

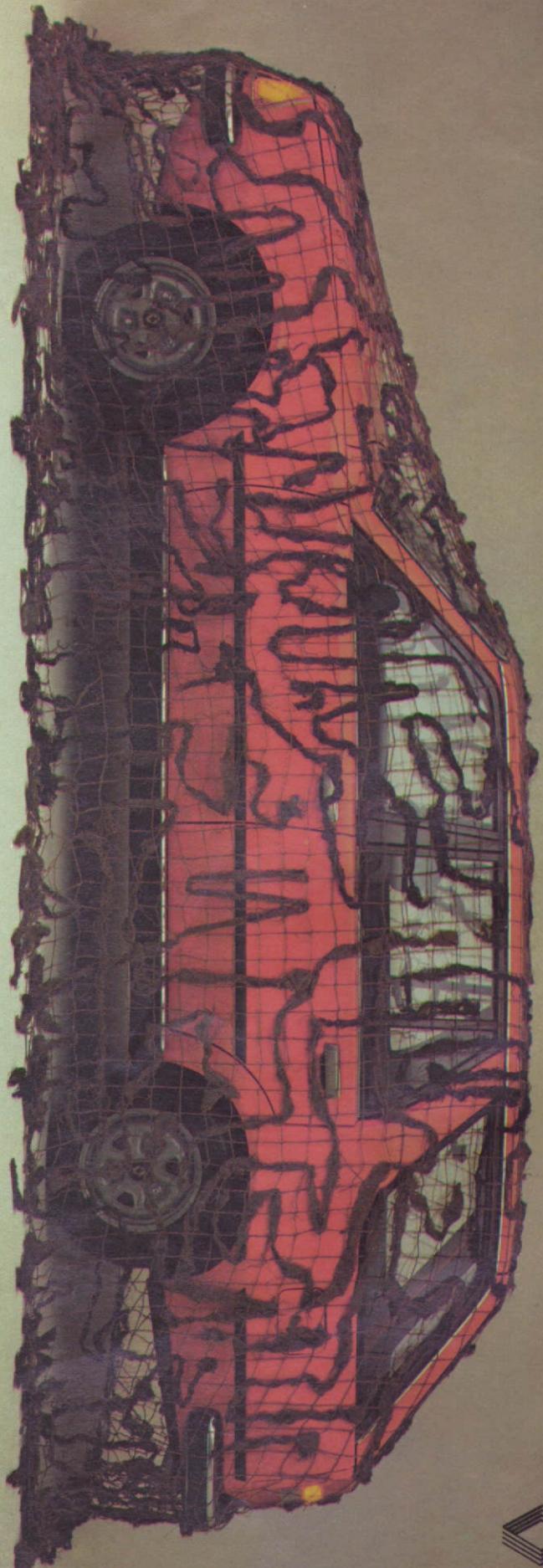
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 25 PENCE • 17-30 MAY 1982

SOLDIER



- 5 BRIGADE TUNE UP FOR BATTLE
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FRONT COVER

A soldier of 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, pictured at Sennybridge during the 5 Infantry Brigade training exercise, 'Welsh Falcon'. The Brigade will shortly be off to the Falklands aboard the liner *Queen Elizabeth II*. Stories and pictures start on page 6.

Picture by Paul Haley

BACK COVER

Junior Leader Ian Clarke of the RAC Centre, Bovington, prepares to take to the air during a parascending course at Grantham. Full story on page 26.

Picture by Les Wiggs

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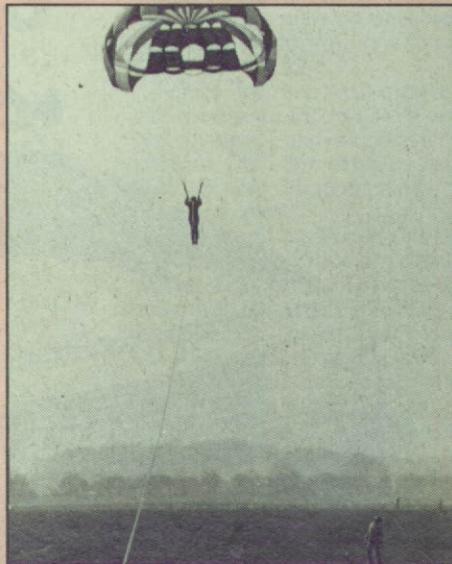
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY



◀ Gaining the Infantry's most coveted badge — page 29

Dropping in on a growing Army sport

— page 26



Tuning up for duty in the Falklands —

page 6



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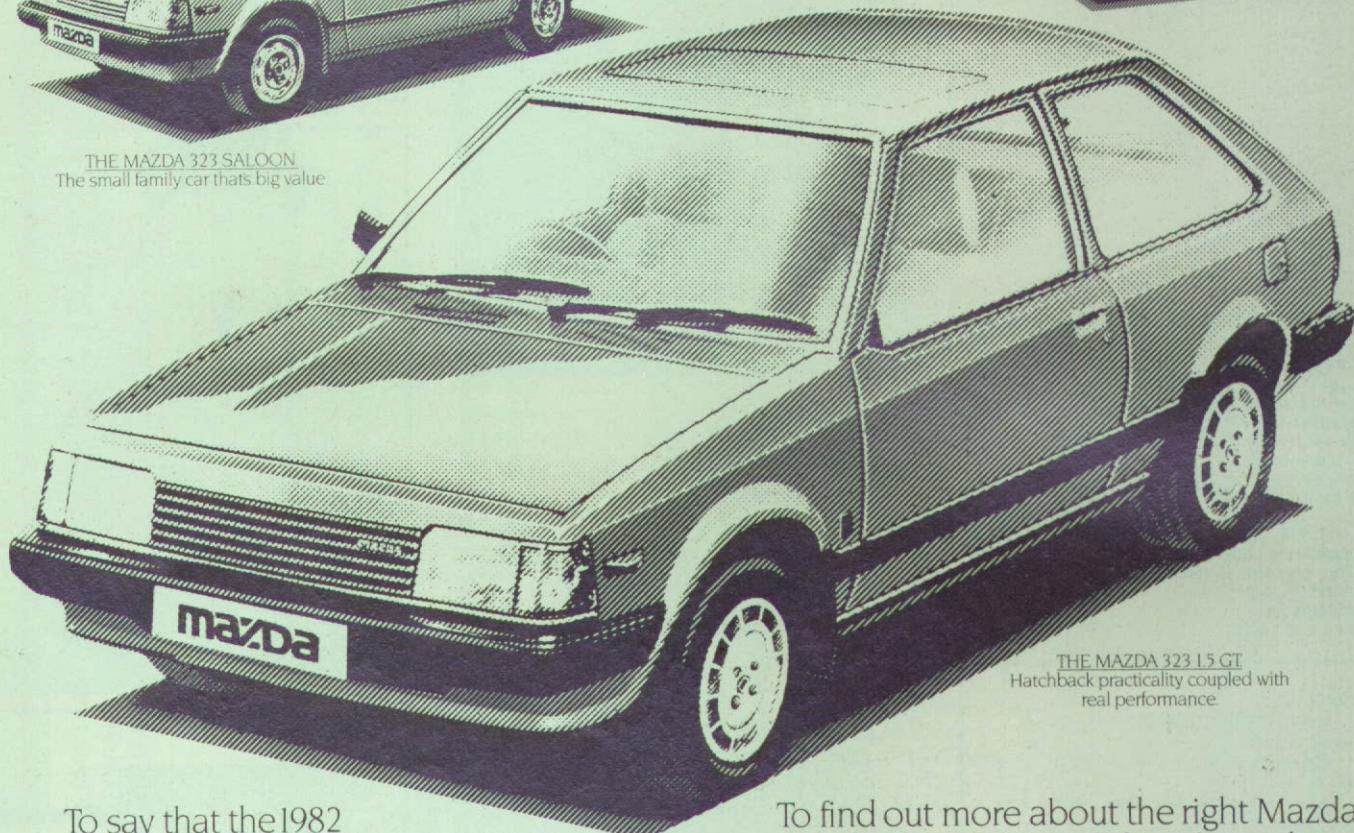
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SOLDIER to Soldier

SO THE ARMED FORCES are to get a pay rise averaging just over six per cent. Few would see the award as excessive with inflation still running in double figures. And for some the extra in their pay packet will be largely offset by increases in quartering and food charges.

There are many groups of workers these days who claim to be a 'special case' when their turn comes to bargain in the wages round. The list of those who can claim to be able to bring the community to its knees by shutting off a vital service or source of supply is seemingly endless.

All of them, of course, have a point. Many command widespread sympathy. But where, we wonder, does such special pleading put the Serviceman?

Recent events in the Falklands crisis — and in particular the attack on HMS Sheffield — have provided an all-too-graphic demonstration of the sacrifices that may be demanded of our Servicemen. Nor should we forget dangers nearer home and the many soldiers who have paid with their lives for maintaining the fragile peace in Northern Ireland.

For when the country has a dirty, difficult or dangerous job to do it is the Armed Forces that it turns to.

Responsibility

The Serviceman accepts that responsibility. It is what he is trained to do. It is what he is paid for. It is his *raison d'être*.

And if he is asked to risk bombs and bullets in Belfast or prepare for battle 8000 miles away in the South Atlantic, he does not question or quibble. He gets on and does the job. Quickly. Resolutely. Wholeheartedly.

So it is with his pay rise. If he doesn't like it, he lumps it. He doesn't down tools, work to rule or mount a picket outside the Ministry of Defence.

As we watch events unfold around the Falklands and listen to the daily bulletins from those bleak, forbidding seas, we all hope and pray that our Servicemen — and women — will return home safely with their grave mission successfully accomplished.

Theirs is no ordinary task. It is the defence of freedom and democracy against aggression and dictatorship.

A special cause indeed — and being championed by a very 'special case'.



Prince Charles, Colonel of the Welsh Guards, inspecting the parade with the Mayor of Camarthen after receiving the Freedom of the town on behalf of the Regiment. The Prince made his first public statement on the Falklands crisis when he wished the Regiment, which is part of 5 Infantry Brigade, well.

5 BDE joins Task Force

Another 3000 men, this time from 5 Infantry Brigade, set off aboard the Queen Elizabeth II to join the Falklands Task Force as the search for a diplomatic solution to the crisis continued.

The Ministry of Defence declined to say how many troops were now at sea but the latest sailing means that there are now some 5000 soldiers and marines in the two great liners, Canberra and QE 2, alone. In addition several thousand marines sailed earlier, aboard Navy ships.

Fresh from a 10-day exercise in Wales men of 5 Infantry Brigade packed their kit as the QE 2 was made ready at Southampton.

In a near miraculous operation she was transformed from luxury liner to troopship in just six days. And that included adding two more helicopter pads, in addition to the one she already had.

A few days earlier two other requisitioned ships, the Baltic and the Nordic, sailed south with tanks and equipment.

And there were words of support for the Force from Defence Secretary Mr John Nott, who said in a television interview that he was confident of the ability to retake the Falklands, by force if necessary. The British forces, he said, were far superior in both training and quality.

As SOLDIER went to press reports from Argentina that an invasion had already started were denied by the Ministry of Defence. Nor would they confirm that members of the SAS and SBS had landed on the islands to harass the beleaguered garrison.

But they did announce that the Navy had again pounded Argentinian positions in and around Port Stanley airfield.

Soldiers and marines aboard the Canberra who had been limited to on-ship training since they sailed from Southampton, finally got a chance to stretch their legs and practise their weapons when the ship called at Ascension Island.

The tiny island in the middle of the Atlantic and about half way between Britain and the Falklands has become an important staging and supply post for the Task Force. As the ships have converged on it supplies and stores have continuously been ferried ashore by helicopters and a sea of tents has grown up with more than 1000 servicemen engaged on a wide variety of essential duties.

Mail for the Task Force is also being delivered via Ascension Island and gets there within two days. After that it goes by sea or air on an opportunity basis but the Ministry of Defence is setting up a more regular shuttle which will mean that mail to and from the force will take only about two weeks to be delivered.

● If you want to write to someone in the force, address your letter to the person by number, rank and name, include the name of the ship and address it to BFPO 666.

Pay rises average 6.1 per cent

RISES AVERAGING 6.1 per cent for Britain's Servicemen have been agreed by the Government following its acceptance of the recommendations of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body.

The Pay Review Body recommended rises ranging from 4.5 to 8.9 per cent for officers up to and including the rank of brigadier; between 5.6 and seven per cent for warrant officers and senior NCOs; and between four per cent and 5.8 per cent for corporals and below.

But there are also to be increases in food and accommodation charges. Quartering charges for single servicemen will rise by an average 25 per cent and food charges by 13.2 per cent. For the first time married unaccompanied personnel will have to pay £5 a week for food.

Scales for married quarters will rise from £193 to £241 a year for corporals and below, from £518 to £635 for captains, and £689 to £765 for lieutenant-colons and above.

From April 1 a brigadier's pay goes up to £22,750 and a private will get £4249 at the lowest level, a rise of £165. After eight years in the rank a major will earn £14,498, an increase of £1004. A lieutenant will get £8450 after four years and a staff sergeant on top pay will get £10,550, an increase of more than £600. A corporal on the higher level gets an increase of £438, taking him to £8001.

See centre pages for SOLDIER's special pull-out supplement giving full details.

NEIGHBOUR ACCUSED

THE SOLDIER who lived next door has been accused of the murder of 22-year-old Army wife Susan Neil, whose body was discovered by her husband, Corporal Ian Neil, when he got home to his Aldershot married quarter after a 10-day exercise.

Mrs Neil was lying in a bedroom with multiple injuries and had also been strangled.

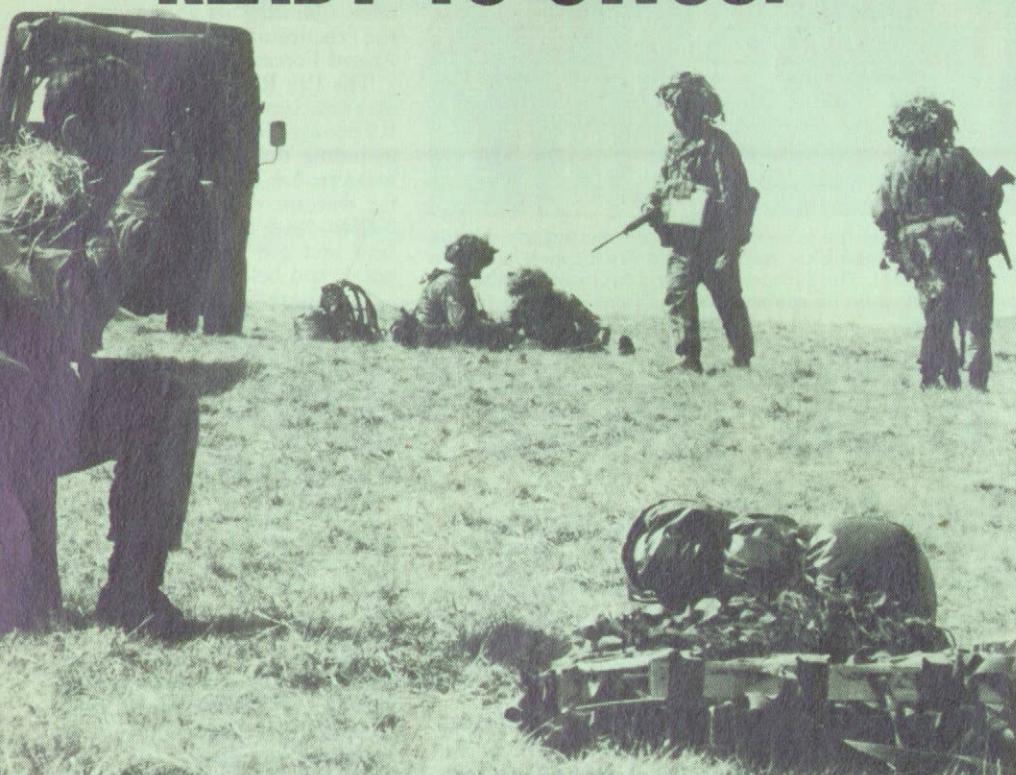
Now Private Robert Scott, 23, has been charged with the murder and has made two appearances before Aldershot magistrates. He was remanded in custody on both occasions.

Both families have flats in Willems Park, Aldershot.



CRISIS IN THE FALKLANDS

WELSH FALCON MAKES READY TO SWOOP



Gurkhas set up mortars as Jaguars overfly. ▲ Exercise umpires keep watch. ▲



▲ Pumas airlift troops to enemy flank.

ONLY DAYS BEFORE the Ministry of Defence announced that 5 Infantry Brigade was being sent to the South Atlantic aboard the QE2 as further back up for the Falklands Task Force, the Brigade was completing a rigorous week-long exercise amid the wide open spaces of the Brecon Beacons.

With two of its three infantry battalions — 2 and 3 Para — already deployed on Falklands business, 5 Brigade had to be rapidly reconstituted. The 1st Battalion, the Welsh Guards, and the 2nd Battalion, the Scots Guards, were designated as replacements to link up with 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, and the aim of the exercise at Sennybridge — appropriately called Welsh Falcon — was to get the new-look Brigade together in practising for its role as an out-of-Nato-area 'fire brigade' force.

Nearly 3000 soldiers with their vehicles, including armoured cars, field guns and mortars, took part in the manoeuvres — backed up by the contour-flying might of RAF Strike Command Jaguar and Harrier ground-attack fighters, battlefield assault Puma helicopters and Army Air Corps weapon-platformed Gazelles and Scouts.

At tree-top level, the 38 Group Harriers (from Wittering) and Jaguars (from Coltishall) mounted 90 sorties daily.

A highlight of the exercise scenario was a heliborne assault using most of the two dozen helicopters. Members of the media were invited to see a firepower demonstra-

tion using live ammunition. On the ground, the 105mm light guns and 81mm mortars lobbed their shells while the airborne fighters strafed target hulks with SNEB rockets.

Lieutenant-General Richard Trant, GOC South-East District, told the Press: "In the Defence White Paper it was stated we would continue to have a capability of operating outside Nato, because we may have to deploy to look after our own people abroad, to help independent nations to whom we have obligations and to look after dependancies of this country.

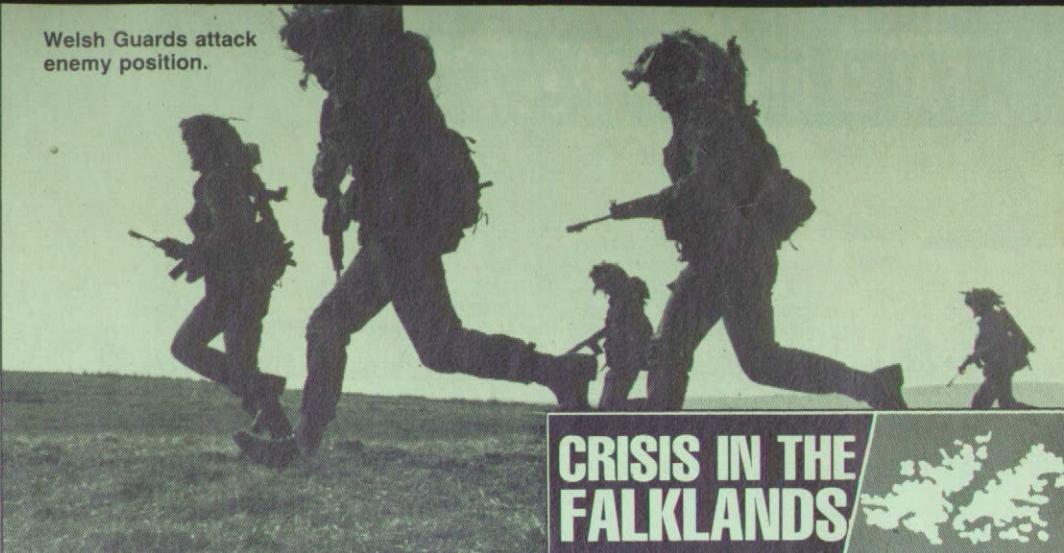
"We have had to reconstitute 5 Infantry Brigade to a very large extent and what we are doing at Sennybridge is to put it through its paces, if you like, working it up for whatever task it may be given with a worldwide mission. The purpose of this training is simply to teach the Brigade and all parts of it how to operate as a Brigade.

"It is very necessary that the command organisation should get used to each other from battalion down to company level if they are to be in a fit state to undertake any task. My responsibility is to train this Brigade to do whatever is asked of it. It cannot be left in a state of being semi-trained."

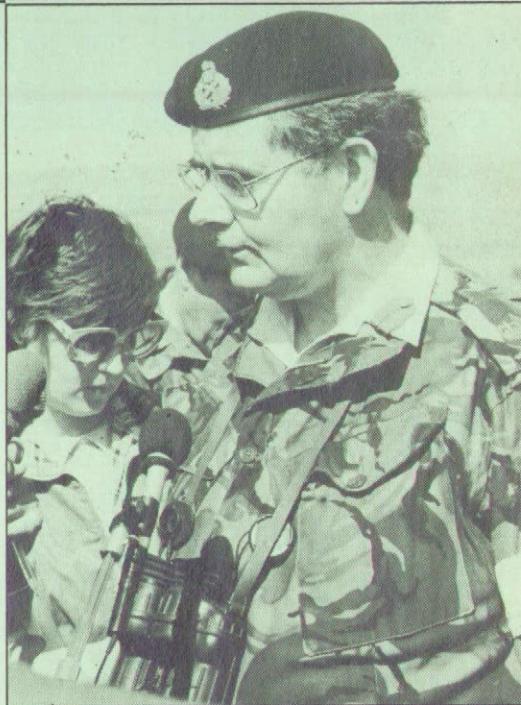
The new Brigade had been put together "very fast" because 2 and 3 Para had been deployed to the South Atlantic at very short notice.

He added, in response to media question-

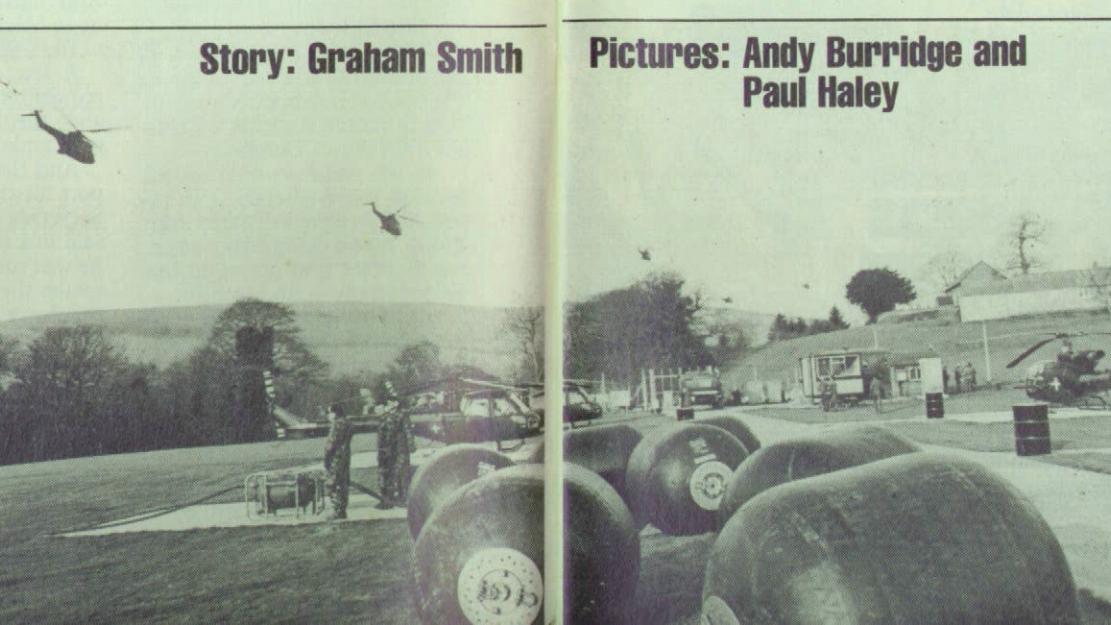
Welsh Guards attack enemy position.



