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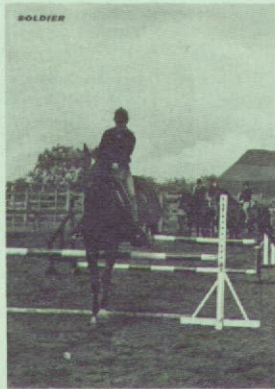
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FRONT COVER

A spectacular firework display lights up the arena during the period costume finale of this year's Colchester Tattoo.

Picture by Sergeant Frank Grimwood, Army Public Relations, Colchester.



BACK COVER

Private Sue Doolin, a Women's Royal Army Corps rider/groom at the Royal Army Veterinary Corps Training Centre, Melton Mowbray, goes over in true showjumping style.

Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

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The Ford Escort



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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

NOVEMBER 1974

- 2 Festival of Remembrance, Bristol (band).
- 9 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 30 Kneller Hall Band Concert (Army Benevolent Fund), Royal Festival Hall.

MARCH 1975

- 5 "An Evening of Music with the Scottish Regiments," Usher Hall, Edinburgh.

MAY 1975

- 24 Tidworth Tattoo (24-26 May).

JUNE 1975

- 4 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (4-5 June).
- 14 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 17 Royal Armoured Corps massed bands beat Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (17-19 June).
- 27 Aldershot Army Display (27-29 June).

JULY 1975

- 5 Military Musical Pageant (Army Benevolent Fund), Wembley.
- 16 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (16 July-2 August).
- 25 Cardiff Tattoo (25 July-2 August).
- 26 Army Air Day, Middle Wallop.
- 27 Open Day, Royal Armoured Corps Centre, Bovington Camp, Dorset.

AUGUST 1975

- 6 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (6-9 August).
- 15 ARMEX 75 (15-17 August).
- 22 Edinburgh Tattoo (22 August-13 September).

JUNE 1976

- 25 Aldershot Army Display (25-27 June).

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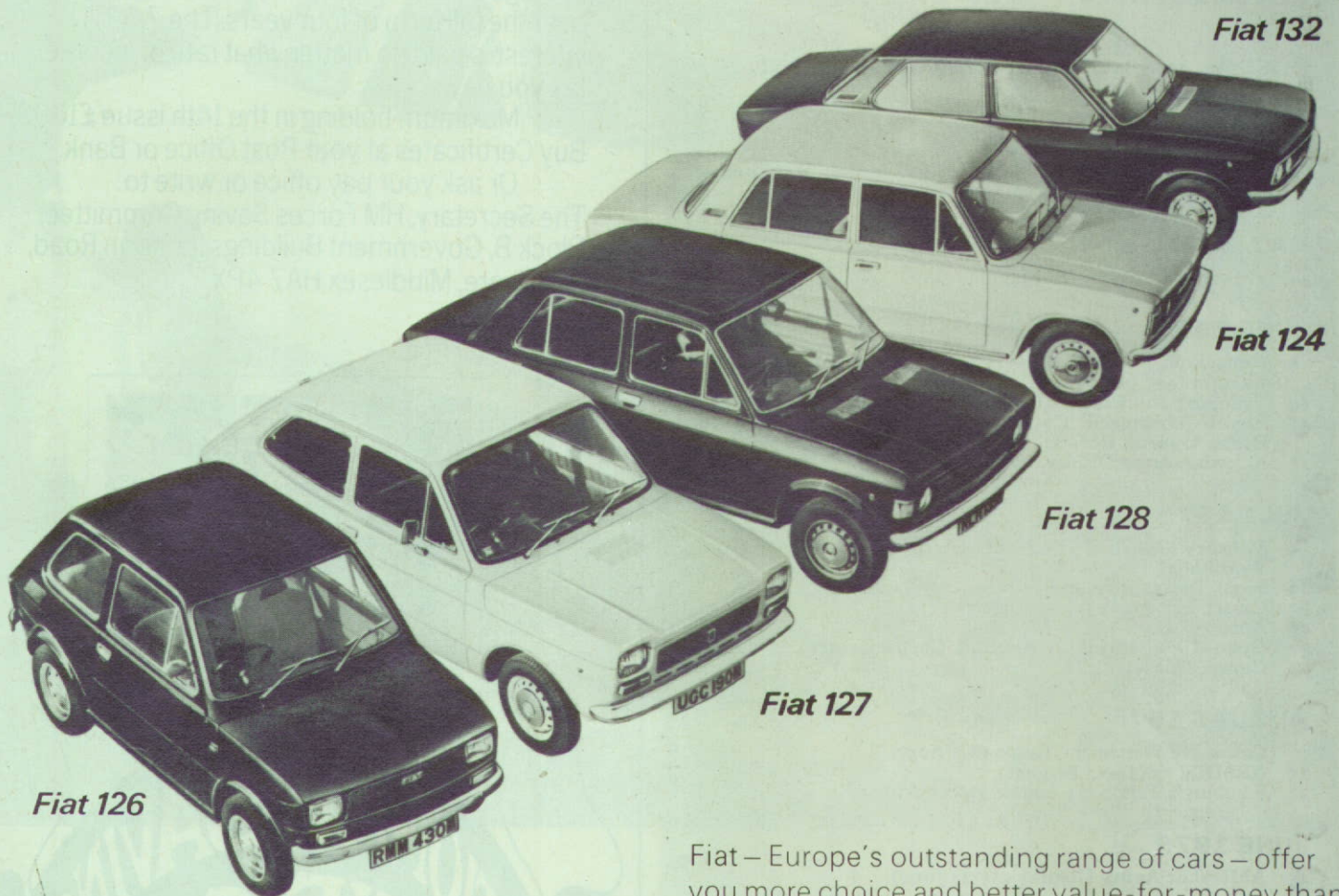
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The Army



The Army Calendar 1975

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Previously the Army calendars have not been generally available. With the decision that the 1975 calendar should be on sale through SOLDIER comes another change—the 1975 calendar has a theme to it, that of birds and beasts incorporated in corps and regimental badges.

Each turn-over sheet, one per month, is devoted to a regiment or corps, featuring the badge in black-and-white, the associated bird or beast in colour and, again in colour, a larger picture of some activity of that regiment or corps.

Those selected for the 1975 calendar are the Royal Army Veterinary Corps (centaur), Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (horse), The Royal Regiment of Wales (dragon), Royal Army Medical Corps (serpent), The Royal Hampshire Regiment (tiger) (pictured above), Army Air Corps (eagle), The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (elephant), Women's Royal Army Corps (lioness), The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (stag), Royal Army Pay Corps (lion), The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (boar) and Royal Corps of Signals (Mercury).

Frontispiece of the calendar is an eye-catching helicopter view of an armoured regiment on parade with its vehicles.

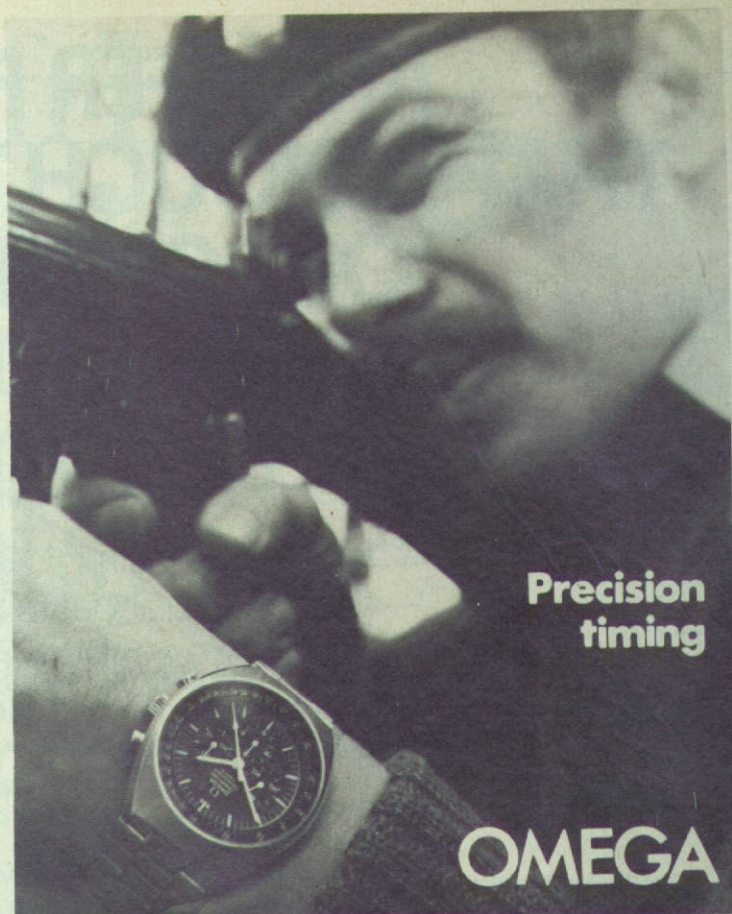
The Army Calendar 1975 is available now at 45p (UK), 40p (BFPO) and 40p (elsewhere), including postage/packing. Fill in the coupon below and post today.

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SOLDIER to soldier

As briefly announced in this column last month, **SOLDIER's** cover price will be increased to ten pence from the January 1975 issue. It has been unchanged at 7½ pence since April 1966—surely a record in the magazine and newspaper field! The price was to have gone up to tenpence, as readers were warned several years ago, and that increase was in fact eventually approved but caught in the price freeze of October 1972. By that time printing costs had already risen considerably. Since then they have rocketed and currently it costs more to print the magazine than its selling price.

When the price rose from five to 7½ pence in April 1966, readers were promised an offset of extra pages with still six issues a year at 40 pages but with six at 48 pages. That promise was kept for no more than a couple of years—first came regular 48-page issues, then 56 pages with increased frequency, the magazine went up on occasion to 60 pages and last month to an unprecedented 64. In the 8½ years from April 1966 to October 1974 there have been 22 issues of 40 pages, 49 of 48 pages, two of 52 pages, 24 of 56 pages, four of 60 pages and one of 64 pages.

The fact that this and next month's **SOLDIER** will actually cost less than some British daily and Sunday newspapers stresses how **SOLDIER's** price has fallen behind. From January it will still be lagging—ten pence a month will buy you only a half-pint of beer, six cigarettes or a few chocolates—and obviously if printing costs, dictated largely by wages and paper, are to continue rising at the present rate, **SOLDIER's** price will have to go up again. The majority of comparable specialist magazines are already 15, 20 or 25 pence and some even more than that. So with regret, tempered by the thought that readers would surely rather pay more for **SOLDIER** than see it cease publication, 7½ becomes ten pence.



Every year the Army has produced a colourful calendar for internal distribution. The 1975 calendar is being made available to the public through **SOLDIER** and differs too from its predecessors in having a particular theme—that of birds and beasts incorporated in corps and regimental badges. Turn back one page for details of this attractive full-colour calendar—and order now.



For those who missed the 1974 Army Diary and have a gap in their collection on the shelf—this annual publication is as much a reference work as a day-to-day diary—copies are still available at the reduced price of 80 pence including postage and packing. Orders, with cheque, UK postal order or international money order, to **SOLDIER** (ADX), Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

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MILITARY MUSEUMS 22

Royal Signals

A CENTURY of Army signalling and communication, from the Crimean War to modern times and in a happy blend of technical and non-technical exhibits, is the theme of the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford Camp, Dorset.

Early examples of wireless equipment, many of them historic pieces, share the honours with uniforms, weapons, saddlery, motorcycles, an Austin 7 radio car and a wide assortment of militaria. Together, they make a visual history of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Alongside the leather pouch which held Lord Raglan's despatch announcing victory at Inkerman is a small, unimpressive apparatus which was to revolutionise the whole science of military communication. Described as a single needle telegraph, it was the first electric telegraph instrument to be used in battle—in 1855 in the Crimea.

Of the many interesting examples of pioneer signalling apparatus space permits mention of only a few—the Wheatstone automatic telegraph station of 1870 vintage complete with receiver, perforator, automatic transmitter and tape box; the first electric field signalling lamp; a heliograph used by the Jameson raiders in their abortive coup against the Boers in 1895; the cumbersome Begbie signalling lamp of the 1890s used at night instead of the heliograph; the first Army valve transmitter and receiver; an early wireless pack set; and the Fullerphone, invented in 1915 by Captain (later Major-General) A C Fuller, which by providing secure Morse in forward areas had a tremendous impact on communications in World War One. The Fullerphone was eventually classified as a major scientific break-through and a historic milestone in the evolution of signalling.

Pride of place in the centre of the large hall housing the museum is the corps roll of honour flanked by a display of medals.

There is a particularly good collection of shoulder flashes and outstanding among the various uniforms is the No 1 Dress worn by Princess Mary, the Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Signals from 1935 until her death in 1965.

Another case contains radio sets used by British agents in World War Two, a receiver made in secret by British prisoners-of-war working on the Burma-Siam "Death" railway and, for sheer ingenuity, a tiny receiver and transmitter smuggled into a German PoW camp.

The museum's collection of rifles and automatic weapons includes a primitive home-made Mau Mau rifle taken in Kenya in 1955. A set of saddlery and a photograph of World War One veteran horse No. 30091 "Nobby," who was purchased out of service by all ranks of 1st Divisional Signals in 1934, recall the mounted days of the corps.

Tribute is also paid to the part played by carrier pigeons in keeping open the lines of communication. Standing proudly in a glass case is a life-size model of William of Orange, a famous Royal Signals pigeon which won the Dickin Medal, the animals' VC, for a flight from Arnhem to England—260 miles in four hours 25 minutes, including 135 miles over open sea.

Researchers will find a wealth of material in the library on the origins of the Royal Signals from the Crimean period of the Royal Sappers and Miners to the Royal Engineer Signal Service, from which was formed on 28 June 1920 the Corps of Signals. The "Royal" prefix was added a brief six weeks later.

John Jesse

Director: Lieutenant-Colonel E G Day
Curator: Mr W F Bailey
Address: The Royal Signals Museum
Blandford Camp
Dorset
Telephone: Blandford 2581 (Ext 248)
Open: Monday to Friday, 1000 to 1300 and 1400 to 1700;
Saturday, 1000 to 1200
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How to get there: 434 bus from Salisbury stops near the museum.

Next month: The Dorset Military Museum



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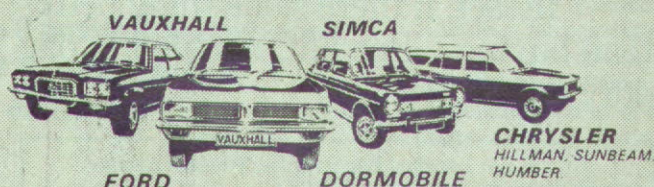
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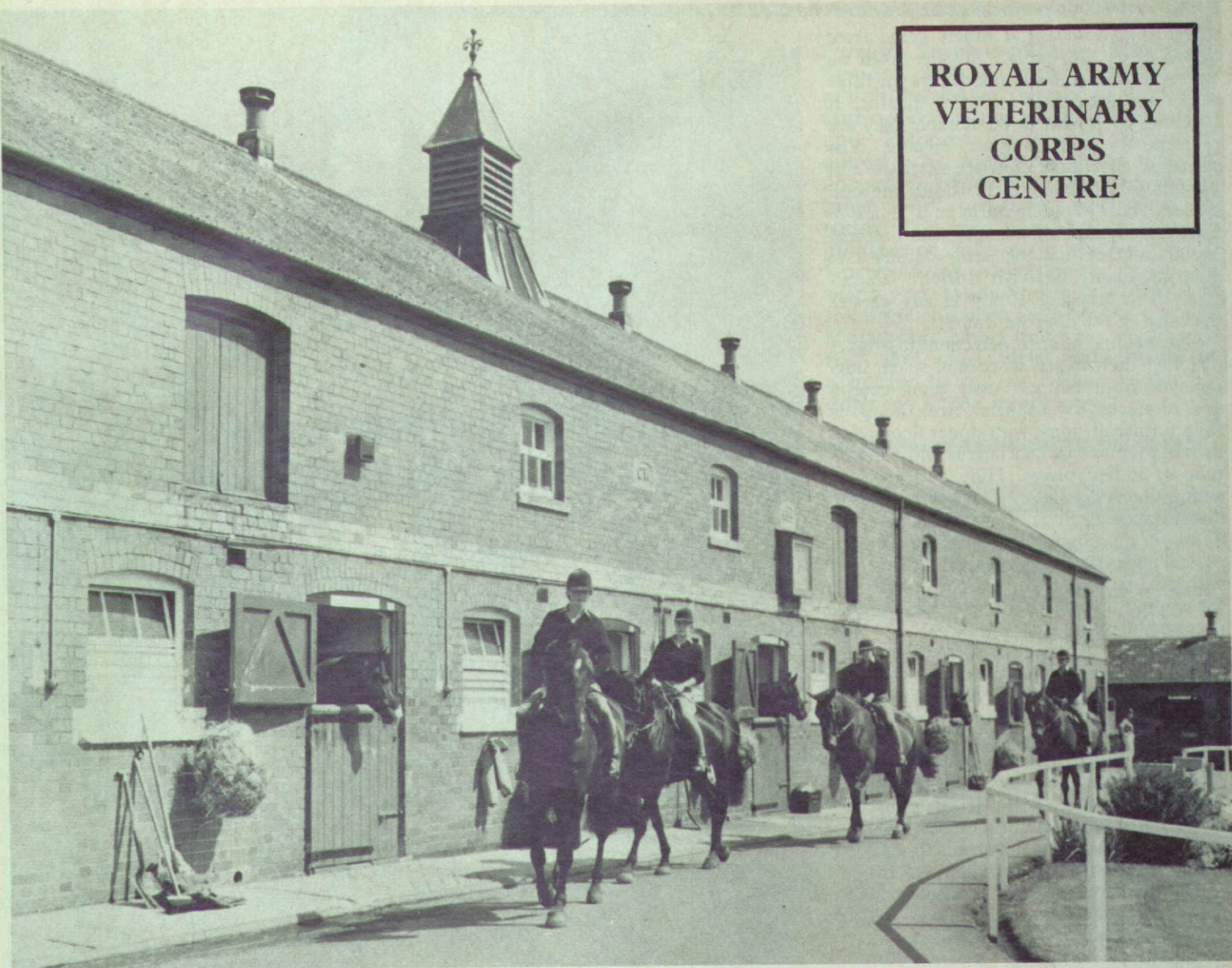
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ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS CENTRE



WRAC rider/grooms (above) exercise their charges. Below: A wind vane trade mark above the farriers' shop.

Where dogs and horses take priority

FOR thousands of years the horse played a vital role in war. Only in this century has it been relegated to the purely ceremonial occasion. In recent times it is man's other four-legged friend, the dog, which has taken an important part in Army operations—sniffing out bombs and ammunition, helping in riot control and guarding security establishments.

At Melton Mowbray, in the heart of the rolling fox-hunting countryside of Leicestershire, is an Army establishment where both horses and dogs are equally to the fore—the Royal Army Veterinary Corps Training Centre which employs about a third of the 120 officers and men of this small and dedicated corps of animal lovers.

