

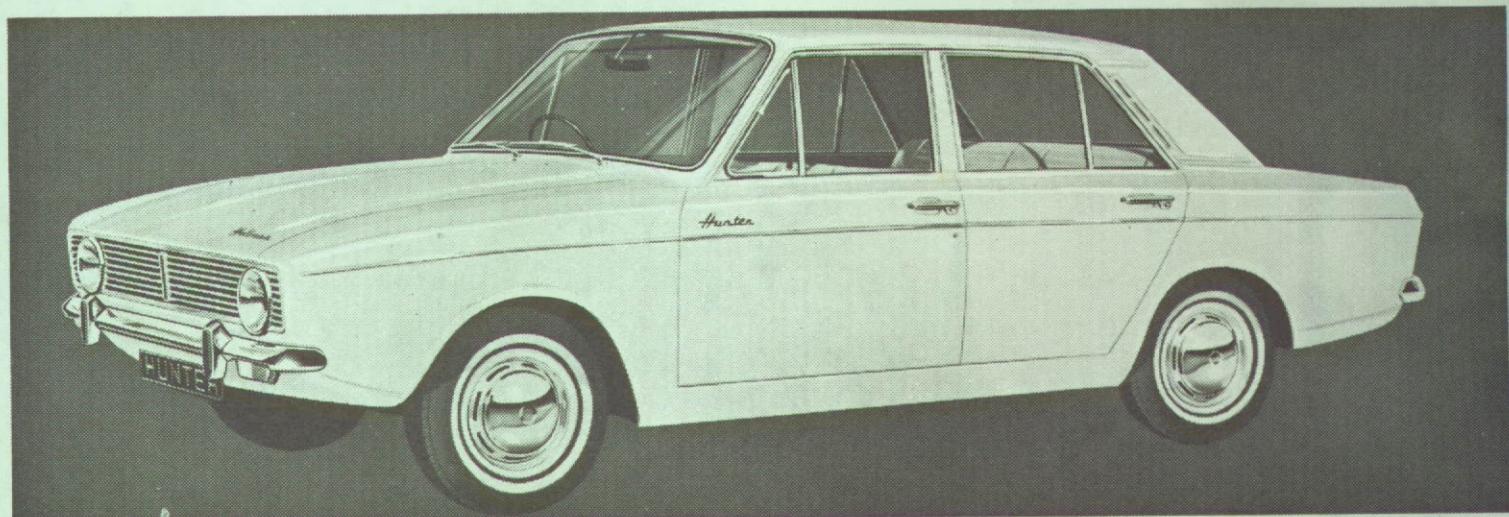
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# SOLDIER



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# SOLDIER

FEBRUARY 1967

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## Vietnam VC

**O**N the advice of her Australian Ministers, the Queen has approved the posthumous award of a Victoria Cross to Warrant Officer II Kevin Arthur Wheatley, Australian Army, who chose to stay and die at the side of a wounded comrade while fighting in South Vietnam.

From February 1965 until the day of his death, on 13 November 1965, Warrant Officer Wheatley, aged 28, was a member of the Australian Army Training Team in Vietnam. His last operation was a search with a company of the Vietnamese Civil Irregular Defence Group in Tra Bong Valley, Quang Nhac Province. With him when his platoon bumped elements of a Viet Cong company was another Australian, Warrant Officer R J Swanton. The Viet Cong fire increased until finally Warrant Officer Wheatley radioed for assistance.

While another platoon was working towards the action, Warrant Officer Wheatley came up on the set again with the message that Swanton had been hit in the chest. He called urgently for an air strike and a casualty evacuation helicopter.

Warrant Officer Wheatley refused to abandon his dying comrade when the platoon was forced to retreat. He jettisoned his radio set and under heavy machine-gun and automatic rifle fire managed to half-drag, half-carry Warrant Officer Swanton 200 yards to a wood.

The Viet Cong were only ten yards away when Private Dinh Do, who had been helping him, urged Wheatley to leave his dying friend and save himself. His answer was to pull the pins from two grenades and sit still. He was last seen calmly waiting for the Viet Cong with a grenade in each hand. Soon afterwards came the crack of two grenade explosions and echoing bursts of fire.

At first light the next morning the bodies

of the two warrant officers were found lying together. Both had died of gunshot wounds.

The citation states: "Warrant Officer Wheatley displayed magnificent courage in the face of an overwhelming Viet Cong force which was later estimated at more than a company. He had the clear choice of abandoning a wounded comrade and saving himself by escaping through the dense timber or of staying . . . and thereby facing certain death. He deliberately chose the latter course."

The citation adds that his ten months in the Vietnam fighting had been distinguished by meritorious and gallant services: "His act of heroism, determination and unflinching loyalty in the face of the enemy will always stand as examples of the true meaning of valour."

Ending his announcement of the award, Mr Harold Holt, the Australian Prime Minister said in Canberra, "His example takes a place of pride in the story of Australia's fighting men."

Warrant Officer Wheatley's widow and four young children live at Campbelltown, near Sydney, New South Wales. In a telegram to Mrs Wheatley, Mr Harold Wilson cabled, "His heroism and unflinching devotion to a wounded comrade should be a source of inspiration and pride to all Australians."

Warrant Officer Kevin "Dasher" Wheatley joined the Australian Army in 1956. He served in Malaya in 1957-59 with 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, and then with the Regiment's 2nd and 1st Battalions until posted to Vietnam.

His Victoria Cross is the 93rd to be won by an Australian. The last award to an Australian was made on 22 January 1946 to the late Private Frank John Partridge for an action at Bougainville in the Pacific in July 1945.

**S**INCE the early Stone Age one of man's simplest and most effective weapons has been the bow and arrow. Down the years the longbow has been used for hunting, it has been the decisive factor in many a battle and today the sport of archery is more popular than it has ever been.

But although soldier-archers were militarily ousted centuries ago, the accuracy of the bow and arrow, the silent flight and, in modern warfare, its element of surprise, have never been overlooked. The bow and arrow were individually used in World War Two and it has been reported that, in today's war, Viet Cong guerillas have been trained in the medieval-type crossbow and the longbow to fire poisoned arrows at American and South Vietnamese troops.

Whether this is true or not, certainly the Montagnard tribesmen living in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam still use the crossbow as their traditional defence weapon.

Stone Age man hunted deer, bison, boars and game for food, or warred against rivals with a simple bow shaped from a tree bough, bowstring of animal tendon and a flint-tipped arrow. In their turn the Ancient Egyptians developed the longbow as a weapon and included the ranks of Chief of the Archers and Captain of the Bowmen in their armies.

Egyptian archers were trained to fight shoulder-to-shoulder on foot, from horseback or chariot. To give the archer full scope another soldier in the chariot guided the horse and protected the archer with a shield.

The Assyrians, Persians, Scythians, Greeks, Tartars and Parthians were also skilled in archery. The Parthians confounded Roman legionaries by their ability to turn in the saddle and shoot at full

gallop, a skill practised centuries later by America's Red Indians.

Foreign archers were enrolled by the Roman armies but some Roman archers are known to have landed with Caesar in England in 55BC. The Saxon invaders used both longbow and crossbow and the Danes the longbow. Superiority of his archers gave Alfred the Great his first victory over the Danes at the Battle of Assundan in 871.

When the Vikings were defeated at Stamford Bridge by King Harold in 1066, his English archers were largely responsible. But strangely, only three weeks later at Hastings, Harold had only a few, mainly Kentish, bowmen while William the Conqueror brought many archers across the Channel.

As well known as the English bowmen were those of Wales who, before the Principality was subdued in 1282, depleted the armies of Edward I by making use of mountains and forest to take the English soldiers by surprise. Edward learned the lesson and at Falkirk, with the longbow supporting armoured cavalry, he defeated the Scots.

As in the later defeat of the Spanish Armada, ship-borne bowmen helped Edward III to destroy the French fleet at Sluys in 1340. Later, at Cadzand, the archers gave covering fire to the disembarking English army.

Towards the end of the 13th century the longbow had become a formidable weapon against the supremacy of cavalry. The archer was more lightly armoured, preferring freedom of movement to heavy, cumbersome protection. He wore a light iron skull cap, perhaps a coat of plates with leather sleeves for body defence, and on his forearm the bracer, a leather cuff to take the rub of the bowstring.



The tall 14th century archer could loose another five arrows before his first reached its target.

## Bows and Arrows

At Crecy, Poitiers and Agincourt the English and Welsh bowmen, although heavily outnumbered, won the day against massed armoured French knights and foot soldiers. At Agincourt, Henry V's army of 6000, against five times that number, killed between 7000 and 10,000 French knights and mercenaries, the bowmen's arrows piercing helmet visors, armour joints and even chain mail.

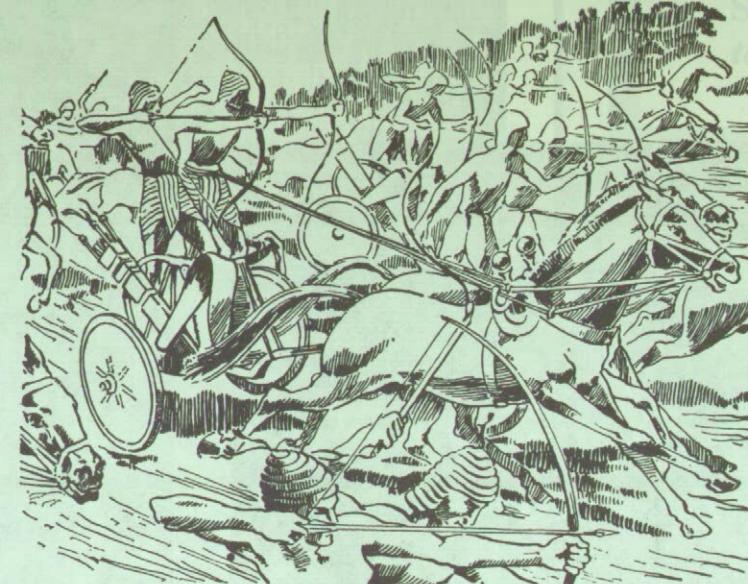
These bowmen, dressed in leather jerkins and paid only threepence a day, were no rabble. Their ranks included not only labourers and servants but craftsmen, farmers, scribes and even priests and bishops. They were also skilled in the sword, dagger and maul, a kind of heavy hammer, for in-fighting.

Over the 400 years between Henry I and Henry VIII, statutes were introduced to command men from 15 to 60 years to keep a bow and arrows, of yew, elm, ash or hazel, ready for war, or to practise with them on Sundays and all holidays. Edward III banned all other sports, including football, because young men were indulging in these and naughtily neglecting their archery practice.

The last land battle in Britain in which large numbers of archers were employed, was Flodden in 1513, but, in the tradition of military stock-piling, the Tower of London armoury in 1599 still contained 8185 bows, 300,000 arrows, 6019 staves and 196 gross of bowstrings.

By now the firearm had begun to oust the bow though the latter, still a formidable weapon, became only obsolescent and refused to be obsolete. A few archers fought during the English Civil War, including Tippermuir in 1644.

Archery now began to assume a new importance, as a sport and fashionable recreation. Societies and clubs were formed,

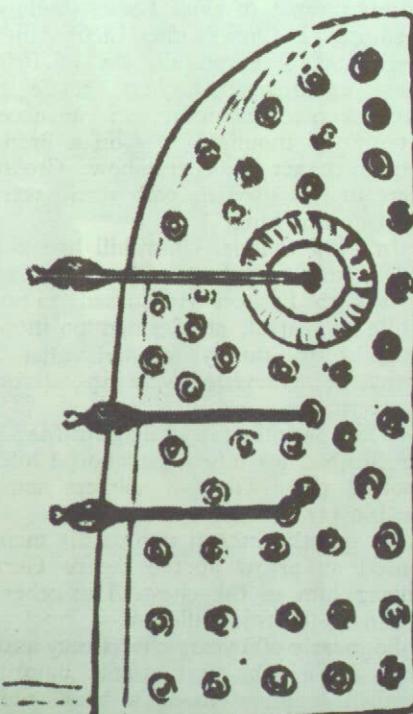


Above: Egyptian archers' chariot charge in 1450BC. They trained to fight on foot, in chariots or on horseback.



Right: Mounted French knights were exposed at Crecy to a hail of arrows from three sides from English archers.

Crecy picture from "The True Book about Famous Land Battles" (Muller).



Left: Archers shooting at butts, circa 1340AD. This drawing is from the Luttrell Psalter (From Hulton Library).



Right: Members of the Benghazi Bowmen at practice in Libya where the sport was popular some years ago.



# Bows and Arrows *continued*



Ladies' archery competition at the 1908 Olympic Games (Hulton Picture Library).



Remedial archery for the disabled—at the Star and Garter Home.

among survivors of these being the Royal Toxophilite Society founded in 1780, The Woodmen of Arden (1785) and the Royal Company of Archers, the Sovereign's Bodyguard in Scotland.

Today, archery is a booming sport in Britain where more than 600 clubs are affiliated to the Grand National Archery Society. It is practised in the Army and at Royal Air Force stations and is one of the few sports open to handicapped people in wheelchairs.

Comparatively, archery is a reasonably cheap sport. Basic equipment, of a bow, half a dozen arrows, quiver, leather tab or glove to protect the fingertips, and leather bracer, costs about £35 although the enthusiast can of course pay more, particularly if he wishes to adopt the very modern adjustable sight and torque stabilisers to increase his bow's accuracy.

Today's bow is of Scandinavian or Spanish yew, lemonwood, lancewood, glass fibre, composite wood and plastic—or is even a take-apart tubular steel affair. The bowstring is of waxed linen thread or Terylene and arrows are made in various woods or aluminium alloy.

The basis of competitive archery is the York Round for men and the Hereford Round for women. The York Round is six dozen arrows at 100 yards, four dozen at 80 yards and two dozen at 60 yards, fired in groups of six. Women fire the same number at 80, 60 and 50 yards.

Targets, usually straw-filled, bear (reading inwards) white, black, blue and red rings, with a gold inner (never called a bull or bull's eye!), scoring respectively 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 points.

Novices usually pull a bow of 20 pounds (the pressure at full draw) and the normal bow has a pull of 40 to 50 pounds, with 27

to 30 for women. While it is reputed that Robin Hood, legendary hero of archery, could shoot an arrow half a mile, experts claim that with a simple wooden bow this distance would have needed a centre grip diameter of six inches—and even Robin Hood would have been unable to bend such a bow.

The record for a longbow was established at Istanbul in 1798 by Sultan Selim, using the Turkish bow to fire an arrow 972 yards,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

As in the Robin Hood legends, the arrow has been used for messages—in the past it was a military communication system of firing from archer to archer along a regularly spaced line.

Besides target shooting, sporting archery includes the variants of flight, clout and field shooting, and archery golf. The bow and arrow is still widely used in hunting animals and birds for food, as in Africa, Guyana, New Guinea and the Andaman Islands, and by South American tribes for shooting fish.

While the bow became a sporting weapon, its military potential was not forgotten. In the early days of World War Two some civilian archers armed themselves with yew bows and vicious barbed arrows to deal with the German parachutists who were daily expected to drop on British soil.

In that backs-to-the-wall summer of 1940, Peter Fleming was ordered to form a guerilla force in the Local Defence Volunteers (later to become the Home Guard) to be overrun by, then harass, invaders. He trained his small detachment of Lovat Scouts in the use of bow and arrow with the intention of silently picking off any enemy who might become lost in the woods of his area south of London.

The only living target engaged was a fallow deer but some confusion was caused in night exercises when his "guerillas" fired arrows, bearing detonators and safety-fuses, into "enemy" lines.

Near Grimsby a farm worker and champion archer, John Davey, took bows and arrows on patrol when serving as an officer in the Home Guard. He claimed he could hit a target at 60 yards and that at 35 yards an arrow would be fatal.

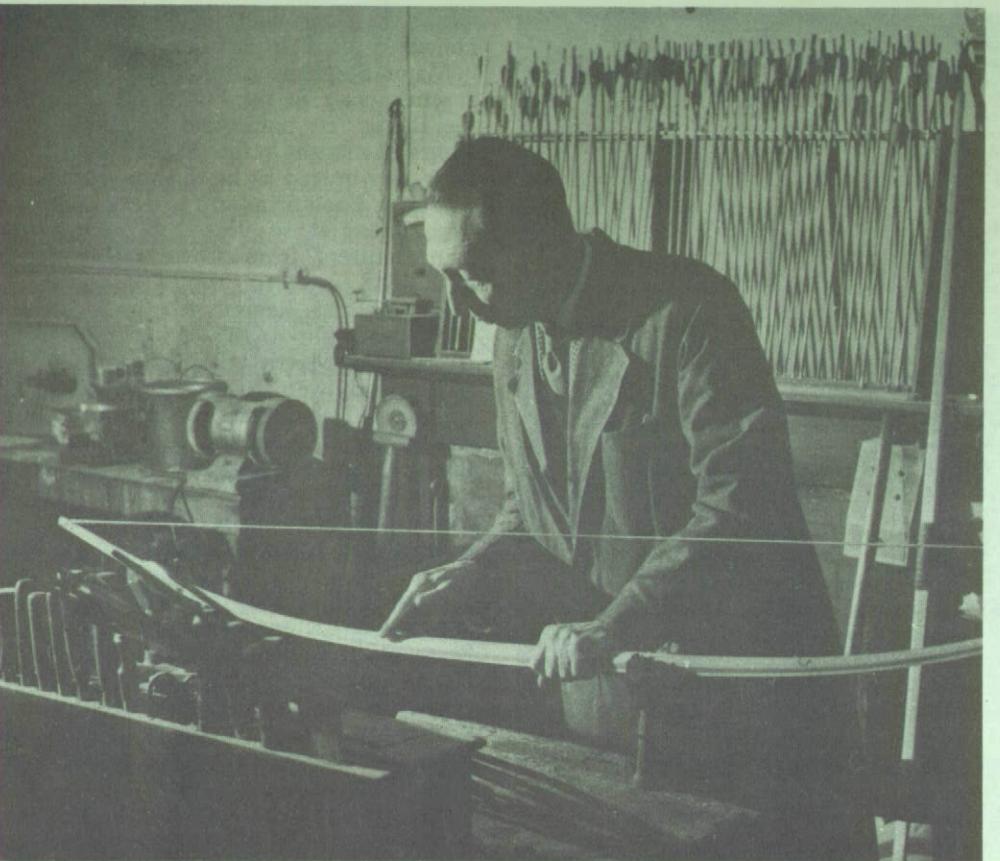
A Birmingham firm received an inquiry for the manufacture of tubular steel bows for Commando raids, but apparently nothing came of this. Later, while commanding 2 Commando, Lieutenant-Colonel J M T Churchill, one of Britain's most experienced archers, made many experiments, including an unsuccessful attempt to mount a bow on a Bren gun tripod to act as a crossbow. Crossbows were in fact used in both world wars for grenade throwing.

In 1939 Colonel Churchill had taken a 100-pound yew bow and some hunting arrows to France. He loosed an arrow, while on patrol, at German positions 60 yards away, purely for the satisfaction, which he achieved, of creating alarm and consternation.

While patrolling in a village in May 1940, he climbed up into a farmhouse loft and spotted three German soldiers some 40 yards away.

He quietly fetched two of his men and loosed an arrow at the centre German, hitting him in the chest. The other two Germans fell from rifle fire.

So, nearly 600 years after Crecy and five years before the first atomic bomb, the English longbow made a brief and incongruous return to the ancient battlefield of France.



Above: Shaping a longbow from laminated wood at Archers' Hall, Edinburgh, for the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland. Below: The Queen inspects the Royal Company at a parade, in the grounds of Holyroodhouse, during which she presented new Colours to the Company.



## SOLDIER to Soldier

While discussions on the future size of, and payment for, British Army of the Rhine continue, NAAFI has taken a firm step towards reducing the deutschmark drain.

In an overseas theatre like Germany, where a wide range of the best in Continental goods is available, there is obviously great temptation to buy without thinking of the foreign exchange involved.

Last year in Rhine Army, NAAFI took every opportunity to help the British economy, assisting in the three British Weeks, promoting the sales of British caravans, adding more British makes to the range of washing machines, vacuum cleaners and cameras, expanding its bespoke tailoring service and encouraging British firms in their promotional efforts.

Now, in its Rhine Army family and Service shops, NAAFI has launched a Buy British campaign with British goods highlighted by promotional and display material. Catalogue sections have been set up so that customers can order from all the British goods in NAAFI's UK catalogue of durable goods.

Another specially produced mail-order catalogue offers a complete range of men's, women's and children's clothing and footwear through a NAAFI-Littlewoods link-up, and a further link with Marks and Spencer, will later introduce a much wider range of the 99 per cent British-made St Michael-brand clothing.

There is also a personal order system for British clothing held in NAAFI's main warehouse in Germany, with delivery promised within a few days of ordering.

