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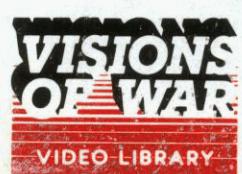
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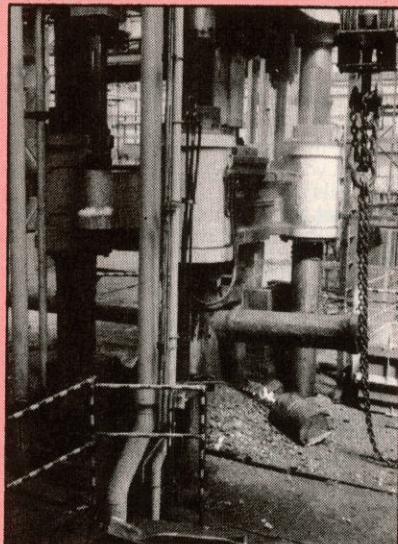
FRONT COVER: Final inspection for the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard before they march to receive a new Standard. See page 30.
Picture: PAUL HALEY.

BACK COVER: A nice 'bonus' from the Nijmegen Marches, in addition to the centre page spread of full colour. Pictures taken by PAUL HALEY

SOLDIER

INCORPORATING
THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE

Tank gun in the
making — page 14



Panzers in Wales
anniversary — Page 20



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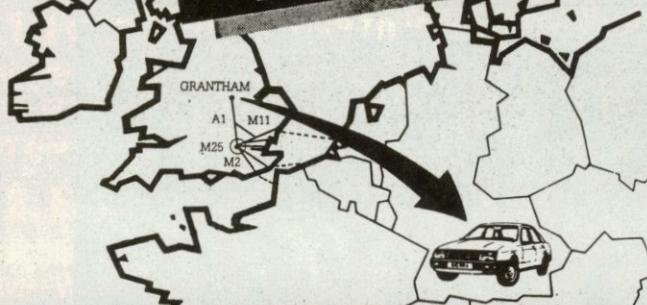
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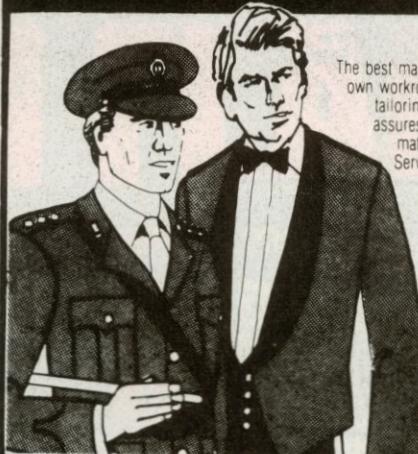
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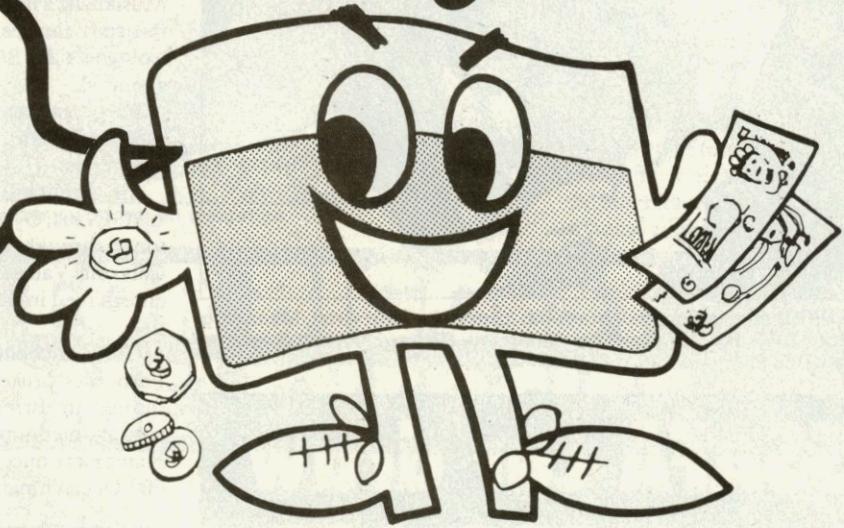
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BFBS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

BRITISH FORCES' broadcasting in BAOR has reached its 40th milestone of the airwaves. Four decades ago it all started in Hamburg's requisitioned Musikhalle and, since 1954, broadcasting has been beamed from the leafy suburbs of Cologne's Marienburg and two converted villas, writes Graham Smith.



At the BFBS anniversary celebrations, from left: John Grist, Managing Director SSVC, Sir Gordon Pirie, Chairman, Richard Norton, Regional Director BFBS

At the end of July the service was launched by the late Sergeant Gordon Crier with the words: "This is the British Forces' network."

Five studios were built in the Musikhalle's main concert hall and the staff numbered 120. Today, Cologne's BFBS staff numbers about 50.

Forty years ago the network had three orchestras, one of them with 30 players.

Sir Geraint Evans, then lowly LAC Evans, G, threw his sonorous tones through the microphones. Caterina Valente is said to have entertained in the early stages like that.

Cliff Michelmore of 'Family Favourites' broke into broadcasting through the British Forces' broadcasting medium. The late Bert Kampfaert once played there for 600 Deutschmarks a month.



General Sir Martin Farndale Commander-in-Chief BAOR, toasting 40 years of BFBS.

The link between home and BAOR for the British Servicemen was now well and truly forged on both sides of a chilly North Sea.

And still the names continued to appear in the studios. Connie Francis, Petula Clarke, Alma Cogan, Frankie Vaughan, Russ Conway and Rolf Harris and many more.

BFBS is now the radio division of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC).

SSAFA car draw tops £28,000

SSAFA's famed annual three-car draw, a lottery sponsored by Natocars of Bridgwater, raised more than £28,000 for the association in this, its Centenary Year.

Appropriately, it was a centenarian, Mr Arthur Turnbridge of Essex, who served in the London and Irish TA from 1903 to 1913 who drew the first three winning tickets.

In all, 172,800 tickets were sold in the UK and overseas, wherever British Service families are based.

Helping to draw the runners-up were three junior members of the Services, one of them Lance Corporal Alayne Jones, WRAC.

First prizewinner was G West of Driffield who won a Metro City 1.0; second prize of a Mini Mayfair went to M. Powell, c/o Regulating Office, HMS Gloucester; while the



Alayne pulls a number

third prize, a Mini City E went to Sergeant Joe Green, HQ and Central Group, Royal Army Dental Corps, Aldershot.

31 KIWIS ARRIVE FOR EXCHANGE

IN BRIEF

Worthy walk

IN THE tenth of a series of annual exchange exercises, 31 New Zealand soldiers have arrived for a four-month stay for Exercise Long Look 85.

The aim: to broaden the military experience and knowledge of the men who range in rank from corporal to major.

Many will serve with units in BAOR while a similar number of British Army personnel have headed out to New Zealand.

Welcome to Yorkshire

MEN of the 14th/20th King's Hussars, Lancashire's Armoured Cavalry Regiment, have been given a warm welcome on return to Catterick Garrison, Yorkshire.

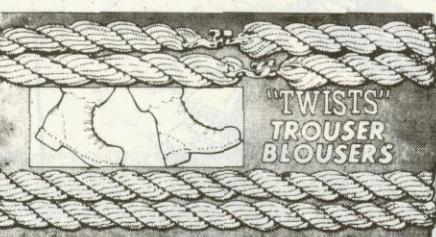
After a tour of duty as a tank regiment in West Germany, the Regiment has moved to Catterick to train recruits for the whole of the Royal Armoured Corps.

Well done

THE RAOC Apprentices College has raised £2,025 for the White Lodge Spastics Centre, Chertsey. The College is to amalgamate with the Junior Leaders' Regiment, RCT, next January and move to Colerne near Bath.

Consultant

DR ROBERT Hugh Phillips, Consultant Radiotherapist and Physician in Medical Oncology at Westminster Hospital, has been appointed Honorary Consultant in Radiotherapeutics to the Army and Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital. Dr Phillips succeeds Dr Kenneth Newton.



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Minster aid

A CHEQUE for more than £2,000 for the York Minster Appeal has been presented to the Dean of York by Captain Bob Garrity, Director of Music, King's Division. The money was raised at the Massed Bands concert at the city's university.

CONTINENTS APART now — they are in Belize — the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment have been awarded the Wilkinson Sword of Peace Award 1984 for restoring ancient Moorish fortifications which have become a major tourist attraction.

All ranks helped in the project which, says the citation, not only called for a high degree of motivation from all but meant hard work being undertaken voluntarily in their spare time.

Their task involved the clearing up and refurbishing an area of an old Moorish castle, an area which was not only an eyesore but also a health hazard.

It was the soldiers, says the citation, who "not only set an

WILKINSON SWORD FOR DUKES

example and co-ordinated the task but also engendered enthusiasm for the work, particularly among the young."

The fortifications are now floodlit but the community work of the "Dukes" went further than



Men of Alma Company working on clearance.

that challenging task.

Each of the rifle companies undertook a job of its own to foster good relations with the local community.

Money was raised to help several charities by the organisation of

various fund-raising events.

Schools were helped by the West Yorkshire-recruited soldiers refurbishing premises, making more classrooms available and repairing roofs of derelict buildings.

The citation concludes: "This battalion has set a fine example of how soldiers can not only assist a local community but, at the same time, also engender enthusiasm for worthwhile projects."

The Wilkinson Swords of Peace are awarded annually to units of all three Services which are judged to have made the most valuable contributions towards establishing good and friendly relations with the inhabitants of any community at home and overseas.

ALL SET FOR BIGGEST EVER 'HOME' EXERCISE

By Graham Smith

STEALTHY saboteurs simulating Soviet-style special forces will be on the loose next month during the UK's biggest-ever ever military home defence manoeuvres, Exercise Brave Defender, which will literally involve a co-ordinated cast of thousands; all 65,000 of them including 'enemy forces'.

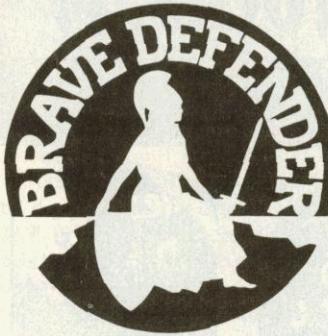
And real Russians could be watching part of it — strictly by invitation!

Drawn from all three Services the exercise players, more than half of them Regular Army, TA, Individual Reservists and the Home Service Force, will be tasked to defend and reinforce 150 military and civilian Key Points (KPs) located, for scenario purposes, on military training areas and private land with the owners' permission.

Exercise Brave Defender which runs from 6-13 September will also involve police authorities in England, Scotland, and Wales — with the exception of County Durham. They have 'other commitments' a press conference was told.

The exercise script calls for concerted efforts to damage or disrupt the KPs — airfields, ports, depots, comms centres etc — by small units of highly-skilled saboteurs on the lines of the Soviet 'Spetsnaz' ('spetsialnast') special or diversionary forces of the GRU, their military intelligence wing. The attackers will simulate air and sea landings. The KPs will be backed up by Mobile Reaction Forces (Regular and Reservist) defending reinforcements.

Ironically, invitations have been extended to military



observers of the seven nation Warsaw Pact to see, for the first time, an exercise on British soil under the terms of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975.

County police forces will be involved in the military districts' Tactical Areas of Responsibility (TAORs), principally in liaison with District HQs and giving practical help at the designated KPs. Military home defence takes place within the law and in support of the civil police; a fundamental concept of 'police primacy'.

About 1,000 UK-based American Air Force and Army personnel will also take part in Brave Defender.

Lieutenant General Sir John Akehurst, late Royal Anglian, Commander UK Field Army said: "We are exercising military home defence. It is not a civilian home defence exercise. We are concentrating on defence against ground attack and conventional air attack. It is non-nuclear.

"One of the two main identified threats to the United Kingdom involves attacks on Service and civil installations and functions by specially-trained, English-speaking military sabotage groups, the Spetsnaz. We consider attacks

would be well-planned and carried out in a skilful and determined manner.

"In order to produce as much exercise activity for all who are taking part we plan to ensure that every KP is attacked in a variety of ways by an exercise enemy simulating special forces. This is an unrealistic level of enemy activity created solely for exercise purposes. The enemy will be controlled.

"The KP guards will be operating outside KP perimeters in a Ground Defence Area (GDA) which, if properly patrolled and dominated, will add to the attackers' problems. The idea is to deny the enemy the initiative during his immediate approach and preparation. It is a game of cat-and-mouse. And the mouse is as well equipped with teeth and claws as the cat.

"Police forces throughout the country will help in a very practical way with their presence at exercise incidents to keep our feet on the ground and preserve a proper sense of proportion of what we can and cannot do."

The general public would not be involved though the thought "was a temptation", said General Akehurst. It was felt, however well-intended, they would prove disruptive.

"We can't have chaps letting off thunderbolts in the middle of Liverpool, Bristol or Manchester. We don't want to cause alarm and despondency," said the General.

"Every precaution will be taken to ensure no civilian is mistaken as being part of the exercise. I cannot guarantee it will not happen. There

could be a touch of over-enthusiasm here and there."

The UK Field Army Commander added that Exercise Brave Defender had an unknown outcome. "I think it will be patchy and it will probably creak and groan in other places. But it is not a demonstration. We are trying it out."

He asked the media not to consider the Home Service Force (HSF) personnel, aged 25 to 50, already half-way recruited to its 5,000 total as a "Dad's Army" where everyone was a "Captain Mainwaring or Sergeant Jones dashing round to his local recruiting office offering his help." They, too, had at least two years' Regular or TA Service experience behind them.

Populations living in the exercise play TAORs would be warned in advance of the impending military activities by announcements in their local press and radio and TV stations.

Brigadier Christopher Dunphie, the Hampshire and 1,500-square-mile TAOR Commander with its 15 KPs summed up: "Brave Defender is going to be fun. It's going to be demanding. We have got to discourage, disrupt and, finally, defeat the enemy."

"The key to success is based on early warning, ability to deploy reserves quickly and have good command and control communications."

Army cast list: Defenders: 23,000 Regulars (including 1,000 from BAOR), 7,000 TA, 2,500 HSF, 2,500 Reservists. Invaders: Eight BAOR Companies' worth. Referees: 110 umpire teams from BAOR.

Cameraman Steve in front of a lens for a change!

GLOBE-trotting UKLF public relations photographer, Sergeant Steve Slater, 32, RAOC, is BAOR's new freefall parachuting champion.

Steve, based at HQ 4th Armoured Division, Herford, for the past couple of months but more used to working in "tense situations where the stakes are high" outscored dozens of his widely experienced sky-diving rivals to take the top individual title in the BAOR championships at Bad Lippspringe.

More than 250 military and civilian parachuting experts battled for supremacy for 2½ minutes of adrenalin-pumping action.

Steve emerged as the outright winner of the style event and the resulting points added to his fourth place in the



accuracy section were enough to destroy the chances of the tough opposition.

Steve, a member of the four-man RAOC team called the Cannonballs (above, Steve

nearest camera), picked up four major BAOR trophies in the categories for team accuracy, team relative work, BAOR overall team and BAOR unit team.

SMALL BARRACKS, BIG STOCKS...

THEY SAY Pinefield Camp must be the smallest barracks in BAOR. However, it has just celebrated its 40th anniversary, and is home for 217 Mobile Civilian Artisan Group or MCAG.

Some 1,500 visitors crammed into the 15-building complex served by 250 metres of road to commemorate the anniversary where three of the staff celebrated four decades of service.

In the stocks, during the fun of the day, were Major Tommy Tucker, OC 217 MCAG (left) and Brigadier Thomas Sneyd, Commander Royal Engineers BAOR.



ALDERSHOT-based Master Butcher Tom Selby gets his war medal... 40 years after the event.

Tom, 65, an instructor with the Army Catering Corps, was presented with the TA Efficiency Medal at his retirement ceremony after 41 years' service with the Corps.

After war action with the 8th Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters, he was posted to Aldershot and, after demob, took a civilian job with the ACC.

But it was not until last year that an eagle-eyed employee at the Central Volunteer HQ spotted the oversight of four decades before. It was Brigadier Michael Paterson, Director of the ACC, who pinned the elusive 'gong'.



PEOPLE

Julie tastes success



JULIE COSH, 17, wants to be a caterer and is well on the way to achieving it.

For the past seven months she has been learning a mixture of catering skills during a Youth Training Scheme course with the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, based at Fallingbostel, BAOR.

Food preparation and presentation in the Sergeants' and Officers' Messes were on her menu of daily tuition.

Next month, she starts a two-year City and Guilds general catering course at Guildford College of Further Education.

Master Chef WO 2 Fred Schwarzer, whose guidance has helped the aspiring caterer, said: "Julie has been outstanding in all aspects of the job. She has been keen and willing to learn. If she puts in the same effort at college I am sure she will do very well."

Julie received a farewell plaque and shield presented by Lieutenant Colonel David Beveridge, CO 3 Queens.

Fine fund

THE Commander British Forces Falklands Charity Fund has raised £4,036. Of this, £2,000 was allocated to the Stanley School Hostel and the money has been used to buy a large screen video projector, recorder and ancillary kit.

The remainder has been sent to the Jubilee Sailing Trust, an organisation helping the disabled to go sailing in ocean-going cruise yachts.

Major General Peter de la Billière, talked to children in the Stanley School Hostel as he switched on the video in his last public appearance before handing over as Commander.

HISTORY nearly repeated itself in north Germany when the Royal Engineers laid on a highly realistic simulated bridge blowing of the Essel road bridge over the River Aller near Hanover, over 40 years after the bridge was demolished by German forces opposing the advance of the British 11th Armoured Division in World War 2.

The bridge, restored after the War, was the focus of a massive demonstration of combat engineering by well over 1,000 men of 1st (British) Corps.

Named Exercise Tight Corner, the display, watched by the new Corps Commander, Lieutenant General Sir Brian Kenny, and many senior British officers as well as other NATO visitors, showed the latest combat bridging, river crossing and demolition techniques used by the Royal Engineers in support of a battlegroup, many of them refined after Exercise Lionheart.

It took place in an area never used for an Army exercise, and for the Royal Engineers, who had been given no opportunity to rehearse on site, it was an authentic and successful test of their ability to assess unfamiliar ground and adapt their skills and resources to any unexpected problems.

The display was by far the largest of its kind in recent years, representing all the elements of engineering support available to the Corps.

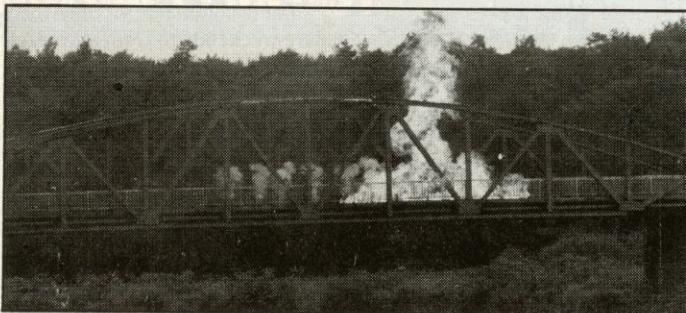
Divided into two phases, a defensive phase followed by a counter attack across the River Aller, the exercise saw the deployment of a battlegroup force supplied by 7th Armoured Brigade, consisting of 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment, the latest generation Challenger tanks of D Squadron, The Royal Hussars, and many other units. Enemy forces were played by the 1st (German) Panzerdivision.

The scenario depicted an enemy bridgehead across the River Leine that had forced elements of 3rd Armoured Division to withdraw east across the River Aller. With the Leine to their west and the Aller to their rear, they were truly in a "Tight Corner".

In support of the battlegroup, 23 Engineer Regiment were ordered to prepare a reserve demolition of the Essel road bridge, so that with Divisional units safely across, the bridge could be demolished denying its use to enemy forces.

While a combat team from 3 Queens provided all-round bridge defence, with hidden Royal Hussars Challengers close by, 39 Field Squadron of 23 Engineer Regiment raced to wire up the bridge with explosives, while other vital tasks included minelaying along the river bank and digging anti-tank ditches.

TIGHT CORNER!



ABOVE: A simulated mine knocks out a Leopard 2 of 3 Panzerbrigade. LEFT: "There she blows" ... a simulated demolition of the Essel road bridge over the river Aller.

It takes two CETs just one hour to dig a 50 metre ditch. And a MWT (Medium Wheeled Tractor) was hastily employed to make easy work of dramatically removing a broken-down car with which the organisers, showing a touch of humour, had blocked the bridge.

Armoured personnel carriers equipped with barmine layers and Ranger anti-personnel minelaunchers were used to lay a minefield on the far bank against enemy amphibious vehicles that might later cross the river.