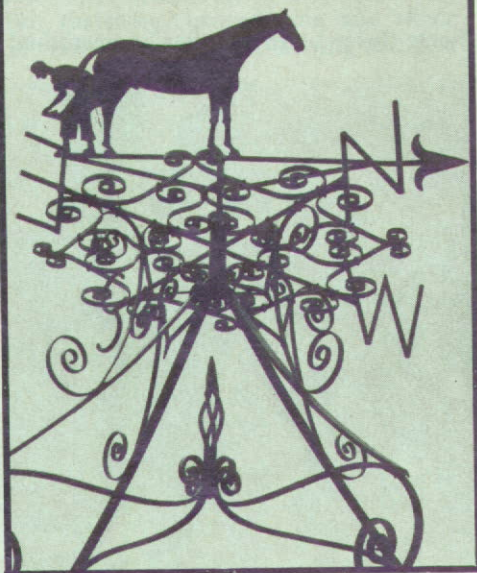
Animal lovers they certainly are. Not for them the luxury of forgetting about their Army job every week-end. Dogs and horses, unlike motor vehicles, cannot be put away and forgotten for a few days—they have to be fed, watered and looked after seven days a week.

Take Warrant Officer 1 Tony Rossell,

British Army's chief dog trainer. He did his basic training at Melton Mowbray 20 years ago and since then has served in Kenya (Mau-Mau), Cyprus (EOKA), Muscat and Oman, Aden, Germany (three times), Malaya, Singapore, Borneo (confrontation) and now has his first home posting in his Army career. He says: "Every person who works here is 'bombed out' on dogs—he has to be."

Last year more than 600 dog handlers, representing Ministry of Defence police, civilians and all Army regiments, were trained at the centre. There is a short three-week course for guard and security dog handlers who come to Melton Mowbray and are "married up" with a dog, trained and posted with it. For the specialist dogs, known colloquially as "sniffers" but in fact embracing tracker and arms search dogs, the course is as long as three months. Again the handler will continue with the dog with which he has trained.

The Army does not breed its own dogs as it is not thought to be economical. It buys



Story by John Walton
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs

from previous page

some from dealers and others come from members of the public. All are taken on approval—the Alsatian guard dogs for three weeks and specialists for three months. If they are not found to be suitable they are returned to their original owners. The specialist dogs these days are Alsatis and Labradors. Although there is still the odd bloodhound around it must be a shock to Sherlock Holmes aficionados and Clement Freud to learn that the Army doesn't rate them too highly. Says Mr Rossell: "I don't think their tracking ability is any greater than that of the dogs we train."

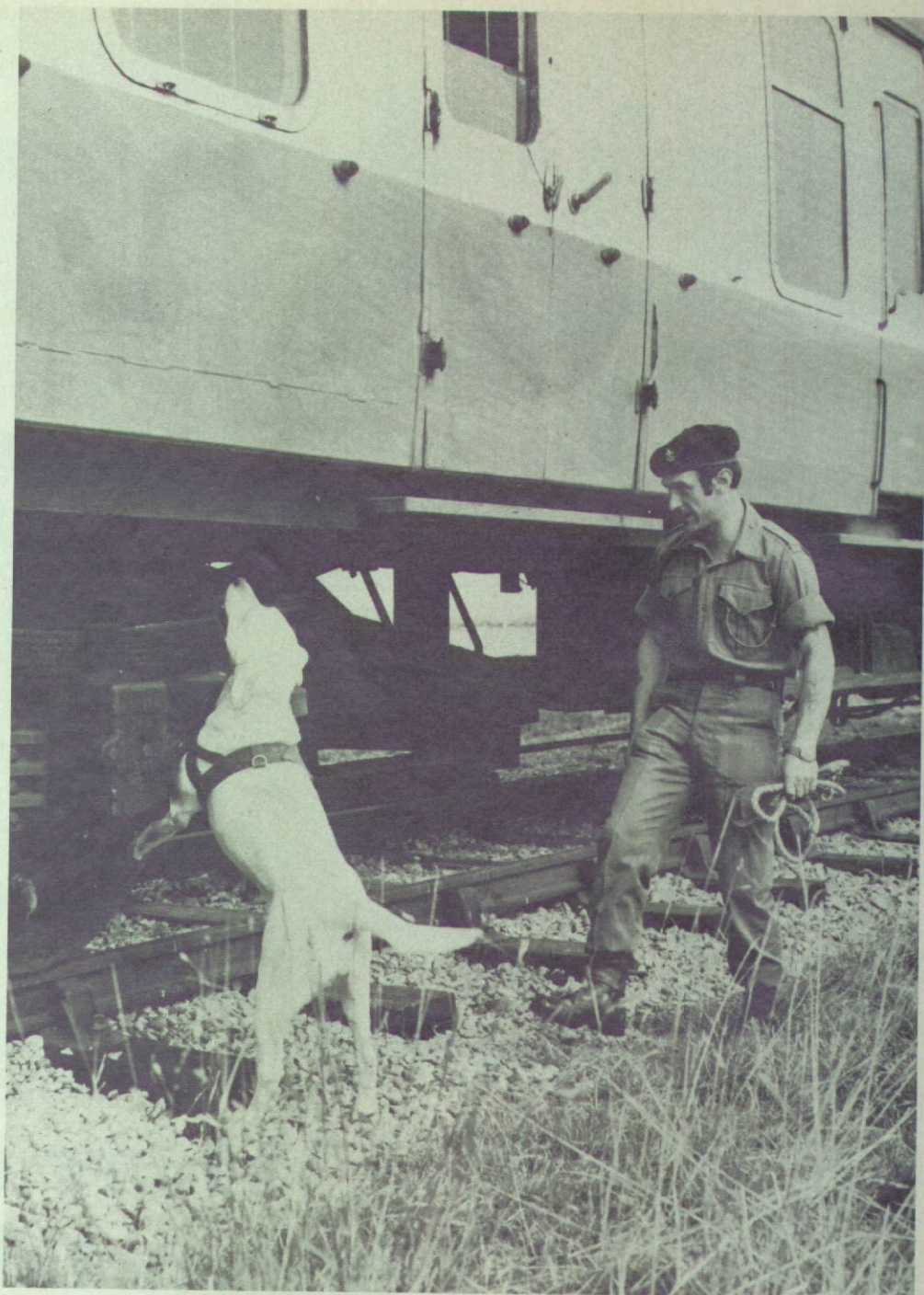
The training of arms detection dogs takes place in "the village," a series of spider huts removed from another Army camp nearby and re-erected by sappers. Each house is fully furnished, some with upper floors, and includes removable floorboards and a multitude of hiding places. Hide a weapon or ammunition anywhere in a house and the dog will speedily find it. For soldiers to search a house thoroughly for arms could take several hours but a dog can complete the job within 20 minutes and without the necessity for ripping up floorboards and causing unnecessary damage.

Nearby are a barn, a double-decker bus, a railway coach complete with guard's van and an old Heron aircraft which was fished out of the sea after a crash. All are used for search training and the barn is peopled with sheep and goats. These animals have two roles—they train the dog to take no notice of other animals and also to detect arms over smells likely to be found in a rural environment. The aim is for a fully trained specialist dog to be able to sniff out anything from a rocket handler to a Beretta pistol and also find explosives and even the equipment for manufacturing do-it-yourself bombs.

"The important thing," says Mr Rossell, "is to train them to ignore anything else. We don't want them coming up with old cocoa tins and that sort of thing."

How a dog indicates when it has found something is a matter for choice (the dog's choice that is). Trainers watch for the dog's natural indication such as pricked ears, wagging tail or a pawing of the ground and then develop this.

Looking after the dogs, some of which are



A sniffer dog is keen and alert. Not so the horse (below), drowsy after an operation!



extremely hostile to anyone they do not know, is a group of Women's Royal Army Corps kennelmaids. There are about 40 girl soldiers at Melton Mowbray—mostly kennelmaids but including eight rider/grooms and five working in the animal hospital. The job satisfaction they find is self-evident—most leave only to get married.

Colonel Harry Bishop, who commands the centre, has one particularly important job. He buys all the Army's horses. Black horses are always difficult to obtain and he must keep the Household Cavalry fully in stock, which involves regular visits to horse breeders and sales in England and Ireland.

The site at Melton has a long association with horses, having been built 80 years ago as a stud farm. It was bought by the War Department in 1902 as a remount depot and has acres of lush green fields for grazing, a cross-country course, jumps and excellent stabling. The grazing is assisted by the Army's least-known recruits—a herd of beef cattle. They are employed to eat the tougher type of grasses which their more fastidious equine colleagues refuse to touch!

The equestrian staff includes civilian grooms, the eight Women's Royal Army Corps grooms who are also skilled riders (see this month's back cover), and instructor Warrant Officer 2 Ben Jones, who is an Olympic gold medalist.

Years ago when horses were injured they were speedily put down. But today's modern hospital techniques can often return the injured animal to full strength. In the camp animal hospital SOLDIER saw a horse recovering which ten years ago would never have been fully serviceable again. A cavalry mount, it had been kicked by another horse and taken from London back to the RAVC Centre for a plate to be inserted.

The hospital boasts its own X-ray department and dogs and horses come from all over the country for treatment. Where the veterinary advice is that the condition will not clear up within a few days, the animal is sent to be healed by experts. Horses from London are also sent out to Melton Mowbray during the non-ceremonial season for a breath of fresh air and a rest in the country.

Horses, of course, need to be shod and unlike thatching, hedgecutting and other rural crafts, farriery is not a dying art. The



Farrier Sergeant-Major David Symons has an unusual hobby which he began when he was stationed in Hong Kong six years ago. Falconry is usually associated with medieval times but according to Mr Symons it has a large and growing following today. The bird he is holding is his lanner falcon, a native of North Africa which hunts other birds and takes them in flight. He finds the area around Melton Mowbray "good hawking country" and says "It's more than a hobby to me as I have to be with my birds every day."



Sea legs may not help these Navy midshipmen to stay in the saddle, even mounted on the placid horses used for training. Some of the Centre's large herd is seen below off-duty.



from previous page

traditional village blacksmith may have gone but the great recreational use of horses has kept farriers busy. Every year the centre runs a three-day farriery competition including an open section which last year attracted 68 entrants from all parts of the country.

Chief instructor at the School of Farriery is Farrier Sergeant-Major David Symons, the only man in the British Army holding that rank. He has been shoeing horses for all his 17-year Army career and transferred from The Life Guards to the Veterinary Corps in 1963. "I shall complete my Army service here," he told SOLDIER. "There is not much opportunity for farriers to serve elsewhere—we have one at Aldershot and one in Hong Kong with the mule pack. But we do a bit of demonstrating and take part in shoeing competitions in this country and in Germany."

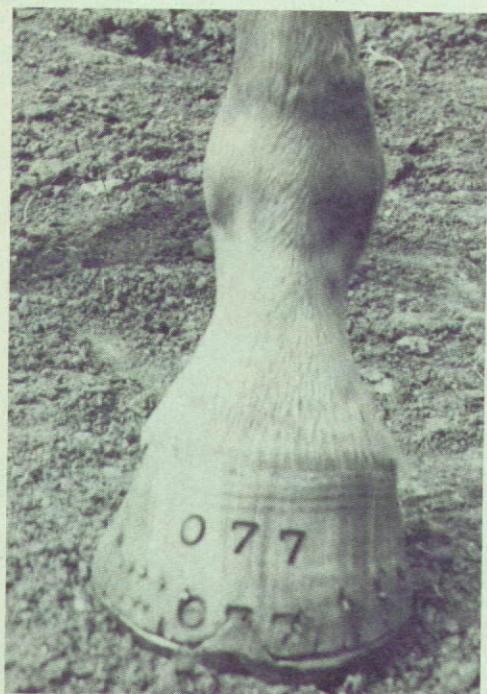
The Army farriers have a conspicuous success record in their battles with their civilian counterparts. Their training is long and thorough—four months up to B3 standard followed by two years to B2 which entitles them to be registered as shoeing smiths. These days many ready made shoes are supplied which merely have to be altered to fit a particular horse but every Army farrier has to be able to make his own shoes from the raw metal.

At any one time the five farriery instructors may have two Veterinary Corps trainees learning the job as well as running a course for eight students from other Army units. Any unit using horses has to change their shoes frequently—certainly every six weeks and with a hard-wearing horse on road work the time can be as little as ten days.

Out at Melton Mowbray the atmosphere is friendly and decidedly bucolic. But the work with animals being carried out there is still important to today's Army—even though the days of cavalry charges have long gone. Vehicles come and go but the horse remains and the dog is yet again proving his worth (see SOLDIER, February 1973) in today's grim confrontation in Northern Ireland.



Private Kenneth Wood heats a horseshoe to give it the farrier's finishing touch.

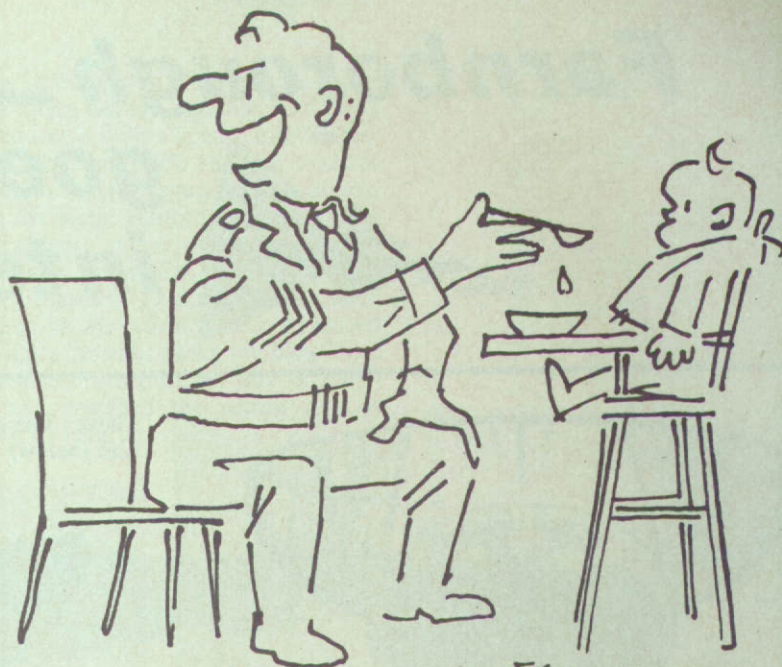


Best foot forward bears this horse's Army number, but he wears out more shoes than his human counterpart does boots (right).



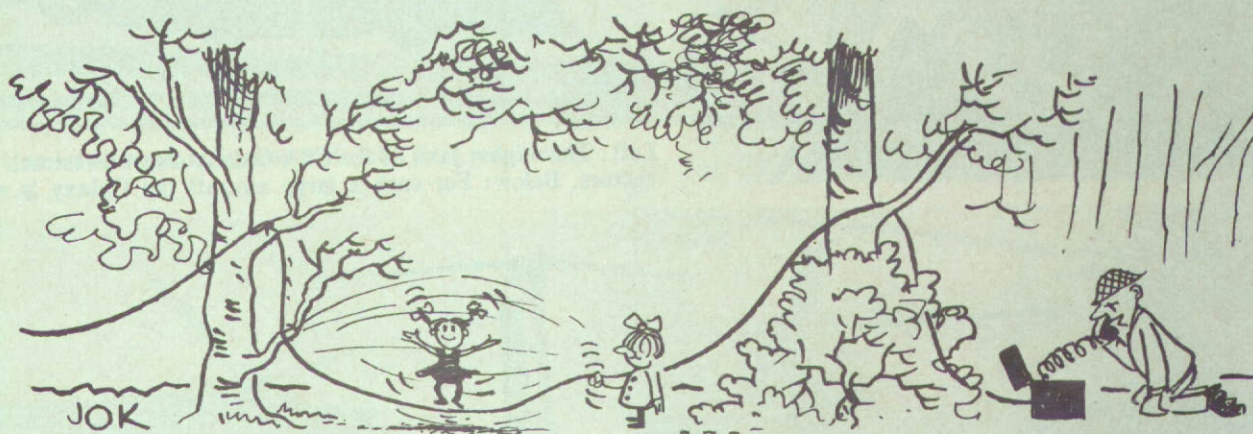
Bless their cotton socks!

It may not seem so from this collection of cartoons from SOLDIER's files, but the British soldier is traditionally fond of the dear little kiddiewinkies!



FRANK
FENCH

"He just said his first 'Hup'."



"You'll have to speak up. It's a bad line."



W. M. W.

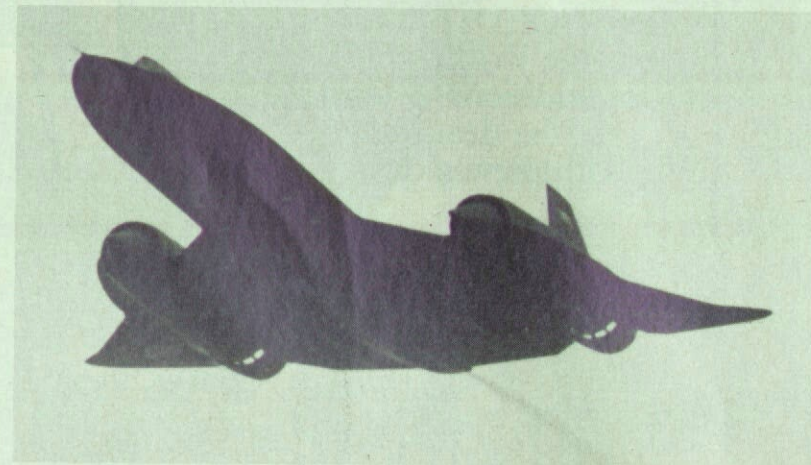


E. R.

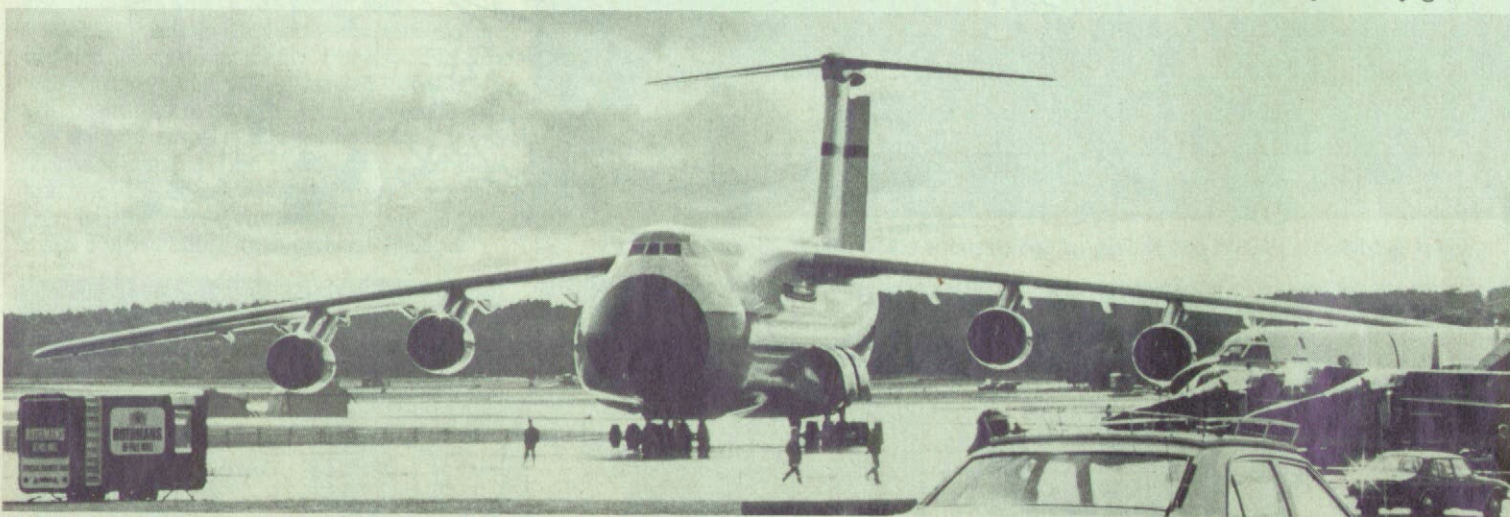
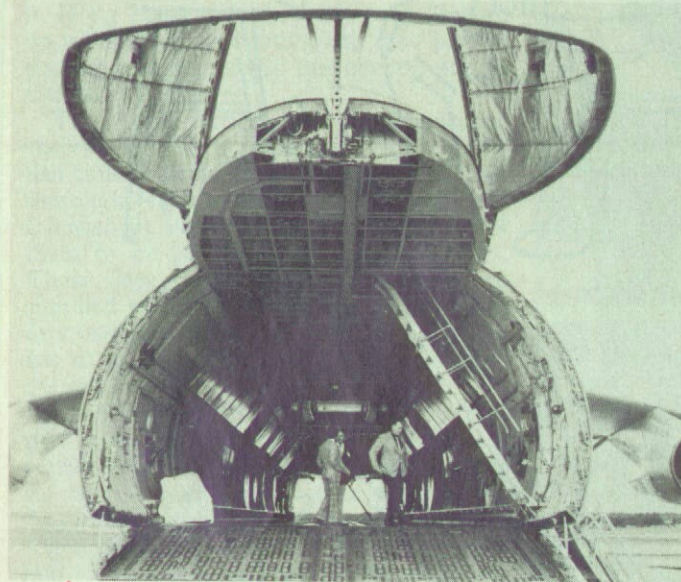
Farnborough goes international



Above: The unmistakable delta of the Swedish SAAB Viggen, times two! And (below) the sinister-looking wonder-plane from the US—Blackbird.