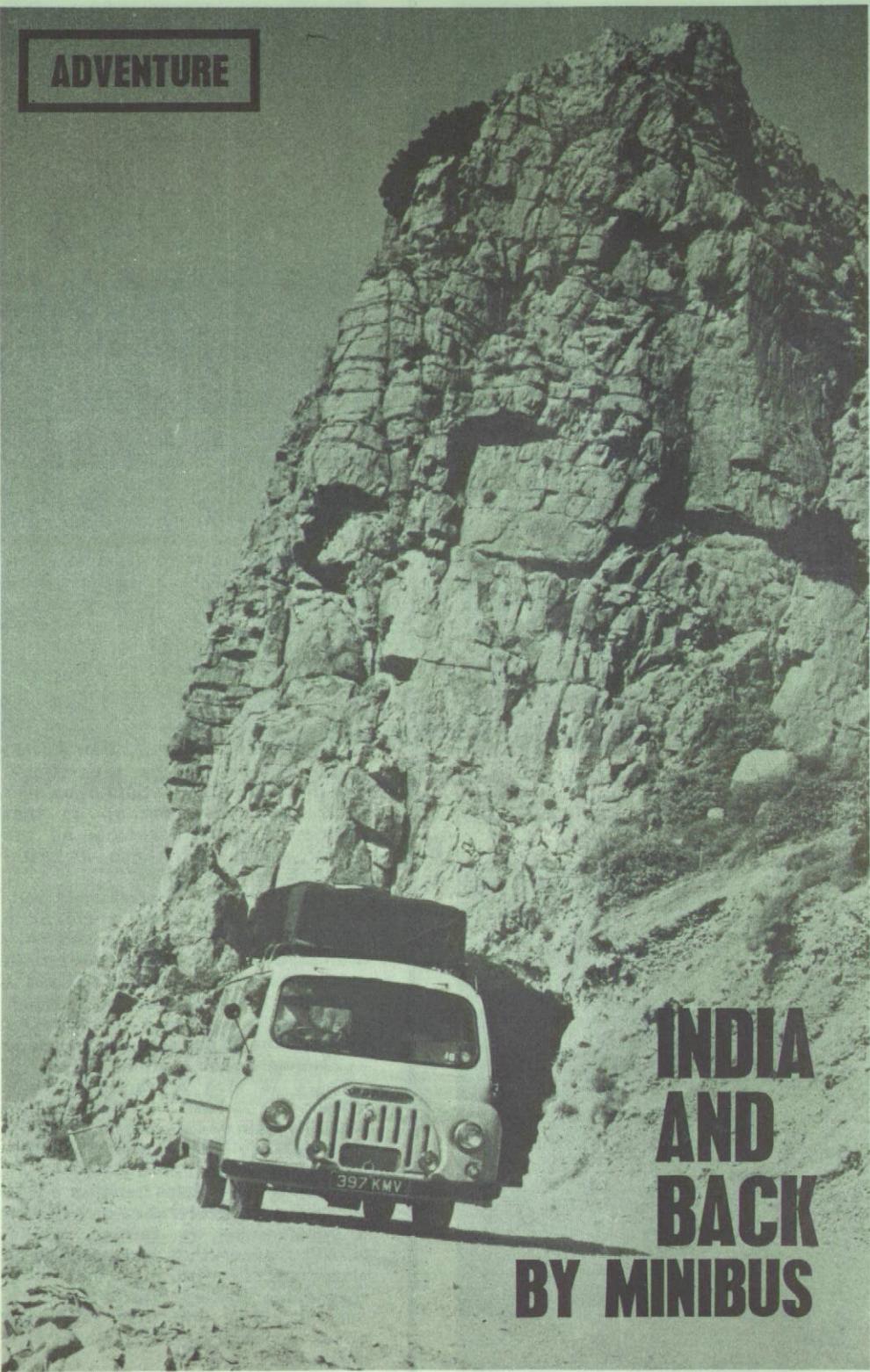
While it has always been its policy throughout the world to sell British in preference to foreign goods, NAAFI realises that in Germany, as elsewhere overseas, there may be no reasonable British alternative to a particular line and that perishable goods necessarily dictate local procurement.

Where there is not a satisfactory British alternative, NAAFI will continue to stock the Continental product—and thereby save sterling since the article bought in a German shop would affect foreign exchange to the extent of the shop's profit as well as the cost price.

Continental beer, for example, will still be stocked—but although it is more expensive, few will need much persuading to buy British beer!

British Servicemen and their families in Germany can make a significant contribution to the national economy, and in the long run help themselves, by buying British.

And by buying through NAAFI they will increase the profits which NAAFI returns in the form of rebates, discounts and dividends to unit funds, individuals and Service central welfare funds.



## INDIA AND BACK BY MINIBUS

THE seven gloomiest men in Teheran lay at the side of a camping site swimming pool languidly flapping at a million flies. An officer and six men of 54 (Maharajpore) Battery, Royal Artillery, were facing the imminent collapse of their Larkhill-to-India expedition.

The journey of a lifetime seemed destined to a dismal end in the Iran capital because of Indo-Pakistan tension and the visa problems handicapping visitors to the two countries. Day after day a crestfallen Lieutenant Peter Campbell returned from the British Embassy unable to give the other six any hope of progress. After a week of restless boredom the Gunners were losing hope when finally

permission was granted. The official diarist wrote: "Spirits have gone up 100 per cent."

As one of the most ambitious adventure training exercises ever, the 16-week 19,000-mile overland safari to India was planned in infinitesimal detail. Yet any number of contingency plans—and they had six—could not have anticipated all the problems and crises that assailed the seven travellers on their mini-bus voyage across two continents and 12 countries.

Anxiously plotting their progress, and occasional lack of it, back at Larkhill was the Battery Commander, Major John Stephenson, the expedition's organiser. Day by day men of the Battery watched a red arrow inching across a huge map to the objective—Maharajpore—an insignificant village 260 miles south of Delhi

where the forerunners of 54 Battery were honoured for their part in a battle in 1843.

Major Stephenson inherited the idea of a return visit to the battlefield that gave the Battery its name and wrote the first letters 15 months before D for Dover-Day. Four files bulged as he did the expedition on paper. Food firms and a petrol company were among those pleased to help; motor manufacturers from Coventry to Japan would not.

Battery and Regimental funds offered £250 and for £135 an unpromising 10-year-old Morris mini-bus was bought and passed over to 25 Field Regiment's Light Aid Detachment for transformation.

The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers installed a new engine, larger radiator and petrol tank, and tougher springs, overhauled it from bumper to bumper and pronounced it fit to go anywhere.

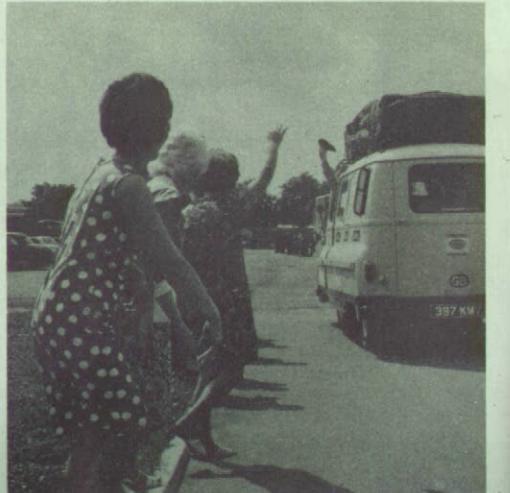
A list of 25 volunteers was whittled down to a crew of Lieutenant Campbell and six—Sergeant Bill Platts, Bombardier Andy Hogg, Lance-Bombardier Brenden Moonley, Craftsman John Hartley, Gunner Bill Whiteford and Bombardier Mike Branigan. Each man had to be prepared to surrender his pay and allowances for the duration of the journey and produce a £50 reserve—although only £5 of this was used.

Bombardier Branigan, the party's photographer, was issued with £40 worth of black-and-white, colour, cine and still film and orders to shoot on sight at any target. He did, and sent back films with a weekly edition of the official log—diarist was another of his duties—during the journey.

Major Stephenson had condensed every likely scrap of information into a 40-page blow-by-blow brief for Lieutenant Campbell. The expedition never lagged behind its schedule by more than a week despite the enforced halts, and Major Stephenson's plan for long-range control of the party through military attachés in the various British Embassies was a flawless success.

Flood was the first obstacle, followed shortly by plague. Austria's worst floods in living memory had barred the Brenner Pass. The detour was a precarious ascent

The expedition's minibus was shipped from Italy to Greece and was pictured on a mountain road to Athens (left). The Gunners reached the Greek capital nine days after leaving Larkhill (below).



of the steep and nastily narrow Jaufern Pass.

The Gunners were growing beards, wearing clothes roughly washed in a pressure cooker, sleeping and eating where they could, but that did not deter Bombardier Branigan from genteel judgements on others: "The Greeks seem to be getting dirtier and rougher looking the nearer we get to Turkey".

Of Istanbul he reported that their driver aged ten years in as many minutes and added, "Everything is very dirty including the population. We had two meals out and none of us had any idea as to what we were eating."

The Turkish roads, although terrible, were not the only hazard he noted. Having slightly injured a villager, a coach driver "made the mistake of getting down from his cab to argue, whereupon five or six men fell on him and really gave him quite a beating." The journey through northern Turkey was a last-minute change forced by an outbreak of cholera on the more southerly route through Iraq.

The week of uncertainty in Teheran before crossing from Iran to Pakistan was followed by another week of waiting at Lahore for clearance into India. At the border it took two-and-a-half hours to cover 200 yards. All transport was unloaded, passed across the border by Indians and Pakistanis who refused to speak to one another, and reloaded.

India at last, and with the goal in sight the expedition motored on through Delhi

The Appia carried the seven travelling Gunners across the Adriatic from Brindisi to Igoumenitsa.



and Agra with a brief visit to the Taj Mahal. Detective work by Lieutenant Campbell with a map and a description of the battle established the right Maharajpore from four in the area. Disappointingly there was little to see but a few ill-cared for graves and two memorials. The villagers vaguely knew there had been a battle but a careful search turned up no trace of the action.

Two days later the Gunners forsook the hardships of the road for the magnificent hospitality of the Indian School of Artillery, Deolali. They were dined, lionised and entertained from morn till night. All seven were accommodated in the officers' quarters with three bearers each to care for the uniforms shipped out from England. They watched sports, training, a festival of Punjabi dancing and went gliding and duck shooting.

On the return journey the day the 18,000 miles of the itinerary leapt to 19,000 was the worst of the trip. Arriving at the Pakistan-Iran border after two days of hard motoring over 400 miles of rough tracks, they were told to go back to Quetta for passport visas.

The diarist observed with admirable detachment, "Reactions of the various members were interesting. Mr Campbell paled a little about the gills and tried to persuade the officer. Andy Hogg and Billy Whiteford, in the highest traditions of the British Army, went outside and put the kettle on."

When they finally got back to the border

Mission accomplished. Sixteen weeks, 19,000 miles later the Gunners return to Larkhill on schedule.



post it was—as on their previous call—after midnight and the officials were not getting up for the Englishmen again . . . . "we are getting quite well known in this part of the world."

Each time the expedition crossed a frontier, Lieutenant Campbell opened the strongbox welded to the bus floor and paid out in the appropriate currency. The original sum of £1700 shrank and shrank, but the bus was guarded night and day and only small personal items were lost by theft.

The Larkhill motorway led the expedition across the flat desertland of Iraq into Jordan—the country the Gunners unanimously voted the best they visited. They swam in the Dead Sea and visited Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The schedule left little time for more sightseeing as they sped west across Syria, Turkey and Greece. After working for only ten minutes on the journey out, the windscreen wipers were now swishing non-stop. The weather got steadily colder and sheepskin jackets came to the fore: "We begin to look like a bunch of out-of-work Cossacks."

A ceremonial reception was waiting when the travel-soiled minibus eased to a halt on the square at Larkhill. The crew formally debussed after the most eventful four months of their lives to receive the congratulations of Battery comrades and senior officers. The permanent legacies of the Larkhill-to-India Expedition for 54 (Maharajpore) Battery are an awakened taste for travel and a minibus likely to visit many more foreign parts in her old age.

Happy waves at the road's end for one of the Army's most ambitious adventure training teams.



## IT HAPPENED IN FEBRUARY

Date

- 4 United Nations Disarmament Commission first met
- 6 King George VI died
- 8 Mary, Queen of Scots, executed
- 10 USSR signed peace treaty with Finland
- 14 Battle of Cape St Vincent
- 15 Singapore captured by the Japanese
- 19 Peace of Tolentino
- 21 Identity cards abolished in Britain
- 25 State of Prussia liquidated
- 28 British Protectorate over Egypt ended

Year

- 1952
- 1952
- 1587
- 1947
- 1797
- 1942
- 1797
- 1952
- 1947
- 1922





## THE FIGHTING 69th

**T**RADITION, the crowning pride of every British regiment, has never seemed quite so important to many American fighting units—with the notable exception of New York's famous 69th Infantry. Other United States Army units have lost their past in a maze of redesignations and reorganizations, but the 69th regards its history and traditions with almost British reverence.

Formed in 1851 from New York militia companies, the 69th was composed exclusively of Irish immigrants who harbored the dream of recrossing the Atlantic to free their homeland from the British. This unrealistic patriotism distinguished the 69th and, to this day, no American unit is so closely identified with a particular national stock as is the 69th with the Irish.

In the American Civil War the 69th saw action in almost every major battle. It became the plague of the Confederate Command and earned a grudging compliment from General Robert E. Lee. He called it "The Fighting Sixty-Ninth"—and the name stuck.

As part of Meagher's Irish Brigade, the

69th was attacking the Confederates at First Bull Run, the first major battle of the war, when panic broke out behind in the wagon train. The line wavered as indecision spread to the front-line troops, but the 69th fought on with the steadiness and dash that was the pattern for all its future campaigning.

Colonel Michael Corcoran fell wounded, but the Irish regiment charged on regardless to silence the enemy batteries, wreaking death in their ranks. Corcoran later returned to service as a brigadier-general—the first of many generals to rise from the ranks of the 69th.

As the war continued, Meagher's Irish Brigade took a horrible battering but its will to fight became legendary. In an attack on Marye's Heights during the Fredericksburg Campaign, the 69th lost 500 men in a single day. General Pickett, the Confederate commander, wrote of its heroism to his wife: "Your soldier's heart almost stood still as he watched these sons of Erin fearlessly rush to their deaths. The brilliant assault on Marye's Heights of their Irish Brigade was beyond description."

Colonel Hart, red-haired commander of the 3rd "Shamrock" Battalion, carried a bright green sign saying "Conroy Field" fighting us and cheer after cheer at their fearlessness went up all along our lines."

In 1916 the 69th had just returned to New York from an expedition against the Mexican bandit, Pancho Villa, when America entered World War One. It was the first unit selected for the force soon to gain fame under General Douglas MacArthur as the "Rainbow" Division.

At Ourcq the 69th put up what has been called "one of the great fights of World War One." Forcing a crossing without artillery support, it fought alone on the enemy's side of the river, engaging an entire division and forcing it to retire. "By God McCoy!" MacArthur told the commanding officer, "it takes the Irish when you want a hard job done."

In five years of yeoman service in World War Two, the Regiment fought famous battles at Makin Atoll, Saipan and Okinawa. The death of Conroy, the regimental commander, presaged one of the Regiment's finest achievements—the attack on Machinato Airfield, Okinawa.

Colonel Hart, red-haired commander of the 3rd "Shamrock" Battalion, carried a bright green sign saying "Conroy Field"

as he led his men against the positions the Japanese had been fortifying for nearly a year. He was determined to plant the sign and his men followed him over a main ridge honeycombed with tunnels and defended from a hundred enemy positions on either side. Staff-Sergeant Sherman knocked out three guns with a bazooka. Private Wilber Wright charged straight for the lethal spout of a machine-gun and killed its crew.

As the day wore on, the Japanese were still fighting—but to get out, not to defend their positions. Two days later the 69th pushed the remnants of the Japanese force off the airfield and Colonel Hart hammered his sign into the earth.

Long after the war, the "Fighting 69th" was reactivated to its present role as a New York National Guard unit serving once again in the illustrious Rainbow Division.

The Irish-Americans of the 69th do all in their power to maintain links with sister regiments in the "old country." In 1954 the Regiment's Colour guard travelled to Ireland at the request of the Irish "An Tostal" (Ireland at home) Committee to carry the original battle Colours of the Irish Brigade in a pageant commemorating the life of General Thomas Francis Meagher.

Officers of the 69th and Irish regiments have since exchanged visits, presents and letters. By long tradition the Irish Government flies fresh shamrock to the Regiment



on St Patrick's Day. St Patrick is the patron saint of the Regiment, a fact that no one who has seen the men of the 69th proudly escorting the Irish Societies down Fifth Avenue in the St Patrick's Day Parade could possibly forget. The Regiment's Irish wolfhound mascots inspired the 69th's motto, "Gentle when stroked, fierce when provoked," and always lead the parade. Custom also decrees that the day must be celebrated with a solemn military mass wherever the 69th should happen to be serving.

The 69th even has its own cocktail, a snorty combination of Irish whiskey and champagne. The officers drink it at all functions and plan to introduce Irish regiments in the British Army to the drink.

A living heirloom is the 69th's regimental march, "Garryowen." Played by Irish pipers for centuries, it first drew attention when it was heard in an 1800 production of "Harlequin Amulet" and an English pantomime. The 69th played it on leaving for the Civil War in 1861 and played it again as the Regiment swept gloriously up Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington after Lee's surrender at Appomattox. Before long "Garryowen" became the regimental march of the 69th. The Red Indians knew it as "Devil's music," President Roosevelt called it "the world's greatest marching tune." The Fighting 69th have sent its wild rakish tones echoing round the world.



Top: Brigadier Meagher, legendary Civil War leader. Civil War poster (below) wanted men picked, healthy and preferably of Irish origin.

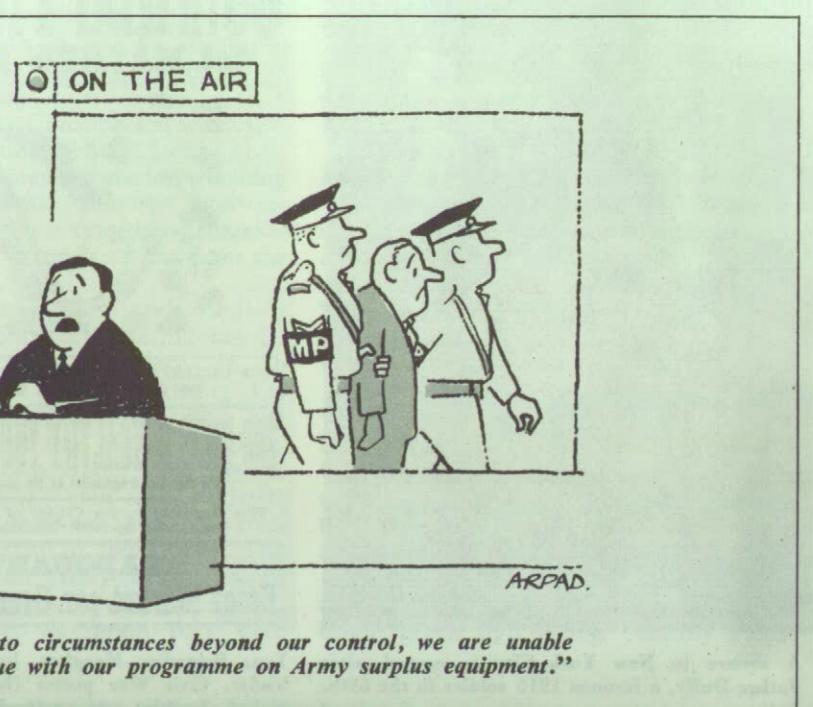


Wild Bill Donovan, 69th soldier in one world war—outstanding Army commander in the next.

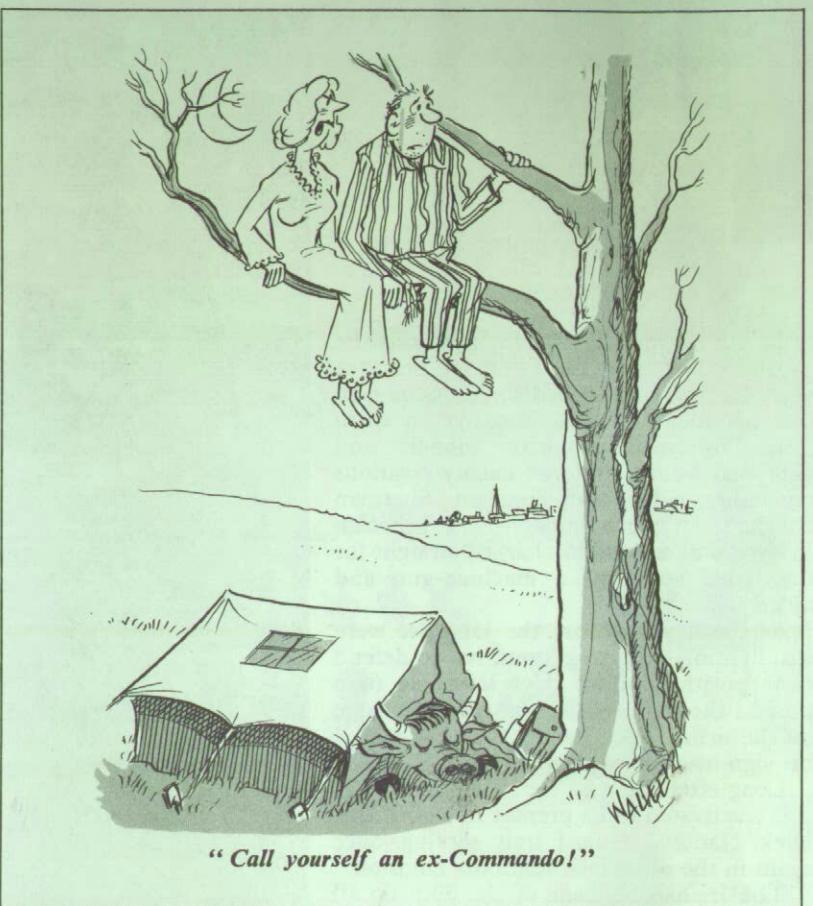
# humour



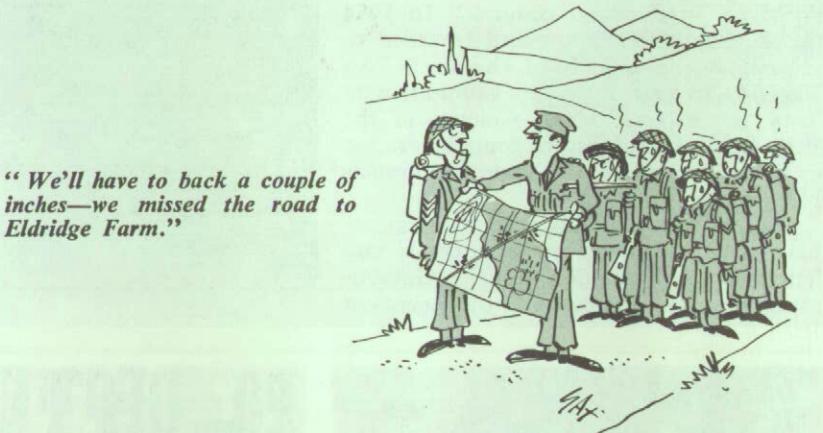
"Lay off the punch, it's been watered."