Royal Engineers divers from 23 Regiment laid mines to hinder enemy crossings, and were also preparing for phase two of the operation. It was their job to "recce the riverbed" — to check its depth and profile in order to assess the kind of bridging equipment needed

for a tactical crossing later at the start of the planned counter-thrust.

The Royal Engineers did not have it all their own way. Enemy air attacks, in the shape of RAF Tornadoes and Jaguars and US Huey Cobras inflicted notional casualties, as did a powerful heliborne assault by Pumas of 230 Squadron RAF.

These were followed up by Luchs and Fuchs amphibious wheeled recce vehicles of 3rd German Panzerbrigade from Nienburg crossing the river in probing attacks that were caught up in the minefield — simulated but very realistic.

The defence held, and phase two — the counter-thrust — gave 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment a chance to show the latest in bridge-building developments.



Demonstration of the experimental trestle for supporting a No 8 bridge

It takes just minutes for an Armoured Vehicle Launcher Bridge (AVLB) to launch a No 8 bridge across a river up to nearly 23 metres wide without ever exposing the crew, but clever innovation was called for since the Aller is too wide at this point.

Skilful use of "half way" piers, provided by a barge, a simulated damaged bridge pier, and, most interesting of all, a trestle that unfolds from the bridge to support it on the riverbed like a stepping stone, soon had three double combination bridges in place.

The successful sapper operations paved the way for the counter-thrust, and the bridges easily stood the test of a crossing by the Royal Hussars' Challengers, followed by 32 Regiment's AVREs (Assault Vehicle Royal Engineers).

RAF Chinooks from 18 Squadron brought in a palletised Medium Girder Bridge to span a stream further back from the river as a demonstration of the Royal Engineers' support capability, and CETs rapidly laid Class 60 track-way leading up to it.

Further along the river the M2 pontoon ferries of 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment linked up across the river for the battlegroup's wheeled vehicles and the M109 guns of 129 Field Battery, 40th Field Regiment Royal Artillery.

The battlegroup safely back across the river, the objectives of exercise Tight Corner had clearly been achieved, and the Corps Commander praised the display as a demonstration of the varied capabilities of the Royal Engineers.



TOPICS

TERRIERS GUARD THE ROCK

Gibraltar was the venue for 120 Midland TA soldiers for Exercise Marble Tor, a 14-day tour of duty on the Rock.

The part-time soldiers, serving with the Second Battalion the Mercian Volunteers were drawn from Companies based as far apart as Shirley, Walsall, Worcester, Stoke, Crewe and Ellesmere Port.

They served alongside Regular soldiers of the Queen's Regiment, providing guards at the recently-opened border between Gibraltar and Spain.

While in Gibraltar the men of 2 Mercian practised beach attacks using high-speed 'rigid raider' assault craft and, in a major exercise, cleared 'enemy guerrillas' from part of the vast tunnel system that honeycombs the massive

TERRIERS PRAISED BY A GERMAN GENERAL

BRITAIN'S Territorial Army had a pat on the back from a German General who, as a 17-year-old soldier, was a prisoner of war of the British.

General Leopold Chalupa, 57-year-old Commander of the Allied Forces Central Europe with more than 500,000 Servicemen under his command, was visiting York from his Headquarters in Holland.

At the Headquarters of the 2nd Infantry Division, which would be the largest single unit to reinforce his troops in Germany if war threatened, he said: "I am always impressed when I talk to soldiers of the British Army — especially those of the Territorial Army.

"These volunteers sacrifice their spare weekends to train and reach a high standard of ability."

The fact such an Army of volunteers was available to reinforce the peace time Army in Germany was a "big deterrent".

In time of tension they would join British, German, United States, Belgian and Dutch troops now stationed there.

General Chalupa was greeted at York by the 2nd Infantry Division's Commander, Major General Peter Inge.

His wife Maria was among those who saw him inspect a Guard of Honour from the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, Yorkshire, and Y Squadron of The Queen's Own Yeomanry, a Territorial Army unit based in the City.

The General, then a 17-year-old Private, was captured by British troops in Italy at the end of the last war and was a prisoner of war in Britain before being repatriated in 1949.

Of those days he said: "It was a most important span of my life. It was the re-education of a young man meeting the British people. They treated me so well".



GENERAL CHALUPA:

'TA is a big deterrent'

One of the places at which he served as a prisoner of war was a farm near Glasgow, where his work included milking 26 cows a day.

His plans were to re-visit the farm and renew acquaintances with the lady who owned it — now aged 94.

But as one of the General's aides put it: "That is purely a private visit the General and his wife are making for old times sake... we would like to keep the location secret."

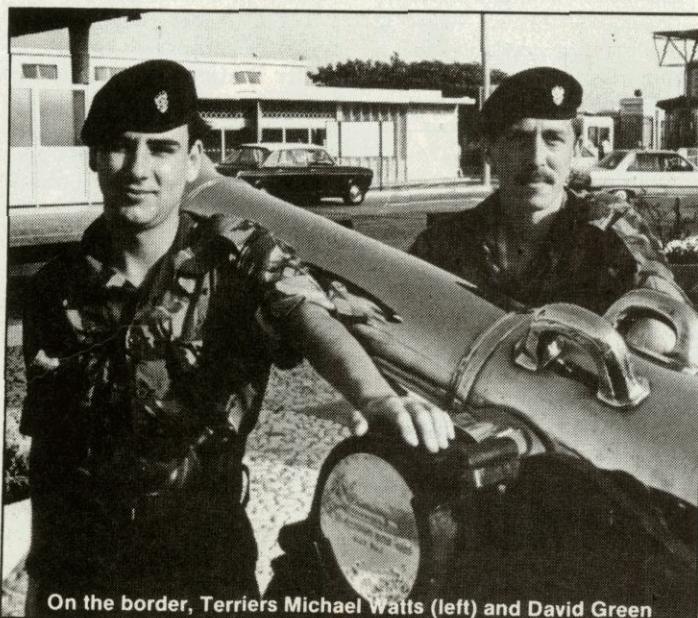
General Chalupa was in Britain seeing military formations which would reinforce NATO troops.

Other he visited included 15 Infantry Brigade Headquarters at Topcliffe, North Yorkshire, one of the Territorial Army Brigades in 2nd Infantry Division.

BRIEFLY

TWENTY-FIVE members of Bristol University's Officer Training Corps Royal Engineer training troop spent their summer engineering camp at Ripon, Yorkshire, under the supervision of 38 Engineer Regiment, RE.

FUSILIER Thomas Thompson, of the 6th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, based at Alnwick, Northumberland, has been awarded a C-in-C UKLF Commendation for an act of bravery in disarming a man at a petrol station (see SOLDIER 14 January).



On the border, Terriers Michael Watts (left) and David Green

1 WESSEX SF Platoon, 1 Bn, The Wessex Regiment, was the best among 12 teams taking part in the UKLF shooting match competition.

All four teams representing 1 Wessex — winners of the preliminary SW District round — shot well earning a score of 548 out of a possible 1,040.

Second were 5 RRF with 451 points, then 5 R Anglian with 424 points.

GREMLINS were at work when we paid tribute to Colour Sergeant Stan Nye of 5th Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers — his surname appeared as Rye. Our apologies.

Up goes a drum of 'dangerous chemicals' with a bit of pushing power from Officer Cadets Jane Diver (left) and Jane Lovesey.

The two Janes had to lift the 45-gallon drum over a 'fast flowing river which was infested with crocodiles' — with a little imagination thrown in.

The team took 24 minutes to complete the task — not the fastest time ever — when more than 160 members of Liverpool University Officers' Training Corps were in camp at The King's Depot, Strensall, near York.

Jane Diver, 19, is reading classics at Liverpool University, and Jane Lovesey, also 19, reading accounting at Lancaster University — when they are not heaving drums over crocodile infested rivers.



'MAGIC' JURBY

Sharing Jurby Training Camp and the rest of the Isle of Man for their summer camp were 144 Field Ambulance, the TA's only para trained medics, and D (Thomas's) Company of the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow. After two weeks on the island their verdict was 'magic'.

For both units it was first time at Jurby. It was the attractions of the island for training that made the camp. For the para medics, unhappily denied their promised jump because of Manx mist, the consolation was Exercise Berapa Janh (Malay for 'how far') which took teams of six and seven along the island's cross country long distance path traversing the wild upland moors of Snaefell and crossing the ridge just below the summit.

HIGHLAND SAPPERS GO SOUTH

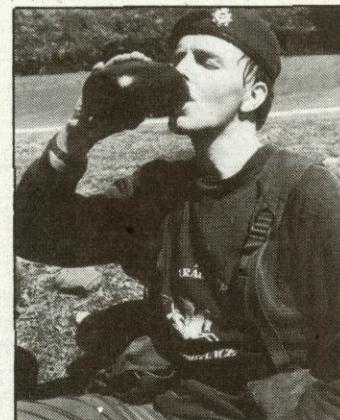


Eight-five members of 117 (Highland) Field Support Squadron RE (V) whose TA Centres are in Dundee and Aberdeen, at camp at Halton, near Lancaster, took part in watermanship on the River Lune, bridging within the camp area, and adventure training in the Lake District. During their camp they were visited by Brigadier Allan Alstead, Commander 51st Highland Brigade, who watched their skills with the Medium Girder Bridge — 30 metres of it

Edward Simpson, civilian driver, at the wheel of the squadron tipper

— being demonstrated.

Oldest 'honorary member' of the Squadron at camp was 'Honorary Corporal' Davie Dunn, 65, who has always volunteered to help in the kitchens and messes. He received his promotion this year from Squadron Commander, Major John Getley, for his work for the Highland sappers. Also supporting the Squadron was Mr Edward Simpson who is the Squadron's civilian driver, and is also a HSF Volunteer with the 1/51st Highland HSF Company at Rodd Road.



Lance Corporal John Salter takes a swig

ROYAL EXERCISE CHAINMAIL

Unique among the Yeomanry Regiments in having The Queen — as Duke of Lancaster — as their Colonel in Chief, and also in having survived amalgamations, the Lancashire Yeomen entertained The Queen for a whole day on the Altcar Training Area for Exercise

Chainmail. In perfect weather, more than 300 members of the Regiment plus wives, families and friends were there for a day that combined the pomp and ceremony traditional to the Yeomanry with the music of the Band of the 14/20th Hussars who are the

DLOY's associated regular regiment, and with demonstrations of the current weapons and equipment of the Medium Reconnaissance Regiment.

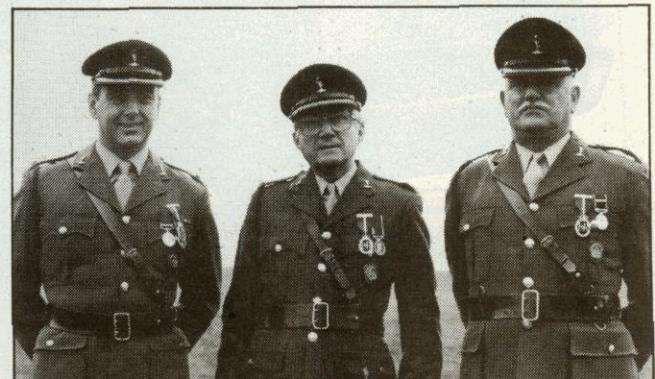
MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT

Following a recent medal presentation of 31 (Greater London) Signal Regiment (V), now has three majors who all have the Territorial Efficiency Medal and the Territorial Decoration, and who each have 38 years' regular or TA Service.

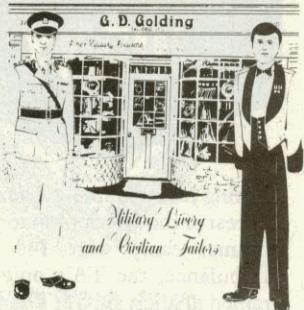
From left to right they are: Major Jim Fowler, Regimental TOT, Major Roy Hughes, Regimental Traffic Officer, and Major Ron Miller, Regimental recruit training officer.



The Queen chats to men of C(HSF) Squadron from Chorley, Wigan and Preston on their first every royal parade



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CENTENARY YEAR 1985

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If you or your folks know of an ex-Service family who could do with a visit from their SSAFA friend, again please tell us. Help us to reach those who are either too proud to ask for "charity" or simply don't know that SSAFA exists to help them.

We help meet the need, whatever it is.

Thanks to YOU.



THE SOLDIERS', SAILORS' AND AIRMEN'S FAMILIES ASSOCIATION
27 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BZ. Tel: 01-222 9221.

TICKET sales are going well for the return of Britain's biggest son-et-lumière, The Heart of the Nation, a fabulous spectacle which depicts 500 years of the nation's dramatic history. The production which started on 13 August and ends its five-week run on 14 September, is presented in association with Hogg Robinson.

The chronicle of national history is played out on Horse Guards Parade "amidst the ghosts of Whitehall" and, two years ago, the first rendition raised nearly £60,000 for SSAFA (Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association) which is currently celebrating 100 years of Service families' care.

The cast of voices will include: Anthony Andrews, Maxine Audley, Peter Barkworth, Richard Bebb, Isabel Dean, Maurice Denham, John Gielgud, Hannah Gordon, Robert Hardy, Gordon Jackson, Penelope Keith, David Langton, Keith Michell, Prunella Scales, Paul Scofield, Gwen Watford, Timothy West, Barbara Windsor and Edward Woodward.

SSAFA are literally putting a commemorative stamp on their Centenary Year celebrations.



The Isle of Man Post Office Authority has just issued four stamps with 12p, 15p, 29p and 34p values. First Day Covers are also available.

A mint set costs 90 pence; presentation pack £1.10 pence; and a First Day Cover £1.10 pence.

SOLDIER to Soldier

Handling charges will be a nominal 20 pence.

Mr Stanley Corkill, the Assistant Controller Philatelic Bureau says: "On our stamps we have chosen to represent the four Presidents of the Association with appropriate Servicemen and their families.

"The one of 12 pence, for example, shows the Princess of Wales, President from 1885 until 1925, with a contemporary soldier and his lady." The soldier is with the Manx Volunteers attached to the King's Own Regiment.

The Isle of Man Post Office Authority Philatelic Bureau is located at PO Box 10M, Douglas, Isle of Man.

RESEARCHING the life of Corporal Sidney Bates, VC, California-based author Thomas J Bates became fascinated by the fact that former comrades of The Royal Norfolk Regiment hero often could only recall their pals with the aid of a nickname.

Says Mr Bates (no relation by the way): "Very often, a man was remembered ONLY through his nickname; it gave him a sort of immortality that his real name could not confer on him."

The author is currently working on a book The Search for Sidney, a precursor to the larger work on Cpl Bates — will use a list of nicknames in the form of a dictionary, or glossary.

Mr Bates kindly sent SOLDIER a computer print out, running to

16 pages, in the hope we might be able to print it... but we just don't have that sort of space at the moment!

His list includes many classics of their kind — Chalky, Dodger, Dolly, Dusty, Geordie, Scouse and so on. Plus some more puzzling ones — Smodger Smith (don't we use Smudge or Smudger?), and the claim that young soldiers know RSMs as Reggie — from Regimental Sergeant Major, of course.

That is a new one on us. Though we have heard of Tara as a name to be mentioned well out of any RSM's earshot!

And why do all Clarkes tend to be known as Nobby?

Food for thought, and if anyone feels he or she can reveal some lesser known nicknames, or a view on the origins of the more common ones, then please write to Thomas J Bates, 120 Hillcrest Road, Berkeley, California 94705, USA. He will be delighted to hear from you and promises to acknowledge every letter.

THE latest issue of the National Army Museum's annual has some interesting items cocooned among its 52 pages for a retail price of just £3.

In it is a pioneering study of military issue Gurkha kukris (eight pages) by P A Hayes. Other 'firsts' include The Key of the Kingdom; The Garrison Gunners of Jacobean England 1615-1024; The Origins of the Flat-Bottomed Landing

Craft 1757-58; Binoculars in the British Army Part IV 1945-1985; and The King's African Rifles and the Expedition against the Nandi 1905-06.

The front cover shows a silver-mounted kukri presented to General Sir John Coleridge (1878-1951) by the 8th Gurkha Rifles, 1945. General Coleridge, GOC in C Northern India 1936-40, served in the regiment from 1925 to 1949.

Editors of the Army Museum '84 annual are Miss Elizabeth Talbot Rice and Dr Alan Guy.

THE Royal Army Medical Corps have been in the firing line in the House of Commons for "shooting" people.

It seems that Mr Kevin McNamara (Labour, Kingston-upon-Hull, North) was concerned about RMC display teams putting artificial wounds made of wax and dye on members of the general public. He sought an assurance from the Secretary of State for Defence that only Servicemen would be "wounded" in future.

The answer from Mr Adam Butler, Minister for Defence Procurement, was "No". He explained that simulating wounds on people attending such events was a major attraction of RAMC displays and provided realistic practice for men of the Corps.

Mr McNamara tried again, asking whether it was normal practice for children under ten to be given realistic bullet wounds. Only with the express and personal approval of an accompanying parent or adult, said Mr Butler.

And again and again... had permission been sought from parents at St George's Park, Wandsworth, in July, and had there been any complaints?

It had, and there had not, said Mr Butler.

End of skirmish.

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Tick items of main interest: FIESTA ORION SIERRA
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S17/85

Guns come from the Royal Ordnance at Nottingham, the place where...

Story: John Margetts

Pictures: Les Wiggs

EMPTY BARRELS MAKE FINE SIGHTS!

120mm gun taking shape in the forge

STEWART-GLASGOW

Thanks to a team of Royal Ordnance apprentices, the bronze statue of Robin Hood stands sturdily tall and complete beneath the walls of Nottingham Castle.

For had not the lads of the city centre ordnance site made a new set of vandal-proof weaponry for the legendary outlaw, brought to international screen fame via Hollywood and the late Errol Flynn, he would be minus his trusty longbow and arrow.

Now, for the past four years, he has stayed in one piece after vandals persistently stole or broke his kit driving the City Fathers to their wits end — not to mention their patience — when up stepped the RO team with an answer to their prayer, a bow and arrow made from

the same steel as the 120 mm gun on a Challenger tank.

Since that day Robin has stood four-square, his loaded unbreakable, unrustable bow aiming straight up the main road in the city centre.

For the then apprentices it was an exercise in skill and metal manipulation, and part of their four-year training at the city's RO site.

Trained to a high standard, too. For according to training officer John Wheat it costs £40,000 to train an RO apprentice. "And currently we have 88," he said, adding: "You can work out the cost of that yourself!"

Now many of those who had a hand in making Robin's hardware are designing and making every type of gun from 30mm upwards.

One of their current big sellers is the 105mm Light Gun, used by the British Army and many others around the world. Another programme, for a Middle East customer, is the regunning of Russian-built T55 and T59 tanks, replacing the original 100mm with the RO 105.

Gun barrels of all shapes and sizes litter the floor of the 12-acre machine section for customers all around the world.

That RO Nottingham is able to do this stems from a year ago when the Government hived off 20,000 civil servants to set up the Royal Ordnance PLC. No longer are they known as the "Nottingham ROF" but Royal Ordnance, Nottingham. "We're out to change our image," said a company spokesman.

The changed status, said then chairman Fred Clarke, "represents a turning point in our evolution ... competing and collaborating with defence contractors worldwide."

That they are meeting this global programme, with production capacity to spare, is evident from a tour of the 50-acre site, and doubtless new chairman Bryan Basset will be looking to enhance

their order books, so preventing rival manufacturers from stealing, what could be termed, their thunder!

Describing the making of a 120mm Challenger gun, assistant manager Bob Braithwaite said quality control was the first priority in manufacture. "Every gun has a number stamped on it at every stage of production. With the number goes a record book and computer file. That way we can keep a check on it the whole of the time it is in use."

"We can pinpoint faults instantly," said Bob. "Not that we get many," he quickly added.

It all starts with an unlikely looking ingot of special steel weighing seven tons and seven feet long.

This is heated in an electric furnace to 1,200 degrees Centigrade emerging red hot and ready for the first of two "squashing" operations which will shape it, with the aid of a 1,350-ton hydraulic press, to within 4mm of pre-machining size and close on 26ft.

Nowadays the "squashing" is remotely controlled by forge master Bob Cameron from a cabin with a TV screen, providing him with an all-round view of the forging.

But there was a time, not so long ago, when Bob did the whole operation by eye to the same limits.

This is the first of 60 or more operations needed on the Challenger gun barrel.

After forging, all is machining and barrel boring on huge lathes, heat treatment and painting. Even that is something special being infra-red reflecting and heat resistant.

