was also worn in these three types of head-dress and in the red and blue 'walking out' Field Service cap, which is often referred to as a 'side cap' these days.

During the war it was regulation to wear the Field Service cap with the bottom button an inch above the right eye, the lower finger of the right hand touching the bottom button when saluting.

Light Infantry regiments wore the Field Service cap in the centre of the head, which everyone, including the RAF, seems to do these days.

What are the present regulations regarding the wear of the Field Service cap? — **K C Chisman**, 45 Beechwood Avenue, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent.

According to Vol 3 of Material Regulations, Pamphlet 15, field caps may be worn in accordance with regimental customs and at the discretion of the Commanding Officer. — Ed.

VETERAN

Can the following be a Service record: Gordon Boys School 1916-20; Band the 3rd The King's Own Hussars 1920-29, serving two years Turkey, Egypt, India (Bandsman, I/C ship's hospital), New Zealand Shipping Co RMS Rangitane 1929-30; Palestine Police 1930-32; New Zealand Shipping Co 1932-33; Croydon Town Hall 1933-37 Asst Hallkeeper; East Suffolk County Hall, Hallkeeper 1937-69, served in RAF during 1941-45 (Coastal Command, Band Sgt RAF, Regt Band, Central Band); Suffolk Regt TA 10 years Band Sgt.

Total Service in uniform 53 years. — **G W Lewis**, Flat 8, Cranfield Court, Valley Road, Ipswich.

OLD PALS

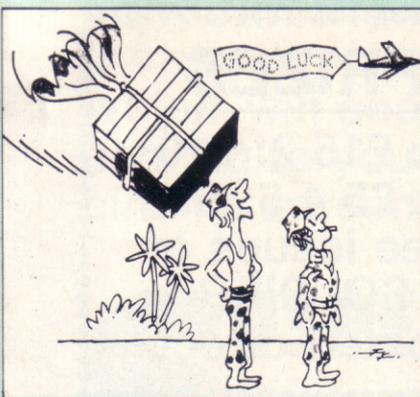
I am writing a letter of appreciation for a pal of mine Mr R Evans, who during the last war served in the Armoured Corps. We became mates at work and since I retired in 1965, right up to the present he has sent me SOLDIER every month which I find very interesting. — **Mr B Hammond**, 7 Oakleigh Close, Whetstone, London N20.

Glad you enjoy the mag, Mr Hammond, and hope you continue to enjoy it for many more years yet. — Ed.

STAMP CLUB

AFCENT Stamp Club will issue a special illustrated cover to commemorate the Bi-Centennial of the USA and the Netherlands. The cover will bear a set of the Netherlands Bi-Centennial commemorative stamps cancelled by the Netherlands Forces Postal Service and 2 US Bi-Centennial commemorative stamps cancelled by the US Forces Postal Service.

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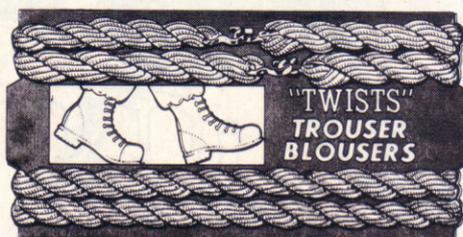
Got something to say, a point to make or a story to tell? This is your page to exchange your news, views, comments and opinions. All we ask is that you keep it brief and include your full name and address. Write to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

UNVARNISHED

May I congratulate you on your reporting of events in the Falklands. At a time when some of the media didn't seem to know which side they should be on — or even if they should be on anybody's side at all — your fortnightly reports provided a much-valued forum expressing unvarnished fact and dedicated effort. It is to your credit that this is really no more than we usually expect from SOLDIER. As you say in 'SOLDIER-to-Soldier' — "our fighting men have done us proud" — well, so have you. Many thanks.

Recently I came across a booklet issued by the Foreign Office entitled 'The Falkland Islands — The Facts' published by HMSO in May at 50p. It can only be described as a sober and completely factual account of British involvement in the Falklands and utterly demolishes any Argentinian claim to the territory. I am annoyed that this booklet has been so discreetly published at a time when the British case seems to have been failing by default in international terms. I can't imagine, either, why it should be priced at 50p when we are inundated with showers of official leaflets which cost nothing!

Perish the thought, but could there be some faceless mandarins in Whitehall who don't want truth and justice for Britain and the Falklands



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Can You Help?

I am writing a documentary history of Ayrshire Barracks, Moenchengladbach which was once the home of an Artillery Regiment and then housed 17 Vehicle Battalion RAOC.

I would be most grateful to hear from any of your readers who possess any articles, photos, or any other memories connected with this Barracks, including St George's Church, covering the period 1945-60. — **C G Griffin, 23 Tpt Regt RCT, BFPO 40.**

Can any readers supply me with, or advise me where I can obtain a copy of, Phillip Warner's 'Special Air Service' published by William Kimber, London 1971, this being the official regimental history? — **SAC APC Scott, General Office, RAF Boulmer, Nr Alnwick, Northumberland.**

I am trying to compile as comprehensive a list as possible of the dress distinctions of the King's African Rifles during the 60 years of the Regiment's existence. Most available photographs are in black and white, and it is often difficult to identify such details as, for example, the colour of garter-tabs or bandsmen's wings. I would be most grateful if any readers who have served with the Regiment would contact me. Should they have any photographs which they would be kind enough to lend me, I would return them immediately after having copies made.