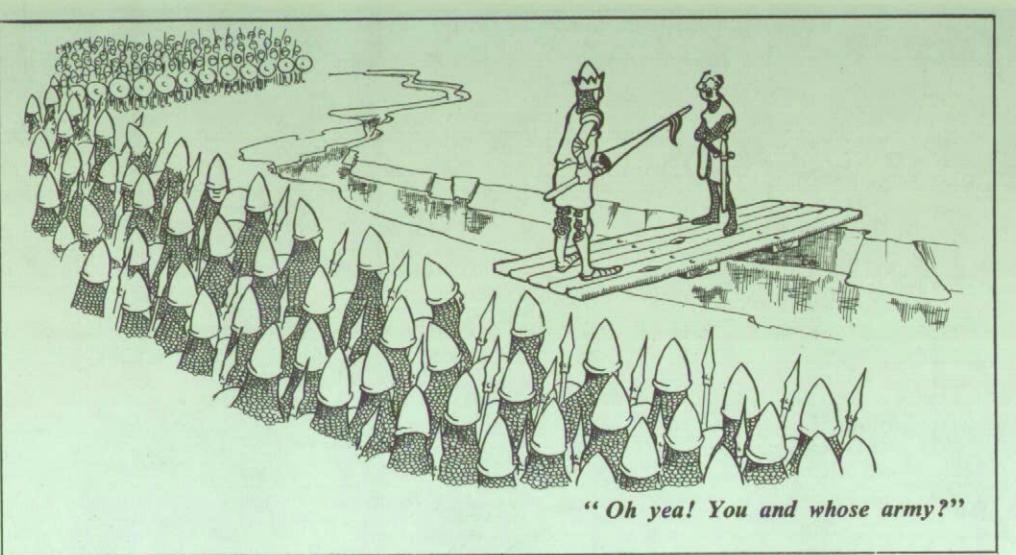
"Owing to circumstances beyond our control, we are unable to continue with our programme on Army surplus equipment."



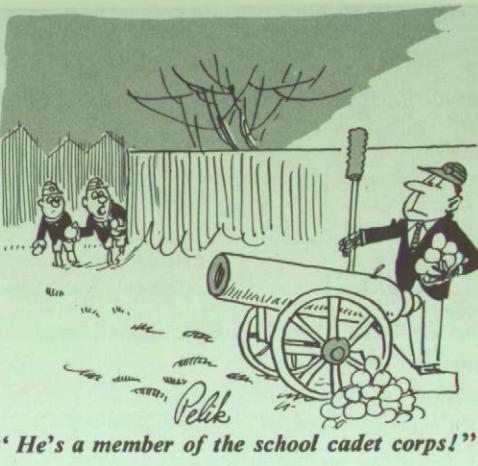
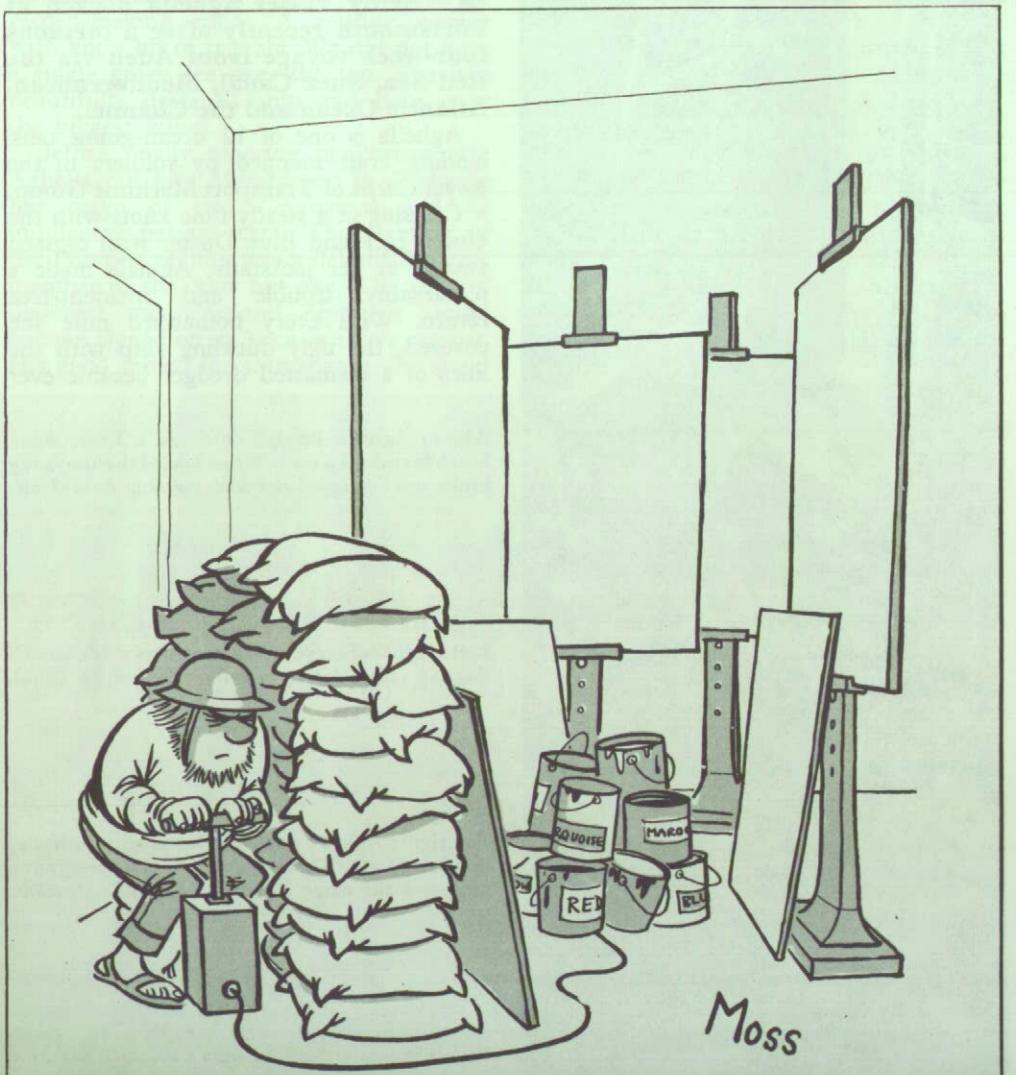
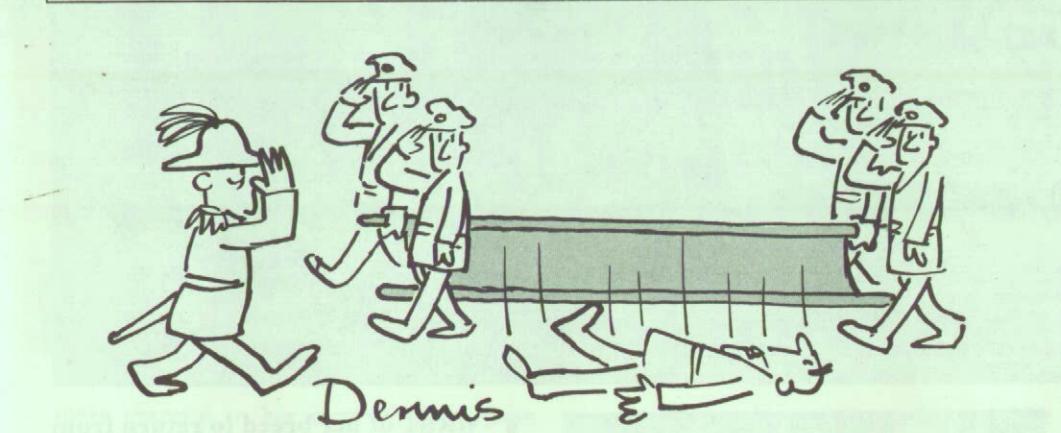
"Call yourself an ex-Commando!"



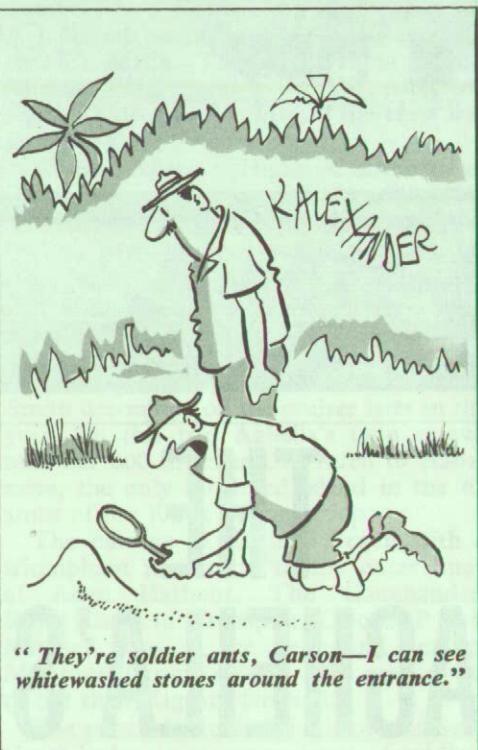
"We'll have to back a couple of inches—we missed the road to Eldridge Farm."



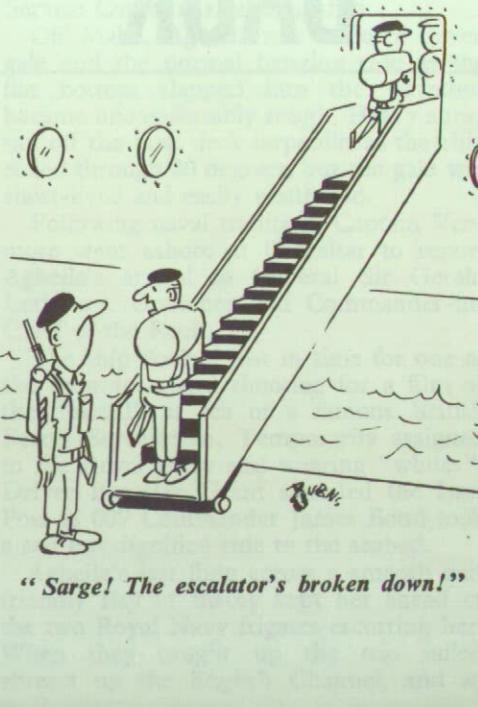
"Oh yea! You and whose army?"



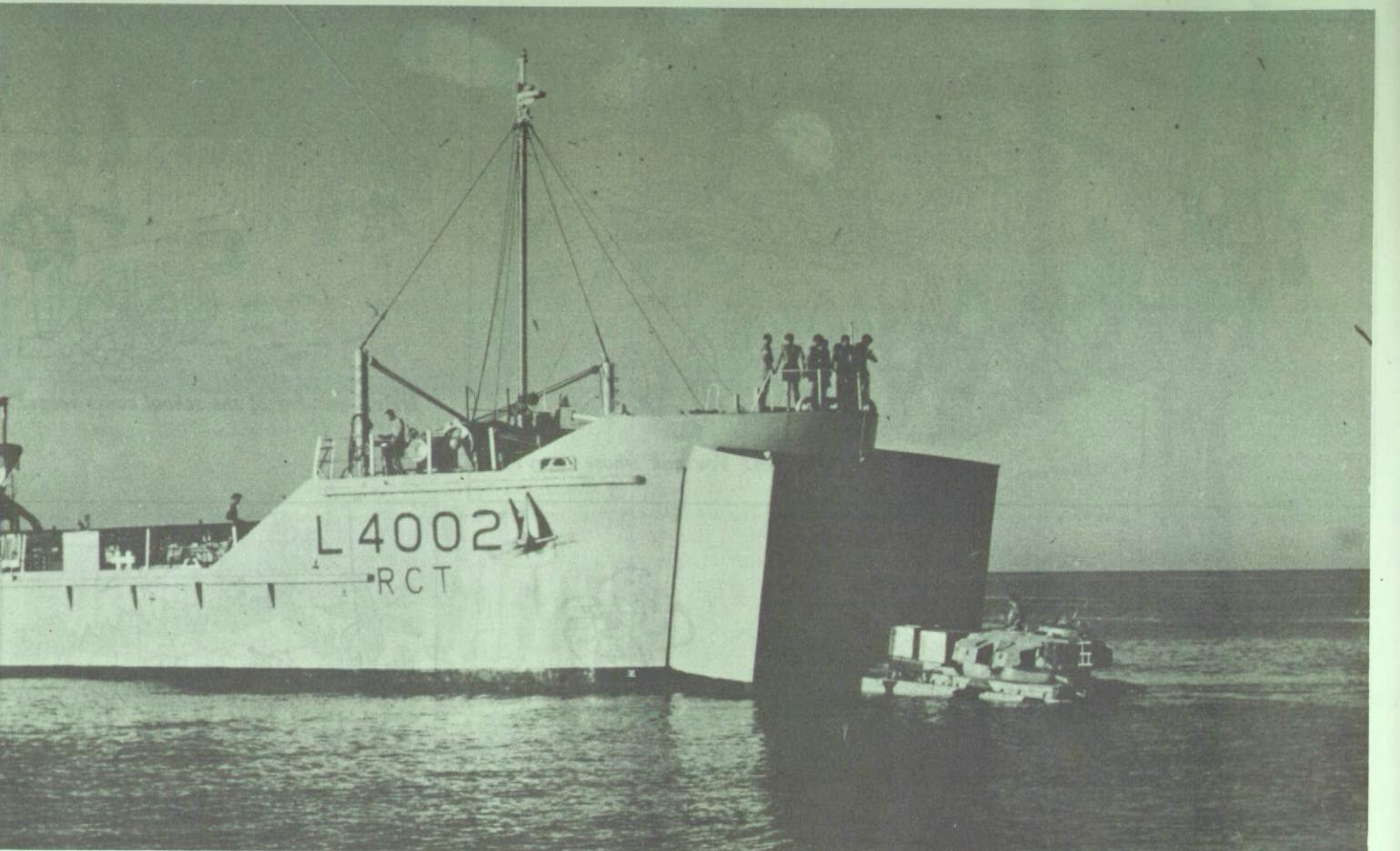
"He's a member of the school cadet corps!"



"They're soldier ants, Carson—I can see whitewashed stones around the entrance."



"Sarge! The escalator's broken down!"



# THE AGHEILA'S BACK



**F**IRST of her breed to return from an overseas station, Her Majesty's Army Vessel Agheila docked at Portsmouth recently after a tortuous four-week voyage from Aden via the Red Sea, Suez Canal, Mediterranean, Atlantic Ocean and the Channel.

Agheila is one of 12 ocean-going tank landing craft manned by soldiers of the Royal Corps of Transport Maritime Group.

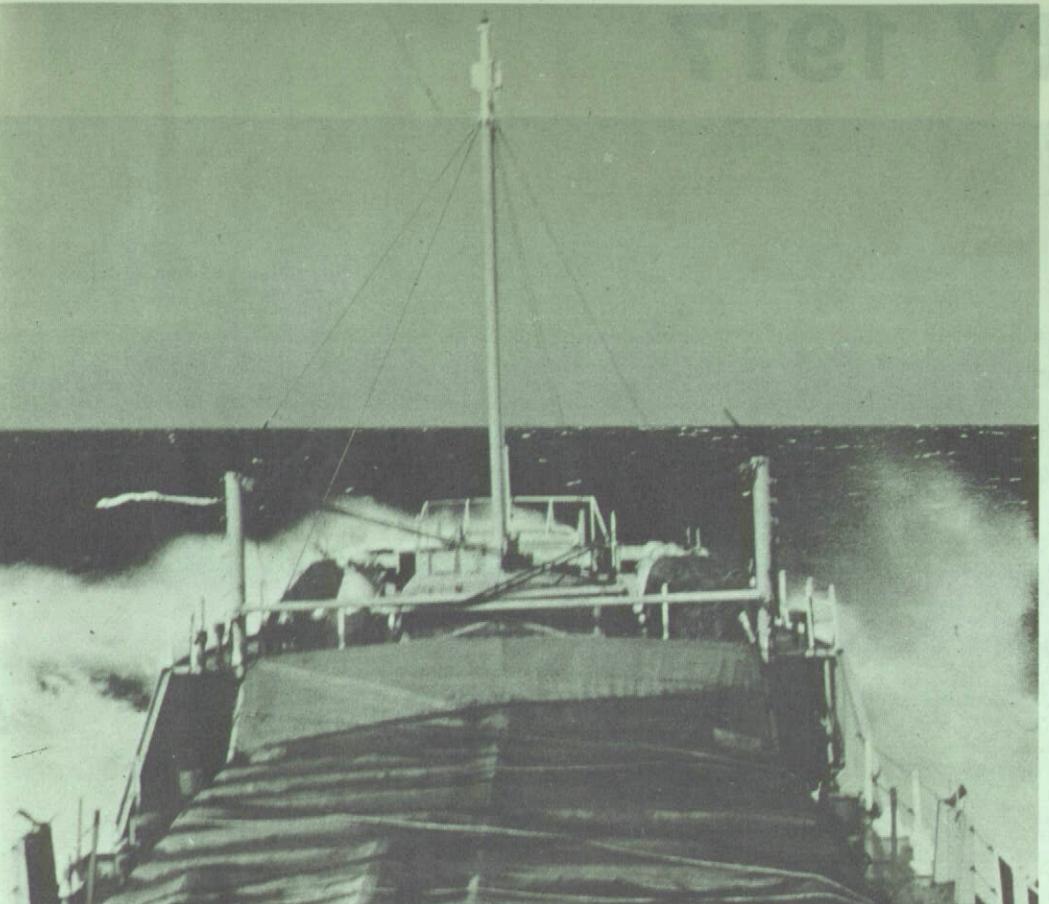
Cruising at a steady nine knots with the Union Jack and Blue Duster with crossed swords at her jackstaffs, Agheila made a remarkably trouble and incident-free return. With every homeward mile she covered, the ugly duckling ship with the lines of a dismasted dredger became ever

Above: Agheila flooded down on a Little Aden beach to embark a tank. When loaded the buoyancy tanks were pumped out and the ship floated off.

Left: Sceptical crew member surveys a bumboat's floating stock during a halt in the Suez Canal.

Top right: Agheila slaps her flat prow into heavy seas off Malta. The tarpaulin in the foreground protected the cargo of cars and two Centurions.

Right: Home at last! Agheila's flagdeck pictured as the ship slides into Gun Wharf, Pompey.

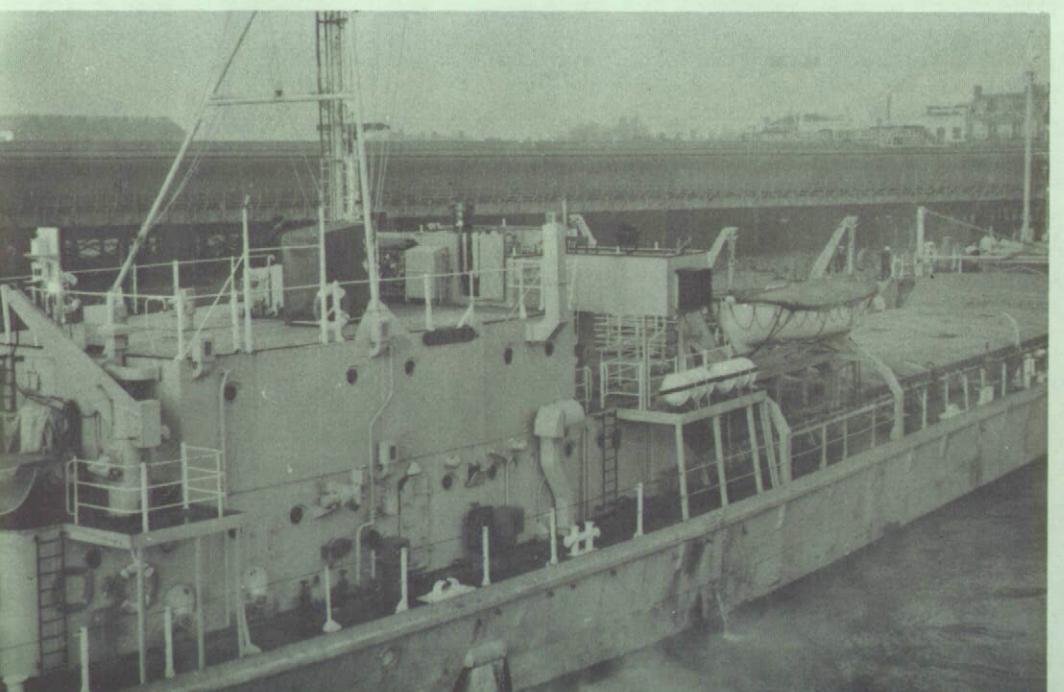


more graceful to her crew. Captain John Venmore, the skipper and one of only two officers in the crew of 35, was jubilant at the record-making run: "A routine voyage with not a bit of trouble. We did not have a single green sea over the top. She is a beautifully designed ship and bobs over the biggest waves."