Great chunks of hot metal fly



A light gun awaiting the next move

off rotating barrels as original seven-ton ingots gradually lose more than three-quarters of their start weight to finish up at 1,073 kilograms.

Finally, after 60 operations, they lie gleaming on the floor, over 26½ft long, inside of the barrel honed and polished to within two thousandths of an inch of the plus side ready for the breech block.

"It has to be a plus tolerance," said Bob Braithwaite, "to ensure the shell fits."

But even though the barrel is finished, there is one more operation prior to painting.

This is carried out by fitter Colin Gough who, as a "spare moment job", marks the Royal Coat of Arms on every barrel leaving the site.

Using acid, he skillfully inscribes the time-honoured motto *Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense*.

"It only takes minutes," said Colin. "Every gun has it done. Norman French, you know," he added laughing.

So along with soccer clubs Nottingham Forest and Notts

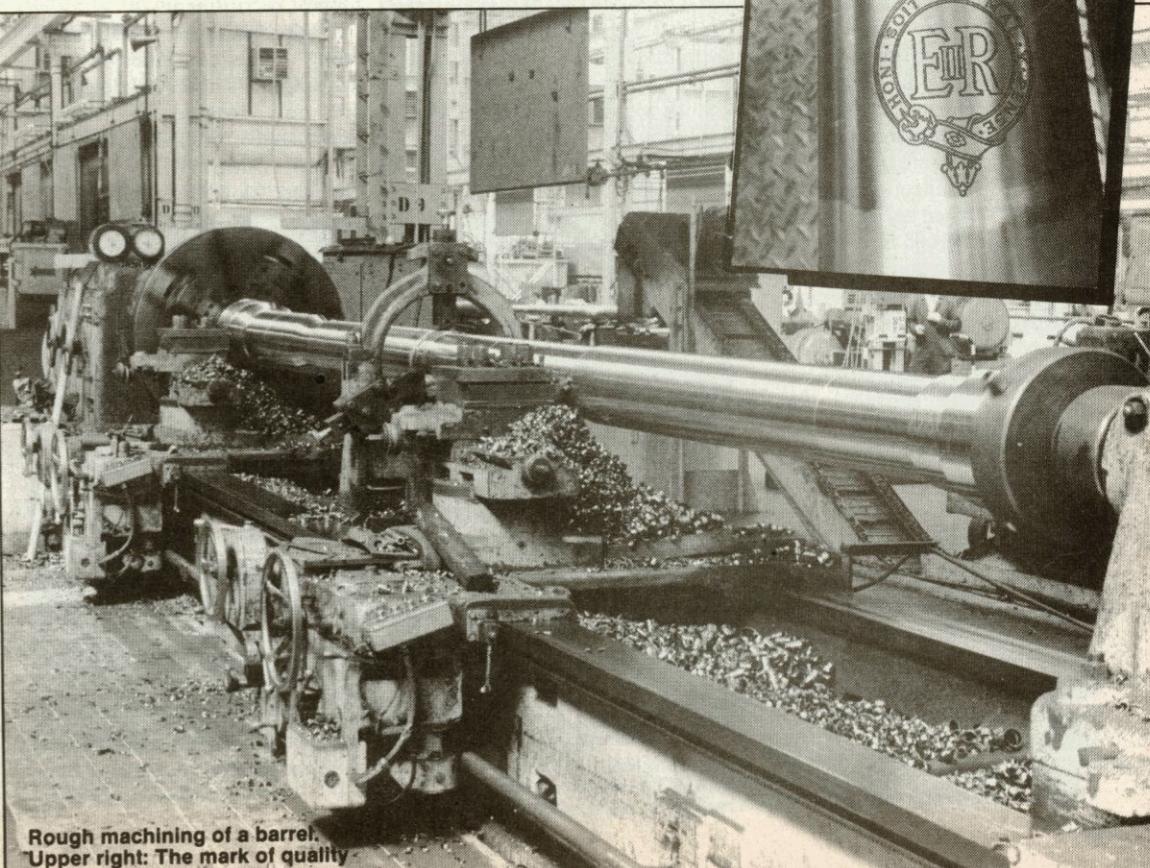
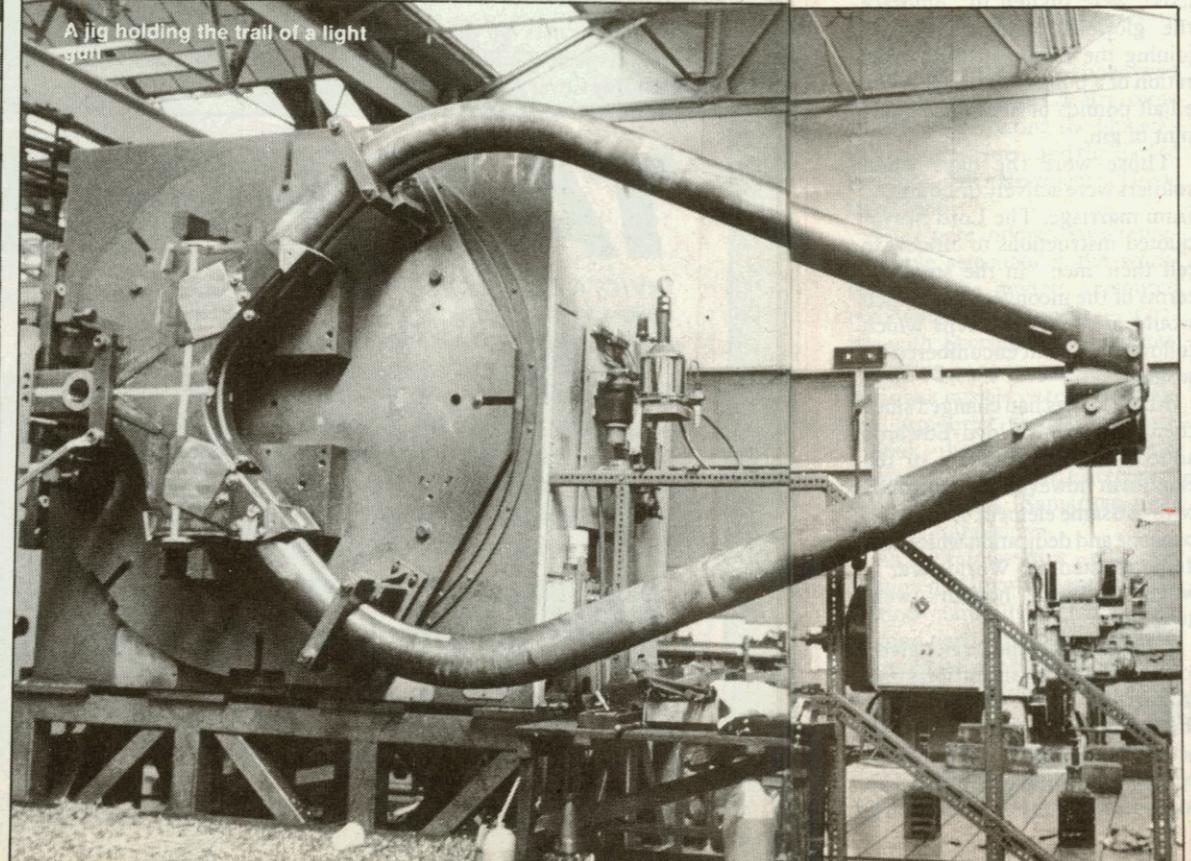
County, cricket at Trent Bridge, traditional lace, coal and its new breakaway union — not to mention ye olde tyme projectile ace Robin Hood — RO Nottingham is out to make a world-wide name and impact with sales of its "tailor-made" defence services.

But while it all sounds rather new and futuristic, Nottingham has, in fact, been producing guns and shells, and in between times railway rolling stock, since the early days of the 1914-18 war.

The main difference now is that their sights are set universally with plans to develop and reinforce their sales and marketing on an unprecedented scale for the Midlands-based unit and hopefully, eventually, to make a profit.

A

jig holding the trail of a light



Rough machining of a barrel.
Upper right: The mark of quality

CARDIFF HONOURS



Scimitars of QDG in the drive past City Hall

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards

By being granted the Freedom of the City of Cardiff, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards have now become fully accepted as a regiment of Wales.

So said Major General Desmond Rice, the Colonel of the Regiment, in reply to the Lord Mayor at a ceremony in the city council chamber to confer the Freedom of the Welsh capital on QDG.

QDG are the most senior of the 12 regiments who have tercentenaries to celebrate this year. But their Welsh connection goes back only to 1959 when two descendants of the original 1685 formations — 1st King's Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Bays (2nd Dragoon Guards) — were amalgamated.

Since then recruiting has concentrated on Wales and the border counties under the title "The Cavalry Regiment of Wales."

There are no leeks or Prince of Wales plumes on the regimental crest. QDG still sport the Austrian eagle granted to The King's Dragoon Guards in 1896 when the Emperor Franz Joseph became Colonel-in-Chief.

But they now join the other regiments of the Principality — Welsh Guards, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, and The Royal Regiment of Wales — on the roll of Freeman of Cardiff.

In the week they were granted

Story:
Robert Higson

Pictures:
Paul Haley

the "privilege, honour and distinction" of marching through the City with bayonets fixed, Standards flying and bands playing, QDG were up to their eyes in the Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo as the administrative unit for 1985.

This job is usually shared among Welsh regiments on a rota which QDG have also joined.

By the time everyone returned home to Wimbish in Essex to

prepare for a key role in Exercise Brave Defender, the Regiment had concluded one of the longest periods spent in the area of its highest recruitment.

In the meantime the strengthening of ties continues in other ways. QDG's home headquarters are now located in Maindy Barracks, Cardiff, and, as the Lord Mayor (Councillor Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards, RNR)

announced at the Freedom ceremony, there are plans to transfer the regimental museum to Cardiff Castle.

In his speech the Lord Mayor took special delight in comparing the conditions of today to those of the 18th Century when "dashing lads" were invited to "embrace the glorious opportunities" of joining the Regiment for a daily ration of a pound of beef, one and a half pounds of bread and half a pint of gin.

Those were the days when soldiers were actively discouraged from marriage. The Lord Mayor quoted instructions to officers to tell their men "in the strongest terms of the inconvenience which would arise and the evils which follow a regiment encumbered by women."

Many things had changed since then, Captain Lloyd-Edwards added — "The tradition of the Regiment however has continued with the same element of bravery, panache and dedication which was demonstrated in World War 2 when 18 battle honours were awarded.

"We recognise the service given to our country by the officers and troopers of QDG. We rejoice in the Regiment's great tradition of action in the cause of freedom, peace and humanity. And we congratulate them on maintaining



The Lord Mayor, Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards RNR, meets a member of QDG's REME detachment. Some of the troops paraded in coveralls ready for the drive past

a high standard to the present day."

After the presentation of the freedom scroll, General Rice in turn formally handed over to the city an inscribed cavalry sword as "a symbol of our gratitude for the high honour you have conferred upon us."

The Lord Mayor commented that it would be a constant reminder that QDG had been awarded the Wilkinson Sword for Peace last year for their work in Beirut as part of the UN peace-keeping force.

As it happened, the only element of the regiment not represented in the parade and drive past which followed the freedom ceremony was B Squadron — at present on another peace-keeping mission with the United Nations, this time in Cyprus.

Some 60 armoured reconnaissance and support vehicles, representing the bulk of the regiment, were led by a Ferret scout car, containing the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Johnny O'Brien, past the saluting base outside City Hall.

This first exercise of the freedom of Cardiff was not without its headaches. The armoured vehicles had to pass in pairs down a comparatively narrow roadway with crowds pressing in from either side. Moreover they were obliged, because of street layout and the demands of traffic control, to salute to the left.

As the driver's hatch is offset to left on most CVR(T)s, there wasn't always a lot of room for the driver's head when the guns of the Scorpions and Scimitars were dipped in salute.

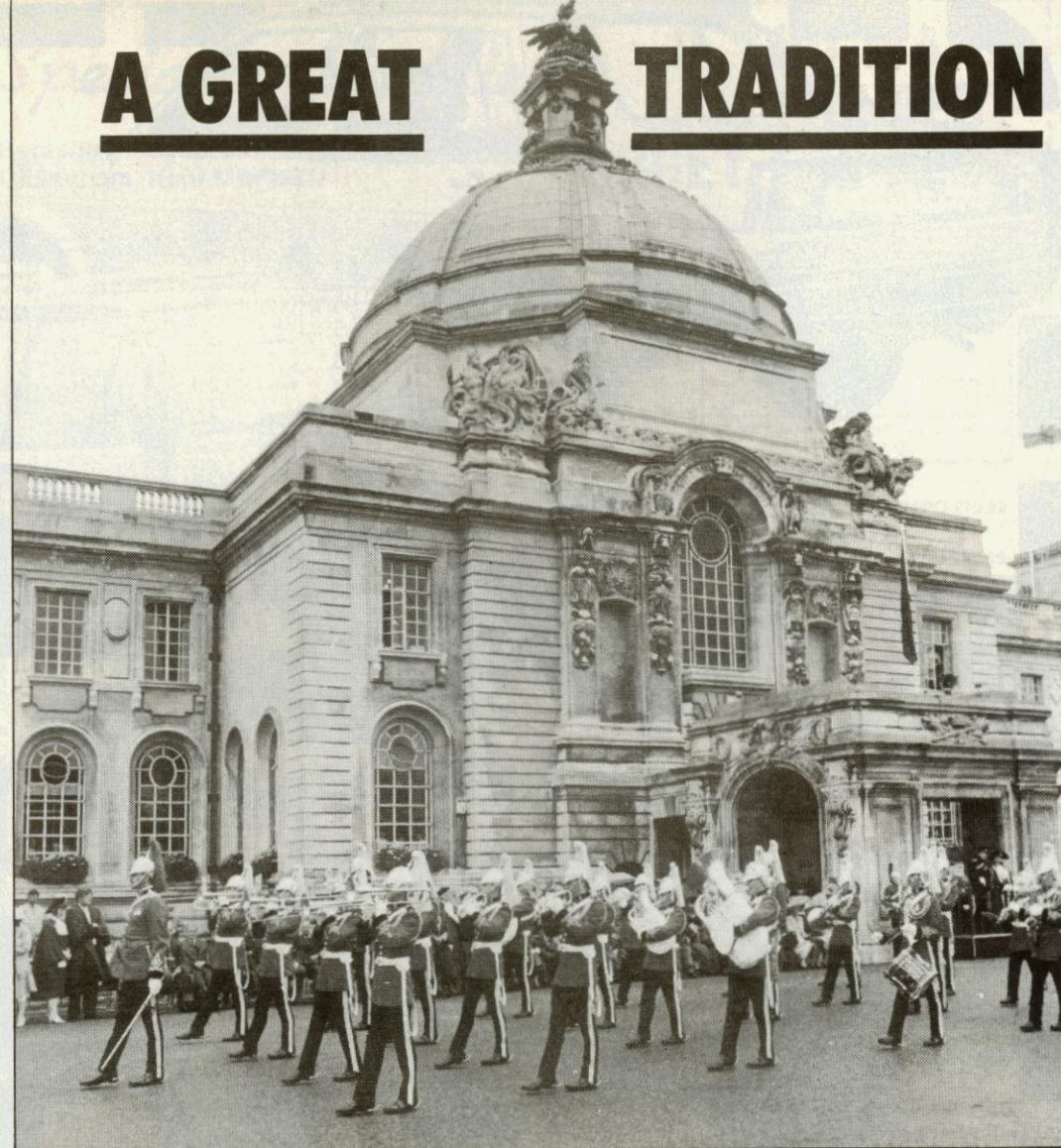
Later in the week many of the same vehicles appeared in QDG's own special spot in the Searchlight Tattoo entitled from Horses to Horsepower.

Six horses and riders, borrowed from the Household Cavalry, came on first representing the Queen's Regiment of Horse and the Earl of Peterborough's Regiment of Horse from 1685.

They were followed by a representative selection of the work-horses of the modern armoured reconnaissance regiment — starting with Scorpion and Scimitar, and going on through Striker, the anti-tank missile system, Spartan, the armoured troop transport, Sultan, the command vehicle, Sampson, the REME recovery CVR(T), and Samaritan, the tracked ambulance.

As administrative unit the Regiment's involvement with the Tattoo naturally extended far beyond performance in the arena. A couple of weeks before the start an advance party had to take over the accommodation for some 1,200 participants at Maindy Barracks and the Cyn Coed Teacher Training College.

A GREAT TRADITION



Small, but...

During the event there were guards to organise for the gates and car parks as well as the security and administration of the Tattoo rear area in the adjacent Cooper's Field.

"The tattoo is normally run by an infantry battalion which, as you will appreciate, is much larger than we are," said Captain Patrick Andrews, the 2 i/c of A Squadron and the regimental press officer. "They have far greater manpower available to them. We are having to make do with quite a small number who are doing a tremendous amount of work."

Captain Andrews indicated members of the arena party who had been on duty to 1.30am for the dress rehearsal and were back tidying up the display area, a little more than seven hours later.

QDG have regularly appeared in the Cardiff Tattoo, but the administrative side is something new. Now presumably they will be on call, as it were, to underwrite the smooth running of future tattoos along with their fellow Freemen of the City of Cardiff, the regiment of Wales.

The QDG band in front of the ornate Cardiff Council Chamber, where General Rice received the Freedom scroll (below) from the Lord Mayor





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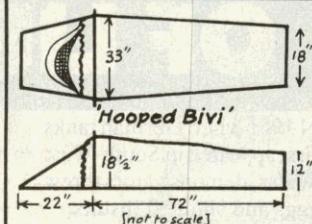
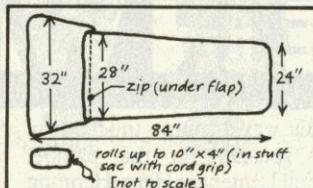
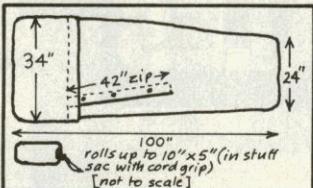
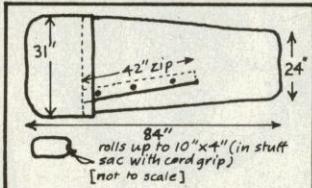
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25 years after insults and eggs ...

GERMANS NOW PART OF LIFE IN WALES

In 1961 when German tanks first appeared in South-West Wales, demonstrators threw eggs and shouted insults.

This year, at the celebrations for the 25th year that Germans have come to Castlemartin, there wasn't a dissenting voice to be heard.

Sixteen years after World War 2 it was by no means a matter of course that German troops would be able to train in the UK, said Herr Friedrich Gerstl, deputy chairman of the West German Defence Committee and a member of the Bundestag.

He was one of several German VIPs who had flown in, via RAF Brawdy, for a special silver anniversary parade held on the Castlemartin ranges where, since 1961, some 60,000 soldiers of the Federal Republic have practised tank gunnery.

It was perhaps not surprising, Herr Gerstl added, that at first the visitors had been regarded with some scepticism. But over 25 years they had become an accepted part of everyday life in one corner of Wales.

Story:
Robert Higson

This was a theme touched by most speakers at the parade. General Lieutenant Hans-Henning von Sandrart, Inspector General of the German Army, spoke of some very positive events in the past 25 years and some which were not so good.

Apart from hostile demonstrations in the beginning, there had also been a few quarrels in local pubs, and the occasion when a lion at Longleat had chewed up the front wheel of a German officer's car!

But all in all positive occasions had been more numerous. General von Sandrart mentioned 73 marriages to Welsh girls, a community involvement which included permission to peel vast quantities of onions for a local club's special party night, and the catching of a 21-pound pike by a senior NCO as proof that German soldiers feel very much at home in Castlemartin.

There were, however, other good reasons to be grateful for the agreement with allowed co-use of the training facilities. Herr Gerstl pointed to the great lack of training areas within West Germany, particularly those suitable for heavy armour.



Pictures:
Paul Haley

Of the 17 in operation, with a total area of some 145,000 acres, eight were operated by NATO allies. The rest had to be shared between the German armed forces, which meant that the Army could fulfil only 90 per cent of its training requirements on German soil.

Growing public concern about such environmental issues as excessive noise made it impossible to extend training areas. Therefore the facilities at Castlemartin were invaluable in helping to meet an urgent German need.

Training to maintain operational readiness was one of the first and foremost tasks of armed forces in peacetime, said General von Sandrart.

"The successful accomplishment of that task is, to a great extent, dependent on close and fruitful co-operation with our allies.

"The joint use of training facilities, especially major training areas, plays a significant role in this regard. Within NATO a particularly fine understanding has developed between the Federal German Republic and several other nations of which the use of Castlemartin is an extremely important and outstanding example."

