

DECEMBER 1975 ★ 15p

# SOLDIER





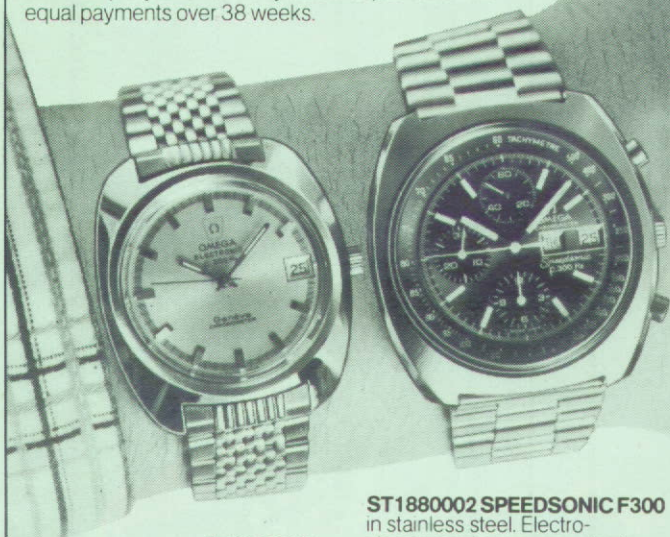
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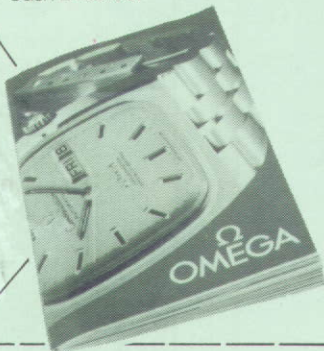
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## Contents

- 5 See-the-Army Diary
- 7 Northern Ireland awards
- 9 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 10 Museums: Royal Military Police
- 13 CSE show takes Folk to Belize?
- 15 How Observant Are You?
- 16 Schoolboys sample Army life
- 18 NATO Exercise Deep Express in Turkey
- 20 Purely Personal
- 22 Guards Parachute Company disbands  
SOLDIER News: Four-page pull-out supplement
- 27 Left, Right and Centre
- 30 Record reviews
- 32 44 Para Brigade exercise
- 33 Sport
- 37 Humour
- 38 Letters
- 40 Collectors' Corner
- 41 Prize competition
- 43 Military models
- 44 Book reviews



### FRONT COVER

"Star of wonder . . ." eight of the Army's top parachutists trying to make a star in the sky high above Salisbury Plain. The eight included the Red Devils' only girl member, Sergeant Jackie Smith, and the Black Knights' Sergeant Len Melville who was the only soldier in Britain's ten-man relative work team at the world championships in September. Picture by Dave Waterman.



### BACK COVER

The peace of the Italian Alps snow scene is rudely awakened by a bobsleigh buffeting its way at breakneck speed down the glassy sheen of the Cervinia track where Army competitors acquitted themselves well earlier this year. This sport is growing in popularity within the Army and several teams are hoping to reach high standards. Picture by Paul Haley.

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# SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

## APRIL 1976

- 24 Freedom of Delyn (Clwyd), The Royal Welch Fusiliers.
- 24 Presentation new Colours, 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Gloucester.
- 25 Laying up old Colours, 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Gloucester Cathedral.

## MAY 1976

- 12 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 14 Biggin Hill Air Fair (14-16 May).
- 19 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 22 Lord Mayor's Show, Birmingham (band).
- 26 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.
- 29 Cardiff Army Display (29-31 May).
- 29 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 29 Combined Cadet Tattoo, Gosport (29-31 May).
- 29 Tidworth Tattoo (29-31 May).

## JUNE 1976

- 1 Household Division massed bands beat Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (1-3 June).
- 2 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 5 Second rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 5 Wrexham Army Display (5-6 June).
- 6 Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse (Scottish Division freetail team, Golden Lions; displays; bands).
- 9 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 12 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 16 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 23 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 25 Aldershot Army Display (25-27 June).
- 30 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.

## JULY 1976

- 2 Royal Artillery At Home, Woolwich (2-3 July).
- 3 Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot.
- 7 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 10 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 14 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 14 Royal Tournament, Earls Court (14-31 July).
- 21 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.

## AUGUST 1976

- 4 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (4-7 August).
- 18 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 20 Edinburgh Tattoo (20 August-11 September).
- 25 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.

## SEPTEMBER 1976

- 1 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 8 Kneller Hall Band final grand concert.
- 12 Woodley Tattoo.

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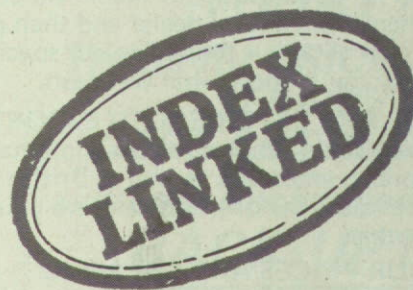
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The following awards have been made for service in Northern Ireland between 1 February and 30 April 1975.

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**Officer of the Order of the British Empire:** Lieutenant-Colonel D F Ryan, Royal Artillery.

**Member of the Order of the British Empire:** Captain S P Cain, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Major J P W Friedberger, The Royal Hussars; Major J Hickie, Royal Artillery; Captain J R Westlake, The Green Howards.

**Queen's Gallantry Medal:** Corporal P G B Ellis, Royal Engineers; Gunner P M Thistleton, Royal Artillery.

**British Empire Medal:** Lance-Corporal J K Dolby, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards; Staff-Sergeant D M Giddings, Intelligence Corps; Staff-Sergeant C Owen, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

**Mentioned in Despatches:** Captain J A Ball, The King's Own Scottish Borderers; Sergeant P M Beard, Major G L Davies, Captain C H Elliott, all The Royal Regiment of Wales; Warrant Officer 2 R Bend, Captain R T Gant, both Royal Military Police; Major M F Bemridge, Captain K R Mayger, Major

A V Palmer, Lieutenant-Colonel P J Watson, all Royal Artillery; Sergeant A M Brown, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment; Major D J W Browne, Lieutenant R C Gould, Staff-Sergeant C A Mallett, Corporal A J Orton, Lieutenant-Colonel P P Young, all The Royal Anglian Regiment; Captain P E Cheney, Welsh Guards; Lieutenant-Colonel C D Craigie Halkett, The Royal Highland Fusiliers; Sergeant M A Dixon, Corporal J McMillan, Captain R M Wilde, all The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Lieutenant J A Ellis, Royal Navy; Captain J C W Gillman, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars; Warrant Officer 2 A M W Grant, Royal Engineers; Lieutenant-Colonel J B Howard, Major I P Hurley, Sergeant S E Woodburn, all The King's Own Border Regiment; Marine C K Johnson, Royal Marines; Corporal D Judge, Captain R C H Luscombe, Major P J Lyddon, Rifleman G D Reid, Lieutenant P J F Schofield, Corporal K Spence, all The Royal Green Jackets; Lieutenant D W Madgwick, Staff-Sergeant C Price, Corporal A W Routledge, Lieutenant-Colonel H M Sloan, all Intelligence Corps.



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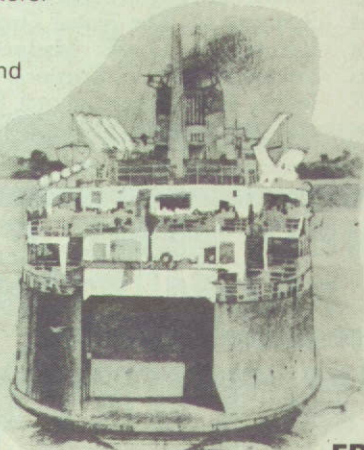


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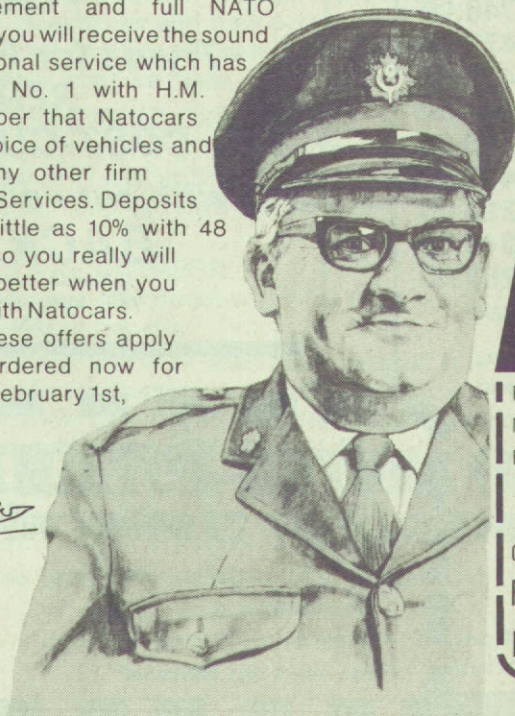
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# SOLDIER to Soldier

Fifty recruits wanted — for the London Irish Rifles. This is the message in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's "swinging" King's Road. And if the 50 and more do not jump forward it will certainly not be for lack of initiative and enthusiasm on the part of this Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve unit — D Company (London Irish Rifles), 4th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers.

Like other London units the London Irish Rifles contribute to and benefit from the wider-based recruiting campaigns and like others, too, have a long and distinguished history — plus the active interest of ex-members.

Forward therefore Mr John St John Cooper, a Territorial with wartime service in the London Irish Rifles and now head of a public relations firm, to organise a Press conference launching the recruiting campaign. And forward the press, both local and national, to hear the three speakers, company commander Major A P La Roche, Major-General J H S Majury, Colonel of the The Royal Irish Rangers, and, star attraction, a former member of The Royal Ulster Rifles in Mr Clement Freud MP.

Theme of the campaign is "Be a paid volunteer with the Territorial Army and become twice the man with the London Irish Rifles." Twice a man, says the company, because joining the London Irish (Englishmen and Scotsmen are welcome!) gives a man training, adventure, action and comradeship, provides him with self-discipline and a sense of responsibility — and he thus gains a whole new dimension to life.

Ignorance of the benefits of the TAVR is given as the reason why the London Irish are below strength and need fit, active men between 17½ and 30 to maintain the spirit of the regiment. Born in 1859, the London Irish fought in the South African War and won 66 battle honours in the two world wars. Since 1871 there have been only four honorary colonels—The Duke of Connaught, Field-Marshal Earl Alexander, Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer and now General Sir Basil Eugster.

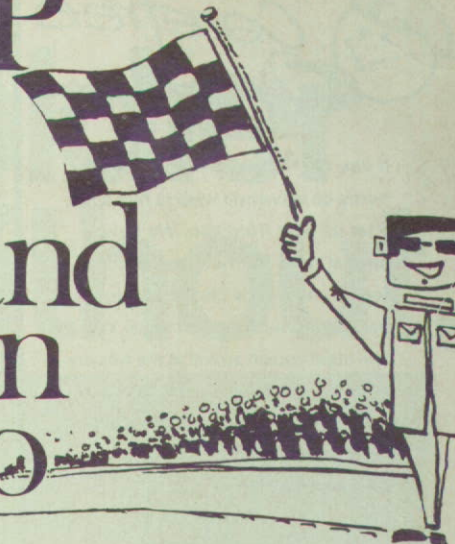
★

Maendy Junior School's collection of more than a thousand military badges has been given a great boost by gifts from the United States Army. Following up SOLDIER's feature (August) on the school and its militaria-interested headmaster, Mr John Pryce-Jones, Major I E Kerry, of the British Army Staff in Washington circulated the article to British liaison and exchange officers serving on United States Army posts in the United States. The response included, via Major J E H Ellis, British exchange officer at Fort Carson, a collection of all the unit crests and qualification badges worn by the 4th (US) Infantry Division at Fort Carson.

★

The range of designs in the very popular regimental drum ice buckets marketed by SOLDIER — they make excellent and much-appreciated gifts — now totals 95. The latest addition is the 4th Royal Tank Regiment. The ice buckets are available from SOLDIER at £6.25 (UK), £5.80 (BFPO) and £6.85 (elsewhere), all including postage and packing.

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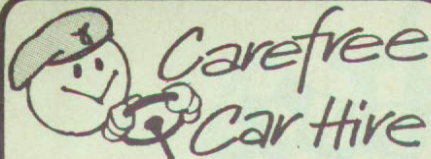
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## Military Museums : 35

### The Royal Corps of Military Police

**A**N effective presentation illustrating current military police activities alongside exhibits portraying past history and achievements gives this museum a lively, forward-looking character. Life-size models of a parachute provost non-commissioned officer in operational kit and a Royal Military Police NCO wearing full riot gear for duty in Northern Ireland make an immediate impact; an Ulster showcase contains captured terrorist weapons and intercepted items made by prisoners in the Maze (formerly Long Kesh). Typical of the latter are a wooden Thompson sub-machine-gun, handkerchiefs crudely painted with IRA slogans and propaganda pictures intended for sale as IRA fund-raising souvenirs.

A well-displayed medal collection reflects the historical background of the RMP from its early years as the Military Foot Police and Military Mounted Police, the "Royal" prefix being granted in 1946 as a reward for services in World War Two.

A good collection of uniforms includes the working dress of a warrant officer in a mounted troop as used up to 1968. Note the smartly cut breeches and black leather knee boots. A Gurkha section (the Gurkha Military Police was a sister corps until its disbandment in 1966) includes a life-size model of a Gurkha MP in "whites" and a two-handed khonrha used by young Gurkhas attempting the ritual beheading of a buffalo with a single stroke.

An early example (circa 1906) of the red-topped cap from which the military police get their "Redcap" nickname can be seen in a remarkable collection of British and Commonwealth military police headwear. There is an MMP forage cap (circa 1867) as worn by all ranks from 1st class sergeant to captain with its English rose badge denoting military police; a blue-covered cap worn by the Vulnerable Points Wing of the CMP (1940-48), formed by older reservists employed to guard places of strategic importance such as arms dumps, arsenals and ordnance factories, thus releasing Regular soldiers for other duties; and the hat worn by the first provost-marshal to rise from the ranks—Major Thomas Trout, appointed in 1861.

Other prominent features are an eye-catching display of swords mounted on a stand made of Sussex oak, an international collection of MP brassards dating back to World War One and a unique collection of British, Commonwealth and foreign military police badges and shoulder titles. A Malta section commemorates the Redcaps' long association with the George Cross island and a



Prominent here are the old "Besa" and 19 set, sword stand and illicit still.

wide range of weapons includes a Star automatic pistol used by an assassin in Aden, the pistol with which a displaced person killed a Special Investigation Branch Officer in Germany and three Russian Simonov rifles and a Degtyarev light machine-gun taken from the Egyptians during the 1956 Suez campaign.

Among a number of interesting miscellaneous items are an illicit still found under the floorboards of a displaced persons hut—one of 12 seized by the RMP and German police in November 1948; a powerful BSA M20 500cc motorcycle, a type regularly ridden by military police from 1939 to 1964; an early all-leather dog tackling suit complete with face mask; and a pair of World War One screw handcuffs.

But, perhaps inevitably, the exhibit which visitors invariably ask to see is the rope and noose used for the last hanging of a British soldier—in Egypt in 1952. The sinister object can be found in a quiet corner behind the museum assistant's desk.

**John Jesse**

**Curator:** Major R J R Whistler (Retd)  
**Museum assistant:** Mr M J Dale

**Address:** Royal Military Police  
Museum  
Roussillon Barracks  
Chichester  
Sussex

**Telephone:** Chichester 86311 ext 37  
**Open:** Monday to Friday, 0900 to 1800

**Closed:** Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, but visits can be arranged by appointment

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♪ Leaving in a RAF plane . . .  
♪ But they'll soon be back again . . . ♪

# Country meets Folk *in Belize*

Story by John Walton

Pictures by Paul Haley

**E**ARLY morning at Brize Norton. Wan-looking passengers sprawl on the leather seats. Wakened from their slumbers at some unearthly hour, a sight familiar to every serviceman who has travelled through the Royal Air Force's Heathrow.

On this occasion a group of passengers is experiencing the dawn delights of Brize Norton for the first time. Nor are they servicemen — some sport beards, there are two ladies and all are casually dressed. It is another Combined Services Entertainments spectacular — "Country Meets Folk" — nine of Britain's

leading folk and country entertainers being whisked some 5000 miles away to Belize where 600 troops are serving in Britain's last remaining toehold in the Americas.

Managing the tour for CSE is Basil Elms, bearded veteran of a thousand and one "gigs" — a musician who spent ten years with Sounds Incorporated, a now defunct rock ensemble which performed with such legendary greats as Gene Vincent, Little Richard and Jerry Lee Lewis. Still active in the orchestration

field, Basil is on his fourth CSE visit to the Central American dependency which until a year or two ago was known as British Honduras. He knows that a long, hard slog awaits the artistes, most of whom have given up highly paid British bookings in order to appear.

The journey begins. Aboard what is possibly the last RAF Britannia flight to Belize we cross the Atlantic to Gander in Newfoundland, where there is an overnight stop. Since Belize may soon only be served by Hercules transport aircraft, future CSE visits could be all-male. A

Harvey Andrews (left), Blind Blake, Graham Cooper and Pete Stanley celebrate their meeting at Nassau Airport with an impromptu song.







**Graham Cooper gets down to songwriting while he flies across the Caribbean.**



**Others pass the time with a marathon card session or discussing folk music.**



**It's lunchtime on the desert island and the still wet swimmers find some shade.**



**"Won't You Come Home, Bill Bailey?" is the finale of Airport Camp Show.**

**Below: Another barnstorming jam session as cast rocks Holdfast rafters.**



Combined Services Entertainment, which has been a division of the British Forces Broadcasting Service since 1964, is a direct descendant of the wartime ENSA. It was created under its present name in 1946. During the current financial year it is putting on 47 shows for servicemen in Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Belize, Rhine Army, Gibraltar, Gan, Salalah, Masirah and (for the first time) Benbecula.

Derek Agutter, who as senior live entertainment organiser for BFBS heads the CSE operation, served in the Army from 1944 to 1960—first in the Royal Tank Regiment and later in the Royal Army Service Corps. He joined CSE in 1961 and looked after Middle East and Near East commands. He took up his present appointment in 1968. His daughter Jenny is a well-known actress and has just completed the film "Logan's Run" in Hollywood with Michael Yorke and Peter Ustinov.

quick show at Gander, a few hours' sleep and the concert party is on its way south. Next stop, for refuelling, is Nassau. In the airport lounge the folk artistes spot a group of musicians who entertain there nightly — "Blind Blake" and his band. Within seconds they surround the band leader, an elderly blind man, and take him outside for a photographic and musical session.

Singer and writer Harvey Andrews is over the moon. After skipping round three pillars he tells us breathlessly: "This is fantastic. Blind Blake made an LP about 1949 which is one of the classics of the folk world. We all thought he was dead — and here he is."

Soon we are on the last leg of the outward trip. At Belize international airport it is the middle of the afternoon but body clocks are already at night time. Jet lag is forgotten as the coach heads towards Belize city. Excited fingers point out herons, exotic butterflies, palm trees — Harvey Andrews croons "every little breeze seems to whisper Belize!"

Just 90 minutes to spruce up and the concert party is on its way back to Airport Camp where a 200-strong audience gives opening performer Johnny Silvo a rapturous welcome. Johnny, 20 years ago an Army Physical Training Corps instructor, belts out calypsos and popular folk songs like "The Wild Rover" with infectious zeal and soon has the audience eating out of his hand.

