

SOLDIER

A group of Jordanian soldiers in desert uniforms and keffiyeh headwear, holding rifles, standing in formation. The soldiers are wearing tan uniforms with red and black keffiyeh headscarves. They are holding rifles and have bandoliers of ammunition slung over their shoulders. The background is a bright, outdoor setting.

13 JULY 1987

35 PENCE

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—Jordanian Army special feature



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FRONT COVER: All the King's men! Fearsome Bedouins from the desert honour their monarch, King Hussein, during the annual Great Arab Revolt and Army Day parade at the Martyrs' Memorial in Amman. See special colour feature starting on Page 25.

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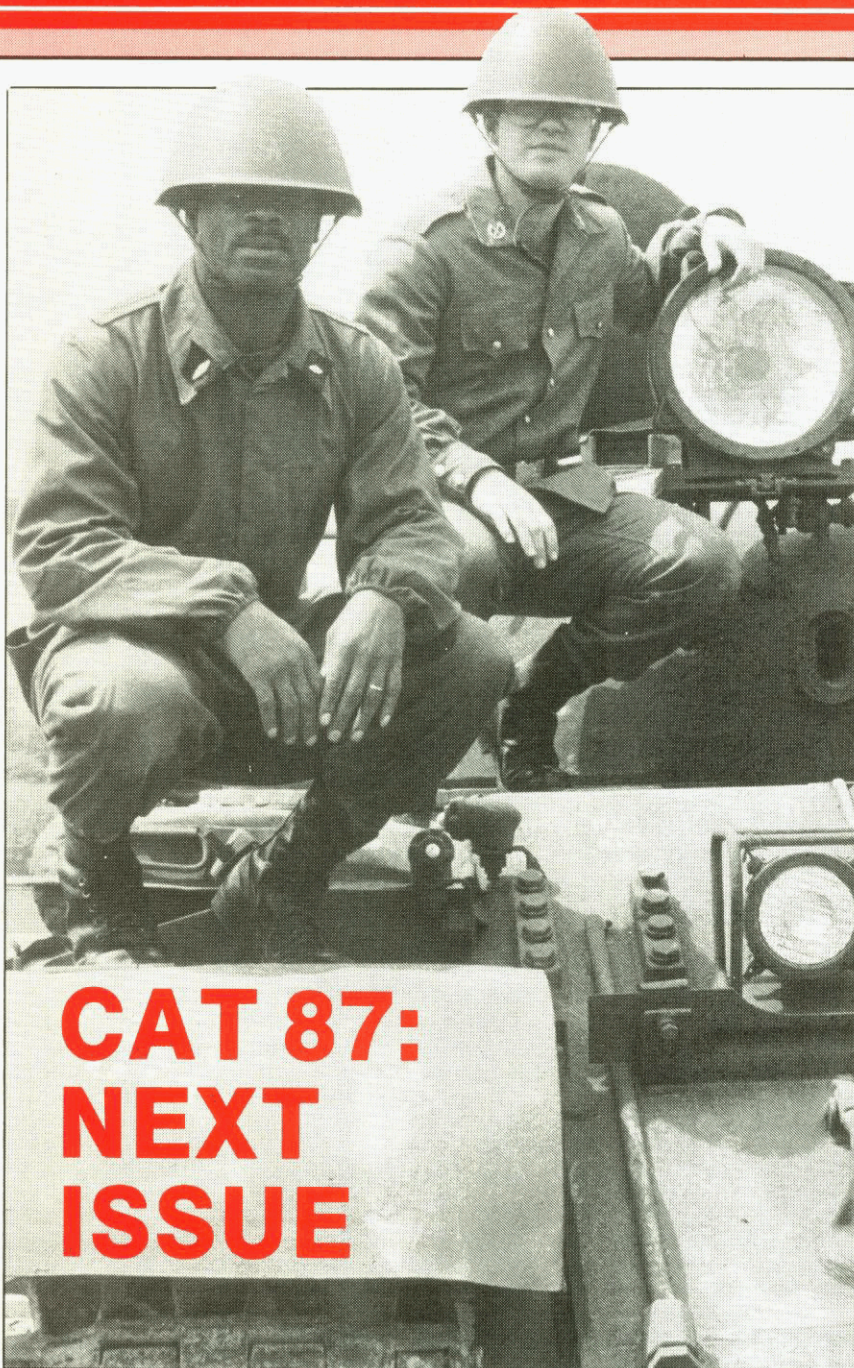
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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



CAT 87: NEXT ISSUE

Americans of the Foreign Material Threat Division, 7th Army Training Command, show off their Soviet-built T-62 tank and Eastern bloc uniforms at a display at Grafenwohr, West Germany, during the 1987 Canadian Army Trophy competition. Challenger's challenge was disappointing. Find out why in the next issue of **SOLDIER.**

TA strength totals 81,000

I write to pick up a point on the current strength of the TA from your interesting historical article "Volunteers raised to take on Napoleon" (SOLDIER, June 1). The latest figures for the strength of the

TA, which vary slightly depending on the base from which they are compiled, show a total strength of 81,369, including the Home Service Force 3,305 and 7,472 Service women. Thus the figures are con-

siderably higher than those given in the article. — Maj Gen M Matthews, Council of Territorial, Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Associations, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3 4SG.

Conscripted for six years and 283 days

Hip hip HOAY!

There's a £50 cheque on its way to Miss M Hook of Rochford Avenue, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex, who is the latest winner in SOLDIER's HOAY competition. Have you won £50 yet? Try your powers of observation on page 43 of this issue — and you could be a winner.

Family war

My father and I both served in the Middle East during the Second World War. He was in the Royal Air Force, I was in the Royal Navy; my father was in 40 Sqn, I was in HMS Cleopatra. We both have the Africa Star.

Is this unique or were there other father and son combinations in the same campaign? J E Farrelly, 136A Fore Street Eastcote, Pinner, HA5 2NQ.

I regret to disappoint Mr Roose but my service exceeds his by just a little (The longest serving conscripted soldier? SOLDIER, June 15).

I reported for militia training on July 15, 1939 to 7th AA Militia Depot, Devizes, Wiltshire, ostensibly for six months with the Colours and 3½ years with the TA. In fact I served six years and nine months as I left the Army on demob on April 24, 1946, age 27 years, seven months.

As I served the last four years in the Far East against the Japanese I was one of those entitled to wear six war service chevrons, small red chevrons on khaki cloth worn on battledress sleeve.

It was mainly only those who were in the Army on Sept 3, 1939 and were in the Far East when the Japs surrendered who qualified for six. I still have that battledress blouse and all my Service documentation, including the booklet issued under

the instruction of Mr Hore Belisha entitled *The Militiaman*, an explanatory issue. My release group number was 25. — Percy S Pearson, 182 Middleton Road, Greston-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 7PX.

Cross of Mount Longdon

Just over five years ago the Argentine forces surrendered in Port Stanley to bring the eight week Falklands war to an end. This new picture by SOLDIER photographer Paul Haley shows the steel cross erected on the summit of Mount Longdon to commemorate the loss of 23

men during the capture of the peak by 3 Para in June 1982.

An Argentine boot lying in the foreground is a poignant reminder of the ferocity of

the fighting during which Sgt Ian McKay won his Victoria Cross.



'Bomb' action was sheer stupidity

I refer to your article headed "Our prize was sheer horror" in SOLDIER (June 15).

While I agree that the reactions of the lady concerned were security-minded and indeed most laudable, I would point out that the advice and subsequent actions of her neighbour were less praiseworthy.

Her correct course of action should have been to inform her local police, whether military or civilian. They would in turn task 11 Ordnance Battalion (EOD) RAOC or in the case of BAOR, the Ammunition Inspectorate RAOC. An RAOC Ammunition Technician or Ammunition Technical Officer would then be tasked to deal with the suspect package. They have been trained and carry the correct equipment for just this eventuality.

May I also point out that no one should feel embarrassed, or indeed reluctant, to report such incidents on the grounds that it may turn out to be a false alarm. Far better that than injury or death caused by incorrect procedures. — Capt A M Green, Training Development Team, Army School of Ammunition, Temple Herdewyke, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

Howitzers in the air

A small point, but C Hampson may care to know that the 75mm pack howitzer was issued to 1st Air Landing Light Regt RA at Bulford in 1943.

When 1st Airborne Div returned from Italy in late 1943, the Light Regt stayed on there until January 1944. We were used effectively as close support in the mountains, with the Canadian Division among others. The guns were first fired in anger in October 1943. — Robert Christie, Kilrenny, 42 Kenilworth Road, Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire FK9 4RP.

Medical fact . . .

In an article about the medical reception station at Dhekelia (SOLDIER, May 18) you state that "they look after all military personnel and their families in the Eastern Sovereign Base Area including 9 Signal Regiment at Ayios Nikolaos". This is not true — MRS Dhekelia only look after the families of personnel from Ayios Nikolaos who live in Dhekelia.

A medical centre at Ayios Nikolaos, staffed by RAMC personnel, Cypriot ambulance drivers, and dependant RGN and clerk medical, looks after all military personnel, both 9 Signal Regiment and 33SU RAF, in Ayios Nikolaos area including dependants. There is close liaison between ourselves and MRS Dhekelia and a midwife from there attends the ante-natal clinics at Ayios Nikolaos. — Sgt A D L Rust, Practice Manager, 9 Signal Regt (Radio), BFPO 58.



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Worthwhile — and likeable!

In reply to Cpl D A Tibbles, 3rd Bn The Queen's Regt, maybe he had a point at being offended by Pte Bennett's remarks, but he shouldn't tar us all with the same brush.

I'm in the Royal Engineers (V) Specialist Unit (111 Engr Regt sponsored by 1 and 3 Training Regt RE). Because 90 per cent of our training is done at Regular barracks, we see a lot of the Regular Army and they see a lot of us.

Some of our men are

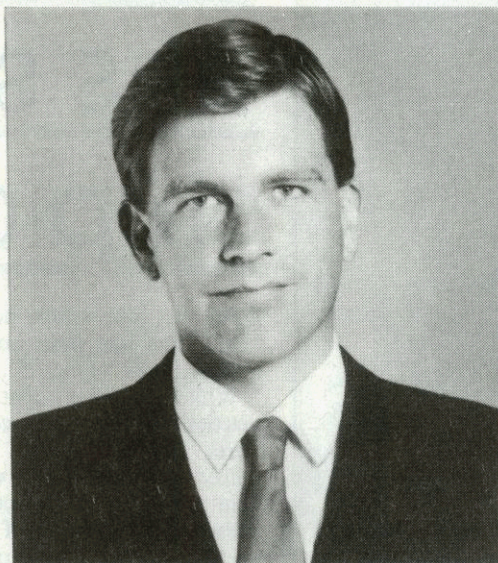
ex-Regulars (including some from infantry units and the SAS), and to call these men civilians is just showing ignorance at how the TA is operated.

The TA forms about 35 per cent of the Army's mobilised orbat at a mere 4.4 per cent of the Army element of the defence budget (who can say that we don't have a worthwhile role?).

Many of us are self-employed and still have our "domestic

worries", but don't complain because we want to do our job within the British Army, whether we're paid or not.

Yes, we have to work together. Yes, we will never be as professional as the Regulars. Yet one day Cpl Tibbles may need the assistance of a soldier who may be a member of the TA. Let him think of that now before it happens. He may even like us eventually. — Spr P Dawson, 31 Sutherland Road, Tottenham, London.



Name G.A. THOMPSON
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Signature *G. Thompson* **IAL**

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Picture: Paul Haley

Belgian Leopard 1A2s on the firing line at Grafenwohr, West Germany, during CAT 87

CAT challenge fails

NATO's showcase tank gunnery competition – the Canadian Army Trophy – bore little fruit for Britain's entry, The Royal Hussars.

Competing in Challenger for the first time, the regiment's B Squadron trailed last after a week of keen shooting at Grafenwohr training area east of Nuremberg, West Germany.

Although intensively trained since being picked in April, the team had not been specifically groomed for CAT 87 over a period of many months as had others.

Plucked from a front line unit at Fallingbommel, the combat-trained B Squadron knew they faced dedicated opposition eager to see how Challenger cut its teeth in competition.

Challenger – despite being equipped with an uprated computerised version of the Chieftain fire control system and the latest thermal imaging target acquisition aids – could not compete in terms of speed with the state-of-the-art gunnery systems of the M1 Abrams and Leopard 2.

Nevertheless the squadron was more

accurate in practise and there were many disappointed faces in the British camp after their performance in the competition.

The trophy was contested by Central Army Group and the Northern Army Group, both of which fielded five teams.

It was won by CENTAG whose three highest scoring teams were 4/8 Armoured Cavalry Bn (US), Panzerbataillon 124 (GE) and 3/64 Armoured Bn (US). The three highest scoring teams in NORTHAG were 43 Tank Bn (NL), 4th Lancers (BE) and 2/66 Armoured Bn (US).

● Full report and pictures in next issue.

It's the One O'Clock guard!

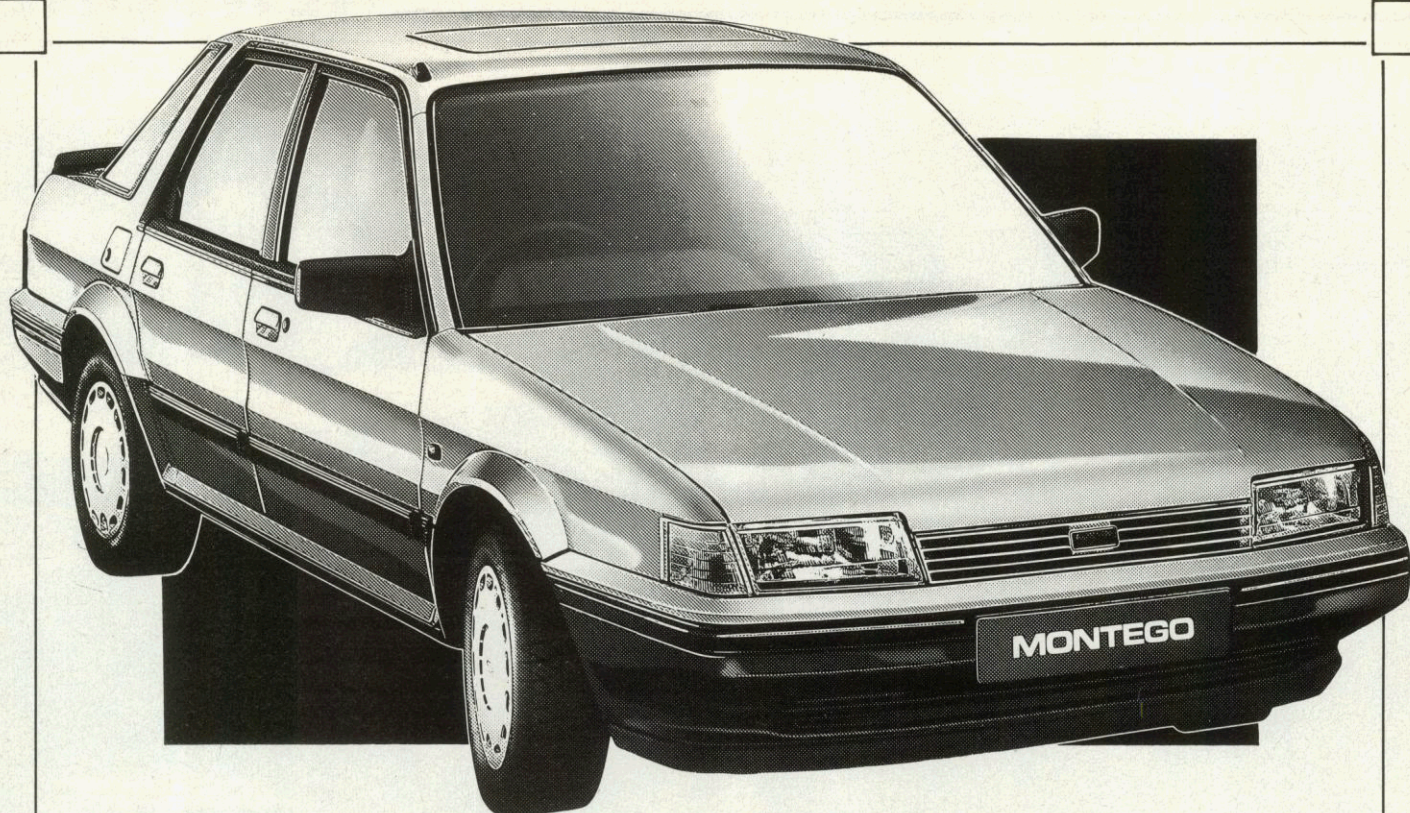
YOU had to get up early to see the fortnightly changing of the guard at Edinburgh Castle in the past. It took place on the Esplanade at 8.45 am – before the castle opened to the public.