The purpose of this is not only to complete my own personal records, but I am hoping to compile a collection of photographs to be lodged with the National Army Museum for the use of other researchers and for posterity. Naturally, I would take the greatest care of any material loaned to me. It seems a pity that a once proud Regiment is so poorly documented, and any help in rectifying this situation would be most appreciated. — **Peter Davis, 67 Harefield Road, Stoke, Coventry, CV2 4BT.**

Collectors' Corner

G Pray, 48 Kennedy Ave, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6S 2X5. *Wants Famous Regiments: 'The Royal Marines' by Lt Gen Sir Brian Horrocks. Also RM cap badges/collar dogs, shoulder titles. Will pay cash plus post. State price.*

Thomas A Houf, Route 1, Box 289, Fulton, Missouri 65251, USA. *Wishes to purchase cap/collar badges of the Falkland Islands Defence Force, Gibraltar Defence Force, King's Own Malta Regt, and other overseas territories militia unit badges. Also seeks contact with source of South African badges.*

Sgt S Stilborn, Box 1225, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1P 5R3. *Wants cloth unit, rank and trade insignia as presently issued to the British Army or Royal Marines for both dress and combat uniforms. Rank and uniform charts as well as recruiting posters also sought. Have Canadian military or Fire Department badges to trade or fair cash prices paid.*

Dean Owen, 16 Battenberg Ave,

Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4L 1J8. *Wishes to buy or trade for the following Medical Corps badges, all countries WW1 to date; military medals (Commonwealth) 1815 to date, singles or groups; elite unit insignia; photos or manuals of British built military motorcycles WW1 to date, BSA, Triumph Norton etc.*

Robert Miles, 33 Gunner's Grove, Chingford, London E4 9SR. *Wishes to purchase insignia and wings of 21st, 22nd and 23rd SAS Regiments and books, photos, equipment etc to do with SAS.*

Chris Viner, 3 Sommerwood Walk, West Gorton, Manchester, M12 5JA. *Wishes to obtain the following: 1 DPM combat suit, 1 DPM tropical shirt, 1 pair US jump boots (black size 9½).*

Lt Col I Vaughan-Arbuckle, Clonmell, Holts Lane, Hilgay, Norfolk, PE38 0LX. *Collects and wants ladies military brooches of ASC, RASC and RCT all types. Has collection of 90 brooches of other regiments/corps, RAF and RN for sale or part-exchange. For list of available items SAE please.*

Pen Pals

My name is Daphne and I am 28 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall with long dark hair. My hobbies are mountain walking, cycling, jogging, yoga, badminton and cooking. — *Daphne Hoare, Manbren, Back Lane, Woebley, Hereford.*

My name is Dawn and I am a divorcee of 23 with a small son. I like music and decorating. All letters answered. — *Dawn Coffey, 37 New Road, Hanworth, Middx.*

We are two Swedish cousins who would like English penfriends. Susann is 18 years old and her hobbies are sport, penfriends, music, dancing, collecting postcards etc. Heléne is 20 years old and her hobbies are penfriends, history, sports photography, collecting postcards and stamps and travel etc. — *Susann Edvinsson, Pl 7333 Kristinedal, 45191 Uddevalla, Sweden; Heléne Lööv, Aftonbristvägen 2a, S-45161 Uddevalla, Sweden.*

My name is Jackie and I am 18 years old with brown hair and blue eyes. I enjoy swimming, discos and music. — *Jackie White, 6 Gunnings Way, Hemingford Grey, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE18 9EE.*

My name is Wendy and I am 18 years old with brown hair and eyes. I enjoy swimming, discos and having a laugh. — *Wendy Thompson, 16 Beech Drive, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE17 4UB.*

Reunions

The 68th Annual Reunion and Dinner of the York & Lancaster Regiment Sergeants' Dinner Club will take place in Sheffield on Saturday 18 September 1982. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ Y & L, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

The Annual Dinner of the 9th Bn (1939-45) The York & Lancaster Regiment will take place in Sheffield

on Saturday 23 October 1982. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ Y & L, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

The Annual Reunion of the Welch Regiment Old Comrades Association will be held on Saturday, 9 October at the Drill Hall, Pontypridd. Tickets £5 each. Further details may be obtained from V D Williams, 41 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8EZ. Tel: 021-777 1316.