CRISIS IN THE FALKLANDS



Lt-Gen Trant meets the press. ▲
'Enemy' Spartan of Blues and Royals. ▲



Story: Graham Smith

Pictures: Andy Burridge and Paul Haley





QUEEN OF THE SEAS CARRIES ON A PROUD TRADITION

THOUSANDS OF SHEETS of chipboard now lie over the plush carpets and panelled walls of the world's largest luxury liner, the 67,107-ton *Queen Elizabeth II*, the toned-down decor of a beefed-up troopship carrying men of 5 Infantry Brigade to the South Atlantic.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards and 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles — together with artillery, engineer, light helicopter and logistic support units — will animate the ship's 14 decks in DMS boots where, until just days ago, more refined footwear and genteel conversation were the pattern of the day.

The QE2 — it made its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York in May 1969 — has some 40,500 square feet of open deck space for the cruising troops to exercise their weapon training skills.

With a service speed of 28½ knots it is estimated that the liner could reach the South Atlantic within ten days.

Aboard, are four swimming pools, 13 lifts, four dining rooms, seven bars, four night club-cum-public entertainment rooms, a theatre/cinema seating 532, library, gym, Turkish bath, sauna, bank services, shopping arcade and two facilities of little use to the crack fighting force — a beauty parlour and creche!

The 963-foot-long QE2 also has a fully equipped hospital with operating theatre which serve a 1800-passenger capacity on more leisurely occasions.

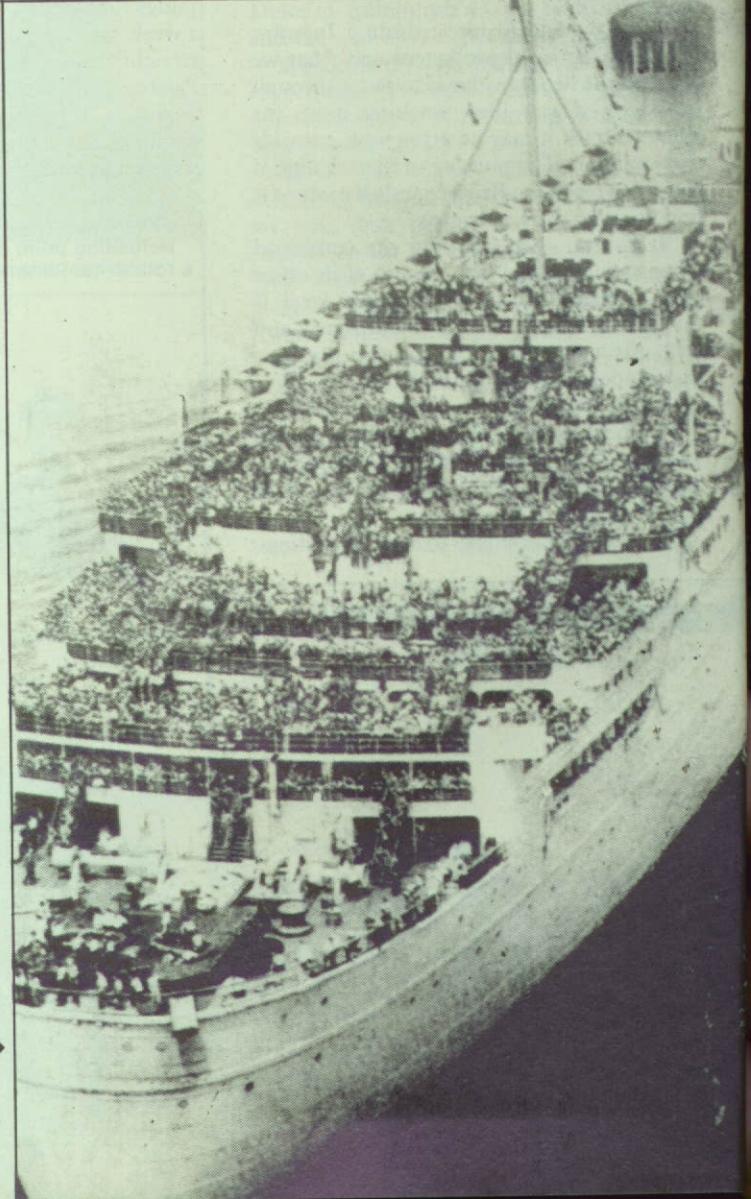
And, another important feature, she already has her own heli-pad although two more have been hastily added for her new military role.

The decision to requisition the QE2 as a troop carrier means disappointment for thousands of passengers booked for cruises on the majestic ship and the Ministry of Defence has said that it "greatly regrets the inconvenience caused".

"But", pointed out a spokesman for the MOD, "The QE2's speed, size and facilities make her uniquely suited to carry substantial numbers of troops who must be kept fit and ready for operations, should they be required."

For those with longer memories the news that the QE2 was being called up to serve her country brought back memories of her illustrious forbear, the *Queen Elizabeth*, who was used to carry thousands of troops in the dark days of World War Two. ■

The *Queen Elizabeth* as
World War Two troop
carrier. Here 14,000 American
veterans cram her decks.





A sight to frighten any enemy.

MOUNTAIN MEN PREPARE TO SHOW THEIR STEEL

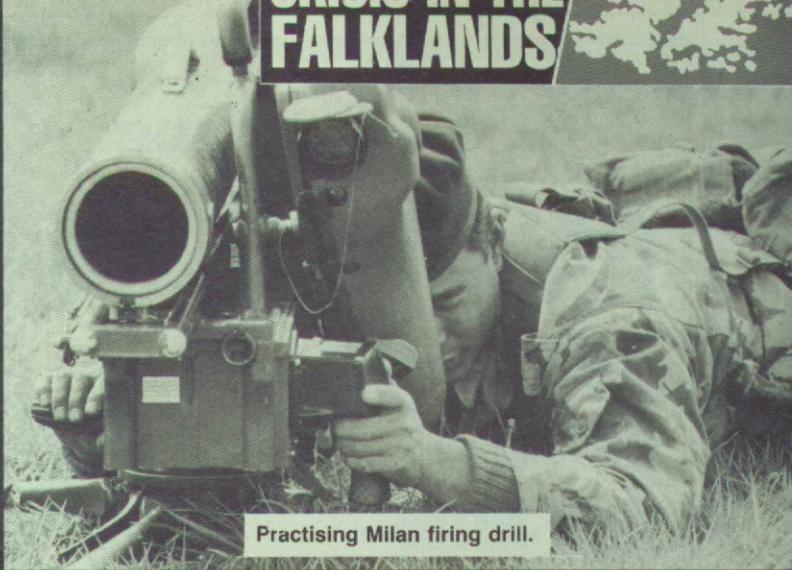


Sharpening up those lethal kukris.



Help from QM with cold-weather clothing.

Two-man teams with Carl Gustavs. ▶



Practising Milan firing drill.

THOSE FEARSOME and famed mountain men fighters from snow-capped Nepal, the Gurkhas of 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, have been sharpening up their skills — and Kukris — ready for deployment to the South Atlantic as part of 5 Infantry Brigade aboard the 67,000-ton liner, Queen Elizabeth II.

The Battalion — motto: Better to Die than be a Coward — based at Church Crookham, near Aldershot, held final simulated practices of small arms, anti-tank weapons and mortars on the ranges near their barracks.

Among the hardware being used were the 81mm mortar, the 66mm anti-tank weapon, the Milan and the 84mm Carl Gustav anti-tank systems.

On the 30-metre range, half-a-dozen Gurkhas loosed off rounds of rapid fire each with their SLRs at No 5 targets.

A grindstone was turned into constant use as £60 kukris had their fierce burnished blades honed to a razor edge. Arctic kit, including parkas, was issued ready for duty in sub-zero temperatures and hostile weather conditions.

There was much activity, too, with packing in the Company lines.

Among the Gurkhas were most of the prize-winning shooting team from Bisley who had been training up for this year's event.

As Major Mike Seear, their Ops/Training Officer said: "Time and time again, they come away from Bisley with the top prizes. They are extremely good shots and really first class marksmen."

But how would they stand up to an Antarctic winter, coming as they do from the sweltering Indian sub-continent? Major Seear was confident.

"They are mostly from the mountain areas which are cool in the winter but they do seem to be able to adapt and function in extreme climates. They have just done very well on the recent Welsh Falcon exercise on the Brecon Beacons. There, they withstood 30 mile-an-hour winds, rain, snow, sleet and hail while digging into defensive positions. They came out of it smiling."



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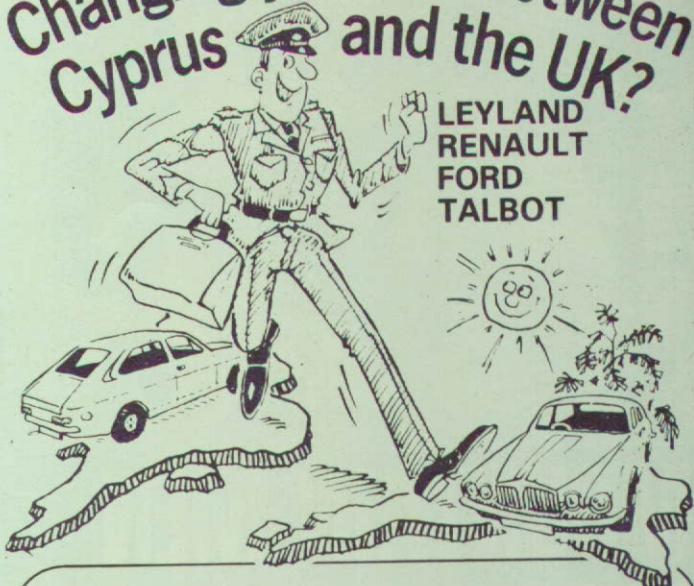
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WHEN ONE MAN GOES TO WAR

this is what
he takes
with him



AS SOLDIERS of 5 Infantry Brigade prepared to follow those already deployed to the South Atlantic, SOLDIER took a look at what today's typical infantryman might be carrying as he sets off prepared for action.

The items assembled for our special picture are not necessarily comprehensive. Equipment will vary according to role. So too will clothing.

But although individual bits and pieces may vary, the sum total gives a broad indica-

tion of what kit it takes to put a fighting man in the field. The cost of all the items pictured here would add up to well over £1000. But one thing is beyond price — the man wearing it.

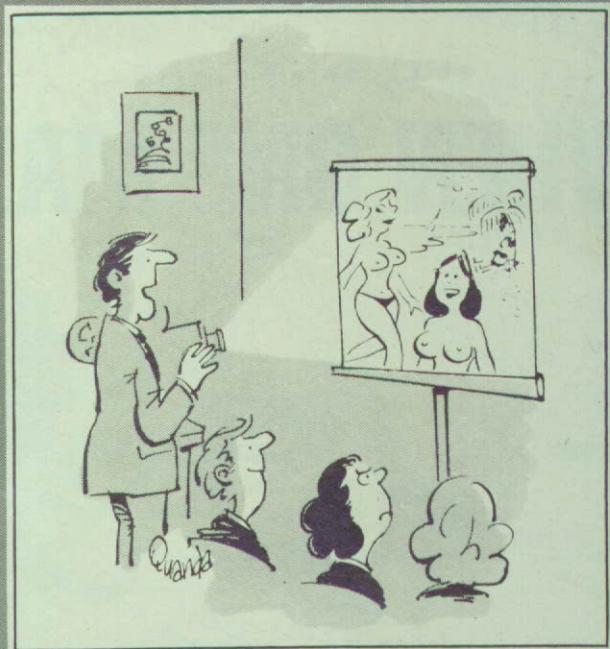
Can you spot all the items pictured?

Cold Weather Kit: Overboots, Hat, Gloves, Face Veil, Vest, Long Johns, Arctic socks, 2 Quilted liners, Parka, Waterproof overtrousers, Waterproof Jacket; **Other Kit:** Helmet, Webbing, Combat Jacket, Shirt,

Trousers, Underwear, Socks, DMS Boots, Bergen, Shovel, Long Johns, Woolly pullover, Cam Cream, Respirator and Respirator Bag, Fuller's Earth (for cleaning respirator), Knife, Fork, Spoon, Mess tins, 24-hour ration pack (including solid fuel stove), Rifle sling, Bayonet, Sleeping Bag, Spare combat jacket and trousers, Spare socks, Spare face veil, Magazines (five), First Aid Kit, Rifle cleaning kit, Beret, Field Dressing, Poncho, Self-Loading Rifle.



"Good grief — an entire infantry regiment?"



"And this is Freda sitting under a palm tree on the beach . . ."

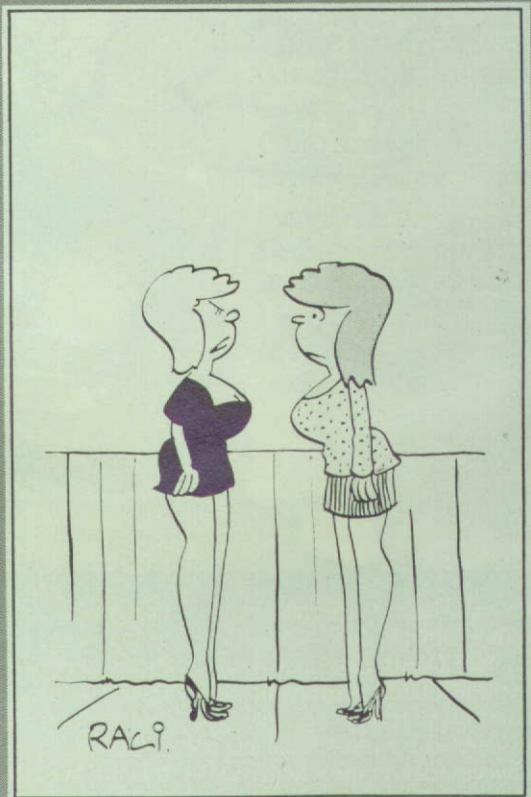


"Never mind why — just stand there!"

Humour



"That compensation money was a stroke of luck — perhaps you'll break something next year, too."



"Then I said to him 'Keep your hands to yourself' — and the fool did!"

Assault course invaded

FOR NINE HOURS more than 3000 civilians 'cascaded' over an Army assault course and raised an estimated £20,000.

The event at Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire was a combined venture by Tyne Tees Television's 'Northern Life' programme and the 1st Battalion Green Howards.

A task force of 350 soldiers from the Regiment manned the five-mile cross country run course and assault course obstacles as well as providing communications and transport.

Men and women from all walks of life flocked to take part in the event aimed at giving fun with a cash bonus for charity.

Most people completed the five-mile run and obstacles in about 75 minutes — against the 37 minutes many soldiers can do.

Nearly 50 years

WHEN FORMER ARMY Major Arthur Oliver drove out of Imphal Barracks, York, to his retirement he passed within feet of the building in which he signed on — 49½ years ago.

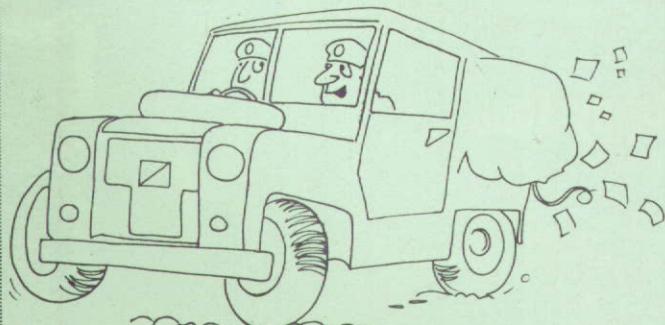
Since that day Arthur has worked with the RAOC both as a Regular Army Officer and for the last 12 years as a Civil Servant.

And during his career he has helped supply Army units throughout the world.

For the last 10 years he has been an Ordnance staff officer at the Headquarters of the Army's North East District just across the barrack square from where he joined up as a boy of 15.

During his 37½ years in uniform Arthur was evacuated from Dunkirk, took part in the Salerno Landings and served in the Middle East, Greece, Germany, Egypt, Malta and Singapore.

PENDLE



SPIKE, HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF JOINING THE HASH HOUSE HARRIERS?



A few words with dog handler Trooper Michael Riley and his well muzzled friend during the Queen Mother's visit to the Queen's Dragoon Guards, of which she is Colonel-in-Chief, at Lisanelly Barracks at Omagh in Ulster. It was her first visit to Northern Ireland since the start of the present troubles.

Army theme for tournament

THERE WILL BE a strong Army theme for this year's Royal Tournament, to be held at Earls Court, London, from July 14-31. And, for the first time in its century-long history, the tournament will have an interval.

Precision marching and stirring music will come from the massed bands of the Cavalry, the Staff Bands of the Royal Engineers, Royal Army Medical Corps, Royal Army Ordnance Corps and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, under the direction of Major David Snowden. The resident band this year will be the Women's Royal Army Corps under the direction of Captain I A Hopkins.

There will be old favourites from all three Services and the special features will include the Queen's Guard Drill Team from Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA which performs a nine minute display of precision drill, using 1903 Springfield rifles fitted with 16-inch bayonets. The

display has been described as "near suicidal".

Also appearing will be the Scotia Legion Pipe Band from Halifax, Nova Scotia and a spectacular demonstration of skill by the Horsemen of Pakistan. The finale will be a musical presentation of Napoleon's 1812 retreat from Moscow.

Static display stands demonstrating life and equipment in the Armed Forces will be open to the public from 12 noon (except Mondays) and from 6pm for the evening performances.

The opening performance will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday July 14 and thereafter there will be evening performances Monday to Saturday and matinees at 2.30 pm Tuesday to Saturday.

Tickets are available now from the Royal Tournament Box Office at Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5 9TA (Tel: 01-371 8141). Prices range from £2.50 to £9.50 with 10 per cent discounts for groups of ten or more, except for the Royal Enclosure.

Sent home

Three soldiers from the Falkland Islands Task Force have been sent home and could face disciplinary action, the Ministry of Defence has announced. The move follows alleged military offences on Ascension Island.

Briefly

The Rothesay Reunion Committee is trying to trace ex-service men and their families who served on the Isle of Bute during World War Two. The committee is planning a Grand Reunion Holiday for April-May next year. Convenor is Mr James F Colvin, 'Dalveen', Craigmore Road, Rothesay, Isle of Bute, PA20 9LB.

★ ★ ★
Maj Gen Lennox Napier, the GOC Wales, has presented a £1500 cheque to the Commonwealth Games Council for Wales 'Welsh Appeal'. It was part of the total raised by units in Wales and Welsh units serving outside the Principality. The Aldershot-based 1RRW contributed £100 after the Sergeants' Mess started its own racing mice stable.

★ ★ ★
Harkness of Hitchin, the famous rose breeders, have developed a new rose in aid of SSAFA. It is called 'Mountbatten' in honour of the late Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

Open

The Tank Museum at Bovington, featured in the last issue of SOLDIER, is now open again on Sundays until at least 1 October. Opening hours are the same as for Saturdays and Public Holidays, 10.30-12.30 and 14.00-16.00.

Flying visit

PRINCESS ANNE paid a flying visit to the Women's Transport Service (FANY) during their annual camp at Crowborough, Sussex. She has been Commandant-in-Chief of the Corps since last August.

Arriving by helicopter the Princess spent just over two hours at the camp.

Founded in 1907 as the First Aid Yeomanry Corps, it is the oldest voluntary organisation for women in the country and its members have served with great distinction in both world wars.

In the first they staffed hospitals and drove ambulances and in the last they did everything from driving heavy lorries to serving with the Special Operations Executive.

Their present commitment is to the City of London Police and they are on 24 hour call to provide communications and a casualty bureau in case of major incidents like the Moorgate Tube disaster. Their linguists are on duty for Ministry of Defence exhibitions, international sporting events and the like.



Tributes

Soldiers of the Welsh Guards marching down Whitehall with wreaths and tributes to be laid at the Cenotaph during the ceremony to mark the Golden Jubilee of the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association.

Partnership

During a visit to 1 King's Own Scottish Borderers at Osnabrück Oberst Leutnant Knop, Commander of 522 Jaeger Battalion of the Bundeswehr's 25th Brigade, got the feel of the Light Anti-Tank Weapon, watched by the CO of 1 KOSB. The German Commander was accompanied by 14 of his officers.



Spot On

Dropping into the back garden of the chairman of Riddles Brewery are members of the Red Devils who arrived in traditional fashion to help mark the launch of a new-litre bottle of beer.



Picture: Melton Photographics

Clean Sweep

The answer to the obvious question just had to be 'Rubbish' when comedian Ernie Wise made a flying visit to Dortmund to help launch 1 (BR) Corps' Environmental Cleanliness Week. As well as manning the dustcart to start the clean-up Ernie insisted on 'helping' the RA's Alanbrook Band to play the fanfare.



All Change

Ready for the big moment, these members of the newly retitled Gibraltar Services Police (previously the Gibraltar Security Police) wait patiently to change their hat-bands to the new green and white pattern, which just happens to be the traditional colour of the force. The change-over took place at a special parade at the GSP's headquarters at Jews Gate.



Happy Time

American soldiers of 'Charlie' Coy of 3 Bn of the US 17th Infantry on exchange with 1 Bn the Queen's Regiment at Canterbury share a joke with Sapper Andrew Davis while he introduces them to his AFV 432. The visitors seem to have enjoyed themselves and even found time for a trip to Scotland.



All Smiles ▲

Following her widely reported recent illness, the Duchess of Kent was in happy mood when she met members of the Yorkshire Volunteers and their wives at Lumley Barracks after the consecration of the new regimental chapel in York Minster. Here she is seen with Colour Sergeant and Mrs Tighe of 'B' Coy.

Easy Riders ▼

A sparkling welcome at the headquarters of the Army Catering Corps in Aldershot for four Corps wives who cycled all the way from Herford in a bid to raise funds for special paediatric equipment for the British Military Hospital at Rinteln. They raised well over DM 16,000 and contributions were still coming in. And right there at the end was Mrs Trudi Oytaben, despite a nasty fall in which she suffered a hair line fracture and broken nose.



Extra Job ▶

Major Elizabeth Mowat, MO of 5 Regt RA, got a bit more involved with the Inter-Battery Rugby competition than she expected. Not only did she have to deal with five broken bones, four sprains, three concussions and a gouged eye but she also found herself presenting the cup to WO2 Jones of 'K' (Hondegem) Bty.



Rough Ride ▼

One way of deciding who travels in the four tonner instead of the coach! These members of 4 Field Regt RA played pitch and toss for the privilege before setting off to join the Falklands task force in support of 3 Para.



Harz Break ▶

These lads from London were far from the bright lights when they took part in an Operation Drake venture for young men from disadvantaged backgrounds. They were among 17 who spent two weeks with 1 Royal Tank Regiment in Germany and their busy programme included three days in the Harz Mountains.



No Vehicles ▶

The only wheeled transport for these wives and family members of 1 (BR) Corps Vehicle Company RAOC were prams and pushchairs as they set out for a sponsored walk round the Bielefeld area in aid of the Bielefeld Medicaid Appeal. They raised DM 1800.



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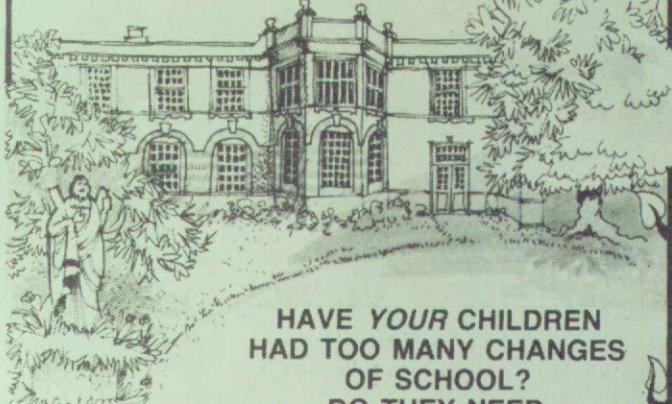
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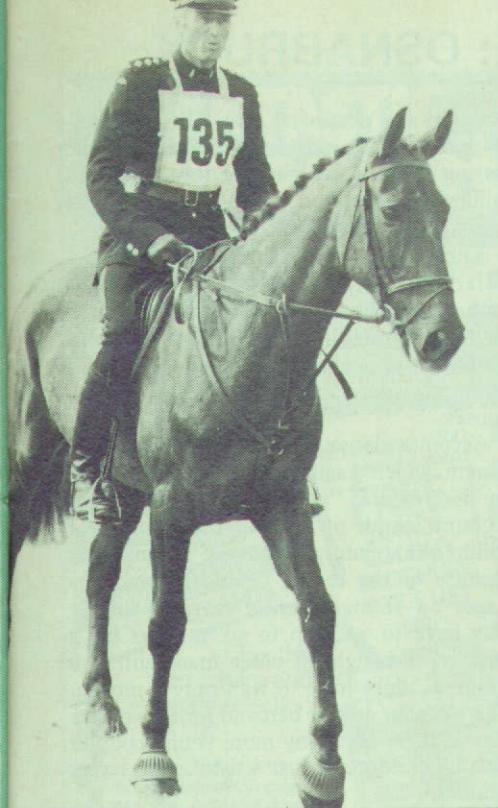
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UNIFORMAL



Ready for action — Capt Fox and Finisterre.