Now visitors will be able to watch the brief ceremonial parade on Mills Mount at 1 pm, when it will coincide with the firing of the One O'Clock Gun on alternate Wednesdays.

First unit to meet the new deadline was A Coy of 1 Bn The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment) who took over the guard from Fire Support Unit.

Royal review

FOR the first time in nearly 20 years, the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the RAMC, visited the corps at Keogh Barracks, near Aldershot, to attend the annual Drumhead Service, review the parade and take the salute at a march-past of the RAMC Association Old Comrades' Association, the RADC Association and the QARANC Association and of the troops on parade. The Queen Mother later met serving and retired officers, soldiers and their families.



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Rockies climb ends in tragedy for Kings Own Border officers

A DAY out climbing ended in tragedy when three officers of the 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment died in an avalanche of snow and ice in the Canadian Rockies.

"They were having a day off from battalion exercises and doing the tourist bit when they died," said adjutant Capt Frank Craig from the unit's base at Colchester.

Those killed on the slopes of Mt Bryce in Jasper National Park were Capt David Willison, 25, Capt David Woolf, 24, and Capt Nicholas Mavromatis, 27. All three were unmarried.

With them at the time of the tragedy was Cpl Michael Bland, 26, a married man with a family who escaped the avalanche as he was a few feet to one side of the slide.

He alerted police and searchers who found the victims with the aid of sniffer dogs.

The four were in Canada with the battalion for six weeks of training on

Exercise Pond Jump and were due to return to the UK on July 20.

"Cpl Bland is still in Canada and will be returning then," said Capt Craig.

But he was unable to comment on an alleged remark by the Jasper Park superintendent that experienced climbers would not have made the climb in the late afternoon, the time of the accident.

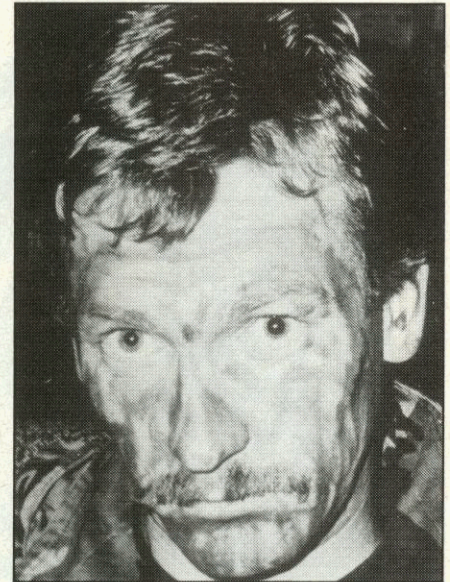
The superintendent was reported as saying that the sun had melted some of the snow making it unstable.

Capt Craig said all four were "experienced climbers".

He said the bodies would be flown home to the UK for burial.

The MoD said a joint inquiry by the Army, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other Canadian authorities would be held as soon as possible.

So far this year six soldiers have died in training related accidents. Last year there were 16 deaths and in 1985 ten.



CPL BLAND: escaped

Militia at camp

THE Duke of Gloucester, Honorary Colonel of the regiment, visited men of the Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia) at their annual camp in Redford Barracks, Edinburgh. The regiment, the senior one in the Territorial Army, has its headquarters in the Castle, Monmouth.

Lemgo ceremony

FOR the first time in their six year tour of duty in BAOR, the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales have Beat Retreat in the market place of Lemgo, where the battalion is based.

Kingston freedom

A freedom parade by The Queen's Regiment through the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames planned for June 12 was postponed because of the General Election the previous day. It has been rescheduled for September 23.

LOA cut

SERVICEMEN based in Germany are to have their Local Overseas Allowance reduced.

The cuts come into effect on August 1 and average about 35p a day across the board.

Currently an unmarried corporal receives 3.08DM a day (just over £1 at the Forces Fixed Rate of 3DM=£), but the new LOA means a cut of about a third leaving him with 1.93DM (about 70p).

Other examples are: a single captain on 4.51DM a day will get 3.19; a married corporal with one child down from 8.20DM to 7.06 while a married captain with one child slips from 9.63DM to 8.31.

The new rates are being introduced because according to the MoD shopping basket team the LOA food basket in Germany has become cheaper over the past year, while the same items in the UK have stayed about the same.

The team visited the same locations and outlets as last year and their recommendation to reduce LOA is derived solely from a comparison of price changes in the two countries.

Explaining LOA, the team says the allowance compensates for the extra costs of essential items overseas, and helps towards the cost of a life-style which differs from that in the UK.

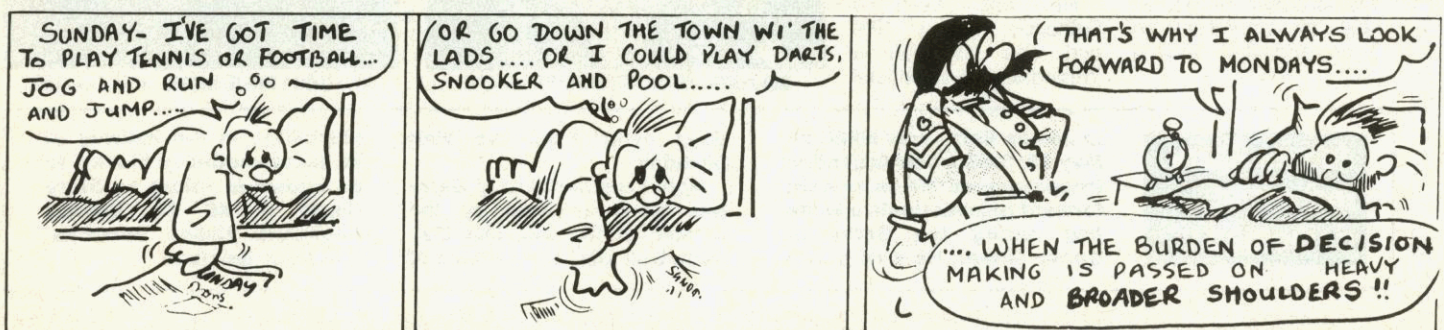
It is a tax-free allowance and is assessed individually for all major countries where soldiers are based.

The allowance is also subject to an annual review to reflect cost differences between the UK and the overseas station.

| | Single corporal | Single captain | Married corporal with 1 child | Married captain with 1 child |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | £ per day | | | |
| British Forces Areas and Berlin | | | | |
| Current rate | 3.08 | 4.51 | 8.20 | 9.63 |
| Price update | 1.93 | 3.19 | 7.06 | 8.31 |
| Difference | -1.15 | -1.32 | -1.14 | -1.32 |

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MOUNTAIN MEN

Time and weather play an important part in the Welsh 1,000 mountain marathon race as TA men Sgt Bob Hassall (centre) and Cpls Chris Watts and James Gratton of 2 Mercian Volunteers discovered when they

ran rivals ragged to win the mountaineering section of the race in conditions so bad the 31km run had to be re-routed. But they still finished on Snowdon's summit after ten other peaks to collect their prizes.

MOVES AT THE TOP

THE latest top Army appointments are those of Maj Gen Anthony Jeapes as the new GOC South West District, and Maj Gen Leslie Busk as director of the Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop, Hants.

Gen Jeapes, 52, a former CO of the SAS, took over from Maj Gen Barry Lane who has retired, and Gen Busk from Maj Gen David Goodman who has also retired.

Gen Jeapes, whose headquarters is at Bulford, Wilts and who took up his new job on June 5, has had an interesting and varied career in the Army serving in the United States, India, Kenya, Arabia and Bangladesh.

He spent much of his regimental service with the SAS, as a troop commander in Malaya in 1958, as a squadron commander from 1968-71 and as CO of 22 SAS from 1974-77. He was awarded the MC in 1959 for operations in Oman and the OBE in 1977.

Married with two children, the general lists deer stalking and sailing among his sporting interests.

But while Gen Jeapes takes control of the ground forces in the South West, Maj Gen Leslie Busk is lord of the skies so far as the Army is concerned.

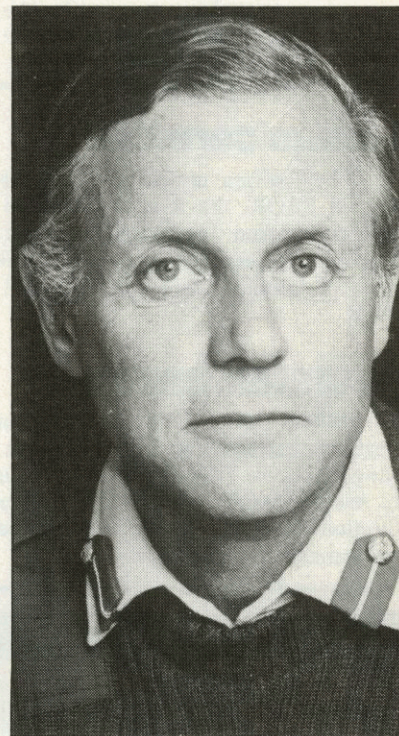
An obvious believer in being able to do the job himself, he attended the AAC Centre at Middle Wallop as a student pilot, emerging seven months later with his "wings".

He is keen on all sports with a special interest in golf, skiing and tennis. In his quieter moments he mounts and frames water colours.

He was born in Dalhousie, India in 1937 and was educated at Wellington and Sandhurst.



MAJ GEN ANTHONY JEAPES: ex SAS



MAJ GEN LESLIE BUSK: 'wings' awarded

James Barry memorial dedicated

Lt James Barry was killed on May 28 1982 when Argentine troops opened fire as he went forward to investigate a white flag during the Battle of Goose Green. He was seven

days away from his 25th birthday.

Now a memorial to Lt Barry has been unveiled by the Master of Signals, Maj Gen John Badcock, at a service of

dedication in the hallway of an accommodation block - to be known in future as Barry Block - at 11 Signals Regiment, Helles Barracks, Catterick Garrison.

GUARDS PEOPLE

MA'AM ANNABEL TAKES OVER

EVERY picture tells a story . . . this one tells how Lt Annabel Hyde, 22, from the Isle of Wight found herself appointed assistant adjutant to the 1st Battalion The Coldstream Guards in Hong Kong and, while not the only WRAC officer to hold such a post, she is the first female "asst adj" with the Coldstream Guards and shares the distinction of being the first with a Guards battalion with Lt Delia Beck who has just joined the Grenadier Guards in BAOR. Proving that she is part of the regiment, Annabel is seen with Gdsmn Glen Vicker and Mark Bunting in the Far East sunshine. There'll be no stopping 'em now this all-male bastion has fallen, lads!

Brakes off for Brian



WO2 BRIAN SMART: no brakes

IN civilian life Brian Smart researches braking systems for vehicles, but as sergeant major of 67 (The Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry) Signal Sqn (V) based at Stratford-upon-Avon, Brian lives up to his name – the brakes come off and it's all systems go!

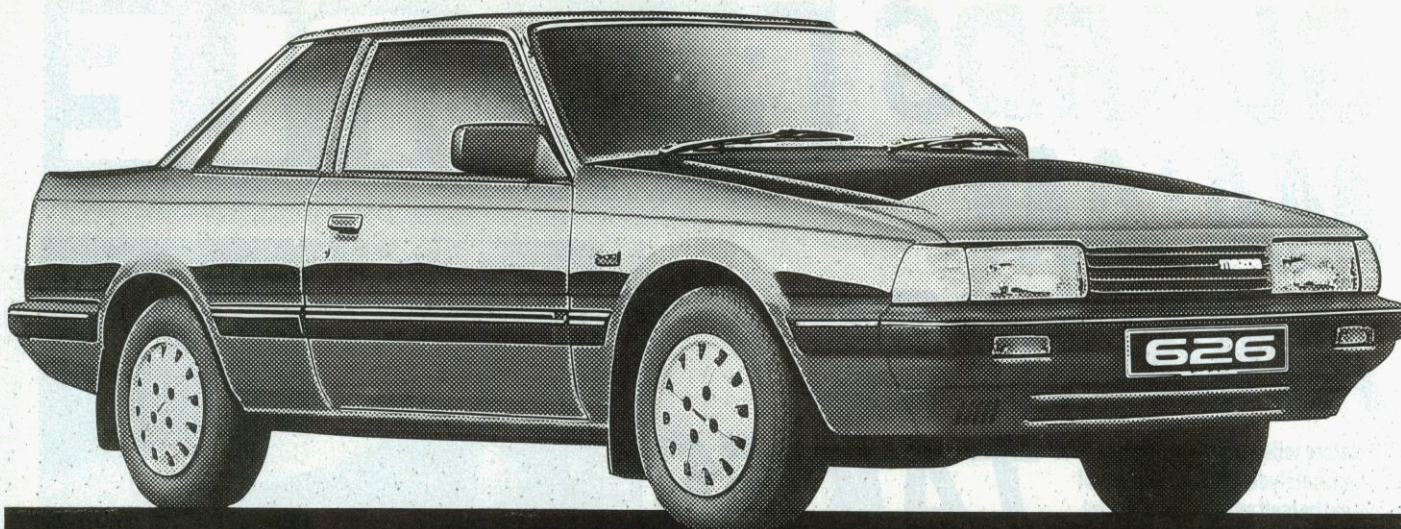
For Brian is following in the footsteps of his brother, Derrick, who held the job before being commissioned and becoming the unit's rifle shooting officer.

Brian's other spare-time interests include being vice-chairman of the parish council of Whitnash, Leamington Spa, where he lives with his wife, Pam, and their four children.

Could be Brian has no time for braking!



ANNABEL AND THE GUARDSMEN: assistant adjutant posting in old Hong Kong



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Single Servicemen and women booking in to the Union Jack Club opposite Waterloo station can thank the Nuffield Trust for the new-look accommodation available to them.

The Trust's 1987 "super-grant" of £113,300 – it was the Army's turn to receive it this year – has been spent on adding en suite bathrooms to a floor of single rooms in the club. A plaque to mark the Nuffield Trust contribution was unveiled by Admiral Sir Derek Empson on July 1.

In all, the club has spent £630,000 on a major refurbishment providing 80 new en suite bathrooms, 52 of them to single

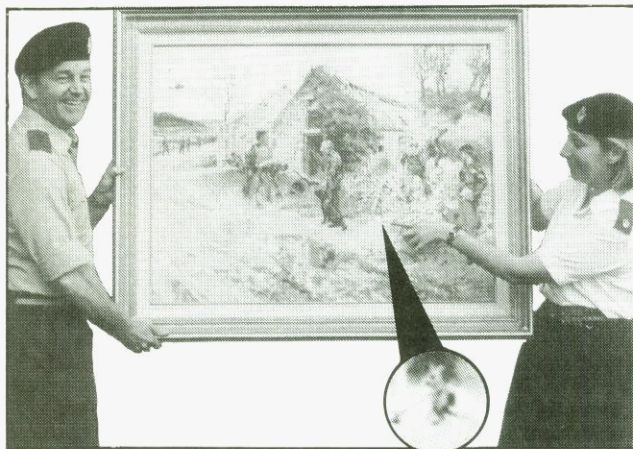
● **Enemy alien who became a brigadier** – see next page.

accommodation. The improvements have meant cutting the number of beds in the club from 487 to 460.

"Soldiers will benefit from a greatly enhanced club in London as a result," Brig John Ghika, the comptroller, said. "We've spent a great deal of money bringing it up to a modern standard."

The unveiling ceremony coincided with the 80th anniversary of the Union Jack Club, opened in 1907 by the then Prince of Wales.