He is followed by Penny Royal, comprising Paul Arnold, a one-time member of the Overlanders group, and his wife Carole. They are less of a folk duo than cabaret artistes — most of their engagements are in clubs. But their skiffle and Everly Brothers medleys go down well although many of the audience are too young to recall the original hit versions.

Next, country and western time. Banjo virtuoso Pete Stanley and his Yorkshire-based partner, Roger Knowles, on guitar, give a performance which shows why they are classed among Britain's leading country and western musicians.

Dave and Toni Arthur, another husband and wife team, are perhaps the purest folk artistes on the tour. In addition to writing some of their own material they have gathered songs from many parts of the world. Toni's strong clear voice has the audience spellbound as she puts across emotive love songs.

On to Harvey Andrews and Graham Cooper with a selection of their own material which leaves the audience





**American castaway on Goff's Cay returns from his fishing expedition.**



**Homeward bound. The early morning coach to airport with tired passengers.**



**Pete and Graham say goodbye to Colonel Green, British Commander.**

gasping for more. There are cries for "Soldier, Soldier," a song which Harvey wrote during his solo days four or five years back and which has entered the mythology of the British Army. It is all about a young soldier in Northern Ireland who blows himself up to save passers-by from a bomb, but to Harvey it has become an albatross about his neck.

"It sold 28,000 copies but I just do not perform it any more," he says. "It just would not be right for a show of this type. If I perform it I get complaints and if I don't I get complaints — so I prefer not to."

Johnny Silvo re-appears for a couple of numbers and is then joined by the rest of the party for a barnstorming finale — a rafter-ringing version of "Bill Bailey" with all performers taking solos.

After their first night's real sleep since leaving Britain more than 48 hours earlier, the entertainers are taken next morning by boat to a real desert island. Goff's Cay, two hours out into the Caribbean by boat, is the kind of island beloved by cartoonists. About 75 yards in diameter, a cluster of coconut trees in the centre and the only other occupants — a pair of genuine castaways — an American couple living on the island while mending a hole in their boat.

For two idyllic hours the folk singers swim and dive in the crystal-clear Caribbean waters. Harvey Andrews again: "I'll never spend another day like this as long as I live."

After a short break the party is due to move out again, to Holdfast Camp, some 70 miles up country and not far from the Guatemalan border. It is here, for the first time, that things go wrong. The first Army bus to arrive breaks down, the second is stymied behind a mammoth Belizean funeral cortege wending its way on foot to the local cemetery. Seventy miles of rough, bumpy road later, the party eventually arrives but the show is 45 minutes late starting and sections of the 45-strong audience are clearly unhappy. A stern test for the performers but one from which they emerge with flying colours. "Real troupers" is Basil Elms's verdict.

Pete Stanley, a keen entomologist, who has brought his own butterfly net to Belize but has had little chance to use it, is delighted to be given two female tarantulas. "Just what I've always wanted," he says.

Back along the bumpy roads and the exhausted singers stretch out and try to sleep. For in a few short hours they will be on their way home again — after a five-day trip in which they have mostly travelled and worked.

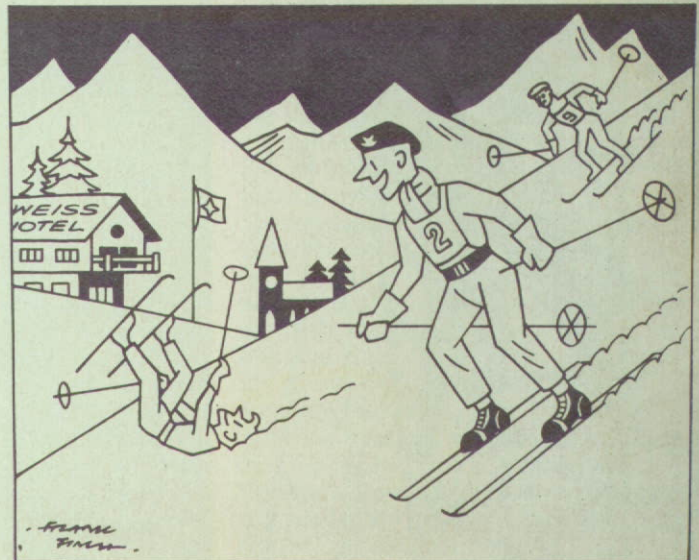
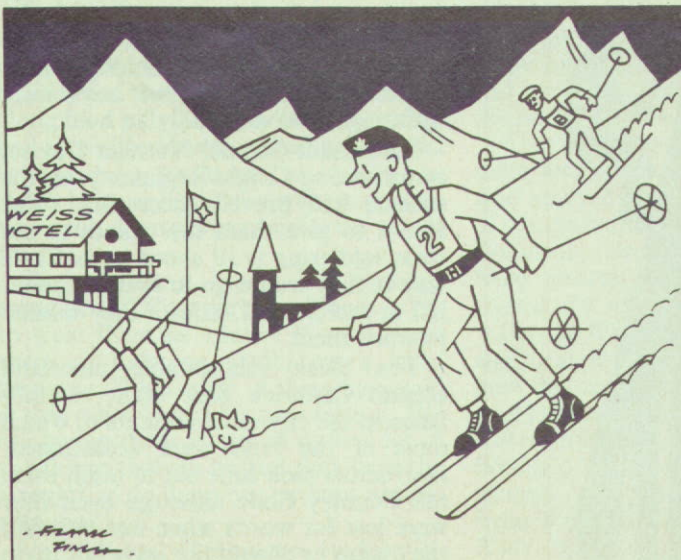
For road manager Basil Elms, it will be a few days' rest then off with another CSE party to Gibraltar. For the artistes it will be back on the road. Most of them have foregone two or three times their CSE fee but they have provided a service for troops far from home and have seen an exotic part of the world — ample reward in their eyes.



**Girl singers Toni Arthur and Carole Arnold carry out their own pre-flight inspection of the Britannia just before they go on board for the home trip.**

## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 40.





# Fall in the Fifth

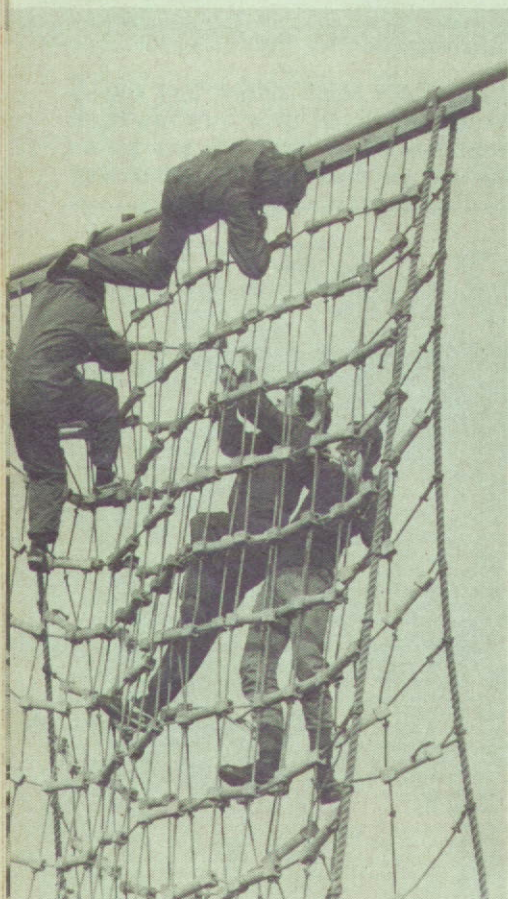


Story by John Walton

Pictures by Paul Haley

Below: A foot on the back of the neck as boys struggle their way through the punishing assault course at Catterick.

Below: Abseiling was a new thrill to be enjoyed and where better to do it from than the regiment's officers' mess roof.



**F**IFTY fifth-form boys, nearly all of whom had had no experience of or contact with the Army, took a week off school and were turned into "soldiers" by a gruelling dawn-to-bedtime schedule which would have done credit to a recruit training centre.

The week in camp, organised under the 1973 Work Experience Act, was the first in the north-east of England although one or two similar pilot schemes have been held in other districts. Their success is expected to lead to the idea being permanently adopted. Boys from 13 schools in Cleveland, Humberside and Yorkshire attended the five-day course, hosted by 4 Light Regiment, Royal Artillery, at Catterick. They came from widely contrasting environments in Middlesbrough, Hull, Bradford and other northern towns.

First task was to divide them into ten groups of five, each section split up so as to ensure that new friends (and rivals) would be created. Each group had a junior non-commissioned officer as instructor, some from the gunner regiment and others provided by 1 and 11 Army Youth Teams from Leeds and Middlesbrough.

They were given a warm welcome on arrival but a slightly tongue-in-cheek sergeant-major's briefing told them that their week's respite from the classroom would be no sinecure. Nor was it. Kitted out in denims and Wellingtons, the temporary soldiers were put through their paces, often at the double, by instructors determined that they should get, if anything, an over-energetic view of Army life. The ten sections were pitted against each other in a series of competitions which began that first evening with five-a-side football. Prizes of regimental plaques awaited the winning section and each lad on the course received a certificate.

The next day began with reveille at six. After breakfast, training began in earnest on an assault course with sub-machine-guns. Most boys had never handled guns of any type before but soon they were being taught the intricacies of manhandling pack-howitzers.

Each section had a go at everything on the course, including elementary signals work, map reading and shooting. Another opportunity was to sample the brand-new indoor artificial ski slope and, while there were tumbles galore, a surprising number of the boys were whizzing down after only an hour.

Lieutenant-Colonel Norman Davies, commanding 4 Light Regiment, said the scheme had proved successful; "The aim is to give them the chance to see what soldiering is all about in the same way as they would go to find out about ICI or the Co-op Dairies if they wanted to work there."

The bleak inhospitable moorland around Catterick bore scant resemblance to the city environments to which most of the boys were accustomed. Instructors took time out to teach them the Country Code although even they were lost for words when one boy said the reason he should not leave bottles in





**Above:** At the end of their assault course the youngsters fired sub-machine guns and every hit counted for points.

**Below:** Not long ago they were playing with cap pistols — now the schoolboy soldiers meet the 105mm pack-howitzer.



**Above:** Map reading and some basic work on signals were included and boys soon mastered "over" techniques.



**Above:** Hungry boys arrive for lunch.

**Below:** Helicopter pilot Lieutenant Bill Scarratt explains all about his Scout.



fields was because there was money back on them!

Colonel Davies said the lads were tired at the end of each day and added: "We did not intend that they should have a holiday and think that they were coming along for a jolly." Any who did speedily had those illusions dispelled and one lad said later he would not be joining the Army because he did not want to go over an assault course every day for the rest of his life.

Project officer Major Bill Collings explained: "What we have done is to try to treat them as adults. If we treated them as kids we would get a kids' response. What some of them have said is that it has been a bit too physical. We are giving them a taste of quite a lot of the things that we do and they have the strength to do them but perhaps not the stamina."

Mr Gordon Parramore, industrial

liaison officer for Cleveland county education authority, one of the few local government officers in the country with that appointment, told SOLDIER: "The Army is a part of the community and it is important to make young people realise that it is a job of work."

Abseiling from the roof of the officers' mess was another treat. Among those who enjoyed it were Bruce Collins (15), of Bramsholme, near Hull, and Paul Collinson, also 15, of Driffield. Both were undeterred by the pace of the course and intend to sign on.

On the Thursday a party of teachers and local education officials came to see how the experiment was working. Colonel Davies told them: "We in the Army suffer from the 'Dad's Army' image or because many of the people in the schools and parents knew the Army from their National Service days. The Army has changed quite a lot and I

always welcome anybody who comes along to have a look at us."

Among the visiting teachers was physical education and careers master Mr Philip Staves, of Northallerton. He estimates that 20 per cent of his impending school-leavers are considering joining the Army next summer. For the five course places allocated to his school there were 50 applications.

Also quietly pleased was Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Ray, recruiting and liaison officer for Northumbria, who organised the course and liaised with the local authorities. He intends to run a similar course at Catterick this month in which 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, will be the hosts.

"Next year we might be able to run one for girls thinking of joining the Women's Royal Army Corps or Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps," he added.



# Turkish terminus for Deep Express

**E**XERCISE Deep Express 75 set out to test NATO's deterrent combat efficiency in the southern region of the alliance, using the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (Land), a multi-national force designed to deter attacks on NATO's flanks.

Some 5000 troops from Britain, Belgium, Canada, Italy, The Netherlands, Germany and the United States make up the force. They operate in close co-operation with the troops of the host nation — Norway, Denmark or Turkey — and regular exercises test their teeth in all three countries. English is the NATO standard language and a full seven-language phrase book is issued to every soldier.

Istanbul airport was the scene of feverish military activity as troops,

freight and vehicles were flown in for Deep Express 75. A British movement control team co-ordinated the arrivals and despatched the troops to the exercise area near Turkey's northern border. Much of the heavier British equipment and vehicles was brought by sea and beach-landed from Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships.

A deterrent phase of the exercise started with patrols by the three infantry battalions from Belgium, Germany and America, supported by British Scorpion reconnaissance vehicles, from A Squadron, The Blues and Royals, which has to be prepared to work either in the snows of the arctic or the heat of Turkey. This was the first time the squadron's Scorpions and Ferret scout cars, equipped with Swingfire anti-tank missiles, had



Left: Ready for action are the crew of a Belgian 12.7-millimetre machine-gun.

Above: On the deck of RFA Sir Geraint —Gazelles being prepared for flight.

Right: A Royal Air Force Wessex helicopter taking off after refuelling from the rubber fuel pods in the foreground.

Below: Turkish youngsters help the crew of a Scorpion light reconnaissance tank to replace a track on hilly terrain.





deployed in Turkey. The squadron has the task of passing information about enemy movements.

The exercise moved on to a "war" footing and the value of close international co-operation practice became apparent as Belgian infantry attacked with Turkish M48 tanks in support. Americans handed over a position to German troops while British and German helicopters moved troops and stores for all contingents. Because of its air-portable role the whole force has to rely largely on host nation road transport while tactical troop movement is normally by helicopter.

Artillery support came from British, Belgian and American batteries of 105mm howitzers. Fire from these was co-ordinated by the force artillery headquarters—a British unit with liaison

officers from each national battery.

A variety of British skills are melded to form a logistic support battalion responsible for providing all the material needs of the mobile force. Anything from baths to bread, tyres to tank tracks, bullets to beef and petrol to pesticides is on hand. Any one contingent from any of the seven nations taking part could demand any single item.

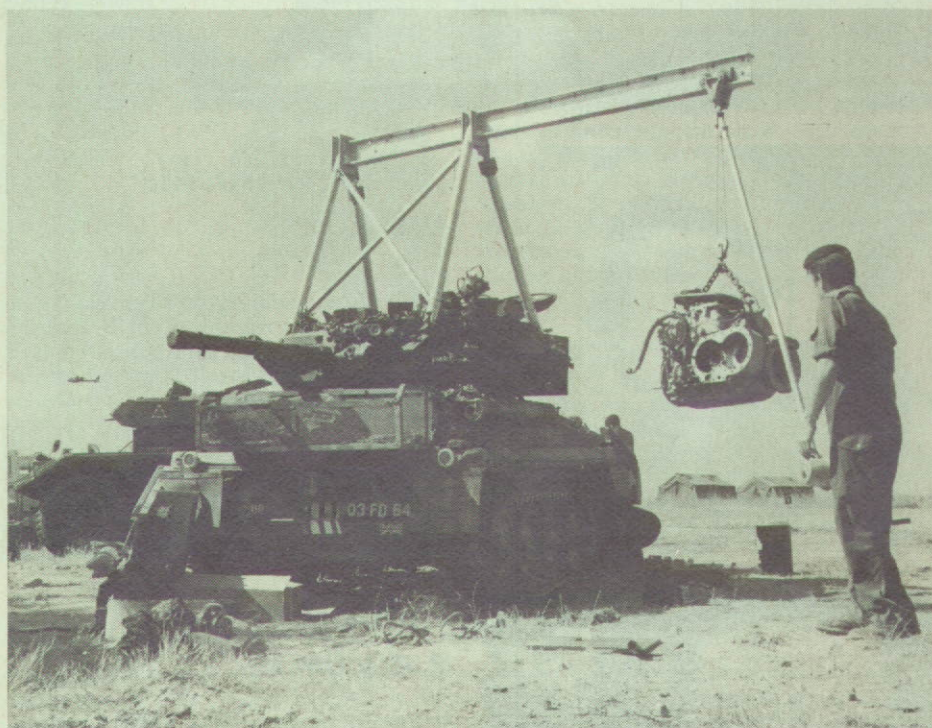
An administrative base camp was set up on the arid plains and within 24 hours had grown to the size of a large village geared to supply the needs of the troops at the "front." The central cookhouse was feeding about 500 all-nation administrative troops. A fuel dump held 100,000 gallons of a variety of fuels to keep wheels, rotors and tracks moving. The bakery was turning out up to two tons of bread daily. The Germans pro-

vided a fully equipped field hospital, with dental surgery, which was exercised "for real" dealing with several road accident victims.

Communications directly into the NATO teleprinter circuit were run from a German-manned communication centre and it was possible to speak to London from the exercise with hardly any delay. Radio communication within the force was the responsibility of the Royal Signals.

The exercise finished with a demonstration, watched by NATO chiefs, and their seal of approval was stamped on the way soldiers from different nations had worked together. Many useful lessons were learned and will be put into practice on the next AMF(L) exercise due to take place on Salisbury Plain this month.

*From a report by Army PR, UKLF.*



**Left:** REME mechanic changing a gearbox on a Scorpion. The rough roads and long distances proved a stern test.

**Above:** An injured Turkish soldier gets gently lowered on to a stretcher. Note helmet on rifle—World War One style.

**Right:** Meeting on the road. A Turkish M48 tank pulls to the side in order to let the British Land-Rover drive past it.

**Below:** A Belgian soldier advances on the Turkish plains with ammunition to service a 12.7-millimetre machine-gun.





# Purely Personal

## Jumping for joy . . .

Corporal Joe Greig and Sergeant Martin Togher, both of the Royal Corps of Transport's Silver Stars freefall team, planned to jump for joy . . . by parachute when they celebrated their 30th birthdays on the same day. To mark the occasion, the cookhouse at the corps' Aldershot home in Buller Barracks produced a special cake designed to fit in a box to be passed in freefall. Another coincidence — Joe and Martin both passed their advanced driving tests just a fortnight before their birthdays.



## . . . and Jackie jumps too

Jackie Munro definitely had her head in the clouds when she celebrated her 16th birthday. Her present was a parachute jump from a light aircraft high over Cyprus where her father, Warrant Officer James Munro, is serving as an instructor at the Army's adventurous training centre. Jackie was following not only in father's footsteps (he instructs in sub-aqua but parachutes as a hobby) but in her brother's too—16-year-old David Munro has 11 descents to his credit so far.

## Canadian salute

A unique honour was conferred on Brigadier Dennis O'Flaherty, late Royal Artillery, when he left Ottawa, Canada; after two and a half years as defence adviser to the High Commissioner there. The brigadier took the salute as the Governor-General's Foot Guard passed the High Commission on its way to mount guard at the Houses of Parliament. During the salute the Canadian Forces Band played the march of the Royal Artillery.