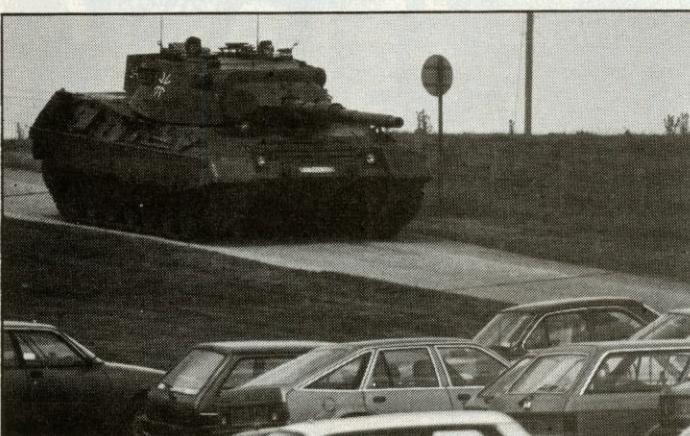
"The training area, with its excellent conditions — particularly the possibility of long range firing — will then become a firm element in our planning for the combat training of the main battle tank," he said.

The General turned to the noise disturbance problem at such places like Castlemartin. In Germany, he said, the majority of municipal authorities and politicians regarded the burden as part of their contribution towards safe guarding freedom.

"I sincerely hope," General von Sandrart added, "that you will be able to share that opinion when looking at German and British troops training side by side to



Above: The Generals review the parade. Below: Worry not ... this Leopard I was always destined to miss the parked cars! Germans marching in the 'Silver anniversary' parade.



prepare themselves for the defence of the Western World."

Lieutenant General Sir Charles Huxtable, Commander Training and Arms Director, welcomed the visitors on behalf of the British Army with the comment: "We do a very great deal of training in Germany, and we are delighted to be able to offer some small recompense by allowing German soldiers to train here."

They were followed by the red berets of the Supply Company, the Colours of 244 Battalion, and the band of the Mountain Division which was later to travel to Cardiff to take part in the Searchlight Tattoo.

Later the soldiers of the tank battalion staged a battle run to demonstrate a reconnaissance section and a tank platoon working

Still widespread interest ...

together in an advance to contact with an enemy.

It was followed by a recovery crew illustrating the high speed removal of the power pack from a Leopard I.

Every year eight German tank battalions come over to Castlemartin to fire on the ranges during the summer months. They rotate on a fortnightly basis and in 10 days' shooting fire 3,180 rounds, or an average of between 50 and 60 for each crew.

The Supply Company of 138 soldiers and eight officers is drafted by 3 (GE) Corps from units all over West Germany and spends the months from June to November in Wales. These are the men, often accompanied by wives and families, who have most to do with the local community and from their ranks have come 73 German husbands for Welsh girls.

It is the Supply Company's job to provide administrative and technical support for the tank battalions. They shipped over at the start of the season 44 Leopard I tanks, two tracked recovery vehicles, and three post command



Demonstrating swift removal of a power pack from a Leopard I

armoured personnel carriers as well as a quantity of wheeled transport, trailers and fork lift tractors.

As Oberleutnant Manfred Fabig, the supply officer, remarked Castlemartin meant more than gunnery training for the German Army, it also provided the opportunity to practise ship loading and supply.

Despite a heavy training programme, made heavier by the disruptions of the Welsh weather and ships straying into the offshore danger area, the Germans usually manage a full programme of leisure activities. Tours are arranged around Wales and to London and there are regular sporting contacts with local communities, including RAF Brawdy.

The German presence itself continues to attract widespread interest. This year Major Joachim Borstel, the CO of the German liaison staff, has personally conducted tours for 600 visitors, including boys scouts, cadets and members of the armed forces.

Oberleutnant Fabig, who spends part of each summer running diving classes for soldiers, commented: "We don't have much spare time, but all the spare time we have we fill up with energy."

The posting to Wales seems genuinely popular with the German soldiers. Some describe it as being markedly more interesting than Canada where the Bundeswehr also shares training facilities. And a few like it so much that they have decided to stay.

Staff Sergeant Franz Josef Klau, who has been a radio technician with the Supply Company for the past 10 seasons, has been so taken by the country and its people that he married a Welsh wife, built himself a house and made the decision to find a job in South-West Wales once he leaves the Army in two years' time.

ANNE ARMSTRONG'S VIEW

I RECENTLY met a friend I had not seen for many years, and the first topic of conversation was child abuse... covered at length that day by the media.

She wondered if there was some way she could alleviate the pressure on some young mothers if only for a few hours, to give them a break.

The tragic cases highlighted by the media show the difficulties that can strike families, even in a closed and supportive community.

There will always be cases, always families and individuals who slip through the welfare net.

This time we can't blame the computer, the post, or the telephone. *It is all down to human*

beings.

In Service communities social welfare provision is spread thinly, and can often deal with crisis situations. Finance and bureaucracy are so often blamed.

Perhaps we forget that we are a very young community with the older generation of the 55s almost non-existent, and maybe only one per cent between 45-55. Such age groups can often be the saving grace for many young families.

At last, support has started with organisations such as Parents Anonymous, Home Start, Cope, and other voluntary support groups springing up.

Pilot schemes have begun in Höhne and Münster, based on the

Voluntary Bureau, Home Start and SSAFA. Hopefully, before too long, similar schemes will be available in UK garrison areas.

May I please urge those who feel that they need help to seek it. We all need help at some time when bringing up children.

The most competent of mums have all had stressful times and, outwardly, may look fine.

Inwardly, they may be just the ones who need help and here I feel that many young officers' and soldiers' families are sometimes those who need help.

Because of the pressure of the husband's job and the keeping of that "stiff upper lip", they go unnoticed and unhelped.

"It will never happen again" is the cry after a tragedy. It does — many times, according to the NCPCC figures.

It can happen anytime, anywhere. Perhaps if we had reminders all the time — on the lines of our security posters — we might make better neighbours.

A well displayed poster, listing all the agencies, both civilian and Army, and welcoming anonymous calls, would be a useful measure.

Let us take constructive steps to help us all, so that overstretched services are supported by 'good neighbour' schemes, especially overseas.

Anne Armstrong

ome tel: Camberley 29653

News of a helpful video

STRONG KIDS, SAFE KIDS

Even in today's enlightened world where nothing seems to be sacred anymore, there are still subjects which families find difficult to discuss like abduction or sexual abuse of children.

I have just seen a new colourful video called 'Strong kids, safe kids' a family guide which tackles in a variety of refreshing ways these difficult subjects and I mean DIFFICULT!

It's a family video which explains the facts, involves the kids and parents and encourages TALK. Too many children have suffered and too many families have been hurt by the emotional impact resulting from such incidents.

TALK about touching; who touches where and when — and what to do about it. How to tackle

the problem if you as a child are faced with this.

The video shows HOW parents can be open about it.

Thank goodness for the foresight of the TV Research Unit, Oxford Polytechnic.

Introduced by Sarah Greene, the British adaptation is hosted by Henry Winkler, The Fonz, supported by Yogi Bear, The Smurfs and Flintstones and was filmed at the National Children's Home in Islington to which part of the proceeds of sales will be devoted.

It is the most enlightening video



The Fonz and friends...

I have seen for a long time.

If it saves just one child from the experiences of sexual abuse and abduction; if it avoids anguish for one parent or one family, or helps one child to talk to its parents or vice versa, then this video is worth every penny.

Take heed of all that it suggests and ensure your child knows: what a 'stranger' is, how to do a self-defence 'yell for danger', the big 'no' and when to use it, how to

keep a distance from strangers, the different kinds of touches, and the tricks and treats adults may use to abuse or abduct a child.

Make sure your kid is a strong kid, safe kid. Buy or rent the video cassette from: Television Research Unit, Oxford Polytechnic, Lady Spencer Churchill College, Wheatley, Oxford, OX9 1HX.

To buy, it costs £9.99 mail order only inc VAT, plus postage and packing £1.50. Cheques made payable to TRU MEDIA.

TIP

HAVE you postcoded your property? This is one sure way of helping to deter thieves.

You also stand a far greater chance of recovery if your property is stolen.

More and more people are using the kits that are on the market.

A typical kit contains die-stamps for postcoding cycles and machinery, an engraver suitable for cameras and electrical goods, an 'invisible' ultraviolet light marker ideal for fine antiques and ceramic marker for valuable pottery.

The campaign for postcoding cycles in London is thought to have helped reduce London's cycle thefts by 5,000.

So give it a thought. Postcode your property and seek advice from your local police, or, overseas, your Royal Military Police.

FAREWELL TO DENISE



DURING the last four years Denise Pickering has worked unceasingly in a variety of welfare roles for Service wives.

At a lunch in Bovington she was thanked for all her work as she relinquished her chairmanship of the Federation of Army Wives' Clubs.

The wife of a Canadian exchange officer she has certainly left her mark, offering on many occasions to step in and help Service families.

All wives wish Denise well on her return to Canada and hope she takes back the Federation's best wishes to all Canadian families.

● Denise is pictured, left, in discussion with Lady Huxtable, Chairman, Federation of Army Wives' Clubs.

EXCITING NEW POST IN GERMANY

BAOR HAS a brand new job opportunity for a lady who has "maturity and confidence in working with adults rather than impressive paper qualifications".

It is for a British Forces Co-ordinator on a part-time basis (15 hours' weekly during school terms) for maintaining links between the

Pre-School Playgroups' Association (PPA) in England and Wales and those in BAOR, BFG playgroups and mother-and-toddler groups.

The lucky applicant will help arrange training courses for playgroup personnel.

Most of the work will be done

by post and phone from home but applicants should be willing to do some travelling.

PPA will give training and support. Sponsors of the scheme: G1 HQ BAOR.

Expenses and a token salary of £85 (DM 323) monthly will be paid. Particulars to: Mrs Helen

Caldwell, Chairman, Field Services Committee, Low Luddersburn, Cartmel Fell, Windermere, Cumbria LA 23 3PD.

Closing date, ladies is 20 September. Get those letters in now! But you must be in residence in BAOR by mid-October to take advantage of the offer.

I HAVE read with interest your articles concerning house letting in SOLDIER (1 July).

In March 1983 I exchanged contracts which meant I became the legal mortgagee of my first property.

I contacted a solicitor and asked him to draw up a tenancy agreement under Case 20. He advised me that a Shorthold Protected Tenancy Agreement is more useful.

Under a Shorthold Protected Tenancy Agreement under the 1970 Rent Act, the minimum letting period is one year. At the end of that year I applied to the court for repossession of my flat. This was thrown out due to the fact that I did not serve notice.

I was totally unaware that notice had to be served as it was not mentioned in the tenancy contract nor was I reminded by the solicitor who prepared the contract.

After consulting another solicitor, and correspondence with my MP, they were sympathetic but advised me that as the law stands I had effectively extended the Tenancy Agreement another year.

Notice has been served on my tenant now. She wishes to be rehoused by the local council. Unfortunately the only way that the council will house her is when she produces an eviction order.

You must inform the chosen solicitor to include the notice to quit required to terminate the tenancy. He must also be advised to include Case 20 under

ASK ANNE

the protected Tenancy Agreement.

In the event of your tenant breaking one of the clauses in the Protected Tenancy Agreement which results in legal action they could be successfully evicted.

If Case 20 is not included in the tenancy agreement the Judge may issue an eviction order to run concurrently after the notice to quit has been served, ie the tenant will be allowed to remain in the property until the end of the agreement despite clauses of the agreement being broken.

By using a protected Tenancy Agreement if your tenant is satisfactory you could terminate the agreement at its maturity without enforcing Case 20 and suffer its implications.

Draw up a contractual agreement with a recommended letting agent. He will be able to advise you of your rights etc in the event of any problems.

Whilst letting your property you receive an annual tax return. In the guide the tax man asks you to inform him if you are paying to live in your employer's accommodation as well as having your own property rent/mortgage repayments.

I assume that this is for a tax rebate.

After enquiring I have never found out the reason nor received a tax rebate. Could it be due to the fact that my property was let?

Effectively it means that I could wait another two months from the expiry date of the agreement, although I wish to repossess under Case 11.

I am not against letting property providing people are aware of a failsafe procedure to follow. The only failsafe procedure that I am able to offer is:

1) Write to your Tax Office informing them that you are considering letting your property and for any information guides and leaflets. Through reading them I learnt that my agent's fees were claimable from my tenancy income on the Schedule D Tax scheme.

2) Contact the Army Legal Services. They may be able to offer a recommended solicitor to draw up a tenancy agreement.

My other crib in becoming a property owner is that if you are single you have dipped out on the few perks that are available to the Armed Services, ie no interest free loans available, no discount if quarters are not available, no perks in buying a discounted married quarter if you have served at least 12 years (ie bottom of the bidding list).

I also feel that in taking the decision to be a property owner you should be rewarded by not paying for Army accommodation. In buying a property you take on the extra expense of rates

and water rates.

My expenses per month are:

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| £158.00 | Mortgage @ £17,000 |
| 12.75 | Life Insurance for £17,000 |
| 19.58 | Rates |
| 8.80 | Water rates |
| £199.13 | |

This is without short-term commitments for the future etc. My wages are approx £355pm which leaves me with £155, from which I have to save towards gas, electricity and telephone rental charges.

I have no telephone but still have to pay for the point rental or spend £93 to have it withdrawn and a further £95 at a later date to have it re-installed.

I hope that this complex letter could be used towards any campaign for the provision of better facilities for homeowners.

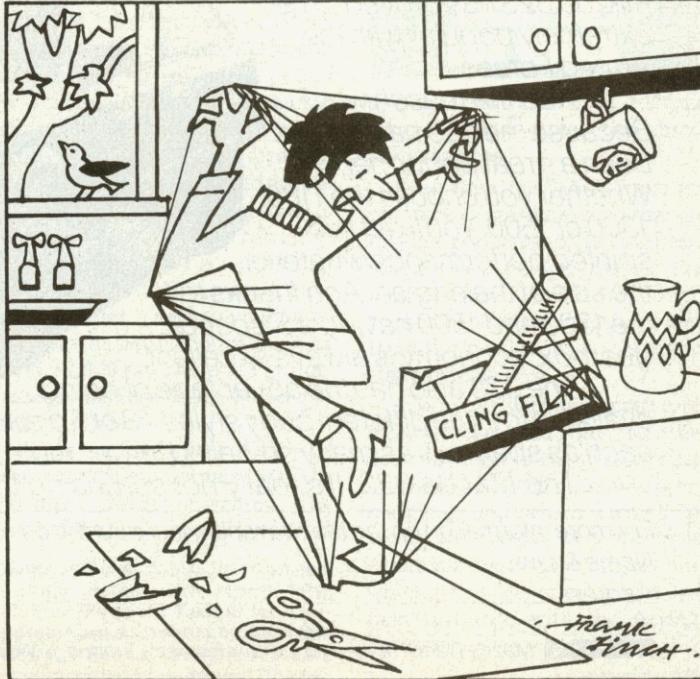
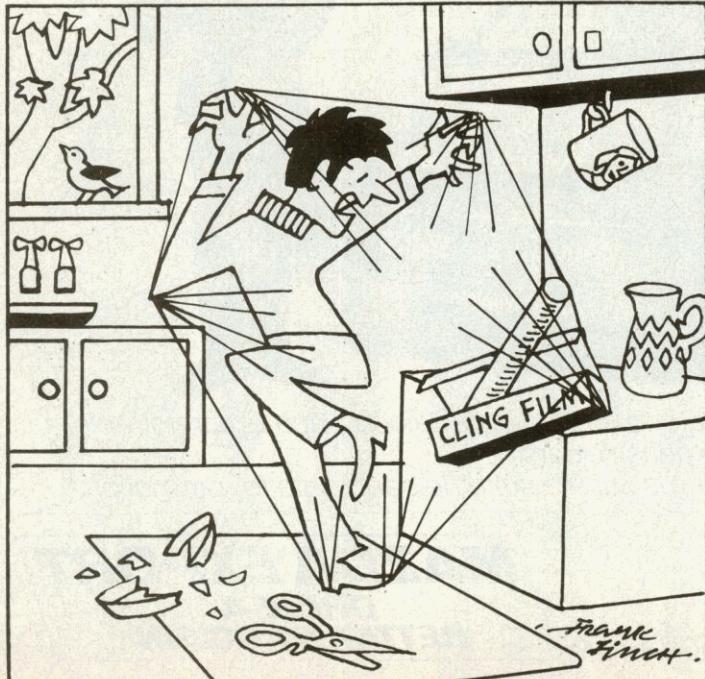
You can probably see that in order to survive you may have no choice but to let. That choice should not be compulsory. — LCpl W. Catterick.

THIS letter from a soldier who is safeguarding his future shows some of the difficulties which Servicemen face when letting property.

Many are unaware of all the multitude of technical details which surround letting property. I have raised these and other problems with the Ministry of Defence. — ANNE ARMSTRONG.

How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 39.



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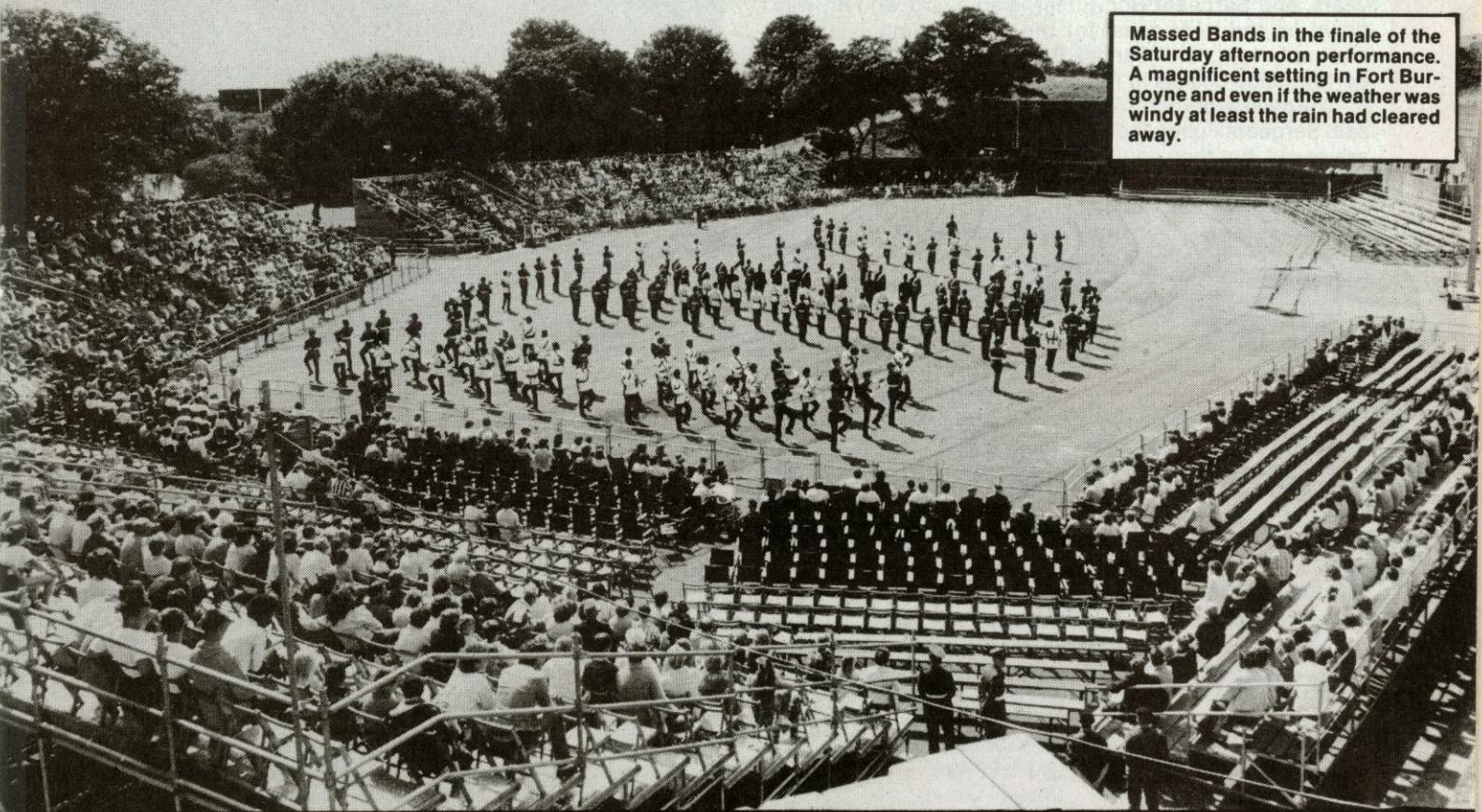
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MAZDA EXPORT
DRIVE A
BETTER BARGAIN



Massed Bands in the finale of the Saturday afternoon performance. A magnificent setting in Fort Burgoyne and even if the weather was windy at least the rain had cleared away.