SOLDIER to Soldier



Lt Col Chris Berry and Maj Jan Ransom of HQ UDR search for the famous Cuneo mouse in the artist's painting for the regiment. In case you can't find it, we've enlarged the mouse . . .

UDR on canvas – mouse and all

His famous mouse appears in the latest Terence Cuneo painting, as it has ever since Cuneo was commissioned to paint a large canvas of the Queen's Coronation in 1953 – but this time the mouse has a working role.

The painting shows a team of Ulster Defence Regiment permanent cadre soldiers engaged in searching a derelict barn and its surroundings on the outskirts of Omagh, and the mouse is shown using his own miniature detector.

The painting captures an actual incident in the constant struggle between the forces of law and order and the terrorists in Northern Ireland, when the UDR found a cache of weapons in the barn during a routine search operation, typical of scores of searches and finds by the regiment since its formation in 1970.

Included on the canvas are a Greenfinch – female soldier in the UDR – a policeman of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, and a Lynx helicopter from 655 Squadron Army Air Corps, underlining the close co-operation between Army units and the civilian police.

Prints of the painting are available from the Assistant Regimental Secretary, HQ UDR at Lisburn.

The VC with no name . . .

One of the proudest exhibits at the museum of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers which has been refurbished and reopened at the Tower of London is a Victoria Cross awarded to . . . no one!

The medal was the original prototype approved by Queen Victoria for the supreme bravery award that would carry her name.

The regiment has the medal because one of its officers was a member of the firm that made, and still makes the VC, the jewellery firm of Hancock's.

The un-named VC is one of two which the museum has on show, the second even more proudly displayed because it was awarded to Lt Maurice Dease of the Fusiliers, the first medal to be awarded during the First World War.

The Fusiliers also won the second VC of the Kaiser war, awarded to Private Sidney Frank Godley.

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

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Brigadier
John Ghika
talks to

*John
Margents.*

PROBABLY the most ironic situation ever to face Brigadier John Ghika was the time, as Chief of Staff London District, he put on his full-dress uniform and sat astride his horse to welcome the President of Romania to the UK on a state visit.

It was ironical because he had to adopt a respectful, almost laudatory attitude since he was in command of the troops on parade for the event. Yet at the same time he found the whole affair not at all to his liking.

Fortunately, his large plumed hat hid his displeasure, but as he pointed out, professional soldiers often have to carry out duties they don't like.

In this case it was more personal than professional and, recalling the occasion, he said with some asperity: "The man represented – and so far as I'm aware still does – a regime which dispossessed my family of their estates and me of my inheritance."

For the fact is Brig John Ghika, Comptroller of the Union Jack Club, London, is a Romanian prince in his own right.

He emphasises his title has no status within the UK, but he is loathe to discard it because it would be tantamount to fulfilling the wishes of those who have already taken away so much from him and his family.

"I really don't see why I should do what they want," he said. But his retention of this title is modest even to the extent of having two bank cheque books – one with the appellation of prince, the other without.

His business cards, too, proclaim only his Army rank and appointment as the top man at the UJ Club. "I never use personal cards," he said.

Now as British as the name of the club he manages, he was until the age of 20 an "alien", and as a lad during the war years had to register regularly with the police as an "enemy alien."

Only once did he encounter hostility on registering and that was from a police sergeant who warned him in menacing tones: "And don't you forget it..." He never has. Neither the place nor the man. But that was an



Picture: Terry Champion

BRIGADIER JOHN GHIKA: turning the financial corner at the UJ Club

isolated incident, he said, recounting what was in fact his escape back to school in England in 1939.

Born in Paris in 1928, where his father, Prince Dimitry Ghika was studying law, he spent his infant years with his parents and grandparents, Prince and Princess Bibesco, at the family homes in the Carpathian mountains in Transylvania and just outside Bucharest.

It was from the former at the outbreak of war that Princess Bibesco, an avid admirer of all things British and whose husband listed among his achievements that of being taught to fly by cross-Channel pioneer Louis Bleriot, accompanied the young Ghika in her husband's aeroplane on the first leg of his return journey to his English prep school.

"That was the last time I saw Romania," he said. His arrival in Belgrade and then at Athens heralded the start of a three-day

journey which, for a lad of 11 was adventure with a capital A, but in retrospect he views it as a nightmarish event.

There he met three young brothers en route to England from Athens by Imperial Airways flying boat.

He joined them – in the luggage hold of the aircraft – his route taking him to Corfu, Marseilles and Poole Harbour.

"That was an experience I'll never forget," he said. From there it was school in Yorkshire and at 18 to Oxford to read "Mods and Greats", leaving to join the Army in 1950 on National Service.

Oxford was a watershed for him, for not only did he become a British subject, dispensing with his grey-covered Aliens' Book, but he attained his grandmother's Anglophil dream for him to study at one of England's two leading universities.

His time at Oxford entailed reading ancient Greek and

Latin which he found difficult despite the Romanian language being Latin based.

But he left with a "reasonable" degree to join the Army as a National Serviceman at the Guards' Depot Caterham and then at Eton Hall Officer Cadet School, once the Duke of Westminster's country seat, but now razed to the ground.

He followed his four months' training there with a commission in the 1st Battalion The Irish Guards and was posted to Germany for 2½ years.

Later he spent time in Egypt, just missing the Suez Canal confrontation.

With his Army career on a firm footing he graduated up the military ladder, his first prestigious post being that of Brigade Major of the Household Brigade for 2½ years from 1967.

Next came command of the Guards' Depot until 1972 and then promotion to colonel in the recruiting directorate in the



Regimental Colonel to the Irish Guards



The 'enemy alien' who became a brigadier



PRINCE AND PRINCESS BIBESCO AND THE YOUNG GHIKA (right): last sight of Romania

MoD, followed by the appointment of Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, also in the rank of full colonel, to the Irish Guards.

His last years in the Army saw him attending the War Course at Greenwich and taking over as Chief of Staff London District and coming face-to-face with President Nicolae Ceausescu, of Romania, head of the party who took his family lands and home.

Speaking somewhat philosophically he said: "Looking back I think I was rather amused by the whole event... sitting on a horse and wearing a plumed hat..." He dismissed it from mind with a laugh and a wave of the hand.

Other difficult jobs followed... Lord Mountbatten's funeral. As Chief of Staff London District he was closely involved, although he made it clear someone else "did all the work."

Retirement loomed and since he had a family and a home to

run he needed another job.

Fortuitously, he heard of the comptroller's job at the Union Jack opposite Waterloo station.

"So I applied and have been here for the past six years. At first, and for some time, things looked decidedly gloomy. We had more rooms than we could fill and the recession was in full flow.

"In my early days the Metropolitan Police used to hire 114 rooms for their men, but when they withdrew it left a financial void of £275,000.

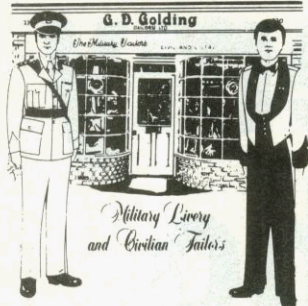
"That money, and more, had to be recouped if we were to survive and succeed. That was three years ago. Now, because the club has opened its doors to groups like the prison, ambulance and fire services, the police and others, with a special floor for serving and ex-Service officers, I think we have turned the financial corner."

The upward turn in the fortunes of the club, which is a registered charity, but to all intents and purposes is a hotel, started about 18 months ago

and now, with a massive modernisation scheme well under way the future of the old UJ – which is about to celebrate its 80th year – is bright.

With another six years or so to retirement Brig (Prince) John Ghika – "probably the only British Army brigadier to have started life as an enemy alien" – is certain the revolving doors of the club will spin at an ever-increasing rate with a corresponding rise in the number of visitors. He's hoping so, anyway.

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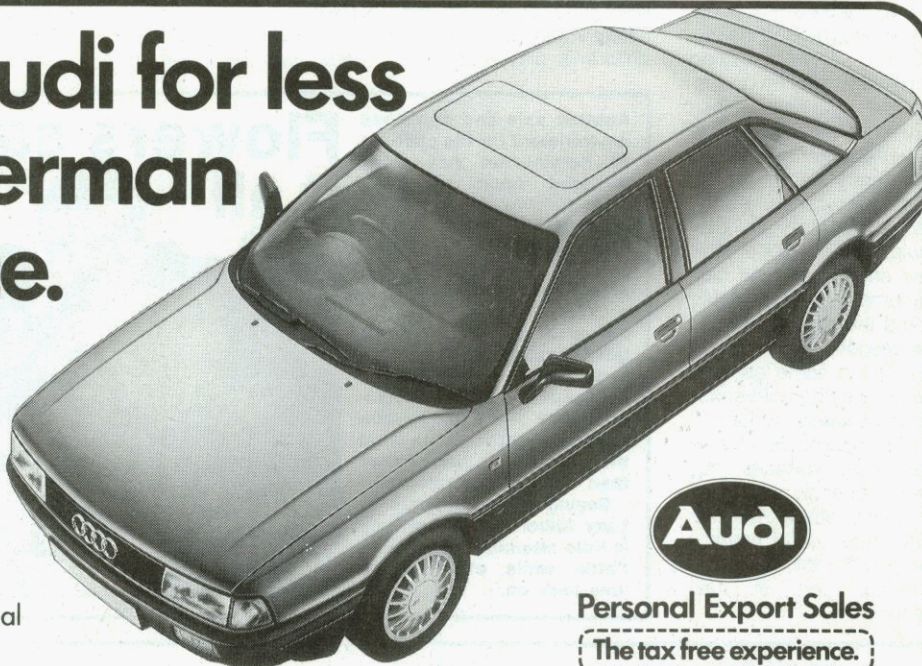
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SAFETY IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

SAFE surfaces for children's play areas were again in the public spotlight when Horwich Leisure Centre, near Bolton, hosted the second seminar on playground equipment.

More than 200 delegates from county, borough and district councils, the National Playing Fields Association and manufacturers attended the two-day conference to hear of designs and the installation of play equipment and the occasional blast of criticism of those responsible for selection and maintenance.

Under the chairmanship of Don Buck, chairman of Fair Play for Children, attention focused on safety surfaces, maintenance, planning requirements and the need for a policy of minimum play requirements for all local authorities.

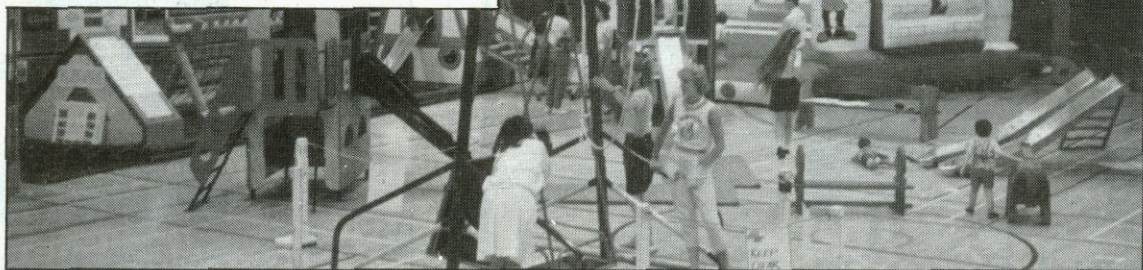
Alan Ritchie, a Chief Trading Standards Officer, told how manufacturers could help authorities and buyers on equipment choice, explaining also how his department could help in playground safety.

Some forward-looking authorities are modernising and refurbishing their play areas with some novel and exciting ideas, the conference heard. So far as they are concerned the old concepts of play equipment are gone. Now their emphasis is on safe equipment and surfaces.

And the past 18 months has seen the PSA following this line in some garrison areas by trying out various types of safety surface.

The importance of safe play area surfaces has been generally accepted for many years, but the PSA have only recently adopted this thinking as an essential part of their planning.

OF THE GAME



HORWICH LEISURE CENTRE: where a fall does not necessarily mean danger

Six years ago former GLC experts Vic Watson and G Tipp made major contributions proving the deadliness of concrete and similar hard surfaces in playgrounds.

But their reports of 1981 and 1983 were not taken seriously by many authorities – including the PSA who did not act to use safety surfaces for Service children's play areas.

They still laid hard surfaces beneath new play equipment and Canterbury is one example of this old fashioned thinking.

But new ideas abound and there are areas in which Service parents could become more aware of the need to keep abreast with the trends of play.

Delegates were shown what can be done to a

rundown housing estate to improve its appearance and change the whole lifestyle of the tenants. Mick Conway of Hackney Play Association showed that planting and landscaping the area with play in mind, all in conjunction with the residents, changed a Hackney estate into one of the most sought after in the district. The cost was miniscule to that

lost by vandalism.

By attending such conferences as this at Bolton and listening, learning and using the information and expertise available, the PSA could provide Service children with equally as good play areas as those supplied by the most innovative authorities in the country. Their No.1 rule should be: safety is the name of the game.

Another safe and enhanced environment for the children of Servicemen has been declared open by Lady Gilbert, wife of Air Chief Marshal Sir Joseph Gilbert, at Brunssum, Holland.

A mother and child centre, it was previously located in a cellar.

Now thanks to the local SSAFA committee, of which Lady G is president, and the Brunssum Families Association, they can actually look out of a window to see what the weather's like, rather than stare at a blank wall.

Saying it with flowers to Lady Gilbert for all her help is little attender Christopher Pottle while other young 'uns look on.

Flowers say it all

Thank you, says Christopher



IN MY VIEW

FOR years I have been conscious that children's playgrounds on MQ estates leave much to be desired. Sterile, uninteresting, dangerous and lacking in imagination could be labelled on most of them.

In 1981 I wrote to the QMG who upheld my fears by replying: "I have looked at a number of

playgrounds during visits to units, and I endorse the concern you and the wives expressed – several of those I saw were downright dangerous.

"I have also checked the question of policy. A PSA instruction dated 11 October 1979 was issued to all districts in the UK in which they drew the attention of staff to the fact that the British Standards Institution had published new standards of safety in playgrounds (BS 5696). I shall be sending for a copy of this

and will be discussing with PSA staffs what we can do to ensure that we match the standards of them bearing in mind the financial constraints which we face."

But what has been achieved since then?

I recently attended a second seminar organised by the Borough of Bolton, the Local Government Training Board and the now deceased Playboard, on the design, selection, installation and maintenance of play equipment.

For a fee of £24 plus travel and accommodation it was not cheap, but I felt the investment was more than worthwhile if by attending I could alert more people within the Services to the need to look at this important area on MQ estates.

Except for myself there was nobody from the Services' side. Jeremy Dodd, Landscape Architect PSA 9, Dept of Environment gave a lecture on natural play.

He spoke of the need to retain natural features in designing play



WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

The stress of moving home

HOW TO BEAT THE BLUES

BEREAVEMENT, divorce and moving house are among the most stressful events that can affect people.

These occurrences can involve heavy blows for those involved; marriage breakdown, juvenile problems and depression are just a few of the difficulties and hazards likely to be faced.

Just to move house can be a traumatic experience as many Service families are only too well aware, but it is not only Service families who move around the world and spend time overseas.

Large and small companies send their staff abroad as individuals or in groups and they, too, face difficulties.

To try and help, the European Relocation Bureau has launched a

Relocation Stress Survey to find out what can be done to alleviate these stressful areas.

Bureau Director Sue Garcia, in conjunction with Dr Philip Kevill of Keele University, compiled the questions in this totally confidential survey.

Although the questions are directed at civilians, just about all of them are applicable to Service families — isolation, wives losing jobs, the renting and

Tell Sue the problem

selling of houses, what happens to pets, and many other problems which affect families on the move.

If any reader would like to take part in this confidential survey, forms are available from me at SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

As Sue Garcia says: "I have realised 'relocation

blues,' as they are called in America, are being experienced almost universally.

"While the use of a proper relocation agent to solve all problems of housing, education, medical care, insurance, and social integration is an obvious answer in making the move easier, nobody really knows how deep the psychological stress goes."



SUE GARCIA
Confidentiality assured

Time for a new look at LOA

THE latest round of cuts in Local Overseas Allowance (LOA) for those serving in Germany has just been announced (see Page 9).

