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**FRONT COVER**

Firemen at the Central Ammunition Depot at Kineton in Warwickshire get in some hose practice. In the background is one of their fire engines — a rail car with which they can quickly move to any part of the sprawling 2600-acre camp. The 42 Army firemen at Kineton have two of these cars and a 96-mile rail network on which to run them. *Picture by Paul Haley.*

**BACK COVER**

Private H Elder, the Black Watch goalie, snatches the ball out of the air after an attack by the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' in the Army soccer Challenge Cup UK final. In fact, the game took two days to decide after a 2-2 draw on day one. In the replay at Aldershot SEME ran out 5-1 winners. *Picture by Doug Pratt.*

Editor: PETER N WOOD (Ext 2585)  
 Deputy Editor: JOHN WALTON (Ext 2586)  
 Feature Writer: MICHAEL STARKE (Ext 2590)  
 Art Editor: FRANK R FINCH (Ext 2589)  
 Picture Editor: LESLIE A WIGGS (Ext 2584)  
 Photographers: PAUL R G HALEY, DOUG PRATT (Ext 2584)  
 Advertisement Manager: K PEMBERTON WOOD (Ext 2583/2587)  
 Circulation Manager: Miss D M W DUFFIELD (Ext 2592)

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# SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

## APRIL 1976

- 24 Kenley, Croydon, Air Show (24-25 April) (Royal Corps of Transport "Silver Stars" freefall team).
- 24 Freedom of Delyn (Clwyd), The Royal Welch Fusiliers.
- 24 Presentation new Colours, 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Gloucester.
- 25 Laying up old Colours, 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Gloucester Cathedral.

## MAY 1976

- 2 Rothmans Air Display, High Wycombe ("Blue Eagles" helicopter display team).
- 3 Bridgend (Glamorgan) Army Exhibition (3-5 May) (Blue Eagles; Parachute Regiment "Red Devils" freefall team; Royal Signals "White Helmets" motorcycle display team; band).
- 4 Folkestone Military Spectacular (band and bugles).
- 6 Scout and School Fête, Caerphilly (Blue Eagles).
- 7 Swansea Army Display (7-9 May) (Blue Eagles; Red Devils, White Helmets, Royal Military Police "Red Caps" mounted display team; Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery; band).
- 9 Laying up old Colours, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh.
- 12 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 13 Devon County Show, Exeter (13-15 May) (band).
- 14 Biggin Hill International Air Fair (14-16 May) (Blue Eagles; Royal Artillery motorcycle display team; Silver Stars; two bands).
- 15 Boldon (Co Durham) British Legion Festival (band).
- 15 Medway Steam Fair, Gillingham (15-16 May) (arena event; band).
- 15 South Suffolk Show, Bury St Edmunds (band).
- 19 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 19 Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury (19-20 May) (White Helmets).
- 19 Birmingham Careers Exhibition (19-21 May) (Royal Green Jackets freefall team; band).
- 21 Warrington Army Display (21-23 May) (Junior Parachute Company "Pegasus" gymnastic team; Red Devils; Red Caps; White Helmets; **Blue Eagles 21 May**; five bands).
- 22 Machine Gun Corps OCA observance, MGC memorial, Hyde Park Corner, London.
- 22 Long Eaton (Derbyshire) Carnival (22-23 May) (Red Devils; band).
- 22 Hadleigh (Suffolk) Show (Silver Stars; band).
- 22 **Round Table Carnival, Harpenden, Hertfordshire (Blue Eagles).**
- 22 Oxford Federation Young Farmers Agricultural Show, Oxford (Blue Eagles; Royal Army Ordnance Corps "Cannonballs" freefall team; junior band).
- 26 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.
- 26 Tri-Service Day, Trinity College, Glenalmond (Scottish Division "Golden Lions" freefall team; Pegasus; band; pipes and drums).
- 28 Aldershot Horse Show (28-30 May) (APTC display; skill-at-arms; bands).
- 29 Tidworth Tattoo and Fair (29-31 May).
- 29 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 30 Combined Cadet Tattoo, Gosport (29-31 May).
- 29 Glasgow Army Display (29 May-13 June) (Golden Lions; Pegasus; band; pipes and drums).
- 29 Tulip Festival, Birmingham (motorcycle display team; band).
- 29 Worcester City Show (29-31 May) (band).
- 29 Congleton Carnival and Tattoo (29-31 May) (Red Devils; White Helmets 29-30 May; six bands).
- 29 Otley (Yorkshire) Show (band).
- 30 Currington Park Rally, Boston, Lincolnshire (Cannonballs; band).
- 30 Steam Rally, Yelverton (30-31 May) (Blue Eagles).
- 31 Southam (Warwickshire) Carnival (JLR RA PT display; White Helmets; band).
- 31 Selby Carnival (band).

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# DIARY

*continued*

- 31 Surrey County Show, Guildford (Red Devils; band).
- 31 Pershore (Worcestershire) Show (RGJ freefall).
- 31 Derbyshire County Show, Derby (arena event; band).
- 31 Oulton Broad Fête (arena event).
- 31 Watford Borough Carnival (arena event; band).
- 31 Dunstable Fête and Carnival (arena event; band).
- 31 Hertfordshire County Day, Hertford (arena event; band).

## JUNE 1976

- 1 Household Division massed bands beat Retreat (in aid of Army Benevolent Fund), Horse Guards Parade, London (1-3 June).
- 1 Birmingham Tulip Festival (1-5 June) (Red Caps).
- 2 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 2 Suffolk Show, Ipswich (2-3 June) (Red Devils; band).
- 3 Festival 76, Rhyl (3-4 June) (Blue Eagles).
- 5 Salisbury Hospital Fête (band).
- 5 Open Day, 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon.
- 5 Blackpool Air Pageant (Blue Eagles).
- 5 Second rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 5 Standish (Lancashire) Show (Silver Stars).
- 5 36 Engineer Regiment freedom-march, Maidstone.
- 5 Stanley (Co Durham) Community Centre Show (band).
- 6 Freedom march, 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon.
- 6 Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse (Golden Lions; displays; bands).
- 6 Lorraine Charity Club Military Show, Leicester (junior band).
- 7 Coventry Carnival (JLR RA PT display; RA motorcycles; band).
- 7 Tourist Trophy, Isle of Man (7-11 June) (Blue Eagles).
- 8 Massed bands, Royal Marines, beat Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (8-10 June).
- 9 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 10 Royal Cornwall Show (10-12 June) (three bands).
- 12 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 12 Branksome, Darlington, School Fair (band).
- 12 Wolverhampton Fiesta (Red Devils).
- 12 Ilkley Show (band).
- 12 Nuneaton Carnival (junior band).
- 12 Metro, Leeds (12-13 June) (Blue Eagles).
- 12 Community Association, Scunthorpe (12-13 June) (Blue Eagles).
- 12 Open Day, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Northampton (Red Devils; junior band).
- 12 Vauxhall Motors Spectacular, Luton (Pegasus).
- 12 Scunthorpe Families Day (12-13 June) (band).
- 12 King's Lynn Round Table Carnival (band).
- 13 Kingston-upon-Thames Carnival (Red Caps).
- 15 Three Counties Agricultural Show, Malvern (15-17 June) (band).
- 16 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 18 Beating Retreat (Army Benevolent Fund), Weston Park, Staffordshire (five bands).
- 18 Essex Show, Chelmsford (18-19 June) (Pegasus).
- 19 Open Day and Summer Fair, School of Infantry, Warminster (Red Caps).
- 19 Royal Engineers At Home, Barton Stacey.
- 19 Rotherham Tattoo (19-20 June).
- 19 Leighton Linsdale (Bedfordshire) Carnival (Pegasus; junior band).
- 19 Rainham (Kent) Spectacular (band).
- 19 South Tyneside Sports Week (band).
- 19 Welwyn Garden City Carnival (band).
- 19 Brightlingsea Show (Silver Stars).
- 20 Air Display, Seething (Blue Eagles).
- 23 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 23 Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln (White Helmets; three bands).
- 25 Aldershot Army Display (25-27 June) (Red Devils; 16 bands).
- 26 Lord Mayor's Parade, Cardiff (two bands).
- 26 Rushden (Northamptonshire) Show (arena event).
- 26 Campus Fête, Sheffield (Blue Eagles).
- 26 Lord Mayor's Gala, York (26-27 June) (Blue Eagles; band).
- 26 Chesterfield Borough Carnival (White Helmets).
- 28 Cardiff Military Exhibition (28 June-1 July) (Red Devils; band).
- 28 Steam Festival, Stanford (Blue Eagles).
- 30 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.
- 30 Royal Norfolk Show, Norwich (30 June-1 July) (two bands).

## JULY 1976

- 1 Plymouth Army Week (1-3 July) (two bands).
- 2 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (2-3 July).
- 2 Hook, Goole, Gala (2-4 July) (band).
- 2 Newport (Monmouthshire) Military Display (2-4 July) (Red Devils, band).
- 3 Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot.
- 3 Laying up old Colours, 1st Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters, Derby Cathedral.
- 3 National Military Historic Vehicles Rally, Winkfield, Berkshire (3-4 July) (band).

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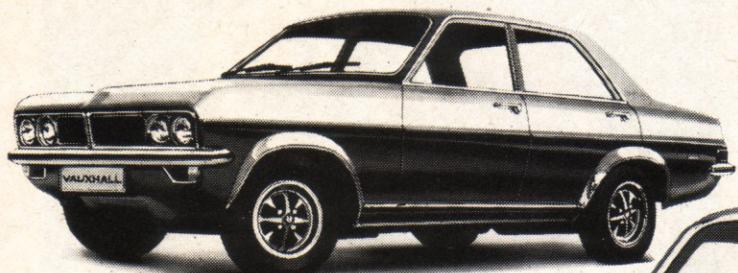
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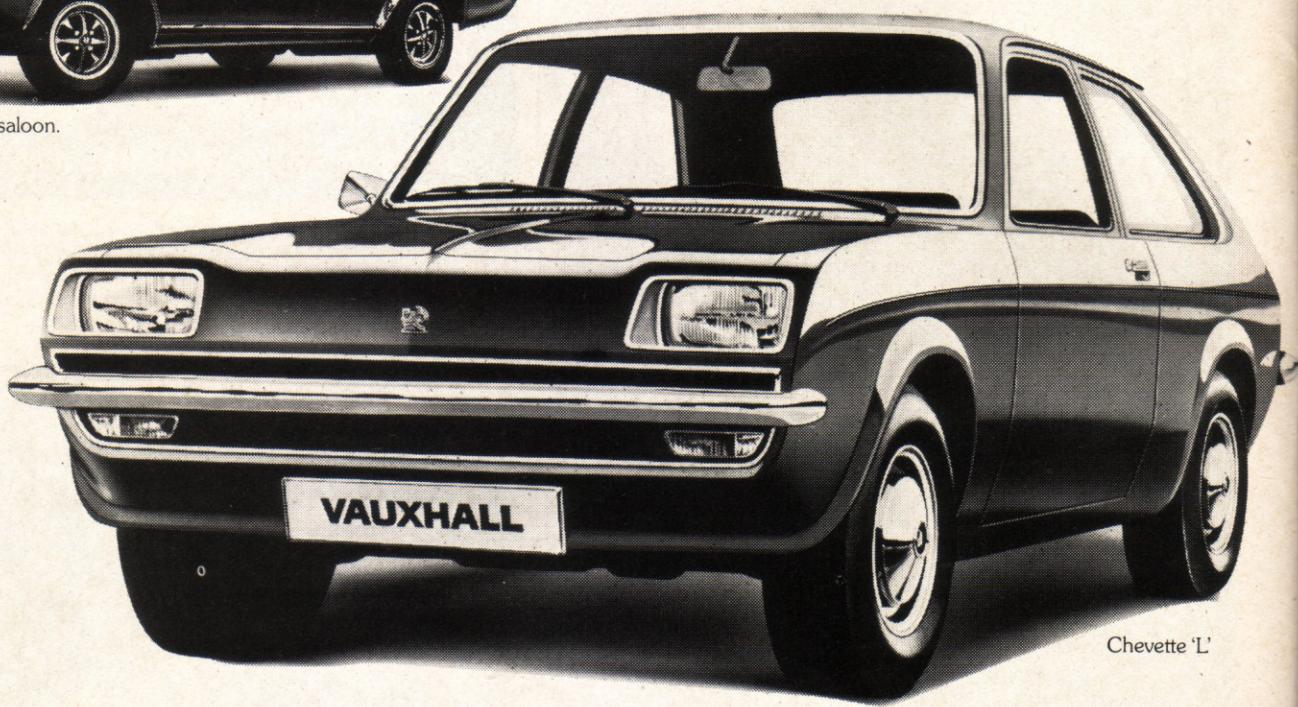
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# SOLDIER to Soldier

Field-Marshal Montgomery lived and died, in his own words, "a controversial figure."

"Here is how others saw him:

Herr Manfred Rommel (son of Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel, the "Desert Fox"): "My father always respected Field-Marshal Montgomery as a very great soldier and a very great commander."

Lieutenant-General Sir Brian Horrocks (who served under Monty in Eighth Army): "An autocratic showman" and "the greatest British general since Wellington."

Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck (Middle East Commander 1941-42): "He never had a sense of humour and was a great disciplinarian."

Major Adam Gordon (aide to Monty in the 1950s): "One of the things about the Field-Marshal was that he never made any friends. You served him; he looked after you extremely well when you were working for him, but when he had finished making use of you, then you were discarded, more or less."

Mr Tommy Franklin (Monty's stickman in 1930): "I always found him a very kind man. I travelled a hundred miles to say goodbye." Mr Michael Howard (Vice-Chairman of the Council of the International Institute for Strategic Studies): "Up until the last six months of the war Montgomery was determined to take no unnecessary risks — sometimes indeed his critics said no necessary risks — with the lives of his men."

General Pierre Billotte (former French Defence Minister and Chief-of-Staff to General de Gaulle in London in 1942): "Lord Montgomery belonged to the star system. He was not what he thought he was. He was not an intellectual general and he believed he was. He was not a great strategist and he was persuaded he was. But he was a man of character and courage, who had a compelling influence on the troops. He was a trainer of men. He will be remembered as a great soldier who did so much to bring about the allied victory in World War Two."

USSR Ministry of Defence statement: "Field-Marshal Montgomery is known in the Soviet Union as one of the prominent military leaders and active fighters of the anti-Hitlerite coalition during World War Two... The name of Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery will always be associated in the memory of the Soviet soldiers with the heroic struggle of the peoples of the anti-Hitlerite coalition against German Fascism."

Mr Bernard Levin (columnist in The Times newspaper): "Whenever we ate together he would insist, though he was of course notoriously teetotal, that I was supplied with the wine of my choice, and would anxiously inquire whether it was really to my taste. (One of my happiest achievements, I may say, was persuading him to drink an entire glass of champagne, on his birthday, to the stupefaction of the sommelier at Claridge's) . . . I am glad I knew him; he added a glowing strand to my life, and anyone attacking him in my presence is in for an unpleasant surprise. May the earth lie lightly on a soldier's bones."

Obituary, The Times: "History will in time deliver its verdict on Montgomery the soldier; until it does he will be mourned not only as a national figure but, even by those far removed in spirit or in sympathy from the profession of arms, as the last of the great battlefield commanders."

General Omar Bradley (American World War Two commander): "Dear Monty. Goodbye and thanks. Brad."

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## Military Museums: 40

### Royal Army Dental Corps

THIS modern, purpose-designed museum in the new RADC Headquarters and Training Centre, opened in Aldershot in 1973, reflects in an entertaining and imaginative way the part played by dentistry in the British Army from the mid-17th century to the present day.

Exhibits are arranged in chronological order and a flintlock musket and replica paper-covered cartridge serve as a reminder that between 1678 and 1865 regimental surgeons were required to preserve a soldier's teeth, especially the incisors, so that he could bite his "ammo" when loading. Scaling instruments were in regular use for this purpose. An ivory-handled tooth-extracting key, once the property of Napoleon, has pride of place in a display of early dental paraphernalia which also includes a mahogany case of instruments as issued to medical officers up to 1899, scalers of 1850 and an archimedean hand drill (1860).

Pathetic reminders of the fragility of vulcanite dentures when confronted with a diet of trek ox and army biscuits are among a group of items recalling that the South African War was the first campaign in which British troops received dental treatment in the field; an iron-ration canister is an example of the Army's pioneer work in food preservation techniques.

The high proportion of head wounds resulting from trench warfare in World War One and the value placed on the work of dental officers in this field of surgery led to the formation of the Army Dental Corps and a Special Army Order to this effect, dated 11 January 1921 and signed by Winston Churchill, is a prized exhibit. Metal splints used in the treatment of jaw injuries and a valuable collection of coloured drawings of different types of facial injury by the distinguished surgeon-artist, Henry Tonks (1862-1937), are of particular interest. Various relics and photographs illustrate the expanding work of the corps between the wars.

The death mask of Hitler's notorious Gestapo chief, Heinrich Himmler, who committed suicide on the collapse of Nazi Germany, is a notable exhibit in the museum's extensive World War Two section.

The genius of the British soldier for improvisation can be seen in some remarkable denture repairs carried out in the confines of a German prisoner-of-war camp. Typical examples are teeth cleverly fashioned from a tooth brush handle and an aluminium spoon used as a palate support while a brush made from coconut fibre served as a denture polisher in a Japanese camp.



The prefix "Royal" was granted to the Army Dental Corps on 28 November 1946 in recognition of its services in World War Two, and the evolution of the corps badge is shown in a neat display of badges and buttons. There is a small but interesting display of medals while a showcase full of trophies, including an Army rugger cap, points up the sporting achievements of members of the corps.

Dental curiosities include sticks used as tooth cleaners by Kenyan tribes; the remains of a 2500-year-old human lower jaw bone found during excavations at Dhekelia, Cyprus; and some beautifully carved ivory dentures implanted with human teeth—extracted from soldiers killed in battle. This was not considered unusual or morbid, and newspapers in 1816, the year after Waterloo, were advertising sets of "Waterloo Teeth" for sale!

John Jesse

Curator: Major H W Loveday (Retd)  
Address: Royal Army Dental Corps  
Museum

Headquarters &

Training Centre RADC

Evelyn Wood Road

Aldershot

Hants

GU11 2LS

Telephone: Aldershot 24431 (ext 3470)  
Open: Monday to Friday, 0900 to 1200  
and 1400 to 1600

Closed: Saturday, Sunday and public  
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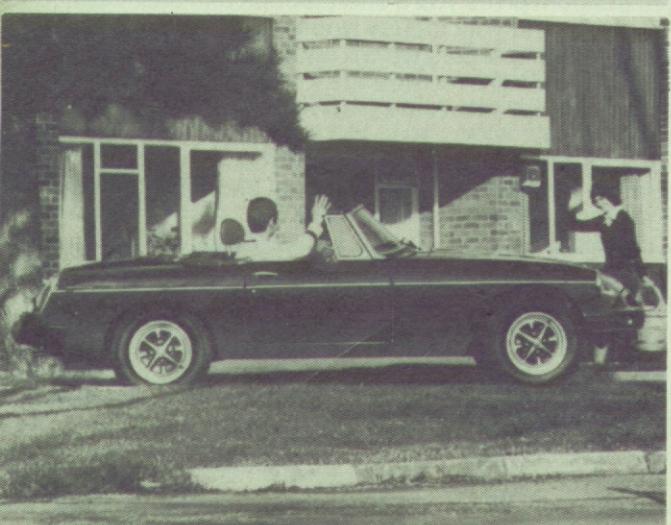
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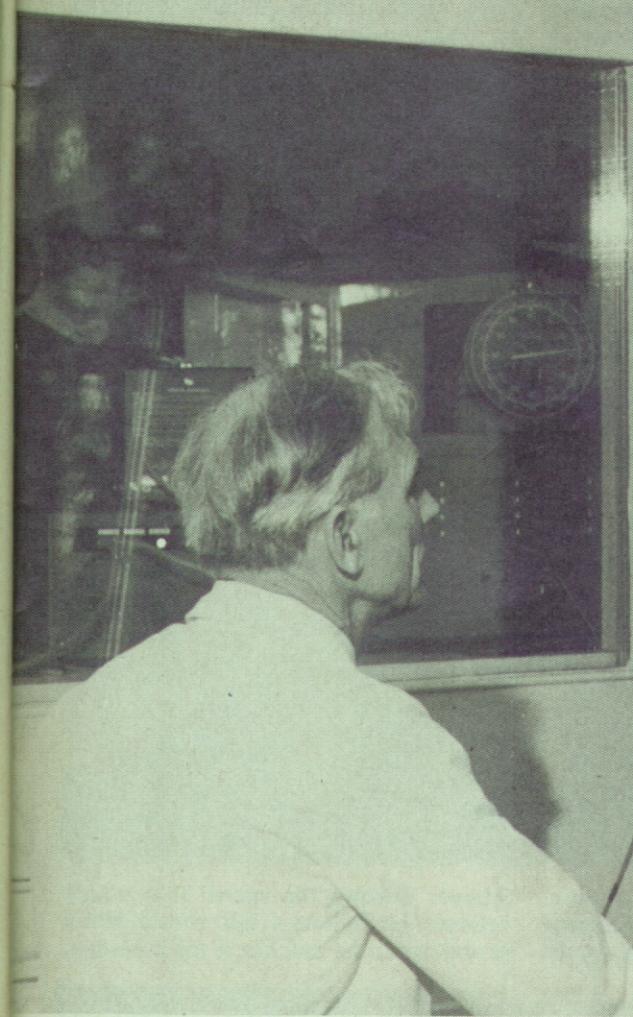
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# A plea from CDE . . . PORTON NEEDS YOU!