Left: The mighty jaws of the C5A Galaxy dwarf awestruck Farnborough visitors. Below: For such a large aircraft the Galaxy is very graceful.



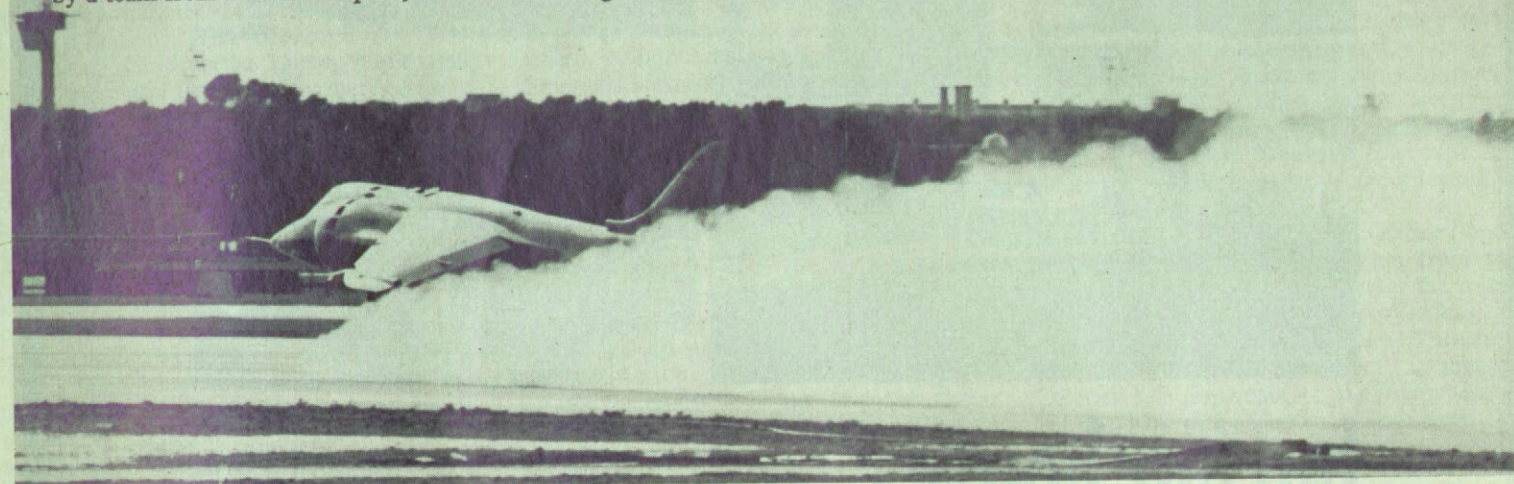
Some of the year's worst weather, with lashing rain and gales, heralded the arrival of this year's Farnborough Air Show organised by the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

This was the first fully international Farnborough with more than 400 companies from ten countries competing for custom in an exhibition area doubled in size to more than 250,000 square feet.

As a result, Army participation in the show was minimal this year although it included the erection of a temporary footbridge over the main A325 road and emergency manning by a team from 2 Field Hospital, Aldershot.

However, the Royal Air Force took a major role in the flying display—ending each day's flying programme with a spectacular featuring eight Harrier jump-jets and four to six of the new Anglo-French Jaguar strike/trainers.

Among the static exhibits were the giant Galaxy transport plane from the United States and the sensational SR71 or "Blackbird" from the same Lockheed stable. The latter, billed as the world's most advanced reconnaissance aircraft, broke the New York—Britain speed record on its way to Farnborough and smashed the record to Los Angeles on its return.



Once more, Harrier stunned audiences with its VTOL capability.



Lynx is one of the Army's latest helicopters. The Navy's as well.



Right: Bulbous American warhorse Chinook sports "Geronimo" tag.

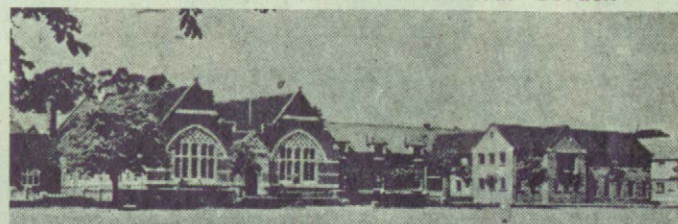
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CYPRUS

Under the Army Umbrella

FAMAGUSTA, the main tourist resort of Cyprus, with its concrete cliffs of hotels for packaged sun-seekers and miles of sandy beaches is now a ghost town populated only by a few hungry dogs and stray cats.

The town's 43,000 inhabitants fled westwards before the tidal wave of Turkish tanks that swept out of the Kyrenia enclave as early negotiations between the warring Cypriot factions broke down.

Among the deserted shops, homes and hotels were 400 British Army married quarters whose occupants were withdrawn to the safety of the Sovereign Base Area at nearby Dhekelia. Belongings had to be left where they were and that meant "operation moving house" to salvage the families' furniture.

The task fell to the Bicester-based 518 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, which worked in five teams of seven men under the command of Major Chris Etherington, emptying houses and flats at a rate of 24 per day. The pioneers had to contend not only with the tension of the front-line situation and the oppressive silence of the deserted town but with temperatures which often soared above

100 degrees Fahrenheit. Even so, the teams worked 13-hour days.

To reach work each day, the Pioneers had to pass through a Turkish checkpoint where passes were closely examined by guards with fixed bayonets whose only words were a curt "good morning" as the daily six-vehicle convoy passed their unsmiling faces.

From then on the Pioneers saw no-one until they passed the Edelweiss restaurant in the centre of Famagusta where the Swedish United Nations detachment maintained a precarious foothold against all comers. Now the company is back in Bicester—a bustling metropolis compared to the sullen hush of war-torn Famagusta.

The tragic wake of this as any war was the human tide of refugees fleeing before the armed might of the combatants. Forces families living outside the sovereign base areas in the south-east and south-west of Cyprus were flown back to the safety of the United Kingdom (see *SOLDIER*, October 1974).

Less fortunate were the Cypriots themselves, many of whom sought protection under the Union Flag in the sovereign base

areas. An eyewitness reported just after the Turkish advance on Famagusta: "Throughout the night the refugees poured into the SBA in lorries, cars and farm tractors, the line of vehicles stretching at one time to Famagusta itself six miles away. Those with cars have plastered them with mud in the forlorn hope that the makeshift camouflage will protect them from air attack. As I walked through the area this morning I saw old women sitting on the ground rocking backwards and forwards crying and wailing—a pitiful sight—they have lost everything and have nowhere to go. These people have given up and their only immediate hope is with the British Army from Dhekelia base who are giving them cooking and toilet facilities and—above all—protection."

The refugees were directed to Athna Forest where at least a little protection from the sun could be found. Within hours the numbers swelled to an estimated 10,000 and the Army rushed in food and supplies. The camp was set up under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J F Bowman, of the Army Legal Service, who with a very small staff saw to the refugees' immediate needs.

Greek Cypriot refugees queue up at Athna Camp to collect their allocation of rations.

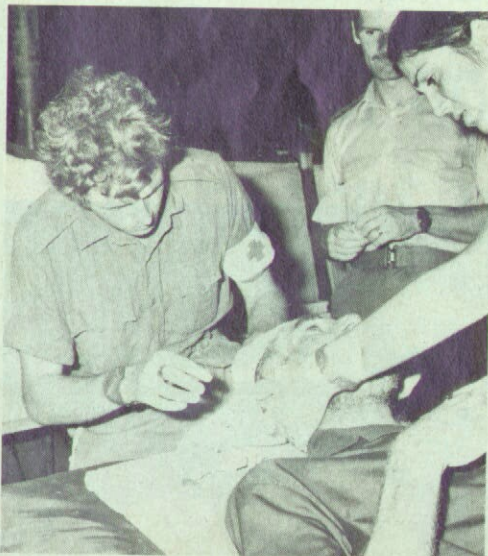


Flashpoint

Eye-witness: "At the northernmost perimeter of the British Sovereign Base Area I watched as Turkish tanks half-a-mile away moved across as they circled to the west of Famagusta. During this move I heard only sporadic automatic fire as plumes of red dust marked the movement of the tanks. At 1215 a jeep with three Turkish officers drove up to our road block and asked for a conference with the senior British officer. A Turkish officer, the operations officer of the tank squadron, met Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Cartwright, the commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and discussed the boundaries of the SBA."

Right: A parachute canopy acts as sunshade for the refugees on morning sick parade.

Below: A refugee casualty at Athna Forest Camp getting 19 Field Ambulance treatment.



Below: Volunteer refugees buckled to and baked some 1000 loaves per day under Army supervision to feed the Athna Forest Camp.



Above: Well... no... I mean... All work and no play... lovely Julie Ege and comic Frankie Howerd came to entertain soldiers.

The following day a tented field hospital, under the command of Captain Tim Barber and staffed by a team from 19 Field Ambulance, was set up in the forest. As well as attending to medical needs, the medics also looked after feeding young babies in a specially set up unit which supplied tins of strained baby food and baby milk.

Toilet facilities were arranged by men of the Royal Engineers and more than 500 latrines were swiftly constructed in the camp. Warm clothing was an immediate requirement for the very old and the very young and a volunteer team of teenagers from families living in the Dhekelia base made a house-to-house collection of clothing for distribution to the refugees.

Initial emergency rations supplied by the Army consisted of biscuits, tea and hot soup; these were later reinforced by British Government and Red Cross supplies. The cooking of meals is carried out by the refugees under the supervision of cooks from the Army Catering Corps and, using Army field ovens,



Flashpoint

Eye-witness: "At 1445 today a Ferret scout car of 16th/5th Lancers and a Press car close by were fired on by a Turkish tank whilst the scout car was within the Sovereign Base Area. There were no casualties and a strong protest was lodged. This area is protected by Scorpions and Ferret scout cars of 16th/5th Lancers and men of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers."

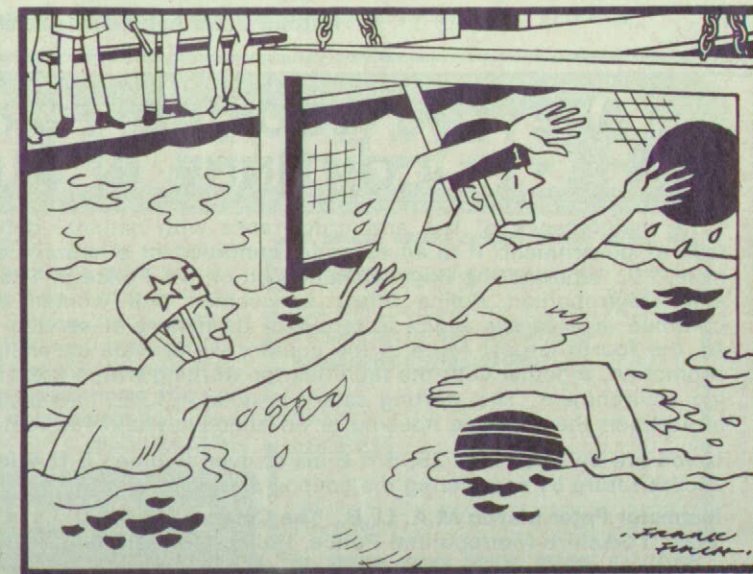
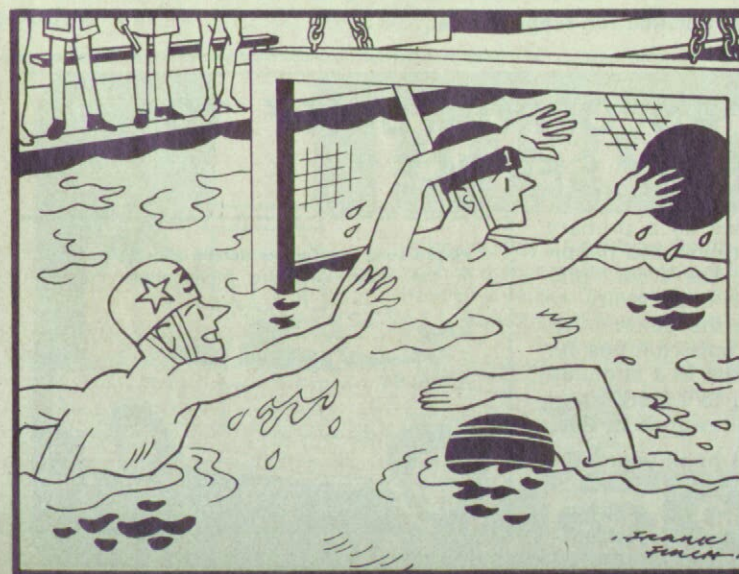
Below: Royal Scots manning a check point in the western Sovereign Base Area giving a car the once-over. **Right:** Lieut-Col Ian Cartwright, commanding officer of 1 RRF.



Flashpoint

Eye-witness: At this point at 1700 today I saw two squadrons of Turkish tanks with armoured personnel carriers drawn up in battle formation in a shallow valley. Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Cartwright, commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, drove his Land Rover over the 1000 metres to the Turkish squadron and met the unit commander. After pointing out how close the tanks were to the British base, the battle tank formation turned and left. During the 15-minute conference an enormous pall of smoke rising from stricken Famagusta formed a backdrop to the proceedings.

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AGE

THE southern tip of Gibraltar is Europa Point—a promontory that commands a unique simultaneous view of both Europe and Africa on either side of the 14 miles of sea dividing the two continents. Soon sightseers will be able to enjoy the view from a brand-new recreation area—thanks to part-time sappers of the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve.

Toiling through the height of the summer heat on the Rock, men of 120 and 130 squadrons from 111 Engineer Regiment (Volunteers) cleared and levelled the cliff top area, built walls and paths and set up bench seats for tourists to admire the view.

The two squadrons split into four parties which each spent a fortnight's annual camp on the task. The job was relatively simple but 130 Squadron's officer commanding, Major Alan Terry, explained: "We're always looking for small jobs like this that can be finished during the period of the annual camp so that the squadron can actually see the results of its work."

However small the job, it still calls for expert handling. The men of 130 Squadron came from all walks of life though most had some connection with one of the engineering disciplines. There were specialist skills on hand too. One of the pieces of plant machinery provided by the part-timers' Gibraltar-based hosts—1 Fortress Squadron, Royal Engineers—was a digger-tractor being handled with ease by a man whose civilian job it is to drive just such a vehicle.

Lieutenant Neil Parker asserted: "Despite the fact that we come from all over the United Kingdom, we find there is a very good spirit in the regiment as a whole." His contribution to this spirit was to share his honeymoon with his squadron duty and his brand-new bride went with him to Gibraltar!

Although there were more than 60 sappers, 14 non-commissioned officers and seven officers in the party, there was work for all. The day was split into two shifts with one half on duty from 0600 to 1230 and the other from 1230 to 1900. Taking a break from the intense glare of the high summer sun on the limestone and dust of the site, one sapper confirmed: "It's a chance to get away for a bit and get a job done. We don't do it for the money—many of the blokes actually lose money by being away from work. But we all enjoy it or we wouldn't do it."

Every two or three years the annual camp is abroad. The last overseas trip for the squadron was to Cyprus two years ago.

Gibraltar turned out to be something of a home-from-home—sappers have been on the Rock for more than two-and-a-half centuries.

Compared with some of the intricate tunnelling with which past sappers have honeycombed the Rock, the final stages of the Europa Point development might seem insignificant. But even this small task is a source of pride to the Territorial soldiers responsible, summed up by one of them: "Our job is just the tidying up now. But we're making a good job into a really good job"—a tradition even older than the sapper presence in Gibraltar.

Story by Mike Starke
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs



The promenade wall gets some finishing touches from the Terriers.

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Eleven-year-old Geoffrey Chandler brews up a jungle stew of ferns under the eye of QMS Eric Ford. Right: Fellow adventurers watching a further preparation for lunch.



Blackboards to jungle

MORE than 130 schoolboys, children of British servicemen based in Singapore, spent part of their summer holidays this year on special jungle survival expeditions organised by the Jungle Warfare Wing of the Army School of Infantry as Combined Cadet Force courses. The courses lasted three days and included sleeping under the jungle canopy in

"bashas," learning how to sterilise water and cooking Army rations. The boys also had a practical navigation exercise and were taught how to trap animals, what to eat and what not to eat and how to build survival shelters.

Pictures by UK Public Relations, HQ ANZUK Force.

