

SOLDIER

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ON SALE IN NAFFI CANTEENS AT HOME AND ABROAD

PAGE 3

After a good day's work for Britain—

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beer is best



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says Colliery Manager, aged 32

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Coalmining conditions are constantly improving

Better lighting and transport, as shown above, are two of many ways in which Mining is being improved. face-workers average £7 to £9 a week; newcomers get full surface pay while training. There's a good future in it, if only you work for it now!

★ **JOIN THE MINERS**



When you're next on leave call at the nearest colliery or employment exchange and ask them all about the opportunities in Mining today.

COALMINING OFFERS GREATER SCOPE



For the first time — as a gesture to a Corps which now really belongs to the Army — SOLDIER gives its lead feature to the WRAC. This article tells how girls are taught to drive and maintain Army vehicles. Their training ground is an airfield in North Wales

L - GIRLS

TWO out of three girls who join the WRAC today ask the same question: What chance is there of learning to drive?

The reason is not hard to find. Motoring is still a long way from being everybody's hobby in Britain. Driving an Army vehicle may be the only chance for the average girl (or man) to put toe to accelerator.

But not all these volunteers can become drivers. Of those who are selected, so few have ever sat in a driver's seat (occasionally there is a village girl who has never been in a car) that the WRAC send them to learn in a place where they can do the least amount of damage — a windswept airstrip on the outskirts of Gresford Denbighshire.

Pulton airstrip is by way of being a ghost. It is too recent to be on most maps and yet it has outlived its purpose as a fighter station. Its main runway is too deeply embedded for the ground to be ploughed up and even squatters have given its buildings a wide berth. The RAF have long discarded it and its name appears on no list



Not a massacre, but a mass inspection. The initials on the mudguard stand for "Drivers and Clerks Training Centre."

OVER



Coming up for air (and conversation)... Private Brenda Peirce, whose home is at Brighton.



SOLDIER's cameraman joins Privates Ethel Ellis (left) and Patricia Purchase under the sump.



You could have a worse recruiting poster than this picture of Private Jennifer Stokes, from Salford, Bristol.



Two girls on the staff: left — L/Cpl. Christine Lammond, from Glasgow, driver instructor; and (above) Corporal Anne Trundle, who joined the ATS in 1938. Her number is W/34.

L-GIRLS

(Continued)

of WD property. It belongs to a farmer who one day decided that the Services might as well have the use of it. So he lent it to the WRAC Drivers and Clerks Training Centre at nearby Horsley Hall.

The Hall stands over the sealed mine shaft which was the scene of the Gresford colliery disaster of 1936, but it is hard to realise that this is a mining

area, for in front stretches the green Cheshire plain.

To the WRAC the airfield was more than welcome. Until then students had been started off on "blocked vehicles" — trucks and ambulances jacked up on large wooden blocks inside the transport sheds. The aspiring drivers could then practise accelerating and gear changing without fear of collision. But it was not quite the same as doing it in motion, and so most days the woods surrounding Pulton resound to the noise of revving engines — with the occasional scraping of gears — just as not long ago they echoed the roar of Spitfires and Hurricanes.

Life is not all sitting in the driving seat. In the sheds oil-smeared hands tussle with spanners and wheel braces, for maintenance is as important as driving. To study the daily tasks the girls sit round an old Austin Seven chassis which has won fame for being the model on which Princess Elizabeth received her lectures in theory. But there is no one at Horsley now who trained the Princess.

During their last three weeks, when they have sampled convoy driving to places as far afield as Anglesey, and town driving in Liverpool, Chester and Wrexham, the girls do day and night solo driving. Armed with a map and a route card each girl goes off in a "tilly" to make her way about the countryside.

Junior Commander M. Stein, chief instructor of the driving wing, said: "This is the most valuable work in many ways for it gives a girl confidence. Usually we make her bring back some article or information so that she has some definite objective. For example, she may have to get the autograph of a local policeman or of some station master within a radius of about 30 miles, or maybe she must tell us the number of a public telephone at some outlying village."

"Occasionally a girl loses her way on these 50 or 60-mile trips but once she has got up into the mountains she will not get much help. The local people mostly do not speak English so she must rely entirely on her map. That reason alone helps to make this part of the country one of the most suitable spots for teaching driving."

One of Junior Commander Stein's staff has been with the ATS and WRAC for 10½ years. She is Corporal Anne Trundle, aged 31, whose number is W/34. She was in the first batch of ATS to join up and belonged to the 10 Suffolk Platoon formed at Lowestoft during the Munich crisis.

"We were all local girls who met at week-ends to do our training," she said. "I was platoon cook for two years after we were called up in August 1939. Later I became an ack-ack plotter and then was sent to a technical



Here is the same Austin chassis on which Princess Elizabeth learned her lessons.

school at Derby. In 1944 I became a driver attached to the Sandhurst OCTU where I drove a wireless truck."

In 1945 Corporal Trundle came to Horsley to help with the maintenance of over 60 vehicles. But her WRAC days are ending. "Soon I shall be released," she said a little ruefully. "I am going to an office job in Wrexham."

In a unit where so many people arrive to "have a go" it is not inappropriate to have an instructor with the name of W. Pickles. This is 28-year-old Winifred Pickles, a lance-corporal from Beaconsfield, who in her 16 months at Horsley has turned out scores of drivers.

"Some had only driven tractors and they gave the cars similar treatment at first, and some had not even ridden a cycle," she said. "Most of them are only 17 or 18, but I had one student of 47. We have also taught WRNS here as they have no school of their own."

"The most difficult task the girls find is stopping and starting on hills. The rest they pick up fairly easily and they drive everything from utilities to three-tonners. Most of them like heavy vehicles because they have greater power and hold the road well."

Added Corporal Betty Beaton, another instructor: "When I went to a motor transport training centre in 1941 my ten weeks' course consisted of 12 hours driving. Today these girls get 80 hours on the road."

One student at Horsley, Private Gisela Bradshaw, is a 24-year-old German girl from Berlin, now married to an ex-REME soldier living at Newport.

"I came to England about 18 months ago and a year later joined the ATS. What do I think of this country? Smashing. But I am hoping to get leave to see my people in Berlin soon. As they live in the American Sector I must get special permission and then I shall have to find about £28 for the air trip."



Private Bradshaw thinks she is the first German girl to join the women's services since the war. She had one brother who trained as a doctor and who died on the Russian front.

At every opportunity Private Bradshaw of Berlin works away at maintenance, learning all she can about cars and trucks. When she is asked which type of vehicle she prefers driving, her face breaks into a smile and she says: "The ambulance. The seating is high and it suits my long legs."

For all extensive overhauls a RASC workshop platoon is stationed in the camp and the men also teach the girls jobs like soldering. Together with the attach-

This might be a lesson on the distributor — or maybe one of the trainees has dropped her engagement ring?

ed general duty men who do all the heavy jobs, these lads form an "army" of 42 men in a camp of over 400 girls. Their officer, Captain E. Parr, is the only male officer in the mess or, to quote a local newspaper, "the only man in an otherwise Adamless Eden."

Horsley Hall takes more students for clerical training than for driving (192 against 90) but the 90 stay for ten weeks while the clerks learn all they have to know in two months.

What do the clerks learn? Under two officers and 14 NCO's they master typing (to the tune of "Bonnie Dundee"), general orderly room work, message writing, the composing of Army letters, military abbreviations, Army forms and "Q" work so that they pass out as trade-tested clerks.

Said SQMS. S. M. Learmouth, who has been instructing at clerical training centres since 1942: "About 25 per cent of the girls we get have had previous office experience. Some have thrown up good office jobs because they want to see the world. Others have been in service work which has died on them — such as ack-ack plotting

OVER



Anything to oblige the WRAC: Inspector H. Thomas, of Wrexham, signs a sheet of paper to prove that Private Maud Barry covered the prescribed route.



Map reading by headlamp: night convoy driving in the Welsh hills encourages girls to be self-reliant.



Ambulance convoy: the "pointsman" is a WRAC motor cyclist.

L-GIRLS (Concluded)

— or have been orderlies who want to change their jobs."

Their work mostly keeps them hard at it inside the lecture huts at Horsley Hall, but now and again they get out into the fresh air during working hours. This is when, together with tables and typewriters, they board the trucks forming part of the training convoys and ride out to the countryside to practise setting up an orderly room "in the field."

After their course they are posted to units — pay offices, large depots and record offices at home and abroad. The drivers, meanwhile, go off to drive all types of vehicles in all parts of the country — and also to serve in mixed car companies

in Germany, Austria and the Middle East.

Said a WRAC officer: "One girl may find herself in a large car company; another may be driving for the Royal Engineers; another may be posted to a Territorial unit to drive the permanent staff."

They take with them their new driving licences bearing the Dumbartonshire County Council stamp. Some of them, too, may have ringing in their ears the warning jingles which adorn the walls of the model room. The authorship is disputed. The Commandant, Chief Commander S. F. M. Nimmo would readily admit that they are more utilitarian than poetic. Specimen:

*"MT leads that come adrift
May find you begging for a lift."*

ERIC DUNSTER

SOLDIER's COVER



THE WRAC drivers get four pages of *SOLDIER*, but at least there's a man on the cover: Sergeant G. M. Berry, RASC, who has 18 years service. *SOLDIER* cameraman Desmond O'Neill photographed him at the Motor Transport School at Bordon. He is working on a Bedford three-tonner brightly painted for instructional purposes



An orderly room is set up in the field. Every now and then the clerks are taken for an outing by the trainee drivers. Below: Nothing like typing in the open air, with a keen wind rippling the carbons, says Private L. L. A. Gilbert, of Torquay.



Below: Indoor session at the keyboard. But when they graduate to an orderly room, there'll be no gramophone playing "Bonnie Dundee."



WHY pick on me? I did five years in the Army." That's the reaction of many ex-soldiers to the suggestion that they should join the Territorial Army — if we are to believe the publicity experts who prepared the current series of recruiting advertisements in the newspapers. From this defensive opening, the hypothetical ex-soldier is talked round to an appreciation of his responsibilities. The argument is sound enough, though hardened students of advertisements may find the style familiar.

It is interesting to compare this recruiting technique with that of Mr. Winston Churchill, who broadcast a notable five-minute appeal to the "young veterans" recently. He did not start off on the defensive in his appeal for defenders.

"In my opinion," he said, "our recruiting campaign for the Territorial Army will only be a success if it makes its appeal to men who wish to fortify their lives by a special sacrifice for our country, which we love so dearly and which so many of those to whom I now appeal saved from shame and ruin.

"A suitable man with a right gift and turn of mind who joined his Territorial battalion or battery now would add to his own stature among his fellow men . . .

"The fact of making an extra sacrifice of leisure and life's strength and of undertaking a special obligation to bear a bit of the extra weight gives a man a rightful status of dignity and self-respect. It is a matter which each must settle with his conscience. The more awkward or dreary many things may be in our life the brighter shine these acts of the spirit. A man may well be proud in himself, though he must tell it to none, if regardless whether things fall well or ill, or whether he likes them or not, he comes forward to do his bit and a bit more too."

