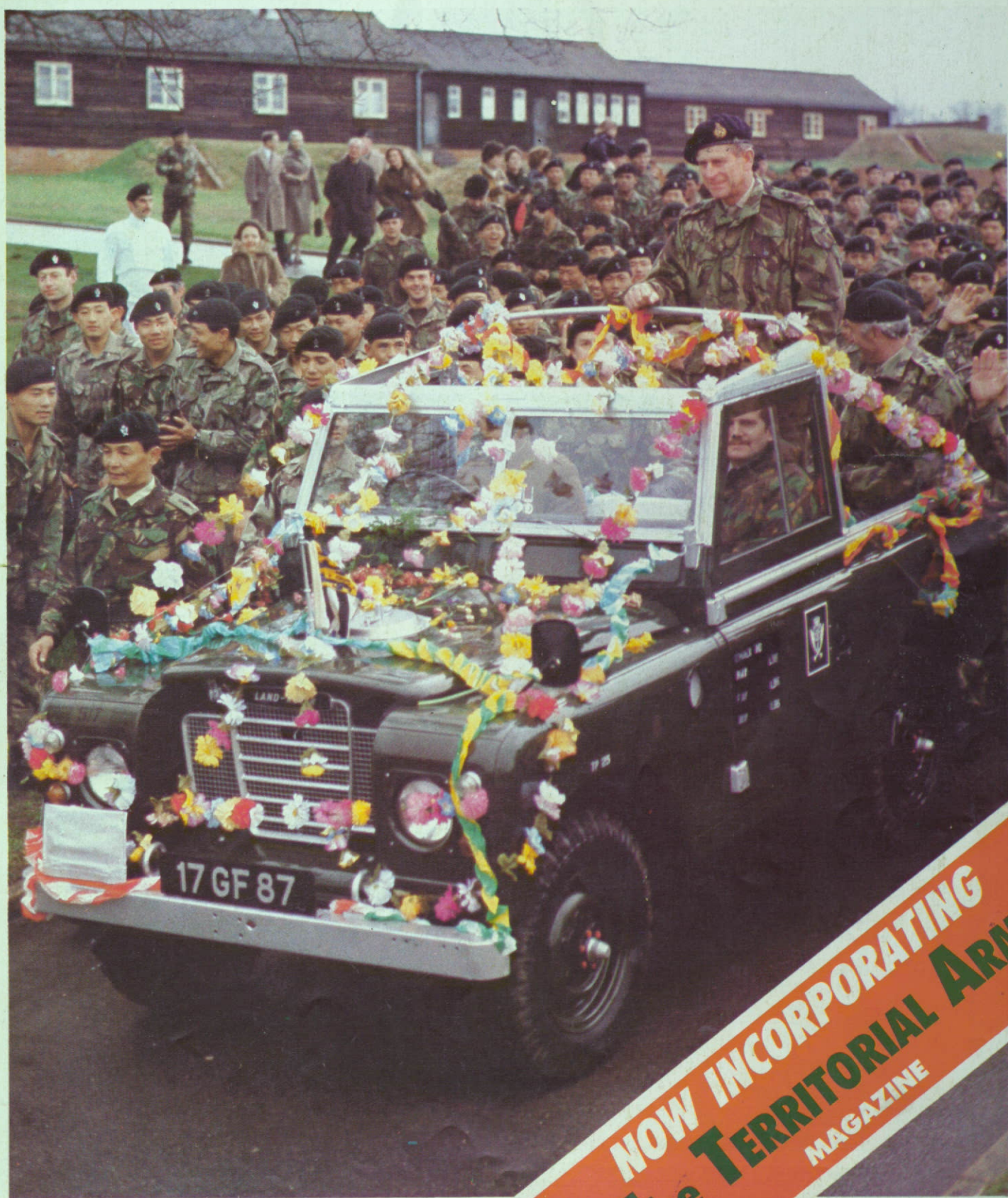


THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 25 PENCE • 18 APRIL-1 MAY 1983

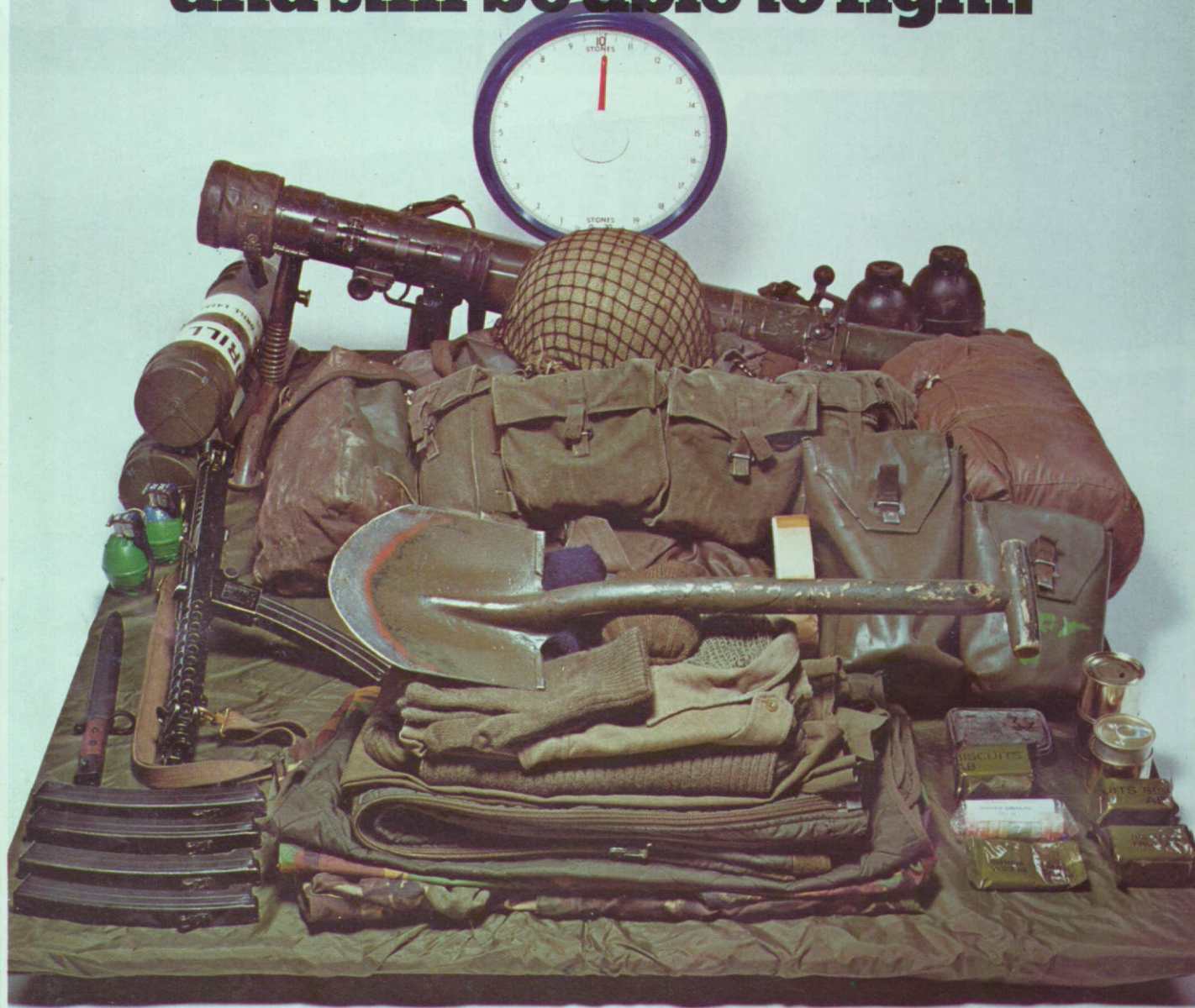
# SOLDIER



**NOW INCORPORATING**  
**The TERRITORIAL ARMY**  
MAGAZINE



# It takes quite a soldier to march 115 miles with this lot and still be able to fight.



"Yomping." A year ago, hardly anyone had heard the word. But then events in the Falklands made it part of everyday speech.

And those events affected more than the English language; they made people aware that the British armed forces are the finest in the world.

Today, a year after the war, the real story is emerging. "THE FALKLANDS WAR" is a blow by blow account of the whole operation from Argentine invasion to British victory.

The story is told by the islanders, by the commanders and, most important of all, by the troops who fought and won.

"THE FALKLANDS WAR" is in 14 weekly parts. It's a complete day by day record of a great British victory.

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### FRONT COVER

His Land Rover garlanded with flowers, the Duke of Edinburgh gets a traditional Nepalese welcome from Gurkha soldiers at Church Crookham, Hants. The men — from 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, who fought in the Falklands — begin leaving for Hong Kong next month at the end of their UK tour.

Picture by Paul Haley

### BACK COVER

Army and Navy players stretch for a line-out in this year's rugby game at Twickenham. As the scoreboard shows, the Army were trailing, but they hit back to snatch a dramatic last-minute win. On page 52 you can read how they fared in the second leg of the Inter-Services championship — against the RAF.

Picture by Paul Haley

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# SOLDIER

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 THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE



◀ A boost for British youngsters in Germany — page 36

The three Bs — a look at a unique tri-nation training venture — page 22



Trials of TA strength out in the wilds of Cumbria — page 30



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**A**IMED for the first time at potential GB donors, an appeal has been launched in London to boost the 11-year-old Ulster Defence Regiment's Benevolent Fund from its existing £400,000 to a £1 million target.

The 2800-strong UDR which has 4300 part-timers and 700 women — Greenfinches — was formed in April 1970, since when 32,000 personnel (with 90,000 dependants) have served in the ranks of its 11 battalions.

Set up in 1972, the year when 26 UDR men were murdered, the Fund has been kept buoyant by the Regiment's men and women themselves — it is the Army's youngest and largest infantry unit — British Army units, Ulster business and commercial enterprises and worldwide donations.

Demands on the Fund, however, have increased and it was felt impossible to accumulate a sufficiently large sum to let the trustees make reasonable contributions to beneficiaries.

To date, 125 UDR men and three women have been killed and, with 75 per cent of the regiment being part-time, 107 of them have been murdered off duty including many who had retired years earlier.

Launching the UK mainland segment of the appeal at a Whitehall press conference, Brigadier Peter Graham, Commander UDR, said: "Our main task is in support of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Regular Army and visiting members of the Regiment on patrol is a very moving experience, seeing citizen soldiers on active duty. They take so much in their stride. They are there, year in,



Princess Michael of Kent listens to a UDR piper at a banquet to aid the appeal

year out, doing anything they can to bring peace to Northern Ireland.

"I would argue that these men — and women — are very special people; people with dedication and courage. They are well aware of the risks they take when they join the Regiment and the strain on their families is quite considerable.

"We are talking about people who have stood up to put their lives on the line, people who believe in the cause of freedom and democracy. They are not people who sit in armchairs. They believe in doing something about law and order. They are very humble people, a lot of

them and they put freedom before life and self."

Brigadier Graham added: "Not only do they deserve help but they do need help. We have never asked for public support before and, therefore, this is a novel event for us. I do know there are a great number of people throughout the UK who want to help. Any donation, however large or small, will be welcome. They can be sent to HQ UDR, Lisburn, County Antrim, Northern Ireland."

Colonel Dennis Faulkner, Regimental Colonel and chairman of the Appeal Fund, later said: "Not since before the Napoleonic wars has any reg-

iment completed 13 years of continual operational service. Others have fought campaigns and even wars, but they have had periods of rest and relaxation. This does not apply to the UDR. Other soldiers, when serving in Northern Ireland, if not on duty, can retire into the relative seclusion and safety of barracks. The UDR soldiers, by living at home, are at risk 24 hours a day."

## SCOTS REEL

A NEW DANCE 'The Reel of The Royal Scots' has been devised by The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society to mark the regiment's 350th anniversary.

It is set to a tune composed by Pipe Major Charlie Clark of the regiment which is to be included in a new LP record the Society is producing. The reel will be played by Pipe Major Clark supported by Royal Scots pipers and drummers.

The dance will be seen in public for the first time at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in August when it will be performed by soldiers of the 1st Battalion partnered by ladies of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

Leaflets describing the dance with the music are available from The Royal Scots Regimental Museum in Edinburgh Castle and from the Dance Society at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh. The price is 25p each, exclusive of postage.

## Letter bomb at ACIO

AN ILLEGIBLE POSTMARK raised the suspicions of Army Recruiting Office Sergeant Geoff Preston as he was about to open the morning's mail. He was right. Inside was an incendiary device which could have caused nasty burns to hands and face.

Sgt Preston who works with two Army colleagues at the Penge ACIO in Kent, had been in his job just a month after returning from service in Northern Ireland and 3 RRF. But he does not connect the letter bomb with that. The device was too primitive, he says.

He told SOLDIER: "I noticed that the brown envelope was bigger than usual and it looked as if the address had been done in blue stencilling. At first, when I felt the envelope — you are suspicious of all mail coming in — I thought it had a cap badge inside. But it didn't feel like a cap badge. Luckily, I opened the other end of the envelope — there was no message inside — and found the device, removing the top. The police were called in. It was really the postmark which aroused my suspicions — I couldn't read it and the letters I could read didn't make sense."

## CLUB'S REPRIEVE

THE ROYAL ALDERSHOT Officers Club (SOLDIER March 21) has been saved from closure thanks to £22,000 in donations from its members. The 148-year-old club seemed doomed to close earlier this year when it was revealed there was a shortfall in the projected trading figures for the next year coupled with a falling off in membership. A target of £10,000 had been set and a guaranteed membership to reprieve the club.



# FAMILIES SAY SAD FAREWELL



Despite the sadness of the South Atlantic journey there was time for laughter too. Here some young Falkland pilgrims get to know Bob Carolgees and 'Spit the Dog', entertainers on the *Cunard Countess*.

## TWO DIE IN ULSTER

TWO SEPARATE incidents have claimed the lives of the first Regular soldiers to be killed in Northern Ireland this year.

Corporal Gerald Jeffery of the 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, died in hospital in Belfast eight days after being injured in an explosion in a derelict building in the City's Falls Road. He was married with two sons.

A few days later an Army cook, Private Richard Biddle of the Army Catering Corps, was killed instantly by a bomb fitted to his car parked outside a hotel in Omagh.

As he got into the car just after midnight, the bomb exploded. Another soldier with him was seriously injured.

Private Biddle was married with no children. He had been in the Army four years and was attached to the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

## TREE AS BOMB MEMORIAL

THE LOCAL community of Regents Park and Marylebone High Street are to show their feeling for the seven bandmen of the Royal Green Jackets who died in an IRA bomb blast at the Park's bandstand last July by planting a young weeping willow tree near it next month.

Spearhead of collections towards the tree which costs £50 — there are, in fact, two — was Mrs Angela Roberts, a Fleet Street feature writer with military family connections. Permission has been given by the Park superintendent to plant one tree and agreement is awaited for the second which will be planted by the head girl of a local school.

Mrs Roberts told SOLDIER: "The willow tree expresses very much what we feel. There is still a tremendous lot of sorrow felt by many elderly Regents Park residents many of whom have never been back into the Park again. It was a very sad day and I feel it should be marked and the locals rallied round — greengrocers, post office workers, other tradesmen and business interests. I felt there was a tremendous local sense of wanting to do something. A bench was not a good idea, they don't really last very long and, unfortunately, they get stolen. My father-in-law suggested the idea of a weeping willow."

From a military background — her father was in the Artists' Rifles, her husband a National Serviceman in the Royal Signals and her brother a former sapper — Mrs Roberts added: "I feel too that one should do something for the relatives and I think they would appreciate it. The band concerts are the crowning event of the summer in the Park where they play music which we love — jolly, English music. We were very, very saddened and the tree is the local community's way of showing their sympathy; a tree which is living, very beautiful and graceful."

THE FAMILIES of the British war dead in the Falklands conflict paid their tribute to the fallen in a moving ceremony at the hillside war cemetery in San Carlos not far from where the first British troops went ashore.

The half hour service was described by correspondents as "simple and impressive." 'Praise my Soul the King of Heaven' was played by the band of the Royal Irish Rangers followed by prayers and the Last Post. The Chief of the Defence Staff, Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall read a passage from 'Pilgrim's Progress.'

In his address, the Bishop to the Forces, the Right Reverend Stuart Snell, said: "We have made this long sad pilgrimage to honour those brave young men who set out in happy spirits in the flower of their youth and then so soon after gave their all, never to return home."

The party had landed the previous day from the liner *Cunard Countess* and had then paid their private respects to the war dead. The 541 relatives had made a four day journey by liner from Montevideo in Uruguay, during which they had been entertained by showbusiness personalities from Combined Services Entertainment, part of SSVc. The party had flown to Montevideo by two airliners from Heathrow.

Peter Howard reports from the Falklands: "The great Falklands pilgrimage is over yet the memory will linger on for ever for the relatives and their escorts, for the Servicemen now in the Falklands

and for the islanders themselves. "It is difficult to find the words to describe the whole series of events and to adequately convey to those not involved the immensely moving atmosphere throughout.

"For the relatives mourning their loved ones it was not easy to make the journey. It was bound to be traumatic and for some — particularly among the elderly — the long journey was a daunting challenge before they even faced the reality of seeing for the first time the areas of battle and great personal tragedy.

"So perhaps the first thing that must be stressed is the overall courage displayed by the bereaved, young or old — matching that shown by those who fought and those who supported the fighting men. Plus the wonderful way the visitors in this unique pilgrimage were welcomed by the people who had most cause for gratitude — the islanders."

## HEART-RENDING

"In the tradition of Servicemen bonded together with their own special spirit, the families, with their shared grief, helped each other through this heart-rending period.

"San Carlos Water welcomed them with a strange silence — contrasting with nearly a year ago when 'Bomb Alley' echoed with the roar of conflict.

"Then came the hardest test for those families whose loved ones are buried in Blue Beach Cemetery, resting-place for 14 of the 16 men buried on the islands. It was just as difficult for the relatives of the other two interred in the Falklands, Captain Gavin Hamilton at Port Howard and Lieutenant Nicholas Taylor at Goose Green.

"All but 30 of the 541 travelling relatives attended the service of dedication for the memorial at San Carlos cemetery the following day. The service was as moving as everyone expected and apart from the families the remainder had to fight hard to avoid tears.

"There were other visits and private occasions and perhaps Fitzroy was the most harrowing. Harrowing in the sense of regional, collective suffering bringing back memories of *Sir Galahad* and all this means to Welsh Guards and their kinfolk.

"Darwin, Goose Green, Mount Harriet, Mount Longdon, Tumbledown, and the other emotive locations are now household names in British heritage. They meant initially, bewilderment and shock to the suffering relatives. Now they have a deep and lasting significance."



# NEWS VIEW



## DAWN CHORUS

Newly promoted Lieutenant-Colonel John Lane of 3 Royal Green Jackets probably thought he could celebrate with a lie-in. But he reckoned without Reveille from a detachment of buglers from his regiment arriving on his doorstep. Colonel Lane has been quartermaster of the 3rd Armoured Division Signal Regiment for the last two years and now takes over a similar position at his regimental depot at Winchester.

## FIT FOR A POPE

When the Pope visited Belize there had to be a Popemobile even though he was only there for an hour-and-three-quarters. The man called upon to produce it was WO 2 Howard Cole (right) a REME man attached to the Belize Defence Force.

At his workshop the Defence Minister's Chevrolet pick-up truck was serviced, resprayed and fitted with a rail for the Pope to hang on to and steps at the back. Then ladies from the BDF decorated it with flowers and palm leaves.



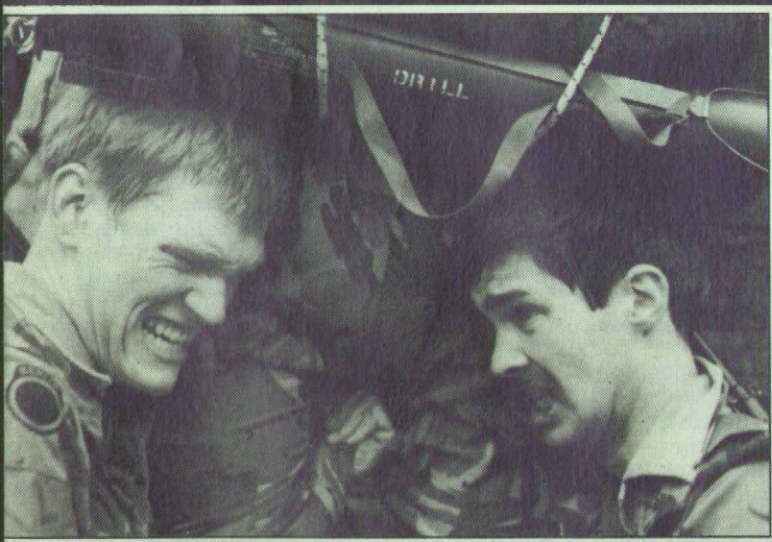
## CASTLE CLEANED

One of the last jobs of 1 Staffords in Gibraltar was to clean up part of the northern defences of the historic Moorish Castle on the Rock. The Castle, first built in 711 and rebuilt in 1333 is a tourist spot.



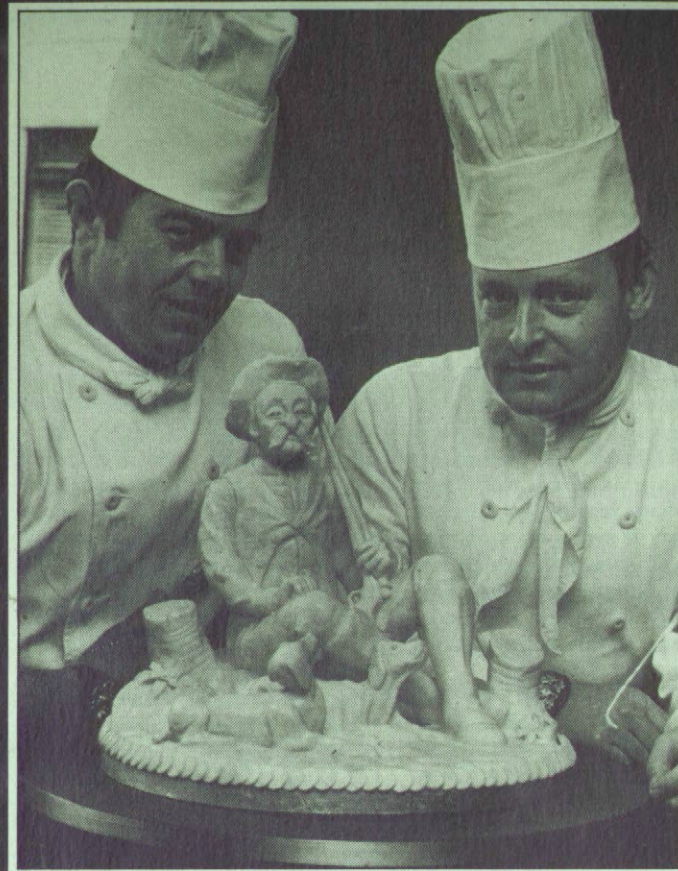
## TAKING THE STRAIN

In the recent annual Berlin Infantry Brigade March and Shoot contest 2 Royal Irish sprinted and battled to victory with five Irish platoons among the final eight positions. Just how tough it all was is shown by this shot of 229 Signals Squadron.



## LONG MUSH

Captain Gareth Pugh of the Royal Artillery pictured with his team of huskies in the North American Open Championships, an arduous 90 mile dog sledge race in Alaska. As reported in our last issue Gareth finished 13th out of 19 — beating several more experienced campaigners.



## FATTED CARVE

Amazing what you can make out of a block of margarine. Warrant Officer 1 (SSM) Ricky Taylor (right) of the Army Catering Corps at Headquarters, Scotland, took the trophy and gold medal for Fat Carving with this old man at the Scottish Hotel, Catering and Licensed Trade Exhibition. Left is Warrant Officer 1 (SSM) Dick Murrell who got first prize for a cold chicken dish and a trophy and a gold medal for an egg dish.