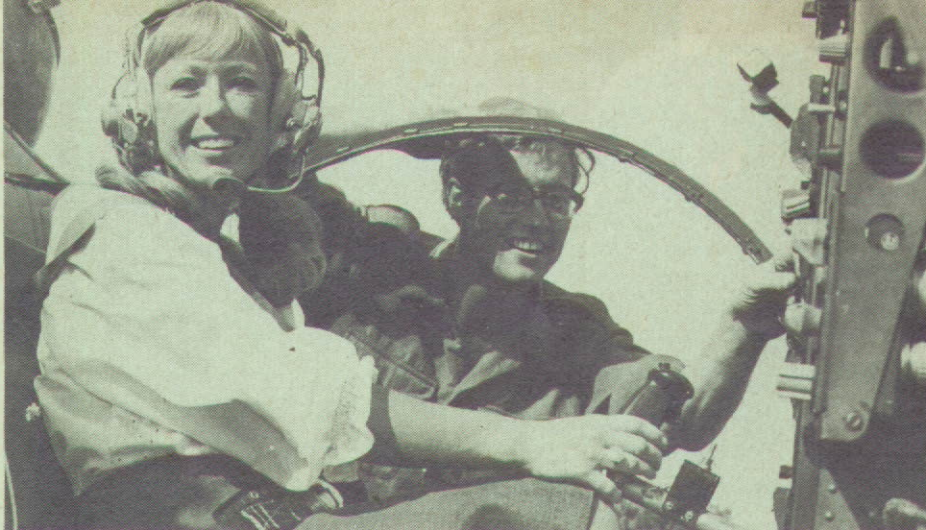


## Portrait of a duchess

A Spanish artist, Alejo Vidal Quadras, whose subjects include a score of royalty, has completed a portrait of the Duchess of Kent, Controller Commandant of the Women's Royal Army Corps. The work, in charcoal and pastel, was commissioned by the officers of the corps and is now in their headquarters mess at Guildford. With the portrait here are Brigadier Eileen Nolan, Director WRAC, and the artist.







## Miss Skylark

**Miss Norma Leon**, pin-up of 660 Squadron, Army Air Corps, at the controls of a helicopter as Miss Skylark during a visit to the squadron in Northern Ireland. Norma was in the province as a singer with a Combined Services Entertainment show. She recently handed a cheque for £180 to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital on behalf of the squadron following a sponsored "shave-in" when she persuaded the airtroopers to cut off their moustaches—for each bare lip there was another contribution to the fund.



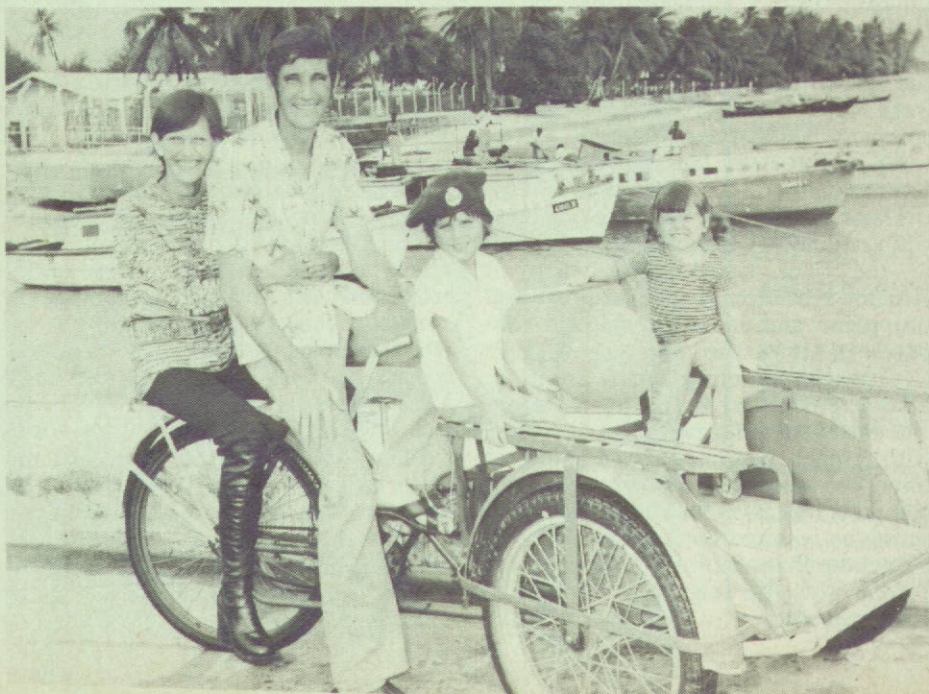
## Meet the ram

A new ram mascot for 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, has been chosen at Chatsworth House, home of the Duke of Devonshire. The three-year-old ram will now star on parade in the care of **Ram-Major Lance-Corporal Peter Mead**.

## Family firsts—on Gan and in a Belfast

A record stop-over on the RAF's coral atoll staging post of Gan is being claimed by the Carr family who were going home to the United Kingdom from Singapore. **Corporal Donald Carr** had served with the now closed Jungle Warfare Wing and was on his way to join 20 Maritime Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, with his wife **Jennifer** and children **Andrew** (5) and **Rachel** (3) when Jen-

nifer suffered a burst eardrum. The whole family stayed for two weeks on Gan in the Indian Ocean's Maldiv Islands, enjoying the hospitality and sunshine Gan and the Royal Air Force can offer, while mum recovered. When they were ready to move on, another "first" was clocked up by the Carrs by being the first family to fly together in one of the RAF's huge Belfast freighters.



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## Goodbye, Para Guards

**T**HERE were only fifty men on the square at Pirbright — apart from the bandsmen and mainly bowler-hatted old comrades who had come along to support them. “Small but impeccable” was how the inspecting officer, Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer, described the disbandment parade — the phrase could equally well have applied to 1st (Guards) Independent Company, The Parachute Regiment, at any time during its 27 years of existence.

The “para guardsmen” were among the first casualties of the recent Defence Review. About a third of them are being transferred to G Squadron of 22nd Special Air Service Regiment at Hereford and the rest will return to their parent regiments, the two of Household Cavalry and the five of Foot Guards. All were volunteers who passed a rigorous selection process to join the company for three years or more.

It was a sad day for many and for none more than the commanding officer, Major Robert Corbett, who has now become adjutant at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He was a troop commander with the company from 1965 to 1968 and had commanded it for two years. “During this last year we have taken part in exercises all over the world. Ever since we heard of our impending disbandment we have fulfilled all our operations to the full.

“It is very sad because this is an absolute élite. We have a large number of Morse operators trained to 16 to 21 words a minute, we have trained medics and the men are trained in high-altitude and freefall parachute work. The reservoir of experience is enormous and it is very sad to see it split up.”

Major Corbett himself kept parachuting right up until the last exercise, in

Story by John Walton  
Pictures by Paul Haley

France, when he had an accident which provided a final ironic twist. On his last jump with the company he fell badly into a ditch and broke his leg — his first accident in ten years of parachuting. He appeared at the final parade with a leg in plaster and hobbling with two sticks.

Guardsmen and parachuting have been associated ever since the formation of British Airborne Forces in World War Two by General “Boy” Browning. Later in the war the 1st Parachute Battalion became a Guards battalion. In November 1946 the 1st (Guards) Parachute Battalion came into being in Palestine under Lieutenant-Colonel E J B Nelson. The battalion remained there until the reformation of 6th Airborne Division into a parachute brigade in 1948, then moving to Pirbright to disband and reform as a company with the role of pathfinders for the brigade. Both Major-General Nelson and the first company commander, Major R Steele, were at Pirbright for the winding-up ceremony.

During its first few years the company was stationed in Germany, Cyprus and in the Suez Canal Zone where it remained for three years guarding filtration plants and unloading ships in Suez port. In 1956 the company was in Cyprus again, hunting EOKA terrorists, and then took part in the Suez invasion. The Para guards formed a liaison section with French paratroopers and jumped into Port Said. The following year the company was given the additional role of acting as reconnaissance troops for the Parachute Brigade. In 1958 it went into Jordan with the brigade at King Hussein's request.



Left: Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer sees last parade and (top) old comrades. Below: Drumhead service.



Confrontation with Indonesia saw the red-beret guardsmen acting as reconnaissance troops and, in four-man patrols, deployed on the border for four months at a time to observe enemy movement. During these two Borneo tours the company operated in a role which had until then been exclusive to the Special Air Service. As a result the Household Brigade was asked to provide a squadron of selected guardsmen for incorporation into the SAS.

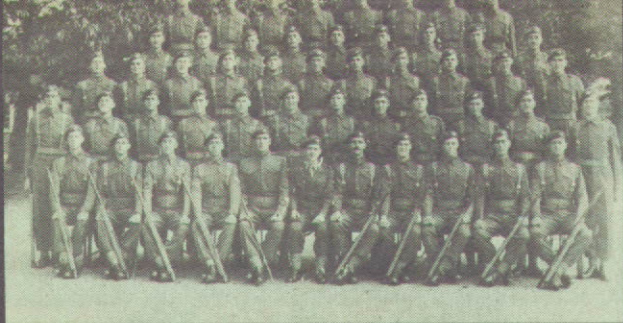
In February 1970 the company began the first of several Northern Ireland tours. A year later, while emplaning at Lyneham for an exercise in Malta, it was ordered to move to the province in just 36 hours.

As it paraded for the last time, Field-Marshal Templer told the company: “Today is an equally sad occasion for all of you and for me. The decision was the cause of a great deal of heartburning on the part of all those concerned. In the short time you have existed by Army standards you have made your mark in a big way.”

Sir Gerald said the company's outstanding success was due to the fact that each member brought with him a real and living pride in the regiment from which he came as well as a pride in his profession. All through the company's existence there had been forged an ever-increasing bond between it and the Special Air Service and it must be a considerable satisfaction to all of them that one-third were going to the SAS.

Then, as the company marched off to the strains of “Auld Lang Syne,” the company flag was slowly lowered. A 14-gun salute was fired by I Battery of 7th Parachute Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery. The Para Guards were finally consigned to the history books.





16th Guards Pathfinder Company at Pirbright in early days (August 1948).

Below: A Cypriot driver encounters this Para Guards check in 1958.

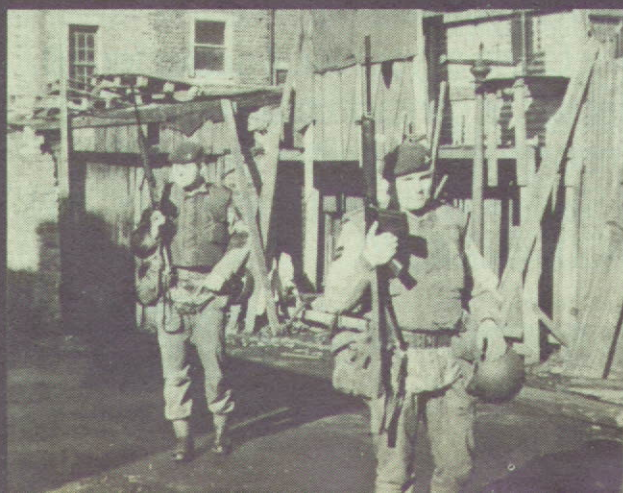


Above: The King and Queen pose in an early picture with officers.

Below: Presentation of company Colour by General Sir Charles Lloyd.



Below: Into the 1970s on a Northern Ireland duty tour.

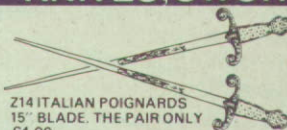


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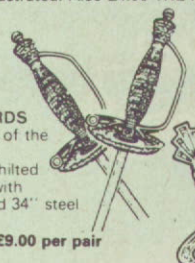
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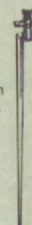


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PERSONAL EXPORT





## NEW HELMETS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

About 200 new helmets made of glass-reinforced plastic have been issued to troops in Northern Ireland on a user evaluation basis. The new design of helmet, which has a visor unit, is intended to be used in static-type duty and will replace in-service steel helmets. It is said to give improved fragmentation protection, to incorporate a significant degree of impact protection and to be much more comfortable. Work has started on providing a special helmet for search team personnel. Some pilot models have been sent to Northern Ireland for examination and developing work is proceeding.

By January the EOD suit Mark II helmet is due to enter service. The new helmet for bomb disposal men has a fitted visor which can be swivelled, raised or lowered. It gives improved protection and has built-in audio gear. (DCT)



## OMBUDSMAN

Sir Alan Marre, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (or Ombudsman), in a BBC Radio Four "It's Your Line" programme was asked by Major-General Colin Bullard (Retired) if the law should be altered so that he would have power to investigate allegations of maladministration involving conditions of service and consequent entitlement of public service pensions. Sir Alan replied that this would be one of the matters which would be brought within his remit if, as a select committee had suggested but the Government had not accepted, it was widened to include questions of conditions of service which would take in pensions of civil servants and members of the armed forces.

General Bullard pointed out that one department of Government, perfect as they all were in the main, was just as much liable to maladministration as another in detail, so why should one be exempt. Sir Alan said the theory for exemption in the case of the armed forces was that while they had not got a Whitley Council system like civil servants, they had got a statutory system for the investigation of complaints about conditions of service. He added: "It's not an argument which the select committee have accepted and I would be perfectly willing to take this on if the Government and Parliament so decided."

## MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

● At the end of July about 2000 foreign and Commonwealth students were attending training courses run by the Services, Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, said in reply to Mr Peter Viggers (Conservative, Gosport). He told Mr Viggers that in the last financial year receipts for this training amounted to just over £7,000,000 and that this year about 400 Service personnel would have undertaken training courses organised by other countries. The cost to defence votes was about £200,000.

● Mr Paul Rose (Labour, Blackley) asked if the age limit for recruiting to the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve could be extended to take account of persons with technical or administrative skills who would be of assistance to Rhine Army or the United Kingdom mobile force in case of mobilisation. He was told by Mr Robert C Brown, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, that TAVR age limits were set out in regulations but that these regulations permitted selective exceptions so a person with a particularly needed skill could be enlisted if required even if he did not come within the specified age limits.

● Mr Rose also asked if steps would be taken to supply new facilities and improve existing housing facilities for married men within the forces to encourage family life at peacetime postings abroad. Mr Rodgers replied: "We recognise the need to keep servicemen and their families together wherever possible and will continue to do all we can to maintain and improve living conditions for married men and their families serving abroad."

● Fourteen border crossings in Ireland were closed by the security forces in September and a further three roads were re-closed, Mr Merlyn Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, told Mr John Biggs-Davison (Conservative, Epping Forest). Mr Rees said the effect of the closure programme had been to deny routes to



terrorists and, since it began, terrorist activity in those border areas had decreased markedly.

● Mr Brown said in reply to Mr Cranley Onslow (Conservative, Woking) that he could not reveal full details of Britain's future order of battle at the present stage. But under the Defence Review, he instanced, the Royal Engineers would be reduced from 13 to 11 regiments and the logistic services from 39 to 31 regiments.

● The Services had 103,000 married quarters and hirings in the United Kingdom and the periods in which they were empty between tenants was normally up to two or three weeks, Mr Rodgers told Mrs Janet Fookes (Conservative, Plymouth Drake). He said that in cases of modernisation or redeployment of units the period was inevitably longer. Mr Rodgers disagreed with Mr Peter Tapsell (Conservative, Horncastle) who complained that the recent circular to local authorities asking them to give special consideration to ex-servicemen applying for council houses was more honoured in the breach than in the observance.

● The Northern Ireland daily additional payment of 50 pence would need to be 66p to have the same buying power as when it was introduced in April 1974, Mr Brown informed Mr Ian Gow (Conservative, Eastbourne).

● After a careful and detailed study it had been regretfully concluded that it was not possible to change the present arrangements under which widows of servicemen below the rank of warrant officer class I were not entitled to a proportion of their late husband's pension if he left the Service before 1 September 1950. This was the news Mr Frank Judd, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Navy, had for Mr Viggers. Mr Judd added that to award a pension, however modestly scaled, could lead to a widespread sense of unfairness among similarly placed widows of other public servants and among a much broader range of pensioners.

● Smoking among boy soldiers from 15 to 18 years old is more prevalent than among civilians of the same age, reveal surveys cited by Mr Brown in answer to a question from Mr Cyril Townsend (Conservative, Bexleyheath) who also asked what steps were being taken to discourage smoking among boy soldiers. Mr Brown said the Army was evaluating all available methods of making its anti-smoking campaign effective.

● Mr John Loveridge (Conservative, Upminster), asked for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 so as to permit a member of the forces to sue the Crown in respect of certain accidents and to provide for adequate insurance in such cases. Mr Loveridge said the Bill was designed to stop and prevent a grave injustice placed on members of the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve and the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy reserves. A section of the Act removed their right to sue the Crown for injury of death resulting from ordinary accidents while on service. If a civil servant suffered the same accident he or she could sue.

"Why is it that those who train to defend the rest of us cannot sue and have no right of appeal or remedy of any kind?" he asked. Mr Loveridge said a reply had been given that it would make discipline impossible if a serviceman could bring an action against another, possibly his superior or subordinate in rank, or against the Crown, for alleged negligence.

Mr Loveridge said he did not quarrel with that. But Regulars received recognition of their loss of rights and a booklet described the benefits for them and their next of kin following death or injury. They signed in that knowledge but the situation for members of the Reserve Forces was not the same. A small pension had been introduced for a widow but was that enough in exchange for the loss of right by the next of kin to sue in the case of accident?

His bill could not affect discipline because it would not enable one serviceman to sue another. It would not affect TAVR and other reservists in time of war but only in normal times in relation to accidents. On the insurance question, Mr Loveridge maintained that the cost of premiums would not be large. The number killed in the five years from 1969 to 1973 was only 27 although the injured would number more. After receiving permission to bring in his Bill, Mr Loveridge presented it for first reading. It was ordered to be read a second time and to be printed.



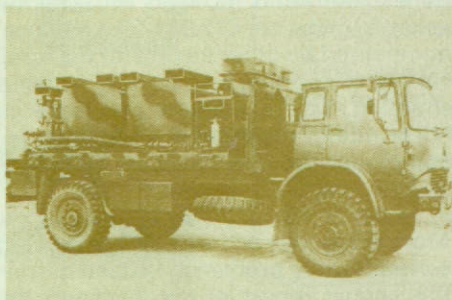
● Mr Neville Trotter (Conservative, Tynemouth), asked whether it was proposed to fit fibreglass rotor blades to Service helicopters. Mr Brynmor John, Under-Secretary for Defence for the Royal Air Force, said the Gazelle entered service with fibreglass blades. There were no immediate plans to fit others with them but when current trials were completed in a year's time consideration would be given to their eventual use by some in-service helicopters, particularly the Puma.