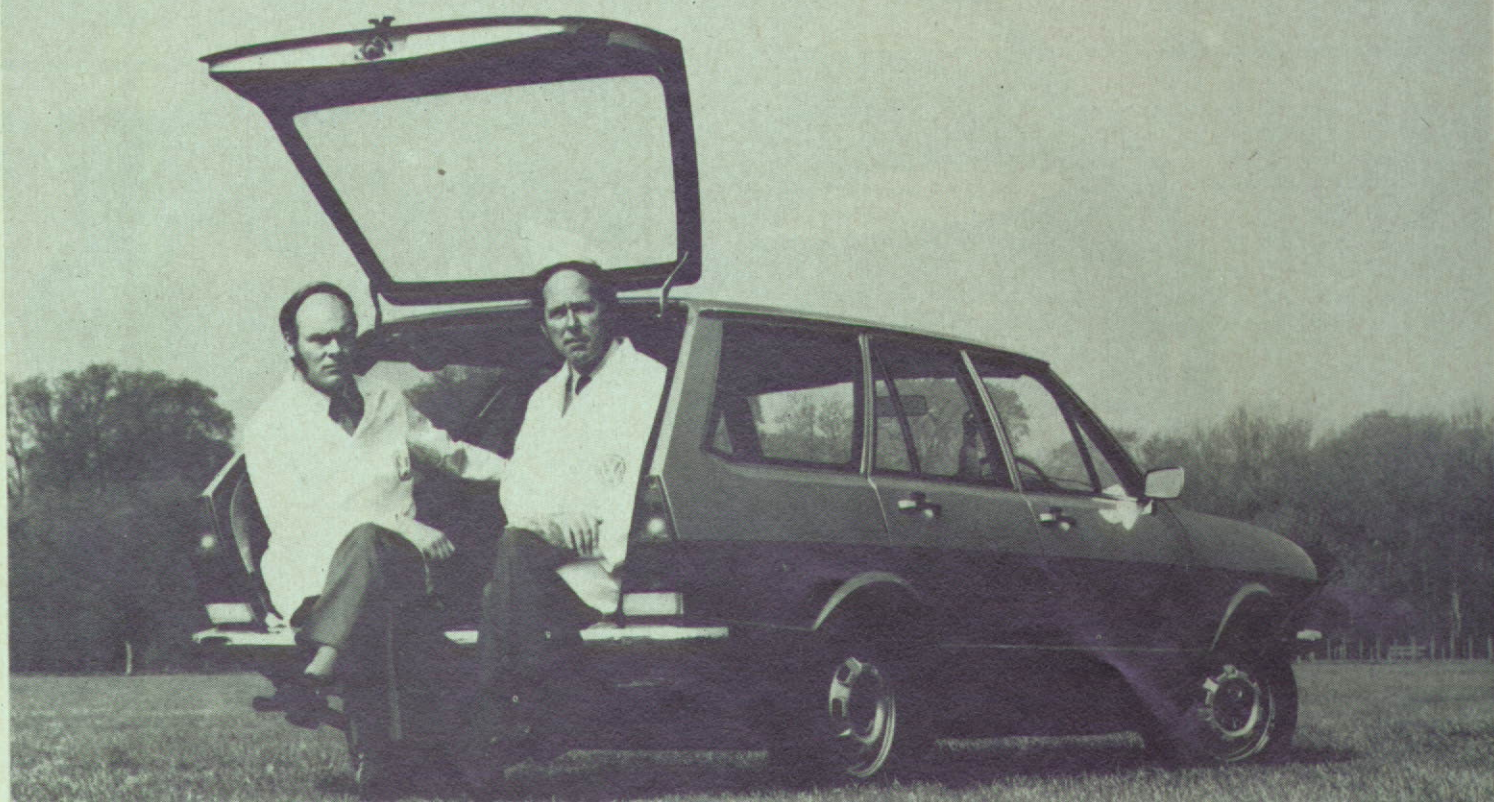


Young Roy Chester enjoys a hot mug of tea even in the steam heat of tropical jungle.

Right: Brother and sister team of Amelia and Angus Ward joined the jungle survival course to take a holiday with a difference.



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Pull-out supplement SOLDIER November 1974

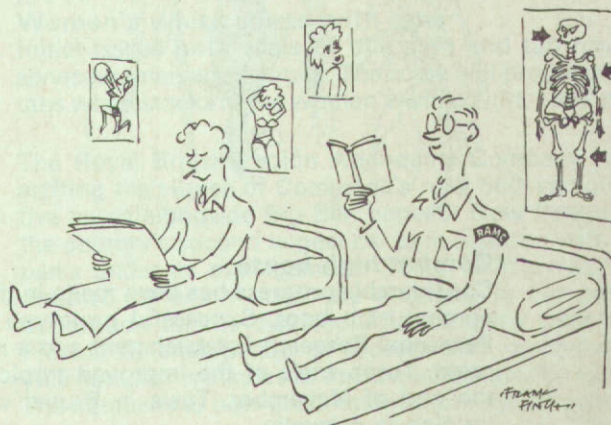
PAY OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICERS

Recommendations by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body increasing the pay of medical and dental officers have been accepted by the Government. The recommendations took into account recommendations of the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration as affecting general medical practitioners in the National Health Service and include an increase for Services medical and dental officers in the X factor payment. Medical and dental officers have already had the benefit of certain general improvements in Service pay, including threshold payments and special payments when serving in Northern Ireland; they have also paid increased food and accommodation charges, in common with Service personnel generally, since 1 April 1974.

The new rates, effective from 1 April 1974, are:

Rank	Service	Daily	Annual
*Cadet, medical		£ 2.78	£ 1015
*Cadet, dental			
Provisionally registered medical practitioners:			
Lieutenant		7.63	2785
Captain	On appointment	12.46	4548
	After 2 years in rank	12.64	4614
	After 4 years in rank	12.88	4701
Major	On appointment	14.83	5413
	After 1 year in rank	15.01	5479
	After 2 years in rank	15.21	5552
	After 3 years in rank	15.46	5643
	After 4 years in rank	16.16	5898
	After 5 years in rank	16.41	5990
	After 6 years in rank	16.58	6052
	After 7 years in rank	16.84	6147
Lieutenant-Colonel	On appointment	18.02	6577
	After 2 years in rank	18.37	6705
	After 4 years in rank	18.73	6836
	After 6 years in rank	19.09	6968
	After 8 years in rank	19.43	7092
Colonel	On appointment	20.58	7512
	After 2 years in rank	20.81	7596
	After 4 years in rank	21.10	7702
	After 6 years in rank	21.34	7789
	After 8 years in rank	21.57	7873
Brigadier		22.75	8304

* Education grant of £949 a year (£2.60 daily) is paid in addition.



CLANSMAN RADIO

Marconi Space and Defence Systems Ltd proudly claims that its £4,500,000 contract for supplying the Army with Clansman vehicle VHF radio sets is one of the largest single production contracts ever awarded for military radio systems. The contract includes the go-ahead for material procurement and the provision of extra automatic test equipment to supplement the £1,000,000 computer-controlled test facility already installed at the Hillend factory.

Clansman is claimed to be the most advanced VHF/FM vehicle radio equipment available in the world. It involves a concept of front-line communications where a series of flexible radio networks can be re-deployed at will to suit the communications requirements of a changing tactical situation. Each network has as its hub a Clansman set—designated UK/VRC353—which acts as a base station communicating on either analogue or digital channels with man-pack or aircraft sets in its own network or with other vehicle sets in other networks. A special feature of the set, significant to its base station role, is its re-broadcast facility—a two-set installation can receive a signal on one frequency and automatically re-transmit it on a different frequency to give a two-way radio relay.

MRCA ON THE WAY

Full backing has been confirmed for the tri-nation multi-role combat aircraft (MRCA) after a thorough review by the Government before the General Election. Now joint developers Britain, Italy and West Germany can go ahead with the next phase, expected to last until the end of next year, of the project.

No firm orders have yet been placed for the new aircraft but Britain plans to buy the most—385—at an estimated cost of £3,400,000 each. Germany expects to order 322 and Italy 100.

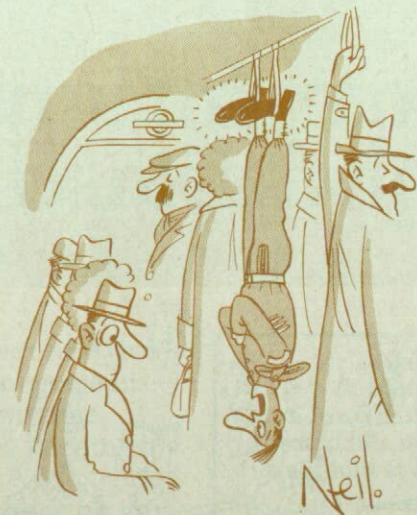
MRCA is a highly sophisticated swing-wing design capable of speeds above mach 2 at high altitude and transonic at low altitude. It has all-weather operation capability and STOL characteristics. The power comes from two Turbo Union RB199-34R engines.

Combat clothing

All Regular Army units should now have disrupted pattern material combat trousers, combat smocks, combat hoods, combat hats and a combat liner.

Temperate climate DPM combat suit

Troop trials of a new cotton/vincel material in the in-service design are now in progress in Northern Ireland and Rhine Army and are due to finish in mid-1975. The aim of the trials is to test the durability and shrink resistance of the new material against the in-service all-cotton suit. The problem of a certain amount of heat stress when wearing the DPM temperate combat suit in summer has been considered. To allow an accurate assessment of the extent of the problem, Rhine Army has agreed to carry out a comparative trial in the summer/winter of 1975/76. The aim is threefold—to compare the comfort of tropical and temperate design trousers with liners and temperate without liners in summer, to compare the comfort of temperate trousers with liners against those without liners in winter and to test the durability of tropical combat dress in a temperate zone in summer.



"After a solid week spit-and-polishing, I don't intend to get them trampled on!"

Combat high boots

Considerable progress has been made in the research contract for the production of a combat high boot. Successful prototype trials have been carried out at the Army Personnel Research Establishment and a report was due as SOLDIER News went to press. Troop trials of the improved tropical combat boot will end in Singapore at the end of November. Trials in Brunei were extended to allow evaluation during training in Australia.

Ankle/puttees

Puttees are superseding anklets on a maintenance basis. It is not anticipated that there will be any problems over mixed dress as these items are now worn with working dress or combat dress only. For the same reason, future provision of all puttees, other than khaki ones, is to cease. After the present stocks of puttees in regimental colours have been issued, no more are being bought.

Heavy wool jersey

Troop trials in the United Kingdom and Rhine Army of an improved version have been completed. The trials report is in preparation at APRE and it is anticipated that it will recommend the introduction of a pullover with a tighter knit and improved shrink resistance.

Electrically heated clothing

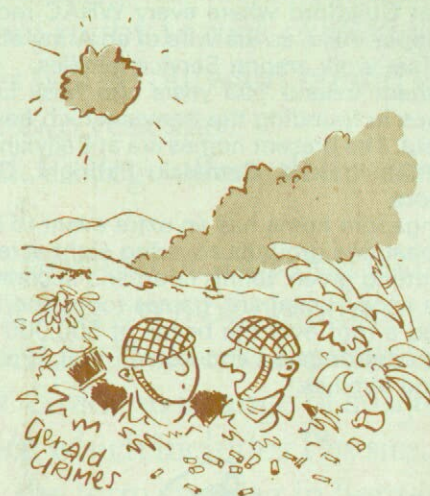
The technical, dexterity and comfort aspects of the electrically heated insoles and mitts have been improved and further trials will take place this winter in the United Kingdom.

Lightweight coveralls

Terylene/vincel types have been troop trialled in the United Kingdom, Rhine Army and Singapore.

Lightweight trousers

Troop trials of the new lightweight trousers for use as clean fatigue dress in hot climates are in progress in Singapore and will end in December 1974.



"Dead cushy, mate, we haven't had a kit inspection in three months."

Soft collars on No 2 dress shirts

These have been approved for soldiers and will be introduced on a maintenance basis. An additional more modern pattern, with longer collar points, is being evaluated.

Polishable cap badges

All corps and regiments have been asked to comment as to whether polishable cap badges should be re-introduced to replace anodised aluminium badges. The Army Dress Committee feels that in view of proposals received in the last few years, opinion may favour the re-introduction of the polishable variety.

White accoutrements

A new softer type of plastic for white belts, frogs and rifle slings is under development. If trials prove successful, it is anticipated that items in the new material will replace those at present made in white woven corlene, which have some disadvantages particularly in the chafing of uniforms by the hard material.

Women's white shirts with tabs

Initial issues on a scale of one shirt and tab have now been made to all Regular servicewomen and recruits. The scale will progressively increase to four shirts and four tabs when stocks of the women's white shirt, 1962 pattern, are exhausted. (DCT)

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION ATTENDANTS WIN NEW CONTRACT

The Royal British Legion Attendants Company has been awarded the contract for staffing the House of Commons's new 550-vehicle car park which has been built on five levels alongside Big Ben beneath New Palace Yard. The Attendants Company is the country's second largest car park operator with some 380 municipal and other car parks under its management. Of its 1000 ex-Service personnel, 650 are registered disabled of whom most are engaged in car parking control—a State-designated occupation for the disabled. The company built its own high security lorry park at Preston in anticipation of Government recommendations for guarded lorry parks. This complex is also used for assessing security systems and the training of personnel. The company is non-profit making, ploughing surplus income back to provide further secure job opportunities for ex-Servicemen. The attendants are familiar figures at

BRITISH LEGION CONTRACT

continued

RESETTLEMENT NEWS

RECRUITING FIGURES UP

DUCHESS OF KENT SANDES HOMES PATRON

Wimbledon each year, at the Ideal Home Exhibition and the Royal Academy. It also won the prestige contract for the security of the Churchill Centenary Exhibition at Somerset House—a tribute to its growing security responsibilities.

Issue six of the Services Resettlement Bulletin concentrates on careers in driving and the coastguard service while the training section highlights the Open University and gives advice on obtaining a civil aviation pilot's licence. Northern England is singled out for attention in the regular regional opportunities feature.

Recruiting figures released by the Ministry of Defence this summer show a continuation of the upward trend begun earlier this year. There was an increase of 190 in the intake of adults and young soldiers over the numbers for the same period last year. Juniors showed a rise of 84 compared with last year but the ministry points out that the next main entry of juniors was after the figures were compiled and no significance should be attached to the small mid-term entries recorded. (PR)

The Duchess of Kent has accepted an invitation to become patron of the Sandes Soldiers' and Airmen's Homes. The Duchess has two special links with the organisation. As Controller of the Women's Royal Army Corps she has an interest in the Sandes Home at Guildford where every WRAC recruit does six weeks' basic training at the corps depot. Also, as the wife of an Army officer herself, she is fully aware of the need for welfare work among Service families.

In southern Ireland 105 years ago Miss Elise Sandes—then a girl of 18—took the first steps in founding the homes which have since served the Armed Forces all over the world. The present homes are at Ballykinler Camp and Palace Barracks, Holywood, in Northern Ireland, Catterick, Pirbright, Guildford, RAF Locking, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The Singapore home has an extra event to celebrate since it is 25 years old this year. Set in beautiful grounds covering eight acres, the home boasts a full-sized swimming pool, putting green, tennis court and accommodation for up to 100. Indoors the home offers a shop, restaurant, games room and library. During its 25 years, the home has provided a roof over the heads of 500,000 troops and in times of crisis, such as the Borneo confrontation and Korean War, it provided family accommodation for several thousand families.



"Sorry my Christmas message has been so long, men, but here's hoping you all enjoy your Christmas dinner."

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Sharpshooters on parade



The Honorary Colonel took the inspection and salute—and took pleasure in it too!

Below: The open air lent informality to a religious service. Top: Squerryes Court.

THOSE valiant yeomen of the late 18th century may have been giants on the battlefield but physically they were not big men. Their successors, The Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters), made this discovery when planning an open day at Squerryes Court, Westerham. The two old uniforms displayed at the event proved to be so small that two ladies had to be press-ganged into wearing them.

The Sharpshooters were celebrating Alam el Halfa Day, a battle of the Western Desert in 1942 in which both the Kent and London units were involved. They merged in 1961 and under further Territorial re-organisation six years later were reduced to squadron strength to form C Squadron of The Royal Yeomanry.

Among the attractions at Squerryes Court were the regimental museum, a mounted display of techniques employed by the yeomanry in pre-Boer War times and an armoured car tactical display.

An inspection and general salute were taken by the Honorary Colonel, Major-General The Viscount Monckton of Breckley, following a commemoration service conducted by the Vicar of Westerham, Canon A S Chapman, himself a Yeoman.





The old hospital morgue is ominously close to the assault course—but it's now shut!

The Rolls-Royce camp

A CLUSTER of huts overlooking the Taw estuary in North Devon has earned the title of the "Rolls-Royce" of training camps for the facilities it offers. This is the claim of the commandant of Fremington Training Camp, Major Peter Farrelley, an ex-infanter who unashamedly runs his command on infantry lines.

The reason for the pride is the accommodation and creature comforts that he can offer units coming to Fremington to train. There is a permanent staff of some three dozen at the camp including cooks and kitchen hands as well as administrative staff and, in case of accidents, an ex-Royal Army Medical Corps sergeant is on hand and a local doctor is on call—the camp has its own military ambulance.

Said Major Farrelley: "All we ask a visiting unit is that it brings a few staff to help out. This is our key thing and it means our standard is considerably better, in my opinion, than that of the average training area."

Having once been a Regular Army camp, facilities for training are especially useful. There is an assault course—recently rebuilt by sapper junior leaders—a mini-range for shooting, covered training areas, a gymnasium and sports pitches kept in peak condition.

Being next door to an estuary provides ample opportunities for water sport adventure training including sailing, canoeing and surfing. Pony trekking and orienteering exercises are organised on nearby Dartmoor and Exmoor and rugged coastal areas provide tough routes for marches. Major Farrelley's son Patrick, who is serving with The Parachute Regiment, used a platoon of his own seasoned troops to help map out



Glorious Devon beaches are close to camp.

some gruelling march routes to test the fittest Fremington trainee.

It is mostly young soldiers who come to Fremington, bringing with them what equipment they need, to take advantage of what the camp and its surroundings can offer. During SOLDIER's visit a group from the Training Support Squadron of the School of Signals at Blandford was in residence together with some Royal Army Pay Corps recruits and their instructors.



As darkness falls, a night exercise gets under way for Fremington-housed recruits.

The Signals' officer commanding, Major John Daw, explained: "My blokes work flat out all year on the work for their trade and this camp gives them a chance to catch up on more physical activities. It's a splendid place. Not marvellous looking from the outside . . . but inside, the cooking and accommodation are smashing, with all sorts of facilities right on the doorstep."

While his men were preparing for a night patrolling exercise in the estuary's extensive dune-land, the Pay Corps youngsters were taking their canoes to nearby Woolacombe beach to learn the skills of canoe-surfing under expert instruction. Unseen behind the scenes, Major Farrelley keeps a close eye on progress, using his local knowledge and contacts to ensure that the Army's needs do not clash with the everyday lives of Devonians who share the quiet coastal area.

But Fremington became part of the local scene as a military establishment long ago. It started life in World War Two, on the site of a polo ground, as 348 United States General Hospital. In March 1946 the School of Combined Operations moved in and became known as the School of Amphibious Warfare. The still-gracious manor house which became the officers' mess numbered

among its guests Lord Mountbatten whose combined operations work brought him to Fremington.

More recently the camp was home for 18 Amphibious Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, whose DUKW amphibians have only just bowed out of service (see SOLDIER, June 1974) at Marchwood. The squadron left Fremington on disbandment in 1972 and the camp's future seemed uncertain for a time before it was decided to re-open it as a base for unit training.

Now some 70 groups a year attend week-to-ten-day courses at Fremington, keeping a continuous flow of soldiers passing through its gates. They find the Rolls-Royce comforts there to greet them and, too, opportunity for a wide variety of hard work. Major Farrelley commented: "Someone once said to me, 'You are running a sort of Butlins, aren't you?' I said, 'You want to come and see the chaps when they come back in from their training . . . then you wouldn't say that!'"