Story: John Walton

**I**T all began during the Kaiser's war. The Germans attacked the British Tommies and their allies with chlorine gas — and something had to be done to combat this new menace. A small laboratory was set up at Porton, on Salisbury Plain, to carry out field trials into protection against gas.

The centre is still there although the original trenches are no longer in use. Today the Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton is dealing with far more sophisticated chemicals and, to assist with research, volunteers from all three Services are regularly needed for experiments.

Volunteers SOLDIER met at Porton admitted that before they went there they had heard flesh-creeping stories. Like Junior Technician Paul Flavin

Pictures: Doug Pratt

from the Royal Air Force's passenger airport at Brize Norton: "After hearing nasty rumours I was curious about what went on and the only way to find out was to go."

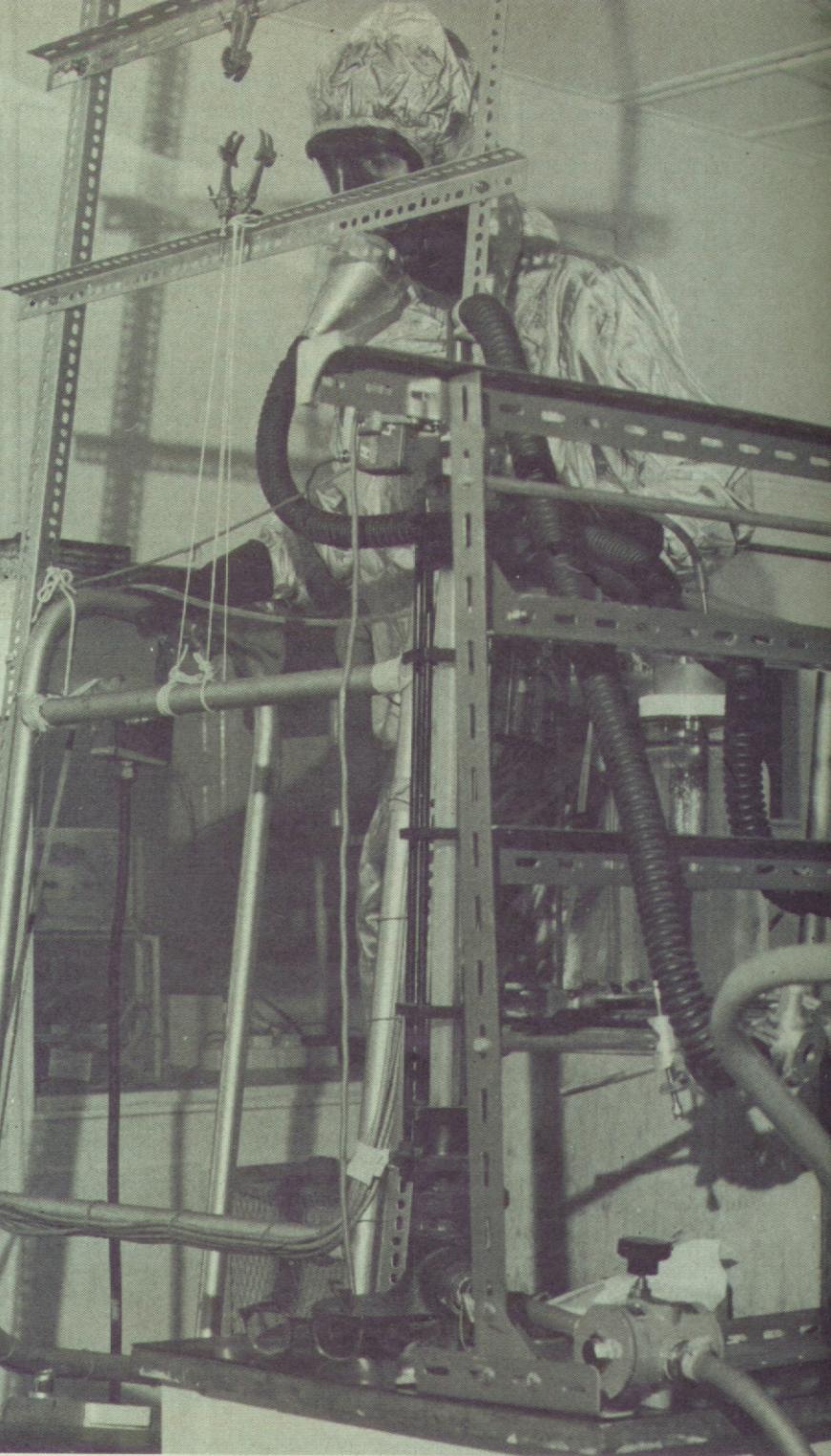
Paul was dripping with sweat after an exhausting treadmill session wearing a decontamination suit. But he had reassuring words for other potential volunteers: "I enjoyed my first fortnight here so much I asked to stay on for another two weeks. I can honestly say there is nothing nasty about it. It's a bit like a holiday camp really."

Corporal Jim Goold, 17th/21st Lancers, attached to the Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop, was on his second stay at Porton. His experiment that morning was to ride a bicycle machine wearing an NBC protective suit (known to sol-

diers as a "Noddy suit"), scientists carefully noted the reactions of his body to the physical exertion. Said Jim: "I would recommend this to anyone. It's an experience and there is nothing frightening about it."

The whole emphasis at Porton is on protection against chemical warfare and while much research can be done in laboratory conditions, human participation is essential. For instance a suit of protective clothing might be produced which worked well and was long-wearing but a man might not be able to move about in it. What is needed is clothing which wears well in any climate but does not prevent a soldier from doing his job.

There are three schemes for volunteers. Every fortnight 12 men are



needed, theoretically from each of the three Services at different times of the year. In addition, men come in groups from Rhine Army for two weeks at a time and there are special intakes for special projects lasting anything from half a day to six weeks. The man who acts as their host and sees to their welfare is a Royal Army Ordnance Corps corporal. Volunteers do not automatically volunteer for every trial but in two years in the job he has never known a refusal.

Equal rights for women now mean that servicewomen are also eligible to volunteer. And the stay at Porton has its compensations — no extraneous duties and payment based on the number of experiments taken part in. On average a soldier could expect to earn a taxable

£30-£40 extra for a fortnight's stay.

The principal scientific officer in the medical division says the main thing that upsets some of the volunteers is having to give blood samples.

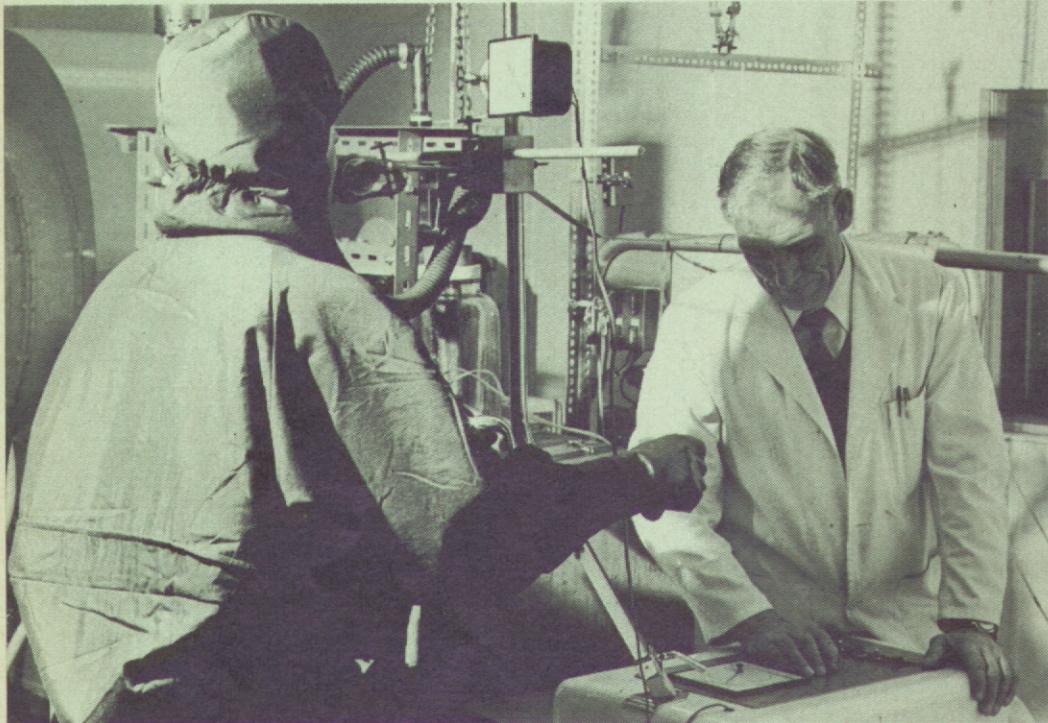
On some experiments, such as hand protection, rubber gloves may be worn for very long periods and, he says, "It is of course a considerable social inconvenience to have to wear a glove all the time — it doesn't go down too well in the discothèques. And the thing about wearing a glove is that your hand absolutely stinks — sweaty feet have nothing on sweaty hands."

There is no overall ban on going out to nearby Salisbury in the evening although it may be necessary to stay in during a particular experiment.

Volunteers move in on Sundays; the

next day they are given an introductory talk by the establishment's administrative officer, and are then subjected to rigorous medical examination. Most experiments have to be conducted hundreds of times to have any validity. The treadmill/cycling machine tests can be carried out in temperatures up to tropical conditions with the volunteer wired up for pulse rate and body temperature.

In another room, soldiers and airmen were playing Scrabble with one hand. On the other arm patches of clothing material had been strapped after treatment with mustard gas. The patches remain on for six hours. Other volunteers wear garments containing patches of worn material. In either case the object is to check the efficacy of the material against the gas. There is no

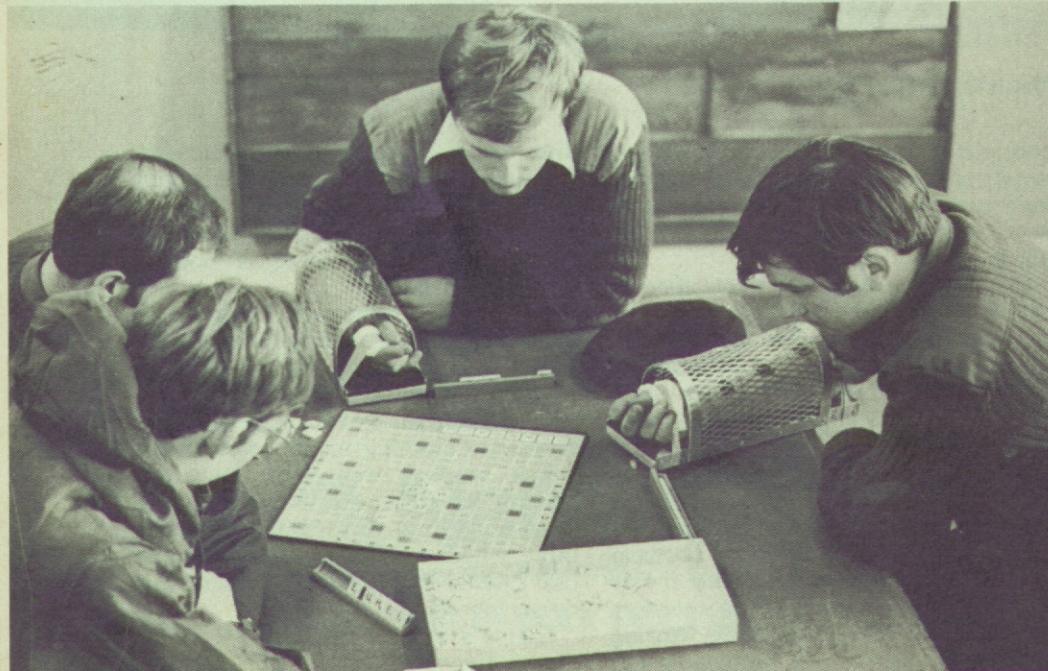


Above: Corporal Jim Goold gets pedalling on the cycling machine while scientists check the reactions of his body.

Below: One-armed Scrabble. Volunteers in a clothing patch test while away the time with a friendly battle of words.



Above: Testing the speed of a man's reflexes. He follows a light round with a probe—when he catches it up it bleeps.



danger — the worst thing that can happen to the volunteer is a slight reddening of the skin or a small blister.

The project officer explained that the work is all related to the development of protective apparel — suits, boots and gloves: "My job is to evaluate the level of protection left in suits after they have been worn in a hot climate for several weeks and to make sure that the effect of sweating into the suits has not degraded the protection."

In another room, a group of volunteers were sitting quietly reading. Like many of the experiments this one involved a lot of sitting around apparently doing nothing. They were taking part in the investigation of a drug which might prove of value in treating nerve agent poisoning. Their heart rates were

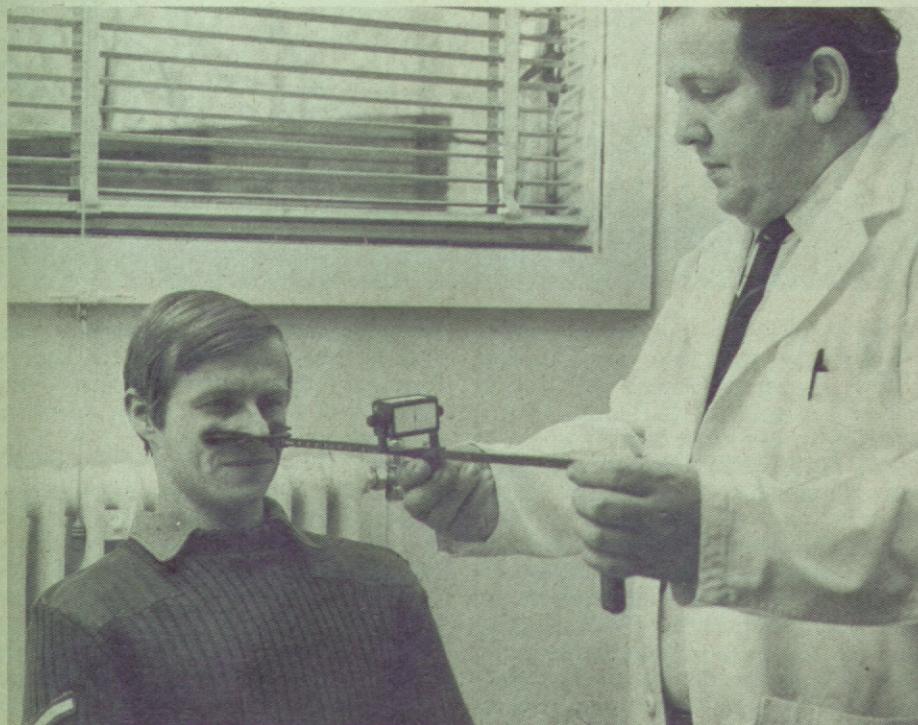
being constantly measured and they were allowed to go to sleep if they wished. These drugs can have side effects and while they may save a soldier's life he could still be hors-de-combat. The object is to keep him fighting fit. In blunt military terms an incapacitated soldier is as valueless as one who is dead.

The Royal Air Force specialist medical officer at Porton uses part of the station medical centre for experiments — currently he is investigating, with the aid of volunteers, a drug which is widely used in medicine for the treatment of certain forms of paralysis. Some poisons which might be used by an enemy produce paralysis.

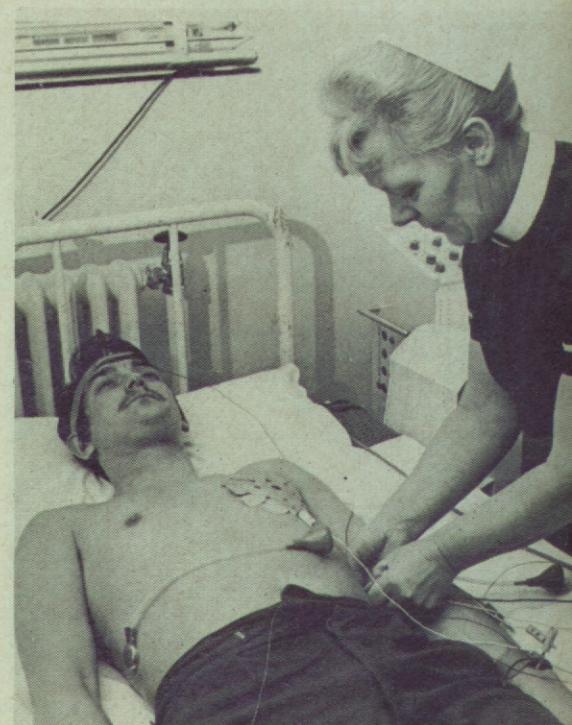
Other experiments which are a bit more fun include a rotary pursuit meter

in which the volunteer chases a light around to test the speed of his reactions; manual dexterity tests which involve picking up pins and other objects with gloved hands; and a machine which tests lung volume and resistance in the air passages of men who have been subjected to smoke. Much safety work is done at Porton on smokes used by the Army in training.

Porton has a display of general service respirators developed at the establishment and ranging from the first 1916 phenate hetamine helmet up to that in current use. All of these have saved countless lives and lungs over the years — with the help of Service volunteers the boffins of Porton will be able to save just as many in the future should the need arise.

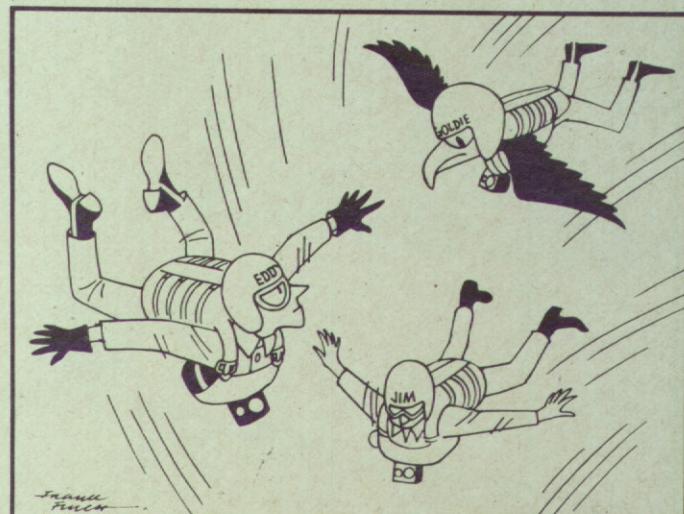
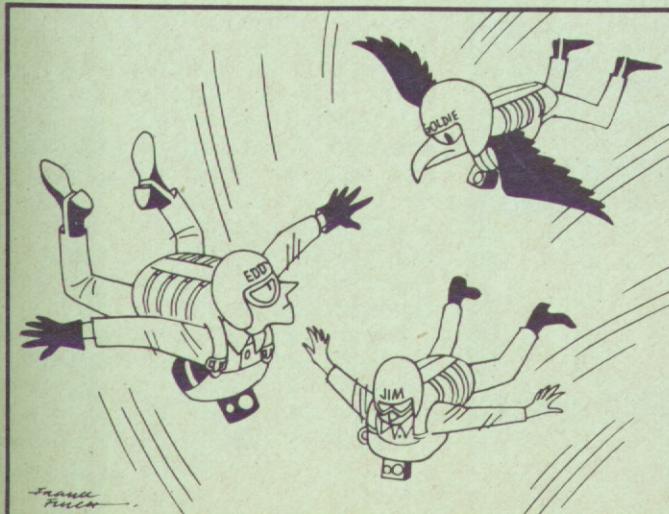


Eyesight test for volunteer L/Corporal Peter Caddy after taking a drug which is used as an antidote to paralysis.



At the station medical centre a Porton nurse wires up one of the volunteers for his electro-cardiogram reading.

## How observant are you?



These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 45.



## Well, what do you know?

**W**HAT is a cheque card? Who was the last non-Canadian Governor-General of Canada? What is a coracle?... These are just some of the questions soldiers might be asked in Gibraltar's weekly television quiz programme, "How much do you know?"

With limited space for outdoor sports, the Gibraltarians have evolved a system of indoor contests which are taken very seriously by the small community. As part of that community, British forces on the Rock take a leading part in these activities and none more enthusiastically than the resident infantry of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets. Clubs and units from civilian and Service life are involved in

an indoor league encompassing games such as darts (Gibraltar has a legendary champion claimed to be accurate with unflighted six-inch nails), snooker, cribbage and dominoes.

The "How much do you know?" quiz and its British Forces Broadcasting Service counterpart of "Top of the Rock" are very much part of Gibraltar's indoor competition scene. The Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation's show has now been running for ten years, starting as a radio programme but now televised and recorded for radio too. The broadcasts used to be made from Service messes or civilian clubs but now go out from GBC's studios.

"How much do you know?" is a knockout contest and the winners receive tankards. This year the top team met the champions of BFBS's "Top of the Rock" show in competition for a handsome silver trophy—the Val Silcock Challenge Trophy—presented by a fan in memory of his wife.