JIM FOX DIDN'T have too successful a time at the recent Badminton Horse Trials. His horse fell, landed on him and broke his foot. But the 40-year-old REME captain believes, like Robert The Bruce, that you have to 'try and try again'.

Olympic gold medal pentathlete Jim reveals that he has always been a slow learner in every field. But his determination and staying power have always seen him through in the end.

"When I went to become a pentathlete I was told that I would never make one. It was the same with the fencing — I was told that I was very good at theory but lacked the practical co-ordination. I have been on all kinds of courses and never shone at anything but have come through after a while. I

'I have been on all kinds of courses and never shone at anything but have come through after a while.'

would tell the young soldier that if he appears not to be much good at something to work hard at it and eventually everything will fall into place."

Jim went to the Army Apprentices College at Arborfield at the age of 15 — after a boyhood in which he had distinguished himself as Portsmouth freestyle swimming champion. His first Army sport was athletics but on his next posting, to 16 Para Workshops, he met 'Mick' Finnis, a national pentathlon champion.

After being told that he was not good enough he returned to Arborfield and continued to train but almost gave up because

he was unable to master the shooting. "I kept scoring zero. But I was persuaded to do the BAOR championships and everything went well. I got in a shot so decided not to give it up."

Jim was national champion in 1973 and attended four Olympic Games from 1964 to 1976 with ever improving results, culminating in the team victory at Montreal. He then decided to retire from pentathlon and become an officer. He had passed the Regular Commissions Board back in 1973 but had decided to remain a sergeant in order to train properly for the Olympics.

For a year Jim Fox was out of sport but then the old urge for competition reappeared and he began the long road which took him to Badminton.

"My wife Ally has always been interested in eventing and after we got married in 1977 we thought we would like to try novice eventing. We found this horse in a Wiltshire field which was unbroken and made this ridiculous offer of £45 to the chap who owned it. He said he was not interested but three months later I was told to come down to collect it."

Jim then had to break the horse and now freely admits that he made a few mistakes. He did not get it into the bit early enough and dressage now proves to be the main problem.

The horse, Finisterre, could not go eventing until it was five years old but when it was four Jim took it to small clear-round jumping competitions and hunter trials.

"The first one we took it to it stopped at a little water jump. We stayed afterwards and had 14 people with a rope to pull it into the water. Once it had been in it was all right and since then it has been very good. You have got to master the horse. If the horse betters you once then you have problems."

After winning a competition Jim made another mistake. "I was a little bit silly. I jumped a gate one day and there was a bolt sticking out of it and the horse caught its fetlock joint at the back. We had to have it

off the road for a month so that first season was more or less gone."

Jim Fox and Finisterre appeared at four three day events before this season and have slowly made their mark — although missing out on the big prize money. He describes his entry as 'eventing on a shoestring' — competing as he is with world class riders with big sponsorship.

"It would be preposterous to think I can win at this stage. I regard myself as an apprentice going out there and trying to learn a job. What I would love to do is to get round the course", he said before Badminton. That was not to be — but even with his foot in plaster Jim Fox is determined to continue in his new sport.

"Coming to eventing as a known person in another sport other people might have resented me. But I have had none of that. People have fallen over backwards to give me a hand and teach me a few shortcuts. They are the most marvellous sportspeople I have met.

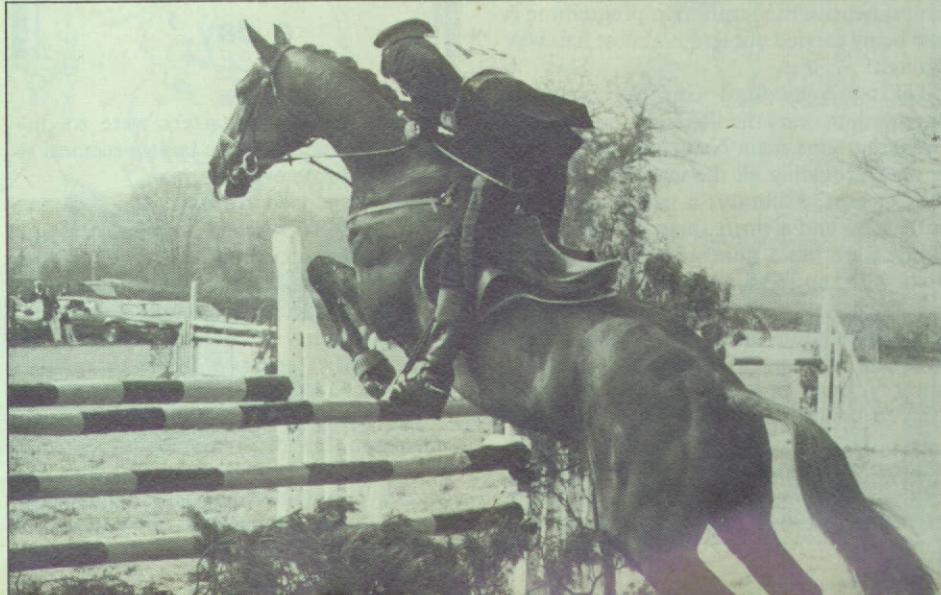
"I think that is because there is an element of danger in it. I remember that in parachuting blokes would become nicer to each other just before and after a jump. After all there is always the chance that you will end up in a wheelchair."

Jim Fox has been all over the world during his Army career — including 33 trips behind the Iron Curtain. But he believes that the British way of life is second to none.

"REME have been extremely generous to me. But it is never easy. There are loads of heartbreaks and less understanding people. Time after time I would go back to the sergeants' mess absolutely drained and people would say 'here he comes, out sunbathing all day.' But that is life.

"It does grieve me to hear young sports people in the Army complaining about not being given enough time off. Count your blessings — because there are a lot of people outside the Services who get home at 5 and have to achieve all their sport outside of working hours."

JIM JUMPS AT A NEW CHALLENGE



BIG SPREAD WITH A BRIGHT OUTLOOK



Part of Osnabrück's picturesque city centre.

THE CITY OF OSNABRUCK sits in a natural hollow in the northwest of Germany surrounded by rolling countryside, and is the largest garrison town the British Army controls in Germany providing 10 per cent of the strength of BAOR.

The garrison has a rather different identity and atmosphere to most others in that it is part of a German city rather than being a town in itself. It is also extremely large and widespread.

Osnabrück is the home of 7 RHA, 5 INNIS DG, 1 KINGS, 1 KOSB, 1 DERR, 25 Engr Regt, 12 Armd Wksp and 17 other minor units. There are 5722 officers and soldiers and 6148 dependents and UK based civilians in the garrison so the sheer size and numbers being dealt with are enormous.

The history of the garrison goes back to the end of the 1940s when Osnabrück was considered to be only a temporary base for the British Army, partly because it was so far west and because it was felt it would eventually be handed back to the Germans. For this reason some of the facilities usually expected in a garrison of this size, such as purpose-built barracks and a hospital, were not provided. The decision to stay in 1969 coincided with defence cuts which meant they were still not built.

The units are either based in barracks which were built as temporary accommodation over 25 years ago or in buildings which are pre-Hitler — the BBC television series *Colditz* was filmed inside one of them! But a comprehensive modernisation programme is now being carried out and is almost half way through.

Taking Army and German facilities together however, the list looks impressive. There is a large main Naafi and three smaller ones providing all the usual services, an SKC cinema, a library, a wool and handicrafts shop and a thrift shop. The Garrison Saddle Club has a number of horses which can be hired and lessons are given. There are keep fit classes for the wives, evening classes at the education centre, and many clubs including squash, windsurfing, shooting, motorcycling, and fishing — which are given financial assistance when possible.

The Germans have built a number of excellent swimming pools with indoor and outdoor facilities as well as an ice/roller skating rink, and these are very popular

with Army families. There are also many German tennis and squash clubs, all of which welcome British players. The city itself is pleasant with good shops and a surprising number of restaurants. Large supermarkets are situated on the outskirts which means easy parking and no traffic jams. There is also an opera house and theatre, and the Stadthaller which has concerts and discotheques.

The two main characteristics of the garrison are its size and spread. There are five outlying married-quarter estates — the farthest being a good half-hour's drive from the city — and seven estates within the perimeter of the city. The barracks are also spread out and few places are within walking distance of each other.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Bottomley, the Station Staff Officer for the garrison, who has been in Osnabrück for nearly 12 years,

**'We have built up
a network of
supporting services
so that everyone
has got someone to
turn to 24 hours
a day.'**

explained that the quarters were so dispersed because they were built piecemeal as the demand rose over the years.

"We have tried to make the outlying estates as self-sufficient as possible," he said. "I have decentralised many of the supporting facilities and made the estates into small villages with a shop, a kindergarten, a community centre, an exchange shop, an estate office and post boxes on each of them. We have built up a network of supporting services so that everyone has got someone to turn to 24 hours a day."

Those estates which have no shop are visited by a mobile Naafi, and each one has its own state registered nurse who also deals

with pre and post-natal care. The community centres are places for children to go during the day, where cubs, brownies and guides can meet and where wives can hold their coffee mornings.

There is a wide variety of quarters — flats, terraced and semi-detached houses with detached houses at the top of the scale. Of the 2304 soldiers' quarters, 80 per cent are flats with two to four bedrooms. The 288 officers' quarters also vary from flats to houses.

Accommodation is awarded on the points system which Lieutenant-Colonel Bottomley described as "very fair", and takes into account length of service, the number of children in a family and so on. He said that because of the recent "explosion in marriages" a young recently married soldier may have to wait up to six months for a quarter, although an older man with two children might have to wait only a month. There is a far greater demand for the smaller flats as there are many more young couples with no children or just a baby, than larger families.

Because of the spread some wives have difficulty in getting around, especially if they cannot drive. "We certainly do the best we can within the constraints we have," said Captain Alison Day, Staff Captain 'A' who is concerned with personnel matters. "We provide a regular bus service to the Naafi from all the estates, especially on Saturdays, and there is a special run to the SKC for the children's matinee."

Mrs Jane Stevens, an Army wife who works as a clerk in one of the barracks, enjoys living in Osnabrück. "But because it is so large and all the quarters are spread out it makes it very hard, especially on the younger wives who live further out," she said. "They have to be bussed everywhere if they can't drive, to the medical centres, the main Naafi and the wives clubs. If you live in Osnabrück you really must get a driving licence. The husbands are on manoeuvres so often you really have to drive."

"That is what you have to remember about Germany — as long as you drive and you're prepared to find out and get out there are plenty of things to do and see."

Mrs Sally Boughey, whose husband is a Lance Corporal with 12 Armoured Workshop, also finds there is plenty to do. "It's an old town with plenty of history and good shops, it's possible to skate and there are plenty of good swimming pools. There are also some nice walks in the countryside, it's close to all the autobahns for the borders and the sea is only two hours away."

Osnabrück is soon to have its own BFBS radio station as soon as the wavelength has been agreed, and the radio mast and studios already exist. As with everywhere else in Germany, cars can be bought duty-free, and with Osnabrück being so central the rest of Europe is on the doorstep waiting to be explored.

The size of the garrison can also affect the military side of life. Lieutenant-Colonel W A Evans, the commanding officer of 5th Battalion, Inniskilling Dragoon Guards said, "We need to establish an Osnabrück identity which doesn't happen at the mo-

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ment because we are so widely dispersed. Ask any soldier who's here, and he will know which regiment is next door but certainly not the others in the garrison."

"The majority of my regiment is very happy here. The housing is as good here as in any other garrison, and the Germans are as friendly here as anywhere else. Soldiers are encouraged to learn German and it is noticeable how many more soldiers have married German girls in the last two years."

Corporal John Barr, who is married with one son, has lived in Osnabruck for five years. "I would stay here forever, no problem," he enthused. "Osnabruck is great. The nightlife is good with discos and some nice little pubs and places to eat. We live with Germans all around us and have made quite a few friends. We try to speak German to them and they try to speak English to us. Our little flat is great for us — if you fall down the stairs you fall straight into a pub!"

The relationship between the Army and Germans is generally good and in 1980 the freedom of the city was conferred upon the garrison as a sign of that goodwill, an historical first as this honour is usually offered to individual units.

Mr Jack West, the Service Liaison Officer for the garrison said, "The relationship is as good as can be expected. Many of the soldiers are young people with a lot of money in their pockets and regardless of where they are, they are at a prime age for stretching themselves to compete for local girls and trying out alcohol. But I have heard comments from the Germans that their behaviour is generally to be admired."

Brigadier Charles Ramsay, the Comman-

der of Osnabruck Garrison thinks this relationship between the Army and Germans is important. "We are fully integrated into the town and this makes us outward-looking instead of being isolated," he said. "It is a happy relationship which benefits both sides. We are part of the town rather than the town being part of us."

The last word comes from Lieutenant-Colonel Bottomley who has not only been in Osnabruck for many years, but served in Germany during the war and for most of the years after it. "Of all the places I have been to in Germany I still believe that Osnabruck is the best of all garrisons in Germany. It is well situated geographically, it is a bright colourful place with flower baskets and trees everywhere, and the Germans have really tried to protect and enhance their environment and succeeded in making a lovely town." ■

The Rathaus — or town hall.



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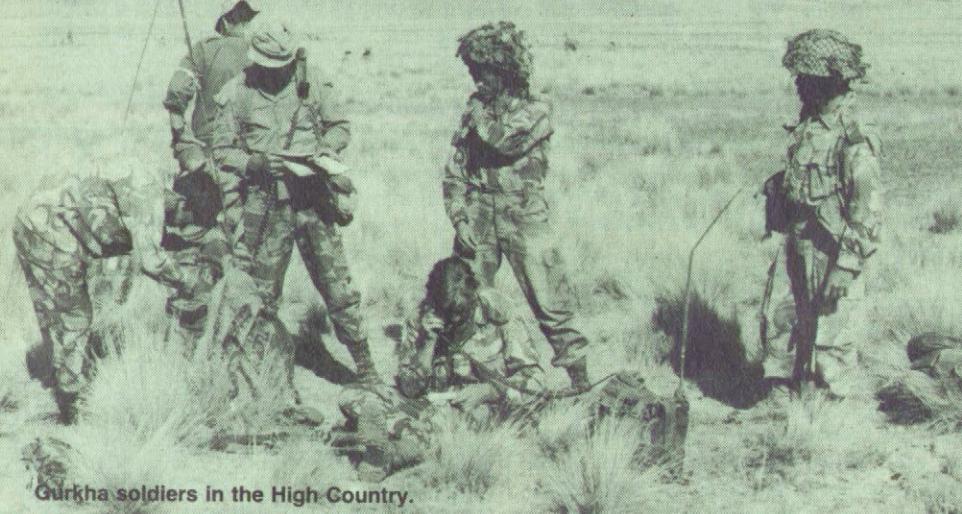
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Britain and her allies in the Southern Hemisphere practise their military togetherness amid the hills and lakes of New Zealand

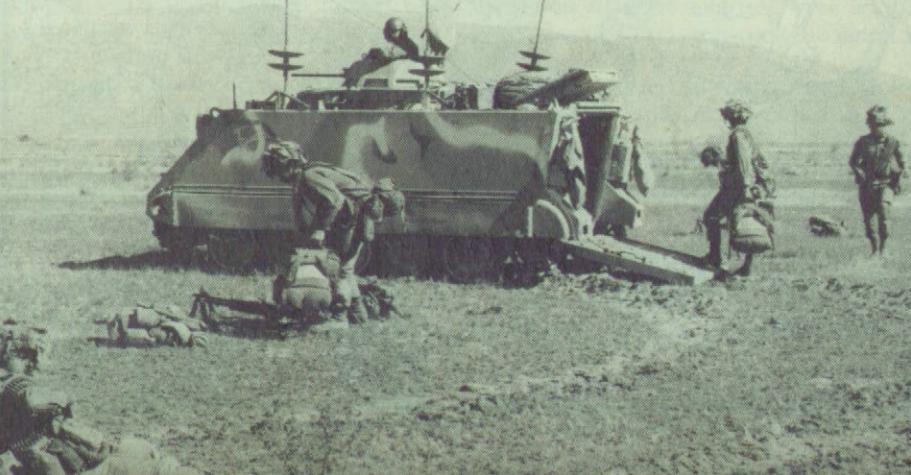
GURKHAS ON SAFARI



Gurkha soldiers in the High Country.



New Zealand medics treat Malaysian. ▲ New Zealand APC supports Aussie contingent. ▼



Maj Bicket radios for APC support.

SHORTLY BEFORE the Falklands crisis erupted to divert the world's gaze elsewhere in the Southern Hemisphere, 120 men of 'B' Company 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, under the command of Major Willie Bicket, left Hong Kong for New Zealand to take part in a two-week exercise codenamed 'Southern Safari 82'.

The exercise took place in the Lake Tekapo area of the South Island and was the third to be held under the auspices of the five power defence arrangement. Its aim was to develop the capability of company sized groups from each of the partners — Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom — to operate together as a battalion group.

Held in open country in a conventional war setting, the multi-national battalion of 1800 men had the assistance of ground and air support from the New Zealand Army and Royal New Zealand Air Force.

The Gurkhas were flown to Christchurch by RAF VC10 and moved by road to Burnham Camp, the main army camp in South Island. This was to be their base until the start of the main exercise three weeks later and during this period the company carried out minor exercises with New Zealand troops. Many of the Gurkhas also had the opportunity to take part in hunting and fishing expeditions while others visited sheep farms and meat freezing plants in the area.

When all the overseas contingents had assembled at Burnham Camp they took off by road for Lake Tekapo, the military training area some 130 miles away.

The 30-square-mile training area is situated in the high country between the huge lakes of Pukaki and Tekapo overlooked by

the jagged peaks of the Southern Alps, standing sentinel to the 3764 metres high, glacier capped, Mount Cook.

The overseas contingents were joined with soldiers from the 2nd/1st Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment and other New Zealand army units, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Eru Manuera. Together they formed the friendly force that was to test its battle skills against an 'enemy' comprised of New Zealand regular and territorial infantry units.

For the next two weeks there was no let up for the troops taking part as they went through the three exercise phases of advance, defence, and night withdrawal, moving through sun drenched dry tussock plains in temperatures of 24° to hill country, where at night, temperatures plunged to leave a mantle of white frost.

Authenticity was a keynote of the manoeuvres and both sides were subjected to accurate airstrikes mounted by Skyhawk and Strikemaster aircraft of the RNZAF and Iroquois helicopters which provided tactical air transport.

At the end of it all the five power defence partners voted the exercise a great success, and the exercise director, Colonel Lindsay Williams, Commander of the New Zealand Army's 3rd Task Force Region, said: "Southern Safari 82 achieved all its aims and we had no major problems."

As for the Gurkhas, they too enjoyed the experience which was in sharp contrast to their border duties in Hong Kong. They were very much at home in the hilly terrain of the Mackenzie high country and were afforded the opportunity to see New Zealand's fabulous lake and mountain scenery as well as to enjoy the hospitality and friendliness of its people.

Tactical support from RNZAF Iroquois.



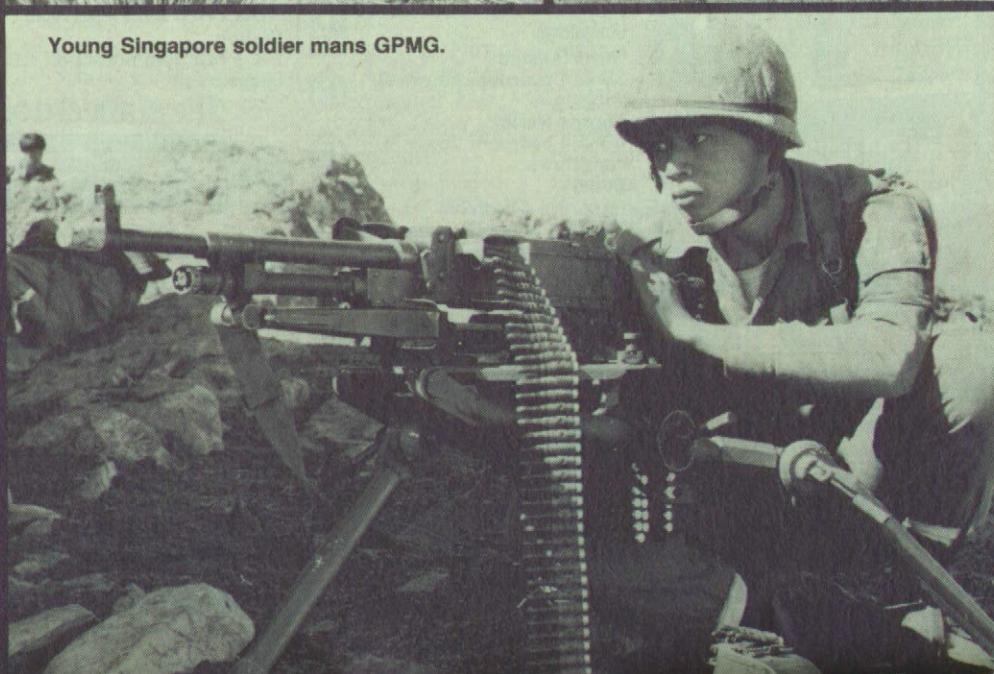
Admiral Sir Terence Lewin, Chief of Defence Staff, chats to NZ soldier on exercise visit.



One of the Gurkhas meets Maj Gen John Chapple, Commander British Forces Hong Kong.



New Zealand APC crew.



Young Singapore soldier mans GPMG.



Maj Bicket radios for APC support.

THE EIGHTEEN peat mines blasted out of the Ranger launcher tube and landed among the mole hills and cow pats about 75 metres away.

Within seconds another 'salvo' roared off into the cool misty March morning high on a hill overlooking the Lower Saxony town of Hameln and the River Weser.

The combat engineers — in the form of 12 (Nova Scotia) Squadron, Royal Engineers — had arrived bringing with them biodegradable weapons of war.

Detached from their base at Roberts Barracks, Osnabrück, where they form part of 25 Engineers as an indispensable part of 2 Armoured Division, the Sappers were halfway through week two of a month-long exercise to sharpen their claws and blow away the cobwebs of a cold winter's confinement to barracks.

Their 'parole' to the historic town of Hameln showed in the purposeful way they went about their designated tasks; whether bridge building, river crossing, demolition charge laying or digging holes in a road.

The recovery anchor on the front of the CET is blasted away by two solid fuel rockets. The aluminium self-righting anchor enables the tractor to pull itself out of trouble should it ever get stuck.



"This is what we have saved every drop of fuel, every inch of track mileage for," explained the Squadron's second-in-command, Captain Steve Faucherand.

There is nothing quite so annoying to the local German people as soldiers — whether ours or their own — littering the countryside with the wrappings of war.

Hence the reason for the peat anti-personnel mines. Leave exposed on open ground, add a little rain and bake slowly under a warm Germanic sun and what was a solid rounded object becomes little more than a soft mulch to help fertilise the field.

Used in conjunction with the cardboard bar mine, which slowly breaks down under the soil and causes no harm to crops, you have a training system that maximises cheap resources with available manpower to produce an effective training aid. The biggest advance over the old type is that you don't have to go round the exercise mine field afterwards and dig them up.

Both systems have been well tried and



**Story: David Prior
Pictures: Ken Webster**

approved by farmers, animals and crops alike.

The 200 men that make up 12 (Nova Scotia) Field Squadron are a small, highly trained but extremely well equipped unit, totally self-sufficient and self-accounting and capable of moving independently.

Having completed their work-up period in Hameln — about two weeks — the squadron were ready to deploy for the remainder of their time under real exercise conditions.

But the work-up phase gave them the opportunity of putting the Combat Engineer Tractor through its paces — 17.7 tonnes of tracked earth moving metal that has a go-anywhere capability even across the River Weser and its eight knot current.