MAGNIFICENT EFFORT BEHIND THE SCENES



THE thunderous applause echoing from the historic Fort Burgoyne at Dover spoke for itself — the 1985 Dover Military Tattoo had been a success.

Which meant delight for people in the famous Cinque Port; locals, holidaymakers, a fair number of French trippers and even a woman from as far as Mannheim, West Germany, who rang asking for a ticket to be reserved in her name.

It meant too, a large measure of pleasure, touched with a hint of relief, for Major Tim Weeks of The Light Infantry who is Deputy Chief of Staff, 2nd Infantry Brigade... and Producer of a show claimed to be the oldest tattoo in the country. It suffered a period of what might be called suspended animation. This was the fourth year since animation proper returned and like Topsy it grows and grows.

Wearing his second beret, so to speak, Major Weeks refers to himself as an amateur — "for that is what I am. Mind you, I have learned a lot", says the man who now has the satisfaction of knowing over 12,000 saw the three performances this year, about 4,000 more than last year.

This year had a cast of 870 and the only disappointment was the weather which prevented The Light Division's freefall parachute

Major Weeks going through last minute detail with (from left), Colour Sergeant Tadhunter, Corporals Hiscock (partly hidden) and Perry, RSM Le Couilliard, RSMS Dallimore and Lieutenant Thapa.

Story:
Peter Howard
Pictures:
Les Wiggs

display team The Trail Blazers from descending for the three performances.

Even then the "show must go on" type of spirit ensured that on the final performance, having been foiled twice before, five of the intended nine men did drop, three found the arena successfully and the other two landed safely in the static display area.

A hiccup with an aircraft tyre reduced the load but not the determination of the parachutists in conditions which must have been marginal, and which seemed to typify the flavour of a spectacle which may not be the biggest but which packs lots of pride and is a firm favourite with the paying customer.

continued page 26

Throwing lots of light on the Dover Tattoo performers was the responsibility of 105 Plant Squadron RE(V), based in South Shields, commanded by Major Charles Pickles.

The North East men have tackled the task for several years, and Sergeant Bob Fuller, a shipyard worker, was down on the Kent coast for the second time — and is pictured, right, with Sapper Brian Bell carrying out pre-performance checks in Fort Burgoine.

"The generators date from 1936 and are still going strong," said Sergeant Fuller, "I don't know if the lights themselves are as old, but they could be".

He has been in the TA for 22 years and says his unit uses the lights on exercise some times: "If the clouds are right, we can use the beams to provide considerable illumination for the men operating plant."

On this occasion, the searchlights played their part in a grand spectacle — "and we get useful experience, and enjoy ourselves".

from page 25

Some call it the "shoestring" tattoo. "Homespun" might be a better description, and the growing appeal of Dover surely gives lie to the oft-held belief that you MUST have full-time organisers and all that entails.

Major Weeks is looking forward to returning to 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry in a few months to resume his real role — infantry soldiering. Yet there will be some regret.

Sometimes he has left tattoo worries behind only to return to his desk in Brigade HQ and work until the early hours.

"But I have loved every second of it and I have learned a lot — about organisation, command and control, about the A and Q side of things", he says emphatically.

"I have learned a lot about dealing with the public. In military life, if you have people to fill seats, you fill them in a military fashion.

"The public don't want this. If they have bought a ticket and taken the trouble to come early, they want to pick the best spot they can and the latecomers have to make do. It is different, but it is understandable.

"The first post after the tattoo brought the first letter of praise, from a chap saying it was the best value for money show he had ever seen. That makes it all worth while and reaction all round has been favourable."

In these cost conscious days, tattoos are one means of showing the public not just the brilliance of the bands, but the sort of training skills being developed at the expense of the taxpayer.

The breathtaking displays in the arena by the teenagers of The Junior Leaders Battalion, Shorncliffe, youngsters displaying incredible fitness and confidence so early in their service, was just one of the many highlights.

There were other treats from The Royal Artillery Motor Cycle Display Team, The Royal Air Force Police Dog Demonstration Team and the heart-stopping work on a 90-foot mast by The Royal

Navy Display Team.

With five Bands involved, not forgetting Bugles and Corps of Drums and a magnificent firework-filled finale, it was quite a show. All for £1.50 in the case of adults, £1 for children and pensioners.

Apart from performers in the arena, there has to be a lot of support — and locally based units, plus local and not-so-local Territorial Army men and civilians all played their part.

"I have to say I couldn't have managed without a good RSM and RQMS. They were brilliant", said Major Weeks, who was given invaluable aid with arena and admin problems by HQ Company 1st Battalion The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment based at Canterbury and technical support from 69 Gurkha Independent Field Squadron. Medical back-up was provided by 220 (1st Home Counties) Field Ambulance RAMC(V), lighting by 105 (TEE) Plant Squadron RE(V) and the PA System courtesy of SWS Troop, Shorncliffe, Royal Signals.

The two men who earned particular praise: the Tattoo RSM, Warrant Officer 1 Rod Le Couilliard, The Royal Green Jackets, and the RQMS — Warrant Officer 2 Jack Dallimore, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

RSM Le Couilliard joined Major Weeks in April and since then has been involved in everything, dealing with civilian agencies, public relations, advertising, and programme. "It has been different, very different — but I've enjoyed it", says the man who joined the Royal Signals in 1961, transferred to The Royal Green Jackets 10 years later, was RSM of the 3rd Battalion in Celle, West Germany and is due to leave the Army next year. Not that he will say a complete farewell — he hopes to become a permanent instructor with the TA.

RQMS Dallimore, from Brigade staff, came in three weeks before the start of the tattoo and has concerned himself with food, accommodation and stores. Other vital aides in the closing weeks were



Colour Sergeant Richard Tadhunter (this time looking into the arena rather than being in it as before, as a drum major), Corporals Allan Hiscock and 'Fred' Perry all from The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, and Lieutenant H B Thapa, Queen's Gurkha Engineers ... "Harry Sahib" to his Tattoo pals.

It is a pity the public can't also see the work that goes into providing the spectacle and appreciate the sort of problems that can crop up.

The static display supporting the tattoo was much bigger this time, bringing a few problems too for co-ordinator Warrant Officer 1 G Routledge, The Royal Tank Regiment. Nothing that couldn't be handled — even down to a last-minute change of tent size for SOLDIER magazine.

"We have learned lessons there as well," says Major Weeks. "The arrangement of the display was

perhaps too far from the car parking".

Though Major Weeks won't have the problems next year, the benefits of experience will be passed to his successor and the booking of acts for 1986 is in hand.

And 1985 isn't quite finished. The performers have gone and the administrators are still checking the proceeds to be handed to the Army Benevolent Fund and other Service charities.

It will be a record — thanks to the generosity of the public, the skill of the entertainers and the dedication of a small but very effective team of "backroom boys".

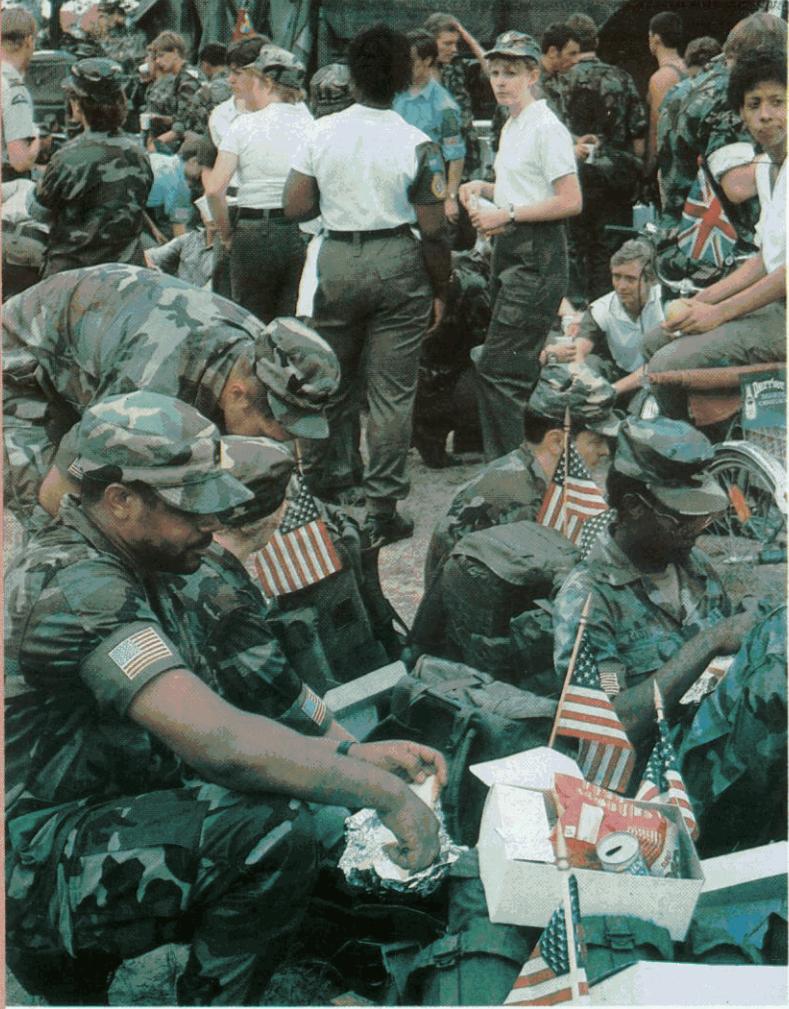
The Saffron Majorettes, mascots who have long links with 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, putting on the style at Dover Tattoo's static display area with a Chieftain in the background.



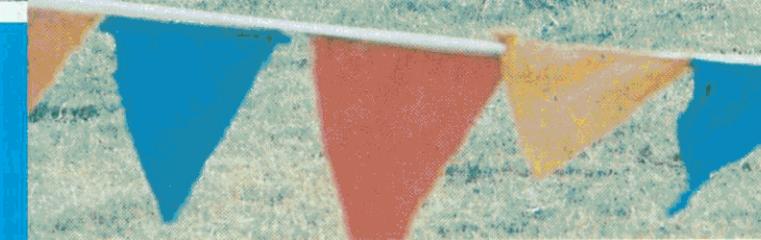
Two of the men working behind the scenes to ensure a noisy and colourful finale for spectators. Left is Warrant Officer 2 Tony Eaton, Royal Engineers — "on loan" from his nearby duties as Garrison Works Liaison Officer and with considerable experience of things tricky and electrical. With him is Private Darrin Northover, of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

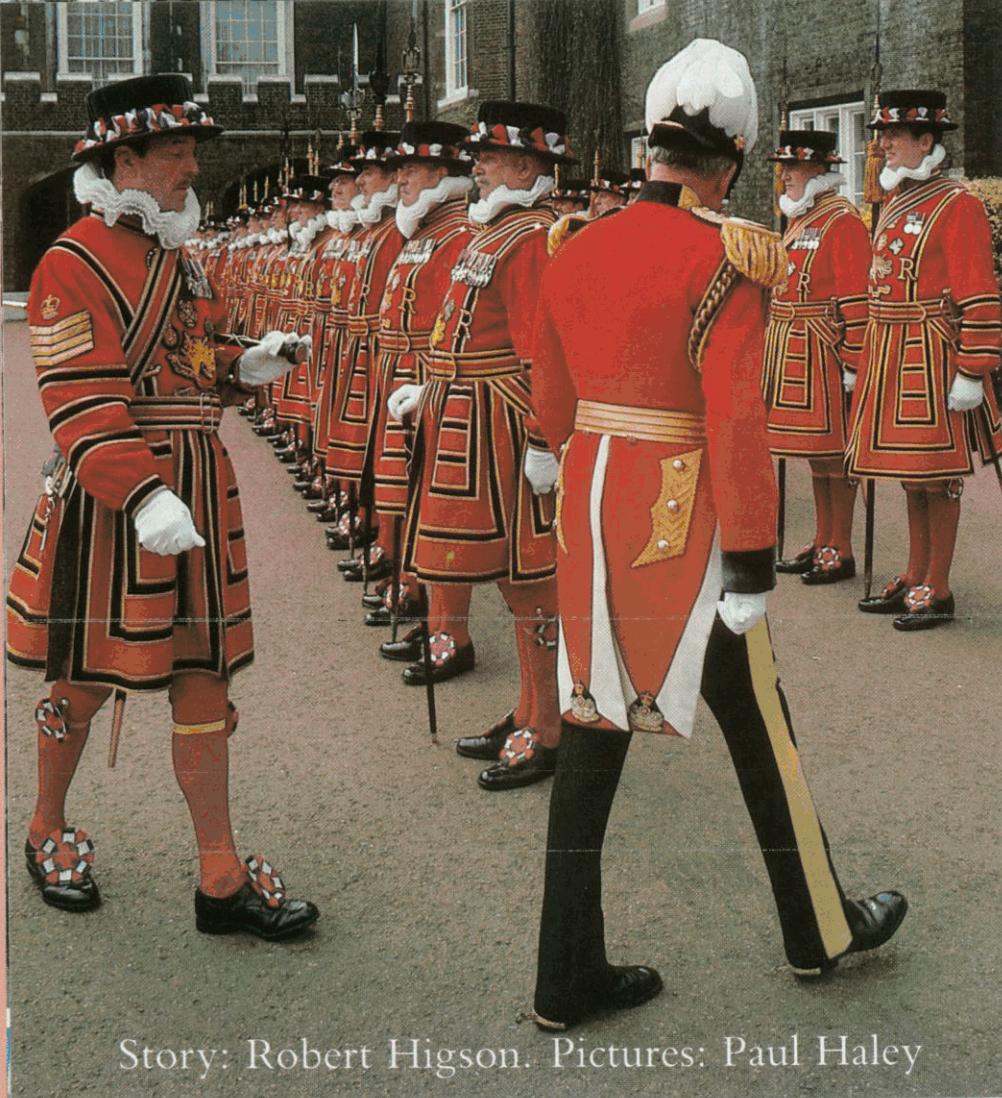


Royal Armoured Corps



The 1985 Nijmegen Marches
as seen through the lens of
Soldier's photographer,
Paul Haley. (See also 12
August).



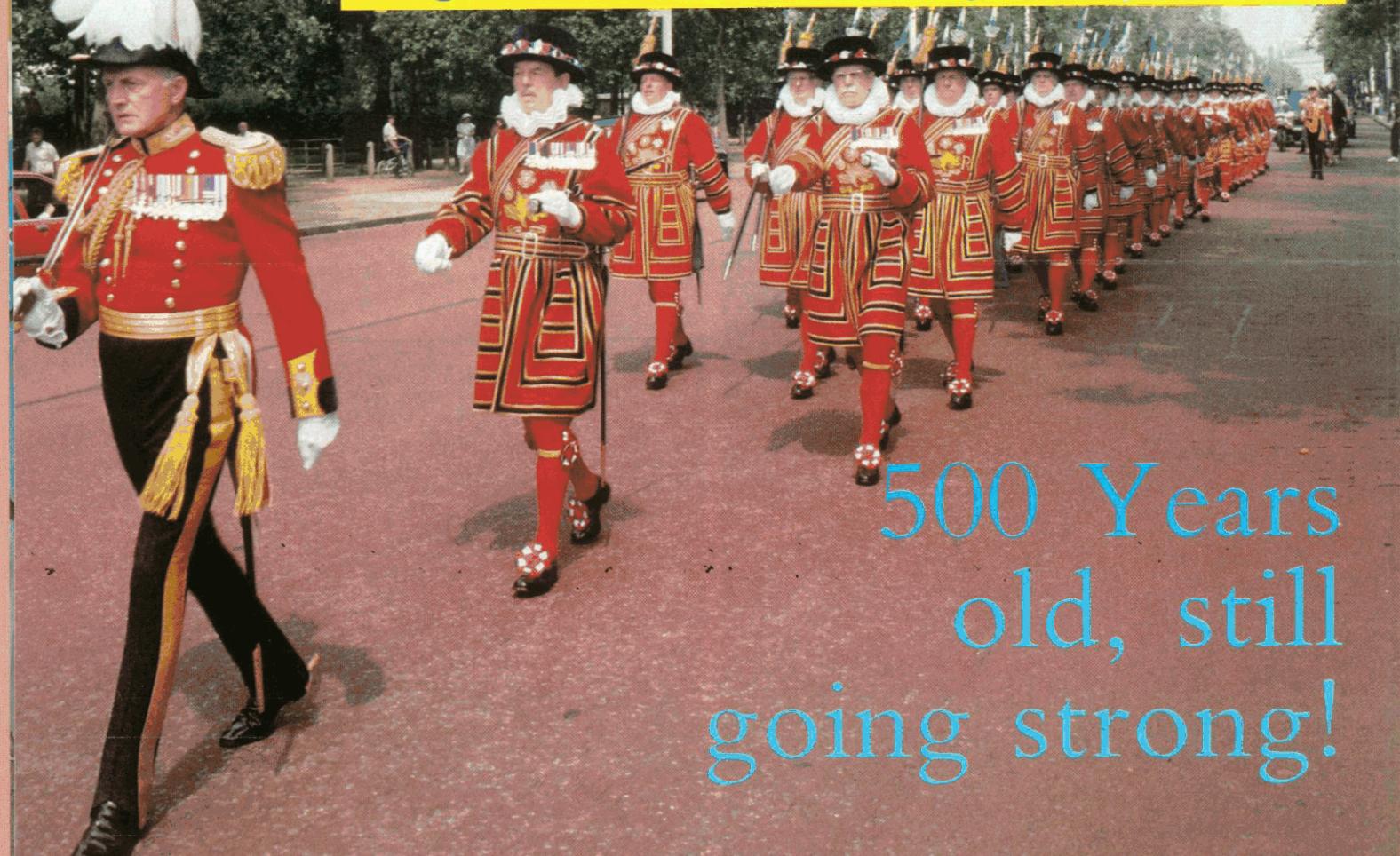


Left: Last minute inspection at St James's Palace.

Below: A splendid sight as the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard march along The Mall.

Story: Robert Higson. Pictures: Paul Haley

Queen's Body Guard



500 Years
old, still
going strong!

THREE hundred years is a respectable age for any institution and 12 modern regiments of the British Army have this year been celebrating, with justifiable pride, the tercentenary of their origins.

But the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard, as the Queen herself remarked, has left them all in the shade. Five hundred years ago it came into being with the accession of King Henry VII at the Battle of Bosworth, and this year it celebrated its quincentenary with a special parade and the dedication of a new Standard.

Normally the Royal Body Guard parades in Buckingham Palace garden every four years to be inspected by The Queen. But as the last inspection was held in 1982 a slight adjustment had to be made to the usual time scale to bring the parade in line with Quincentenary Year.

It was a splendid and unique occasion. The Yeomen marched from their HQ at St James's Palace behind the band of the Scots Guards and then mustered on the Buckingham Palace lawn for the first time with two Standards on parade.

The Old Standard, marched off by the Ensign, Major Bruce Shand, 12th Royal Lancers, had been presented by The Queen's father, George VI, in 1938. It replaced the previous Standard lost in the disastrous fire at St James's in 1809, nearly 130 years before!

No one is quite sure what the long lost Standard looked like, but the new Standard, given by The Queen into the care of Exon, Colonel Greville Tufnell, Grenadier Guards, differs little from its predecessor. The motif of rose, thistle and shamrock dominates the centre (only now it is bordered by the Royal cipher ER) with the badges of the Royal Houses of Tudor, Stuart, Hanover and Windsor in each corner.

And the two battle honours remain the same — Tournai 1514 and Boulogne 1544 — reminders of the times when the Body Guard saw action in Henry VIII's quarrels with the French. Boulogne, incidentally, was the last time the Yeomen fought as part of the Army as well as being the King's body guard.

More recent battle honours are, not surprisingly, rather rare. The Body Guard hasn't been involved in battle since Dettingen in 1743 when George II became the last King to lead his troops in action.

And it has been many years since they were involved in the real business of close protection. These days their ranks are composed entirely of retired warrant officers and senior NCOs of the Armed Forces and their function is entirely ceremonial.

NEW STANDARD



The Queen presents the new Standard to her Body Guard

Picture: PA

"If there are few recent battle honours for the Yeomen of the Guard," the Queen told them at the parade, "your presence nowadays at the Maundy Service, Garter Service and other great State occasions means much to me and adds enormously to the colour and pageantry for which our country is renowned."

For the Yeomen, their Lieutenant, Colonel Sir Hugh Brassey,

Royal Scots Greys, replied with the assurance: "Your Majesty, we are the same sort of men we were 500 years ago. We serve with deep affection for the Crown and for yourself personally."