## FUELLING UNITS

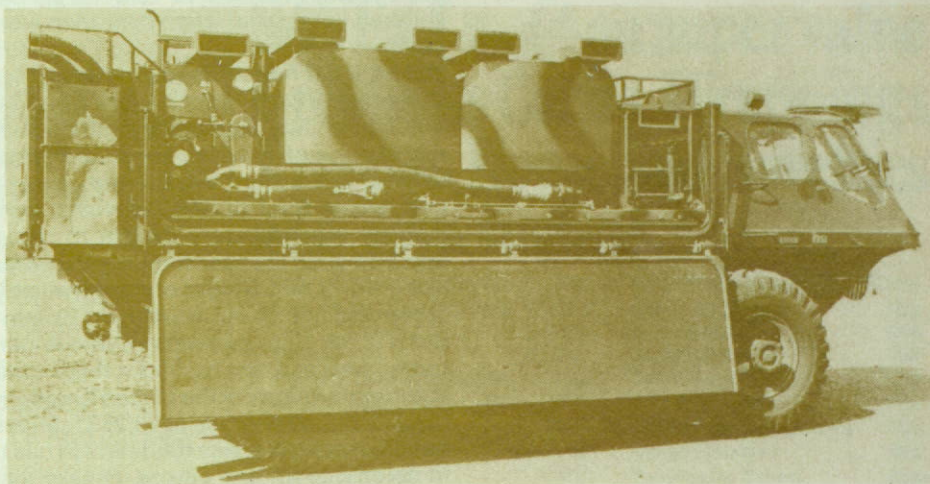
Three orders for high-mobility fuelling units and spares, valued at about £5,000,000, have been placed by the Ministry of Defence with the Hawker Siddeley company, Gloster Saro Ltd. The units are designed to be mounted on vehicles and are a fast and efficient means of getting fuel to land-based combat vehicles.

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**Left: The high mobility fuelling unit mounted on Bedford 4 × 4 flat bed truck.**



**Below: On Stalwart load carrier.**

## RECRUITING

Army recruiting in August continued above the level of a year ago. The actual increase in recruits was around one-third at 1129 including 17 juniors.

## SERVICE VOTERS

The Government intends to introduce legislation at an early opportunity to amend the existing provisions for servicemen to register as electors. This is among a series of Government observations published as a House of Commons paper following a defence expenditure report from the Expenditure Committee. The Government adds that the legislation will broadly be a once-and-for-all registration of Service voters and their spouses. The registration of other dependants will also be borne in mind and the Government is to give careful consideration to the committee's recommendations about postal voting for Service voters overseas.

## RHINE ARMY TRAINING

On Rhine Army the Expenditure Committee considered that the restoration of full-scale training should be made a high priority. The Government says the decline in collective training has been due to factors such as shortage of spares and stores, limited training space and the demands of Northern Ireland. Good progress has been made in overcoming these difficulties with progressive easing of mileage



restrictions as more spares become available, efforts to find more space continuing and Northern Ireland force levels now below their peak. It is intended to increase the frequency and raise the level of Rhine Army training as soon as possible.

## ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT

The Army Benevolent Fund says in its annual report that in partnership with corps and regimental associations it distributed £936,000 last year in relief work. The relief went to serving and ex-soldiers, veterans and children. The report says that Northern Ireland continues to have a considerable impact on the work of the fund. Help has been given to widows and children of soldiers killed, to dependants of single soldiers and to soldiers wounded and discharged from the Army on medical grounds. In the latter cases the fund gave grants to help them make a fresh start in civilian life and to buy furniture and other necessities.

## NAAFI REBATE

The Army's share in the last financial year of "extra rebate" arising from Naafi profits amounted to £288,000. The profits are paid over in proportion to the amount of money spent by members of each Service and the Army allocation is received by the Army Central Fund for the benefit of serving soldiers and their dependants. Last year, annual grants paid were £29,381 to the Regular Army, £5215 to military hospitals and £2102 to the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve. The Army Benevolent Fund received £80,000, the Army Sport Control Board £54,745 and schools, clubs etc £12,823. The balance of the extra rebate, totalling £103,733 and augmented by other income to the fund, went on grants and loans to assist a wide variety of sporting and welfare activities. These included sports stadia, golf, rifle shooting, bands, amenity and leave centres, water sports, expeditions, gliding, horse riding, regimental newsletters in Northern Ireland, swimming pools, video equipment, welfare transport and winter sports.

## SSAFA REPORT

More preventive action is being taken within the Services than anywhere to forestall serious family problems, instead of trying to cure them only when they arise, says the annual report of the Soldiers', Sailors and Airmen's Families Association. SSAFA was founded in 1885 as a voluntary organisation to care for wives and children left behind when their men went off to join the 2nd Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

SSAFA's 107 fully trained nursing sisters, stationed in Europe, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Singapore and Gibraltar, work from Services medical centres and visit all newly arrived families, expectant mothers and new babies. They give very special care to the many young wives separated temporarily from husbands by exercises or by service in Northern Ireland and elsewhere.

Last year's total of 166,720 visits, caring for 117,623 dependants, gave SSAFA workers the necessary insight to recognise early symptoms of problems. When these do arise the association's 17 professional social workers in Germany, Cyprus, Hong Kong and Singapore are available to help. In 1974 they handled 2803 new cases and five social workers in Britain dealt with 1330.

But it is the older generation, whose pensions do not compare with those awarded today, who account for about three-quarters of the 43,399 families SSAFA's 12,000 voluntary workers in the United Kingdom helped last year. Money grants amounting to £355,216 were made to 13,253 families. Most of this was distributed by SSAFA on behalf of other Service funds which use the SSAFA network, with its representatives in county, town and village, to take their help to the point in need.

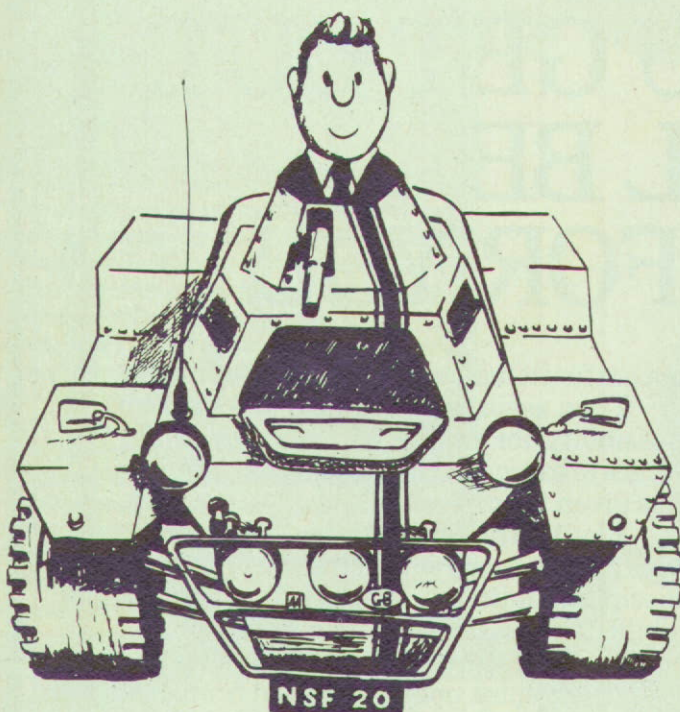
## WAR GRAVES

A start has been made on rehabilitating Suez Canal Zone war cemeteries, which have recently become accessible again, says the annual report of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The commission employs 1461 staff in 50 of the 144 countries in which it works. It has launched a new training scheme for its horticultural staff to take advantage of new mechanical and training techniques. During the year, the report says, the horticultural condition of the cemeteries remained generally satisfactory apart from temporary setbacks. The most serious of these was at Gallipoli where forest fires affected several cemeteries.

The Menin Gate memorial in Belgium was renovated and a large portion of the Thiepval memorial in France was refaced. Maintenance was also carried out on the Halifax and Ottawa memorials in Canada. Unsightly nearby development can pose a frequent threat to sites and the commission resisted land claims by local residents at Kohima, in India and at Tobruk.

During the year the commission dealt with more than 4000 enquiries, mostly from relatives. Its report adds: "Despite considerable and not unsuccessful efforts to make known the enquiries service, some people still make fruitless and expensive visits to find a particular grave without realising that a letter or a 'phone call beforehand could give them all the information they need."





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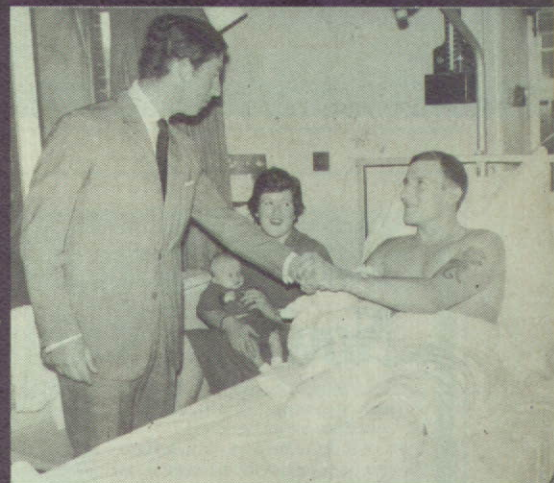
# Left, right & centre

When in need of any cookery hints, the Duchess of Kent has only to call on the Army. For as Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Catering Corps she can consult, literally, an army of experts. Pictured giving a few tips during her visit to the corps' Aldershot home is Corporal David Browitt who presented the royal visitor with an intricately decorated pastillage creation. After hearing about the Army's new system of group catering—saving six per cent of the cost of former de-centralised systems—the duchess paid a visit to 10 Company, Women's Royal Army Corps, also based in Aldershot. She is Controller Commandant of the girls in green.



Another Scottish Army band popped into the hit parade with its piping — remember "Amazing Grace"? This time the band of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, climbed into the charts with its record "Scotch on the Rocks."

Prince Charles, Colonel of the Welsh Guards, was among the first to visit victims of the Caterham terrorist bomb attack when a pub used by guardsmen from nearby Pirbright Guards Depot was blasted.



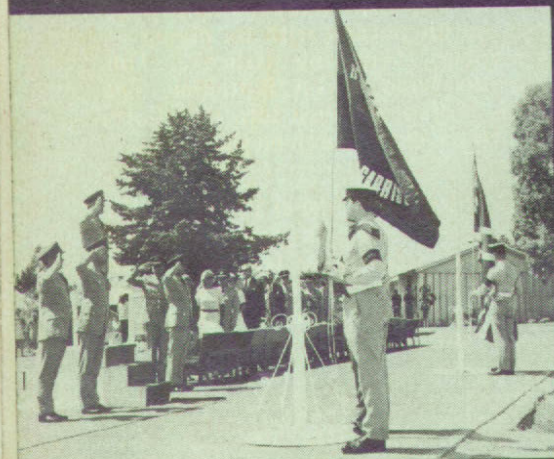
The 150th anniversary of the German town of Gütersloh — renowned for its RAF station through which Rhine Army families come and go — was celebrated by 40 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, when its Abbot self-propelled guns, a 25-pounder gun and Land-Rover, a Ferret scout car and a "float" with an 18-pounder gun manned by soldiers in period costume, joined the local carnival. Gütersloh was part of Prussia in 1815 following Napoleon's rampages across Europe. It was recognised as a town in 1825. Nowadays it is a thriving modern community.





West Germany's President, Herr Walter Scheel, made his first-ever visit to Joint Headquarters, Rheindahlen, Germany, when he started a day's visit to British forces in Germany with a briefing there. Later he flew to a field location near Sennelager for a demonstration of the Harrier "jump jet" and the Army's combat engineer tractor. He then visited Headquarters 1 (British) Corps in the field and saw the Rapier anti-aircraft missile in action.

Jim Luxton (right), the station controller of British Forces Broadcasting Service's new television service based at Celle, Germany, prepares to beam pre-recorded British television programmes to forces families in the area. At present some 56 hours of recorded television are being watched by the fortunate few before expansion of the service brings more programmes plus live coverage to all parts of Rhine Army. Expansion plans are well in hand; Captain Maurice Stock, Royal Corps of Signals, is pictured discussing them with Jim Luxton.



The British base at Episkopi, Cyprus, has reverted to Army control after some 13 years as an RAF station. "Epi" started life as an Army camp in 1956, taking its name from the nearby village. The Western Sovereign Base Area came under RAF control in 1962 although several Army units remained there. Both Services worked together during this time and in the recent emergency on the island, all pulled together to help some 10,000 refugees in camps on the SBA for six months. The latest defence review has now taken Episkopi from the list of RAF stations and turned it back into Episkopi Garrison.



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Put through its paces on Salisbury Plain by 13 (Martinique 1809) Light Battery, Royal Artillery, was the new all-British 105mm light gun which can hurl its 35lb shell some 11 miles — far outstripping the 105mm pack-howitzer it replaces. The battery is the first unit to be equipped with the new weapon.



A party of some 75 visitors comprising members of the United States World War Two Glider Pilots' Association, the British Glider Pilots' Regimental Association and their wives, took a nostalgic trip to the Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop, where the highlight of their day was a look at the museum of Army flying with its exhibit of an original World War Two glider. The veterans were shown a film of the glider airborne assault across the Rhine — more than a third of the audience had taken part in that operation.



Bootle Town Hall is now the resting place of the Standard of 40/41st Royal Tank Regiment (Territorial Army) after it was handed over to the Mayor of Oldham by Major R Griffiths, commanding 238 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport (Volunteers). The squadron, part of 156 Regiment RCT (V), is the successor to the now defunct 40/41st RTR (TA) in the Reserve Army. Two guards from the squadron formed the parade and were joined by old comrades of the 40/41st from Bootle and Oldham plus a mounted contingent from 1st Royal Tank Regiment with Fox scout cars.

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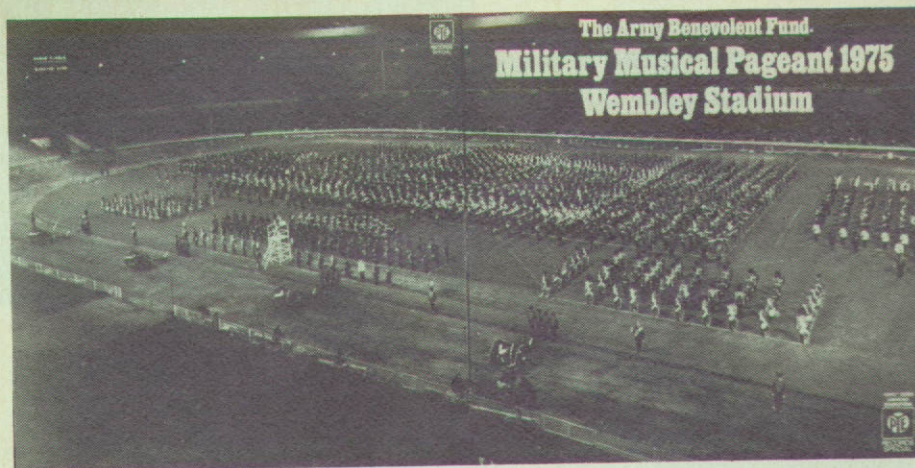
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# On Record

**"Army Benevolent Fund Military Musical Pageant 1975, Wembley Stadium" (Massed Bands, Trumpeters, Corps of Drums, Pipes and Drums, and Bugles of The Household Division, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Artillery and Corps of the Army) (Senior Director of Music and Pageant Musical Director: Lieutenant-Colonel T L Sharpe) (Pageant Producer: Major Aubrey Jackman) (Pye Special PKD 2001)**

Everything about this recording is, as usual, on a vast scale, and this year almost every note of the pageant has been preserved for posterity, making an album of two discs. In all about 80 minutes of massed music of every kind plus the guns of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery—only those loyal behind-the-scenes Volunteers, 873 Movement Light Squadron, Royal Engineers, have failed to leave their mark, though receiving much deserved mention on the sleeve.

And what a sleeve. Inside is a double spread of detailed and faultless information. Outside, a fine panoramic view of the finale in which you can see all the detail of this massive project, conjure up your own atmosphere as you listen, and gain an idea of the scale of events.

No fewer than 62 musical units took part and, including the extras both on and off stage, there were well over 2000 people involved. After each pageant I say it was the biggest thing of its kind ever done but no doubt some future director of music will make his entrance by parachute, conducting the massed bands as they all fall to the dropping zone, and of course the whole thing will be On Ice.

Act 1 is a "Prelude to Pageantry" involving all buglers and trumpeters, "Scarlet and Gold" the Household Division, and "Gaelic Galaxy" the Scots and Irish bands and pipes and drums.

"Tunes of Glory" sees everyone on the

arena for a nostalgic recall of the songs of the South African and two world wars, ending with Laurie Johnson's "Battle Music." The Light Division and the 2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles give their always immaculate high-speed display and are followed by "Bandstand Grand" which is nothing less than a concert of light music by 44 military bands.

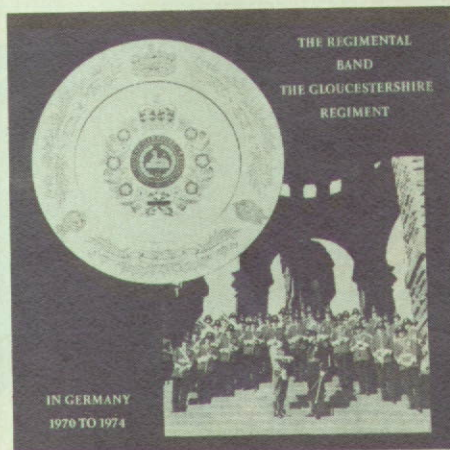
The "Finale Muster Parade" is the only section of the pageant where the music is as expected but even here we have an effective version of "The Lost Chord" for a change. The remainder of the music on these discs is surprisingly un-hackneyed for such an occasion.

As always the whole project was a masterpiece of organisation, production, and tremendous initiative by all on parade. On this sort of scale you can't tell every individual what to do. They just do it—and do it in three days flat.

I say once again that you'll never buy anything bigger or better than this. **RB**

**"The Regimental Band, The Gloucestershire Regiment, in Germany 1970 to 1974" (Bandmaster: A M Jarrey) (Life Records St-66-4107)**

Here again is a regimental band in fine form with a programme slanted towards the "Deutsche Freunde" they made while serving in Minden. No wonder they made friends if this is the quality and variety of music they



played on their jaunts around West Germany.

Army bands have really caught on to the necessity for providing what is wanted, wherever they are, and their repertoires bear little resemblance to those of my youth. I well remember my own band in the 1930s seated in the middle of a Palestinian kibbutz bashing away at Wagner and "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes." The locals were too polite to comment on the first and absolutely baffled by the second. Nowadays we would have gone to the trouble of arranging Jewish folk songs and dances for band.

This band doesn't put a foot wrong and most of the music is transcribed by its members. Mr Jarrey provides a bright fanfare "Old Braggs" and, knowing Germans never tire of old favourites as we do, gives them "Berliner Luft" as a starter. Germans love mock-Spanish tunes above all else so "E Viva España" is next, sung with great style here by an anonymous bandsman.

Wilhelm Rust was a minor composer of the late 19th century remembered for two popular light overtures, one of which, "The Frog King," is played next. Lovely old stuff. A dance band combination, with all mod con, plays Heykens's "Serenade" and later a tune called "Happy Bavaria," a "German Christmas Medley" and the keller-medley "Beer Here." "Trompeten Echo" is thumped out by the regiment's Bavarian Band!

The military band revives Eilenberg's "Mill in the Black Forest," gives a traditional rendering of "Fehrbelliner Reitermarsch" and ends with the regimental slow and quick marches, in one of which all and sundry, let alone all past and present members of the regiment, can join in the time-hallowed chorus of "Knife, Fork, Spoon, Razor, Comb and Lather Brush."