Story by Mike Starke
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs

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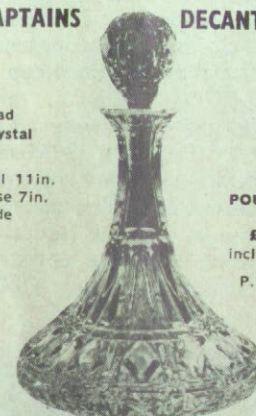


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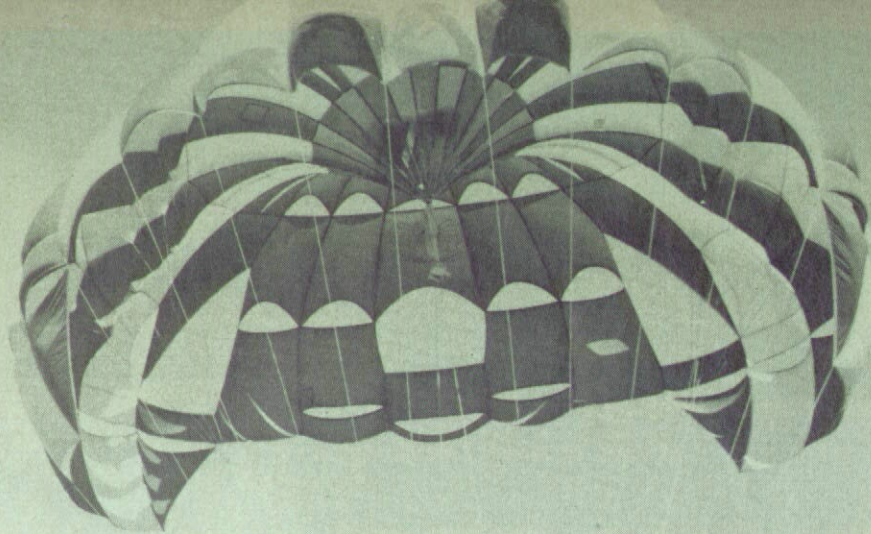
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MAKE YEAR

MILEAGE EXTRAS



Red Devil's 1000th para drop...



...and first for Mrs Greenjacket

THE RSM's wife wanted a change from the down-to-earth routine of household chores... so she got her head in the clouds by making a parachute jump. Behind the scheme to break the monotony—but not the neck—of Mrs Jenny House was husband RSM Thomas House, of The Royal Green Jackets' Depot. And just to show how easy it is, he made his first descent by parachute with his wife and they were joined by Pam Dowling, wife of Sergeant Bob Dowling.

Said mother-of-three Jenny afterwards: "It was absolutely terrifying jumping out of the aircraft so high up. But when you're on the ground and you look back on it you realise what a marvellous experience it is."

Her enthusiasm has proved infectious and already a dozen buglers and the bugle-major at the depot have signed on with the Green Jackets' Parachute Club whose chief instructor, WO2 Ted Strawson, trained Mr and Mrs House and Mrs Dowling. In fact, any Green Jacket or his wife wanting to take up sport parachuting is eligible to join the club. Pictured left to right: Mr House, Mrs Dowling, Mrs House.



Sport

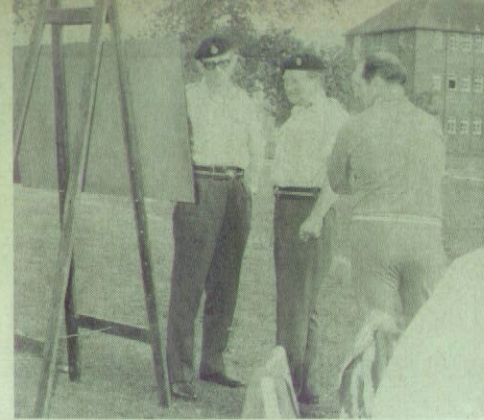
BRITISH Army parachuting champion Lance-Corporal R A "Scotty" Milne clocked up his 1000th descent in style by dropping in on his regimental depot—The Parachute Regiment, of course—in Aldershot. Scotty is in his third season with the Red Devils freefall team which he joined as a relative novice with a mere 130 descents under his belt.

Thanks to the rigorous training and perfection of technique that goes hand-in-hand with the public display work of the Red Devils, he is now a champion and has added yet another trophy to the groaning cup cabinet in the team's headquarters. He added a personal trophy to his collection on landing after descent number 1000 when Colonel Joe Starling, the regimental colonel, presented him with a special cigarette box before he cracked a bottle of champagne with fellow team members.

Eventually, Scotty will get one of The Parachute Regiment's new gold lanyards specially produced to be worn by parachutists with more than 1000 descents to their credit. Scotty is the third current Red Devil freefaller to have reached 1000 "jumps" and claims that at 22 he is one of the youngest parachutists to have reached that score. In the United Kingdom as a whole only 20 or so freefallers have reached their 1000.

Golf

The old Aldershot Command golf course, opened in 1890, has had a facelift including a new custom-built club house. The opening ceremony was performed by Lieutenant-General Sir Allan Taylor (handicap 5), Deputy Commander of UKLF, aided by South East District Commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Terence McMeekin, club president, and Aldershot Garrison Commander Brigadier Peter Ellis, chairman, who share handicaps of 24. The formalities over, the refurbished turf was christened with a match between the Army Golfing Association and the club.



Above: Spectators could not believe the five-a-side scoreline of 55 AD Squadron. Below: A shot for one of the 1592 goals.

Soccer

Ten sportsmen from 55 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, hobbled into history after a world-record breaking 55 hours on their feet playing five-a-side soccer. A total of 1592 goals stretched the netting at either end of the pitch to give a final score of Blisters Rovers 673—Cramps United 919. But the real winners at the end of the marathon session were three forces' charities—Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association, Army Benevolent Fund and RAF Benevolent Fund—which shared the £300-plus raised in sponsorship for the match. This muscle-mangling money-spinner was the brainchild of Sergeant-Major G F Munroe who determined to wrest the record from the old holders, Duke of York's Royal Military School, where his son is serving. With one-hour training sessions as a build-up and non-stop pop-music for encouragement during the big match, the new champs added a clear seven hours to the old record.



Sports Shorts

BOXING

The season gets off to a fine start this month with the first match being Army versus TAVR at Harrogate on 9 November. The Infantry Junior Soldiers finals are to be held at the Mercian Depot on 22 November. The Army will box against Wales on 29 November and the junior inter-unit team finals are fixed for 30 November.

SHOOTING

Inter-Services' small-bore meeting results: Individual match: 1st Cpl B J Warwick (787), 2nd Mr D Hooper (786), 3rd C/T H J Dillon-Lee (RAF) (782). Army v Police Athletic Association: 1st Reg. Army (16,399), 2nd PAA (16,327). PS and K match: 1st Reg. Army (3050), 2nd PAA (2997), 3rd RN (2930). Inter-Services long-range match: 1st Reg Army A (4695), 2nd Reg Army B (4671), 3rd TAVR (4665). 50-metre match: 1st Reg Army A (3523), 2nd Reg Army B (3510), 3rd RAF A (3500). Inter-Services long-range championship: 1st Reg Army (8218) (thus winning Gilbert Trophy), 2nd TAVR (8142), 3rd RAF (8130), 4th RN (8120). Reserve forces match: 1st TAVR (8142), 2nd RNR (8020).

The Regular Army was narrowly beaten on aggregate after a two-day prone smallbore match against the Scottish national team in Aberdeen. The first day's English match, shot out of a possible 6000 points, went to Scotland with 5849 to the Army's 5817. The tables were turned in day two's Double Dewar match with a highest possible of 8000 when the Army scored 7729 to Scotland's 7721. But the Scots had enough points to make their aggregate 13,570 to the Army's 13,546. A ten-man team represented the Army and its top scorer was Sgt W K Boxall (RAOC), of COD Donnington, with 595 out of 600 in the English match and 780 out of 800 in the Double Dewar.

GOLF

Signalman Chris Dennis (21), pictured centre, won the Piccadilly Plate in the BAOR medal golf championship held at the Sennelager British Army Golf Club when he came top of the 85 entrants for the event. During the meeting, ex-Ryder Cup player and former British Open champion Max

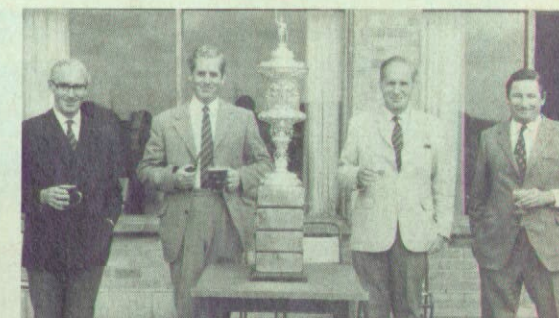
Faulkner, pictured right, gave an entertaining "golf clinic" which was followed by a Pro-Am exhibition round in which Max was partnered by Chris Dennis against Ray Isset, the Sennelager club pro and John Harman, pictured left, runner-up in the medal championship. It was a close-run thing and Faulkner and Dennis won by one hole despite the fact that Ray Isset equalled the club record of 71. The meeting was open to all British forces and sponsored civilians in North-West Europe holding current club handicaps.



Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces won the Army inter-unit golf challenge cup for the second time in three years. Indian-summer weather crowned the event at Tidworth as eight unit teams entered the final stages of the contest organised by the Army Golf Association.

Fielding a weakened team in the first two rounds, minus the unfit Army and county golfer Maj Dick Carroll, HQ UKLF defeated 11 Sig Regt—the North East District champions—in the first round by eight holes to nil. A promising newcomer in this encounter was Lieut Willie Brewin although he lost on this occasion by one hole to Lieut-Gen Sir Allan Taylor. In the second round HQ UKLF beat the RAEC Trg Centre by 15 holes to nil. The return of Carroll to the team for the final helped it to a convincing win by 14 holes to nil against the Inf Jun Ldrs Bn. Three-handicapper Capt Brian O'Farrell IG made his mark on Army golf by halving his match against Carroll.

In the plate competition for the British Trophy, Royal School of Artillery defeated 11 Sig Regt by nine holes to one. And in the "consolidation" Stableford for the four teams not involved in the finals of the two main trophies, RMA Sandhurst just scraped home to win in the General Beard Trophy when, having amassed the same points total as RAOC Trg Centre, the latter were counted out on the basis of their fourth player having the lowest Stableford score. Pictured below: the winners, Brig R McAllister, Lieut-Col J Thorneycroft, Gen Taylor, Maj Carroll.



GYMNASTICS

SSI W Norgrove (APTC) was selected as a member of the British team to compete in the world gymnastic championships in Varna, Bulgaria.

PENTATHLON

Sgt Jim Fox (REME-SEE) was placed sixth as an individual in the world modern pentathlon championships in Moscow. The Great Britain team placing was 14th. Sgt P J Twine (REME-SEE) was 44th and the other team member, civilian Andy Archibald, was placed 48th.

CRICKET

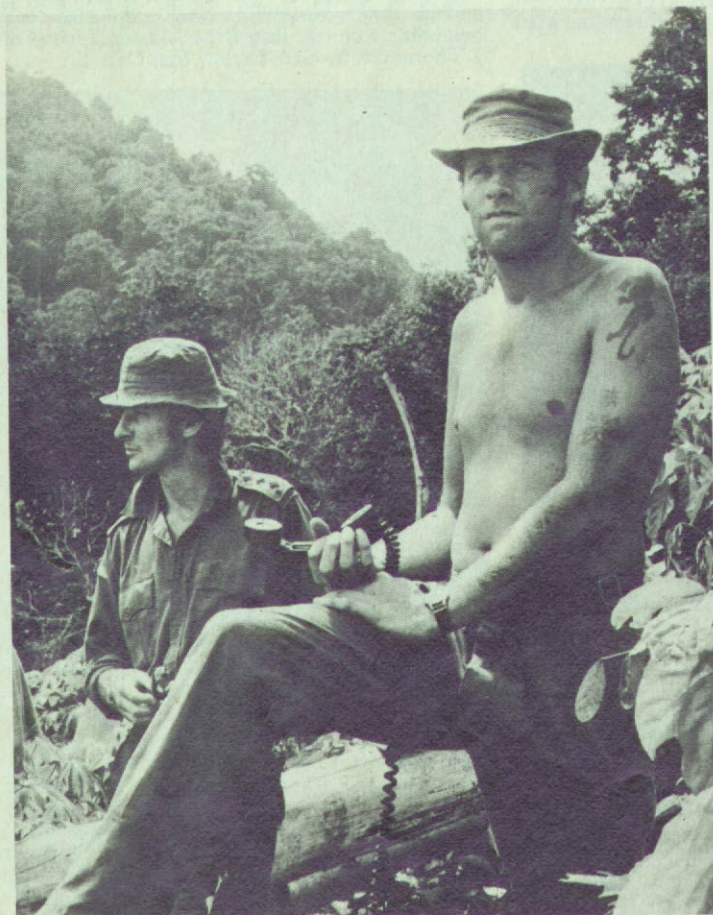
The Royal Army Pay Corps achieved a unique hat-trick in Army cricket by carrying off the trophies at all levels in recent finals. RAPC Worthy Down beat the School of Signals in the major units final, RPO York beat 9 Field Workshop REME in the minor units final and the Junior Soldiers' Cup went to AAC RAPC in the apprenticeship championship.

Four men up front



Above: A strike by a Singapore Hunter jet is directed in right over the forward observation troop on Pulau Aur.

Left: Bdr Mike Arnold directs an aircraft to its target. With him, troop commander Capt Roger Fielding (rear).



A SMALL black speck darted over the shimmering water to disappear momentarily from view. Suddenly the quiet was shattered by an ear-splitting roar as a Hunter jet fighter of the Singapore Armed Forces climbed over the heads of a small group of men high on the slopes of the idyllic tropical island of Pulau Aur in the South China Sea.

Grouped on a rocky promontory on the island, four men of 4 Forward Observation Troop, 95 Commando, wiped the sweat from their brows as they sweltered under a tropical noonday sun. From their vantage point they could see the large sweeping bay and jungle-clad slopes which formed the southern aspect of Pulau Aur. Their job was to guide in the Singaporean pilots, often at sea level, on bombing runs to hand-picked targets on the island—a tin shack, some coconut palms or a cluster of white rocks.

During quieter moments, troop commander Captain Roger Fielding continuously instructed his men in the techniques of forward air control so that if he was immobilised they could carry on without him.

Forward air control adds variety to 4 Troop's main task of directing naval gunfire. Under the command of Commander ANZUK Navy, Singapore, the troop works with many nations in different parts of the Far East and Australasia.

From a report by Public Relations ANZUK Force.



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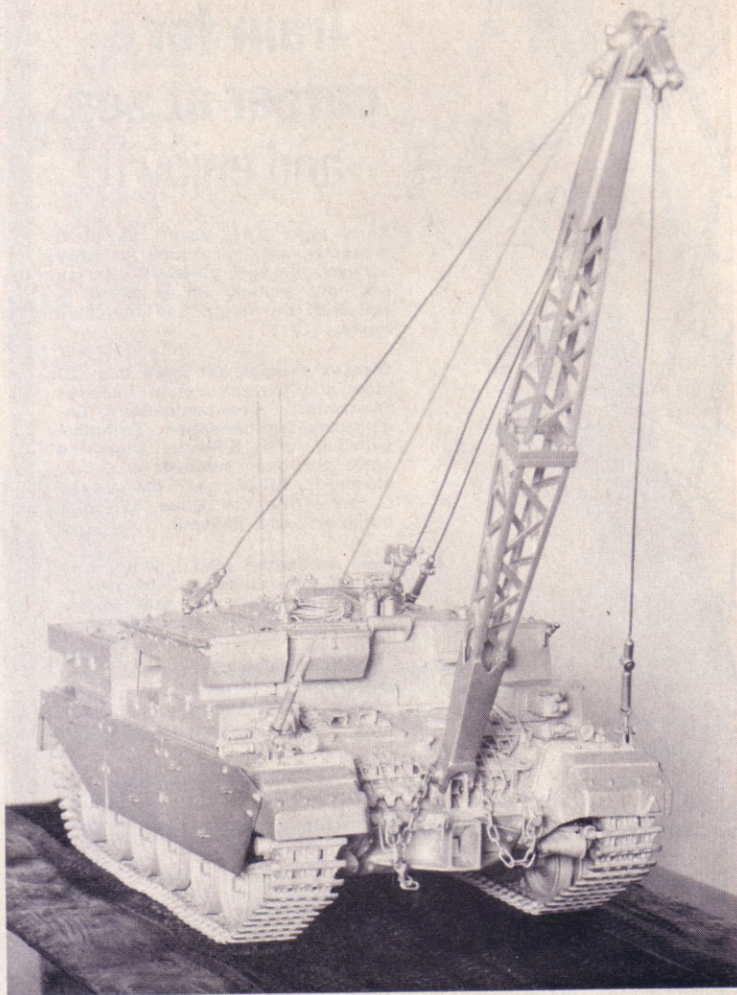
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Left right and centre



The first girls to take the week-long diving course at the Navy-run Joint Services Sub-Aqua Club were two Women's Royal Army Corps officers, Captain Sue Stebbing (right), Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop, and (left) Lieutenant Margaret Jones, Women's Service liaison officer at Basingbourne Barracks. Each full course at the club is for 12 people, four from each of the three Services. Courses are either for beginners to introduce them to the sport or for advanced students to learn to be supervisors. The object is to encourage those trained to help in forming and running sub-aqua clubs in their own units.



The latest addition to the corps silver of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Headquarters Officers' Mess is this 1/24th scale model of a recovery vehicle based on the Centurion tank. The model was built as an exercise in precision metalwork by civilian apprentices of REME's 30 and 43 Command Workshops. The ebonised plinth was made by 44 Command Workshop and the engraved plates by 27 Command Workshop. The finished model was then silver plated. Almost 900 man-hours went into the job.



The band of the Irish Guards, just back from a successful tour in Switzerland, pictured with Miss London Airport, British Airways girl Christine Omar, a colleen from Northern Ireland who is a military music fan.



The 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, is claiming a record during its current tour of duty in Londonderry. And that record is on tape, thanks to pretty Christine Pollard, a BBC Radio Birmingham reporter who visited the unit to record messages and requests from soldiers to their families and friends in the south Midlands. During her three-day stay, Christine visited all the operational areas for which the Staffords are responsible.



Shades of World War One's Old Bill ("If you know of a better hole, go to it!") when Major-General Anthony Farrar-Hockley dropped into a trench (left) to chat to three Gloucestershire Regiment recruits during a visit in his capacity as Colonel-Commandant of The Prince of Wales's Division. The general has more than a passing connection with the Glorious Glosters—he was adjutant of the 1st Battalion during the Imjin River battle in the Korean War in 1951.



"Double away" takes on a new meaning on the square of the Royal Corps of Transport Junior Leaders Regiment now that David and Steven Brown have joined up—they are identical twins. The two 16-year-olds from Yorkshire were enlisted by Major I V C Frier, the York recruiting officer, with a welcome from Colonel H W J Dabson, Transport and Movements Officer for North East and Eastern Districts, pictured here with David (left) and Steven . . . or is it Steven (left) and David?



The deck of a Scorpion from C Squadron, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, is a far cry from the heaving deck of HMS Monkton. But visiting sailors soon found their land legs when they spent a day with the Army in the Hong Kong New Territories.

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Pushmi-Pullyu Panzerspähwagen



WHILE the armament inspection committee of the League of Nations was apparently going around blinkered, the Germans were developing a formidable armoured car with eyes in the back of its head.