That is a fine appeal to man's finer instincts. In this hard-boiled age few, besides Mr. Churchill, would have dared to make it. Which will bring results — the bold, straight call to Honour, or the carefully composed answer to the query, "Why me?"

Both, we hope.

UNIFORM

A leader writer of *The Times*, after congratulating the WRAC on becoming Royal, had these chastening words to say:

"If they wonder why they have had to wait for so long before being granted this distinction, they may reflect that tradition is rightly a slow growth in the service to which they now, in a closer sense than ever before, belong. The Royal Army Ordnance Corps, for instance, which traces its origins to beyond the Wars of the Roses, only became 'Royal' in recognition of what it did in the 1914-18 war, and other famous corps had long waits."

To which SOLDIER might add (not with any idea of further chastening the WRAC) that there are still several indispensable corps which are not yet "Royal."

What the WRAC are still impatiently awaiting is news of that

SOLDIER to Soldier

new uniform. Some while ago leading fashion designers were invited to submit designs, which seem to have been guarded more zealously than the plans for a Royal bride's trousseau. The temptation to speculate is hard to resist. Were Bond Street's ideas too "musical comedy"? Did their designs assume that all women in the Services would have slender figures? Is there some dogged, insoluble controversy in Whitehall over the skirt length? Probably we shall never know. But, whatever the result, it was a significant thing that Bond Street should have been consulted.

ROCKET

A Chinese general recently devised a new "psychological" weapon.

His idea was to fire a rocket which would fill the sky with coloured confetti. When the enemy left their lines to admire this novel sight, loud-speakers would transmit the message: "Come over to our side and your life will be full of beautiful things."

A silly idea? Maybe. But there was a disturbing wartime story about how a loud-speaker unit in the Eritrean no-man's-land bombarded the enemy natives unavailingly with propaganda — and then won 300 deserters in one night by playing operatic records.

You never know what is a weapon till you try it.

MALAYA REPORT

Slow Boat to China For These Squatters

BRITISH soldiers in Malaya have been tackling the "Displaced Persons" problem all over again.

It is well-known that the bandits in the jungle have been extorting money, food and shelter from colonies of squatters (mostly Chinese), and threatening them with death if they give information to British security forces.

In some areas it has been necessary for police and soldiers to remove squatters *en masse* from their colonies and resettle them under strict supervision. Some are law-abiding and bear no grudge against the military, being only too glad of a chance to escape the attentions of the bandits; others are non-co-operative, and are being rounded up for deportation in a "Slow boat to China" though not the one the song-writer had in mind.

This drastic action against squatters (of whom Malaya has 500,000) is being carried out with humanity but great thoroughness. In some instances squatters have been compensated for loss of crops and animals.

A typical clearance was carried out at the foot of the Batu Caves, six miles north of Kuala Lumpur. The area of the caves covers three square miles and they are important to the bandits because they give excellent concealment for men, arms and stores. Three hundred and fifty persons were detained. The bandits allowed only those who sympathised with them to live in the district; others were forced out or disposed of in other ways.

To critics who expressed surprise at the Army's "slow" progress against the bandits, Sir Henry Gurney, Malaya's High Commissioner, recently said:

"To us here, who appreciate that the bandits are often indistinguishable from ordinary cit-

izens, and that the country in which they have to be pursued is probably as difficult as anywhere in the world, it is clear that the answer is not more operations but more information."

Certain areas are now reasonably clear of bandits, Johore, for instance. In others the raiders have been forced into deeper jungle, leaving behind small killer squads, recruiting agents, extortioners and propagandists. It is these reckless killers who have been continuing to ambush soldiers and planters.

The planters, despite the ever-present threat of murder, have produced more rubber than ever before, but very little new rubber is being planted, because Chinese contractors who normally do that work have been among the bandits' chief victims.

In the unsettled conditions prospecting for tin is another activity which has had to be severely limited.

Recent developments in the police and military operations include: the sending of 2000 Gurkha reinforcements to the hard-working Brigade of Gurkhas; the formation of a third Malay Regiment; and joint operations on the Siamese-Malaya frontier.

British troops have rapidly become jungle-wise. But some of them who are still new to the territory are meeting shocks not directly connected with the bandits.

There was a newly-arrived cook-serjeant who had a fatigue party sweating to chop up stumps of old rubber trees so that a returning patrol could have a hot meal — only to discover afterwards that he could have helped himself to quantities of nutshells from the palm-oil tree which make fine fuel.

There was the unit which shudderingly heard that it was not to kill the deadly cobras that thrived round its location. The cobras are protected because they kill rats which ruin enough palm nuts to keep half the Army, the Royal Navy and the RAF in margarine.

There was the Guardsman who had read all about the Negritos, dwarfs who live in the jungle and don't even bother to build houses, and mistook a group of monkeys for the little aborigines.

There was the superstitious Gurkha who still refuses to believe that it was nothing more ghostly than an elephant that lifted him up while he was asleep and dropped him to the ground.



This picture reaches SOLDIER from Capt. E. T. Russell, Military Observer, who did some military observing outside the chamber where the Allied Kommandatura meet in Berlin. The hats of the American, French and British generals are there—but not the hat of the Russian. This is the picture which symbolises Europe. But there is always a space for the hat of General Kotikov.

AKABA: REPORT NO 2

This page comes from Captain G. S. Hudson, RA, Military Observer with "O" Force at Akaba, Transjordan



Mortar detachment of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment at the ready. No enemy is in sight, but the Army believes in "going through the motions."

THE crash of naval and ground artillery at Akaba startles the camels into a stately gallop and the goats into a frightened, aimless scamper.

But the guns and the mortars are not fired in anger. The Army — and the Navy — are getting down to training near the ancient Arab port which "O" Force is holding against possible Israeli incursion.

Down the valley blows a strong, gusty wind which carries away the echoes of firing, the clatter of tracked vehicles, the revving of engines, the voices of the men of Lincolnshire — and loses them swiftly in the secretive stillness of the mountains.

The Arabs are glad to see British troops again, not only because they are tangible proof of Anglo-Transjordanian friendship, but because they bring new life and the possibility of work to a community of 2000 who must normally exist on fishing and spasmodic trading with the bedouin. Although there is no rainfall in the valley, wells are

plentiful and good, if salty. It is lack of irrigation, capital and agricultural knowledge which prevents Akaba and the Valley of Arabia from blossoming.

The nearest railway line is 45 miles away, along an atrocious road, large stretches of which are regularly washed away; the only telephone line is to Ma'an, and thence to Amman; but there is an airfield from which an Auster piloted by a Gunner officer flies north to compare notes with the Arab Legion.

This is the background of "O" Force. Some of the men are National Servicemen, some served in Palestine and some — the hard core — served through World War Two. The newcomers have quickly grown to respect the local Arabs. One company of Infantrymen has "adopted" a young Arab girl of four who lost her parents in Palestine.

These RAF communications aircraft were held in reserve for the United Nations—the nearest yet to an international air force.



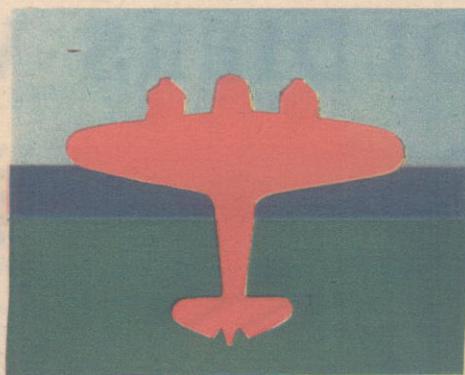
An Infantry section moves through the date-palm groves. You can train as well in Akaba as anywhere—until the heat comes.



"They wept like anything to see such quantities of sand; if this could all be put in bags, they said, it would be grand." (Lewis Carroll, revised). Below: Akaba's one and only hotel housed three United Nations observers when this picture was taken. The UN job left plenty of time for fishing.



Soldiers who looked after the RAF's line communications in wartime are doing a similar job today on the Berlin airlift



Today's Air Formation Signals flash. Its predecessor was a triangle bearing wings.

SOLDIERS WITH THE R.A.F.

FROM his wide-windowed tower, the Flying Controller looked out across Wunstorf airfield, at the close-packed planes and the lorries scurrying among them. Then he picked up a handset and spoke a few words.

Away to his left, the engines of a York roared up and the plane moved forward to the end of the runway, ready for its take-off; three more closed up behind it on the taxi-road. One after the other the Yorks got away into the air: soon they would be taking their places in the evenly-spaced stream

of aircraft passing along the corridor across the Russian Zone to Berlin.

This Berlin airlift is a big operation for the Royal Air Force, which has had some well-deserved praise for the job it is doing. The airmen would be the first to agree that a share of that praise is due to some soldiers who have had little limelight — the men of 11 Air Formation Signals Regiment.

It was they who provided wire from the Flying Controller's handset to the RAF's radio transmitters, so that the Controller could get his message to the pilots of the Yorks. It was they who linked the Controller to the other parts of the airfield. It was over their wires that arrangements had been made so that the Yorks should arrive at the entrance to the corridor three minutes after the last plane had gone up and three minutes before the next one was due to take off. It was over their wires that orders and weather reports were arriving constantly at Wunstorf.

Most soldiers will pass the sleeve flash with the red aeroplane silhouette on a background of Royal Signals colours without knowing what it stands for. But the men of Air Formation Signals are philosophic about this lack of recognition. They make the best of both worlds: the Army will reclaim them one day, and meanwhile the RAF are good hosts. In being neither one thing nor the other, Air Formation Signals claim kinship with the Royal Marines.

The RAF looks after its own radio services, but the Army has long looked after its line communications where there has been no General Post Office to do the job. On active service it would be wasteful to have the two Services laying lines across the same stretches of country, and they would probably get in each other's way. A couple of years before World War Two a Supplementary Reserve unit of Post Office men was formed; it was called Air Contingent Signals and was the first Army unit designed to work only for the RAF. Just before war broke out



One of Wunstorf's "yellow boxes". To these the airfield's mobile control units can plug in their telephones.

OVER

Continuing

SOLDIERS WITH THE R.A.F.



Above: Planes may come and planes may go. The soldiers on the telephone and telegraph wires help keep them going. Below: In the British Air Forces of Occupation headquarters, Sgmn. R. H. Thornton tests circuits on the teleprinter switchboard.



it was renamed No. 1 Air Formation Signals; it went over to France with the air element of the BEF in 1939.

Before the war was over, there were Air Formation Signals units on every British front. No fewer than six Air Formation Signals units, each with about 30 officers and 600 men, went into North-West Europe.

They were hectic days. Laying telephone and telegraph wires and installing telephone switchboards and teleprinter rooms are big jobs, but the RAF moved fast on the ground, to keep up with the Army, and often it happened that the order to move on would come before Air Formation Signals had their installations working as sweetly as they would have liked.