It was quarter-finals stage when SOLDIER visited GBC's studios and question-master Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Hunt—who served in the Royal Army Services Corps before retirement—fired questions at three sergeants of The Green Jackets and a team from the Gibraltar Regiment. In the control box, head of production George Valarino confessed to being less than usually impartial about the seven-round bout... he is a lieutenant in the Gibraltar Regiment.

But after a close fought contest, with the teams neck and neck for much of the time, The Green Jackets nosed ahead for a 61-59 win to go on to meet the RAF in one of two semi-finals.

Report: Mike Starke  
Pictures: Doug Pratt



Above: Camera shot selection sets its posers for producer George Valarino.

The Green Jackets team sets to work on a question put by Colonel Hunt.



# On NATO's northern flank

Stories: Mike Starke

Pictures: Leslie Wiggs



THE forbidding terrain of North Norway with its mountains, fjords and Arctic weather is a NATO flank bordering directly with the Soviet Union. As such it is important to North Norway to demonstrate effective deterrent power in the form of a concerted NATO defence and imperative that such a defence should be capable of rapid reinforcement.

Exercise Atlas Express for Allied Command Europe's Mobile Force (Land and Air) was designed to test the rapid deployment of forces to North

Norway alongside local units there under winter conditions of the severest kind, to test co-ordination between forces of different nationalities, and to test command and control as well as the host nation's support of AMF.

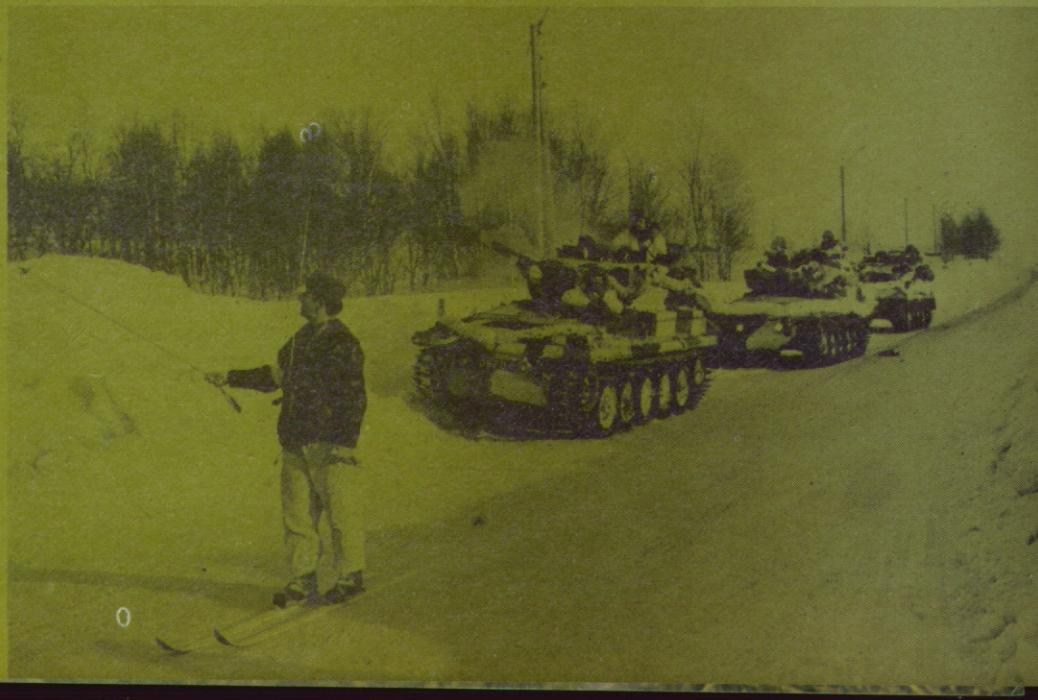
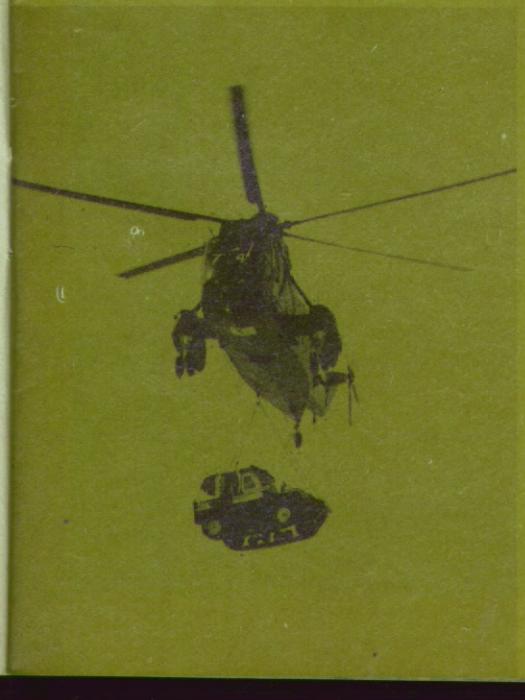
Some 17,000 servicemen from eight NATO nations took part. In addition to Norwegian forces there were army and air force units from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, The Netherlands and Italy. A field hospital was provided by West Germany and some Belgian staff officers also took part.

Below: Royal Navy Sea King helicopter airlifting material from HMS Hermes.

Above: Royal Marines of 45 Commando swap seas for skis and snow.

British troops involved included men of 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; The Life Guards; Artillery Headquarters and 13 (Martinique 1809) Light Battery of 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery; Force Signal Troop from 30 Signal Regiment; Force Engineer Troop from 22 Engineer Regiment; 48 Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; 42 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, and 3rd Division Provost Company, Royal Military Police, plus 45 Commando, Royal Marines, with support troops.

Below: Scimitar (front) and Scorpions from C Squadron, Life Guards.



## Formula for survival

**A**SOLDIER must be prepared to fight anywhere, any time, any place. But in extreme climatic conditions it becomes apparent that the immediate enemy need not necessarily be an opposing army — it could be the very air a soldier breathes.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in Arctic Norway where strong contingents of British forces take their place alongside NATO allies in defence of the alliance's northern flank. On Atlas Express, men of 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, a major infantry element of Ace Mobile Force, demonstrated to SOLDIER the basic principles of the five- or ten-men tent group system.

In the extreme cold of Arctic winter survival is a constant preoccupation, major priorities being to stay dry and warm by keeping out of wet and wind. Safety in numbers has a very real meaning and experience has shown that small groups of men bivouacking together

achieve the objectives. Different nations use different numbers but the British favour five- or ten-man groups which stay together throughout the operational period.

Sergeant Dave Hilton, of the Anglians' defence platoon (formed from the corps of drums) outlined the method of setting up camp. Each man in the group has a specific task or set of tasks. Key men are the group commander and the cook. The commander sites his tent in a defensive position and, before doing anything else, the group lays out its kit and bergens in a strict order on the snow. This is so that in an emergency each man can find his kit without looking — and that emergency might be a blinding snowstorm.

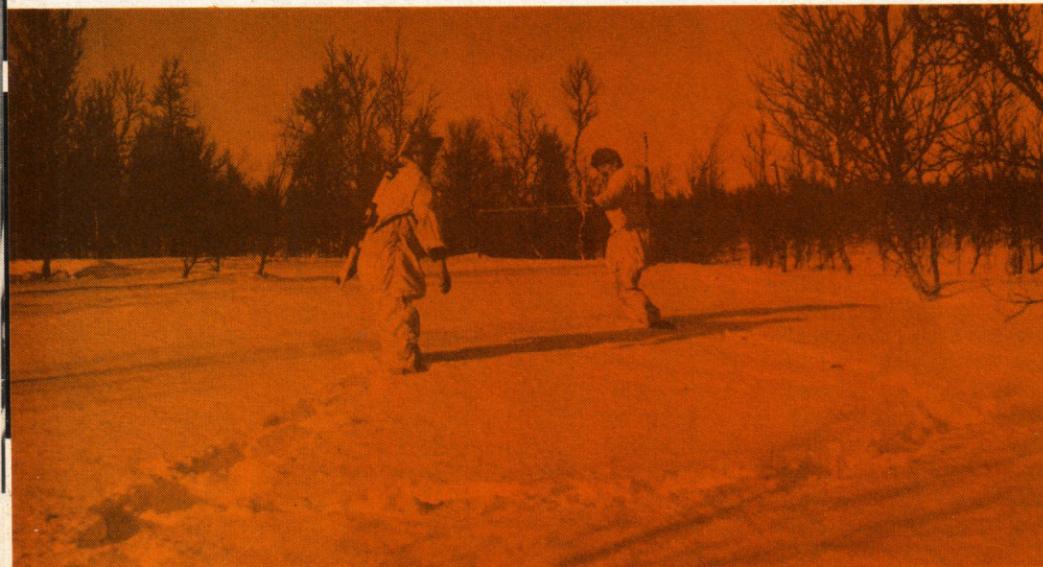
The cook goes into action immediately by "brewing up" with the highly inflammable naphtha stove. A sentry is posted and everyone else turns to digging out a pit for the circular tent. The commander holds out a ski stick at

arms length and one of his team grasps the other end and walks round to mark out a perimeter in the snow with his feet.

The circle is dug out to about two feet six inches to three feet and snow from the hole is cut into blocks to build a wall at the perimeter. Now the tent goes up and groundsheets, bedrolls and bergens are laid inside in strict order. A hole about one foot six inches deep is cut into the floor to take the cook's legs while he sits at his stove, careful always to have his fireproof blanket handy in case the naphtha stove gets out of control.

All night a fire sentry tends the stove and keeps the lamp going. He must see that there is hot water at all times. An outdoor sentry keeps watch.

Thus troops emerge from their canvas igloos each morning fit and ready to face a human enemy after a night campaigning against the chilly platoons of the Arctic weather.

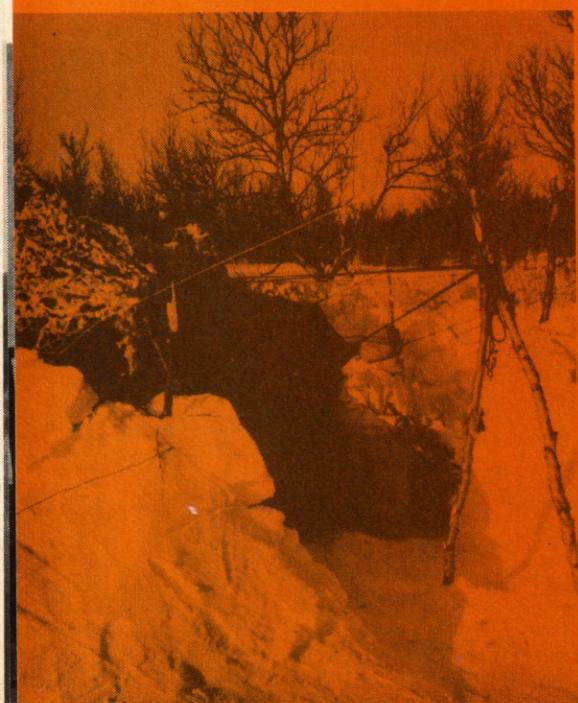


Above: Digging the hole in the snow.

Left: Marking the tent's perimeter.

Below left: A chilly turn at guard.

Below: Home is where the hearth is!



**T**HE most active form of Territorial Army Volunteer there is" is the claim of a small band of go-anywhere, do-anything, part-time soldiers whose job is to see that the front-line soldier still gets his Naafi canteen service. The handful of men in question were found some 200 miles inside the Arctic Circle, roughing it in sub-zero temperatures on Exercise Atlas Express.

As a detachment of EFI — Expeditionary Forces Institute (Naafi in uniform) — these full-time Naafi employees turned part-time soldiers came under command of the AMF's British Royal Army Ordnance Corps unit, 48 Company, from Devizes, Wiltshire, and wore uniform just like any other member of the force.

Naafi's tradition of serving the Services goes back to the early 1920s and EFI dates from World War Two when Naafi was "mobilised" under the then Royal Army Service Corps. Nowadays,

some 60 or 70 volunteers don uniform as A or B reservists to man EFI canteens and bulk issue stores where normal Naafi services are not available. This is particularly true of the ubiquitous AMF with its exercises concentrated on NATO's flanks.

The six EFI men on Atlas Express were headed by Captain Richard Gaymer, normally a Naafi district manager. He had to do two weeks' basic military training as a TAVR soldier and then a week's logistics course for officer cadets. To cope with the merciless Arctic conditions, he had to learn the survival disciplines of tent organisation and put this to good use out overnight on another recent NATO exercise, pulling his kit-laden sled and digging into the snow like everyone else in 48 Company.

The tented field "canteens" keep soldiers supplied with beer, cigarettes, minerals, toiletries and confectionery. And in some cases a "gift" department has even offered models and books. The

bulk issue store supplies units. Opening hours tend to be from about eight in the morning to eight at night, the laudable theory being that EFI is there to serve the troops.

Captain Gaymer's team comprised Sergeant Harry Smith (a Naafi manager), Corporals Alan Smith (trainee manager), Nigel Kent (warehouseman), Martyn Gair (club manager) and Dave Taylor (a driver).

This tiny staff reckoned to cater for the needs of some 1500 British "customers" in the field by stocking 3000 cases of beer (at 24 cans to the case), 680 cases of spirits (at 12 bottles to the case) and 200 cases of cigarettes, cigars and tobacco — to a total value of well over £40,000.

All this and a life under canvas with the rest of 48 Company and their fair share of duties along with everyone else. No wonder Sergeant Harry Smith declared: "We're the most active form of TAVR there is."

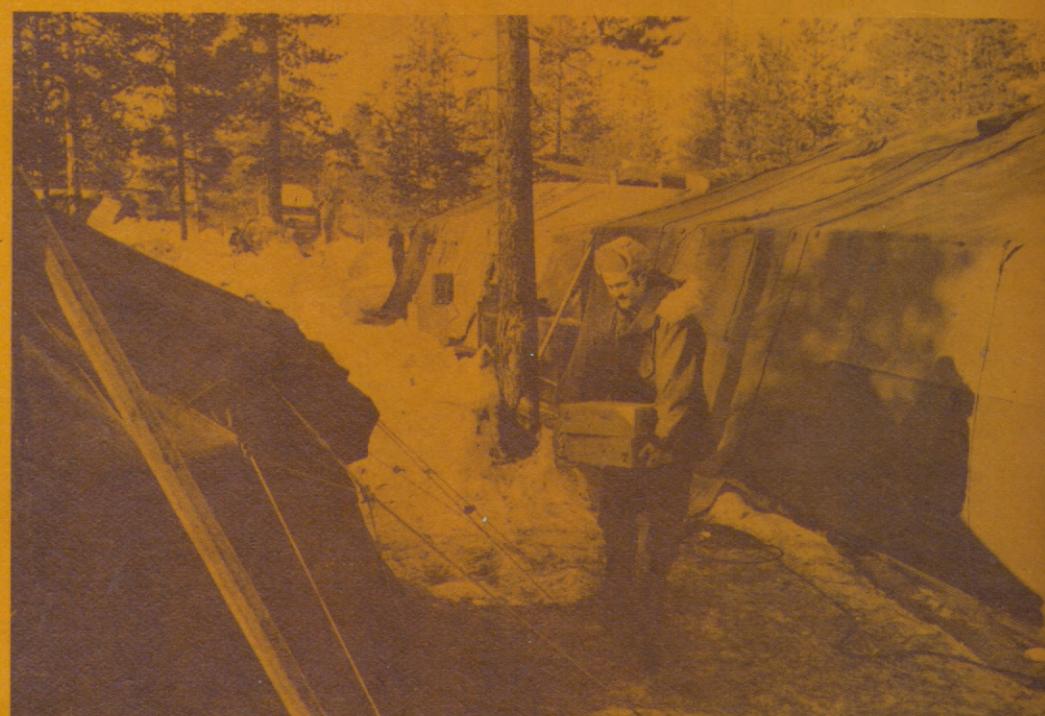


Above: Cpls Dave Taylor (left) and Martyn Gair in an EFI canteen

Above right: Detachment commander Capt Gaymer with Sgt

Below: Cpl Nigel Kent busy working wonders for the soldiers'

Right: Cpl Taylor coming in from the cold with more EFI supplies.



**A**S the modern machinery of war wound itself up for NATO's Exercise Atlas Express, part of the past showed it had a definite future in the form of the trusty horse.

While the giant commando carrier HMS Hermes steamed up and down the fjord, helicopters buzzed back and forth from her deck carrying men and sophisticated machines to battle on shore. Norwegian landing craft had disgorged men and machines on to a quiet beach, then one of them dropped its unloading ramp to reveal a string of sturdy ponies which trod sure-footedly up the slippery beach dragging sledges behind them.

There were 36 of the animals on the exercise, all from the Norwegian Brigade North's Pack Horse Company — believed to be the last of NATO's operational four-legged friends. But these ponies are far from the anachronism they seem in the computerised age of missiles and megatons. For high in the frozen peaks of north Norway, where temperatures plummet as low as -30 degrees Centigrade, these tough little pack animals can carry heavy loads over rough terrain. Each pony can haul between 350 and 450 kilos on his sledge, depending on his size.

Nor is the Pack Horse Company a remnant of some old cavalry unit. It was

## Pony express

formed only some 20 years ago. Now it has some 100 ponies on its strength and a total of 95 men. Their skill is to drive the ponies from behind the long sledges where they walk holding long reins to control their charges. This skill is harder than it sounds. But if it still seems that the ponies alone do all the hard work, they get their "revenge" at night when their human partners have to dig

them in to a kind of roofless igloo as high as the ponies' backs to protect them from the deadly cold of the Arctic night.

Only fit animals are picked for this work and they are bought by the Norwegian Army at the age of four. They work for some 12 years more and some tougher specimens have been known to go on longer.



Above: A sturdy pony digging his hooves into snow and shingle to drag his sled over the beachhead.

Right: Waiting in the cold to move off to the "front", a pony gets a friendly pat from a local youngster.

Below: Norwegian ski troops in the arctic wastes they know and love. Exercises like Atlas Express make NATO allies get to know them too.



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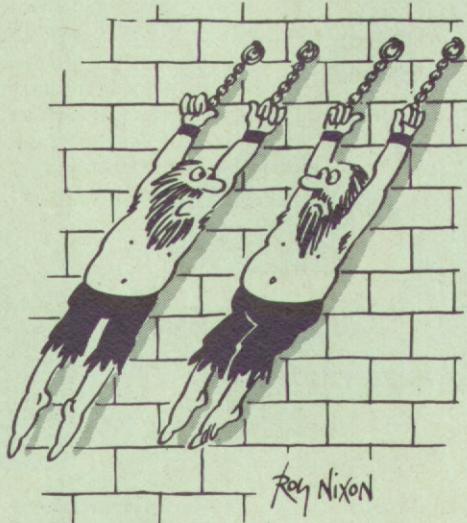
# Humour



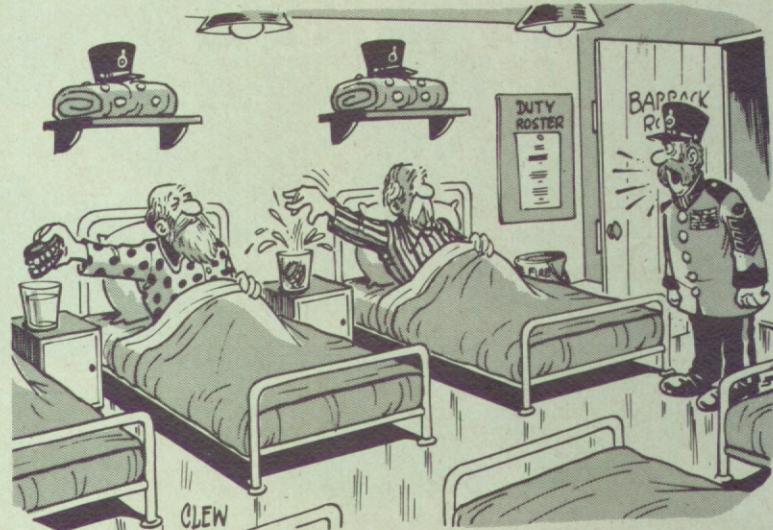
"Morning, fans."



"Cross-ply or radials?"



"He's left the door open again!"



"Wait for it, Private Atkinson — wait for it!"



"If I tell you what you've got, keep it to yourself — we don't want a panic on the camp."



"How quickly can you make a white flag?"

# Monty

NOVEMBER 1887-MARCH 1976



A tribute  
to  
**Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein**



With Gen Eisenhower, Supreme Commander AEF, before D-Day.

Left: A last-minute conference before the great 1945 Rhine assault in Europe.

Right: Monty and Maj-Gen Lashmer Whistler, commander of 3rd Division.

**Y**OU are quite useless. You will get nowhere in the Army," an officer told the young subaltern leaving Sandhurst. The officer was speaking to Bernard Law Montgomery who as "Monty" was to become a legendary figure in the annals of soldiering.

He was born on 17 November 1887 at St Mark's Vicarage close by Kennington Oval cricket ground, the fourth child of the Reverend Henry Montgomery and his wife Maud. The boy Bernard spent most of his childhood in Tasmania where his father was appointed a bishop. When the family came back to England, Bernard was 14 and he was enrolled in the Army class at St Paul's School, Hammersmith.

He was not a brilliant student but he excelled at games. When he was 18 and captain of the school rugby team his sports master wrote: "He was exceedingly plucky but inclined to do too much himself... he was a most inspiring leader of boys on the football field. He would assemble the Fifteen around him at half-time and carefully outline his policy for the rest of the game." The mould was being cast for the victor of Alamein.