The engineers are justly proud of the CET, arguably their best loved piece of equipment. And it certainly lived up to its reputation as it flung itself into the Weser and growled its way through the swift flowing current, propelled by pushing water out

A CET plunges into the cold waters of the Weser. Weighing 17.7 tonnes the tractor uses water propulsion rather than its tracks for mobility. It alters direction by moving cowls into the propelled water stream. The grille, just below the rear aerial, is the intake for the propulsion system — there is another on the opposite side. Although it appears a very basic system it does give the CET a credible 8 knots speed.

of two controllable nozzles at the back end.

Even a two-inch thick nylon rope that became tangled in one of its tracks only caused a temporary nuisance. With one track locked and the other free, the CET started to go round in circles while trying to make for the bank. But careful and expert handling soon overcame the trouble and the tractor lumbered up the concrete slipway.

Sappers are perhaps commonly associated with mine laying, blowing holes in roads and demolishing bridges. But there is a more scientific approach these days to modern warfare.

Modern anti-tank mines can slow an advancing armoured column giving time for counter strikes. And mine fields can channel an approaching armoured column in the direction you want them to go — into a pre-determined 'killing' zone.

The psychology and planning behind this tactic is now an essential part of an engineer's training.



SPORTSMANSHIP IS ALIVE and well — and living in BAOR. At a time when so much sports news at every level is marred by reports of violence and hooliganism, it is more than a little encouraging to hear of some Army youngsters who rejected the general trend to set an outstanding example of sportsmanship of their own.

Triumph for the British Forces Germany Youth football team came during a football competition at Nottingham University where they won the National Boys Clubs/Euro Sporting Sportsman Trophy outright.

It was the first time that a BFG team had taken part in the competition and, with an average age of just over 16 years, they were the youngest of the 32 teams taking part in their group. Undeterred, they held their own against strong opposition from Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany and UK, finishing seventh overall.

Their moment of glory came, however, when they came top in the match gradings for gentlemanly behaviour, sportsmanship and entertainment value. They scored maximum marks in four of their matches and a lowest score of seven in the remaining four — marks that speak for themselves.

This competition, one of a series held in eight different European locations during the season, gave the youngsters a taste of big competition which they have lacked until now being overseas.

"A whole new and exciting area of football competition has opened up for us" said an excited Andrew Nunn, the team captain. "The team we travelled over with from TSV Bohringen from Stuttgart have asked us down in June and we also hope to play in Holland next year. It was a team effort and this cup is very important to us and the clubs we represent."

These young people have shown what can be achieved by determination — a determination that should be supported, encouraged and sponsored.

Anne Armstrong

The debate on travel for Service dependents continues and an interesting fact comes to light in a letter from Mrs C in BFPO 31:

I have received a booklet entitled 'Proceeding Overseas (except BAOR)' from SBC which states that a nursemaid employed by a Lieutenant-Colonel and above may travel overseas at public expense.

Presumably, under the present regulations, if the same Lieutenant-Colonel had a son of 18, he would have to pay his fare . . . ?

I find it hard to believe that a soldier's son of 18 is not given the same treatment regarding travel as a private employee.

How long will it be before someone in authority at MOD investigates these anomalies and grants a son the same privileges as a daughter and a privately employed civilian?

Another subject that concerns many of you is the closure of Windsor School, Hamm. I wrote to the Headquarters Service Children's Schools (North-West Europe) in response to a number of letters sent to me by concerned parents on this subject and received the following reply:

"As far as I am aware, there is no delay in the completion of the alterations to the annexe of the former Teachers' Mess in Munster which will allow a weekly boarding house to be attached to Edinburgh School. Windsor School is to be closed in two phases so that children's education will not be disturbed unnecessarily and that children on two-year examination courses will be able to complete them in one school.

"The only fees I know of are the Home Savings contribution. The change from full to weekly boarding will result in a slight reduction to parents in this contribution. Education allowance has never had any relevance to boarding within Germany. Consideration will be given to any particular problems which arise from the reorganisation in the same way that we will consider problems arising at any time.

"The decision to close Windsor School, Hamm was made later than 1980 and as I have said above we fully expect the alterations required to open the weekly boarding house in September to be completed on time. We shall be running full

boarding at Windsor and weekly boarding at Edinburgh School side by side for one year only in the educational interests of the children."

No doubt that will set many minds at rest but, should anyone require further information, they should write to Commander Education, HQ BAOR, BFPO 40.

If you are due to be posted to BAOR, in particular to any of the following locations — Nienburg & Hannover, Hildesheim, Osnabrück, Wolfenbüttel, Mülheim/Duisberg, Hamm, Berlin — and have secondary school children, you are advised to write in advance to find out how your children will be affected.

ASK ANNE

Is there a book on diets for multiple sclerosis sufferers?

Mrs W, BFPO 40

Judy Graham has written a book entitled 'Multiple Sclerosis — a Self-Help Guide to its Management', which is available direct from the publishers Thorsons Publishers Ltd, Dennington Estate, Wellesborough, Northants NN8 2RQ at £3.95 inc p & p.

The book emphasises that it does not offer a cure for MS but proposes that many people with MS can manage the effects of the disease by diet.

Anyone feeling particularly depressed about MS and needing to talk to someone who understands the disease can 'phone the Telephone Counselling Service, organised by ARMS (Action for Research into MS) England and Wales: 01-568 2255, Scotland: 041-637 2262.

I was posted to Osnabrück in 1976 and whilst we were there we bought a Hitachi colour TV 14in model CRP-146 from the SKC in Stettina Strasse, Osnabrück.

DID YOU KNOW?

THERE'S GOOD NEWS for Servicemen who pay standing orders through their National Savings Bank Ordinary accounts. The charge of 10p for each payment was discontinued from the beginning of April 82.

The service is now completely free and open to anyone, as long as they have sufficient funds in the account to cover the payments which should not be more frequent than once a month.

Inflation has, however, caught up with the National Savings Bank and the minimum amount that can be deposited in an Ordinary account has risen from 25p to £1. This increase takes account of the increase in administration costs since the minimum was last raised 16 years ago.

At the time of purchase I asked the sales manager about the use of the set in UK and about repairs to the set if anything should go wrong. He assured me that if I took it to any Hitachi dealer in UK it could be fixed.

In July 1980, the set lost a lot of its colour so I took it to SKC in Colchester who told me there was very little they could do because they would have to send to Germany to get a diagram to work on it, but they did manage to fix most of the colour.

We have now moved to Exeter and I took it to the Hitachi repair workshop in Heavitree. They checked the set over and found that the red gun in the main tube had gone. They were very good about it and I asked them to try to get me a new tube. The engineer told me it would cost about £100 all told but I was willing to pay this because I feel it's a good set. Unfortunately, when the manager phoned Hitachi (UK) he discovered that the tubes for these sets are not held in UK. To send to Germany for it would cost a further £100.

I know of many families in BAOR who have bought sets from SKC believing that there will be no repair problems in UK and would be grateful if you could point out to SKC that we cannot get our sets repaired without being completely out of pocket.

Sgt P, Exeter.

I contacted Mr Roberts, SKC's Technical Manager, whose advice was to contact the SKC Service Centre, Savage Road, St Budeaux, Plymouth (Tel: Plymouth 364238). He gave the cost of replacing a tube as around £77 with £14 labour charges.

I suggested that a list of UK SKC agents should be attached to every set bought overseas so that purchasers can ring or write for advice before taking their sets to local shops for repairs.

I have heard something about self-certification for sickness being introduced by the DHSS. Can you tell me whether we will be affected when we are serving overseas?

Mrs R, BFPO 40

Draft regulations are currently under consideration concerning self-certification. These are general regulations and do not specify particular countries. Service dependents can claim sickness and invalidity benefit while they are abroad and will therefore be accepted for self-certification.

Self-Certificates can be obtained by the Services Medical Practitioner in the same way as for the normal MED 3 Medical Certificates — from Forms Control, Room 110, DPSU, North Fylde Central Office.

Pre-school Playgroups Association



21 Today! — the PPA comes of age

London

THEY LEFT THE FREEZER stocked, the babysitter booked, lists and instructions for everything from boiling an egg to locating socks, and a bewildered husband, clutching a contact telephone number in case of real emergencies — as they headed for London from all corners of the Pre-School Playgroup catchment area.

The special occasion was the 1982 Annual General Meeting and conference of the PPA which marked their 21st birthday. The celebration was hosted and organised by the 26-strong committee of the London Region PPA and it attracted representatives from all corners of UK, Northern Ireland, Hong Kong and, for the first time, five officially sponsored representatives from BFG.

Our hosts excelled themselves as they dealt with bookings, registrations, the transport and sponsorship requirements of the conference not to mention the flowers, films, refreshments and first aid provided for the 2000-plus representatives. And although those attending were mainly mums, grans and single parents, there was, nevertheless, a sprinkling of men at this important milestone in PPA history.

It was a letter from Belle Tutaev's mother to the *Guardian* that started the movement 21 years ago and it was Belle who cut the birthday cake. Since those early days, the PPA membership has increased to some

14,500 members looking after 400,000 under-fives.

The representatives gathered to hear the welcoming address by the PPA Chairman, Juliet Baxter, which was followed by talks from other eminent speakers. Lady Plowden, retiring after ten years as PPA President to an appointment as Vice-President, revealed that she had now been proved wrong when she thought PPA groups would be a temporary measure and had therefore given her backing to nursery schools in the Plowden Report. She emphasised how important parental involvement was for children under five.

Dr Mia Kellmer Pringle, the incoming President, gave a practical and factual talk on the different facets of the upbringing of young children, their future, new ideas and the involvement of all concerned.

Mia Kellmer Pringle has excellent credentials behind her as she takes up her new appointment. An Honours graduate in Psychology, Dr Pringle has had 26 books and some 200 papers published in scientific and popular journals and was the founder of the National Children's Bureau in 1963. Her starting point is "the interests of children — for the simple reason that they have so few who speak up for them and they can't for themselves."

The BFG representatives, Jenny Lawson, Cryster Howarth, Carol Pascoe and Valerie Baird,

were given a special welcome and Jenny took part in a debate for retaining the present PPA title on the grounds that it has become so well known that it would be a disadvantage to change it.

Finance was also discussed. Normal Fowler, the Social Services Minister, took time off from the House of Commons to give the conference the welcome news that the DHSS grant to the PPA this year would be increased to £350,000, the largest grant made to a voluntary organisation. The Department of Education and Science grant will also be increased — to £52,000.

But the DES has stipulated that none of their grant should be spent on PPA work by British Forces overseas. It seems a hard line since we too pay taxes and have, in many areas, more limited facilities than areas in UK. We have had two visits from Meg Burford who has special responsibilities for the Services overseas within the PPA but we still feel like poor relations, a situation of which the PPA is aware and into which they are looking at the moment.

It is no secret or surprise that the PPA in BFG is struggling. We do not receive any grants from local sources nor even the initial grant of £50 that most new PPA groups are given and, although we do have the use of rent free places and free fuel and light, these are, strictly speaking, encroachments.

Mrs Belle Tutaev (centre) with her daughter and Mrs Jean Digby (right), Chairman of the London Region PPA, cut the birthday cake.

The grants for the PPA in UK are seen as an indication of Government support for the organisation and will be used to enable the PPA to give its Head Office and regional offices a stable foundation so that they can extend the training, field work and development programmes by which the PPA achieves its aims.

The conference generated a great deal of interest from related organisations. There was an impressive array of stands on behalf of various voluntary organisations and mountains of literature displayed alongside the stands of commercial exhibitors with everything, it seemed, from books to puzzles, games, paint and outdoor equipment. The Open University display also attracted a great deal of interest. It took just three days to sell the entire floor space to the thousands of firms who had applied last October to be included in the conference.

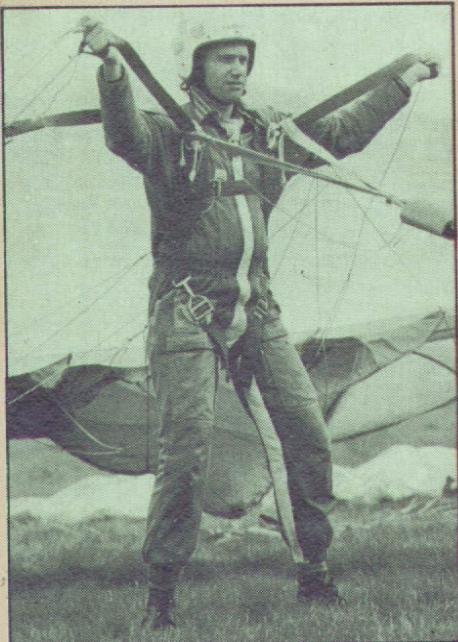
So the PPA has come of age and is sweeping forward to the future on a tide of growing awareness and support. For our part, the conference opened our eyes to the enormity of the task ahead in BFG and gave us enormous encouragement to help all our 9000 under-fives in Germany.

PPA Information can be obtained from Alford House, Aveline Street, London SE11 5DH Tel: 01-582 8871/8920.



A double canopy and harness allows beginners as passengers a taste of what it is like.

GOING UP IN THE WORLD



Ready in the harness just before flight.

Signalling Land Rover to take up slack.

WHERE ONCE World War Two aircraft stood a very different type of flying machine now cavorts above the airfield at Spitalgate in Lincolnshire.

No longer is the menace of war or the throb of engines on the air but the spectacle of light, silent and brilliantly coloured canopies gently descending to earth. For the old RAF training station and now the RCT TA Depot and Training Centre (CVHQ) at Grantham is the home of one of the Army's newest sports — parascending.

This was the scene of a recent week long instructors' course under the overall guidance of Captain Bernard Kane RAEC and SOLDIER went along to see what the sport is all about.

It was the Germans who first had the idea of ascending parachutes in 1918 when they wanted to lift an observer from a U-boat. But it was not until the 1960s that techniques were discovered allowing a forward gliding motion. Now speeds of up to 25

mph and more can be achieved in the faster 'wing' canopies.

In 1968, Walter Neumark, one of the sport's 'fathers' approached the Worcestershire Regiment for support. Then a Warrant Officer with the regiment Bernard Kane thought "well, I don't mind having a go at that!"

Since then Bernard has never looked back and today nearly all his family are involved with the sport as well. He and his daughter are both officers of the British Association of Parascending Clubs (BAPC).

The old airfield at CVHQ only came into its own as a parascending area with the arrival of the Warrant Officer Training, WOI 'Doughy' Baker, whose efforts launched the Grantham Club and led to the National Parascending Championships being held there last year.

With plenty of space for towing, Grantham is fast becoming a parascenders' 'Mecca', and the availability of such facilities coupled with growing support for the sport enabled the Army Ascending Parachutes Association (AAPA) to hold their own championships there last year for the first time as well. This year's AAPA championships will be held in July and the nationals in August.

Parascending is a close relative of parachuting except that instead of jumping from an aircraft, the parascender is launched into the air beneath his already open canopy by being towed behind a Land Rover or speedboat.

"The difference between parascending and parachuting," explained Corporal George Harrison, one of the course Chief Instructors and a respected figure in both the AAPA and BAPC, "is the freefall time in parachuting and the faster canopy in parascending — that's what gives you the exhilaration. It's also a great confidence builder."

This view is endorsed by Doughy Baker who says parascending can be a useful training exercise in parachuting. "Apart from the saving in cost you can teach people how to fall and what it is like in the air before they ever jump out of a plane."

These days 'saturation training' in parachuting is prohibitively expensive, but para-

**Sally Daniell
looks at a
growing
Army sport**

**Pictures:
Les Wiggs**

YOUR NEW PAY SCALES

SOLDIER

ALL RATES ARE FOR DAILY PAYMENTS

Rank

	Scale A			Scale B			Scale C			SERVICEMEN		
	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
Private Class 4	11.34			11.64			12.09					
Private Class 3	12.23	13.80		12.53	14.10		12.98	14.55				
Private Class 2	13.08	14.65		13.38	14.95		13.83	15.40				
Private Class 1	13.98	15.55	17.35	14.28	15.85	17.65	14.73	16.30	18.10			
Lance Corporal Class 3	13.98	15.55		14.28	15.85		14.73	16.30				
Lance Corporal Class 2	14.95	16.52		15.25	16.82		15.70	17.27				
Lance Corporal Class 1	15.98	17.55	19.35	16.28	17.85	19.65	16.73	18.30	20.10			
Corporal Class 2	17.08	18.65		17.38	18.95		17.83	19.40				
Corporal Class 1	18.25	19.82	21.62	18.55	20.12	21.92	19.00	20.57	22.37			
	Less than 6 years			6 years but less than 9 years						9 years or more		
	Scale A			Scale B						Scale C		
	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7
Sergeant	19.92	21.63	23.59		20.22	21.93	23.89		20.67	22.38	24.34	
Staff Sergeant	21.23	22.94	24.90	27.15	21.53	23.24	25.20	27.45	21.98	23.69	25.65	27.90
Warrant Officer Class 2	22.63	24.34	26.30	28.55	22.93	24.64	26.60	28.85	23.38	25.09	27.05	29.30
Warrant Officer Class 1	24.12	25.83	27.79	30.04	24.42	26.13	28.09	30.34	24.87	26.58	28.54	30.79

JUNIOR ENTRANTS

OFFICER CADETS

Age	£	£	£
16 but under 16½	6.32	On entry	12.03*
16½ but under 17	7.06		
17 but under 17½	8.58		
17½ or posted to Adult Service	11.34*		

*Plus committal pay if appropriate

Rank

	Less than 6 years			6 years but less than 9 years			9 years or more			SERVICEWOMEN		
	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
Private Class 4	*11.08			11.38			11.83					
Private Class 3	11.95	13.48		12.25	13.78		12.70	14.23				
Private Class 2	12.78	14.31		13.08	14.61		13.53	15.06				
Private Class 1	13.66	15.19	16.95	13.96	15.49	17.25	14.41	15.94	17.70			
Lance Corporal Class 3	13.66	15.19		13.96	15.49		14.41	15.94				
Lance Corporal Class 2	14.61	16.14		14.91	16.44		15.36	16.89				
Lance Corporal Class 1	15.61	17.14	18.90	15.91	17.44	19.20	16.36	17.89	19.65			
Corporal Class 2	16.69	18.22		16.99	18.52		17.44	18.97				
Corporal Class 1	17.83	19.36	21.12	18.13	19.66	21.42	18.58	20.11	21.87			
	Less than 6 years			6 years but less than 9 years						9 years or more		
	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7
Sergeant	19.46	21.13	23.05		19.76	21.43	23.35		20.21	21.88	23.80	
Staff Sergeant	20.74	22.41	24.33	26.53	21.04	22.71	24.63	26.83	21.49	23.16	25.08	27.28
Warrant Officer Class 2	22.11	23.78	25.70	27.90	22.41	24.08	26.00	28.20	22.86	24.53	26.45	28.65
Warrant Officer Class 1	23.57	25.24	27.16	29.36	23.87	25.54	27.46	29.66	24.32	25.99	27.91	30.11

*At age 17½ years or over, or on posting to a working unit for employment having completed all necessary basic and post basic (employment) training (whichever is the earlier).

Type R Engagements

Rank

	Less than 6 years			6 years but less than 9 years			9 years or more			SERVICEWOMEN		
	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6
Private Class 4	*10.53			10.83			11.28					
Private Class 3	11.36	12.82		11.66	13.12		12.11	13.57				
Private Class 2	12.15	13.61		12.45	13.91		12.90	14.36				
Private Class 1	12.99	14.45	16.13	13.29	14.75	16.43	13.74	15.20	16.88			
Lance Corporal Class 3	12.99	14.45		13.29	14.75		13.74	15.20				
Lance Corporal Class 2	13.90	15.36		14.20	15.66		14.65	16.11				
Lance Corporal Class 1	14.85	16.31	17.99	15.15	16.61	18.29	15.60	17.06	18.74			
Corporal Class 2	15.88	17.34		16.18	17.64		16.63	18.09				
Corporal Class 1	16.97	18.43	20.11	17.27	18.73	20.41	17.72	19.18	20.86			
	Less than 6 years			6 years but less than 9 years						9 years or more		
	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7
Sergeant	18.52	20.11	21.93		18.82	20.41	22.23		19.27	20.86	22.68	
Staff Sergeant	19.74	21.33	23.15	25.25	20.04	21.63	23.45	25.55	20.49	22.08	23.90	26.00
Warrant Officer Class 2	21.04	22.63	24.45	26.55	21.34	22.93	24.75	26.85	21.79	23.38	25.20	27.30
Warrant Officer Class 1	22.43	24.02	25.84	27.94	22.73	24.32	26.14	28.24	23.18	24.77	26.59	28.69

*At age 17½ years or over, or on posting to a working unit for employment, having completed all necessary basic and post basic (employment) training (whichever is the earlier).

JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Age	£	Age	£	Age	£
16½ but under 17	6.90	17 but under 17½			
17 but under 17½	8.38	17½ or posted to adult service			
17½ or posted to adult service	11.08				

TYPE R JUNIOR ENTRANTS

On entry £ 11.76

Ulster Defence Regiment — Permanent Cadre — Normal Rates

	MALE			FEMALE			MALE			FEMALE			
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
Pte B (aged 19 or below)	11.34	11.64	12.09	11.08	11.38	11.83	Lance Corporal	16.64	16.94	17.39	16.25	16.55	17.00
Pte B (aged 20)	12.52	12.82	13.27	12.23	12.53	12.98	Corporal	19.82	20.12	20.57	19.36	19.66	20.11
Pte B (aged 21 and above)	13.69	13.99	14.44	13.37	13.67	14.12	Sergeant	21.63	21.93	22.38	21.13	21.43	21.88
Pte A	15.11	15.41	15.86	14.76	15.06	15.51	Staff Sergeant	22.94	23.24	23.69	22.41	22.71	23.16
							Warrant Officer 2	26.30	26.60	27.05	25.70	26.00	26.45

ADDITIONAL PAY

Army pilots and flying instructors	Air dispatch pay and Air dispatch duties			Divers
REME servicing test pilots	£	RCT Instructors	All ranks	All ranks
While under training as a pilot	1.40	All ranks under training and lower rate	1.40	Category 1
Sgts-WO1 lower rate	2.87	Higher rate	2.27	Category 2
Sgts-WO1 higher rate	4.41			Category 3
2Lt-Lt-Col lower rate	4.41	Higher rates are payable after lower rate has been in issue for 4 years.		
2Lt-Lt-Col higher rate	6.78			
Col	5.09			
Brig	3.39			
Aircrewmen		Parachutists		
While under training	1.40	All ranks	1.52	Hard lying money
Lower rate	2.87			All ranks
Higher rate	4.41	Parachute Jumping Instructors	1.73	Experimental Pay
RCT Helicopter crews		All ranks		Northern Ireland Pay
All ranks	1.40			All ranks

OFFICERS (Normal Rates)

(Including Officers of the Army Legal Corps and Officers of the UDR (Permanent Cadre) serving on the new terms of service)

Rank	Service	£
Second Lieutenant (University Cadet)	On appointment	7.68*
	After 1 years service	9.12*
	After 2 years service	10.56*
Second Lieutenant (SSLC)	On appointment	12.85
	After 9 months commissioned service	13.71
Second Lieutenant (RCC)	On appointment	14.95
Second Lieutenant Lieutenant	On appointment	17.12
	After 1 year in rank	20.95
	After 2 years in rank	21.50
	After 3 years in rank	22.05
	After 4 years in rank	22.60
Captain	On appointment	23.15
	After 1 year in rank	26.23
	After 2 years in rank	26.94
	After 3 years in rank	27.65
	After 4 years in rank	28.36
	After 5 years in rank	29.07
	After 6 years in rank	29.78
Major	On appointment	30.49
	After 1 year in rank	33.16
	After 2 years in rank	33.98
	After 3 years in rank	34.80
	After 4 years in rank	35.62
	After 5 years in rank	36.44
	After 6 years in rank	37.26
	After 7 years in rank	38.08
Lieutenant Colonel	(Special List)	38.90
	On Appointment or less than 19 years service	39.72
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years service	44.76
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years service	45.94
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years service	47.12
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years service	48.30
Colonel	On appointment	49.48
	After 2 years in rank	50.05
	After 4 years in rank	53.42
	After 6 years in rank	54.79
	After 8 years in rank	56.16
Brigadier		57.53
	*An Education Grant of £4.37/day is also payable	62.33

After 16 years service 35.48
 *Other than Quartermasters and excluding special Regular Commissions and short service commissions awarded following the normal Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst course.