Sometimes there were holdups. This is an extract from a line-laying report to Second Tactical Air Force: "On Sunday 27 Aug 44 the work of 138 Section was delayed by snipers who fired at the Section spasmodically all day. At 1630 hrs on that day an armed party of the enemy (SS Regt) was sighted and the Section had to cease work to deal with them. In the subsequent action two of the enemy were killed and one taken prisoner. Three hours work was lost through this incident."

Sometimes Air Formation Signals units had to turn out everyone — drivers, batmen, cooks, clerks, and butchers — to dig up lines in a hurried hunt for faults. Sometimes they had to cut their own poles to carry overhead wires. Sometimes they had to keep up wearisome patrols, day and night, along dangerously situated lines.

Since the end of the war many of the units have been disbanded, and two regiments were amalgamated to form 11 Air Formation Signals Regiment in Rhine Army. There are other units in the Far East and Middle East.

In wartime there was one Air Formation Signals regiment to each major headquarters and each Group, and with the peace-time reduction, 11 Regiment was designed to cater for a peaceful British Air Force of Occupation. Then along came the Berlin airlift. Work increased three-fold: 11 Regiment has 12 detachments of a troop or more and five smaller detachments; eight are on airlift fields. The regiment is scattered from Austria to Schleswigland and Berlin; a few months ago there were detachments at Eindhoven and Marseilles, too. As it is, a squadron commander can get round the whole of his squadron only about once a month and the regimental commander can tour the regiment about once in three months.

Often the men are the only soldiers in the areas in which they live. They have RAF accommodation, messing and medical services; they are the only soldiers allowed to use the RAF's Malcolm Clubs.

Out at Bad Eilsen, a pleasant little spa where tired Ruhr businessmen used to take the cure with the help of good-looking secretaries, BAFO headquarters sprawls over several hotels, in the largest of which SOLDIER saw the telephone switchboard installed and maintained by Air Formation Signals and operated by WRAF. The board has between 400 and 500 extensions, with direct trunk lines

Girls of the WRAF and airmen work the trunk switchboard at BAFO headquarters, but Signalmen installed it and maintain it.





It looks like a cartoonist's nightmare, but from this temporary tower RASC officers control the unloading at Gatow.

to every airfield and important RAF installations and headquarters in Germany.

In a big room next to the switchboard, partly hidden by the complicated telephone apparatus, a lance-corporal and a signalman sit at a little switchboard of their own. They have less than three years' service between them, but they are Fault Control for BAFO's trunk lines: that is to say, if any fault develops on a trunk line, it is their job to take the line out of service, control the hunt for the fault and arrange for it to be repaired from the nearest exchange.

Just behind them sits another young soldier, working at a table on which lie coils, switches and pieces of wire. He is engaged on one of Air Formation Signals' side-lines, catering for the specialised telephonic needs of senior officers. Just now he has a ripe problem: one senior officer "subscriber" wants no more than one telephone on his desk, but he wants to be able to talk on a number of lines without his calls going through the switchboard (you can't carry security too far) as well as on those to which the switchboard can give him access; he also wants his staff officer to listen in to his conversations, but requires the staff officer's telephone to be muted so that he cannot interrupt the conversation, accidentally or otherwise; moreover he wants to be able to have a conversation with

the staff officer at other times, when the staff officer's telephone will not be muted. The answer? Air Formation Signals put on their thinking caps and produced a neat little box with several switches protruding, which will be unobtrusively fixed to the desk.

Also in BAFO headquarters are about 60 teleprinters, with their own exchange. A big battery of them is in the Meteorological office on which arrives information about the weather from the whole of Europe. Without a blink, Air Formation Signals mechanics see their teleprinters produce messages for people with such high-sounding appointments as Upper Air Officer.

Among the teleprinters are some that were made in America. They are good machines, but they are not very popular these days. None have been issued since the end of Lease-Lend and from the same time the supply of men trained to maintain them dried up and spares became hard to get.

Out at Wunstorf, SOLDIER saw one of 11 Regiment's detachments at work, and here the Army shares the fruits of its labours. Special lines have been laid between the stores, checking point and offices of the RASC men who are loading food and fuel for Berlin, while the Army's glider pilots, acting as co-pilots for some of the RAF aircraft, are among the occasional "customers".

FASO and SAFU

TWO sets of Army initials have achieved prominence in Berlin as a result of the airlift: FASO and SAFU.

FASO is an old set: it stands for Forward Airfield Supply Organisation, RASC, which was formed to work with airborne divisions and to supply armies from the air. SAFU is quite new: Special Air Freight Unit, RASC (Berlin), which is a child of the airlift and is formed of men of other Corps as well as the RASC. FASO, with SAFU under command, looks after the unloading of aircraft by Germans at Gatow.

They go into action when a plane pulls up at its dispersal point and the pilot switches off its engines. Then two or three trucks, according to the size of the plane, move out from a central pool and back up to the hatches of the machine, under the supervision of an NCO.

"We have to look after that ourselves," says Bombardier Jimmy Mitchell of SAFU. "When we started, there were too many cases of trucks backing up too fast and damaging the aircraft. Put a German at the wheel of a truck and there can be three results: dead fast, dead stop and very dead."

Unloading is efficient and fast — it has to be, to get all the aircraft on and off the crowded airfield to schedule. A unit known as RASO — Rear Airfield Supply Organisation, RASC — back at the loading fields helps in this by the way it packs the freight into the aircraft.

At Gatow, the FASO-SAFU set-up has never taken more than 14 minutes to get 20,000 lbs of coal out of a Skymaster, through one small hatch, and the record is nine minutes. Once the aircraft is unloaded, German women sweep out the last traces of its cargo and it is ready for the next job.

Besides unloading, the men have to be on the watch for pilferers — they know all the unlikely places on the human anatomy where you can hide tins of milk. Sometimes they have to load planes too, with Berlin's exports; these pay, in part, for the imports. And sometimes there is a cargo of children, going out to the Western Zone for their health — and the British soldier makes a wonderful mother.

From anywhere on Wunstorf airfield a visitor can begin to appreciate just how important good line communications are for this job. On the "hard standing", much of it laid down since the airlift started, planes are parked as thickly (though not as neatly) as for an air-school passing-out parade in a Hollywood film. Yorks and Hastings, Lancastrians and Skymasters, Tudors I and Tudors IV and the humble Dakota are wing-tip to wing-tip, while lorries load them.

The living quarters are as congested as the aircraft parks. In the messes, civilian pilots from small charter firms, in sports jackets and flying boots, rub shoulders with the RAF crews and glider pilots in their battle-dress, and with the theatrically-uniformed crews of the great civilian air lines. Everywhere there are two or three times as many people as the place was built to accommodate.

And all this mass of men and machines has to be sorted out, so that the planes can take off to schedule. All around the airfield, roughly-finished poles carry the telegraph and telephone cables. Most of them were originally put up in a hurry; a lot of alterations have had to be made in a hurry since. Air Formation Signals are not very proud of the appearance of some of their poles, but there just is no time to worry about appearances and tidiness: what matters

is that all the lines work properly.

One of the most interesting Air Formation Signals installations is an underground cable which runs completely round the runway, linking up a yellow distribution box at each corner with all the telephones on the airfield. The reason is that the runway controller's office and the ground-control approach system are mobile and change their sites according to the wind, and at whichever corner of the field they need to operate their telephones can be connected up at the nearest yellow box.

Recently a duct under the runway, through which passed an underground cable, gave way and the cable was damaged. A temporary cable was laid over the ground, but a permanent one had to be put under the runway again. The job had to be done in the daylight hours of one winter's day, because, understandably, the runway controller would allow no trenches anywhere near the runway in the hours of darkness.

The job was done, but it was a reversal of the usual procedure for Air Formation Signals. Most of their maintenance work has to be done at night, when there is less flying than during the day. But day or night, it makes little difference to men who are doing a job which has the urgency and bustle of a war-time operation.

RICHARD ELEY



Last October SOLDIER told how four British soldiers became temporary GI's in the American Zone of Germany. Here is the exchange idea in reverse:

Four Americans 'Join' the British Army

A sky-blue, post-war Buick, its paint weather-worn, ran luxuriously into the Iserlohn Barracks that house the headquarters of the 5th Infantry Brigade and the 1st Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers.

Its bright colour and sleek lines contrasted with the olive-drab angularity of the 15-cwt trucks parked in the barracks, and with the strictly utilitarian trailer, packed with camp-kit, that hung on its tail.

The Buick pulled up and out climbed a captain, a sergeant and two corporals of the United States Army. They had come to visit the Royal Fusiliers for three weeks, one of the parties now being exchanged between the British and American armies in Germany.

They would take part in the Royal Fusiliers' training, see their administration machine at work. They would also live with them, on British rations, and join in their fun off-duty. But mostly

to bring my camp-kit. Well, we couldn't get camp-kit for all four of us in the car, with the bodies, so I got the mechanics to fix a

from Missouri and was a gunner's mate in the American Navy for four years, before he transferred to the Army.

towing-bar for a trailer.

"Then we got here, expecting to go under canvas, and I was shown into the officers' mess and the NCO's into the sergeants' mess — they were a little awed by it. So here we are, living indoors in comfort, and with no dress clothes or anything."

Captain Johnson, who says he has no real home town because he belongs to an Army family, graduated from West Point on D-Day and got to Europe in time to see some action.

SOLDIER found him looking at a Bren gun.

"We've got a gun like that," he said. "It's the Browning Automatic Rifle and it puts me in a spot. My father won the BAR trophy for the Army and he thinks I ought to be as good a shot as he is."

Sergeant James R. Cook, a reconnaissance sergeant, comes

it was the working hours that interested them.

The exchange scheme is designed to get British and American officers and NCO's to know each other's ways and equipment, to broaden their military outlook and stimulate their thirst for knowledge.

The party in the Buick came from 16 Infantry Regiment, stationed at Nuremberg, and was partly representative of its three rifle battalions, heavy tank company and heavy mortar company. Other parties would complete the representation.

Captain Charles S. Johnson junior, who owned the Buick, commands the regiment's heavy tank company.

"We were on winter manoeuvres when I got my orders to come here," he said to SOLDIER at Iserlohn. "I was told

"We've got a gun like that," he said. "It's the Browning Automatic Rifle and it puts me in a spot. My father won the BAR trophy for the Army and he thinks I ought to be as good a shot as he is."

Sergeant James R. Cook, a reconnaissance sergeant, comes

Army

matches, guard-mounting and an RSM's parade, complete with full band. Out on the ranges, they fired the complete range of Infantry platoon weapons. They

saw cookhouses and workshops and rode British motor-cycles.

What did they think of it all? Corporal Sapunar summed up:

"There's very little difference in the work. The only thing is, we seem to work longer than you. Our reveille is earlier, we don't break off for NAAFI, and we knock off a bit later. That's all."