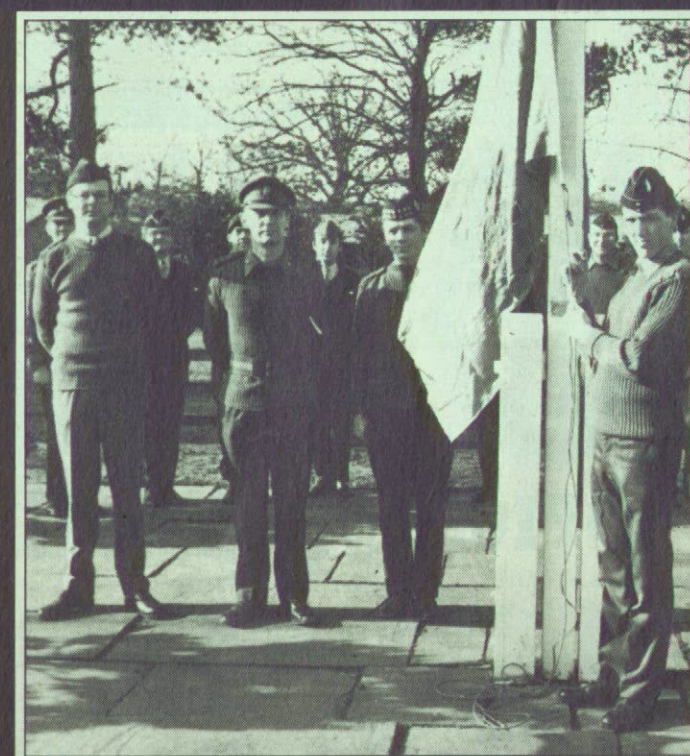
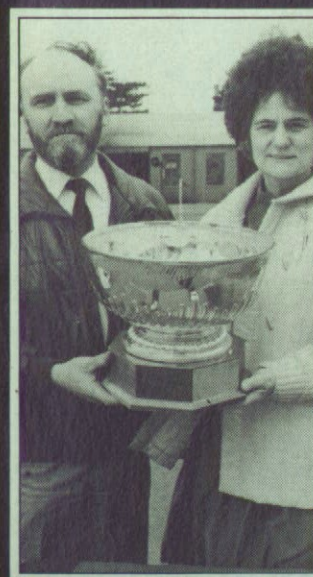
## MALAY LINK

During the emergency in Malaya the King's Own Scottish Borderers worked side by side with the 5th Battalion, The Royal Malay Regiment and the regiments have remained affiliated ever since. Recently the KOSB received a solid silver gong supported by silver encrusted water buffalo horns as a present from all ranks of 5 Royal Malay.



## COOKS RECALLED

Private Gordon Waugh (left) presents an engraved salver in memory of the four Army Catering Corps men killed in the Falklands. Receiving the salver is Brigadier Roy Skelton on behalf of the Corps Benevolence Committee. He also received a cheque for £240 from a sponsored soccer tournament.



## RISE OF THE GRIFFIN

The Griffin's Wings flag of 24 Infantry Brigade is raised for the first time outside their new headquarters in Catterick. The brigade is part of the newly established 2nd Infantry Division with headquarters in York. The griffin's wings emblem and title continue a heritage dating back to 1940 and the formation of the 24th Guards Brigade.

## LOVING MEMORY

The parents of a 19-year-old sapper lost during the Falklands campaign have presented a silver rose bowl to his regiment, 36 Engineer Regiment, Maidstone, as a memorial to their son. Sapper Kevin Lillicrap was the first winner as best student on the junior NCO course. The bowl commemorates Sapper Wyne Tarbard, listed as missing after the air attack on the RFA Sir Galahad.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE, THE RT HON MICHAEL HESELTINE MP



This is the first opportunity that I, as Secretary of State for Defence, have had of sending a message to the Army through the pages of its own magazine. I am glad that this should coincide with the first edition of **SOLDIER** incorporating the Territorial Army magazine because it allows me to address both parts of what I know is very properly regarded as One Army.

As this is also the 75th anniversary year of the Territorial Army it gives me a chance to congratulate them and to say how confident I am that their proud history will be echoed in their contribution to our national defence in the future.

Recently I visited BAOR and saw for myself something of the professionalism and high standards of the Army and RAF as they undertake their vital role of preserving peace and freedom. I cannot over emphasise the importance of maintaining the quality of our men and their equipment. If they are dimi-

nished the credibility of deterrence itself will be degraded and peace threatened. You have never stood in higher esteem in the nation than you do at present.

I have not yet had the opportunity of seeing the TA at work but their role is just as important and indeed their invaluable contribution to the overall defence effort grows in importance as years go by. It is therefore wholly appropriate that the two magazines should now be joined to ensure that both parts of the One Army are kept well informed about each other.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary in 1958 the late Duke of Norfolk said to the TA: "You may be justly proud of all you are achieving and of the great traditions you inherit." I can think of no more appropriate message for the TA on its 75th anniversary nor for the Army as a whole.

I look forward to visiting many of you personally during my time as Secretary of State.



## TOPICS

### CROSS-COUNTRY

## TA beat regulars

FOR THE FIRST TIME in five years the Territorial Army beat the Regular Army at Cross Country with a score of 60 to 77.

15 teams providing some 150 runners competed at Basingbourn, the Depot of the Queen's Division, near Cambridge. Winners of the Daily Telegraph Challenge Cup (right) were Headquarter Company 4th Battalion The Parachute Regiment (V) from Pudsey, Bradford.

First across the line was Private Paul Wheeler, 25, of Headquarter Company 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales (V) from Maindy Barracks, Cardiff, who completed the tough six mile course in 32 minutes 11 seconds.

Senior Cadet Karen Chambers of the Sheffield University Training Corps took the Women's Individual Championships.



Mr Jerry Wiggin, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces drops in on the TA — the 40th (Ulster) Signal Regiment (Volunteers) as part of his tour of the security forces in the province. He is pictured here being introduced by Lt Col Alan deBretton Gordon, the unit's CO (centre).

## NORTH WEST PLUG IN

First major exercise of the season for the North West's communicators from the TA, 33 (Lancashire & Cheshire) Signal Regiment (V) was held on the RAF station at Burtonwood, almost in the middle of the regimental area. As motorway traffic thundered past and air cadets flew gliders overhead, members of the Regiment worked hard to get their signals traffic going.

The exercise was called 'Plug Up'. Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Tony De Vere Hunt explained that its aim was to get immediate traffic through to the squadrons.

Paying a full day's visit to the Regiment was Honorary Colonel, Colonel Michael Stanley. Among the activities he saw were the 'shoot and scoot' radio relay exercise around the Burtonwood area and the regimental line laying competition which was won again by 80 Squadron from Chester.





## THEY'RE TICKLED PINK!

The prestigious Tickle Trophy for the fittest TA battalion in the British Army has gone to an Ulster battalion for the first time. The 4th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers won the competition outright with a remarkable

100 per cent pass rate. Runners-up were 4 Para.

The same Irish Rangers achieved another first for Northern Ireland by taking the Queen's Cup for the TA battalion achieving most in sport.

## RANGERS' CHOICE

Shapely Alison Smith, Miss Northern Ireland, was recently adopted by men from HQ Company, 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers. The battalion, whose headquarters are in Armagh, claims to be the best trained TA unit in Northern Ireland.

Based at Banbridge, Lurgan, Lisburn and Newtownards, the battalion is currently engaged in a recruiting drive. During the past year two new company centres have been established and another is on the way. The battalion has a Nato role and will be training in Germany this summer.



## VC remembered

The men of Liverpool's 208 Air Defence Battery of 103 (Lancashire Artillery Volunteers) Air Defence Regiment, RA, were on hand when a memorial collage was unveiled at West Kirkby in honour of World War One VC holder, Sgt (later Captain) Cyril Gourley who served with 276 Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

The unveiling was done by the Mayor of Wirral and the picture shows Staff Sergeant Alan Kelly (left), Bombardier Joseph Mahoney and Sgt Brian

McCormack in front of the collage; a link between today's Blowpipes of 208 Air Defence Battery with the traditions of the 55th Divisional Artillery with whom Sgt Gourley served.

He won his VC on November 30, 1917, at Epehy on the Western Front when he manned a 4.5 howitzer all day, thus preventing an enemy advance into the 55th (West Lancashire) Divisional Area. Sgt Gourley had spent 148 weeks in battle and he died last year. He is commemorated with special scholarships at his old school, Calday Grange in The Wirral.



## IN BRIEF

The Queen Mother will visit Northern Ireland in June to review a parade of the Territorial Army as part of the celebrations of its 75th anniversary.

★ ★ ★

The latest TA unit to be inaugurated is 277 Field Squadron (Airfield Damage Repair), RE, based at RAF Leuchars, Scotland — the first of eight to be raised for key RAF bases in the UK.

★ ★ ★

The TA battled to a 1-1 draw in their annual football match with Cambridge University. The University opened the scoring just before half time with a break-away goal. Twenty minutes from the end the TA equalised with a well taken opportunity by Corporal Adrian Rabôt after good work by skipper, Sergeant Sammy Campbell. In the dying minutes the TA almost got the winner only for Gunner Tony Killen's header to flash just wide.

★ ★ ★

Thought to be the first TA Rugby side to tour abroad, the team from the 3rd (V) Battalion, Royal Regiment of Wales, won two games against Regular Army opposition when they visited Berlin. They beat Berlin Stadium XV 24-6 and 2 RRF 29-6.



# WOMBAT'S LAST RUN

THE ARMY has just completed an energetic bit of daylight gun-running through the leafy lanes of Wiltshire and Salisbury Plain's training areas — with the full agreement of the 'moonraker' county's police force and the obvious enjoyment of Temba, a seven-month-old black labrador.

Five at-a-time, ten burly instructors — plus two reserves — from the School of Infantry's Support Weapons Wing Anti-Tank Division at Netheravon were involved in Exercise Final Push, a 22-mile journey manhandling a 650-lb anti-tank gun, a 120mm Wombat bound for the collection housed in the Infantry Weapons Museum at Warminster.

It marked the passing of an era and a personalised farewell to the nine-foot-long gun by the instructors led by Captain Ranald Blue of 3 LI, because the Wombat, the fourth and the last of the BAT (Battalion Anti-Tank) series and principal infantry anti-tank weapon for the past 30 years, is going out of Army service in the UK by the end of the year.

Due for general replacement by the Milan system, the Wombat — the type was used in Borneo and the Radfan — was to take pride

of place next to a 17-pounder field gun amid the Museum's 2,000-plus collection of exhibits worth an estimated £3½ million which includes Napoleon's Service pistols given by him to his English doctor during his exile to the island of St Helena.

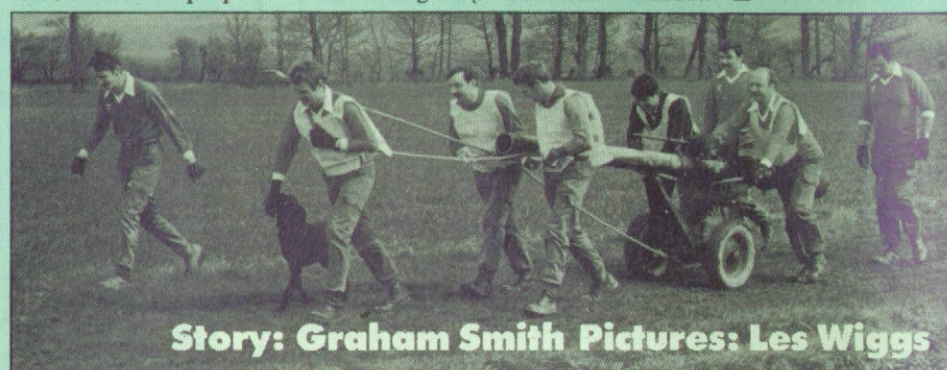
At the Museum to formally receive the recoilless anti-tank gun watched by a large crowd of enthusiastic School of Infantry course students was Major Maurice Fogwell, the curator of the collection which has been at Warminster since 1969 but started out its venerable life at Hythe, Kent, in 1853.

Usually, the light-axled, rubber-tyred Wombat was carried in a long wheel-based Land Rover or tracked AFV 432 armoured personnel carrier, but SOLDIER, who caught the teams up at Tilshead near West-down Camp, found no shortage of stamina among them in their pedestrian power orange dayglo jackets under escort by a police motorcyclist outrider. The gun-running, a month in the planning, also had another serious purpose — the raising of

more than £300 for the Army Benevolent Fund.

With only one training session of eight miles behind them and a full-fry breakfast to start them out on the day Captain Blue said: "We've had no problems. We've worked all our blisters off during training. Morale is high and we've passed the time — 20 miles of it will be over the training ranges — by telling each other jokes, boosted by double rations which, incidentally, we've already half eaten. It's our farewell to the Wombat, the last six-week course for students having just ended.

"The Wombat was very good to train with and is much more impressive to fire than the Milan. Soldiers will miss their association with the gun. It's a tough gun. They could throw it around and be rough with it. Milan is electronically-operated and quite delicate by comparison. You have to put talcum powder on parts of it and glycerine oil on others. It may not turn out to be so soldier-proof. You've got to handle it carefully. We shall miss Wombat." ■



Story: Graham Smith Pictures: Les Wiggs

# SOLDIER to Soldier

**A** SPECIAL welcome to all our TA readers in this, our first issue to incorporate the Territorial Army Magazine.

Many of you of course are no strangers to SOLDIER. For as the Magazine of the British Army it has always been our policy to cover TA activities. And we are proud to count many TA members among our most loyal readers.

So this issue sees no radical departure from our established format but rather a slight change of emphasis to bring TA activities into sharper focus.

This year of course is the 75th Anniversary of the Territorial Army, an event proudly commemorated in the special farewell April issue of the Territorial Army Magazine. In the months ahead, we too look forward to reflecting the many events that are being held to mark this memorable milestone and to carrying on the traditions of service to the TA set by its own magazine for over 50 years.

Above all though, we shall strive, as always, to underline the 'one Army' concept and the part played by all our soldiers — part-time and full-time — in the defence of the Realm.

To mark our formal link-up with the TA Magazine, this issue is slightly larger than normal. At 25p for 56 pages we believe it represents unrivalled value. But, as we

have often said before to you, our readers — this is **your** magazine. So, please, let us have your news, views, comments and suggestions for making it even better.

Help us make SOLDIER a magazine that **everyone** in the British Army — Regular or TA — can share and be proud of.

**E**VERY RIGHT-MINDED British citizen who has followed the turbulent and tortured pattern of events in Northern Ireland over the past 13 years, can have nothing but admiration for the men and women who serve in the Ulster Defence Regiment.

More than any other Army unit serving in Ulster, this largely part-time regiment of men and women have had to bear the worst effects of the 'troubles' and have paid for their loyalty to the Crown with 128 deaths and many serious injuries. So we can only applaud the UDR's efforts to swell its Benevolent Fund and provide much needed financial help to its members and their dependants.

The courage of our Armed Forces in the Falklands unleashed an overwhelming response to the South Atlantic Fund appeal.

But the fight for peace on the streets of Ulster requires no less courage, even though its heroes seldom make the headlines.

If the UDR fund attracts a tenth of the generosity shown to our Falkland forces, its £1 million target will be comfortably passed. Let us hope its appeal does not go unanswered.

Anyone wishing to contribute should send their donation to HQ UDR, Lisburn, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.

**O**UR ARTICLE on the Automatic Polish Reflection Indicator (21 Mar) — the new device for keeping the Army's shining image up to scratch — provoked a number of letters to SOLDIER, a selection of which we publish on page 48. We also received several anxious phone calls on the subject, including a few from the national press.

Some applauded the new device as an important step forward in raising standards of turnout. Others were outraged that the Defence Budget should be 'frittered away' on such a gadget. But the majority treated the claims made for the Gleam Machine with a certain scepticism.

Only time will tell of course. But meanwhile we extend sincere thanks to our friends at the Guards Depot who allowed us the exclusive pictures of the APRI being put through its paces.

Sharp-eyed readers may even have noticed that one of the instructors trying out the device, Lance-Sergeant Barry Remington appeared in our April issue three years ago when we featured another SOLDIER scoop — on the trimming of the Guards bearskins.

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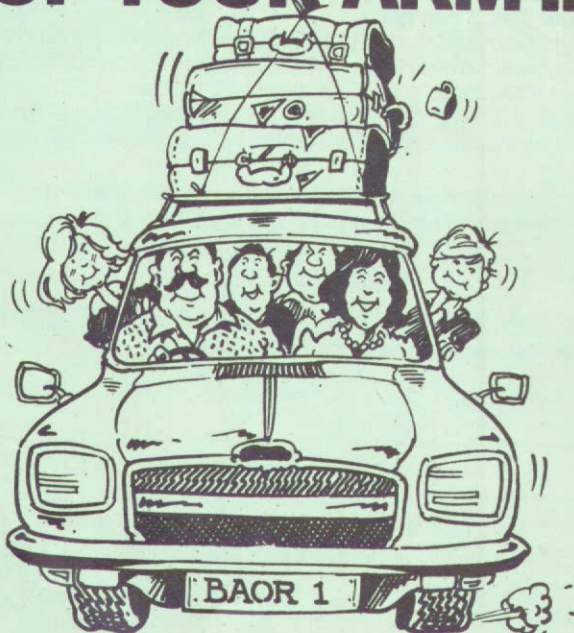
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S2



Getting the right sort of recruits is vital for the Army's future health and strength. So getting the right sort of recruiters is vital too. Graham Smith visited the special school where they train

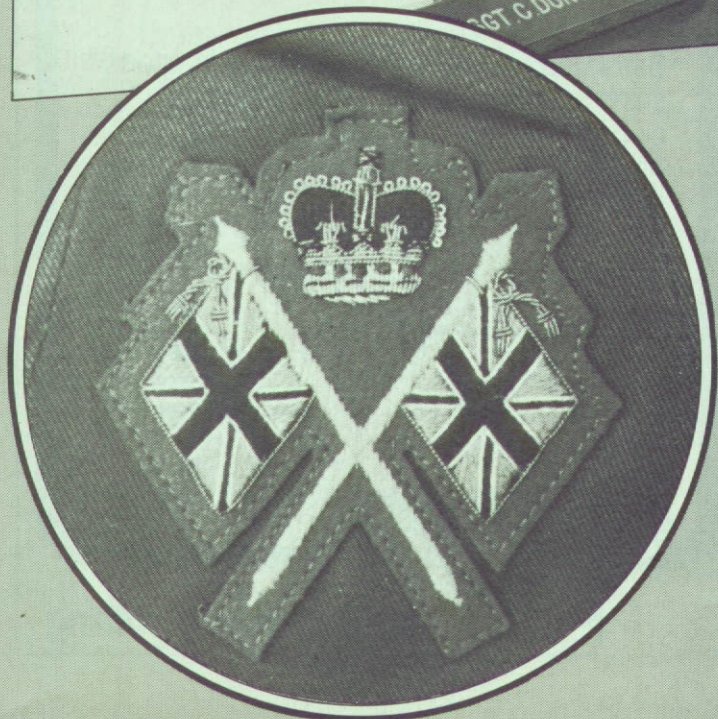
## THE MEN BEHIND THE SHOP WINDOW



Lt-Col Douglas Dowling: "Recruiting is a strange game . . ."



An ACO interviews an ACF cadet for possible junior entry.



**T**HE TRIED and well-tested appeal of the High Street shop window is probably still the cleverest way of maintaining the level of numbers among the ranks of Britain's 163,000-strong Regular Army — or so say today's recruiters. They are men far removed from yesteryear's popular concept of wax-moustached, bull-necked martinets coercing young recruits with riveting eye and strident voice. And they learn the tricks of their highly important trade at Connaught Barracks — part of Woolwich Garrison — home of the Army School of Recruiting.

Occupying premises which

The shoulder flash worn proudly by ACIO sergeants.

started life as the Royal Artillery Hospital, the School is a seat of learning centred on four classrooms or syndicates endowed with modern TV video and other sophisticated aids. Its eight main month-long courses a year turn out the Army Careers Officers (ACOs) who man the Army Careers Information Offices (ACIOs).

Some 240 aspiring recruits passed through its doors last year — senior NCOs including 16 members of the WRAC — all bent on spreading the Army gospel to the youth of the country nationwide.

Set in three acres of grounds amid crocuses, daffodils and saplings, the School is described by

*continued on page 14*





Capt Jim McGhie and aspiring recruiters: "Some students don't like being criticised..."

## Pictures: Paul Haley

country they may come from and know well.

"What we are looking for as a potential recruiter is someone with personality, charm and a quick brain. The Army is full of them. We've had some very good people from the REME but all cap badges are represented here."

Formerly the commander of a Royal Marines battery who describes himself as a "rather ancient roughie-toughie", Colonel Dowling added: "Candidates also have to have a good knowledge of all aspects of Army

life which, sadly, is lacking across the Army today."

His graduates must also get used to another sort of 'uniform' amongst their customers, he pointed out. "Spikey, purple hair, chains, studded belts and leather gear may often be the uniform of their recruiting catchment areas."

"Two years ago there was a fall-back in recruiting because of the planned strength of the Army and because people were not leaving due to the recession," explained Colonel Dowling. But from April we started going sharply into gear again with the seeking of 11,500 adults and 7000 juniors to join the Army. And there is no shortage of applicants."

Last year has been a particularly busy one for the ACIOs, no doubt due in part to the 'Falklands Factor'. Recruiting was never brisker than during the Falklands campaign when many men who had left the Army for some years came forward to offer their services in the South Atlantic.

In the 12 months up to the end of February there were 49,624 firm applications to join the Army of which about a quarter — 12,300 — were enlisted.

"Techniques in the ACIOs have changed over the years with

its Commandant — Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Dowling — as a "hard to find twig on the branch" of the Ministry of Defence's Directorate of Army Recruiting.

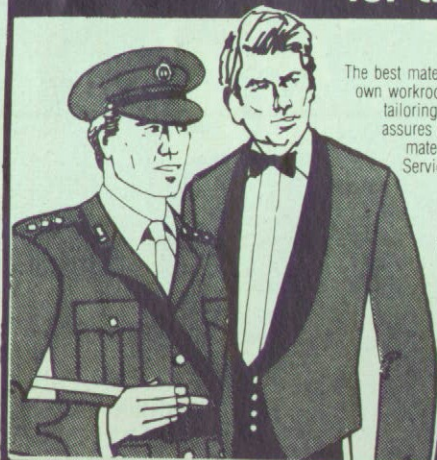
He has six 'teeth-arms' instructors working for him supported by three military and three civilian admin staff.

"The High Street way is a very clever way of recruiting," he explained. "The premises may be

next to, say, the dry cleaners and you can walk into a shop without feeling desperately committed. If you walked into the Duke of York's Headquarters it could be a bit off-putting.

"Recruiting is a strange game but we try to give would-be recruiters some knowledge which will give them confidence and we try to send them countrywide with the right regional accent — in other words, to areas of the

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*Daddy, what did YOU do in the Great War*

the use of video recorders to help sons — and their mums — decide if the Army is for them and it's a fairly steady routine," said the Commandant. But not every potential recruiter is suited to the task. He may be a perfectly good bloke but it may just not be his game. Perhaps he is just not the type or lacks the personality or style to do the job. Mostly our recruiters fall into the 24 to 44 age bracket and are made up of senior NCOs and those who are on the Long Service List."

The Army School of Recruiting supplies recruiters for ACIOs with a nationwide spread from Omagh to Lowestoft and Jersey to Wick. Northern Ireland has four offices but all are located in secure areas amid barracks.

Staffs vary in size. It takes only one recruiter to man the seashore mobile home at Wick in northernmost Scotland but there are a dozen in Manchester as befits an office which recruits about five per cent of the total Army strength.

In all, there are about 40 main Army Careers Information Offices, many of them tri-Service staffed and controlling a number of outstations.

The School of Recruiting insists that before joining one of its courses warrant officers and senior NCOs must spend at least 10 days attached to a main ACIO in the District in which they eventually hope to work. Once in a syndicate the candidates learn

how to receive recruits and put them at their ease, the art of interviewing and, of course, documentation.

Besides the eight annual courses, the School runs two fortnight-long sessions, each of ten students, for Assistant Schools Liaison Officers which include four days' of public speaking. It also organises two week-long UDR courses each year, gives instruction to WREN officers, deals with KAPE (Keep the Army in the Public Eye) schemes for the women's services, devises syllabus work for KAPE male officers through to drivers and conducts week-long KAPE team leader courses.

Also held within the School's tall portals are up to four weekend TA recruiter courses each year and two annual conventions for the Recruiting Directorate — one for ACOs and the other for the Long Service List senior ranks.

Course Leader, WO1 Ken Taylor, a medical assistant in the Royal Army Medical Corps who was in the third week of his month-long course before joining the Army Careers Information Office in Nottingham, told SOLDIER: "It's a very intense course and involves a lot of extra study with not very much free time."

"I've learned a lot here and I'm looking forward to my new move after two years in the Army. I'm on the Long Service List and hope to do 14 years in



WO1 Ken Taylor: "I'm looking forward to my new move..."

this, my second career. I always fancied the world of recruiting but haven't had the chance before.

Captain Jim McGhie, Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, an instructor for three years who has passed on his wisdom to nearly 200 aspiring recruiters, said: "I find it all gratifying. I get a great sense of achievement at the end of each course. Each student is a

different person in his own right. It's completely new to them."

"Human nature being what it is, some students don't like being criticised but it's a very critical course. I have to point out mistakes and errors and some people rise to it."