From PRI, 1 Glosters, Wootton Camp, Kirkham, Preston, Lancs. **RB**

**"The Royal Tournament 1975: Retreat from Moscow 1812" (Columbia SCX 6581)** This, with the two discs of the Wembley Military Musical Pageant, prove 1975 to have been a vintage year in military music. I thought this year's tournament had an extra ration of colour, punch and verve which is nicely reflected in this recorded version of the music, and all credit is due to the new producer, Captain Michael Parker, and to the senior director of music, Captain Brian Keeling. Their ideas could not of course be fully realised on a mere disc but even so your money should be on this record, especially as proceeds go to Service charities.

After the opening fanfare by Captain Keeling there is a new trumpet march, "Royal Tournament" (Cavalry Walk), by none other than Ranjit Banerjee and written specially for the occasion, then the "Trumpet Voluntary," a favourite cavalry march—"The Old Grey Mare," "Bunesan" and "Post Horn Galop." The latter, in deference to exposure by microphone, is played on post horns rather than rifle barrels, as was brilliantly done at the actual tournament. The massed bands of the Royal Armoured Corps (The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, 4th/7th Royal

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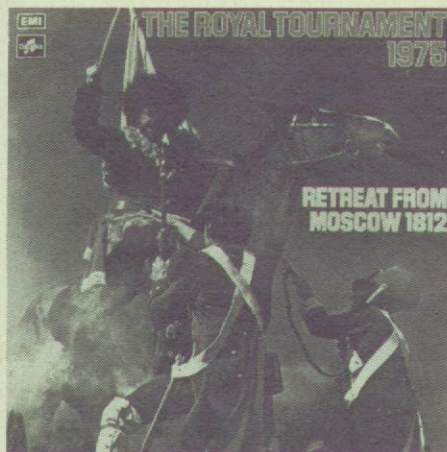
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Prospectus: The Secretary, St. John's College, Coolhurst, Horsham, Sussex. Tel: Horsham 2424.





Dragoon Guards, The Queen's Own Hussars, The Royal Hussars, 14th/20th King's Hussars, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and Cambrai Staff Band, Royal Tank Regiment) then march off to "Imperial Echoes."

The Marine Band of the Royal Netherlands Navy was in its usual great form playing its regimental march, the "Gopak" by Khachaturian and a medley of Dutch tunes including "Eye Level," "Tulips from Amsterdam," "Waltz of the Windmill" and an "Old Dutch Wooden Shoe Dance," street organ and all. Very atmospheric. To redress the balance, Major Laro and his fine players give his arrangement of a few British tunes with snatches of "Land of Hope and Glory," "Maybe It's Because I'm a Londoner," "Pack Up Your Troubles" and others.

The Australian police pipe bands of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, accompanied by the Royal Artillery Band, prove yet again that the piping tradition in the outback is as strong as ever and give a fine display to "Australian Ladies," "The Lass of Richmond Hill," "Louden's Bonnie Woods and Braes," "Amazing Grace" and the usual three to finish with.

All of which leaves me no space to enthuse on a brilliantly put-together finale, "The Retreat from Moscow," in which the bands play, the trumpets sound, the troops chant, and the great bell tolls to marvellous effect, creating even aurally a dramatic picture of colour, fire, and strife rarely achieved on record. You'll just have to buy it to know what was actually played. **RB**

**"The Best of the Central Band of the Royal Air Force"** (Conducted by Wing-Commander R E C Davies and Wing-Commander J L Wallace) (EMI ONE UP OU 2090)

The best of this band must be fine indeed, being in my unprejudiced opinion the best of recording bands year in and year out. This is a re-issue of course.

"Zorba the Greek" just had to be repeated, with those famous cornet duettists doing the seemingly impossible, and "Clochemerle," "Battle of Britain March" and "The Pathfinders" are just as sure of a place. The list is completed with brilliant performances of well-tried classics such as "Sons of the



Brave," "Tango Taquin," "Old Panama," "The Thin Red Line," "The Dambusters," "Colonel Bogey on Parade," "Marching with Sousa" (a thoughtful double, this) and a superb "La Boutique Fantasque" selection.

A pity they didn't make it a tribute to all three directors of music, George Sims being still very much alive, and at least have used his recording of "RAF March Past." **RB**

**"Voice of the Guns" (The Band of the Coldstream Guards** conducted by Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas A Pope) (Decca Eclipse ECS 2172)

Last time they re-issued a Douglas Pope record the sleeve portrayed the Grenadiers Band. This time they are certainly Coldstreamers, but the corps of drums. The quality of playing of the band of fifteen or so years ago is still brilliant though, and you could do no better than catch up on missed opportunities with this disc. Not much to attract the collector but there is always someone needing for the first time a "Sambre et Meuse," a "Radetzky Marsch" or a really fine "Entry of the Gladiators." Besides which there are the title piece, "With Sword and Lance," "Le Père de la Victoire," "Light of Foot," "Under the Banner of Victory" and "Anchors Aweigh."

To complete what is in effect a "marching round the world" disc we have the "Copenhagen March," the old paso-doble "A Frangesa," "El Abanico," "National Emblem" and a grand march by Lloyd



Thomas called "The Consort." This owes too much to Meyerbeer's "Le Prophète" for comfort but brings a fine old disc to a dignified end. **RB**

**"The Silver Badge of Courage"** (Another musical programme by the Metropolitan Police Band conducted by Major W Williams) (Decca SB 708)

The sleeve shows six "Met" police activities, from dog-handling to motorcycling, and horse-riding at Imber Court, besides a peep into the ops room at Scotland Yard. Inside the sleeve is ample evidence that the boys in blue can make music along with the rest of us and carry on a long tradition of fine police bands throughout the country.

Many of the band have graduated from the Army, including Major Billie Williams, and it also gave me pleasure to listen to my old band sergeant still tromboning away to good effect. The programme is light in the extreme with two items sung by PC Alexander Morgan. Perfectly acceptable but a bit off-putting to imagine a big hairy copper chortling "Love Me with All Your Heart" and the old operetta song "Don't Be Cross," con amore.



PC Munday's fanfare is a trifle mundane to bear the same title as the record but thereafter he is in much better form with a delightful little piece called "Candy Floss." Two Alford marches, "Army of the Nile" and "The Middy," rather show up a march which I used to think a masterpiece as a dated and forced example of the genre. This is "The Queen's Own" by the late Bandmaster R Ridewood, a friend and contemporary of Major Williams.

Apart from the little suite of Spanish dances by Desormes, "Divertissement Espagnole," beloved of all bands years ago, we go up-to-date with Glen Osler's "Bolero for Band," Cofield's "Contemporaria," Edrich Siebert's "Wind in the Wood" and Terry Kenny's "Cochabamba." Mozart is dragged up-to-date with the famous Raymond Scott arrangement of his Piano Sonata in C, now "In an 18th Century Drawing Room."

We soldiers have our WRAC band. I look forward to reviewing the Traffic Wardens Silver Prize Band, playing in strict meter of course. **RB**

## WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL, WELLS, SOMERSET

Entrance and Scholarship Tests for September 1976 will be held on 28th February, 1976, for those aged 7 to 14 years. Minimum age for scholarship is 10.6.

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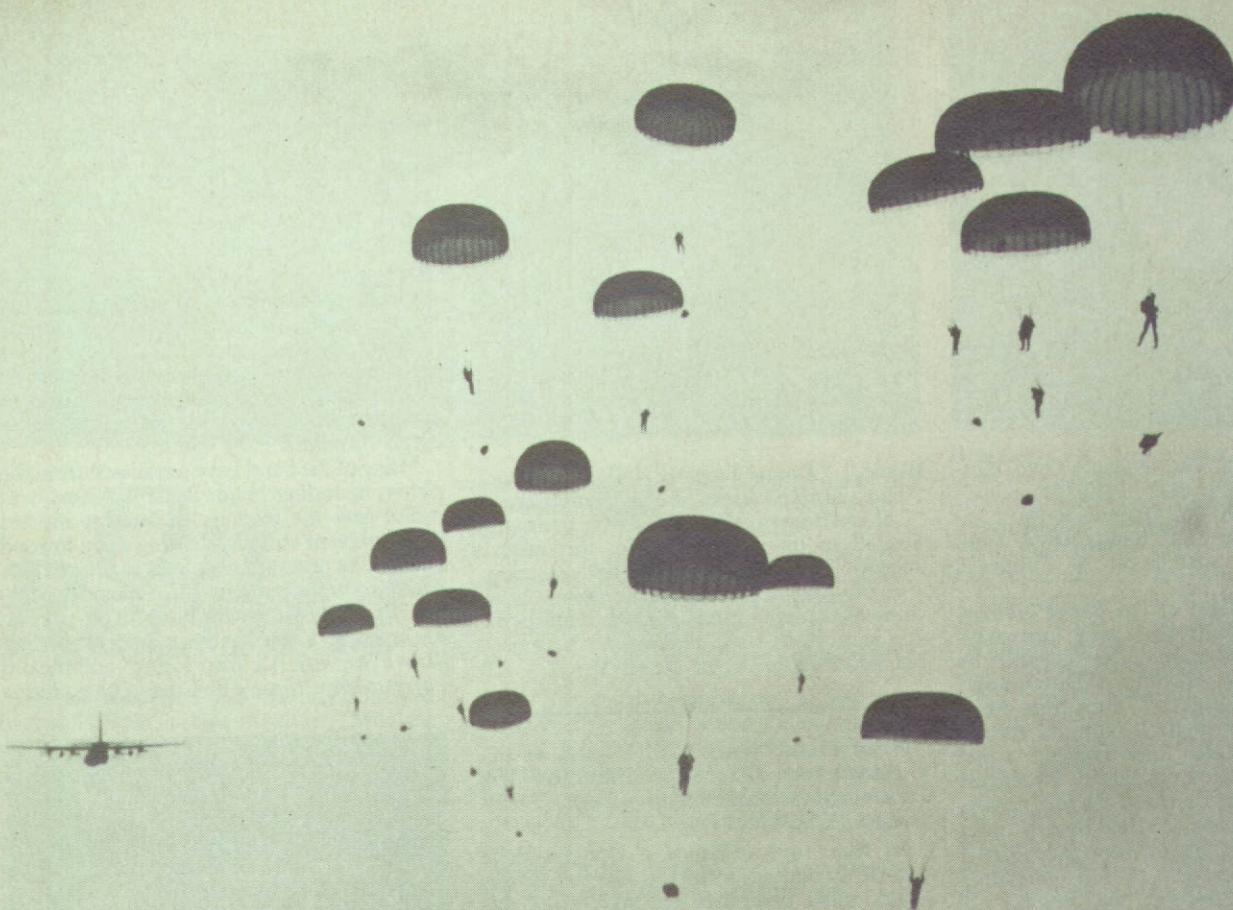


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## *Paras on the Plain*



Service for men of the Brigade's sapper squadron killed on an earlier exercise.



This nippy airportable mini-JEEP keeps German troops mobile when in the field.

**A**S the grey of dawn turned to gold, the burble of C130 Hercules aircraft engines stilled the chorus of early birds. The giant transports lumbered over Salisbury Plain and their gaping side doors disgorged Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve paratroopers into the still air on the biggest brigade-strength exercise they had taken part in for some five years.

Exercise Autumn Fest was a weekend workout for 44th Parachute Brigade, TAVR, and a unit of their NATO allies in the Airborne Brotherhood in the form of the German Bundeswehr 272 Fallschirmjäger Battalion from the Bremen area.

The troops ranged over the length and breadth of the vast plain for three days in operational conditions as near to realism as peacetime will permit and all arms of the brigade—a mirror image of its Regular counterpart—were exercised.

A close watch was kept by General Sir Roland Gibbs, Commander-in-Chief United Kingdom Land Forces. The training period ended on the Sunday with a service, joined by the Germans, to pay tribute to the ten Scottish Reservist paratroopers who had been drowned at a weir during an exercise the previous week.

**Left:** A smoke screen lifts to reveal a patrol of paras advancing to an attack.





# Sport



## Clipping Clipper time

**T**HE joint-Services crew of Chay Blyth's Great Britain II smashed the 106-year-old record run of 69 days from London to Sydney by two days in the Financial Times Clipper Race. But it was touch-and-go in a nail-biting finish when light airs barely filled the yacht's sails.

GB II crossed the line just six hours ahead of the French ketch Kriter II. Both boats beat the record time set up by the wool clipper Patriarch.

The elegant and streamlined sailing ships of the past raced not for sport but for commercial gain as they crammed on all possible sail to make the London markets with the first cargoes of tea, grain or wool from outposts of the British Empire in order to command the best prices for their owners' goods.

But the dash and daring of the square-riggers' crews has captured the imagination of the modern sporting sailor and prompted the current attempt to beat the old record time of Patriarch. A measure of the expertise and achievement of the clipper crews can be gauged from the fact that the two 15-man crews chosen to sail the 72-foot ketch GB II to Australia and back would have been considered ample to man one of the mighty three- or four-masted craft which plied shipping lanes under sail.

Only four boats are now contending for honours in the present-day clipper race. Apart from GB II, which served Chay Blyth and his crew of paratroopers so well in the first Whitbread Round-the-World yacht race, there is the French Kriter II, which was another round-the-world contender as Burton Cutter, the Dutch The Great Escape, a 52-foot ketch, and Italy's CS & RB II.

The journey out to Sydney is some 14,000 miles and the trip back about 1,000 miles longer due to winds and tides. In the 1973 round-the-world race Chay Blyth and his crew clocked up combined times from Portsmouth to Cape Town, to Sydney, then to Rio de Janeiro, of 144 days — just six days outside the clipper record for the distance. The hopes that by Christmas GB II would have cracked the 69-day record to Sydney have been justified.

## Dinghies sail to success

**F**OR the first time in nearly two decades an Army team has won the inter-Service dinghy team championships. This win completed a hat-trick for the Army sailors who won the Cunningham Cup, Gold Cup and Victory Trophy competed for annually by the three Services. The team, headed by Major Stuart Jardine, Royal Engineers, remained unbeaten throughout the season.

The Army last won the inter-Services team trophy in 1957. Other team members were: Captains Ross, Bye, Haskell and Raynor, Major J Cooper, Second-Lieutenant Corfield and Staff-Sergeant Knight.

**Below: The dinghies dice around a buoy at Farnham before (below right) a team of smiling Army sailors emerge victors in this year's inter-Services contest.**





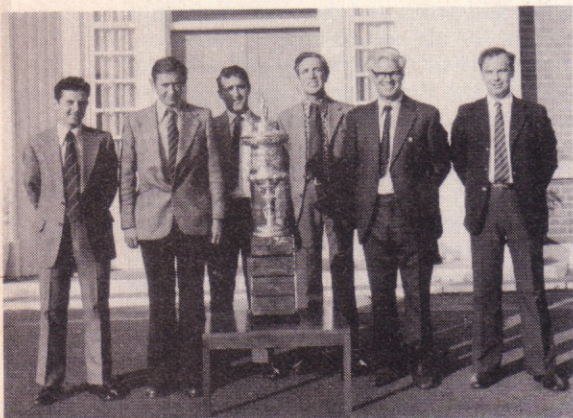
## Air Corps on top

**T**HE Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop, emerged as champions in the annual Army Golf Association knockout competition after a close final with the Royal School of Artillery. And for the first time in the trophy's 50-year history there was no officer among the winners' names.

Eight teams met at Tidworth for the final rounds, including the trophy holders, Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces. Places in the finals were won by qualifying rounds played at district level. In the quarter-finals the Royal School of Artillery proved too strong for the Recruit Selection Centre, Sutton Coldfield, and HQ Scotland beat 39 Engineer Regiment. HQ UKLF convincingly beat 8 Signal Regiment. The fourth match was the closest with the eventual champions, Army Air Corps Centre, beating Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Didcot, by six holes.

In the semi-finals the School of Artillery had an easy win over HQ Scotland while the

**Left to right: Sgt P Collins, WO2 Ken Smith, Sgt P Kelly, WO1 G Atkinson, WO2 B Lamb (captain) and Pte I Gray.**



Army Air Corps came in nine holes up on HQ UKLF. The stage was then set for a final between two very strong teams with the odds in favour of the School of Artillery. But match play conditions made a nonsense of the published handicaps as tension took its toll.

The top match between Major Nick Fleming, Army Golf Association captain playing for the gunners, and Private Ian Gray, both scratch golfers, was a real cliff-hanger and ended with honours even. The second match, between warrant officers Ken Smith, for the Army Air Corps, and David Everitt was all square at the 13th. But then the ball began to run badly for Everitt who was bunkered off the tee at the 14th and failed to sink crucial putts at the next three.

Smith maintained the steady standard of golf he had played throughout the contest and finished five holes up. This left the School of Artillery with a deficit but their position was far from hopeless with the handicap of their last two players predicting a win for them on form. But this was not to be. Warrant Officer 2 Bob Lamb, the Air Corps team captain, halved his match and Sergeant Pat Collins, with the highest handicap of either team, finished one hole up to give the Air Corps the trophy by six holes.

The imposing prize, which stands more than three feet high, was presented by the president of the AGA, Lieutenant-General Sir Alan Taylor. He went on to give the British Army India Trophy to RAOC, Didcot, which won the secondary competition played for by the four teams knocked out in the first round, and the General Beard Trophy to HQ UKLF for the best team stableford score returned by those teams not competing for the main prize or for the British Army India Cup.

## Gone fishing

British Army anglers in Germany netted 15 trophies and medals in a contest organised by the local German angling club at Nienburg to help celebrate the town's 950th anniversary. Fishing in teams of four, the Army's "Nienburg Piscatorials" hooked prize after prize. Angler of the day was Lance-Corporal Chris Smith, landing 23lb 12oz of fish out of his team total of under 24 lb. Thus this group won the overall team and individual crowns.

Some 27 teams fished in the contest including the three from the Piscatorials. Twenty trophies were at stake. Conditions did not favour large catches.

**Left, the Piscatorials. Back: Mullinger, Worthington, Roberts, Sutton, Borensenko, Middlemass. Front: Blake, Smith, Barker, Heseltine, Warren and Lieut-Col R Ellis, the club president.**

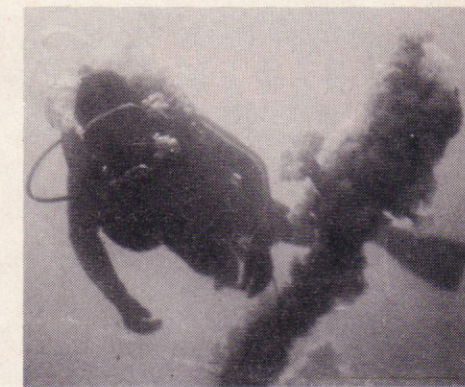
## Dive, dive, dive

**E**IGHTEEN soldiers, most of them from 24 Missile Regiment, Royal Artillery, have spent three weeks in Norway on a diving expedition. The team, led by Captain H C Abels, Royal Artillery, set up its base camp at Stavern in Southern Norway. Using the immediate area and islands nearby, they set about exploring Norwegian waters and, assisted by Norwegian divers, located three ancient wrecks.

Although apparently rich in wrecks, the area teemed with marine life and the divers had to keep a sharp lookout for giant jelly fish.



**Above: Preparing for a dive on the isle of Svenner and (below) that underwater magic of discovery as a diver glides to a long-lost wreck to explore its secret.**



## Sports Shorts

### BOXING

Representatives of an Army boxing team scored a resounding victory over an Oxford team at a tournament in Oxford. All bouts were won by the Army. As there were three unmatched boxers an extra lightweight bout was held between Pte A Malarkey (1 BW) and Tpr S Holdsworth (QRIH). This was won by Pte Malarkey. Other successful boxers were:- Flyweight: L/CoH Hough. Light welterweight: L/Cpl C Sexton (1 BW). Light middleweight: Gdsm J Spencer (2 Coldm Gds). Heavyweight: Bdr H Williams (RA).