Postscript: According to the American Zone magazine "Now" three American soldiers who trained with the Gordon Highlanders "complained that they had had nothing to drink but tea for the past two weeks. The tea wasn't bad, but there was too much of it, and no coffee." The exchange, says "Now," incited some good-natured cracks about kilts, the "language barrier" and "those damned informal, girl-crazy Yanks."



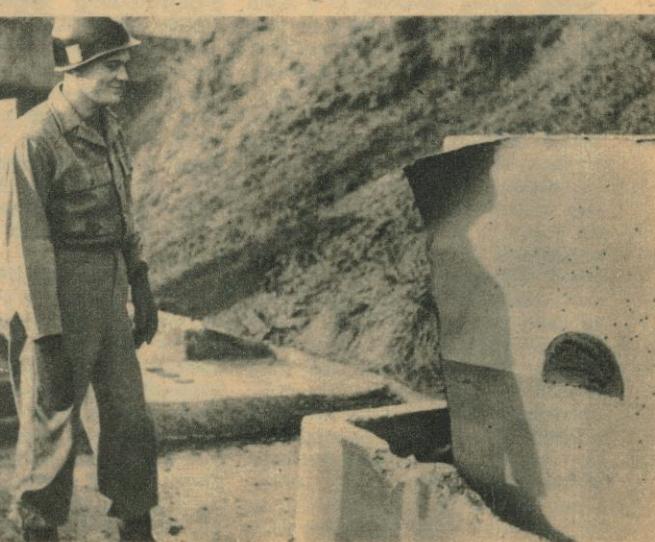
Watched by a Royal Fusiliers' instructor, Corporal Metcalf loads a PIAT for Sergeant Cook. All four Americans fired all the British platoon weapons.



Corporal Paul Sapunar, from California, hears all about the PIAT bomb.



Above: Sgt. James R. Cook, from Missouri, got to know the Bren by firing it. Below: So did Corporal Donald Metcalf, from Akron, Ohio. This was the result.



Gl im Schottenrock. Bei einem Austausch amerikanischer und englischer Soldaten zwischen dem 26. Infanterie-Regiment in Bamberg und den Gordon Highlanders wurde dem US-Sergeanten Johann Peter ein echter Schottenrock angepasst — allerdings nur für drei Wochen.

AS OTHERS SAW IT

A German magazine printed the picture on left. Translated caption reads: "Gl in Scots kilt—During an exchange of American and British soldiers... the American Sergeant John Peter tries on a real Scots kilt — for three weeks only."

This picture is from an article entitled "Occupation Lend-Lease" in "Now," the magazine published in the American Zone of Germany.



SOUP CAN on his PIAT (horizontal mortar) is the projectile, a Gordon Highlander explains to his GI guest



A band plays for drowsy sunbathers and energetic swimmers alike.

INNISFREE ON SUEZ

The nearest approach to the lake isle of Innisfree for troops in the Suez Canal area is a green-clothed lotus isle in Lake Timseh

APRIL, and the weather is getting warm in the Suez Canal area. Soon the greenest spot available to troops in Egypt, the Timseh leave and holiday camp, will be at its best.

It is on the Isle du Chevalier, on Lake Timseh. The island belongs to the Suez Canal Company, which has lent it since 1941 for the use of men and women of the three Services stationed in Egypt.

The island is a mass of green vegetation, restful to the eye after the parched acres of places like Fayid and Fanara. Its tents are pitched under trees, which keep them cool and pleasant in the hot summer days, and there are soft, refreshing lawns.

On the sandy beaches, lapped by the salt

waters of the lake, are changing rooms and diving boards; anchored farther out are pontoons. After the bathe, a band plays lullabies for drowsy sunbathers. And there are fresh-water showers, to get the salt off.

The camp has everything else you would expect a modern leave-camp to have — motor-boat trips, cinema, bars, tennis, badminton, darts and housey-housey. Just outside the camp gates are golf and riding. There are welfare buses to take holiday-makers to the attractions of Ismailia (only a mile away) and the garrison town of Moascar.

The cost? About sixpence a day for privates, a shilling for WO's and sergeants and 1s 6d for officers.



Above: A little peace and quiet? Then try to hook the fish you couldn't catch swimming. Right: Liver want jerking up? Then take a ride along the banks of the Sweetwater Canal.



In the former Italian colony of Eritrea two British Infantry battalions are keeping the peace until the Big Powers decide the country's fate



Drums of the 2nd Battalion
The King's Own in Asmara.

DRUMS ON THE RED SEA

A little of the British Army can go a long way. In Eritrea, it has to: one battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment and one battalion of the King's Own Royal Regiment are the main bodies of the army of occupation in a country of more than 800,000 people and 45,000 square miles.

They may be the last. Eritrea has been occupied by the British Army since 1941, but in the next month or two the United Nations are scheduled to decide its future.

There are plenty of people to give them advice. Some Eritreans want union with Abyssinia; others want an independent Moslem state; others union with the Sudan; others United Nations trusteeship. And the Italians, who began colonisation of Eritrea

in 1869, want their colony back.

Eritrea is important. The Italians looked on it as a jumping off place for the interior of Africa, and used it as such for the invasion of Abyssinia. Its good seaport at Massawa and the military roads Mussolini built give its occupiers a hold on the Red Sea. And if a major war should come to the Middle East, it would be a valuable fortress behind the Arabian peninsula and a base for air operations.

Most of the occupation troops

Hero to little black boys, as to little white boys: the drum-major of The King's Own.



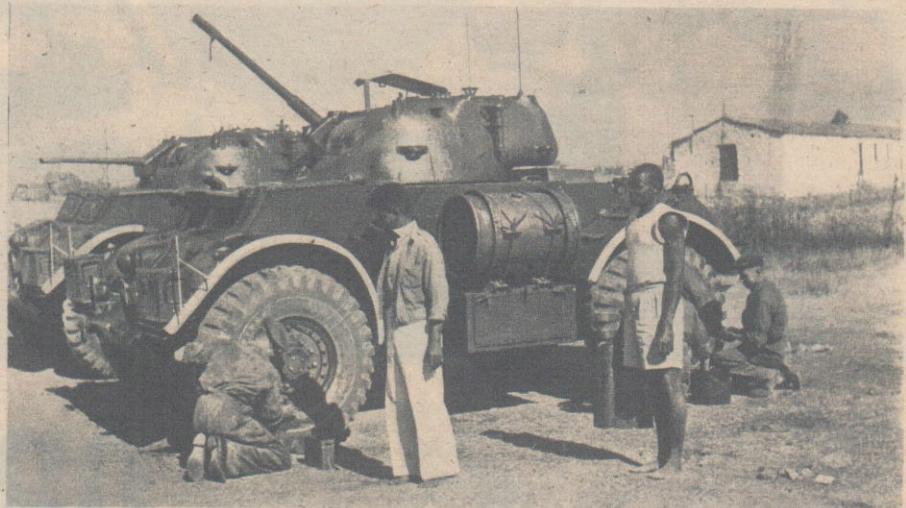
OVER



Above: After eight years of occupation, Eritreans have got to know the ways of the British Army. They relieve troops of fatigues.

Right: Fine warriors themselves, Soudanese fetch and carry when British soldiers do maintenance on armoured cars.

Below: Occupation or not, training goes on. The intricacies of the hand-grenade are the same in Asmara as in Aldershot.



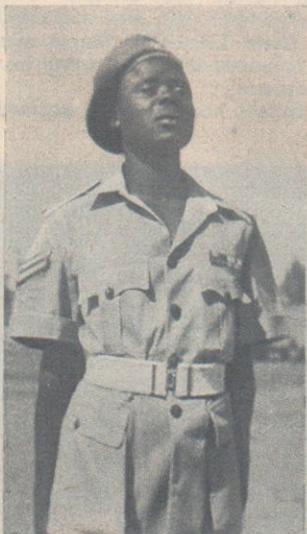
DRUMS ON THE RED SEA (Continued)

are at Asmara, cool and comfortable, 7000 feet above sea level, where the Italians built a modern colonial town with chromium taps and water-closets, most of which they never connected to any water supply. Others are at Barentu, in the sub-desert country of the Western Plains, and at Keren, scene of the last Italian stand in 1941.

They watch a lot of political demonstrations, but they have little trouble. A British-trained and British-equipped native police force, which is unpopular with the Italian colonists, helps to keep order. So does the fact that British administration has given Eritrea better industries and more prosperity than she has had before.



Above: CO of the 2nd Battalion The King's Own, Lieut-Col. H. L. S. Hillyard, on his rounds. His battalion headquarters are in a former hospital in an Asmara suburb. Right: Down in the Western Plains, Barentu is a Moslem centre, and a mosque overlooks the parking-place.



— AND DRUMS IN RHODESIA —

Left: Many men of the Rhodesian African Rifles, like Corporal Adam, MM, saw war service in Burma.

Below: The band of the Rhodesian African Rifles parades at the regimental depot at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. The African soldiers are trained by British instructors of the Southern Rhodesian Staff Corps (see British bandmaster, left).



COLONEL TEDDER

VISITS HIS REGIMENT



BACK in 1915 Marshal of the RAF Lord Tedder wore Army khaki with the badge and buttons of the Dorsetshire Regiment. For a few hours recently he went back into khaki again — this time with the rank of colonel in the Royal Artillery.

The occasion was his first visit to his new unit — 490 (Mixed) Heavy AA Regiment RA (TA) at Finchley, London — of which he was made honorary colonel last August.

Although the RAF has supplied colonels of regiments of the Regular Army (Lord Trenchard of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin of the 8th King's Irish Hussars) he is the first airman to be an honorary colonel (only Territorials have honorary colonels).

The unit claims close ties with the RAF, for in the early days of the war (as 90 HAA Regiment) it guarded the following aerodromes: Biggin Hill, Hornchurch, Rochford, Hawkinge, North Weald, Wattisham and Littlehampton. Later it went to North-West Europe.

Lord Tedder came to hear of 90 HAA Regiment when he was with SHAEF. Shortly after the war ended the present Commanding Officer, Lieut-Colonel R. Greville Steele, visited his brother who was diplomatic adviser to General Eisenhower and was stationed with SHAEF headquarters at Rheims. There Lieut-Col. Steele met Lord Tedder and the acquaintance was renewed last year when he asked the Marshal to become honorary colonel.