As was fitting for such an important occasion there was a 100 per cent turn out from the Queen's Body Guard. Sixty-five Yeomen from England, Scotland, Wales and the Channel Islands, paraded under their five officers, while a further 28, exempted from duty by age or infirmity, watched from the side lines.

For men
who add
to colour
and
pageantry

For one of them was a particularly poignant occasion. The Messenger Sergeant Major of the Body Guard, RSM Cyril Phillips, was on his last parade after 51 years in uniform. At the age of 70 he is about to retire back home to Wales.

He joined the Welsh Guards in 1934, saw service in Gibraltar during the war, and afterwards in the Middle East, Germany and for five years in Kenya with the King's African Rifles. Back home there were numerous spells of public duties in London and two sessions at Sandhurst.

In Coronation year, 1953, he started five years as a College RSM, and later crowned his Army career with eight years as Academy Sergeant Major.

For the last 15 years Mr Phillips has been at St James's Palace as Messenger Sergeant Major.

"The job involves the responsibility of keeping all the Yeomen together," he said. "You detail them for duties and when to come in. They do have problems because they are getting up to the ages of 60 and 70, and you have to be able to adapt and find replacements where necessary."

Mr Phillips has also been Superintendent to St James's Palace as well as having responsibility for the discipline and drill of the Yeomen.

It has been one of his tasks to make sure that recruits are proficient at drill with the tasseled halberd known as the Partisan.

"But it is not like the Guards," he said, "because they've all been sergeant majors and warrant officers and the great thing is that it's a great honour to be a member of the Queen's Body Guard and everyone wants to do it."

"They try their utmost to make it. In fact we've got two people on parade today who've had heart by-passes. If you've got the guts and the will to do it, it works."

As if to give point to his words
(Continued page 32)

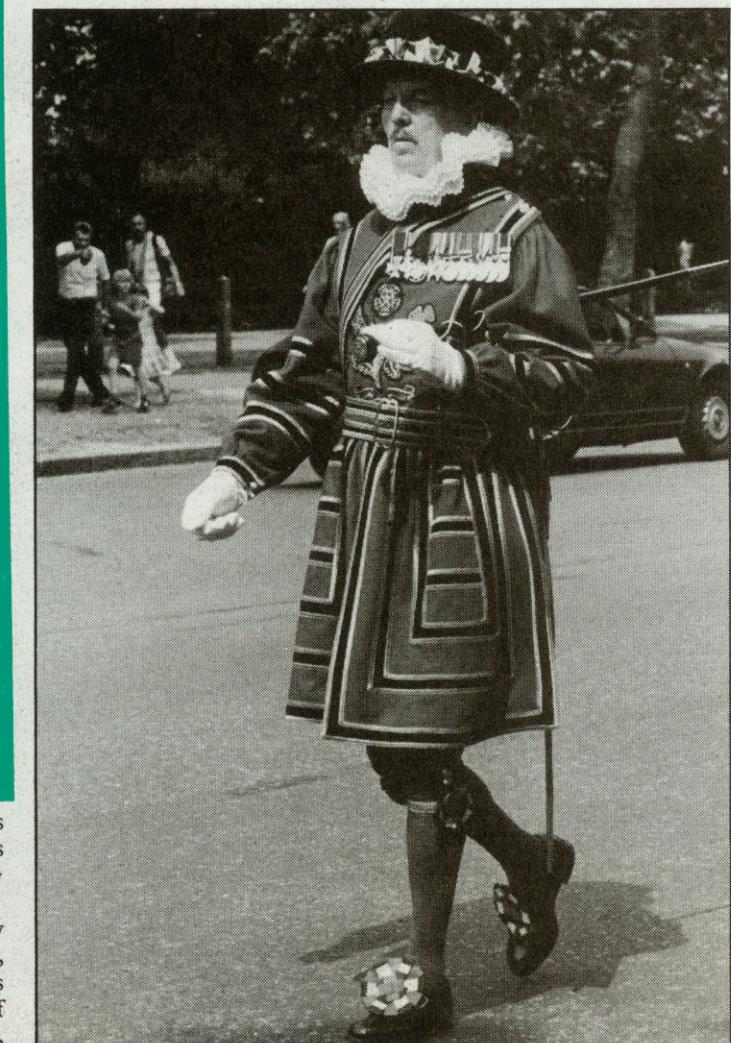
STEADFAST AS EVER DESPITE THE RARE HEAT!

(From page 31)

the Body Guard paraded under a broiling sun (it was 82° in London that afternoon) with no visible sign of wilting. Some members of the audience were obliged to seek relief in the shade of the First Aid tent, but from the march on to the final march past the Yeomen remained as ever steadfast to a man.

● For those interested in statistics the composition of the Queen's Body Guard in its Quincentenary Year is as follows:

Household Cavalry 11, Cavalry of the Line 3, Royal Artillery 2, Royal Engineers 1, Foot Guards 32, Royal Marines 6, Infantry of the Line 2, RAOC 2, REME 2, RAF 4.



Great day for Messenger Sergeant Major Cyril Phillips



The Band of the Scots Guards leads the parade from St James's Palace

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Table 5. Δ (in m^2/mol) for the $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ system at 298.15 K.

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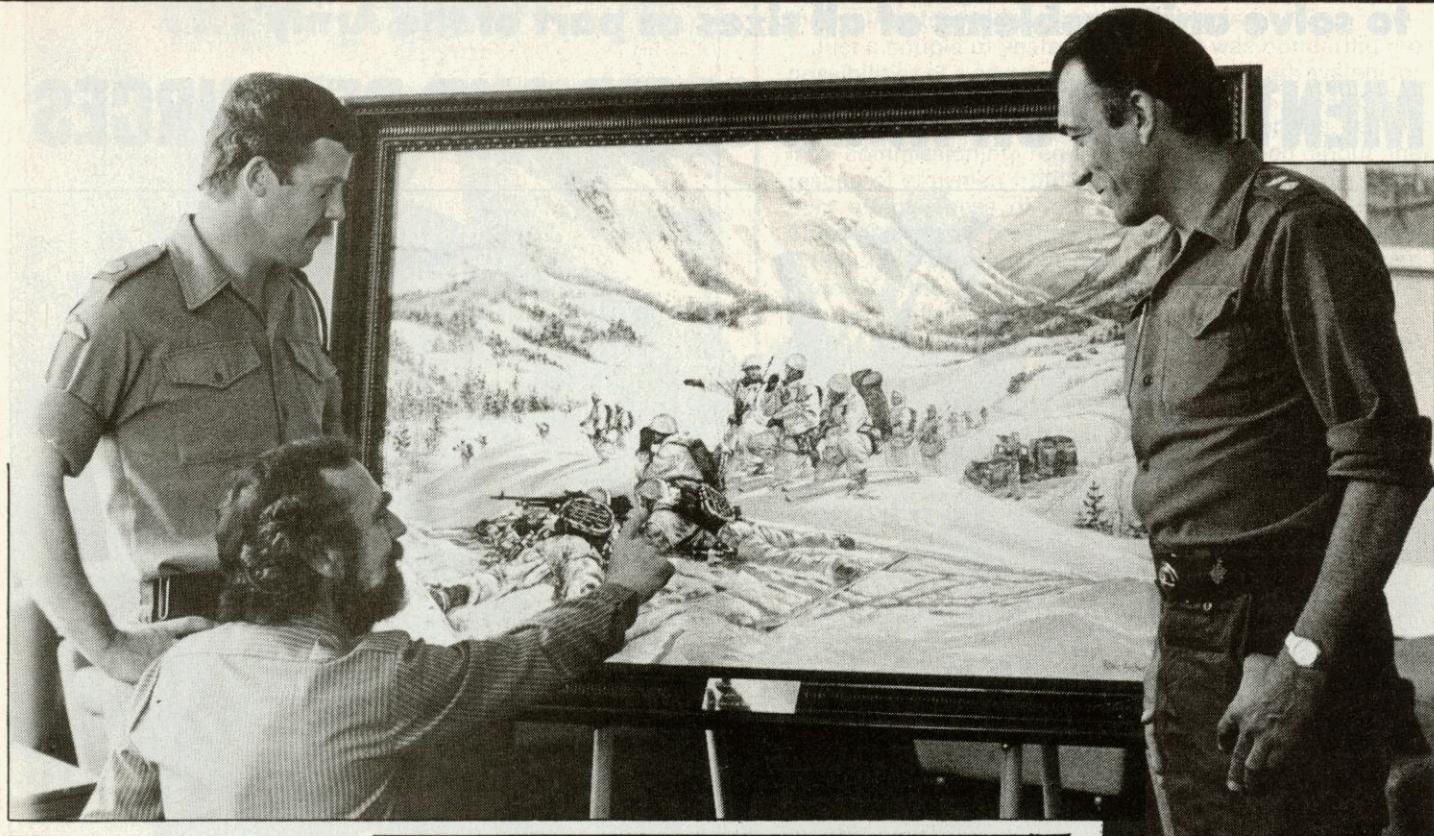
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PERMANENT REMINDERS FOR 1 PARA



IN TWO years time the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, will have relinquished its role as the UK infantry component of the Allied Mobile Force (Land).

But memories of that unique experience will travel with the battalion wherever it may go in the form of a painting by Peter Archer and a silver statuette by Peter Hicks of a para in skiing kit.

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Jackson, the CO of 1 Para, was anxious that there should be some suitably impressive reminder of the time spent training in the Norwegian winter.

"It is a unique role and it seemed to me it would be an appropriate idea to mark it in some way," Colonel Jackson said. "We are a very young regiment of course — formed only in the last war.

"And naturally we don't have some of the superb paintings and silver which regiments of 200 and 300 years of age possess. Therefore I think it is important to take the opportunities one can to mark notable events in regimental life."

Last winter Peter Archer left his studio in Ipswich and joined 1 Para in Norway for 10 days. Like most people who go on Exercise Hardfall for the first time he was quite bowled over by the surroundings.

"Absolutely phenomenal landscape," he said. "I have never seen anything as impressive as that. It was magnificent, really extraordinary."

Mr Archer has painted military scenes from the Crimea to the

Story:
Robert Higson

Pictures:
Les Wiggs

Falklands with 1 Para in Norway bringing him virtually up to date.

Historic scenes can present problems, he said, as there was always the chance of getting things wrong even after careful research.

In Norway there was the terrific advantage of having all the detail right in front of the sketch pad.

The artist and his wife went to Bulford, the home of 1 Para, for an official handing over. It happened to be one of the warmest days of the summer and provided a dramatic contrast to the refrigerated landscape depicted in the painting.

Everyone in the battalion seemed delighted with the result. The CO described it as very dramatic and striking and added: "I think it captures very well the feel and the nature of the arctic, and the portrayal of the tactical situation is very good."

Colonel Jackson appears in the centre of the painting giving last minute instructions to Major Bob Kershaw, the OC of B Company and Mr Archer's host in Norway.

Alongside them is Private Valentine, Major Kershaw's signaller.

B Company's Sergeant Major, Barry Walters, lies at the controls of a GPMG which is mounted on a pulk to give SF support to the point platoon free skiing down to the slope to make contact with the enemy.

Behind the Colonel can be seen

the figure of RSM Paul Copson, while behind him other platoons are being towed in on their skis by Volvo 202s.

A Scimitar of the recce platoon can be seen lurking near a farm building, ready to supply additional support with its 30mm Rarden cannon. A Gazelle of 2 Flight, Army Air Corps, hovers overhead.

The scene looks down Langedalen Valley — a familiar training area near Voss. The time is dawn and the peaks in the background are crowned with red halos.

"When the sun comes up behind the hills it starts burning off mist and that gives the clouds a very reddish hue," explained Major Kershaw. "For the first half hour at dawn you get this fantastic sunrise and it brings out all these shadows on the snow. They really are this refrigerated blue tone."

"This sort of skyline is something that everyone who's been out there remembers."

The painting will adorn the walls of the officers' mess, joining a couple of David Shepherds; one of 1 Para at the Aden Crater, the other of the first parachute school, at Ringway, Manchester.

Together with the silver statuette, which was modelled on the likeness of Corporal Matthew Courtneill of A Company, Peter Archer's painting will now serve as a lasting memorial to the battalion's time in one of the most coveted roles in the Army.

Artist Peter Archer explains some of his painting technique to two subjects who appear "in the frame" — Major Bob Kershaw, left, and Lieutenant Colonel Mike Jackson, Commanding Officer of 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment.

Below: the statuette by Peter Hicks. The model who knows his image will be around for a long, long time is Corporal Matthew Courtneill, of A Company.



SOLDIER visits a quiet corner of Surrey to learn about a nucleus of problem solvers who go anywhere as mobile "think tank" teams to solve unit problems of all sizes as part of the Army's...

MENTORS FOR MANPOWER AND RESOURCES



THERE'S NOT another organisation quite like it anywhere in the world. Certainly, the Army Management Services (A Man S) organisation, tucked off a leafy road near West Byfleet, Surrey, is the oldest work study based management services unit on earth. And that, thanks to a brainwave by Winston Churchill during Britain's darkest hours.

If commerce could set up agencies to look at efficiency coupled with cost effectiveness so, too, could the Army, deemed the nation's leader. In its wartime role, the unit used original techniques to develop among other things reliable, speedy and dependable drills for commando type raids into enemy territory.

Four decades later the charter of A Man S is quite clear. It aims to help any unit to be more efficient by making the most of existing manpower and equipment resources.

Head of the organisation, Mr Sid Bolton, a wartime soldier late of the Somerset Light Infantry points out: "We are naturally concerned with efficiency and associated economy measures but we are not set up here just to save money. Our first priority is operational effectiveness. And our concern is right up to Task Force level including major mobilisation. In this sense, we are unique among the organisations which aim to

improve efficiency and achieve peacetime economies."

Illustrating this theme, it was West Byfleet troubleshooters who formulated the concept of DROPS (Demountable Rack Off-loading and Pick-up System) vehicles for the BAOR theatre. And recently they have been involved in developing arrangements for a logistic support battalion from within the resources of 5 Airborne Brigade (see panel).

A Man S comprises a mix of 21 military and 17 civilian personnel backed by a small clerical support cell. The military make up currently comprises two lieutenants colonels, eight majors and eleven warrant officers. One of the lieutenant colonels heads the eight man team based in BAOR.

Each of the A Man S practitioners initially undergoes an intensive 11-week course at Shrivenham specialising in management techniques, including method study, work measurement, statistics, organisation of management, and quantitative methods.

This enables successful candidates to qualify for affiliated membership of the professional Institute of Management Services. Many of the senior staff have years of experience in the fields of operational, logistic and administrative problems.

Mr Bolton, amplifying the role of his unit explained: "No problems are necessarily either too big

or too small to be considered, although the initial survey may prove them to be unsuitable for management service techniques."

Recently, for example, his teams have looked at problems ranging from the organisation of clerical support in a TA regiment to the loading of military bridging equipment.

The DROPS vehicle shows its in-field versatility handling of flat-racks

ment on the current range of B vehicles.

He added: "We do not pretend to have all the answers for today's complex problems, but we do have certain advantages when tackling

MOBILISATION PROCEDURES SCHEME

A Man S have a small cell of experts in the field of ergonomics — matching men and machines — who have been associated with future weapon systems. Tasks have involved designing interior layouts for A vehicles such as main battle tanks, SP 70 and MCV 80 and improving drills in ammunition handling, gun laying and bridge building.

Years ago, it was A Man S who developed a world-beating technique to help designers predict tank and gun crews' performance while new equipment was still on the drawing board. The results proved incredibly accurate.

The unit has also enjoyed considerable success in improving mobilisation procedures.

Mr Les Thomas, one of the A Man S civilians with a background in industry, explained: "Until the introduction of our proposals for the new Individual Reinforcement Plan in 1981 it was generally accepted that it took longer than desirable to mobilise men of the Regular Reserve. Our research at that time more than confirmed this."

"We undertook a review of the whole system and new concepts were established which formed the basis for the current plan. The revised procedures that were recommended substantially reduced the time taken to mobilise the Reserve, as Exercise Lionheart last year demonstrated. And the Army now maintains regular contact with the reservist when he checks in at the annual reporting centre.

"Incidentally, the changes also brought about an increase in the payment made to reservists."



WO 1 Brian Sanders, RA, operating the remote control box for manœuvring rail transfer equipment

them."

"Firstly, the teams are able to carry out their investigations objectively and without being deviated by other demands on their time. Secondly they are trained and experienced to carry out critical examinations."

"Our reports are the property of the sponsors of the projects and whether our recommendations are implemented remains their prerogative."

The Surrey-based unit has carried out hundreds of studies all over the world.

Twenty five years ago, they were analysing the control and use of transport in Western Cyprus and appraising the dispensary of BMH

Singapore. In 1976 they designed the interior layout of a new HQ building for the Sultanate of Oman's armed forces.

Teams have undertaken studies in Canada and for NATO at SHAPE Headquarters. Until recently, when MOD cuts forced the unit to rationalise its own resources, A Man S had a small team carrying out studies in Hong Kong.

Mr Bolton said: "Our brief is to help the Army anywhere it operates, not just in the UK and BAOR."

At present, there is a team in Northern Ireland and another has just completed a project in Gibraltar.

WO 1 'Mac' McGowan, Royal Anglian, monitoring trench digging operations



PROBLEMS? NO PROBLEM!

A Man S investigators are frequently called upon to bend their minds to a wide variety of problems.

Just a couple of years ago the unit was pondering the possibilities of a computer based area network system for the Royal School of Mechanical Engineering, pensive over soldiers' and officers' annual confidential reports, delving into commissioning regulations, concerned about the rescue of crewmen from stricken AFVs, considering the cost effectiveness of and improvements to the Royal Tournament and prestigious Army displays such as the Edinburgh Tattoo and the Aldershot Military Display. Even reviewing the venerable format and production of the familiar but bulky Army List.

Other examples of projects currently in the pipeline at West Byfleet include a study of the School of Infantry's requirement for ranges and training areas and another looking into the setting up of a 4-star HQ at HQ UKLF, Wilton.

Mr Barry Custance, a civilian team manager with A Man S and with 20 years' tri-Service experience, said: "The range of studies is very wide, and they don't all derive from the MOD. A large proportion come direct from units. Sometimes a unit's problems may appear small in isolation, but quite often, the solutions have ramifications over a wide area."

"With the advent of MOD schemes to delegate responsibility for managing budgets to lower formations, there will be increasing pressure on HQs and individual commanding officers to make their limited resources stretch further. We are here to help them to do so."

SOME OF the thorniest problems that the A Man S teams have had to face have been in the logistics field.

Mr Stan Wallis, formerly Major Wallis, a squadron commander with the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers 25 years ago, vividly remembers a project in 1975 looking at resupply to the British Army Training Unit, Suffield (BATU).

He recalled: "Training in Canada had increased to the point where the logistic support system was under severe strain."

A team from A Man S with co-opted member from the Management Accounting and Costing Service (Army) was tasked to ease the problem. To replace the bulk winter re-supply and the expensive emergency air supply during the training season, the team recommended the use of a regular container service from the UK and a re-supply loop system for engine replacement and major assemblies from BAOR.

"Trials proved the feasibility of the recommendations and they were implemented," said Mr Wallis. "Savings of some £700,000 a year were made. The lesson we learned from this study was that Chieftain gear boxes and ball-point pens can both freeze at minus 30 degrees."

More recently, he led a study to look at the distribution of medical supplies in the UK.

"It may not sound the most exciting subject for investigation and indeed, selecting and analysing

a cross section of 22,000 vouchers was a sobering experience for the team, which also included RN and RAF representatives.

"The main recommendation, that the best solution to the problem lay in contracting out the supply of pharmaceutical items, may not sound very imaginative in 1985, but when we made it in 1980, the idea was revolutionary. Only recently has a trial been authorised to validate the concept so savings cannot yet be claimed. However", he quipped, "it pays to be patient."

But it is in the area of outloading and movement of ammunition for the front line in BAOR that A Man S concepts will be having the greatest impact in the future. A series of studies resulting from their research in the late seventies and early eighties has led to the development of a new system of logistic support based on DROPS vehicles.

Mr Sid Bolton the A Man S departmental head summed up: "We believe we can help commanders and managers to resolve problems in virtually every area of Army activity where the problem is one of command and control, management and the use and control of resources."

"We do not undertake to solve problems of a specialist or technical nature but our skills and techniques can be of use for problems ranging from those of a unit or sub-unit commander to those of Army-wide importance. And they can relate to problems of peace, war and planning for war."