The committee had been set up to impose the Treaty of Versailles ban on defeated Germany ever again producing armoured fighting vehicles. The German police however were allowed to have armoured cars

and in 1926 the German Army ordnance bureau secretly handed specifications to police car manufacturers. One of the resulting vehicles was an eight-wheeled "Pushmi-Pullyu" Panzerspähwagen with three forward and three reverse gears and drivers' seats at the front and rear so that it could travel in either direction. To hoodwink the armament inspection committee, the rear driver's seat was removed and cork was applied to the armour plate.

The Sdkfz 232 proved to be as agile as Hugh Lofting's fabulous Pushmi-Pullyu front-and-rear-headed monster of Dr Dolittle fame, bounding nimbly over trackless terrain at speeds of up to 100 kilometres an hour. It provided the mainstay of reconnaissance during the blitzkrieg attack on Poland and was used as a command vehicle by Rommel's Afrika Korps. However, its silhouette was found to be too high and its armour too thin (proof only

against rifle bullets at best) and production was discontinued in 1942 after a total of 1235 vehicles in various versions had been made.

This legendary 7900-kilogram juggernaut has recently been resuscitated as a 1:35th scale model by the Japanese firm of Tamiya. Moulded in grey plastic, this fascinating kit retails at £2.99. Although not motorised, the kit comes with transfer decals for the Polish, French, Balkan, North African and Russian theatres and has intricately detailed parts such as leaf springs and transmission, spare water bottles and jerricans, duffel bags and rolled-up tarpaulin, and even the angular armoured "nose" hastily added to late production vehicles to give frontal protection.

Another Axis AFV in 1:35th scale fresh from Tamiya is the Fiat Ansaldo M13/40. It is complete with movable caterpillar tracks, commander figure and Italian Army decals and costs a mere £1.60.

Richard Kohnstam ("Riko") Limited, 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP1 3AD, the United Kingdom distributors for Tamiya, are now launching military kits of another Japanese firm, Tokyo Marui Toy Company Limited. Their first model is of the rare six-wheeled Mercedes Benz staff car in 1:35th scale at £2.99. This is an impressive kit with real rubber tyres, swastika pennants, "chrome" plated plastic parts and a battery-operated motor, positioned under the bonnet, providing drive to the rear wheels through a working gearbox. There is also a driver, four-man bodyguard and another, gaunt-faced figure, giving a Nazi salute, with dark hair falling over his left forehead and a little square black moustache... **HH**

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LETTERS

Leftrightleftright

On television recently I watched bands of The Light Division, first at Aldershot and then at Colchester. In each case the commentator stated that they marched at the rate of 138 paces a minute. This I believe is incorrect. However, this mistake did not prevent me from enjoying some excellent military music, precision marching and counter-marching and a general smartness provided by our modern Army. These programmes have revived many memories of my Army service in the 1920s and I would like to thank all those involved in the displays.—**F Viner, Bungalow 6, Mead Close, Chantry Mead Road, Moorland Estate, Bath, Somerset, BA2 2DB.**

★ The commentator was incorrect in saying that the light infantry march at 138 paces to the minute. The official rate is 140 paces to the minute. The Royal Green Jackets, at some marching displays, march at 148 paces to the minute.

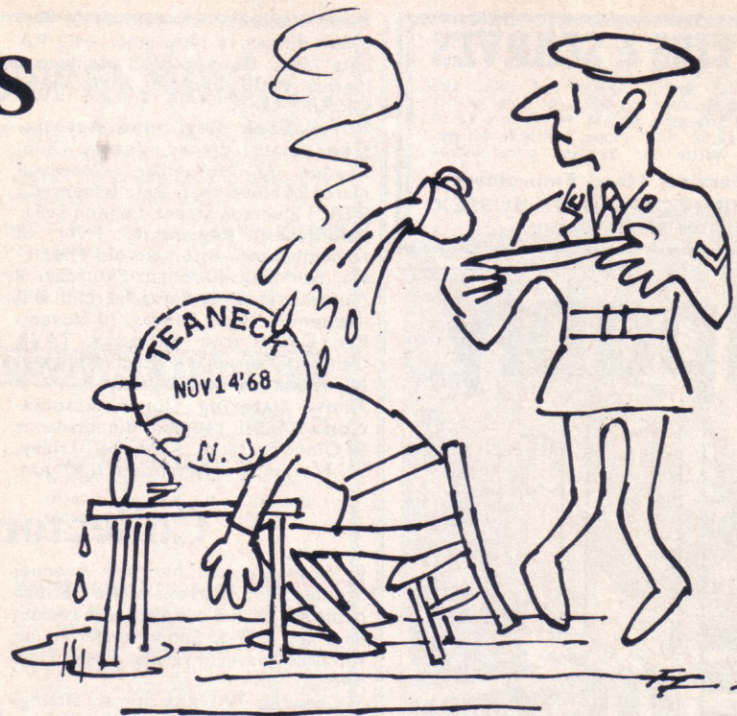
Cooks and medics

I have just read the well-written article on Cyprus (September). It certainly gave a good account of what went on there but I was rather disappointed that no mention was made of the RAMC, QARANC or ACC. I was sent to Dhekelia military hospital to help out when Cypriot employees were unable to get to work and, during my five weeks in Cyprus, medical and non-medical staff of the hospital were working around the clock with no time off at all. The work was varied—we could be feeding a baby one minute and tending old folk the next. The Army Catering Corps, manning the kitchens and supervising the feeding of refugees, did a marvellous job and I am very proud to belong to our Army of such adaptable men and women.—**Pte R I Lloyd, MRS, Sennybridge Training Area, Sennybridge, Powys.**

★ **SOLDIER** regrets not having included all the corps and regiments that did such sterling work in Cyprus. **SOLDIER** was not allowed to send its own team and had to gather from various sources what was probably as good an overall account as any. Reader Lloyd may have missed the special mention of cooks in **SOLDIER** to *Soldier of the September issue.*

Learn a trade

It would appear from the letter (September) from Staff-Sergeant Mayfield that, as I thought, the government training scheme run by the Training Services Agency is very poorly publicised within the Services. This scheme is designed to re-train suitable applicants for a variety of skills in civilian life and is available to both servicemen and civilians. There is a waiting list for many of the skills taught and early application is advised. Any employment exchange or Department of Employment job centre will help. I must take issue with Staff Mayfield on one point. I see no reason why ex-Service personnel, who have been in a well-paid job, have earned a hefty gratuity and will receive a



sizeable pension, should receive any better treatment than those accepting training from other industries so please, Staff, train by all means but don't expect too much financial reward whilst doing so.—**A V Andrews (late E Yorks and RASC), 37 Picquets Way, Bantstead, Surrey.**

Staff-Sergeant Mayfield's suggestion is not new. There was an Army vocational training centre at Chiseldon, Wiltshire, between the world wars, to give trade training to time-serving non-tradesmen who could undergo a one- or two-year course in the last year or two of their Colour service. Trainees received full pay and allowances but were charged two shillings per day whilst attending the course.

Pre-1939 the same facilities did not exist as do today throughout the Army with help readily available from unit education centres and resettlement officers and advice on correspondence courses. Nor was there opportunity to take Civil Service direct entry examinations at the end of one's service.

The vastly changed conditions today might account for the absence of such an establishment as the Army vocational training centre. Even in pre-war days at Chiseldon some trainees regarded their sojourn there as a holiday, thus wasting time and money. On the other hand, some trainees built two married quarters in Tidworth in the early 1930s and, working under supervision, made a good job of them.

Finally, from a practical point of view, I do not think that facilities exist for any particular corps to undertake wholesale training of non-tradesmen of other arms of the Service.—**Capt H W Corke, 249 Marlborough Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5HS.**

Thirteen "freedoms"

Between 25 July and 3 August 1974 The King's Own Scottish Borderers were granted the freedom of six burghs, Melrose, Wigton, Newton Stewart, Kirkcudbright, Hawick and Coldstream—which would appear to me to be a record. They have now received a total of thirteen "freedoms." Could any reader enlighten

me on whether any other regiment can emulate this?—**Provost D W Y Lloyd, Burgh of Coldstream, 3 Dovecote, Coldstream.**

Budding author

I am a 15-year-old Italian boy working on a book concerning the war in the Pacific Ocean between Japan and the United States of America. It is my intention to include an anthology of stories and evidences of war veterans. I would like to correspond with anyone who can give me any information or stories to help me in my work.—**Franco Biassoni, Via Dante 55, 20033 Desio (Milano), Italy.**

Banknotes

I am a collector of banknotes issued by the Japanese government during World War Two in an attempt to establish the "Greater Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." Such notes were printed for use in Burma, Malaya, Dutch East Indies, Philippines and Oceania, although usage was possibly extended to Thailand, Hong Kong and other eastern areas. With a view to eventual publication of my studies I wish to discover where these notes were printed, how they were distributed, acceptability or otherwise and ultimate inflation. I would like to correspond with any reader who may have such banknotes for disposal or who may have experienced responsibility for finance

ON RADIO 4

"The British Army and the British Soldier" is the theme of a series of 12 weekly programmes, at 8 pm on Thursdays, on Radio 4. The first group of four, "The Redcoats," covering the period from the Civil War to the 1880s and the introduction of khaki for active service, opened on October 3. The 45-minute programmes feature battles and military music and a single character, named Wheeler, represents the British soldier in the first four of the series. Gordon Gostelow plays Wheeler and the narrator is Rene Cutforth.

under the Japanese or British administration immediately before or after the war. I would also like to correspond with anyone having information on or wishing to dispose of British Armed Forces special vouchers (BAFSV).—**V A Brown, Barclays Bank Ltd, Swaffham Branch, 60 Market Place, Swaffham, Norfolk.**

Not on the carpet!

Four pewter ashtrays presented as sports trophies have been discovered by the chaplain of St John's School, Leatherhead, and he is anxious to trace the owner. Maybe readers can help. The ashtrays are inscribed:

1966-67 Squash Rackets—Inter Unit Championship Winners

1965-66 Rugby Football Championship Winners

1965-66 Northern Command Inter Unit Squash Rackets

1964-65 Inter Unit Cross Country Championship Winners

I would be delighted to return these trophies to their rightful owner.—**Brig P D F Thursby, Director Army Sport Control Board, Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.**

COMPETITION

A not very difficult Competition 193—Colour blind?—in the July **SOLDIER** produced overall a 75 per cent correct entry.

The elements were mixed as follows.

Green: 29/February (leap year), blue/bell (flower), Rose/of (Picardy), plum/duff (pudding), 100°C/212°F (boiling).

Orange: Private/stripes (corporal), Romulus/Remus (twins), £/p (money), chocolate/éclair (sweet), 5/plus 4 (equal nine), tiger/tigress (cub).

Purple: Chips/with (everything), discount/rebate (reduction), U/S (America), C/D (circle), a × a/b squared (c × c).

Brown: B/B/C (television), 25 March/29 September/24 June (rents), pi/r/squared (area), chips/bacon/eggs (grill), hydrogen/oxygen/hydrogen (water), red/white/blue (flag).

The unused elements were therefore red, yellow and blue.

Prizewinners:

1 M Edmenson, 11 First Terrace, Sundorne Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 4RY.

2 R Hinchcliffe, 27 Thick Hollins Drive, Meltham, Huddersfield, HD7 3DL.

3 Mrs G Hessey, HQ Land Forces, BFPO 1.

4 P K Bridges, 14 Pinewood Court, Clarence Avenue, London SW4 8LB.

5 Capt R H Dadswell RCT, 6 Munro Road, Bushey, Herts.

6 M S Gollop, 10 Hereford Road, Plymouth, PL5 4HG.

7 Maj M L Dyer RE, 72 Engr Regt (Tyne Electrical Engineers) (V), Elmgrove Terrace, Gateshead, Tyne-Wear, NE8 4HX.

8 Sgt T J Walton RE, 24 Sally Port Gardens, Brompton, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5BU.

REUNIONS

Staffordshire Regimental Association. London and Home Counties Branch annual dinner-dance 30 November, Pier Hotel, Eastbourne, Sussex. Tickets £2.20 from Secretary, B J Harris, 15 Harold Close, Pevensey Bay, Sussex.

continued over ►

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

Royal Tank Regiment Association. Annual dinner, Victory Club, London 23 November. Cenotaph march 24 November. Details from HO RTR, 1 Elverton Street, London SW1.

Middlesex Regiment. Field of remembrance—assemble old Middlesex Guildhall 10.45 am Saturday, 9 November; Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill—assemble 10 am Sunday, 10 November. Details from Secretary, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex (tel 01-952 2625).

Army Catering Corps Association. Annual reunion dinner-dance St Omer Barracks, Aldershot, Friday, 22 November. Reception 6.30 pm.

Tickets £2.00 per head from secretaries catering regions or Secretary, ACC Association, Regt HQ, St Omer Barracks, Aldershot. Closing date Friday, 8 November.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 23)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Length of spectator's stick. 2 Right doorpost. 3 Numeral on left swimmer's cap. 4 Left trouser turn-up of spectator with stick. 5 Stripes on cap of swimmer on right. 6 Position of water drop by elbow of right swimmer. 7 Goalkeeper's left collarbone. 8 Left shoulder of left player. 9 Left leg of form behind spectators. 10 Ripple touching right goalpost.

Collectors' Corner

D Cronshaw, 26 Norman Avenue, Sanderstead, Surrey.—Seeks British paratroop helmet complete with camouflage net, 1939-45 pattern preferred but will accept modern version. Please state price.

R Crowter, 78 Unity Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1HX.—Wishes purchase helmet plates 31st, 70th Foot, also glengarry badges and plates East Surrey Regt, including collar badges.

Lieut-Col N W Poulson, c/o Barclays Bank, Wilton, Salisbury, Wilts.—Seeks Indian Army buttons 1922-47 period 1st Punjab (S), 3rd Madras (L, S) 9th Jats (L), 12th Frontier Force (L, S) 15th Punjab (L), 16th Punjab (L), 17th Dogras (S), 1st Kumaon Rifles (L), 18th R Garhwal (S), 19th Hyderabad (S) plus any different buttons used by any infantry battalions during this period.

Maurice V Winton, 66 Martin Street, Regina, Sask, S4S 3W3, Canada.—Wishes obtain Canadian CEF badges 152, 249, 15 (Reserve) battalions, Saskatchewan University Overseas Infantry Company 8 Recce. Has number Canadian badges to trade.

Barbu Alim, Apt 1631, 5055 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Va 22311, USA.—Wishes trade US insignia for British Army cap and collar badges.

Bart H Vanderveen, 23 Harrison Close, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7HS.—Historian/author on military motor vehicles all types, interested in manuals, parts lists, pictures or anything else in print on this subject worldwide.

B J Hurn, 14 Fields Park Terrace, Crosskeys, Gwent, NPI 7DA.—Just starting badge collection. All types of badges sought.

Jim Clarke, 8 Spring Terrace, Niddrie, Victoria, 3042, Australia.—Needs Vol 1 No 2 of Military Modeller magazine to complete series.

D R Robson, 33, College Road, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, NE3 2LY.—Seeks DLI berets, collar badges, buttons, arm badges, past and present.

S A Wright, 103 Station Road, Teynham, Sittingbourne, Kent.—Seeks SAS beret and badge, Para leg knife, 2, 3 and 15 Para arm flashes and Royal Irish Rangers Tam o'Shanter.

K P Darke, 10 Wakefield Close, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B73 5UT.—Has for disposal copies SEAC magazines Phoenix and Victory, also some British, Indian, American and



Italian uniform items.

G H Jackson, 6 Walkington Avenue, Margaret River, 6285, W. Australia.—Seeks WW2 pattern commando knife and pictures infantry in full dress. Will pay cash or swap Australian Army badges.

C S Darling, 84 Porchester Road, Woolston, Southampton, Hants, SO2 7JD.—Seeks copy 11th Armd Div history "Taurus Pursuant."

R C Sharpe, 12 Eastern Avenue, Peterborough, Northants.—Requires German Army shield issued in 1942 at Demyansk and shoulder flash 30th (Schleswig-Holstein) Inf Div. Will purchase or exchange for British or German army badges/medals.

M Olivant, 7 Stirling Avenue, Waterloo, Portsmouth, Hants.—Has for sale, or will exchange for medals, volumes I and II "The Annals of the KRRC" plus uniforms and equipment volume, the histories of the West Yorkshire and East Yorkshire regt 1914-18.

F R Johnson, 5 Vicarage Cottage, Ramsdell, Basingstoke, Hants.—Wishes purchase signals badges colonial and foreign nations.

Maj M H G Young, E Mess, Rhein-dahlen, BFPO 40.—Wishes purchase SOLDIER issues 1947-49.

L A Mayor, 2 Arlington House, Tunis Road, London, W12 7EP.—Seeks 1914 or 1914-15 trios to 2 Scottish Rifles, 5 Scottish Rifles, 2 Worcs, 10 York and Lancs, also trios to S African Regt in Expeditionary Force on the Somme.

WO2 P Denny, 3 Royal Anglian, BFPO 16.—Wishes purchase medals, books, lists, of 9th and 12th Foot, Royal Norfolk and Suffolk regts, 43rd and 44th coys Imperial Yeomanry. All letters answered.

Per Thornit, Hasselvej 36, 2830 Virum, Denmark.—Wishes purchase Highland regimental books, diaries, letters, old postcards and photos.

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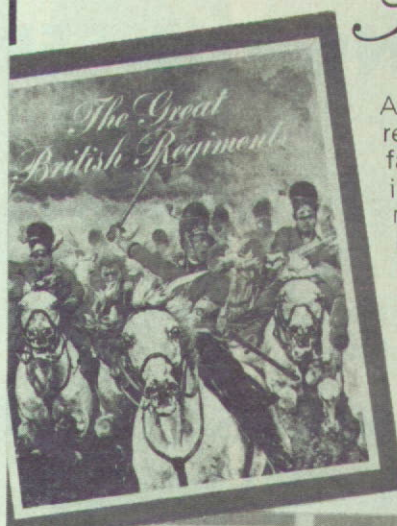
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Mapping a nature reserve

IT'S just like working in the jungle" said Captain Geoffrey Richey as he threaded his way to the spot where his gunner surveyors were setting up their instruments. This particular "jungle" is only 140 miles from London and 20 minutes' drive from the Army's South West District Headquarters at Taunton.