QUARTERMASTERS

Rank	Service	£
Lt, Capt, Maj	On appointment	32.12
	After 1 years service	32.60
	After 2 years service	33.08
	After 3 years service	33.56
	After 4 years service	34.04
	After 5 years service	34.52
	After 6 years service	35.00
	After 7 years service	35.48
Lt-Col	On appointment	35.48
	After 8 years service	35.96
	After 10 years service	36.44
	After 12 years service	36.92
	After 14 years service	37.40
	After 16 years service	42.15
	On appointment	42.75
	After 3 years in rank	

ROYAL ARMY CHAPLAINS' DEPARTMENT

Rank	Service	£
Class 4 (Captain), Class 3 (Major)	On entry	26.23
Class 2 (Lt-Col)	After 2 years service	27.98
	After 4 years service	29.72
	After 6 years service	31.46
	After 8 years service	33.20
	After 10 years service	34.94
	After 12 years service	36.68
	After 14 years service	38.42
	After 16 years service	40.16
	After 18 years service	41.90
	After 20 years service	43.64
	After 22 years service	45.38
	After 24 years service	47.12
	After 26 years service	48.86
Class 1 (Colonel)	On appointment, less than 24 years service	47.12
	After 2 years in rank or 24 years service	48.86
Principal Chaplain (Colonel)		52.05
Deputy Chaplain General		54.79
Chaplain General (Major-General)		62.33

OFFICERS OF THE WOMEN'S SERVICES WRAC/QARANC

(Including UDR (PC))

Normal Rates

Rank	Service	£
Second Lieutenant	On appointment	16.73
Lieutenant	After 1 year in rank	20.47
	After 2 years in rank	21.55
	After 3 years in rank	22.09
	After 4 years in rank	22.62
Captain	On appointment	25.63
	After 1 year in rank	26.33
	After 2 years in rank	27.02
	After 3 years in rank	27.72
	After 4 years in rank	28.41
	After 5 years in rank	29.10
	After 6 years in rank	29.80
Major	On appointment	32.41
	After 1 year in rank	33.21
	After 2 years in rank	34.01
	After 3 years in rank	34.81
	After 4 years in rank	35.61
	After 5 years in rank	36.41
	After 6 years in rank	37.21
	After 7 years in rank	38.02
	After 8 years in rank	38.82
Lieutenant Colonel	On appointment or less than 19 years service	43.74
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years service	44.90
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years service	46.05
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years service	47.22
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years service	48.40
Colonel	On appointment	51.33
	After 2 years in rank	52.70
	After 4 years in rank	54.07
	After 6 years in rank	55.44
	After 8 years in rank	56.81
Brigadier		61.97

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS

Rank	Service	£
Lt, Capt, Maj & Lt-Col	On entry	27.10
	After 1 years service	28.94
	After 3 years service	30.79
	After 5 years service	32.64
	After 7 years service	34.49
	After 9 years service	36.34
	After 11 years service	38.19
	After 13 years service	39.83
	After 15 years service	41.47
	After 17 years service	43.11
	After 19 years service	44.75
	After 21 years service	46.15
	After 23 years service	47.55
	After 25 years service	48.95
	After 27 years service	50.35
Colonel	On appointment	52.05
	After 2 years in rank	53.42
	After 4 years in rank	54.79
	After 6 years in rank	56.16
	After 8 years in rank	57.53
Brigadier		62.33

COMMISSIONED FROM THE RANKS*

Commissioned service	Under 12 years	12 and under 15	15 and over
	£	£	£
On Commissioning	29.56	30.84	32.12
After 1 years service	30.20	31.48	32.60
After 2 years service	30.84	32.12	33.08
After 3 years service	31.48	32.60	33.56
After 4 years service	32.12	33.08	34.04
After 5 years service	32.60	33.56	34.52
After 6 years service	33.08	34.04	35.00
After 8 years service	33.56	34.52	35.48
After 10 years service	34.04	35.00	35.48
After 12 years service	34.52	35.48	35.48
After 14 years service	35.00	35.48	35.48

YOUR NEW PAY SCALES

SOLDIER

WRAC QUARTERMASTERS

Rank	Service	£
Lt, Capt, Maj	On appointment	31.39
	After 1 years service	31.86
	After 2 years service	32.33
	After 3 years service	32.80
	After 4 years service	33.27
	After 5 years service	33.74
	After 6 years service	34.20
	After 8 years service	34.67
	After 10 years service	35.14
	After 12 years service	35.61
	After 14 years service	36.08
	After 16 years service	36.55
Lt-Colonel	On appointment	41.19
	After 3 years in rank	41.78

WRAC COMMISSIONED FROM THE RANKS

Commissioned service	Under 12 years	12 and under 15	15 and over
On Commissioning	28.89	30.14	31.39
After 1 years service	29.51	30.76	31.86
After 2 years service	30.14	31.39	32.33
After 3 years service	30.76	31.86	32.80
After 4 years service	31.39	32.33	33.27
After 5 years service	31.86	32.80	33.74
After 6 years service	32.33	33.27	34.20
After 8 years service	32.80	33.74	34.67
After 10 years service	33.27	34.20	34.67
After 12 years service	33.74	34.67	34.67
After 14 years service	34.20	34.67	34.67
After 16 years service	34.67	34.67	34.67

TA OFFICERS

NORMAL RATES (Male)

Rank	Service	£
Second Lieutenant	On appointment	16.34
Lieutenant	After 1 year in rank	20.00
	After 2 years in rank	20.52
	After 3 years in rank	21.05
	After 4 years in rank	21.57
Captain	On appointment	22.10
	After 1 year in rank	25.04
	After 2 years in rank	25.72
	After 3 years in rank	26.39
	After 4 years in rank	27.07
	After 5 years in rank	27.75
	After 6 years in rank	28.43
Major	On appointment	29.10
	After 1 year in rank	31.65
	After 2 years in rank	32.44
	After 3 years in rank	33.22
	After 4 years in rank	34.00
	After 5 years in rank	34.78
	After 6 years in rank	35.57
	After 7 years in rank	36.35
	After 8 years in rank	37.13
Lieutenant Colonel	On appointment or less than 19 years service	42.73
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years service	43.85
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years service	44.98
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years service	46.14
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years service	47.32
Colonel	On appointment	50.61
	After 2 years in rank	51.98
	After 4 years in rank	53.35
	After 6 years in rank	54.72
	After 8 years in rank	56.09
Brigadier		61.61

ALL RATES ARE FOR DAILY PAYMENTS

NORMAL RATES (Female)

Rank	Service	£
Second Lieutenant	On appointment	15.72
Lieutenant	After 1 year in rank	19.24
	After 2 years in rank	19.74
	After 3 years in rank	20.25
	After 4 years in rank	20.75
Captain	On appointment	21.26
	After 1 year in rank	24.08
	After 2 years in rank	24.74
	After 3 years in rank	25.39
	After 4 years in rank	26.04
	After 5 years in rank	26.69
	After 6 years in rank	27.34
	After 7 years in rank	28.00
Major	On appointment	30.45
	After 1 year in rank	31.20
	After 2 years in rank	31.95
	After 3 years in rank	32.71
	After 4 years in rank	33.46
	After 5 years in rank	34.21
	After 6 years in rank	34.96
	After 7 years in rank	35.72
	After 8 years in rank	36.47
Lieutenant Colonel	On appointment or less than 19 years service	41.10
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years service	42.18
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years service	43.26
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years service	44.42
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years service	45.60
Colonel	On appointment	49.46
	After 2 years in rank	50.83
	After 4 years in rank	52.20
	After 6 years in rank	53.57
	After 8 years in rank	54.94
Brigadier		61.04

TA SERVICEMEN

	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3		
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
Private (Class IV)	10.81	11.11	11.56						
Private (Class III)	11.66	11.96	12.41	13.16	13.46	13.91			
Private (Class II)	12.47	12.77	13.22	13.97	14.27	14.72			
Private (Class I)	13.33	13.63	14.08	14.83	15.13	15.58	16.55	16.85	17.30
Lance Corporal (Class III)	13.33	13.63	14.08	14.83	15.13	15.58			
Lance Corporal (Class II)	14.26	14.56	15.01	15.76	16.06	16.51			
Lance Corporal (Class I)	15.24	15.54	15.99	16.74	17.04	17.49	18.46	18.76	19.21
Corporal (Class II)	16.29	16.59	17.04	17.79	18.09	18.54			
Corporal (Class I)	17.41	17.71	18.16	18.91	19.21	19.66	20.63	20.93	21.38
	Band 4			Band 5			Band 6		
Sergeant	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
Staff Sergeant	19.00	19.30	19.75	20.63	20.93	21.38	22.50	22.80	23.25
Warrant Officer (Class I)	20.25	20.55	21.00	21.88	22.18	22.63	23.75	24.05	24.50
Warrant Officer (Class II)	21.59	21.89	22.34	23.22	23.52	23.97	25.09	25.39	25.84

	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3		
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
Private (Class IV) (under 17)	7.88								
Private (Class IV)	10.39	10.69	11.14						
Private (Class III)	11.21	11.51	11.96	12.65	12.95	13.40			
Private (Class II)	11.99	12.29	12.74	13.43	13.73	14.18			
Private (Class I)	12.81	13.11	13.56	14.25	14.55	15.00	15.90	16.20	16.65

TA SERVICEWOMEN

Continued overleaf ▶

YOUR NEW PAY SCALES continued

Lance Corporal (Class III)	12.81	13.11	13.56	14.25	14.55	15.00						
Lance Corporal (Class II)	13.70	14.00	14.45	15.14	15.44	15.89						
Lance Corporal (Class I)	14.65	14.95	15.40	16.09	16.39	16.84	17.74	18.04	18.49			
Corporal (Class II)	15.66	15.96	16.41	17.10	17.40	17.85						
Corporal (Class I)	16.73	17.03	17.48	18.17	18.47	18.92	19.82	20.12	20.57			
			Band 4		Band 5		Band 6		Band 7			
Sergeant	18.27	18.57	19.02	19.84	20.14	20.59	21.64	21.94	22.39			
Staff Sergeant	19.47	19.77	20.22	21.04	21.34	21.79	22.84	23.14	23.59	24.90	25.20	25.65
Warrant Officer (Class II)	20.75	21.05	21.50	22.32	22.62	23.07	24.12	24.42	24.87	26.18	26.48	26.93
Warrant Officer (Class I)	22.12	22.42	22.87	23.69	23.99	24.44	25.49	25.79	26.24	27.55	27.85	28.30

TAVR — NON REGULAR PERMANENT STAFF (NRPS)

GROUP A Non Regular Permanent Staff of the TA

Rank	Service			
	On Appointment	After 3 years in the rank	After 6 years in the rank	After 9 years in the rank
Cpl on appointment	17.06	17.16	17.26	17.36
Cpl (Class II)	17.46	17.56	17.66	17.76
Cpl (Class I)	18.51	18.61	18.71	18.81
Sgt	20.14	20.24	20.34	20.44
SSGT/Signal Instructors	21.32	21.42	21.52	21.62
WO II	24.35	24.45	24.55	24.65
WO I	27.71	27.81	27.91	28.01

GROUP B Non Regular Permanent Staff of the TA (Appointed solely for duties in Northern Ireland)

Rank	Service			
	On Appointment	After 3 years in the rank	After 6 years in the rank	After 9 years in the rank
Pte			12.58	12.68
LCpl			14.38	14.48
Cpl			16.43	16.53

ALL RATES ARE FOR DAILY PAYMENTS

NRPS OFFICERS (Male)

Captain	On appointment	23.61	Lt-Col	
	After 1 year in rank	24.25		
	After 2 years in rank	24.89		
	After 3 years in rank	25.52		
	After 4 years in rank	26.16		
	After 5 years in rank	26.80		
	After 6 years in rank	27.44		
Major	On appointment	29.84	Captain	
	After 1 year in rank	30.58		
	After 2 years in rank	31.32		
	After 3 years in rank	32.06		

NRPS OFFICERS (Female)

After 4 years in rank	32.80
After 5 years in rank	33.53
After 6 years in rank	34.27
On appointment	40.28
On appointment	23.07
After 1 year in rank	23.70
After 2 years in rank	24.32
After 3 years in rank	24.95
After 4 years in rank	25.57
After 5 years in rank	26.19
After 6 years in rank	26.82

CHARGES (Daily Rates)

MARRIED SOLDIERS QUARTERS AND HIRING CHARGES

	FURNISHED QUARTERS			UNFURNISHED QUARTERS		
	Standard	Sub-standard	Below standard	Standard	Sub-standard	Below standard
Type A	1.23	0.71	0.64	Type A	1.12	0.65
B	1.90	1.01	0.91	B	1.76	0.93
C	2.20	1.35	1.05	C	2.03	1.07
D/WO	2.51	1.35	1.22	D/WO	2.32	1.23

MARRIED OFFICERS QUARTERS AND HIRING CHARGES

Standard Quarters and Hirings	Unfurnished Quarters (with carpets and curtains)	Sub-standard Quarters	Below standard Quarters
Type V	3.05	Furnished £1.64	Furnished
IV	3.52	Unfurnished £1.51	3 Bedrooms or less £1.48
III	4.00		4 Bedrooms or more £1.69
II	4.54		Unfurnished
I	5.07		3 Bedrooms or less £1.36
	4.66		4 Bedrooms or more £1.55

FOOD CHARGES

All Ranks	£1.89/day
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SINGLE ACCOMMODATION CHARGES

(Exclusive of garage charges) Daily rates

STANDARD Soldiers	Junior entrants receiving less than the minimum rate of pay (i.e. Private Class IV Scale A)	£ 0.50
	Cpls and below	0.66
	Sgts and above	1.25
Officers	Capt and below	1.74
	Maj and above	2.09
SUB-STANDARD Soldiers	Junior entrants as above	0.27
	Cpls and below	0.35
	Sgts and above	0.67
Officers	Capt and below	0.94
	Maj and above	1.13



GARAGE, CARPORT AND CARAVAN FACILITY, RENTAL CHARGES

Standard purpose built garages	0.30
Sub standard and below standard garages	0.20
Standard purpose built car-ports	0.15
Sub-standard purpose built car-ports	0.10

scending can allow parachutists to practise their approaches up to 30 times a day at comparatively low cost.

The main accent in parascending though is on enjoyment and all the student instructors on the course were there because they wanted to go back to their units and convince others that for thrills the sport takes some beating.

"The most exhilarating part," enthused George Harrison of the Dental Corps, "is once you have released yourself from the tow line and then the sky's all yours for twists and turns and zig-zags or whatever you like."

By its very nature, exhilaration requires some risk and an element of danger, and not even experienced parascenders can always dismiss this. One of the student instructors, Corporal John Walsh of 3RTR said about parachuting "I've jumped seventy-eight times now and I'm terrified every time . . . but not so much with parascending."

Another student, Sergeant Mac McKone serving with the Junior Leaders' Regiment RAC admitted to being scared of heights: "You put me on a rock face and I'll bottle out. It took me nine or ten flights before I felt all right up there. Now I love it — well, it is supposed to be a leisure sport!"

But how dangerous is it really? "It's not — certainly no more so than any other sport," explained Bernard Kane. "I've been doing this since 1968 and I've seen only four breaks."

Attention to safety procedures is essential and this is stressed to all potential instructors. Anyone who is careless or blasé is not considered mature enough to become an instructor.

It is the most experienced who are the most careful and George Harrison made the point that he will always check his own kit even if someone equally qualified has already done so. But providing you do as you are told and learn the discipline of checking, nothing should go wrong.

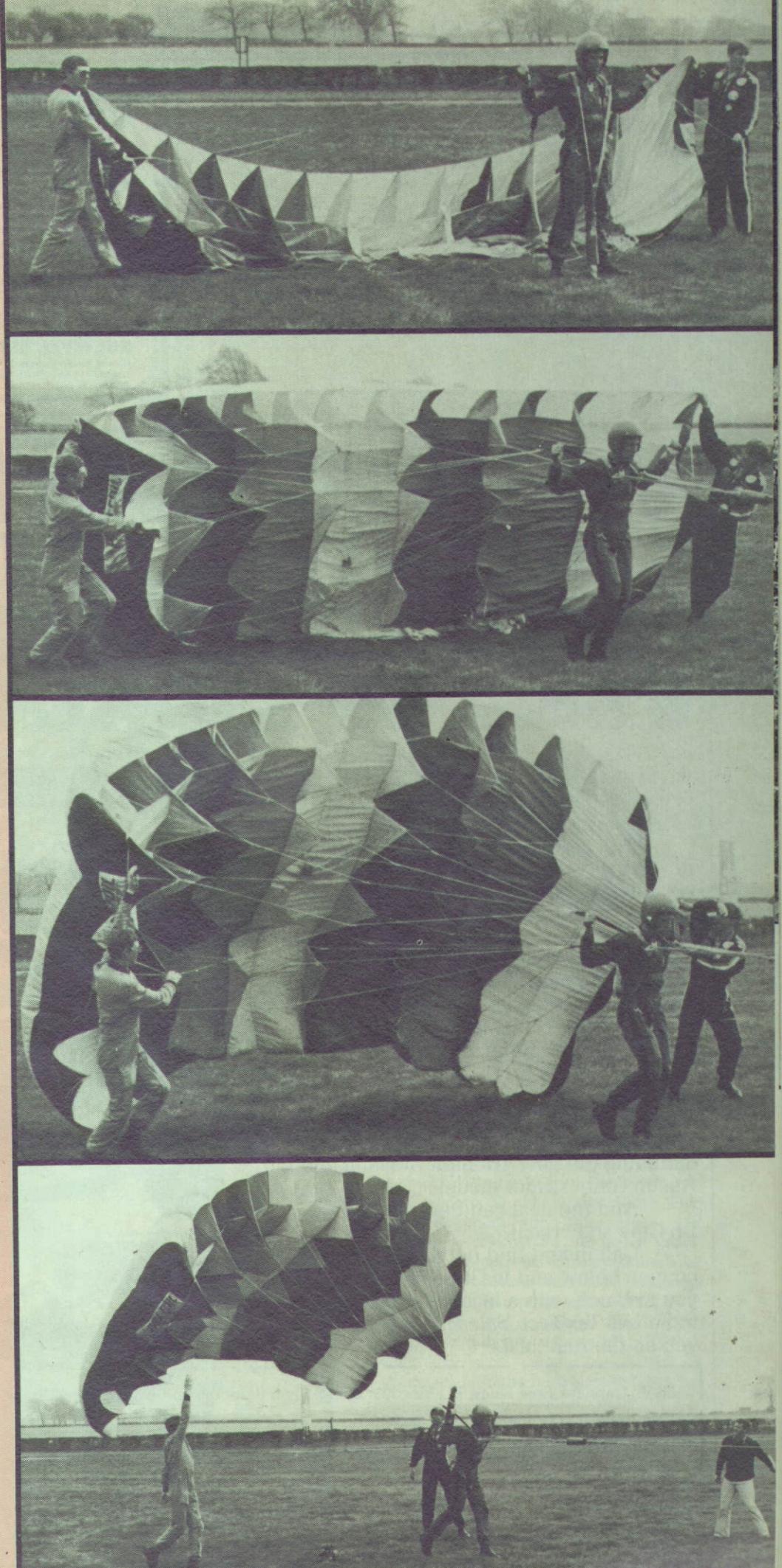
There has been one fatality and that happened when the parascender came down into the sea and drowned because he was without a life jacket. Needless to say this precaution, when being towed by a speed-boat, is now mandatory.

During the course students were given a demonstration of what could go wrong if, for instance, one of the rigging lines is caught or twisted: pulled by the wind round to the side the canopy turns over and the body plummets like a stone. When you have seen that you do not make mistakes.

Despite all this, parascenders will tell you it is a magical sport with your sensations being lifted as high as your body. They are keen to spread the sport both in the Army and at national level. A certain dedication is required to do this, though, as funds are always a problem and both the AAPA and civilian clubs rely on subscriptions to keep them operating.

To anyone wanting to 'have a go' Doughy Baker says this: "Get in touch with me or Captain Kane and we'll put him on to it. Then if he learns to instruct he can start his own club."

The idea is to keep the level of instructors up so that when one leaves another is waiting in the wings to take over. "It's tragic," says Doughy, "when a guy has gone to all the trouble of starting up a club then gets posted and there's no one to carry on." ■



Sequence shows how flight is achieved once the Land Rover moves off.

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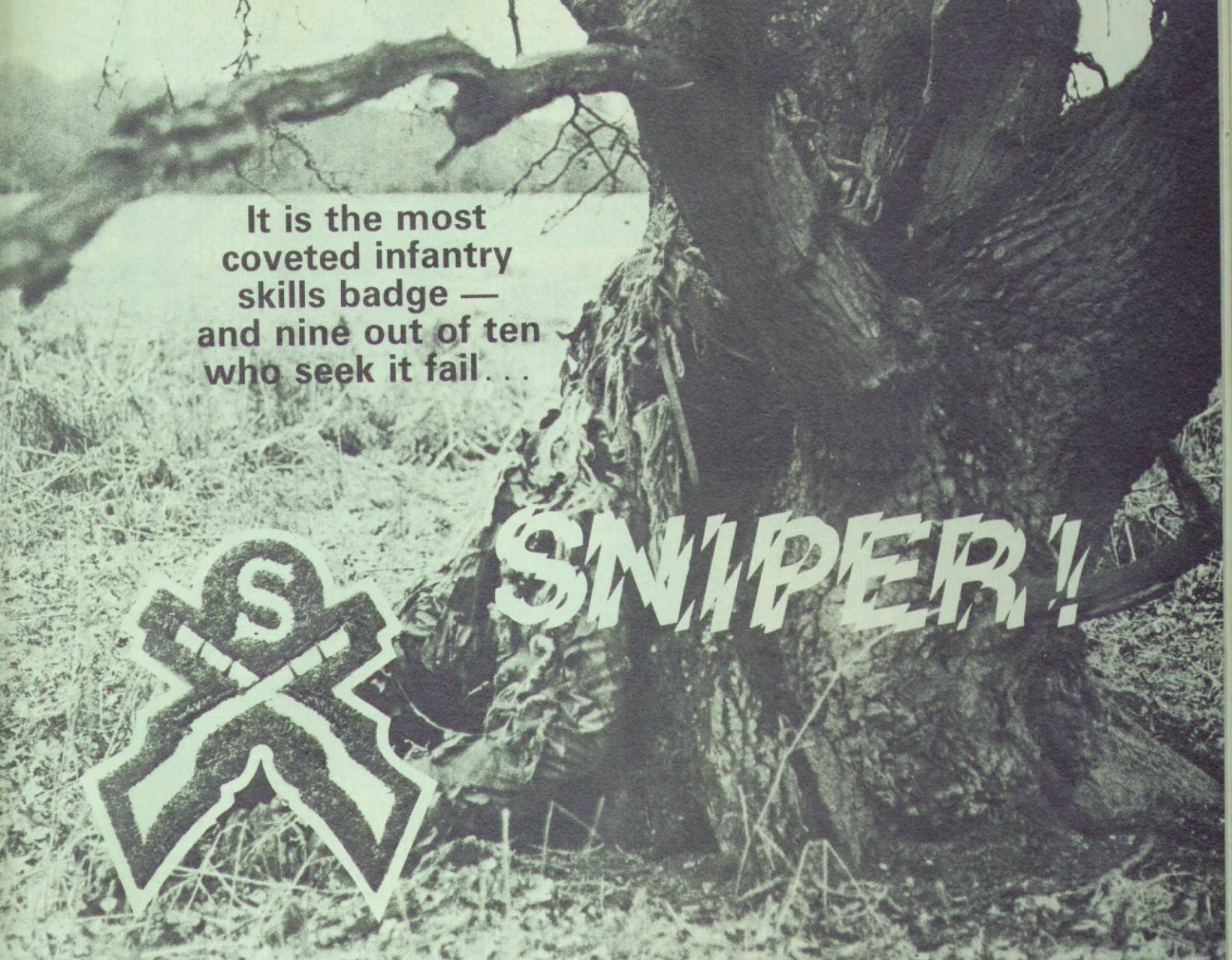
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S3-82



It is the most
coveted infantry
skills badge —
and nine out of ten
who seek it fail...

ARMY SNIPER!

Draped against tree trunk the sniper is virtually invisible. ▲

Sniper in action during Exercise Green Lanyard (see SOLDIER 22 March). ▼



AMIDST THE PINE and bracken there is neither sound nor movement save for the ruffle of the breeze. Suddenly the stillness is shattered by the crack of a rifle bullet and powerful binoculars zoom in towards the source of the fire. What is seen through them will help decide who has the right to wear the Army's most coveted infantry skills badge — Sniper.