One of the criteria for awarding LOA is to meet the "reasonable extra cost of adopting an appropriate lifestyle in Germany," says the MoD.

It is not "intended to provide extra money to buy expensive items such as cars, hi-fi and video recorders," they stress.

The cuts, which come into effect on August 1, have been apparently based on a press release

list of ten items from an official list of around 33.

But if the "shopping basket team" consider their selection fair, why didn't they include insurance for public liability, personal and car cover? For the under-25 soldier the latter carries high premiums.

For the family man there are related expenses to boarding and further education, housing and DHSS benefits. None of these are mentioned in the latest list on which they presumably based their assessment.

Accompanied service, too, which is official policy

and often means loss of a wife's earnings and DHSS benefits, should also be taken into account when assessing "appropriate lifestyles."

Losses can often amount to £1,500 or more and, while not affecting everybody, neither does drinking or smoking.

But cigarettes and drink are given as examples of reduced costs when the Government and the MoD are putting out messages with films, pamphlets and lectures on how to reduce both.

In fact seven of the 14 non-food items listed concern alcohol which indi-

cates some measure of conflict, for not everybody smokes or drinks, but just about everyone has some form of insurance.

Additionally almost everyone has to consider housing — renting, buying or saving for the future — which is a cost aspect far more important than that of smoking or drinking.

The list mentioned car road tax and TV licences, a combined saving of £158 a year. But no mention is made of cross-Channel ferry charges which, with a car and four passengers, cuts that out at a stroke.

There is no mention of washing machines,

fridges, holidays, shoes, clothing, public transport and telephone charges, although bank charges are considered; these being recently added.

Servicemen often use their own vehicles for duty, but no UK comparison is offered despite BAOR-based Servicemen often making far longer journeys than people in the UK.

It is time the LOA "shopping teams" and the Armed Forces Pay Review Body took all these points into account.

For a start, if they can put bank charges on their list, why not insurance? They all cost money.

areas, and to provide as natural an environment as possible when refurbishing old playgrounds.

I posed the question that, if this is PSA's philosophy then why are we not seeing this reflected in the design and layout of our estates. The words are fine, but action is required and from recent visits to some new estates this does not seem to have been taken into account.

This is compounded when "Catalogue Play" still seems to be the vogue when play equipment

is chosen for Service MQ estates.

The conference emphasised that this is not the best way to choose play equipment as it can lead to sterile and unimaginative play.

Consultation with residents is vital, judging by the experiences of local authorities, and wherever possible would be their policy.

Research shows resident involvement reduces vandalism and with the help and co-operation of the manufacturers a value-for-money play area can be

achieved.

Consultation within the Service environment is easy, but on the play issues there has been little sign of this. Yet the Federation of Army Wives, Resident Associations, Wives Clubs, Pre-School Play Group and Mother and Toddler Groups are ready and waiting to discuss this important issue. So there is no excuse not to seek their views.

Unless quick action is taken our 1980s playgrounds will be by tomorrow unused, unkempt,

dangerous and vandalised.

I have written to the MoD and PSA and await their replies, but it's up to everyone to ensure the best type of equipment is purchased and laid on a safer surface, so that all Service children can enjoy themselves. ■ Further information on children's play is available from the NPFA; from Technical Information and Playground Services Ltd., 25 Ovington Square, London SW3 1LQ; and British Standard 5696 (parts 1, 2 and 3) from HMSO.

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The first featured two shows a day for a week, was billed as the Grand Military Tournament and Assault-at-Arms Tournament and was held in Islington's Agricultural Hall. Its aim was to raise money for the Royal Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Wives.

The show made its debut on June 21 1880, but the financial result was a disaster. Just £500 was raised for the charity.

The following year about 230

Regular and Yeomanry competitors did their best to entertain.

Competitions included tug-of-war, ambulance drill and bayonet exercises. There were also items such as tent-pegging, lemon cutting and slicing the Turk's head, skills accrued from Britain's Army presence throughout the far-flung Empire of Queen Victoria.

That second year, 1881, resulted in another £500 being donated to the charity.

In 1882, however, finances improved considerably with the introduction of the Life Guards' musical ride and profits rose to £3,000.

Other novelties in the ensuing years included wrestling on horseback. Attendances increased to 87,000 in 1896.

Ten years later the Royal Navy first took part in the tournament with drills exploit-

ing the cutlass and the gun.

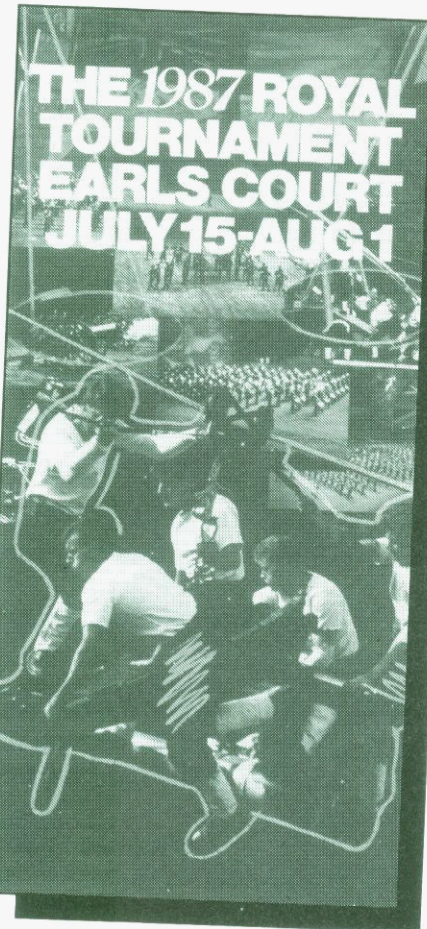
In 1905 the name was changed to the Royal Navy and Military Championship and the following year the venue was moved to Olympia and the spectacle's annual run increased to 17 days.

First stoppage to the increasingly popular display of military skills occurred inevitably in 1914. By then £132,000 had been raised for charity.

Five years later the tournament started again boosted by the addition of the fledgling Royal Air Force.

The Second World War again broke the tournament's run, the last show being held on June 3, 1939. It was back in business in June 1947 and raised £27,000.

The three-hour tournament and its cast of thousands moved to its present annual arena of Earls Court in 1950.



In brief

Bliss-ful effort

● Soldiers from 653 Squadron, 3rd Regiment AAC based at Zoest in West Germany took a few hours over nine days to push an incubator from John o'Groats to Land's End in aid of Bliss, the charity which provides baby life support systems for hospitals.

Richmond parade

● Men from the Catterick-based 8 Signal Regiment and 11 Signal Regiment marched through Richmond with swords drawn and bayonets fixed to mark the freedom of the borough granted to the Royal Signals in 1964. The parade was led by the band of the Royal Signals and included 50 old comrades from RS Associations throughout the country.

Grand day

● Inspecting officer at the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, for the annual Grand Day Trooping the Colour was General Sir David Mostyn, the Adjutant General. The school was founded in 1801 for the education of soldiers' children orphaned during the Napoleonic Wars.

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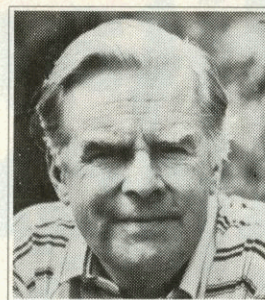
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The party travelled overland from their Lemgo, West Germany, base via Austria, Yugoslavia and

Greece, and then by ferry to Crete.

Expedition members were constantly shadowed in the remoter areas by armed Sfakion mountain people, descendants of the partisans who fought the Germans in the Second World War. Despite their fierce appearance they turned out to be extremely friendly and hospitable.



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Rodeod!

AIRLIFT Rodeo 87, a five day airdrop competition featuring teams from eight allied countries, and 28 of Uncle Sam's mighty Military Airlift Command units was held at Pope USAFB in North Carolina to test how well the aircrew members and maintenance engineers do their jobs when the pressure is on.

Also on trial were the combat controllers, the security police and aerial delivery personnel.

The Royal Air Force's flying and maintenance teams for the Hercules C130 were drawn from RAF Lyneham, and showed the rest exactly how the game should be played; right up until the last flight they were considered the team to be beaten.

The aircrew entered the last day leading by virtue of a series of consistent rather than brilliant performances. Supporting their efforts in the air were 47 Sqn RCT, led by Cpl Tom Duncan, also based at Lyneham. Circumstances went against the British teams when unfamiliarity of American parachuting techniques meant

that in just 2½ seconds all was lost.

This was the time delay before MALM Al Wain forced the first jumper from the C130. American jumpers do not respond to a green light for "go" but instead rely on their jump masters. Wain overruled the jump master on this occasion but the delay in exit proved too much.

A team from the UK Air Movements Squadron (UKMAMS) defeated all-comers to win the "Engines Running On/Off-load" competition, while Security Police team from 5 Wing RAF Regiment came second of 34. In the allied competition, the UK aircrew came third behind Germany and Israel, but in the overall competition dropped to tenth place. The team of ground engineers had an especially close competition which the Italians won by losing only four marks of the 1,800 available. The British team lost 22 and came fourth!

But the UK team firmly believes it was denied victory in both the overall and allied competitions by an incorrect score on the final airdrop.



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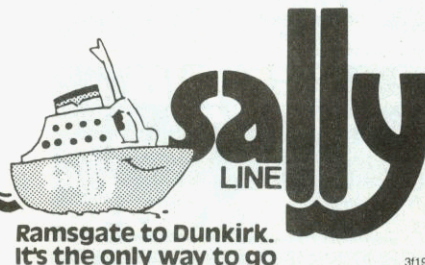
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Writer **Graham Smith** and photographer **Terry Champion** have visited the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as guests of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces, which retain historically close links with the British Army.



Soldiers of the Jordanian Army on personal weapon training with the M16 at the School of Infantry near Amman

King Hussein:
Supreme Commander

A ROYAL COMMAND

THE Jordanian Army enjoys a good reputation for professionalism and efficiency among its Arab neighbours. It is an army founded on British lines of tradition and discipline and is a direct descendant of the British-raised Arab Legion.

It is an army about which King Hussein, Supreme Commander of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces says: "I am happy that we are maintaining our professional military standards in Jordan, but we always strive to improve. We also have a responsibility to set an example to others, to make our brother Arab states aware of our capabilities and role."

The Jordanian Army of

تحية
من مجلة الجيش البريطاني
الى كل منتسبي القوات المسلحة
الاردنية وقرائها المميزين

GREETINGS: to
Jordanian soldiers

today is based on armour and mechanised infantry yet 70 years ago it began with just one company of cavalry, one of infantry, a machine gun unit, a signals unit and a band.

Today, the tri-Service Royal Jordanian Armed Forces boast two armoured and two mechanised infantry divisions and embrace seven artillery and five air defence brigades.

The 12th Division is in the north of Jordan, the 3rd in the south, the 4th in Amman region and the 5th to the east of Amman.

There is also a Royal Guards Brigade and a Special Forces Brigade.

A working knowledge of the English language is insisted upon for all officers.

The Hashemite Kingdom spends 12 per cent of its gross domestic product on defence.

But mixed economic fortunes in recent years within Jordan, which is surrounded by Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel, and the knock-on effect of the Iran-Iraq conflict, the internal clashes in Lebanon and

continuing tension with neighbouring Israel, has meant buying a bargain basement of defence equipment on an opportunity basis.

Jordan has been hampered by the political bias of vendors of much-needed equipment for defence and vigilance along a 650-kilometre frontage with Israel which takes in part of occupied Syria, including the Golan Heights.

Consequently, Jordan has had to rely on a mélange of military hardware for its inventory – aircraft from the United States of America and France, air defence systems

Turn
to
Page
26

Briton's music role in Jordan is to refresh the parts!

TODAY's Royal Jordanian Armed Forces have no fewer than seven bands, 12 pipes and drums bands and a 100-strong orchestra.

But the desert kingdom's first musical group dates back to 1920. Sixty musicians from the symphonic orchestra, the first Arab military ensemble of its kind, were sent to Austria in 1981 to study and play different instruments.

Now they have a new tutor, Capt Peter Butler, 42, of The King's Own Scottish Borderers, who as a Loan Service Officer under the sponsorship of the Directorate of Military Aid Overseas (DMAO), has taken up a two-year post as an instructor.

Musicians from the School of Music, formed in 1954, have given several outstanding performances overseas including the Royal Tournament at Earls Court.

Jordanian bands have won several international awards over the years.

Capt Butler, who joined the KSLI in 1966 and is a graduate from the Army's School of Music at Kneller Hall, is quite clear about his new professional purpose in life. And he is also indirectly grateful to the Staff Band of the RCT.

For it was this band,



And they shall have music. A colourful ensemble of Royal Jordanian Armed Forces musicians play for King Hussein during commemoration in the capital, Amman, of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day

accompanying the Queen on her visit to Jordan a few years ago, which made such an impression on its audience, including King Hussein, that the idea was launched to acquire a British bandmaster instructor to run the Jordanian Armed Forces band services.

The British bandmaster, with wife, duly arrived by Royal request.

An alto saxophonist, Capt Butler said: "I am refreshing their knowledge of music from the meaning of Italian musical terms to the biographies of the world's classical composers to give their performances that extra depth."

"I am also refining their aural perception of tuning, music being taught in a different way than we are

used to in the UK. They are all very enthusiastic players. They still need a lot of polishing but they like playing western music, including waltzes and Spanish music.

"We are, for instance, playing at the British Embassy on Saturday and a future planned engagement will take one of the bands to California."

"I am not, of course, the Director of Music but could, I suppose, substitute if needed with baton. The bands are all making good progress on the three-movement Gustav Holst Suite which tests every section of an orchestra. The potential is there. They have played at the Royal Tournament and my personal ambition is to take them to the Edinburgh Tattoo."



Capt Peter Butler, KOSB, lends an ear to musicians striking up at the JAF School of Music where he is just starting a two-year slot as a Loan Service music instructor

● from Page 25

from the Soviet Union, tanks from Britain, small arms, support weapons and APCs from the States.

The British input has included 250 Khalid tanks (Chieftain derivatives), Tariq tanks (up-dated Centurions) and a clutch of elderly Ferret 2 scout cars totting American Browning machine guns.

SOLDIER's team had a

quick look at one tank battalion, the 11th Royal Elephant Bn, 91 Brigade, 3rd Armoured Division which was located at Zerqa, north east of Amman.

The last of the Khalids – named after a leader who fought the Roman Empire – was delivered in 1983. Iran's cancelled order of the Shir tank was a lucky windfall for the Jordanians.

The brigade commander is

very pleased with the Khalid. He said: "It's the best tank in the Middle East. Very accurate and comfortable for the crews. It was well worth its price. As for spares, we get what we want as Khalid users."

His men, mainly true Bedouin sons of the desert, put in a full measure of training on the tank which may acquire TOGS (Thermal Observation Gunnery System)

and the latest in tank rounds. They train on a simulator, an OTT (On-Tank Trainer), as well as doing a lot of tactical training in the desert.

Their drills are based on those of the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington but tactics are gleaned from around the world, particularly lessons learned during the 1967 and 1973 conflicts involving their traditional enemy, Israel.