Competition

Apologies to all our regular competition followers who must have been disappointed in our Competition 293, Pub Crawl. We really made a mess of this one, didn't we? First, there was a misprint which threw everything out: clue number 42 should have read stuck, not struck. Secondly there were more than 16 likely pub names, so there was no hard and fast answer. Finally, we got the prizes wrong — there are of course only five as usual not eight as printed. Given all our errors we tried to award prizes as fairly as possible and drew by lots the first five who had 16 pub names or more including those we had, and also those who spotted the misprint and what it should have read. For interest, rather than correction purposes, our 16 pubs were: Barleycorn, Parrot, Anchor, Sun, Bell, Unicorn, Ship, Vine, Red Lion, Rose, Fox, Castle, Bay Horse, Crown, Swan, Bush. Prizewinners were: 1st Mr R Joyce, 14 The Oval, St Giles, Lincoln. 2nd Mr T E Kempshall, 36 Glendower Ave, Coventry, W Midlands. 3rd Mrs D Hook, 28 Rochford Ave, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex. 4th Mr G H Bendell, 199 Midanbury

Lane, Southampton. 5th Mr Keith Sell, 20 Gaunts Way, Letchworth, Herts.

How Observant Are You?

1 Mouth of man being photographed; 2 Notch in shorts of discus thrower No. 3; 3 Right shoe pattern of hurdler No. 23; 4 Left eyebrow of left hurdler; 5 Number of leading hurdler; 6 Top corner of right hurdle; 7 Nose of man lying on back; 8 Left foot of man second from right; 9 Vest below armpit of hurdler No. 23; 10 Left hand of hurdler third from left.

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DIARY

JULY 1982

- 29 St Helens Show Tattoo (Irish Gds, 2 Royal Anglian, 2 LI, 1 QLR; RA M/C DT, Red Devils, Junior Leaders RA, RN Display team, RAF flying display) (29-31 July).
- 31 2 Inf Bde "At Home" 8pm, Fort Burgoyne, Dover (Military Display).

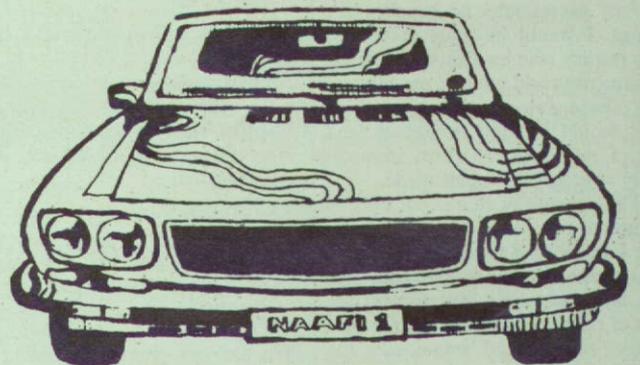
AUGUST 1982

- 1 Imperial War Museum Military Show Duxford, Cambs (Red Devils.)
- 4 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (Massed Bands; RAF Flypast and Falcons, RPC MHE display, Redcaps, White Helmets) (4-7 August).
- 7 Newport Spectacular (RA Mounted, RA Woolwich, 3 RRW, R MON RE(M), 157 Regt RCT bands; RA MC, freefall and junior PT, AA College Chepstow PT, RM helicopter display) (7-8 August).
- 11 Luton Musical Pageant (4/7 DG band).
- 13 Shrewsbury Flower Show (Coldm Gds and Welsh Guards Bands) (13-14 August).
- 14 Loughborough Tattoo, Leics (Queen's Div band; JRRS display) (14-15 August).
- 20 Edinburgh Military Tattoo (Massed Bands; Highland Dancers, RAF Queen's Colour Sqdn; HM Kongens Garde, Norway; Fanfara dei Bersaglieri, Italy) (20 Aug-11 Sep).
- 28 South Tyneside Military Tattoo (2 LI and 3 LI bands; Flying Bugles) (28-29 August).
- 28 Expo Steam, Peterborough, Cambs (28-30 Aug.).
- 30 St Albans Carnival, Herts (Red Devils).

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How 480 TA sappers literally jumped to the command . . . **GET FELL IN**



Pillow fighting on the greasy log. ▲

IT'S BEEN SAID that the Sappers are rather like little boys — they do so enjoy playing in the water. So when their annual camp was in sight of the sea, and the training area itself had a tidal lagoon as its principal feature, a good time was promised for all.

That was certainly how it proved for 480 TA Volunteers from 75 Engineer Regiment (V), whose Squadrons are 106 from Sheffield and Dewsbury, 107 from Birkenhead, Huyton and St Helens, and 202 from Clifton, Preston and Burnley with RHQ from Manchester and REME Workshop from Oldham. The main objective of their two week camp at Wyke Regis in Dorset was to obtain individual trade and promotion qualifications, but the highlight was a Sunday regatta — a sort of aquatic 'It's a Knockout'.

"With a camp where the squadrons are mixed on the courses, it's vital to have some inter-squadron competition to develop squadron spirit," said Major Derek Williams, 21C and Chief Regatta Organiser.

The competitions began with a novelty obstacle race which included taking a blindfolded stretcher party through a static water tank and ended with climbing a greasy pole. Later events had assault boat races over the lagoon to recover oil drums, an improvised raft race and the ever popular pillow fighting over the water.

Cheerleaders had their 'jokers' to play, and despite stern competition from the Sergeants Mess teams, it was 202 Squadron that won the prizes.