"I think it's a very worthwhile job. I looked into it before I arrived and I thought I would enjoy it. And I have." ■



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Fearsome figure out on exercise in NBC kit is unmasked (right) as the TA's own Euro MP, Major Alasdair Hutton



**John Walton meets  
the busy politician  
who still finds time  
to be a TA officer  
too . . .**

**A**LASDAIR HUTTON is a Member of the European Parliament with a giant constituency covering eight Westminster seats in the south of Scotland. He travels 100,000 miles a year with little time for holidays. But his most relaxing times are when he dons a red beret and Army uniform as second-in-command of the 15th Scottish Parachute Battalion.

Major Hutton is approaching 20 years as a member of the Territorial Army, although he has never been a Regular. Before his elevation to the European Parliament back in 1979 he was a journalist and a broadcaster, which gave him more time for his TA activities.

This is a matter of some regret to him. "I'm only able to manage perhaps half a dozen weekends a year now," he muses. "But last weekend in Berwickshire it was a complete break for me not having to think about my office. It's such a pleasure breathing fresh air and running around in the woods. I like the physical exercise and challenge and the comradeship.

"What I am very conscious of

now is that the pressures on a politician are so great I can see how easy it would be to get completely out of touch with ordin-

had some comprehension of the way they felt about being given a silly order by some boneheaded NCO. That has always remained

## EUROPE'S 'ACTION MAN' MP

ary people. In the battalion, people come from all walks of life and the beauty of it is that they have known me for so many years. They don't speak to me in a political way although they are aware that I am a member of the European Parliament. To them it is something of a joke."

Major Hutton joined 15 Para in 1964 and spent two years as a 'crow' or private soldier before becoming an officer. "Having been in the same billet at least I

with me and I tried as a company commander not to muck the lads about too much.

"I can appreciate the pressure the crows are under because no-one comes round and inspects the officers' room whereas they keep jumping down the lads' throats for not keeping bed spaces tidy and that sort of thing."

I had to confess that I did not know the name of my European Member of Parliament and

Major Hutton was not in the least surprised. Apart from those, like Barbara Castle and Winnie Ewing, who made names at Westminster, most are still fairly anonymous.

Major Hutton has the biggest Conservative majority in Scotland yet his constituency takes in four Labour seats, one Liberal and only three Tory, so he cannot afford to be complacent.

"To make a name a European Member of Parliament either has to do a lot of extraordinarily outrageous things or he can chip away at the business of his constituency — telling people through the local papers what he is doing. I prefer that method." It helps, of course, that as a professional journalist he has the knowledge of just what would interest the media and how to present it.

He tries to avoid what he calls "fancy meetings" on the Continent but with the second largest constituency in Britain and frequent travelling to and from Europe he still finds little enough time to spend with his wife and two small sons. Unlike the House of Commons the European Parliament has no long recesses —

*continued on p.18*



just a week at Christmas and the month of August.

Asked about common criticisms of the Common Market — references to 'gravy trains' for instance — he feels that while such things should be and are brought out in the open, they are given far more prominence than the real workings of the Parliament.

He is also unhappy about newspaper stories on things like the EEC banning doorstep delivery of milk, which he describes as "Euromyths". A lot of them, he maintains, are based on attempts to apply standards across the Market which will make things easier for exporters.

"The milk on the doorstep story was a classic example of the myth. We were never able to oppose it because it was never proposed. We are constantly fighting misinformation — things that are deliberately or carelessly put about."

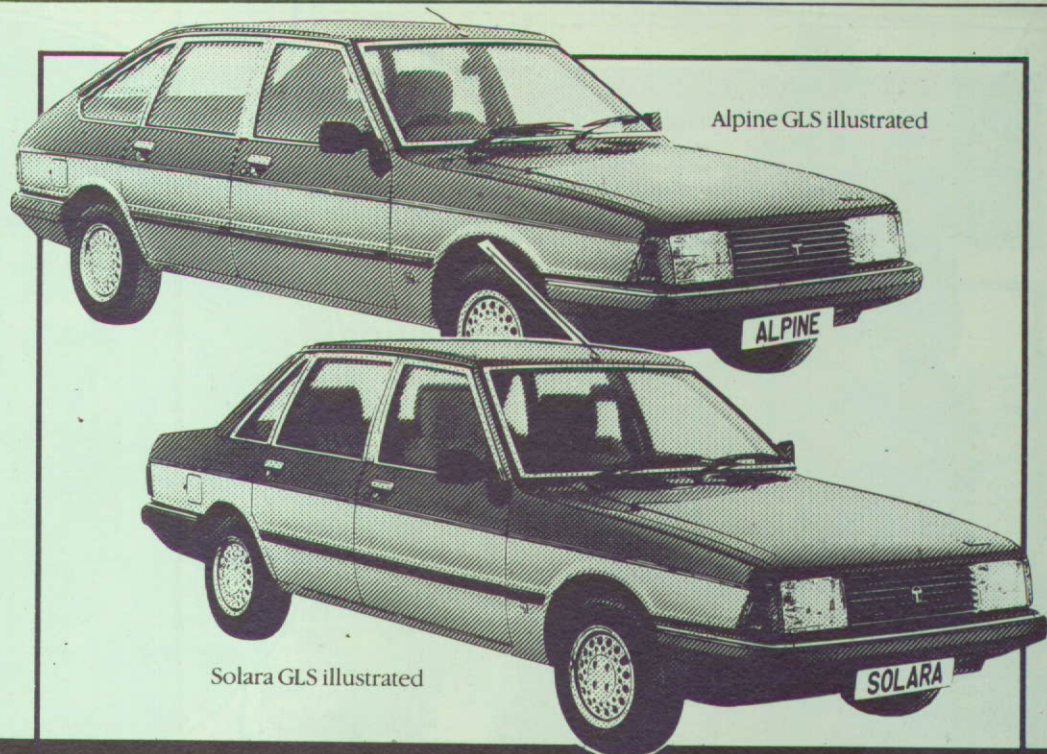
**'I can see how easy it would be to get completely out of touch with ordinary people.'**

He sees a bright future for the Territorial Army. "I've always regarded its social service as having even more importance than perhaps its military role. You are taking lads from every kind of background — from the son of the Duke to the unemployed labourer. I have seen plenty of blokes go into the TA and realise personal potential I don't believe they would have realised in other circumstances.

"Qualities of self reliance, self confidence and leadership have been brought out in men who would not have had the same opportunity to show them in fairly humdrum civilian jobs."

Major Hutton particularly likes the way that city boys are introduced to the countryside and fieldcraft through being in the TA. Although opposed to National Service he still feels there is a need for trained volunteers for the war emergency.

"I would hope that the very existence of a substantial nucleus of trained men would give any enemy some second thoughts knowing that they have not just the Regular Army to tackle but a fair number of willing volunteers." ■



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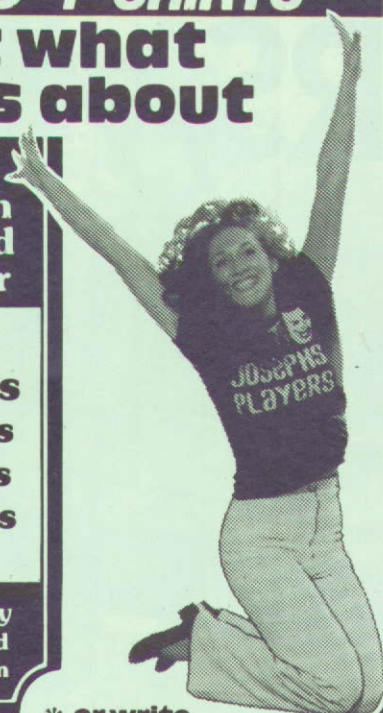
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S17



# SOUTHERN CRAFTSMEN TAKE TO THE WOODS



The winning team from Deal, under the command of Captain Neil Bensted, with trophies.

**T**AKE ELEVEN TA REME UNITS from London, Eastern and South East Districts with their mobile workshops to Bordon, hide them in the woods and you have the start situation for Exercise Southern Craftsman 83.

They had come from as far apart as Nottingham and Deal to compete for six Southern Craftsman trophies and began by camouflaging up and going tactical in readiness for the technical phase which started the weekend.

To say a seven man team has nine hours to complete 30 hours work might seem easy until you learn that one of those men, the metalsmith, has his own task to do and the recovery team is with-

Two of the 133 Corps Troops Workshops team from Deal, L/Cpl Chris Pullen and Sgt Dave Shorter at work on Land-Rover gearbox. ▼

drawn for a couple of hours or so to carry out their speciality. So it boils down to four men trying to complete five fairly major tasks on their own vehicles, which means they have to get them right because they need to drive them home again at the end of the weekend.

This year the tasks included replacing a gearbox and a starter motor on a four ton Bedford, as well as checking the engine for a misfire, and adjusting the gearbox and retiming the engine of a Land Rover.

Meanwhile, the metalsmiths were busy making a 'nudger'. In the past light metal items such as jugs and funnels have been made, but this year the heavy metal boys came into their own to produce the 'nudger', a device fitted to the front of Land-Rovers and used to nose vehicles and trailers in and out of awkward

parking places, such as transport aircraft.

When it came to the turn of the recovery teams to review their task they found that the old four tonner that had reclined at the bottom of the Bordon sandpit for so long had been replaced by some equally elderly 14½ ton ex-American gun carriers. These vehicles, already showing the scars from being hoisted up and down the quarry wall, had a few more dents after the TA added its number.

While all this was going on, what were the team leaders doing? They came into their own later on in the competition but most could be found making themselves useful at this stage by peeling potatoes and keeping the workers supplied with tea.

The night of the two day exercise was partly taken up with military skills. The teams had to

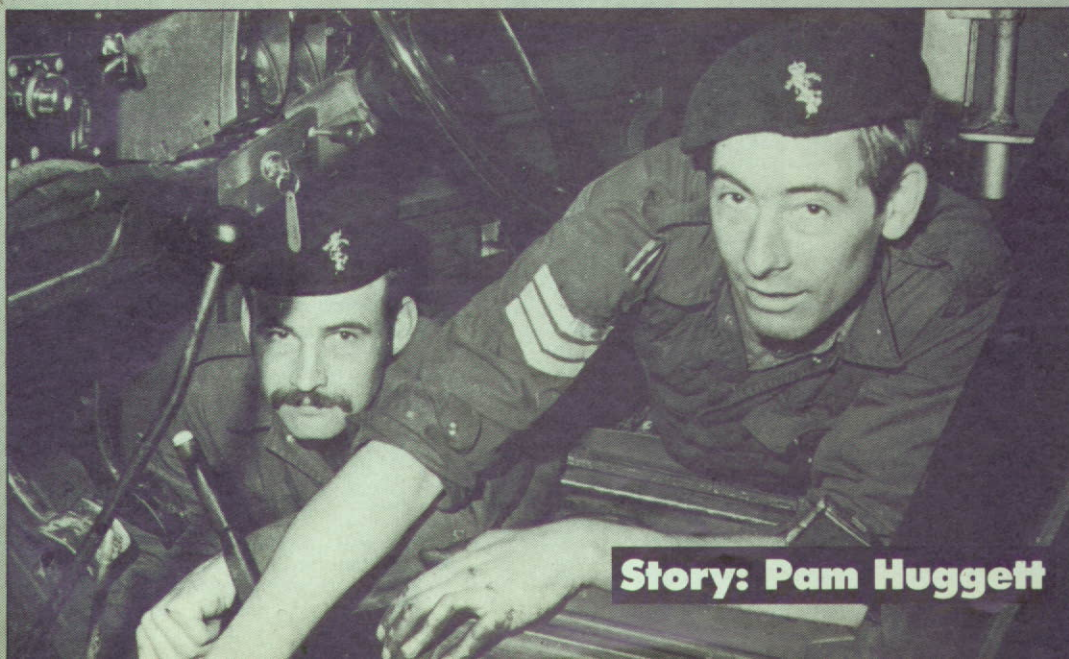
answer questions and carry out practical tests on map reading, first aid, radio and NBC, culminating in a night drive to Longmoor Ranges. The exercise then went non-tactical and for what was left of the night the men could sleep.

Sunday dawned to the prospect of a march from the ranges to Longmoor Camp, there to do battle with the new assault course and march back to the ranges where the weekend finished with a falling plate shoot competition while the trophies were assembled and the points added up.

The Turners' Company Shield, presented by the Master, Major-General Sir Lesley Tyler, is awarded to the overall winning team. It was won this year by 133 Corps Troops Workshop, the only entrant in the competition from the South East. They also took the Martin Brown trophy for the vehicle repair tasks and the DDEME Challenge trophy for their manufacturing ability.

The Hammond trophy for the recovery phase went to 31 Signal Regiment LAD from Putney, the Powditch Cup for the march and shoot to 118 Recovery Company from Leicester and the Reading Cup for military skills, which had been introduced this year for the first time by Brigadier Reading, Honorary Colonel (V) East, went to 562 Sqn RCT Workshop from Southall, Middx.

Winning metalsmith, L/Cpl John Sutton, who took the DDEME Challenge trophy. ▼

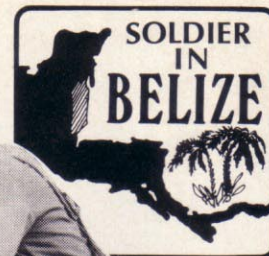


Story: Pam Huggett





# How part-time defence forces from Bermuda and Belize have been getting together with British Army regulars to learn . . .



**T**HE PART-TIME Bermuda Regiment (see **SOLDIER** 16 Nov '81) could soon be training in the jungles of Belize on a regular basis thanks to their close links with the Royal Anglian Regiment.

A small group of soldiers and NCOs from the Bermuda Regiment have been taking part in tri-lateral training with the Anglian's 1st Battalion and the six-year-old Belize Defence Force (BDF) near Rideau Camp, HQ of the British Garrison's Battle Group South.

The association of the Royal Anglian Regiment with the Bermuda Regiment goes back to World War Two when men from the island, anxious to play their part in the war, joined one of its forerunners, The Lincolnshire Regiment.

Major Drinkwater, the Bermuda Regiment's training major, and Captain Richardson, its adjutant — both Anglians — thought the presence of their parent regiment in Belize was too good a training opportunity to pass up. And the Bermudans grasped the chance eagerly.

Lieutenant David Birch, an accountant with a marine insurance company who doubles as a platoon commander with the Bermuda Regiment, told **SOLDIER**: "I think the main thrust behind getting us out here was to open the door, as it were, between Bermuda and Belize. We are not considered as being part of the Caribbean but we like to

**Three B's on the Carl Gustav anti-tank gun: Brit, Bermudan and Belizean. ▲**

be friendly with its countries. This is our first venture into Belize working, tactically, with the British Army and, of course, the BDF. Hopefully, in the future, there may be some reciprocal training."

Sergeant Major McNeil McGowan, another book-keeper and ten years with the 650-strong Bermuda Regiment, said: "It's all been quite good training so far. There's a distinct difference from the Jamaican jungle. It's denser, damper and definitely nastier. I lost the sole of my boot going up

one of the rugged tracks.

"My role here is to observe company administration which gives me a chance to see the problems arising and how to handle them. It will be very beneficial to me in my company which holds 40 drill nights a year and has a two-week camp annually."

The Bermudans were involved in eight-day jungle patrols and one young commander observed: "This jungle is ten times worse than any in Jamaica which, I suppose, makes it ten times better for us from the training point of view."

Captain John McColl, Adjutant of 1 Royal Anglians based at Rideau, had no doubt that the Bermuda Regiment would profit considerably from training with his men.

"I think it's all gone very well in giving their junior commanders jungle experience. As they move into its midst they are very much on their own at platoon and section commander level. They also learn to operate on their own with all the responsibilities of eight-day long-range patrols — though we do 14 days — which they would not normally get, being in essence, a territorial army.

"As soon as they arrived they were spread to the four winds, the majority of their time being spent right in the jungle doing OP cadres, foot patrols and boat patrols in Rigid Raiders.

"The BDF are already part of our operations acting as guides and interpreters and the Bermuda Regiment has had specific contact with them by visiting their main barracks near Airport Camp. This trilateral training phase gives both the BDF and the Bermudans a golden chance to work with a professional army." ■

◀ Trilateral jungle training with compass and map. Drummer Stephen Leggatt, 1 Royal Anglian, is nearest to camera.

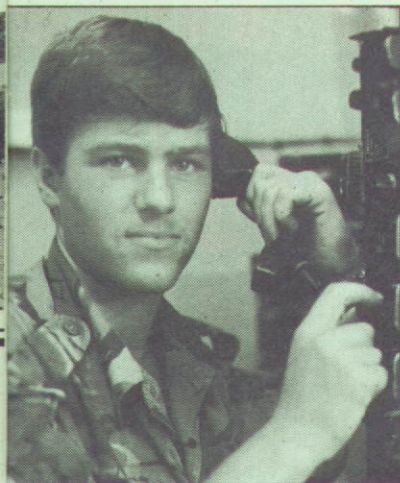




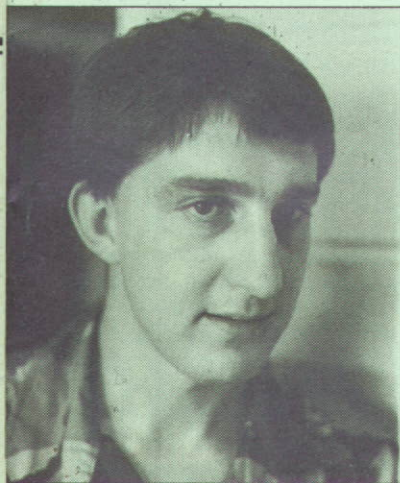


**It's the loneliest Army job in Belize but there's never any shortage of volunteers to be . . .**

## **The Folks that live on the Hill**



**Corporal Dick Langley:**  
"It's nice in hot weather because you can sunbathe." ▲



**Private Ian Cox:**  
"You get more signalling work up here than at Rideau". ▲

Skilful camouflage makes 'Nine Eight' virtually invisible from the air. ▼

**T**HE TINY HUT perched 1640 feet up on the crest of a jungle-cloaked ridge is one of the remotest locations that a British soldier is ever likely to find himself in. Yet finding men to man it is never a problem.

Known simply as 'Nine-Eight', the tiny, two-man outpost is a re-bro (re-broadcast) station manned by regimental signallers from the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, which forms part of Battle Group South in the former British colony.

'Nine-Eight' relays messages from Rideau Camp to Salamanca Camp and to certain observation posts because the 3000-foot-plus Maya Mountains get in the way of radio signals.

So it is that each week, two at a time, men from the 1st Battalion — 'The Vikings' — eagerly volunteer to be 'choppered' in by Army Air Corps Gazelle helicopter to their unique telecoms eyrie just 15 kilometres east of the Guatemalan border with Belize.

With them — and each hand-over lasts a couple of hours — they must tote five-gallon jerry cans of water and take batteries with which to power the lighting once the sun sets over the Guatemalan mountains at about 7 pm.

Besides bouncing messages

over the jungle-matted hills and dales, the two men at 'Nine-Eight' — it's their call sign — also get in touch with infantry patrols as they move about beneath the 160-foot-high canopy of trees which look like sprigs of parsley from their lofty vantage point.

One of those signallers always happy to leave Rideau Camp for this superior position in life — usually for a week at a time — is Corporal Dick Langley who settles happily into the radio shack routine.

"Water and fuel are delivered once a week," he explained. "When it's dark we read magazines or write letters. We also listen to the local Belize radio station in our small hut which has two camp beds, two chairs and a small wooden table.

"But signals traffic does get busy and we have our peak times. We have to come in by 10-minute chopper flight across the jungle tops because there are no tracks. We occasionally get a visit from a big rat, too. It's nice in the hot weather because you can sunbathe and relax. There's not so much pressure for us as there is back at Rideau. And when it's bad weather it clamps right down and you can't see farther than your hand."

Dick added: "At night time

you can see vultures fly over. Incidentally, it can get very cold at night at this height. I'd like another stint up here before the battalion leaves Belize. Sometimes you are paired off with someone you don't like — and some people have been up here for six weeks — but you soon learn to live with each other and get to know each other's likes and dislikes."

SOLDIER's roving team had a bird's eye view of the pin-prick outpost courtesy of an Army Air Corps Belize Flight Gazelle (see 21 March issue) which overflew such places as Pueblo Viejo, Rio Blanco and Blue Creek Village.

Private Ian Cox, who was to receive a handover from another signaller said: "I like it up here because you get more signalling work than you do at Rideau when you simply receive and pass messages. At Nine-Eight you can actually engineer communications.

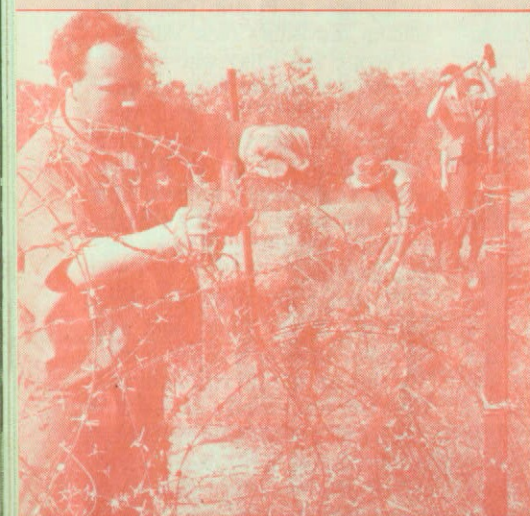
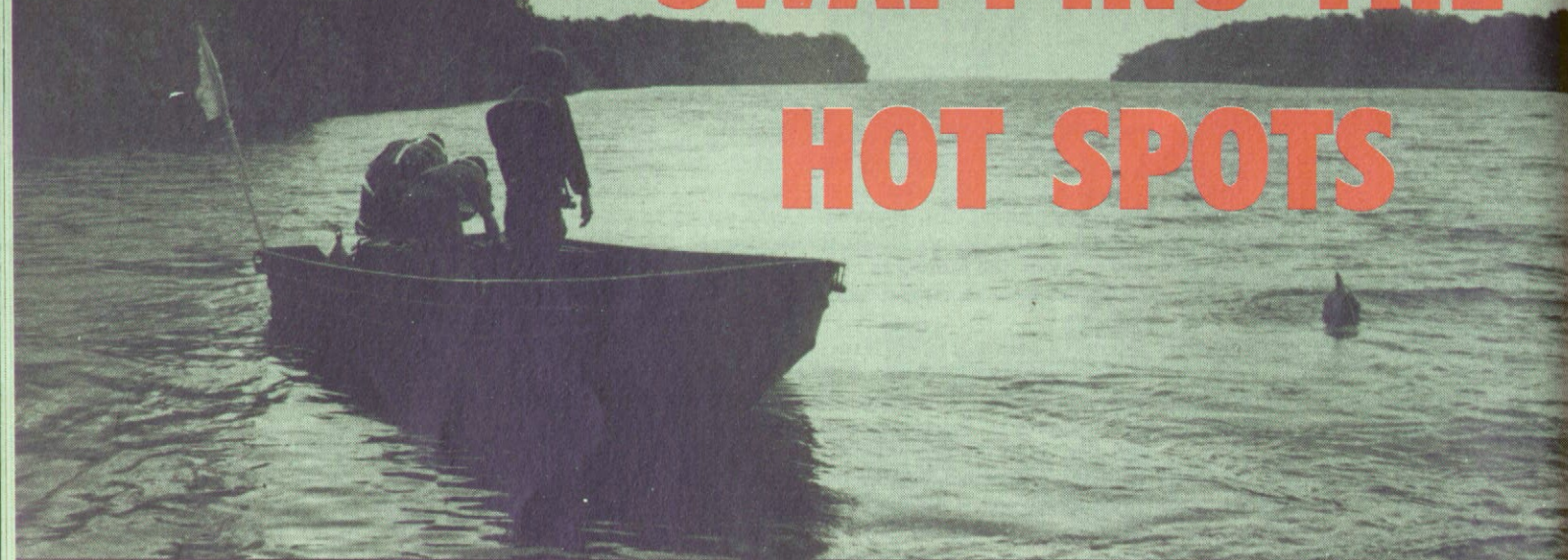
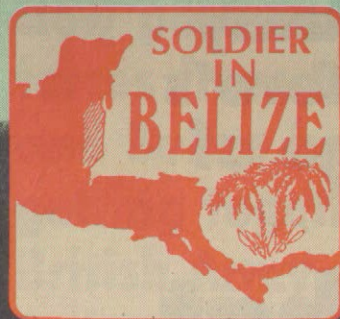
"I spend my spare moments listening to my funk, soul and Motown tapes or writing letters. We stay up late till midnight and have one main meal a day — at 6 pm — with sausage, eggs, chips and stacks of tea. I don't know who it was who once said it was tough at the top but it is certainly not the case at Nine-Eight. It's a great place to be!" ■





**From working under fire in the Falklands to battling with Caribbean jungle, it's been quite a year for the Army's only airborne sapper squadron . . .**

# SWAPPING THE HOT SPOTS



**A** LITTLE UNDER a year ago, men of 9 Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers — the only airborne engineer squadron in the Army — were earning themselves seven military awards in as many weeks during the Falklands fighting at a cost of four dead and 12 wounded in temperatures that plummeted below zero.