Before finally mooring at Portsmouth, Agheila put into Marchwood to discharge her cargo of two Centurions and 22 indulgence-passage cars. The sighting of the Pompey skyline was a delight to every member of the crew but one. The solitary dissenter was Corporal Zippy, a sacred baboon signed on in Aden as ship's mascot. His good record for seamanship—he stood

every watch and wore a regulation white rollneck sweater with rank chevrons—could not save him from an ignominious discharge for vandalism in the mess hall. A final mutinous act on the Captain's bunk clinched his fate—Corporal Zippy now resides compulsorily in Paignton Zoo.

Agheila and her fellow Mk VIII LCTs were designed to carry five 50-ton tanks in the invasion of Japan. Two atomic bombs invalidated the invasion plan, but the ships were built with a seaworthiness and range capable of taking them across the Pacific that has since made them uniquely valuable. The Army took them over in 1956 and six now sail in Middle and Far East waters.



The grey-painted Agheila (LCT 4002) sailed from Britain in November 1965. She was bound for Bahrain to join the seaborne tank force there but a signal received at sea changed her destination. Agheila was ordered to Aden, there to meet contingencies and await events. One mission took her on a 7000-mile round trip to Durban under her original crew.

Winds and duties remained pleasantly light and variable for Agheila after the arrival by air of Captain Venmore's crew. A major task was the evacuation of the diplomatic wireless station on Perim Island, 95 miles from Aden. Buildings, generators and transmitters, livestock and deserting islanders heaped Agheila's 13-foot-deep tank deck like a wheelbarrow.

As the largest ship on station—the crew pointed this out frequently to their opposite numbers in a Royal Navy minesweeper—Agheila was used to show the flag on trips to East Africa. The former Flag Officer Middle East, gave a cocktail party on Agheila's deck and, in Assab, her crew was feted by the Ethiopian Navy.

When Aden's High Commissioner decided on an official pilgrimage to his most distant responsibility, the ship was hastily adapted for passenger carrying. After grappling with the problems of fitting Sir Richard Turnbull and ten of his staff into a tiny wardroom, Captain Venmore sympathised with the captain of HMS Tiger when Mr Wilson and Mr Smith descended on the cruiser later in the year. On this trip Agheila's twin screws took her 800 miles east of Aden to Hallamya, the only inhabited island in the 82 atolls of the Kuria Muria group.

The passage to England began with a triumphant procession to the outer buoy of Aden Harbour. The Commander, Royal Corps of Transport, Colonel P R B Mitchell, was at the helm and smaller Maritime Group vessels took station aft to bid their flagship farewell.

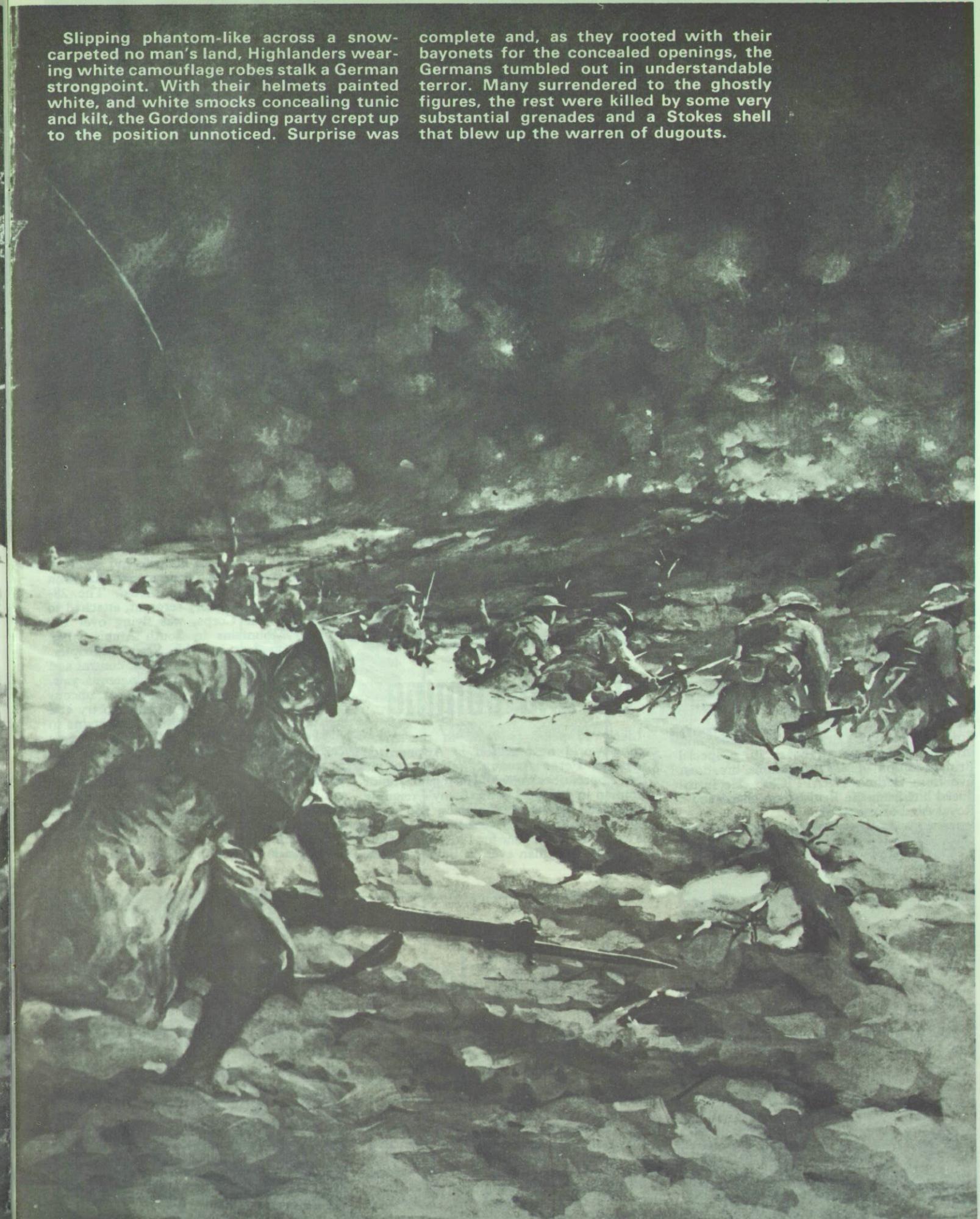
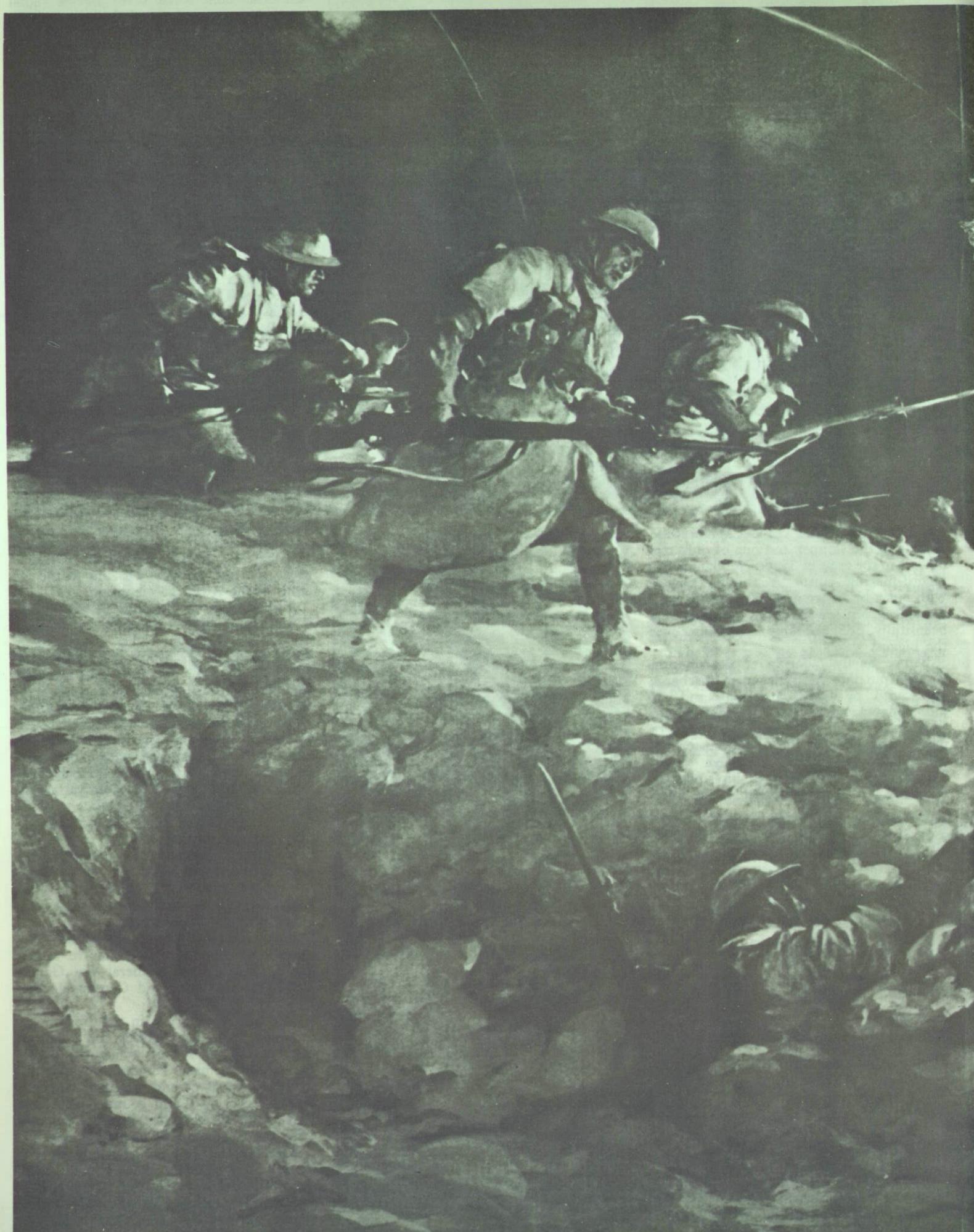
The pilot who took Agheila up the Suez Canal had previous experience of soldiers afloat and came aboard with more than usual enthusiasm. Captain Aziz Khairy had sailed as chief officer in a Royal Army Service Corps tank landing ship.

Off Malta, Agheila met a Force Seven gale and the normal banging ride as the flat bottom slapped into the wavetops became uncomfortably rough. Heavy spray ran off the tank deck tarpaulin as the ship rolled through 20 degrees, but the gale was short-lived and easily weathered.

Following naval tradition, Captain Venmore went ashore at Gibraltar to report Agheila's arrival to General Sir Gerald Lathbury, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Rock.

The ship docked just in time for one of the crew to attend shooting for a film of the "burial" at sea of a famous British Secret Serviceman. Temporarily assigned to the Royal Navy and wearing "whites", Driver Beverley Grant sounded the Last Post as 007 Commander James Bond took a sad but dignified ride to the seabed.

Agheila's last fling across a smooth and friendly Bay of Biscay kept her ahead of the two Royal Navy frigates escorting her. When they caught up the trio sailed abreast up the English Channel, and so to Pompey.



Slipping phantom-like across a snow-carpeted no man's land, Highlanders wearing white camouflage robes stalk a German strongpoint. With their helmets painted white, and white smocks concealing tunic and kilt, the Gordons raiding party crept up to the position unnoticed. Surprise was

complete and, as they rooted with their bayonets for the concealed openings, the Germans tumbled out in understandable terror. Many surrendered to the ghostly figures, the rest were killed by some very substantial grenades and a Stokes shell that blew up the warren of dugouts.

# PURELY PERSONAL

## Final chapter

Afloat and rowing again (right), those transatlantic oarsmen **Captain John Ridgway** and **Sergeant Chay Blyth**. Sergeant Blyth relented on his resolution never again to get into the 12-foot dory to make a rain-soaked two-mile row up the River Thames. A distinguished reception party headed by the Chief of the General Staff, General Sir James Cassels, greeted the two Parachute Regiment soldiers when they stepped ashore to launch "A Fighting Chance" (reviewed page 44), the story of their epic feat. Following their rapid rowing, Ridgway and Blyth did some lightning writing. The book, sure to become a best-seller, appeared on the bookstalls 87 days after their landing in Ireland—five days fewer than the crossing.



## Deejay for a day

Lieutenant Ian Osborne's grasp of German landed him a pleasant one-day stint as a disc jockey on one of West Berlin's top radio shows. Lieutenant Osborne, of 62 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, was invited to take part (above) in a special British edition of the programme broadcast live from Berlin's NAAFI Club. He introduced hits from the British pop charts and a Royal Air Force beat group.



## Up and coming

Likely to pedal to fame in the Army cycling world next season is **Apprentice Corporal Peter Ascough** (above) of the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate. Junior champion in 1965, he is the Army's reigning 10-mile and hill-climb champion and regularly rode in inter-Service events last year. His sights are set higher for 1967. Meanwhile he trains harder than ever on indoor rollers.

## DFM for a soldier

Pictured below with his wife and family is **Sergeant Norman Bailey**, who has won the Distinguished Flying Medal. The 28-year-old Royal Artillery sergeant, attached to the Army Air Corps, was flying over the Radfan Mountains in South Arabia when three shots tore into his Scout helicopter. One bullet smashed the tail rotor control and threw the helicopter into a dangerous yaw. Although the machine was almost uncontrollable, Sergeant Bailey decided to try and get back over jagged 5000-foot mountains to his base at Habilian, 20 miles away. Severe turbulence all but put the crippled Scout into a fatal spin, but Sergeant Bailey's skilful handling saw the crisis out. With the engine cut he made a perfect emergency landing at Habilian, saving the Scout from further damage. During two years in Aden, Sergeant Bailey flew 550 hours—about 400 of them in the difficult Radfan operational area.

## Cruise to Japan

Serious-faced among a sea of smiles (left), **Stephen Sheppard** concentrates on the job in hand. Mum, Dad and sister **Christina** can laugh with **Bruce Forsyth**, but seven-year-old Stephen is taking charge of the family's holiday tickets—no smiling matter for a solemn seven-year-old. **Staff-Sergeant Brian Sheppard** and his family won a 12-day cruise to Japan on a P & O liner in a Hong Kong Ordnance Depot draw. Bruce Forsyth presented the tickets and wished the Sheppards every happiness on a cruise that took them to Yokohama, Kobe and Shimizu.



# BADGES OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

**O**N the eve of a major reorganisation of the British Army's reserve forces, **SOLDIER** reproduces here the badges of the present Territorial Army.

In the biggest change since the 1947 re-formation, the Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve are being disbanded and replaced by a new force—the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve.

The first category of the new force consists of Ever-Readies; the second category, also to be called the Volunteers, will be akin to the present Territorial Army; and the third category, to be known as Territorials, will form the new home defence force.

Because of the much smaller size of the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve, some existing units will be disbanded or reduced in strength, and inevitably many familiar cap badges will disappear.

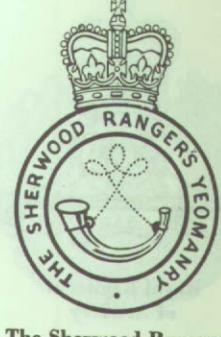
These eight pages, which can easily be extracted from the magazine, record the cap badges worn by the Territorial Army today. Some of them are comparatively new and reflect the brigading of Regular Army regiments when a few Territorial battalions adopted the brigade badge as worn by the Regular regiments instead of the old regimental badge.

In the case of two "large" regiments—The Royal Anglian Regiment and The Royal Green Jackets—where individual

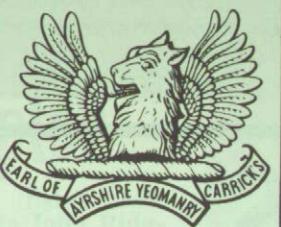
regiments have become battalions of one large regiment—the Territorials mainly retained their titles and badges.

But The Queen's Regiment, formed on 31 December 1966, took the "large" regiment concept a stage further, because of the imminent reorganisation, by embodying its Territorial battalions as Territorial and Volunteer battalions of The Queen's whose new badge they will wear.

**SOLDIER** is indebted to Mr A L Kipling, of Gale & Polden Ltd, Aldershot, for permission to reproduce many of the badge line drawings used in this supplement from the 4th edition of the late Major T J Edwards's "Regimental Badges," revised by Mr Kipling.

			
Honourable Artillery Company	Honourable Artillery Company Infantry Battalion (except officers' beret)	Honourable Artillery Company Infantry Battalion (officers' beret badge)	The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry (Prince of Wales's Own)
			
The Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry	The Queen's Own Yorkshire Yeomanry	The Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry	The Staffordshire Yeomanry (Queen's Own Royal Regiment)
			The Shropshire Yeomanry

**ROYAL  
ARMOURED  
CORPS**  
(Continued)



The Ayrshire Yeomanry  
(Earl of Carrick's Own)



The Cheshire Yeomanry  
(Earl of Chester's)



The Leicestershire  
and Derbyshire (Prince  
Albert's Own) Yeomanry



The North Somerset  
and Bristol Yeomanry

**ROYAL  
ARTILLERY**  
(Continued)



263 (Surrey Yeomanry,  
Queen Mary's)  
Field Regiment



Q (The Queen's Own)  
Battery, 265 Light  
Air Defence Regiment



277 Field Regiment  
(Argyll and Sutherland  
Highlanders)



286 (Hertfordshire and  
Bedfordshire Yeomanry)  
Field Regiment



The Duke of Lancaster's  
Own Yeomanry



The Queen's Own  
Lowland Yeomanry



The Northumberland  
Hussars



Fishguard  
Yeomanry



Kent and County  
of London Yeomanry  
(Sharpshooters)



296 (Royal Devon  
Yeomanry) Field Regiment



P (Buckinghamshire)  
Battery, 299 (Royal  
Buckinghamshire  
Yeomanry, Queen's Own  
Oxfordshire Hussars  
and Berkshire)  
Field Regiment



Q (Oxfordshire) Battery,  
299 (Royal Buckinghamshire  
Yeomanry, Queen's Own  
Oxfordshire Hussars  
and Berkshire)  
Field Regiment



304 (Essex Yeomanry)  
Regiment (RHA)



307 (South Notts Hussars  
Yeomanry) Regiment  
(RHA)



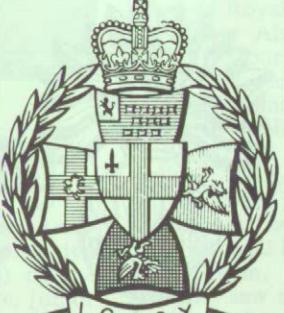
The Royal  
Gloucestershire Hussars



Berkshire and  
Westminster Dragoons



The Fife and Forfar  
Yeomanry/Scottish Horse



Inns of Court  
and City Yeomanry



North Irish Horse



308 (Suffolk and Norfolk  
Yeomanry) Light  
Air Defence Regiment



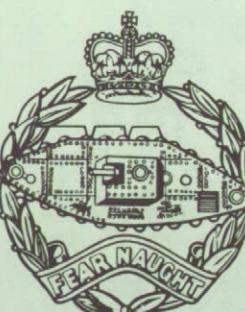
S (Tyneside Scottish)  
Battery, 439 Light  
Air Defence Regiment



Q (Liverpool Irish)  
Battery, 470  
(3rd West Lancs) Light  
Air Defence Regiment



540 Light  
Air Defence Regiment  
(The Lovat Scouts)



40th/41st  
Royal Tank Regiment

**ROYAL  
ARTILLERY**



Royal Regiment  
of Artillery



250 (Queen's Own Dorset  
and West Somerset  
Yeomanry) Medium  
Regiment



257 (Sussex Yeomanry)  
Field Regiment



851 (Westmoreland and  
Cumberland Yeomanry)  
Independent Field Battery

**ROYAL  
ENGINEERS**



Corps of Royal Engineers



Royal Monmouthshire  
Royal Engineers (Militia)



370 (Robin Hood  
Foresters) Field Squadron

Four familiar infantry badges are missing from those pictured on this and following pages. They are those of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Sussex Regiment and The Middlesex Regiment which, on 31 December 1966, were formed into The Queen's Regiment and now wear the Regiment's new badge pictured on this page.