CASEVAC: A BAOR team concern

BAOR is Britain's front-line defence. And the A Man S has an eight-man team based at JHQ Rheindahlen headed by Lieutenant Colonel John Lee, Royal Corps of Transport.

Just like their UK counterparts, the team's brief is carry out work study projects in direct support of not just HQ BAOR but also HQ 1 (BR) Corps and HQ Berlin (British Sector).

Completing the Service line-up are Majors John Burgess, RCT and Bill Griffiths, Royal Signals; Warrant Officer 1 Brian Blandford, Royal Engineers and Warrant Officer 2 Bob Kelly, Royal Tank Regiment; and Fleet Chief Petty Officer John White RN, on an exchange posting.

A Man S set up its store in BAOR way back in 1959 helping commanders and staff formations in the pursuit of more efficient use of men, money, material, space and time.

Problems that the BAOR team advise on include bottlenecks, failure to achieve targets, excessive paperwork, uneconomical use of labour or equipment and a need for frequent handling and repeated checking of stores.

During the past three years, one of the team's projects was the system and procedures used for the medical care of battlefield casualties and their evacuation.

Former OC of the BAOR team, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Crimp, RA, now Army Liaison Officer at West Byfleet, explained: "No one had really looked at casualty evacuation in BAOR since the end of World War 2. We are still in the era of trains but now we are looking at overcoming problems by flying casualties out. Our

research into this area has been helped by advice we have received from the Americans with their Vietnam experiences."

Other recent projects by the BAOR team have included a review of the bulk refuelling system in war from depots right through to requirements on the battlefield, transition to war measures at 154 Forward Ammunition Depot, the allocation of accommodation in the 'Big House' at Rheindahlen, manning of peacetime comms centres, the design of a new garrison ammunition compound for Osnabrück units, improvement of HQ BAOR clerical services, the administration of married quarters and even a new layout for a NAAFI car park.

BAOR, it seems, is a good jumping off point for warrant officers on commissioning. All three in the team took that route last year. As Barry Custance, a former civilian member of the BAOR team remarked: "The problem is finding replacements, because the warrant officers who serve with us, both in BAOR and UK, are such good news, many of them leave us to be commissioned."

A Scorpion dismantled. Discussion point



looking at the systems and methods of operation employed at storage locations in BAOR. But the implications go further.

Team leader, Mr Bob Andrews, a former Royal Marine, explained: "DROPS is, potentially, far more versatile than was first appreciated. Consequently we are undertaking a series of studies designed to explore more fully the exciting opportunities which the system presents and these will include studies of the operational requirements of the RAMC, RAOC and REME in BAOR."

Another of the A Man S projects resulted from experiences during Operation Corporate — the Falklands conflict. The unit was tasked to undertake a major study to improve the effectiveness of 5 Airborne Brigade's logistic support.

A team of four Management Services practitioners, including Major David Setchell, Royal Engineers, started this study last November. One of their main recommendations is the formation of a Logistic Support Battalion from resources within the Brigade itself.

Major Setchell said: "Old hands will no doubt recall the days of 16 Parachute Brigade and its Parachute Logistic Regiment. The new battalion has been developed from an examination of current operational concepts and rather than being a completely new unit is, in fact, a drawing together of the logistic units of the brigade under one command."

The battalion, formed by the end of the year, will provide a light, flexible logistic response in support of the Army's quick reaction Brigade. All elements will be capable of deployment by air while some others will be required to parachute in support of the two Parachute Regiment battalions which, with a Gurkha battalion, make up the infantry element of the Brigade.

Major Setchell summed up: "This has been an immensely satisfying study with the resulting recommendations having far-reaching effects on the structure and operating concept of the logistic elements of the Brigade."

He added: "We shall follow the future developments with interest."

GROUND AMMO MOVES AND AIRBORNE ROLES EXAMINED

ONE OF the major projects tackled by the Army Management Services organisation has been in the field of future logistic support for units in BAOR.

Their research, based on revised assessments of front line ammunition requirements, proved conclusively that a totally new concept was needed if a huge increase in the Army's fleet of cargo carriers in the future was to be avoided.

Their brainchild, the forward transportation of munitions by a method known as DROPS (De-

mountable Rack Off-loading and Pick-up System) will lead to major changes in the Army's logistic support system in BAOR over the next 10 years.

Trials on the DROPS vehicles took place in Germany last winter and they are expected to enter service in 1988.

The development of a new logistic support system, based on the DROPS concept, has involved A Man S in computer based studies to analyse ammunition stockpiles, expenditure rates and replenishment requirements, as well as

Dream kit for the master chefs



MASTER chefs at units throughout the Army could have their jobs literally at their fingertips if a specially developed micro computer system gets the go ahead.

The system known as CATPAC (for catering, planning accounting and control) has been on trial for over a year.

According to Major Peter Jones, ACC, the project manager: "CATPAC contains all the information a master chef needs about the ingredients and stores that he holds and about the recipes he uses. From this he can plan menus, functions and exercises with the advantage that the system provides him with constant up-to-date financial information.

"He knows exactly how much it costs him to produce anything from a specific recipe to a function. The

information is available at his fingertips."

Major Jones believed that CATPAC would mean a more professional control of income and expenditure, especially now that catering managers have to base their calculations on a daily messing rate.

"Previously," he said, "the same information was available but it was all over the place — in boxes, in files and price lists. Now it is all in one place and more immediately accessible."

The CATPAC project team was formed back in September 1983 with the idea of devising a computer system to improve the management of unit catering. Since then two different systems had been trialled in six different units in the North of England, mainly around the Catterick area.

"The reaction has been very

**Story:
Robert Higson**

**Picture:
Paul Haley**

Major Peter Jones at the console

through the Computer Projects Approval Committee, has already given its blessing.

"If we get that procurement authority by next May we would expect to see these computer systems being introduced throughout the Army, starting in North East District and continuing over the next three years on a phased implementation basis," Major Jones said.

He was discussing the project at Gaza Barracks, Catterick, the home of five minor units which share the same catering facilities but which have their own separate duties, functions and exercises.

With this sort of complex catering problem the ability of CATPAC to call up information quickly and accurately has proved an invaluable asset.



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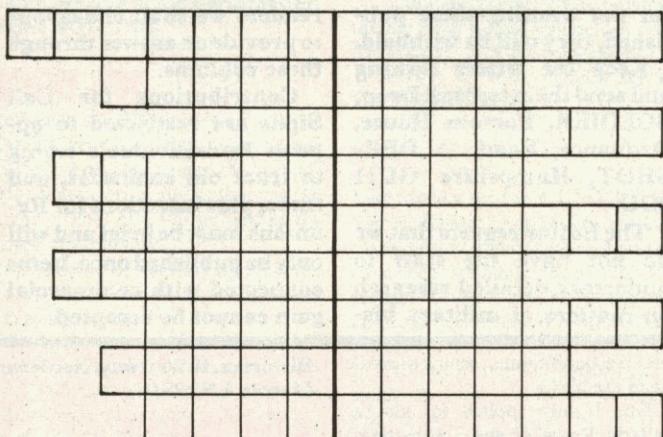
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Decreasing

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Smoothing rough edges

Four wheeled vehicle (3)
Fraction of a mile (7)
Oar's fulcrum (7)
Rubbish (5)
Regular oval (7)
Part of a plant (4)
Stripey stinger (4)
Greek island (5)
Top of room (7)

CLUES

Alley of green? (7)
Fine material (4)
Sailing vessel (6)
Muslim leader (6)
Working for (7)
Verbose (5)
Fruit pastry (4)
Ice cream cornets (5)
Bee-like? (4)

Answers to the clues under the grid must be entered in the grid in such a way that the middle letters of each pair of words gives you the name of a weapon. For example: Ancient Greek (7) = SPARTAN, Royal Person (4) = KING, SPAR/TANK/ING = TANK.

The heavy line on the grid indicates the meeting point of the two words.

To help you with the job of sorting, the clues beside the grid give the meaning of the superfluous letters hiding the weapon (in the example above SPARING). Can you list the nine weapons?

The rules of the competition remain the same. It is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 11 October. The name of the winner of the £50 prize will be announced in our 4 November issue.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 370' label.

In the case of a tie, the winner will be drawn by lots. No correspondence can be entered into.

Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 370' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

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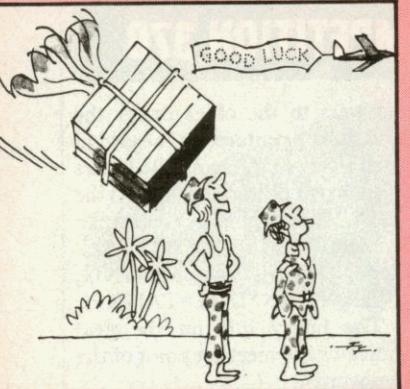
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ENGINEERS

With the many changes taking place in the technological qualifications being required by engineers seeking civilian employment, it will become necessary for all members of the engineering branches of the Armed Forces to consider applying for registration with the Engineering Council (EC) via one of EC's member Institutions in one of the following grades: chartered engineer (CEng), technician engineer (TEng) or engineering technician (Eng Tech).

The Institution of Plant Engineers is one such body empowered to register its members with EC in all three grades. Providing an engineer has the necessary qualifications, an application to join the institution can lead to FIPPlantE and CEng registration, or MIPPlantE and TEng registration or AMIPPlantE and Eng Tech registration.

Many engineers and technicians of the armed services are already members and registered engineers, and the Institution is willing to assist those

SOLDIER is delighted to receive readers' letters. These are YOUR pages — and more of you seem to be writing these days.

However, we would appreciate it if your letters are kept as brief as possible and if you have access to a typewriter, so much the better. Use one side of the paper, with double spacing between lines please.

If your letter is hand written, be as neat as you can.

Readers must also give their full names and addresses — if there is good reason for not wanting these published, they will be withheld.

Keep the letters flowing and send them to: Mail Drop, **SOLDIER**, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, ALDERSHOT, Hampshire GU11 2DU.

The Editor regrets that we do not have the staff to undertake detailed research on matters of military his-

tory, militaria etc but if a query on current topics is likely to be of interest to most readers we shall endeavour to provide an answer through these columns.

Contributions for Call Signs are restricted to appeals by individuals trying to trace old comrades, and these, plus insertions for Reunions must be brief and will only be published once. Items connected with commercial gain cannot be accepted.

Historian, 10 Westway, Nettleham, Lincoln LN2 2SD.

RARE BADGE

I am in possession of a cap badge and a pair of collar dogs of the Somaliland Scouts and would be interested in any stories with reference to the Scouts. The badge consists of crossed spears with a letter 'S' superimposed on them and the king's crown on top of the letter 'S'. — M L Nottage, 4a Larwood Way, Shipham, Thetford, Norfolk, IP25 7LN.

USED STAMPS

Used postage stamps are collected for charity by an old soldier who would be grateful for all the help you can give this worthy cause. Stamps of all origins are collected and duplicates are wel-

service at double time, seemed to entitle me to the TEM.

This I duly applied for via the Orderly Room of the TA battalion which I joined in 1948. After all, apart from conscription, in 1940 the only way a young man could be enlisted into the Army was on a Territorial engagement. I, too, have the AF E513 A which Mr Dellar enlisted under.

The answer came back that double time for embodied service only counted if the Territorial had been embodied by or on 3 September 1939; full stop, no argument, which struck me as unfair.

All of us who volunteered before our conscription date were in because we wanted to be in, which, in my (biased) view, makes up for the fact that we had not been old enough to join the TA before September 1939.

— A J Sudlow TD, Military

come.

A little of the envelope left attached around a stamp protects the edges. Please send your used stamps to either Mr George D Robinson, 148 Mansfield Estate, TAIN, ROSS SHIRE, Scotland or to me — **Capt R B MacKenzie, 64 CRE (Works), Drayton Camp, Barton Stacey, Winchester, Hants SO21 3NH.**

GOOD JOB

Reference **SOLDIER** 3 June and 'Your Cap Badge'. The writer states that in 1925 the Army recognised the need for reform in catering and in that year an Army School of Catering was established in Aldershot.

Why could he not have said that the Royal Army Service Corps established a catering school?

I was first commissioned in 1929 in the Staffordshire Regt where our cooks were regimental and did a good job, supervised by a Sergeant Cook trained by the RASC School.

In 1936 I transferred to the RASC and saw the School at first hand. They were doing a very good job, inventing many pieces of equipment which were in general use throughout the Army.

It was obvious even then that a Catering Establishment had to be established.

You then go on to say that eventually the RAMC and the Guards finally accepted the Army Catering Corps. The latter does not surprise me.

Having been finally accepted by all, why has the Corps not been given the final honour of being made 'Royal'? If it can be given to the Pioneer Corps surely the Catering Corps, which has members in every unit in the Army, should be right to be blessed?

Perhaps YOU can do something to bring this about — **Lt Col F P Fullerton (Retd), 8-10 Main St, Bishop Wilton, Pocklington, East Yorkshire.**

LETTERS ALLOWED

F H Blackburn (**SOLDIER** 29 July) complains about not being permitted to put letters after, I assume, his name.

I would suggest that he looks around the Senior Salary Staff of the Post Office. He will see a few TDs and ERDs after various names.

But then who is to stop me putting DM, WM (Defence Medal, War Medal) after my name?

Some years ago, in reply to a series of letters from a debt collecting agency, wrongly claiming money, and signed by a Hon XXX, with various letters after his name, I wrote back a threatening letter and suffixed my name with FRCS. I never heard any more.

I am not a medical man but I am a Former Royal Corps of Signals.

Put what you like after your name Mr Blackburn. I know of no law which forbids it, providing they are true. — **A J Murphy LWS, (Letter Writer to **SOLDIER**), 18 Hollingbury Place, Brighton BN1 7GE.**

FIRST IN BG

Reference (**SOLDIER** 15 July), in reply to reader Mr A Ward. I would like to point out that my Battalion, 1 RWF, went to British Guiana in 1953 by Royal Navy cruiser HMS Superb from Jamaica.

When we arrived at BG there were no barracks, so each company had to

use what we could find. My Company (HQ) took over a place called the Carib Hotel.

1 A & SH arrived in BG on the SS Sunjar from Trinidad; we returned to Trinidad on the same ship and transferred to HMS Implacable which took us back to Jamaica.

1 RWF and the BG Police put down the left wing coup d'état before 1 A & SH arrived. — **R E Frances (ex Cpl 1 RWF), 6 Glen View, Heath, Cardiff CF4 5QL.**

RANJIT?

Like Mr Seatter, (**SOLDIER** 29 July) 'On the Record' is missed by me and I suspect many overseas subscribers who have been thrilled by the bands of our Guards Division, or Royal Marines and Light Division on Horse Guards Parade.

A listing of military bands records could not take the place of Ranjit Bannerjee.

He is a loyal and enthusiastic punka wallah, whose sometimes caustic, sometimes amusing but always informative ramblings on the discs reviewed are 'the jewel in the crown' of your very good magazine.

Rodney Basford (alias Ranjit Bannerjee) has given me much pleasure for many years and I still often browse through is 'On the Record' notes which I have from 1974. — **A V Andrews, 37 Picquets Way, Banstead, Surrey SM7 1AB.**

MEDAL ANOMALY

Reference the letter US Medals (**SOLDIER** 15 July), John McCamley states that US Forces are generous when it comes to awards.

This appears to be evident when one sees US Servicemen bedecked with enough medal ribbons to match almost the late Field Marshal Montgomery.

On the other side of the coin the British soldier can make do with the GSM just adding a bar where appropriate — this saves expense minting a new campaign medal.

On top of this, medals awarded by foreign powers to British troops are not allowed to be worn eg the multinational force in Egypt to quote one of many instances.

Why are British Servicemen denied wearing the medals that they have earned alongside other armies? — **P J Toms, (full name and address supplied).**

CLOTHING COST

Re Colour Sergeant Hetherington's hautbois research (**SOLDIER** 29 July), War Office records show a bill of clothing dated 9 November 1717:

'For suits &c for six hautbois of the Coldstream Regiment of His Majesty's Guards £30 6s 8d = Total £182 0s 0d. Apart from the cost of making each suit (£2 3s 0d) the &c's included gold lace and gold buttons for the coat and waistcoat, two shirts, two neckcloths, hose, a pair of shoes, a pair of gloves, a hat with gold lace, a cockade, garters and a sword and belt.'

The like particulars were annexed to the warrants for the clothing of the drums and hautbois of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Regiments of Foot Guards for clothing for two years from March 1722/3 to March 1724/5. — **R J C Darley, 39 College Court, Hayle Road, Maidstone ME15 6PB.**

CALL SIGNS

Mr Edmond Kaye, 5843765, 31 Sakeleys Road, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middx, a member of the 78 Division Royal West Kents who went through Italy with them between 1943 and 1945, would be interested to hear from any old comrades who may remember him.

Walter A Gillian JP, 57 Edgar St, Macquarie Fields, New South Wales 2564, Australia, served in 2nd Air Formation Signals (formerly Air Contingent Signals), 3 Corps, HQ Signals and 22nd Field Regiment RA Signals in France, Middle East, Italy and Greece in World War 2. He would welcome letters from anyone who remembers him, in particular 'Pee Wee' Illingworth, Bill Spencer and 'Taffy' Watts.

Ex-members of the YMCA Staff at Heldebrand Barracks, Penny Pot Lane, Harrogate, W Yorks, from 1940-44 send their best wishes to any Army personnel and helpers who were at the above camp in those years and would be thrilled to hear from anyone who came to the 'YM' in the old days. Address letters to: Ex-members of the YMCA Staff, YMCA, Lord Street, Huddersfield, W Yorks, adding 'To await collection' on the envelope.

MY father, the late Alfred Richard George Jenvey (known as 'Dick'), was called up '38-39 and was killed on active service on the retreat to Dunkirk around 18 May-23 June 1940 and is buried in Cassells, France, war cemetery.

He was in the Royal Army Service Corps, Driver T/17498, aged 38 years when killed. His death left a tragic gap in my life and I treasure my few old photos.

Please, please, have any of your readers any information, any old snaps etc in their souvenirs of that period, which might perhaps include my dad?

Any old regimental photos perhaps I could get copied and return safely — I promise. Any memories of my dear dad they could share with me?

The Ceylon Artillery Assn is looking for the following: A Quilian Green (Peshawar 1935), Bdr Albert Keorner (16 Fld Regt), F L Castle 842405 (Fepow, Hong Kong), and RSM Ron Schmidlin (67 Med Regt NWE). Contact Hon Secretary, D A Knight, 7 Rutland House, Prospect Vale, Woolwich SE18 5HZ.

M Duffett, of 3 Byng Court, Colchester, Essex CO2 8QR wants information on a Leonard Farrell (known as Mick). He was in both world wars, 40 years of age in World War 2 and possibly in the Pioneers.

My dad's home was in Bournemouth, Dorset. — **Mrs Dorothea Mason**, 9a Bramley Road, Kinson, Bournemouth, Dorset BH10 5LU.

Competition

SOLDIER's competition No 365 proved to be a little tricky and no-one submitted a complete list of correct answers.

Two readers had only two answers wrong, and the first out of the hat was that from Mrs D Clifton of Ravenswood Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Congratulations Mrs Clifton, on winning the £50 prize.

How Observant Are You?

1 Lower left leaf on tree. 2 Man's ear. 3 Bird's wing. 4 Handle of top right cupboard. 5 Right half of broken dish. 6 Lower blade of scissors. 7 Pattern on jug. 8 Bottom right corner of mat. 9 Neckline of girl on mug. 10 Shape of bowl below taps.

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HQ SARGEANT Major DOG was'nt a stout fellow, but not even a gaunt one. He was tall enough to wear, as well as possible, his battle dress, a short muffling jacket and too long trousers closely slipped into white leggins, which made him standing unbecomingly clumsy.

HQ Sargeant Major DOG got in our house, in town, accompanied by two soldiers, and, though polite and kind, he firmly stated to be there to requisition some rooms for lodging of soldiers. Mother tried to beat about the bush, so that the man may not note there was plenty of room for some more people to sleep. Mother needed not count how many soldiers could find place in such hospitable house, for she already knew that number.

Not long before, in fact, and for several days of rest, the house had been able to give a nice hospitality to the whole Platoon under command of my elder brother Alberto Mario who served in a sector of the Green Line with the Nembo Paratroops Division.

HQ Sargeant Major DOG (or DOGG, maybe!), though very politely, invited Mother to let him visit the whole building.

While he was going through from one room to the next one, he accurately took note in his notebook of the number of officers whom he could displace there, and from time to time he went on reassuring Mother, as kindly as possible, that the requisition would last few dozens of days, not longer, anyway!

When Mother had been able to displace there too, two or three men of my brother Alberto Mario's Platoon.