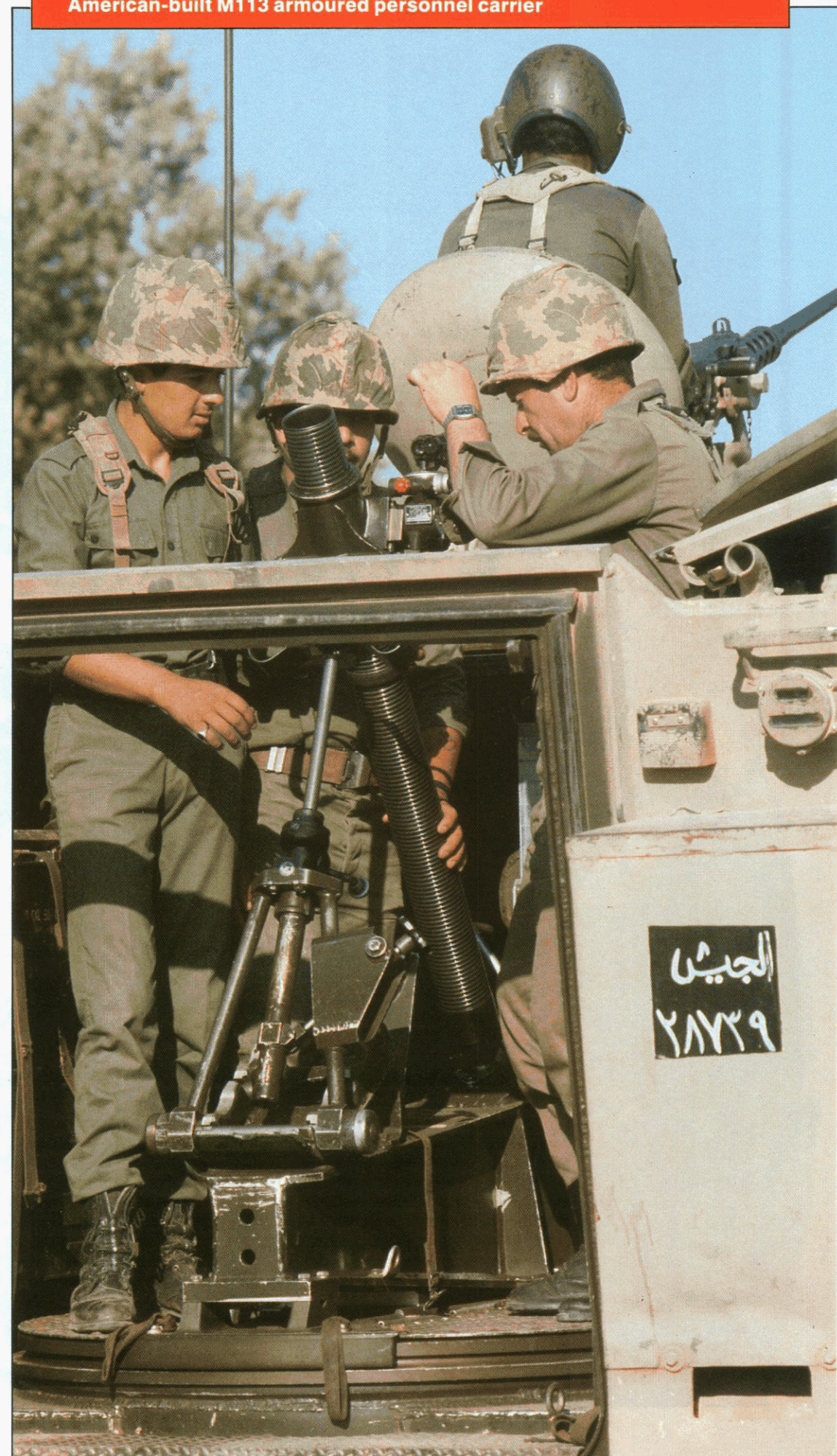
Bedouins, said the brigade commander, like the Khalid tank and enjoy the armoured regiment's activities.

"They are Bedouin and they don't know how to be afraid!" he said, "but they have to be good and they are. Our main concern at all times is for the men. Some of them stay with us for ten or 20 years."

Turn to Page 28



Left – The evocative West Bank of the Jordan at sunset. A young Jordanian soldier keeps one eye along the river. Just visible on the top left hand corner of the distant escarpment is an Israeli OP
Below – Men of the Prince Hassan IV Mechanised Infantry Battalion in action during training with an 81mm mortar in the back of the American-built M113 armoured personnel carrier



WEST BANK VIEW

● From Page 27

Another unit seemingly filled with enthusiasm for their task was the Prince Hassan IV Bn, mechanised infantry, part of the 12th Division.

Established on June 8, 1947 from the companies of the then 1st and 2nd Garrisons it had excelled itself during the two battles of Al-Lutroan and Bab Alwad in 1948, when it was still an infantry formation.

It became mechanised with American M113 APCs just months before the Yom Kippur October clash in 1973. It had been active in the

Six Day War of 1967 with the M106mm recoilless rifle and the American Dragon anti-tank weapon.

Much of the Jordanian's air defence capability is based on Soviet-bought systems such as the SA-8 Gecko, SA-13 Gopher and ZSU 23/4s. Elderly American AD systems also play their part, such as the 20mm twin Vulcan and the mounted 40mm weapon.

These are operated by the 3rd Air Defence Bn, 3rd Armoured Division.

Men of the unit, many of them veterans of the '73

fighting, get a chance to fire off time-expired ammunition against target drones at least twice a year.

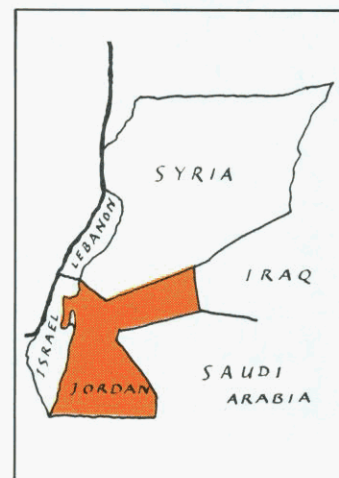
"The gun is only as good as the efficiency of the crew," said the battalion commander. "They feel it is still a fun gun and exciting to fire. It is extremely valuable to our army to have the expertise of our 1973 veterans who can pass down their tips to us."

The Vulcan mounted on an M113 chassis has a 3,000 rounds a minute maximum rate of fire up to 2,000 metres and is crewed by four. The

40mm on its M48 chassis has a crew of five, and a maximum 140 rpm up to 2,400 metres.

Conscription of 18-year-olds was introduced in 1975 (although deferment can be for up to ten years for academic reasons). Recruitment recently underwent change with the abolition of five-year "limited service" in favour of 16-year long term service.

Progress in military training and tactics is well-rooted in Jordan, which has its own Royal Military Academy and various specialist schools.





Above – A reminder of British influences past. A 25-pounder field gun stands as a sentinel outside the Martyrs' Memorial
Left – A member of the Desert Patrol with his distinctive head-dress
Below – King Hussein waters the symbolic "tree of life" at the Martyrs' Memorial



Martyrs live on in 'tree of life'

IT was a splendid Jordanian occasion with all the pomp and uniformed pageantry one might expect for the commemoration of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day at Amman's Martyrs' Memorial, in the presence of King Hussein, Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Tall, tanned men from the Desert Patrol in their sand-coloured "kibers" or long flowing robes, bandolier belts offset by gleaming "khangers", ornamental but perfectly functional daggers. At their sides, American-built M16 carbines and .38 Smith and Wesson revolvers at the hip.

Every year King Hussein attends the massive £3 million Martyrs' Memorial for the ceremonial watering of the "tree of life", a symbolic olive tree planted in its roof garden. It marks the three-year Great Arab Revolt which started on June 10, 1916, and rid Transjordan of 400 years of Turkish domination.

Its doors cast in bronze, its interior fittings of polished granite and marble, the monument – which covers an acre – was opened in 1977 by King Hussein during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of his accession to the throne.

Inside are commemorated the names of 2,110 martyrs dating from 1916 to 1977, including those involved in the Six Day War of June 1967, the 73 killed at Al Karamah on March 21, 1968, and others

who died in the Yom Kippur War of October 1973.

Modelled on the shape of the Kaaba at Mecca, Islam's holiest shrine, the monument took 14 months to build, attracts 80,000 visitors every year, costs about £60,000 a year to maintain and has an Army-sponsored maintenance staff.

Inside is a museum of old weapons and uniforms depicting the struggle spread over four periods of Jordanian history dating from 1916 when Sharif Hussein bin Ali, ruler of Mecca, was proclaimed the King of the Arabs on November 2; the great grandfather of today's King Hussein.

Although that occasion was a Jordanian affair, history has revealed a strong British connection with the monument.

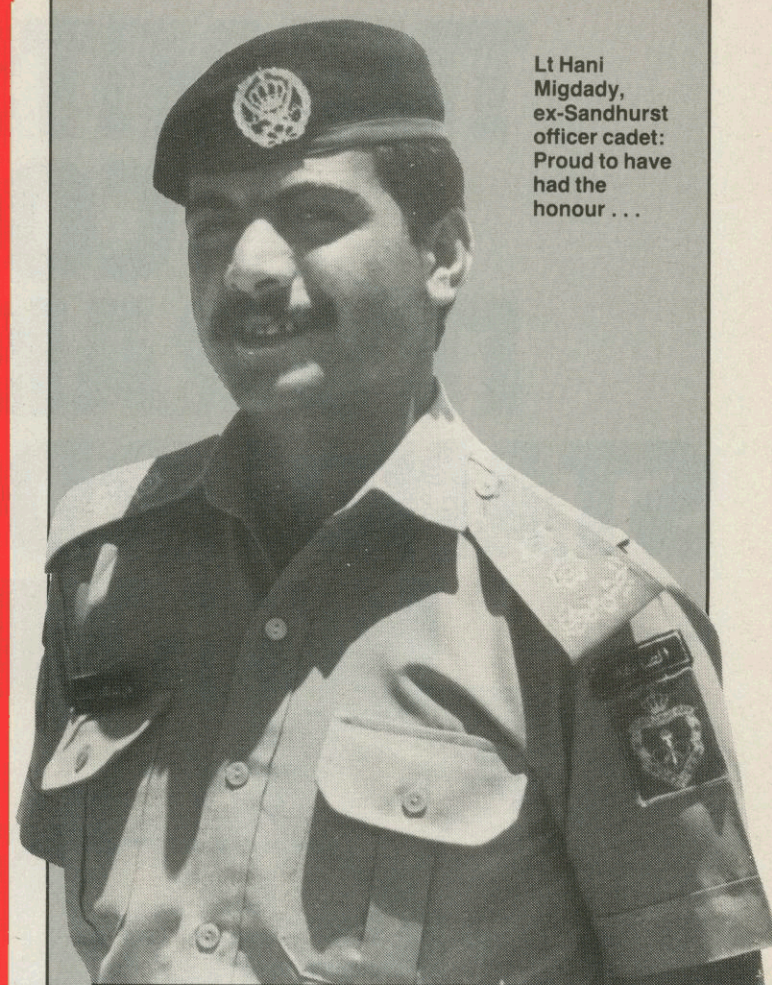
One of the named martyrs was a man called Richards who fought for the Arab cause in 1948.

The designers of the interior of the monument were British.

Inside the main hall hangs a painting by Terence Cuneo. It depicts the war for Jerusalem at the Damascus Gate in 1948.

The Queen, Mr Michael Heseltine and Mrs Margaret Thatcher have taken part in the watering of the olive tree ceremony.

Outside are various items of British military equipment, including a Saladin, a 25-pounder field gun and a Marmont-Harrington armoured car.



Lt Hani Migdady, ex-Sandhurst officer cadet: Proud to have had the honour...

THE Jordanian Army has in command at all levels many officers who have graduated from Sandhurst's Royal Military Academy.

One is Lt Hani Migdady, 26, who was on SMC 27 in 1982 and is now a platoon commander in charge of 27 youngsters at Jordan's equivalent Royal Military Academy at Zerqa, 15 miles north east of Amman.

He had to be a top cadet to win his Sandhurst place. There are currently three Jordanians on courses at Sandhurst.

Before taking up his coveted place at Surrey's military alma mater, Lt Migdady completed an English language course at the Beaconsfield School of Languages and, after Sandhurst, attended a four-month Regular Careers Course with the RAC Armoured School at Bovington.

Half a dozen Sandhurst

Sandhurst link is as strong as ever

cadets have just completed a fortnight's familiarisation visit to Jordan while six of their counterparts have been visiting Sandhurst.

Eventually Lt Migdady hopes to become a company commander with one of his country's two armoured divisions.

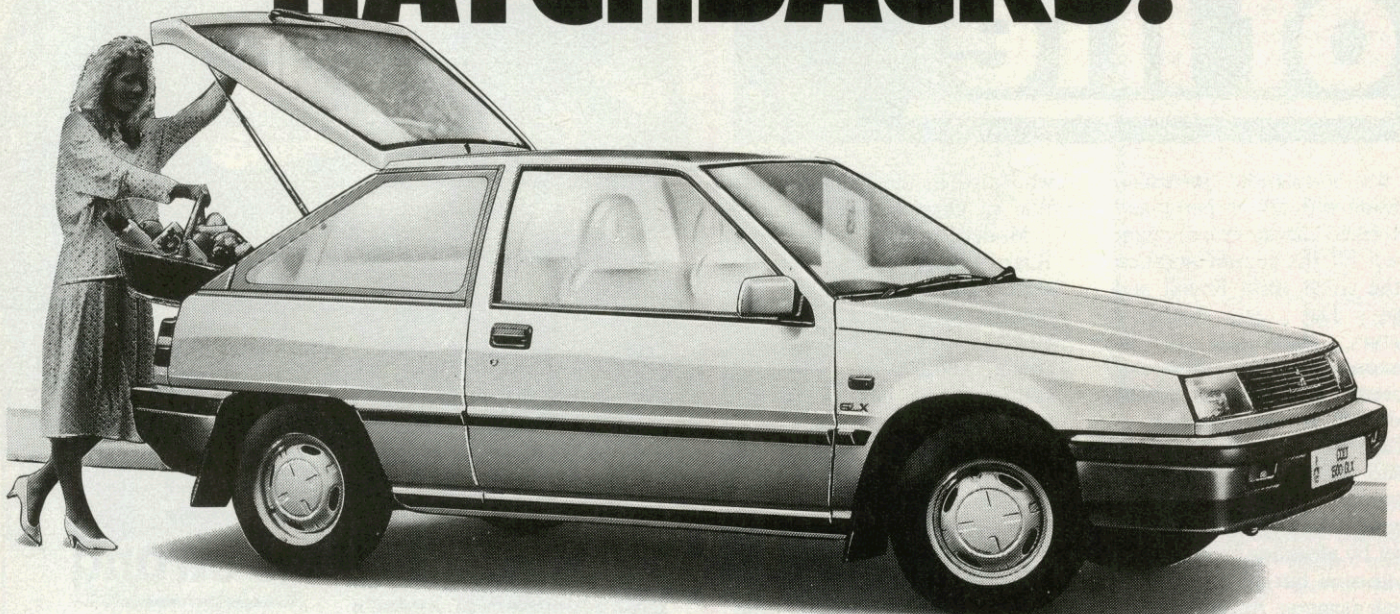
"Some 102 Jordanians have graduated from Sandhurst in 40 years, and I'm very proud to have had the honour to be among them," he said.

Royal graduates

NO fewer than five members of the Jordanian Royal Family have graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

They are Emir Talal (1927), said to be the first Middle Eastern graduate from the RMAS, King Hussein (1952), Prince Abdullah (1982), Prince Talal (1983) and Princess Aisha (1987).

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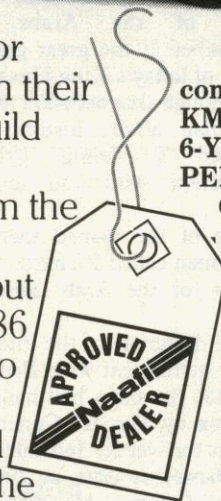
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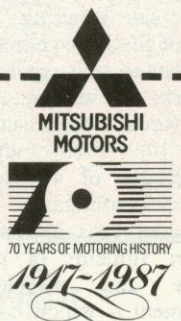
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A trainee gun crew takes up its position alongside an American M105 at the School of Artillery, Zerqa, near Amman

Desert gunners

WARMINSTER and Larkhill have left their imprints on the training methods of the Jordanian Army's schools of infantry and artillery.

The School of Infantry – its first commandant was a British Army officer back in 1946 – basks in 70,000 square metres of pre-desert at Zerqa, 15 miles north east of Amman.

Its facilities include ranges among the surrounding 150-

metre high, dun-coloured and scrub-pitted hills.

The school was founded over 40 years ago and moved to its present location in 1956. It turns out officers and senior NCOs.

Weaponry is predominantly American with the M16, M60 machine gun, .50 Browning, 106mm recoilless rifle and Dragon anti-tank missile but also includes the Italian 9mm

Beretta and the British 81mm mortar.

Since 1964 the School of Infantry has turned out about 15,400 officers and 15,800 senior NCOs.