But today, 130 men from the Aldershot-based squadron are sweltering in ninety-degree heat amid the swamps, jungles, savannahs and mountains of Belize.

The squadron — motto: 'Where Right and Glory Lead' — has been to the former British colony twice before. Supporting them on this latest six-month tour are 25

▲ Pioneers from 518 Company, RPC, replace and tidy up perimeter fences.

**A diving sortie in the Belize River.**

men from 518 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, based at Bicester.

The squadron's full establishment is 208 but the rest have remained in UK in fulfilment of their 5 Infantry Brigade role.

Major Chris Davies, Squadron OC, explained that his men have to carry out a variety of tasks in Belize, including jungle and boat patrols, clearing jungle for helicopter landing sites and manning a diving team.

"We recently recovered the bodies of two civilians from a river," he explained, "and, elsewhere, some weapons which had been lost overboard from an assault boat during an exercise."

"We pride ourselves in being very fit which is really what enables us to survive in

▼ One of the Harrier re-furbished 'hides'.

varying climatic conditions. Consequently, we didn't have any weather casualties in the Falklands and we've had none here.

"Jungle training for my men is very valuable because it teaches them to operate independently in small groups. It's a good test of their own initiative, team spirit and the ability to look after themselves.

"We believe this is good training for the North European battlefield where, for example, in the fog of a possible nuclear war, men may be widely separated and find themselves with no communications between units and sub-units. It's a situation where, having been given the targets, small groups of soldiers would be able to operate independently."

Belize, he said, was "enormously beneficial" to his men because it gave them greater scope to practise their skills than on UK all-arms exercises of limited duration.

"Belize is a great place in which to practise those skills because we are doing lots of demolition work, blowing down trees with explosives and putting up barbed wire field defences. Our chippies, bricklayers, fitters and plant operators are getting lots and lots

▼ Sapper Steve Morris drives the earth-moving plant at Salt Creek Ranges.

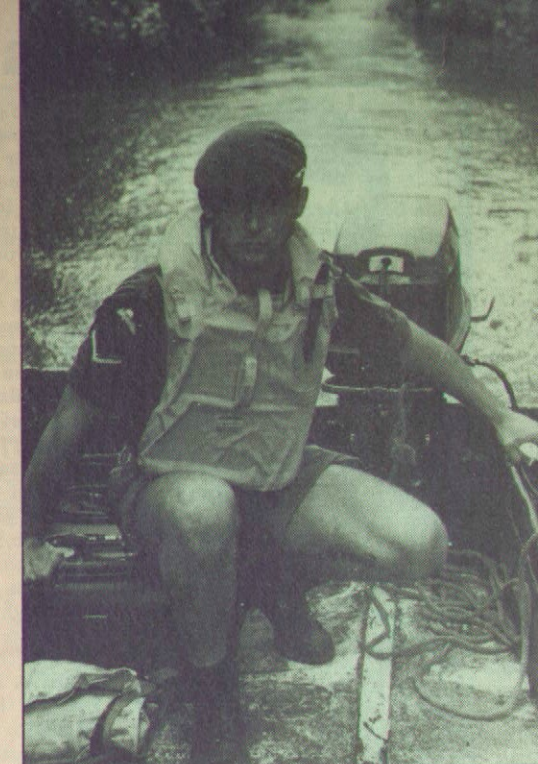


of experience in this way, particularly our plant operators who seldom get any training in the UK on proper plant tasks. We are also doing more concreting, another basic combat engineering task not often practised back home."

One of the sappers' biggest tasks has been to complete the transformation of a 6000-square-metre area into a roomy 'hide' for the RAF's Harrier jump jets. An on-site operation spread over four weeks, it called for the shifting of 1800 tons of earth between 14-foot-high sloping walls.

Lieutenant Alan Othen, Support Troop Commander, explained: "This area has now been doubled, even trebled in size. The ground was levelled, stabilised and rolled. After that, we added Pressed Aluminium Planking (PAP), a tracking expedient for parking the aircraft. It really is satisfying to see something that is permanent and is going to stay after we've gone. It'll be good for at least ten years."

A smaller but equally work-intensive task was the re-furbishing of a 15-year-old small arms training range — eight lanes and 600 metres long — at Salt Creek, just up the road from Airport Camp and flanked on two sides by swamps.



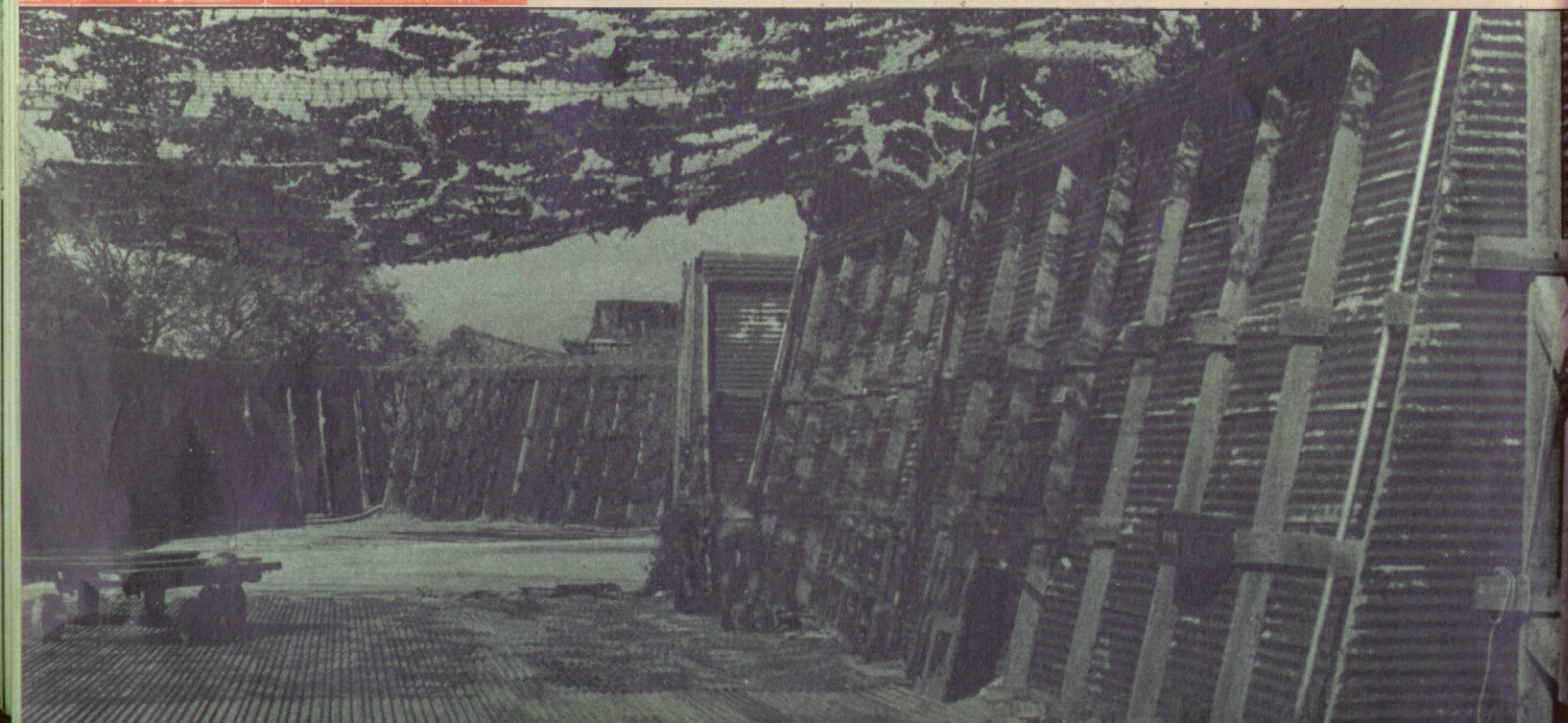
**Lance Corporal Bill Skinner at the controls of diving mission boat.**

Some 1000 tons of earth fill were used, walk-ways installed, the stop butt slope angle improved and drainage created.

9 Parachute Squadron took on its airborne role in World War Two and all its members carry out more than the annual minimum of three day and three night drops (five by aircraft; one by balloon).

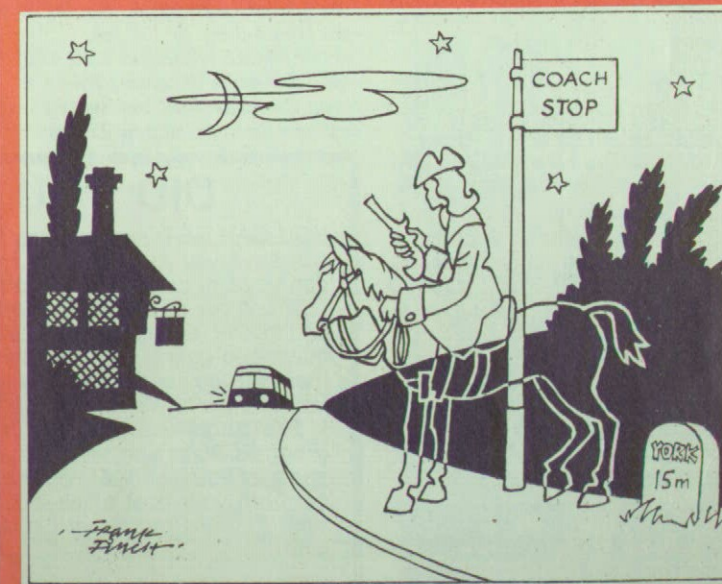
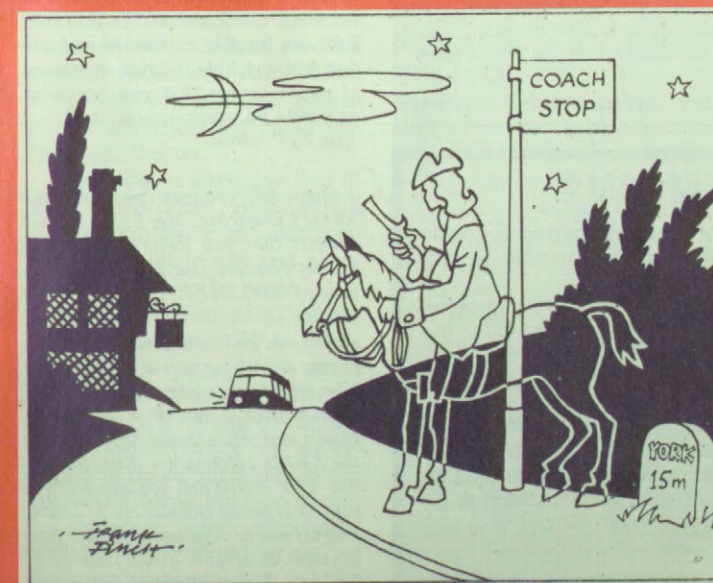
Over recent years, the squadron has been involved in exercises and projects in Canada, USA, north-west Europe, Zimbabwe and Vanuatu. And later this year — after a busy spell back at Aldershot — it will be leaving for a four-month-long detachment in Kenya.

Looking over his bronzed work force striving beneath the blistering sun, Major Davies said: "When they came out during the first month they had been anaemic and full of Christmas fat. Now look at them — they're as fit as racing snakes! Last year we were taking part in the South Atlantic campaign and now we're here doing our bit to keep the Guatemalans at bay." ■



## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 49.







**GENERATIONS OF families** have taken comfort in the old saying "As safe as houses" but the British Insurance Association has produced a film on home safety that proves that our homes are not as safe as we think.

Entitled *Nobody Told Me*, the 22-minute film spells out the causes and effects of accidents in the home. It is a film that deserves peak TV viewing time so that everyone will realise the hazards.

There are, for instance, around 14,000 chip pan fires each year, and the film highlights the inherent dangers in the many other modern appliances with which we live. We cannot do without gas and electricity but they can be killers — gas appliances must be serviced regularly, blocked ventilation grids can be fatal, worn wiring and do-it-yourself extension cables can burn or maim, and smoking in bed can have horrifying consequences.

About 25 per cent of all accidents in the home happen to the under-fives — a terrifying percentage. Anything is a potential danger to toddlers — dropped peanuts can choke, unprotected stairs can cause a serious fall and those bottles of cleaning fluids under the sink can poison so easily.

The elderly too are in danger. Balancing on a chair to reach a high cupboard, inadequate lighting or things left on the stairs are all potential hazards to an old person.

The DIY trend also increases the risk of accidents in the workshop unless those power tools, ladders and so on are used with great care. Even plate glass windows and doors can kill. Is your home really "as safe as houses"? Think again and check it.

*Nobody Told Me* is available on 16mm film, VHS, Betamax and Sony U-Matic Cassette for a free 10-day loan from British Insurance Association, Aldermary House, Queen Street, London EC4N 1TU, from Central Film Library, COI, Chalfont Grove, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL98TN, or from ROSPA, Cannon House, The Priory Queensway, Birmingham B4 6BS. You can also buy it from BIA if you want your own copy.

*Anne Armstrong*

I want, if possible, to buy a council house now whilst I have the security to pay for it. Can you please advise me in your column whether there are any leaflets that would be of benefit to me and whether legal advice would help?

I have five years to do to complete my 2 years' service and have been informed by the local council in Edinburgh that the only housing list I can be accepted on is the Forces' list which is for the last six months of my career and not now. Mr P, BFPO 805

Present rules do not allow Service personnel to buy council houses at once as you must be an occupant when you buy, but I would urge you to put your name down on a council house list as soon as possible. The Edinburgh council policy on housing for Service personnel is as follows:

"Service applicants are not restricted in any way for entry to the housing list provided they are occupying Service accommodation when registering. Early registration is necessary as waiting time points are awarded."

That extract was taken from the RAEC 'Public Sector Housing Guide to Current Policy of Local Authorities in England, Wales and Scotland' booklet which is available from your local RAEC Centre. You could also ask for information on the Sale of Surplus Married Quarters for Service Personnel Non-Discounted Scheme and seek advice from your resettlement officer.

Some months ago we read in *SOLDIER* magazine of Squire House at Woolwich Garrison and all the good work done there. The article stated that books, toys and games would be appreciated but they apparently have enough now to last for some time.

We have been trying, with Sue Lumsden, the warden at Squire House, to think of another organisation in the Services that might be able to use any more that we collect but we cannot think of anyone. Can you help?

Mr and Mrs Monger, Essex.

It would be a shame to waste all the books, toys and games that you have worked so hard to collect, when there must be many organisations that are in need of such things for children.

One Service residential home that comes to mind is Alexandra House, a Royal United Service Short Stay Residence for Service Children. The house

mother is Mrs Russell and the address is 6-8 Berthon Road, Bull Point, St Budeaux, Plymouth.

If anyone has other ideas please let me know and I will pass them on to Mr and Mrs Monger.

I would like to move my son from his present boarding school to another one next term. If I do so, will I lose my boarding school allowance?

Mrs P, BFPO 48

The Boarding School Allowance (BSA) is based on the desirability of providing Service children with some degree of continuity in their education and applications to move children, other than at a recognised 'stage of education', breaches the continuity principle and could mean that you forfeit your right to BSA for the rest of the child's education.

Parents who are considering changing schools, other than the change from preparatory to senior school, should seek the advice of the Pay Office and the OIC Service Children's Schools locally, or write to SCEA, Schools Branch, Institute of Army Education, Court Road, Eltham, London SE9 5NR, well before any change is made.

## ASK ANNE

Why is there still a seven-day rule applicable to the removal service, now that married quarters are partially defurnished?

Mrs R, BFPO 36

The seven-day ruling on delivery of MFO still applies because of the system under which boxes are moved. The removal vehicle has to carry the possessions of a number of families from different areas in both UK and BFG. It would therefore be impossible to pick up and deliver in different locations on one given day and some leeway is necessary. Of course, if a one family, one van system was economically viable, there would be no need for this ruling, but the service then would cost far too much.

I have just returned from a two-year exchange posting to Australia. Prior

to that I was employed as a clerical assistant in the MOD. As I was being posted I was given unpaid, extended leave with the understanding that attempts would be made to find me a position on my return.

As it is they have been unable to find me a vacant post near where we now live and I went to the Unemployment Office to see if I was able to claim Unemployment Benefit since it is no fault of my own that I am unemployed. I was told that I could not claim. As I always paid a full stamp, I feel that this is unfair.

Mrs L, Chepstow.

If you did not work during your two years in Australia, then you would not be eligible for Unemployment Benefit (see DHSS leaflet NI 12). However, since Britain and Australia have a reciprocal agreement, you could be eligible if you had worked in Australia and paid a full contribution to the Australian Government (see DHSS leaflet SA 5).

If you want to keep up your entitlement to a state pension, you should consult DHSS leaflet NI 48 July 82 'National Insurance Unpaid and Late Paid Contributions'.

I am moving overseas with my husband shortly. Can I continue to do the Open University short Community Education courses from our new station?

Mrs D, Colchester.

Yes, you can continue your studies and, provided that you have a BFPO number, the course material can be sent direct to you. The Open University has appointed Ms Jane Clinton at the Community Education Office, Centre for Continuing Education, The Open University, PO Box 188, Sherwood House, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 6HW as the person responsible for dealing with students living at BFPO addresses. The voluntary co-ordinator for the Open University in Germany is Mrs Alison Hill, c/o Mr D Hill, Army PI, HQ BAOR, BFPO 40 who will help with any queries.

Please would you send details of the leaflets on house buying and letting you have mentioned before?

We would like to buy and then let either a flat in London or the suburbs or a house within easy reach of the coast and London. We fear that flats are terribly expensive in London but any help, advice or names of estate agents that you can offer us would be much appreciated. Mrs S, Preston.

I cannot help you with complete details for the London area Mrs S, but I would suggest that you write to National Homes Network (see Homehunter section of *SOLDIER* on page 36 for details).

You can find more general advice on buying and letting at your RAEC office who will have a copy of the RAEC Resettlement Book 1980. Your husband's unit office should have access to the AFAB Information sheets on Letting Your House and you can obtain a copy of Housing Booklet No 5 'Letting Your Home or Retirement Home' from a series available from your local Citizen's Advice Bureau.

## DID YOU KNOW?

YOU CAN GET 'season tickets' for your prescriptions which can save you money if you require regular medication but don't qualify for free prescriptions.

These pre-payment certificates can be bought by anyone and this advance payment will cover all the prescriptions you may need during the next four or 12 months. You will save money if you need more than five items on prescription within four months or 15 items in 12 months.

The current costs of the certificates are on Form FP95 (Form EC95 in Scotland) and in leaflet P11 and you should apply for your certificate on this form which you will be able to get from your post office, social security office, chemist or NHS Family Practitioner Committee (Health Board in Scotland).



# The Volunteer Wife

IT SEEMS THAT the Service wife in the '80s is alive and well and sincerely appreciated wherever she is living. We were amazed at the response from you when we asked you to put down your thoughts about the role of the volunteer wife in the Services.

We heard how she is appreciated, admired and relied upon by her family, how she manages to keep the family secure and intact through countless moves from posting to posting across the world, how she is capable, intelligent and alert and just how much she contributes to the Service that directs her life.

But we also heard about the lack of consideration and respect afforded her outside the family, about the frustration and lack of

independence that characterise the life of a Service wife and about the petty daily irritations that can make Service life almost unbearable.

Service wives have always been a special sort of woman and those of the '80s are continuing this long tradition. They deserve recognition and consideration from everyone.

We have selected two very different variations on the same theme for publication in this issue. One comes from a British officer's wife, Helen Thomas-Peter in Cyprus and the other from an American soldier, CSM John McCamley in Texas.

LONG GONE ARE the days when a soldier's wife and family would camp out in shanty towns outside the perimeter of their husband's camp or wait at home, sometimes for years on end, until a period of leave brought their husband back for a brief visit. Today's married soldier can be accompanied by his family on almost all tours of duty in excess of six months duration and no doubt this has been a major factor in making the British Army the most professional and stable armed force in the world.

Despite these very welcome changes the Army is still very traditional in its attitude towards its womenfolk. This may not be very apparent during a UK posting, as the soldier's wife can lead as independent a life as any other married woman. However, once installed in a married quarter abroad, we soon become aware of what our role as a volunteer wife entails.

As I sit on the verandah of our quarter in Cyprus, looking out at the warm blue Mediterranean Sea it is easy to become complacent. After all, the advantages of being a Service wife are many: travel and different ways of life are among those that spring readily to mind, but there are others such as subsidised housing (no need to worry about the mortgage) free warrants for leave journeys, an excellent medical service, subsidised school fees, not to mention our own British Forces television and radio service and cinemas!

It sounds an attractive way of life and, no doubt, many would envy us but there are disadvantages as in all things and many sacrifices have to be made.

Being described as a 'dependent' or worse still as a 'wife of ...' is a humiliation we all get used to in time, but when our husbands have to join the library on our behalf, when we are required to make purchases in our husband's name only or obtain his signature before any credit facilities are granted to us, or when our husband's club or Mess

dictates what length of dress we may wear, it is brought home to us how little independence we actually have.

A wife's chances of following a successful career of her own are severely limited because of the need to travel. Indeed her chances of working at all are remote since our host countries insist that their own nationals, whether suitably qualified or not, be given preference when filling civilian vacancies within the Army.

Even in the UK, employers are loth to offer employment to Service wives for fear of a sudden posting. Small wonder then that child rearing becomes the sole

occupation of so many Service wives.

The soldiers in today's Army are, for the most part, intelligent, highly motivated and politically and socially aware. As the recruitment ads remind us they are the 'Professionals' and it would be fair to assume that their wives too are rather more sophisticated than hitherto. With this in mind, perhaps it is time that the Army brought its wives away from the kitchen sink and allowed them free access to the educational, sporting and recreational facilities that their husbands take for granted.

The return to civvy street (and it comes to all of us in the end)

THE WIFE OF a soldier is an army in private without which the Army in public could not function. For to whom is it, if not the wife of a soldier, that the flag of a grateful nation is given when the old soldier finally goes away?

Commander, personnel actions person, training and plans person and logician, the wife of a soldier is more: she is sergeant, section chief, squad leader and even her own work detail. She is medic, counsellor and chaplain.

She plans the meals, purchases the rations, cooks and does the dishes, pots and pans. She carries meals to her people and provides snacks at odd hours and goodies for parties.

She scrubs the barrackrooms, cleans day rooms, straightens cupboards. She takes up, turns in and picks up laundry and cleaning and washes them too. She sews on patches, buttons and stripes, pins on badges and ribbons and inspects those who wear them.

She keeps razor blades, shaving cream, deodorants, soaps and towels in ample supply.

She controls the medicine cabinet, keeps medical records, runs the family ambulance, makes doctor and dental appointments and is often the

medic and surgeon herself for scrapes, scratches, headaches and colds.

She tidies the garden, brings the newspapers, puts out the dog — and the cat and the bird. She feeds the fish, the rabbits and whatever other pets her unit picks up and makes a mascot of.

She maintains car records, takes vehicles in for repair, and that means the bicycles, tricycles, skates and any other movable object the children have.

She drives personnel around, waits on them, goes for them and controls the keys.

She represents her people at social functions, parades, change of command ceremonies, hails and farewells, pot luck suppers, company parties and civic clubs.

She cashes government cheques, deposits monies, keeps records of expenditures, pays bills and talks to creditors, collectors and even city employees who fail to pick up her rubbish. She receives guests, takes messages, answers the phone, acts as a staff duty NCO, humours discontents, noisy neighbours and begging salesmen.

She prays, secures light and strength for the tempted and the failing, instructs in ethics, morals and religion, advises

often proves a rude awakening for the soldier and his family and many find it difficult to readjust to the responsibilities of normal life after the cosy years within the bosom of the Army. The rehabilitation scheme will prepare the soldier for his new life and perhaps even retrain him for a new career but, as yet, there are no such provisions for his wife.

Yes, we wives are volunteers and, for the most part, we are well looked after — but let's not be kept in the background. There is a lot of untapped potential among Army wives and we should be using it.

By Helen Thomas-Peter

sinner, encourages the repentant and models virtue. She worships, sings and suffers silently.

She puts up with Army gripes, frustrations, tensions and shortcomings. She forgives insults, blesses good works and inspires her men. She stops fights, corrects children, does homework, works on school projects and worries about school tests.

She writes letters, keeps grandparents informed, sends thank-you notes, buys birthday, anniversary and other festival gifts. She reads stories, tells tales and puts tired children and dolls to bed together.