It was at this moment that Sargeant Major DOG kept a glance at a small, concealed door, painted just with the colour of the wall. It was locked. He asked where

Where is Sargeant Dog?

to the door opened and Mother, nonchalantly answered: "Oh! It's only a small room. But she was to open it. It wasn't a small room at all: it had been the large bedroom in which Father died; which, later, had been transformed in a library, and that — floor to ceiling — had shelves filled with books, large Morocco-binded books, small cuir-de-Russie books, and parchment-paper binded books.

Sargeant Major DOG went in; he stood in astonishment, then turned round. He got near one of the shelves and read, scanning: "Plutarch... Homer... Virgilius..."

I said quietly: "Those books aren't translations. The editions are in their original languages." Then I went on: "And even with no notes..."

"Who reads this ancient Greek,

Dean Tosi, the old parish priest at Pieve's with whom Father often spoke, fluently, either in ancient Greek and in classic Latin.

"Father knew also the rules of epigraphic Latin" I added after a while, earnestly.

Mr. DOG asked then permission to take in his hands one or two of those books. He turned over the pages, glancing through them. The two soldiers stood silently aside.

Suddenly he stated: "This is not a house to requisition" and he tore his note-sheets to pieces. They went as politely as they had come in.

All the family thought to have to forget that clumsy Sargeant Major whose name was still unknown to all of us.

On the contrary, two or three days later Sargeant DOG came back, late in the afternoon. He was

parishioners, lest Parson DOG understand that his request had been accepted since long before he dared to express it.

We did it smiling and laughing, a long, heartily laughing. Just a choir of laughs.

Since that evening on Sargeant DOG went in and out the library till we thought it would be nice to have him guest as long as the war was to last.

Suddenly ands with no fore-warning, Sargeant DOG's visits came to an end. It happened, I dare say, in October or the beginning of November.

"What may have happened?" we asked each other while speaking about him. Three or four months later, one afternoon, late, the door-bell rang. "Who is it, please?" "It's me, Sargeant DOG" Under his arm he had three of Father's books.

The order of departure, he told us, had surprised him in the night while reading Latin; he had been much concerned how he might have sent back us these books; he could but put them inside his accoutrement. All the time long!

Thus Father's books of Latin and Greek had been travelling through Greece where reparts of H.M. Army had been sent to support and clear from rebel bands, during the civil war burst out in that country. He had taken them with care and when gone back to Italy he brought them back to us.

I don't know where from in the Green Line he was coming; I remember only he just rang the bell, handled the books to me, sorry to have no chance to stay, even for a small meal. He had to be immediately back to his HQ.

Then my sister Ornella said in a sorrowful voice: "Sargeant DOG, we all beg you to go to the library and put yourself those books in their lodging in the shelves. Stop there a while, please, and take the three books you love more."

Then she added in a whisper: "We don't mind at all if you'll take those Morocco-binded books or the cuir-de-Russie binded ones. We only wish you to take them with you to England as a souvenir". We nodded in assent. We were too touched to speak for we felt a dear friend was to leave. Sargeant DOG accepted my sister's invite.

When he left — and he moved quickly — his eyes were filled with tears, the small spectacles too were wet. He brought three books under his arm — the most unpretentious in binding, but certainly, the most interesting to him, I hope.

If there is anyone, in Great Britain, anyone who knows Sargeant DOG, then, please, let him read the present notes. Tell him I would so much meet him again, embrace once more a close friend. I would give him three more books ex Father's library.

This article was supplied by Enzo Droandi, Via Tiepolo 18, 52100, Arezzo, Italy aided by translation in English by Anna M Tristi. You will spot mistakes, but the story is so appealing we have left it, basically, as it arrived at SOLDIER.

There is confusion. The article was headed "Where is Sargeant Dog" but goes on to refer to a Sergeant Major. We wonder, too, if the surname is correct... or if indeed the man concerned used his Christian name — Doug, for example.

It would be nice to think that despite the confusion, the subject can recognise himself — or his pals could give us a clue. Apart from helping Enzo's quest after all these years, we are keen to hear of a successful result!

(Illustration by John Rushworth)

by now?"

I answered that, at present, no one could read them, "Couse Father was gone". He would read them; he was the only person in town who could make head against

all alone. He rang the door-bell, went up the stairs, and turning to Mother who was standing in the landing to welcome him, he simply introduced himself: "I'm Sargeant DOG, Madam. I should like to have your permission to give a glance to the books..." Mother let him feel at his ease in the Library room.

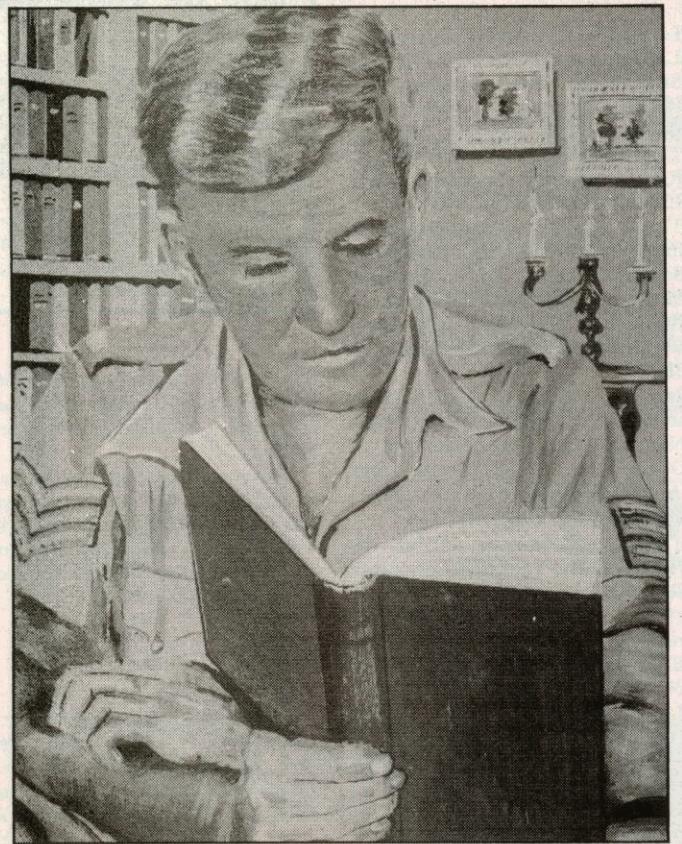
He came several, many times, late, an afternoon after the other; he would sit there with no bother to any one of us. He was becoming to us like an object in the house, so silently he used to sit there.

From time to time Mother tried to offer him some Vinsanto and the few cakes available by civilians, but he accepted nothing; not even a glass of spring water that we collected, at the time, not far from town, the aqueduct still being unrepaiored.

One evening we succeeded in having him guest at dinner which should result, as usual, a very frugal meal and he surprised us giving Mother a fine and large can of sliced bacon, and a loaf of white bread. Such a white bread we had lost memory of.

When the family came together to dinner, Sargeant DOG — his face looking like a Parson being on the point of issuing his sermon to parishioners suspected of heresy, like a man with the air to turn to everyone and not to a single, ventured his request: to be permitted to take some of the books to read when in his quartering.

We all, like little rouge



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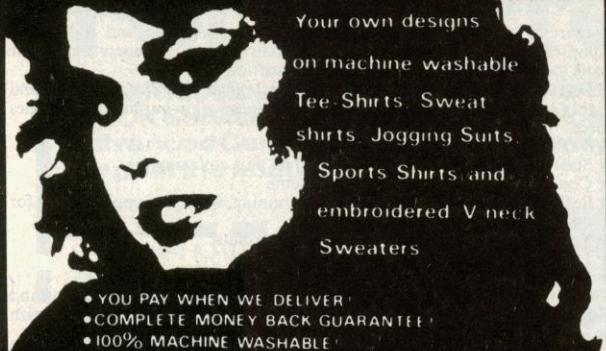
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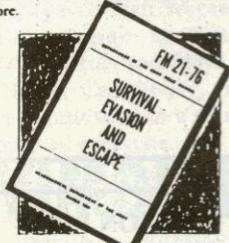
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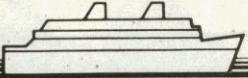
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German, Bundeswehr Army issue parkas, all sizes, button in fur or padded lining, easily removable in warm weather, a German quality garment, £21 plus £1.70 pp.

Sheepskin flying jackets, brand new, a rare purchase, British, the genuine article, these do not often come on the market and will fly out so hurry and order, £98 plus £3 pp.

Brand new Germany Army para boots, 10in whole high leg, top quality leather uppers, DMS rubber soles for wear and good grip, sizes 6 to 11, £18 plus £1.70 pp.

Body warmers, British made brand new government issue, camouflaged, 2 pockets, all sizes, heavy weight zip, very low price owing to large quantity bought, £12 plus £1.70 pp.

Brand new, USA issue beige holofull bomber jackets, with orange inside lining, all sizes, the genuine article, £30 plus £1.70 pp.

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Sleeping bags, re-issue French Army in blue colour, feather down filled, must be the cheapest feather filled sleeping bag, £10 plus £2 pp.

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PAY CORPS 'LESSON' FOR RAEC!

SOME splendid tennis by two Royal Army Pay Corps staff sergeants broke a Royal Army Educational Corps monopoly in the Inter-Arms and Corps doubles at the Army Tennis Championships at Aldershot.

The RAEC dominance of this event has been broken only three times since 1962 and it has been continuous since 1969.

Colonel Barry Reeves, RAEC Centre Beaconsfield, and Major Tony Hilton, 24 AEC, Windsor, joined forces for 12 of those victories and featured separately in six others.

But against Staff Sergeants Bill Herlihy, Junior Leaders Regt. RCT, Colerne, and Steve James, 1 DERR, Canterbury, the pair were vanquished in a result that astonished everyone.

WIMBLEDON WOBLES

A RATHER disappointing Inter Services Tennis Championship at Wimbledon this year from the Army's point of view.

The RAF again won the men's competition and also took the women's title in a hard fought battle with the Royal Navy, last year's winners.

Both teams scored the same number of wins and the result had to be decided on sets.

For the Army, only the veterans event offered some compensation with victory for the third year in

TENNIS

Winning handsomely 6-2, 6-4 Herlihy and James gave the RAPC their first victory in the event since 1955.

The holder of the men's singles title, Lieutenant Nigel Watts, Army Air Corps, retained the championship with a devastating win over Major Chris Braithwaite, 15th/19th Hussars, 6-0, 6-1.

It was a rather easier victory than he had in partnership with Major David Hughes, RAEC, in the men's open doubles final against Braithwaite and Lieutenant Colonel Vyvian Smith, RA. The match went to three sets 6-3, 6-7, 8-6 in favour of Watts and Hughes.

In the women's championships

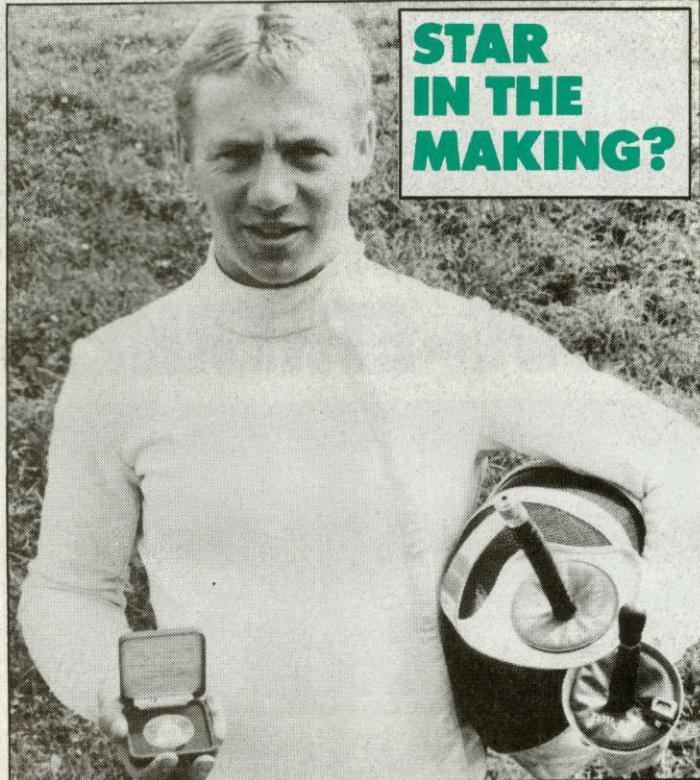
succession.

Army men won three of their six singles and only two of the six doubles, while the women could manage victory in one singles and doubles.

Because of the conditions none of the matches could be played on grass. Instead shale and indoor courts were used.

Results

Men: RAF 11, Army 5, RN 2.
Women: RAF 8, RN 8 (decided on number of winning sets) Army 2.
Veterans: Army 4, RAF 3, RN 2.



PRIVATE Frank Davis of 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry is aiming to compete in the Army senior fencing championships next year. Why not? He won the Under-20 Combined Services foil crown at Earls Court, and collected fourth and fifth places in epee and sabre to finish joint runner-up in the Master at Arms.

Captain Julia Dixon, WRAC, sailed to her fifth successive singles title by defeating Private Heather McNair, WRAC, 6-1, 6-3.

This she followed with a seventh doubles win, this one in partnership with Private Sarah Shackleton, QARANC. After dropping the first set they beat Lieutenant Kristie Phillips and Captain Christine Tinker 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Captain Dixon was on the losing side though in the mixed doubles final when she and Sergeant Paul

Weaver, Welsh Guards, failed to recover the title they'd won in 1983. They went down 2-6, 6-7 to Captain Tinker and Major Hughes, last year's winners.

Owing to the weather, and major repairs to the air dome at Aldershot, the usual bad weather back up facilities, many of the matches for this — the 75th championship — had to be scattered around some 26 hard courts in the Aldershot and Minley area.

TASAM Bisley '85



THE 1st Battalion The Wessex Regiment shooting team, under the guidance of Major Mick Cook, took top honours again in the TASAM.

Major Cook has been leading and coaching the team since he came to the battalion as RSM in 1976.

This may well prove to be his last year of competitions as he pleads failed eyesight!

However Major Cook chose this as a year in which to inspire 1 Wessex shooting teams to great heights by achieving 5th place in

the Queens Medal.

The team won the Dragon Trophy for the TA Major Unit Championships, the Moving Target match was a record score and the Battle Shooting Cup (for the second successive year).

They were runners up in the Roupell (Rifle) and China Cup, (Section match) 4th in the Valongdis Cup (GPMG Pairs), 5th in the Daily Telegraph Cup, 8th in the SMG Match, 10th in the SMG Match and 11th in the Pistol Match.



What a whopper!

THE shooting team of the 5th Battalion The Light Infantry achieved an all-time record at the Territorial Army Rifle Association meeting at Bisley when they shot a score of 381 in the China Cup.

The achievement won them the huge piece of silver standing four-and-a-half feet high, which was donated to the NRA by expatriate Volunteers in China in 1864.

Both shooting pictures: Peter Hicks.

MAIDSTONE SAPPERS' MAJOR TRIUMPH

MAJOR unit team honours for the 1985 Army Swimming and Water Polo championships, held at Minley and RMA, Sandhurst, have gone to 36 Engineer Regiment, Maidstone.

Scoring a total of 70, the Maidstone Sappers were four points ahead of 1 Grenadier Guards in second place.

Third was another sapper unit, 21 Engineer Regiment, on 61, followed by 3 Royal Ang-

SWIMMING

lians, 46, 1 King's Own Border, 30, and, bringing up the rear, 8 Signal Regiment on 17.

Despite a long and enviable history in water polo 36 Regiment only took that championship by a hair's breadth.

An extremely hard fought final with 7 RHA had to go to extra time before Maidstone emerged victorious 10-9.

In the minor units contest any hopes that 24 Field Squadron, from Chattenden, might make a Sapper double were quickly submerged.

In this case they trailed the field with 18 points. Principal honours went to 29 Signal Regiment, Berlin, who scored 35, with Communications and Supply Group, Loughborough, second with 34, and 15 Battalion, RAOC, third on 28. Then came 6 Ordnance Bat-

talion, 27, and 15 Field Workshops, REME, 26.

The women's team championship went to 12 Company, WRAC, with 42 — four points clear of the runners-up HQ Northern Ireland.

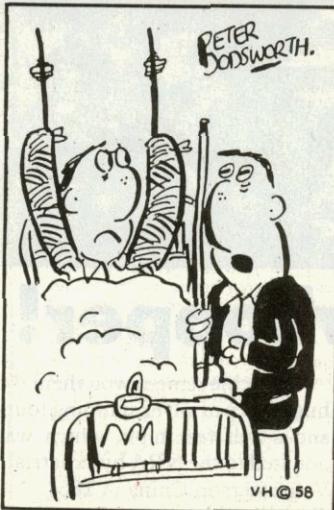
COD, Donnington, took third place with 29, and then followed Catterick Garrison and 29 Company, WRAC, both on 28, with WRAC Wing Sandhurst bringing up the rear with 20.

GAMES PLACE FOR ADRIAN

MEDAL-winning Welsh swimmer, Private Adrian Roberts, has landed his biggest lucky break yet. He has been told by the national selectors that he will join the squad picked to represent Wales in the Commonwealth Games next summer in Edinburgh.



Sporting
laugh...



Adrian, who is 20 years old and serves as a library clerk with 3 Armoured Field Ambulance, RAMC, holds the Welsh record for the 100 metres front crawl — a title he captured from a neighbour-hood rival last October.

Despite his remarkable achievements, which have notched him more than 400 medals not counting the numerous trophies that pack his parents' home in Holywell, Adrian was surprised to find himself chasing Commonwealth gold.

"There are so many up and coming youngsters around these days who are unbelievably fast in the water that I thought at my age, and without real international experience, I simply didn't stand a chance," he said.

Title for George

THE ARMY has a new chess champion. Sergeant George Crockart, REME attached to 4th Royal Tank Regiment, Osnabrück, emerged victorious at this year's Natocars championships held at Wolfenbuttel.

A number of top Army players, including the triple and defending champion, Corporal Lawrence Jenkinson, Royal Signals, ensured

that the results would be in doubt right to the last round.

However, at the conclusion of the sixth and final round a new champion emerged.

Sergeant Crockart took the title for the first time, with Corporal Jenkinson runner-up and Bomber Martin Hulland, from Paderborn, taking a very creditable third place.



Sergeant George Crockart, left, on his way to victory. Victim on this occasion: Major (Ret'd) Douglas Bilbey, RAMC.

COMPOSITE TUG-ETHERNESS

COMPOSITE Ordnance Depot Hong Kong are the 1985 British Forces Hong Kong Tug of War Champions.

Over two rain-soaked days in Blackdown Barracks the Depot outpulled everyone to emerge as 560kg Champions, 640kg Champions and Open Catchweight Champions.

Driving rain, ankle-deep water and, at times, near-darkness forced the officials and organisers, Composite Ordnance Depot, to abandon the match having decided only the 640kg title which was won by the Depot.

Sadly conditions were no better when the sides met two days later



Bad weather is not confined to England! The Ordnance men ignored the mud...

to decide the 560kg and Open Catchweight classes.

The event attracted seven units this year including the Royal Hong Kong Police but in the end no-one was able to stop the Depot making

a clean sweep of all three titles.

Runners-up in every event were RAF Sek Kong and third placings went to 31 Sqn Gurkha Tp T Regt, 1 Cheshire and Royal Hong Kong Police.

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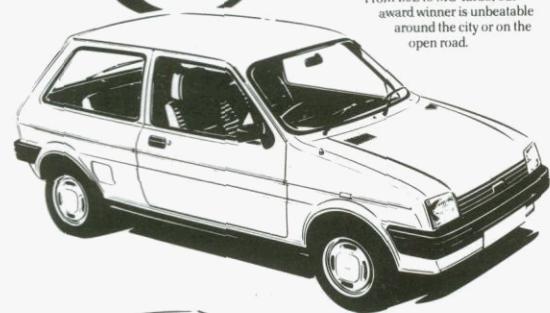
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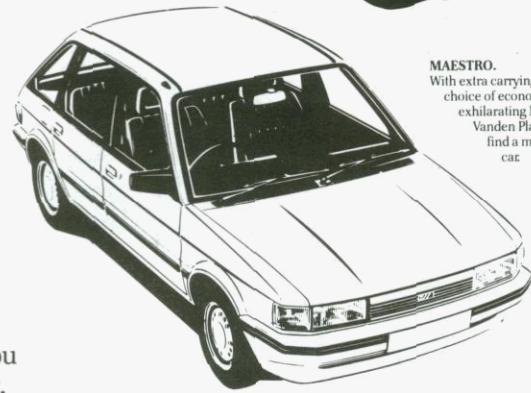
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