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Picture: Paul Haley

BACK COVER: Men of The Royal Hampshire Regiment patrol THE wall. Special feature on Berlin — see page 13.
Picture: Doug Pratt

SOLDIER

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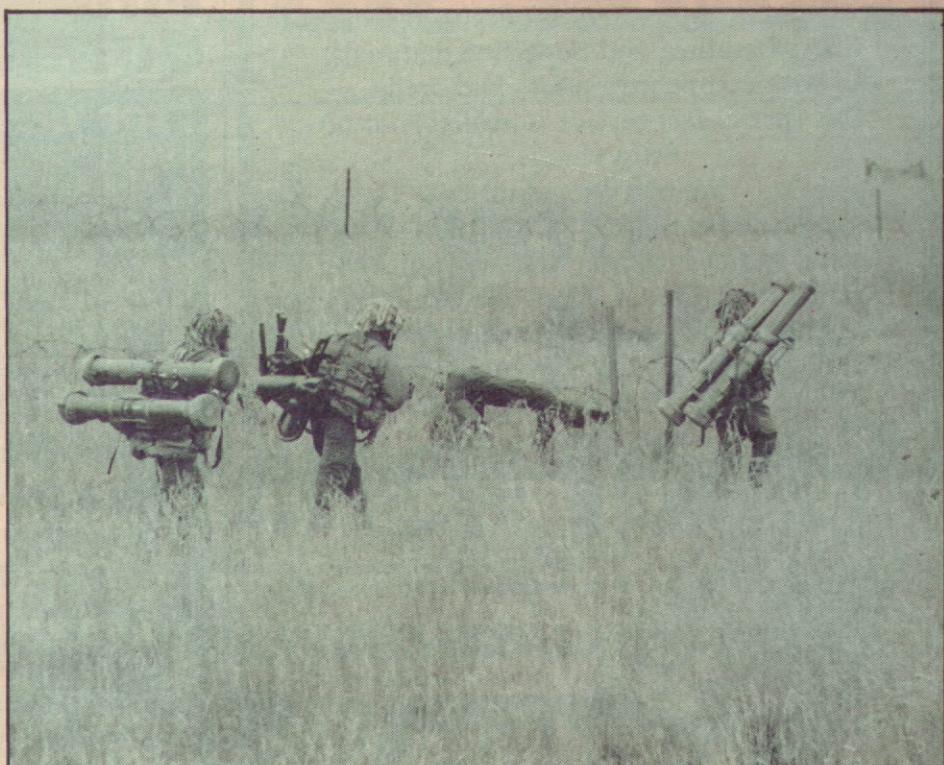


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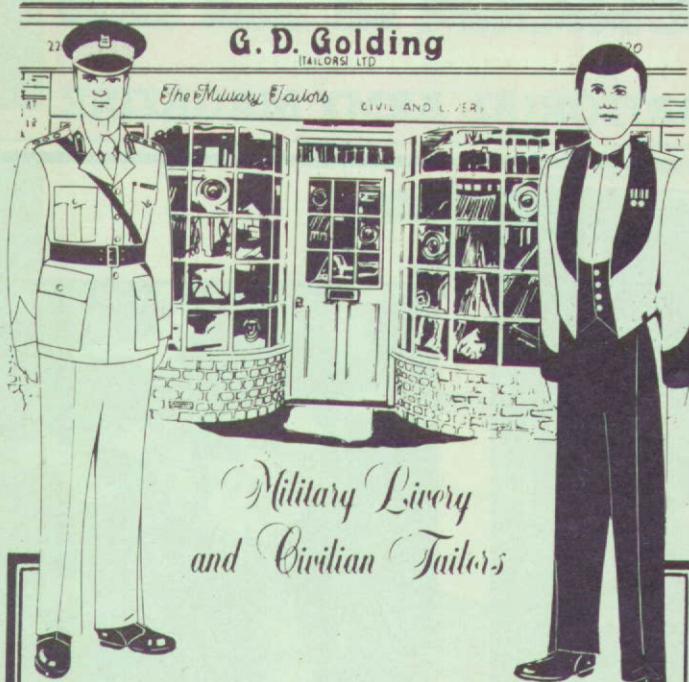
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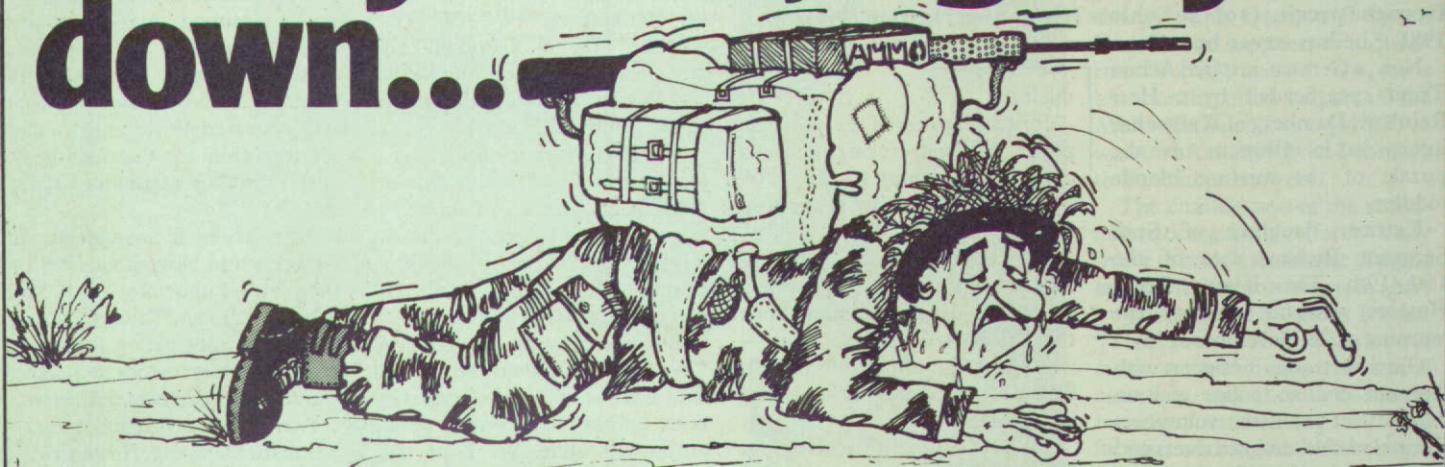
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Missing Katrice: New development

WITHIN HOURS of her second birthday while out shopping with her parents, Katrice Lee, the daughter of a cavalry regiment staff sergeant serving in Paderborn disappeared mysteriously from the precincts of the Schloss Neuhausen Naafi in November 1981. She has never been found, writes Graham Smith.

Now, a German-inspired Action Team spearheaded by a Herr Reinhard Damberg of Welver has intensified its efforts to solve the puzzle of the missing blonde toddler.

Katrice, daughter of Staff Sergeant Richard Lee of the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, was last seen on the morning of 28 November, 1981.

Garrison troops in concert with German civilian police and an "army" of civilian volunteers scoured woods, dragged rivers and probed culverts. Hundreds of house-to-house inquiries were

made.

Posters appeared at strategic points. Newspapers carried stories about the vanishing Katrice.

The police files have never been closed.

Herr Damberg, in a letter to SOLDIER, writes: "We are a group of Germans — and we hope the British will join us soon — who think it is their duty to help find Katrice because it happened in Germany.

"It is, of course, difficult to find Katrice. Where could she be? I don't know but we must search

and find her; not only us, but the British as well."

Herr Damberg adds, with a note of confidence: "We can find Katrice only if Germans and British work together. The British in Germany as well as the British in the United Kingdom."

He says he feels confident that a joint Anglo-German Action Team could come up with an answer to the nagging mystery. The team, he asserts, needs people who think they are able to help, to act and bring in new ideas and theories.

A Rhine Army spokesman says: "We feel sure that any attempt to find Katrice will be welcomed by both military and civilian police authorities alike. We hope that Katrice turns up or is found. Nobody has yet given up hope."

The 15th/19th The King's

Hussars returns to the UK later this year but Staff Sergeant Lee will remain in BAOR in another post, retaining his Paderborn married quarter.

A spokesman for the 4th Armoured Division says: "We are still prepared to respond to any requests from the German police authorities for assistance at any time."

Meanwhile, if anyone was in Paderborn in November 1981 on that fateful morning or is still serving there and think they may have vital information they have not previously mentioned, Herr Damberg asks them to contact him at Action Team; Katrice Lee, c/o Reinhard Damberg, Hasselfield 3, 4777 Welver 1, West Germany. He can be contacted in English, if need be.

Artillery moves

IT'S GOODBYE Bulford and Auf Wiedersehen Celle for two Royal Artillery units later this year.

32 Guided Weapons Regiment moves to Dortmund as a heavy regiment while 94 Locating Regiment, 26 years in Celle, moves to Larkhill this autumn.

The new Larkhill regiment will comprise four batteries, two of

which will be coming from BAOR. It has a varied role which includes support for the ACE Mobile Force (Land), 1 (BR) Corps and various UK formations.

None of 32 Regiment's Bulford batteries are joining the regiment in Germany and its AMF (L) Battery will move up from Bulford to Larkhill.



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Visiting Indian cadets — fun at Frimley.

SIX CADETS from India took a hand at paddling an assault boat on a recent visit to the Cadet Training Centre at Frimley and discovered that these blunt-bowed craft were more than a handful, writes Robert Higson.

The six — four young men and two girls — came to this country for two weeks as an exchange for a very successful visit by a group of British cadets to India in January.

They were entertained by the cadet corps of all three services in Britain, starting off with the RAF, going on to the Army at Frimley and ending with the Navy at Portsmouth. They met the Chief of the Defence Staff, Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, and were shown such sights as the Royal Tournament, HMS Belfast, the RAF Museum, Hendon, the Battle of Britain Operations Room and the Mary Rose.

At Frimley they arrived during one of the three one-week leaders' courses which the CTC operates

during the summer holiday. There they had the opportunity to watch cadets of all three services undertake what CTC Commandant, Colonel Tim Beath, described as command tasks and sports designed to exercise mental and physical agility.

The party were all studying at university (of the two girls one was taking a medical degree and one was about to start) and all hoped to go on to the respective military academies for a career in the services.

Their ages — ranging from 18 to 23 — put them in a rather different category to the British cadets.

"Our cadets are between the ages of 16 and 18," Colonel Beath explained.

Nevertheless Colonel Beath was certain the exchange was of great value. "All cadet corps are linked by the same aim of instilling self reliance, self confidence and awakening a desire to serve the community," he said. "I don't think wherever they are or in what country those aims would differ."

"This is the first such visit, I believe, and we would look forward to seeing it repeated."

WILKINSON SWORD FOR QDG



Sir Colin Cole makes the presentation which is accepted by AVM Norman Perrin on behalf of the Board.

ORDNANCE BOARD GETS BEARINGS A CENTURY LATER

AFTER 134 years, the Ordnance Board has again received its legitimate right to Armorial Bearings previously granted to the former Board of Ordnance in 1823.

At a unique ceremony at the Royal Artillery Officers' Mess, Woolwich the Garter Principal King of Arms, Sir Colin Cole presented the arms to the President of the Board, Air Vice-Marshal Norman Perrin.

The original Board was disbanded in 1855 while its work was carried on by various committees. The present Board

was formed in 1881 and took into use the same Arms not realising until almost 100 years later that it was not entitled to them, the privilege having lapsed in 1855.

For four years since 1980, the Board has operated without its prestigious heraldic seal of approval while the College of Arms has established its

historic right — at a cost of £1,600.

The transfer or regranting of Armorial Bearings requires the consent of the Monarch and the Queen has now agreed that the present Board should receive the arms originally bestowed on its predecessor by her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria.

NEW DEFENCE STAFF

The Government has announced the senior service officers and civilians who will head the new Defence Staff and implement the proposals outlined in the recent Defence White Paper.

Senior Army officers involved: **Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall** will remain Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) and, with Sir Clive Whitmore, Permanent Under-Secretary of Defence, jointly head the new structure.

Major General John Chapple (53), to be promoted Lieutenant General as Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (DCDS) with responsibility for Programmes and Personnel. A former Commander of British Forces, Hong Kong, General Chapple has been Director of Military Operations since 1982.

Brigadier Garry Johnson (46), to be promoted Major General as Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (ACDS) in the Commitments Area with responsibility covering NATO and the UK. Brigadier Johnson is at present Deputy Chief of Staff, HQ BAOR. Before that he was Commander of the Minden Garrison in West Germany.

Major General Jeremy Reilly (50), to become ACDS in the Systems Area with responsibility

for concepts. Before becoming Director of Battle Doctrine at MoD, his appointments included GOC 4th Armoured Division. In 1973 he won the DSO in Northern Ireland while commanding the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Major General Laurence New (52), to be another ACDS in the Systems Area. His responsibility Land Systems. General New's present job is Assistant Chief of the General Staff looking after Operational Requirements, a post he has held since early last year.

Major General Gordon Oehlers (51), as a third ACDS in the Systems Area. His department will be Communications and Information Systems, virtually the same sort of job he has already been doing as ACDS (Command, Control and Information Systems) on the old Central Defence Staff.

Major General Michael Swindells (54), to become Director of Management in the Intelligence Area under Programme and Personnel. Again this is no great change of responsibility as General Swindells has been ACDS (Intelligence). His previous post was Chief of the Joint Service Liaison Organisation in Bonn.

Major General Michael

THE ARMY'S winners this year of the Wilkinson Sword of Peace Award have been announced as the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards who supplied two squadrons — "A" and "C" — for a ten-month period as part of the Multi-National Force (MNF) in war-torn Lebanon from February to December last year.

The citation says of the reconnaissance regiment's efforts: "They strove to bring a semblance of peace and stability to a country torn apart by political and religious hatred. "They took part in a variety of tasks — monitoring the initial ceasefires and their subsequent breaches; establishing with all factions which enabled the regiment to be regarded not only as honest brokers but also accepted protectors and guardians of the later peace talks; the gruesome rescue and humanitarian tasks that followed the bombing of the US Marine Corps base.

"They were frequently under fire though their success in the peace-keeping role ensured that this was more often crossfire between warring factions rather than fire directed against their own vehicles or their post.

"They lived with uncertainty and yet brought a degree of stability and reassurance to all communities in Beirut which undoubtedly saved lives and enabled leaders to continue discussions.

The citation goes on: "The professionalism, skill and hard work, and diplomacy of 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards was in the best traditions of the British Army. They conducted themselves outstandingly and won both the respect and confidence of the people of Beirut in a dangerous and delicate situation.

"Their contribution to stability in the Lebanon was out of all proportion to what might reasonably have been expected from such a numerically small force. 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards are most worthy winners of the Wilkinson Sword Award for 1983."

The Wilkinson Swords — referred to as the Swords of Peace — are awarded annually to the units of each of the 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 or overseas.

The swords, of the appropriate Service pattern, suitably engraved, are presented by Messrs Wilkinson Sword Ltd.

Palmer (56), retains his position as Defence Service Secretary. Formerly he was Director of the Royal Armoured Corps.

FALKLANDS LOA CHANGE

BRITAIN'S 4,000 Servicemen serving in the Falklands are to lose their £1-a-day Local Overseas Allowance completely within the next two months.

The Ministry of Defence say the reductions — 50 pence-a-day from 1 August and the remaining 50 pence by 1 October — are being made resulting from a review held in the Falklands early this year. It was found there was little on which to spend money and, therefore, no justification for an allowance.

A separate agreement, however, based on an Armed Forces Pay Review Body recommendation, is to introduce a daily allowance of £2.15 (back-dated to 1 April) for Servicemen who carry out two tours of duty in the Falklands within an 18-month period.

It is not related to the cost of living but is a recognition of the arduous nature of the Falklands posting.

EYES DOWN FOR ANOTHER 1 RHA WIN

IT was an eyeball confrontation when the four BAOR Artillery Intelligence Sections clashed for the Marshall Cup competition at Herford. Hosted by 4 Armoured Division Signal Regiment, teams from 3 RHA, 19 Field Regiment RA and 47 Field Regiment RA found there just wasn't much they could do in the face of the all-conquering WO2 Clive Elliott and his deputies Sgt Stephen Culshaw, Bdr Ian Trevett, LBdr Richard Whelan and Gnr Peter Hyde from 1 RHA.

The annual competition includes collation, interpretation and briefing skills, and 1 RHA have won it five out of the six years it has been held.

Soldier 'bees' shine for sister regiment

WHEN the commanding officer of Paderborn-based 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel Graham "Lofty" Hollands, was invited to dinner in the field by Lieutenant Colonel Mike Willcocks, CO of senior Regiment 1 RHA, he little expected the surprise which awaited him, writes Captain Jimmy James.

For Colonel Willcocks planned to return to 3 RHA the commanding officer's desk which had been in 1st Regiment's safe keeping during the years of 3 RHA's temporary disbandment.

Although in a shabby state then, it has been restored by 1 RHA and is now in pristine condition.

After the dinner on Munsterlager south ranges, which was attended by the GOC 1st Armoured Division Major General Sir David Thorne and the CRA 1st Armoured Division Brigadier Brian Pennicott, Colonel Hollands found himself being ceremonially "carried away" on his regiment's new acquisition.



CATHY DAVIES: first stop Carolina.

QUICK

More than 14,000 people attended the Open Day at the Depot, The Prince of Wales's Division at Crickhowell. Among the specialist displays was Royal Artillery free-fall parachute team.

SPOT

Church boosts hospital fire fund

The congregation of St George's Garrison Church, Berlin has donated £645 to the Stanley Hospital Appeal in the Falkland Islands.

The cheque was presented to Civil Commissioner Sir Rex Hunt

by the Force Chaplain, the Rev Gordon Watts.

The appeal follows the fire at the King Edward Memorial Hospital in April when eight lives were lost. With this generous donation from Berlin the appeal stands at

£7,600.

The senior chaplain of the Berlin Garrison, the Rev Paul Abram instigated the donation. He was the Force Chaplain in the Falklands between September 1983 and January 1984.



EYEBALL WINNERS: WO2 Clive Elliott, Bdr Ian Trevett (1) and LBdr Richard Whelan.

Cathy queues for a berth

Part-time soldier Cathy Davies stands guard over Operation Raleigh's new flagship soon to be named after the Elizabethan mariner. An adventure-training instructor at Edinburgh University OTC, Cathy, 23, is hoping for a berth on the four-year long trip when the ship sails on the first leg of its global voyage. It leaves in November with explorer Colonel John 'Blashers' Blashford-Snell in charge. First stop will be Carolina and the 400th anniversary celebrations of the founding of English-speaking America by Raleigh.

TEE TIME DOWN SOUTH!



Smiling in anticipation of a good round, Sir Rex Hunt (right), Civil Commissioner of the Falklands and Colonel John Pitt, Deputy Chief of Staff, pictured before teeing off in front of Port Stanley's new club house.

IT'S THE 'A' TEAM!

IT might be make-believe, but the conditions are real enough as a team of stretcher bearers struggle across a river with a casualty.

They are from 3 Royal Anglian and were taking part in a contest at Sennelager to find 4 Armoured Div's top team of medics.

Wearing full kit and carrying a rifle, they and 15 rival teams carried a 12-stone casualty for three miles across rivers, up and down sand dunes, over rough ground and through woods.

It was tough going and followed a three-hour quiz of Warsaw Pact vehicles, finding and repairing the fault on a broken-down vehicle and rescuing a casualty from a minefield.

Winners of the event were the "Angle Irons" 'A' team, followed by 3 Tank Transporter Squadron RCT with 3 R Anglian 'B' team in third place.

Colonel W. E. Forsyth, Commander Medical 4 Armoured Div, presented the winners with a model of stretcher bearers carrying a casualty.



TOP MEDICS: make-believe situation, but the going is still tough.

Cyprus marchers raised £2,000 not £200

Just for the record and to put right a mistake in these columns, Cyprus anti-cancer marchers last month raised £2,000 and not £200 as stated in our story and headline.

It should be pointed out that we published in good faith as we were sent that figure.

The message of complaint said the marchers were "miffed" at the error.

No surprise there and we're sorry for any ruffled feelings. Just shows the trouble a nought can create!

QUICK

The Reverend John Evans, padre to the Depot, The Prince of Wales's Division, Crickhowell, has retired after 25 years.

SPOT

FACES and PLACES

Forces figure in TV degree quest

WHETHER it's in Berlin or Belize, Cyprus or Sennelager, the quest for a degree is a daunting one.

Currently, it is estimated that more than 1,000 of all Open University students—and there are 44,000 of them—are serving in the Forces.

Overall more than 5,000 new students enrolled this year for OU courses.

Most study at home in their spare time for four to five years for the prize of a degree from the Open University.

Among the latest Army personnel to qualify for a degree, BA (Open), are Sgt Larry Bott; Mr Ian Hallworth, a computer programmer with

the Royal Army Pay Corps; Major David Higginbottom, Sheffield University OTC; Mr David Lister, Regimental HQ, 71 Yeoman Signal Regiment (V), Beckenham; WO2 Frank Lyon, LAD, REME, Fallingsbostel, BAOR; Major Sean Murphy who took his exams in Berlin and Belize; Major Robin Rayner, Warminster; and Major Ray Woodcock of Colchester.

Sgt Bott, said: "I have had many changes of location during my study for my Open

University degree, but the Army has always been helpful."

Mr Lister said: "I attended Garnett College and Open University enabled me to apply for a commission on the Royal Army Educational Corps and I am currently working for a certificate in education."

A mini-marathon runner, Major Woodcock said he took his Foundation Course through a Forces' scheme in Cyprus.

A spokesperson for the Open University at Milton Keynes said: "Studying with the Open University is not easy and it has been described as the most difficult way of getting a degree but more than 62,000 people have succeeded."

"Students do not need any formal qualifications to study with the Open University."

"Admission is normally 'first come, first served' and our undergraduates study for 12-14 hours a week."

PEOPLE EXTRA

Water expert Corporal Ted Burgess has been awarded his LS and GC Medal. He was presented with it by Engineer-in-Chief Major General Mike Matthews who was visiting 62 (Cyprus) Support Squadron Royal Engineers. A qualified clerk of works, Ted works at the water distillation plant at Dhekelia, which produces fresh water for the Eastern Sovereign Base Area.

In the past few weeks at least 17 Cypriots have been presented with medals, certificates or commendations. Most of the presentations have been made by Major General Sir Desmond Langley who heads this latest league with eight presentations of the UK Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Sir Desmond is the Administrator of the British bases on the island. Following closely on Sir Desmond's heels is Colonel Bill Dodd, Commander Episkopi Garrison in the Western Sovereign Base Area, with presentations of six certificates for loyal service. Last but not least is Major General Derek Braggins, who visiting the island in his capacity as Director General of Transport and Movement, handed out long service certificates to two locally employed people.