## ROYAL SIGNALS



Royal Corps of Signals



41 Signal Regiment  
(Princess Louise's  
Kensington Regiment)



47 (Middlesex Yeomanry)  
Signal Regiment



The Loyal Regiment  
(North Lancashire)



The Royal  
Northumberland Fusiliers



The Royal Fusiliers  
(City of London  
Regiment)  
(see note, page 27)



The Fusilier Brigade  
(see note, page 27)



The Royal  
Norfolk Regiment

## INFANTRY



The Royal Scots  
(The Royal Regiment)  
(officers)



The Royal Scots  
(The Royal Regiment)  
(other ranks)



The Royal Scots Fusiliers



The Highland Light  
Infantry (City of  
Glasgow Regiment)



The Suffolk and  
Cambridgeshire  
Regiment



The Royal Lincolnshire  
Regiment (officers)



The Royal Lincolnshire  
Regiment (other ranks)



The Northamptonshire  
Regiment



The Bedfordshire and  
Hertfordshire Regiment



The Glasgow Highlanders



The King's Own  
Scottish Borderers



The Cameronians  
(Scottish Rifles)



The Queen's Regiment  
(see note, top left)



The King's Own  
Royal Regiment  
(Lancaster)



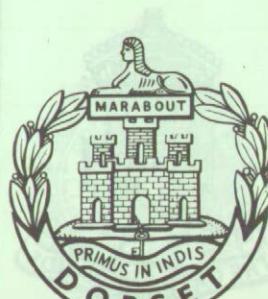
The Essex Regiment



The Royal Leicestershire  
Regiment



The Devonshire Regiment



The Dorset Regiment



The Gloucestershire  
Regiment



The Border Regiment



The King's Regiment  
(Liverpool)



The Manchester Regiment



The East Lancashire  
Regiment



The South Lancashire  
Regiment (The Prince  
of Wales's Volunteers)



The Gloucestershire  
Regiment (back badge)



The Royal Hampshire  
Regiment (officers)



The Royal Hampshire  
Regiment (other ranks)

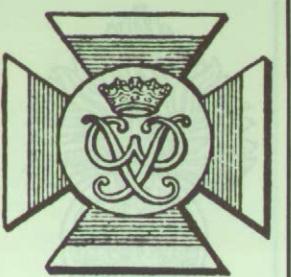


The Royal Berkshire  
Regiment (Princess  
Charlotte of Wales's)  
(officers)



The Royal Berkshire  
Regiment (Princess  
Charlotte of Wales's)  
(other ranks)

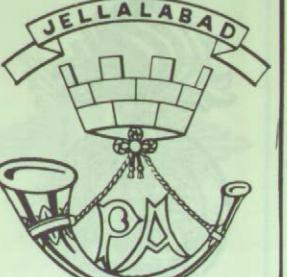
**INFANTRY**  
(Continued)



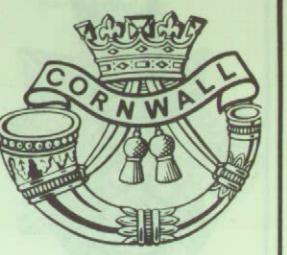
The Wiltshire Regiment  
(Duke of Edinburgh's)  
(officers)



The Wiltshire Regiment  
(Duke of Edinburgh's)  
(other ranks)



The Somerset  
Light Infantry  
(Prince Albert's)

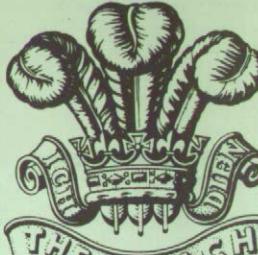


The Duke of Cornwall's  
Light Infantry

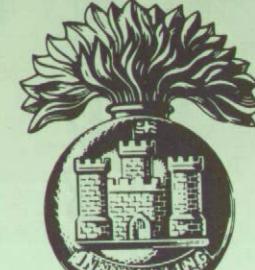
**INFANTRY**  
(Continued)



The Monmouthshire  
Regiment  
(see note below)



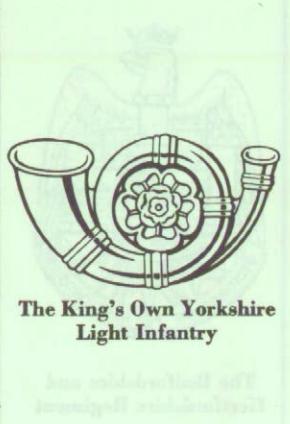
The Welch Regiment



The Royal Inniskilling  
Fusiliers  
(see note below)



The Royal Ulster Rifles  
(see note below)



The King's Own Yorkshire  
Light Infantry



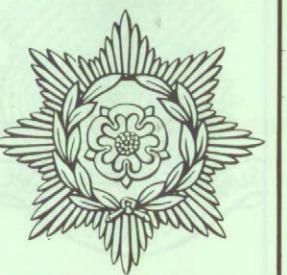
The King's Shropshire  
Light Infantry



The Herefordshire  
Light Infantry



The Durham Light  
Infantry



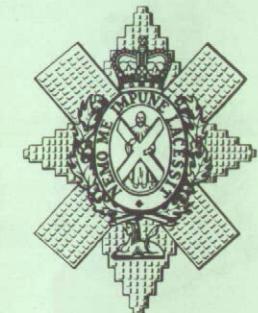
The Prince of Wales's  
Own Regiment of  
Yorkshire



The London Irish Rifles



The Royal Irish Fusiliers  
(Princess Victoria's)



The Black Watch  
(Royal Highland  
Regiment)



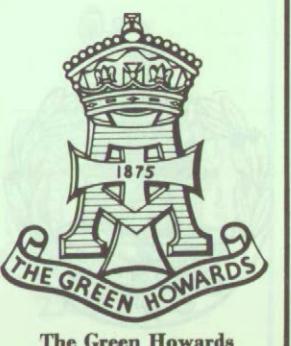
Seaforth Highlanders  
(Ross-shire Buffs,  
The Duke of Albany's)  
(other ranks)  
(see note below)



The Queen's Own  
Cameron Highlanders



The Leeds Rifles



The Green Howards  
(Alexandra,  
Princess of Wales's  
Own Yorkshire Regiment)



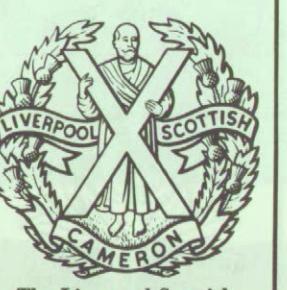
The Duke of Wellington's  
Regiment (West Riding)



The Hallamshire  
(York and Lancaster  
Regiment)



The Cheshire Regiment



The Liverpool Scottish



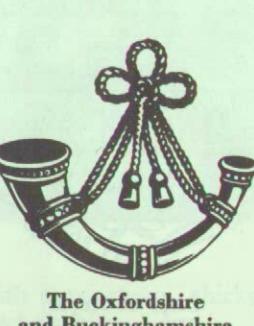
The Gordon Highlanders



The London Scottish



The Argyll and Sutherland  
Highlanders  
(Princess Louise's)



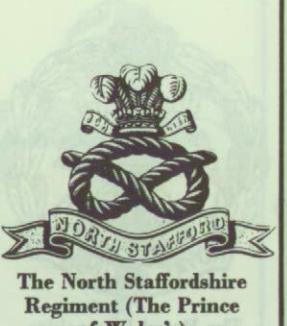
The Oxfordshire  
and Buckinghamshire  
Light Infantry



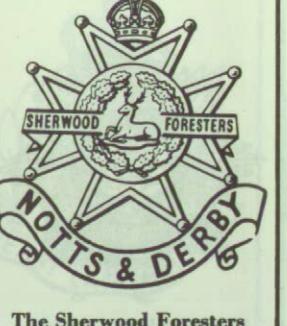
The Worcestershire  
Regiment



The South Staffordshire  
Regiment



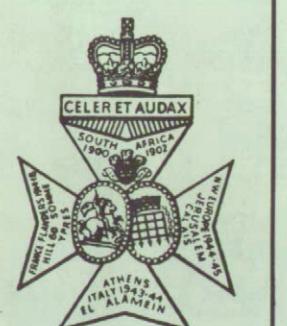
The North Staffordshire  
Regiment (The Prince  
of Wales's)



The Sherwood Foresters  
(Nottinghamshire and  
Derbyshire Regiment)



The Royal Welch Fusiliers



Queen's Royal Rifles  
(see note, right)



London Rifle Brigade  
Rangers



The Parachute Regiment

The Royal Fusiliers badge illustrated on page 25 is that worn on the forage cap by officers, and by other ranks. The officers' service dress cap badge is similar but bears the White Horse of Hanover below the Garter motto.

The Fusilier Brigade badge (page 25) is worn by The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers and The Lancashire Fusiliers.

The Monmouthshire Regiment badge (top left) is that worn by officers. The cap badge of other ranks is the Welsh dragon only, without the scroll.

The badge of The Royal Ulster Rifles (top right) is worn by officers on the forage cap, and by other ranks. On the service dress cap, officers wear a dark green cord boss on which are the harp and crown with a scroll across the harp inscribed "Quis separabit".

The Seaforth Highlanders badge on this page is the bonnet badge of other ranks. The officers' bonnet badge differs in additionally bearing, between the antlers, the cypher L of the Duke of Albany with the coronet above.

The Queen's Royal Rifles badge (left) is that of other ranks. The officers wear a red cord boss on which is a bugle strung in silver plate.

**SPECIAL  
AIR  
SERVICE**



Special Air Service  
Regiment

**DEPARTMENTS**



Royal Army Chaplains'  
Department (Christian)



Royal Army Chaplains'  
Department (Jewish)

**CORPS**



Royal Corps of Transport



Royal Army Medical Corps



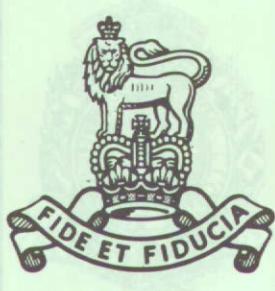
Royal Army Ordnance  
Corps



Corps of Royal  
Electrical and Mechanical  
Engineers



Corps of Royal  
Military Police



Royal Army Pay Corps



Royal Army Veterinary  
Corps



Royal Army Dental Corps



Intelligence Corps



Army Catering Corps



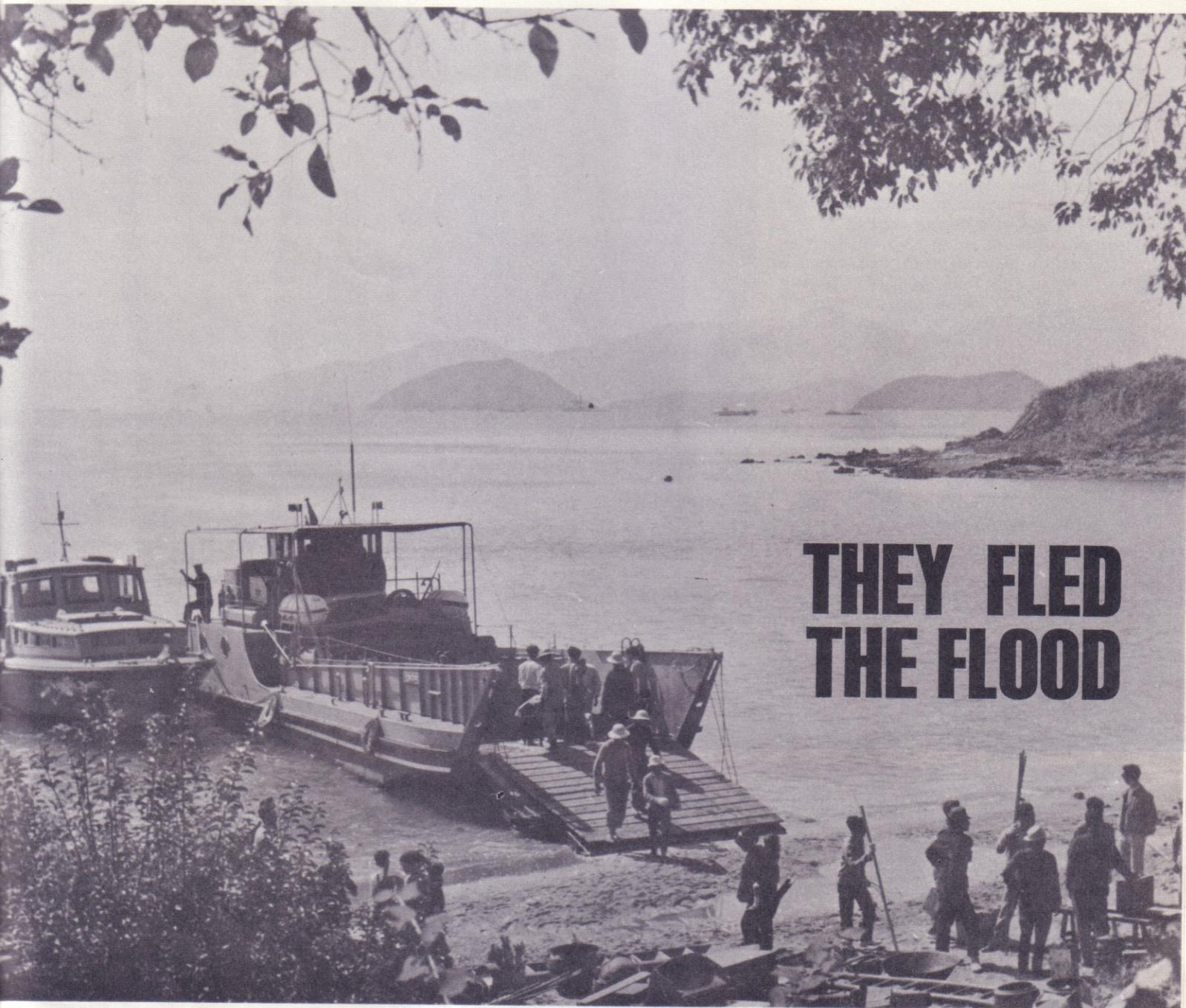
Queen Alexandra's Royal  
Army Nursing Corps



Women's Royal Army  
Corps



*“The crocus bulbs are coming along fine!”*



## THEY FLED THE FLOOD



Top: Hardship beached on the Wang Ling foreshore and ready to embark a motley cargo of people and belongings from six flood-threatened villages. Above: Hardship's skipper, Sergeant Bob Howe, Royal Corps of Transport, and his crew evacuated the Chinese to new homes in Taipo.

**I**N ten days a landing craft crewed by soldiers of the Army's navy plied the Hong Kong coastline to save 1100 Chinese villagers and their possessions from a Great Flood. Noah might have managed it faster, but then he had supernatural help unavailable to 56 Squadron of the Royal Corps of Transport.

A new reservoir in Hong Kong's New Territories will submerge five villages and make a sixth uninhabitable. With the promise of generous compensation and new shops and flats for every family, the villagers were happy to abandon their old homes—uncomfortable when they were built centuries ago.

The problem was how to evacuate them with no roads for lorries or landing grounds for planes or helicopters. The answer was an Army landing craft.

Under Coxwain Sergeant Bob Howe's tender handling, the good ship Hardship gently grounded on the rock chip beach at Wang Ling and the exodus began. They came aboard not two by two, but in scores and loaded with possessions until Hardship

seemed awash with pots, chairs, chickens, tables, pictures and people.

On the voyage to the nearby township of Taipo, the Chinese crowded the stern to take a last look at the villages soon to join Atlantis under water.

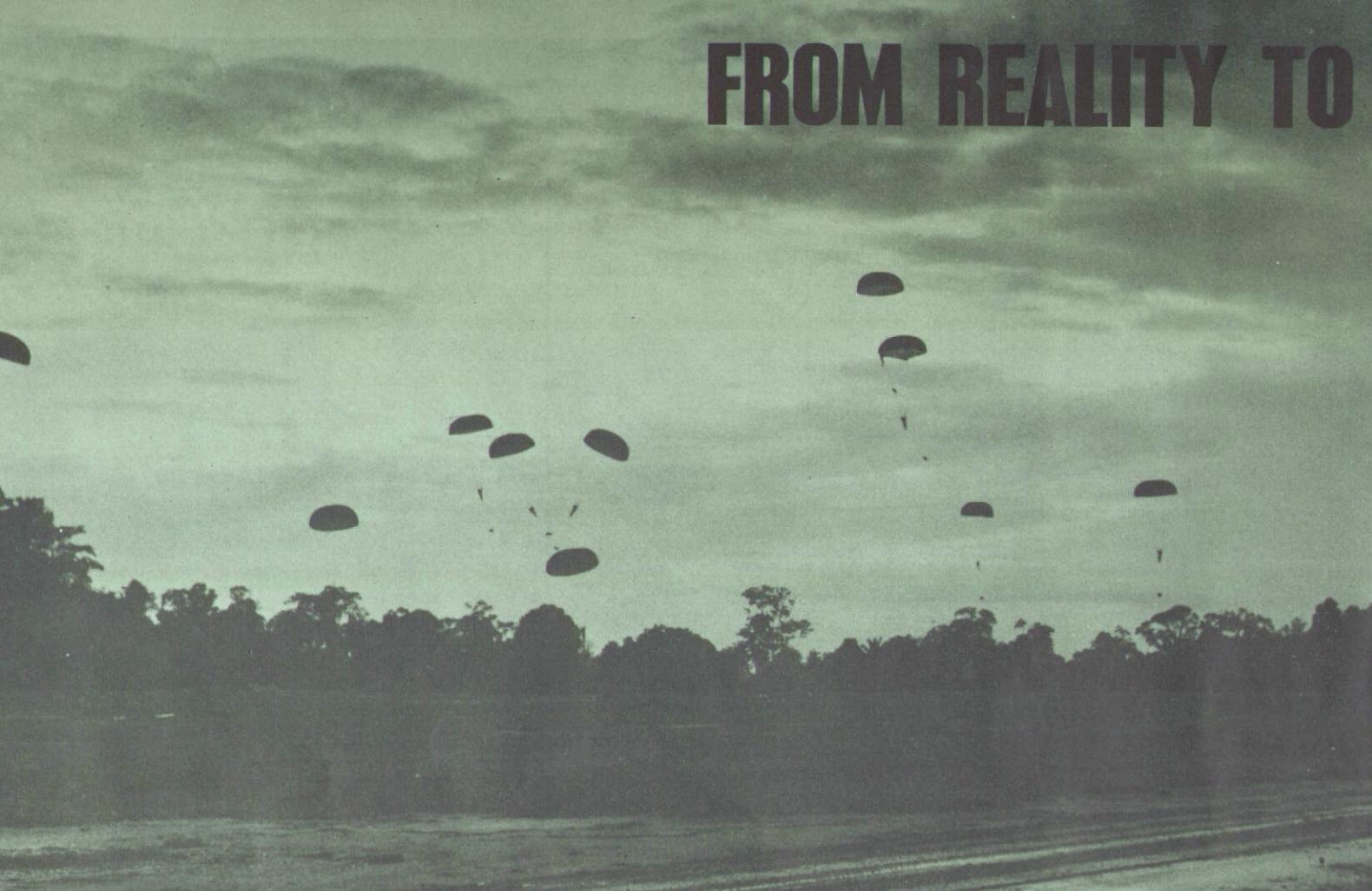
Hong Kong's 4,000,000 population use 120,000,000 gallons of water daily and a new water storage system had to be found. By damming Plover Cove the Government has created a multi-million gallon reservoir that will quench the Colony's rising thirst for years to come. Once the sea water has been pumped out from behind the dam, fresh water will be fed in from catchment areas all over the Colony to a final height 50 feet above the sea.

The displaced villagers' new homes are lit by electricity in place of the traditional oil lamps and they were given full allowance for loss of land, crops, trees, livestock—even bees.

They are grateful to everybody, particularly to 56 Squadron RCT—Rapid Chinese Transportation Ltd.

*From a report by Army Public Relations, Hong Kong.*

# FROM REALITY TO REHEARSAL



Top: Men of the Gurkha Independent Parachute Company and assault engineers of 11 Independent Field Squadron in a dawn drop on Batu Pahat airfield.

Above, left: Scots Guardsmen stay crouched while their ferrying Belvedere takes off. Above, right: Gurkhas await assault on their defended village.

# REHEARSAL

THE perspiring privilege of conducting the first jungle teach-in on the lessons of Confrontation fell to 2500 men of 28th Commonwealth Brigade in Malaya. They took to the thickets in the Batu Pahat area for two weeks to practise counter-revolutionary warfare with a distinct Borneo flavour in Exercise Winged Haggis.

The "Where have I fought this before?" scheme opened with a dawn descent on Batu Pahat airfield by Gurkha and Royal Engineer paratroopers. Short-range aircraft and helicopters of the Royal Air Force's 224 Group then flew in with the mysterious winged haggis—1st Battalion, Scots Guards, with Brigade Headquarters and full supply and support elements.

The brief allowed for only one road convoy. After that the pacification forces had to rely on regular airdrops while they harried the guerilla opposition of 2nd Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles. Patrols, ambushes, cordon searches and village assaults kept the Scots Guards fully active while the Royal Malaysian Police and civil authorities played out the role of a civil power under heavy pressure from internal subversion.



Under a fighter support umbrella, helicopters whistled over the treetops to make surprise deployments of troops. As intelligence built up, large operations were mounted against the enemy's distant base.