Further success was notched up by a selected team of ten Army boxers when they defeated a team from the North Eastern division of the ABA by nine bouts to nil. There was a double disqualification in one of the bouts. It was a well-fought competition with each bout, except for two which were stopped by the referee, going the full time.

Army intermediate tournament at Aldershot, finalists:

Flyweight: L/Cpl R Bates (1 Kings) no contest against Dvr B Yemm (10 Regt RCT) (withdrew on medical grounds). Bantamweight: Cpl T O'Connor (1 Kings) beat Pte R Lindsay (1 DWR). Feather-

weight: Kgs E Crossley (1 Kings) beat L/Cpl S O'Callaghan (10 Regt RCT). Lightweight: L/Cpl M Gannon (10 Regt RCT) beat Kgs B Omar (1 Kings). Light welterweight: Pte W Malarkey (1 BW) beat L/CoH A Hough (Gds Depot). Welterweight: L/Cpl J Dolan (1 Div HQ & Sig Sqn) beat Pte B Smith (1 Queens). Light middleweight: Kgs T Griffiths (1 Kings) beat L/Cpl C Barrett (206 Coy RPC). Middleweight: Kgs D Quinn (1 Kings) beat Bds J Thurgar (SEE Arborfield). Light heavyweight: Pte G Forrester (206 Coy RPC) beat L/Cpl M Hunt (1 Kings). Heavyweight: Dvr D Dawkins (10 Regt RCT) beat SI W Swap (1 DWR). Special welterweight: Pte P Wharmby (Para) beat Tpr S Holdsworth (QRIH).



# Sports Shorts continued

## SWIMMING

Combined Services Swimming Association lost 49-91 in a match against the British Police at London University baths. The police also beat the Services at water polo 7-5. Results:-

Men's breaststroke, 100 metres: 1st Cdt Pryke (Suffolk) (1min 11.4 sec), 2nd RS P Parsons (RN) (1:17.0), 3rd Pc G H Taylor (West Yorks) (1:17.8). Backstroke, 100m: 1st Cdt T M Smith (Lancs) (1:06.5), 2nd 2/Lieut M J Mumford (Army) (1:07.5), 3rd Pc R A Sunderland (N Yorks) (1:08.5). Butterfly, 100m: 1st P/O Jones (RAF) (1:03.9), 2nd Gnr M Tripp (Army) (1:09.2), 3rd Insp J Cardwell (City of London) (1:13.8). Freestyle, 100m: 1st Cdt Smith (56.4), 2nd Sgt B Shepherd (RM) (1:01.9), 3rd Cdt Pryke (1:04.0). 400m: 1st Cdt Smith (4:33.7), 2nd Pc A Williams (Merseyside) (4:57.8), 3rd AB R Morton (RN) (5:00.0). Individual medley, 4 x 66½m: 1st Pc P Taylor (Cleveland) (3:35.2), 2nd Pc G Holme (Greater Manchester) (3:37.5), 3rd A/T Cpl R Steel (Army) (3:37.9).

Medley relay, 4 x 66½m: 1st Police (2:52.4), Services disqualified. Freestyle relay, 6 x 66½m: 1st (tied) Police and Combined Services (3:49.3). Women's breaststroke, 100m: 1st Wpc J Wood (City of London) (1:26.9), 2nd SACW S Cormack (WRAF) (1:27.1), 3rd, Wren S Annettes (WRNS) (1:31.5). Backstroke, 100m: 1st Wpc Wood (1:16.8), 2nd Wpc B Hutton (Metropolitan) (1:19.2), 3rd Q/Cpl S Maisey (QARANC) (1:30.0). Butterfly, 66½m: 1st Wpc I Joels (Metropolitan) (48.6), 2nd J/T(W) H Walkden (WRAF) (50.9), 3rd Wpc Hutton (52.0). Freestyle, 100m: 1st Wpc Joels (1:07.6), 2nd Wpc P Meehan (Greater Manchester) 1:11.3, 3rd SACW L Taylor (WRAF) (1:16.2).

Medley relay, 4 x 33½m: 1st Police (1:31.1), 2nd Combined Services (1:34.4). Freestyle relay, 4 x 33½m: 1st Police (1:23.2), 2nd Combined Services (1:25.1).

## GYMNASTICS

Army A team was beaten by Hendon A in a match at Hendon in floor exercises, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and high bar. Army placings: 3rd SI J Moger (APTC), 6th Spr G Jones (RE), 7th L/Cpl G Sharp (Para), 8th L/Cpl B W Beck (DWR), 9th L/Cpl K Lynch (RCT), 12th Spr G Fidler (RE). Total best five 201.4 against the winners' 210.9.

## SHOOTING

A match between the Combined Services, Civil Service and United Banks at Bisley resulted in the Combined Services suffering their third defeat at the hands of the Civil Service. Though the match has been played annually for the last four years this was the first time that the United Banks took part. The Civil Service led by two points at the 300-yard target and were six points behind the Combined Services after the 600-yard target. However, a 17 point deficit at 900 yards and a loss of a further 18 at the 1000 yards cost the Combined Services the match. Results: Civil Service 1818; Combined Services 1789; United Banks 1779.

The Regular Army won the Bangalore Cup for the fourth time to retain an unbeaten record in the inter-Service prone, standing and kneeling full-bore rifle match at Bisley. The four-man team fired 20 shots prone, 20 standing and ten kneeling at 200 yards at metric targets considered more difficult than the normal Bisley targets. The Regular Army scored 1737 and the Royal Navy 1639. S/Sgt A V Glasby (RAOC) scored 195 out of 200 in the prone. Capt P Martin (DERR) (team captain) made 166 out of 200 in the standing and CPO Sweetman RN scored 93 out of 100 kneeling.

## CYCLING

Army hill climb, held at Harrogate: 1st Spr S Aldridge (38 Engr Regt) (3min 8.5sec), 2nd L/Cpl D Atkins (AETW) (3:11.3), 3rd A/T Drew (AAC Harrogate) (3:16.4). The team event was won by 38 Engr Regt.

Army 30-mile road time trial: 1st WO2 M Beech (AAC) (1hr 18min 17sec), 2nd Pte R Hawkins (16 Bn RAOC) (1-24:40.0), 3rd Spr Aldridge (1-26:54.0). The team event was won by Harrogate.

The Army road race at Harrogate resulted in the first four riders—WO2 Beech, A/T Drew, L/Cpl Atkins and Spr Aldridge—being credited with the same time. There were only two wheel lengths between the first and fourth riders when they reached the winning line one hour, 13 minutes and 30 seconds after the start.

## SOCCER

Honours were equally divided between the Army and Hampshire in the South-West Counties championship match at Brockenhurst, Hampshire. The Army led at half-time with a goal scored by Langley but, as was expected from the start of the second half, Hampshire soon scored the equaliser and the match ended in a one-all draw.

Two wins, two draws and a defeat was the creditable score-sheet after the Combined Services soccer tour of Trinidad and Tobago with a team containing five Army players. Before the squad went to the West Indies its members warmed up with a 1-1 draw against the Civil Service at Chiswick, L/Cpl Jimmy Slade (4/7 DG) scoring for the Combined Services.

The first game in the Caribbean was a goal-less draw against the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force. The second match found the visitors ranged against a side selected from all northern Trinidad and including five internationals. Combined Services suffered a blow when Cpl Al MacDonald (REME/SEME) was injured and had to have five stitches in his thigh. The game was lost 1-4.

A south Trinidad team was beaten 2-1 and the final game was again with the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force side which was this time beaten 2-1. The five Army players were Cpl MacDonald, L/Cpl Slade, SSI Alf Coulton (APTC), Cpl David Smith (26 Engr Regt) and Cpl Peter Lewis (REME/AAC).

Other results: Army 0, Essex 4; Army 3, Civil Service 1; Army Youth 0, Southampton University 1; Army Youth 1, Wiltshire 4.

## GLIDING

Two Army glider pilots have been awarded top trophies for their achievements this season. The Kingshurst Silver Trophy for the inter-Service regional individual champion went to Maj J H Wheeler AAC and the William Younger Cup for the pilot with the highest overall score in any inter-Service contest was awarded to Capt L S Hood, R Sigs.

The RAF carried off the other major gliding awards this year, led by Sqn-Ldr G Camp who won the Emmett Trophy as inter-Services individual champion.

Inter-Services gliding championships results. Team championship: 1st RAF 2.638 points (Flt-Lieut J Williamson .910, Sqn-Ldr G Camp .898, Flt-Lieut G Lee .830), 2nd Army 2.043 (Capt L S Hood .803, Maj J H Wheeler .625, Col E G Shephard .615), 3rd RN 1.021 (Lieut J Dransfield .396, Lieut A Wray .289, Lieut-Cdr N Stevenson .336). Individual scores: 1st Williamson, 2nd Camp, 3rd Lee. Best Army results: 4th Hood, 14th Wheeler, 15th Shephard.

## CHESS

Membership of the Army Chess Association has reached the 300 mark with 160 of those members having been recruited in a recent eight-month period. The association is confident it will reach its target of 500 members by July next year. A match fixture list is being prepared and an inter-club league has been started with four teams from the School of Electronic Engineering, Royal School of Artillery, Royal Army Medical Corps Apprentices College and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Apprentice College. The association, with its mushrooming membership, has appealed for more volunteers from the membership to help keep things going.

## BASKETBALL

A training weekend at Bulford for the new season's Army squad resulted in a win in a match against Portsmouth Pirates 88-30.

## FREEFALLING

Thwarted by weather during the National Parachute Championships, an Army eight-man relative work team linked up over Salisbury Plain to try for the first-ever Army eight-man star — which was achieved by a whisker (see this month's front cover). Those involved were: Capt Chris Copeland (7 Para RHA), Sgt Martin Togher (RCT), Capt John Patrick (95 Cdo FOU), Bdr Tim Andrews (7 Para RHA), Sgt Jackie Smith (WRAC/Red Devils), Pte Steve Slater (Para), Cpl David Hogg, Sgt Len Melville (7 Para RHA).

## RIDING

Early rain, a good drying wind and sunshine on the day made the going almost perfect for the Army and Royal Artillery trials held at Larkhill. There were some 250 entries for the open, intermediate and novice classes and 50 horses competed in the novice pairs event which was run as a sweepstake. The King's Troop had a very successful day, their horses being placed a total of 13 times and winning five cups. Results:—

Class 1 (intermediate), open: 1st Miss Y Sharek, 2nd (tied) Mrs P A Mallin and Mrs M Pilkington Miska, 4th Mrs E J Hooper. Services: 1st King's Troop RHA, 2nd Maj P Hervey, 3rd Household Cavalry. Class 2 (open), open: 1st Mrs E Boone, 2nd Kings Troop, 3rd Miss F Moore. Services: 1st King's Troop, 2nd Royal Marines, 3rd Lieut M J Vacher. Class 3 (novice), open: 1st Miss S Appleton, Mrs C Fox's Horses took 2nd and 3rd place. Services: 1st (tied) King's Troop, 3rd and 4th, Household Cavalry. Class 3 (novice pairs): 1st King's Troop, 2nd Household Cavalry, 3rd Miss K Tearle and Miss N Jackson.

## MOUNTAINEERING

The Prince of Wales and Prince Himalaya of Nepal have accepted invitations to be royal patrons of the expedition which is being organised by the Army Mountaineering Association and will include representatives from the three Armed Services, Brigade of Gurkhas and Nepalese Army hoping to conquer Everest.



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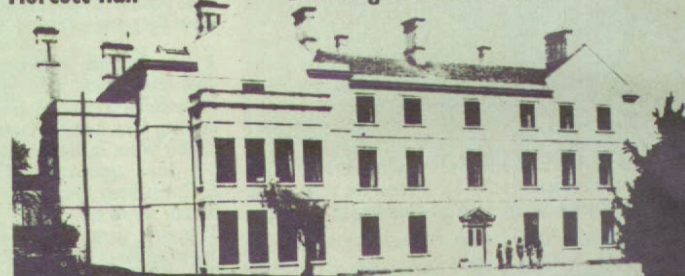
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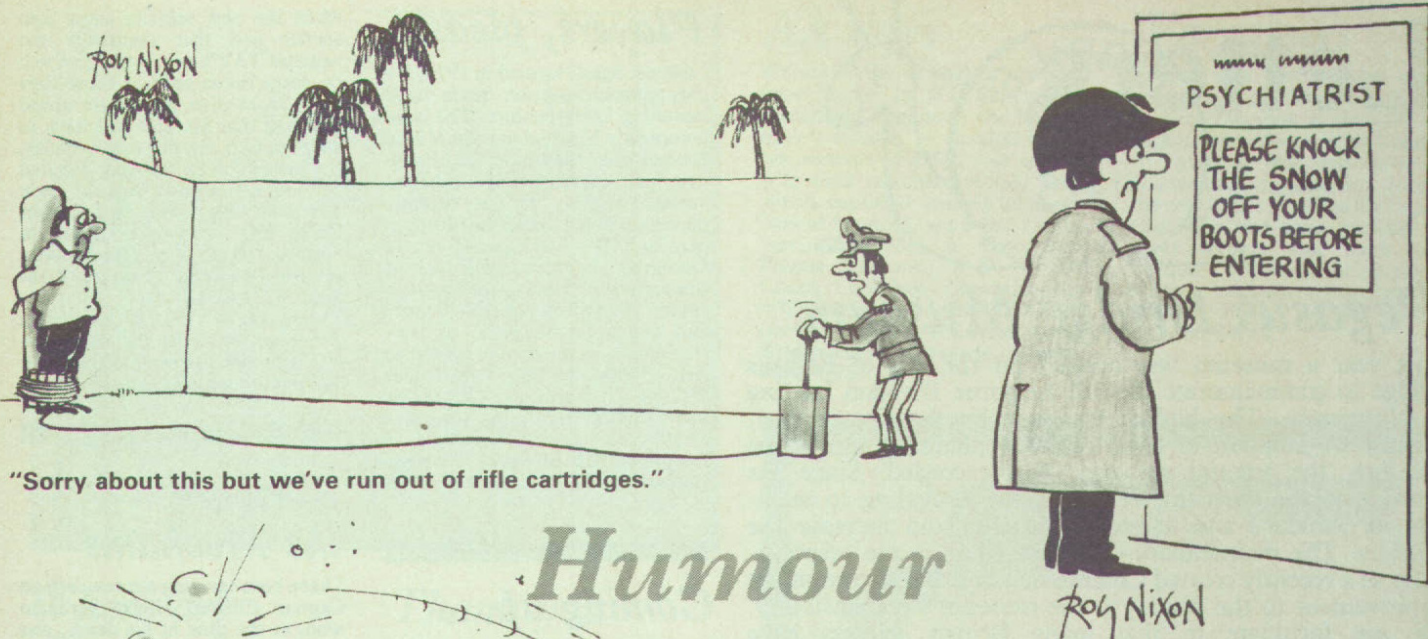
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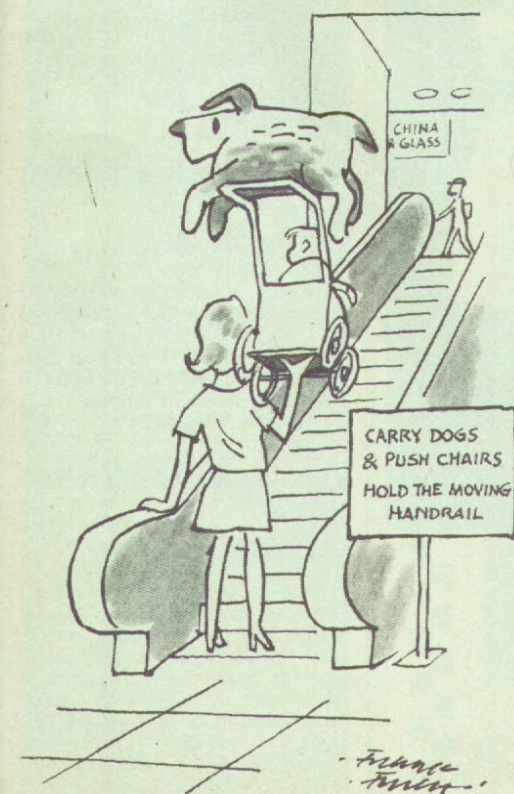
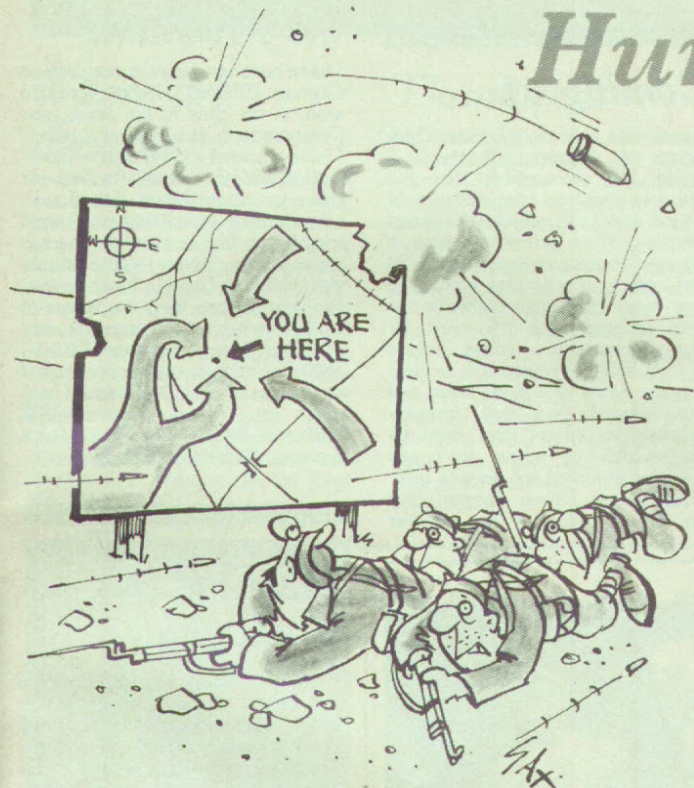
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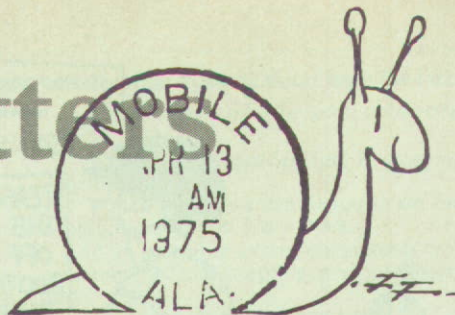


## Humour





# Letters



## Pegasus Bridge Museum

Last year a museum was opened on the site of Pegasus Bridge to commemorate the 6th Airborne Division landing in Normandy. The budget was met by the Comité but, because of inflation in costs between planning and actual building, the amount set aside was exceeded. Since the opening of the museum we have been struggling to maintain its standard and to slowly develop and increase the exhibits. The maintenance of the building is the responsibility of a recently created Commission of Administration but improvement to the display is the museum's responsibility. We are fortunate in that many British soldiers have donated money in the past but one cannot completely depend upon a set sum coming into the museum. I am now therefore very determined to strengthen our association to enable us to set up an exhibition worthy of the airborne soldiers who fought and died so bravely. To this end I have written to many Frenchmen and Englishmen seeking financial assistance and would ask that any SOLDIER reader, who in these difficult times would be prepared to give a donation, to send it on to me.