Nearer home, when there are nine medals marking 120 years of service, and a British Empire Medal to present, it is something of an occasion, and sharing it with volunteers from 156 (Merseyside & Greater Manchester) Transport Regiment RCT was Major General Philip Davies, GOC North West District, making his first visit to George Masters VC TA Centre in Bootle, home of 238 (Sefton) Transport Squadron. The BEM was presented to Staff Sergeant Dave Gillon,



TOPICS

**FINE
EFFORT:
BIG SHIELD**



When GOC Western District, Major General Brendan McGuiness, visited 224 (North Staffordshire) Field Ambulance, RAMC (V) at Swynnerton Training Camp he could hardly fail to notice what is currently the unit's most prized possession.

The Army Medical Services Challenge Shield for the TA isn't an inconspicuous trophy at any time. But this time the Potteries Combat Medics displayed it with a special sense of achievement as they have now won it for the second year in succession. "A hitherto unknown feat," says their CO,

Gibraltar boosts Lionheart

Major Ian Plant, of HQ 30 Engineer Brigade, Stafford, found the perfect way to prepare his Sappers for Exercise Lionheart — a visit to Gibraltar.

Gibraltar's own Engineer detachment is quite small and usually too busy with such day-to-day concerns as maintaining power supplies to attend to many of the minor building jobs that need doing around the Rock.

So every year the call goes out to RE units in the UK — come and give us a hand in return for an enviable sun tan.

This year the offer was taken up by Major Plant and for the first time TA Sappers made the journey to mix cement and lay bricks under the hot sun.

Over a six-week period some 24 artisan tradesmen worked in Gibraltar. Most were from Headquarters Troop, in Stafford, but there were additions from 125 Field Support Squadron, Stoke-on-Trent, and 143 Plant Squadron, Walsall.

30 Engineer Brigade, with TA regiments in Northern Ireland, Wales and the North-West, has a

war role in the Communication and Rear Combat Zone on the Continent.

The unit tries to recruit artisans to fulfill its war role responsibilities. But, says Major Plant, too seldom do they get the opportunity to gain experience in such important skills as concreting, bricklaying, carpentry and metal work.

Exercise 'Green Gallery' down in Gibraltar was a welcome chance to gain invaluable 'hands on' experience. The men built an extension to a Forces scout hut, finished off some gates to a Scout camp on the Upper Rock and in general did work around various military establishments.

There was time off to sail and



The tunnel visiting team lined up.

wind surf and to inspect the miles of tunnels in the Rock, hewn out by earlier generations of Sappers.

Major Plant, who spent a fortnight at Gibraltar before handing over to a TA officer, summed up the visit as "a resounding success for both the Forces and Gibraltar and the TA soldiers undertaking the tasks to improve their skills for whatever LIONHEART throws at them."

A MIX OF PIPES



Different tartans on parade — Hodden Grey, Forbes and Royal Stewart.

paraded volunteers on their efforts. As the pipes and drums of the 1st/51st Highland Volunteers filled the arena at the recent Liverpool International Garden Festival there was little to indicate their separate origins.

Few in the crowd, admiring the precision and the playing under Drum Major Bryan Anderson, probably realised that the pipers and drummers came from three

distinct locations — London for the London Scottish Company, Liverpool 'V' (Liverpool Scottish) Company, and Kirkcaldy for 'K' Company.

There were, for the more discerning eye, three tartans on parade — London's Hodden Grey 'Elcho'; Liverpool's Forbes, and Kirkcaldy's Black Watch Company pipers wearing their distinctive Royal Stewart.



C Company and 3rd Battalion (Volunteer) Royal Regiment of Wales based at Pontypridd, South Wales, have completed a sponsored march in which the volunteer Rifle Company walked from Brecon to Pontypridd via the Brecon Beacons in aid of the Les Evans Holiday Appeal Fund for mentally ill and handicapped children.

This the volunteers completed and collected in sponsorship £5,294.10, the largest single

amount collected for this type of appeal.

Then C Company completed a sponsored parachute jump. Thirty-eight members of the Company were aided by the Joint Services Parachute School at Netheravon, Wiltshire.

Each member paid the £30.00 to complete a week-end training course and decided to sponsor the 'Ystrad Mynach Mentally Handicapped Unit' in Ystrad Mynach.

NEW BATTALIONS GET THEIR TITLES . . .

Two more Special Air Service (Volunteer) Squadrons are to be formed, to be based in Newport (Gwent) and in Manchester.

This boost for the Territorial Army was announced just before Parliament broke up for the summer recess and is a considerable boost for the growing number of part-time soldiers.

Also announced were the names of the six new infantry battalions, the formation of which was announced by Secretary of State Mr Michael Heseltine in March and published in Defence Open Government Document 84/02 as

PLUS SAS BOOST FOR TERRIERS

part of the expansion of the TA.

The new battalions will be:

- 1st Battalion The Yorkshire and Cleveland Volunteers — for the battalion with its headquarters based initially in York.
- 8th Battalion The Light Infantry (Volunteers) (Wakefield).
- 3rd Battalion The Devon and Cornwall Rifle Volunteers (Plymouth).
- 3rd (Volunteers) Battalion The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London) (London).

Cheshire Regiment (Northwich, later to move to Runcorn).

- 5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Green Jackets (Oxford).
- 8th (Volunteer) Battalion The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London) (London).

The names were proposed to The Queen by the Army Board following wide consultation, and bearing in mind the value of the local links which are fostered by their names.

These battalions will begin to form in 1986, in concert with the rest of the second phase of the expansion of the Territorial Army.

North West students invade Scotland

The North West's two University Officer Training Corps have invaded Scotland.

With something of an end of term feeling in the air both Manchester & Salford UOTC and their counterparts from Liverpool University all decided that a touch of Scotch mist and heather would make an ideal background for their 1984 camp.

So something in excess of 275 university officers and office cadets poured over the border to establish camps at Garelochhead and at Barry Buddon on the banks of the Tay below Dundee.

In the more 'highland' setting of Gareloch, M & SUOTC undertook the aptly named Exercise High Ridge which began with an assault crossing of Loch Long with Royal Marines from Condor manning the boats for two operational platoons.

Operations continued in the Artgarten Forest and a chance sighting in the Celtic twilight of enemy main and forward locations resulted in two excellent and simultaneous platoon attacks co-ordinated by Second Lieutenant Martin George. Later 2/Lt George, who is bound for Sandhurst this September, commented: "Commanding a company in the field was one hell of an education in tactics and control."

Meanwhile LUOTC were hard at it in the gentler countryside of

Barry Buddon. As a result of their greater numbers they had two infantry companies in the field with Major David Lithgow-Smith, RA, commanding the 'senior' and WRAC Captain Salley Lobley the 'junior' group.

A four-day exercise, named 'White Horse' in honour of old King's Liverpool Regiment badge the UOTC still wears, involved section cordon and search, ambushes, night patrols and platoon attack and defence scenarios.

At the end of it all both camp commanders were evidently impressed by what they had seen. Said Lieutenant Colonel David Nichol of M & SUOTC: "It's marvellous to see so many young people cram in so much training efficiently and so enthusiastically."

While 21C of the LUOTC camp, Major Larry O'Connor, commented: "It's the enthusiasm of the officer cadets and junior officers that makes OTC soldiering so rewarding."



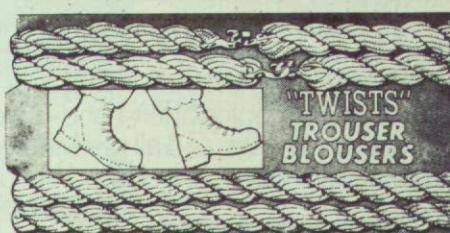
Adjutant Major Gordon Cattle rallies help to put out a heath fire.



Marine Peter Timmins takes the rigid raider over Loch Long, with from left, Officer Cadets Debbie Baines, Marcus Malik, George Cowie and Dave Lammings.



Officer Cadet Karen Evans obliges for colleague Elaine Roberts in a tidy-up of the cam cream.



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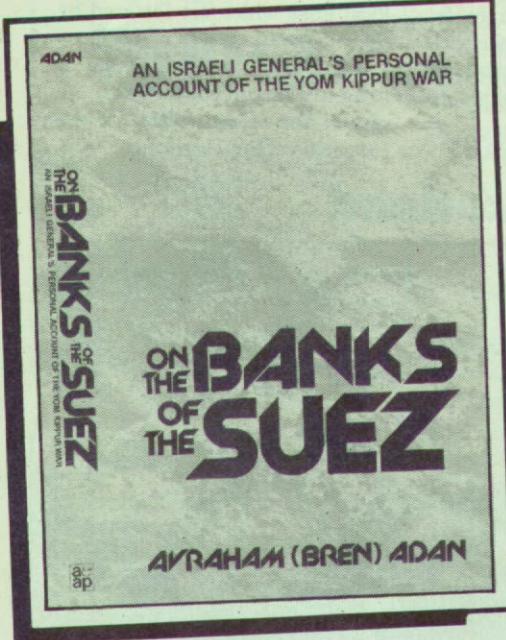
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A special subscription form can be found on page 47 of this issue of SOLDIER. Photo copies of the form are acceptable for those who do not wish to cut their copy.

Please order promptly as supplies of the book are limited. Twenty-one days should be allowed for delivery.

★ ★ ★

THERE are still a limited number of copies of SOLDIER's special D-Day Supplement available for those who wish a worthwhile memento of the famous invasion's 40th anniversary.

The 28-page Supplement can be obtained by writing to the Distribution Dept, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU, enclosing cheque or postal order for 35p (inc post) made payable to Command Cashier UKLF.

★ ★ ★

THE third Verden Marathon takes place on Saturday 1 September starting and finishing in the Berliner Stadium, Verden.

This event is organised by the British Army in Verden and competitors come from many countries to participate. It is open to members of TSVs and the route is recognised by the German Athletics Association.

Entry forms are available from TSV Verden and the entry fee is DM 15.00. All competitors completing the course will be awarded a commemorative medal and a certificate, and there are additional prizes for best individuals and teams.

The race starts at 1400 hours with the firing of a British artillery gun and spectators will be catered for in the Berliner Stadium throughout the afternoon. There is no charge for spectators.

Further details from: The Organiser, Marathon 84, 1 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt BFPO 32. Tel: (04231-671) Ext 331/313.

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ON THE BERLIN BEAT

Former Fusilier Maurice Micklewhite flicked his cigar stump towards the Berlin Wall.

"My Army number was 22486547 and I learnt it like everybody else, by repeating it over and over again. Just like I learn my lines today," he said. "It's seared into my memory."

Nowadays known as Michael Caine, with a top star international rating, (see Profile page 18) he was filming by Berlin's famous Brandenburg Gate with Victoria Tennant and Anthony Andrews for their latest film *The Holcroft Covenant*.

The only thing separating him from the monument at one end of the Unter den Linden, which is in East Berlin, was the infamous wall.

But it was because of the Wall that he met Lance Corporals Brian Gamble and Chris Floyd of 2nd Regiment, Royal Military Police.

They were the area Wall patrol for the night and had stopped to look at the film makers.

"I was here in '51," said Caine, signing autographs for the two military policemen.

He sounded and looked just like his famous anti-hero character Harry Palmer. "It's a bit different today," he added.

But for co-star Victoria Tennant this was a first-time trip to the encircled city and she wasn't too impressed.

"What I've seen of it seems rather drab," she said. "I feel they could have made it more attractive."

But the two cops weren't



VICTORIA TENNANT, CORPORALS GAMBLE AND FLOYD
Brandenburg backdrop and a date with a star

by JOHN MARGETTS

concerned with drabness. For them the place was ablaze with sweetness and light when the star agreed to pose with them for pictures with the Brandenburg as a backdrop. "Smashing," said Brian. "Great," said Chris.

But while film star Victoria

gave the place the thumbs down, others like Lieutenant Cecilia Davies thought it "fantastic." "I've had a smashing time," said Cecilia. Just 5ft tall, her Army boots looked too big and heavy for her tiny frame.

But appearances can be



CAPTAIN RICHARD DENNIS

wary watch maintained

deceptive, for Cecilia has been the boss of Berlin's military buses and ambulances for the past two-and-a-half years.

With 32 buses, eight ambulances and 11 other assorted vehicles under her charge she can, with her HGV Class 1 licence, drive the lot.

She hotly denied her lack of height was a drawback

boats," she said, "but it will make a change from vehicles and I'll get an extra 'pip' out of it.

"But I will miss being boss of the buses and the 82-strong mix of soldiers and civilians under my charge.

"They do a great job providing a bus service from 6am till 1am every day and a

Where the boss of the buses is a girl

when driving the buses and "artics."

"No problems," she said. "And I don't have to peer through the steering wheel to see the road, and neither do I have trouble reaching the foot pedals.

"It's been great fun in Berlin. It's a fantastic posting," said Cecilia, who is the first girl to hold the job of Berlin's bus boss with 62 Transport and Movements Squadron RCT.

Now the pert 27-year-old is looking forward to her next posting to an RCT port support squadron at Southampton.

"I don't know a thing about

24-hour service with the rest of the 51 vehicles."

BLUE EYES

Similarly, Sergeant Bev Acres said she too was having a great time in Berlin.

The sole WRAC PT instructor in Berlin, Bev is a 5ft 2in blonde with big blue eyes.

With her marvellous tan and smart PTI outfit, she looked a picture of health.

So she should, she agreed, for she had just returned to Berlin after six weeks in the mountains teaching soldiers how to climb.

"It was an adventure

continued on page 14

PICTURES: DOUG PRATT



CAPTAIN NIGEL TURNER
Precision flying prevents problems



CAPTAIN RICHARD DENNIS AND PATROL: three patrols a day every day

On the BERLIN BEAT

from page 13

training programme and tremendous fun. The lads were a bit dubious at first when I started telling them how to climb 7,000ft mountains, but when I showed I could do anything I was asking them to do, they soon got the picture.

"I like training with men for personal fitness as I have to work harder to keep up, but when it comes to hockey and other games I prefer mixing it with the girls."

A good runner, Bev is building up a steady rate of daily mileage in readiness for the Berlin marathon next month.

With thousands of others she and her brothers Steve and Roger — both are in the Army — will link up to attempt a family record run.

And when she's not running and teaching soldiers how to climb every sort of mountain, Bev has to get down to grafting as the assistant adjutant for the WRAC in Berlin.

But while there is plenty to do on the social side, life in Berlin is not all "beer and skittles."

There is an abundance of special duties, parades (see *Soldier* 13 August for a story

on the Colours parade of the PWO) and work.

This for many units comes in the form of Wall patrols. Such an outfit is the 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment, one of three battalions in West Berlin. The others are 1st Battalion the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire and the Third Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Said Lieutenant Colonel Hastings Neville, CO of the Hampshires: "Our major role here is to protect the integrity of the border.

"While we have instructions to follow should an incident occur, it really means waving the flag and keeping a general eye on things."

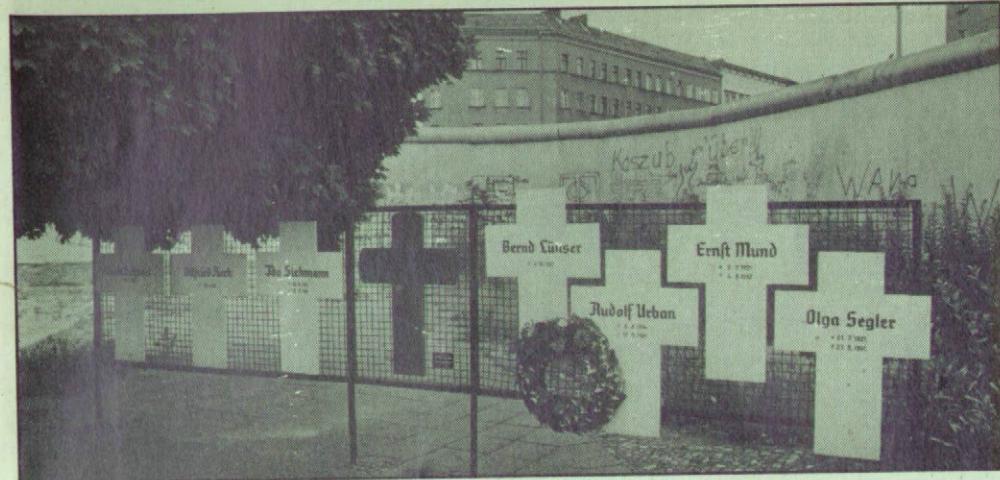
To maintain this wary watch, the regiment sends out three patrols a day to cover their 14-mile long section.

"It takes about three hours to carry out this task," said Captain Richard Dennis, who had as his team in the Fox and Land-Rover, Lance Corporals Rafael Beddoe and Clive Tunstall and Privates Mark Easen and Ralph Aitken.

"We've had nothing happen yet," said Captain Dennis, "but you never know. We're on our guard the whole time and, of course, we are armed."

They make the journey every day of the year come hail or shine and it is all part of the game of maintaining a

WATCH ON THE WALL



IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO FAILED TO SCALE THE WALL: average success rate is falling

can talk to someone unofficial. I help them in every way I can, but I refuse to take them by the hand. I try to steer them in the right direction and then tell them to get on with it."

With club rooms located at the three main units, the lads can always be sure of light refreshments, something to read, chess and other similar games, snooker, table tennis and, if they want, a willing ear to listen to their troubles.

Said Pat Bere, who has been dispensing tea and sympathy to soldiers in Berlin for the past 17 years: "We're primarily for single lads below the rank of corporal who have no home, club or mess.

"They are all well behaved, but now and again I have to raise my voice, but that is the most I have to do."

When she hears of someone in hospital she visits them; when they're down she listens and when they step out of line she tells 'em.

When she hears of someone in hospital she visits them; when they're down she listens and when they step out of line she tells 'em.

But those who know don't challenge Pat to a game, for although no champion, she's

raise my voice, but that is the most I have to do."

Should any soldier in this seething city of clubs, pubs, museums, concert halls, theatres want to visit any of them or tour East Berlin, then Pat's colleague Val Crooks is the girl to put them on the right track.



JACK BELL
Border watcher for 23 years

'ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE TO GET OUT NOW'

With seven years of Berlin life behind her, Val reckons she knows her way round the whole of the city.

You want to go to a Stevie Wonder concert? See Val for tickets. Fancy a trip to East Berlin? Want to hire a bike? See Val.

continued on page 16



LIEUTENANT CECILIA DAVIES
fantastic time as boss of the buses



LIEUTENANT DAVID EVANS, MRS BARBARA HECKERT, CAPTAIN IAN PASSINGHAM, MRS JEAN ROSS
Striving for 2,000 words of German and the appreciation of the local people



MAJOR GENERAL GORDON LENNOX
Important to learn the language

More soldiers based in Berlin are being urged to learn German.

All officers down to company commanders are expected to take and pass the six-week basic and colloquial course. Said GOC Major General Bernard Gordon Lennox:

"It is important that all ranks in Berlin should take advantage of our excellent facilities here for learning German."

"Here in Berlin the reasons for this are three fold."

"The easier it is for people to speak to a wide spectrum of Berliners, the greater understanding there can be between the British Garrison and

see more and more soldiers learning the language.

The General said: "I would like to see as many people as possible learning German; as far down the rank structure as possible with the maximum time practicable being spent acquiring some level of ability."

Waiting to help attain this and a possible 2,000-word vocabulary, is Lieutenant Evans and his team.

Said Lieutenant Evans: "Apart from the social scene and the local contacts, it is important for promotion and would help all concerned fill their Nato roles more efficiently."

"And the fact that soldiers are taking the trouble to learn the language is greatly appreciated by local people."

"It's also a tremendous help to those on resettlement and who plan to stay in Berlin. They find our courses invaluable."

PICTURES: DOUG PRATT

ON THE BERLIN BEAT



PAT BERE AND FRIENDS: always sure of refreshments, a comfortable chair, something to read and a ready listener

From Page 15

And 10,000 people do each year, just for her tours alone. "For most visitors it's the only way they're going to see East Berlin," she said.

But be warned. If you are visiting Berlin and you want to go into East Berlin you must have a full ten year passport. "A visitor's passport will not do for either East Germany or East Berlin," said Pat.

"There's just something about this place that people find fascinating and exciting. I think *Smiley's People* and Michael Caine might have had something to do with this," she laughed.

But while Pat, Liz, Judith and Val push out home comforts and entertainment, military work proceeds.

Like their counterparts on the ground, 7 Flight Army Air Corps float around in their Gazelles just inside the Wall limits to keep sharp, wary eyes on their East Berlin neighbours.

For six days a week they fly the Wall keeping to flight laws agreed in 1946.

Every day one of the four pilots flies the British sector section of the Wall, and every other day the French and US sectors. This way they cover the entire 100-plus miles of the Wall every three days.

It's another way of flying the flag and keeping an eye on things," said Captain Nigel Turner, who wears the 1RTR badge on his sky-blue beret.

Three other flyers make up 7 Flight — OC Major Simon Gordon-Duff and Sergeants Nigel Lewes and Steve Price. With Captain Turner they fly with care and precision ensuring they do not "stray".

"Could be problems if we do," said Nigel Turner, pointing out the "goon towers," dog runs, vehicle traps and barbed wire on the far side of the Wall.

"They're always working on it. It must cost a fortune," he said.

ROAD WATCH

While 7 Flight watches from the air, 246 Provost Company Royal Military Police, keep a tight screen on everyone passing through their Helmstedt check point, the start of the 100-mile corridor through East Germany to Berlin.

"Perfection is the name of the game here," said Major John Collins, OC of Checkpoint Alpha and senior Allied spokesman.

"When travellers fill up the forms required to pass along the Corridor, they must be perfect in every way. Even down to the last full stop. "The slightest thing wrong



VAL CROOKS: the right track for culture

and the East German guards will send them back."

Because he is the only officer in 246 Company, Major Collins uses the Naafi road house as his mess.

"When GOC Major Gen-

eral Gordon Lennox called, I had to entertain him in the Naafi restaurant. And very good it is, too," he said, introducing manager Duggie Page, who with his wife Phyllis has run the road house

for the past 13 years.

A former jockey, Duggie rode 628 winners in his 22-year career including the Irish St Leger with Diamond Slipper at 100-6 in 1955.

Now he's probably the best-known character on the Helmstedt Corridor.

"Everybody making their way to Berlin comes in here," he said, indicating the 222 unit plaques adorning the walls.

"We like people to come in here before tackling the Corridor," said Major Collins.

"That way we ensure everybody has something to eat and a chance to rest before driving the 100 miles. This is the only road to West Berlin.

"We patrol 50 miles of it with responsibility for breakdowns and general policing.

"We don't want any breakdowns or accidents, but in the event of either we can cope quite easily.

"In fact we are completely self-contained with accommodation for 58 should the need arise. With our contingency plans, should the Corridor close, we can manage any situation."

Sharing a watch at Checkpoint Alpha with two American soldiers was Corporal Rick Brothwell, 23.

Located 50 metres from the border where East German guards seemingly photograph anything and everybody,

'BRING BACK NATIONAL SERVICE'

MICHAEL CAINE who says he had a "very short and inglorious" Army career firmly believes that National Service should be brought back again for everyone — including women — for at least a year instead of paying out dole to the unemployed.