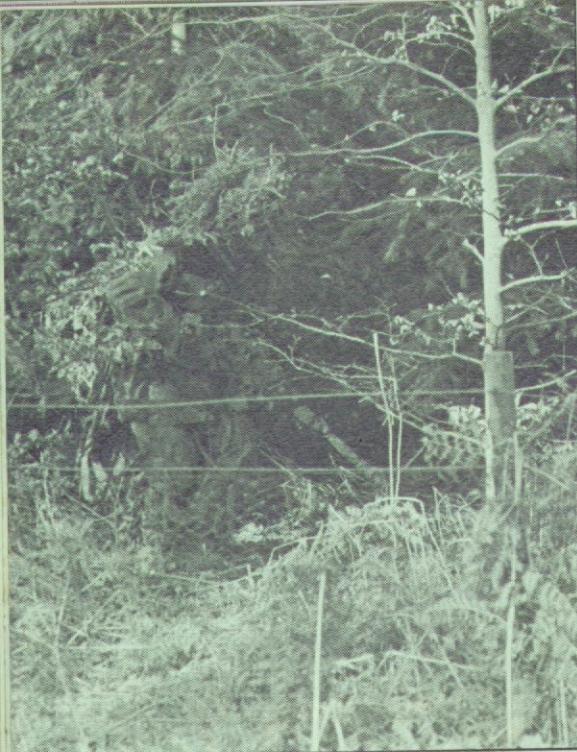
The scene is the Army's training area at Stanford in Norfolk and there for their final test week in trying to earn the badge are eleven soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment from Canterbury.

Just to be selected for the sniper cadre demands high personal infantry skills, and the eleven have already survived a searching examination in four rainswept weeks of concentrated shooting, stalking, observation, and distance judging exercises in their local countryside.

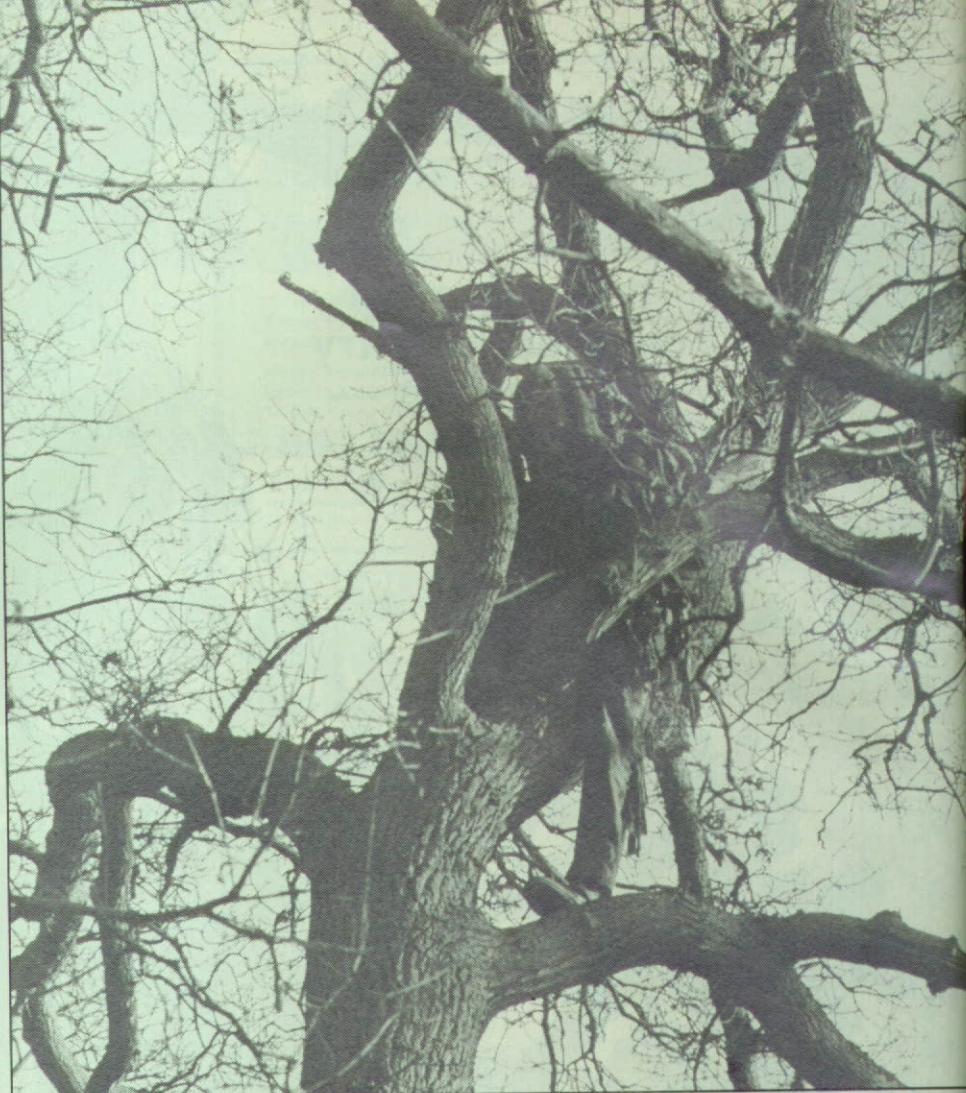
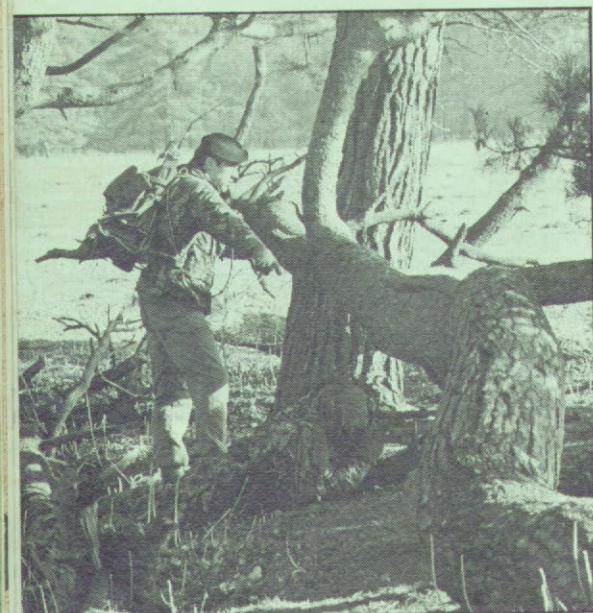
A few of the cadre have already fallen by the wayside as the training demands increased, among them the requirement to hit a moving figure target at six hundred metres and crawl for hours through the wet Kentish mud.

Sergeant Frank Lewis and Lance Corporal Martin Guilfoyle, both experienced in the fine arts of sniping, have the job of putting the 'test eleven' through their final week amidst the pine and bracken wastes of Stanford.

continued on page 30



Another example of camouflage skill. ▲
Radio link man points out sniper's fire position to distant observers. ▼



Lynx-eyed observers watch with binoculars for any hint of movement as the would-be snipers inch through the undergrowth, negotiating fallen trees, thick bramble, open meadowland and stream beds. Hidden completely from even the keenest gaze by their detailed camouflage, the soldiers' tasks are to stalk into a fire position, locate and assess the camouflaged observers, spot, aim and fire a shot to kill — and remain undetected.

The skills required to reach and operate from a good fire position are further tested by the observer training his binoculars on

Using a tree as fire position — not recommended since once sniper has fired he can be easily located.

the sniper's actual location. The sniper has then to fire a shot and still remain undetected to pass the stalk test.

The sniper is, by definition, a one-man Army who must be ready to fend for himself in a hostile environment. He must be secret, silent and deadly. To pass the badge tests an aspirant must have an almost uncanny 'feel' for stalking the prey — anything less means failure. ■



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S10/82

John Walton meets the Army officer using his spare time to launch an enterprising new service ...

IN THE SPARE TIME he gets away from his job as quartermaster of 66 squadron RCT Captain David Tuplin collects Coalport porcelain — issued in Shropshire from 1790 to the present day. And like all collectors he scours the antique shops and collectors' fairs in search of that prized acquisition.

Four years ago, while on holiday in Cornwall, he visited 32 antique shops before he discovered his first piece of Coalport. And that set him thinking that there must be an easier way of collecting, using modern aids.

Now David and his wife, Margaret, have set up a computer-based agency for collectors. Their preparations were kept secret because, in David's words, "I was amazed that no-one had done it before and I didn't dare check the market because I was afraid someone would snatch the idea from me."

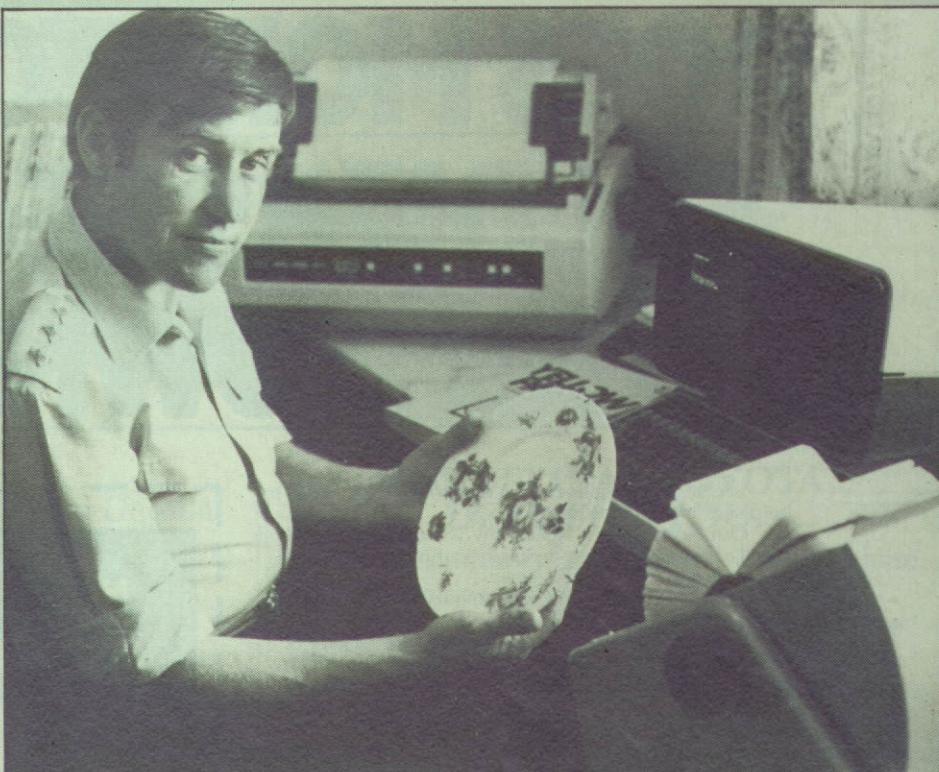
Collectors of anything from lead soldiers to hatpins, from stamps to snuff boxes, pay a membership fee of £6 for the first year and £4 thereafter. Their collecting requirements go into the computer, together with anything they may have for sale or exchange. And the computer matches up the collectors and puts them in touch with each other.

Fair organisers and auctioneers can also join and they feed in the details of their forthcoming events. These are then forwarded to the members who would be interested.

Collectors going on holiday can get a brief on all the specialist antique shops, fairs and auctions to be held in the area they are visiting.

Captain Tuplin, who has worked his way

Collecting Antiques — by computer



Captain Tuplin with Coalport plate — and computer.

up from driver to his present rank in 20 years in the Army, will leave next year. From then on the computer service will be combined with antique dealing.

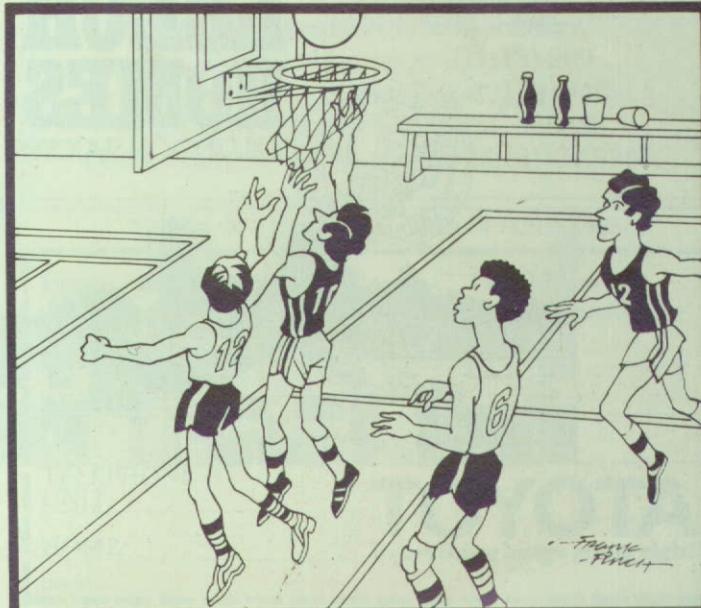
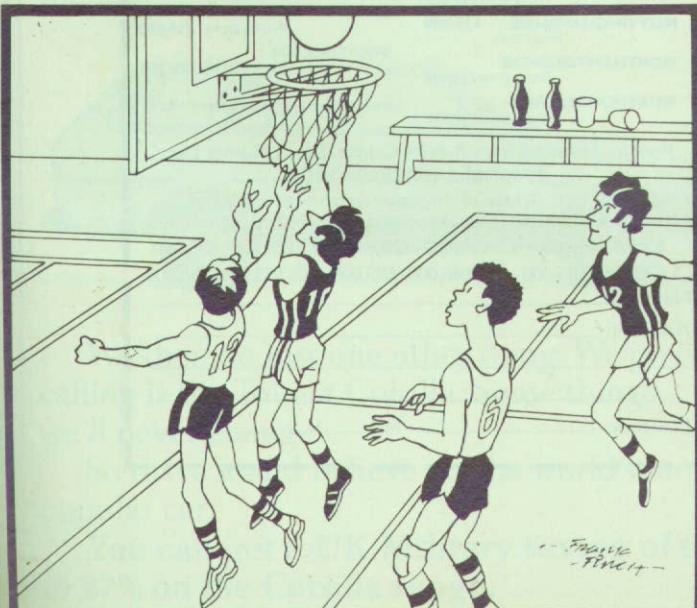
"The reason I am leaving the Army is that the competition has gone for me. As soon as I got my commission my promotion dates were fixed for me. I have always been competitive. I played cricket for BAOR and football. And I got my golf handicap down

to four in 18 months. Now I shall be competing in a new field."

Lots of soldiers have hobbies — most with a military flavour. Says David: "On every camp there are two or three people who collect badges, buttons or medals. They also seem to specialise in football programmes." Now all collectors have the chance to use the latest technology in the hunt for bygone relics. ■

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 39.



LEECH HOMES DOES MORE TO HELP SOLDIERS BECOME HOMEOWNERS

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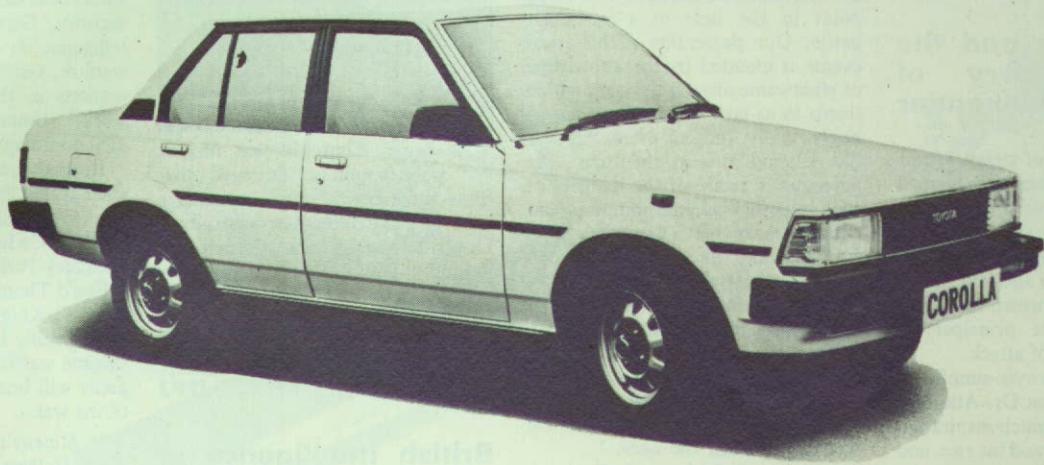
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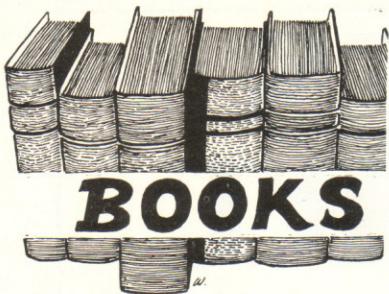
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Social Order and the General Theory of Strategy: Alexander Atkinson

The classical theory of strategy, particularly its obsession with armed power as the prime instrument, is out of date. It depends on the assumption that the social order is stable. Dismiss that assumption and you have a theory of strategy in which social and moral order are the principal resources and objects of attack.

That, obviously an over-simplification, seems to be what Dr. Atkinson is saying. He draws much inspiration from Mao Tse-Tung and his rise, and challenges Clausewitz, arch-apostle of the old theory.

He is hard reading, recommended only for those who are willing to cope with long, tortuous sentences.

Routledge and Kegan Paul, Broadway House, Newton Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1EN — £8.50.

RLE

Yours to Reason Why: William Seymour

'What if . . . ?' is a game that few historians can resist playing now and then, and author William Seymour has applied it to ten historic battles. Each one — Hastings, Saratoga, Waterloo, Gettysburg, and so on — gets a chapter or two to itself describing its historical context and giving a

narrative account of the action. But the principal aim is to consider the options open to each commander at each stage of the fight.

It is, of course, a risky business attempting to analyse military decisions with the benefit of hindsight, since it is almost impossible to know which military, logistical, geographical, political — even social and personal — factors influenced a particular commander's decision at a given point in the heat of a particular battle. Our perception of historical events is clouded by the knowledge of what came after; a decision which seems to us now to have been appallingly badly judged often 'seemed like a good idea at the time'. Mr Seymour is aware of the dangers of such hypothetical interpretation, and tries to make his judgements from strategic and tactical standpoints only. This in itself rather emasculates the project, since clearly such factors do not exist in a vacuum.

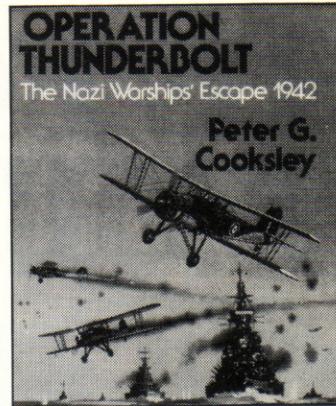
Nevertheless this book does present an intriguing picture of past battles which will interest those concerned with the developments of strategy through the ages.

Sidgwick and Jackson, 1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SG — £9.95.

IJK

Operation Thunderbolt: Peter G Cooksley

This is the story told in considerable detail of the great break-out from Brest in February 1942 of the three Nazi warships *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau* and *Prinz Eugen* and their passage through the English Channel to Wilhelmshaven. Had only one of these formidable vessels escaped from their French berths Hitler would, no doubt, have been satisfied; two would have vindicated the boldness of the ship's escape plan but for all three to have got through was little short of a miracle.



At home, Churchill was furious and public opinion outraged that these three capital ships could have safely negotiated the narrow straits of Dover. It is against this sombre background of failure that Peter Cooksley tells the story of this dismal episode with no holds barred.

Robert Hale Ltd, Clerkenwell House, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0HT — £8.25.

JFPJ

British Intelligence in the Second World War: Volume Two

Professor F H Hinsley

Following the first volume of *British Intelligence in the Second World War*, Volume Two covering the critical period between mid-1941 and mid-1943 sets out in precise and detailed terms how the development and organisation of the vital weapon of Intelligence helped to turn the tide of war. Its influence on strategy and operations, the part played by the Intelligence services in the crucial events of those two years and the various ways in which they affected the war at sea, in the air and on the all-important Mediterranean and North African campaigns, are probed in depth.

As in Volume One this history is primarily concerned with the influence of Intelligence on the decisions of the military commanders and political leaders. Developments concerning the organisation of Intelligence provide much food for thought while the role of British Intelligence in assessing the German economy is closely investigated. Other aspects of Intelligence to be examined include subjects as diverse as British cypher security, German police codes, Intelligence on the threat of chemical warfare, German meteorological operations in the Arctic, Intelligence work in connection with the Dieppe raid and many other facets.

In producing this masterpiece, for such it is, Professor Hinsley, who worked during the war at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, has been assisted by Edward Thomas, C F G Ransom and Dr R C Knight, all experts in their own specific field. A third and final volume starting with the invasion of Sicily will bring the story to the end of the war.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB — £15.95.

JFPJ

History of the Second World War

British Intelligence in the Second World War

Volume 2

F H Hinsley
E E Thomas
C F G Ransom
R C Knight



No 16

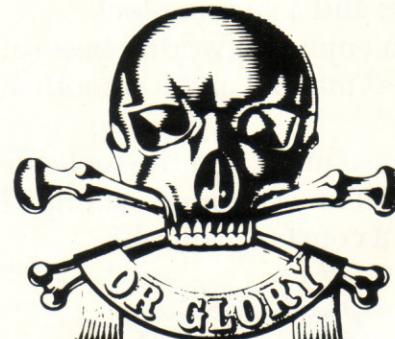
17th/21st LANCERS

THIS IS PROBABLY the best known badge in the British Army and sometimes credited with being the most effective of recruiting devices — the skull and crossed bones with a scroll resting on the crossed bones inscribed 'Or Glory'. It was worn originally in white metal and now in silver anodised.

The 17th dates its history from 1759 when, as the 18th Light Dragoons, they were raised by Colonel Hale who

sought and obtained permission to commemorate the death of General Wolfe at Quebec by bearing the afore mentioned badge on the standards and accoutrements. Their early fighting career took them first to Germany and thence to America to fight the rebellious colonists, but the first battle honours awarded to them were for the Crimean War when they formed part of the Light Brigade and suffered the greatest casualties in men and horses in that famous Charge. In April 1922 they were amalgamated with the 21st Lancers (Empress of India's) under the current title.

The 21st were formed in 1760 as Light Dragoons bearing the same number and the subsidiary title of Royal Foresters, only to suffer disbandment after four years. Re-raised in 1779 they were disbanded, raised, and disbanded yet again, but in 1858 emerged as the 3rd Bengal European Light Cavalry to change yet again to 21st Light Dragoons and yet again in 1863 to Hussars. Their title once again changed, this time to 21st Lancers in 1897, and the following year they were accorded the honour of being 'Empress of



India's'. These changes only affected badge design slightly but for the 24 years that cap badges were worn, four types were sealed. The first pattern adopted in 1898 was 'On crossed lances, the Roman numerals XXI surmounted by a flat topped Victorian crown. The lower half of the lance pennons in white metal, remainder in gilding metal'. The next pattern speedily followed in 1899 as 'Within two upright lances, the cypher VRI of Queen Victoria as Empress of India, surmounted by a flat topped Victorian crown. Below, the Roman numerals XXI, in the same metals as the previous pattern'. The Old Queen died soon after that year began and with the accession of Edward 7th an Imperial crown replaced the former.

By Hugh L King

Next issue:

The Royal Tank Regiment.

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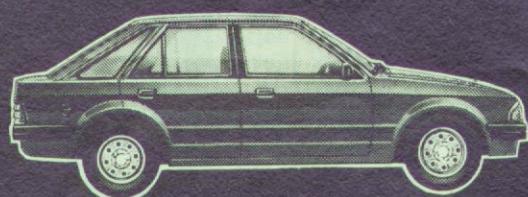
In response to public demand, Ford have undertaken a massive price reduction, economy and value-for-money programme. The benefits of this programme are now available to British Forces and the prices have been reduced even further.



The 1982 model Fiesta

For example:— Maximum tax-free price[†]

	April 1st, 1982	May 1st, 1982	Reduction
Fiesta 1300 GL	£3838	£3061	£777
Escort 1600 L 3-door	£3904	£3190	£714
Cortina 2000 GL	£5123	£4056	£1067
Capri 2000 GL	£4576	£3874	£702
Granada 2300 GL	£7182	£5637	£1545



The 1982 model Escort

Ford have over eighty models for you to choose from. To begin with, there are the small but spacious Fiestas, ranging from the thrifty 950cc Popular to the luxurious 1300cc Ghia and the sporty 105 mph* 1600cc XR2.