I do hate having to write in this way to those of you who fought in these battles in 1944 and have already done all that the French are grateful for.—**Françoise Gondrée, Secretary—Foundress, Association pour la Sauvegarde du Site et le Maintien du Souvenir de "Pegasus Bridge," 9-11 Rue de l'Hotel Colbert, Paris 5.**

## WE, THE LIMBLESS, LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP

We come from both world wars. We come from Kenya, Malaya, Aden, Cyprus . . . and from Ulster. From keeping the peace no less than from war we limbless look to you for help.

And you can help, by helping our Association. BLESMA (the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association) looks after the limbless from all the Services. It helps, with advice and encouragement, to overcome the shock of losing arms, or legs or an eye. It sees that red-tape does not stand in the way of the right entitlement to pension. And, for the severely handicapped and the elderly, it provides Residential Homes where they can live in peace and dignity.

Help, BLESMA, please. We need money desperately. And, we promise you, not a penny of it will be wasted.

**Donations and information: Major The Earl of Ancaster, KCVO, TD, Midland Bank Limited, 60 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9DX.**



## British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association

GIVE TO THOSE WHO GAVE—PLEASE

## Players, please

Coalville Band, formed in 1971, is a championship section brass band located in Leicestershire. The band is currently Nottingham and Milton Keynes open champions and Rochdale open champions for the second successive year. It has recently played on BBC Radio 2 and is due to play at HMS Collingwood on 13 December. In order to maintain its championship status, the band is always pleased to see new players and any serviceman or ex-serviceman in the area is invited to visit. Rehearsals are held at St Wilfred's Club on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Further details can be obtained from me.—**B Eastwood, 64 Sharpley Avenue, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE6 3DT.**

## Coming up

I read with interest the letter from Driver A Ingram (October). I would like to confirm that the Army is about to take delivery of a new series of vehicles designed for the 1980s. Indeed the first of the new 16-tonne range of vehicles are coming into service now. The new range of logistic vehicles has been ordered with the need for cost effectiveness in mind. Driver Ingram will be interested to hear that the Army is turning more and more towards well-trying commercial vehicles where they meet its requirement or where they can easily be modified for Service use. I can assure Driver Ingram that the TAVR will not be left out

when the new vehicles come into service and that eventually the vehicles TAVR men will drive will be every bit as good as those they drive in civilian life. I am afraid however that his unit will have to wait its turn for the new vehicles, the priority of issue being dictated by the operational role of each particular unit.—**Maj M J Borrett RCT, HQ Transport Officer in Chief (Army), Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA.**

The March SOLDIER contained a three-page article on the new range of Foden vehicles being delivered to the Army in the next few years.

## Forward the Mechams

I have been carrying out research on Captain Clifford Henry Mecham who, at the time of his death, was Commandant 10th Bengal Cavalry. I have amassed a great deal of information but been unable to find out either the whereabouts of the Lucknow Defence Medal and two clasps awarded to him or whether there is anyone living today whose family was related to Captain Mecham and had associations with the towns of Loughborough, Leicestershire, and St Helier, Jersey, between 1840 and 1880. I would greatly appreciate it if any reader of SOLDIER could help clear up these points.—**R Holroyd-Best, 33 Hollinsend Avenue, Sheffield, S12 2EL.**

## Meet me in Wahagies

I will be visiting England in 1976 and intend to travel to France in June. If there are any ex-members of 12 Battery, 6 HAA Regiment, interested in holding a reunion in the village of Wahagies in Northern France I would like them to get in touch with me so that we can make necessary arrangements.—**H T Calthorpe, 9 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016, Victoria, Australia.**

## Pigeon post

I am seeking information about the National Pigeon Service and its connection with the Royal Engineers in World War One. Can any reader help?—**Arthur Fern, 182 Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, TW12 1BG.**

## Model cannon

I would like to hear from any reader interested in the building of model British smooth-bore cannon, period 1800-1860; and 3, 6 and 12 pdrs, medium brass. As a beginner I would appreciate any advice from experienced model makers.—**F A J Wright, 4280 Dorchester Boulevard West, Westmount, H3Z 1V7, Quebec, Canada.**





## Where are they now?

I wonder if readers can help a German friend, Herr Leo Goetzen, who lives at 406 Viersen 12, An Pantaleon 17, West Germany, to trace some British soldiers who were prisoners-of-war during World War Two. Herr Goetzen was a prison guard on the Von Kries Estate, Klein Wattsdorf, and would like to renew old friendships. As far as he can remember, the names of his charges pictured here were McDaid, O'Sullivan, Johnson, Lorrimer, Magee, Carey, Adams and Patty.—C B Wachter, 26 Fd Regt RA, BFPO 801.

## Thank you

All those readers who loaned their personal mementoes and photographs for use in Lieutenant-Colonel Forty's illustrated history of the Desert Rats at war will be interested to know that their generous response has produced enough material for not one book, as originally planned, but three. The first, "Desert Rats at War: North Africa," will be published early in December. All material relating to this will be returned as soon as possible after that date.—M Glyn Daniel, Publicity Manager, Ian Allen Ltd, Publishers, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex.

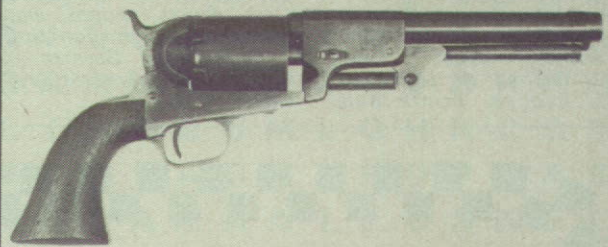
## AA days

We are trying to contact old war-time friends of 301 Battery, 93 Searchlight Regiment, and hope to have a reunion in London in the late summer of 1976. Any readers who were members of that unit, which consisted entirely of members of the ATS, are asked to contact either Mrs A Slater (ex-Private Husband), 6 St Alphase Court, Colindeep Lane, London NW9, or myself.—Mrs P Dakin (ex-Cpl Milling), 6 Lerryn Road, Bridgemary, Gosport, Hants, PO13 0YS.

## Wargamers

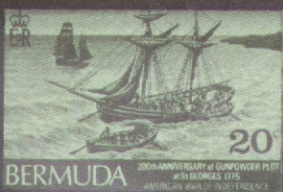
Readers may like to know of the existence of the Wandsworth War Games Club, one of the very few such clubs in South-West London. At present we specialise in Napoleonic wargames but hope in the near future to take in the English Civil War and other periods. We meet weekly and have good facilities. We would be pleased to welcome wargamers, experienced or not.—P Fuller, 50 Isis Street, London SW18.

over ►



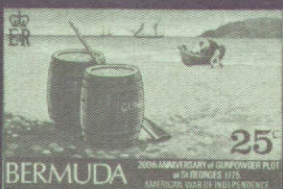
## Colt fetches £3200

This very fine six-shot .44-in Colt was sold at auction by Messrs Wallis and Wallis, of Lewes, for £3200. This Colt's patent third model Hartford Dragoon single-action percussion revolver has an overall length of 14 inches, the barrel being 7½ inches. It has a white metal blade foresight, underlever ramrod, cylinder roll engraved with an Indian fighting scene, colour hardened frame, brass backstrap, and round trigger guard. Its one-piece wooden grip is stamped WAT and JH.



## Bermudan stamps

Bermuda has issued a set of stamps to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the gunpowder plot at St George's in 1775. The set comprises of four stamps and the designs are: 5c, the royal magazine showing the hole in the roof where sympathisers of the American Army broke in to obtain much-needed gunpowder; 17c, sympathisers rowing towards the magazine; 20c, barrels of gunpowder being loaded into an American vessel; 25c, barrels of gunpowder on the beach awaiting transportation to an American vessel.



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## Collectors' Corner

E H Brazier, TAVR Centre, Cinque Ports Way, Bulverhythe, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.—*Seeks Rittmeister cigar bands (cavalry units). Will purchase 2½p each or exchange for Willem II flowers.*

G F Welsh, 75 Ruskin Drive, Worcester Park, Surrey.—*New collector British cap badges, has most corps, now wishes purchase others.*

Alec B Carter, Pinehill, Hastings Road, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0TW.—*Has for sale copies SOL-DIER Nov 46 and from Jun 48 to Dec 74.*

Sgt M H Johansen, c/o General Delivery CFPO 5000, 7630 Lahr/Schw, West Germany.—*Wishes to purchase books, badges, prints and*

*photographs of Canadian Expeditionary Force.*

Master Buddy Mara, 4B 503 East 78 Street, New York City 10021, USA.—*Severely handicapped 11-year-old would like items of militaria for new hobby.*

D Rogers, 85 Elmdale Crescent, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 1SP.—*Has for sale or exchange United States police patches, British badges, flashes and buttons. Send SAE.*

J G Thorpe, 9 Ketts Close, Whymondham, Norfolk, NR18 0NB.—*Serious collector wishes purchase British or foreign cap badges, formation signs and shoulder titles. Please quote price and particulars.*

S A Wright, 103 Station Road, Teynham, Sittingbourne, Kent.—*Seeks badges, equipment and information British, American and German para forces 1940 to present day. All letters answered.*

Julian Thompson, 132 Chaffes Lane, Upchurch, Sittingbourne, Kent.—*15-year old schoolboy starting collecting British and commonwealth cap badges, buttons and medals would like to hear from anyone who can help.*

L/Cpl L J Manton, Comcen, 12 Mech Bde Sig Sqn, BFPO 36.—*Seeks books, medals, photos etc Ox and Bucks Light Infantry, Royal Berks, R Sigs and WW1/North-West Frontier campaigns.*

## Competition

With all its symbols and footnotes, a British Rail timetable can be something of a puzzler. But delve into Mundavian trains and their odd timekeeping and life becomes really difficult. But more competitors than

might have been expected tackled the August competition 206 (Times change) and two-thirds came up with the right answers. It was in fact 37½ miles from the coast to City Hall station and the six o'clock departure from City Hall reached its destination, 237 kilometres away, at 8.77.

### Prizewinners:

- 1 Mrs V L Steward, 30 Napton Close, Matchborough West, Redditch, Worcestershire.
- 2 D Magee, 29 Rochester Road, Taunton, Somerset.
- 3 Cpl J L Milligan, 48 Gurkha Inf Bde Pro Unit, BFPO 1.
- 4 Sgt Turner, ACIO, 19/20 The Butts, Reading, Berkshire.
- 5 F K Forrester, Dormers, 30 Great Tattenhams, Epsom, Surrey.
- 6 Sgt S Ingham, AG Secretariat, MOD, Whitehall, London.
- 7 2/Lieut R C Canton, 56 Meadow Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire.
- 8 N Grant-Thorold, Pinkney Mill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

## How observant are you?

(see page 15)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Width of centre skier's scarf. 2 Door of church. 3 Tip of fallen skier's left ski stick. 4 Lines on third mountain from left. 5 Hotel balcony rail. 6 Right skier's number. 7 Ripples behind centre skier's left ski. 8 Top triangle of taller tree behind hotel. 9 Centre skier's cap badge. 10 Centre skier's belt buckle.

## Frontiersmen's future

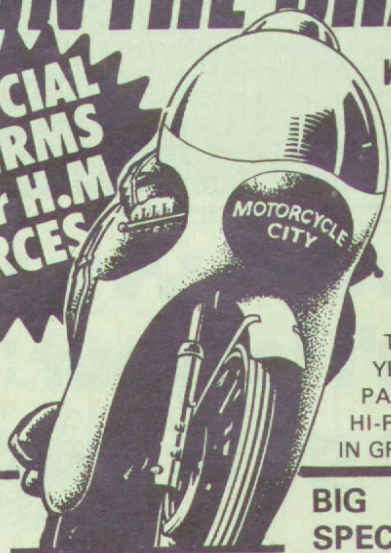
After discussions on the future role of the Legion of Frontiersmen, its constitution has been revised. While retaining the original idea of a body of men who could pool their experience and knowledge in the service of the Crown, it is now aimed to fit members to render more positive assistance in the 1970s.

The training manual has been re-written in order that the Legion may offer assistance in the fields of search and rescue as an auxiliary to the fire service, the police and HM Coastguard, carrying out in fact tasks formerly undertaken by the Civil Defence. Their training is designed so as to enable members to assist voluntary organisations but not to trespass on their sphere of work.

While proud of its military background, the Legion now realises that the future usefulness of its members lies in the type of service outlined in the new training manual. Membership will be restricted to ex-servicemen and certain others over-age for Regular Army service. Further information can be obtained from PR Branch, Legion of Frontiersmen of the Commonwealth, AMICALE, 6 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PH.

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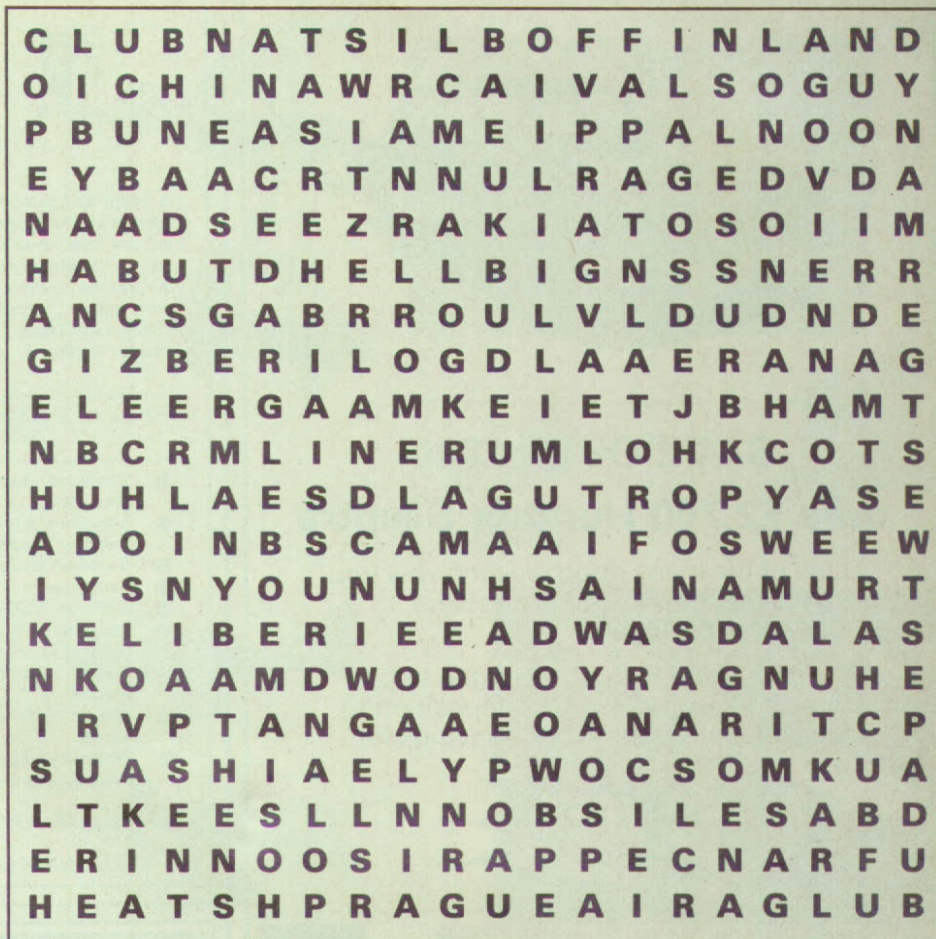
*Forwards,  
backwards,  
upwards,  
downwards  
and  
diagonally  
too!*

**F**IRST prize winner in a recent SOLDIER competition, Major Egon Maarup, of Denmark's Jutland Dragoon Regiment, will not be among the fortunates this time, for the very good reason that this month's teaser is his own compilation.

Embodied in Major Maarup's maze of letters are the names of 26 European countries (except Luxembourg, Monaco, San Marino, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Cyprus, Malta GC and the Vatican State) and of 27 capitals. The names, he says, can be read forwards, backwards, upwards, downwards and diagonally in any direction.

The name of one country is missing. Which country? Send your answer with the "Competition 210" label from this page and your name and address, on a postcard or by letter, to:

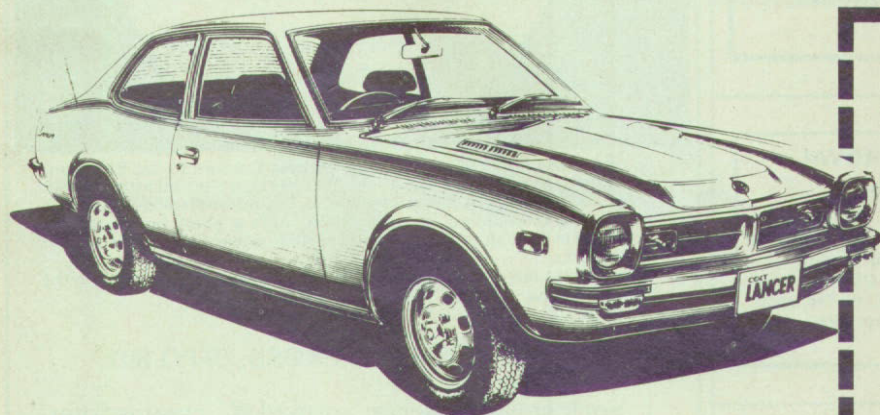
Editor (Comp 210)  
**SOLDIER**  
Ordnance Road  
ALDERSHOT  
Hants  
GU11 2DU.



This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday 9 February 1976. The answers and winners' names will appear in the April 1976 SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 210" label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

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To commemorate the presentation of new Colours to 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, the KPM porcelain factory in Berlin produced a collector's plate in an individually numbered edition of 500. Each plate is supplied in a white box with a short history of the regiment in English and in German and also notes about KPM and their trademarks. Some plates are still available—if you would like one, please fill in the coupon below.

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# Military Models Toys without Tears

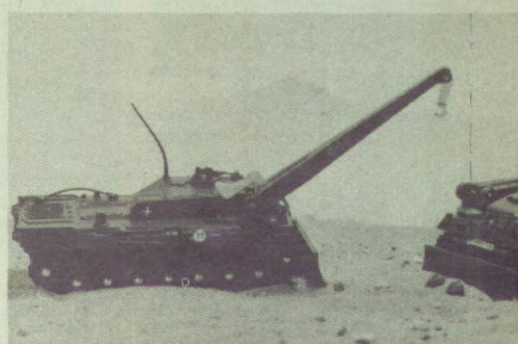
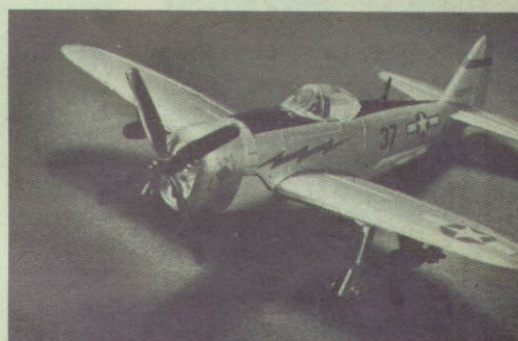
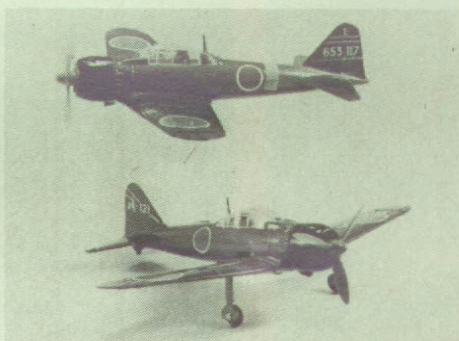
**C**AREFULLY constructed and painstakingly painted plastic tanks and lead soldiers often fall casualties at this time of the year—under the feet of inebriated uncles or the Hoovers of overworked mums.