Former 22486547 Fusilier Micklewhite, M.J., as he then was in 1951, made the comment during a break in the filming of "Water" at Shepperton Studios with co-stars Leonard Rossiter and Billy Connolly.

The multi-million dollar film with a Caribbean setting is due for release at the end of this year.

"My own military career was very short and very inglorious", he said with a smile, settling his six-foot-frame into his personal canvas chair on Stage J, a sizeable Havana cigar clamped in his large left fist.

Inglorious it might have been but the 51-year-old star, born Maurice Joseph Micklewhite saw action in Korea's Samichon Valley in what he recalls as "trench warfare like World War One" while serving with the American Marines "Eye" Corps.

That experience, a whole world away from his Old Kent Road upbringing resulted in his catching a rare form of malaria.

"Our unit, the Royal Fusiliers was with a reconnaissance battalion which operated by night. Three Companies trying to find the Chinese in paddy fields was very difficult.

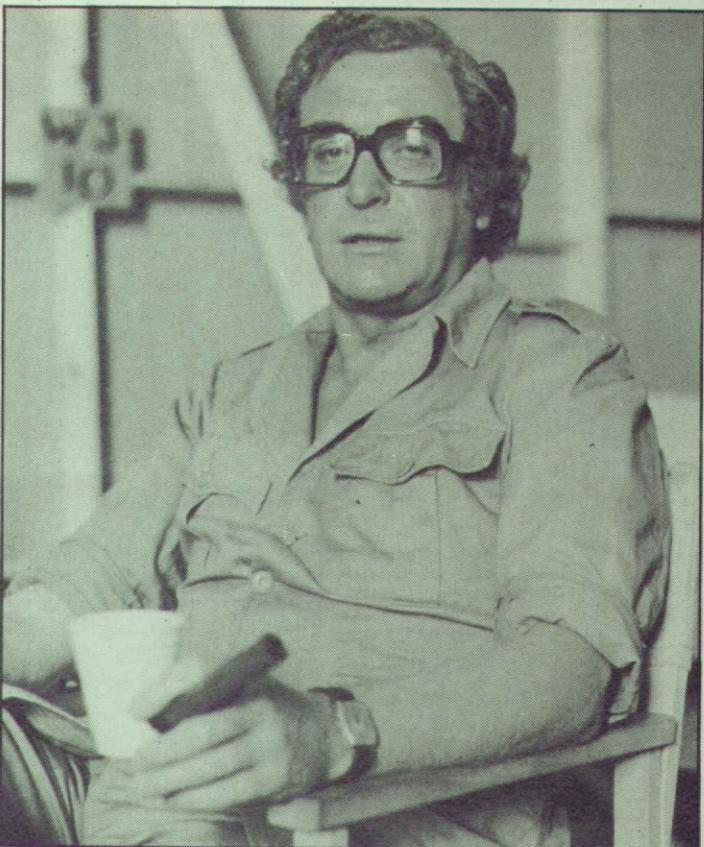
"In the heat of the Korean summer you could not recognise yourself because of the mosquito bites on your face. In winter, you were frozen in temperatures of minus 30. It was bloody awful. I was invalided out to Queen Mary's Hospital at Roehampton with a rare type of malaria. They told me: 'You are going to die anyway.'

"That type of malaria made my blood heavier and was the kind that if you moved your head you knocked yourself unconscious and got two black eyes. I was cured in five days."

Maurice Micklewhite — he changed his name to Caine after spotting a film poster advertising the 'Caine Mutiny' — the son of a Billingsgate fish market porter started his National Service at the Queen's Regimental Depot, Guildford, for his six weeks' basic training.

Posted to Iserlohn for a year, he transferred to the Royal Fusiliers to be sent to Korea for another year.

"Part of our unit," he said, "was



Interview: Graham Smith

Picture: Paul Haley

made up with Australians who actually wanted to go out and die, if need be. I said: 'Hold on lads, don't let's rush at this.'

"I'd learned in my earlier platoon training days never to stand out in any way — difficult at six-one — and not to do anything.

"I managed to fight promotion at all costs and tried to figure out some skives to get out of barracks. "I enjoyed shooting and joined the

shooting team. I was a very good marksman."

Caine did admit that there was some similarity between his attitude to Army service of some thirty years ago and the character of Harry Palmer, the unglamorous, bedsit-based spy in the film "The Ipcress File". His glasses proved a trademark from then on.

"They were a good prop. When the glasses came off, the audience

AMAZING POWERS . . .

THE film "Water", made by a company called Handmade Films (Productions) Ltd., sees MICHAEL CAINE going up in the diplomatic world. In "The Honorary Consul" based on Graham Greene's novel, he was a minor, unpaid official in a South American province; in "Water" he has risen up the scale as a fully-fledged Governor, a lazy, benign Governor bereft of ambition.

Co-starring with him are Valerie Perrine, Brenda Vaccaro, Leonard Rossiter, Billy Connolly and Fulton MacKay.

Produced by Ian La Frenais and directed by Dick Clement — "The Likely Lads" and "Auf Wiedersehen, Pet" of TV

fame — "Water" is due for release later this year.

In "Water" they turn a perceptively funny eye on such current events as island take-over bids, big business, invading revolutionaries and Foreign Office foul-ups; all more or less centred on the fictitious island of Cascara which Britain, in desperation, is preparing to dump until the discovery of a unique brand of mineral water with amazing medicinal powers.

Caught in the middle of it all is the island's happy-go-lucky Governor Baxter Thwaites, played by Michael Caine, who thought that life was a comfortable sinecure until his unyielding domain started spouting its precious liquid.

knew I meant business."

Attitude and attention to detail arose again when Caine got his first real big break in the film "Zulu". He auditioned, naturally enough, for the role of a cockney private. He ended up playing an "uppercrust lieutenant."

Michael told me: "I had always known what an officer's relationship with his men was and the men's relationship with an officer. But I didn't know what an officer's relationship with another officer was.

"For a fortnight I had lunch in the Pirbright Guards Depot officers' mess. I wanted really snotty officers. I figured the Guards would be the snottiest."

Caine smiled as he said this. A wartime evacuee aged six who played truant from school so that he could visit the cinema and later became the lowly assistant stage manager of a small repertory theatre in Sussex, Michael had boosted his slender earnings with work as a dishwasher and a plumber's mate.

Never an actor to refuse a challenge he is never out of work as one of the busiest and most sought-after stars in the business of the celluloid world of Hollywood and Los Angeles where he lives.

Scripts pile up in his Beverly Hills home and he makes no effort to conceal the fact: "I'm doing what I want to do and I love every minute of it and it stems from my Army life when I was at the beck and call of authority especially very often at the beck and call of less intelligence than yourself."

"As a National Serviceman you are not gung-ho and I could not wait to get out but I look back on my military service as an extremely valuable experience, extremely valuable.

"It teaches you to laugh at adversity. You never have so many laughs as when you are in the Army. You are all in the shit and you laugh about it."

"The Army also teaches you tremendous self-reliance and teaches you a lot about yourself. The Army is a great educational force where you can learn to drive, be a mechanic, etcetera."

"I think it must be better to pay young people to be in the Services than to pay them dole and I include women."

At that point, Caine was called on to the set where he took on another role in his fact-and-fictional life; that of the diplomatic world and the responsibilities of a fully-fledged Governor on a tiny, windswept Caribbean island.

But, that, is another story . . .

MARCHING INTO HISTORY

As the
smallest
Corps in
the British
Army plays
a sad
farewell,
the Chief
of the
General
Staff
makes a
promise . . .





With "great reluctance", General Sir John Stanier gives The Royal Military Academy Band Corps permission to march off, and promises that when the Army expands once more . . .

THIS BAND CORPS WILL BE RAISED AGAIN

THE Royal Military Academy Band Corps, Sandhurst — the smallest corps in the British Army — marched out into history at the most recent Sovereign's Parade. But could it ever march back?

The question arose out of remarks made by General Sir John Stanier, the Chief of the General Staff, when he addressed the Parade as the Sovereign's representative.

This was officially the last appearance of the band which has become a casualty of the policy to reduce the number of military bands. But the General, having thanked the RMA Band most sincerely for many years of loyalty and service to the Academy and to the Army, issued a promise 'made publicly and made binding on my successors'.

He said: "When — not if — but when the British Army expands again, as it surely will in the face of some future threat to the safety of our country; when that happens, I promise that this band Corps will be raised again in size, role and title, so that it may once again play 'Auld Lang Syne' for future generations of young men and women yet unborn as they march up those famous steps to receive their Sovereign's commissions and to uphold the glorious traditions of the British Army."

Later, when Drum Major Derek Halstead approached General Stanier for formal permission to march off the band, the Chief of the General Staff replied: "With great reluctance. But you may."

The crowd stood, the officers saluted and the junior division of cadets presented arms as the band marched off the square for the last time. On this sad occasion they were granted the unique privilege of leaving by 'those famous steps' to the Old Building.

They followed the same route which had just been taken by student officers having their commissions confirmed and cadets being commissioned for the first time. As they marched in slow time towards oblivion, the bandsmen played 'Wish me luck as you wave me Goodbye' and 'Will ye no come back Again' before breaking into Handel's 'Scipio', the Academy's official slow march.

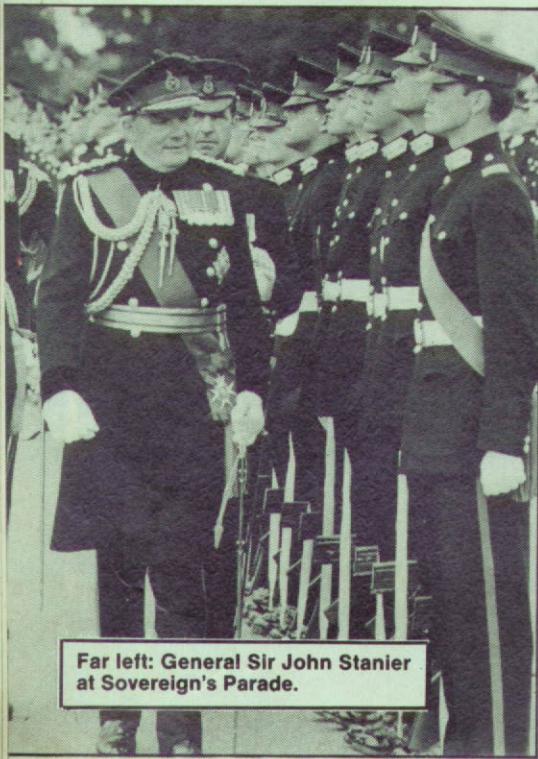
It was an emotional moment. The band has been very much a part of Sandhurst ever since a Military College was transferred there three years before the Battle of Waterloo.

Its origins may go back to the time when the Royal Military College was at Marlow in Buckinghamshire. But it was obviously an established fact in 1815, shortly after the move to Sandhurst, for records from that year mention a bandmaster, 14 musicians and an allocation of £175 for new instruments.

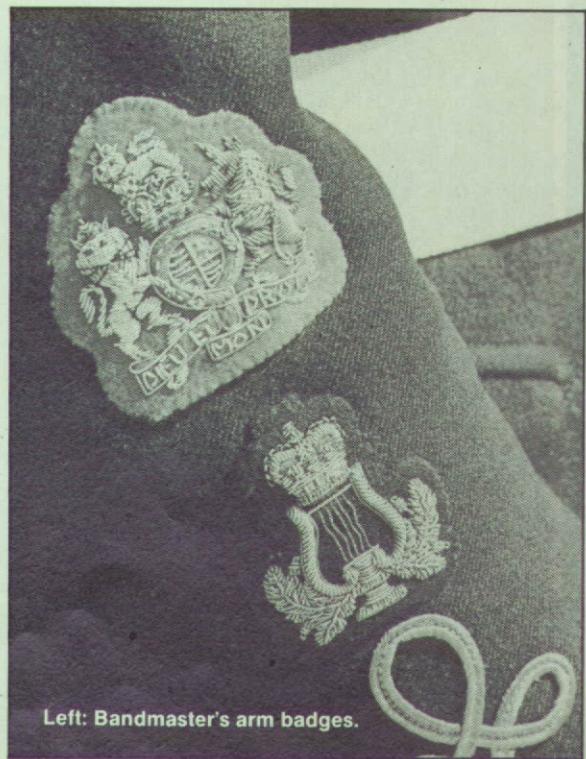
But what gives the band its special place in the history of British military music is the fact that from its formation it was organised and paid for by the War Office.

In the old days regimental bands were officially allowed but the funds to run them had to be found by regimental officers. The War Office evidently recognised that the Royal Military College — then staffed by officers on half pay and lowly paid professors — could not afford its own musicians.

In this way the smallest corps in the Army came into being. At its disbandment it had just 38 other ranks and one officer. And it



Far left: General Sir John Stanier at Sovereign's Parade.



Left: Bandmaster's arm badges.

occupied a place in the Army List tucked away between the Royal Army Veterinary Corps and the Small Arms School Corps.

As late as the mid-19th Century there were still only four bandmasters recognised in the Army estimates. They included the bandmaster at Sandhurst — at the time one Thomas Sullivan. His son, the composer Sir Arthur Sullivan, became a towering figure in English light opera in collaboration with W S Gilbert.

By the turn of the century the RMC Band was well enough established for fixed charges to be set for outside engagements like providing incidental music at cricket matches or garden parties, or playing for concerts and theatricals. The charges ranged from £1.20 for the Bandmaster down to 25p for a musician.

Bandmasters became directors of music when the College became the Academy as RMC Woolwich was amalgamated with Sandhurst shortly after the War.

Major Brian Smith has the melancholy honour of being the last man to be in command of the Army's smallest corps. He became Director of Music in 1977 and for the past two years, ever since the announcement of the decision to scrap the band, he has had the dispiriting experience of seeing long-serving bandsmen leave for what jobs they can find outside. In fact many of those playing at the last parade were volunteers from other bands brought in to plug the gaps.

Only three members of the Band Corps have been lucky enough to find jobs inside the Army. One has transferred to the Royal Corps of Transport Band, another has taken up the position of organist at the Chaplains' Department, Bagshot, and a third will stay on to run the music library at Sandhurst for the benefit of the bands which will now be attached to the RMA on a term by term basis.

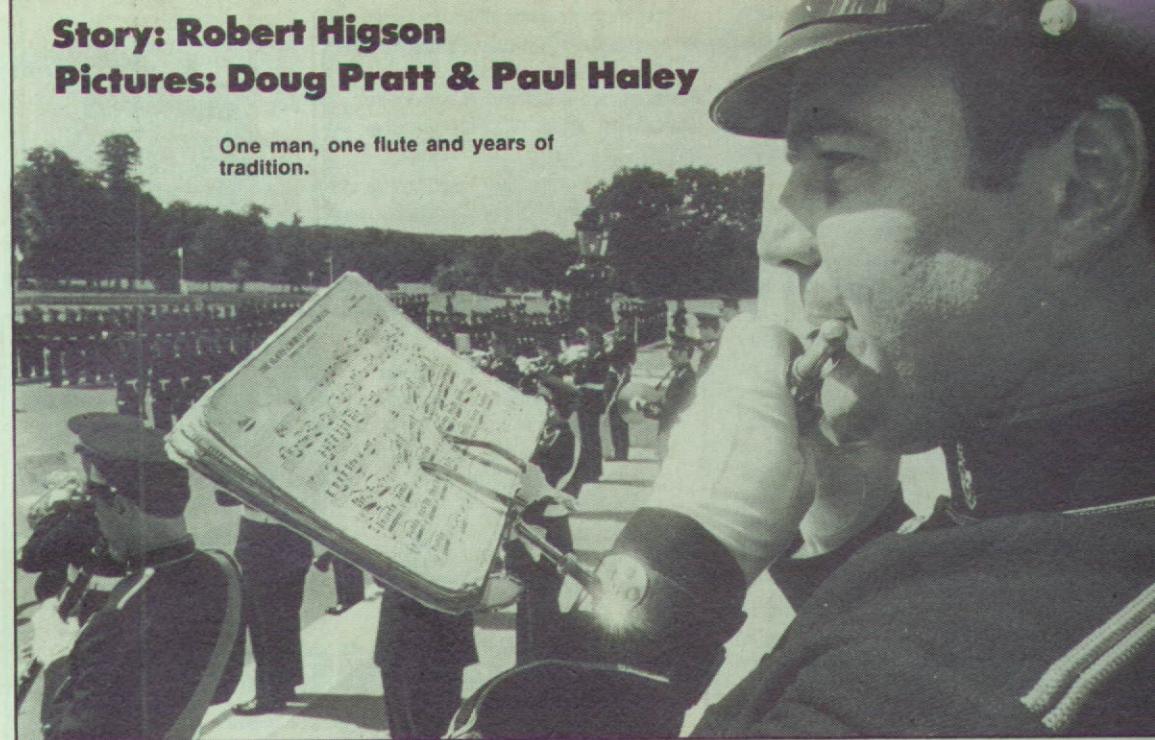
For himself, Major Smith isn't worried. He was due to retire in October in any case and now he has been asked to stay another term to help the new permanent Director of Music find his feet.

But, along with his men, Major Smith does regret the passing of the band. "The general feeling is that it is a terribly mistaken decision," he said. "Quite apart from the fact that they will be thrown on the scrapheap, as it were, they know that the great strength of the band and the reason why everything works so smoothly is that they know their job."

"New people come in one at a time and learn the job from the people around them. In my first term I didn't know what the heck was going on but I had a highly experienced band sergeant major who kept me on the straight and

Story: Robert Higson Pictures: Doug Pratt & Paul Haley

One man, one flute and years of tradition.



narrow. He knew exactly what to do.

Major Smith does not doubt the competence of the bands that will now rotate, term by term, at Sandhurst. But he and his men feel that by the time they are getting to grips with the special demands of the RMA it will be time for them to move on.

The RMA Band has been very much part of life at Sandhurst. It has played at formal dinners and at church services. It has accompanied sports events, the Academy Review and the Staff College Panto.

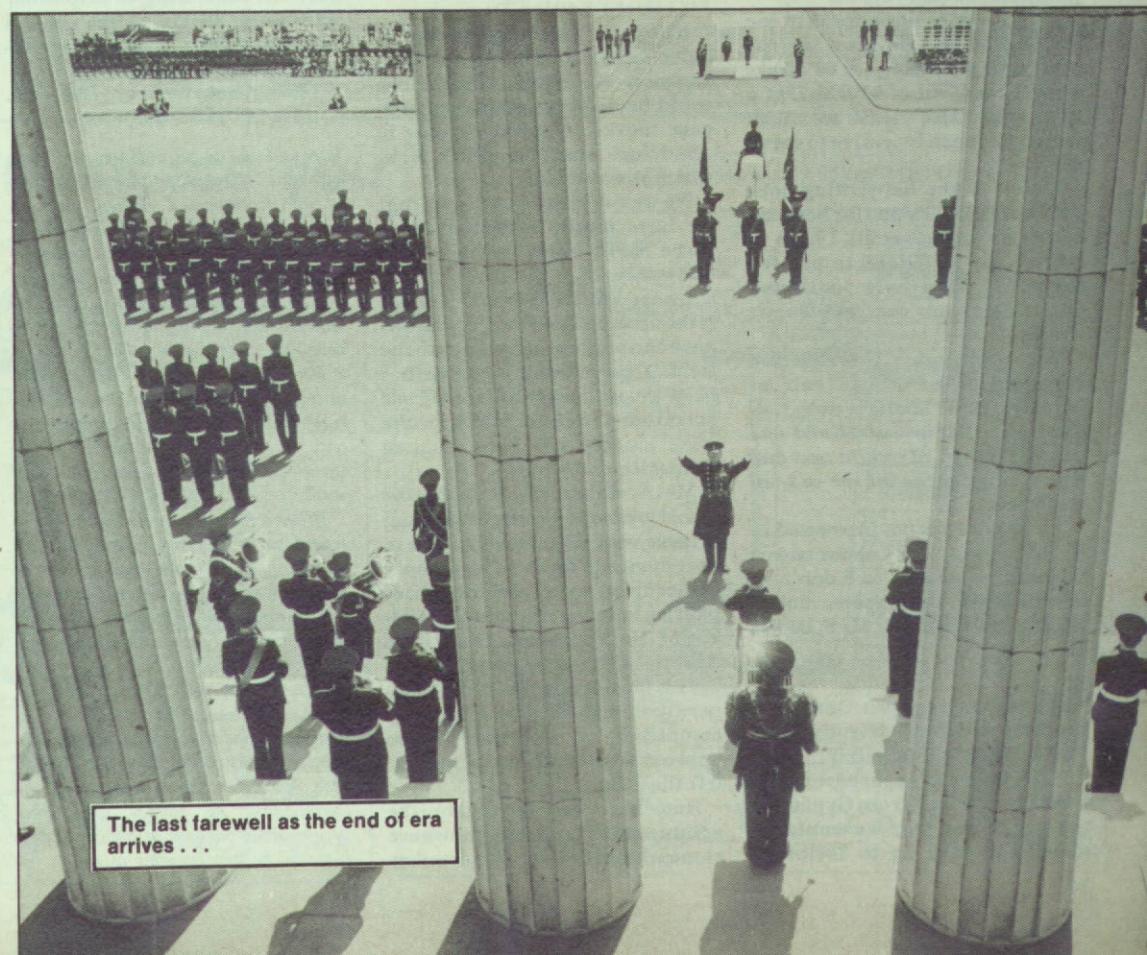
But its most important contribution has been on the Square

during Sovereign's Parades. This, as Major Smith says, is the public face of Sandhurst — the standard by which outsiders judge the Academy.

It's hardly a matter of surprise that Major Smith is a firm believer in the importance of music in military matters. He is one of those who maintains that not everything about the Army is to do with weapons and tactics.

There is tradition, he says, as well as a sense of style. And when such things are lost they are hard to recover.

Major Brian Smith — melancholy honour.



The last farewell as the end of era arrives...

WE HAVE now passed the final date (31 July) for submissions to the Dept of Health & Social Security reviews.

These far-reaching reviews could have as large an impact on the future of our Social Security system as did the Beveridge Report.

It remains to be seen whether the MOD and SSAFA submissions on child benefit and young people and supplementary benefit will have any bearing on the rules as they affect Service families.

I have made a submission for the maternity benefits review and this also covers the Department of Employment maternity pay scheme. Thank you for your letters on these subjects.

The amount of money wives lose because their husbands are in the Services is staggering and there's no compensation for this loss. Who else would be prepared to accept this state of affairs?

The argument that no hardship is caused is questionable. Just because the husband is in employment does not eradicate possible hardship.

In the United Kingdom these benefits are paid whether the husband is working or not.

They are paid because either, the person has paid Class I contributions since 1977 — or their income is below a certain amount decreed by Government, and require financial help. The same applies in cases of disability.

The figures show that some service families are losing £100-plus a month.

Servicemen have job security and accept upheavals, but there is no justification



in wives being penalised by not being eligible for allowances under the DHSS Social Security system.

Many service wives make sacrifices in order to support their husbands, and the voluntary work which many such wives undertake is vitally important to well-being of Service life.