When Lord Tedder arrived to inspect his regiment, accompanied



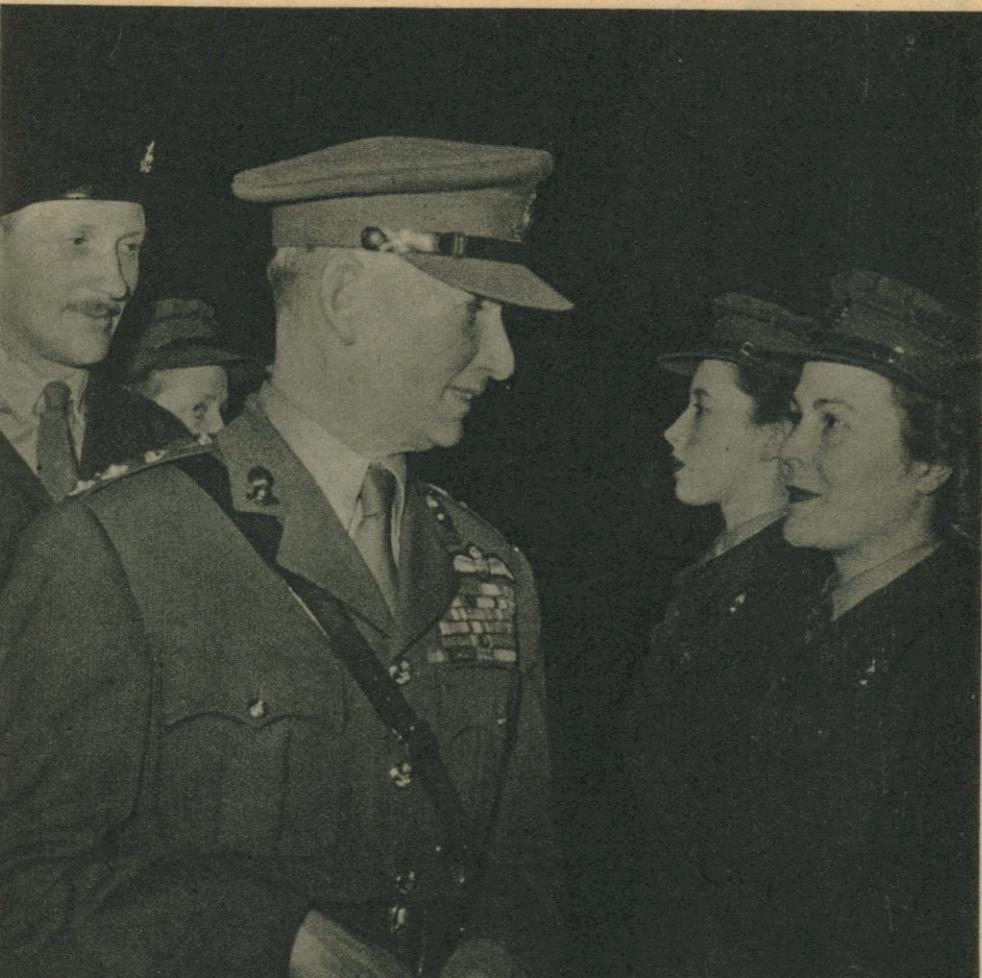
In airman's uniform: Marshal of the RAF Lord Tedder.

Floodlights for the Colonel: the chilly job of illuminating the drill hall and the barrage balloon floating over it fell to these searchlight men.

Trumpets for the Colonel: two men of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery were there to play a fanfare.



"You look as though you enjoy being in the WRAC." Behind Lord Tedder (wearing Army uniform again after more than 30 years) is the Commanding Officer, Lieut-Colonel R. Greville Steele, RA.



by Lady Tedder, he was welcomed by a guard of honour, a fanfare by two Royal Horse Artillery trumpeters from the King's Troop, a floodlit drill hall and a barrage balloon suspended 200 feet up and picked out by searchlights.

Inside the drill hall he inspected the unit, found a brother and sister serving together (BSM, Dennis Henley, and Sjt. Dorothy Henley), chatted to the girls on the predictors, watched drill on a 3.7 gun and drank beer in the canteen.

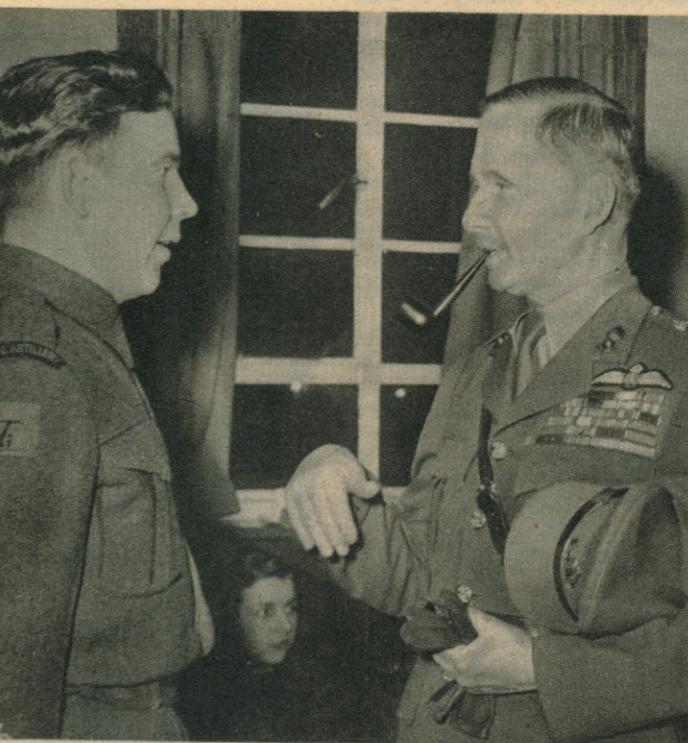
Lord Tedder met the one man who has been with the regiment since it was formed in April 1939. He is Major W. J. Moon, who is Quartermaster and has completed 31 years in the RA. At Hawkinge he was buried in his headquarters by a German cross-Channel shell which almost severed his left leg. He was in hospital for a year.

Looking slightly self conscious in his unfamiliar uniform Lord Tedder remarked: "Thirty years ago I wore a pip and crown. I have only added one pip since then." But he has added six rows of ribbons.

In the officers' mess upstairs he told visitors: "The three Services must work together on defence, which is an inter-Services problem. Not long ago there were people in all three Services who thought of defence in terms of their own particular service. The three Services should be interdependent and not independent of one another."

He gave a warning: "We have one great weakness. It is to think that internationally the world is better than it is. We do not face up to the facts until it is too late in the day."

Visitors included Major-General C. W. E. Heath who commands 1 AA Group, Major-General R. C. Reynolds, Brigadier S. N. Shoo-smith, AA Command's chief of staff, Brigadier Sir George Harvie-Watt, MP, wartime Parliamentary private secretary to Mr. Churchill and commander of 63 AA Brigade (Who's Who gives his recreation as the Territorial Army), Brigadier A. G. V. Paley, Brigadier H. A. D. Murray and the Mayors of Hornsey and Finchley.



"So you were in Malta during the siege? I dropped in there too," said Lord Tedder to BSM. J. Grimes.

In the regiment's guard of honour was Gunner Albert Morley (left) who won his Military Medal on the Somme. In World War One Lord Tedder served in the Dorsets, then was seconded to the Royal Flying Corps.



Sand in their shoes: Lord Tedder and L/Bdr. S. G. Duckworth both knew the same stretches of North African desert.



AN OLD SOLDIER MAY HAVE A NEW

BACK in World War One an 18-year-old soldier named Evans was charged with failing to maintain someone else's family. It was, of course, a case of mistaken identity, for both men had the same Christian name and surname, served in the same battalion and had the same regimental number.

This duplication of numbers often happened, for not only did corps have identical blocks of figures, but so did different battalions in the same regiment.

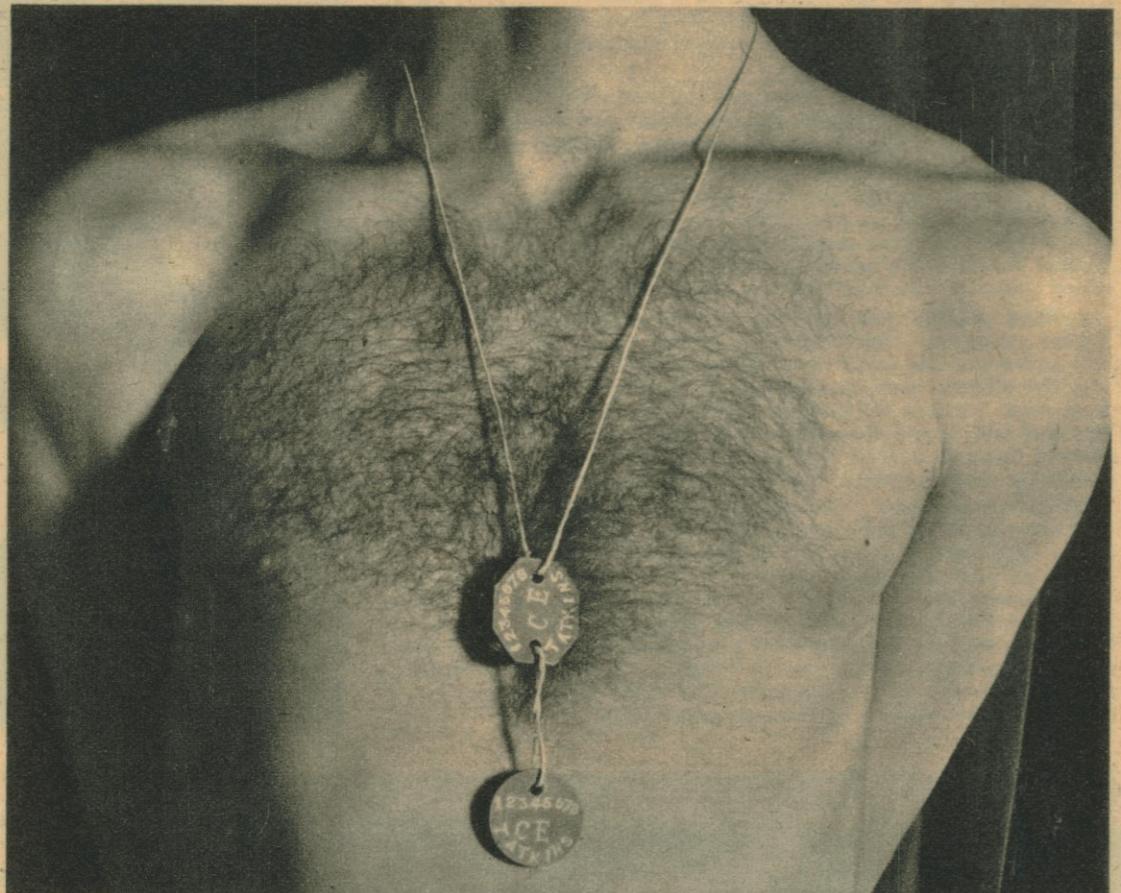
When men were transferred from one battalion to another, there was duplication until the Record Office had given them fresh numbers. When men were transferred half a dozen times (as sometimes happened) Record Offices were thrown into confusion.

After the war a new scheme was planned whereby (to help identification) a man's corps or regiment could be recognised from his number. That wasn't such a good idea, if only from the point of view of security. Today the Army has yet another system of numbering.