She waits for her husband, thinks of her husband and for her husband. She gets up early and waits up late ... and waits and waits. When he does not or cannot come home, she worries, she worries and she prays. She is happy to see her husband and is happiest when she knows her husband thinks well of her.

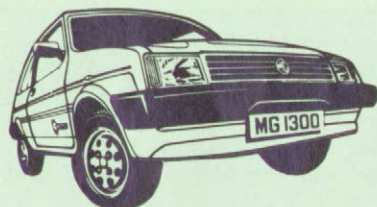
... and all this is true ... In private, the wife of a soldier is an army in miniature without which the Army in public could not function.

That is the role of an Army wife!

By John McCamley



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About to tackle the Warcop pipe crawl.

# WAR GAMES AT WARCOP

Derby Trophy competitors on the assault course — GOC NW District alongside.



Story: Martin Helm  
Pictures: Alex Wright and Chris Vere

**T**UCKED AWAY in a corner of the Lake District is a spot the tourists rarely see but which is temporary home to some 270 units a year. The place is Warcop, a 24,000 acre maze of ranges competed over for around 100,000 man training days every year.

On the 25 main ranges at any one time anything from Chieftains to FH 70s and Milans to mortars may be pounding chunks of metal into the foothills of the Pennines which form the backdrop to the ranges.

UKLF training 'brochures' warn the unwary: "Weather in winter is very harsh." Hardened Warcop sceptics might wonder how long a Cumbrian winter lasts. Snow can fall there any time between September and June. Low clouds scudding over the tops of

Electric controls on individual battle shooting range not only raise and lower targets but count the hits as well. ▲

the fells can quickly deluge the unprepared. And the icy north winds will soon rattle the bones of the unprotected.

But Warcop Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Freddie Legg, is philosophical: "Firing continues regardless of weather — even in snowdrifts and mist we just select closer targets."

And he is not joking. The ranges have their own snow track vehicle which can claw its way up to 2600ft above sea level after blizzards to check for blinds and to reset targets.

The training area caters for all arms but  
*continued on page 32*



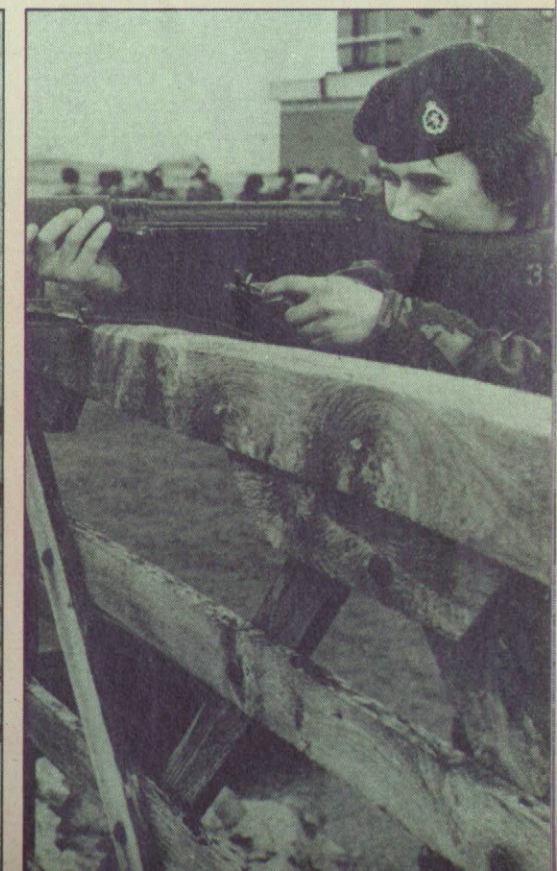
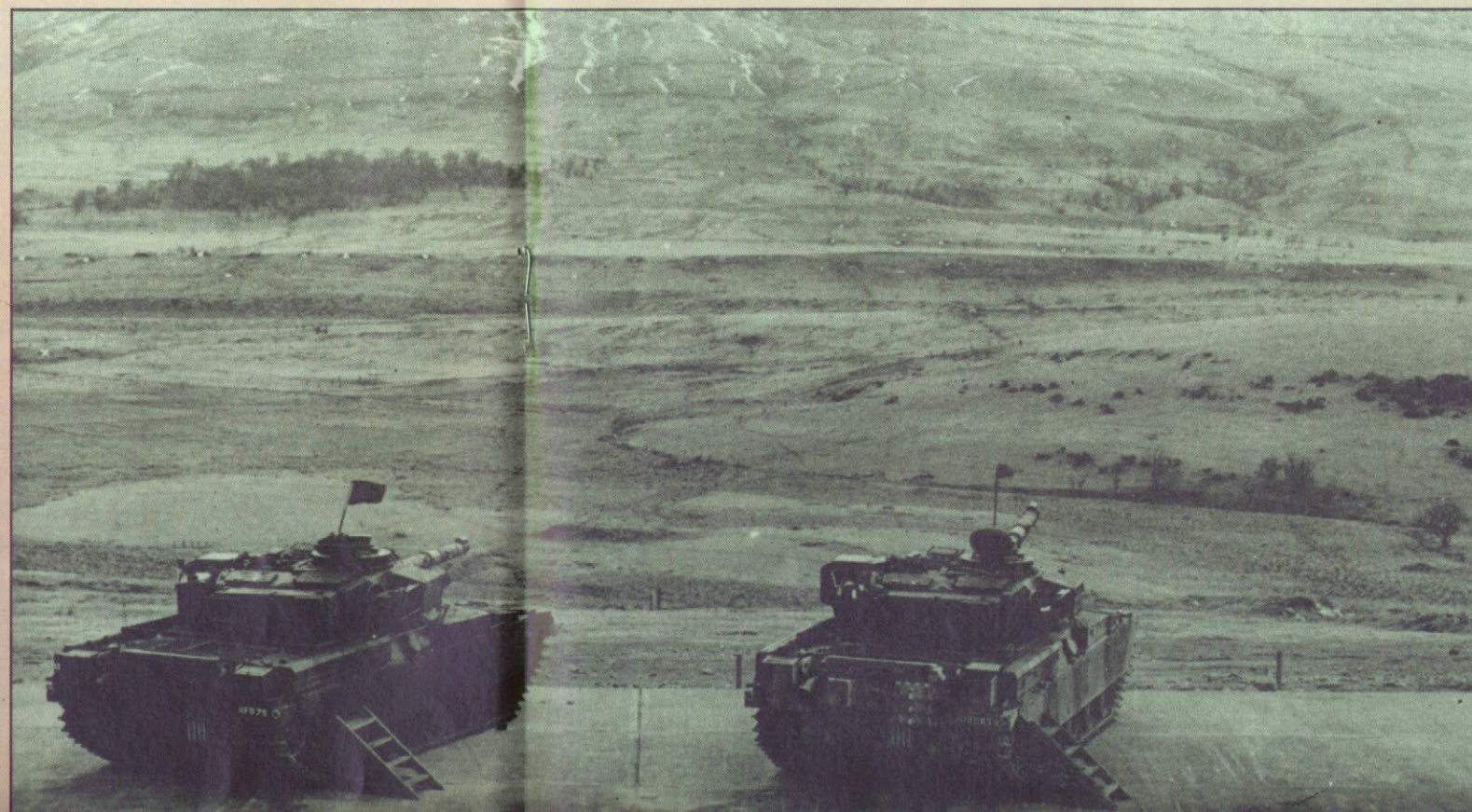
Well concealed on close quarter battle range.



Armoured vehicles of 51 Sqn RAF Regt gather at D range — Scorpion firing point.

Warcop's wide open spaces give young gunners the chance to fire Chieftain. ▼

Target practice on individual battle shooting range. ▼





specialises in infantry, artillery and armour — and indeed it was the Royal Armoured Corps who opened the ranges in 1942. The Corps is still one of the ranges' most regular customers with troops coming over weekly, from the RAC Training Regiment at Catterick, for their 'baptism of firing' at the only PTA where a Chieftain is allowed to let rip.

Camp staff are proud of the fact that they are open for business seven days a week throughout the majority of the year. Firing rarely stops — except on Mondays for maintenance and target repairs and for a week in late March to help farmers through the lambing season.

The camp area is superbly equipped and could open its doors as a sports centre tomorrow with scarcely a single modification. It can accommodate some 1400 men with 300 of them able to simultaneously squeeze a trigger at a Warcop firing point.

Both ranges and camp are constantly striving for perfection as well as ways of cutting costs. Improvements in hand on the ranges include a 12-lane electric target range, radio controlled targets on all attack ranges and close quarter battle ranges as well as an NBC battle run.

Armoured ranges already have five sets of 400-metre-long railway tracks with five diesel powered engines pulling moving targets. In addition they are to get a new Agile Target system and pop up targets.

Back in camp, moves are afoot to build a training theatre, but there is little scope for improvement to leisure time amenities. The Naafi complex is perhaps the most impressive of any training camp in the country — with snooker room, two pool tables, two table tennis tables, three TV rooms including one with a large screen stereo disc video, two luxuriously appointed bars and a shop.

A variety of courses are available at Warcop and on any normal day several units are likely to be found training there.

On a random visit last month for example, no fewer than six different units were busy on the ranges. Members of the RAC Training Regiment were gaining their recruit gunnery qualification on Chieftain, Scorpion and Fox, while 51 Squadron, RAF Regiment were engaged on conversion training to Scorpions and other light armoured vehicles.

There, too, was a senior staff sergeants' cadre from 11 Signal Regiment, potential officers from the crack 22 Special Air Service Regiment and a group from Sheffield University Officer Training Corps tackling



**'B' Coy 4 KINGS OWN BORDER** grit their teeth for final stage of the 9 km forced march on their way to Derby Trophy win.

range work and an assault course.

And to complete the all-action picture, youngsters from the Oswestry School Combined Cadet Force were getting stuck into some adventure training.

Over a week the list would be two-and-a-half times as long. But at weekends it's all change at Warcop. Out go most of the regulars and in come the TA. As assistant range officer, Grenadier Guards WO1 Peter Walker put it: "It's nice to see the TA coming through. We get a lot of them and they seem to be constantly improving. They play everything straight by the book."

Warcop has just played host to one of North West District's toughest annual TA challenges — the Derby Trophy, a gruelling weekend-long test of physical stamina and basic infantry skills.

This year it was competed for by the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, 4th

**Lord Derby hands trophy to Sgt Slater of 4th Bn King's Own Border Regt.** ▼

Battalion, King's Own Border Regiment, 5th/8th Battalion, the King's Regiment and 4th Battalion, the Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

Each and every two section-strength team had trained hard during the winter for the honour of receiving the trophy from the hands of Lord Derby, chairman of the North West TA Association.

But once again the canny Cumbrians of 4th Battalion, King's Own Border Regiment took the honours. The trophy has never been out of battalion hands since it was first presented eight years ago but this year the laurels went to its 'B' Company for the first time, just ahead of a team from A Company 5/8 King's.

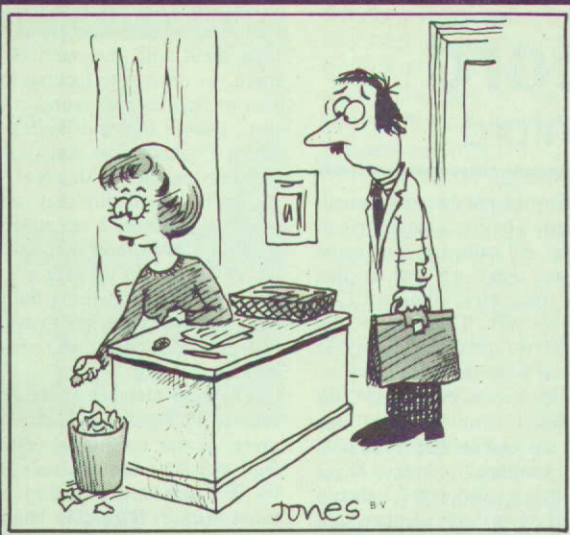
Out watching the competition was Major-General Michael Hicks, GOC North West District, who said: "There were no concessions made. Make no mistake it is a very tough 36 hours."

"The competition is a testing of basic military skills under arduous conditions. It is a thoroughly hard physical test." ■



**Getting down to it:** A TA competitor wiggles his way under barbed wire.

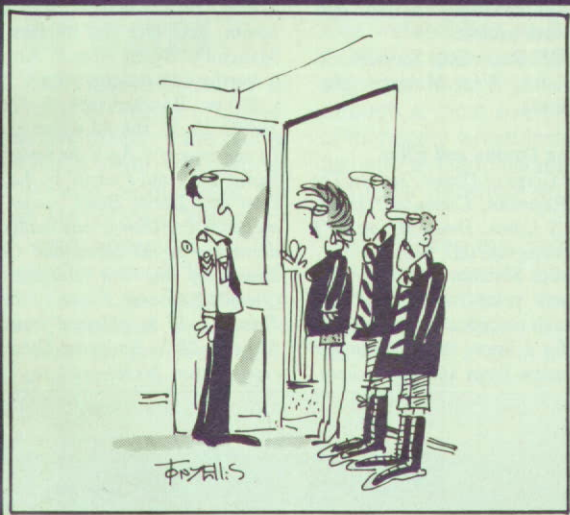




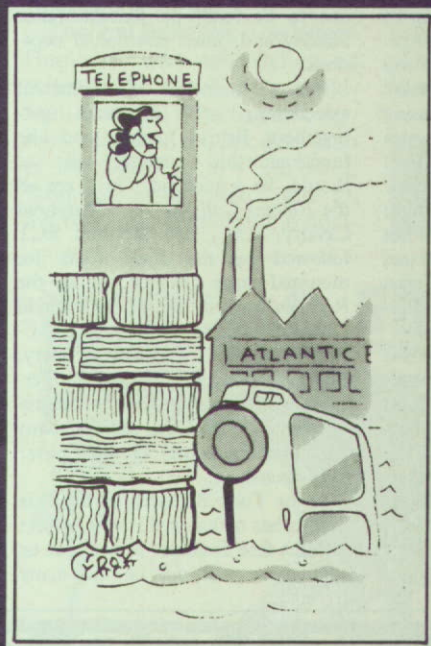
"I'm sure you left your visiting card —  
oh yes, here's part of it."



"But of course I remember  
you darling. I never forget  
an evening dress."



"She won't be long —  
she's in the bathroom torturing her hair."



"I can't start the car,  
Charles — I think the  
carburettor's flooded."

# Humour



"Even when we take her out,  
your mother still finds something to grumble about."



"Listen, son — it's about time we had a man to yob talk!"





# On the Record with Rodney Bashford

## Yankee Doodle Dandy

Band of the Grenadier Guards.  
Conductor: Major D R Kimberley.  
DR106.

It hurts to quarrel with any aspect of regimental band records, especially this one, but I suspect a few million Americans will join me if they should buy it without studying the back sleeve notes. *Yankee Doodle* still has overtones for some, and although appearing twice here the programme does not fulfil expectations suggested by such a title. A wonderful programme, played with virtuosity and a rare precision, but not the historical music I foresaw. I think its subtitle 'America's Favorite Music' (with the missing letter 'u') should have warned me, and have made a truer title.

Having said which, I have nothing but superlatives for the make-up of the programme and its performance. Conductor and musicians are on top form, and even if title and subtitle are not to your liking you will be missing a treat not to own it. And again, even if the names of the items don't attract you, they all appear in fine new arrangements which shed new light on such oft-recorded tunes as *When the Saints Go Marching In*, *Stars and Stripes For Ever*, *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, and *American Patrol*.

Three fine medleys make up the meat of the programme, with a symphonic portrait of *Cole Porter*, a Scott Joplin *Ragtime Story*, and Eric Rogers's *USA Services Marches*. The latter is also a misnomer if you expect *Wide Blue Yonder*, *Caissons* and the rest; they are popular marching tunes from the Civil War to the 1939-45 war. *Alouette*, *Sidewalks of New*

*York*, *Shenandoah*, and *Going Home* (an arrangement by Major Kimberley of which Hovis would approve), all add to the fun and show off the band's many skills.

Major Gordon Turner's *Spiritual Fantasia* and the conductor's *Novo Centenary* fanfare complete this disc which, for me, earns the 1982 best-record award. From Grenadier Guards, Regents Park Bks. Albany St. London NW, £5.10 inc.

## Trumpet Calls For The Army

Trumpet Major A E Close, *The Life Guards*. CDR 44.

And about time too, you may well say. In my thirteen years of reviewing I must have received hundreds of requests for such a project. Now that it is available (with some pressure from me) let us hope the brave record company will recoup its outlay from all those Disgusteds of Bovington, Catterick and Aldershot. "Trumpeters, trumpeters all around, but not a one to be had" on Remembrance Sunday and other ceremonial occasions.

For all branches of regimental associations, old comrades get-togethers, British Legion, and like functions this cassette will, or should, be a godsend. On it are all the *Routine Calls* for the Household Cavalry, RAC, RA, RE and RCT followed by the *Field Calls* for mounted corps. On side two are the *Regimental Calls* of the Household Cavalry, Cavalry of the Line, RAC-RA, RAC, RA, R Malta Artillery, RE, R Signals, RAOC, and the Territorial Army. An amazingly comprehensive list which will include many calls (and regiments) you may never have heard of.

Major Tony Richards of the Life Guards has taken on this vast project with his fine Trumpet Major. Let us hope there will not be too many

Disgusteds who will discover the call of the Upper Tooting Light Horse to be missing. All calls are announced so that you don't get lost in this tumult of trumpet, all except *Last Post* and *Reveille*. These are at the start of side two specifically for use at funerals and Remembrance services.

The good news is that *Bugle Calls for the Army* is to follow in due course. A sad year for the Household Cavalry continues with Major Richards being laid low (or I should say littered down) with another kind of disc trouble between withers and croup, so we must wait in patience for his early recovery. As soon as he is snaffling his feed again he promises to begin the necessary research into the bugle call project.

From DR Recording Services, 36 Garrick Gdns, West Molesey, Surrey, £5.10 inc.

## Steady the Drums and Fifes

Band and Corps of Drums, 3rd Bn The Queen's Regiment. Conductor: Bandmaster T S Davis. Drum Major: R J Baker. Phonogram 067 142.

After a corps of drums famine which lasted many years, we now have a spate of such records coming onto the market, for I know there is another soon to come from the Grenadiers.


Here the 3rd Queens give the corps three tracks to themselves and combine them with the band on three more, so things are looking up. Mr Davis supplies two marches of his own, *Quebec Day* and *Wolfe's Patrol* which I found most melodious and well put together; with a few harmonic gaffs ironed out they are well worth a publisher's attention ("I'm free" Mr Davis, now that retirement has at last caught up with me.) Both items refer to episodes in the regiment's history, as does the sleeve with a reproduction of Lady Butler's famous painting.

The three marches by the corps of drums, which uses a glockenspiel to pretty if not traditional effect, are *Buff and Blue* and *Hodum's Brigade* by W Clark and a medley of folk tunes *Mickie's Wish*. The band alone give a *Soliloquy* by Frank Erickson, Mozart's *Turkish March* at heavy infantry pace, a fine arrangement of *Lili Marlene*, the ubiquitous *High on a Hill*, *La Piranda*, Gossec's *Tambourin*, and with the buglers Henry Mancini's *Swing March*. Altogether a worthy and tuneful effort.

From Bandmaster 3 Queens, BFPO 38. £5 should cover p&tp.

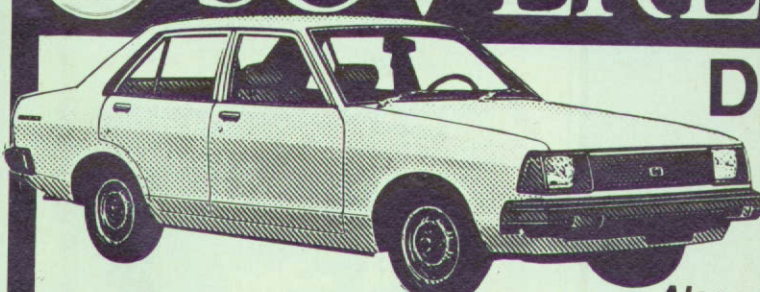
In our issue of 4 April the review of the record 'Past and Present' by the Hampshire and Dorset Band, under Bandmaster R L Alberry, was inadvertently accredited to the Band and Corps of Drums of the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment. Copies of 'Past and Present' can be obtained from Music Masters, 28 St Lawrence Drive, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex.





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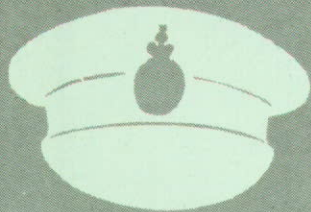
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## Your Cap Badge

No 39

### THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF WALES

THIS PARTICULAR design of the Prince of Wales's plume, coronet and motto — the plume and motto in gilt — was produced at the express wish of their Colonel-in-Chief, and approved by the Sovereign for wear in the head-dress of The Royal Regiment of Wales. It replaced the former badge worn by the Welsh Brigade (which was also the badge of the Principality, but of slightly

different form and all in silver) that had been worn by that Brigade from its formation in 1960 and continued in use until six years after the formation of the present regiment.

This Royal regiment was formed by amalgamation of the South Wales Borderers with the Welch Regiment on 11th June 1969, the year the 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment celebrated its 250th anniversary.

To find the origins of these units one must reach back almost three centuries to 8th March 1689 when a Commission was issued for the formation of a Regiment of Foot. This was later to be enumerated 24th and remained as such until 1782 when the additional title '2nd Warwickshire' was accorded it. Although its depot was established in Brecon in 1873 this was to remain its designation until 1881, taking it through a most eventful period of its history which included the disaster at Isandhlwana and the glorious defence of Rorke's Drift.

At this time the device given prominence on its head-dress badges was that of the Sphinx — commemoration of the part taken by the 24th in the operations against Napoleon's Army in Egypt during the 1801 cam-

paign. The helmet plate which followed bore the Dragon of Wales within a laurel wreath and it was not until the end of the 19th century that the cap badge showing the sphinx surrounded by an unbroken wreath of Immortelles and the letters 'SWB' came into use, not to be relinquished until the formation of the Welsh Brigade.

The Regiment of Invalids raised in 1719 from Out-Pensioners of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea became the 41st Regiment of Foot (or Invalids) in 1751. The word 'Invalids' was dropped in 1787 when it became an active regiment of the Line.

The use of the Prince of Wales's plume, coronet and motto was granted in 1831 and appeared on its Colours and adornments from then forward. It adopted what was then a new-style cap badge at the turn of the last century, featuring the crest standing on a scroll entitled 'The Welsh' — altered to 'The Welch' in 1920.

The 2nd Battalion, The Welch Regiment was established as such under the Cardwell Reform of 1881. It had been originally raised as the 2nd Battalion of The 24th Foot in 1756, being renumbered two years later as the 69th and acquiring the addi-



tional territorial title of 'South Lincolnshire' in 1782.

The combined Battle Honours of the regiments that form the RRW start with Blenheim and go through to Korea 1951-52. Their record of service and bravery includes a roll of 29 officers and men who won the Victoria Cross. *Hugh L King*

Next issue:  
King's Own  
Scottish Borderers



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**Unemployed youngsters from Service families face particular problems overseas. But things are looking up for some of them in Germany where...**

# OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS



Mrs. Jennifer Green.

**Keren Robson (17)** has done a City and Guilds receptionist course but cannot get a job as a receptionist in England until she is 18. Her YOP job is as receptionist at the Visitors' Mess, Rheindahlen. "It's given me the experience I needed," she declared with enthusiasm.

**Tracey Logan (18)** is up to her wrists in flour making fish cakes as a trainee cook. She has been on a YOP scheme in the United Kingdom but finds the Rheindahlen scheme better. "Once you went to the job in UK no-one came to see you and find out if it was OK. You are much better looked after here and I am learning a lot."



Mrs Brieger Willman. ▲  
Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Hole. ►

have been no complaints of exploitation. Says Mrs Willman: "The youngsters themselves are well aware that they are not to be used as gofers or grease monkeys."

Mrs Acland, whose area now includes Bielefeld, Minden, Herford and Osnabrück, also insists: "I make sure the job is work experience and not just providing a pair of hands. Sometimes the employers find them indispensable at the end of six months. Every time one comes and says that he or she has got a job there is a sense of achievement. They have been seen to work well — whereas at an interview the employer would not know how well they could work."