Yet, in my view mismanagement penalises these very people, who are an integral part of the support of our fighting Services.

Anne Armstrong

SICK PAY LEAFLET

Don't lose your right to claim Statutory Sick Pay (SSP).

An important new DHSS leaflet is NI 208 April '84 National Insurance Contribution Rates and Statutory Sick Pay Rates.

This leaflet also gives the new-styled National Insurance Number card.

Read also NI 244 Check your Right to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP). These leaflets can be obtained from your local Social Security Office and from BFPOs overseas.

You can claim when you are working overseas and being paid from the British budget (ie paying British National Insurance Contributions Class I).

SSP rates:

Earning £68 or more	£42.25
£50.50-£67.99	£35.45
£34.50-£50.49	£28.55

taxpayer to pay again for the possessions in question to be sent unaccompanied.

It is for much the same reason that a Serviceman is ineligible for motor mileage allowance for the part of a privately arranged journey from Cyprus covered by available Service arrangements.

My sources say the contention that people who drive home from Cyprus are saving public money is not correct.

Cyprus is served by schedule air trooping flights in both directions and the fact that throughout the year some people are granted permission to travel overland from Cyprus under their own arrangements rather than take the official passages available to them does not mean that the air trooping service can be reduced.

TIP

Baggage form

If you want to avoid delays to your unaccompanied baggage to UK from overseas under Service arrangements then make sure you have the NEW Customs and Excise Form, C3 TRIAL.

From 1 June, '84 the old Form C3 (Forces) became useless. The NEW Form C3 TRIAL has been available since 1 January, '84.

ASK ANNE

accompanying baggage between us, at public expense. This whole amount would then be deducted from our MFO and an unaccompanied baggage allowance arrived at. (See Form F/MOV/713A rev 7/83 Part I Section 3).

However, we have chosen to drive home to UK, at our own expense. We asked whether we could have the accompanied baggage moved at public expense ie added back onto the MFO from which it was deducted.

No we could not — it seems that we have totally forfeited about three MFO boxes worth of our allowance.

Under 282/TPT&MOV/Annexe A the accompanied baggage allowance can only be added back to the total if permission to drive has been given (easily obtained) and permission to claim MMA for the whole journey has been granted (impossible to obtain).

MMA, at the Leave Rate, for the whole journey can only be claimed if there were no seats on flights in that month. If any seat was empty or occupied by a non-duty occupant (eg indulgee) then the Certificate of No Vacancies, from RAF Akrotiri will not be given.

This form is generated with one's permission to drive and is only completed at the end of the appropriate month ie after one has left the island.

But, in order to regain the accompanied baggage allowance as mentioned before, it is necessary

to have permission to claim MMA before leaving. I cannot for the life of me see how the conditions could ever be filled.

I find it incredible that by saving the Government the cost of our two flight places and of flying our luggage as opposed to shipping it, they are so mean as to remove our entitlement to have it moved at public expense.

Driving home to UK or Germany has become very popular here in the last 3-4 years and I reckon that it must save at least one whole aeroplane every year. We must be saving them a fortune.

It is now too late for anything to be done for us but maybe you could sort out something to help other travellers. Surely we get enough hassle at MFP/packing time without this sort of nitpicking.

Many thanks for your good work.
— Mrs M, BFPO 58.

I am told that on posting, personnel have an overall baggage entitlement made up of an accompanied element and an unaccompanied element. The unaccompanied element is arrived at by deducting the accompanied element from the total.

The two allowances produced are entirely separate and all or part of one cannot be added to the other.

For Cyprus, the accompanied allowance goes with the serviceman on his air trooping flight and the unaccompanied is sent by surface means under MOD arrangements using commercial forwarders.

When a Serviceman chooses to return from Cyprus by private car despite the availability of Service arrangements he automatically makes himself ineligible for the accompanied baggage allowance he and his family could have taken with them on their flight(s).

The reason why the accompanied allowance cannot be added to the unaccompanied allowance in these circumstances is that as provision has already been made for the movement of the Serviceman, his family, and their accompanied baggage at public expense it would be unreasonable to expect the

I am 18-years old and have been in BFG since November 1982. I have been back in the sixth form at Kent but not being one for school that didn't last very long.

I have also had a couple of part-time jobs, the first was last summer as an assistant green-keeper at Laarbruch golf course, which was 15 hours a week at four Deutsch marks an hour.

It was casual labour so as long as I completed the 15 hours during the week I was paid.

The second job was with PSI as a married quarters garage maintenance man which was eight marks an hour but the workload was minimal, so we agreed that it was pointless me carrying on.

As YTS does not appeal to me because when I do get a job my mum and dad will want 60 marks a week rent, out of 93 DM 75pf a week that doesn't leave me much money or much incentive to carry on.

Unless I get babysitting jobs which are very few and far between I have no income at all, I have to rely on my girlfriend to pay for things like going to the youth club etc, which I am not very happy about.

The only clothes I possess are one pair of jeans, one pair of trousers (too small) a few t-shirts, one denim jacket and one combat jacket. My mum and dad do not buy clothes for me so I am stuck there.

Although I am not interested in YTS I do go to Civil Labour two or three times a week so I don't sit around all day hoping some money will fall into my lap. — Mr S, BFPO 43.

I am writing to you about an anomaly which my friends and I find iniquitous and unfair.

If my husband (a corporal) and I were to fly home from Cyprus at the end of our tour we would be allowed to take up to 180lbs of

Star Wars man is a hit with safety role

DAVE Prowse of Star Wars fame has another role — that of the Green Cross Code man, and in his time with the road-safety campaign has seen a 43 per cent drop in accidents involving children, from 40,000 to 23,500.

Even so, deaths and injuries involving children reach four figures in most years, but in the never-ending search for further reductions Dave tours the United Kingdom and overseas, giving children the benefit of a magical two-hour presentation.

Minister of Transport Mrs Linda Chalker is unstinting in praise of the roving Green Cross Code man, and the impact his campaigning has had on children of all ages.

After I met him in 1981, I felt a visit by him to our children in Germany would be worthwhile, but, as often happens, no money was available.

Two years later there was still no money but Mrs Chalker came to our rescue this year and Dave flew to Germany to take the Green Cross message to 1,000 children in Rheindahlen and Gutersloh.

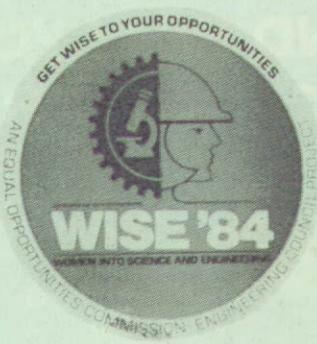
The verdict of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) R Bateson, Road Safety Officer for British Forces Germany: "He's magic, pure magic."

If Dave's visit meant the saving of just one child from death or injury, then the visit was worth every penny.

He has visited Cyprus and may visit other overseas bases. He says: "It doesn't matter where the children are, but they must be doubly careful where the traffic flow is on a different side to the one we are used to in Britain! I always stress to the children to remember the Green Cross Code — 'STOP-LOOK-LISTEN'.

"If they can't remember that I plead with them to just STOP".

They must wait until help comes along, and I hope they don't have to wait too long before they see Dave again. It would be nice if his visits overseas could be placed on a regular basis.



Dave Prowse giving children in Germany some life-saving hints.

BOOM-TIME FOR GIRLS

"Engineering? A career for my daughter? Never! Grease, oil and overalls". This sort of observation was familiar to those assembled to see the launch of the WISE Bus.

By launching WISE 84 the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and the Engineering Council, and backed by numerous firms, the Manpower Services Commission, Department of Trade & Industry, and Employment, aim to draw attention to career opportunities in the engineering industry and in those professions requiring science qualifications far removed from oil, grease and overalls.

"The future of the country depends on our remaining in the forefront of technology. We will only stay ahead if we make full use of all the human talent at our disposal, and among other things this means persuading more girls and women to take up careers in science and engineering," said the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret

Thatcher, as she launched the WISE Bus at the start of its year-long tour of the UK schools encompassing pupils, parents and teachers.

The bus offers girls from eight to 18-plus 'hands on experience' with computers, microprocessors and other equipment backed up with visual and written guides to careers opportunities.

It is hoped to motivate more girls to take an interest in new technologies when they can actually try for themselves and talk to people on the bus.

There is a serious skill shortage in Britain in technical and professional engineering, and many vacancies go unfilled, particularly in the electronic and electrical industries, yet women are only 2.32% of technicians in engineering and only 2.64% of all professional engineers. Yet 94% of women in engineering are employed as operators, clerical staff or in unskilled grades.

Now is the time to find out more, so see the WISE Bus if it visits your area.

I asked the Project Director, Mr Geoffrey Shillito if it would be possible for the bus to visit our schools in Germany as the opportunities are more limited in comparison to the UK. He thought such a visit would be possible.

Schools and employers are being encouraged to set up school-industry link schemes, those backed by the Engineering Industry being designed specifically for girls.

More information can be obtained from: Engineering Council, Canberra House, 10-16 Maltravers St, London, WC2R 3ER; 01 240 7891;

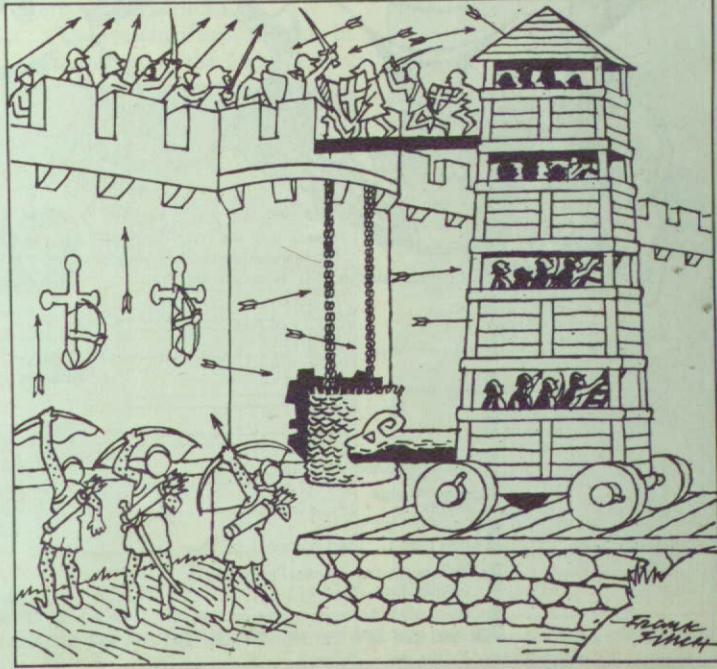
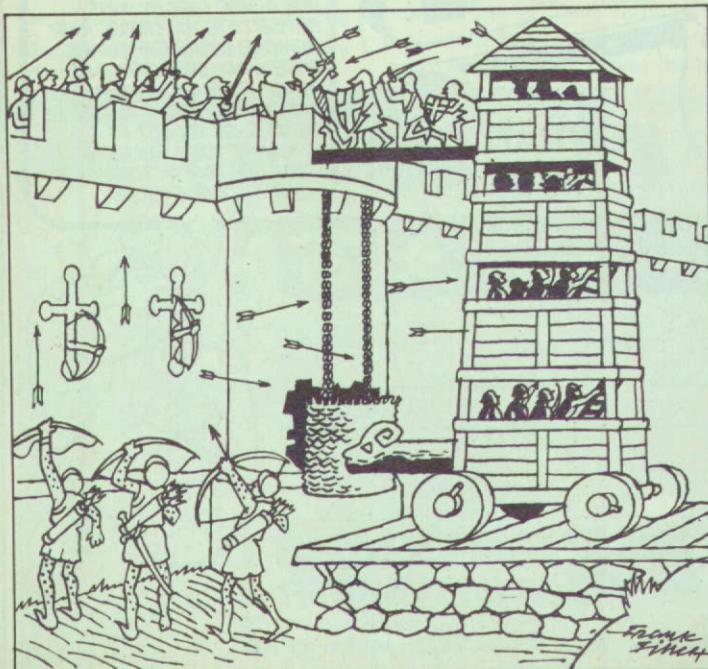
British School Technology, BST/NCST, Trent Polytechnic, Barton St, Nottingham NG1 4BU;

Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay St, Manchester, M3 3HN.

How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details.

Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 39.



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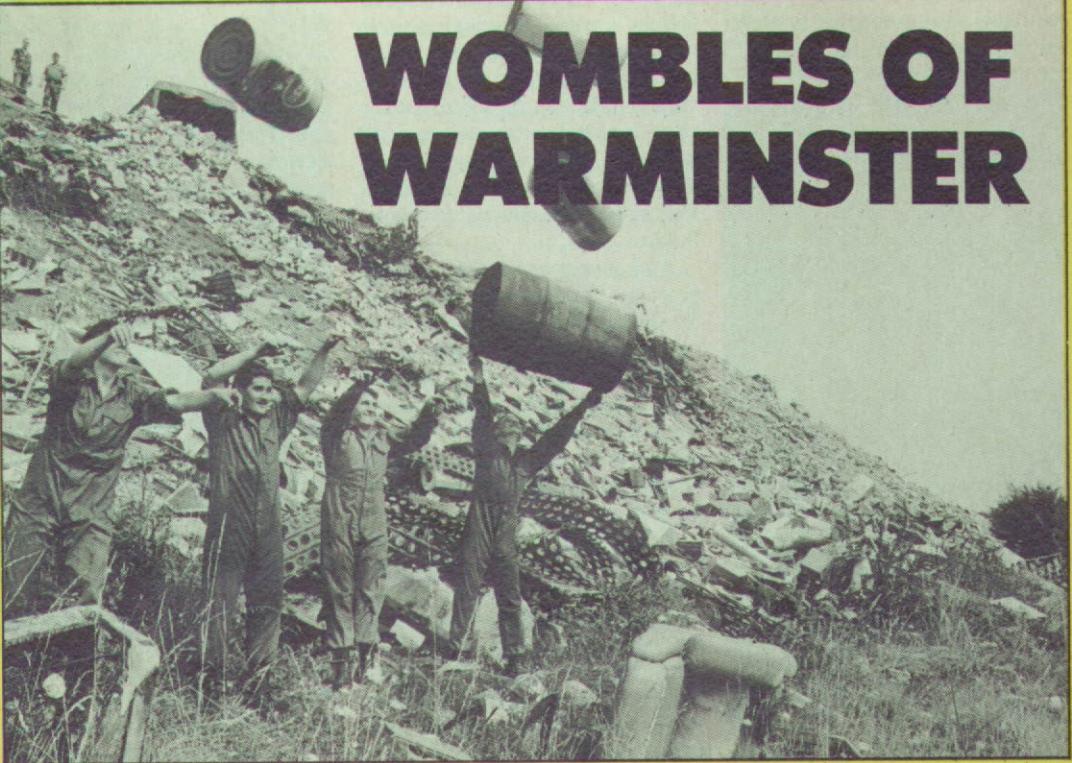
Address _____

S23

NATOCARS OF BRIDGWATER

A cartoon character is shown holding a tray with a drink, smiling.

WOMBLES OF WARMINSTER



UNCLE BULGARIA and his genteel fellow Wombles of Wimbledon Common have it cushy by comparison.

They are equally conservation-conscious but less cuddly and certainly more vernacular country cousins in the south-west of England, the soldiering "Wombles of Warminster" have it much harder over a much bigger area; Salisbury Plain.

They have just roamed 60 square kilometres of Salisbury Plain West's five training segments for a massive belated spring clean. For, every year just before the Army's seasonal stand down for the summer hols, soldiers under the sponsorship of Warminster's nearby School of Infantry — this year, as once before, men from the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, the Demonstration Battalion — swap their barrack room weekly orders for wire cutters, their training syllabi for shovels, picks and large plastic waste sacks.

Their duties: a concentrated clean sweep — Exercise Womble — of reported black spots around the UK's most famous training

Discipline amid the disorder of the defence stores debris.

area between Warminster and Tilshead.

Their targets: discarded defence stores ranging from rusting 45-gallon oil drums to flimsy Mars bar wrappers, from expended shell cases to six-foot angle-iron pickets, from D-10 field radio comms cords, dumped Civvy cars to compo tins, corrugated tin and abundant barbed wire.

This year, too, they also filled in more than 100 well-dug defensive position four-foot-deep trenches.

By the end of the week-long ecological cleansing of Salisbury Plain West's training areas under the watchful eyes of RSM Bob Doak, the 100 or so combat-kitted refuse removers had shifted 70 four-tonne lorry loads of tactical 'gash' to a central rubbish dump

Drums away! What a dump! near Battlesbury Ring. "A" Squadron, 4 RTR had cleared two other areas the week previous.

Down on the impressive, cliff-like dump, the latest influx of the unwanted was sifted again in the search for items of particular re-use such as six-foot pickets. They cost five pounds a time.

Keeping the four-page admin instruction Exercise Womble manoeuvres on task during the facelift was a fleet of eight four-tonne lorries, a control Land Rover and an ambulance — just in case of cuts and tears to hands and legs.

Major Tom Silverside, RWF, the Demonstration Officer, said: "I don't think people outside the military realise just how much effort, physically and verbally during briefing, is put into military exercises from the conservation point of view. Such advice usually comprises half-a-page in most exercise instructions."

"The system of military help in conservation on the Plain is seen

to be working. If you stand anywhere on the Plain, the most efficient and probably the largest conservancy area in England today, you will see uninterrupted sweeping fields, many of them cultivated, woods, wild flowers and the occasional wild life.

"During Exercise Womble we aim to leave parts of the Plain looking at their best when the tourists go in. It is not just this once a year we have this clean-up of the reported black spots but this 'Wombling week' is the major one into which we put all our efforts. It's rather like a housewife's spring clean, but on a far wider scale, you know."

RSM Doak, 17 years in the Army and in his current post for the past 18 months, told me: "This is the second time we have been involved in Exercise Womble. We were caught for it when we arrived in Warminster from Lemgo, BAOR.

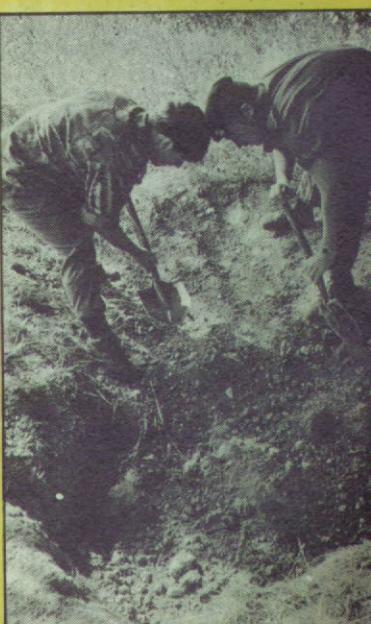
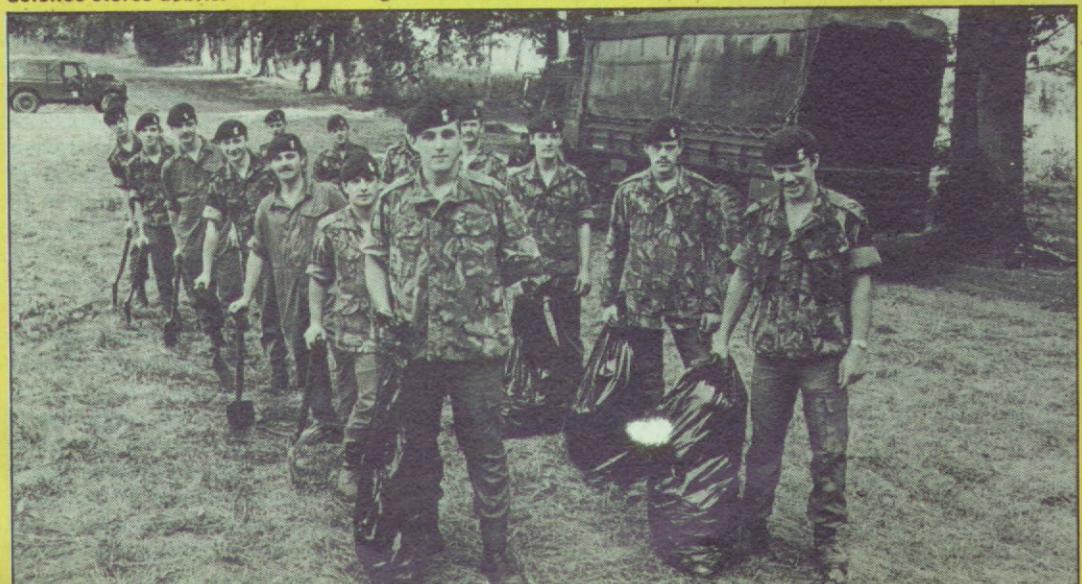
"We were involved in the Cardiff Tattoo last year and this year will be our last 'Wombles'. We are moving to Tern Hill near Market Drayton in November and next year we go off to the Falklands. I wouldn't be surprised if they asked us to get involved in area clearance down there, either!"

On the tidiness of the Plain, he suggested, with some seriousness: "Perhaps they ought to introduce a system of marching-in and marching-out rather like our married quarters routine. That could be one of the answers."

Within two hours of the last 'Womble' finishing another chapter in the military annals of conservation, most of the lads were changed and on the M4 heading for their native Wales and four weeks of well-earned leave.

Story: Graham Smith

Pictures: Doug Pratt



Yes... they are really filling IN the trench for a change.

HEY CALL Imber the "lost village" on Salisbury Plain, a 3,000-year-old settlement once owned by a Saxon and mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 AD.

Nearly 900 years later little remains of Imber from where, on

17 December, 1943, its 70 inhabitants were evacuated to make way for a war across the Channel, the D-Day landings in Normandy.

Under the same Government proclamation applying to Devon's Slapton Sands four decades ago, the residents of Imber were given

six weeks to move out. Like Slapton Sands, say the surviving villagers now spread as far afield as Essex and Cornwall, they were promised they would return some day to their thatched cottage community between West Lavington and Warminster. They never did. Their Devonian counterparts were luckier.

And once a year for the past 28 years on the Saturday nearest to St. Giles's Day, 1 September — it coincides exactly this year — the dwindling number of those who once lived in Imber come back to swap reminiscences, talk to each other about the present and remember the churchyard dead with flowers.

With special dispensation from the Army authorities — the War Office bought most of Imber village in 1932 and now use a purpose-built complex for FIBUA (Fighting in Built-Up Areas) training — the nostalgic refugees on their annual sentimental journey attend two services in the village's 700-year-old hillside church of St Giles with its barren-vaulted ceilings.

The priest-in-charge from a clutch of neighbouring villages holds the noon and 3 p.m. services as the former childhood friends and their descendants sit in chairs loaned by the Army.

Services over, the padlocks go back on to the entry point to the church through the barbed wire fence securing the compound.

Usually, Imber — the name comes from the Saxon 'Imma-St. Giles's Church; scene of the annual pilgrimage by former villagers and their families.

Gemaer' (though no one knows who he was) — is opened to the public on six days a year.