Considering the age of the British Army, it is surprising that units only started numbering their men 120 years ago. Before that they had to make their own arrangements to prevent the Smiths and Browns being confused. (In World War Two a battalion of the Welch Regiment, finding it had 30 Joneses on its strength, formed a Jones platoon. It nearly drove the platoon sergeant mad, and so was disbanded.)

The first regiment to number its men was the 56th Foot (later the 2nd Essex Regiment). A court held to examine the regimental books highly praised the zeal and industry of the CO, a Colonel Barclay, for devising the idea of giving each man a number "to be marked on his attestation and placed against his name in the description and other record books."

Shortly afterwards the Commander-in-Chief's office in the Horse Guards directed all regiments to do the same, starting with the oldest soldier, who was to be number one. Each man had to tell all his friends to quote his number when enquiring after him.



For example: "Thomas Atkins, 5th Foot, No. 55."

Gradually the system resulted in one block of numbers for the two regular battalions in each regiment, a second set (identical) for the militia battalion and a third and fourth set (also identical) for the two volunteer battalions.

When World War One started the War Office grew a little concerned whether the scheme would work in an enormously expanded Army. By this time the volunteers had become Territorials and the militia were standing by to reinforce the regular battalions (which meant drafting in reserves with identical personal numbers to those held by the regulars).

The system failed, and during the following four years the

whole Territorial Army was renumbered. The main cause of the failure was the heavy flow of casualties, which meant posting so many troops from one arm or regiment to another. In addition the formation of new battalions — including "Pals", "Bantams" and "Footballers" — and new corps — machine gun, tank and labour — meant building up large pools of reinforcements which collected men of all arms and distributed them, regardless of their cap badges, to those units in need. County TA units reinforced their county regiments and some Scottish battalions had as many as three soldiers with the same name and number. As fast as they could Record Offices

joined regular battalions, were wounded, were sent to another regiment from hospital, were wounded again and found themselves in a different arm — and collected perhaps half a dozen new numbers.

Many men entering hospital would give the number of a unit they liked in the hope of being posted back to it.

To the taxpayer the loss was considerable. Paymasters were often helpless when the acquaintance rolls arrived because they did not know the men's latest numbers. In an attempt to ease the chaos Record Officers issued new blocks of numbers to base echelons, who in turn handed them to base reinforcement pools for distribution. Men detailed at a moment's notice for a front line regiment would be given their new numbers as they moved off, with no chance to change their identity discs. Those who were killed were thereupon "identified" by their identity disc numbers which conveyed nothing at all to the Record Officer of the regiment to which they belonged when they died. This led to long delays in informing next-of-kin.

It was not unknown for new

When Sergeant-Major George James Redman, RASC became No. 1 of the British Army, back in 1920, it seemed that the great numbers muddle was over at last. But the system has had to be overhauled once more



"Beggin' your pardon, sir, I AM wearing them."

NUMBER

units to be given identical blocks of numbers. In 1916 batches of men in the Labour Corps were sent to France without any numbers. No wonder that when the American Expeditionary Force arrived in Europe in 1917, without any system of numbering their men, a British Record Officer told the advance party: "For heaven's sake give each man a number which will last him throughout his career, no matter how many times he is transferred."

After the war the officer in charge of the Labour Corps Record Office at Nottingham wrote to the War Office suggesting one record office for the Army and one system of numbering. The first idea was turned down but the second was adopted after long discussions.

The French soldier, someone discovered, had two numbers — one given him when he was recruited, the second a regimental number which changed whenever he was posted. This was felt to be too cumbersome. The German scheme, similar in idea, was no better.

Apart from the RASC and RAMC Record Offices, whose representatives felt that in wartime any system was liable to upset and that the old system should not be altered, the Army approved the idea of Army numbers in place of regimental numbers, and decided that a large block, sufficient to last for many years, should be issued to each corps.

Suggestions included prefixes, such as A for the RA. Someone else wanted the last two figures of the year to be used to denote a man's seniority — e.g. 19/123456 for a man who began his service in 1919. One paymaster wanted the man's regiment denoted by using that regiment's seniority as a prefix — a man in the Devonshire Regiment would have the number 11/123456 (the Devon's being 11th Foot). If transferred to the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry his number would be 43/123456.

Some other idea was wanted a decimal point system used, with the point in a different position for different arms. Still another idea was for the Territorials to have

In 1942 began the enlistment



identical numbers to the Army but with the prefix "T".

On 9 August 1920 the new Army numbering system started on the simplest plan possible — no prefixes, no decimal points, just plain blocks of numbers. The first block, Nos 1 to 294,000 went to the RASC; Nos 294,001 to 304,000 went to the Household Cavalry.

From that day onwards it became possible to identify the regiment or corps from a man's number, and the list is still published in King's Regulations. The soldier who secured the coveted No. 1 was Sergeant-Major George James Redman, RASC; when he died in 1935 the number died with him. Number 1,000,000 went to Gunner James Renton.

Under the new scheme a man could be transferred a dozen times, but he would still keep his original number, and once issued to a regiment, a block of numbers would never be used by any other. That is why some blocks of numbers will never be used. They belong to regiments like the Corps of Military Accountants (7,733,001 to 7,757,000) now disbanded.

The RASC, RAOC and Pay Corps outran their blocks and recently were issued with new ones. In 1929 the Jersey and Guernsey militia numbers were withdrawn, although those units continued. The years immediately before World War Two saw the birth of the ATS who were given W/1 to W/500,000 and the VAD who got W/500,001 to W/1,000,000. The only other body allowed a prefix were the RASC ("T" for transport, "S" for supply, "M" for mechanical transport and "R" for remounts.)

Some other idea was wanted a decimal point system used, with the point in a different position for different arms. Still another idea was for the Territorials to have



"Always the same—he'll do anything to be first in the NAAFI queue."

of men straight into the new General Service Corps, which was given the block 14,200,001 to 15,000,000 and more recently 19,000,001 to 19,200,000. Certain foreigners serving in the Army who were afraid of reprisals against their families were allowed to change their name and British Army number during their service. Colonial troops enlisted locally for British units had special prefixes. For example, a Mauritian soldier was given the letters MAUR before his number and a man from Malta MTA.

A notable disadvantage of the 1920 scheme was its lack of security. A POW was not supposed to give the name of his regiment but with a copy of King's Regulations in his hand an enemy intelligence officer could tell a man's regiment from his number.

In August 1947, therefore, the latest scheme was introduced. The Record Office at York now keeps the master Army index and issues blocks of numbers, in

no pre-determined order, to the 21 other record offices, to be used up as enlistments come in.

National Servicemen also get their numbers in similar blocks from one central office. Two men with successive numbers may go to two different units. If captured, their numbers would convey nothing to the enemy.

Today if a man returns to the Army the day after his release he gets a new number. A man joining the Territorials also gets a fresh one. This finally disposes of the idea that a man keeps his original number no matter how many times he rejoins the Army.

With so many men rejoining the Army and getting a new number, it is not as easy to tell a man's service as it was in the past. It is no good the old soldier looking at a comrade's number and saying, "You haven't got much service in." The chap with the new number may be a very old-timer.

PETER LAWRENCE



HOW OFFICERS GET THEIR NUMBERS

OFFICERS did not have personal numbers until after World War One. Even then these were not introduced without some opposition, for it was argued that numbers would lower the dignity of commissioned rank.

Then, as now, officers' documents were kept in special folders in the War Office and it was decided to adopt the numbers on the outside of each one as its owner's personal number. As similar files are used for established civil servants, some of the numbers in a new block may go to newly established civil servants and the rest to newly commissioned officers.

These files must not be seen by their owners, and a notice to this effect is printed in large red lettering on each file. A careful watch is kept to see that officers working in the War Office do not see their own files. Once during the war a woman temporary civil servant sent for an officer's file. She never received it. The officer was her husband.

"And if anyone else has a name like Trumpington-Featherstonehaugh he can come and punch it out himself."

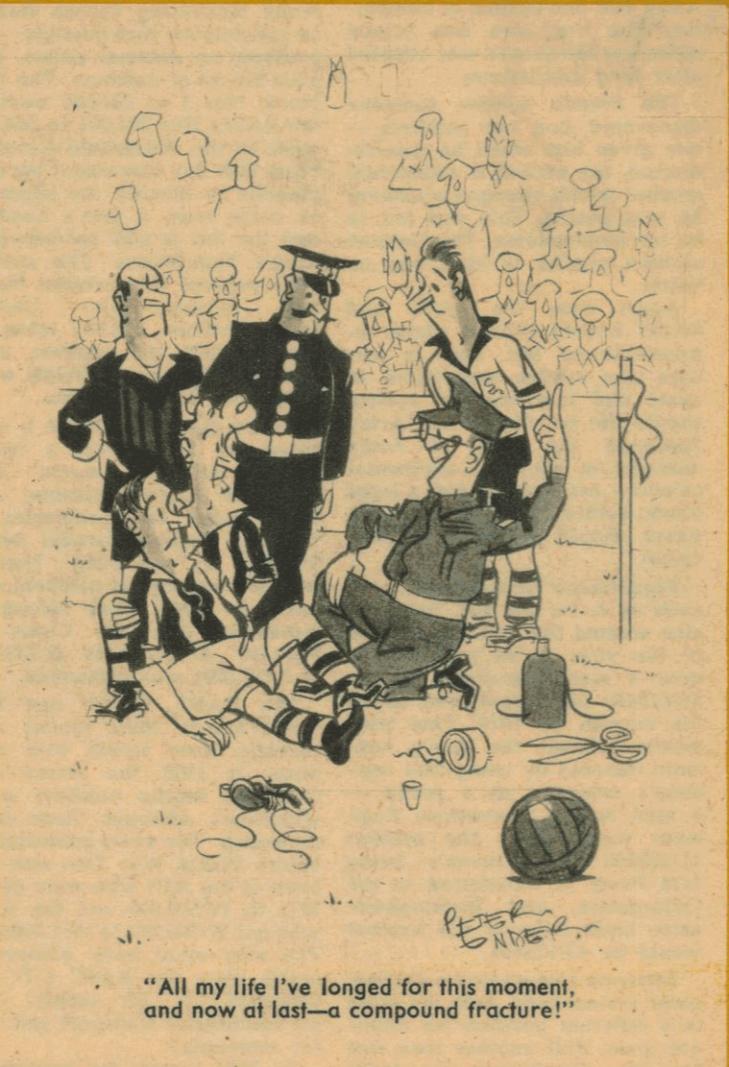


"Bed Six. Excused lying to attention for Matron—but don't forget that smart head and eyes right!"