The exercise was a swansong, at the end of their Far East tours, for both the Scots Guards and their Brigade Commander, Brigadier T D H McMeekin, who is to be Director of Army Public Relations.

*From a report by Army Public Relations, Far East Land Forces.*

Left: Two Scots Guardsmen approach the defended village. Note the improvised but effective perimeter of sharp bamboo spikes.

Below: A Scots Guardsman hurling a grenade during his Battalion's attack on the village, defended by 2nd/7th Gurkha "enemy."



# THEY KNOW WHAT

# HARDSHIPS ARE

A HARD environment raises a tough soldiers. What then of a regiment bred on the bastions of the Tower of London and harshly cradled within its granite girdle? Since it was raised in 1685, the unit James II egotistically titled "Our Royal Regiment of Fusileers" has endured and survived unbelievable suffering.

In 282 years of globe-ranging soldiering The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) have met and conquered every disaster that ever blighted mankind. On a hundred battlefields in the wars of three centuries the 7th of Foot have lived and died by their motto, *Nec Aspera Terrent—Hardships do not frighten us*."

The Royal Fusiliers are a Regiment of volatile Cockneys and to "Hardships do not frighten us" might be added "But nothing and nobody will stop us complaining about them." Habitual grousing, the Blitz banter of 1940, is a frequently misunderstood characteristic of London's own Regiment.

The chanting of grievances comes after the time of stress and, like the roll of distant thunder, is loud but harmless.

James II gave his patronage to a new regiment, founded on two companies which had long been stationed at the Tower of London, because he wanted his artillery train protected. They were armed with swords, bayonets and fuzils, a longer and superior kind of musket. Oddly enough the Regiment was to live on long after the role it was created for was dead. By 1694 The Royal Fusiliers had taken their place among the Infantry Line regiments as the 7th Foot.

London's new regiment was garrisoned in the Thameside fortress and the clash over religion between the Roman Catholic King and his country left the soldiers in an invidious position. When seven bishops were committed to the Tower, the unhappy fusiliers received them on their knees. Later, after the Monarch's overthrow, their own Colonel, Lord Dartmouth, a friend of the deposed James, was imprisoned.

A frustrating decade after formation the 7th earned their first battle honour, Namur 1695. Shame followed distinction when the Regiment was caught looting during

the attack on Cadiz five years later. Though the Colonel himself was acquitted of plunder, several officers certainly were involved.

The slip was to be retrieved at the Battle of Vittoria 100 years afterwards when a writer heaped praise on the 7th's stern discipline. French booty from the rape of Spain lay about in glittering heaps, yet the Fusiliers marched past without a man breaking ranks.

Going into the bag at the very start of the American War of Independence was poor reward for a courageous defence of St John's in Canada. The 7th fought on until half rations and the strain of living in knee-deep mire drained their strength.

Commemored for their zeal in the Martinique campaign, The Royal Fusiliers were also singled out for their cool steadiness at Talavera where they stemmed a headlong French assault. Similar deeds revealed the utter reliability of the Regiment and prompted a general to report, "This corps is an instance among British soldiers of the union of regularity and good conduct in quarters with patience and valour in the field of battle."

By then there were two battalions of the 7th, and in Spain during the Peninsular War they united to save the allied army and made "Royal Fusiliers at Albuhera" a synonym for courage.

The Spaniards were reeling and the British line was about to be rolled up when the Fusilier Brigade calmly marched through the smoke of chaos and impending defeat to confront the French.

Ignoring the grape and musket shot decimating their ranks, they flung vastly greater forces of artillery, cavalry and infantry from the decisive heights. The survivors of two battalions numbered barely enough for one.

Small wonder that Albuhera Day is still an occasion for pride and celebration in The Royal Fusiliers.

Disaster at New Orleans, and a vain attempt to reach Waterloo in time for that battle, marked the end of hostilities for the 7th until they joined the Light Division in the Crimea in 1854. Many regiments claim kudos for the Alma victory, but it was the 7th that stood alone while broken battalions withdrew to rally. Inkerman and Sevastopol



were scarcely worse for the soldiers than the horrors of cold and disease.

The terrifying scale of World War One was to dwarf even this. There were more Royal Fusiliers serving in the Battle of the Somme than the entire Allied Army at Inkerman. With a quarter of a million Fusiliers fighting in a war more destructive than any in history, London was doomed to the sadness of high casualty lists. By November 1918, the death roll for the Regiment's 65 Battalions carried nearly 22,000 names.

The battle that took ascendancy in a brilliant galaxy of Royal Fusilier successes



was the first one of the war. Before any other battalion had seen action, the 4th Battalion had won five honours in a spitting, snarling retreat from Mons to the Marne. Manning two machine-guns to hold a canal bridge, Lieutenant Maurice Dease and Private Frank Godley won the first two Victoria Crosses of the war.

Twenty-one years later, in 1939, a new malignancy erupted and the indefatigable Cockneys again went into action in every theatre.

The name that will survive above others to enshrine the win-or-lose bravery of the 7th Foot in countless actions great and small is Monte Cassino. Before the battle was won the valley below the monastery was strewn with dead Londoners from the 1st and 2nd Battalions.

Since Korea in the 1950s and a non-shooting trip to Suez, 1st Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers, has travelled widely but lived quietly in an operational sense. The immediate prospect, of a return home from Osnabruck and a move to the Persian Gulf at the end of this year, does not seem to promise an immediate return to active service. On the other hand, life in the Middle East is... explosive?

In a showcase at the Tower of London where The Royal Fusiliers maintain their headquarters and fascinating museum, there is a long iron boot. It carries the inscription, "Found of great use in the case of W Reginald. After imposing on the Regiment for three years and six months, he was cured in 12 days by locking his leg in this box, preventing him applying a corrosive substance which kept the sore open and was found on him. It being proved he was sentenced to 500 lashes. Jersey, 12th May, 1808."



Top left: The 1st Battalion under fire while attacking Agordat, in Eritrea, 1941. Speed and determination saved the 7th many casualties in World War Two.

Above: At Mons in 1914, a Royal Fusilier, Lieutenant Maurice Dease, won the war's first Victoria Cross.

Left: Royal Fusiliers in ceremonial dress and sealskins parade at the Tower of London, the Regiment's birthplace 282 years ago.

Strangers dining with The Royal Fusiliers are often baffled when the band plays the National Anthem and the officers talk and drink on as if deaf. The privilege of ignoring the anthem in the Mess was bestowed by King William IV.

The conventional explanation runs that strict observation was unnecessary since the Regiment's loyalty could not be doubted.

A more likely theory reasons that as a regular

diner at the Mess, the King hated to have his entertainment obstructed by protocol. No toasts are drunk at dinners and, to the great relief of the Lord Mayor of London who dines at the Tower once a year, no speeches are made.

For 177 years the bandsmen of the 1st Battalion have worn swords with brass scabbards. They were presented in 1790 by Queen Victoria's father, the Duke of Kent, when he commanded the Regiment.



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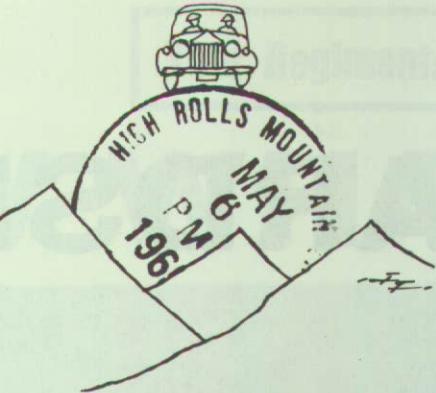
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# LETTERS

## Tribute

It is easy for those of us who have retired from the Services to wax sentimental when we come into contact with them again, all the more so when we live overseas. The recent visit to Queensland of 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, and of HMS Bulwark, with 42 Commando, Royal Marines, has given just such an opportunity.

Sentiment apart, I would say with some conviction that these units have made a powerful impression for good, not only on the Australian forces, but also on the civilian population.

Further visits here by units with the same high standards could be to the benefit of both countries in circles spreading far beyond the Australian Servicemen with whom the British representatives train or live.—  
**A E Cooksedge (Lieut-Col RA Rtd), 17 Mardale Street, Grange Heights, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.**

## Toxophilily

The Per Ardua Archery Society, comprising mainly Royal Air Force personnel and their dependants, would like to contact Army archers with the primary object of arranging shoulder-to-shoulder or postal shoot matches. Secondary objectives are an inter-Service championship shoot and the possible formation of an inter-Service archery society.

We have already run several postal league and championship shoots, both indoor and outdoor. Further details may be obtained from myself, the Secretary—**C Tech T A Dennett, 25 St Edmund's Rise, Taverham, Norwich, NOR 53x.**

## Burma Star

Many readers of **SOLDIER**, both serving and ex-Service, may be unaware of the existence of the Burma Star Association, which has a membership of about 6500 and more than 100 branches throughout Great Britain, as well as overseas.

We welcome as members all who hold the Burma Star or the Pacific Star with clasp "Burma," having served in any of the three Services in South-East Asia Command during the qualifying period.

Annual events are the reunion at the Royal Albert Hall, Remembrance Parade

at the Cenotaph and the General Conference.

Emergency assistance is given to Burma Star holders in real need and our welfare officers co-operate with the British Legion and other ex-Service organisations. The Association publishes its magazine, "Dekho," thrice yearly and this is distributed free to all paid-up members. Membership forms and further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Burma Star Association, 51 St Georges Drive, London SW1.—  
**W E Marsch, 28 Tadema Road, Chelsea, London, SW10**

★ The honorary secretary of the 60-strong Dublin Branch of the Burma Star Association, Mr E Skelly, claims that one of its members, Mr L Powell, is the youngest holder of the Burma Star. Mr Powell was born in June 1929, enlisted at Belfast in March 1944 and entered Burma the following November at the age of fifteen years and five months. Another record for the Irish?

## Maori Wars

I am compiling a pictorial history of the Maori Wars, and while I have obtained a large amount of material, much of it unpublished, here in New Zealand, I am sure there must be a tremendous fund of valuable information and references in the United Kingdom.

Specifically, I am asking for the loan or copies of diaries, journals, letters, paintings, sketches and photographs originally the property of officers and men who served in New Zealand between 1843 and 1870, and would take the greatest care of material sent to me.

In the course of my researches I have been on many field trips throughout New Zealand's North Island, and am glad to report that the known graves of British soldiers killed in action or died of wounds or diseases are well marked and well cared for. I have a list of these and can locate most with little trouble. It would give me pleasure to help any descendants of those who fought here and seek information about their soldier ancestors if they care to write to me.—  
**B A Wilson, 51 Mornington Road, Brooklyn SW1, Wellington, New Zealand.**

## Foresters in Africa

On St Andrew's Day 1966 the cathedral at Bloemfontein, South Africa, celebrated its centenary. In paying tribute to those who helped to build the cathedral mention was made of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 45th Regiment of Foot (The Sherwood Foresters, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) who gave, according to a beautifully written list, one day's pay each to the cathedral. This list was one of the exhibits.

Perhaps it was this magnificent gesture which triggered the gift from the 6th (South African) Armoured Division, also of one day's pay, to the Brigade of Guards when the news was heard of the destruction of the Guards' Chapel by a flying bomb during World War Two.

Little can they have realised, those

## BACK FROM HOLIDAY

Fewer than half the competitors arrived at the correct solution of Competition 101 (October). Required answers were: (a) Craftsman (What rank was Abbot?); (b) Coachwise (Which agency did the Drummer choose?) (c) Slivovica (What gift did the Craftsman bring back?).

The complete solution was:

Rank	Name	Resort	Agency	Via	Gift
Gunner	Kettle	Montreux	Railhols	Boulogne	Watch
Piper	Horn	Palma	Farflung	London	Pearls
Signalman	Chanter	Blackpool	Bettatours	Euston	Rock
Bandsman	Line	Kyrenia	Medflights	Nicosia	Lace
Craftsman	Abbot	Dubrovnik	Jetways	Gatwick	Slivovica
Drummer	Fitter	Estartit	Coachwise	Perpignan	Castanets

Prizewinners were:

1 2/Lieut R Bucknall RA TA, 1 Hillcroft Cottage, Sournmilk Hill Lane, Gateshead 9, Co. Durham.

2 A Masters, 115 Hales Road, Cheltenham, Glos.

3 Lieut-Col P W Lonnion, Ponderosa, Park Road, Ashtead, Surrey.

4 L/Sgt Ferguson, Pear Tree Cottage, Windlesham, Surrey.

5 R A Summerton, 53 Fd Sqn RE, Waterbeach Barracks, Cambridge.

6 Sgt J F Jackson, 150 Inf Wksp REME TA, Stonecot Hill, Sutton, Surrey.

7 Mrs D A Reggler, c/o Maj M J Reggler RAPC, 50 Missile Regt RA, BFPO 24.

8 WO I D Stokve, SEME, Bordon, Hants.

9 Maj R J Pallant (Rtd), 34 Oak Road, Fareham, Hants.

10 Cpl T P Doyle, Garrison Gymnasium, Dhekelia, BFPO 53.

## COLLECTORS' CORNER

Cpl M A Robinson, B Sqn, 1st Troop, 10th Royal Hussars, BFPO 17.—Collects regimental badges.

J C Lalith Perera (age 13), Roestan, 238 Negombo Road, Wattala, Ceylon.—Collects pictures and books of war planes, also worldwide Army cap and collar badges.

M P Conniford, 12 Westdene Crescent, Reading, Berks.—Requires data books, photographs and manuals of Canadian military vehicles. Correspondence welcomed.

H Coates, 37 Regency Square, Brighton, Sussex.—Requires photos of pre-war Cavalry and Horse Artillery uniforms in wear, worldwide; also smart civilian equestrian kit etc.

G J Jackson, 377 Highfield Road, Toronto 8, Ontario, Canada.—Collects military cap and collar badges, shoulder titles and regimental histories.

Curator, RADC Museum, Depot and TE RADC, Aldershot, Hants.—Requires pair of embroidered shoulder titles, as worn on battle dress, with letters RADC in red on royal blue background.

RSM J A Barrow, 1 Bn, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, BFPO 29.—Collects British and Commonwealth badges, especially Wiltshire, Royal Berkshire, Royal Marines and Australian. All letters answered.

E Aschbacher, 8045 Ismaning b, Munchen, Muchener Str 40, West Germany.—Requires beer mats issued by British Army units. Can send stamps, continental mats or other items in exchange.

J M Cahill, Royal Edinburgh Hospital, Male Staff Residence, Morningside Place, Edinburgh 10.—Wishes purchase British and Commonwealth cap badges and shoulder flashes. Correspondence from other collectors welcomed.

men of the 45th, how well they helped to build both a building and a spirit of comradeship.—M B S Laing, PO Box 513, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

## New society

Readers of SOLDIER, particularly those living north of the Tweed, may be interested in the formation of the Scottish Society of Military Collectors. If sufficient support is forthcoming, monthly meetings will be held in Edinburgh and it is hoped that a Glasgow branch will follow in due course. Further details may be obtained from G Robinson, 36 Grove Street, Fountainbridge, Edinburgh 3.

## Children's Education

The diversity of educational facilities in the United Kingdom offers opportunities for children of all abilities, but this variety can itself be confusing to parents. The Institute of Army Education provides a service of advice to serving Army parents on all matters relating to the education and future careers of children, especially those who suffer mental and physical handicaps, at home and overseas.

If you require advice you should apply through the Chief Education Officer to the Commandant, Institute of Army Education, Court Road, Eltham, London SE9. All enquiries are treated in confidence.

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 36)

The two pictures vary in the following respects:

1 Loops round body of soldier holding rope. 2 Right hand of soldier holding rope. 3 Notice board on left soldier's belt. 4 Number of trees below sun. 5 Chinmen of soldier. 6 Position of air rifle. 7 Height of trees in background. 8 Right arm of man near photocopy of knee. 9 End of tie-piece. 10 Lines below notice board on left soldier's belt. 11 Height of trees below sun. 12 Chinmen of soldier. 13 Position of air rifle. 14 Number of trees below sun. 15 Chinmen of soldier. 16 Height of trees in background. 17 Height of trees below sun. 18 Chinmen of soldier. 19 Position of air rifle. 20 Number of trees below sun. 21 Chinmen of soldier. 22 Position of air rifle. 23 Height of trees in background. 24 Height of trees below sun. 25 Chinmen of soldier. 26 Position of air rifle. 27 Number of trees below sun. 28 Chinmen of soldier. 29 Position of air rifle. 30 Height of trees in background. 31 Height of trees below sun. 32 Chinmen of soldier. 33 Position of air rifle. 34 Number of trees below sun. 35 Chinmen of soldier. 36 Position of air rifle. 37 Height of trees in background. 38 Height of trees below sun. 39 Chinmen of soldier. 40 Position of air rifle. 41 Number of trees below sun. 42 Chinmen of soldier. 43 Position of air rifle. 44 Height of trees in background. 45 Height of trees below sun. 46 Chinmen of soldier. 47 Position of air rifle. 48 Number of trees below sun. 49 Chinmen of soldier. 50 Position of air rifle. 51 Height of trees in background. 52 Height of trees below sun. 53 Chinmen of soldier. 54 Position of air rifle. 55 Number of trees below sun. 56 Chinmen of soldier. 57 Position of air rifle. 58 Height of trees in background. 59 Height of trees below sun. 60 Chinmen of soldier. 61 Position of air rifle. 62 Number of trees below sun. 63 Chinmen of soldier. 64 Position of air rifle. 65 Height of trees in background. 66 Height of trees below sun. 67 Chinmen of soldier. 68 Position of air rifle. 69 Number of trees below sun. 70 Chinmen of soldier. 71 Position 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background. 913 Height of trees below sun.

# GALLANTRY IN ADEN AND BORNEO

FURTHER awards for gallant and distinguished services in Aden and the Borneo territories include a Distinguished Service Order, six Military Crosses, five Military Medals, a Distinguished Conduct Medal and (see page 20) a Distinguished Flying Medal won by an Army Air Corps sergeant.

The lists also include six OBEs, five MBEs, three BEMs, four Queen's Com mendations and 51 Mentions-in-Dispatches.

**Lieutenant P D Orwin**, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, won his Military Cross in the Aden Protectorate where, near Habilian, he and his patrol of 14 men set a night ambush. They surprised a group of 18 dissident tribesmen who reacted quickly with rocket launchers, killing a junior non-commissioned officer, stunning the platoon sergeant and injuring two other soldiers. Lieutenant Orwin repositioned and directed his machine-guns to cover the now unprotected right flank and, after moving the two wounded to cover, he engaged the rocket launchers single-handed with grenades. Enemy losses were two dead and six wounded.

Four weeks before this action, **Acting Corporal A G Auker**, also of The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, was commanding an observation post at Habilian when it came under intense rocket and small arms fire. To obtain an accurate fix of the enemy position, Corporal Auker moved under fire across open ground and, still under fire, returned to his post to help repel the attack. He is awarded the Military Medal.

**Sergeant T Edwards**, 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, has also won the Military Medal for bravery in Aden. For six months he acted as a platoon commander and, during a four-day operation, displayed cool courage under fire which was an inspiration to his platoon. His citation says "he has shown magnificent leadership and devotion to duty over and above what is expected of a non-commissioned officer of his rank."

The Borneo awards have been made for gallant and distinguished services between 24 December 1965 and 23 June 1966.

The Distinguished Service Order goes to **Major C J Pike**, 10th Princess Mary's Own

Gurkha Rifles, whose company killed some 50 Regular Indonesian troops in two fierce battles during March. "The efficient and high morale of the company is a reflection of Major Pike's leadership and tactical sense," says the citation.

Appointed Officers of the Order of the British Empire are **Colonel A E Arnold**, Royal Engineers; **Lieutenant-Colonel J M Petit**, The Royal Anglian Regiment; **Lieutenant-Colonel A S Harvey**, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles; **Lieutenant-Colonel B F L Rooney**, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles; **Lieutenant-Colonel C S F Carroll**, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles; **Lieutenant-Colonel P O Myers**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Members of the Order of the British Empire are **Major C L Tarver**, The Queen's Own Buffs; **Captain (QM) R Maddison**, The King's Own Scottish Borderers; **Major G P T Carpenter**, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles; **Major M E Carleton-Smith**, The Royal Green Jackets; and **Major B C McDermott**, Royal Army Medical Corps.

The British Empire Medal has been awarded to **Sergeant M Lines**, Royal Tank Regiment; **Staff-Sergeant G B Warner**, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers; and **Staff-Sergeant J N Sanderson**, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

**Major J A Peel**, Royal Artillery, was a forward observation officer in seven operations on the Sarawak border between December 1965 and April 1966. "During all these operations Major Peel directed his guns skilfully in the most difficult and arduous circumstances." He has been awarded the Military Cross.

**Lieutenant D W Fox**, also a Royal Artillery forward observation officer, of a company which located a large enemy force near the Sarawak border and won the fierce ensuing battle, also wins the Military Cross. His courage and "the example he set to those with him in their isolated and vulnerable position are deserving of the highest praise."

The Military Cross goes to **Major J A G Arnot**, The Durham Light Infantry, for

directing operations with imagination and drive and commanding his company against the enemy with skill, coolness and resource. He commanded a forward base on the frontier for five months.

**Captain C D Hughes** (see SOLDIER, July 1966), 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, has been awarded the Military Cross. In Sarawak, with his company, he pursued and persistently attacked a strong enemy force in thick, hilly jungle. In spite of heavy fire, plastic mines and booby traps, his company kept up the pressure so effectively that the enemy was forced to weaken itself by splitting up into small groups.