The regatta provided some welcome light relief in the middle of a busy fortnight of more intensive military training. The part-time Sappers from the North West were soon back on dry land for an infantry style exercise on Salisbury Plain, watched by their District Commander, Major General Michael Hicks. ■

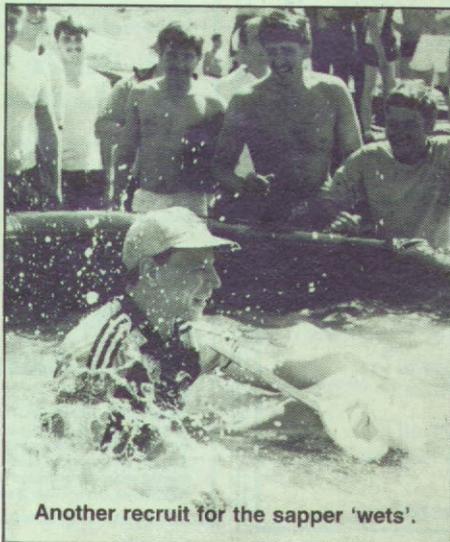


Assault boats battle for supremacy. ▲

Splashing through static water pool. ▼



Playing the 202 Squadron joker. ▲



Another recruit for the sapper 'wets'. ▲



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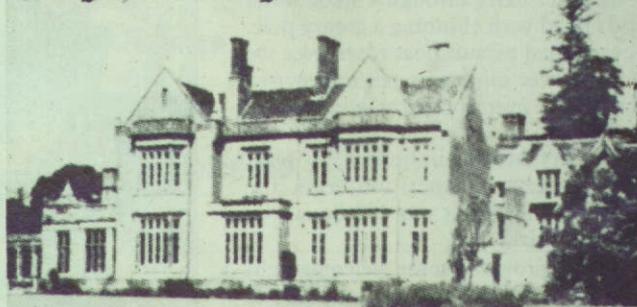
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Bulletin 39

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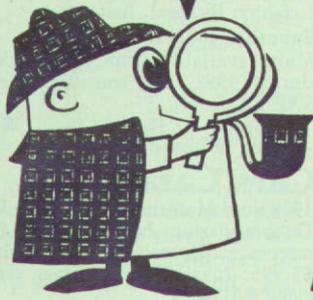
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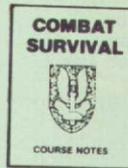
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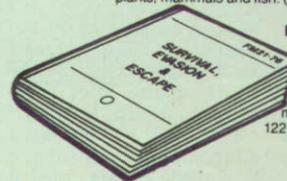
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However, it isn't all bad news, Kent's orchards are still big business, intercontinental traffic is setting new records and tourism, which underpins the growth of places like Dover and Ramsgate is still increasing.

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Robert Crittenden & Ptnrs. 0843 41144.

Kerry Stephenson 01-439 3611/2.

These articles are prepared in conjunction with Kerry Stephenson of the National Homes Network. This is a private agency with a great deal of experience in dealing with the special problems of the Service Home-hunter. Kerry will be delighted to give you any help he can with your problem in the private sector and can be contacted at National Homes Network, 303 Radnor House, 93 Regent St, London, W1R 7TE. Tel: 01-439 3611/2.

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Autobiography 'Winged Messenger' Royal Signals RSM Retd 1935-1964. Author signed dedicated 401 page deluxe hardcover £9.30 inc post. Cheques to: P E A Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx, HA0 2QT. 01-908 0202.

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THE ARMY'S 'MR GYMNASTICS', Warrant Officer 2 Jim Wilson, leaves the Service at the end of this month — behind him will be a trail of success which will be hard to emulate, including so many wins in Army gymnastic events that he has lost count.

Now 43, Jim was already a keen gymnast when he joined up 21 years ago. His interest had been fired at an athletics meeting when he was 11 and saw another youngster do a handspring.

"I had a go and could not do it. In fact I fell flat on my back. But I decided I would take it up and it just snowballed. Later I saw the Army display team in the Royal Tournament on television. At that time the Army had won the British team championships for 13 years in succession. It was the Mecca for gymnastics in Great Britain."

So Jim joined up and was soon in the thick of Army competition, which at that time included five or six British internationals. He joined the international ranks himself and was British team captain for eight years. He was British tumbling champion for many years in a row and came second in the world tumbling championships in 1966.

He is also a leading judge and coach. Some time ago he started the Fox Gym club for girls under the age of 16 (see picture). "With girls it is much easier — you can get someone to the top in three years." The proof of the pudding must be in the eating for the club now boasts three internationals and eight members of the national squad.

Today the Army is no longer a force on the international scene. Jim puts this down to a number of things. One is the manpower cuts which have made it difficult for gymnasts to be able to get to centres with the right apparatus for daily training.

In recent years too, he has noticed less motivation and dedication. "In the old days if we wanted to do something we would find a way to do it. If it was cold in the gym we would still train but later gymnasts would not do it. They want everything on a plate. Unless they can see a badge or an expense sheet they don't want to know."