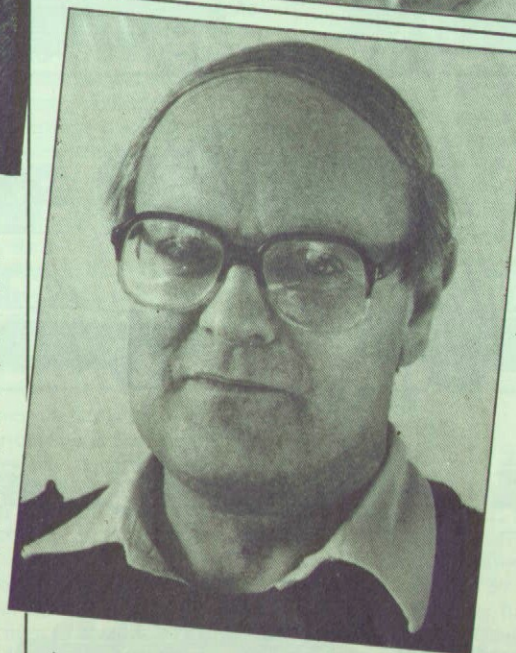
Negotiations are to take place shortly on how the scheme will be affected by changes in the United Kingdom scheme. But Colonel Hole feels that the success of the Forces programme has been due to the great efforts of the co-ordinators.

"One of them is only a part-timer and yet she is working 40 to 50 hours a week with enormous distances to cover. After all, British Forces Germany has been described as a city the size of Oxford spread over an area the size of Ireland."

Between a third and a half of the young people eligible are estimated to be taking part in the scheme. Colonel Hole sums up the first year thus: "There is still a lot of progress to be made but we now have the structure to set it up." ■



**Story: John Walton  
Pictures: Paul Haley**



**Jane Ford (18)** is working as a child care assistant before going to college next September to work towards a social welfare qualification. She says: "It is useful not only to see the actual children but to get to know the attitude of parents and how their behaviour can sometimes affect their children."

**J**UST OVER A YEAR AGO a scheme started which has meant new hope for hundreds of unemployed youngsters from Service families in West Germany. The Youth Opportunities scheme for British Forces Germany caters for teenagers who, because their parents are stationed abroad, do not even qualify for supplementary benefit when they are unemployed.

The first pilot scheme started in February

1982 with organisers covering Rheindahlen with its Army and RAF personnel and the Paderborn, Sennelager, Gutersloh area.

Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Hole, the staff officer with special responsibility for the scheme, recalled those early days when two organisers were trying to get the Youth Opportunities programme off the ground.

"For the pilot scheme we picked the area where the highest number of young people were. They were caught in a trap because their parents could not leave them behind in England yet there was no supplementary benefit payable in Germany. And the job market was limited in Germany and getting worse."

In the northern district, sergeant's wife, Mrs Sue Acland, worked hard to set up jobs for youngsters with Service or attached organisations. Down at Rheindahlen Mrs Jennifer Green, wife of an Army colonel, did the same. The £25 a week paid to each youngster comes from the Manpower Ser-

vices Commission.

"There was a lot of suspicion at first as to what it was all about," admits Colonel Hole. "But when the Manpower Services Commission came out they were extremely impressed with what they found and almost immediately agreed to what we asked them for."

That request was for more co-ordinators. Now there are seven organisers covering the whole of British Forces Germany and Berlin. At the moment there are 270 youngsters on Youth Opportunity schemes and a further 150 have passed through in the last year.

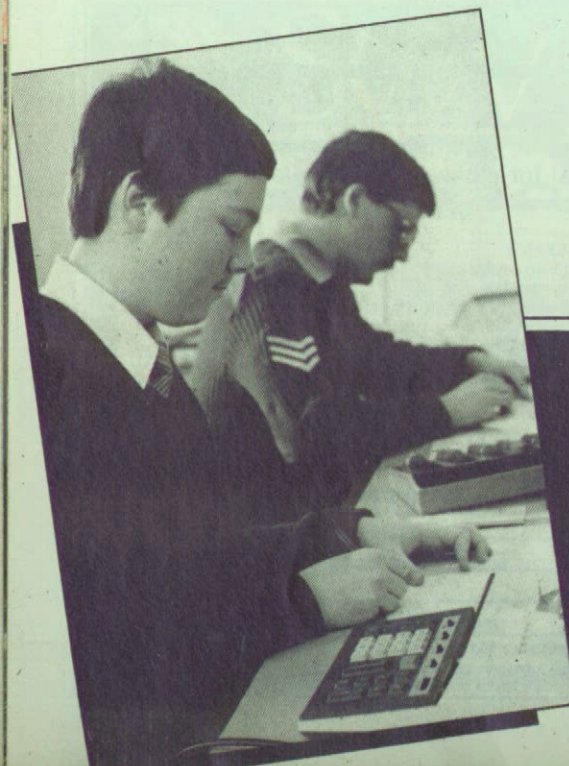
The full Youth Opportunities scheme as run in Britain had to be adapted for Germany. There were no vast factories where perhaps a hundred youngsters could be found jobs — they tended to go to singleton posts.

Says Mrs Green: "The only aspect we could give was work experience on employers' premises for six months with as good a training on the job as we could manage. We like to think the job training content is very high because the people who are actually supervising them are senior ranks who are used to training young soldiers or airmen."

All of the organisers report great support for the scheme from employers and Mrs Brieger Willman, joint co-ordinator for Rhine Area, ascribes this to the fact that the children are all from Service families — "and they know that their son or daughter could easily be in the same position".

Few schemes have been rejected and there

**Martin Jones (16)** is going to Newmarket to train as a stud manager in April. He was asked to get some office experience first and is getting "ideal training" in the Rheindahlen Garrison Pay office as a clerk.





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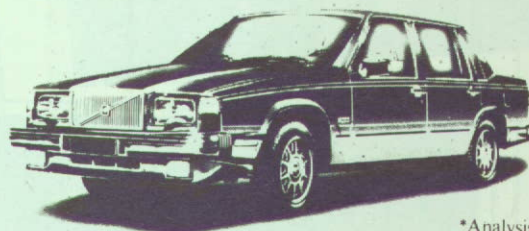
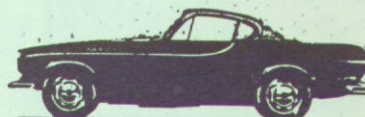
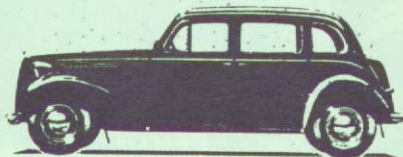
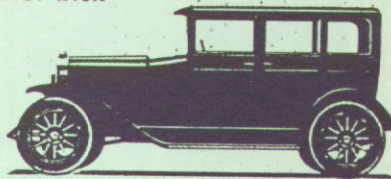
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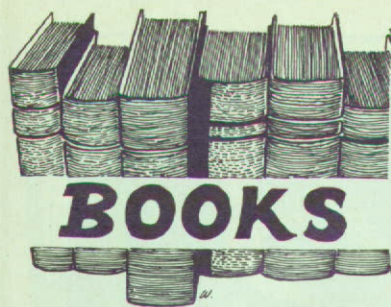
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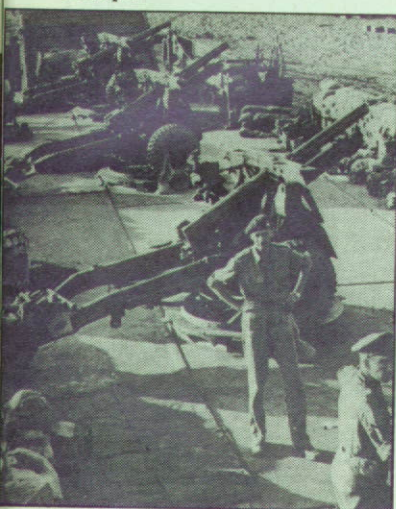




## BOOKS

### Gunners at War 1939-1945: Peter Mead

Little has been written exclusively about British Gunners world-wide in World War Two. It is much too vast a subject for a popular size detailed history. Each theatre of war, each continent, each campaign, almost each battle could provide a book of its own. For each encounter needed gunners to pound and probe, to isolate and annihilate. Heavy guns, light guns, Ack-Ack, howitzers; in emplacements, on railways, towed and self-propelled; on mules, on men, on river craft and on merchantmen. The gunners toiled in desert and swamp, in jungle and on mountains, in siege conditions as in Tobruk and Malta, and in rapid tiring advances as in North Africa and North West Europe.



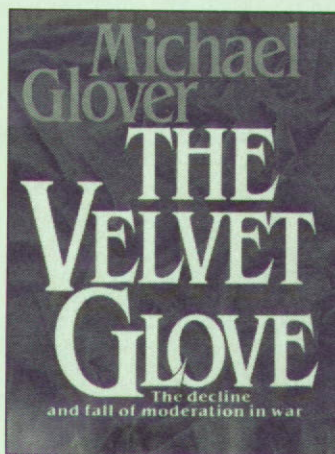
As the war progressed the British gunners improved their techniques, devised new firing procedures, worked out mutually advantageous co-operative plans with the Royal Air Force, and dovetailed with the infantry to provide that reliable understanding teamwork that took the Allies through to victory. From piecemeal support to parent units in the early days, they progressed to the point where a whole division's guns could be directed swiftly onto a single target.

Brigadier Peter Mead, the author of this fully illustrated record, readily admits that it is not a history, but he has covered all fronts and given a general chronological background of the war. This he has filled in with first-hand accounts of many actions written at the time, or soon after, by men who were there. The pen pictures are authentic and dramatic and the photographs and maps broaden the vision and emphasise once again that the Royal Artillery always lives up to its single battle honour borne since 1833: Ubique — Everywhere — 'wherever the Army goes'.

Ian Allan Ltd., Shepperton TW17 8AS — £9.95. **GRH**

### The Velvet Glove: Michael Glover

Ever since Man took it upon himself to make war, he has wrestled with his conscience in an attempt to limit its horrors, to bring some framework of morality into an essentially immoral undertaking. It's a question of reconciling the irreconcilable; there can be no justification in waging war if you don't attempt to win, and the advantage tends to fall to the side prepared to be the most ruthless. 'We have to make war as we must', said Kitchen-er, 'no stranger to ruthlessness, and not as we should like to'.



Subtitled *The decline and fall of moderation in war*, Michael Glover's unusual and thought-provoking book is a history of the largely unsuccessful attempts through the ages to evolve common agreed customs and usages of war, from Medieval times to the present. The questions which arise are remarkably consistent; when is war a justifiable means of attaining an end? Are enemy civilians legitimate targets? When do freedom fighters become bandits, and how should one treat prisoners of war? Should technological innovations be barred from the battlefield? It is interesting to note that the invention of the cross-bow provoked an outcry in the early Middle Ages, and many considered that it was Divine Judgement that Richard the Lionheart, the weapon's great advocate, should fall victim to it.

Whatever the attempts to resolve these questions, it is clear that in the final judgement moral niceties have always depended on the circumstances in the field on the day, and that ultimately they are subject to practical military necessity. This is no less so today; it is perhaps some measure of the sensitivity of the subject that most of the author's examples are drawn from the nineteenth century rather than from the grey area of guerilla fighting which characterises so many of today's wars.

One wonders if moderation ever was all it was cracked up to be; is the twentieth century really more violent than the past, when Medieval campaigns and the Thirty Year's War, for example, brought anarchy to most of Europe? Perhaps not, if one accepts Mr Glover's hope that the awful destructive power of the Bomb is a threat which will force us all to be more careful, more moderate, more humane.

Hodder and Stoughton, 47 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DP. — £9.95. **IJK**

### Armageddon Road: Billy Congreve (Edited by Terry Norman)

A deeply moving record of World War One. Sub-titled 'A VC's Diary 1914-16', it is the story of a young officer, Billy Congreve, who eventually became Brigadier Major of 76th Brigade before he was killed by a sniper's bullet while carrying out reconnaissance in the area before Ypres.

He wrote copiously and explicitly during his two years in France, most of his service being as a junior officer on the staff. This did not prevent his spending much of a very active life in the front line, observing the enemy, encouraging and assisting our own troops and setting a fine example of fearlessness and courage. His reports and sketches were of immense value and he never hesitated to go forward of the line to get better information. In areas being hard pressed he would stay and organise the defences and bring help where needed. At this time there were very heavy casualties, especially among officers.

His accounts give the lie to the often repeated myth that the troops on the Western Front never saw or knew their generals. Those who Billy served spent much time visiting the forward troops and themselves observing the enemy positions from close quarters.

Billy's father, Walter Congreve, commanded a neighbouring corps. He had won the Victoria Cross at Colenso in 1899 and became a full general. He was subsequently Governor of Malta. Billy's mother served with the Red Cross and was among those evacuated from Antwerp when the Germans advanced. Billy Congreve was twice recommended for the Victoria Cross and was awarded it posthumously. His wife, Pamela, received the VC, the DSO and the MC from the hands of King George V — Billy being the first officer to gain all three decorations for bravery.

William Kimber & Co. Ltd., 2a Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AE. — £10.50. **GRH**

### Britain's Brigade of Gurkhas: E D Smith

Brigadier 'Birdie' Smith, a distinguished Gurkha officer, is eminently the right person to write the story of the four Gurkha Rifles regiments, that were retained by the British Army: the 2nd King Edward VII's Own, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own, and 10th Princess Mary's Own.

He states that the book is in no way an official history of these regiments and that "mistakes and opinions are his own". This is too modest; though it is true to say it is not an official history, it does present a chronicle of lineage from 1814 to the present day.

It may seem strange that the Himalayan independent mountain state of Nepal should provide such world-famous fighting men, around whom has been woven an almost unparalleled tradition of bravery.

The story of 'Johnny Gurkha' and his connection with the Indian and British Armies goes back to the mutual respect each had for the other

as fighting men in a conflict that started in May 1814, when Nepalese soldiers attacked British police posts. After the Nepal war was over Lieutenant Frederick Young obtained permission to enrol a corps of Gurkha soldiers and said afterwards: 'I went there one man and came out three thousand'.

Young was undoubtedly the founding father of the Gurkhas and was commandant of the Sirmoor for 28 years — one of the regiments covered in the book.

Brigadier Smith takes us through the years in 19th century India; the tragic yet heroic First World War in France and the Middle East, including Gallipoli; the North-West Frontier between wars; the Second World War, when the Gurkhas served in all theatres; and the post-war involvement in South-East Asia.

The Falklands campaign is given a single page epilogue, and the years between 1972 and 1982 have been rather obviously 'padded in' to the final chapter. This is not surprising or detracting from the book's value; it is the author's way of updating a work which was first published in 1973 as part of the 'Famous Regiments' series edited by Lt-General Sir Brian Horrocks.

Leo Cooper/Secker & Warburg, 54 Poland Street, London W1V 3DF — £8.95. **BJ**

### The Birth of Nato: Sir Nicholas Henderson

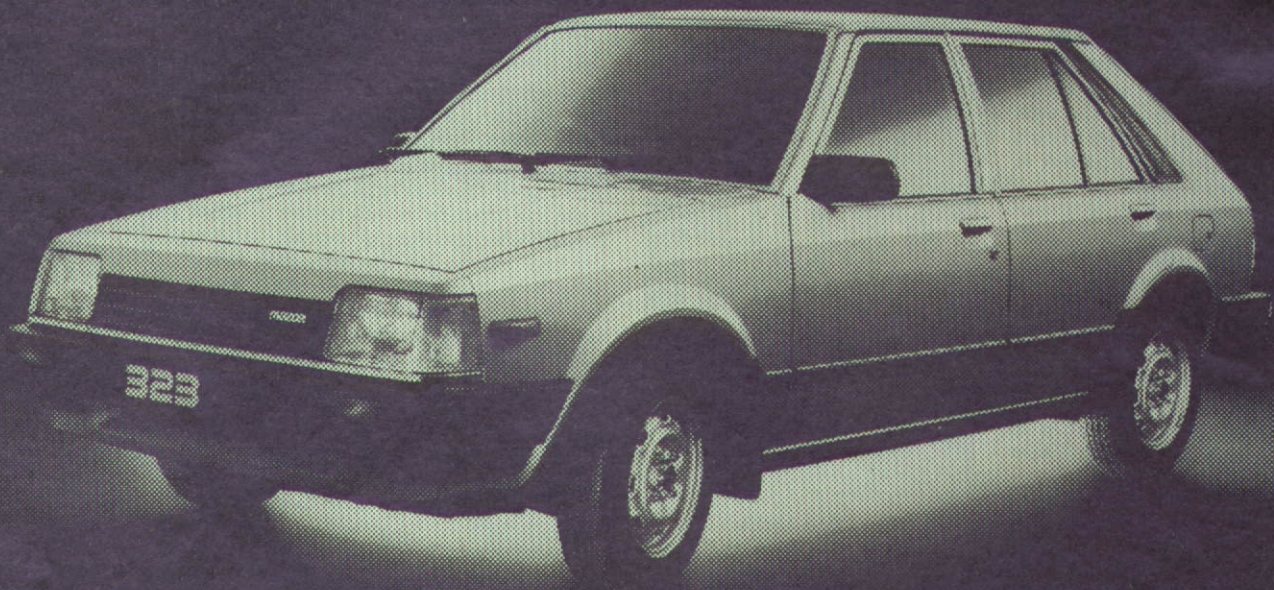
Though it was written shortly after the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in 1949, the publication of this book could not be more timely, setting as it does the current problems which beset the Alliance within a broader historical context. Sir Nicholas Henderson was on the staff of the British Embassy in Washington at the time, and was appointed to the international working party which was directed to draft the Treaty. As such he was in an excellent position to observe the machinations of the various signatories as they thrashed out the Alliance scheme. He reveals a few surprises; accustomed as we are to seeing the Americans as the prime mover in the Cold War, Sir Nicholas reveals that the motivation for the Alliance came from this side of the Atlantic, and it took much persuading to secure American participation.

Each of the member states had its own interests to protect, and the Alliance emerges as a triumph of diplomatic skill. Though it may seem with hindsight to have been inevitable, that was by no means the way it seemed at the time. Sir Nicholas's account of the endless negotiations is meticulous and thorough, and behind the diplomat's rather dry style lurks a shrewd and perceptive wit, most evident in his descriptions of the personalities involved.

An extremely useful book if one is to understand the politics which underlie western defence policy today, and one which implies the conclusion that all within Nato may not be as dark as some have painted it. Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 91 Clapham High Street, London SW4 7TA — £7.95. **IJK**



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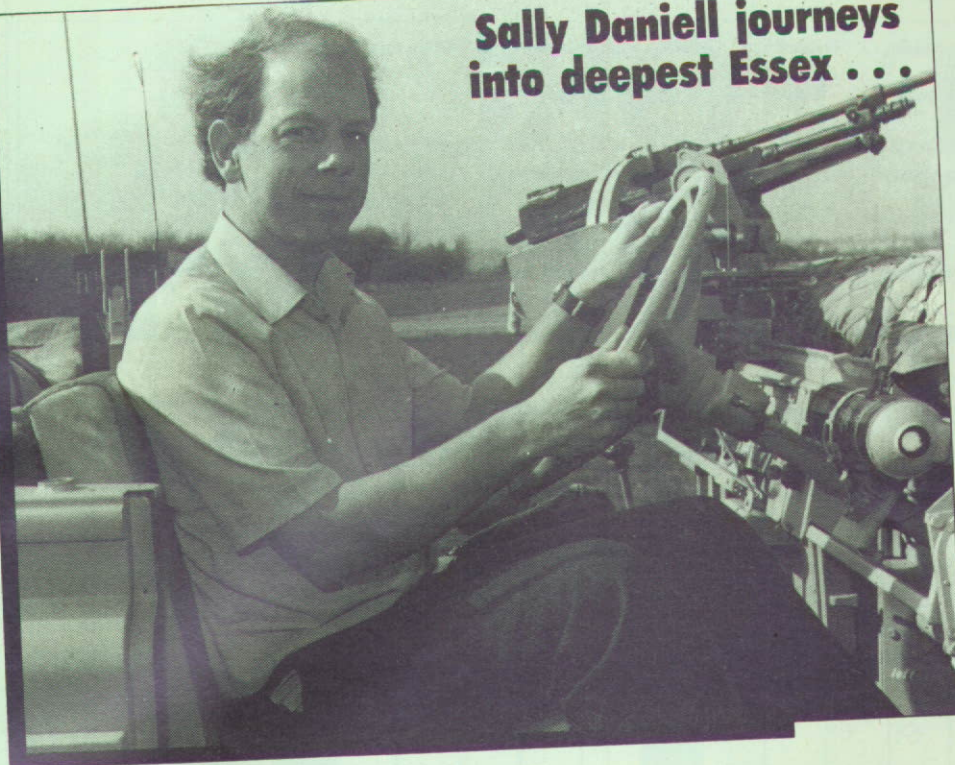
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## Sally Daniell journeys into deepest Essex...



John Sear at the wheel of 10 FG 31.

paint was coming off and I scraped it away and found '22 SAS' written on it."

That was the start of a five year crusade to find out everything he could on Pink Panthers in general and 10 FG 31 in particular. This desert version Land Rover was specifically modified and equipped for use by the SAS in long-range remote-area patrols, either for reconnaissance or attack missions.

One of a fleet of 76, John's vehicle saw service in the Oman war in the early 1970s where, camouflaged in its original pink, it had optimum concealment from the air.

The Land Rovers would normally be deployed in threes and became virtually 'home' to their crews being completely self sufficient for prolonged periods, and getting their supplies air dropped or from caches.

"I think somehow they epitomise the spirit of the regiment really," mused John, himself a former SAS part timer. "I am intrigued by the idea of the men going out for weeks at a time, dependent only upon themselves and their vehicles, careering over the desert like Laurence of Arabia."

Through painstaking research John has built up an almost complete history of his pride and joy and totally re-equipped it, even down to including the two mock-up fibreglass GPMGs, sun compass and Special Forces A123 radio set. He even has a set of low profile sand tyres although these are not used because the Land Rover is a taxed and insured working vehicle and they are dangerous on ordinary roads.

One element of the Pink Panther's background still eludes John however, and that is — why pink? It is well known that the pink colour, achieved by mixing red oxide with white paint, does constitute highly effective desert camouflage, but how it came to be used is still a mystery.

Some say it happened by accident when red oxide paint was applied to prevent rust. John himself is fascinated by the story of the American Liberator aircraft, *Lady Be Good* which, painted the colour of red sandstone, crashed in the North African desert during the war.

It remained undiscovered until the late 1950s. And even now, although the exact location is known, it cannot always be seen from the air. ■

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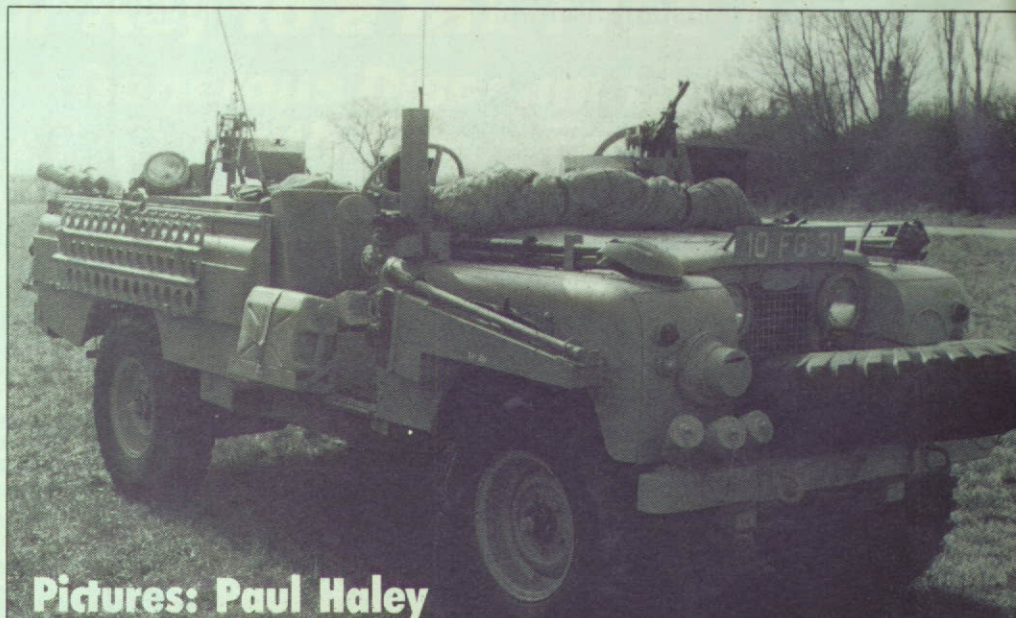
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THERE ARE military enthusiasts and collectors of all kinds, but there is one, John Sear, a planning consultant from Chelmsford in Essex who channels his interest into just one vehicle — an SAS Pink Panther Land Rover.

Always a Land Rover buff, John could not believe his luck when one day he stumbled across 10 FG 31 in the yard of a second-hand spare parts dealer.