A Queen's Gurkha Officer, **Captain Purnasing Limbu**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, commanded a platoon in Sarawak which successfully ambushed and annihilated an enemy force located on the border. This operation, which he planned and executed, was "perfect in every detail." He has been awarded the Military Cross.

Of **Rifleman Hindupal Rai**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, who wins the Distinguished Conduct Medal, his citation says his courage and leadership "throughout a fierce engagement at point-blank range were outstanding." In a battle with enemy intruders in Sarawak he personally killed five men and dominated the action on his flank of the platoon.

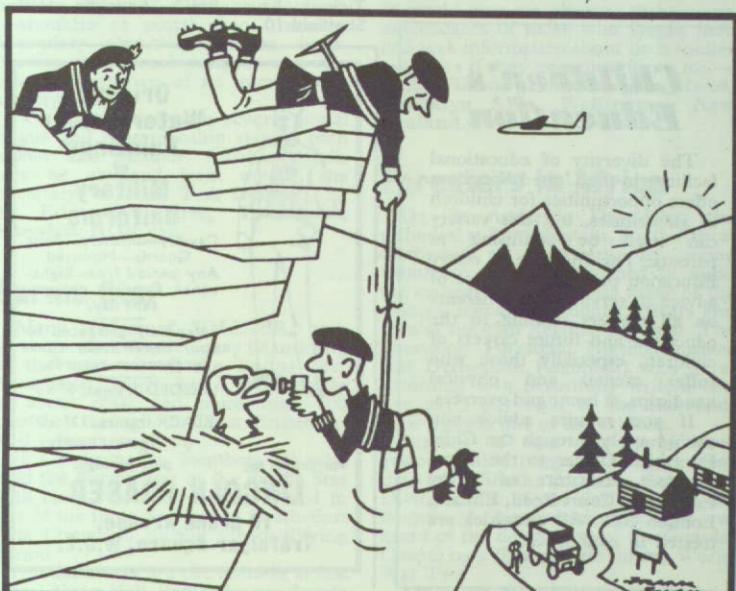
Three other Gurkhas have been awarded the Military Medal. **Rifleman Manbahadur Thapa**, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles, was Number One on a machine-gun during an attack on an enemy camp in Borneo. The success of the operation was "attributable to his gallantry and coolness."

**Corporal Asmani Rai**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, "has shown great bravery and inspired leadership which have earned him a fighting réputation second to none."

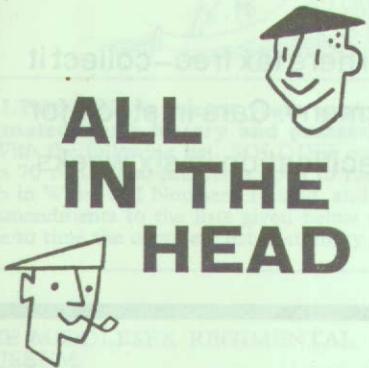
**Rifleman Jagatbahadur Limbu**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, played a prominent part in a highly successful ambush near the Sarawak border. Success was "due in large measure to his courage and aggressive spirit."

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. Look at them very carefully. If you cannot detect the differences, see page 35.



# ALL IN THE HEAD



**F**AMILIAR faces, yes—you saw them in SOLDIER'S first code competition—but the message is different. The faces represent letters of the alphabet and the light dots indicate spaces between words, some of which carry over from one line to the next.

Send your decoded message, by letter or on a postcard, with the "Competition 105" label from this page and your name and address, to:

**The Editor (Comp 105)  
SOLDIER  
433 Holloway Road  
London N7.**

Closing date for this competition, which is open to all readers, is Monday, 17 April. Solution and winners' names will appear in the June SOLDIER.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 105" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

## COMPETITION 105

## PRIZES

1 £10 in cash  
 2 £5 in cash  
 3 £3 in cash  
 4 £2 in cash

5-6 **SOLDIER** free for a year  
 7-8 **SOLDIER** free for six months or a **SOLDIER** Easibinder

9-13 £2 each in cash to winning entry from  
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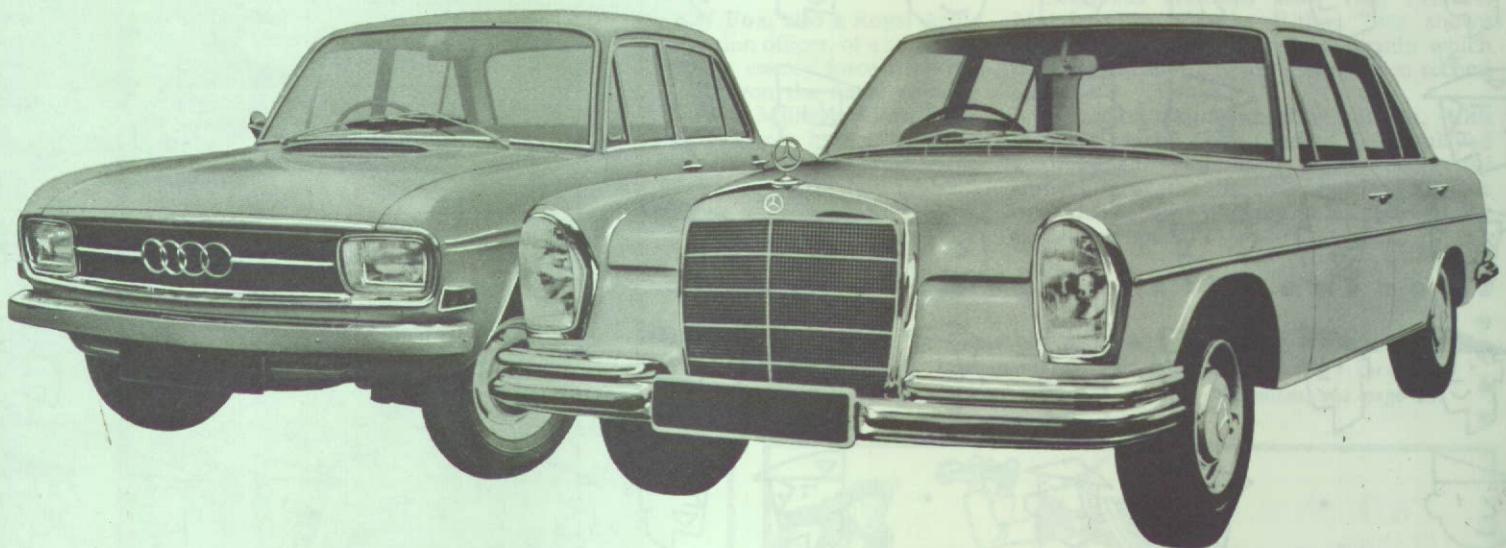
15

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# Military Museums

ALTHOUGH in recent years many regiments of the British Army have been amalgamated, their history and possessions have been preserved in their museums.

With the following list, SOLDIER completes its catalogue of military museums. There are more than 70 regimental museums open to the public, 55 of them in England, 12 in Scotland, and three each in Wales and Northern Ireland, and more are being established.

Amendments to the lists given below and in the January SOLDIER will be published and from time to time the complete list of military museums will be reprinted.

## LONDON

### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

*Address:* RHQ The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex Office), Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

*Open:* By appointment.

*Curator:* Major R W J Smith.

### BERKSHIRE AND WESTMINSTER DRAGOONS MUSEUM

*Address:* Regimental Headquarters, 1 Elverton Street, Horseferry Road SW1.

*Open:* By appointment.

*Curator:* Captain M W Pickersgill.

### BEDFORDSHIRE

### THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE MUSEUM

Temporarily closed for move to a new location.

### CUMBERLAND

### THE BORDER REGIMENT MUSEUM

*Address:* The Castle, Carlisle.

*Open:* Monday to Saturday (March to April) 0930 to 1700; Sunday (March to April) 1400 to 1730; Monday to Saturday (May to September) 0930 to 1900; Sunday (May to September) 0930 to 1900; Monday to Saturday (October) 0930 to 1730; Sunday (October) 1400 to 1730; Monday to Saturday (November to February) 0930 to 1600; Sunday (November to February) 1400 to 1600.

*Curator:* Major W A B Pakenham.

### DORSET

### ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS TANK MUSEUM

*Address:* Bovington Camp, near Wareham.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 1000 to 1230, 1400 to 1645; Saturday; Sunday and bank holidays 1030 to 1230, 1400 to 1600.

*Curator:* Major-General N W Duncan.

### ESSEX

### THE ESSEX REGIMENT MUSEUM

*Address:* Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 1000 to 1200, 1400 to 1600. Parties by appointment.

*Curator:* Major T R Stead.

### KENT

### KENT AND COUNTY OF LONDON YEOMANRY MUSEUM

*Address:* Hill House, Beckenham Lane, Bromley.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1600.

*Curator:* Major B Mollo.

### LINCOLNSHIRE

### 17TH/21ST LANCERS MUSEUM

*Address:* Belvoir Castle, near Grantham.

*Open:* Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday 1200 to 1800; Sunday (October only) 1400 to 1800; Good Friday, bank holidays (Monday and Tuesday) 1100 to 1900. Open from Good Friday 24 March 1967 to Sunday 29 October 1967.

*Curator:* Major G A S Graham.

### MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT

*Address:* The Keep, Sobraon Barracks, Burton Road, Lincoln.

*Open:* Monday to Thursday 0900 to 1300, 1400 to 1730; Friday 0900 to 1300, 1400 to 1700.

*Curator:* Major P H Segon.

### NORFOLK

### THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT MUSEUM

*Address:* Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1630.  
*Curator:* Major W G Cripps.

### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

### THE MUSEUM OF THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT

*Address:* Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton.

*Open:* Tuesday to Saturday 0930 to 1230, 1400 to 1630.  
*Curator:* Major D Baxter.

### NORTHUMBERLAND

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, 15TH/19TH THE KING'S ROYAL HUSSARS

Hoped that a museum will be opened in 1967/68.

*NORTHUMBERLAND HUSSARS MUSEUM*  
Not yet established.

### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

### THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS (NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE) MUSEUM

*Address:* The Castle, Nottingham.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 1000 to 1630.  
*Curator:* Lieutenant-Colonel G P Gofton-Salmond.

### SHROPSHIRE

### THE SHROPSHIRE YEOMANRY REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

*Address:* Territorial House, Sundorne Road, Shrewsbury.

*Open:* Monday to Saturday 0900 to 1700.  
*Curator:* Mr G Archer Parfitt.

### SUFFOLK

### SUFFOLK REGIMENT MUSEUM

*Address:* The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1630.  
*Curator:* Colonel W A Heal.

### WARWICKSHIRE

### WARWICKSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE YEOMANRY MUSEUM

*Address:* Drill Hall, New Broad Street, Stratford-upon-Avon.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1630.  
*Curator:* Major M B Haycock.

### SCOTLAND

### SCOTTISH UNITED SERVICES MUSEUM

*Address:* Crown Square, The Castle, Edinburgh 1.

*Open:* Monday to Saturday (summer) 0930 to 1800; Sunday (summer) 1100 to 1800; Monday to Saturday (winter) 0930 to 1630.

*Curator:* Mr W A Thorburn.

### QUEEN'S OWN HIGHLANDERS (SEAFORTH AND CAMERONS) MUSEUM

*Address:* Fort George, Inverness-shire.

*Open:* Monday to Saturday (April to September) 1000 to 1900; Sunday (April to September) 1400 to 1600; Monday to Saturday (October to March) 1000 to 1600.

*Curator:* Major H Barker.

### THE ROYAL SCOTS REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

*Address:* Regimental Headquarters, The Royal Scots, The Castle, Edinburgh 1.

*Open:* Sunday to Saturday (June to September) 0930 to 1800; Monday to Friday (October to May) 0930 to 1600.

*Curator:* Mr A Jack.

### AYRSHIRE YEOMANRY MUSEUM

*Address:* Yeomanry House, Ayr.

*Open:* As required.

*Curator:* Adjutant, Ayrshire Yeomanry.

### THE ROYAL HIGHLAND FUSILIERS MUSEUM

*Address:* 518 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow C2.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1230, 1400 to 1700.

*Curator:* Captain A J Wilson.

### GORDON HIGHLANDERS MUSEUM

*Address:* Viewfield Road, Aberdeen.

*Open:* Wednesdays and Sundays, 1400 to 1700.

*Curator:* Captain R Fogg Elliot.

### THE ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

*Address:* The Castle, Stirling.

*Open:* Sunday to Saturday (May to September) 1000 to 1800; Monday to Friday (October to April) 1000 to 1600.

*Curator:* Major W Scott.

### THE BLACK WATCH MUSEUM

*Address:* Balhousie Castle, Perth.

*Open:* Monday to Friday (1 May to 30 September) 1000 to 1200, 1400 to 1700; Sunday (1 May to 30 September) 1400 to 1700; Monday to Friday (1 October to 30 April) 1000 to 1200, 1400 to 1600; Sunday (October and April only) 1400 to 1700. Saturday by special arrangement, parties of 12 or more, 24 hours' notice.

*Curator:* Major A V M Chapman.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, THE CAMERONIANS (SCOTTISH RIFLES)

*Address:* Winston Barracks, Lanark.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1630.

*Curator:* Lieutenant-Colonel J E B Whitehead, Museum scheduled to move to 129 Muir Street, Hamilton, probably in May 1967.

### THE ROYAL SCOTS GREYS

*Address:* The Royal Scots Greys' Room, Scottish United Services Museum, The Castle, Edinburgh 1.

*Open:* Monday to Saturday (summer) 0930 to 1800; Sunday (summer) 1100 to 1800; Monday to Saturday (winter) 0930 to 1630.

*Curator:* Mr W A Thorburn.

*Address:* Home Headquarters, The Royal Scots Greys, The Castle, Edinburgh 1.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 0900 to 1700.

*Curator:* None—Major F J Dodd, Commanding Home Headquarters, meets visitors.

*Address:* The Binns, Linlithgow (home of the Dalyell family, in National Trust premises, and has relics of General Tam Dalyell, who raised the Regiment, in the grounds.)

*Open:* Sunday to Saturday (summer) 1030 to 1800; Saturday and Sunday (winter) 1400 to 1600.

*Curator:* Mrs Dalyell.

It is hoped to extend the Home Headquarters collection into a larger museum in larger premises in April 1967.

### THE SCOTTISH HORSE MUSEUM

*Address:* The Cross, Dunkeld, Perthshire.

*Open:* Sunday to Saturday (from Easter to the end of October) 1400 to 1600, 1800 to 1930.

*Curator:* Miss E Scott.

### NORTHERN IRELAND

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, THE ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES

*Address:* 5 Waring Street, Belfast.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 1000 to 1600; Saturday 0930 to 1200; parties by special appointment only.

*Curator:* Major A E Matthews.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, THE ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS

*Address:* Sovereign's House, The Mall, Armagh.

*Open:* Monday to Friday 1000 to 1230, 1400 to 1630; Saturdays and Sundays by prior arrangement.

*Curator:* Major G A N Boyne.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, THE QUEEN'S ROYAL IRISH HUSSARS

A museum is to be established in Carrickfergus Castle, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, 5TH ROYAL INNISKILLING DRAGOON GUARDS

A museum is to be established in Carrickfergus Castle, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim.

### NORTH IRISH HORSE MUSEUM

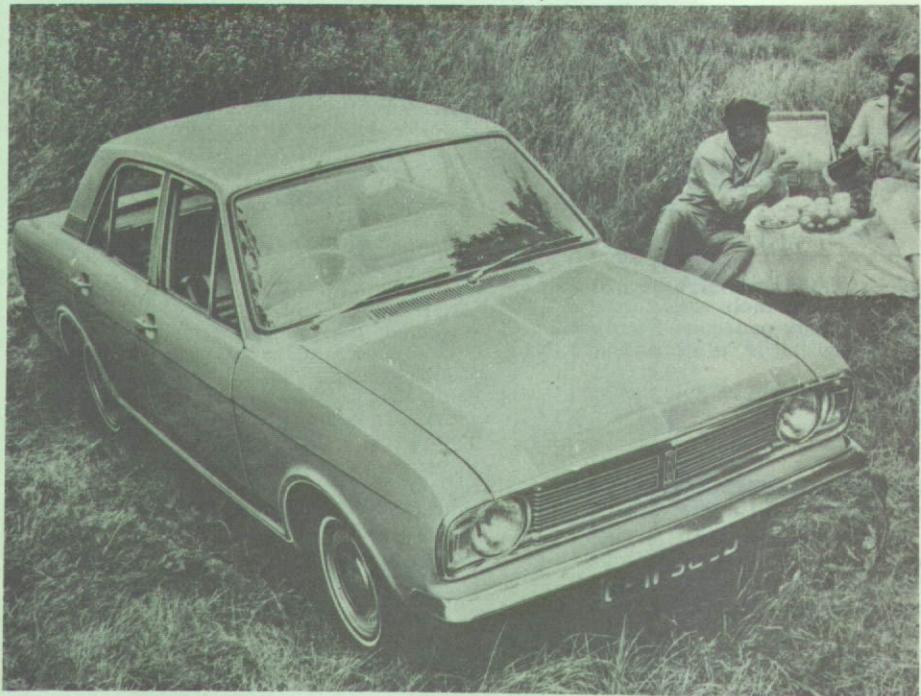
A museum is to be established in Carrickfergus Castle, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

*Address:* St Lucia Barracks, Omagh, Co Tyrone.

*Open:* By appointment only.

*Curator:* Major B J Mahon.



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# STAMPING HISTORY IN RHEINDAHLEN

At the height of the D-Day battle a stamp-collecting tank commander was politely asking French village postmasters for souvenir postmarks. Even among philatelists—men of limitless enthusiasm—this was a feat of outstanding dedication and the D-Day stamps made a fascinating sideshow when they went on display recently at an Army stamp exhibition in West Germany.

The five-day event, at Rheindahlen, sent ripples of interest through the stamp world and was acknowledged a triumph for the organisers—the Rheindahlen Garrison Stamp Club. The exhibition even made a tiny slice of history. Sappers of 12 Brigade Postal and Courier Communications Unit staffed the first post office ever to service a General Post Office first day cover outside the United Kingdom.

British and German stamp collectors queued 1000 strong to buy Christmas commemorative stamps and have them stamped with a special Club cancellation frank on the day of issue.

No Forces Post Office had ever used an individual cancellation stamp before, but this was only one of a host of "firsts" achieved by the stamp club in its first exhibition. For the first time, a Forces Post Office and the German Bundespost were working side by side and, also without precedent, the Germans were allowed to buy stamps from the Army Postal Service. Never before had a mobile Forces Post Office been open for business at an exhibition.

The Commander of Rheindahlen Garrison, Colonel P A Porteous VC, who opened the exhibition, was the first of 1700 visitors. In five days they bought £600-worth of British and German stamps from the two post offices.



In front of the junior philatelists are slides of the special cancellation stamps.



Corporal Eddie Smith sells first day issue Christmas stamps to a German visitor.

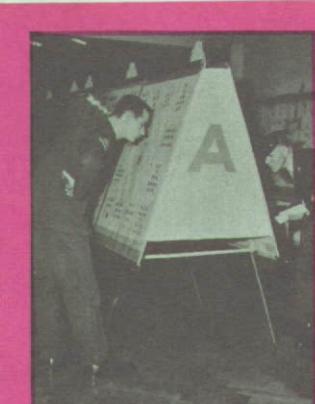
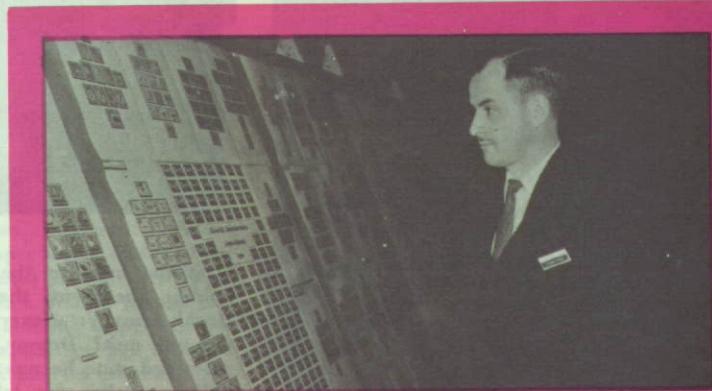


Exhibit A under close inspection by a Dutch soldier and a postal service Sapper.



German and British Forces post offices in business side by side.



Work and worries over, Warrant Officer II Don Griffin, secretary of the Rheindahlen Stamp Club, casts an expert eye over an exhibit.

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Post to: FOURACRES POSTAL FLOWERS LTD., Roydon, Harlow, Essex, England Telephone: Roydon 2201		
S/S		

Carrying Army and Police markings, a Sioux flies low over a Surrey road on crime patrol. Army Air Corps helicopters on loan to the police will probe the possibility of guarding valuable road consignments from the air in an experiment starting next month. Also on trial will be the use of helicopters for crime investigation and traffic observation. Army pilots flew on an air search for escaped Dartmoor prisoners in December.