Overall, there are 100 instructors at the school and courses last from one week to 30 weeks.

Students from Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Oman also attend.

The Artillery School was set up in 1952 with two wings – gunnery and air defence.

Nowadays it teaches on just three American-built field artillery types – the M105, the M109 (155mm) and the M110 (8-inch) howitzer.

The school's aims are to give technical and tactical teaching and supplementary training on roles in helping support arms.

The Field Artillery Wing also has a locating department using computerised-based training aids.

The school's first four commandants were all British, Majors Berry (1952-54), Richmond (54-55), Clarke-Smith (55-56) and Morris (56-57).

Each year about 500 officers and 600 senior NCOs, including 40 officers and 20 NCOs from other Arab-speaking countries, graduate.

The school's commandant said: "The equipment is American but the gun drills are mainly British."

Taking the strain out of buying a house

WELFARE for officers and enlisted men in the Jordanian Armed Forces is good. It makes available two housing options.

A cash sum is handed to officer or soldier so he can build his own house, or he can secure a sort of military interest free "mortgage", with deductions from his pay made against the house purchase price.

A major on a basic £900 a month is offered the option of £40,000 to build his own home, or £200 deducted from his pay each month to buy the house over 16 years.

A Jordanian Army staff sergeant earning £300 a month basic is offered either £10,000 cash on the same basis or a repayment option of about £140 a month.

On top of these offers, a soldier – a private earns about £200 basic a month – gets an allowance for his wife or wives.



Graduates from Jordan's Royal Military Academy mount a guard complete with M16 carbines

JORDAN has its own Royal Military Academy. Moulded on Sandhurst it started as a sort of field academy during the Great Arab Revolt of June 1916 under its first "commandant", Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali of Hijaz, great grandfather of today's King Hussein.

Although firmly based on Sandhurst lines, the Jordanian RMA has also taken the best from America's West Point, Virginia and the military college at Pakistan.

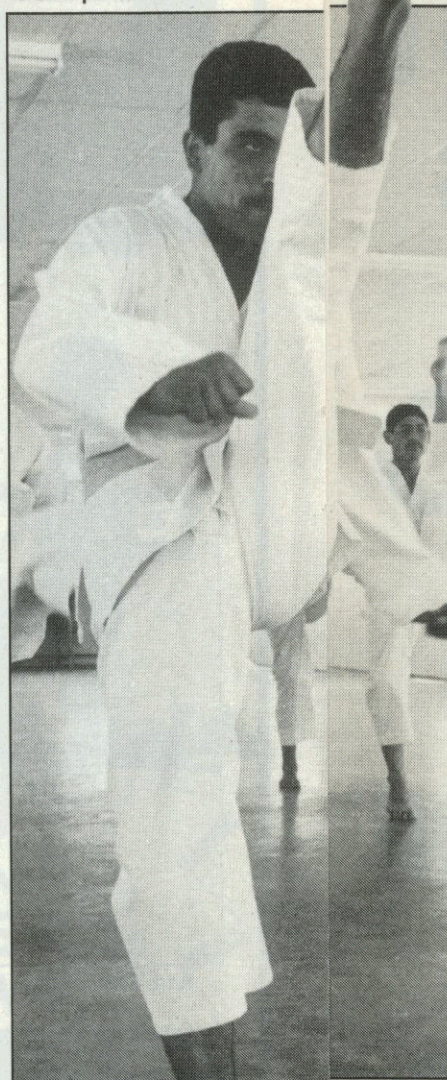
The school is divided into two battalions, a senior battalion (King Feisal) and a junior battalion (The Great Arab Revolt), the latter split into three companies and four

platoons. Each platoon is named after a successful Islamic battle. Each battalion has 17 officers.

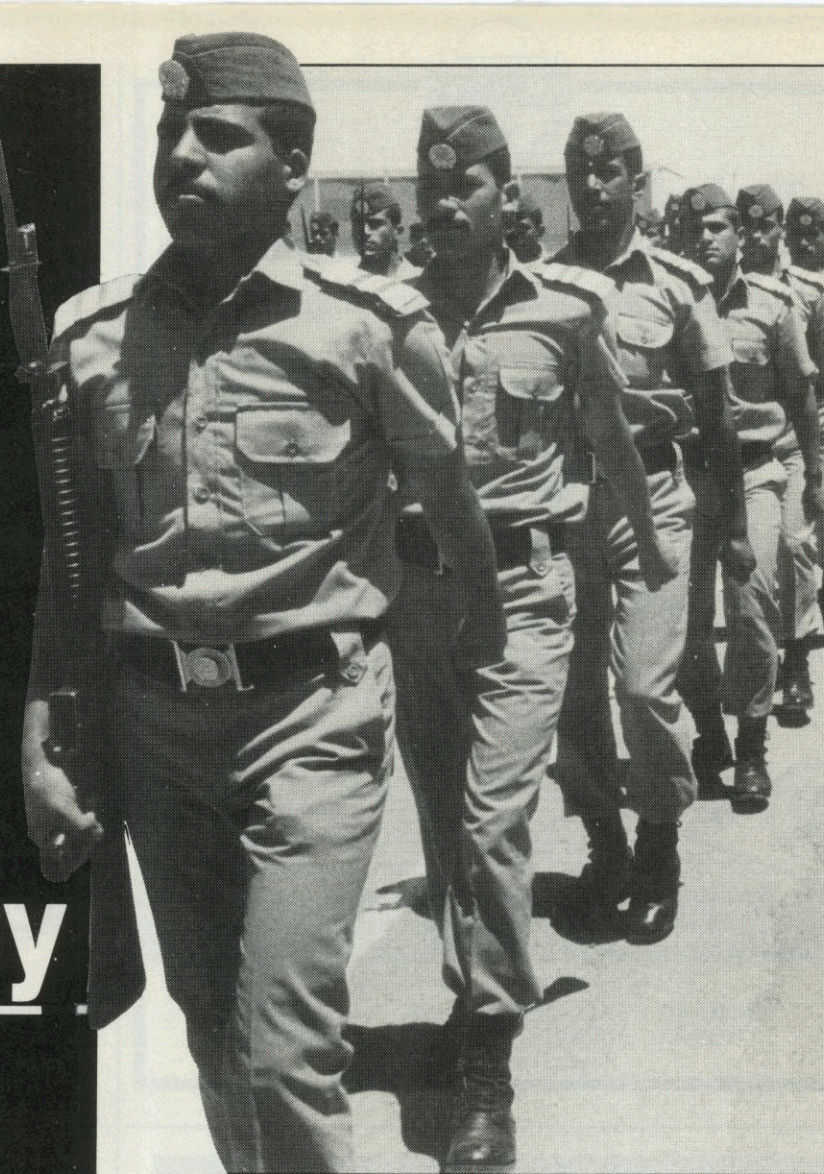
The school is also divided into two branches, military and academic science, staffed by about a score of tutors.

Academy entrants are drawn straight from secondary education and since 1950 about 5,300

Jordanian airmen getting a kick out of their leisure pursuits



New entry system could change academy role



Military academy: on march to changes in academic role

officers have graduated including officers from Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Syria, Libya, Mauritania, Iraq, Sudan and Algeria.

Entrants must be Jordanian between the ages of 17 and 22 unless they are already serving and can come in at 27. They must also be single and may not marry.

Days are long at the Zerqa-based academy. They run from 0600 to 2200.

Graduation parades are taken by King Hussein, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, rather like our own Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst from where the King himself graduated in 1952.

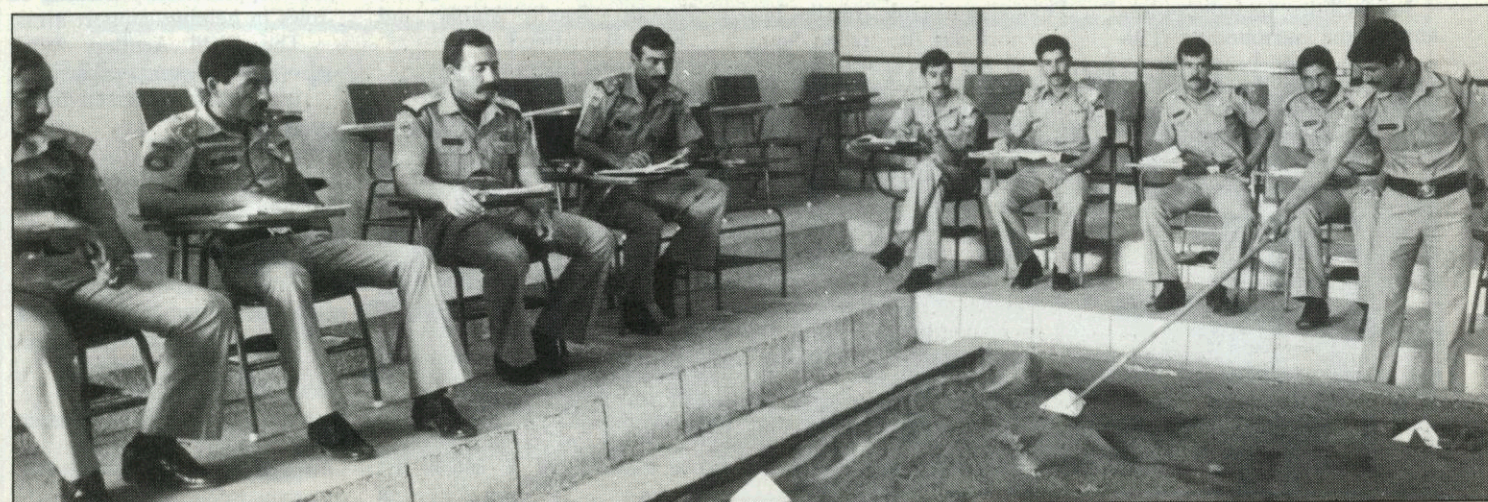
But plans are afoot to replace the RMA at Zerqa with another

system of entry, whereby entrants would go directly to the military wing of Mu'ta University, near Kerak, 100 kms to the south of Amman, to get their degrees before receiving military training at the RMA.

This system is favoured because until now 17-year-old secondary-educated entrants to the RMA - motto: "Guard the

King, Guard the Nation" - have been graduating as officers and taking up posts over university graduates with far higher academic attainments.

If the proposal is accepted, the Jordanian RMA will in future provide basic military courses before the residents move on to specialised military training in the fields of infantry, artillery and armour.



Written in the sand

Left - an instructor pointing out a lesson on the sand table during a tactical session for Jordanian Army personnel

Right - English as she is spoke, though based on American tutorials, is relayed by tape and headphone in a language lab at Jordan's Royal Military Academy





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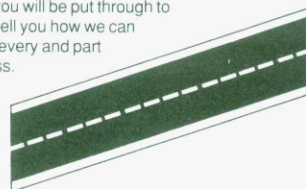
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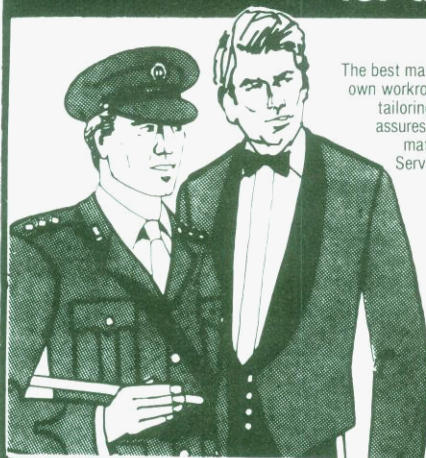
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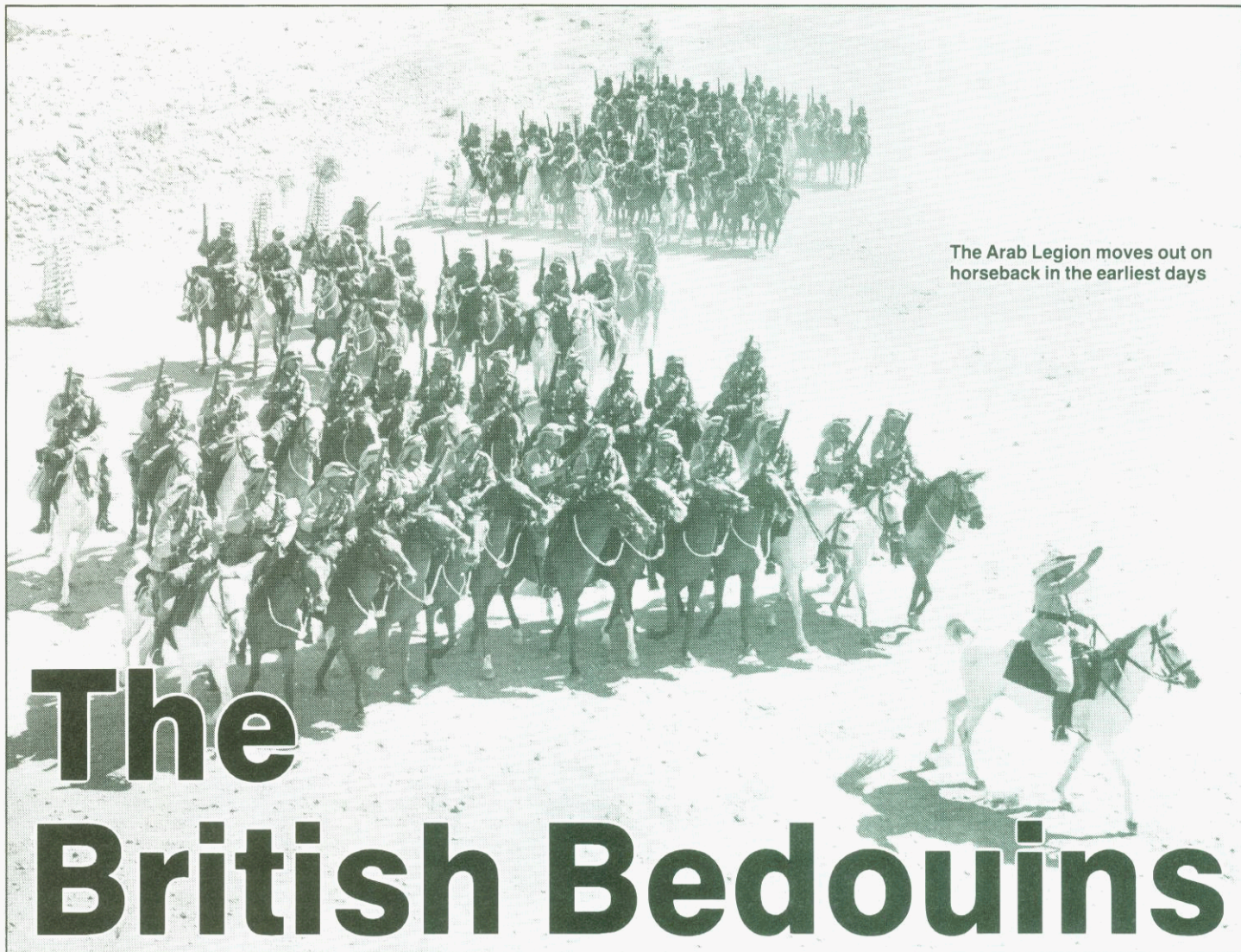
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UNIFORMAL



The Arab Legion moves out on horseback in the earliest days

The British Bedouins

BRITISH military influence on training, discipline and tactics in Jordan, formerly Transjordan, goes back nearly 70 years to the formation of the Arab Legion under the command of an English captain.

Yet even before this embryo force of Bedouins other Britons had served in the shifting sands of the Hashemite Kingdom and continued to do so during, between and after two world wars.

The Arab Legion was conceived with British military expertise in October 1920 from just five officers, 75 cavalrymen and 25 machine gunners.

First commandant was Capt Frederick G Peake, of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding).

By the autumn of 1921 Peake Pasha, as he became known, had raised three cavalry regiments, two infantry battalions, one battery of mounted artillery, a machine gun company and a signal squadron.

That year the Emirate of Transjordan formed its first government, Britain officially recognising its independence in 1923.

By 1929, the Legion had grown to 950 men and 40

officers and, two years later, a special force of 90 men was formed as Desert Patrol to maintain law and order among local tribesmen.