Imber of old has mostly disappeared apart from the salient church and most young infantrymen could probably know little of its incident-filled heritage as they move from house to house in their urban training role; moving purposefully and intently between the drab breeze block buildings.

Yet today's Imber with its street-fighting connotations of the past 15 years or so has a fascinating history stretching back to 967 AD when it was significant as an endowment to the Abbess of Romsey.

This land-owning ecclesiastical lady possessed seven hides (a hide was anything from 60 to 100 acres) of property to the south of Imber which was not apparently recorded in the Domesday Survey. The Abbey held on to them until the Dissolution of the Monasteries by Henry VIII in the 16th century.

The Survey did, however, chronicle that a Saxon called Alwinus owned Imber but, after the Norman Conquest, this was granted to Lord Ralph de Mortimer and assessed at two hides worth £3 each. Its population: one villager and four borderers.

Sheep farming was the prominent lifestyle of Imber which, according to a much later couplet, was simply referenced: "Five miles from any town. There stands Imber on the down."

In 967 AD the locals numbered just 50. By 1337 it has risen to 250, by 1801 to 331 living in 60 houses, by 1841 to 510 and by 1931 just 152 residents.

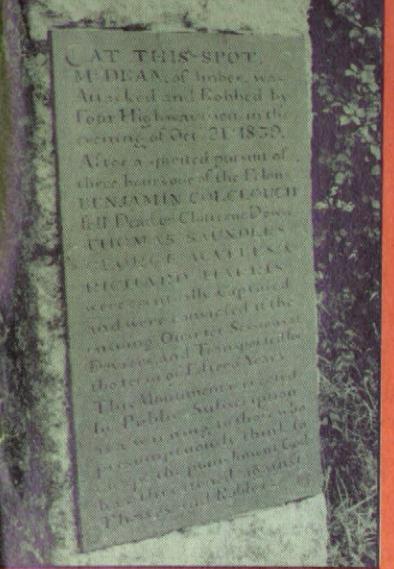
So isolated is Imber that tracks over the Plain or down were marked by heaps of chalk to guide people by night. One man in the last century froze to death. The chalk had been obscured by snow.

Imber has had a mixture of tradespeople and professions living in its picturesque confines over the years of the last century.

A ragman, a bakeress, two washerwomen, shoemaker (a part-time chapel and Sunday School superintendent), two gamekeepers, a preacher, a carrier, five ox carters, a smith and two Master Dew Pond makers aged 79 and 80 whose two assistants were also nearly 80!

In its hey-day, dominated by the church — rebuilt in 1280 with a tower and north porch added in 1380 — Imber, with its bucolic charms, had a pub (The Bell from 1769), a shop, post office, vicarage, two schools, a smithy, Baptist chapel and cemetery, farms, barns, a windmill — 400 yards west of the vicarage — and the inevitable manor house called Imber Court.

In anticipation of return to their counter sales in 1944, it is said, the Bell Inn publicans re-newed their liquor licence bids for years.



Site of an early 'mugging' in 1839; a marker stone on the road near Westdown Camp.

June, 1716 to be exact — a robber Grimes was buried there having been shot with an accomplice by one Edward Slade of Chitterne after a long and desperate chase. The two men had robbed several people returning from Warminster Market.

In 1839, Mr Dean of Imber was attacked and robbed by four highwaymen at St Joan a Gores crossroads. He pursued them for three hours until one of them dropped dead on Chitterne Down. The other three were eventually apprehended, convicted and sentenced to be transported for 15 years.

The "Robber Stone" still marks the spot of the attack about 200 yards north of the crossroads.

Other images from the past, ghostly visions abound in Imber according to local repute but none of them in military uniforms!

Clanking chains in the old dog kennels on the site of Imber Court's barn. A wraith-like Mrs Wadman used to wander nocturnally through Imber Court with a lighted candle.

An agile equestrian, they say, used to ride through the village at night. If anyone could catch him he would lead them to buried treasure. Nobody did and soldiers on night manoeuvres there still live in hope.

But there have been happier times. Like that of Queen Victoria's Jubilee on Whit Monday 1887 when 360 people sat down in Mr Dean's three-bay barn to a dinner of 344 lbs of cold beef and mutton, 30 hot plum puddings, 20 gallons of bread and all washed down with 72 gallons of best ale. This was all done on a 'whip-round' of just £23 13s 10d.

Finesse came in the form of Imber Court manor house where, in about 1830, a "classical, commercial and mathematical Academy for young men" was created. It burned down in 1920 but was re-built.

Less refined from an earlier era

was the brawl in church between

Elizabeth Courtly and Mary

Gibbes

who had the misfortune to

share the same church pew in 1646

which led to some very unladylike

invective and mayhem.

The Wiltshire Quarter Sessions

duly recorded that the woman

Courtly

complained

the other party

had

"abused her in the seates in

the time of divine service."

Mary Gibbes had apparently

stuck a pin in her,

pinched her,

called her a whore

and bid her go

to Mr Olive's

to steal victuals.

Gibbes,

for her part,

said that

Courtly

had

"pulled her by the

arm in a violent manner

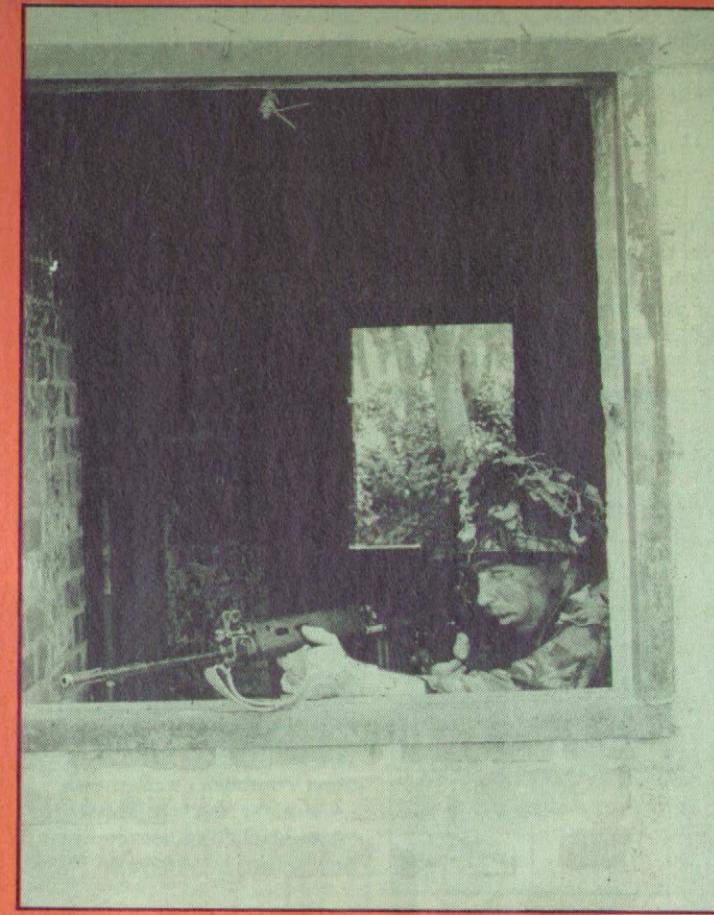
and pinched her and,

striving together,

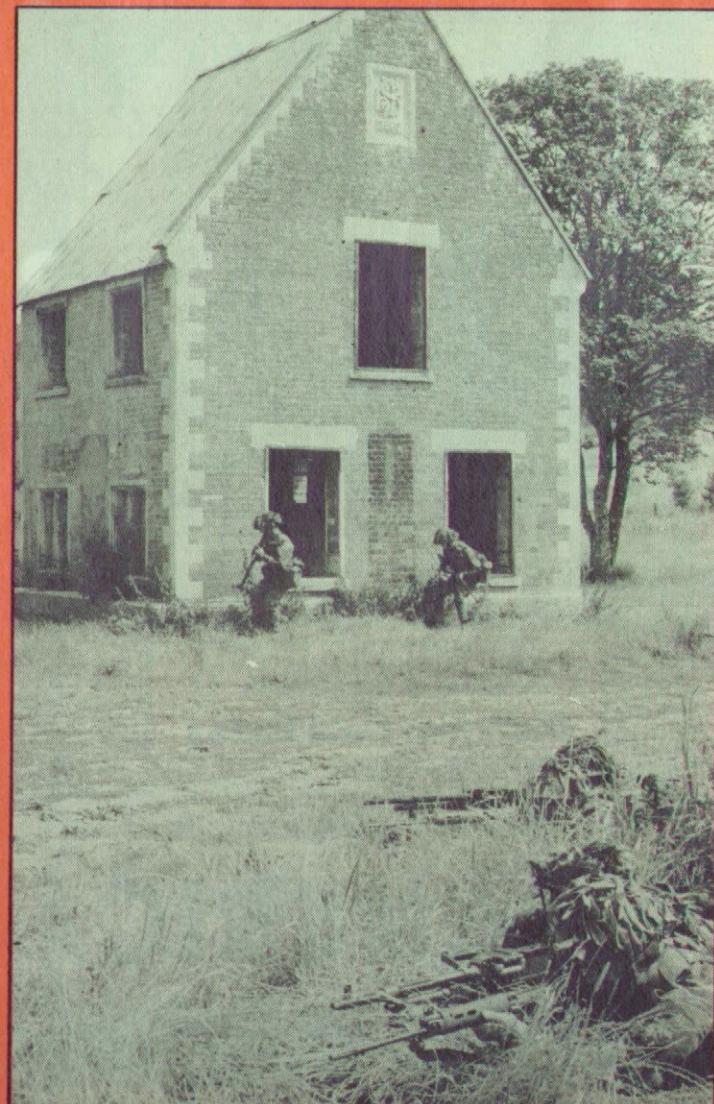
did tread upon her in the seate."

Of even more dastardly nature

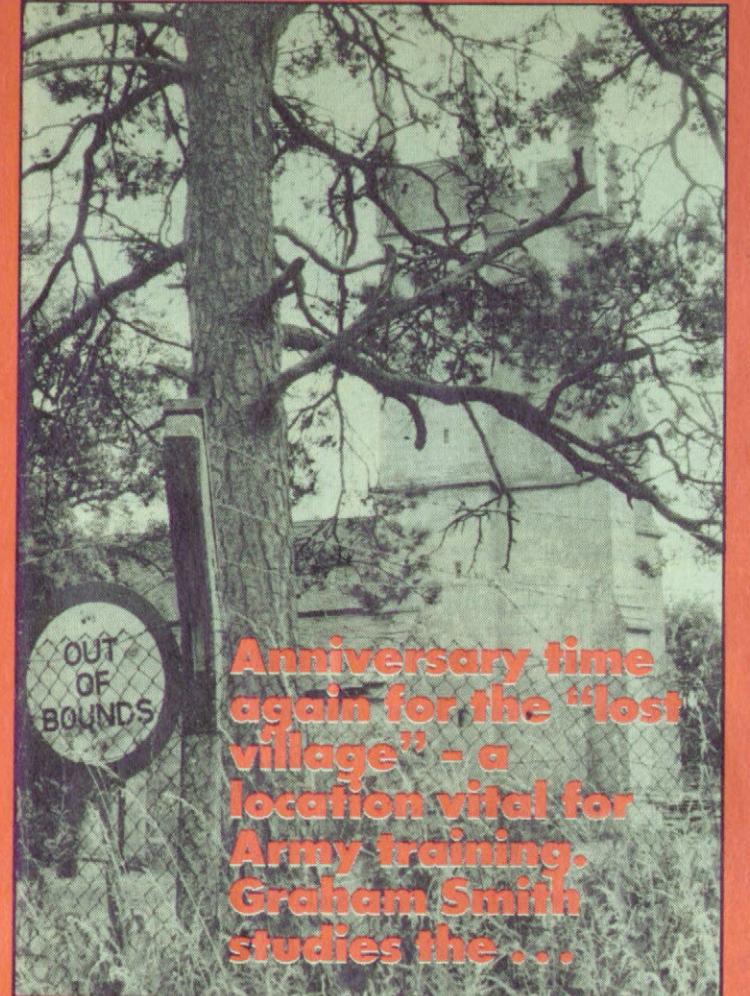
in Imber's later history — on 3



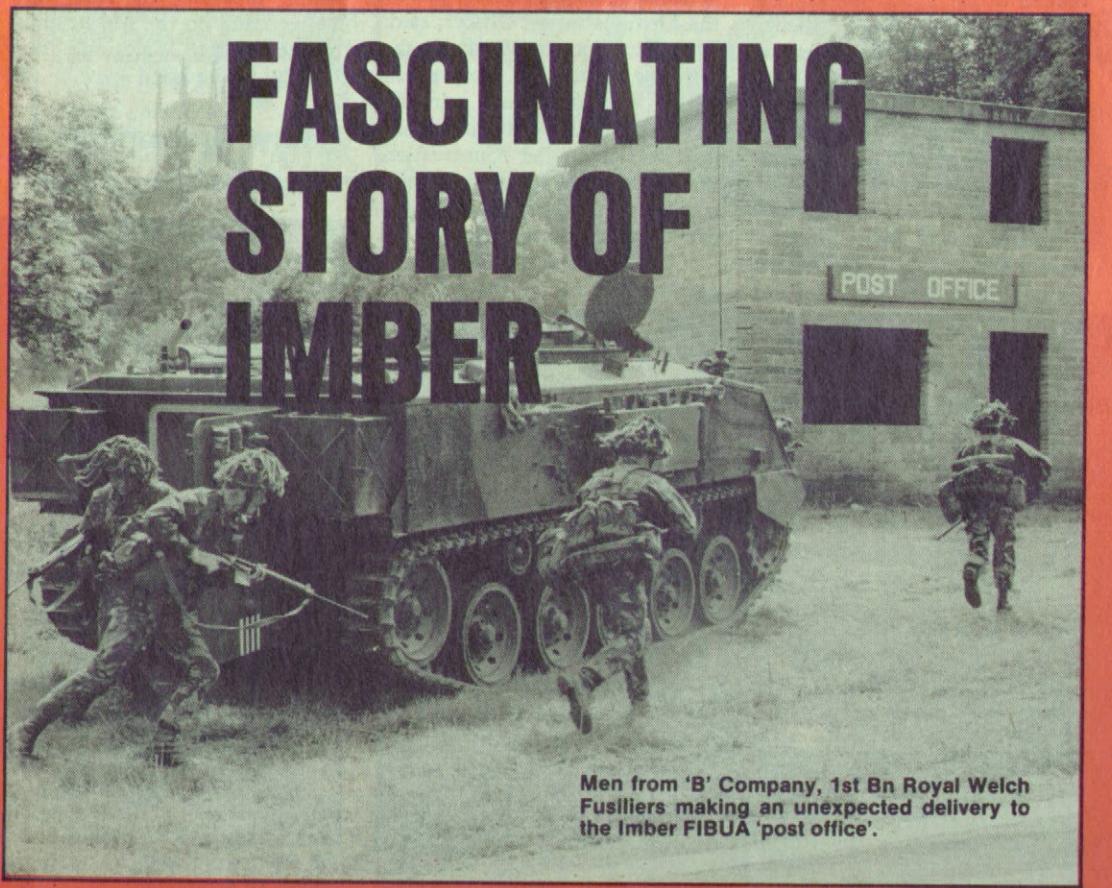
He's ready for anything. An infantryman from 1 RWF takes up position in an air-conditioned 'house'.



Movement is generated from the 1880 school house in Imber village by a section of infantrymen over a century later.



Anniversary time again for the "lost village" — a location vital for Army training. Graham Smith Studies the ...



Men from 'B' Company, 1st Bn Royal Welch Fusiliers making an unexpected delivery to the Imber FIBUA 'post office'.

Imber Court Farm with luncheon in the barn, followed by sports and competitions for all.

But the military was to move closer in a bigger way. Salisbury Plain had come under the scrutiny of Prince Albert as a training area. He had likened it to Lüneberg Heath.

In the closing years of the last century the War Office began to buy up land on the east end of the Plain. Experience in the Zulu Wars and on India's North-West Frontier had shown that training areas had to be big enough for realistic fieldcraft and marksmanship training. The sheepfarming downland seemed to be a suitable choice.

Training areas were extended. Target areas, too. The "Wonder Works" earthworks to the east of Imber's Wadman's Coppice became a target and then the ground south of Imber, west of the Heytesbury Road.

Imber suffered minor damage from the "concussion of shellfire", according to one source, and its inhabitants were confined to the village except for three journeys out each week to get food.

In 1932 the War Office bought Imber except for the church lands, school, chapel and the Bell Inn. Until 1943, Imber Village remained inhabited with a 1,000-yard safety area round it.

But, in 1943, US Army Engineers moved in and started to prepare the village for house clearing and to develop the artillery ranges. Bungey's Lane — named after a butcher's well-known dog — and the track to Heytesbury were metalled to become what is now known as "American Road."

On December 17, 1943, Imber was finally evacuated.

Since then, not much has happened though there were oil



Clearing weapons outside the reputedly haunted Imber Court, once a "classical academy for young men."

drilling rigs in the vicinity in 1981 penetrating into Wessex's 3,000-year-old heritage in the quest to find 'black gold'. It came to naught.

For 41 years the village has been silent apart from the activities of the modern infantryman going about his training. All the ghosts have left . . . or have they?

Was that a clank of chains in the old kennels? Did a candle flicker in the old Imber Court area the other night or was it a match lighting a soldier's cigarette? Will the horseman in a hurry clatter through the village on his way to buried treasure tomorrow night? Perhaps not.

IMBER, an amalgam of red-brick remnants of the old village married with breeze block houses gets about 300 days' usage a year from thousands of troops using it as a general purpose FIBUA area.

There are about 25 buildings in the complex and the last addition of block houses there for military purposes was built about ten years ago.

Shop fronts and business premises signs from a few years ago advertise a garage, florists, post office, funeral parlour, fruit and veg seller, an upholsterers and a concern simply billed as "Imber Enterprises."

The main road, Keep Street — named after a major in The Royal Hampshire Regiment who is now in Zimbabwe with the British Military and Advisory Training Team (BMATT) — even boasts a mini-roundabout dominating metalled roads.

The Army is very conscious of its ecology in the village which can be seen by visitors on about six days a year.

Standing not far from the Friar Tuck Cafe and the Angel Inn, Major Tom Silverside, the Demonstration Officer at Warminster's School of Infantry told me: "Imber village is kept very, very clean when you think of all the mayhem that goes on in here. From the tidiness point of view it's very much like a Christmas tree on the day that everything is taken down. Any unit that leaves the village in a mess is sent back to clear it up — that's how seriously we view the situation of Imber's appearance."

ECOLOGY CONSCIOUS CUSTODIANS

The sign says it all to old Imber hands. 'American Road' back-dropped by St. Giles's Church.

Pictures: Paul Haley

AMERICAN ROAD



"Thank you for that lovely sermon . . . it cured my husband's insomnia".

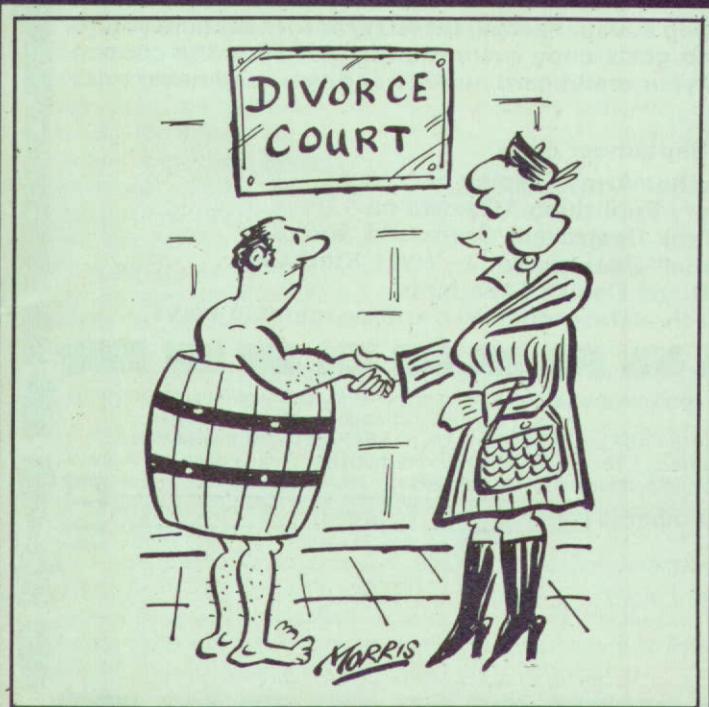
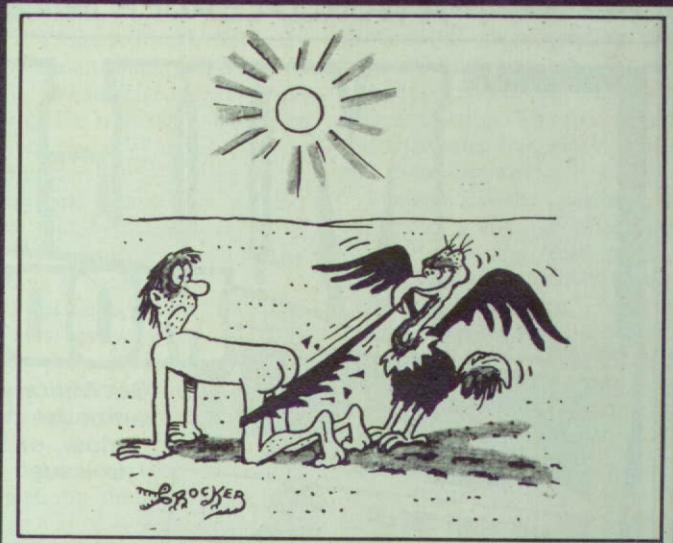


"Do you do part-exchange . . . ?"

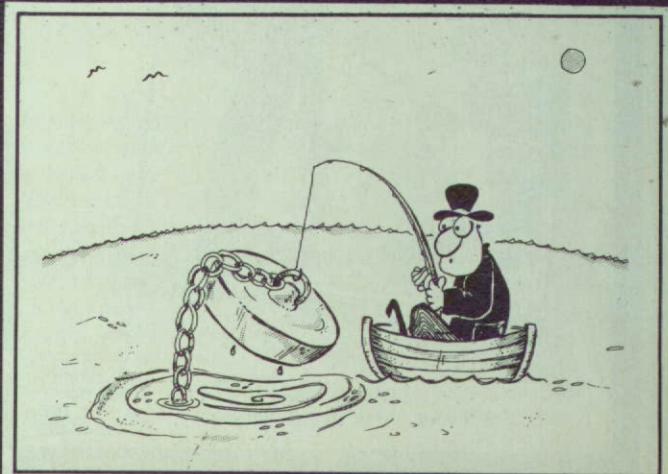


"Second helping? Are you serious — or just taking the Mickey?"

Humour



"No hard feelings, Harold?"



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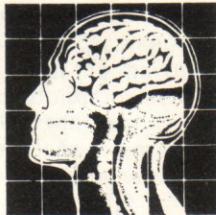
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CLUNK! CLANK! EVERY TRIP

Story: Graham Smith. Picture: Paul Haley.