In 1906 he went to the Royal Military

Monty as the world will remember him—hero of the Desert Rats.

College, Sandhurst, and was commissioned two years later into The Royal Warwickshire Regiment with which he served in India from 1910 to 1914. When his battalion returned to England a month before the outbreak of World War One the young Monty was a platoon commander; his first taste of battle came in France during the retreat from Mons.

His gallantry earned him the Distinguished Service Order on 13 October 1914 when he led his platoon in a bayonet charge on a strongly held German position. He was severely wounded in the chest. As he fell into a shell-hole unconscious a soldier who went to help him was killed. After three hours Monty was dragged out of the shell-hole and carried two miles to an advanced dressing station. He was left for dead and a burial party dug his grave. The surgeon noticed the "corpse's" hand make a twitch and the burial was stopped. Monty was invalided home and recovered in Woolwich Hospital.

He returned to France in 1916 as a staff captain and by the end of the war was a major on the staff of 47th (2nd London) Division. He spent the next two years until 1920 with the first British Army of the Rhine and for a short time commanded 17th Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers.

Monty was an early prototype of the spirit of the "the professionals"—the present soldiers of the seventies. He developed firm ideas on military matters and had a chance to put them across to his contemporaries as an instructor at the Staff College, Camberley, in 1926. Three years later he re-wrote most of the infantry training manual which was still in use at the outbreak of World War Two.

He married Betty Carver, a widow with two small boys, in 1927 and a son, David, was born in 1928. The marriage ended tragically after only ten years with the death of Mrs Montgomery.

In 1930 Monty returned to his regiment as a lieutenant-colonel and on promotion to full colonel a year later he served in Egypt and India in a variety of staff jobs. He took up instructing again in 1934, this time at the Staff College, Quetta, and three years later came back to England to command a brigade in Southern Command.

Twelve months after this, and now a major-general at the age of 51, he was commanding a division in Palestine and Trans-Jordan but fell ill and was shipped home. Shortly before the outbreak of World War Two, Monty was back in harness again as commander of 3rd Division which he took to France in 1939. After Dunkirk he was put in charge of 5 Corps and joined in the

over ▶



Lady Montgomery greets her son and his desert troops by radio in 1943.

Left: The school rugby captain, said to be "a most inspiring leader of boys."

# Monty

*continued*

gigantic task of rebuilding the shattered British Army. His abhorrence of inefficiency earned him a reputation as a martinet but those who shared his professional approach to soldiering were encouraged by his guidance.

It was as the head of South-Eastern Command that Monty started his famous "off-the-record" talks to officers and non-commissioned officers which endeared him to those he led and was a deliberate policy to build up mutual confidence throughout his commands. His famous personal contact with his troops in the field made him popular with his men and was part of the same strategy of man management.

In August 1942, Monty was flown out to take over the Eighth Army whose fortunes were at their lowest ebb in North Africa where Rommel's Afrika Korps revelled in the fast-growing myth of invincibility. Monty and his "Desert Rats" were destined to become part of British folklore with their tremendous efforts which finally smashed the German myth at El Alamein.

The Eighth Army under Monty swept the Afrika Korps before it to Tunis and then went on to land in Sicily and drive up through Italy. In 1944 Monty was recalled to England to plan under General Eisenhower the final blow against the Germans in Europe.

By now Monty was a national hero and his black beret with its two badges was as familiar to the British public as Churchill's cigars. The history of that beret went back to 1942 when Monty arrived to take over the Eighth Army wearing an Australian slouch hat.

On one of his tours of inspection before Alamein he complained to his personal tank driver that his hat was too big to wear inside a tank. The driver promptly gave his commander his own Tank Regiment beret which Monty accepted and wore, complete with the

corps badge, throughout the war. He even took it with him into peacetime duties when he served as Chief of the Imperial General Staff. "This beret is worth two divisions," boasted Monty when higher authorities objected to his headgear during the war.

With D-Day came a strange quirk of fate for Field-Marshal Montgomery. He was taking part in a reversal of a process one of his ancestors had gone through nearly 1000 years before. For in 1066, Roger de Montgomery set off from Normandy for Britain as the second-in-command of the invasion forces led by William the Conqueror. Monty's supreme moment came on 4 May 1945 when he accepted the surrender of the German armed forces in north-west Germany in his tactical headquarters on Lüneberg Heath.

The New Year's Honours List of 1946 brought a peerage to add to his military honours. He now became Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. He was appointed Chief of the Imperial General Staff and in 1948 became chairman of the Western European Commanders-in-Chief Committee, the forerunner of NATO. With the coming of the North Atlantic Treaty, he was appointed Deputy Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, a post he held from 1951 until his retirement in September 1958.

An Army career that had spanned half a century and the two major conflicts in the history of man was at an end. Monty retired to the quiet Hampshire countryside, a retirement he described thus: "No politics for me. I shall have plenty to keep me occupied." In between several brief public appearances little was heard of the old soldier who became a legend in his own lifetime.

He died on 24 March but his deeds live on as part of history—a history he helped to mould.



St Paul's School, Hammersmith, with a distinguished Old Boy in 1956.

Right: Monty looks on nonchalantly in his famous beret during 1942.



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Together they formed the Deutsche Afrika Korps subsequently known as the Afrika Korps under the command of General Rommel, who was promoted in September 1941 to the rank of Field Marshal.

In 1942 Rommel lost at El Alamein and finally on May 13, 1943 the African campaign ended in victory for the British Eighth Army (the Desert Rats).

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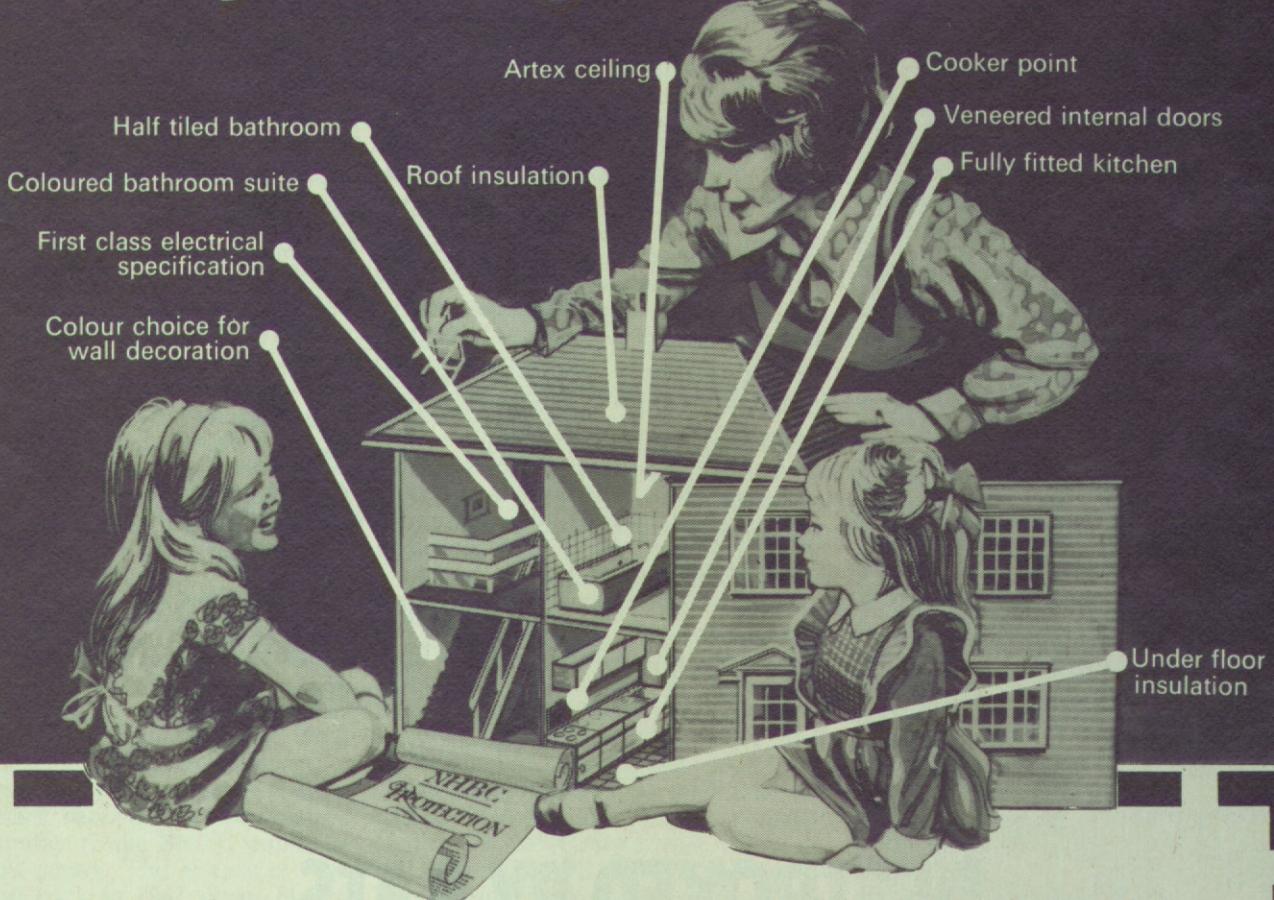


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# SOLDIER

# NEWS

Pull-out supplement SOLDIER May 1976

## DEFENCE WHITE PAPER

The year 1976 was a year in which the Soviet Union was on trial, the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Roy Mason, told the world's Press when he introduced this year's Defence White Paper. The West would continue to pursue the goal of détente with the East by negotiations from a position of strong deterrent and defence. The White Paper contains an analysis of the strength of the Warsaw Pact in the areas of most concern to Britain and Mr Mason pointed out that in every case, apart from combat aircraft, the balance had tilted a little further in favour of the East. "Taken with the latest estimates of Soviet Military expenditure, these figures show conclusively that NATO cannot afford to lower its guard and must maintain its frontline strength."

Mr Mason said that after the Defence Review British forces would be concentrated



almost entirely on NATO. He had always recognised that it might be possible to streamline the support area and civilian numbers further, following the review, without reducing NATO commitments. This he had done in the public expenditure cuts. Resources of more than £2,800,000,000 up to 1979-80 had been switched from defence to help improve the country's economic performance. "Altogether," Mr Mason continued, "we will be cutting 38,000 servicemen, 40,000 civilians and 13,000 directly employed in the defence industries. So, in all, 91,000 jobs are directly affected. In addition there will be a loss of indirect job opportunities in the industries associated with the defence contractors."

Mr Mason maintained that Britain's contribution to NATO still compared more than favourably with most of its major allies, particularly on the criterion of the percentage of the gross national product spent on defence. "No other country in Western Europe, bearing in mind all economic factors, is bearing a defence burden within the alliance equivalent to that of the United Kingdom" he declared.

On Britain's contribution to NATO the White Paper lists recent major force improvements for the Army as the Lance tactical missile system, the Striker tracked vehicle to carry the Swingfire anti-tank missile, laser sights for Chieftain tanks, laser range-finders for artillery observation posts and the Chieftain armoured bridgelaying and recovery vehicle.

Four additional measures have been offered to NATO, which the white Paper says would make a worthwhile addition to NATO's defences on its flanks. The costs, which are modest in relation to the benefits, can be accommodated within the defence budget by making adjustments elsewhere. These measures are:

Allocation of two additional commando groups, with a brigade headquarters and a logistic regiment, for deployment in support of specific NATO plans. One of these groups with a small tactical brigade headquarters would be trained and equipped for operations in Norway in winter.

Maintenance of an option to deploy a land force to north-east Italy by using part of the 6th Field Force with helicopter support.

Temporary air training deployment to allied airfields in the southern region in peacetime.

Retention of the option to deploy two offensive support squadrons to north-east Italy.

The White Paper reports continuing consultations with the Sultan of Brunei about the timing of the withdrawal of the Gurkha battalion there and says that withdrawal

of forces from the Far East and Indian Ocean is proceeding according to plan. The rebellion in Dhofar, now virtually at an end, means that the scope for reductions in the level of the remaining British assistance to Oman will be kept under review. As many of the British servicemen are training Omanis to take over tasks at present carried out by expatriates, this has to be a gradual process.

On equipment it is reported that considerable further savings have been made by decisions to reduce, defer or cancel plans for the introduction of more than 40 relatively low-priced items in the Army's general programme.

Plans for putting into effect the Army re-organisation outlined last year have been drawn up and issued. Rhine Army is to be reorganised over the next three years with the aim of making the most effective use of the next generation of weapons and equipment by keeping the number of men in "teeth" arms as high as possible and by improving the weapon-to-man-ratio. Four new-style armoured divisions, comprising larger units than at present, are planned, plus an artillery division and a new infantry formation to be known as 5th Field Force. The new structure is being subjected to an extensive series of trials and exercises which are already under way and adjustments and refinements will be made where necessary. The changes will reduce the number of formations in Rhine Army and increase by more than a quarter the number of company-sized combat teams.

In the United Kingdom the reorganisation will as far as possible follow the same principles. Regular and reserve units will be more closely integrated than at present and come under the command of the ten districts. Three of these districts will provide the new operational field force headquarters being formed to meet wartime commitments. Some significant changes are being made. The United Kingdom Joint Airborne Task Force concept was abandoned at the end of last year. By April 1978 the land element of the United Kingdom Mobile Force will be reduced from the present division of three brigades to a new formation of five battalions which will be known as 6th Field Force and based in South East District. This new force, which will contain a limited parachute capability of one battalion group, will be provided for deployment to such areas of ACE as agreed with Supreme Allied Commander Europe. It will be equipped with the latest anti-tank and air-defence weapons.

In addition it should be possible to increase significantly the number of general reinforcements sent to Rhine Army on mobilisation. This reinforcement, which includes Regulars and reservists, is designed to place Rhine Army on a full war footing. It will comprise one major formation to be formed by April 1978 and known as 7th Field Force, which will be stationed in Eastern District, as well as a large number of separate units and individual reinforcements. By April 1977 the 8th Field Force, comprising both Regular and TAVR units, will be formed in South West District with a responsibility for home defence.

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Major improvements for armoured forces include consideration with the West German Government of concepts for the future main battle tank and studies on a new mechanised infantry combat vehicle to replace the FV430 series. This will be used principally in the armoured personnel carrier role. For the artillery it is reported that main series production of the FH70 towed howitzer is hoped to begin next year and that a trailer-mounted radar is being developed to locate rocket-launchers and improve performance against mortars.

Talks have been opened with France and Germany for procurement, if the terms are right, of the Milan man-portable anti-tank missile system. Britain is negotiating to manufacture most of her requirements in this country and also aims to secure a fair share of overseas sales and participation in mid-life improvements to the system. It also aims to agree arrangements for European collaboration in the next generation of anti-tank guided weapons. Milan is said to provide infantry battalions with a highly effective and portable anti-tank system of greater range and lethality than their current equipment.

The first Lynx utility helicopters will enter service this year. They will improve the versatility of the Army's helicopter fleet and may act as a replacement for the Scout as a platform for helicopter-borne anti-tank missiles. Two logistic landing craft are being built for the support of the artillery ranges in the Hebrides and a new family of small arms and ammunition is being developed to enable Britain to compete in NATO trials for the selection of small-arms ammunition on which NATO forces may standardise.

The Army's decision to take over Royal Air Force stations at Bicester, Chessington, Colerne, Driffield, Hullavington, Leconfield, Little Rissington, Medmenham, Tern Hill, Spitalgate and Debden will enable it to vacate a number of hatted camps and other less satisfactory accommodation, achieving a significant and earlier improvement in the living standards of many soldiers than would otherwise have been possible. The cost of rebuilding and rehabilitating at existing stations would have been about £80,000,000. Moving into the airfields will cost far less.

Ministry of Defence employees in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich have for the past three years been helping patients in the Royal Herbert Military Hospital by providing them with extra services and amenities. The first project was for the purchase of a special chair and this resulted in £1000 being raised to buy medical equipment. Efforts have included dinner and buffet dances, collections and raffles, all organised by a committee from within the Arsenal. Last year it was decided to register as a charitable organisation to be known as "The Friends of the Royal Herbert Hospital."

Among items supplied during the past three years have been a special bed, wheeled and other chairs, tables, rugs, weight-training equipment, a cyclette and various accessories. In February a medical water bed was presented and this year's target is to raise £500 for a special stand-up bed.

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## MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

● Mr Bob Cryer (Labour, Keighley), wanted the contract for the purchase of Lance tactical nuclear weapons to be cancelled. Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, replied "No" and went on to say that tactical nuclear weapons constituted an important element in NATO's defensive strategy and Britain intended to maintain its contribution.

● The new Catterick Military Hospital was about to be completed and was expected to open in May, Mr Robert C Brown, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, told Sir Timothy Kitson (Conservative, Richmond, Yorkshire). Final cost is estimated at £3,100,000.

● Unoccupied married quarters in Britain totalled 6952 for non-commissioned officers and other ranks and 2760 for officers, Mr Rodgers said in reply to a series of questions from Mr George Gardiner (Conservative, Reigate and Banstead).

● In reply to Mr Stan Newens (Labour, Harlow), Mr Mason gave a list of countries in which British servicemen were on loan, in exchange posts or as members of training and advisory teams. Top of the list was Oman with 216, followed by the United States at 195, Kuwait 118, Brunei 90, Australia 86, Canada 76 and Iran 74.

● There were no plans for any extensive re-organisation of the reserve forces, Mr Rodgers told Mr Robert Banks (Conservative, Harrogate). He added that as a result of last year's defence White Paper there would be some changes for the TAVR, including changes of role for some units, but they were not expected to be far-reaching.

● Mr Nicholas Ridley (Conservative, Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked what the capital cost would be of improving Hilton and Marchington facilities to provide the Army's only central vehicle depot, including the cost of closing Ludgershall and Ashchurch and also of expanding Ashchurch for the same purposes. Mr Brown replied that current broad estimates indicated that the creation of the proposed Hilton-Marchington complex would entail capital costs around £2,000,000. The costs of closing Ludgershall and Ashdown were likely to be minor. Redundancy payment costs could not yet be reliably estimated since a rundown would be over a period. Against these costs had to be set considerable savings in planned works services at all existing depots, manning cost reductions and receipts from site disposals. Detailed estimates for the expansion of Ashchurch were not available.

● When the Tidworth Military Hospital closed, the buildings would be retained for future Army use, Mr Brown told Rear-Admiral Morgan-Giles (Conservative, Winchester). Part would be used to house a medical reception station with supporting facilities which it was planned to set up when the hospital closed. The future use of the remainder was yet to be decided.

● In the House of Lords Lord Moyne (Conservative) asked how many of the estimated 20,000 servicemen on Salisbury Plain were expected to opt for National Health Service care if Tidworth Military Hospital was closed, what spare capacity there was in Salisbury Hospital, and how many additional patients the surgery at Ludgershall could accept. Lord Wells-Pestell for the Government, said that when the military hospital closed the Ministry of Defence planned to provide a military general practice with a medical reception station for servicemen and their dependants in the area. It was not expected that very many dependants would opt for National Health Service care. Lord Moyne questioned the latter statement, especially in maternity cases when Wroughton, the hospital to take the place of Tidworth, was 24.8 miles from Tidworth and without public transport. Salisbury was only 16.3 miles with public transport available. Baroness Vickers (Conservative) asked if the matter could be reconsidered in view of the fact that the Tidworth hospital had one of the best intensive care units in the country, that a new maternity wing had just been built at a cost of approximately £85,000 and that military drivers estimated that to drive patients to Wroughton would involve two million miles. She was supported by Lord Eccles (Conservative) who lives in the area. But they got no joy from Lord Wells-Pestell.

● Comparisons between defence spending just before World War One and today interested Mr Phillip Whitehead (Labour, Derby North). Mr Mason said expenditure in 1974-75 was £4,330,500,000 while the accounts for 1913-14 showed expenditure on the Army and Navy at £76,600,000. He added that it was not practicable to update the 1913-14 figure to 1975 prices. Mr Whitehead suggested that the amount being spent, compared with the time when Britain was indisputably a great power, had not been significantly weakened. Another Labour member, Mr Ronald Atkins (Preston North), asked if Mr Mason was aware that in 1913-14 the attitude of the British Government was that the British armed forces should equal those of the rest of the world combined. Was that not the attitude of many Opposition members today? Mr Mason said the latter point was quite true. Many members of the Opposition, though not all, would like British forces to equal those of the Soviet Union. In 1913 there were 313,000 men in the Army and Navy—and no Air Force. Mr Evelyn King (Conservative, South Dorset) asked about pay in 1913-14. Mr Mason said it was the King's Shilling, food and clothing and 1s 5d a day. Today it was 76 times as much.

● A similar point was raised in a written question by Mr Peter Blaker (Conservative, Blackpool South) who asked how a British private's pay compared with that of his Russian counterpart. Mr Brown said it was difficult to draw an exact comparison as conditions of service and the structure of the two armies were so different. It was understood that a Regular Russian private received approximately one-eleventh of the pay of a British private whereas a Russian conscript at the beginning of his service received about one six-hundredth of the pay of a British Regular recruit. The Russian soldier paid no income tax and received free food and accommodation. The quality of life and the purchasing power of equivalent sums of money in the two countries were, of course, considerably different.