Equally extensive is the 1982 Escort range, the most efficiently engineered car in its class.

Then comes the car above comparison, the Cortina, with a choice ranging from a 1300cc saloon to a 2.3 litre V6 Ghia.

The Capri, the sporting coupé with hatchback-carrying capacity, is amazing value for money.

As for the 1982 range of Granadas, these superb saloons and estates make even a 200 mile drive effortless and enjoyable.



The 1982 model Cortina

What's more, you'll find there's never been a better time to buy, and remember, all Ford vehicles are fully equipped to meet B.F.G. legal requirements which include Continental headlamps, rear fog lamps, passenger door mirror and rear seat belts.



The 1982 model Capri

[†]Maximum tax-free price includes front seat belts. Delivery and number plates at extra cost.

*Ford computed figures.

For more information about the whole range of 1982 Fords, just contact: any Ford dealer in Britain, your local NAAFI car sales showroom in Germany, NAAFI, Nottingham, or Natocars, Bridgwater, Somerset.

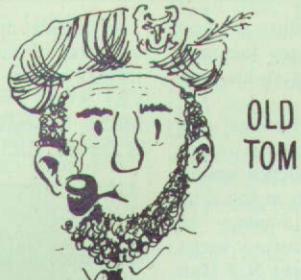


The 1982 model Granada

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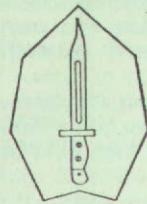
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TOM



JACK



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The IDB is to be disbanded in August 1982 after a life of just four years. This is a last opportunity to buy this rare print. Signed at £27, unsigned at £6, including P&P. Cheques payable to 'IDB Print Offer' should be sent to the Paymaster, IDB, Battlesbury Bks, Warminster. Prints will be despatched by return.

THE COMBINED AGES of the two sons of Old Tom were equal to the age of Old Tom and the combined ages of the three sons of Old Tom's younger son Jack and the three daughters of Old Tom's elder son Tom were equal to the combined ages of the two sons of Old Tom. The three girls were Alice, May and June and the three boys were, of course, Tom, Dick and Harry.

The oldest daughter of Old Tom's elder son was a year older than the oldest son of Old Tom's younger son, Jack; the youngest son of Old Tom's younger son was a year younger than the youngest daughter of Old Tom's elder son Tom. The second oldest daughter of Old Tom's elder son, Tom, was a year older than the second youngest son of Old Tom's younger son, Jack.

The combined ages of the sons of Old Tom's younger son and the daughters of Old Tom's elder son were equal to the age of Old Tom; and the combined ages of Old Tom's elder son and the sons of Old Tom's younger son were equal to the age of Old Tom's elder son's brother's father. The age of Harry, the youngest grandchild was equal to the unit's digit in Alice's grandfather's age whilst the unit's digit of May's grandfather's age was equal to the combined unit's digits of the ages of Old Tom's two sons, Tom and Jack.

Also, the ten's digit in the age of Old Tom's younger son added to the ten's digit in the age of Old Tom's younger son's brother

gave the ten's digit in the age of June's grandfather. The combined ages of Old Tom's younger son's sons gave the age of their father and the combined ages of Old Tom's elder son's daughters also gave the age of their father.

The combined ages of the oldest grandson and the youngest granddaughter equalled a third of Old Tom's age, while the combined ages of Old Tom's elder son's oldest daughter and Old Tom's younger son's youngest son equalled the ages of Old Tom's elder son's second youngest daughter and Old Tom's younger son's second oldest son.

The oldest grandchild, Alice, who was five years older than the youngest son of Old Tom's younger son, was a girl of fourteen.

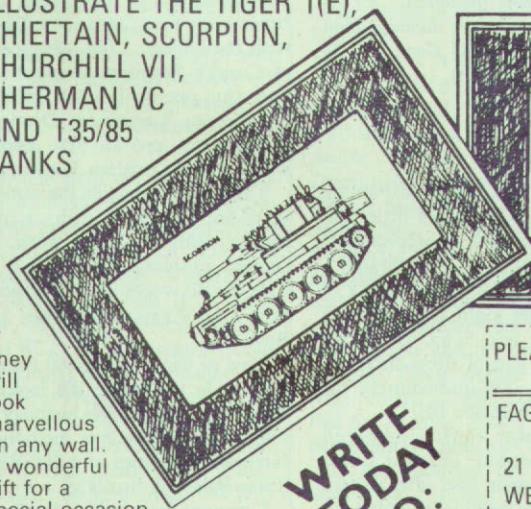
So, how old was everyone?

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 18 June. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 12 July. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 292' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or pre-paid labels will be disqualified. Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 292' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

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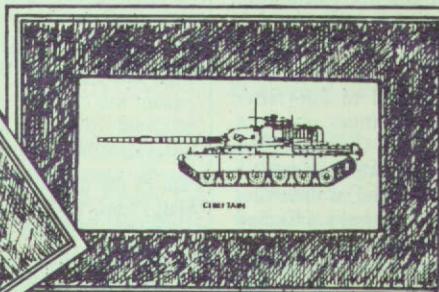
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and those' attitudes; despite the 'one Army' concept.

My points are that NRPS staff are ineligible for the award of the TA Medal or to Annual Bounty. In this respect we differ from part-time TA members. We also are not entitled to Leave Travel Warrants (or MMA) or to free Rail Cards as are our Regular counterparts. We have the same commitment as Regulars — 7 days pay a week, uniform at all times etc. We are required to attend annual camp, drill nights and weekend training as are our part-time men. I should point out that TA regulations state that we are full-time members of the TA and that we (as NRPS) are subject to military law at all times and (I quote TA Regs) are "to be, for most purposes, treated as a Regular Soldier under the Army Act 1955..."

On raising the above points on our ARU Staff visit this year the reply given included reference to the "rules are rules", "you are classed as a civilian" and (a sore point), "you shouldn't have joined if you don't like the conditions". My own answers are: rules can be changed; can I now wear civvies to work and join a Union? I never thought about asking for a medal when I joined the TA!

Possibly someone somewhere, has the right answer? — WO2 I N McFadyen, HQ 3rd 51st Highland Volunteers (The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders), TA Centre, Forthside, Stirling, FK7 7RR.

NO SLOUCHES

I read your article on US women soldiers 'Deadlier than the male' (8 Feb), which was accurate in reference to the women's training.

However, I'd like to correct you on a couple of points. One sentence states: 'The drill sergeants, male and female, are distinctive in 'Aussie' style hats' — please look at your own photo. Our male drill sergeants wear US Campaign hats and would blush at the thought of wearing a female hat, ie Aussie-style slouch hats.

With reference to pay for recruits, they receive \$551 a month and if they are married, will receive \$205.50 a month extra to pay for quarters for their family, \$4.50 per day for rations.

His/her pay will increase to \$618 after six months and to \$643 after twelve months, maximum pay for a PFC (Private First Class) \$733 a month. If they are not promoted to a higher rank by the end of their first enlistment, 3-4 years they are banned from re-enlistment. CSM (RSM) John McCamley, 2 Bn US Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas 76545, USA.

CENSORED

As an officer serving in Cyprus I find it odd that many films shown by SKC out here seem to be censored beyond the limits set by the British Board of Film Censors.

If the films receive additional censorship by SKC, why do they do it and who decides what should be taken out?

Surely a soldier on duty overseas should be allowed to see the same films available to him at his local cinema at home?

If SKC insist on additional censorship should they not be cutting scenes of excessive violence against children such as shown in the films *Friday 13th*, and *The Shining*, instead of cutting out relatively harmless sex scenes? — Major N P Harris, A Coy, 2 Queen's Dhekelia Det, Alexander Bks, BFP 58.

Sidney Pound of SKC told us: "We do not censor any films. The copies that go to Cyprus come here and go out in the same form. No way would we censor because the producers would not allow it." He added that it had been known in the past for operators to take out spicy bits and keep them for their own collections — but did not think this was still happening. On occasion two versions are issued — one 'X'-rated version for adults and the other 'A'-rated for family viewing. SKC will circulate both just as ordinary cinemas do. — Ed.

SHARP NOTE

To RB (On Record, Soldier 22 Feb).

You crochety old quaver, take a five bar rest a minim, and retire to your 'B' flat. There is nothing wrong with the WRAC band's second LP. My daughter, one of the staff at Guildford, bought it for my birthday, and despite your remarks re mistakes, boobooos etc, the latter which should never be used in relation to the WRAC, produces a fine sound. When I heard the band was due for the chop, I wrote to the Queen to try and save the band. I see now they will survive, though I claim no responsibility. I am one of their greatest fans, and shall never deny their presence in my home, on the basis of your review. Yet I do enjoy your reviews.

In conclusion, may I say good luck to SOLDIER, and that as a window on the Army it takes some beating. — Mr A Higginbottom, 35 Bridge View, Milford, Belper, Derbyshire, DE5 0RG.

*We find it strange, Mr Higginbottom, that you should take issue with RB when his review of the record *Visions* was on the whole favourable: his reviews can be a lot more damning than that! Still, the WRAC Band will be grateful for your support. — Ed.*

CONFUSED

I am of the opinion that W Poulton (Mail Drop, 19 April) is a little confused when he says he served in '5 Coy RGA' in 1923-26, in Gibraltar.

In August 1914 at the outbreak of war there were eight companies of RGA in Malta, ie 1, 5, 63, 65, 96, 99, 100 and 102, and of these three (5, 96, and 100) left immediately for active service with the BEF.

After the war those numbered companies became lettered Coast Batteries and again later after certain amalgamations eventually ended up as Heavy Batteries RA sometime in the early 1920s.

In view of this I think Mr Poulton has got his units mixed up.

In passing, may I say that the great cricketer of the 20s, Walter Hammond's father, was a Sergeant in 5 Coy RGA. — J G Stone BEM MSM, 6 Linden Close, Braunton, N Devon, EX33 1AW.

MUSEUM PIECE

On Saturday 5th June a memorial to the men of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion will be unveiled at Le Mesnil crossroads. On the same evening a plaque will be unveiled in Troarn to commemorate the demolition of four bridges across the river Dives by Sappers of the 3rd Parachute Squadron RE in the early hours of 6th June 1944.

Hitherto the work of the Sappers of 6th Airborne Division has received scant mention in battlefield tours and none in the museum at Pegasus Bridge. This will be righted this year when due to the efforts of Brigadier Frank Lowman DSO, who was CRE at the time and was severely wounded, some Sapper exhibits will be placed in the museum to be opened at the reconstituted Merville Battery.

Places on the Normandy Pilgrimage are reserved for veterans and relatives. It is hoped however that this letter may encourage some stalwarts to find their own way to Normandy between 4th and 6th June this year, especially to increase the Sapper or Canadian attendance. — Major J S R Shave MC, 100 Moot Lane, Downton, Wilts, SP5 3LE.

BOYS BRIGADE

I was interested to read the recent article on Scouting (8 March).

This year is the 75th anniversary of the Scout Movement, but it may interest you to know that 1983 is the Centenary of The Boy's Brigade.

The BB is the oldest uniformed organisation for boys. It was formed in Glasgow in 1883 by William A Smith (later Sir William Smith).

William Smith served in the 1st Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers (late the 5/8th Cameronians) where he received a commission. Using his military experience he set up what was to become the first Company of the BB with the Object: "The advancement of Christ's Kingdom amongst Boys, and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, self-respect, and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness".

This Object remains the same 100 years on, and by its many activities such as drill, PT, badge work, bible classes, camping and outdoor pursuits the BB works to instil a personal faith and Christian virtues in its Boys.

Now at work in over 60 countries worldwide the whole BB looks forward to its hundredth birthday next year, with celebrations including an International Camp of 3,000 Boys at Scone Palace in Scotland.

I wonder how many Servicemen remember their younger days in the BB? — WO W R Gamble, 2 Diamond Road, Drumbrone, Dromore, Co Down.



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. We're offering £5 for the best letter we publish every fortnight. 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.

STAUNCH ALLY

I would like to say a few words about the Falklands situation and my feelings as an American concerning it.

Speaking for myself and most — if not all — Americans, I stand foursquare with the people of Britain (among them are many of my dearest friends) in their opposition to the unprovoked, unwarranted and insupportable actions of the Argentine government. There is no argument that Britain is in the right, nor can there be any argument that my country's proper place is squarely at the side of her oldest and staunchest ally. We over here fervently hope — as you must also — that the issue can still be settled and British sovereignty rightfully restored without further bloodshed. It would seem to me that the best possible way for my government to help bring this about, would be to support Britain and join with the EEC in levelling severe sanctions against the Argentine government and condemning them publicly in the strongest terms.

It disturbs me greatly that events caused doubts to arise in the minds of Britons as to where the American people stand in all of this. I hope this letter will help dispel any such doubts. Kenneth G Petrie, 1805 Florin St, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902, USA.

£5 is winging its way across the Atlantic to you, Mr Petrie, for your unqualified support for us. Your letter, we hope, will boost the morale of our Forces currently engaged in the defence of the Falklands. — Ed.

THEM AND US

As a Non-Regular Permanent Staff member of a TA battalion I would like to raise a couple of points in the hope that either the reasoning for or against the current rulings can be aired or hopefully that some changes can be made to the rulings. I do not believe that I am alone in feeling slightly perturbed at the different attitudes prevailing between NRPS part-time TA and Regulars. These differences help to foster 'them, us

CAN YOU HELP?

I am trying to trace a portrait of my father (see photograph below) which was used for the War Calendar in 1946. William Dring was the artist. My father's name was Peter Johnson and he was a member of the 5th Cadet Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, a Winchester battalion which was based on Newburgh House Drill



Hall. The sittings for the portrait took place in Hampshire at the artist's home and at Clement Dane's studios. Unfortunately, William Dring cannot remember what happened to the portrait. Does anyone know its whereabouts? — Linda Johnson, 2 Cumberland Drive, Redbourn, St Albans, Herts, AL3 7PG.

I have been trying to trace a friend of my father's who served with him in Korea. He is Jock Lovelock, Army number 22562626 — he served with the Black Watch and Royal Scots in 1953-54. My father's name is Alexander McPherson, and he first served with the Seaforths and then transferred to the Black Watch whilst doing his National Service. He and Jock were very good friends and he has often wondered what has become of him. The last time he heard from Jock was at the Christmas of 1958 when Jock was heading out to Iraq. Jock was from London so how he came to be serving with the Scottish regiment I do not know. — Mrs Catherine McLeod, 40 Glamis Road, Wick, Caithness, KW1 4HR. I am trying to find ex-Sgt Hagmair of the 196 Field Amb. I was with him in 1940 but I was posted to the 132 Field Amb and went to Egypt with 44 Div. Does anyone remember this soldier? — Mr A W Morris, 21 Benning Avenue, Dunstable, Beds, LU6 1PH.

Can anyone help me obtain photographs of soldiers wearing the following arm badges: RN Gunlayer's badge, Maritime AARA (DEMS); Helmsman, Seaman, Waterborne Fleet, RASC; Aircraft in Wreath, Spotter, LAA RA; Divers' Badges, RE and RCT; Land Navigator, Long Range Desert Group; Trained soldier, Guards Depots, Trumpeter RA and RE, pre-1928; Bomb Disposal; Sniper; Air Despatch; Crossed lances; Q1 (RE); EAG (ATS WW2); any WRAC badges; Glider (WW2). D Edwards, 8 Clos Fforddisa, Prestatyn, Clwyd, LL19 8TP. Tel: 07456-3944.

Collectors' Corner

J Van Buren, 3rd Ave 328, Capital Park, Pretoria 0084, South Africa. Wants WW2 German Paratroop helmet, or present day W German GSG 9 equivalent. State price or conditions for parting. All letters answered.

G A Baldwin, 221 Leyton Road, Orpington, Kent. Wishes to purchase any models including WWI and WWII up to Victorian campaign medals, and any genuine badges including anodised. A C North, 30 Preston St, Timaru, South Island, New Zealand. Wishes to purchase badges, insignia and wings of 21st, 22nd, 23rd, SAS Regts. Also R Sqn, 63rd, 264 Signal Squadrons and 58 Pattern, Pack, and PVC gas mask case, and also DPM bush cap with full rounded brim, 23 head. Size in inches.

G Stevens, 4 Stonebridge Way, Faversham, Kent, ME13 7RX. Wishes to buy or swap naval cap ribbons of any nationality. Also has large stock of Canadian navy ribbons to sell or swap. Also interested in buying Army cap badges and bayonets, especially ceremonial SLR bayonet (chromed plated).

J Green, 4 Browning Road, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 0JL. Requires the following: collar badges and shoulder titles, MPSC, SASC, RAVC, 9/12 Lancers.

Capt M Bush, 4 AEC, Oakington Bks, Cambridge. Seeks the following books: 'A History of the Regiments & Uniforms of the British Army' and 'The British Army of 1914', both by Major R Money Barnes. Good price offered. 0480-61520 after 6pm.

M J Sloman, 23 Glebeland Place, St Athan, S Glam, CF6 9PQ. Wants Territorial magazine for years 1960-66. Will pay £1 a copy.

M G Osborn, 10 Oak Hill, Dawlish, Devon, EX7 9QZ. Seeks photographs of Army Staff Officers and ORS to complete album. Also requires a Corps Warrant Officer 1 silk embroidered arm badge for staff badge collection.

Pen Pals

My name is June and I am eighteen years old. I am 5ft 7ins tall with blonde hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are squash, swimming, badminton, volleyball, meeting people and going out. I would like a penpal aged between 18-22 and male. — Miss June Robb, 68 William White Court, Green St, Upton Park, London, E13 9JW.

My name is Anne and I am 6ft 1in tall with reddish curly hair and light brown eyes. My hobbies are music, walking, drawing and meeting people. I like rock music (especially Queen) and some soul music. Please include photographs with replies. — Anne Cross, 72 Pell St, Reading, Berks, RG1 2NS.

My name is Kim and I am 5ft 6in tall with light auburn hair and green eyes. My hobbies are cooking for other people and my favourite band is UB40. Please include photographs with replies. — Kim Butcher, c/o 72 Pell St, Reading, Berks, RG1 2NS.

My name is Linda and I am 17 years old. My interests are badminton, swimming, listening to music, writing to people and reading. I would like a penfriend of around the same age. — Miss Linda Perera, 5 Oatfield Close, Lewsey Farm, Luton, Beds.

My name is Denise and I am 14 years old. I am 5ft tall with fair hair and blue eyes. — Miss D Porsten-dorfer, 10 The Gables, Tanner St, Barking, Essex, IG11 8PS.

My name is Lorraine and I am 22 years old. My interests are reading, quizzes, dancing and anything that's fun. — Miss L Worgan, 16 Greenditch Ave, Hartcliffe, Bristol, BS13 0AT.

My name is Caroline and I am 17 years old, with blonde hair. I like animals, reading, horse-riding, skating, going to discos and parties and writing letters. All letters answered. — Miss C Yarwood, 208a Green Lanes, Hackney, London, N4 2HA.

My name is Carmel and I am a 25-year-old teacher, 5ft 8ins tall with lots of interests including brewing wine and beer, and the outdoor life. — Miss Carmel McGrath, 148 Swarcliffe Drive, Leeds, LS14 5HW.

My name is Sharon and my friend's name is Valerie. We both like horse-riding, squash, table-tennis, badminton and swimming. We would like someone in the age group of 18-20. Please include photo. — Valerie Sharrock, 15 Abbotstrange Road, Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, Scotland, FK3 9JD; Sharon Cherry, 11 Cunningham St, Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, Scotland, FK3 8BC.

Competition

Another good number of entries flooded into this office for Competition 288, 'Bits and Pieces'. Maybe this one was too easy — after all you only needed some tracing paper and everything else fell into place. The answer, of course, was *General Sir John Hackett, The Third World War*. Prizewinners were: 1st Maureen Smith, 66 Cleverly Estate, Wormholt Road, London W12 0LY. 2nd Mrs G R Higgins, 1 Armd Div HQ & Sig Regt, Shiel Bks, BFPO 32. 3rd Cpl G Salmon, 3 PC Regt RE, BFPO 34. 4th Mrs M Hendstock, 60 Williams Crescent, Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs OL9 8BJ. 5th Maj W H Moulder (Retd) Gypsy Hill, Tinner Way, New Polzeath, Wadebridge, Cornwall.

How Observant

Are You? (see page 31)

1 Left stripe on vest of man under net; 2 Pattern on right stocking of left player; 3 Right shoulder of player No. 6; 4 Fingers on left hand of No. 6; 5 Right leg of right player's shorts; 6 Tattoo on left player's arm; 7 Stripe on shorts of No. 6; 8 Right heel of left player; 9 Sideburn of right player; 10 Right strand of net.

See-the-Army DIARY

MAY 1982

- 19 West Midlands Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury (LI Depot, Arena Party, Flying Bugles) (19-20 May).
- 18 Chelsea Flower Show (Gren Gds Band) (18-21 May).
- 20 Devon County Show (Irish Gds Band) (20-22 May).
- 23 Brentwood Tattoo, Essex (3 R Anglian Band).
- 23 Harpenden Carnival, Herts (White Helmets).
- 23 Bedford River Carnival (1 R Anglian and Junior Regt Bands, R Signals Display Team) (23-30 May).
- 26 Beating Retreat Rehearsals (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division) (26, 27 and 31 May).
- 29 Congleton Carnival & Tattoo (Red Devils; Red Caps; Junior Leaders RA; Blue Arrows; RN Display Team; Queen's Colour Sqn RAF; RAF Police Dogs) (29-31 May).
- 29 Abbey Park Centenary, Leicester (3 R Anglian Band) (29-30 May).
- 29 1st rehearsal The Queen's Birthday Parade (Massed Bands, Pipes and Drums Household Division).
- 29 National Leisure Festival, Loughborough. (Kings Tp RHA) (29-31 May).

JUNE 1982

- 1 Beating Retreat, Horse Guards (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division) (1-3 June).
- 2 Suffolk Show (Royal Anglian Regiment) (2-3 June).
- 5 Bury Services Tattoo (RA Woolwich, 1 Green Howards, 1 DWR, 1 Cheshire, Red Caps, Red Devils, RAF Flying Display, RAF Police Dogs) (5-6 June).
- 5 2nd Rehearsal The Queen's Birthday Parade.
- 6 ABF Spectacular, Molineux Park (POW Div Depot (Lichfield) Band.)
- 6 Nottingham Festival (Coldstrm Gds Band) (6-11 June).
- 10 Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge (LI Depot, Arena, Flying Bugles) (10-12 June).
- 10 South of England Show (1 Queen's) (10-12 June).
- 12 Cambridge Tattoo (Royal Anglian bands and Jnr Musns Queens Div.)
- 12 Nottingham Festival Water Spectacular (1 WFR Band; White Helmets) (12-13 June).
- 12 The Queen's Birthday Parade (Massed Bands, Pipes & Drums Household Division).
- 13 Duxford Air Display, Cambs (1 R Anglian Band).

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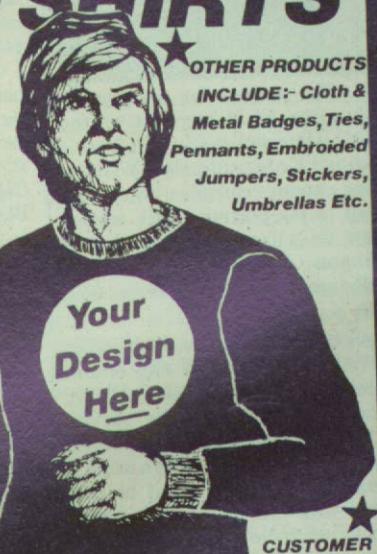
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dog day memories

FLORA . . . JESS . . . Sheena . . . and Yum Yum. These are just some of the names that once literally cocked a leg at royal traditional surrounds but live on for posterity at Edinburgh Castle perched defiantly some 400 feet above the Scottish capital.

They — and 21 others — lie buried under or are simply commemorated by headstones in a soldiers' dogs cemetery just below the Queen Margaret's Chapel.

All, in one century or another, once scampered or strutted along the cobbled historic inclines as pets of soldiers serving at the garrison.

Set side-by-side around the stone walls fringing a neatly mowed lawn with its own, small wooden gated entrance, the cemetery chronicles the memory of Flora, a band pet, who served with the Queen's Own Cameronian Highlanders until her demise on October 1st, 1876.