THE ONCE statuesque "Belinda" took the full impact of the impending assault on her less-than-lissom bodywork, shuddering under the sudden, violent union. The hem of her battleship grey "skirt" visibly vibrated for a fraction but stubbornly remained in protective place. She would experience this sort of sensation more than 30 times that summer's day.

But the burly "Belinda", a beauty in her time, is quite used to taking unbridled punishment of this unrelenting kind from the Army somewhere on the desolate expanses of Salisbury Plain not far from Warminster, her "home town" of several years now.

Her 29-year-old contours which had seen better days in smarter places than this but bolstered nowadays by strategic padding have been soaking up this callous treatment for some five years. Yet, she still keeps coming back for more — without complaint.

For "Belinda", like two of her stablemates "Big Bertha" and "Turbo Taff" are all up-armoured Centurion tanks who form a unique coterie; a quintet of elderly AFVs who make up the MTTs or Manned Target Tanks.

Weighing in at a trim 51 tons in their key-day with the Army users of three decades ago, these overweight, armour-plated armadillos of the impact area arenas are deliberately "beefed up" to tip the scales at anything from 60 to 65 tons.

This excess is either bolted or welded on as protection during their stoic turns on the heathland firing lines; moving targets of mayhem for unswerving Milan anti-tank missiles or Swingfires with similar purpose of shock tactics and eye-watering action.

Yet these tanks — they once cost an estimated £40,000 each in their prime — would not be the subjects of derring-do on the ranges if it were not for three volunteers from a Welsh infantry regiment, men who unreservedly enjoy the role of being shot at.

Safely cocooned in the bellies of these venerable "Cents" — two were up-armoured in 1968 and the third in 1976 — all three soldiers serve with the APC Platoon of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, based at Warminster.

Lance Corporal John Gwynne Jones, '83", usually munches his way through a salmon or turkey sandwich and quaffs draughts from

one of two flasks of tea or coffee made by his wife, as the usually unerring shells thud into the armour just inches from his head.

Fusilier Carl Ball avidly reads pages in a Sven Hassall paperback while Fusilier Paul Jones, '61", takes it all in his stride.

All three act as drivers and sometimes tank commanders on the tracked veterans, based largely on their previous experience gained as APC chauffeurs in BAOR.

The MTTs usually start their daily pounding sessions after a ten-mile journey to a selected grid reference. Some "high season" days start at 0630 hours and go on until darkness sweeps over the country's most famous Plain.

The firing line trio have just finished a four-week season in this fashion during UKLF's first-ever Milan concentration when 38 mortar platoons — drawn from 23 Regular regiments and 15 TA units — comprising 1,550 men fired a total of 438 missiles during an Exercise called Tank Killer One.

The aim, from the missile firers' point of view, was to test their battle worthiness under battle conditions while swaddled in NBC clothing or "Noddy" suits. Behind them, on a lofty scaffolding construction, a GPMG sprayed the terrain beyond them.

It is not unusual for "Belinda", "Big Bertha" and even a male consort, "Ivan, the Terrible" to be on the receiving end of 30 or 40 such streaking missiles in any given day.

Once on site at the chosen impact area where the tanks will be engaged as ten-mile-an-hour moving targets — never stationary on safety grounds — they may be called upon to make anything from ten to 15 runs along a course of up to a mile.

Checks are made with the safety and firing parties through each tank's Clansman 351 radio set. Two vital keys are left strategically in a safe place outside the metal mammoths, just in case. The keys to the driver's and the com-

mander's hatches.

Eventually, all is ready for the missiles which will hurtle in from nearly 2,000 metres arriving with a tremendous thud just 12 seconds later and, in the case of Milan, leaving a coating of rouge for the "old lady" in the form of a deep pink powder on the turret.

And each tank commander can see the missiles coming rather like a flaming-tailed comet!

"The first time I sat in one of these I wondered what was going to happen," said Lance Corporal Jones, '83", now a self-admitted veteran of "hundreds" of such sharp-end exploits. "Now, I just sit and wait. I either play Two-Card Don or Patience. I like this work so much that I have asked to stay on here."

"It all started in BAOR when my sergeant-major asked me if I would like to drive tanks. I said I would. He told me I would be driving tanks — target tanks at Warminster!"

Corporal Jones added: "I didn't know what I was letting myself in for. I had only done two weeks' training in Sennelager.

"I still flinch, put my head down and close my eyes when the missile approaches. Milan missiles tend to leave a red powder which sometimes comes down the periscopes.

"You know you've been hit all right but there is nothing dramatic like the tank shaking from

side to side. Sometimes, though, you do get a ringing in the ears. At times, I have gone home after a long day and I'm a bit deaf for about a quarter of an hour. But I like it as a job. I don't moan about it and, as a matter of fact, I've put in for a two-year extension to stay on the tanks. It's a good experience ... getting fired at."

Fusilier Ball — the Sven Hassall fan — found himself on target "Cents" because he thought it a "bit monotonous" driving

Lance Corporal John Gwynne Jones, '83', Fusilier Paul Jones, '61' and Fusilier Carl Ball sit this one out in the comparative calm of the REME Workshop yard.

APCs in BAOR.

"We have a joke or a laugh while we are waiting for the first shells to come down," he said. "I still flinch, too, when they hit. On average, I go out twice a month and must have been the target for more than 1,000 missiles in the two years I've been involved with the MTTs.

"Sometimes the missiles miss," he admitted ruefully. He has also asked to stay on with the tanks.

Fusilier Jones, '61", said: "I've been doing this for 18 months now and I really enjoy it. There is one consolation. We are not allowed to be fired at when standing still because of safety reasons. We can also get out and stretch our legs in between firings. The first time I was frightened but even now it's still an experience."

Looking less than cosmetic at the end of a hard day's slogging from the wrong end of the rounds, each of the high-viz battlefield grey "Cents" is given an immediate eight-hour inspection under the eagle eye of WO 1 (ASM) David House, REME, of 27 Command Workshop, Warminster.

He said: "Everything is checked. Safety for the crews is first, last and foremost. If there is any doubt about their safety in the tanks on the ranges then the 'Cents' will not be passed.

"Last year, we had 40 commitments and only one had to be cancelled. The average turn-round for each of the tanks is 50 days from the moment it is brought into the workshop until the time it is ready to take to the field again."

The final word came from Major Tom Silverside, 1 RWF, the Demonstration Officer, who reminded: "I suppose we have the only three infantrymen in the Army who actually drive tanks for the Royal Armoured Corps. When we asked the RAC to supply drivers they waggishly suggested they did not think they had the expertise to do so!"



LIONHEART:



ALL SET FOR THE 'OFF'

BRITAIN'S biggest troop movement since the Second World War gets under way next month at a cost of £31 million.

In the first phase of the huge operation Exercise FULL FLOW will rush units from the UK to reinforce and support 1st British Corps in Germany.

In the second phase Exercise SPEARPOINT will involve 1(BR) Corps and elements of a German Panzer Division with Dutch and American Brigades in the Army's largest field training exercise since the war.

Together the two will form Exercise LIONHEART the most comprehensive test yet of Britain's commitment to the defence of Western Europe.

A total of 131,565 troops will be involved. Over 50,000 of them will have to move from the UK to deployment areas in Germany. With them will go 14,500 vehicles and trailers.

About two thirds will go by chartered aircraft — mainly from the airports of Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton. It is estimated that at the height of this phase 18,000 troops will have to pass through Heathrow in a single day.

Meanwhile the Channel ports of Dover and Folkestone, as well as some others on the east coast, will be kept busy with 119 sailings of mostly chartered ships ferrying supplies and equipment to Ostende and Zeebrugge.

These daunting statistics will obviously mean a lot of congestion and no doubt a fair amount of frustration among September holidaymakers. But they are designed to test the UK's ability to meet an urgent need to reinforce its Rhine Army in as realistic a time scale as possible.

The exercise will jointly involve the Army and the RAF. It is being held in conjunction with Belgian, Dutch and German Territorial Commands.

SPEARPOINT will centre on the Hildesheim-Bielefeld-Paderborn area between 17-27 September. Once again the RAF will be heavily involved providing considerable air support for the ground forces.

The plans call for the deployment of the BAOR based 3rd and 4th Armoured Divisions with the 2nd Infantry Division from York.

The 14,000 troops of the home based division account for the bulk of regulars who will cross the Channel on Exercise FULL FLOW.

The order of battle will also include the recently formed 6 Airmobile Brigade which will have the first major test of its integral helicopter support and enhanced anti-tank capability.

A quantity of new equipment will feature in the exercise and will certainly be another source of particular interest — the Challenger main battle tank, the Saxon wheeled armoured personnel carrier and the track Rapier anti-aircraft system.

The SPEARPOINT 'enemy' will be a force commanded by Major General Henning von Ondarza of the 1st German Panzer Division and consisting of the 1st Panzergrenadier Brigade, the 41st Netherlands Armoured Brigade, and the 1st US Armoured 'Tiger' Brigade.

During both exercises there will be a full range of logistic activity, including the distribution of

ROBERT HIGSON
Previews our
biggest troop
movement since
World War 2

ammunition, engineer stores and vehicles and the resupply of formations with combat supplies. Medical services will be fully tested for speedy evacuation and treatment of exercise casualties, and there will be plenty of practice for the Engineers in everything from airfield damage repair to explosive ordnance disposal.

One thing that is being stressed on this exercise is the importance of inter-service co-operation. All elements of RAF Germany will be taking part supported by considerable reinforcements from the UK. LIONHEART is therefore being seen as an ideal opportunity to fully test the ability of the Army and the RAF to work together.

Another very important feature of the whole operation is the mobilisation and transport of 35,000 TA servicemen from all parts of the UK. Four years ago, on Exercise CRUSADER, a considerable TA contingent won wide approval for their spirit and

their enthusiasm.

This time the TA contribution is much larger, providing a greater test for the lines of communication into Germany. It also provides a great test for the Terriers themselves because it is certainly asking a lot of part-time soldiers to keep up with regular troops for two weeks of an exhausting and demanding exercise.

A few TA units will have the chance to fight on both sides of the SPEARPOINT war. The 10th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment (V), is one example.

For the first week 10 Para will be part of Orange Special Forces in action against the defending Blues. Then it will break for a commemorative drop on Arnhem where, 40 years ago, the battalion was decimated in the heroic attempt to find 'a backdoor into Germany'.

The following week 10 Para will be back with SPEARPOINT only this time it will oppose the Orange onslaught from the East.

Yet another point of special interest in LIONHEART is the first mobilisation of reservists for exercise purposes. Many regulars still retain an obligation for reserve service when they leave the Army but usually the demands on their time are pretty minimal.

NEW EQUIPMENT IN ACTION



Tracked Rapier of 22 Air Defence Regiment pictured with Burg Cochem on the Mosel in Germany in the background. Tracked Rapier — along with other new British equipment — will be making a major exercise debut in Lionheart. Picture: Public Information, 3rd Armoured Division.

EXERCISE LIONHEART : 3 SEP - 5 OCT 84

a. EXERCISE SPEARPOINT : 1(BR) CORPS FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE : 17 - 27 SEP 84
 b. EXERCISE FULL FLOW : BRITISH SUPPORT FORCES (BRSC/RAFG) LIVEX : 3 SEP - 5 OCT 84

BSF TASKS

MAINTENANCE OF AIR OPERATIONS
 MAINTENANCE OF LINE OF COMMUNICATION
 LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO 1(BR) CORPS
 OUTLOADING OF COMBAT SUPPLIES
 CASUALTY EVACUATION

EXERCISE FULL FLOW

EXERCISE SPEARPOINT

ORANGE FORCES

2 ATAF AIRCRAFT
 Elms 21/22 SAs

RHINE FERRY CROSSING
 (16 - 19 SEP)

COMMUNICATION ZONE

BRUSSELS

BRITISH SUPPORT FORCES
 (BRITISH SUPPORT COMMAND/ROYAL AIR FORCE GERMANY)

EXERCISE IGB

1(BR) CORPS

LIONHEART PARTICIPATION

1. UK REINFORCEMENTS

- a. Regular Army : 17000
- b. TA + Reservists : 39500
- c. RAF : 1200

2. IN-THEATRE TROOPS

- a. BRSC : 6500
- b. 1(BR) Corps : 42000
- c. RAF : 12000

3. NATO FORCES

- a. German : 6300
- b. Dutch : 3500
- c. US : 3400

4. COMMONWEALTH

5. TOTAL

165

131565

ORANGE FORCES

- 1. 1(GE) PANZER DIVISION (HQ)
- 2. 1(GE) PANZER GREEN BRIGADE
- 3. 41(NL) ARMD BRIGADE
- 4. 1(US) ARMD BRIGADE
- 5. 5(BR) AIRBORNE BRIGADE
- 6. ADDITIONAL GE/UK/US UNITS

A VITAL MESSAGE: 'TAKE CARE . . .'

Have a care — that's the message the organisers of Exercise Lionheart are trying to get across to the thousands of regular and volunteer servicemen who will be deployed over the German countryside next month.

In the largest field training exercise since the 1939-45 War the accident potential is enormous. But it is not just the chance of death and injury that is a cause of concern. Damage to farms and crops and other civilian installations could run into millions.

So, in addition to having to cope with the military business of the exercise, tank commanders, drivers and all concerned are being advised 'mind how you go'. The best tactics may sometimes have to give way to the needs of safety and consideration.

The latest FTX to bear any comparison with LIONHEART was Crusader 80 four years ago. That was a smaller affair and, even allowing for inflation, considerably cheaper — £8.5 million against an estimated £31 million.

Six people died in the 303 traffic accidents that German police said had occurred in connection with Crusader 80. Forty-five of those accidents had resulted in injury.

It was reported that some 1,500 claims for compensation had been received even before the exercise was over. They included one for a house, alleged to have been demolished by a tank, but most were in relation to damaged fields, ruined crops, broken fences, collapsed drainage ditches and so forth.

Local newspapers pictured indig-

nant farmers in fields of crushed beet. There was the usual rash of stories accusing tanks of violating fields the authorities had promised would remain untouched, and of 'rolling inconsiderately across fields, country roads, bridges and ditches' when the media was no longer watching.

But it could have been a lot worse. Fears of catastrophe, widely expressed before the Exercise, were not realised. And the troops involved won plaudits from the local population by their generally considerate behaviour and their willingness to repair what damage they could after the exercise.

Nothing, however, can alter the fact that preparing for war in the conditions of peace is a delicate and difficult business. Even the timing of a major exercise can never be right.

Somehow it has to be fitted in after the main peak of holiday traffic and the harvesting of cereal crops and before the onset of heavy autumnal rains.

That puts it into mid or late September. But the weather is rarely obliging enough to postpone all the fogs and rains of autumn until the troops are safely back in barracks.

Heavy rain, of course, is a disaster. There is nothing quite like the combination of heavy vehicles and sodden ground to produce the biggest claims for

damages.

Neither rain nor fog do anything to lessen the already considerable dangers of traffic congested by unwieldy tracked vehicles and large convoys, especially at night. Add to this the inattention of motorists and the insatiable curiosity of children and you have a mixture that can all too easily mean disaster.

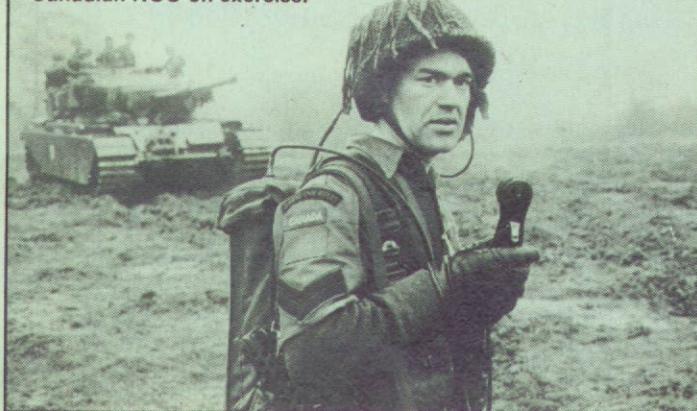
Officially no figure has been released for the compensation allocation in the Lionheart budget, but if past experience is anything to go by the bill for cleaning up after Lionheart is going to be substantial.

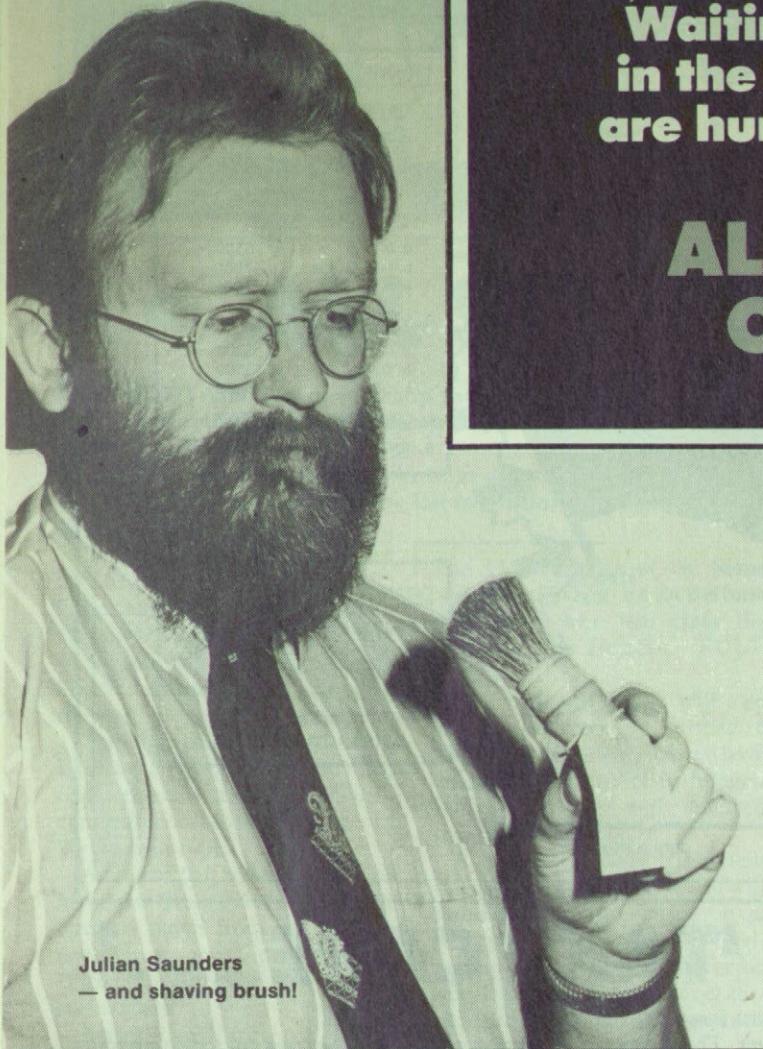
You can't, as they say, make an omelette without breaking eggs. Neither can you test the defences of Western Europe without breaking a few ditches or cracking the occasional kerb stone.

But the Army has promised to do all it can to lessen the impact of LIONHEART on the local countryside and population. Full consultation will be maintained with local authorities, the farming community and others affected by the exercise. And every soldier taking part is to be briefed in detail on his individual responsibility towards conservation and the avoidance of unnecessary damage.

Troops will be carefully monitored by superiors, military police and umpires to ensure that orders on damage prevention are being observed, and that's official.

Canadian NCO on exercise.





**Waiting for a chance to shine
in the National Army Museum
are hundreds of treasures in...**

ALADDIN'S CAVE OF MILITARIA

FOR MORE than 30 years the storerooms of the National Army Museum have been filling up. Located in a basement of an old building "somewhere in Surrey", the cell-like rooms are stuffed full with military artefacts.

One look by collectors at the countless buttons, badges, model soldiers and 20,000 items of uniforms, would send them away excited.

The place is a veritable Aladdin's Cave of military bits and pieces, all waiting to be selected for showing with the NAM's collection in London.

But since the NAM has ten times more in store than they are currently showing in London, most of the stuff will stay put, coming out only for the odd showing when loaned to regiments and other museums.

Gifts and bequests by old soldiers, their friends and relatives add steadily to the ever-growing pile.

Latest acquisition by curator Julian Saunders is a 1944 Army-issue shaving brush.

"Not much use to me personally," said the red-bearded Saunders, "but it's a good example of militaria which will be labelled, listed and stored."

A tour of the gloomy corridors

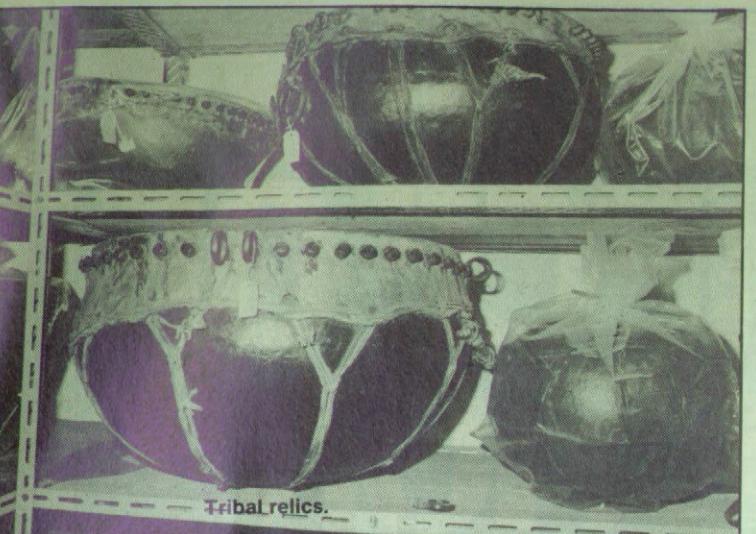
**Story:
John Margetts
Pictures:
Doug Pratt**

of the 250-year-old building revealed some items with startling and grisly histories.

Such a relic was an Ashanti blood bath, a four-foot diameter hand-beaten brass bowl used by tribesmen for human sacrifices.

"Don't quite know how we acquired that," said Saunders, "but we do know that Baden-Powell founder of the Boy Scouts, brought it from Africa at about the turn of the century. "Should be on show, really, as it really is unique."

In the same room, crammed with antiquities from the African wars, was one of the museum's strange items which, when uncovered, turned out to be the lower-half remains of a life-size



Tribal relics.

statue of a Zulu warrior.

"We always keep it covered," joked Saunders, replacing the dust cover over the gleaming black legs.

But he need not have bothered really as all signs of sexual identification had disappeared. "Don't know what happened there," said Saunders, thoughtfully.

A plaster-cast statue reinforced with iron bars, it could not be easily remade.

"It's not much good really," said Saunders, "but once the museum accepts something it cannot be disposed of or sold as the NAM is a Government institution."

Other rooms contain stacks of trays of model soldiers of every regiment in the history of the Army, while others secrete examples of military furniture from throughout the ages along with telescopes, theodolites and scores of other ancient instruments including an early Morse transmitter called a Wheatstone Auto Telegraph of 1890.

But while the NAM's store of history grows, space in which to house the mementoes and relics gets less and less.