● Mr Philip Goodhart (Conservative, Bromley and Beckenham) asked for a statement on recent progress towards arms standardisation in NATO. Mr Mason said action was in progress on a number of specific projects and further possibilities were under examination with our allies.

● In answer to Mr Peter Rost (Conservative, South East Derbyshire), Mr Brown made a statement on the future of the Central Ordnance Depot, Chilwell. He said the closure was one of the main proposals arising from the Army's review of its logistic support facilities in the United Kingdom. Proposals were currently under discussion with staff interests before final decisions being taken later this year.

● On another aspect of the same review Mr Brown told Mr Neville Trotter (Conservative, Tynemouth), that no final decision had been taken to close the 31 Command Workshop REME detachment at Killingworth. Consultations were proceeding but under the proposals the Killingworth work would be absorbed by the parent workshop at Catterick, 41 Command Workshop REME at York, and local contractors as appropriate.

● Increases in the London weighting allowance paid to servicemen in London were announced by Mr Harold Wilson in the House of Commons. From 1 July the rate for owner-occupiers commuting to work will be increased to £387 for inner London and £219 for outer London. For all others the rates will be £226 and £128 respectively.

● Mr Geraint Morgan (Conservative, Denbigh) asked if consideration could be given to granting a gratuity to World War One holders of the Military Medal, who currently were not entitled to one, to equal the amount available to World War Two holders. Mr Brown declined and said there was no record of how many World War One Military Medal holders were still living. About 116,000 medals were awarded and the cost of paying the £20 to any survivors and to the estates of those who had died, as was done in the case of World War Two holders, would be in excess of £2,000,000.

● A total of 2647 Service personnel, including 149 retired officers, were employed in Armed Services recruitment centres, Mr Brynmor John, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the RAF, told Mr John Watkinson (Labour, Gloucestershire West).

● Disbandment of the Belfast aircraft force would mean that a number of items including trucks and trailers of various kinds could not be carried by Hercules aircraft, Mr John admitted in reply to Mr Neville Trotter (Conservative, Tynemouth). He added that there was no operational requirement to retain the Belfasts to transport these items, which would be moved by surface means.

● Alternative uses for the site of RAF Andover, which was about to close, were under active consideration by the Army, Mr John told Rear-Admiral Morgan Giles.

**MARCONI EQUIPMENT ORDER**

Marconi Space and Defence Systems Limited has recently obtained over £8,000,000 worth of orders from the Ministry of Defence for production of military systems at the company's Scottish factory at Hillend, Fife. Equipments concerned are the Clansman UKVRC 353 vhf vehicle radio, the improved fire control system for tanks and the unit-level switchboard.

The Clansman UKVRC 353 is the standard vhf vehicle radio for the Army and the new order is said by Marconi to be "the latest in a series designed to ensure that the Army has the most advanced and reliable communications system in the world." It is also on trial with the armed forces of several other countries and export sales orders are currently being negotiated.

The improved fire control system for the Chieftain tank is one of a number of computer systems developed by Marconi Space and Defence Systems for use on the battlefield. The system, based on a laser rangefinder and digital computer, gives effective engagement of both static and moving targets with all types of ammunition. It enables automatic and accurate laying of the gun, from a moving or stationary armoured vehicle, faster and at greater ranges than previously. The speed and accuracy make a first-round kill much more likely than with earlier systems.

The unit-level switchboard is a one-man portable cordless telephone switchboard used for interconnecting field units. It is a lightweight rugged equipment designed for use in the field after minimal training and can easily be carried, set up and operated by one man.

(Marconi)

**NEW ESTABLISHMENT**

The Queen recently unveiled a plaque marking the formation of the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment at Malvern. This combines the work of the former Royal Radar Establishment at Malvern, the Signals Research and Development Establishment, Christchurch, and the Services Electronics Research Laboratory, Baldock, Hertfordshire. For the time being the latter two will remain at their present locations but from next year staff and equipment will begin to move to Malvern. The change is a major part of the first stage in the rationalisation of Ministry of Defence research and development establishments.

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## SAILING PROJECT

Are you the son of a serving soldier and aged between 16 and 19? If so and you live in London or the Home Counties you have an opportunity to go sailing this summer. Two places have been offered by the London Sailing Project to take part in a six-day cruise on the 48-ton Ketch Rona from 7 to 12 August.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The organisers would prefer the two boys to be friends. Applications should be sent to Mrs J M A Mayo, Ladysholdt, Tekels Avenue, Camberley, Surrey, by June 1. They should indicate name, date of birth and address of both applicant and friend as well as an indication of whether they have sailed before. Also enclosed should be a letter of parental consent. The two chosen boys will be notified by 30 June and their names will appear in **SOLDIER NEWS**.

The Army Sailing Association has contributed £4 towards each place leaving the two lucky youngsters to find only £5 each.

The London Sailing Project was established in 1960 as a facility for youth organisations in the Greater London area to enable their members to go sailing in a comparatively large boat. The Rona has a crew of a skipper, two watch officers, two watch leaders and 12 boys. These boys do as much as they can towards the running of the ship, including steering, cooking and navigation. If they do well they receive an Amory award which entitles them to a second cruise and possible promotion to watch leader or watch officer.

Parents are urged to pass this information on to their sons if they are in the right age bracket.

## TORNADO

The new multi-role combat aircraft being produced by Britain, Germany and Italy is to be called the Tornado. The Chiefs of Air Staffs of the three countries have recommended their governments to authorise full production go-ahead.

(DPR)

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## TANK SEARCHLIGHTS FOR KUWAIT



Marconi Radar Systems Limited has announced a £1,400,000 contract for the supply of searchlights for Chieftain battle tanks ordered by the Kuwait Government. The searchlights are a standard equipment on British Army Chieftains. The very high intensity light operates as a target illuminator and is mounted directly on to the gun turret so that it remains in line with the gun during traverse. In elevation a servo-control system on the mirror assembly ensures that the light beam remains aligned automatically on to the target. The searchlight output can be normal white light or infra-red with ranges well in excess of 1000 yards. The installation is ruggedly built to withstand the sudden severe shocks of the gun firing as well as the sustained vibration of the tank in motion. (Marconi)

## EFFECTIVE DETERRENT

● In a speech to Barnsley and District Chamber of Commerce, Mr Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, who is also Barnsley's MP, likened defence to an insurance policy: "...no good and reliable insurance policy is cheap, even if the premium is shared between a number of friends or members of a family. And each of us must find his proper share of the premium. Therefore, those concerned to cut back our forces must remember that, as technology progresses and weapons become more sophisticated, the insurance premium gets more expensive. Because there is no use in providing our forces with weapons that are not capable of deterring aggression in modern conditions.

"To deter aggression by modern forces we must have modern forces of our own. A modern submarine costs three times as much in real terms as a submarine 20 years ago. Tanks and anti-tank guns cost twice as much as they did 20 years ago. And aircraft and missiles cost four to eight times as much as they did 20 years ago."

Mr Mason said a Chieftain tank could start killing present-day tanks like the Russian T62 at more than three times the range of a tank in World War Two and, thanks to the laser range-finder, it has a much greater chance of a first-round hit. Turning to manpower, Mr Mason said Britain was alone among its European allies in relying entirely on volunteers. Although they cost more than conscripts he felt they gave the British taxpayer better value for money. "We avoid the turbulence inseparable from conscription — and we get highly trained professional forces."

Mr Mason said Britain's servicemen, including reservists, did provide an effective deterrent to attack by Warsaw Pact forces even though the pact enjoyed considerable superiority in quantities of weapons.

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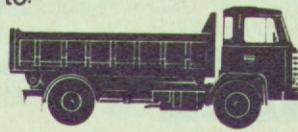
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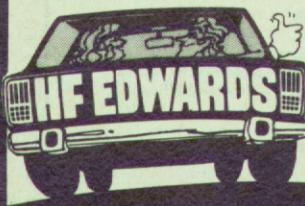


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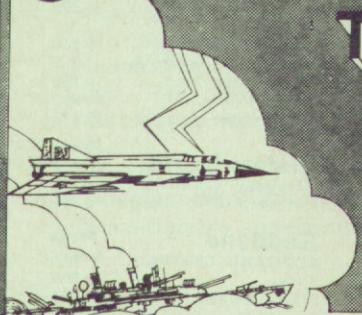
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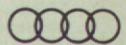
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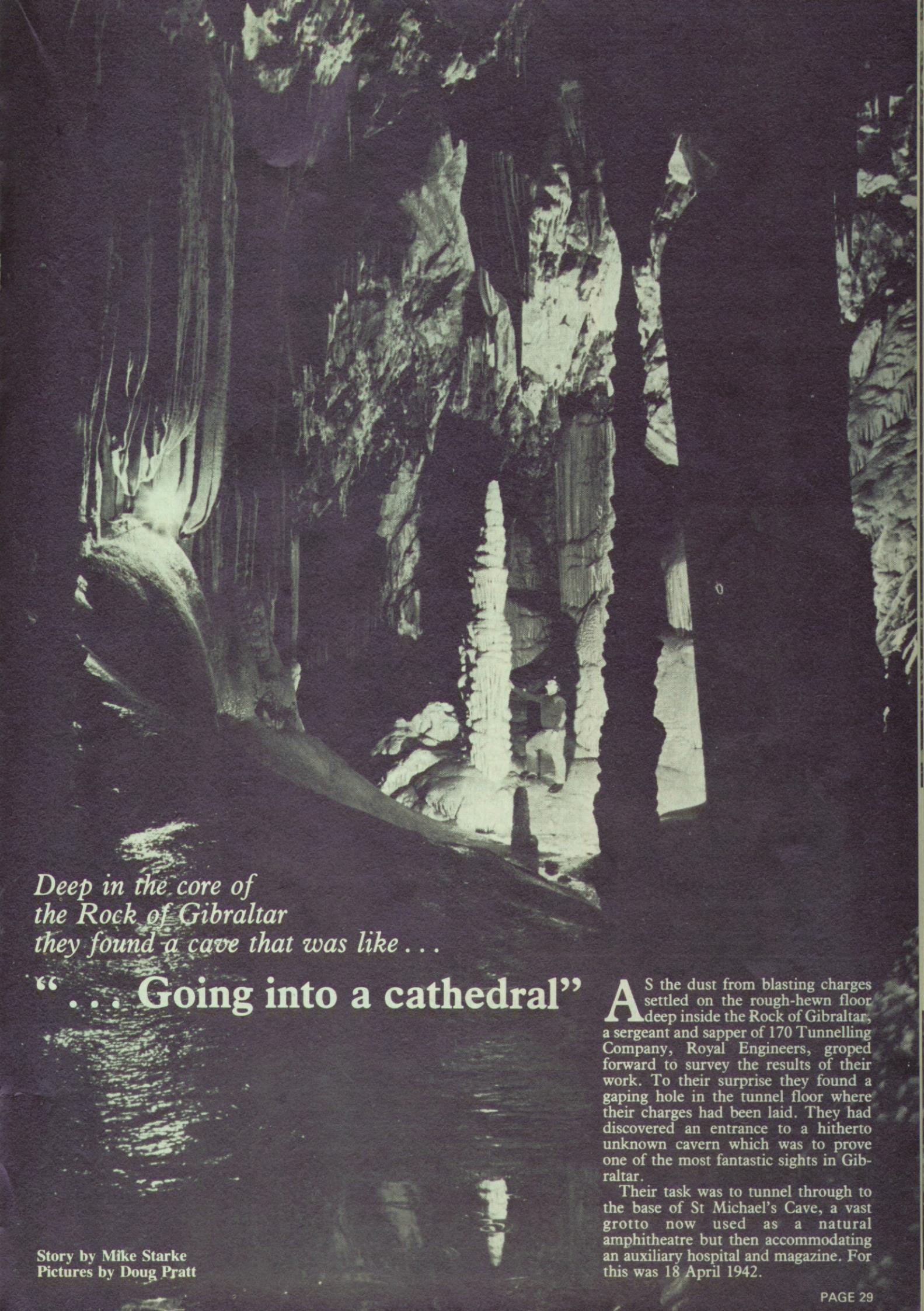
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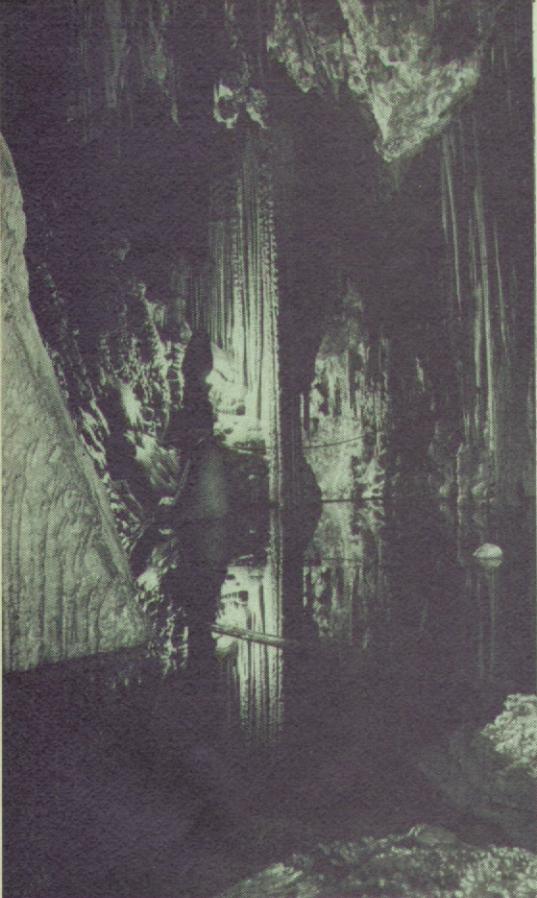


*Deep in the core of  
the Rock of Gibraltar  
they found a cave that was like . . .*

**“ . . . Going into a cathedral”**

**A**S the dust from blasting charges settled on the rough-hewn floor deep inside the Rock of Gibraltar, a sergeant and sapper of 170 Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers, groped forward to survey the results of their work. To their surprise they found a gaping hole in the tunnel floor where their charges had been laid. They had discovered an entrance to a hitherto unknown cavern which was to prove one of the most fantastic sights in Gibraltar.

Their task was to tunnel through to the base of St Michael's Cave, a vast grotto now used as a natural amphitheatre but then accommodating an auxiliary hospital and magazine. For this was 18 April 1942.



The limpid waters of St Michael's Pool mirror the fantastic formations.

A concrete "lid" was cast to cover the gaping hole into the newly found Lower St Michael's Cave and the vital tunneling work went on. But the temptation to explore led to the first potholing expedition into the unknown some nine months later. A wonderland of fabulous limestone formations glistened in the dancing beams of the soldiers' torches and the steady drip of water told of the timeless process of building stalactites, stalagmites, curtain-like drape formations, smooth flow-stone, pool-edging rim-stone, spiral helictites and gem-like calcite crystals, constructed atom by atom as minute deposits were smoothed into place by water droplets. They were to find that all year round the caves stay warm and clammy with temperatures at a steady 69 degrees Fahrenheit and humidity at 80 per cent.

The man-made cave mouth lies some 700 feet above sea level and the natural



Sergeant John Crack is dwarfed by the "drape" formations in the cave.

cavern system itself—now so low you must crawl along, now as high as the vaulted dome of an underground palace—winds some 200 yards into the living rock. Gibraltar is honeycombed by 30 miles of tunnels blasted and hacked out by man over the years while the infinitely slower work of nature has created some 145 caverns from the size of a kitchen to the vaulted grandeur of the main St Michael's Cave.

Ever since its discovery, Lower St Michael's Cave has been jealously guarded by the Royal Engineers. Nowadays it falls to the non-commissioned officers of 1st Fortress Squadron, Royal Engineers, to look after the cavern. Leading them is Squadron Sergeant-Major Ken Hazard who delights in his underworld charge: "I'm not exactly a nature lover but to me this is real beauty. It's like going into a cathedral."

"Congregations" come in parties of

not more than eight for the two-hour guided tour the score of sapper experts take turns in leading. Soldiers, sailors and their families—there is a minimum age of 11—plus the occasional civilian tourist party are among their customers. RAF personnel are taken down the cave by two of their own guides trained by Sergeant-Major Hazard and his team. And he proudly announced that last year a record 1834 visitors shared his enthusiasm for the cave.

The volunteer guides all do a minimum of three trips with a party to learn the ropes—literally in some places where hempen hand-holds are essential for safety. A test "solo" run qualifies them to take parties on their own and most average some 50 or 60 trips before they are posted elsewhere. Sergeant-Major Hazard made his 63rd descent when guide for the SOLDIER team. Lance-Corporal Bob Hamer, who left the Rock in July 1975, clocked up 112.

As another guide, Sergeant John Crack, Royal Army Pay Corps, explained: "You can come down 40 or 50 times and still find new formations every time." As well as guiding, they have to do regular maintenance to replace sections of the total of 120 fathoms of rope used in the cave and change the light bulbs at a rate of 30 a month. Both bulbs and rope are victims of the dampness.

A steep descent by ladder through the original concrete "lid" is the starting point for Lower St Michael's Cave. Gasps of amazement greet the sight of Flow Chamber and the Great Rift Chamber but Sergeant-Major Hazard confidently predicts: "You've seen nothing yet!" Dove Chamber reveals a curious snow-white formation perched just like a dove high on the glistening russet wall of limestone deposits. But new wonders eclipse this in Wonderland Cave where a series of formations represent as surreal a gathering of personalities as could be dreamed up by a modern cinema producer.

There are a drummer boy, the Madonna and Child, an old lady, the Cave Ape perched high above, all overlooked by the puckered pipes of Dracula's Organ. And there at ground level is a corpulent figure easily recognisable as Winston Churchill. His "nose" is like

## The Germans Surrender

One of the most triumphant moments of Viscount Montgomery's long and eventful life came on the windswept Lüneburg Heath on 4 May 1945 when the Germans surrendered to him. You can obtain a memorable colour print of the Terence Cuneo painting of the surrender from SOLDIER. Write now while stocks last.

The print measures 27½ by 21 inches and overall, including the white border, 32 by 28 inches. Based on a wartime photograph, it shows "Monty" signing the surrender terms after members of the German delegation had signed in order of seniority. Behind the trestle tables can be seen staff officers, an aide-de-camp and two war correspondents.

The print, "The Germans Surrender" costs £5, including postage, to anywhere in the world. Orders should be sent to SOLDIER (GS 3), Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DV.





One of the Royal Engineers guides, Lance-Corporal Tony Hill, points out one of the many features in the cave he must know about to tell the visitors.

polished marble—it has become traditionally lucky to rub the figure in passing.

Apache Grotto reveals an encampment of Red Indian tepees and a glance over the shoulder gives a view of a tall stalagmite bearing a startling resemblance to the Cypriot leader Archbishop Makarios, complete with headdress. Next a slippery ledge must be negotiated using a low rope as a handhold. "That's the Bottomless Pit," warns Sergeant-Major Hazard, indicating a gaping inky black hole beside the ledge. The pit is in fact 90 feet deep. And, yes, it has been known for people to slip down...

But any apprehension is swept away by the sight of the Large Helictite Hall where in a saucepan-sized eye-level grotto is one of the most amazing and beautiful formations—the marble-white Phillip's Hand, discovered by and

named after Sergeant-Major Hazard's brother-in-law. The "hand" is like a baby's growing upwards out of the rock from the wrist and with perfectly formed thumb and fingers.

In the cavern beyond stands O'Hara's Chair, a stalagmite in the rough shape of a chair around which the guides have woven their own legend. When hit with the heel of the hand, the resonant limestone formation gives out a penetrating gong-like tone. The Musical Drapes a little deeper in the caves give a sonorous ring when struck with the hand and three adjacent stalactites nearby, known as The Male Voice Choir, emit bass, baritone and tenor notes when struck.

Snow White and the Seven-and-a-half Dwarfs also "sing." A tap on "Snow White's" head followed by one on the nearest "dwarf" in the dumpy stalagmite collection give the first two notes of the Disney cartoon song "Hi,

Ho!" The half dwarf mentioned in the formation's name is a discreet sapper reference to a midriff bulge on the figure of Snow White.

A lofty, fluted stalagmite near O'Hara's Chair has been christened Big Ben. Representations of another culture are seen in the Arabic Pool where rim-stone deposits have settled at the shallow pool's surface forming identifiable Arabic letters as well as a clearly discernible pound sign.

One of the most impressive features of the cave system is St Michael's Pool—a limpid lake of water warmed by the constant temperature and clear as crystal which stretches for some 15 yards to a depth of 20 feet. To reach the other side visitors have to tread gingerly along a rim-stone ledge at the water's edge. The start offers safe four-to-five-inch ledges of sturdy rim but dwindles to as little as half an inch towards the other side. The Royal Engineer guides give special certificates to visitors who fall in (only total immersion qualifies).

Once past the pool, another wonder greets the eye in the form of an overhang of limestone deposit above the water and stretching back some 40 feet. The reflection of the overhang in the still water has earned it the title Lost City of Atlantis as it appears to mirror ghostly ruins in the pool.

The Great Chamber beyond contains an unusual variety of the different deposit forms and soon the last chamber at the end of the system is reached. To its right lies a low cave called the Devil's Chamber because of the glowering figure of a demon looming large on its ceiling. And right at the back of the last chamber, in a small pool, two slender stalactites have fallen across each other to form St Michael's Cross.