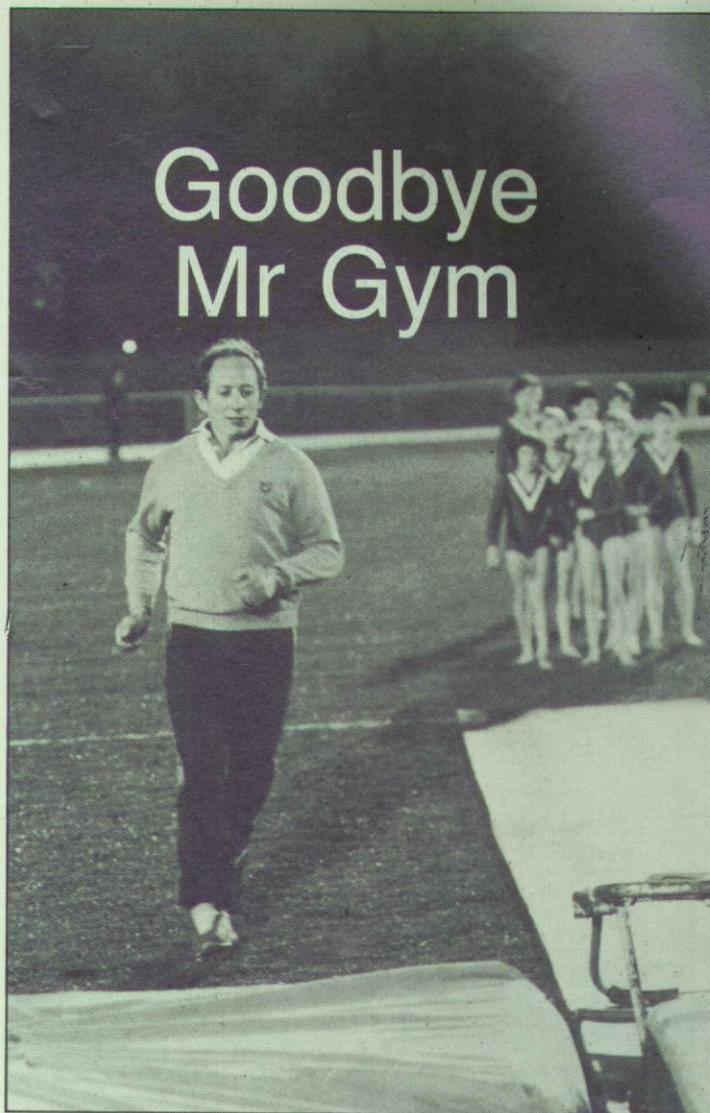
And of course civilian standards and interest have gone up as a result of the great television and press interest of recent times. Jim feels this may be a bit off-putting to would-be Army gymnasts.

"I think the word gymnastics tends to frighten them off. We show so much on our television by the top European champions. If a young lad sees someone doing a triple somersault he thinks he will never be able to do it. On the other hand, if they televised the Army championships, he would see things that he could do."

Jim is leaving a legacy for the sport in the Army. He is co-author of new simplified rules for the Army championships. Now the Olympic Six will be contested by voluntary participation only and the best four scores will count.

"If you make things too difficult you don't encourage the novice", he says. "We shall also have an Intermediate championship plus the novice event and a new trampoline section for novices."

Offers have poured in for his services since he announced that



Goodbye Mr Gym

he was leaving the Army. He will probably go to Hong Kong to become the Crown Colony's gymnastics coach. But first he has to take a look at an offer from Canada . . .

Of his Army life he says: "It's been fantastic. I'd love to do it all again. I don't think I would have got where I am today if I had stayed in my home town and not joined the PT Corps."

IRISH ROPE TRICK

THE THREE YEAR REIGN of 50 Missile Regiment RA as tug of war champions ended finally when they failed even to make the semi-final in the 640 kilo competition at the 1982 outdoor championships. But they had some compensation in retaining the 560k trophy.

4 UDR (pictured) won the heavier competition against 26 Field Regiment in a final that was really an anti-climax after a punishing semi between 26 and the Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC).

The first semi between 40 Field Regiment and 4 UDR was over in two pulls, but the second was a desperately close contest



going to three pulls, the first lasting a marathon three minutes 15 seconds. After the second pull the teams were equal and no-one dared predict the result, but in the third 26 gave a concerted last burst and MCTC collapsed.

Sportingly the MCTC coach, Sergeant Les Charlton said afterwards: "the best team won, but I'm very pleased with the way

this team pulled". He attributed 26's victory to a younger average age and more training.

When the exhausted 26 met 4 UDR twelve minutes later, they put up a token resistance, but the Irishmen, who were 20k under weight, pulled the remaining life out of the valiant 26.

A delighted 4 UDR coach, WO2 Victor Beatty said: 'We

only came third last year, but we've been training for three months on and off and we thought we had a chance."

Captain Ray Newell, 26's coach was not so happy, particularly as there was no runners'-up trophy. "It's disgraceful", he said, "I'll have to buy one out of my own pay!" After such a fight he had the spectators' sympathy.

JUNIOR ATHLETICS

Runaway win by Harrogate

AAC HARROGATE SWEPT to first place in the 1982 Junior Army Inter-Unit (Major) Athletics Championships ending 15½ points ahead of their closest rival, Princess Marina College, Arborfield.