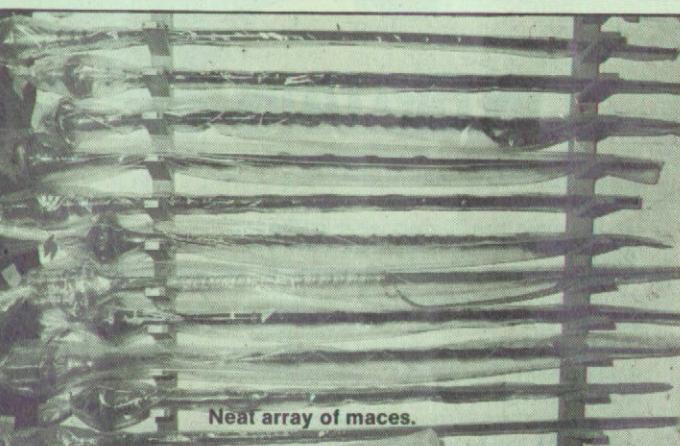
"It really is a major problem," said Julian Saunders. But no doubt, in time, the powers-that-be will solve the storage difficulty for the Department of Equipment and Applied Art.

Musical instruments, too, had their place in the store. One fascinating and rare piece was labelled "Jingling Johnny."

Of French origin, it is a hand-operated instrument which, when



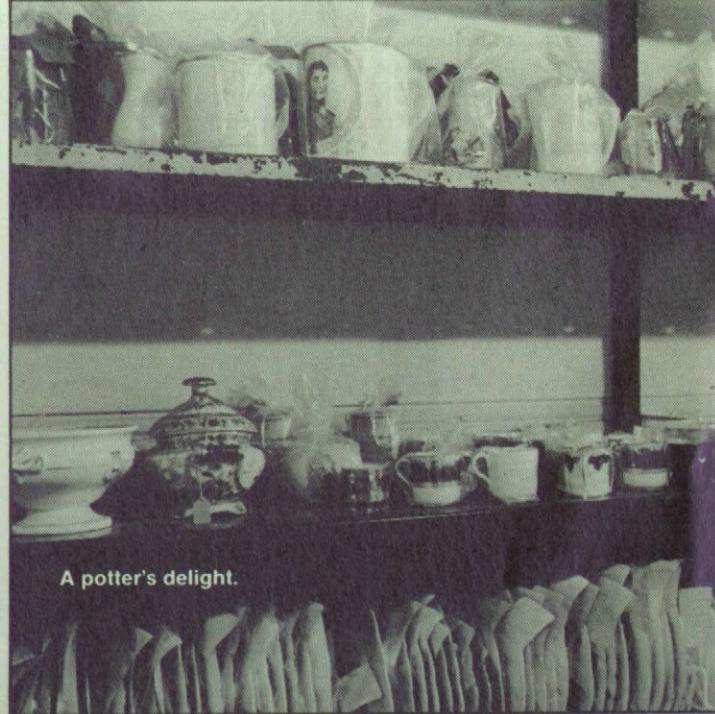
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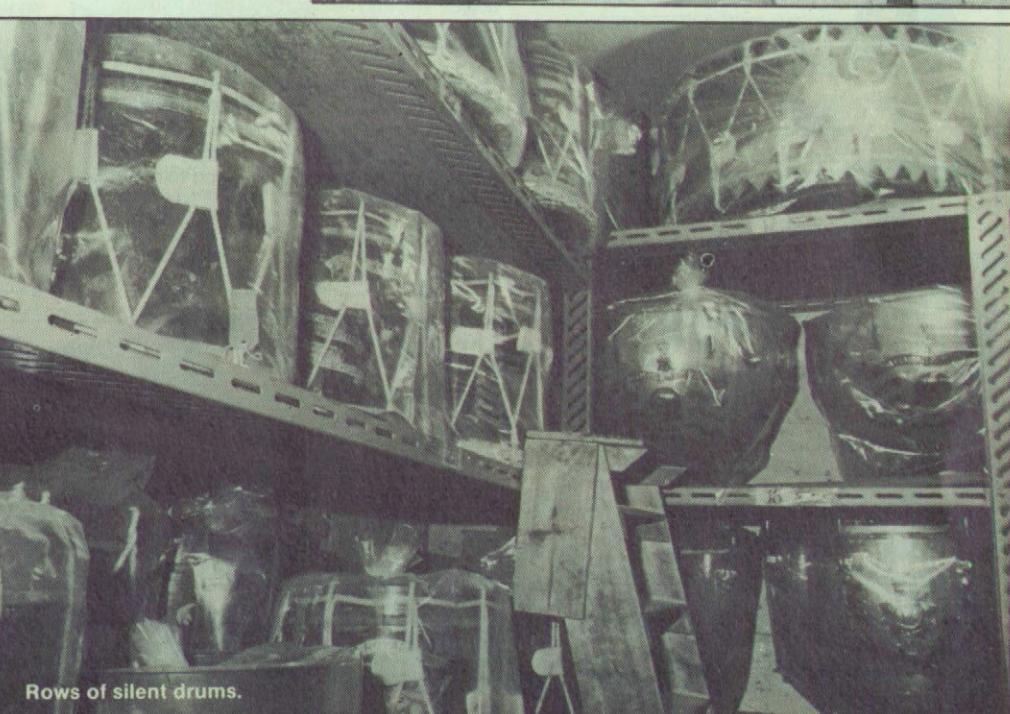
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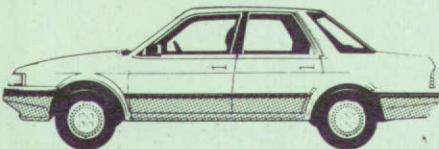
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THE ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Transport and supply, essential to any army, early in British military history were usually provided by force commanders and not always operated with great expertise.

The first mention of an official dealing with these matters was in 1415 when a "Baggage Sergeant" was appointed by Henry V.

The first acknowledged organisation raised in 1794 as The Corps of Waggoners was ranked, five years later, in the

Army List as a mounted Corps, entitled The Royal Waggon Corps, after the 29th Dragoons.

In 1802 they became The Royal Waggon Train, unhappily disbanded in 1833 leaving the Army bereft of an organised transport corps.

The Crimean War in 1854 demanded the raising of such a body and in 1855 The Land Transport Corps was formed

to be re-named in the following year as The Military Train.

In 1869 the more familiar title of The Army Service Corps appeared for the first time, to be replaced by the more sweeping designation of The Commissariat and Transport Corps.

In the reform year of 1881 the previous title was regained and remained until 1918 when



in recognition of their valuable services during the Great War the prefix Royal was granted.

The head-dress badge of the present day is based on the helmet plate of 1878, being much reduced in size, ensigned by the appropriate crown and bearing the Royal Cypher in the centre.

In July 1965 the RASC underwent great changes, the duties and responsibilities being split.

The transport duties of the RASC together with those performed by the RE were transferred to the newly formed Royal Corps of Transport, the stores and clerical responsibilities became the province of the RAOC.

The badge illustrated here is in two finishes, the St Edward's crown and star being silver anodised, the remainder gilt anodised.

Officers' badges are in silver and gilt with crimson ground to the cypher.

This is a justly proud Corps with five Battle Honours inherited from its predecessors who had in their ranks six holders of the Victoria Cross for deeds performed during the Indian Mutiny, Rorke's Drift and both world wars.

Hugh L. King

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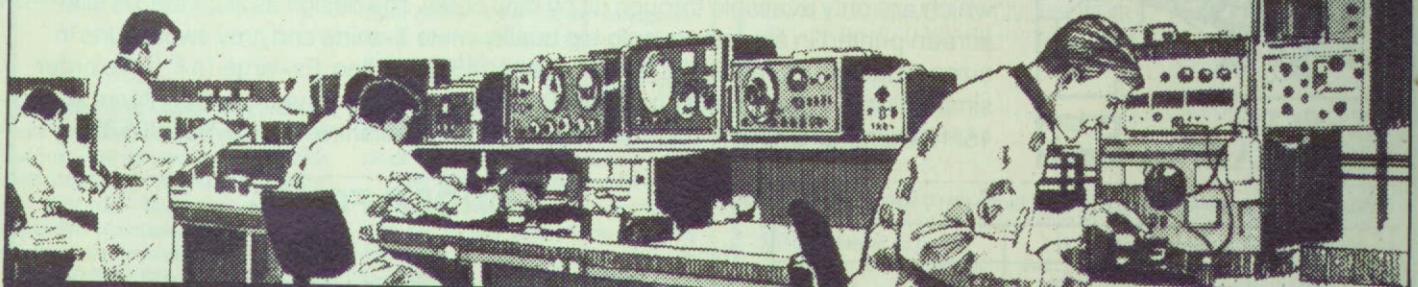
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1983

THE WEST Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association (UK) is looking for recruits. And despite its name, it would be delighted to offer honorary membership to serving soldiers, sailors and airmen of West Indian origin or descent.

The main concern, though, is contacting those who are in the process of leaving the forces for civilian life. The association does not deny that plenty of help exists elsewhere to help servicemen make the adjustment, but it feels that black servicemen need special help, ideally from their own sort of people.

"Why do you need a Jewish ex-servicemen's association, or a Polish or any of the others," asks the president, Mr Carl Thompson-Ellis, a north London police officer. "All these associations can do certain things for persons who are leaving the armed forces. We think that as a black association we are able to do more for the black guys coming out than, say, the Royal British Legion would be able to do."

Mr Thompson-Ellis served 13 years with the Royal Artillery before leaving the Army with the rank of Warrant Officer 2 some 10 years ago. He had a job to go to in an area that he knew, so the change was not as difficult for him as it is for many others.

"It is more difficult for a black to adapt to Civvy life after the services — but it's more difficult for a black man at any time in this country," he says. "If you can imagine a guy being in the forces for X number of years. In the main he's lost a lot of his friends, he's lost a lot of contacts in civilian life.

"If he moves to a different town or city when he leaves the forces, he is completely at a loose end. But if there is such an organisation as ours then it will give him that

Robert Higson spotlights the work of the West Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association and talks to men with a message in their

Search for recruits

greater confidence and assistance to start off on the right foot."

At present the association has one office — a pair of smartly refurbished terraced houses in Clapham, south-west London. This facility, which contains a drop-in centre on the ground floor, was made possible by a grant — "under the figure of £100,000" — from the Lambeth Borough Council.

The director, Mr Neil Flanigan, a war time LAC with RAF ground crew, is one of two full time employees. He and his secretary are both paid out of grants from the GLC Ethnic Minority Unit.

Mr Flanigan says that plans are already afoot to establish further centres in Nottingham and Manchester with perhaps one in Bristol following later.

He says of the present headquarters: "Having been here for approximately nine months we find that the building is too small for our needs. To this end we were looking forward to using it as a base and moving, through the co-operation of another borough, closer to the centre of London.

"We are also looking for more support in relationship for staffing. This is one area of work which is very necessary. We offer advice, counselling and welfare services from this office."

The West Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association came into being 13 years ago with the objective of providing help in education, housing and employment to West



Carl Thompson-Ellis, President, (left) and Neil Flanigan, Director, in discussion.

Indians who had served in HM Forces during the Second World War.

Apart from servicemen and women, there were also those West Indians, says Mr Flanigan, who volunteered for work in British munitions factories during the war — something he describes as part of the unrecorded history of the black people in Britain.

At the moment the association's members number some 300, mainly living in London and the Home Counties and mainly ageing veterans of the war. The numbers could grow and the membership change character if Mr Flanigan can get the association's message across.

He has had some success. On the day he spoke to me an officer called from Northern Ireland saying that some of his men would be happy to join as soon as they could.

Mr Flanigan is anxious to stress that the welcome to servicemen and women of West Indian origin is unconditional: "There may well be those who leave the forces under very adverse conditions — in other words a dishonourable discharge. These we welcome because they are most in need."

"They are going to need our services much more than other services or areas of help in the host community, because we can help them more. And we have no objections to whatever a man has done in his past."

Further information from: The West Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association, 165/167 Clapham Manor Street, London, SW4 6DB. Telephone 01 627 0702.



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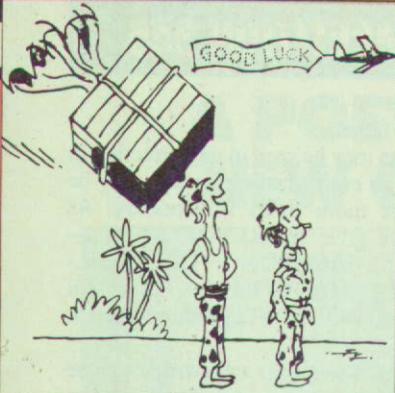
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HEROES' REST

Through your pages I would like to draw an anomaly to the attention of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission: It is the fact that one can visit a cemetery and find beautifully kept official War Graves while nearby also find the grave of a VC holder overgrown and neglected.

In the churchyard at Hunton near Maidstone is the grave of Colonel A D Borton, VC who broke his neck while flying with the Royal Flying Corps during World War One. He recovered sufficiently to return to the war and be awarded the VC. His tombstone lies at an awkward angle and is thick with moss. Yet close by are two official war graves neatly kept by the Commission.

As a nation we must not live in the past yet to neglect the graves of heroes who served us well is both cynical and sacreligious. There are so few holders of our greatest honour that the cost of the upkeep of their graves must surely be minimal particularly as the Commission already visits the cemeteries to tend other graves in their care. — Howard Dodsworth, 15 Meredith Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

As you know, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is responsible for the maintenance of the graves of all Commonwealth Servicemen who died in the World War periods, and that obviously includes VC holders. The point in this particular case is that Colonel Borton died in 1933 and his is therefore not a war grave. It would be nice indeed if all war veterans' graves were officially cared for, but that would have to be a completely separate — and colossal — enterprise. —Ed.

MEDAL MANIA

The United States Army is well known for its 'generosity' in the issue of medals. But just how generous has probably never been fully realised on this side of the Atlantic. However, the GIs themselves sometimes feel that the large numbers are devaluating the awards.

Now Jeffrey Record, an American commentator on military matters has written critically in the United States' Press about the cheapening effect of the 'flood of medals' both for Vietnam and Grenada. He goes into full detail but, in short, his figures show that 7,000 Army officers and men took part

MAIL DROP

in the invasion of Grenada and 8,663 medals were awarded for valour, distinguished and meritorious service and for achievement. These are not campaign medals! Another 500 are awaiting approval.

The operation lasted only a few days, against little resistance (18 died) and in excellent weather. Some of the recipients served in the Pentagon and at Service bases in the US and never set foot on Grenada.

The US Navy and Marine Corps are traditionally more reticent and although several thousand sailors and marines took part, only 17 similar medals have been issued, with 200 possibilities in the pipeline.

Britain, too, understands the value of the truly earned medals and the vetting is thorough. In the Falklands Campaign some 28,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen took part but only 679 medals were awarded for courage and exceptional service. The weather was atrocious, the terrain difficult, and the approach march long and hard. Land and air transport were in short supply. The conflict lasted 74 days and 255 officers and men were killed, with six ships and a dozen aircraft lost.

Sometimes we, as serving or retired British soldiers, bellyache about the method of awarding medals and, undoubtedly, many courageous acts and unstinting efforts go unrewarded. Yet we all know very well that every medal awarded for courage and devotion to duty is well deserved, cherished by the recipient and held in high esteem by all. We would not want it any other way. — Major G R Hogan, 5 Queenswood Road, St John's Woking, Surrey.

PAR EXCELLENCE

South Africa is a long way from the UK and SOLDIER Magazine is a grand tonic for me after so many years here and your photo of the WRAC cadets at Sandhurst was most welcome (SOLDIER 7 May).

I was particularly impressed by the photo of the Duchess of Kent inspecting the cadets: the hats, peak just above the eyes (real Guards' style), the proud chins, the badges, the white gloves and pace-stick of the Warrant Officer, the smiles and the lovely complexions are all shown to advantage.

Smart uniforms are not customary here and during the war I remember parading with other rankers all in different kit. Nowadays the women from the Women's Army college are quite smart and so too are the Naval girls but neither match the WRAC as depicted in your magazine. Your photographer caught the full swing of the arms and the thirty inch step which made the picture such a pleasure.

After school I had four years in the London Scottish before my employers sent me to this part of the world in 1935 but memories of Army life are kept alive for me by SOLDIER.

Scots Guardsmen and Gordons for musketry were our instructors in 1930 and I will always remember their high standard of discipline and drill they brought to us recruits. — Malcolm B S Laign, 62 Brebner Road, Bloemfontein 9301, South Africa.

Reunions

The Welsh Regiment Old Comrades reunion. Saturday, 13 October at the Drill Hall, Pontypridd. Tickets £5.50 each. Applications accompanied by an SAE to: V D Williams, 41 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8EZ.

Alamein Reunion. 8th Army Veterans' Association, Sussex Branch. Saturday, 20 October, 1984, 7pm till midnight at the Great Hall, Town Hall, Hove, Sussex. Tickets £3 per person. Send remittance and SAE for tickets to E J Pretty, The Garage, Patridge Green, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 8JS or Daniel Dacy, 87 Staplefield Drive, Brighton BN2 4RH.

60th Field Regiment RA (60 and 88 Column Chindits) OCA Reunion Dinner, Assembly Rooms, Bailgate, Lincoln on Saturday, 13 October, 1984, 7 for 7.30. Church Service on Sunday, 14 October at St Peter-at-Gourts Church, High Street at 10.30am. Details from Mr J Bartlett, The Aviary, Burton, Lincoln.

Collectors' Corner

G Forder, 7 Nuralia House, Mathew Est, Tidworth, Hants. Wants any type cap badges, will swap for buttons, cloth badges or military equipment and clothing.

Competition

We entered the world of ornithology in our Competition 341 in which you

had to find as many bird names as possible from the 225 letter square. Some were well-known species, others more rare and one at least, extinct. Answers were: Auk, Bobolink, Cassowary, Condor, Crake, Crane, Dipper, Dove, Dunlin, Eagle, Emu, Gannet, Gnatcatcher, Heron, Huia, Ibis, Jagamar, Jay, Kagu, Kea, Kite, Kiwi, Knot, Lark, Linnet, Moa, Oilbird, Osprey, Owl, Passenger Pigeon, Pipit, Quail, Quetzal, Rail, Raven, Rhea, Rifleman, Rook, Skua, Stork, Storm Petrel, Swan, Swift, Teal, Tern, Tui, Vireo, Wren. Prizewinners were: 1st J A Jones, 38 Devonshire Road, Salisbury, Wilts. 2nd Mrs D Hart, 23 Albert Road, Yiewsley, Middx. 3rd P Morey, 12 Ellen Wilkinson House, Wythenshawe Road, Dagenham, Essex. 4th Major S A Taylor, 2 Arm'd Delivery Sqn, Cromwell Bks, BFPO 103. 5th Mr N Wimperis, 44 St Mary's Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Warks.

How Observant Are You?

1 Arrow in roof of tower; 2 Soldier second from left on battlements; 3 Leg of right soldier crossing top plank; 4 Number of soldiers in top deck of tower; 5 Battlement at far right; 6 Vertical arrow second from left on castle wall; 7 Left wrist of archer at bottom left; 8 Scabbard of middle foreground archer; 9 Lines on right of lower deck of tower; 10 Bowstring of archer at bottom left.

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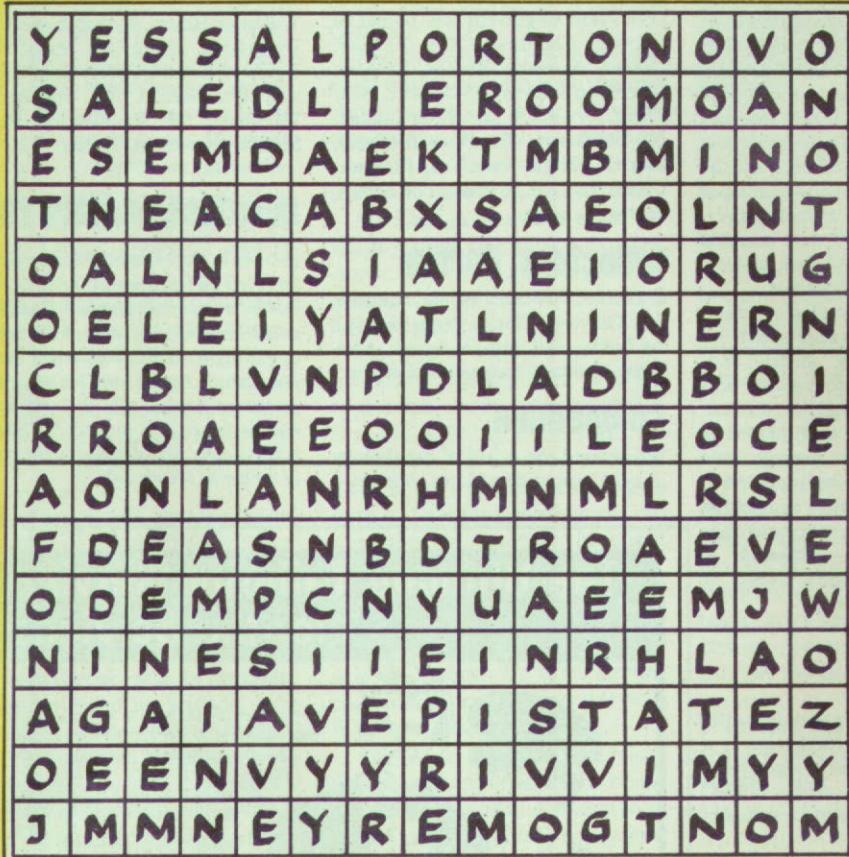
MAN AND THE OCCASION

... EPICS OF HISTORY

IHROUGHOUT the history of the world there have been many outstanding epics of valour: great sieges, great battles, great defences and great reliefs (as with HAVELOCK at LUCKNOW). On occasion one name has

been outstanding for valour, for leadership, for military skill: not always ending in victory, often ending in death.

The square shown here (15 x 15 letters) includes the names of fourteen heroes and also the names of the fourteen places at which



Zena Cameron is 23 and single and her ambition is to travel. She is tall with dark hair and is a shop assistant. Her interests are music and hearing from people overseas. She wants a male penpal aged 23-30. — 5 Cluny Road, Dingwall, Ross-Shire, Scotland.

Sarah Davis is 20 and single and is a library assistant. Her interests are drawing, reading and writing and she would like penpals aged 20-25 who are interested in art. — 20 Mauritius Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 0EQ.

Debra Watson is 21 and single and her interests are music, travelling and meeting people. She would like penpals aged 20-30 serving in the Falklands and Germany, and requires a photo. — 9 Copley Lane, Butter Knowle, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham.

Ian Armstrong is 19 and single and his interests are all sports, especially football, and music. He would like female penpals aged 18-21. — D Coy, PMC Arborfield, Reading, Berks.

Eddie Easterbrook is 20 and his interests are squash and football. He would like penpals in BAOR. — 1 Tp 73 Fd Sqn, BFPO 666.

PEN PALS

Lynn Weller is 19 and single and her ambition is to travel. Her interests are music, travel and meeting people. She would like penpals 19-plus. — 27 Elm Tree Close, Selsey, Chichester, Sussex, PO20 0SQ.