In this final chamber, signs of man's first visits have been carved into the rock. The initials TP, SL, AV and AW of 82 Ack Ack Battery are there dated "1:3:43." There too are the names R Manzie, D Mathieson, J Robertson of The Black Watch "40-43." But fortunately no later defacements have scarred the living rock—The Royal Engineers are jealous guards of this fantastic underworld which they proudly claim as part of their long "heritage" on Gibraltar.



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# On record

"Trooping the Colour in Hong Kong" by the Band and Drums of 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment (EMI (Hong Kong) OCW 1017)

This one really is what it says as far as the music goes, though recorded static without effects. Except for the bustle and colour of what must have been a great regimental occasion, the disc records for posterity the events of 31 January 1975 when the Colour was trooped in the presence of the Governor of Hong Kong and the Colonel of the Regiment. As such I feel it should have been done on the actual parade, warts and all. A souvenir is much more fun if it's the real thing, and especially if it records some monstrous gaffe. I remember . . .

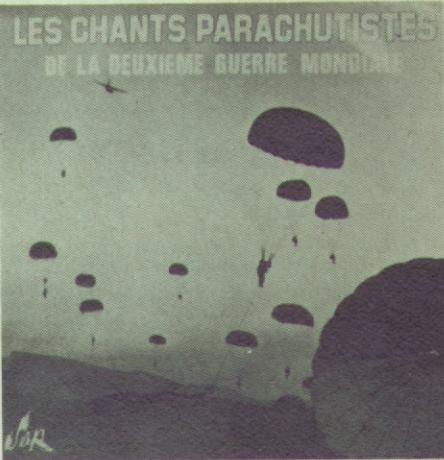
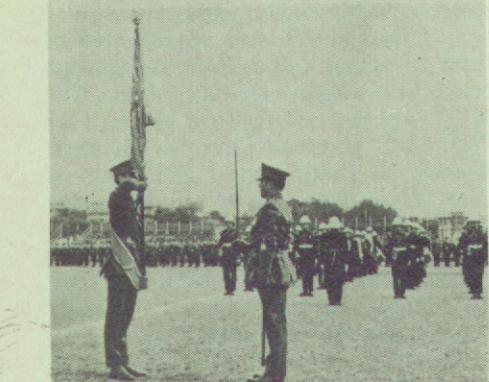
Unfortunately for the band I listened to this directly after the Guards disc, but even so the programme is played with spirit and with help here and there from the corps of drums. Strictly for loyal members of the regiment I would say, with plenty of photos on a double-folder sleeve.

The usual set pieces plus "Sambre et Meuse," "Dashing White Sergeant," "Children of the Regiment," "Coburg," "Our Director," "Mechanized Infantry" and all the regimental music.

Available at £2.10, including postage, from RHQ, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, Serle's House, Winchester, Hampshire. RB

## TROOPING THE COLOUR IN HONG KONG

by  
THE BAND AND DRUMS  
1ST BATTALION THE ROYAL HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT



## "Les Chants Parachutistes de la Deuxième Guerre Mondiale"

(Disques SERP MC 7030, 6 Rue de Beaune, Paris 7)

These last few years have seen a somewhat sordid resurgence of interest in the murkier aspects of the last war — films, TV documentaries, soap operas, books, and the memoirs of any and every general who commanded a Naafi bakery. This album, however, is perhaps going too far.

Someone in Paris has dredged every available source for the music, sometimes with scant justification, of songs the paras sang. The result is 80 minutes, on two discs, of canteen choruses and poor regimental bands from ten countries. And so dreary. With the exception of the great "Marche des Parachutistes Belges," the paras of the world had some of the most awful music ever written.

The Japanese contribution is at least well sung, as is of course the Russian, but the recordings are all old and scratchy and often fade with a dying whimper. No need to name all 27 songs and marches (from Germany, Belgium, Canada, USA, France, Britain, Italy, Japan, Poland and Russia) but watch out for "Pump and Circumstance" — however that got in. RB

## "Amazing" (The Military Band and Pipes and Drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards)

(Pye PKL 5531)

There's nothing like trading on past success, and the mixture herein is as likely to attract buyers as any that have gone before. The only actual attempt to emulate "Amazing Grace" is in a lugubrious ditty called "Henry, We're Going to Town," where a piper, singers and band get together. Otherwise the programme rings the usual changes on pipes and drums, band, or both together.

The military band, complete with guitars, is in strictly pop mood and one hopes they

are not forgetting what it takes to play the overture to "Egmont" and suchlike, or even a bit of oompah. They do start with Verdi though, even if it is an updated rhythmic version of the "Slaves Chorus." Other with-it stuff is "Moonliner Rockmarch," "Y Viva Espana," "Barock 75," "Elvira Madigan Theme" and "Brazil," with "Lilli Marlene" given the revolting chat-over-hushed-music treatment.

The pipes and drums, with or without the band, play ten much-recorded tunes and eight which I see from my lists are fairly unfamiliar: "Going to Pitlochry," "Ian MacFadyen's Tuning Phrase," "Rachel Rae," "Kate Dalrymple," "Stumpie," "Fiddler's Joy," "Orange and Blue" and "Black Watch Polka." There is also a drum fanfare, "A Tribute to Duthart." RB



## "Colonel Bogey on Parade Vol 2"

(Music of Kenneth Alford) (Band of HM Royal

Marines (Naval Home Command, Portsmouth)) (Conducted by Captain J R

Mason) (Polydor Super 2383 362)

All lovers of classic band programmes, and of Kenneth Alford in particular, will welcome this example of the art of a "man of his time." Even if we exclude the great marches there still remains a wealth of varied compositions and arrangements which were and are the meat of bandstand request items. Beautifully scored for the band, meticulously worked, neat and witty like the man himself, and with a vein of melancholy and serious intent which adds depth and significance to what might have been branded catchpenny.

Poor man, he made few enough pennies in his time and, but for the later kindness of his publishers, would have made but £10 on the original contract for "Colonel Bogey."

From a band which has in all respects got Alford taped, listen to the best marches ever

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written by an Englishman (here "Eagle Squadron," "The Vedette" and "The Mad Major"), the best old-time musical switches ("Lightning" and "A Musical Switch"), the best of xylophone duets ("The Two Imps" and "Mac and Mac"), the finest novelty piece with more tunes per acre than any three others (Pastoral fantasy, "The Smithy"), the most complete slow march ("By Land and Sea"), and a waltz which is almost an autobiography ("Thoughts"), and you have the essence of a great little man. The centenary of his birth is only five years hence. All Royal Marines take note. RB



"Music from British Berlin Tattoo 1975" (Musical Director: Captain D Beat) (BBT 101)

The Berlin Tattoo now takes place in the Deutschlandhalle instead of in the monolithic Olympic stadium with its thousand echoes, so recordings are possible and, on the evidence, successful. Fourteen bands, trumpeters, corps of drums, pipes and drums and the choir of The Royal

Regiment of Wales all sound very effective and give a programme aimed at pleasing their German hosts as well as the British residents of the city.

"Berlin 75," a fanfare by Duncan Beat, introduces the massed bands of The Parachute Regiment with "Der Petersburg Marsch" and their regimental march. The Light Division bands play "Light Infantry" by Plater, the German beer-garden song "In München Steht ein Hofbrauhaus" and an arrangement of "Road to the Isles" by Ray Pinkney. The choir gives good voice to "Cyfri'r Geifr," "Unter'n Linden" in a sort of German and "God Bless the Prince of Wales," accompanied by a lady harpist, which must have been highly effective in this vast hall.

The corps of drums and massed bands give a marching display to "The British Grenadiers," "Old Comrades," and "Radetzky March," with Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" and Maurice Clark's "Tyrolean Tubas" as static pieces.

Side two is taken up by the pipes and drums, with or without the bands, in a well thought-out medley of Heykens' "Serenade," "Skye Boat Song," "Liberton Polka," "Amazing Grace," "Scotland the Brave" and "The Black Bear." The finale is the usual mixture of national airs, bits of Handel and Beethoven, and of course "Berliner Luft" to see everybody out of the building.

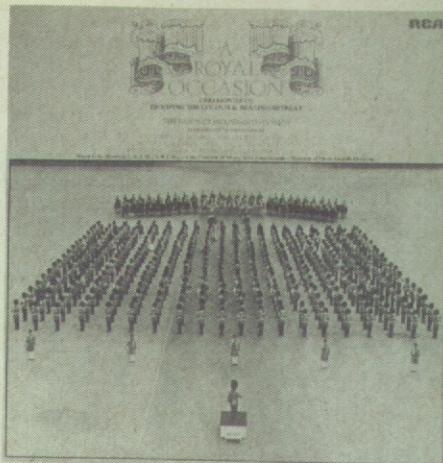
A first-class record in technique, balance, and choice of music — available from DAAG, HQ Berlin Inf Bde, BFPO 45, £2.83 or DM 15. RB

"A Royal Occasion" (Ceremonies of Trooping the Colour and Beating Retreat) (The Bands of The Household Division) (RCA LSA 3226)

I hope this disc isn't contravening the Trades Description Act. The sleeve may lead you to believe the actual ceremonies are included or, at the very least, mock-ups of them. Not so — those in the know will realise from the list of music that most of it is missing.

What you are getting is a fine programme of slow and quick marches played with all the professionalism that only The Household Division can give, but no words of command, atmosphere, or any attempt at realism. The perfection of the playing and conducting makes one of the finest records I have reviewed and finally convinces me, in spite of past doubts, that our best are the most versatile and dynamic working bands in the world, producing a homogeneous ensemble of glorious sound unknown outside Britain.

I need draw your attention to the unusual



only. George Willcocks's virtuoso, if a bit schmalzy, "Guards Armoured Division," Alf Young's marvellous "Royal Standard," a new trumpet march by Captain Tony Richards called "Guildhall" and a waltz-troop featuring the cornets, "London Bells," by Major Peter Parkes.

Also the quick marches of the Household Division, "Music of Offenbach" (Parkes), "Fredericus Rex," "Daughter of the Regiment," "The Thunderer" (Sousa), "Army of the Nile" (Alford), "Cockney Cocktail" (arr Creswick), "Marche Militaire" (Gounod), "Punjab" (Payne), "Cavalcade of Martial Songs," finale of "Land of Hope and Glory," "Rule Britannia" and "Last Post" (arr Torch). RB

## Brass in brief

"The Very Best of Brass" (Various bands and massed bands) (EMI Studio 2 Stereo TW0X 1048)

Marches "Stars and Stripes," "Calling All Workers," "Dam Busters," "Aida," "The Padstow Lifeboat," "Radetzky," "Liberty Bell," "On the Quarter Deck," "Blaze Away," "Semper Sousa," and Welsh Rhapsody version of "Men of Harlech." Plus "Sleigh Ride," "Cornet Carillon," "Post Horn Galop," "Tango Taquin" and "Berceuse de Jocelyn."

RB

"The World of Brass Bands Vol 4" (Various bands) (Decca SPA 413)

Marches "Centaur," "Aida" and "Cornet Carillon" but otherwise more varied than the above. Malcolm Arnold's "Little Suite Op 80," "Musetta's Waltz Song," "Prelude for an Occasion," "Trumpet Concerto" (Boeme), "Tritsch Tratsch," "Serenade" (Haydn) and the wonderful performance of the overture "Hansel and Gretel" by Black Dyke.

RB

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# Sport

## Dukes go down to Welsh

**I**N a season when Wales has stamped its red dragon indelibly on national and international rugby tournaments, it was appropriate that at Army level one of the Principality's regiments should carry off the major unit title and cup.

But the young side from the Berlin-based 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, did not start favourites in the final when they met a formidable side from 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, made psychologically stronger by the knowledge that a win on the day would give them the title for the 12th time.

The pattern of play for the first half became apparent from the second scrummage; Grieve, the Dukes' scrum-half, got the ball from his own put-in but was smothered by the Welsh back row. The Welsh gained possession but their attempt to make ground was snuffed out equally quickly. It looked as if each side felt that a simple defensive lapse could be fatal and was determined that its opponents should not pass. As a result play only rarely moved into either team's "25." The tension was obvious and both sides were penalised for mistakes under pressure, more often than not for handling the ball in the ruck.

Cuss, the Army and Combined Services full-back, had a good opportunity to put the Dukes ahead after 16 minutes when the Welsh were penalised for obstruction some 30 metres from the goal line and 18 metres in from touch. But his "round the corner" kick went

**Lieut N Evans (RRW) collects the Army Cup from Lieut-Gen Sir Jack Harman.**



**Correctly predicting Army Cup success, the Rhine Army winners and BAOR prize before their eventual overall triumph.**

left of the posts. Another chance was missed three minutes later when Welsh scrum-half Lance-Corporal Sergeant was penalised for delaying his put-in to a scrum.

Grateful to still be on level terms when they could well have been six points down, the Welsh counter-attacked strongly. Following an intelligent chip ahead by Monkley in the centre, the Welsh gained second-phase possession and set up a good attacking move to within ten metres of the Dukes' line. Twice it looked as though they might get over but each time the final pass was just forward.

At this stage the Dukes were having the better of the set pieces, particularly in the line-out, while the Welsh — whose pack seemed that little bit quicker about the field — were having to rely mainly on second-phase possession. Sergeant, the Welsh scrum-half, harried by Grieve and Williams, was rather subdued but Rees, his partner, had already made several darting runs which showed his potential.

A good run by Grieve from an interception took play back into the Welsh "25" where the ball was scrambled into touch. Following the line-out the Welsh hooker appeared to be penalised for scuffling with an opponent, giving the Dukes another good chance to grab the lead. But Robinson's kick was short. The Welsh dropped out quickly and set up a good movement to carry play deep into the Dukes' half where the Welsh were awarded two penalties in quick succession. The second of these — for offside at a maul — gave Rees his first really good shot at goal from about 35 metres but his kick slid past the right-

hand post leaving the score 0-0 at half time.

It had been a dour but fair struggle between two evenly matched teams and it was still anyone's game as the Dukes kicked off for the second half. For the first 14 minutes the Welsh were under heavy pressure from a more confident Dukes side and only held them at bay by superb tackling and some excellent kicking by Sergeant and Rees.

During this spell the Dukes missed three more penalties and it was left to Rees to break the deadlock with a fine 45-metre penalty after 15 minutes. Shortly afterwards he scythed through the Dukes' defence and put in a kick ahead which took play up to their "25." Moments later a penalty for handling in the ruck gave him a fairly easy chance to increase the Welsh lead. But he missed and it fell to the Dukes to score next.

Taking a ball against the head in a scrummage, the Dukes opened up the play and Walker broke through to within ten metres of the Welsh line. The Welsh gained possession and Sergeant's kick drove the Dukes back. A second strike against the head and a break by Shuttleworth (son of the former international player) led to a five-metre scrummage from which Williams went over for a try to the left of the posts — a just reward for this player from Barbados who always looked the outstanding Dukes player. Cuss missed a simple conversion and the Welsh found themselves trailing by a single point instead of the expected three.

This dangerous situation seemed to inspire the Welsh and from then on they played like demons and foraged for the loose ball like terriers. They began to shove the heavier Dukes' forwards back at every scrummage and inexorably moved towards the Dukes' line with Prosser, their number 8, prominent in every attack. The turning point came a minute from the end of normal time when the Dukes were penalised some 30 metres in front of their own posts. Rees made no mistake and the Welsh went ahead 6-4.

Still they swarmed after the ball and it was Rees who put the issue beyond doubt in the fourth minute of injury time. He broke from his own ten-metre line and made about 15 metres before kicking along the touch line, the ball rolling towards the Dukes' goal line. Cuss, their fullback, who had an unhappy day with his kicking, went back rather casually to cover and clear. Suddenly he found he had not left himself time and Rees was up to charge down his kick from in-goal and get a hand to the ball for a good opportunist try. He failed to convert but had done enough as the game ended two minutes later with the Welsh attacking again ten metres out from the Dukes' line. The final score of 10-4 crowned an already glorious year of Welsh rugby with yet another laurel in the form of the Army Cup.



## On the conservation trail

Story: John Walton



# Natterjacks clatter back

NORMAN Clayden stood on a windswept heath and switched on his tape recorder. For a few minutes he listened to the sound of croaking frogs. Switching off, he grinned and expressed the hope that soon that particular stretch of wild Hampshire countryside would reverberate with the same sound.

All around him on that Army training ground were natterjack toads — about 9000 of them, or more than a third of the entire British population of this rare breed. Not that one could see any of the elusive 9000, for the natterjack toad, like all sensible creatures, hibernates during winter. But when they do emerge they will find waiting for them two vivariums (artificial ponds) as well as a number of "scraps" all specially designed for natterjack appeal.

The natterjack toad is only one of many fast-disappearing species of animal and plant life which still live on Ministry of Defence property up and down the country. The reason for their survival is that apart from a few big bangs or soldiers running around they are virtually undisturbed. There are no farmers grubbing up hedges, no

caravanners and picnickers and no pesticides or other man-made hazards of the 20th century.

Norman Clayden, a retired lieutenant-colonel, is the Army's conservation and environmental officer. While serving, he was a keen ornithologist; on retiring he jumped at the chance of creating a permanent refuge on MOD land for many rare species. Already, in little more than a year, he has created a network of more than 70 Ministry of Defence conservation groups. In his own area of Hampshire he has, besides the natterjack toad, rare reptiles in the smooth snake and sand lizard, rare birds in the hobby hawk and Dartford warbler, and many scarce plants.

Operation Natterjack began last year as a life-or-death matter. There were only 22 of the little toads left on the Hampshire Army range but Colonel Clayden and his men took away quantities of tadpoles, reared 9000 and released them when they reached the toadlet stage. Subsequently sappers from 66 Plant Squadron brought heavy machinery along and created what Toad Hall would have described as

"a desirable residence" — a permanent pool or vivarium where it is hoped that natterjacks will flourish. "We are keeping our fingers crossed now but we consider that this is probably the only site we can save for the natterjack toad in the south of England," Colonel Clayden told SOLDIER.

Not far away a group of young volunteers — students and people tak-

**The Natterjack — unlovely but loved.**





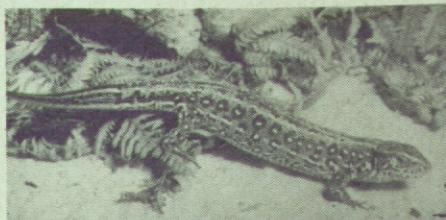
Above: Silver birch gets the chop.

ing a holiday from work — were slaving away clearing silver birch trees and bracken from an area of heathland. What happens, apparently, is that the birch spreads, kills off the heather, bracken arrives and before long the heathland has turned into coniferous woodland. One more habitat for the smooth snake and sand lizard has disappeared for ever.

Colonel Clayden is chairman of the MOD conservation group in his home area of North Hampshire and, in addition to the rare toads, snakes and lizards, he has noted 18 different types of dragonflies on a lake built by the Army for watermanship training.

Many Army environments are just as they were half a century ago. The Stanford training area in Norfolk, for instance, is one of the last bastions of the red squirrel while an estimated 80 per cent of Britain's stone curlews come under military law at Stanford and Salisbury Plain. At Castle Martin in West Wales, where German tanks fire every summer, thousands of sheep and cattle graze in the winter. The result is an area abounding in insects, flowers and birds.

Two more rare species under the Army's protection (Below) the sand lizard and bottom, the hobby, a hawk.



A conservation group from the School of Infantry at Warminster intends to plant 500 acres of woodland and 60 miles of hedgerow over the next 15 years. Elsewhere on Salisbury Plain, tank tracks are to be shut off and restored to downland. The most amazing things have been discovered. Battered tank hulls used as targets on the Plain have been found with stock doves and wheatears nesting in them and now shellcases are being buried to provide further nesting places.

At the Central Vehicle Depot, Tewkesbury, the order went out: "Don't cut the grass!" And the man responsible for this was (you've guessed it) Colonel Clayden. He discovered rare bee orchids there and persuaded the authorities to stop grass-cutting operations until they had flowered.

So much for a very busy year for the conservation colonel. But Norman Clayden is not a man to sit back on his (conserved) laurels. Of 120 Ministry of Defence sites listed by the Nature Conservancy Council as having items worth conserving, he has so far covered only 47 with conservation groups.

He is also starting his own biological records centre for Ministry of Defence land. In years to come, even if the efforts of civilian conservationists outside come to naught, Colonel Clayden reckons that the Services, whose whole existence is caused by the threat of war and destruction, may be the saviours of much of Britain's wild flora and fauna.

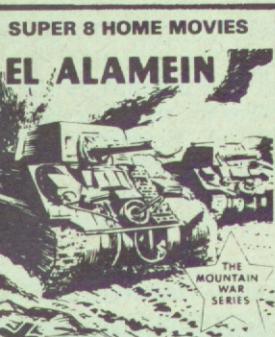


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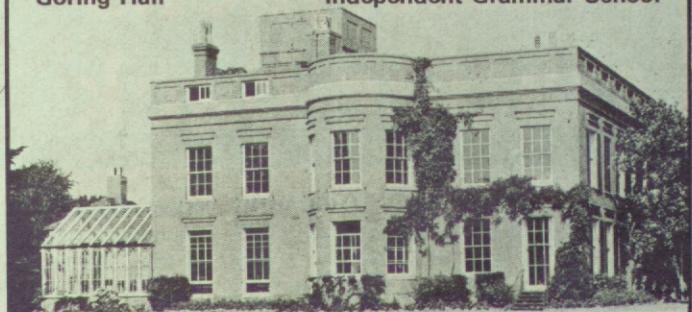
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WHILE it is generally agreed that certain foods and drinks provide a certain number of calories it is not generally appreciated that combinations of such foods and drinks can give some surprising results.