Harrogate's strength lay in the field events where they came first in the pole vault, triple jump, discus and shot. They picked up a lot of points in the relays too, coming second in both the 100m and 400m as well as the 400m hurdles. Pipping them at the post in the first two events and also in the 2000m steeplechase was Arborfield, who came second with 102½ points.

There was disappointment in the final placings for the JLR RAC who came first in no less than five events — 110m hurdles, 200m relay, 800m relay, high jump and long jump. But they disappointed in most other events, coming second in only one, javelin. In the 100m relay disqualification for handing over the baton beyond the mark finally put paid to their chances of coming third.

A/T Tim Eggat, PMC, contributed well to his team's final position by achieving the highest individual distance of over six metres in the long jump. Eggat also won the triple jump in both the team and Individual Championships (held the following day).

The Minor Units Championships was a much closer fought contest with AAC RAOC and the Junior Para Coy battling

for first place. The RAOC squeezed ahead at the end with 46 points against Junior Para's 45½.

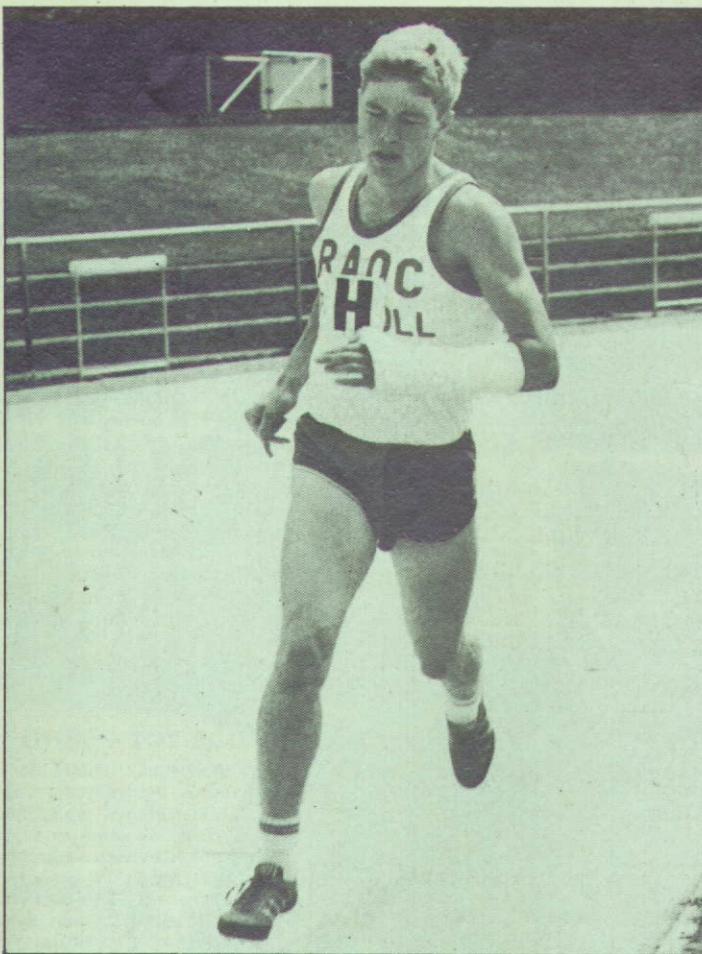
The field referee WO2 Derek Old was not pleased when the Paras turned up at the stadium nearly two hours after the start! But they did well to reach second place having missed some of the earlier events.

The RAOC came first in six events, including a good performance from App Gary Crawford who easily won the high jump with a height of 1.80m. Bucked by this success he hopes to concentrate on the high jump.

No records were broken at the Inter-Unit Championships but in the Individuals Sapper Stephen Lyons broke the pole vault record with a height of 4.01m. Stephen, who is also senior Army champion, is the son of Captain Peter Lyons, the national pole vault coach.

Results — Major units: 1st AAC Harrogate 118 pts; 2nd PMC Arborfield 102½ pts; 3rd AAC Chepstow 99½; 4th JLR RAC 98; 5th JLR RA, Bramcote 80½; 6th JLR RE 64½.

Minor units: 1st AAC RAOC 46 pts; 2nd Junior PARA Coy 45½; 3rd Junior Regt R Sigs 33½; 4th AAC RAMC 22; 5th AAC RAPC 16.



MASTER PLASTER BLASTER

Junior Lance-Corporal Darryl Cameron, from the RAOC College, Blackdown, won the inter-unit 800 metres despite running with his left arm in plaster having broken a small bone in his hand.

Darryl took two minutes four seconds and went on to win the individual 800 metres title next day as well. He told SOLDIER: "Before this I had a thinner plaster and if I had had that one on today I think I might have done it in under two minutes."