The Meccano and Dinky Toy people have recently released some military toys that will avoid an unhappy end to the Christmas festivities. They comprise a Meccano Combat Multikit at £4.75 and a range of fighting vehicles, guns and aircraft from do-it-yourself kits at £1.30 to finished models at up to £2.65. They are of rugged metal construction yet do not have any pointed or sharp edges which could harm the hands of junior generals.

The Combat Multikit follows on from the successful Army Multikit (reviewed in *SOLDIER* in December 1973). It is smaller and cheaper but capable of producing models in its own right as well as acting as an "add-on" set.

Meccano's traditional pillar-box red and glossy green have given way to matt black and olive drab but the bolt-together building in accordance with step-by-step instructions remains the same. A total of nine models can be built, including light aircraft, helicopters, a Jeep and an ambulance. They may look Heath Robinson to adults but infant imaginations can use them to create operational sorties, ambushes and even an actual casevac.

A major attraction of Dinky Toys is that they have parts that work—spinning propellers, moving tracks and wheels, traversing turrets and elevating and firing guns. The new 1:65th scale Thunderbolt and Zero-Sen, dog-fight rivals over the Pacific, have battery-operated prop motors which emit a low hum. Sound effects for the rest have to be improvised orally. But the only real damage that can be done by the Dinky armed forces is to wear a little nap off the front room carpet or project a few plastic pellets into the Christmas pud. **HH**



**Cluster for Christmas: Meccano Combat Multikit (£4.75), then from Dinky Toys a 1/65th Zero-Sen fighter (£1.95) and, same scale, Thunderbolt (£1.99); 1/35 Hanomag half-track (£2.65); 1/50 Leopard recovery tank (£1.99); 1/35 88mm gun complete with "shells" (£2.55) and (below) Scorpion (£1.95).**





# Books Books Books Books



## Saucy Seventh

"The 7th Queen's Own Hussars" (J M Brereton)

Although the "Saucy Seventh" are well known, the date of their founding is not. With their early records lost, all that is known is that they were founded in Scotland as "Highland Dragoons" near the end of the 17th century. The 7th were lucky in the quality of their officers in the 19th century with men like Henry Paget and John Le Marchant. They certainly needed them in the retreat to Corunna, the clash with Polish lancers at Genappe and most of all at Waterloo where, holding a key position near Hougomont, the 7th charged the French a dozen times in their "finest hour."

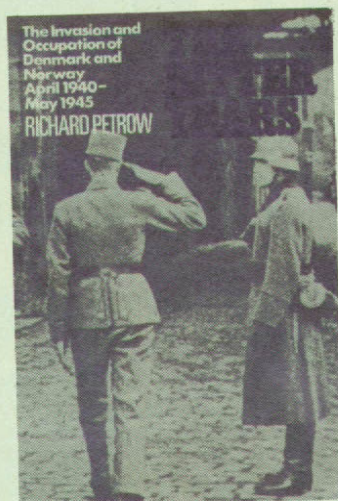
For the next century the 7th were guardians of Empire — on the Canadian prairie, in flying columns on the plains of India, in punitive North-West Frontier raids, in Central Africa against Matabele impis, across the veldt in pursuit of Boer commandos and through the deserts of Mesopotamia against the Turks.

In 1936 the 7th mechanised. In the Western Desert, tactics served them well against the Italians at Fort Capuzzo and Sidi Barrani. The Germans were a tougher problem but Japanese tanks were no match for the 7th. Tank training in Iraq and Syria and fighting with Anders

Polish Corps in Italy completed World War Two.

Their story since, like other regiments, is of training in Germany, service in Hong Kong and amalgamation with old friends, the 3rd King's Own Hussars.

Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £4.50 AWM



## Resistance

"The Bitter Years: The Invasion and Occupation of Denmark and Norway April 1940-May 1945" (Richard Petrow)

This is a frightening tale, the nightmare come true. Richard Petrow's book took six years to produce and its bulk testifies to its thoroughness. It tells how the Danes and Norwegians, faced with a conflict to loyalties, reacted; how they sided, albeit tacitly, with their new masters but never allowed the flames of resistance to die.

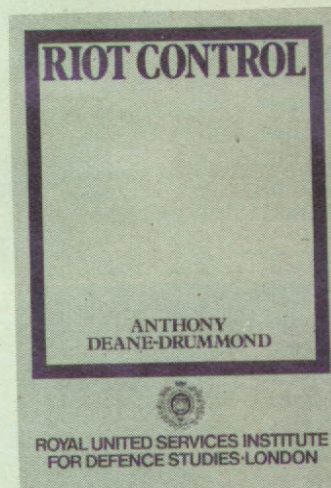
It shows too how the nations coped with Hitler's incomprehensible attitude to the Jews and how some things were simply too much to stomach without open opposition. Strangely, the persecution of these Scandinavian Jews was not prosecuted with the venom reserved

for Jewish communities in other countries.

There are thrilling chapters dealing with the hunt for the Altmark, destruction of the Tirpitz and the raids on the heavy water factory at Vemork — the first failed, with torture and execution for those captured; the second, successful, undoubtedly frustrated the Nazi plan to produce an atom bomb.

Subverting people closely akin to themselves was really not important to Nazi world domination, especially a people without recent military history or vast overseas empires. Their nuisance value, with the exception of the need for heavy water, far outweighed their strategic value and the Third Reich eventually had thousands of occupying troops, sorely needed elsewhere, tied up in both countries.

Hodder & Stoughton Ltd, St Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4P 4AH, £5.25 PC



## Mass behaviour

"Riot Control" (Anthony Deane-Drummond)

Major-General Deane-Drummond's masterly and concise assessment of the public riot and its control must

be standard reading for junior and senior police officers and all ranks of the Army.

Riots, the ultimate in mass bad behaviour, fall roughly into two categories — the intentionally malevolent and the accidentally unpleasant. In the latter category are riots consequent on pop festivals, teenage rock concerts and football matches. In the former are the politically motivated crowd-stirring — the weapon of extreme political factions of both left and right. It is the last which is the concern of the author and his fellow contributor, Major-General Richard Clutterbuck.

The book gives an historical background to such events, analyses the ingredients of a crowd and a riot, suggests motivations and describes the role of government and its principal anti-riot forces of police and military. Selected riots and the lessons they reveal are discussed and in a fascinating chapter the author shows how a revolutionary movement builds up from smallest beginnings to becoming the government itself.

Finally are a long chapter on controlling riots and another on the weapons of both rioter and riot-queller. Appendices discuss variations on the theme of stopping riots without bloodshed, the Chicago race riots of 1968 and, briefly, the Scarman report on the disorders in Red Lion Square, London.

Definitely a book for the serious reader who wants to get his teeth into something authoritative.

Thornton Cox Ltd, 25 Haymarket, London SW1, £3.25 PC

## Agincourt to Armagh

The British Army: A Concise History (Jock Haswell)

This is a wonderful little book, telling in just 192 pages the glorious story of the British Army from Agincourt to the current peace-keeping role in Northern Ireland. Although the pages are few, the content is all-embracing and the illustrations and index absolutely ideal.

Mr Haswell has produced a

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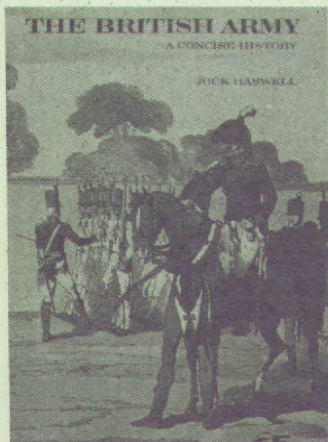
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# Books Books Books Books...



chronological series of chapters, each showing the rise of the Army in relation to the rise of the country — how the Army aided the ideals and aims of politicians and rulers, how it was fed, where and how recruited, and how it was both used and abused before its true content and worth were finally recognised.

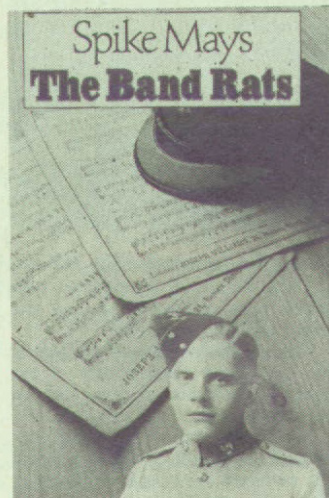
The Duke of Wellington's "Scum of the earth" comment was regrettably true but it was on the tide of scum that he rose to eminence. An improvement in the lot of these poor dregs of society resulted in a better type of man being attracted to the Colours but it was not until the Crimean War that real attention was paid to Tommy Atkins. Cardwell, Haldane and Hore Belisha, and of course Lord Roberts (who strangely gets little mention), were milestones in the Army's annals — men who truly cared and truly appreciated.

Since the dispersal of empire and now that ignominious scenes of British soldiers being insulted by one-time friends have faded, it is possible to see in Northern Ireland the result of the Army's long life... forbearance, kindness without softness, and long, long suffering.

But when the Tommy turns, watch out. "Have particular attention to that part of the line which will bear the first shock of the English troops," wrote Louis XIV. Enemies have learned that to their cost since bow-and-arrow days.

Thames & Hudson Ltd, 30 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1, £4.50

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## Band boys

"The Band Rats" (Spike Mays)

This highly entertaining and authentic account of the life of Army band boys records the author's progress from enlistment in 1924 in The Royal Dragoons through to the 1974 cavalry old comrades' parade in Hyde Park.

The first part of his book centres round the ambitions, disappointments, hopes and fears of the musically minded "band rats." As one of this inferior breed this reviewer can vouch for the accuracy of the barrackroom language, the boasting and bragging, the old soldiers' lore and the smell of Bluebell and saddle soap. Beyond the nostalgia is a wide knowledge of military musical matters and painstaking research has produced the answers to age-old questions.

Useful appendices are the trumpet and bugle calls, with musical

notation, of today's regiments and corps, and a long list of regimental nicknames.

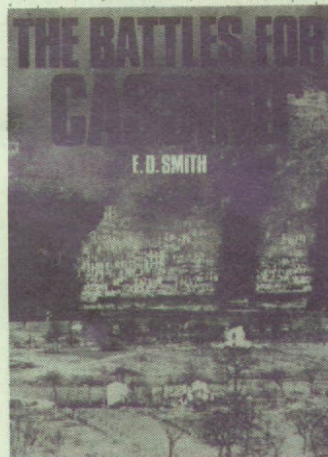
Peter Davies Ltd, 15-16 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1, £4.50 GRH

## Dual ambition

"The Battles for Cassino" (E D Smith)

Against regulations a young Gurkha officer kept a diary during the Italian campaign; in the battles around Cassino he had a dual ambition — not to let his Gurkhas down in any crisis and "to escape death or disablement if God so allowed." One night he scribbled in his diary: "If I survive, then one day I will write a book all about this." He has duly written it and it is one of the best this reviewer has read.

Cassino was a World War One battle fought with the weapons of World War Two. No battle came nearer to the stalemate of Flanders



and it is hardly possible to find a better example of an impregnable natural barrier.

There were four distinct battles for Cassino and Brigadier Smith took part in two of them. He is thus able to convey the authentic "feel" of these bloody encounters. But this is no mere "I was there" book. It is deeply researched and probes the questions which will always be

asked about Cassino. In taking a fresh look and presenting a detailed professional analysis, Brigadier Smith also presents a tribute to the thousands who died there — Britons, Gurkhas, Indians, Americans, Poles, New Zealanders, Frenchmen and others.

Should this book run to a second edition perhaps slips in the index will be corrected, things like 12th Podolski Landers and 2nd Somerset Regt.

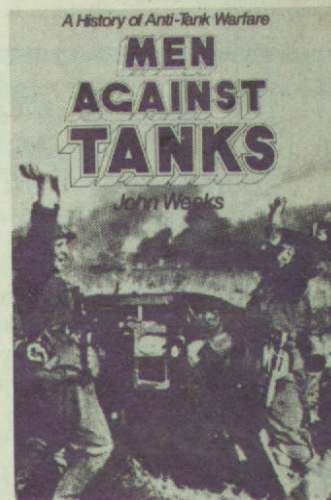
Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8AS, £3.50 JCW

## Tank and anti-tank

"Men Against Tanks: A History of Anti-Tank Warfare" (John Weeks)

"Through Mud and Blood: Infantry/Tank Operations in World War II" (Bryan Perrett)

Colonel Weeks is the first military author to devote an entire book to anti-tank warfare. Reading this enthralling result, one has to admit that the Germans, veterans of anti-tank warfare, became pretty good at it, as with the 88mm anti-aircraft gun, first extemporaneously in France in 1940, then by Rommel to even better effect in the Western



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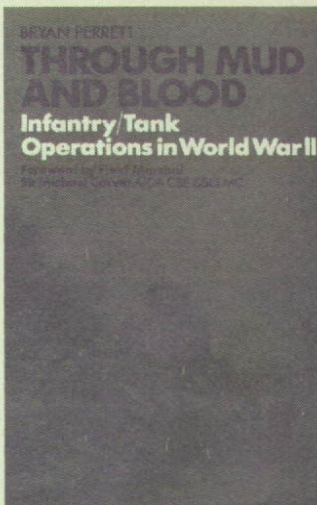
'Perhaps never before has the pathology of command been more sensitively examined', said *The Times* of Sir John's acclaimed LEADERSHIP IN WAR 1939-45. He now writes frankly and perceptively on leadership at all levels in the testing crucible of the Great War. Illustrated £5.25

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Desert two years later. The 88 PAK 43, the Krupp dual-purpose gun which soon followed, became the terror of allied armour.

Colonel Weeks covers the gamut of anti-tank weaponry from Molotov cocktails and tram lines to the latest rockets and missiles.

Mr Perrett takes us to the tank brigades whose job was to support the infantry in attack or defence, fighting in tanks specially designed for close-quarter battles. Tens of thousands of British and Commonwealth infantrymen will remember with affection the Matildas, Valentines, Churchills and, in smaller numbers, the general-purpose Shermans which so often tipped the scales towards success.

The tank brigades' story covers several campaigns and many victories — Arras, Alamein, Tunisia, Italy, the Reichswald — and a few defeats like Halfaya Pass and Knightsbridge. But whether in victory or defeat, its men fought in the best traditions of the Royal Armoured Corps and emerged with their honour enhanced.

1 David & Charles (Holdings) Ltd, South Devon House, Newton Abbot, Devon, £4.95

2 Robert Hale & Company, Clerkenwell House, 45-47 Clerkenwell Green, London, EC1R 0HT, £4.20

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nearly 50 in monochrome range from improvised armoured trains in the hard-pressed wartime Britain of 1940 — even the narrow-gauge Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Light Railway was roped into service — to the massive trains of the Russian front and the huge locomotives on both sides which hauled tank-carrying and heavy equipment trains. Descriptive notes linked to each picture plus an informative introduction make this a reference work second to none in its field. Blandford Press Ltd, 167 High Holborn, London, W1C 6PH, £1.90

*"Plates and Buckles of the American Military 1795-1874"* (Sydney C Kerksis)

This well-presented book, with smart black cover and gold lettering, gives a wealth of information on each of the buckles and plates shown — type, period worn, method of manufacture, weight, material, dimensions and degree of rarity. There are almost 500 different belt and accoutrement plates from the post-revolution period to the "Hagner" plate of 1874 and there is even a chapter on "replicas, reproductions, fakes and impositions." No doubt serious collectors will get their money's worth.

Gilgal Press, PO Box 342, Kenesaw, Georgia 30144, USA, \$25.00, or A A Johnston, Pitney, Langport, Somerset, £12.50

*"Clive of India"* (Patrick Turnbull)  
Baron Clive of Plassey could see beyond the urgencies and the needs of his day and this enabled him in his later years to consolidate the empire he founded in India. Energy, high courage, intense determination and especially the ability to think quickly and act boldly, gained him his initial triumphs against tremendous odds.

The climate of India sapped his strength and he died at 48 but only fate saved him on a dozen dramatic occasions. The one map in this book might well have included more of the place names mentioned in the dramatic story.

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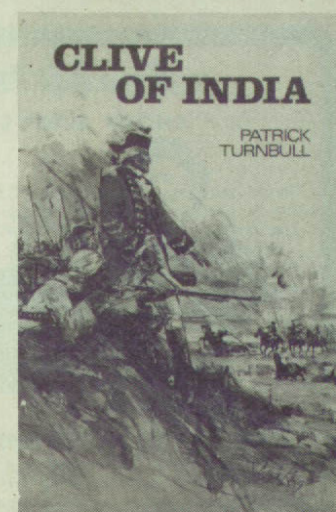
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## In Brief

*"Railways and War since 1917"*  
(Denis Bishop and W J K Davies)

This sequel to a previous volume covering the early history of the military railway from the American Civil War to the closing years of World War One up-dates and completes the fascinating saga of the multifarious military uses of rail.

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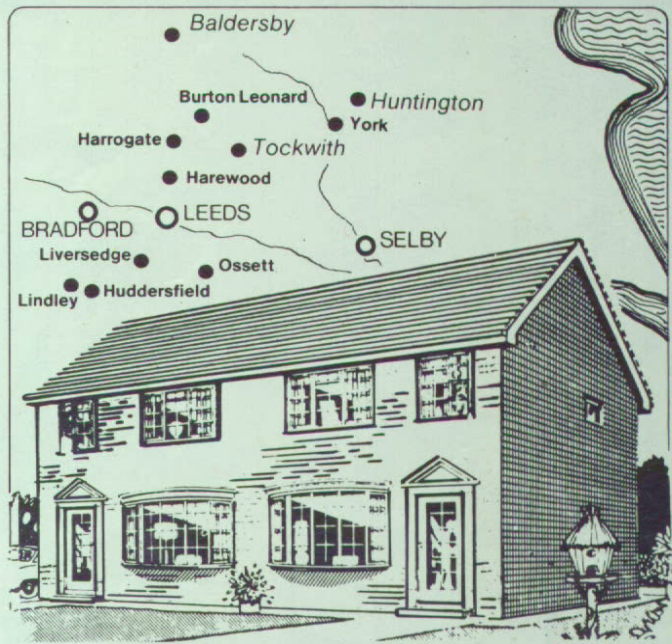
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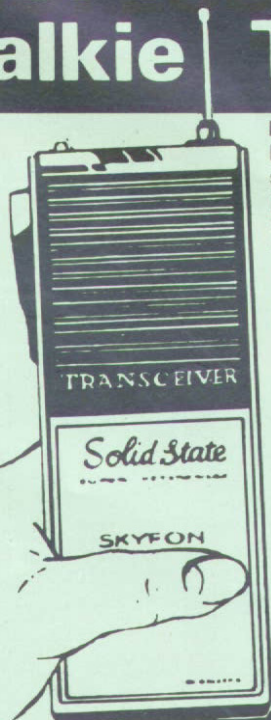


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