# Food & Drink

The following gives some examples:

	Calories per portion	Grammes needed to provide 100 calories
pears / peas	18	—
lemons / melon	19	—
tomatoes / potatoes	13	16
peas / teas	16	20
meats / teas	13	—
beef / beer	18	18
cake / hake	3	8
ales / aloes	—	15
cream / mace	18	—
butter / batter	21	1
rice / ices	18	19
grapes / pears	7	—
potato / tomato	16	13
lemons / salmon	5	1
steak / skate	NIL	—
mustard / custard	13	3
ice / rice	—	18
dace / mace	4	13
oranges / bangers	15	2
meats / dates	13	4
toast / oats	20	—

## COMPETITION 215

One figure is incorrect. Which food has the incorrect figure? How many grammes of lime / milk are required to provide 100 calories? Send your two answers on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 215" label from this page and your name and address, to:

**Editor (Comp 215)**  
**SOLDIER**  
**Ordnance Road**  
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This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 12 July. The answers and winners' names will appear in the September SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 215" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or official pre-paid labels will be disqualified.

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# SOLDIER Cameraman — for 24 years

**S**OLDIER photographer Arthur Blundell has retired after 24 years with the magazine.

Countless readers will recall his worldwide pictorial coverage of the Army, recording the ever-changing military scene over a quarter of a century. And a generation of soldiers will remember the determination and good humour he put into his faithful photo-journalism reporting on their units and operations. We, his colleagues, will miss his enthusiasm for work and play which made a pleasure of assignments he shared with us.

Arthur joined the Civil Service in 1945 after war service with The Middlesex Regiment. He worked for Public Relations for seven years and joined SOLDIER on 1 March 1952. Armed with only his camera, his work took him to the "front line" with the Army more than once, including stints in Aden and Northern Ireland dodging bullets and brickbats. His travels took him to almost every continent on the globe and his enjoyment of trips to foreign parts is shown in the three passports he treasures at home, each choc-a-bloc with entry and exit stamps.

Visits to the Far East and Africa included such places as Labuan, Sarawak, Malaya, Singapore, Kenya, Swaziland, Mozambique and Sudan. Most European countries have resounded to the click of his shutter and across the Atlantic he has basked more than once in the Caribbean sun as well as paying several visits to the United States and Canada.

He has focussed his lens on every member of the Royal Family and cherishes among his many amusing anecdotes one concerning two assign-

At work . . . dodging an Ulster blast.



Arthur at play . . . enjoying Germany.

ments in a week when he had to photograph Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. At the first, the Queen Mother typically took time out of a busy schedule to say "hello" to the Press photographers. She spoke to Arthur and asked about SOLDIER which she assured him was read by her family. Later in the week, when Arthur was again taking pictures of her elsewhere, she greeted him while passing the photographers with a cheery "Hello, Mr Blundell" to the obvious amazement and admiration of Arthur's Fleet Street colleagues beside him.

He travelled to assignments on everything from a camel to an RAF VC 10 and climbed cliffs, swung on ropes, rode in crane buckets and hung out of aircraft in pursuit of good photographs. But for all his taste for travel, Arthur was always happy to be home with his wife Phyl and their three daughters to whom he is utterly devoted. He became a Buddhist in 1956 and his typical dedication to the philosophy gained him an honorary life membership of the Buddhist Society for "services to Western Buddhism".

Arthur sums up his working life: "I've had a fantastic career and wouldn't have changed one thing. I met some great people and made some good friends." . . . It is they who thank Arthur for his part in their lives.



## Northern Ireland awards

**T**HE following awards have been made for service in Northern Ireland between 1 August and 31 October 1975.

**Officer of the Order of the British Empire:** Lieutenant-Colonel P W Le S Herring, Royal Military Police.

**Member of the Order of the British Empire:** Major F J R Kent, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers; Major R J Stockton, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment.

**Military Cross:** Lieutenant D M Santa-Olalla, The Green Howards.

**British Empire Medal:** Sergeant R C Hardile, Royal Army Veterinary Corps.

**Mentioned in Despatches:** Corporal K Aspery, Major W B Ibbetson, Lieutenant-Colonel P A Inge, Corporal A Warriner, all The Green Howards; Corporal D Austin, Private B P Kelly, Lieutenant C G Le Brun, Lance-Corporal B D McAnulty, all The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire; Major G C Barnett, Sergeant M Smith, both The Black Watch; Lieutenant-Colonel C J Bowden, Warrant Officer 2 J C S MacDonald, Captain J Soutar, all The Parachute Regiment; Major A P Brown, Lieutenant C N Guthkelch, both Royal Engineers; Colonel R W Dawnay; Lieutenant H E Duncan, Corporal J W Kitson, both The Royal Highland Fusiliers; Sergeant C L Evans, Royal Military Police; Major S D A Firth, The Gloucestershire Regiment; Staff-Sergeant L M Grant, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards; Colonel A J V Kendall; Lieutenant P MacCaig, The King's Own Scottish Borderers; Second-Lieutenant J H Marment, Lieutenant-Colonel G C Safford, Major P J Sudbury, Major J E F Walton, all Royal Artillery; Corporal P G T Moore, Royal Marines; Warrant Officer 2 S Nelson, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Staff-Sergeant P J Simpson, Intelligence Corps; Major J D W Reid, The Queen's Regiment; Captain I H Willis, 4th/7th Dragoon Guards.

## Bronze medal

**B**OMBARDIER Wayne Shakell, of 8 (Alma) Light Commando Battery Royal Artillery, has been awarded the Royal Humane Society's bronze medal and a naval commendation for gallantry for rescuing a British sailor in the Bosphorus. During a NATO fleet visit the sailor, returning to the Commando Carrier HMS Hermes after a night ashore, missed his footing and was swept downstream by a six-knot current. Bombardier Shakell dived fully clothed into the water and, pushing a lifebuoy ahead of him, caught up with the sailor whom he helped to cling to the buoy until a boat found them well astern of Hermes. In his commendation, Admiral Sir John Treacher, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, says he "unselfishly risked his own life to save a shipmate."

# Left, right & centre

Loading the commander's machine-grenade launcher on a tank calls for concentration, precision and an expert's touch. So these men of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards ignored cameraman Patrick Timmons, crouching on the turret of their Chieftain during a pause in an exercise on Salisbury Plain. The result — a fine study which gained it the title of Army Picture of the Year. Pat, a darkroom assistant for Public Relations at HQ United Kingdom Land Forces, was presented with his trophy by Mr Robert C Brown, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, at a ceremony during a Press cocktail party at the National Army Museum. ▼



◀ The move of the RAF's No 1 Parachute Training School from Abingdon to Brize Norton means the loss of a well-known landmark from the skyline. For 25 years the school's parachute-training dropping tower had loomed large above the other buildings and had even starred in war films alongside Hollywood greats like Alan Ladd ("The Red Beret") and Virginia McKenna ("Carve her Name with Pride"). With its working life far from over after its move to Brize Norton, the tower has already dropped from its top some 50,000 trainees.

A food mixer bought with funds from Singapore's now defunct Chip Bee Youth Club for forces' families has been handed over to a local home for retarded children. When Britain withdrew from Singapore the youth club members asked that a proportion of their funds be donated to local charities and — as well as the food mixer — this has contributed to the purchase of a speech therapy machine for spastic children on the island and provided cash for another local charity. ▼



A surprise gift greeted Warrant Officer Brian Bennett, Royal Engineers, when returning to Germany from leave via a Townsend Thoresen ferry across the Channel. For the shipping line was celebrating its tenth anniversary on the day and — as the first motorist on board for that crossing — WO Bennett was presented with an inscribed clock and a return passenger ticket by Captain David Simpson, master of Free Enterprise IV. ▼



▲ During a three-day visit to Rhine Army, Lieutenant-Colonel the Duke of Kent visited 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, of which he is Colonel-in-Chief. After touring the barracks and talking to guardsmen, he went on to 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, of which he is also Colonel, and finally visited his own regiment, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.



▲ The Scorpion tracked reconnaissance vehicle variant Scimitar, mounting the 30mm Rarden gun, was seen for the first time on Arctic manoeuvres during Ace Mobile Force's Exercise Atlas Express in northern Norway. The vehicles were used by 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and The Life Guards.

Schoolboy Paul Smith (left) is shown how to operate a drilling machine by an Army instructor. Paul was one of a party of boys from Alderman William Derbyshire Comprehensive School, Bulwell, visiting 39 Engineer Regiment (Airfields) at Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire, on an Army work experience course.



The first family to move in to new quarters at St Lucia Park Estate, Bordon, had the key of the door presented to them by the Longmoor and Bordon Garrison Commandant, Brigadier H R

Dray. Private Scoffham, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, then settled in to his new home with his wife Sally and children Michelle (2½) and baby Daniel.



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The Lord Mayor of Manchester swapped her sleek limousine for a burly "Pig" armoured personnel carrier when she visited 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, which is currently on an 18-month tour in Londonderry. Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw — accompanied by her daughter-in-law, the lady Mayoress — took the wheel of the "Pig" during a trip which included a look at battalion locations in Londonderry and Strabane and a session on the range firing infantry weapons. To commemorate her drive, Dame Kathleen named the vehicle "Manchester" after her city.



After seeing Press pictures of Tory Leader Margaret Thatcher driving an Abbot self-propelled gun, fourteen-year-old Angela Upshall wrote to 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, at Larkhill, to ask if she could have a go too. Ever eager to oblige, the gunners granted her wish and she was chaperoned on to the gun park by Women's Royal Army Corps Lieutenant Frances Rendall, the regiment's assistant adjutant. Angela favours a Service career too . . . but she plans to join the Navy as a Wren.



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# Letters

## Honours shake-up?

There are indications that our honours system is in for a shake-up! Mr Benn, Energy Secretary, is quoted as saying 'Any society must have a system for rewarding service, but what is peculiar about the British system is that awards are given on the basis of the status of the person who has performed the service rather than the quality or character of the service for which he or she is being rewarded.' And: 'Commissioned officers get the DSO, DSC, MC or DFC while NCOs and other ranks receive only plain medals which rate below officers' decorations regardless of the degree of courage shown. Only the VC and GC are awarded to all ranks. There is no justification whatsoever for maintaining any distinction in honouring gallantry according to a man's rank rather than the guts he has shown.'

Mr Benn's sentiments could apply also to the British Empire awards. Should a committee on the honours system be appointed I hope it will not forget the Regular Army officer who, compared with his TAVR and even cadet officer counterparts, has had a raw deal in the matter of medals for service. The committee could well note the action of our Canadian and South African cousins who have introduced medals for service, viz the Canadian Decoration and the Union Medal, which are awarded irrespective of rank.

I have previously written on this subject and as before I apologise for any distress I may cause to anyone awarded any of the decorations mentioned.—**Capt A Purvis (Retd), Deepdene Road, Seaburn, Sunderland, Co Durham.**

## Calling Dunkirk veterans

I have been commissioned to write a book about the "miracle" of Dunkirk and I would appreciate the help of any readers who took part in the evacuation or the operations leading up to it.

From the British point of view, the general story is well-known and well-documented. What I am seek-

## Marines on parade

The massed bands of the Royal Marines will beat Retreat on Horse Guards Parade, London, at 6.30pm on 8, 9, and 10 June 1976. The ceremony is in honour of the birthday of The Duke of Edinburgh who is Captain-General of the Marines and who will take the salute on the last evening.

Tickets are available from Ticket Centre Ltd, 1B Bridge Street, London SW1, priced: £1.50 (stands B to J), 75p (stands A and K) and 30p (standing). The booking office will open for postal applications from serving and retired members of the Forces from 20 April. Postal applications must include the correct money and a stamped, addressed envelope. Booking is open to the public on 3 May.

ing are anecdotes and personal accounts which will amplify the human aspects of what was unquestionably a remarkable military feat. If anybody managed to take any photographs I should be grateful for these too. I will, of course, take special care of any such photographs or other documents, return them after use and give full credit for their use.—**Lieut-Col A J Baker, c/o National Westminster Bank, 60 Market Place, Beverley, HU17 8AH.**

## Conqueror

I would like to appeal for any photographs or literature concerning the Conqueror tank that any reader has and no longer requires.—**Cpl R J Griffin, SHQ Troop, A Squadron, 4/7 RDG, Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth, Hampshire.**

## Know "Katy"?

Having spent years studying British soft-skinned military vehicles I wonder if any member of your vast readership could help me with some information. I recently watched the film "Ice Cold in Alex" for the third time, courtesy of BBC Television, and again enjoyed seeing that so much attention had been paid to getting the vehicles "right" for the period being portrayed. Bedford MWD 15-cwt and GL 3-tonners abounded. The star of the piece was an Austin K2 heavy ambulance ("Katy"), one of many hundreds which saw service in all theatres of war and remained in service with both Regular and TA units for years afterwards.

During the film I suddenly realised that "Katy" had four-wheel drive! As far as I know Austin K2 ambulances were all built as 4 x 2s. But as local modifications were all too common, can anyone please shed some light on this particular ambulance? Was it adapted specifically for the film, or were some K2s built with four-wheel drive or modified either during or after World War Two?—**M P Connifford, 12 Westdene Crescent, Caversham, Reading, RG4 7HD.**

## Gurkha badges

With a view to maintaining a flow, however limited, of funds into the Gurkha Welfare Appeal, I have acquired privately from the official contractor in Hong Kong a stock of authentic cap badges of each of the infantry regiments and corps units of the Brigade of Gurkhas. These we are now offering for sale to individuals, collectors etc either singly or in sets. A set of seven costs £5, including handling, postage and tax charges. Cheques should be made payable to HQ Brigade of Gurkhas Fund.—**Maj T G Blackford, HQ Brigade of Gurkhas, BFPO 1.**

## Firsttest!

In your April issue you stated that 6th/7th (V) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, was the first TAVR unit to do frontier guard duties in Gibraltar. This is incorrect—Support Company, 4th (V) Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, was on frontier guard in Gibraltar 1973. We took over from the Gurkhas and handed over to the Mercian Volun-

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teers.—P G Crump (ex-corporal, 4 (V) RGJ), 72 Downside Road, Risinghurst, Headington, Oxford.

★SOLDIER's feature claimed a qualified "first"—for a TAVR battalion normally committed to home defence of the United Kingdom on general reserve duties. Ex-Corporal Crump's battalion was NATO-committed and therefore more likely to train overseas.

## Collectors' Corner

John E Price, Villa 7, 16 Barrett Street, Cheltenham, Victoria 3192, Australia.—Seeks medals, badges, militaria, books pertaining to York & Lancaster Regt (65th and 84th Foot). Will pay good prices or exchange genuine militaria.

Ian Hook, 28 Rochford Avenue, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8QW—Schoolboy collector aged 14 requires British wartime plastic badges, especially infantry. Will swap for metal badges or buy.

Robert F Wray, 6 Morton Walk, the Lawe, South Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE33 2EA.—For sale, Navy and Army Illustrated magazine, 40 issues 1914-15. Offers with SAE. Michael Fogarty, 7 Arnold Road, Manchester, 16 8NQ—Wishes buy cap badges Royal Ulster Rifles, Royal Irish Fusiliers and Irish cavalry regiments except Inniskillings (6th Dragoons), South and North Irish Horse, to complete Irish regiments collection.

SFC Mike Johnson, 565-50-7001, 293 Military Police Co, Fort George G Meade, Maryland 20775, USA.—New collector interested in obtaining cap badges Scottish and Canadian regiments. Will buy or trade Boy Scout items and US Army badges.

C/Sgt C Boardman, 1 Kings, BFPO 801.—Beginner requires all kinds of militaria—helmets, bayonets, badges, books, weapons. Please state price; funds limited.

D A Galvin, 208 Wadham Road, Waltham Forest, London, E17 4EP.—Seeks genuine cap or collar badges 13th Hussars, 21st Lancers, 12th Dragoons, 27th Lancers. Can exchange various insignia.

Nick Hall, 2 Welch Road, Southsea, Hampshire.—Collecting military badges, wings, patches, web equipment, old Army manuals,

uniforms etc—14-page list available of duplicate items for sale/exchange worldwide.

T Deakin, Osada, Palesgate Lane, Crowborough, Sussex.—Wishes obtain inert or drill grenades and mortar bombs. Licensed collector. W Gunn, 15 Clarendon Road, Pitsea, Basildon, Essex, SS13 2BL—Seeks Scottish regimental dirk, any regiment, with or without knife or fork. Must be good condition. Sensible prices please.

Howard Ripley, 47 Shenley Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK3 6HE.—Seeks British and overseas Army buttons—badges and buttons for exchange.

F A J Wright, 4280 Dorchester Boulevard West, Westmount H3Z 1V7, Westmount, Quebec, Canada.—Wishes exchange Canadian police shoulder flashes, Canadian flight-surgeon's wings and hard-to-get les Voltigeurs de Quebec (complete with collar dogs) for British yeomanry badges pre-1953 and/or RAF Regiment and RAF Ferry Command items. List with first letter. Also certified Radetzky Hussars badge for trade.

## Reunions

14/28 Field Regiment RA. Annual dinner and reunion 2000 hrs, Saturday 9 October, HQ RA Sergeants Mess, Woolwich. Names and remittances to WO2 T Spurr RA, HQ BAOR, BFPO 40. Overnight accommodation can be arranged.

The Wiltshire Regiment Old Comrades Association. Annual reunion (51st) 19-20 June, Devizes. Tickets from Hon Sec, Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes, Wiltshire.

The Royal Hampshire Regiment Old Comrades Association. Annual reunion 12 June, Winchester. Dinner tickets (£2.50) and details from Secretary, Sere's House, Winchester.

The West Yorkshire Regiment and the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire. Annual reunion and White Horse Ball, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Saturday 2 October. Particulars from Secretary, W Yorks and PWO Regimental Association, Imphal Barracks, York Y01 4HD.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Regiment Association. Reunion Sunday 23 May, 10am to 5pm, Bibury Club, Salisbury Racecourse. Apply before 10 May for tickets (adult £2, child over five £1) to Association Secretary, Brock Barracks, Reading.

Royal Tank Corps. Reunion weekend 30 July-1 August, with supreme Ramsammi Saturday 31 July, Union Jack Club, Waterloo. Contact Mr Walter L Goodman, Colebrook, 56 Netley Street, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7LY.

Royal Pioneer Corps Association. Corps weekend and annual general meeting 11-13 June, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northampton. Details from Secretary, RPC Association, 51 St George's Drive, London, SW1V 4DE; Corps Secretary, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northampton, NN4 0HX; or from Editor corps magazine The Royal Pioneer.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Ceylon Gunners RA 1924-50 and Pack Artillery 1920-39. Reunion Eastbourne, 24 July. Details from Mr D A Knight, 79 Tyrrell Avenue, Welling, Kent.

The Royal Hussars. Annual reunion Barker's Penthouse Restaurant, Kensington, 7.15pm Saturday 1 May. Tickets at £3.50 each from Home HQ, The Royal Hussars, Lower Barracks, Winchester.

1 Parachute Logistic Regiment. Final parade 1500 hrs 10 December, Montgomery Square, Aldershot, followed by evening stag social in Maida Gymnasium. Christmas all ranks dance evening Saturday 11 December, Maida Gymnasium. All past and present members most welcome to all events.

Airborne REME Association. Officers dinner Friday 7 May; annual reunion Friday 2 July; Airborne Forces Day Saturday 3 July; 1 Parachute Logistic Regiment disbandment Friday 10 December (see above). Details from SSM, Para Workshop Squadron (Aldershot Military Ext 553/582).

22nd Armourers Reunion. Saturday 8 May, Royal Green Jackets Drill Hall, 56 Davies Street, Mayfair, London W1, 1830 hrs. Open to all serving or who have served at any time as armourer or artificer weapon in RAOC or REME. Details and application forms (closing date 26 April) from Maj (Retd) M G Chetwynd, 52 Copheath Rise, Warminster, Wilts.

Royal Military Police Association. Reunion dinner Saturday 15 May, 7 for 7.30pm, Central Vehicle Depot RAOC, Ashchurch, near Tewkesbury. Tickets £3.50 (including dance after dinner) from Secretary, RHQ RMP, Roussillon Barracks, Chichester, Sussex. Wives (and husbands' lady members) welcome. Hotel accommodation on written request to RHQ RMP.

The Middlesex Regiment. Annual reunion 7pm Saturday 15 May, Porchester Hall, Queensway, London W2. Service of remembrance 2.30pm same day, St Paul's Cathedral. Details: Secretary, Regimental Association, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Mx.

## Competition

"The Army is a school in which the niggardly become generous and the generous prodigal." This was the quotation required as the answer to January's Competition 211 (Acrosticode). Answers to the clues: 1 (left) DID, 1 (right) ASS, 2 ORACLE, 3 NOVELTY, 4 THROUGH, 5 QUIVER, 6 UHLAN, 7 IVANHOE, 8 XYSTUS, 9 OSSEOUS, 10 TWISTING, 11 (left) END, 11 (right) WAS.