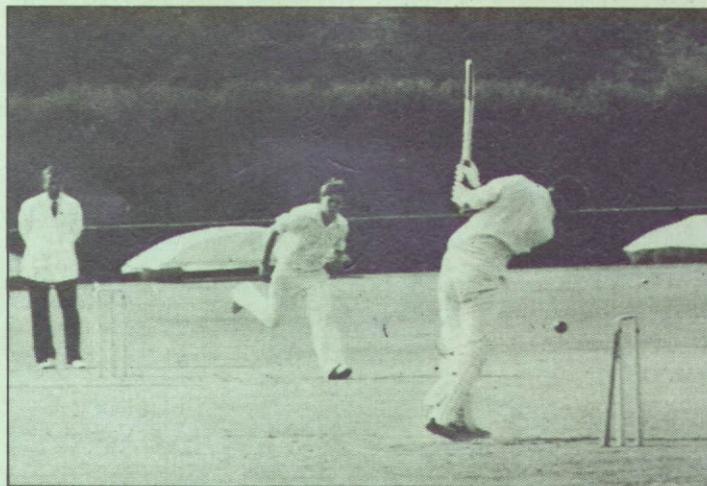
CHIPPER CHEPSTOW

TWO SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD PACE BOWLERS ripped through the Princess Marina College, Arborfield, batting to ensure that the Army Junior Cricket trophy went back across the Severn Bridge to Chepstow for the first time since 1977.

Apprentice Electrician Mark McFarthing ended with the incredible figures of five wickets for four runs while his colleague, the gangling Apprentice Survey Photographic Technician Richard Martindale, shot out four batsmen for only seven runs.

Chepstow had batted first and were soon in trouble with three wickets down for only three runs. Only a ninth wicket stand of 30 took them to a moderate score of 63 all out.

Man responsible for the damage was Arborfield's A/T Cpl Robert Mullen, who took six wickets for 14 — including a hat-trick. Robert, a medium pace seam bowler, had won the Army



Mark McFarthing sends another Arborfield wicket flying.

junior javelin title a week earlier and clearly has a strong right arm. Before joining up he had a trial with Lancashire.

But Arborfield hopes were short lived. No batsman appeared to have any answer to the pace of McFarthing and Martindale and they were out in less than an hour for only 22. Of these, eight were extras and most of the others came from snicks.

So ended a quick match on the Royal Officers' Club ground at Aldershot, where the Army used to entertain the Australian tourists before the war. In fact it was so ahead of time that Major-General Bill Withall, President of Army and Combined Services cricket, had not arrived to present the awards and Colonel Roy Brennan, the cricket secretary, had to act as substitute.

SHORTS

The home team, the Junior Guards, won this year's major units swimming title at Pirbright. They notched up 75 points followed by AAC Chepstow with 65. The minor units winners were the RAOC Apprentices College, Blackdown. Only two teams entered the water polo championships — AAC Harrogate beating Blackdown 11-0.

★ ★ ★

Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Burgess has been appointed President of the Army FA in place of Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, who becomes a Vice-President.

★ ★ ★

The Army cricket team suffered two heavy defeats against county second teams. Against Essex the county side notched up 207-3 declared with Smith getting a century. Sgt Steve Dove-Dixon with 42 was top scorer in the Army's 104 reply. Against Surrey the Army could only muster 72 and the professionals knocked these off for only three wickets.

Army still second best

— but RAF don't have it all their own way

THE ARMY ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION is wondering what it will take to shift the Royal Air Force from the number one position in Inter-Services Athletics. The Army came off second best yet again this year at Aldershot as the RAF took their 18th Championships in a row.

Before the points started to mount up the new Army team captain, Sergeant 'Aki' Akabusi was confident of an Army win and said the RAF would be finally toppled this year. He was wrong, but his predictions of Army superiority in certain events proved he knew where his team's strength lay.

The Army got off to a good start in the hammer event with Sapper Mark Sterling and Sergeant Ken Bodger taking first and second places. The only other field event to be won by the Army men's team was the shot. The giant WO1 (ASM) Eric Ricketts in this his last year in the Army putted a distance of 15.09m, one centimetre less than his last year's win. Second was Sergeant Dawson who managed a personal best of 14.27m.

Over the sprints the Army were good, but not quite good enough to push the points up into a challenging position. In the 800 metres Private 'Spider' Deverill equalled last year's win-

SALLY DANIELL reports on the Inter-Services athletics

ning time of 1m 52.6s and was way out in front in the last straight. "I looked behind me before the bend and saw they were close, so I just went ahead but no-one came with me!"

Lance Bombadier Paul Searchwell improved on the Royal Navy's winning time last year with a time of 53.8s in the 400 metres hurdles, with the RAF just one hundredth of a second behind.