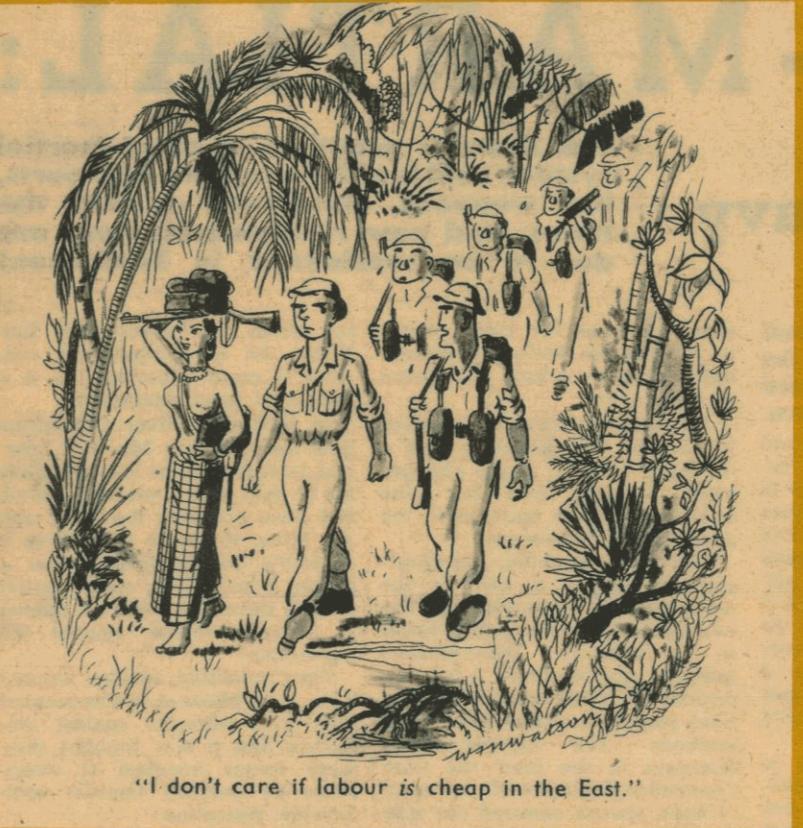


"Will the Three Frascati Brothers remember they are not in the circus now?"

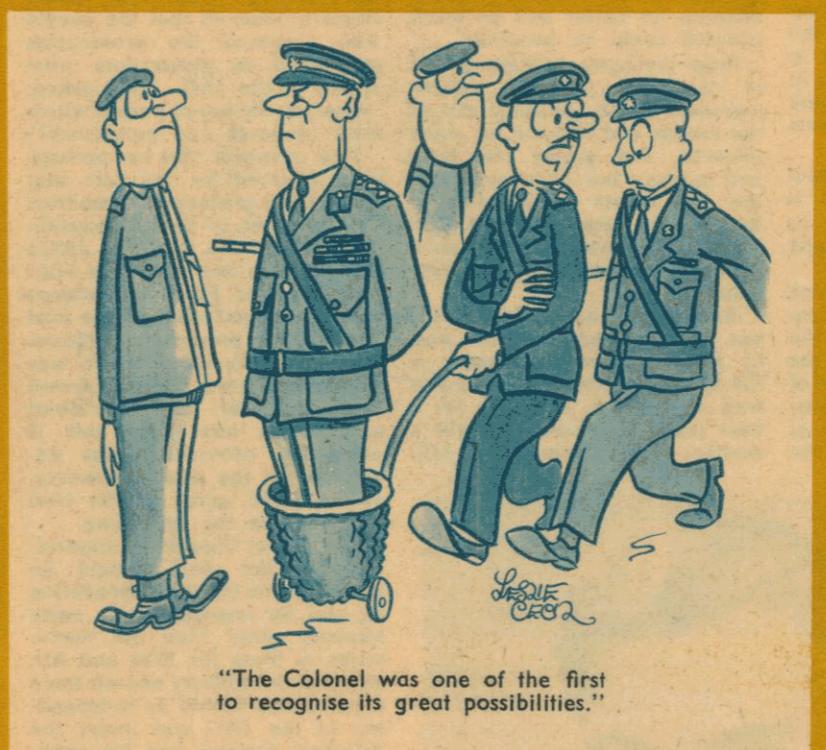
SOLDIER HUMOUR



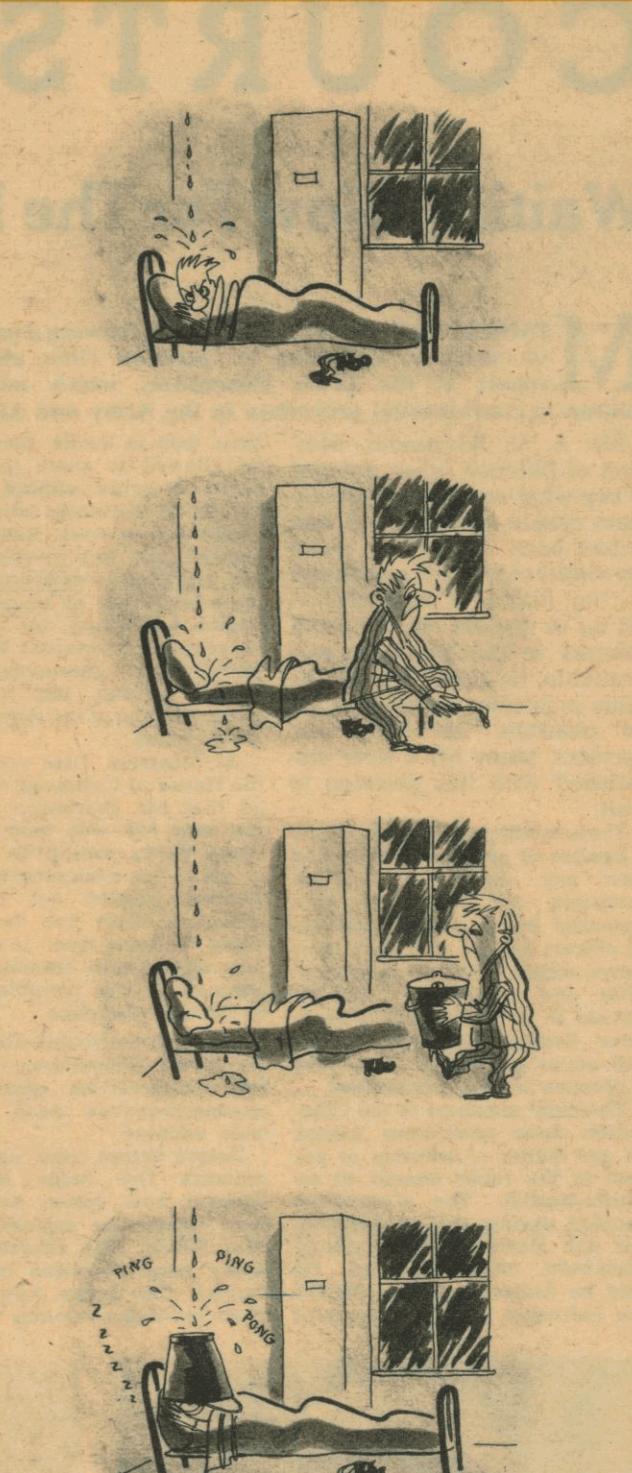
"All my life I've longed for this moment, and now at last—a compound fracture!"



"I don't care if labour is cheap in the East."



"The Colonel was one of the first to recognise its great possibilities."



"Whenever I

get the chance

I always change

into civvies.

After all,

in uniform

one tends

always to look

a little too

Conspicuous."

COURTS-MARTIAL:

Waiting Now For The Navy

MEMBERS of Parliament have been showing a good deal of curiosity, especially at Question Time, about the report of the Lewis Committee, which advocated reforms in court-martial procedure in the Army and Air Force.

Mr. A. V. Alexander, Minister of Defence, when pressed to say what action the Government would take, replied that it had been decided to await the report of another committee — the Pilcher Committee — set up to discuss court-martial reforms in the Navy. It was desirable, he said, to have the same principles applied, as far as possible, in the three Services. Many MP's were satisfied with this decision to wait.

The Lewis Report is one in which a number of serving soldiers had their say. Beside a host of barristers and solicitors who appeared before the Committee, 46 officers and 17 men gave their views, either orally or in writing. With one exception — that of Private R. G. Webb, Royal Berkshire Regiment — their names will never be known. That was a promise by the Committee.

The eight members of the Committee were unanimous except on one matter — whether or not men in the ranks should sit on courts-martial. The Committee decided against this proposition, but one member, Mr. Raymond Blackburn, MP, disagreed. He said he believed that as NCO's are entrusted with the lives of

their men in battle, they should be allowed to serve in the capacity of jurors (without power to decide on sentence) when Other Ranks are on trial. Only NCO's should have this privilege, says Mr. Blackburn; "most private soldiers are today so young that it would be wrong for them to serve on courts-martial. Moreover there is no guarantee that a private soldier has a proper understanding of the requirements of discipline."

At Question Time recently in the House of Commons it appeared that Mr. Blackburn was not the only MP who believed that Other Ranks should be allowed to serve on courts-martial. One member pointed out that the American Army had decided to allow "enlisted men" to serve in this way. Other members were alarmed at the possible effects on Service discipline.

The most noticeable thing about the Lewis Committee report is that unobtrusively many of its recommendations have already been adopted.

Delays before trials have been reduced. The Judge Advocate General now comes under the Lord Chancellor instead of the War Office. The Directorate of Army Legal Services has been started. The Judge Advocate at trials no longer remains with the

members when the court retires to consider its findings. Findings and sentence are now announced in open court.

All these changes were asked for by the Committee — and a lot more besides. Some changes have already been put into operation; others must await the approval of Parliament.

Generally speaking, the court-martial system is one of the Army's proudest possessions. The average soldier has a firm belief in its integrity. Distinguished lawyers, whose nature it is to be critical of "rival" judicial set-ups, have seen fit to praise the Army's methods. The highest legal luminary in the land, the Lord Chancellor (Lord Jowitt) has said: "I have always admired the way in which courts-martial are conducted. I believe that for Service offences no better and no fairer tribunal could be secured."

From the harsh articles of war of the 17th century, which awarded death, burning out of the tongue and flogging for many offences, has grown the more just military law of today. From the old courts of chivalry at which the judge was the Earl Marshal has emerged the court-marshal, or martial, as we now know it.

And from the days of Charles II has been handed down the post of Judge Advocate General — the man who once prosecuted as well as advised, and who for a time (until 60 years ago) was a member of the Government, fall-

ing when the Government fell. Today he is non-political and, what is more important, he is a person of legal attainments.

In 1938 the Oliver Committee (one member was Mr. J. J. Lawson, later to become War Minister) sat to deal with a problem which had been worrying the Army and Air Force for some time: Was it desirable or practicable that a person convicted by court-martial should have the right of appeal to a civil tribunal against his conviction?