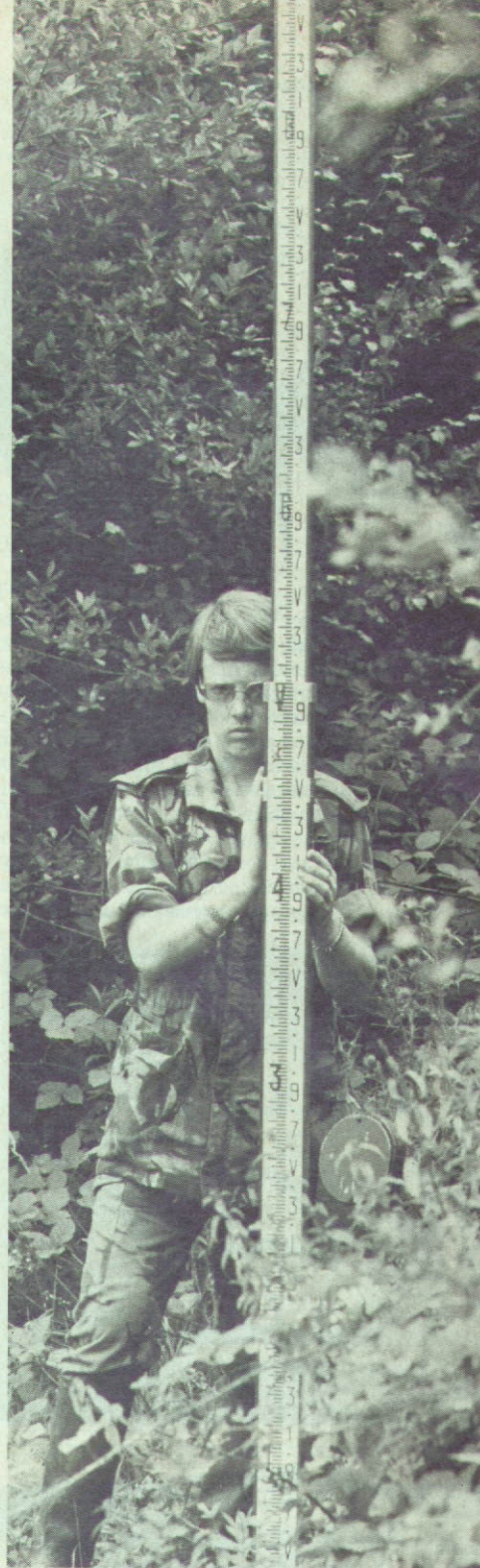
It is 16.24 acres of common land right off the beaten track in the Blackdown Hills. Known as Ashculm Turbary (which means peat digging), it is only a mile from the Wellington Monument, which attracts thousands of sightseers, yet remains completely undisturbed. So does the wild life living there, which is why the gunners, from the survey troop of the Larkhill-based 22 Locating Battery, were there. It was a two-week task to produce a 1/500 scale map of the area for the Devon Trust for Nature Conservation which operates the reserve.

How important is the reserve? Mrs Olive Hallam, chairman of Hemycok Nature Reserves Committee, says 150 species of flowering plants and ferns and 40 species of birds have been recorded there. The area is also frequented by roe deer and reptiles and amphibians are well represented.

Captain Richey and his 27 men set up camp on adjoining farmland. The difficulties of working in an area combining woodland, swamp and dense undergrowth were a challenge they cheerfully accepted. "This is quite a new experience for us as we are doing land survey instead of the normal military survey," said Captain Richey. "We have found the local people most helpful."

The soldiers developed an interest in the plant and animal life of this strange little world although one of them has rueful memories of trying to attract a "pet." The grey squirrel which took his fancy rejected his advances—and left him with a few scars.

From a report by Peter Clare, Public Relations Officer, South West District.



Down in the jungle of deepest Somerset the gunners busy themselves measuring and note taking as they map out the nature reserve.

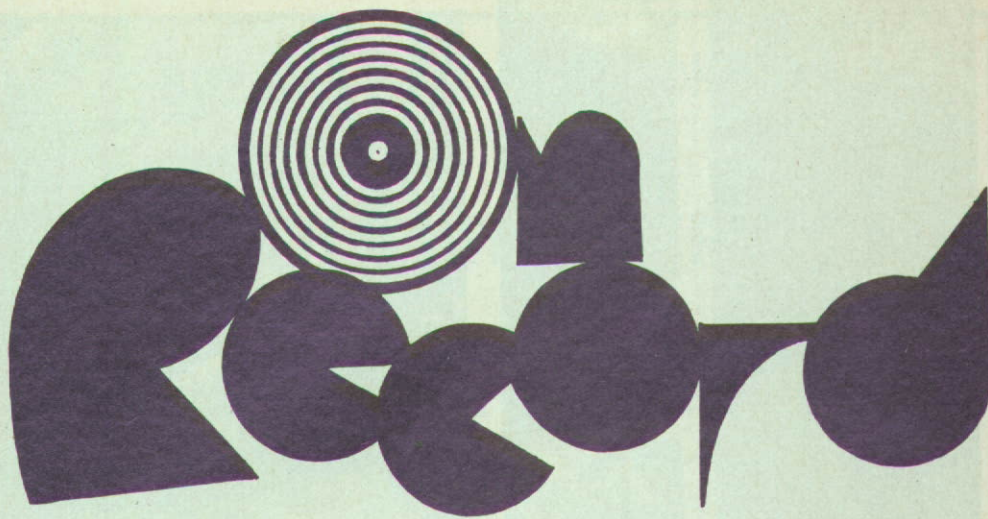
Below: Mrs Olive Hallam, local nature lover discusses the reserve with Captain Richey.



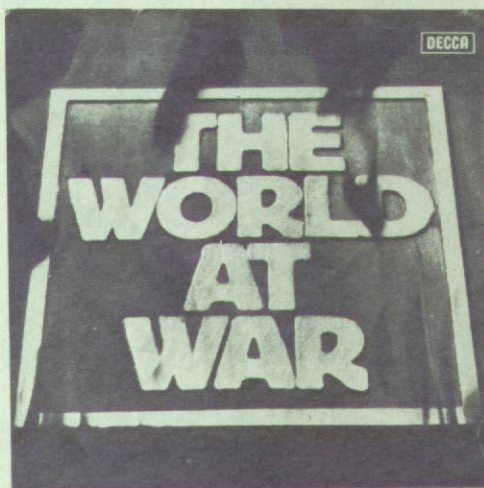
Left: Information gathered by the surveyors is assembled and collated on the reserve.

Below: The gunners put stones down to get the road back into a more passable state.





"The World at War" (Themes by the London Festival Orchestra conducted by Carl Davis: original World War Two recordings by Vera Lynn, Flanagan and Allen, Lale Anderson and others) (Decca SPA 325) I recently reviewed a record of songs of World War Two by Janet Webb and the Naafi Singers. Now comes the real thing, plus Carl Davis's emotive theme music for the TV series of the same name. A clever young man this Carl Davis, and considering he was hardly born when the war ended he achieves wonders of characterisation and atmosphere in the four



episodes he provides. These are the "Opening Titles Music," "GI Blues" for when things go badly for the Yanks, "Red Star" for the Russians and "Blood, Sweat and Tears" for the British scene. Alan Hacker's clarinet is ever present, and wonderfully so.

For the rest you have most of the songs from Janet Webb's record but with the original singers and original wartime backing, with the same advantage of course of not having to turn the disc over every two-and-a-half minutes. Keep your old 78s though—many years ago I threw away six original Carusos and Giglis. Our Vera may be worth a bomb one day.

Flanagan and Allen croak away to "We're Gonna Hang Out the Washing on the Siegfried Line" and "Run, Rabbit, Run," Bertha Willmott belts out "Bless 'em All," Vera Lynn sings "The White Cliffs of Dover," "That Lovely Week-end," "We'll Meet Again," "When They Sound the Last All-Clear" and the fine "When the Lights Go On Again (All Over the World)." "The Beer Barrel Polka" is by massed bands and chorus and Lale Anderson herself sings "Lili Marlene." **RB**

"The Royal Canadian Regiment" (Military Band of the Royal Canadian Regiment and Pipes and Drums of the 2nd Battalion) (Decca SB 704)

Recorded in the regiment's barracks at Gagetown, New Brunswick, this LP is an attractive medley of old favourites, new marches for band, and a few items which test the compatibility of military band and pipes.

Ketelbey's fine old fanfare "For a Ceremonial Occasion" and "The Royal Canadian Regimental March" should make an effective start to the record, but don't—too slow and lacking conviction. Other band marches are much more successful and "The Canadian Infantryman" by James Gayfer has several original touches. You can tell he's a Doctor of Music and a student of Prokofiev. Rex Mitchell's "The Silver Cornets" is a welcome addition, but a slow march called "Wolseley" by Brian Gossip is uninspiring. The band alone also plays Panella's old "On the Square" and a medley comprising "Boys of the Old Brigade," "Soldiers of the Queen," and "Marching to Pretoria" (Laffan's Plain).

The "compatibility" exercise includes "Skye Boat Song," "Greensleeves," "Liverpool Lou," "Waters of Kylesko," "Hills of Alva," "Scots Royal," "Pipers' Cave,"



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"Green Hills of Tyrol" and—wait for it—the theme of the choral movement of Beethoven's 9th Symphony. The search for compatibility had to end somewhere so I suppose rock Beethoven is as good a place as any. But I tremulously await piped Palestrina.

The pipes and drums alone play "Davie Adamson," "Lieutenant-Colonel Ian S Fraser," "Lieutenant-Colonel Scotty Morrison," "Desperate Battle," "Ian MacKenzie," "Paddy O'Rafferty," "Hugh Kennedy," "Dornie Ferry," "Dolina MacKay," "Highland Whiskey," "Cutty's Wedding," "Loch Maree" and a medley of reels. **RB**



"National Brass Festival 1973" (Brighouse & Rastrick Band, City of Coventry Band, Grimethorpe Colliery Band, GUS (Footwear) Band, James Shepherd Versatile Brass) (Conductors: Geoffrey Brand, Eric Ball, Walter Hargreaves) (Decca SKL 5171)

This is by far the most interesting and least hackneyed post-contest concert I have heard on record. As always the celebrity concert after the national contest at the Royal Albert Hall is an opportunity for the BB world to pay homage to certain of its conductors, composers and bands—all a little parochial and self-admiring, but join the audience if you can find a seat in the always-packed hall and listen to a particularly fine example of this little affair.

Only two old stand-backs are included but fortunately these are tossed away at fast tempo

to make room for the comparatively new stuff. Apart from Alford's medley "Colonel Bogey on Parade" and the "Radetsky Marsch" the rest is original music for brass, or perhaps I should say music originally written for brass. How the revered Eric Ball continues to write rewarding music in the style of Mozart, Brahms, Wagner and others I do not know, but manage it he does. "Tournament for Brass" is all this and more and is of course beautifully scored by a master of the medium. Jim Shepherd and his small brass group give two short offerings from Elgar Howarth and Shostakovich. The first is "Presenting the Brass," conventional stuff with "wrong notes" added to give a veneer of modernism, the second the Russian master in one of his cast-offs for the general public—an attractive little "Waltz No 3" arranged by the group's director, Dennis Wilby.

"The Plantagenets" is an extended work by Edward Gregson of no great musical pretensions which I had the pleasure of hearing eighteen times in one day at a recent contest without being bored. It successfully conjures up a mood of medieval splendour in the accepted Warner Bros epic style, only much more organised in form and rewarding in content. A little masterpiece.

Don't deny yourself the pleasure of this LP just because it is not "military." Both media, with their obvious affinities, have much to offer the band-buff. **RB**

"The Band of HM Welsh Guards—At Home and Abroad" (BBC Records REB 169)

The late Major Desmond Walker, in yet another LP from the Welsh Guards, gives us a sparkling selection of marches for both parade ground and concert hall. As usual with marches a couple are over-recorded but even these are in fresh arrangements. At least one is literally a "find." Major Walker had access to the library of the much-mourned BBC Wireless Military Band of the 1930s and there discovered an original march by none other than Sibelius. It is played here—"Marsch de Finnlandishen Jager"—in all its glory, a marvellous short offering from the Master, but quite uncharacteristic of his mature style.

Of the more familiar items, "Entry of the Gladiators" is a fine starter with a modern Spanish-type pop march "Eviva Espana" to follow. Saint-Saens's "French Military

March" is a sure-fire winner on bandstand or disc, as is anything by Gordon Langford who provides a martial "British Isles Medley" which includes a tune or two from each country with a piper to add colour to the Scottish airs.

Two arrangements by Lieutenant-Colonel Trevor Sharpe are the "Radetzky Marsch" and his own regimental slow march "Figaro." Grieg's "Wedding Day at Troldhaugen" is in an arrangement by Colonel Sharpe's predecessor as director of music at Kneller Hall. In fact almost all the music here is arranged by directors of music and bandmasters.

The pop tune "Eye Level," the French march "Quand Madelon," Hugo Alfven's "Swedish Polka" and a drinking-song medley complete the disc. This latter, entitled "Ein Prosit," should have been a beery sing-song of German, or at least Continental, origin but turned out to be a pretty mild and spiritless affair. Put a drinking song in strict march tempo and you have very watery ale. **RB**

"Tunes of Glory" (The Southern Band: of the Royal Air Force) (Director of Music Flight-Lieutenant Brian J Sturnham) (Music for Pleasure SPR 90017)

Most of this programme has appeared before on other records of like mood and title but some may wish to have all their eggs in one basket. The exploits of fighter, bomber and pathfinder units of the RAF have inspired many composers writing film and TV music, none more than Ron Goodwin who has given us such exciting and portentous pieces as "633 Squadron" and "The Battle of Britain." His marching tunes "Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines" and "Aces High" are in lighter mood but just as popular.

Other British composers so inspired were Sir William Walton with "Spitfire Prelude" for the film "The First of the Few," John Addison with "Reach for the Sky," the great Eric Coates with "The Dam Busters March" and Malcolm Lockyer with "The Pathfinders."

There is a welcome appearance of one of Alford's least-known marches, "Eagle Squadron," and Charles Williams's "The Blue Devils." "The Royal Air Force March Past," a new "Fanfare to the Royal Air Force" by Wing-Commander Roy Davis, and Maurice Clark's "Night Flight to Gibraltar" complete an attractive LP. **RB**



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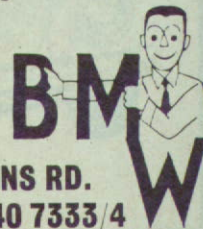
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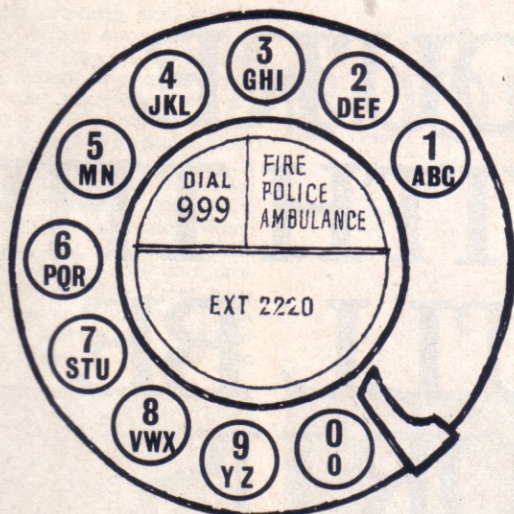
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LIKE SOLDIER, the magazine Rank & File is organised into a number of departments with various members of the staff on different telephone extensions. For example Rank & File's Feature Writer, whose office is next to Photographers, is on extension 2217.

Mr Debsham's extension number differs from Mr Fegson's by one digit; so does the Deputy Editor's. Mr Apse is not in Accounts. Mrs Rhauss always rings her husband, the Picture Editor, on extension 6317. Mr Fitter is engaged to Miss Cabot and consequently their extensions (1110 and 2377) are frequently also engaged.

Mr Piotre has often asked for his extension number to be changed from 6307. Miss Cabot always gets two numbers confused; when she wants Mr Peters she invariably dials the Art Editor's extension and he then transfers her to the Research Department. Mr Beven, who used to be in Distribution, is now in charge of Advertisements.

From the information given on this page can you say (a) what is Mr Derthing's job? and (b) what is the Editor's extension number?

Send your two answers, on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 197" label from this page and your name and address, to:

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This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 13 January 1975. The answers and winners' names will appear in the March 1975 SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 197" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or official pre-paid labels will be disqualified.

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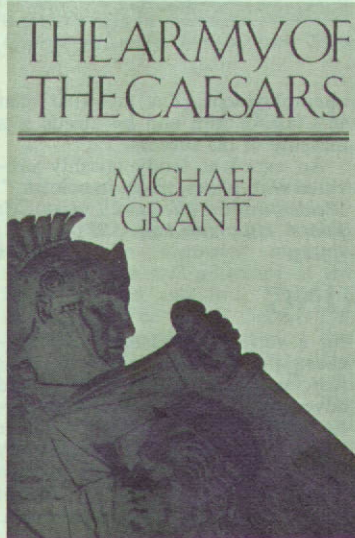
Age _____

RISE AND FALL

"The Army of the Caesars" (Michael Grant)

Emerging nations ruled by politicians who look to their armies as the bases for their power would do well to study this extremely well-written volume and reflect upon the weaknesses and strengths of the Roman Empire. Although its great and long existence was guaranteed by the Roman Army it was that very army which was the seed of its destruction.

The Roman Army, with its emphasis on toughness, endurance and bravery, was the product of the late republican period when commanders like Marius and Sulla turned citizen-conscripts into professionals. At one time there were 60-70 legions and no fewer than 250,000 men under arms. The first emperor, Augustus, reduced the



legions to 28, some 150,000 men, and sent them to guard distant frontiers against the barbarians. Unfortunately this involved the risk of an occasional mutiny or revolt in some distant province.

The stability of the empire fluctuated. There were times when the emperors were squalid little men like Galba, Otho or Vitellius, but also times when they were men of the calibre of Vespasian, Domitian and Trajan.

Vast armies required heavy taxation and the empire's economic strength was sapped. Romans grew steadily more reluctant to serve in the ranks and despite powerful personalities like Diocletian and Constantine there became no other

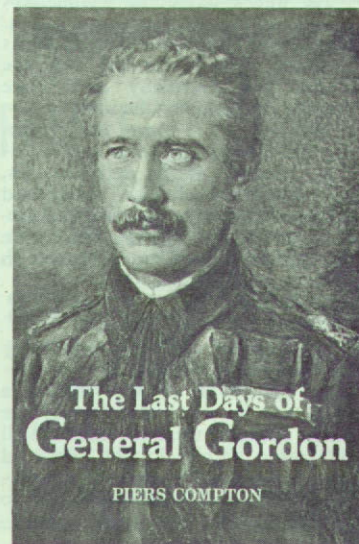
FANLINGERERS

"Wide Eyed In Old China" (James R Paton)

Playing together in Scotland after World War Two, a group of former members of the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club discussed the absence of a mutual friend who had been blinded by a Japanese grenade. From that meeting grew the Association of Fanlingerers, named after Fan Ling where the Hong Kong club is situated, and open to any golfer who has been in the colony. By last year it had 1300 members and had raised £37,000 for the Scottish National Institution for the War Blinded. Proceeds from the sale of this book will go to swell the total.

The author writes entertainingly of his happy days as a life insurance salesman between the world wars. He was based in Shanghai and Hong Kong and his excursions included Peking and Macao. He served

BOOKS



alternative but to divide the empire into districts. This simply served to accelerate the assassinations and civil wars. All that was needed was a massive assault by the barbarians, Huns, Goths, Vandals, and the empire would disintegrate. This it did at Hadrianopolis in 378 when the Emperor Valens was killed in battle against the Visigoths. To all intents and purposes, the Roman Empire was no more.

This is an extremely interesting book written with great scholarship but also in a most pleasing style. The plates and bibliography are very impressive.

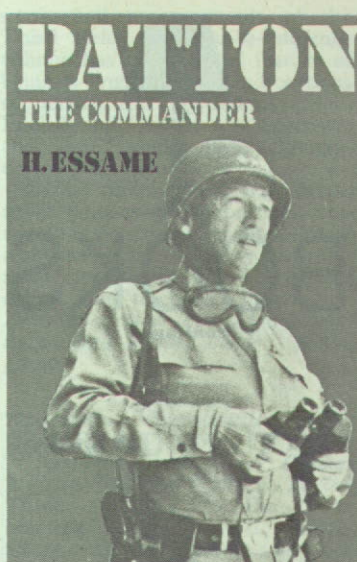
Weidenfeld & Nicolson Ltd, 11 St John's Hill, London, SW11 1XA, £6.50 AWH

in the Scottish company of the Shanghai Volunteer Force, which had a marching problem when its own pipe band was not playing. In front of it ambled a Chinese company in spite of the strict rifle time of their drums and fifes, while behind a Russian company crashed out a step slower than the Scottish one.