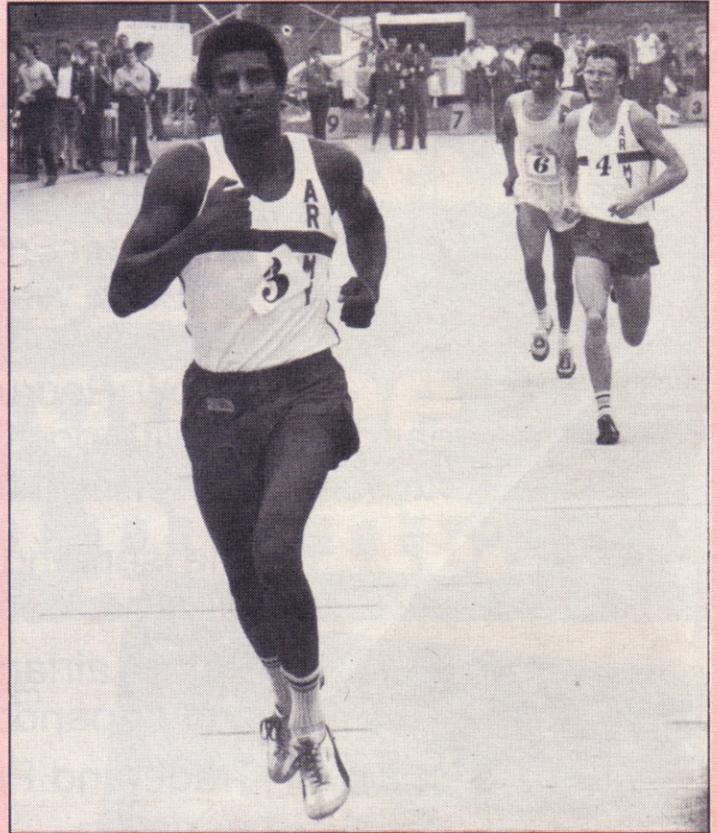
But in the longer distances, where the RAF have runners of international class, the Army could make little impact although Captain Richard Hezlet did gain third place in the steeplechase. Army champion, Captain Glen Grant, could only finish fifth in the 1500 metres which was won by Flight Lieutenant Julian Goater in a new record time of 3m 42s.

The young Sapper Stephen Lyons, the Army pole-vault champion, took second place in his event with team mate Corporal Fred Barnes third, both managing a personal best of 4.10m.

And although the Army were long resigned to second place overall, they ended the day with a morale-boosting win in the 4 x 400 metres relay, Sgt Akabusi storming home well clear on the last leg.

The Army women earned victories in five events. Corporal Maggie Allerton finished an easy winner in the 800 metres while Private Cheryl Castle took the 100m hurdles but in a slower time than her record-breaking 1981 win. Lance Corporal Phyllis Hylton, who recently broke the Army record, won the long jump and there were victories in the shot and discus for Major Liz Elliot and Corporal Karen Turnbull.

Pictures by ANDY BURRIDGE



Pte 'Spider' Deverill — romped home clear in the 800 metres.



Capt Angela Carter — just pipped in the 200 metres.



Capt Richard Hezlet — led steeplechase but finished third.

Hot shots



GURKHAS TOOK the first three positions in this year's Army Rifle Championship at Bisley. Best of all was Corporal Dharmendra Gurung of the 6th Gurkha Rifles, from Hong Kong (above) who scored 893 points out of a possible 970. Second, only 14 points behind, was Rifleman Krishna Bahadur (1/2 GR) and third Sgt Minbahadur Gurung (1/2 GR).

Leading non-Gurkha was 17-year-old Private M Bent of 1 Para, who finished fourth with 871 points. Bent took the award for young soldiers and scored an impressive 190 in the Army 100 Cup. Young Officer champion was 2 Lt R M Kelly of 8 UDR with 799 points.



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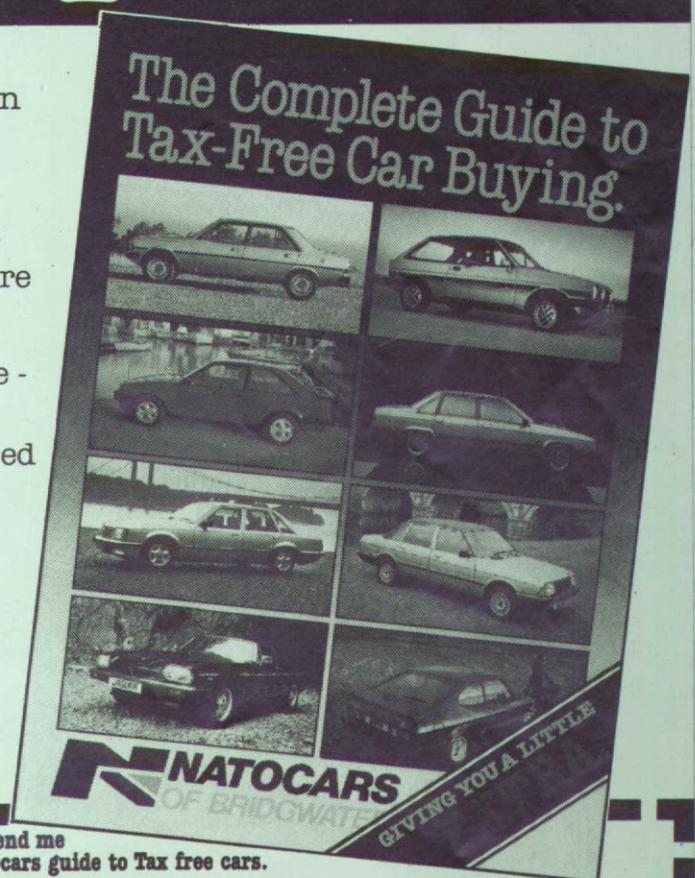
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