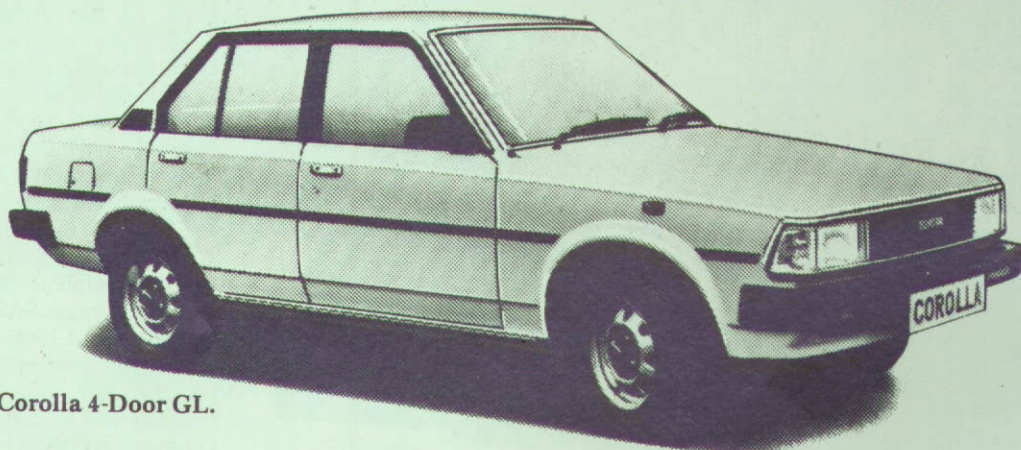
"There it was in a corner", he recalled. "I couldn't believe it. I didn't think there were any Pink Panthers in private hands in this country. And it was intact with hardly anything cannibalised. Some of the red oxide



**Pictures: Paul Haley**



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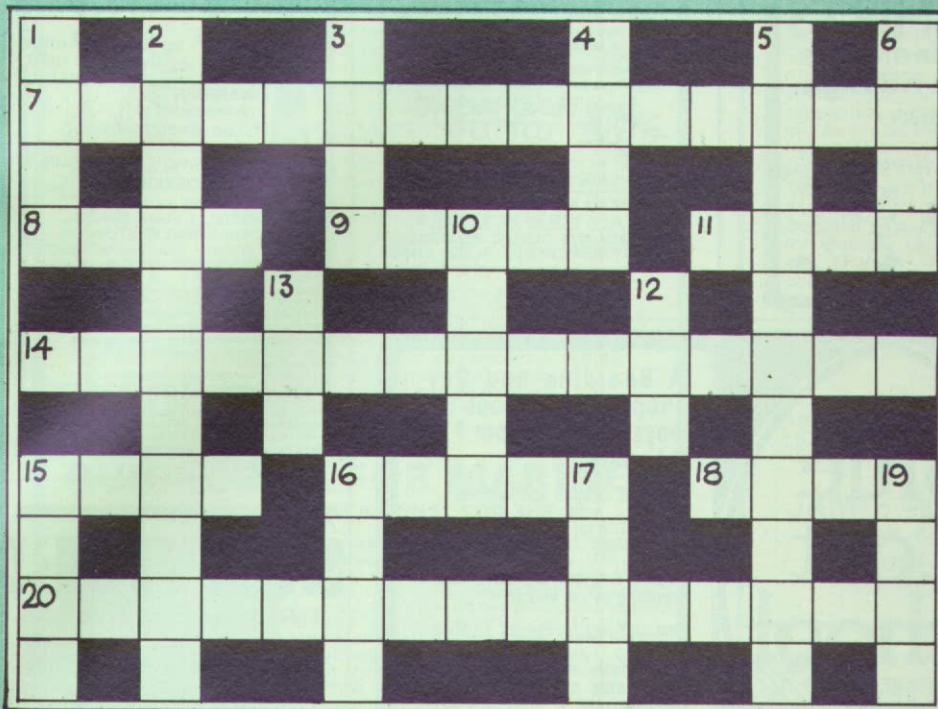
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# TOYOTA



# HISTORICAL UPS AND DOWNS



## CLUES ACROSS

- 7 A mighty city of antiquity  
8 Imposed Income Tax in 1842  
9 Slain at Shrewsbury in 1403  
11 Associated with Shah Jehan  
14 Founded by Charlemagne: dissolved in 1806  
15 Here were the Prussians defeated in 1806  
16 Regent of Scotland murdered in 1306  
18 Associated with Bonnie Prince Charlie, 1746  
20 Led by Robert in 1096

## CLUES DOWN

- 1 Dissolved by Cromwell in 1653  
2 Where the Austrian 'Army of the North' suffered defeat in 1800  
3 This 'money' John Hampden refused to pay  
4 Executed at Fotheringhay Castle in 1587  
5 Mighty Mongol conqueror  
6 Station of a Roman Legion in Britain  
10 To do with DORA (1914-1918)  
12 and 13 Rome had one: so had Spain: and so had Britain  
15 Hengist was one and so was Horsa  
16 Laws repealed in 1846  
17 Here 'L' battery RHA won undying fame in 1914  
19 Not the odds at Agincourt

## COMPETITION 315

**T**HIS CROSSWORD contains references to incidents and personalities of the history of our own British Islands as well as to incidents (battles and the like) and personalities of world history. Some of the answers may contain more than one word: some may not.

Since world history can be a very lengthy and at times a very difficult subject, we have picked out the easy ones for you.

Send us your completed grid or make your own list of nine 'across' references and twelve 'down' references (12 and 13 count as one) each arranged in numerical order.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 20 May. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 13 June 1983 and no correspondence can be entered into. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 315' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answer by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 315' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

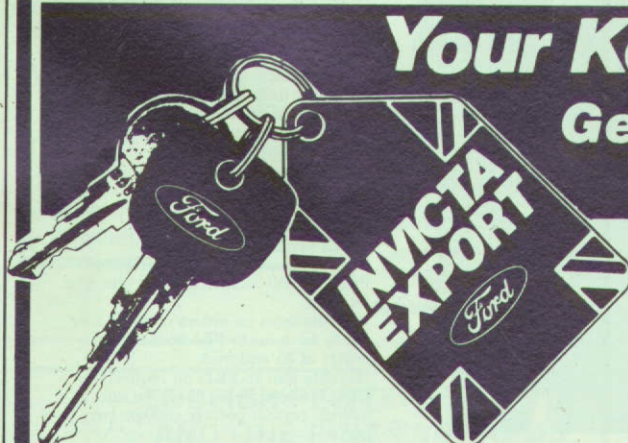
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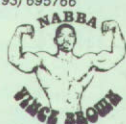
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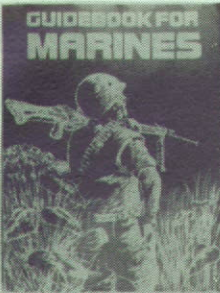
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This Bulletin has been distributed to all Units. Further information and application forms will be available through your unit/ship/station.

The closing date for all applications for properties offered in Bulletin Number 54 is on 18 May 1983.



# HOME HUNTER

## BRISTOL PRICES ARE MOVING UP FAST

If you are planning to Go West then you had better act sharpish. Bristol house prices have risen almost 7% since December, and the peak selling season hasn't arrived yet.

Gateway to the South West and a number one target for relocating insurance companies, Bristol still has a few bargains around for those prepared to buy run down property and renovate.

Basic (very basic) structures can be found for around £14,000. With improvement grants these can be turned into quite attractive homes for under £18,000. Modernised property starts around £16,000 in the inner city suburbs. In the outer suburbs where the leafy streets predominate prices tend to be closer to £22,000 for a 2 or 3 bedroomed terrace.

There are very few semis under £25,000 and a price tag of £40,000 isn't that unusual. Detached properties start around £38,000. One bedroom flats can be found for £20,000.

Inner city terrace property is finding a lot of takers at the present time. Apart from the beauty of the city, Bristol still has the luxury of offering a fairly substantial jobs market.

C V Hole, 108 Henleaze Road, Henleaze, Bristol. 0272 629221.

Kerry Stephenson 01-439 3611/2.

These articles are prepared in conjunction with Kerry Stephenson of the National Homes Network. This is a private agency with a great deal of experience in dealing with the special problems of the Service Home-hunter. Kerry will be delighted to give you any help he can with your problem in the private sector and can be contacted at National Homes Network, 303 Radnor House, 93 Regent St, London, W1R 7TE. Tel: 01-439 3611/2.

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## Personal

I am 38 years old, divorced with two children, boy aged 13 years, girl aged 12 years. Privately educated. Have not known any other life but the Armed Forces, and have thoroughly enjoyed the life. Enjoy all forms of outside activities, plus reading, travelling, gardening, driving, all forms of music, going to the pictures, going out for a meal occasionally, but most of all, sadly miss the life which we had while attached to the Forces. If any Senior NCO or above, would like to correspond with me, on a genuine basis, who is not married, I would very much like to hear from you. All replies answered. Replies to 'Jane', c/o SOLDIER.





# MAIL DROP

Got something to say, a point to make or a story to tell? This is your page to exchange your news, views, comments and opinions. All we ask is that you keep it brief and include your full name and address. Write to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

Our article on 'The Gleam Machine' (21 Mar) brought us a lot of letters, a selection of which we publish here (see also SOLDIER-to-Soldier on page 11).

## BULLSHINE?

I used to think SOLDIER contained useful and interesting articles — that is, until I looked in the 21 Mar issue and discovered you had devoted a whole double page on an article about a bullshine machine.

When I joined the Army I had the illusion that all the modern technology within the Armed Forces was for a useful purpose. This illusion was rapidly smashed as I discovered that the call was 'bullshit baffles brains'. Well, it doesn't. All it does is make anyone with a bit of sense laugh at the Army. If it thinks that spending £250 on a machine that measures shine is justified, it's crazy. Why not spend that money and the money spent developing the machine on developing something that would make a soldier's life a little bit better. A new boot, for instance, or some waterproof kit. I'm sure the majority of the people in the Army don't see a requirement for this piece of junk, only the drill pigs in this mixed-up organisation could.

To cap it all, and to try to add some humour to this article, there was a suggestion about a machine to measure the closeness of a man's shave. I wonder if this would only be used if the man's boots failed to come up to the required gleam factor of between 65-75 just to give them something else to hassle him with. — Cfn N McKillop, REME Att, 1 Staffords, BFPO 52.

We in 90 Squadron feel that your article in the 21 Mar issue, entitled 'The Gleam Machine' may not be all it seems.

When confronted with the 'Automatic Polish Reflection Indicator' we immediately reduced this cumbersome title to a more handy (and military) set of initials and came up with APRI. It took only a small degree of mental agility to spring from there to Apr 1.

Of course, the presence of Mr Justin Geste (Jest) and Maj P Rank (prank) provided circumstantial evi-

dence to support our suspicions.

However, we must confess that it was only the cost of the APRI that made us look at it closely. Surely, even the Brigade of Guards would not spend £12,500 on devices designed merely to measure the polish on a guardsman's boots — or would they?

Anyway, thanks for an inventive and amusing spoof... it was a spoof — wasn't it? — Major N Wood RCT, 90 (Aden) Sqn, Junior Leaders Regt RCT, Azimghur Bks, Colerne, Chippenham, Wilts, SN14 8QY.

How history repeats itself! Early in the 1940s I had the dubious honour of being attached to 1 APR (Army Personnel Research) for a few weeks of troop trials. This unit was not related to the Pikeman's Regiment (SOLDIER Apr 79).

A high-priority project was being undertaken to test the efficiency of a new Soldier's Friend (not the one in a red tin) called dubbin, a wonderful substance guaranteed to make boots not shine.

The boffins had modified a pair of field-service binoculars by strapping a little black box a few inches in front of the right ocular, the left ocular gave normal viewing. The little black box contained a focusing lens, a solarium cell, a dry cell, milliammeter and a variable resistor labelled 'sensitivity'.

The complete assembly was called the ULHT Meter. I never did find out what it really meant, everything was coded at that time. Testing of the apparatus was carried out by the OC, the well-known (in those days) Lt Col P H Indphorlitt.

On the big day, a dozen or so of us were lined up on the square in our well-dubbed boots; that is, everybody except me.

Getting up late as usual I had to run to the parade ground, didn't look where I was going and trod in what the CO's dog didn't need any more. A hasty jump sideways to wipe the boot on the grass and the other foot collided with you know what.

By the time I'd cleaned the boots the dubbin was also removed and there was I looking down downcast (or should it be 'clowncast') at my own reflection staring me in the face. Luckily it was a dark morning just as if a storm was brewing up. I said a quick mini-prayer and got fell in.

The OC started his inspection and said "There's no damn reading at all". The 2IC helpfully turned up 'sensitivity' to maximum. "That's better" said the CO and proceeded. He never said a word until he reached me. There was poor little me, quaking in my shiny boots, keeping my fingers crossed and trying to cross my legs as well (you know what an effect fear has on one.)

He swung the gadget towards my feet and suddenly my prayer was answered in a strange and dramatic way. There was a terrific flash of lightning, a little puff of smoke from the black box, the CO dropped the apparatus, put his hands in front of his face and yelled "I'm blinded". The 2IC led him away to the MO.

Meanwhile, the root of our troubles fell on my boots, scuffed them beautifully and destroyed the glaring evidence. Parades for the rest of the day were cancelled and I became the hero of the day. The CO suffered severe conjunctivitis of the left eye for a week and had to wear a monocle for the rest of his life which enhanced his distinguished appearance. — G A Gladman, 33 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0AQ.

Those of us who regret the falling standards in the modern Services will welcome the emergence of the Automatic Polish Reflection Indicator.

This is just what the troops need — and welcome, judging by the remarks of one young private to whom I spoke. He was so anxious that the telescopic sight should be kept in the perfect working order that he told me the sergeants could stuff it up their woolly pullies — a good idea in inclement weather, I'm sure you will agree.

However, I have to say that the Army is — once again — late on the scene. In 1942 in the RAF we had in use a piece of equipment known as the Oxiometer which, by a clever combination of radio waves and a marked steel nail, measured the depth of bullshine (my memory is becoming a little vague with the years, but I think that is the correct spelling).

Possibly Geste Brothers have pirated the idea. By the way, would they be related to Major 'Beau' Geste who went missing in the Western Desert in 1941? He suffered from the delusion that he was a French legionnaire, poor chap.

Do you perhaps know the whereabouts of Col 'Spiffy' Styrap-Lethar, late 12/15 Lancers? He was working on a scheme to run Bren Gun Carriers on chaff. I should have thought that with the bigger engined Challenger tank coming along, there could be significant financial savings to be made. — Wg Cdr Ivor Brassow-Wragge RAF (Retd), HQ Naafi ES, BFPO 40.

Well done, Army! It's obvious that there is plenty of progressive, up-to-date thinking going on, in developing equipment for a modern, go-ahead Army. I am referring, of course, to the Automatic Polish Reflection Indicator — 'The Gleam Machine' (21 Mar) which registers the shine on boots and badges.

It could also become a lethal weapon in war. Units of men could infiltrate enemy lines and use 'The Gleam Machine' on enemy boots and badges showing what a dirty, slovenly rabble they are, thus destroying morale, then surrendering to our bright and shining lads. Better still, why not adapt 'The Gleam Machine' to fit on a film projector, and project, against the grim night sky (Gleam Factor Zero!) over enemy lines, the image of a massive dazzling 'British Army Boot' (Gleam Factor 100+) thus immediately rendering the enemy into a state of coma!

By coincidence, a couple of pals of mine, Steve Sheen and Dan Dubbin, are also developing something for the

modern Army, The Automatic Boot Tread Indicator — The Traction Contraption! — John Billingsley, 2 Locombe Place, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 7HZ.

## TA PLANNING

I have been appointed by DTA & C to carry out a study to recommend improvements to the training and TA Career planning of TA officers. Major B A Carte TD will be assisting me.

During the study we will of course be consulting MOD, HQ UKLF, Districts, the TA Council and Associations, CV HQs, Arms and Service Directors, Training Establishments etc. We will also visit certain TEWTs, Conferences, etc, where there will be an opportunity for us to sound out the views of a wide cross section of officers.

However, in order that we may gather as much information as possible from past and present TA officers and knowing that the TA magazine is now incorporated with SOLDIER, I would be most grateful if through your magazine I could appeal for views on the following:

- 1 Are the present arrangements for the training of TA Officers adequate? If not, why not?
- 2 Is there a need for more general courses? (a) at all levels? (b) at the junior level (captain and below)? (c) Major and above? (d) by the introduction of a JDSC for TA Officers? (e) by correspondence courses for promotion exams, possibly marked on a points system?
- 3 Unposted List: (a) Do you consider the length of time allowed on this list too short? (b) Do you consider more use should be made of this list to enable officers to take time off due to their civilian career commitments/domestic responsibilities? (c) Do you consider that automatic removal from this list is satisfactory? (d) If the length of time was extended to, say, five years, would you consider two attendance days per year to update the individual as being sufficient-practical? (e) Do you consider that there would be advantages in retaining officers on this List in view of the fact that they would be available at short notice in times of need?
- 4 Do you consider that there are enough TA appointments at S01 level and above?
- 5 In view of the fact that the last National Service Officers are now passing through the system, should more encouragement and opportunity be given to young officers to complete an SSV?
- 6 Do you consider the present system of reporting on TA Officers at all levels satisfactory or not? If not, suggestions for improvements would be helpful.

Answers should be addressed to Colonel J M Craig, TD ADC, c/o DTA & C, Ministry of Defence, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA.



## Can You Help?

We are trying to contact former members of the 2nd Battalion The Essex Regiment (The Pompadours) 1944-47 with a view to forming an Association. Contact Mr L V Oliver, 22 High St North, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex, CO5 8JU or Mr H M Conn, 145 Godman Road, Chadwell St Mary, Grays, Tilbury, Essex; Tel Tilbury 71416.

I am trying to contact all the units of all the Imperial Forces who fought in Burma, of all three services. Can readers put me in touch with official (or otherwise) sources? — **Bill MacBeath, Hon Secretary, Burma Star Association, NZ Branch, 43 Naenae Road, Lower Hutt, New Zealand.**

I am writing a book about Corporal Sidney Bates VC (no relation) who won the Victoria Cross for his bravery in action near Sourdevalle, in Normandy, on 6 August 1944. He died of his wounds two days later and is buried in the British War Cemetery at Bayeux.

The medal was presented to Sidney's father and mother at an investiture at Buckingham Palace in March 1945. After that we do not know anything more about it. The family do not have it nor is it at the Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum at Norwich. I found out from Hancock's, the jewellers that on 21 May 1981 a Victoria Cross was brought into their shop for examination and they stated to the person who brought it in that, in their opinion, it was the genuine Sidney Bates Victoria Cross. Unfortunately, they did not make a note of the name and address of the person who brought it in so that trail went cold.

The family are deeply saddened by the fact that they do not know where the medal is and, for my part, I would like to be able to photograph the actual medal and its important reverse side for my book.

When in London I met Lieutenant Colonel Cooper-Key who as a major was Sidney's Company Commander. He remembers that when recommending Sidney for the medal he had to submit the names of six witnesses but he cannot now remember their names except Sergeant Smith, Sidney's platoon sergeant. Unfortunately, Sergeant Smith was killed in action some time later after receiving the MM and being given a field commission.

So that leaves five witnesses and surely one or two of them must have survived. I would like to interview them but I don't know how to find them. I thought that if I could find the original recommendation papers sent in by Major Cooper-Key I would at least start with some names. However, although I have searched in many places, I have not yet found these papers. I have searched at the Public Records Office in Richmond, the Regiment in Norwich, and have written to many Government offices but without luck up to now. Would any of your readers have any suggestions as to where I should look for these papers?

I have also been trying to get in

touch with Mr John Winton who I believe is either the executor or the beneficiary of the will of Mrs Margaret Pratt. This lady has spent more than ten years gathering data for a book about the private lives of holders of the Victoria Cross but, unfortunately, she died before the book was published. I understand from the Librarian at the Imperial War Museum that her papers contain records of her many interviews and I think it is very probable that she interviewed Sidney's father and mother before they died. Only Mr Winton will know if, indeed, he is the person who now has her papers. Can anyone help me get in touch with him? **T J Bates, 120 Hillcrest Road, Berkeley, CA 94705, USA.**

## Pen Pals

I have a 3/4 thoroughbred horse that takes up most of my time and would like to write to someone in the Household Cavalry or similar, around the same age. — **Debbie Collins, 43 Rosewood Close, Goosewell, Plymstock, Devon, PL9 9JB.**

I am a blonde and I work as a lab assistant. My name is Sally and I am 19 years old. My hobbies are clubs, pubs, squash and reading. I would like to write to someone aged 20-25. — **S Leah, 152 Heywood Road, Prestwick, Manchester, Lancs.**

My name is Sue. I am 19 years old, 5ft 5ins tall and I have brown hair and green eyes. My interests are speedway, football and dancing. I would like to write to lads about 19-26 years, photos appreciated. — **Sue Smith, 2 Amberden Ave., Finchley, London N3 3BJ.**

My name is Janet. I'm 5ft 2ins and 34-24-35. I have short brown hair and grey eyes. I wear glasses sometimes. My interests are reading, swimming and looking after my dog. I am divorced with three children aged 11, 8 and 5. I am 29. — **Mrs Janet Crellin, 24 Stockbridge Road, Hatfield, Herts.**

My name is Julia and I am 18 years old. I am 5ft 3ins tall with brown hair and grey eyes. My interests include reading, writing, cooking and cycling. I'd like to hear from anyone aged between 18 to 23. — **Julia Lewell, 6 Wycomb Grove, Melton Mowbray, Leics, LE13 1EQ.**

My name is Amanda Jane. I am 21 years old. I am 5ft 4ins tall with blonde hair and hazel eyes. Vital

statistics 36-24-35. I love dancing, going out, visiting public houses and having a good time. Photos appreciated. — **Amanda Jane McLean, 7 Warburton Gardens, East Road, Arbourthorne, Sheffield S2 3BN, S Yorkshire.**

My name is Margaret and I am 18 years old. I am a social worker and like fencing and swimming. I would like to write to anyone aged 18-19. — **Margaret Thomson, 3 McCorkindale Place, Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand.**

My name is Maria and I am 20 years old. I like squash, other cultures, reading and sports. I would like to hear from a soldier serving in the Falklands. — **Maria Roberts, Hagley Nurses Hostel, Riccarton Ave, Christchurch 4, New Zealand.**

My name is Jill and I am 19 years old. I like camping, fishing and swimming. I would like to write to soldiers aged 20-25. — **Jill Murdoch, F/1 176 Wai Iti Road, Timaru, New Zealand.**

We would like to hear from a Scottish family or person. We are involved in NZ piping, country dance and Caledonian societies and have two small children. — **Mrs Lorena Taylor, 11B Kaputone Place, Belfast, Christchurch 5, New Zealand.**

## Reunions

The 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at the London Forum Hotel, Cromwell Road, London on Saturday 30 April 1983 at 7.30pm. Tickets from: Home HQ, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, Peronne Lines, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire.

The Royal Hampshire Regiment Comrades Association annual reunion will be held in the Guildhall, Winchester on Saturday 11 June 1983 at 7pm. Tickets price £5.50 from: Secretary, Serle's House, Winchester, SO23 9EG.

13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO) Association southern reunion dinner will be held at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SD on Saturday 30 April 1983 at 6.45pm for dinner at 7.30pm. Dress will be lounge suit. Wives and girlfriends extremely welcome. Tickets cost £9.00 and can be obtained from: Major E J S Garbutt, 13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO) Assn, Imperial Barracks, Fulford Road, York, YO1 4HD, or will be available at the hotel, price £9.50.

13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO) Association 'get-together'. The Southern Committee and members of the above Association will be 'at home' to all ex-members of the Regiment and their wives and girlfriends, at the Paxtons Head, 153 Knightsbridge (opposite Edinburgh Gate, Hyde Park) after the Combined Cavalry Parade at 12 noon on Sunday 1 May 1983. Details from: Mr C Nicholls, 92 Ship Lane, Farnborough, Hants, GU14 8BH or Mr G M Frizzelle, 17 Horncastle Road, Lee, London SE12.

## Competition

In our two part Competition 311, 'What's it all about' you were asked first of all to fill in the crossword answers on the vertical grid from which would emerge the name of a book and its author. Then, transferring the letters as directed onto the horizontal grid you would discover a quotation from the book. The answers were *Spearhead* by *Desmond Bastick* and the quotation read: *The exercise culminated in an approach march by the Corps to Southampton, embarkation for Clacton and landing from small boats on to floating piers erected by the Royal Navy.* Prizewinners were: 1st Miss S M Clarke, Roberts Hall, RMCS Shrivenham, Swindon Wilts. 2nd Capt K E Beale MBE, Army School Liaison Office, Depot The Queen's Div, Basingbourne Bks, Royston, Herts. 3rd G H Bendell, 199 Midanbury Lane, Southampton. 4th Mrs T Gormanly, E2 Keogh Bks, Ash Vale, Aldershot. 5th Sgt P G Higgins, WOs and Sgts Mess, Royal Hussars (PWO), BFPO 38.