### Prizewinners:

1 Maj J A Hewson, Hillside Cottage, Stonegate, Wadhurst, Sussex, TN5 7EW.

2 F H Smyth, 15 Kenton Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

3 WO 2 A L Stewart RAVC, MOD (AVR), Droitwich, Worcs.

4 R H G Travers-Bogusz, 77 St Thomas's Road, Hardway, Gosport, Hampshire.

5 Mrs J A Duncan, c/o Maj R H Duncan, 6 QEO Gurkha Rifles, BFPO 1.

6 Mrs J L Kleyn, 19 Hollytree Gardens, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5EL.

7 Mrs L N Smyth, Kilbrone, Ballydehob, Co Cork, Eire.

8 Leonard Utal, 23 Fairfield Ave, Kirkella, Hull, HU10 7UG.

## How observant are you?

(see page 15)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Size of Eddie's left hand. 2 Attachment of foot strap to Eddie's right trouser leg. 3 Short line on opener of Eddie's parachute pack. 4 Foot strap under Eddie's left boot. 5 Jim's rip cord handle. 6 Jim's neck button. 7 Line on Jim's upper left arm. 8 End of Goldie's beak. 9 Goldie's altimeter. 10 Line on Goldie's parachute pack.

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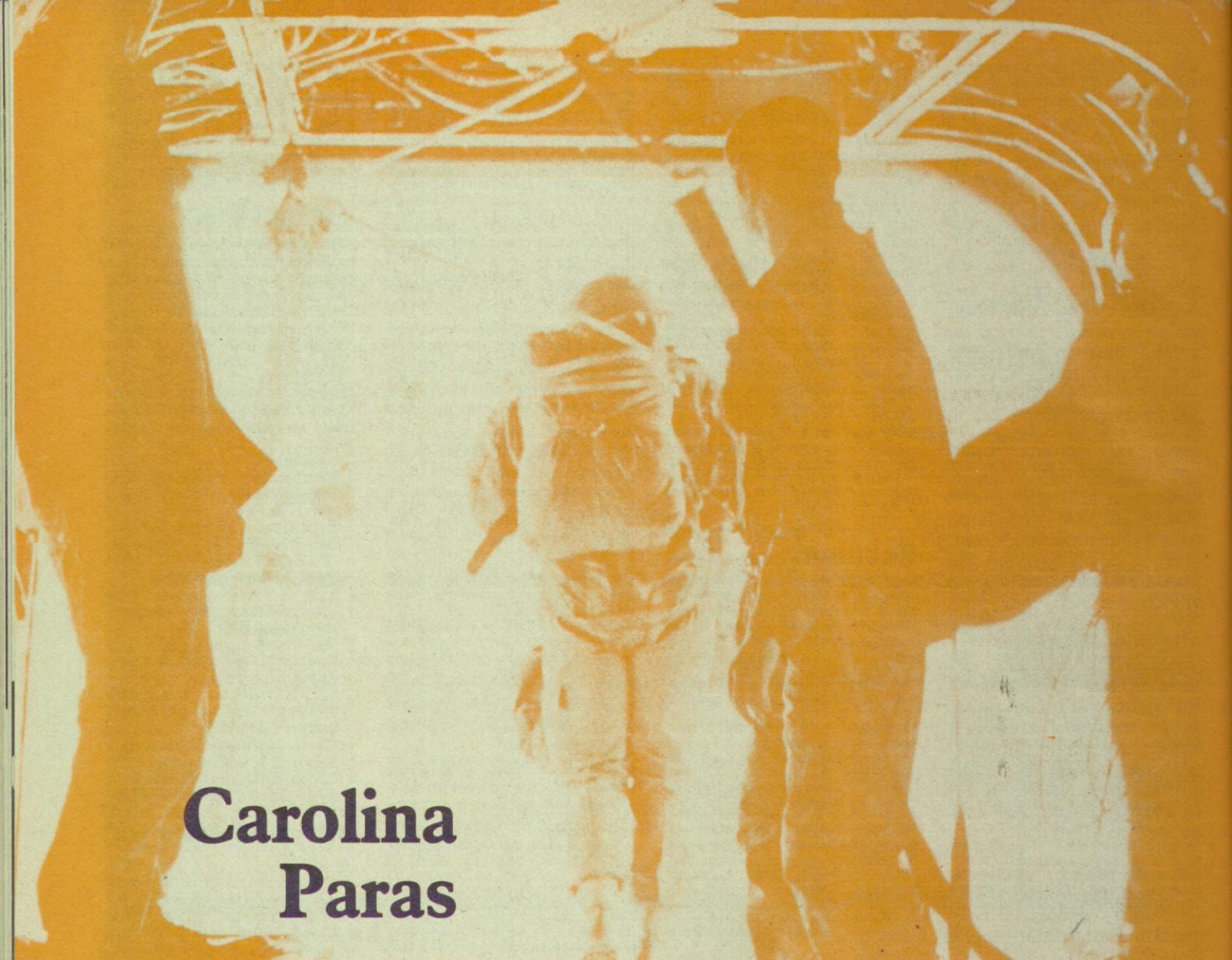
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## Carolina Paras

THE clear skies of North Carolina made a welcome change from the fog of an English January for 120 men of D Company, 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, when they flew into Fort Bragg for five weeks' training with the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

As part of an exchange exercise with an American paratroop company, D Company came under command of 2/505 Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Brigade of the 82nd while A Company of 2/505 visited England.

A full and varied programme kept the British paras fully stretched during their stay. Elements of 1st Parachute Logistic Regiment and 7 Parachute Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, were in the party too, plus mortar, machine-gun and anti-tank personnel to give a balanced group to benefit from the variety of training on offer.

The programme included plenty of parachuting. "The high point of our visit was receiving our United States parachute wings," commented Private Ian Winter. This involved a total of 670 jumps for the British soldiers who used the American steerable MC-1 canopy to leap from UH1H Huey and Chinook helicopters, C130 Hercules and Caribou turbo-prop aircraft as well as the jet C141 Starlifter.

The American hosts laid on a number of demonstrations for their visitors; one of the most interesting was of Special Forces techniques including military freefall, rappelling from helicopters into woods, and equipment used on operations.

D Company saw — and in some cases fired — the TOW, Dragon and Redeye anti-tank weapons, Vulcan anti-aircraft Gatling gun, M60 machine-gun and the M16 rifle plus its M203 grenade launcher attachment.

With the M16 rifle the paras enjoyed another training highlight, directing anti-aircraft fire at small radio-controlled target aircraft and downing four out of five of them.

It was a case of "heads down" on an infiltration course when the troops crawled across obstacles under overhead fire and manned trenches over which Sheridan tanks were driven. Then heads up again for practice throwing of Molotov cocktail improvised petrol bombs — as economic an anti-tank weapon as an Army faced with defence cuts could wish for!

The climax of the exercise period — named Gobi Dust — was a company live-firing airmobile exercise which involved three heliborne attacks supported by fighter ground attacks firing cannon and dropping inert bombs, and

artillery and Cobra gunships using rockets. There were two other field training exercises and still some of the visitors found time to take United States parachute jumpmaster and freefall instruction.

Sport featured on the programme too with rugby matches against North Carolina State University and a combined team from Fort Bragg. The company was involved in a brigade sports day and easily won the soccer. The intricacies of American and combat football were explained and a daily pre-breakfast run served to brush away the cobwebs woven by the full social life which occupied the evenings.

Company commander Major Christopher Brown commented: "The hospitality of our hosts was unsurpassable and at weekends individuals and groups spread south to Florida and west to the Smoky Mountains." There was culture too with trips to Washington, the colonial town of Williamsburg and the early English settlement of Jamestown plus a thirst-quenching visit to the Budweiser Brewery.

The paras returned in two jet C141s and to British weather which prevented them from achieving two "firsts" — jumping from a jet transport and direct from a trans-Atlantic flight. But the trip was an overall success.



Above: Anti-aircraft firing practice. Using an M60 machine-gun to have a go at small radio-controlled planes.

Above right: A bit of fun for the visiting Limeys — rappelling from a tower with the ease of a circus act.

Right: Parachuting with a difference. The Red Berets clamber aboard a UH1H Huey helicopter for jumping.

Below right: Commanders pose for a US Army "snap." Fingers are on the home bases of the two companies.

Below: Some more American kit to fire. British visitor tries out the M 203 grenade launcher rifle attachment.



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# Books

## Balkan missions

"Agents Extraordinary" (Stowers Johnson)

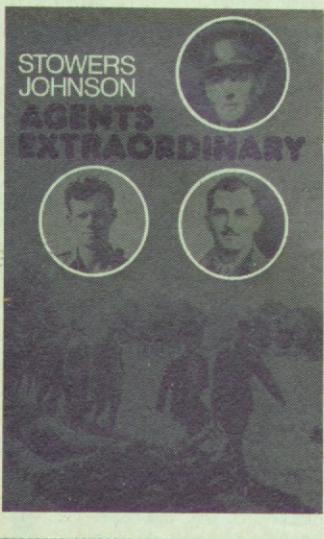
The involvement of two British SOE officers, parachuted into Macedonia and Bulgaria in 1943, provides a new chapter in the record of cloak-and-dagger activity. Major Mostyn Davies, in civilian life an accountant-cum-civil servant, was sent on a mission to Tito's deputy, the Macedonian Svetozar Vukmanovic. Captain Frank Thompson, a Winchester-educated Communist, dropped into Bulgaria hoping to foment a people's rising.

In true Balkan fashion there were endless complications. Fitzroy Maclean was leading a mission to Tito but a Brigadier Armstrong fulfilled a similar role with Mihailovic, the Chetnik leader who collaborated with the Germans and fought the partisans. Agents and counter-agents appear to have infested the whole scene. Not an ideal situation for Davies to contact Bulgarian resistance workers or for Thompson to raise his revolt.

The Royal Bulgarian forces were even more brutal than the Germans and, as they tried to "Bulgarise" Macedonia, Davies and Thompson experienced many harsh realities. Eventually Davies was killed. After more adventures, Thompson was captured, tried and shot by a Royal Bulgarian firing squad. Today, Bulgaria boasts a railway station named after him.

Mr Johnson tells his story well, guiding us confidently through the maze of Balkan intrigue and double-dealing.

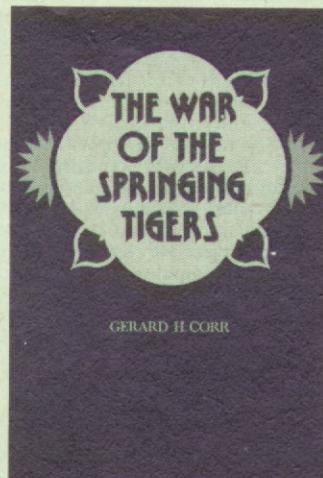
Robert Hale & Co, Clerkenwell House, 45-47 Clerkenwell Green, London, EC1R 0HT, £3.00 JCW



## Mutiny

"The War of the Springing Tigers" (Gerard H Corr)

On 15 February 1915, the 5th Indian Light Infantry, about to embark from Singapore for Hong Kong, mutinied. The regiment was composed entirely of Muslims — unusual in the Indian Army — and had been the target for pro-Turkish



Islamic propaganda. In addition, it was an unhappy regiment with ineffective officers and a resentful commanding officer. The sepoys thought they were being sent to Mesopotamia to fight their Turkish "brothers".

Not without bloodshed, the mutiny was quelled, but it had the lasting effect of encouraging Indian revolutionaries in their dream of overthrowing the British Raj by force. One of those revolutionaries was Subhas Chandra Bose, a Bengali exile who raised the Indian National Army to join forces with the Japanese in driving the British from India. Today, Bose — he died in an air crash on Formosa in August 1945 on his way to Russia — is regarded as a hero by many Indians. Parks and streets bear his name and in Calcutta his birthday is celebrated.

Mr Corr's eminently readable book explains why and is required reading for anyone studying India's path to independence.

Osprey Publishing Ltd, 12-14 Long Acre, London, WC2E 9LP, £4.95 JCW

## Besieged

"The Fall of Tsingtao" (Edwin P Hoyt)

In the early years of this century, the German colony of Tsingtao, on China's Shantung peninsula, was a showpiece; when war broke out, it was an extremely vulnerable showpiece, cut off from Germany with no chance of relief or reinforcement. Japan, planning a grab in China, lost no time in reminding Britain that she was her ally and eventually, not without British misgivings, it was agreed that Japan would move against the German colony. Britain was represented by the 2nd South Wales Borderers and 36th Sikhs.

The 3000 German defenders, many of them reservist residents of Tsingtao, showed all the resourcefulness which characterised the Kaiser's colonialists. They withstood the siege until November when, almost out of ammunition, they surrendered. Besides the two British battalions, there were more than 17,000 Japs — and the Germans took heavy toll of them.

## THE FALL OF TSINGTAO



In recent years Mr Hoyt has specialised in World War One German naval activity. His latest venture falls short of his earlier standards — he seems distinctly unhappy ashore and pads out the book with far too much about Von Spee's East Asiatic Squadron which had little direct relation to the siege having cleared Tsingtao before war was declared.

Arthur Barker, 11 St John's Hill, London, SW11 1XA, £3.25 JCW

clear and logical account of the US involvement, strategy and tactics, the conduct of the various commanders, weapons capabilities and general problems.

Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8AS, £4.50 JCW

## Fatal error

"Hitler's Decision to Invade Russia 1941" (Robert Cecil)

Militarily, economically and politically, Hitler's decision to invade Russia was a fatal mistake and his planning in each of these spheres was defective. That it came so close to success was due in part to the superb war machine at Hitler's disposal. It was magnificent, well-led at all levels save the very top, and composed of battle-hardened, self-confident soldiers.

It was also due in part to the fact that Stalin's autocracy, his impatience of criticism and obsession with ideology were almost as pathological as Hitler's.

Mr Cecil makes a lucid and well-reasoned investigation of the whole question to present an excellent addition to the series entitled "The Politics and Strategy of the Second World War" and edited by Noble Frankland and Christopher Dowling.

Davis-Poynter Ltd, 20 Garrick Street, London, WC2E 9B7, £4.50 JCW

ROBERT CECIL

Hitler's Decision to Invade Russia 1941

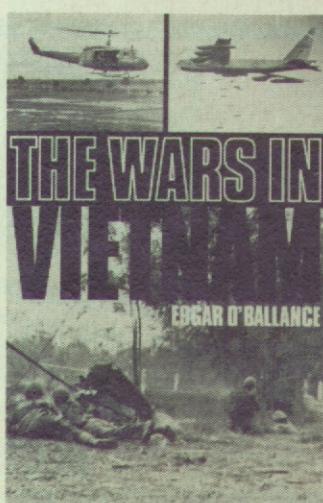


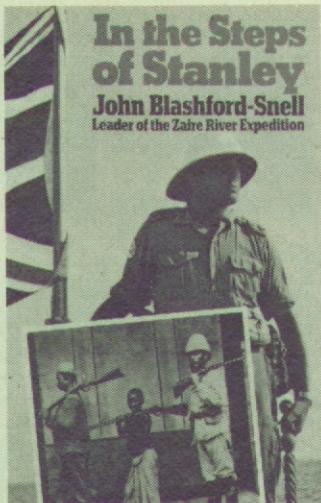
## Adventure

"In The Steps of Stanley" (John Blashford-Snell)

When Henry Morton Stanley set off in 1874 on his epic 999-day crossing of Africa via the Congo River, he was venturing into the unknown. A century later, when Major John Blashford-Snell embarked on a similar journey, his planning was assisted by excellent ground and air reconnaissance and the execution had the advantages of scientific, medical and technological discoveries undreamed of in Stanley's day.

But though the river had changed its name — it is now the Zaire — it still retains all the treacherous characteristics which brought Stanley so close to disaster. The perils and problems were stark enough to challenge the courage of even the best-equipped explorers and it would not be unfair to put J B-S's expedition into this latter category. His list of sponsors would





## In the Steps of Stanley

John Blashford-Snell  
Leader of the Zaire River Expedition

deal with intelligence, border incidents, bomb disposal, dogs, Provisional IRA, Ulster Defence Regiment, Royal Military Police, Royal Army Medical Corps, Marine Commandos and Royal Horse Artillery. Helicopters play a supporting role on patrol and transport duties and as "instant" road checkpoints and night illuminators carrying the 3,800,000-candlepower searchlight NITESUN.

The overall impression is that British soldiers are performing an immense task with commendable restraint and tremendous expertise. It is not made easier when even their wives and children are terrorists' targets.

Century Services Ltd, 51-59 Donegall Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2GB, £3.85

GRH

make even Captain Scott green with envy.

Major Blashford-Snell's journal shows that despite the advantages of his expedition — drawn from Britain, the United States, and the Republic of Zaire — undoubtedly enjoyed, the 2700-mile, three-month trip contained sufficient hazards to keep an adventure addict glued to this book.

Hutchinson Publishing Co Ltd, 3 Fitzroy Square, London, W1P 6JD, £3.95

JCW

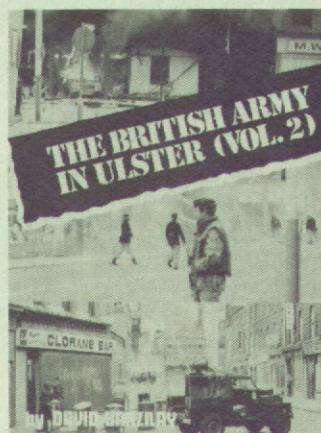
## Journalist's eye view

"The British Army in Ulster Vol 2" (David Barzilay)

Every bomb that explodes in Northern Ireland, every terrorist murder, every teenage disturbance, makes scare headlines. The painstaking preventive action of the British Army is taken for granted, yet without it the terrorist would rule.

This book compiled by a journalist who has seen the Army operating in Ulster for six years, contains 250 pages of plain facts and information about the British soldier and his work. The text is well supported by photographs of events, equipment and captured weapons.

A day-to-day diary filling 53 pages testifies to the all-out activity that had to be contained between August 1973 and September 1975. The soldiers' protective clothing, weapons, equipment, vehicles and tactics are examined; other chapters



## In brief

"The Crimean War 1853-56" (G A Embleton)

Informative and dramatic photographs and engravings, most of them from the Illustrated London News and the National Army Museum, make this story of the Crimea alive and vivid. Photography was then in its infancy and these excellent pictures show how publication at the time brought the progress and nature of the war to the immediate notice of the British public and helped to lift the private soldier from "scum of the earth" to a somewhat educated hero.

The authentic uniforms, arms, equipment and transport are well illustrated and the story is factual without embellishment.

Almark Publishing Co Ltd, 14 Malden Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6EA, £1.95

"Contemporary Strategy" (John Baylis, Ken Booth, John Garnett and Phil Williams)

Assuming that military power is an intrinsic part of the international system, the authors concern themselves with the ways in which military power may be used to achieve political aims. They accept that the destructive capability of modern weapons has forced on the major powers strategic doctrines which demand that they do not wage war but rather use their military potential to further their interests by less catastrophic means.

They do not, however, accept that contemporary strategists have yet found a perfect formula for survival. Their book is an effort to sharpen the student's appreciation of the subject by forming a scholarly and comprehensive introduction to it.

Croom Helm Ltd, 2-10 St John's Road, London SW11, £6.50 hardback, £3.25 paperback

"Wargaming: Ancient and Medieval" (Donald F Featherstone)

The author, perhaps Britain's leading wargamer, sets out the details of 15 ancient and medieval battles beginning with the Battle of Kadesh, in which the Egyptians fought the Hittites, and takes us right through to the middle of the 15th century when, at the Battle of St Albans in 1455, the Duke of York clashed with Henry VI.

All demonstrate interesting human and tactical aspects of warfare and many are outstanding examples of the art of warfare and the development of tactics. Once again Mr Featherstone opens new possibilities for the ever-growing army of tabletop generals.

David & Charles (Holdings) Ltd, Brunel House, Forde Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, £3.95

## Reissues

"Cap of Honour: The Story of The Gloucestershire Regiment 1694-1975" (David Scott Daniell)

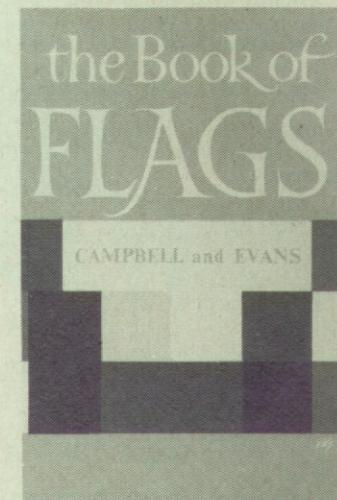
Originally published in 1951 by Harrap, this book was reviewed in SOLDIER December 1951. Since then the Glosters have seen service in many parts of the world and in this reprint history has been updated by Major-General Farrar-Hockley with three chapters dealing with the Korean campaign while Major Leo Capel has written three post-war chapters.

White Lion Publishers Limited, 138 Park Lane, London, W1Y 3DD, £4.50

"The Book of Flags" (Campbell and Evans)

This seventh edition is a further up-date on the continuing changes in countries and their flags since first publication in 1950. The opening chapter, describing flags and their meanings, is followed by details of flags, pennants and standards of the Services, flags of America, Europe, Asia and Africa. There are fourteen colour plates. Where the flags are pictured in black-and-white, a chart in the opening chapter indicates the different colours.

Oxford University Press, 37 Dover Street, London, W1X 4AH, £4.50



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