Liz Johnson is 27 and a divorcee. Her interests are music, keep fit and walking and she would like penpals aged 26-35 years old. — 30 Balmoral Drive, Hamilton, Scotland, ML3 8BY.

Pauline Robinson is 26 and single and her ambition is to travel. Her interests are music, rugby, cricket, soccer, motor racing and travel and she would like penpals aged 26-plus. — 122 Papanui Road, Christchurch 1, New Zealand.

Mandy Nash is 19 and 5ft 3ins tall with brown hair and blue eyes, and she would like penpals aged 20-27, all letters answered. — 134 Judge Heath Lane, Hayes, Middx, UB3 2PF.

Rene Beddoes is 33 and a divorcee and her ambition is to pass her driving test. Her interests are discos, darts and writing and she would like penpals with similar interests. — 4 Hardman Ave, Hall-Carr, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, Lancs, BB4 6BB.

Yvonne Shires is 19 and is 5ft 3ins tall with dark brown hair and will answer all letters. — 36 Wakefield Crescent, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

Angela Smith is 17 and her interests are swimming and keep fit. She would like penpals aged 17-20. — 2 St Agnes Ave, Allestree, Derby.

Jacinta Pascoe is 27 years old and her ambition is to sail her own boat. Her interests are sailing, photography and travel. She would like penpals aged 27-plus with similar interests and requires a photo. — 56 Ann St, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3PD.

Jenny Morrissey is 19 and single and she is 5ft with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. Her interests are music, keep fit and writing and she would like penpals aged 20-30. — 5 Catering Region, HQ SE District, Steeles Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DP.

Jill Davies is 25 and single and her ambition is to go to Barbados, Hong Kong and Australia. Her interests are travelling, letter-writing and meeting people and she would like penpals aged 23-30 over 5ft 10ins tall. — 71 Warwick Way, Victoria, London SW1.

Jackie Reader is 17 and a student. Her interests are music and letter-writing and she would like penpals aged 17-plus who like music. — 16 Greenwood Close, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 9LZ.

Mark Owen is 18 and his ambition is to reach the rank of RSM. His interests include squash, and chess and he would like female penpals aged 16-19. — B Tp 32 Sqn RCT, Alamein Bks, Driffield, N Humberside.

Susan Bean is 25 and single and her interests are the TA, travel and music. She would like penpals aged 24-28. — Headmasters House, Heath School, Winstree Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex.

Lesley Lewin is 22 and her ambition is to settle down. Her interests are walking, music and travelling and she requires a photo. — 13 Nelson Road, Newport, Isle of Wight.

they gained fame.

The names may be read in any direction in a straight line each time and letters may be used two or more times if necessary. As examples we give: MARLBOROUGH — BLENHEIM; JACKSON — CHANCELLORSVILLE; HANNIBAL — CANNAE and WOLFE — QUEBEC. (Not included in the puzzle).

List your twenty-eight names with the name of the persons, running in alphabetical order, e.g. ROBERTS — KANDAHAR would come before WELLINGTON — WATERLOO.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 28 September. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 22 October and no correspondence can be entered into. More than one entry may be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 345' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answers by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 345' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

PRIZES

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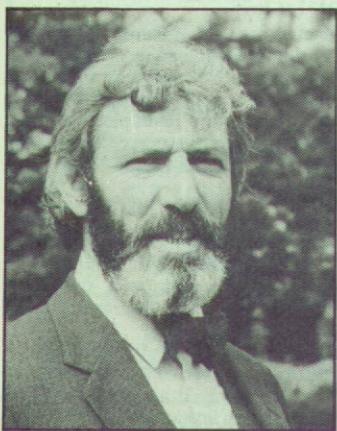
2: £10 3: £5

4-5:

**Six issues of
Soldier posted
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The Books Page spotlights a former Para who is now Rector of Aberdeen University — and has written a book of sonnets, illustrated with cartoons and photographs to commemorate the Falklands conflict.

A POET WITH A NEW CONCEPT



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

FOR A man who was turned down for a regular commission in the Army because of insufficient academic qualifications, Robert Perryment has done well. Having gained an MA at a relatively mature age, he is now Rector of Aberdeen University.

Leaving School at 15, the author joined the Army two-and-a-half years later and was sent to do his P Company training at Depot, The Parachute Regiment in Aldershot before joining the 2nd Battalion. The emergency in Cyprus in 1959 temporarily put paid to his hopes of becoming an Army boxer but his interests and skill in the sport lasted throughout his Army career, and he later ran the 3rd Battalion's boxing team.

While in Jordan, Perryment was

involved in potential officer training and was so 'disgusted' with the calibre at the time that he thought he had as good a chance as any of getting a commission. This faith in himself paid off and after going through Sandhurst on the same course as the present Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Michael Heseltine, he was given a short service commission in the 3rd Battalion.

Having unsuccessfully applied for a regular commission, he then left the Army to promote a career in the world of finance.

"I have always believed in the power of economics to change things" he said, "and I am glad I was able to do a lot in this respect in Third World countries."

His work took him to Africa where he lived with his wife and three children in Nairobi for several years working in Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria, making several trips to the Arabian Gulf. Later he became the editor of a financial magazine and lived in the South of France for two years.

At the age of thirty-eight, having been writing poetry for some years, he decided to complete his literary apprenticeship and enrolled as an undergraduate at Aberdeen University to study English Literature. At the same time, he took the bold step of buying a croft in the Cairngorms which he and his family farmed to the level of self-sufficiency. Having got his degree, he was able to concentrate on his creative writing in his isolated homestead, keeping the wolf from

the door by carrying on some occasional financial consultancy work.

Shortly afterwards, Robert Perryment was elected Rector of the University, succeeding news-caster Sandy Gall and beating his fellow candidates including Duncan Campbell of the New Statesman and Erin Pizzey, saviour of battered wives.

"I think I was elected" he explained modestly, "because I am apolitical — no axe to grind. My interest was to be a working Rector, getting fully involved in University life. It's really like being a managing director of a large

company and that suits me because I believe very strongly in the University."

Perryment published this book of 28 sonnets to commemorate the second anniversary of the Falklands War, and he is already at work — in another Cairngorm croft — on a second volume 'Birth of an Ageing Poet'. But his artistic aim he told *SOLDIER*, is "to link literature, music and visual art" in the one concept. Not unlike today's pop videos, this would take the form of short films telling a story but with no dialogue, just music and voice-over. Now, why has nobody thought of that before?

NO HOLDS BARD

(a review by John Rushworth)

This book of Sonnets will be an anthem to some, anathema to others. I found them both lively and thought provoking and they brought back a flood of memories and plenty of unanswered questions.

Compared with John Milton, though, it appears light and sentimental with the emphasis on nationalistic pride, whereas the subject matter was ripe for a bit of defiant writing. Consider Milton's situation — there were parliamentary upheavals between Charles 1st and Cromwell, the great plague and fire of London, coupled with these he lost his sight at the age of forty four, is it any wonder that he thought deeply about the events of his situation?

He was a contemporary of John Bunyan, incidentally. I'm sure he would have had something to say about the biblical injunction to 'count the cost before going to war', Luke 14 v 31 or that quote in Isiah about God shaving nations with a hired razor!

If poetry is to be revived it must stir feelings other than pride and togetherness. I think I agree with William Wordsworth when he penned these lines:

'Milton! thou shouldst be living in this hour, England hath need of thee.'

Poet Wilfred Owen, killed one week before Armistice 1918 expressed horror at the slaughter of a generation.

"My subject is war, and the pity of war. The poetry is the pity."

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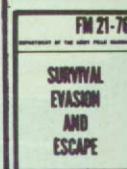
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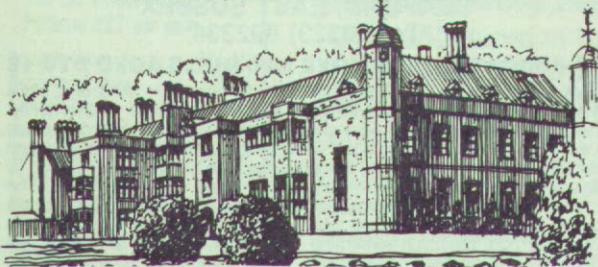
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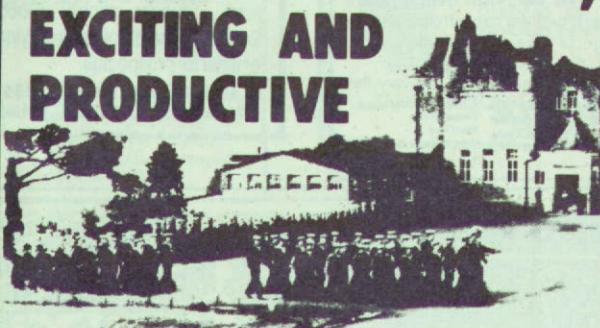
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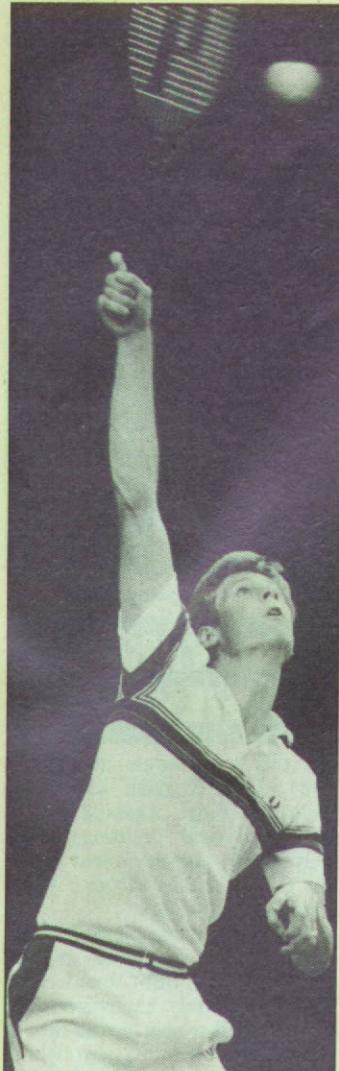
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THE MAGNIFICENT SEVENTH



WINNING the Army's tennis singles title has become something of a habit for Captain Julia Dixon, WRAC. This year she carried off the championship for the seventh year in succession.

Julia, who is stationed in Germany, had little trouble demolishing Captain Karen Coram 6-2, 6-4 in the final at the Royal Officers Club indoor court in Aldershot.

The wet weather which affected the final days of the championships also caused the men's singles final to be held indoors. Second Lieutenant Nigel Watts, Army Air Corps, won his first Army title by trouncing Major Chris Braithwaite, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, 6-3, 6-0.

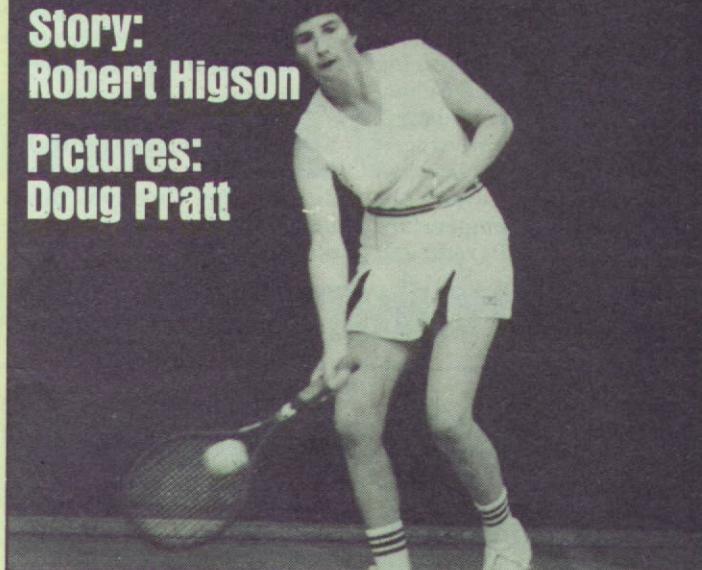
Last year's title holder, Captain Mark Jeffery, REME, took no part in this year's competition, having retired from the Army.

Chris Braithwaite had some consolation for his final's defeat by partnering Lieutenant Colonel Vyvian Smith, RA, to victory in the men's doubles against Staff Sergeants Steve James and Bill Herlihy, both RAPC. The match went to three sets: 6-7, 6-3, 6-1.

Nigel Watts — serving for first 'crown'.

Story:
Robert Higson

Pictures:
Doug Pratt



The two ladies finalists, Captains Dixon and Coram needed only two sets to win the ladies doubles against Captain Christine Tinker and Private McNair, 6-1, 6-3.

In the mixed doubles final Christine was on the winning side with Major David Hughes, RAEC, against Lieutenant Colonel John Edwards, RADC and Private McNair who they beat 6-3, 6-4.

Julia Dixon — seventh successive title.

Nigel Watts continued his winning form for the Inter-Services competition at Wimbledon the following week.

But Nigel's great efforts were not enough to help the Army retain the men's title for the third year in succession. Victors in 1982, after a gap of 31 years, and again in 1983, this year the Army had to yield to the RAF.

The Navy retained the women's title. Julia Dixon lost to Leading Wren Fenton but managed to beat the RAF's Corporal Bassinder in three sets.

The Army's only consolation out of the inter-services tournament was to retain the veteran's title.

LETTERS

Contrary to the article "Rally Pair Wreck Scottish Rivals" published in SOLDIER (16 July) money for Service entries was allocated in December 1983, the result being that four crews were entered by the British Army Motoring Association.

Two crews finished, including Major J Fraser/Major M Farmer who won the Sheila Alexander Trophy and the Army in Scotland Award. The two crews who retired were forced to do so with mechanical problems.

The support crews headed by Captain Alex Anderson REME (V) were highly praised by all Army crew members and a number of civilian entrants they helped.

The public were continually remarking on how good it was to see the Army back in the event. The Army Team was received with special warmth throughout.

Capt Paul Allen (Retd), Secretary, Army Motoring Association.

TWO NEW CYCLING STARS

TWO NEW stars emerged from the Army Cycling Festival 84 held at Arborfield.

Warrant Officer 2 Dave Trussler moved from 40 Support Group RE to 25 Engineer Regiment and raised a new team to challenge the old, still led by Corporal John Forbes.

Among the new faces was Captain Peter MacManners. He and Corporal Tim Rogers, who has also raised a team from 2nd Battalion The Queen's Regiment in Northern Ireland, fought out the honours in most of the senior events.

The junior events were dominated, in a manner not seen for a long while, by Staff Sergeant L J Roberts of Princess Marina College, who frequently beat most of the seniors, and was selected for the Inter Service track championships.

Perhaps the most exciting racing was seen at the Road Research Laboratory Track at Crowthorne when Roberts led throughout and just won the sprint finish.

In the team events, 40 Support Group's strength in depth helped them to beat 25 Engineers, and the novices from 2 Queens were a



Tim Rogers ... a new star.

good third. They could easily have won had they felt confident enough to ride all events.

The junior team champions were again Junior Leaders Regiment RCT, trained by Sergeant Dave Spry.

Festival Results

10 mile TT: Rogers, Roberts, Clark (2 Queens); **50 mile TT:** Rogers, McManners, Forbes; **Track TT and Track Sprint:** Forbes, McManners, Roberts; **Track Pursuit:** Roberts, Cooper (H), Dicker (C); **Circuit:**

(Juniors) Roberts, McLoughlin, Coop (Seniors) Everson, Forbes, Gaze; **25 mile TT:** Rogers, McManners, Roberts; **Road Race:** (Juniors) Roberts, McLoughlin, Coop (Seniors) Monk (40), Forbes (40), McManners (25); **25 mile Team TT:** RAF (Evans, Gaze, Everson) 55.45 min RE (Forbes, Monk, McManners) 56.41; **2 Queens (Rogers, Clark, Hollick) 57.18;** **10 mile TT:** McManners, Rogers, Spring (RCT); **30 mile TT:** Rogers, McManners, Clark (2 Queens); **Two-up/ Teams (Juniors):** McLoughlin, Coop.

MARATHON ACE HEADS FOR PENANG

COMPETING AGAIN in his own right as an individual in next month's Penang-based Asian Marathon will be 35-year-old QMSI Ted Turner, the athletic and orienteering specialist at the UKLF School of PT (South) based at Bulford.

No stranger to the experience, Ted took third place last year in the same event but different venue in temperature of 32 degrees Centigrade and

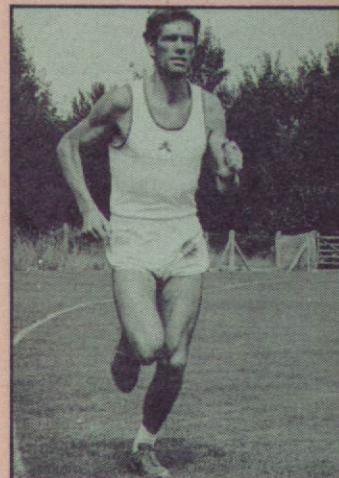
90 degrees of humidity. His time: two hours 25 minutes and 30 seconds.

Ted gets his return trip to the Far East by the selection of the British Athletic Association.

Formerly serving in Hong Kong on attachment with 1/2 Gurkha Rifles he was "spotted" during the Colony's international marathon where he took second place. Later, he ran

in the Seoul, Korea, marathon and finished seventh. This year he came 39th in the London Marathon with a time of two hours 18 minutes.

Early next month, Ted is posted to HQ 4th Armoured Division and Signals Squadron as (SMI) WO 1 at Herford, which will probably thwart another invitation to marathon running — this time the Glasgow international.



Ted Turner ... going East.

GOLFING DILEMMA FOR THE GENERAL

The third annual Army — TA golf match ended with a 9½-2½ victory for the regulars at Aldershot Golf Club.

It was disappointing for the TA, especially with the score 2-2 after the morning foursomes, but there was some consolation in knowing that most of the singles defeats were narrow 2 & 1 affairs.

Playing for the Army for the first time was new President of the AGA, Lieutenant General Sir John Akehurst — who must have found himself in something of a quandary as he is also Inspector General of the TA and could presumably have played for them!



General Akehurst ... not happy with fairway shot.

Chairman of the AGA, Brigadier Andrew Myrtle was also in the Army side and another new face was Stuart Scott, currently training at Arborfield. He plays for B, B & O colts team — and experts are sure more will be seen of him in future Army events.

SERVICE CO-OPERATION WORKS — OK!

JOINT services co-operation is alive and well at Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces, at Wilton, Salisbury — and living on the hockey field.

The planners at 'Uck-Chick' (United Kingdom Commanders-In-Chief Committees/Joint Warfare Staff) have got their heads together to prove that they can out-think and then out-play most other branches in the Commander-In-Chief's Cup.

They do so, they are delighted to point out, with a team that embraces about five generations (which is also a convenient excuse for not doing better in the other elements of the Cup like cricket, volleyball and tennis).

UKCICC's side for the four-year-old annual competition at Erskine Barracks is rarely the same

for two games running, as the staff members' many important duties take them away for quite a lot of the time. Indeed team organiser, Squadron Leader David Lawrence, has had occasion to call in the Director of Plans, Brigadier Chartres Safford, though he has not yet used his two American allies, Lieutenant Colonel Ron Brekke (USAF) and Lieutenant Colonel David Bice (US Marines).

Meanwhile, unconcerned by the continual changes, the side storms onwards, as recent victims Regimental HQ, 10 Signal Regiment, found to their cost. Running out victors for UKCICC were, from the Royal Marines, Lieutenant Colonel Howard Bonser (38); from the RAF, Wing Commander Ernie Jones (52); from the Navy, Lieutenant Commander Bruce

Lemonde (49) and Able Seaman Richard Stebbings (20); and from the Army, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon MacDougall (41) of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and Major David Lyburn (37) of the Prince of Wales's Own.

Squadron Leader Lawrence ("I look around for four people who are interested in the four sports and talk them into being Captain") is co-ordinator of the planning unit, so is ideally placed to pick and choose from the 60-plus. He has high hopes for the hockey trophy but is less certain of the overall cup.

"Yes, the hockey team has been doing quite well, morale is high and we should be quite successful", he says. "Meanwhile the competition is engendering the proper joint services spirit!"

OLYMPIC SILVER

On the penultimate day of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, Sergeant Kriss Akabusi of the Army Physical Training Corps, helped win another silver medal for Great Britain in the 4 x 400 metres men's relay.

With team mates Cook, Bennett and Brown, Akabusi pushed himself to the limit, handed the baton over safely, and ensured the silver position in an overall time of 2 mins 59.13 seconds, just behind the Americans who took the gold.

In the men's 400 metres, Akabusi ran his personal best in 45.43 secs, and was the only member of the British team to qualify for the semi-finals. Unable to match this time in the semi, he then bowed out of the competition but not without a great personal triumph.

Sgt Steve Jackson, Royal Signals, won the third semi-final heat, to earn himself a place in the final of the 1,000 metres Kayak singles. His time of 3 mins 56.57 secs was slightly better than the New Zealander who beat him in the previous round, but slower than that of both the Frenchman and American who came first and second in the first semi-final heat.

Jackson, who serves with 10th Signal Regiment, Hounslow, knocked almost four seconds off his time in the final but sadly it was not good enough to earn a medal and he finished eighth.

Last year Jackson won the two-man kayak 10,000 metres title at the Helsinki world championships in partnership with Alan Williams who was a Sapper corporal. At Helsinki, Jackson also produced the best ever performance by a Briton, coming fifth in the 1,000 metres single.

The Army's third Olympic representative, Captain Mike Mumford, finished overall 24th in the modern pentathlon. Mumford, who is with 39 Field Sqn RE in Berlin, scored 4,940 points — some 500 less than the winner, Masala of Italy. His efforts helped Britain to finish seventh in the team event.

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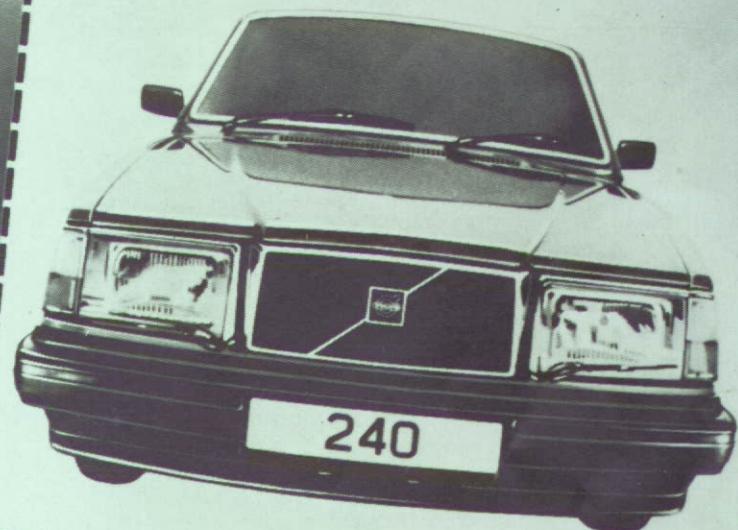
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