The headstone of another pet with an ear

for music, Jess, notes not only that he died on June 15, 1881, but also that he served with the 42nd Royal Highlanders; while another tablet tells of Dobbler, who followed the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for nine years through South Africa, Ceylon, China and, of course, Scotland. Dobbler died in February 1893.

There is even an RAF police patrol dog interred in the unique Edinburgh cemetery.

Yum Yum of The Royal Scots, we are told, was born in Edinburgh on New Year's Day 1884 and died in September fifteen years later — in Rochester.

Tinker . . . Tippy Top . . . Topsy, the 1st Royal Scots' drummers' pet . . . and Winkle, buried there two years ago and a 'dear friend and faithful follower' of Lady Gow and the Governor, lie there in regal patronage long departed for that big kennel in the sky.

But none perhaps matched the unfailing

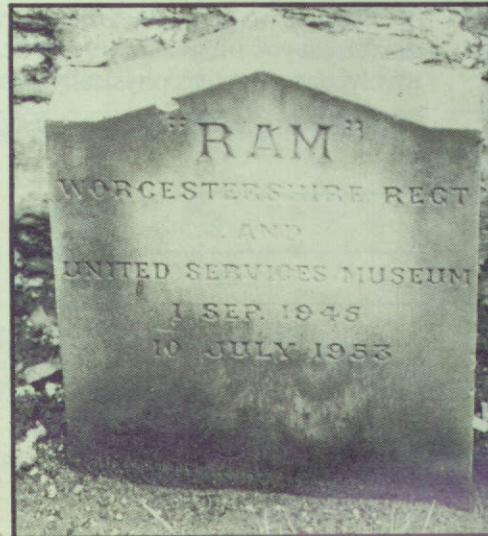
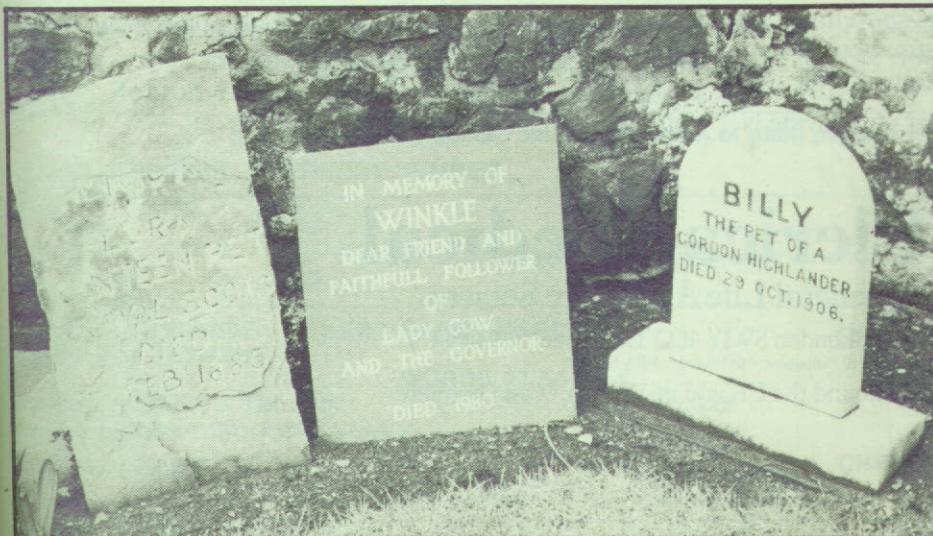
View from the cemetery — a sweeping panorama of the city and its skyline.

fidelity shown by Edinburgh's most celebrated canine, Greyfriars Bobby, to whom a small statuette stands on some railings in the city centre.

Bobby, literally, almost followed his master in death, at least to Greyfriars Cemetery in 1858 where, day and night, he stayed . . . for fourteen years until his own passing away in 1872 as the supreme example of 'man's best friend'.

The City of Edinburgh has now officially recognised the resting place of its tourist-pulling canine celebrity with his own headstone which says: "Let his loyalty and devotion be a lesson to us all".

Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Les Wiggs





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On the Record



with Rodney Bashford

On the March Volume 3

Band of the Black Watch; Conductor: Bandmaster N M Rogerson. DR Recording Services. DR 34.

With their third volume of marches the Black Watch are really getting in among the rarities. Further into the vast repertory they will need to take care not to include unworthy examples of this great genre, but all is well so far. All I would dare to suggest now is that the tempos could be varied occasionally; we do not all march to the swing o' the kilt at a steady 112-114, and variety is achieved by taking Sousa at 126, the Germans at 108-112, the French at 132-140 and so on. Even so the marches are played with fine style and steady, nicely inevitable tempo, the two Sousa marches included here proving the exceptions to a faster tempo, being *The Gladiator* and *The*

Salvation Army March. Others from America are R B Hall's *Independencia* (ghastly title) and his *Tenth Regiment*, and Grafulla's *Washington Grays*; from Britain are Alford's *Thin Red Line* and *Eagle Squadron* — a march written when his inspiration was on the wane — MacKenzie's *Moray Firth*, Elliott's *British Eighth*, Charles Payne's *Punjab*, and Bidgood's *The British Legion*.

The Belgian *Marche du 1er Grenadiers* is played in honour of the regiment stationed alongside the Black Watch in BAOR, and *Zum Stadt Hinaus* and *Old Comrades* for German representation. Bergeim's *Chimes of Victory* has been around for many years without quite catching on, same with old Blankenburg's *Back to Camp*.

A good one for your collection. From Black Watch, BFPO 106, price £4.60 inc.

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In Concert

The Royal Choral Society, Band of the Grenadier Guards; Conductors: Meredith Davies, Major D R Kimberley. *Unicorn DKM 6011*

A bit late in the day for review this one, but still available from Grenadiers Band. The two forces have already given their second concert in the Albert Hall, and a marvellous show it was. Unfortunately, achieving a balance between chorus and band for recording purposes is not easy in that barn of a place, and although the band is fine the chorus words are mostly lost.

Never mind though. Here are all your favourite tear-jerkers on one disc, played and sung by a famous chorus, a great band with its trumpet fanfare, and organ played by Christopher Bowers-Broadbent — in all, a blockbuster of Coronation proportions. Indeed, from the last several Coronation Services we have Gordon Jacob's setting of the *National Anthem*, the finest of dozens of such efforts, not excluding Elgar and Britten, the Coronation anthems *I Was Glad* and Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, and Vaughan Williams's setting of the Old 100th *All People that on Earth Do Dwell*. After a fanfare for all the forces called *Novo Centenary* by Major Kimberley the band gives a lively performance of the *Festive Overture* by Shostakovich, followed by the Grand Chorus and March from *Aida*, *Pomp and Circumstance March No 1* (Land of Hope and Glory), Sibelius's *Finlandia*, the hymn *Jerusalem*, and *The British Grenadiers*.

As I said, this is the first of two concerts, and a disc of the second held recently will be available shortly. This one can be obtained from Grenadier Guards Band, Regents Park Bks, Albany St, London NW1 4AL — or agents — price £4.50 plus p&p.

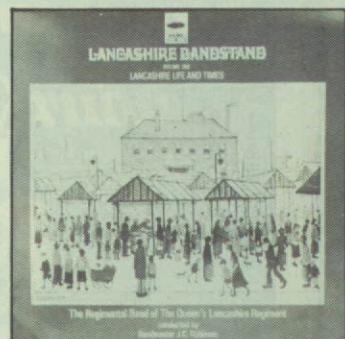
Lancashire Bandstand

Band of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment; Conductor: Bandmaster J C Robinson. *Music Masters*. MM 0583.

I am always advocating that county regiment bands pay homage, rather

than lip-service, to their regional associations. This disc promises to be 'volume one' of Lancashire Life and Times, so perhaps the message is getting home. Mr Robinson will need to ransack the repertoire to fill three, or even two, LPs, but with music of the old Lancashire disbanded regiments he should manage it.

Unless one of Lancashire's cities has a *Golden Mile* Mr Robinson's own opening march refers to Edinburgh's I presume. Never mind lad, we can't all be Kenneth J Alford. The *Lancashire Lass* in this case is of course Our Gracie, and a medley of her more popular songs comes next, although I would hope to have heard something more adventurous from her county band. *Tameside* is a new march by a local man, G F Scott well worth a hearing, *Matchstalk Men* a popular tune associated with L S



Lowry, and *Reflections in the Afternoon* a suitably sultry saxophone solo.

Clog Dance is not the famous one from the ballet *La Fille Mal Gardée* but a true Lancashire hop, beloved of the cotton-mill lasses. Gustav Holst's *Moorside March* is fairly included both for its title and the fact that it was originally written for brass band, another local cause for pride. A suite *Concert Rock* belongs to what is now a jaded style in which you can write anything, add a few syncopations and old-hat rhythms, include 'rock' in the title, and get away with murder. *Blackpool Rock* is in the offing I'm sure.

LP or cassette £4.50 inclusive, from Band Office, Clive Bks, Ternhill, Market Drayton, Shropshire. ■

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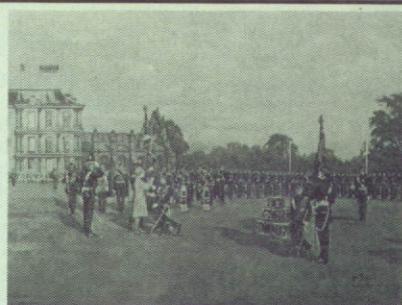
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Kerry Stephenson 01-439 3611/2.

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IRISH HUSSARS WIN A THRILLER

CAVALRY CUP FOOTBALL FINAL

In a thrilling seven goal encounter at Burton's Court, Chelsea, the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars finally emerged as this year's winners of the 87-year-old Cavalry football cup. It was the Irishmen's fourth win since 1970.

The QRIH deserved their 4-3 victory and it was a day to remember for their powerful forward Craftsman Omatesone who scored a hat-trick, as well as for Lance-Corporal Beveridge, who scored twice for the losing Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

After a fast and furious opening ten minutes defender Mackie brought down young Irish Hussar forward, Fisher, in the Scottish penalty area. Thanks to a fine save by keeper Lance-Corporal Minnis the scoresheet remained blank. Sadly Fisher had to retire from the game later with a broken nose.

Three minutes later Beveridge headed the ball past the Irish keeper but the Scottish lead was shortlived as Omatesone equalised. Heavy rain softened the pitch but the football continued to be hard and aggressive and in the 30th minute the Scots took the lead again through Lance-Corporal Bankier.

Relentless pressure by the QRIH was rewarded when Omatesone sliced the ball into the net and early in the second half they took the lead through

another splendid goal by Omatesone, who cracked the ball home from 25 yards out.

A monotonous period followed with the Irishmen having the upper hand, but five minutes before time the atmosphere became electric after Beveridge found the net to equalise. Extra time looked certain but with the referee looking at his watch Irish Hussar, Craftsman Bailey dribbled the ball past several defenders to score a dramatic winner.

RSDG try to find a way through. ▶

The Cavalry Cup was started in 1895 but no account of meetings or matches exist between then and 1919. In 1907 apparently the 3rd Dragoon Guards became outright winners of the trophy.

When the original cup was returned by the then 3rd/6th Dragoon Guards in 1926 the donor, Captain Burns-Lindow, wrote a terse note which still exists stating "it could not be won outright however often it might be won. I have never altered these conditions."

Before the 1922 amalgamations there were so many competing teams that the initial rounds of the competition were conducted at brigade level. Now 16 teams take part from England, Germany and Ulster.



WAGGONERS HALTED BY SEME BARRAGE

LAST YEAR a new and independent sporting league was born — the Rushmoor Indoor Hockey League (RIHL) — and recently its first annual championships were held in Aldershot.

The RIHL was born out of the members of the Aldershot Indoor Hockey League and the Farnham and District Ladies Indoor Hockey League when these teams lost their sponsors but still generated sufficient interest in the game to carry on in the area.

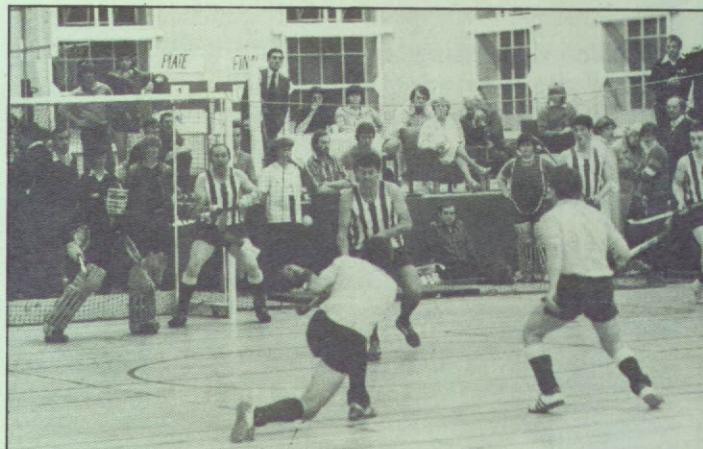
Hard work and volunteer help resulted in the new body which accepts teams from both military and civilian clubs. The Army play a large part in the league with both the Chairman and Secretary serving and several teams contributing.

Two Army teams, SEME Bordon — winners of last year's AIHL League Cup — and Waggoners (27 LSG Regt RCT) met in the final of the Men's Plate. Although 27 put up a fight, they were no match for SEME and

went down 8-0. 27's goalkeeper managed some brave saves but SEME kept up a relentless barrage for Kevin Dunne and Dave Wilmot to score four apiece.

One of the trophies presented at the Finals evening for the first time was the Hunt Trophy, awarded to the team from the military element of the League who "in the opinion of the committee has done the most to further the game of indoor hockey for the Services with their civilian counterparts". The recipients this year were the AA College ACC who, whilst never making much impact on the playing front, always showed great spirit and enthusiasm for the game and were unfailingly willing to help lay and dismantle the gym facilities.

The Hunt Trophy is presented to the League by WOI Vic Hunt, the Secretary of the RIHL, whose 22 years with the Army are up at the end of this year. SEME forwards launch another attack. ▶



BACK IN THE SADDLE

Taking part in his first race in two years Bob Edwards of REME came third behind two RAF riders in the first event of British Forces Germany's Cycle racing season. Fourth was Sergeant Chris Devine of Int Corp JHQ. The event, a ten mile time trial at RAF Bruggen covered a wooded, undulating course in heavy rain and strong winds.

SAUNTON SANDS in North Devon was for the fifth year running the venue for the Army Canoe Surfing Championships. Although the number of competitors was down on last year, they came from across the board, one competitor even making the journey from Cyprus.

Apprentices from Chepstow were prominent, taking first place in three out of four junior events and winning the two junior trophies. A feature article on the event will appear in our next issue.

Results: Senior Surf Race: SSI G Moore — JLRRAC; Novice Surf Race: Capt M J Pugh — JLRRAC; Junior Surf Race: A/T L Tanner — AAC Chepstow; Open Surf Relay Race: 1 D & D A Team; Junior Surf Relay Race: AAC Chepstow A Team; Senior Slalom Canoe Handling: SSI G Moore — JLRRAC; Novice Slalom Canoe Handling: Sgt S J Keane — 1 D & D; Junior Slalom Canoe Handling: ACpl A Rathmell — AAC Harrogate; Senior Surf



L/Bdr Sam Thorne powers through for one of his four tries.

FAIR GAME

The Army Angling Association (Game) Championships will be fished at Rutland Water, near Grantham, Lincolnshire on 14 September. The following day an Army team selected from the top 14 bag weights will take part in the Inter-Services match. Fishing will be from powered boats, each with two competitors, at a cost of £15 per boat. Anyone interested should contact the Secretary, Major John O'Brien at the STANOC Centre, Larkhill, near Salisbury (tel Larkhill Military 5664).

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THORNE PUNCTURES WELSH

7 RHA 28 — 1RRW 6

LIGHTNING CERTAINLY struck in the same place several times when 7 Royal Horse Artillery clashed with 1 Royal Regiment of Wales in the final of the Army Rugby Sevens, sponsored by Courage Brewery and held at Aldershot on a glorious Spring day. The lightning came in the shape of Barbados-born L/Bdr Sam Thorne whose speed and reflexes took 7 RHA to a resounding victory.

His first try came in the first minute of the game after he had streaked round the opposition. It was quickly converted by Bdr Martin Lewis.

The Welshmen retaliated with a try from Lt Ian Harper, converted by Sgt 'Nipper' Rees, but unfortunately that was almost the end of Rees' contribution. Floored in a heavy tackle he made a valiant effort to carry on, although limping badly, but eventually had to call it a day and leave the field.

The loss of the very experienced Rees was a severe blow and from then on the Gunners had things almost entirely their own way.

Thorne repeated his greased lightning act, this time placing the ball neatly between the posts, and Lewis made no mistake with the conversion.

A matter of minutes later Thorne was off again, racing clear to leave Lewis another straightforward kick.

Thorne's fourth try, unconverted, resulted from a splendid cross-field run in which he displayed all his considerable skill despite determined opposition. And just to show that 7 RHA's was not a one-man effort, 2nd Lt Neil Beazley ran in a fifth try for Lewis to apply the coup de grace.

So it was four goals and a try for the Gunners and a goal for the Welshmen, who had been fancied to retain the Courage Trophy for Wales in the absence of the holders, the Welsh Guards, who had to drop out because of the demands of the Falklands crisis.

Some 200 teams took part in the tournament, including sides from Northern Ireland and Germany, with 16 winning through to meet on a group basis at Aldershot. In the semi-finals, 7 RHA beat 7 Signal Regiment 8-4 and 1 RRW defeated 42 Survey Regiment RE 14-0. The Plate Competition was won in resounding fashion by 8 Signal Regiment who trounced 1 Cheshire Regiment 30 points to 6.

**Army miss
their chance**

Army 1 — Sussex 1

THE ARMY wound up their season with this match in the South West Counties Championships which they needed to win by three clear goals to qualify for the final as group winners. This task always looked beyond them although they were desperately unlucky not to win.

Sussex included six members of the promotion winning Isthmian League side Worthing and pressed for an early goal. The match developed into a fast, fluid and open affair but the Army back four did their job so well that Lance-Corporal 'Spider' Lomas in goal only had to make one save of note in the first half.

After the break the Army took charge and put Sussex under severe pressure. Three times they went close and the deadlock was finally broken midway through the half when White, Freer and Butler combined to set up a chance which the latter despatched with glee.

The Army went close on two more occasions but just when it looked as though they would have to settle for a narrow win, Sussex struck back. The Army defence, for once, failed to clear their lines from a corner and Sussex grabbed an equaliser they didn't really deserve.

But the Army have only themselves to blame for not winning this group. They had three 'home' ties — and could only manage to draw them.

KEITH COMES SECOND IN SERVICES' MARATHON

OH, MY ACHING FEET!

BY A MARGIN of only 28 seconds the Army failed to notch up a hat trick of victories in the Inter-Services marathon championships at RAF Swinderby. Captain Keith Arnold, a Royal Army Educational Corps officer from the Army Apprentices College at Harrogate, was narrowly beaten for the Inter-Service title by the RAF's Corporal Alec Watt but was an easy winner of the Army championships with his time of 2 hours 26 minutes and 4 seconds.

Last year Corporal Andy Robertson, also from Harrogate, had won the race for the second year running and set a new record. This year Robertson decided to conserve his energies for another marathon event.

In the team championships the Navy, with several of their more favoured athletes engaged in the South Atlantic, surprised even themselves by taking the title for the first time. The Army failed to get a look in — their next runners being Corporal Desmond Gillies of the 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders at 12th and Corporal M Atkin at 19th.

A fierce wind scudded across the open Lincolnshire flatlands throughout the race and this was blamed for the slow times — rather than the sun, which shone but gave little warmth.

Corporal Terry Lyons.

The Falklands crisis hit the entry for what has gradually evolved into the Services' premier long distance event. More than 500 entries were received but before the start this had dropped to 332.

The Swinderby event started as a 20 mile race, was extended into a marathon and went Inter-Service some four years ago. Based at the station where all RAF recruits do their square bashing it covers a flat course winding its way past hamlets and farms with names like Norton Disney and Coldharbour Farm.

Every entrant who completed the course in four hours would get a certificate but it soon became obvious that only a handful of runners were likely to be the first to breast the tape.

At the five mile mark there was a leading bunch of five runners — and four of those were eventually among the first five home. At the 22 miles mark Watt was 85 seconds ahead of Arnold and, despite making up some ground, the Army man was unable to get within striking distance again.

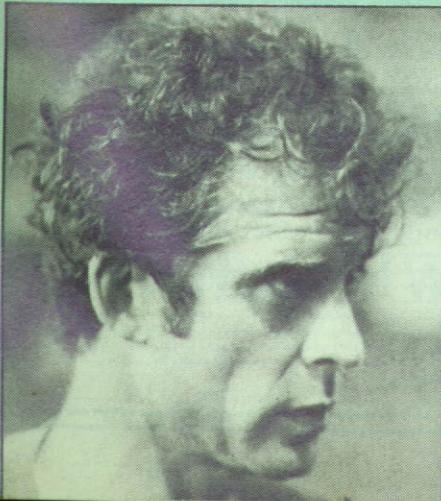
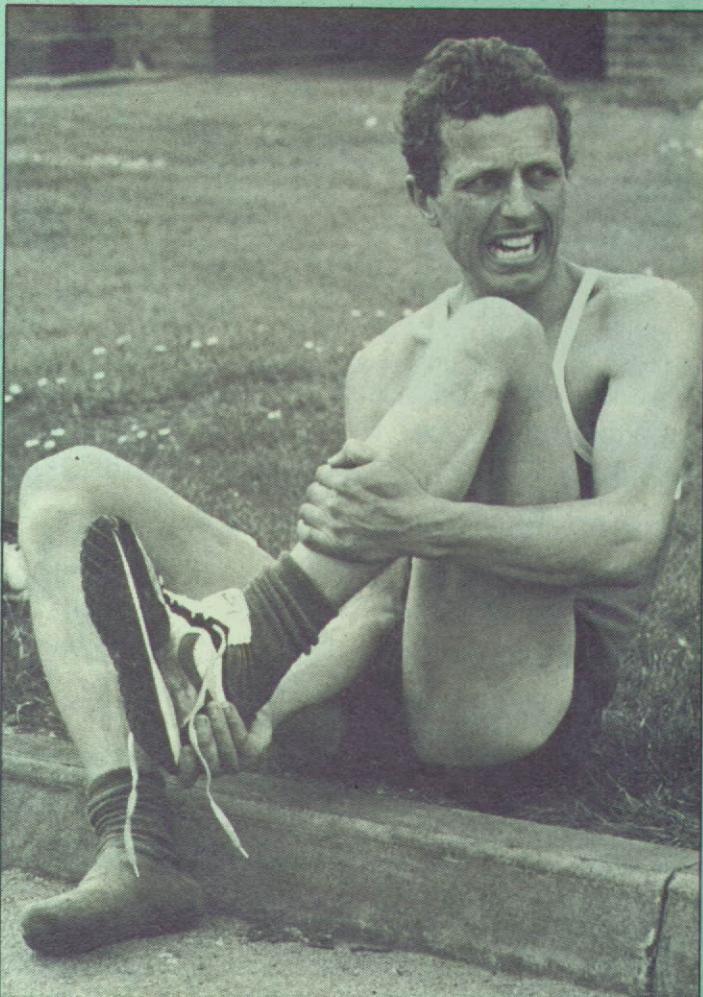
Captain Keith Arnold eases shoes from his blistered feet.

Afterwards Captain Arnold, who finished fourth last year, nursed his blisters and told SOLDIER: "The wind was particularly tiring in the later stages. We were running well to time over the first half so must have lost over the last few miles with the wind against us. But the conditions were good and we did not need to stop to drink so much."

Corporal Gillies was well pleased with his performance. Last year he finished well down the field but came through this time for his best performance so far at 2 hours 37 minutes 10 seconds.

One place behind him was TA corporal, Terry Lyons of the 4th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment. Yorkshireman Terry is in the *Guinness Book of Records* for five times winning an annual race carrying a hundredweight of coal for 1000 metres. He was disappointed — "I was the third man home from the Army so I suppose it's not too bad but I know it's not the best I can do."

The Army inter-unit team title went to the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire with an aggregate total of 8 hours 24 minutes 19 seconds for their first three men home. And Captain Barry Johnson, RAOC, who is 42, came 20th to win the Veteran title. ■



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