Charlie the goat was 18 months old and enjoying life in the Royal Herd at London Zoo until the day a press gang dragged him off for service with the Colours. It took two keepers, an acting goat-major and much effort before Charlie was finally persuaded to volunteer for a lifelong engagement as mascot to 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment. He lost his name immediately—the traditional moniker for the Regiment's mascots is Taffy, and Taffy XII he became. His predecessor was too ill to accompany the 1st Battalion to Hong Kong and died at the Welsh Brigade Depot, Crickhowell, last October. Taffy XI soldiered for ten years and was stationed in Germany, Libya, Cyprus and Warminster. In his regimental name of Private Gwylim Jenkins, he was awarded a medal for service in Cyprus. Taffy XII was picked from the anonymity of the Royal Herd when the Queen asked London Zoo to present him to The Welch Regiment. Before flying to Hong Kong to join the 1st Battalion, Taffy underwent weeks of training and finally donned ceremonial coat, silver horn tips and headplate for his maiden appearance before press and television cameras.

Is it the meat or the hand inside the glove, holding the meat, that interests Droopy, the Royal Army Veterinary Corps' airborne garbage disposal unit? Droopy, so called for the demoralised state he was in when arrested by the Military Police for loitering in the Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area, Cyprus, has been adopted by 3 War Dog Training Unit. The year-old hooded vulture was treated for gunshot wounds by Chief Veterinary Officer Lieutenant-Colonel Don Harris, pictured feeding him offal. Pronounced fit and officially shown the door, the scavenger circled the carcase-free garrison once then hastily landed to extend his tour in Cyprus.

**LEFT  
RIGHT AND  
CENTRE**





"First survive your nuclear attack. . . ." If they are to help others after a nuclear attack, men in the Home Defence element of the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve must first learn to protect themselves. Sixty commissioned and non-commissioned officers will pass on to their units the nuclear survival measures they were taught at the Defence Nuclear Biological and Chemical School, Winterbourne Gunner, near Salisbury. Pictured emerging from a shelter to measure radiation with a Radiac survey meter are Major Quintin Rhodes, Captain Tony Blank and Sergeant Brian Mockford. All three were on the first course.



Firm contender as the Great Non-Surprise of the Year, was the opening of a copper box found under the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hampshire. It is 110 years since Queen Victoria, accompanied by her faithful Prince Albert, came ashore from the Royal yacht to lay the foundation stone of what has since been a massive Southampton landmark. Placed beneath the stone in a copper box, it was recorded at the time, were a Crimea medal, the "first" Victoria Cross, coins and a vellum parchment. And when in 1966 the building is demolished, Colonel J F D Murphy opens the box before a battery of cameramen and finds—a Crimea medal, the "first" Victoria Cross, coins and a vellum parchment. Still, the ceremony at which the finds were presented to Major-General A Sachs, Representative Colonel Commandant to the Royal Army Medical Corps, was a public relations triumph, and a chapter in the history of the medical services closed with wide publicity.



The appearance of a mounted knight in armour, a blast from the State Trumpeters and the gushing of many beer pumps announced the arrival on the London scene of a military public house. "The Tournament," in Old Brompton Road, takes its name from the annual Services' display at nearby Earls Court and the entire decor revolves on military history. Prints, lithographs, statuettes and photographs neatly interlock to portray the Services from the swords and horses era to the present day. The idea came to Whitbreads when they were presented with a collection of badges by Wing-Commander Guy Marsland. The badges now hang in showcases in The Tournament and, after an opening by Major-General Sir Randle Feilden, Chelsea Pensioners and serving soldiers crowded into the bars to survey them. The combination of pints and badges will make a remarkable catalyst for conversation and anecdote for years to come.



"Dragon," the Mark IX Auster, was 11 years old and headed for the breaker's yard until Major Lindsey Smith won her a timely reprieve. He thought the last Auster to serve in Malaya deserved a better fate and the other pilots of 4th Royal Tank Regiment's air troop agreed. Saved from the pounding sledgehammers, Dragon will hear only the footfalls of visitors circling her berth at London's Imperial War Museum. The Auster was taken to Malaya in 1958, after three

years' service in Germany, for operations against Communist terrorists. In 1964 the by then ageing and innocuous Dragon passed into the respectful care of 4th Royal Tank Regiment's pilots. When Major Smith flew the plane out of Paroi Camp, Seremban, on a last 200-mile flight to Singapore, six Sioux helicopters took to the air in a final salute. Dragon, the Auster which flew 2410 hours and covered 192,800 miles is now coming home by ship to take her place of honour in London.



Backstage at a West Berlin international concert a piper of The Queen's Own Highlanders compares notes—musically—with an East European balalaika player. The sounds could hardly be more different, but the musicians were devoting their talents to a common cause—raising money for YMCA projects in under-developed countries. Lance-Corporal Nicholas Gordon has played all over Western Europe with the drums and pipes of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Highlanders.

# BOOKS

## RESISTANCE IN EUROPE

"Inside SOE" (E H Cookridge)

If anybody still doubts the value of the Special Operations Executive in Europe in World War Two, this book sets those doubts finally at rest.

Mr Cookridge shows clearly how the SOE teams added supplies, training, leadership and direction to the spirit of resistance in occupied countries. SOE was only part of the resistance picture but added greatly to its effectiveness.

Inevitably this book invites comparison with the official history of the SOE in France by M R D Foot (reviewed SOLDIER, August 1966). The obvious difference is that while Mr Foot concentrated on operations in France, Mr Cookridge also covers Holland, Norway and Denmark. While his account of the French operations is not so extensive as Mr Foot's, he adds new material.

While Mr Foot was given access to what remains of SOE archives in Britain he was, as he complained, "severely restricted" in his access to former staff and agents of SOE.

Mr Cookridge, the unofficial historian, was denied access to official records in Britain but claims he found most of the relevant SOE files available abroad. He visited seven countries and interviewed some 500 people.

One was the now famous ex-Sergeant Hugo Bleicher who under many disguises infiltrated and destroyed several SOE networks, including "Prosper," one of the biggest and most successful in France.

Herr Bleicher played the game according to such rules as there are and no war crimes charges were brought against him. He is now a tobacconist in Germany but has visited France, on one occasion as a guest of Captain Peter Churchill, one of the SOE agents he arrested.

Two other notably successful figures on the other side who also achieved their triumphs

without laying themselves open to trial as war criminals were Lieutenant-Colonel Hermann Giskes and SS Sturmbann-Führer Joseph Schriener. They were responsible for the England Spiel, that fantastic operation in which they secured and operated SOE radio stations in Holland, using them to lure further SOE teams and supplies into German hands.

The success of the England Spiel was the blackest mark against SOE. Captured radio operators, forced to work for the Germans, attempted to warn London by omitting security checks from their messages. London, not convinced that their own security checks were conclusive, disregarded the warnings. The result was ruin for the resistance plan in Holland.

While Bleicher became the ace German spy-catcher, his successes put paid to only a small fraction of SOE activities in France whereas those of Giskes and Schriener in Holland were on a massive scale.

There were times in Norway when the reprisals by the Germans were considered too high a price to pay for the earlier, limited successes, but Norway was to see some of SOE's most important coups.

A message that the Bismarck had sailed from her fjord hide-out led to her sinking. Norwegian SOE agents penetrated and blew up the heavy-water plant, vital to Germany's attempt to make the first atom bomb, after two glider-loads of British troops had crashed in an attempt on the same target and the survivors, despite their uniforms, had been shot by the Nazis.

Arthur Barker, 50s

RLE

## AT THEIR OWN GAME

"The Art of Counter-Revolutionary War" (John McCuen)

The classic sequence of revolutionary warfare is organisation—terrorism—guerrilla warfare—mobile warfare. It is Lieutenant-Colonel McCuen's point that the counter-revolutionary aim should be to put this sequence into reverse. It may not be a very tidy process; rarely do revolutionaries reach the same stage at the same time in all areas.

He advocates a sequence of events very similar to that of the rebels—establishment of expanding strategic bases on the "oil-spot" principle; expanding them; counter-organising of the civilian population to the point where it is largely and willingly defending itself from the rebels; and then mobile warfare. He sounds a warning against trying to do too much too soon, thus dispersing resources.

The author, a serving officer in the United States Army, illustrates his points with copious examples, mainly from the British experiences in Malaya (the Briggs plan he calls "brilliant"), the Franco-Vietminh war in Indo-China, Algeria and Greece. Each chapter has its own annotated bibliography.

Faber and Faber, 42s

RLE

## ADVENTURE OF THE YEAR

"A Fighting Chance" (John Ridgway and Chay Blyth)

This is the adventure story of the year, the epic crossing of the Atlantic in the rowing boat English Rose III by two paratroopers in 91 days.

It is a story which will take its place rightfully alongside the great small-boat journeys of the past—Bligh's voyage after the Bounty mutiny and Shackleton's trip from Elephant Island to South Georgia after the Endurance was lost in the Antarctic pack ice.

But those journeys were made out of necessity and by professional seamen. Captain Ridgway and Sergeant Blyth are not seamen—Blyth's only previous experience, apart from military canoeing, had been on the Serpentine at 5s an hour.

How, then, did they do so well? The simple answer is that they are Paras possessed of all the qualities one expects to find under a red beret and backed up by a regimental tradition that any task accepted must be completed.

It may sound trite, but on every page of this book there shine courage and determination—and both were needed in full measure.

Allied to the elemental forces which threatened all the time to encompass their destruction were the twin dangers of mental erosion and the ebbing of physical strength. Of these the first was the most dangerous. They recognised it and called it "mental plonk."

Captain Ridgway writes: "We knew that our mental processes had taken a strange turn, that we were thinking and speaking and moving with unusual deliberation. We both tried to make allowances for this in our relationship, although sometimes it could lead to differences between us, especially when one had slept extra well and felt brighter and more refreshed than the other."

Yet they fought a hurricane and countless gales; whales and sharks threatened them—and once a sea monster.

JCW



"Well, why didn't you say you wanted it hollow?"

Captain Ridgway comments: "Through the ages, mariners have returned with tales of such creatures, only to be told that what they had seen was the product of an overwrought imagination."

Later he writes: "I was shocked to full wakefulness by a swishing noise to starboard. I looked out into the water and suddenly saw the writhing, twisting shape of a great creature. It was outlined by the phosphorescence in the sea as if a string of neon lights were hanging from it... It headed straight at me and then disappeared right beneath me... I was frozen with terror at this apparition. I forced myself to turn my head and look over the port side. I saw nothing, but after a brief pause I heard a tremendous splash."

He adds: "I can only tell what I saw with my own eyes—and I am no longer a disbeliever."

Frequently Captain Ridgway and Sergeant Blyth write of the prayers they offered. The Sergeant noted in his log: "You could hear the waves roar like an engine coming towards you, crash into you, then roar off into the night. Then the next one. Only one thing for it. Sleep then prayer. God comes close to you out here."

As Captain Ridgway and Sergeant Blyth suffered and survived, two other men, both journalists, died. David Johnstone and John Hoare vanished from their boat Puffin after setting out before the "Rosie."

The authors write: "We should like to pay tribute to the courage of these two men, and we are all the more grateful for the safe homecoming of English Rose III."

"A Fighting Chance" is in the "unputdownable" bracket; it is written simply, matter-of-factly, but there is inspiration on every page and a smack in the eye for those who say the spirit of adventure is dead.

Paul Hamlyn, 21s

## UNDER THE SPELL OF ARABIA

"The Barren Rocks of Aden" (James Lunt)

Brigadier Lunt commanded the Federal Regular Army for just over two years. This he admits, with more modesty than some authors, hardly makes him an expert on Aden or its people. In some ways this is an advantage—he spares us, bless him, those indigestible political analyses.

Instead he describes the people, their customs and their countryside with perception and good humour. He admits to being under the spell of Arabia but this does not prevent him from deplored its stinking, squalid towns and villages, nor does his affection for his soldiers and their compatriots blind him to their many faults.

His duties took him on many long journeys over usually rudimentary roads. The author declared open one which had been marked out by a young Sapper subaltern who flew over an escarpment in a helicopter ladling whitewash out of a bucket. Retracing it on foot, the subaltern lamented that what looked flat from the air turned out to be anything but on the ground.

Part of the author's command was a ceremonial camel troop, which he decided should have an operational role. There was nothing better for moving across country and from a lofty camel's back it ought to be easy to see where mines were buried in soft sand.

The troopers were sent up-country to Beihan where vigorous young local camels were hired. Then came a signal from the local commander: No mines discovered but camels going strong. "Request replacements for riders as they are now 100% hors de combat from sore backsides."

When hostages for good behaviour were required from a troublesome tribe the way to get them was first to capture their precious goats and then to trade these for hostages. Approach to their valley by tracks gave the tribesmen time to spirit the goats away but a descent by a Belvedere helicopter produced the desired effect.

The tribesmen were wrathful—this was not cricket. They were pacified and one of their elders gave the Belvedere the name by which it went into the Arabic military glossary: *abu pukahtein*—"Father of two fans."

For guile in dealing with Arabs the author's best story is about a political officer sent to arrange a truce between two warring sheikhs. They were stubborn and not greatly impressed by a threat to send aircraft.

The political officer seized his portable typewriter and began tapping as the sound of an aircraft engine began to be heard in the distance, telling the sheikhs he was calling up a bomber.

Immediately they agreed to the truce—and the weekly mailplane passed peacefully overhead.

Herbert Jenkins, 30s

RLE

## FROM THE OTHER SIDE

"Alamein 1933-1962, An Italian Story" (Paolo Caccia-Dominioni)

In 1933 a party of Europeans from Cairo made a desert expedition, passing an obscure spot called el Alamein on their way to Siwa Oasis.

Among them were Paolo Caccia-Dominioni, Count of Sillavengo, an Italian architect and civil engineer, and Vladimir Dimitrovitch Peniakoff, Russian-born, British-educated Belgian.

Nine years later, according to the author, only a few minutes and the fact that he drank his coffee with his back to a window, prevented Major Sillavengo coming face-to-face in Derna with Peniakoff (of Popski's Private Army fame) who was making a daring reconnaissance far behind the Axis lines.

Sillavengo commanded a unit of Italian combat engineers. He kept in a captured British "SO Book 129" a diary from which comes some of his material. Other passages, especially conversations in which he took no part, are not so well documented, particularly some highly suspect allegations of atrocities by Eighth Army.

His statements about torture and out-of-hand shootings throw doubt on others the reader would more happily believe, such as the many tales he has to tell of Italian heroism. Anybody with knowledge of armies will certainly be prepared to believe the tale of the gallant driver, anxious to return to his unit despite a wound that should have put him in hospital, whose vehicle was loaded with two tons of boot polish to smarten up the Italians for their triumphal entry into Alexandria.

If he is proud of his fellow soldiers, the author is and was at the time well aware of the Italian Army's deficiencies—its deathtrap tanks, its 3000 generals and its swollen, inefficient and arrogant staffs.

Instead he describes the people, their customs and their countryside with perception and good humour. He admits to being under the spell of Arabia but this does not prevent him from deplored its stinking, squalid towns and villages, nor does his affection for his soldiers and their compatriots blind him to their many faults.

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For guile in dealing with Arabs the author's best story is about a political officer sent to arrange a truce between two warring sheikhs. They were stubborn and not greatly impressed by a threat to send aircraft.

Hamilton himself acknowledged that he failed to impress his own views on Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener, then War Minister: "With too rare exceptions I was mealy mouthed in my cables and kept my outspokenness for my diary."

His nephew and biographer has a relevant comment: "If he had exhibited qualities more characteristic of Montgomery's behaviour twenty-five years later he would doubtless have been recalled forthwith."

Hamilton was in the first batch of students at Sandhurst and after a few months with the Suffolks in Ireland joined the Gordon Highlanders in India where he was to spend most of the next 25 years.

He served for years under the wing of Lord Roberts, first as ADC and later in staff appointments. One of his accomplishments was to revolutionise musketry training. He left India to become commandant of the School of Musketry at Hythe where he introduced to the British Army his ideas on musketry.

In the Boer War Hamilton triumphed as a brigade commander at Elandslaagte. Later in the campaign he was Kitchener's chief of staff.

He went to Manchuria as an observer of the Russo-Japanese War and as a result forecast the digging that was to play so great a role in the soldier's life in World War Two.

Up to World War One, Hamilton soldiered with success in eight campaigns and was twice recommended for the Victoria Cross. He earned from Sir Winston Churchill the accolade "a brilliant and chivalrous man" and from Sir Basil Liddell Hart "one of the most clear-sighted military prophets."

These things should be remembered, as well as his failure at Gallipoli.

Cassell, 50s

## TERRITORIAL TWILIGHT

"The Saturday Night Soldiers" (A V Sellwood)

As the life of the Territorial Army nears its end and the initials T and AVR increasingly oust TA from official papers, it would be appropriate that the old force should be honoured on the bookshelves.

Mr Sellwood's work, however, will not persuade any serious writers that the ground has been cut from under their feet.

Apart from a brief introductory chapter it is a series of disconnected pieces describing units and highlights from their campaigns in the two world wars. Individually these pieces are interesting and the battles colourfully described, but they add up neither to a picture of the Territorial nor to a history of the Territorial Army.

The author would have been well advised to leave out the incomplete appendix misleadingly headed "The TA as it was—Summer 1966."

Wolfe Publishing Ltd, 30s

## IN BRIEF

"Bellona Military Vehicle Prints"

Series Nine deals with the American 3-inch gun motor carriage M10 of World War Two; the German 8.8cm FLAK 18, first produced in 1933 and used in the Spanish Civil War, and the modified FLAK 36(L/56) of 1937 and World War Two; German Mittlerer Zugkraftwagen 8t-Sd Kfz 7 half-track of World War Two; and American assault tank T14 of 1943 mounted with 75mm gun.

The back page "extra" details the AFV 7.92mm BESA machine-gun and its ammunition.

Merberlen Ltd, Badgers Mead, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell, Berks, 4s

"Spotlight on Singapore" (Denis Russell-Roberts)

Paperback issue of Lieutenant-Colonel Russell-Roberts's first-hand account of the fall of Malaya and Singapore to the Japanese (reviewed SOLDIER, February 1966).

This print includes additional stories on the Singapore saga which have come to light since first publication, and on the heroic behaviour of prisoners-of-war in Changi Prison Camp.

Tandem Books, 5s

"Her Privates We" (Frederic Manning)

Paperback of the World War One novel, first published in 1930 (reprint reviewed SOLDIER, December 1964) by the Australian-born poet and classical scholar who himself fought on the Somme.

Pan, 5s

**A**S most of the Army's best canoeists are airborne soldiers, 16th Parachute Brigade's annual race, held this year on the River Wey, was more a race of champions than a cosy family affair. The course was tough—only 15 of the 29 canoes finished—and the pace gruelling.

Among the entrants were three members of the British canoe team, Lance-Corporal Brian Jupp and Driver Sydney Warren, of 63 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, and Lance-Corporal Colin Gregory, Army Catering Corps, attached to the Squadron. Organiser of the 38-mile race was Captain Bob Kenyon, the Brigade's catering adviser and winner of the French Army Championships.

## Jupp and Gregory show the way



Above: Competitors clamber down the bank of the river in the first light of a frosty dawn. The race began in semi-darkness.



Right: Canoeists slide past a riverside pub in Guildford—the closest they got to refreshment in 38 miles of wearisome paddling.

Below: A bunch of spectators watch a display of vim and vigour at the first portage. Most crews were less energetic on the 24th.



Between them these men hold nearly all the Army titles for long-distance and sprint canoeing.

Teams from nine units unloaded their canoes in the first light of a raw dawn at Farnham Bridge, Surrey, and paddled on to the Wey for a massed start. All canoeists wore lifejackets and carried masking tape to mend holes ripped in the fragile hulls. In a race of mishaps and excitement, both proved sensible precautions.

Each unit fielded three canoes, some travelling the early stages in harness. The passage of the main fleet of canoes left the gently meandering river in a mild uproar of ripples, swirling eddies and ruffled swans.

Far more tiring than the actual paddling were the portages, calling for the teams to leave the water and run round an obstacle with their canoes. There were 24 of these rhythm-breaking obstructions.

Running to form, Jupp and Gregory, winners of an international event in Ireland, built up an early lead and at 20 miles—the usual endurance of international races—they were 15 minutes clear.

From there on the extra distance took toll of their stamina and two strong Sappers were closing the gap. With five miles to

## Front and Back Covers

Canoeists in 16th Parachute Brigade annual race forge through the quiet waters of the River Wey. On the front cover one of the leading teams shoots Godalming Bridge with two-thirds of the 38-mile course still ahead. Shepperton Weir's strong cross-currents were the last of a formidable series of hazards. The canoeists racing across SOLDIER'S back cover were among the 15 finishers—survivors of 29 starters. Pictures by Paul Trumper.

At Shepperton Weir a cross-current pushed the teams to the bank. They battled against it (left). Team 17 was shipwrecked in an early upset (below). Worse still, the camera caught it.



go, Sappers Kenneth Small and John Farr 9 Independent Parachute Squadron, swept to the front of the field and finished at Walton Bridge in the excellent time of five hours 45 minutes.

Although Jupp and Gregory were beaten into second place by 30 minutes, 63 Squadron won the unit championship with a total time for the three crews of 19 hours 59 minutes.

Below: Thirty-eight miles and much suffering over, a tired duo paddle the last few yards home.



**SOLDIER**

**Front and Center**  
**Cover**

...and the rest of the world. The magazine's editors and staff are here to help you through the challenges that await you. From the armed forces to government, from politics to business, from the military to the media, we're here to help you succeed.