It pioneered the use of armoured cars and wireless in the desert and built a number of small forts.

Peake and Glubb – leaders of the Legion

This Desert Patrol had, among its officers, the monocled Maj John Bagot Glubb, a general's son who had joined Woolwich Academy at the age of 15 and had gone to Iraq as a sapper subaltern in 1920.

Glubb Pasha resigned his commission in 1926 to take up a civilian post overseeing the surrender of arms given to the Arabs by Col T E Lawrence of Arabia.

Glubb's first mechanised force comprised only three vehicles and a camel corps, the lot totalling 120 men. It was engaged not only on internal security but to counter any external threat.

Glubb Pasha took command

of the Arab Legion in 1939 on Peake's retirement.

The Emir of Transjordan and the British Government agreed that a military section of the Legion would be formed with the task of guiding British armoured columns into Iraq during the 1941 troubles and

later into Syria.

A British force marched 500 miles from Palestine to relieve RAF Habbaniya, Iraq, on the River Euphrates. The column consisted of the Household Cavalry, a battalion of The Essex Regiment and a field artillery battery.

The Legion did its job and then led a detachment to cut the Mosul road and descend the Tigris to Baghdad where they scared off the rebel leader. Baghdad surrendered on May 31, 1941.

On June 8, the Legion guided another column from Iraq to attack Palmyra, Syria, and then into the Lebanon.

By the end of the war the

Legion totalled about 8,000.

In 1946, Transjordan became an independent kingdom under King Abdullah, father of the present monarch, King Hussein. King Abdullah was later assassinated.

Under a treaty of "perpetual peace and friendship", Transjordan and Great Britain promised to help each other in the event of hostilities. Part of the well-equipped Legion was lent to the British Army for guard duties in Palestine thereby relieving pressure on British troops.

The British mandate over Palestine, however, was withdrawn on May 14, 1948.

The end of a British military era was at hand. Under the guidance of their young King Hussein (Sandhurst 1952) the Jordanian Armed Forces grew in size and prestige.

On March 1, 1956, King Hussein, as C-in-C of the Armed Forces, carried out his decision to "Arabise" the army and free it from its foreign commanders.

Accordingly, he relieved Glubb of command and appointed Jordanians to all senior commands. The Arab Legion was renamed the Jordan Arab Army.

Books in brief

Knights of the Iron Cross by Gordon Williamson. A book about German's highest military decoration and a representative selection of its winners from all branches of the German armed forces. Published by Blandford Press. Price £9.95.

The Soldiers' Story by Terry Burstall. The story of Australia's major battle of the Vietnam war, at Long Tan. Published by University of Queensland Press. Price £16.65 hardback or £8.65 paperback.

Who's Who in Military History by John Keegan and Andrew Wheatcroft. A "biography" of war, told through personal details of the

most important and interesting figures in military history from 1453 to the 1980s. First published in 1976, reissued by Hutchinson. Price £25 cased or £12.95 paperback.

Ardennes 1944: Peiper and Skorzeny by Jean-Paul Pallud. No 11 in the *Elite Series* published by Osprey. Price £5.50.

Inside the Soviet Army Today by Steven J Zaloga. No 12 in the *Elite Series* published by Osprey. Price £5.50.

Service Dress 1902-40 by Mike Chappell, No 1 in a series entitled *The British Soldier in the 20th Century*. Published by Wessex Military Publishing. Price £3.50.

BONDED BY AIR OF CHIVALRY

CHIVALRY in the air came, of necessity, not until the First World War, but the feeling of belonging to a small international brotherhood resulted in many instances of aviators showing honour and even friendship to their adversaries.

It extended to pilots refraining from shooting down defenceless opponents in aerial combat, as happened in 1917 when the famous French fighter pilot Capitaine Georges Guynemer, broke off with a friendly wave an engagement when he realised that German Ernst Udet's guns had jammed.

Author Piet Hein Meijering makes the point in *Signed With Their Honour* that to a chivalrous man the killing of a helpless enemy is repugnant, incompatible with the ethics of a world he wants to live in and conflicting with the rules of civilised warfare as he knows them.

Added to that, there was a special bond between aviators, the adventurous and intrepid men who for the first time were leaving the earth and flying like birds.

In the First World War it resulted in both Allied and German airmen entertaining in their messes enemy pilots who had been brought down, before they were delivered to prisoner-of-war cages.

Many were the occasions when pilots made dangerous flights to enemy airfields to drop messages giving information about opponents having been killed, or delivering the personal effects of an airman who had been killed or taken prisoner. Wreaths were sometimes dropped.

The First World War provided an ideal matrix for the rebirth of chivalry; not so much the Second World War, although there was still honour between pilots, there was still reluctance to shoot at helpless parachuting airmen, and post-war friendships were born out of the conflict.

Since then the opportunities for chivalry in the air have diminished. — AT

Signed With Their Honour by Piet Hein Meijering, published by Mainstream Publishing. Price £12.95.



The desolation of Chateau Wood, Third Ypres, October 1917



War of the Welch

AS the 2nd Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers took over trenches at Givenchy at dead of night on June 21, 1916 "not even a distant gun broke the silence."

B Company commander Capt Blair spent most of the approach march to the prominence called Duck's Bill with young 2nd Lt Crosland and his platoon. Blair records: "It was the first time he had ever been in the trenches. Poor boy! Three hours later he was dead."

Shortly after midnight Blair and his sergeant major made a round of sentries. The whole area had been sapped by British and German engineers, but the

British miners were confident they had the upper hand having "knocked to bits" the German mines only the previous day. Yet, in a "lovely peaceful night" Blair felt "the almost uncanny stillness" and was "filled with a haunting unrest" quite unnatural to him.

Refusing a drink in a fellow officer's dugout before turning in, Blair had just stepped off the firestep at two o'clock in the morning when "I felt my feet lifted up beneath me and the trench walls seemed to move upwards. There was a terrific blast of air which blew my steel helmet heaven knows where."

Something hit him on the head and he lost consciousness.

All that night and all the next hot day he lay trapped in an upright position in a new no-man's-land. Among barbed wire, angle irons, sandbags and pickets one leg was held firmly and two men, one dead and one badly wounded, were partially buried across him.

He and the wounded man were rescued next night. It took hours to release them under fire and in pitch darkness. One of the covering party was wounded.

B Company, which lost its headquarters and two central platoons (there were four to a company in those days) had been the victim of the largest mine the Germans ever

exploded on the Western Front.

The new crater, which now dominated the landscape, was 120 yards long by about 80 yards broad. Its walls were more than 30 feet high.

Dramatic! Yes, but this account takes but a page in a classic war record that is at last available to the general public. It was originally printed in a limited edition in 1938.

It covers the 2nd Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers' exploits, day by day in France and Belgium, from July 1914 to June 1919. Both Siegfried Sassoon and Robert Graves served with the regiment, but this is not their story.

Tukhachevskii: deep battle philosopher

IT IS a fascinating exercise to consider and debate which commanders through the history of warfare have left the more profound and revolutionary marks on accepted strategy.

Alexander the Great, Gustavus Adolphus, Johan Baner, Marlborough, Napoleon and Wellington are names that immediately come to mind but how many would think of the man who is the subject of the final book of Richard Simpkin who died last year and who was described in *The Times* obituary column as "one of the foremost military thinkers and writers of modern times."

Mikhail Nikolaevich Tukhachevskii has a unique place in Soviet history and, in particular, military philosophy, playing a key role in the development of the Red Army from 1918 until his execution on the orders of Stalin in the summer of 1937.

Tukhachevskii was born in 1893 and joined the Tsarist Army in 1911. During the First

World War he spent three years in a German PoW camp.

The following year he joined Leon Trotsky and embarked on what was to be the most distinguished period of his career, although it has to be said that much of the responsibility for the Red Army's defeat at Warsaw in August 1920 has been laid at Tukhachevskii's door.

As a "Great Captain" of the Civil War he was influential in forming a regular Red Army as opposed to regional militias. Working with the then Chief of General Staff M V Funze, Tukhachevskii planned the first major Red Army reforms in the early 1920s, creating the roots of Soviet military science still identifiable today.

The foundations of mechanised and airborne forces in the USSR can be credited to him and it was his ideas, applied by others following the German invasion of 1941, that provided the basis for the Red Army's eventual victory against the Wehrmacht.

What was this revolutionary thinking that marks Tukhachevskii as a great military thinker? It can be summed up in the heading of Chapter 3: "From Broad Front to Deep Battle", one of three chapters concerning the development of the deep operational theory. Other sections of the book are devoted to the marshal's selected works, and the lessons of deep operational theory.

The Tukhachevskii philosophy lives on in the Soviet Army, despite his "eradication" by Stalin 50 years ago, and its study is of vital importance to those who need to understand and possibly defend against such concepts of war. — BJ

Deep Battle: The Brainchild of Marshal Tukhachevskii by Richard Simpkin in association with John Erickson, published by Brassey's Defence Publishers. Price £25.

The War the Infantry Knew, 1914-1919 by Capt J C Dunn, published by Jane's. Price £18.

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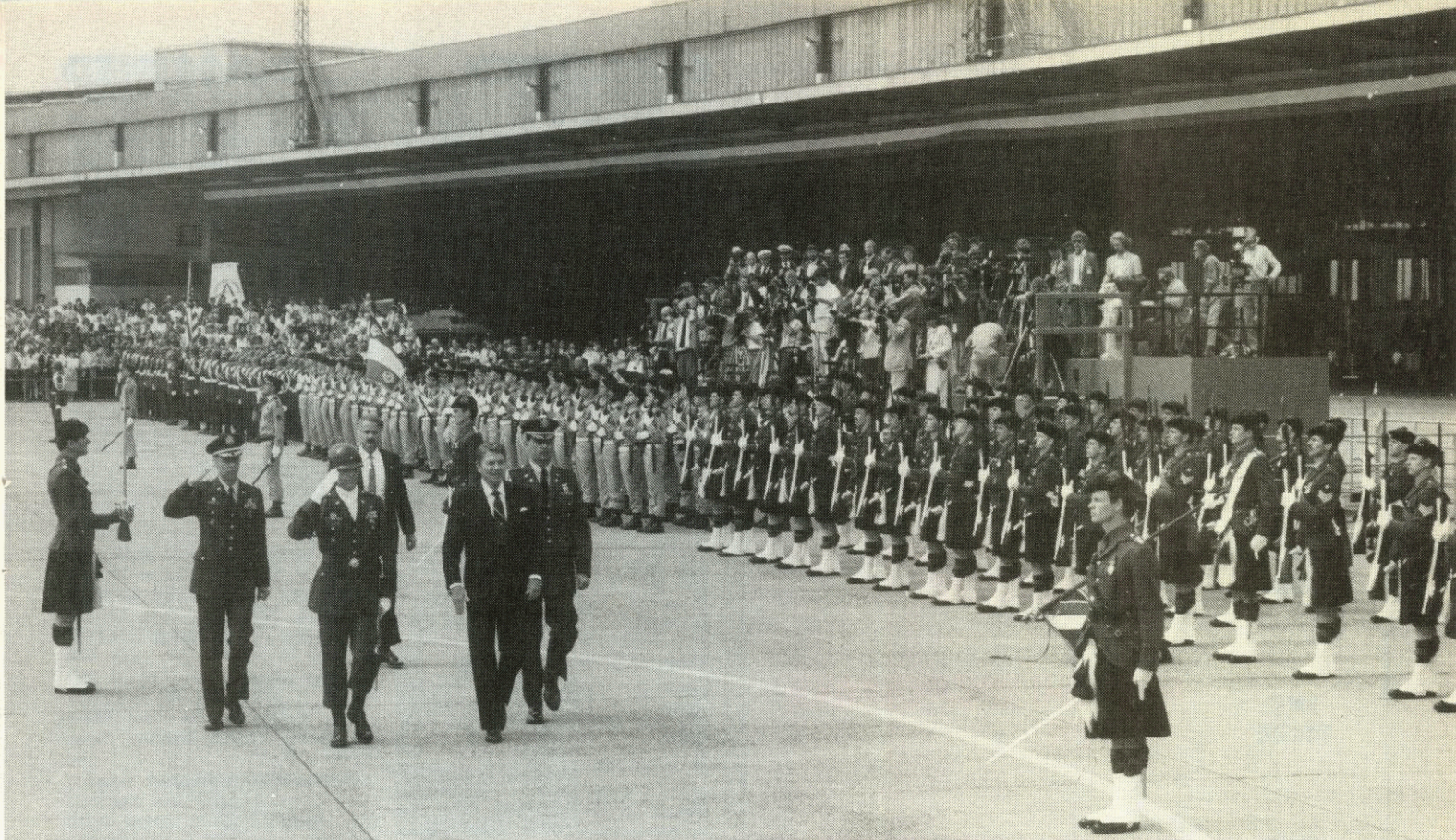
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A legion of photographers recorded the President's inspection of the tripartite guard of honour

The President's Watch!



ALL in all it was a busy week for the 1st Battalion The Black Watch. First Charlie Coy were called on to provide a guard of honour for President Reagan when he arrived in Berlin and then all the rest donned ceremonial dress for the city's Allied Forces Day Parade.

Charlie Coy was part of a tripartite guard of British, French and American soldiers drawn up at Berlin's Tempelhof Airport to greet

the President and his wife who were making a short visit as part of the city's 750th anniversary celebrations.

Their visit was accompanied by rioting in the city centre but calm was restored in time for the following day's Allied Forces Parade, the annual Berlin military spectacular which this year included 65 tanks and 130 other tracked and wheeled vehicles. Pictures and story will appear in the next issue.



Pictures: Paul Haley

Above – Men of Charlie Coy in front of Air Force One, the President's jet
Left – Checking the breech is clear – RSM James Williamson keeps his men occupied while they wait for the President's jet to arrive at Tempelhof Airport

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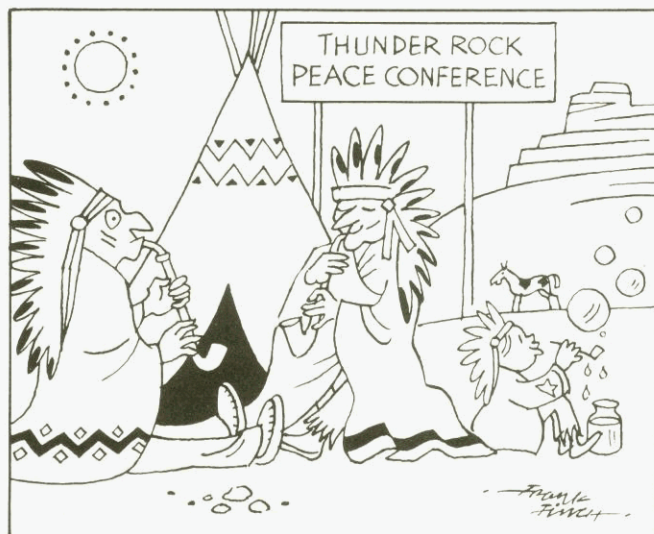
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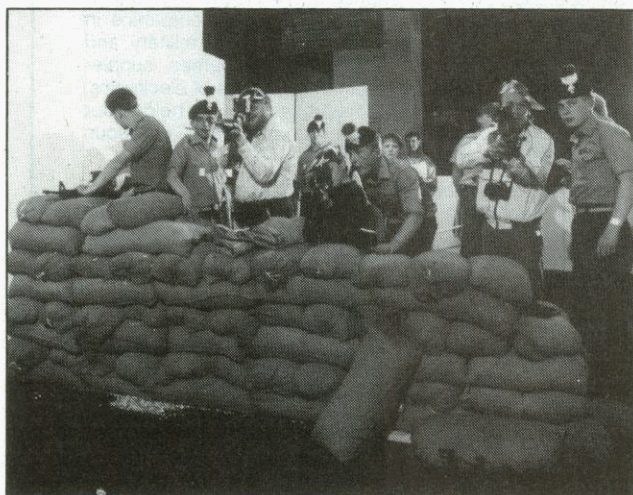
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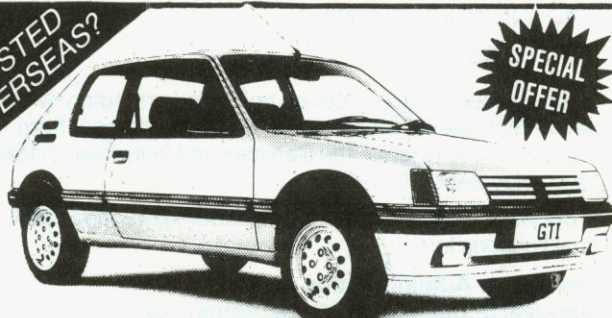