## How Observant Are You?

(see page 25)

1 Right end of cloud across moon; 2 Highwayman's right cuff; 3 Horse's right ear; 4 Horse's mouth; 5 Hotel chimney at top left; 6 Shape of right tree near top; 7 First numeral on milestone; 8 Supporting arm of inn sign; 9 Handle of pistol; 10 Dividing line of coach windscreen.



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# See-the-Army DIARY

This month we welcome back our popular feature that keeps you up to date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, parades, displays and similar occasions on which the public are welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. We shall be adding more events and more details in the months ahead. Events are sometimes altered, postponed or cancelled, however, so please check with local organisers before setting out. We hope too that organisers will advise us of any additions or changes so that we can keep readers fully in the picture.

## APRIL 1983

- 22 Anzac/Gallipoli Day Service, Edinburgh (1 RS Band).

## MAY 1983

- 16 2 Div Inaugural Parade, York (2 LI Band and Trumpets, 1 KOSB, 1 King's Own Border, Yorks Vols and 6 RRF Bands).  
19 Royal Windsor Horse Show (King's Tp RHA Musical Drive) (19-22 May).  
22 Brentwood Tattoo, Essex (2 R Anglian Band; Red Caps; RGJ Free Fall).  
24 Chelsea Flower Show (Gren Gds Band) (24-27 May).  
26 Warrington Services Tattoo (5 Innis DG and 1 King's Own Border Bands, 1 RGJ Band and Bugles; RA M/C Display Team, Red Devils, RA Junior Leaders, Gymnasts, RN, RAF, TA) (26-28 May).  
27 Bath Festival/Freedom of Bath (1, 2 and 3 LI Bands.) (27-28 May).  
30 Surrey County Show (Queen's Regt Band).  
31 Beating Retreat, Horse Guards (Massed Bands Household Division) (31 May-2 June).

## JUNE 1983

- 1 Royal Bath & West Show (Massed Bands, LI Band) (1-4 June).  
2 Queen's Birthday Parade, Berlin (17/21 L, 2 RTR (Alamein), RRF, 1 Green Howards and 2 R Irish Bands).  
2 Royal Salute, Hyde Park (King's Tp RHA).  
4 Preston (5 Innis DG, RA (Woolwich), 1 King's Own Border and 2 LI Bands) (4-5 June).  
4 Brayford Festival, Lincoln (2 R Anglian Band).  
5 Nottingham Festival (Coldstream Guards Band) (5-10 June).  
5 Plymouth Hoe, Sounding Retreat (LI Bands).  
9 Cornwall Royal Show (LI Bands.) (9-11 June).  
9 South of England Show (Queen's Regt Band) (9-11 June).  
10 Royal Salute (King's Tp RHA).  
11 HM The Queen's Official Birthday, Joint Services Retreat and Reception at Edinburgh Castle (1 RS Band, 1 RS P & D).  
11 Queen's Birthday Parade (Massed Bands, Household Division; King's Tp RHA).  
11 Royal Gun Salute, HM Queen Official Birthday, Aldershot (Band to be announced; 88 Fd Bty, 4 Fd Regt RA).  
11 Newport Boys Brigade Centenary (1 RWF, 1 RRW, 1 Glos Bands).  
13 Marching Display, Broadlands, Romsey (1200 hrs) (1 D & D CD, 1 R Hamps CD, 1 DERR Band).

- 13 Beating Retreat, Hoglands Park, Southampton (1700 hrs) (1 D & D CD, 1 R Hamps CD, 1 DERR Band).  
13 ABF Beating Retreat, Bristol (1 RWF CD, 1 RRW CD, 1 Glosters CD).  
14 Beating Retreat, Gloucester Park, Gloucester (1 RWF CD, 1 RRW CD, 1 Glosters CD).  
14 Royal Ascot (WG Band).  
15 Marching Display, Christchurch (1 D & D CD, 1 R Hamps CD, 1 DERR Band).  
15 Beating Retreat, HQ Wales, Brecon (1 RWF CD, 1 RRW CD, 1 Glosters CD).  
17 Essex Show, Chelmsford (3 R Anglian Band) (17-18 June).  
21 Lincoln Agricultural Show (Musical Drive, King's Tp RHA) (21-23 June).  
24 Wembley Pageant (36 Bands; HAC; Musical Drive King's Tp RHA) (24-25 June).  
24 Putney Show (Musical Drive, King's Tp RHA) (24-27 June).  
26 R Signals Reunion and 'at home' at Catterick (R Signals Corps Band; White Helmets, Blue Helmets, Jr R Signals, AA Coll Harrogate).  
29 Larkhill Massed Bands (RA Woolwich, RA Mounted, RA Junior Leaders Band, REME and WRAC Bands).  
29 Norfolk Show (Coldstream Guards, 1 & 2 R Anglian Bands) (29-30 June).

## JULY 1983

- 3 Forces Fun Day, Northampton (2 R Anglian Band; Gds Free Fall).  
6 Army Exhibition for Schools, Bassingbourn (R Anglian Bands, Junior School of Music, Queen's Division; Red Devils, White Helmets, Junior Leaders Regt, RA gym display) (6-8 July).  
7 Green Jacket Week, Winchester (1 RGJ Band, Depot Lt Div) (7-9 July).  
9 Lord Mayor's Show, Norwich (1 R Anglian, Coldstream Guards and SG Bands).  
9 RAF St Athan Mentally Handicapped Fete (RA Motorcycles).  
13 The Royal Tournament, Earls Court (13-30 July).  
14 Yeovil Festival of Transport (RA Motorcycles).  
16 RCT Corps Week, Aldershot (150(N) Tpt Regt (V) Band) (16-17 July).  
19 East of England Show, Peterborough (R Anglian Bands) (19-21 July).  
28 St Helen's Show (R Signals Band; RA Junior Leaders gymnasts, Blue Helmets, TA) (28-30 July).

## AUGUST 1983

- 3 Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo (WG Band, LI Massed Band, RE, QDG, 1 RWF, 1 D & D, 2 Para, 3 RRW (V), 157 Tpt Regt, RCT (V) H Cav Quad, Royal Signals Display Team (White Helmets), WG Guard Mounting, RAF Police Dogs) (3-13 August).  
4 Royal Salute (King's Tp RHA).  
6 Burnley Services Tattoo (Grenadier Guards and 1 King's Own Border Bands; RA Motorcycle Display Team, Red Devils, RA Junior Leaders gymnasts, RN, RAF, TA) (6-7 August).  
6 Lord Mayor's Parade, Cardiff (QDG, WG, 1 RWF, 3 RRW (V)).  
19 The Edinburgh Military Tattoo.  
28 QUEXPO 83 (Queen's Regt Band, Red Devils) (28-29 August).  
29 Leeds Gala (R Signals Band, R Signals Free Fall Team).

## SEPTEMBER 1983

- 3 Stockton Services Display (1 King's Own Border, RAF Trg Regt Bands; LI Free Fall, Blue Helmets) (3-4 September).  
4 Military Walk, Northampton (Grenadier Guards, Free Fall).  
27 Berlin Tattoo, Berlin (27 Sep-2 Oct).

★ ★ ★

Please note that due to limits on space this Diary does not include all the many TA events that are being held this year to mark the TA 75th anniversary. Details of these are available on request from Centre Block, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London SW3 4SG price 25p inc p & p.

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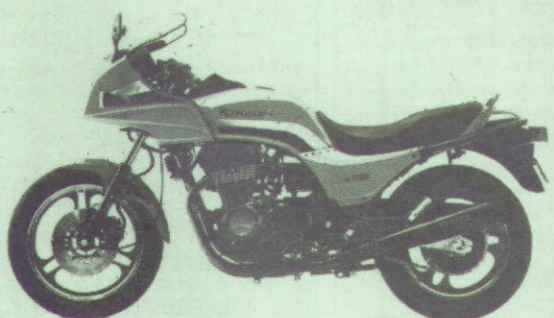
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# 100 YEARS OF ARMY GOLF

**A** suggestion by a Victoria Cross hero in the Royal Aldershot Officers' Club exactly 100 years ago led to the formation of one of the oldest golf clubs in the country — the Army Golf Club at Aldershot. To commemorate the centenary one of the club members, former RAF Hurricane pilot, Mr Bill Rickard, has delved into the past and produced a history of the club in book form.

In 1883 there were only about 50 golf clubs in England and the first club in the United States had still to be opened. Aldershot had been a military camp for about 30 years and was mainly hutted. The first course, set up under the auspices of the Officers' Club after the proposal by Lieutenant-Colonel E H Sartorius, was of ten holes covering ground now taken up by Rushmoor Arena and the area up to the Duke of Wellington's statue.

In 1887 'The Golfing Annual' reported that because of hoof marks left by military horses a decent lie was the exception. Golf was then played in the winter months for in the summer the ground was needed for camps by the militia.

Mr Rickard has been unable to find out about the design and construction of the course but feels it is likely to have been done by the Royal Engineers. Sappers in fact have often helped with the club over the century.

One of the most famous soldier golfers of all time, 'Freddie' Tait, played the course. Representing Aldershot Division Golf Club as it was then known he won the first Hampshire and Isle of Wight County Amateur Championship in 1894. Twice British amateur champion, he was killed in the Boer War.

In 1895 the course moved to a site east of the present Military Stadium. The new nine hole course allowed all the year round golf. The Ladies' Golf Club was founded in 1899 and in 1900 the course moved again to Cove Common — the present course having been gradually extended from that area.

By 1905 the course was 18 holes and two years later it took the name, Aldershot Command Golf Club, which it retained right through until 1974. In 1909 James Braid, one of history's

famous golfers, played the course and scored 71 and 72 over two rounds.

Another player before the First World War was famous for entirely different reasons — Earl Haig was GOC and President of the Club from 1912-14 and his wife was captain of the Ladies' Section in 1912.

The club revived between the two wars but during the Second World War much of its land was requisitioned and a nine hole wartime course had to be operated. After the war that land was not returned and further land to the south and west was acquired to bring back a reasonable nine hole course by 1947. Nine new holes were added in the 1960's.

In 1974 the Club became the Army Golf Club and was designated the centre of excellence for Army golf. The course was redesigned and today it is a 6600 yards championship course with a standard scratch score of 71. It stages county events and there is a two year waiting list for civilian membership at fees comparable with civilian clubs. Military members pay lower rates.

Last year club competitions had fewer entries because members were away in the Falklands. But as the current chairman, Colonel John Winwick, says: "We didn't mind. It has been happening for the last hundred years through the Boer War and two

World Wars."

Although his book is now on sale Mr Rickard intends to continue with his research into the club's history. "I would be interested to hear from people who played the course years ago, particularly just after the war. I wanted something to be on record because no-one knew anything about the club. Now we must continue the work and not throw away things. I want to impress on young people that they are not just playing golf but are on a very historic course. Compared to this one, Wentworth and Sunningdale are just country courses."

## CROOK LOSES

Pte Carl Crook (1 Para) lost a disputed points decision to Liverpool lightweight Kenny Willis in the All-England semi-final of the George Wimpey ABA national championships at Gloucester on March 30.

It was small consolation that he was involved in the best contest of the night — or that most neutral observers in the packed leisure centre thought he had won the fight. Certainly Crook, aggressive and sharp, won the first two rounds with a hail of stinging left crosses to the face and body of Willis.

With a minute to go Willis counter-attacked furiously and Crook was forced to take a standing count of eight. But it was too

Putting on the first green, now the sixth, during a four ball exhibition match in 1947.

late for the man from the famous Rotunda club to do any more damage, and Crook appeared to be a mile ahead on points. Two out of three judges thought otherwise.

## SOLDIER DARTS CONTEST

Because we have not yet had in all the score sheets we are unable to bring you the results of the second round of the SOLDIER Darts Contest. But so as not to delay the third round unnecessarily we are printing the entry coupon below. Competitors for the third round will be notified shortly regarding rules, scoring and their opponents. Until we know which teams are going through to the next round, all second round competitors are advised to retain this coupon.



3rd ROUND 1983



## SOLDIER SPORT

### INTER-SERVICES RUGBY

# Army teamwork comes out top

ARMY 16      RAF 7

**FOLLOWING THEIR VICTORY** over the Royal Navy, the Army's hopes of winning the Inter Services Rugby Championship were fulfilled when they beat the Royal Air Force at Twickenham 16-7 in the Windsor Life match.

In a scrappy start to the game the RAF applied the early pressure, keeping most of the play in the Army half. It was largely due to the sound kicking of stand-off half, Captain Peter Warfield, that the Army's line remained intact. Pressure was further relieved when full-back, Lieutenant Geoff Nield kicked two well

struck penalties to give the Army a 6-0 lead.

But just as the Army side was beginning to play with more cohesion, the RAF struck back. A drop-out kicked straight into touch, gave the RAF a scrum back on the 22; and from the set piece, a slick three-quarter line move ended with Officer Cadet



The Army kick ahead and the RAF are under pressure again.



A fine leap wins the ball for the Army in this line-out.

Underwood scoring the RAF's only, and unconverted, try in the left hand corner.

Shortly before half time, the RAF were awarded two penalties just inside the Army half. Both were taken by Corporal Orwin who, using the physique of a second row forward to good effect, kicked the ball with a tremendous thud that reverberated round the ground. His first attempt fell just short of the posts, but the second went over giving the RAF a 7-6 lead at half time.

The Army began the second half adventurously with Sergeant 'Willy' Williams tidying up in the loose to give the Army's

backs good possession and encourage Warfield to let the ball out along the line rather than relying on tactical kicking.

After continued pressure in the RAF 22, a classic scrum-half break by Sergeant Instructor Gareth Davies gave Williams the opportunity to bulldoze his way over the RAF line for a fine try to put the Army back in the lead. Nield converted to make the score 12-7.

Nine minutes later the soldiers' lead was stretched further when another break by Davies, well supported by Lieutenant Brian McCall, led to Corporal Andrew Kay going over for an unconverted try.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### RUGBY

The final rounds of this year's Army Sevens Competition, sponsored by Courage, take place at Queen's Avenue, Aldershot on Wednesday 27 April. Sixteen teams will take part with the final at 5.30 pm in the Military Stadium.

★ ★ ★

### FOOTBALL

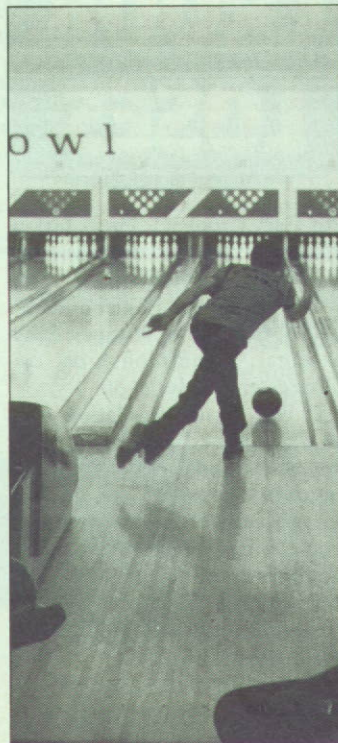
In the semi-finals of the TA Association Football Championship 238 (Sefton) Squadron of 156 Transport Regiment RCT (V) thrashed 119 Recovery Company REME from Prestatyn. The Merseyside team now meet the winners of A Company, 2 Wessex and 214 (Lowland) Transport Squadron RCT in the final to be played at Catterick on 24 April.

★ ★ ★

### SHOOTING

Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, won this year's Junior Soldiers Small Bore Target Rifle Match at Warminster.

## Tenpin records go tumbling



Stylish action at Tolworth.

**A RECORD ENTRY** of 267 Servicemen and women (247 of whom bowled) and an "unbelievably high standard" of bowling were reported by UK organiser, Staff-Sergeant Mal Jordan, after the 16th Army Tenpin Bowling Championships at the Charrington Bowl, Tolworth.

Top bowler of the weekend and Army Masters Champion for the fourth year in a row was WO2 Dave Steiner of the 17th/21st Lancers LAD. Runner-up was Corporal Dave Lok (38 Squadron RCT) and third Private Paul Willmour (1 Glosters).

Because of the number of entries the tournament was spread over three days with the Army taking over the entire Bowl. A mobile computer, owned and operated by Staff-Sergeant Paul Hankinson of 3 RTR, was used by the organising committee to help work out all the intricate details of each player. Entries this year came from as far away as Cyprus.

Next year's championships will be at Tolworth on 9-11

March with entries closing on 1 February. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary ATBA, 3 RTR, BFPO 16 or from Staff-Sergeant Jordan on Aldershot Military 3142.

**Winners:** Men's Singles: Lance-Corporal Dave Taylor (14th/20th Hussars) 966; Men's Doubles: Staff-Sergeant Roger Stone (AMF Battalion) 1548; Men's Team — Executives (S/Sgt Alan Morton, WO 2 Terry Piner, Sgt Tony Tomaszewski, Sgt Paul Edwards and Staff-Sergeant Stone) 2775 (Championship record). Men's Outstanding Performances: WO 2 Bob Dixon (RAPC Training Centre), 277 (high game) and 666 (high series).

**Women's Singles:** Corporal Val Renouf (RMA Sandhurst) 879 (Championship record); Women's Doubles: Corporal Lesley Sanders and Corporal Renouf (RMAS) 1364 (Championship record); Women's Trios: Corporals Sanders, Renouf and Lance-Corporal Claire Sheppard. Women's Outstanding Performances: Corporal Renouf 202 (high game) and 522 (high series).



## UK HOCKEY FINAL

# EIGHT GOAL TRIUMPH FOR PAY CORPS

**FIELDING SIX ARMY** and two Combined Services players, the Royal Army Pay Corps unleashed a torrent of goals against their opponents, the School of Infantry, in the Major Units UK Hockey final at Aldershot. The tally was 8-0.

But the score does not reflect the gritty battle joined for most of the match, with both sides playing cautiously. The first goal came after only five minutes when Captain Terry Cross deftly passed to his team mate, Corporal Gary Hardwick, a Combined Services player, who judged the goalkeeper's position accurately and sent the ball screaming in on his left.

This was to be the only goal of the first half. Although the RAPC kept their opponents inside their 25 yards, chances of a breakthrough were few. The School of Infantry had luck on their side and always seemed to be in the right place at the right time.

**Report by  
SALLY DANIELL  
Picture by  
LES WIGGS**

The war of attrition looked set to continue in the second half, and with the rain driving horizontally, both sides were frustrated in not gaining any ground. The School desperately tried to keep their stronger opponents at bay but found themselves forced further and further back until the captain of the RAPC team, Staff-Sergeant Frank Rodgers, ran with the ball round two defenders to score.

That second goal signalled the



The Pay Corps (dark shorts) press into the attack once again.

collapse of the red-shirted School of Infantry's defence and goals came thick and fast from the sticks of winger Cross, Hardwick and Rodgers. Two caught the goalkeeper completely by surprise, one slowly dribbled in over the line while he was out in front; and another was hooked over the top just missing the post.

With seven minutes to go and six goals down, the Infantrymen

looked thoroughly demoralised and two further goals were slipped past their defence to complete the rout.

Earlier, the Minor Units final was played in only marginally better weather. The Communications and Security Group (UK) won on penalties after extra time against their well matched opponents, the Army Apprentice College Harrogate.

## SOCCER

## IT'S FOUR IN A ROW!

**THE ARMY'S FOOTBALLERS** became the first side for more than half a century to win the Inter-Services championship four years in succession when the other two Services battled to a one-all draw at Uxbridge. The Navy, who were last four in a row winners back in the 1920's, had needed to beat the RAF by three goals to take the title.

The Army's game against the Navy was played in atrocious conditions in the teeth of a Force Seven blow with both sides battling to make some sort of showing before a sizeable crowd. They never quite succeeded but never gave up and the eventual draw was a fair reflection of their en-

deavours.

The swirling wind favoured the Royal Navy for the opening half and they controlled much of the play. They took the lead after 35 minutes when the Army failed to clear the third in a series of corner kicks and the ball dropped for LPT 'Dutchy' Holland to

hammer it into the roof of the net.

This was consolation for a possible penalty kick denied them when SI Kevin James the Army keeper appeared to flatten a Navy forward on the goal-line. The referee may have been unsighted but he did get a perfect view of another offence by James when he raced out of the penalty area and handled to foil an attempt on goal. James was lucky to get away with a rebuke and a free kick which came to nothing.

Both sides missed chances but the Army were slowly beginning to take control and Corporal George Torrance and Lance-Corporal Dickie Briggs were looking dangerous down the left flank. Briggs was sidelined by a foul but his replacement, Lance-Corporal Ian John, soon struck up a similar understanding with Torrance.

Ten minutes from time the Army equalised from a free kick. The ball went high into the penalty area, was headed on by WO 2 John Woodward, bounced off Lance-Corporal Phil White and dropped in front of Torrance, who rammed it home.

## VOLLEYBALL

## ARMY GET REVENGE

**THE ARMY VOLLEYBALL** team, which raised its game to finish fourth out of eight teams in the National En-Tout-Cas Services Tournament at Leicester, has been accepted for the International Qualifying League next season which is expected to provide a further stimulus to their game.

They beat the experienced Royal Marines side, the Police and HM Prison Officers and also took their revenge against the Royal Navy, who had beaten them so convincingly last November. They also beat the Civil Service to end with a tally of five games won to three lost.

Coach, Colour-Sergeant Gordon Neale said afterwards: "It was a rewarding result for us and we had three players out of the four chosen for Player of the Tournament — one of them Private Richard Snelgrove of the RAOC being a newcomer to the team."

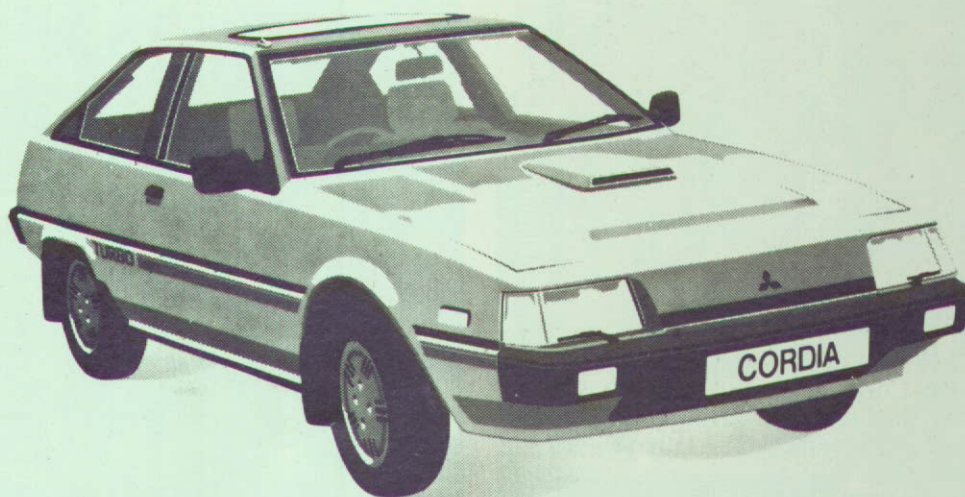
Colour-Sergeant Neale is now hoping that Districts will run leagues and competitions to provide a larger nucleus of players. Anyone interested should contact him on 01-472 0140 (work), or 01-470 1479 (home), or Major Ian Pearce on Aldershot Military ext. 2336.

## Ten for Bobby



England manager, Bobby Robson, was at Aldershot to see his England Under-17 XI pulverise the Combined Services Youth XI by ten goals to nil. The England youngsters were far too strong for the gallant Services side although for a 20 minute period in the second half they did manage to compete and even create the odd scoring chance.





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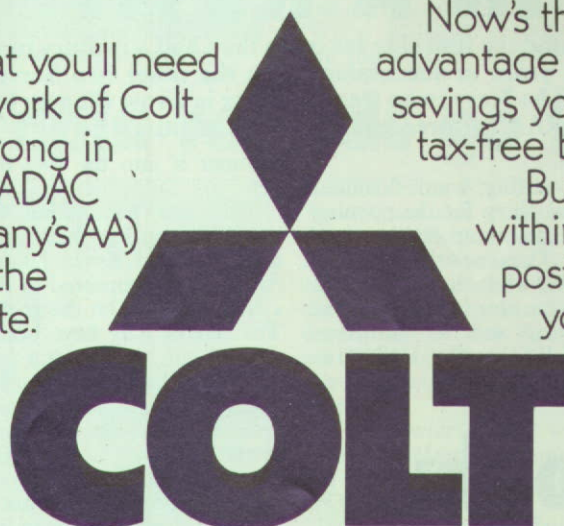
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