The Volunteers paraded with the Regulars on occasions such as the King's birthday, turning up at the parade ground in their own cars while the Regulars sweated through the dust at 90 degrees.

Mr Paton left China before World War Two, fought in the Middle East and was taken prisoner at Tobruk. His book is illustrated by Philip Meninsky.

Obtainable from Hon Sec, The Fanlingerers, 18 Western Coates Gardens, Edinburgh, EH12 5LT, £3.00



OLD BLOOD AND GUTS

"Patton the Commander" (H Essame)

This is perhaps the first really objective study of the highly controversial General George S Patton Jnr, and is well worth the effort. As a field commander—a tactician rather than a strategist—Patton was the equal of Rommel or Manstein,

a go-getter in the best American cavalry tradition and a hard-rider who led from the front.

He caught the eye of Pershing, to whom he was an aide in the operations against Pancho Villa in 1916, and when Black Jack came to Europe in 1917, Patton was with him. In 1918 he brilliantly commanded the first American brigade of tanks ever to go into action.

Obsessed by discipline—he was not called "Old Blood and Guts" for nothing—he understood soldiers but had his blind spots. He fought well in North Africa and Sicily, but almost wrecked his career by slapping a shell-shocked soldier. Eisenhower saved him—and Patton's leadership of the US Third Army was without parallel. In his mobile operations he outshone all his contemporaries in imagination, technique and achievement. But one has the feeling that Ike was never quite sure of the flamboyant, pistol-packing, larger-than-life general who was senior to both him and Bradley.

In war, Patton was brilliant; in peace he was insufferable. He opened his mouth too wide once too often to Washington's fury and this time Ike was powerless. Patton was sacked, only to die soon afterwards in a road accident.

B T Batsford Ltd, PO Box 4, Springwood Industrial Estate, Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, £3.90 JCW

LEGEND IN HIS LIFETIME

"The Last Days of General Gordon" (Piers Compton)

Although the 20th century seems to have no time for flesh-and-blood heroes, this was not the case in our grandfathers' day. Our Victorian ancestors loved a hero, particularly if he were also a devout Christian. In Gordon they found their ideal—he had served in the Crimea, fought brilliantly in China and challenged slavery in Central Africa.

Not that Gordon, unlike others, tried to live up to his reputation. On the contrary, there was something strange about the man. His love of religion was completely sincere and his views were uncompromising. He never seemed able to exercise tact and his bluntness often caused

offence. Although a legend in his own lifetime he avoided social gatherings and had few friends.

Gordon seemed to court death deliberately, especially in the Sudan. Argument still rages as to whether he had a death-wish and thus flung his life away uselessly or whether he was abandoned by Gladstone's government. Whatever the truth, the arrival of the relief column only hours after his death makes it seem like a film-script extract.

A most interesting book, capturing as it does the feeling of impending doom throughout the whole of Gordon's life.

Robert Hale & Co, 63 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7 3JU, £3.50 AWH

TWICE A PRISONER

"Tinker's Mufti" (Basil Peacock)

Tinker's mufti, this book tells us, is a mixture of military and civilian clothing worn together and loathed by adjutants. Apart perhaps from adjutants, Major Peacock's memoirs will delight old soldiers and long-serving civilians. Though a dentist by profession, he has done a great deal of soldiering and was taken prisoner in both world wars.

In 1916, while still under age, he joined The Royal Fusiliers, was commissioned into The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers and won a Military Cross before being taken prisoner in March 1918. Demobbed, he became a Terrier, was a major by 1939 and in early 1941 was posted to Singapore and Malaya to command a company in the newly-formed searchlight regiment. He was captured when Singapore surrendered.

His recollections of the days preceding the surrender and his subsequent experiences on the notorious "Death Railway" are illuminating. More so are his post-war visits with his wife to the River Kwai and the vast cemetery where



so many of his comrades lie. And like many who have experienced the jungle, he felt an urge to return—in his civilian occupation of dentist to Borneo.

Perhaps most moving of all was his 50th anniversary visit with his brother to the Western Front of 1914-1918.

Seeley Service & Co Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.95 JCW

FIGHTING MEN

"Scotland the Brave" (John Laffin)
Legend has it that one of ancient Scotland's great heroes had inscribed on his swordblade "Na tarruidg mi gun aobhar 'S na pill mi gun chliu." In modern English this would be: "Do not draw me without cause Nor sheath me without honour" and in many ways it epitomises the story of the Scottish regiments.

The Highlanders have always been better known than the Lowlanders—no other region of the British Isles has the romantic appeal of the kilt, the pipes and the long history of war that bred men who served with the Black Watch, Highland Light Infantry, Seaforths, Camerons, Gordons and Argylls. Their story is written on every page of British history since the mid-18th century.

The Lowlands, although more prosaic, provided as much glory and over a far greater stretch of time. Scottish soldiers of fortune carved out their reputations in the service of France, Russia and even Islam. Their descendants served with the Royal Scots, Royal Scots Greys, Scots Guard, Royal Scots Fusiliers, King's Own Scottish Borderers and Cameronians. Their story goes back to the Middle Ages.

The two peoples, blended by intermarriage over the centuries, have given the British Government a valuable reservoir of soldiers. Between 1740 and 1815, 50 battalions were raised in the Highlands alone. Although this drained the glens and contributed to present problems, at least no-one could ever question their loyalty. A slim volume crammed with anecdotes and fact.

BOOKS

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White Lion Publishers Ltd, 138 Park Lane, London, W1Y 3DD, £2.50

AWH

MAN OF TALENTS

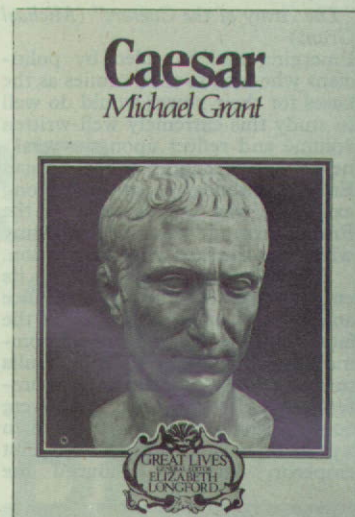
"Caesar" (Michael Grant)

All the excitement and colour of Julius Caesar's adventurous life are captured by the author, a distinguished classicist, in this latest addition to the "Great Lives" series. The range of Caesar's talents—general, administrator, politician, orator, writer—is breathtaking.

From his early days Caesar was determined to be the absolute autocrat and to this end he used all his skills. He was captured by pirates but eventually tracked them down and crucified them; he defied the powerful Senate when he crossed the Rubicon but won support on all sides; he fought the Helvetii, Germans and Nervii with only small armies but defeated them in three great battles.

He was a notorious womaniser; indeed Cleopatra bore him a son. He explored the river Nile as far as Ethiopia, took his armies over the Rhine into Germany and twice crossed the English Channel.

Nor was he a mere adventurer. He enriched Rome with fine buildings, planned canals and libraries, reformed the calendar, broadened representation in the Senate, established many colonies and made the first serious attempt to deal with



unemployment. The fact that men still talk of him and his deeds is a measure of his success.

An excellent study lavishly provided with plates, many in colour. Weidenfeld & Nicolson Ltd, 11 St John's Hill, London, SW11 1XA, £3.25

AWH

FOR KING

"The Cavalier Army" (Peter Young and Wilfrid Emberton)

The Civil War of 1642-46 was a civil war in the full sense of the term. Families were divided and all too often father fought son and brother fought brother. The Cavaliers who served Charles I did so

for a variety of reasons; some because they thought his cause was just, others because they wanted adventure and probably most because they had to do as they were told. Few had had any military experience and for the first year or two were little better than hordes of

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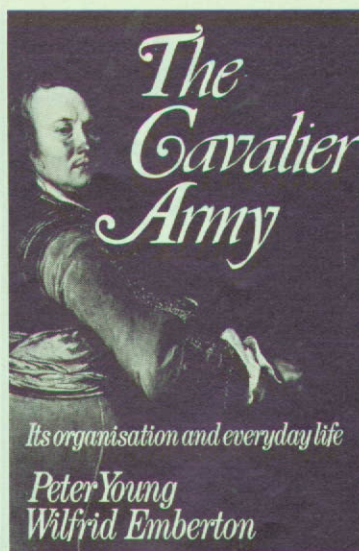
bumbling amateurs. Slowly they matured into professionals, formed into regiments and became familiar with the eighteen-foot pike, the five-foot matchlock and cannon such as the saker, falcon and tiny robinet.

The Cavaliers fought hundreds of little actions across the breadth of England. Living mainly on cheese, beer, beef and bread, they endured severe discipline, suffered appalling wounds, sometimes deserted and more often tried to make sense of commands such as "Half double your front to the right and files double your depth to the left."

While history records a few prominent commanders such as Prince Rupert, Prince Maurice, Lord Goring and Sir Ralph Hopton, there were many others of worth—Sir Thomas Glenham, Sir John Byron, Sir Arthur Aston and Sir Jacob Astley.

A highly readable little book with masses of detail ranging from martial songs to pensions.

George Allen & Unwin Ltd, Park



Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP2 4TE, £4.75 AWH

signia and accoutrements of the Third Reich, this quick-reference volume has the unusual feature of being bi-lingual. Texts and captions supporting the illustrations are in English and German—an expensive and, one would have thought, unnecessary luxury.

Caps, tunics, shoulder straps, collar patches, pistol holsters, ammunition pouches, map cases—these and other items of dress and equipment are shown in well-defined colour. Here the book scores.

Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3, £2.40

"Discovering Famous Battles: Ancient Warfare" (Jeff Fletcher)

"Discovering French and German Military Uniforms" (Arthur Taylor) These additions to the "Discovering" library will delight amateur military historians as much as wargamers and devotees of militaria with the wide range of information they offer at a very reasonable price.

The famous battles serve admirably as a useful refresher course on wars waged by Ancient Greece, Persia, Rome, Carthage, and mighty commanders whose names are still household words: Alexander, Darius, Hannibal, Augustus.

The many examples of French and German military dress from Napoleon's Foot Grenadiers of the Guard to the uniforms of Imperial Germany and the Panzertruppen of Adolf Hitler lose little from their black - and - white presentation. Colours and details of individual uniforms are clearly described in numbered captions accompanying each picture. Both books are well indexed and have useful biblio-

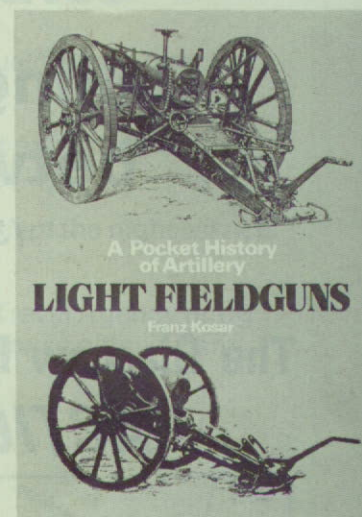
ographies.

Shire Publications Ltd, Cromwell House, Church Street, Princes Risborough, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP17 9AJ, each 40p

"A Pocket History of Artillery: Light Field Guns" (Franz Kosar)

A proud quotation from Napoleon (one of the most famous believers in long-range sniping) prefaces this fairly modest little volume, first of a series, it is promised, which will provide a comprehensive list of field guns used in this century. The light guns described and illustrated are those up to 90mm, howitzers up to 122mm and all mountain guns.

Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8AS, £2.70



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IN BRIEF

"Regiments of the Scottish Division—Histories, Tartans and Music"

This attractively produced booklet outlines the histories, customs, characteristics and activities of the four Lowland and four Highland regiments—The Royal Scots, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, The Kings Own Scottish Borderers, The Cameronians, The Black Watch, Queen's Own Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. They form a very distinctive group within the British Army and this book about

the "Jocks" tells their story in a nutshell. Three chapters are devoted to tartans, pipes and drums, and Territorials—each by an expert.

Lavishly illustrated with as many excellent colour prints as black-and-white, the book is real value for a very modest outlay.

Macmillan Commercial Promotions Unit, Basingstoke, Hants, 45p

"Colour Guide to German Army Uniforms 1933-1945" (J L de Smet) First of a series of all-colour handbooks depicting the uniforms, in-

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"The Observer's Book of Aircraft 1974" (William Green)

"The Observer's Basic Military Aircraft Directory" (William Green and Gordon Swanborough)

The 1974 "Observer's Book of Aircraft" covers in alphabetical order the aircraft of 15 countries from Italy's single-engined battlefield surveillance AM-3C Aermacchi to the Russian Yakovlev YAK-40 (Codling) short-range commercial "feederliner."

The more specialised military aircraft directory is divided into six sections—fighter, attack/close support, bomber, anti-submarine/maritime reconnaissance, reconnaissance and transport. Photographs and silhouettes in both books are supported by descriptive text including such points as dimensions, performance, power units and, in the case of some military versions, details of armament.

1 Frederick Warne & Co Ltd, 40 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3HE, 60p

2 Frederick Warne, £2.00

"Official Rules of Sports and Games 1974-75" (Compiled by R C Churchill)

In this eleventh edition of this standard reference work some illustrations are added to a text which gives the rules of athletics, badminton, basketball, bowls, cricket, croquet, croquet-golf, fives (Eton), fives (Rugby), association football, rugby union, rugby league, golf, men's and women's hockey, ice hockey, men's and women's lacrosse, netball, real tennis and racquets, rounders, squash rackets, lawn tennis, table tennis, volleyball and water polo.

Kaye & Ward, 21 New Street, London, EC2M 4NT, £3.25

"The Sword and Bayonet Makers of Imperial Germany 1871-1918" (John Walter)

This slim volume fits into a corner of the militaria enthusiast's library. It presents details of many of the firms who impressed their names and trademarks on the edged weapons produced in Germany during the years of the Second Reich. But even so, the author confesses his work may not be complete due to lack of information on the subject. The book will have a use for collectors wishing to identify weapons they come across.

The Lyon Press, 111 Lower Road, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 6LH, £2.00

"The Gunners' ABC" (Colonel E A Hobday)

One drawing per page for each letter of the alphabet, with a handwritten verse like this:

G is the Gunner,
who spoils the whole show
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and laying too slow!

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RA Printing Press Ltd, 103 Nathan Way, London, SE28 0AQ, 25p

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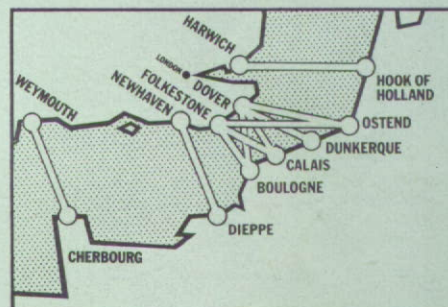
W. Germany: 6 Frankfurt/Main, Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 3. Tel 747074 (information only)

Belgium: 1000 Brussels, Place Rogier 23. Tel 179702

Holland: 5 Leidseplein, Amsterdam. Tel 234133

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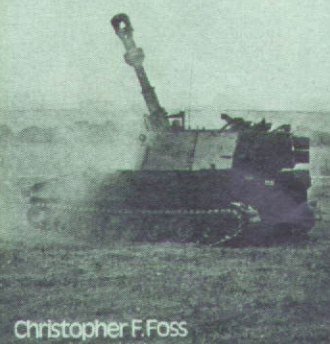
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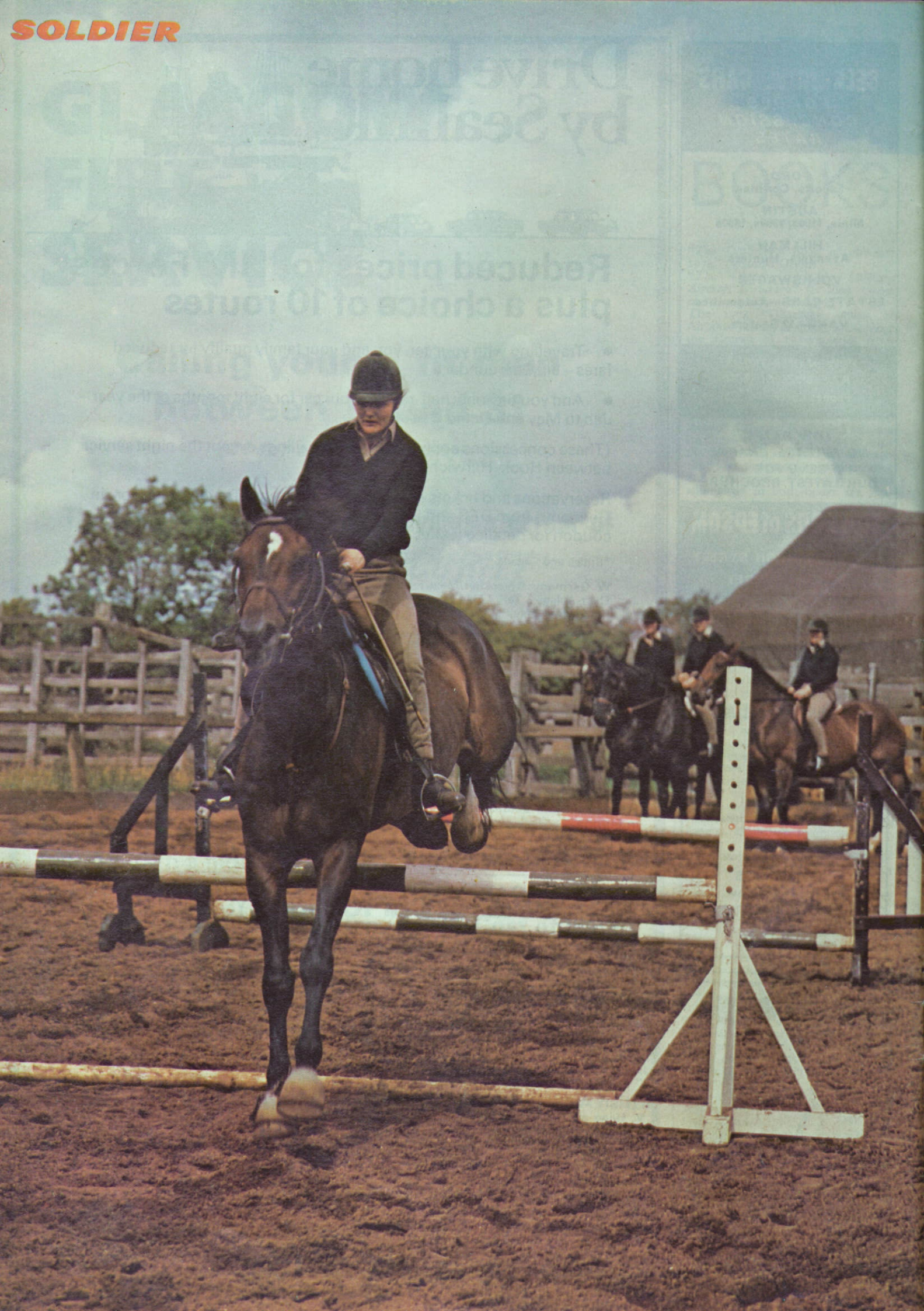
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