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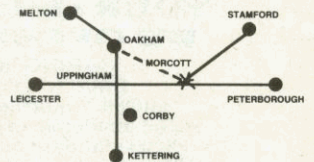
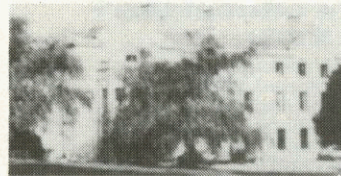
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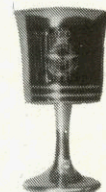
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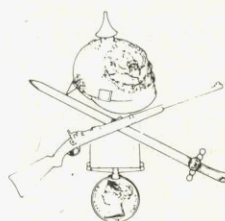
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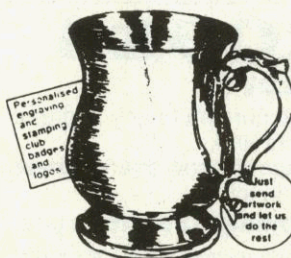
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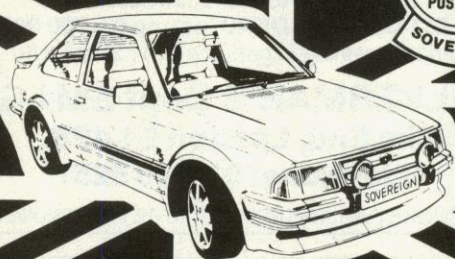
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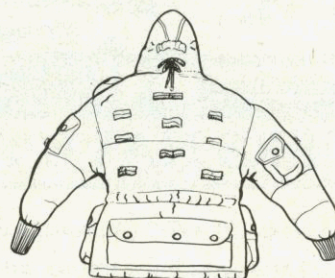
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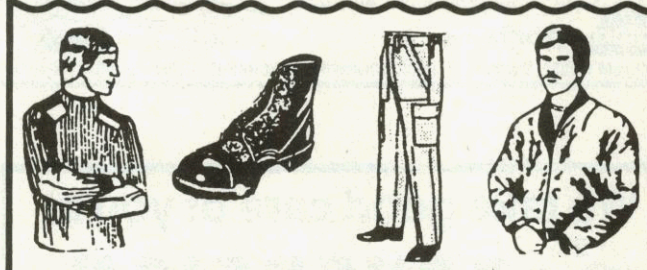
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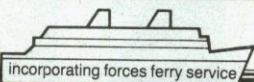
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All lined up for the WRAC golf championships at Aldershot. Winner was Doreen Allison, seventh from left, who kept her concentration despite miserable weather

Ladies make light of the heavy going

ON PAR for this "summer" the sun failed to show, the rain either belted down ferociously or drizzled intermittently, while between times a fine mist settled at around the distance of a good drive.

But glum faces among the two dozen golfers for the WRAC championship there were not. They forgot about the weather, concentrating instead on keeping their swings intact.

Clobbered in waterproofs for the whole of the 36 holes, they fixed smiles on their faces and thrashed shots around the

rain-soaked Army Golf Club course at Aldershot.

A toughish track at the best of times with its tree-lined fairways, it has, for the ladies, a length of 5,786 yards and a par of 73, but despite these hazards they paddled and plodded their way round with Pte Doreen Allison of RSME Chatham, returning a gross medal score of 91 to take the championship and the Meechie Shield.

Runner-up in this competition was Maj Sheila Johncey of MoD, who returned a nett 75 off 19 to pip Capt Ann Phillips



Picture: Terry Champion

(23) of the RAOC, Deepcut, on a last nine countback.

It was second place again for Sheila who, partnered with Maj Jackie Whitehead (ret'd), trailed Doreen Allison and Sarah Stonier, again on a

countback after both teams had returned 32 points in the afternoon foursomes for the Clissett Cup.

But it was better luck for Jackie Whitehead in the Odell Salver, a scratch medal com-

petition for retired members. She beat Maj Margaret Harle into second place, but the positions were reversed in the Bowles Trophy with Margaret taking the "pot".

Sponsored by ex-RAF flyer

Dennis Morgan of the Car Information Centre, Cambridge, the day ended with a touch of professionalism by the presentation of a jacket to the overall winner of the WRAC championship.

"Not quite the same as the US Masters' famous green jacket," said Dennis, "but an extremely acceptable car coat which winner Doreen Allison accepted with alacrity and pleasure."

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Best gunner at the Anglo-German horse show staged by Verden Garrison at Reiterstadt was Sgt Dorraine of 39 Heavy Regiment RA, who won the Woolwich Cup for the umpteenth time. He is pictured here with Fernando.

Boxing bonus

● Army boxing has received £2,500 in sponsorship from Naafi. The cash, part of a £7,500 package which will benefit RAF hockey and Royal Navy football, was handed over by Naafi trading director Mr Ron Day to ABA chairman Maj Gen Tony Crowfoot.

TA tee off

● The Territorial Army's annual match against the Army Golf Association is to be played at the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, Deal, on August 16. The TA needs eight players (WRAC and UOTC are eligible) for the match. Details from Maj P A R Naysmith on 0834 3591.

This is how you do it!

THE soccer players of 2nd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets were in victory mood after some special training from Bristol City FC's Bob Newman – and celebrated it by beating Heytesbury, Newman's home village side!

Bob's efforts began to pay off when the Green Jackets advanced to the semi finals of the Army Cup, then they won the South West District Football Cup, and finally the Warminster Hospital Cup

played against local civilian teams.

The other finalists in the hospital cup were Heytesbury, and by full time the teams had two goals each, both RGJ goals coming from Rfn 'Ronnie' Whelan. The trophy was finally settled by a penalty shoot out, with RGJ winning 4-2.

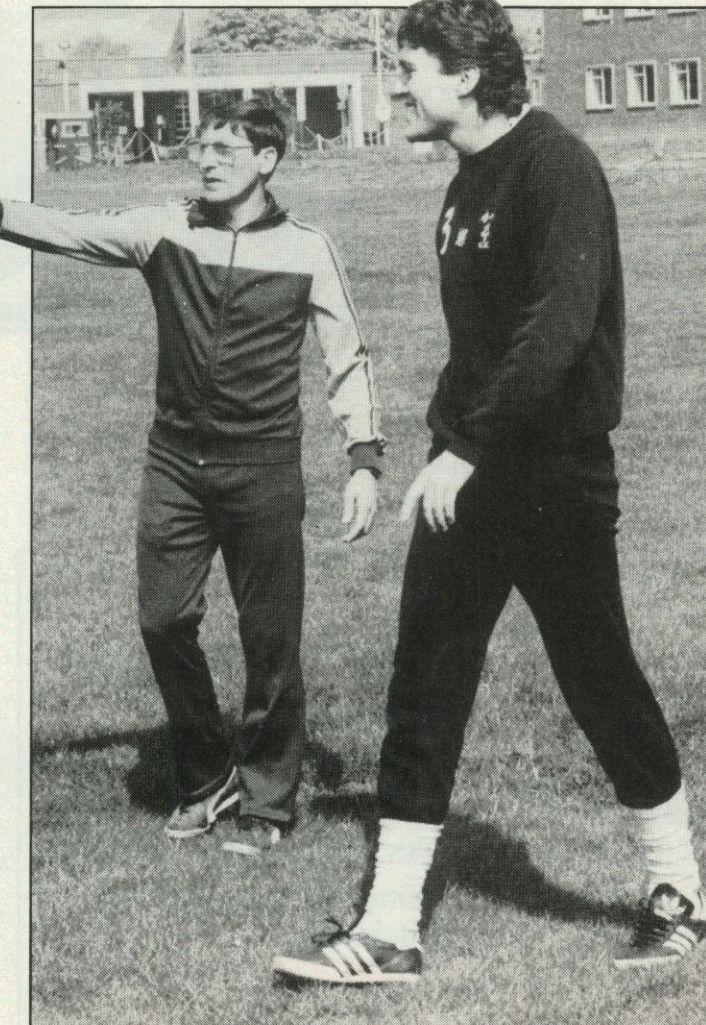
In the close season Bob is continuing to train the Green Jackets so his village's defeat obviously did not upset him too much.

Welsh wizards

RUGBY players in Cyprus were given a treat – and a lesson – when top Welsh side Newport visited the island for an end-of-season tour.

Led by former international prop Phil Morgan, Newport notched up three huge wins – 68-3 against RAF Cyprus,

72-22 against the Army and 7-10 against a Combined Services team. Their friendliness made them popular visitors, and Service rugby players are hoping that the island's attractions – and the rugby – will tempt them back to Cyprus.



Team coach WO2 Les Welling (left) with Bob Newman

SPORT

Bobbers on line for the Olympics

BRITAIN's bobsleigh stars, including a crack Army team, are to share £24,000 to help them with training expenses for the winter Olympics at Calgary, Canada, in February.

Britain's number two crew is led by Cpl Stan Tout of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment. But for injury they would almost certainly have won a gold medal in the World Cup series earlier this year. Also in the crew are Gdsm Dave Armstrong 2 Gren Gds, Cpl Lenny Paul 3 R Anglian, and Gnr Audley Richards 4 Fd Regt RA.

The money is being put up by insurance brokers Minet Holdings as part of a £1½m sponsorship to assist 415 UK Olympic medal prospects.

TOP SCORE!

Lt Julian Barrett on his way to the top score of 33 out in Army's 79 for five before rain put an end to their match against Sussex 2nd XI at RMA Sandhurst

Beaten — by the rain

THE ARMY got the better of Essex 2nd XI at Aldershot — but both teams were forced to concede victory to the weather, writes Peter Salisbury.

Essex won the toss and decided to bat, a decision they must have regretted when they were dismissed for 109 by the Army's four seam bowlers.

South African Grinyer (37) held the innings together as LCpl Andy Taylor 17 Port Regt (2-26), 2nd Lt Matthew Fleming 2 RGJ (3-51), Cpl Andy Ingham RAPC Training Centre (2-12) and Army debutant Pte Greg Taylor 1 Green Howards (2-17) took full advantage of the conditions.

Not that the Army found batting any easier. Fleming top scored with 32 as they replied with 135 all out, a first innings lead of 26.

Essex lost three wickets in wiping out that deficit and from then on fought a rearguard action. They struggled on to 131 for seven in the 59th over when the rains came and washed out any further chance of progress. Andy Ingham's three for 14 in ten overs gave him the best Army figures.

Four Army players turned out for Combined Services in the three day game against Oxford University at The Parks — Matthem Fleming, Andy Taylor, LCpl David Gill 66 Sqn RCT and Lt Julian Barrett 3LI.

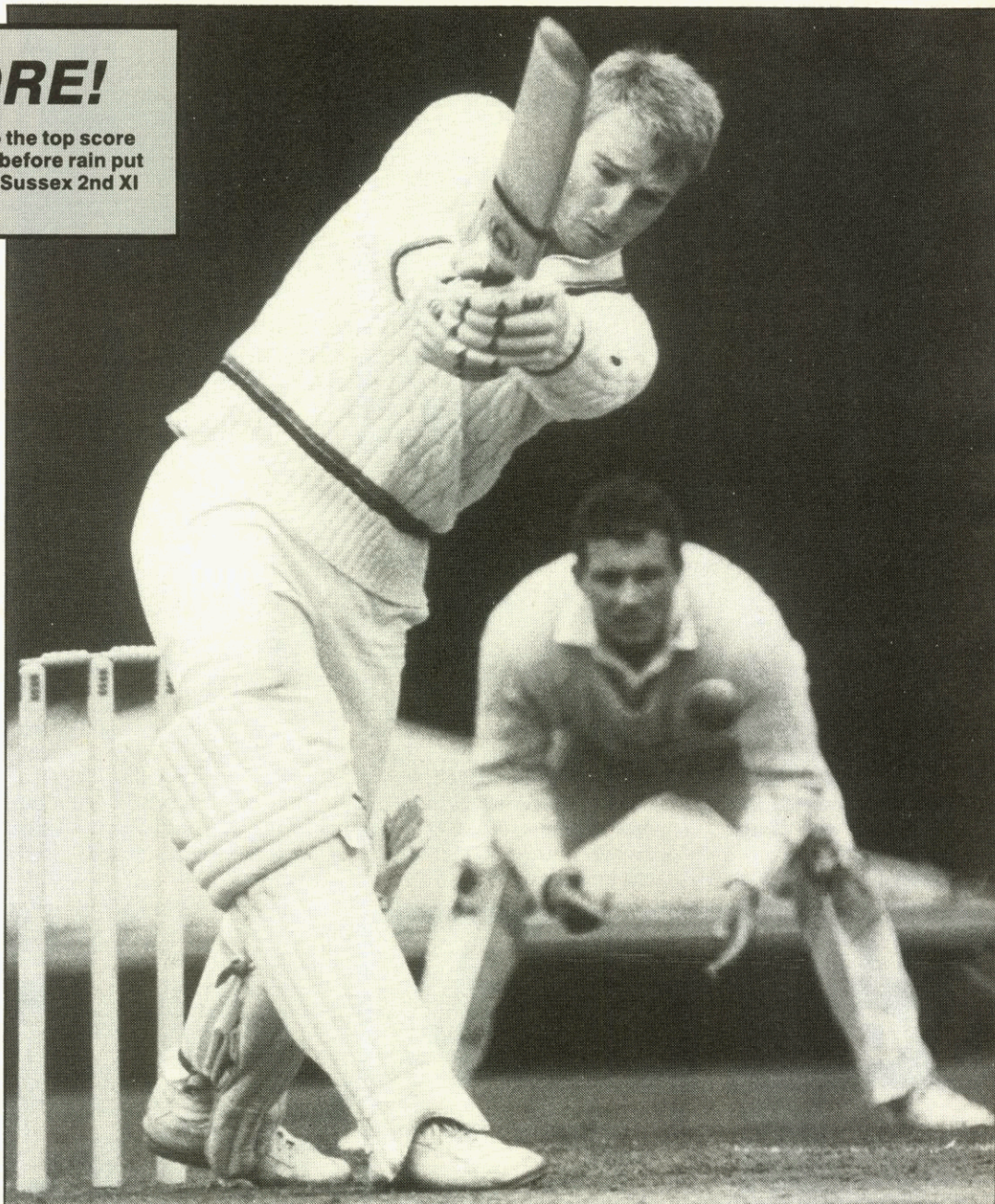
New skipper Capt Charlie Hobson RM marked his appointment with a fine 108 in the Services total of 250 for eight declared. Oxford replied with 302 for five (Kilborn 154 not out), and Combined Services were 71 for one when the rain intervened.

Services retained the same four Army players and added 2nd Lt Charlie Redmayne 1 IG and Lt Jonathon Willatt 45 Fd

Regt to the eleven which took on Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk's team at Arundel, West Sussex.

Taylor (3-21) and Fleming (4-44) put the skids under the Duchess's batsmen, who recovered from the depression of 58 for six to reach a relatively respectable 164 all out.

Barrett contributed 43 as the Services knocked off the runs for the loss of just two wickets.



Picture: Paul Haley



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TWO Army batsmen have been making the scorers work overtime! Sgt Paul Woolnough belted 160 in 84 balls for SEME Bordon in a South East District League match against 1 and 3 Trg Regts RE, while 2nd Lt Matthew Fleming did even better in an Army Cup game for 2 RGJ against 22 Eng Regt. Fleming played the sappers for 13 sixes in a superb innings of 197.

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S/13/7/C

Churning away into the desert sands, a Khalid (Chieftain derivative) tank of the Jordanian Army's 17th Royal Elephant Bn, 91 Bde, 3 Armoured Division based near Zerqua, east of Amman. Most of the crewmen are Bedouins. See special feature in this issue.

Picture: Terry Champion