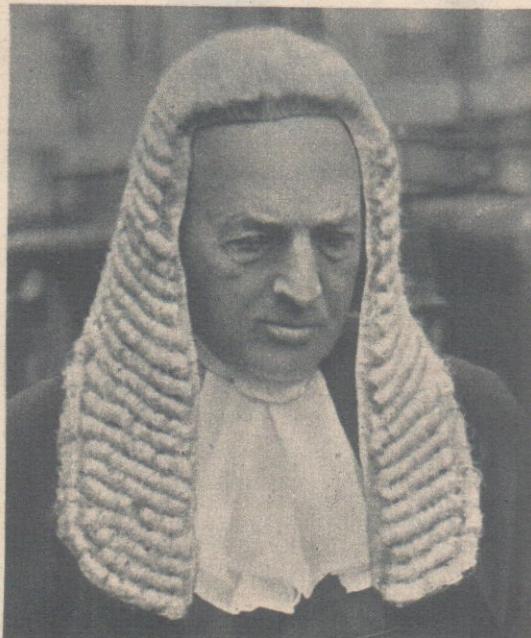
The Committee decided against this: most offences, it was pointed out, were offences against discipline and it was thought they were better handled at every stage by persons familiar with Service discipline.

But what the Oliver Committee did discover was that many soldiers believed that the people who prepared the prosecution and acted as prosecutors were agents of the JAG. They asked: "What is the use of a court which itself prepares and prosecutes?"

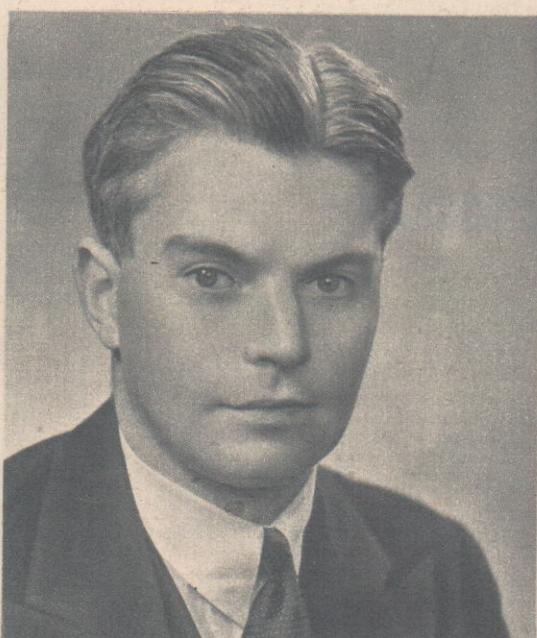
This incorrect idea had perhaps been fostered by the fact that officers who prosecuted came from a department of the JAG's establishment. At the time the JAG's office was in two parts: the Military and Air Force department which prepared cases before trial and supplied prosecuting officers, and the JAG's office which was staffed with civil servants drawn from the Bar who reviewed proceedings after trial and, if necessary, provided judge advocates at the trial. However, no one who acted at the trial took part in the reviewing.

The Oliver Committee suggested that the JAG should be appointed on the recommendation of, and be responsible to, some Minister other than the Secretaries of State for War and Air, and that the military and air force departments should be independent of the JAG and under the Adjutant General and his opposite number at the Air Ministry. The outbreak of war prevented this being carried out.

The Lewis Committee endorsed these proposals, adding that the JAG should be responsible to the Lord Chancellor, and suggesting the formation of the Army Legal Services and its RAF counterpart (which has been done). Further it recommends that while the JAG continues to advise the Secretaries of State for War and Air, he should be responsible only for supplying judge advocates, reviewing court-martial proceedings and tendering advice on legal questions, and that it would be a good idea if his title was changed to that of "Chief Judge Martial." The old title, it



Mr. Justice Lewis presided over the latest Committee to consider court-martial reforms. He heard evidence from a number of soldiers whose names are not disclosed.



Mr. Raymond Blackburn, MP, a member of the Lewis Committee, thought NCO's should sit on a jury when men in the ranks were being tried by court-martial.

is felt, is misleading as tending to suggest that the holder is both advocate and judge.

It is on the subject of the appeal that the Lewis Committee differs from the Oliver Committee. And the reason? The Oliver Committee (says the Lewis) was dealing with a different type of Army — not an Army of National Servicemen. Today, it considers, "citizens should be no worse off when they are in the Forces than in civil life, unless considerations of discipline make such a disadvantage inevitable."

At present, continues the Lewis Committee, the soldier knows his case is studied for legal flaws by someone in London (probably he thinks it is a War Office official — but here he is wrong). He also knows that a petition may be presented but he has no idea of the reasons why it fails, should it fail.

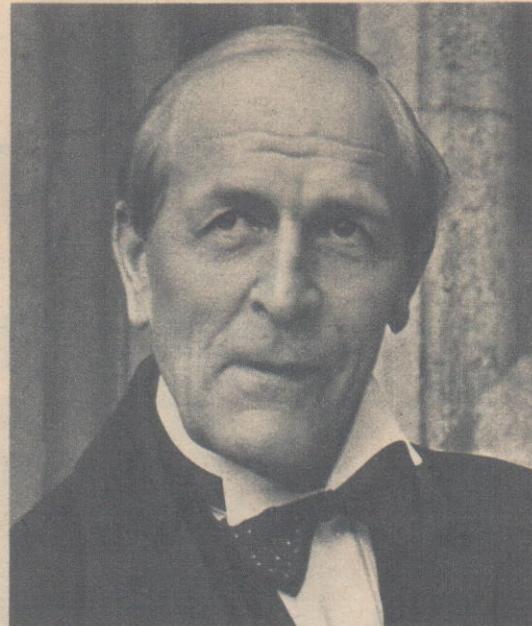
Also, the person drawing up the petition (according to one witness) may be at a disadvantage by not being present when it is considered: "I can put down my various reasons of law on paper, but when reading them the JAG may form in his own mind some ground for thinking that they are not well founded. If I knew what that ground was, I might be able to show him by argument that his view was wrong."

The recommendation is that the Court-Martial Appeal Court, consisting of the Chief Judge Martial, the Vice-Judge Martial and the Judges Martial of his department, should have the powers to quash a conviction in any case where a serious error of law has occurred, but should have power to affirm conviction even if there has been an error of law, provided the court is satisfied that no miscarriage of justice has taken place. It should also have powers in special cases to allow fresh evidence.

To enable this to be done it is suggested that courts-martial be empowered to grant a certificate of leave to appeal. Alternatively an accused soldier should be permitted to apply within 14 days of his conviction, his application being in writing and signed by himself or his legal representative and giving the grounds for his appeal. To stop frivolous appeals the Chief Judge Martial (or his representative at Command level) would go through it and consider whether the grounds were strong enough. His decision would then be given to the accused in writing, with the reasons if adverse.

If adverse, the accused could then apply to the Courts-Martial Appeal Court for leave to appeal, stating whether he himself wished to be present during the case.

If the Government agree, this is the procedure that will follow such applications. The application will be heard orally and in public, and the defence will have the right to be legally represented, but it will not be necessary for the accused to be present. If the application is refused the matter will end. If allowed the appeal will be argued there and then, or at a later date. The



The Lord Chancellor, Lord Jowitt, head of Britain's legal system, believes "no better and no fairer tribunal could be secured" for Service offences than a court-martial.

accused will have the right to be present in capital cases but in other cases only by permission of the court.

Whether or not a soldier appealed, the original sentence would start to run from the moment it was inflicted. This might mean that a man given a light sentence would have served it by the time his appeal was heard. However, this sometimes happens in civil life and the Committee feels it cannot recommend that there should be automatic suspension merely because an application for leave to appeal is made. But it adds that it might be a good thing if courts-martial and judges martial were empowered to recommend that sentence be suspended pending the determination of the appeal; and also (again to stop frivolous appeals) it might be necessary for the court of appeal to have extra power to order a sentence to count from the moment the application to appeal was turned

down. This means that a man serving a sentence would serve for a longer period than if he had not applied to appeal.

This suggested system would mean the abolition of the present system of confirmation and the review of court-martial proceedings now undertaken by the JAG. The soldier would keep the right to petition the King against conviction.

Other recommendations are: It should be illegal to keep a man in close arrest longer than 90 days without a court-martial having been convened and assembled, and after 90 days he should be released and not re-arrested without written orders from an officer empowered to convene a court (the Committee were told of "Private X" who was kept in close arrest seven months before trial and of "Private Y" who was kept waiting 300 days on a charge of absence);

Soldiers, where possible, should be kept in open arrest, or released without prejudice to re-arrest while awaiting trial; if in arrest and a court-martial has not been convened they should have the right to petition the Chief Judge Martial;

Legal advice should be available to a soldier before he goes before his commanding officer if the case is liable to be sent to court-martial;

A soldier can ask for a summary of evidence which should be taken in his presence by a qualified officer, all evidence on oath;

All findings of guilt or innocence should be unani-



Sir Henry MacGeagh, Judge Advocate General. He may be the last to hold that post. This picture was taken when Sir Henry was a Colonel in the JAG's department from 1923-34.

mous, otherwise there should be a retrial; unanimity on sentence is not necessary;

Courts-martial should be empowered to take into consideration other offences;

"Reduction to a penal rate of pay" should be introduced as a punishment for other ranks (the Committee feels that fines are preferable to restrictions on liberty which are often "wasteful in that they occupy the time of others who have to supervise the punishment") but a man faced with a fine should have the right to choose trial by court-martial;

For the punishment of officers reduction in rank should be introduced (at present "forfeiture of seniority of rank" is the only award of this kind which can be awarded);

Future General courts-martial should consist of a civilian judge martial, or deputy judge martial, and five officers, the judge martial not to retire when the officers decide findings, but to retire with them to decide sentence; president when sitting should be robed;

District courts-martial should have a permanent president unless one is not available; punishment should be confined to six months for any one offence except for desertion; with an overriding maximum of 12 months for two or more offences; in a single charge of desertion the maximum of six months might be extended to 12 months;

Field General courts-martial should be retained but renamed "Emergency courts-martial" and findings and sentence should require confirmation from higher authority.

Not recommended by the Committee was a system of military magistrates although here it was felt the Services should be allowed to start the scheme as an experiment.

It should be emphasised that except for those recommendations already adopted by the Army, the report has still to have the approval of the Government.

Four Serjeants Make History

NCO's have lately been called to serve on courts-martial in the American Zone of Germany. The first case in which "enlisted men" served in this capacity (according to *Stars and Stripes*) was in the trial at Heidelberg of two soldiers charged with killing a German civilian. Under the American Army's new court-martial rules, they requested that enlisted men should serve on the court.

The amended Fourth Article of War says that enlisted men may serve only if their presence is requested in writing, and may compose one-third of the court. Warrant officers may serve only as members of a court trying other warrant officers and enlisted men. And enlisted men may serve only for the trial of other enlisted men—but not of men serving in the same unit.

Appointing authorities are directed to detail as court members those officers, warrant officers and enlisted men who are best qualified by age, training, experience and judicial temperament.



1 As a private in the Royal Sussex and RAOC 1942-46, he found time to be a playwright, script-writer and actor. Now a film producer.



2 This suave Hollywood villain (he has also played Sherlock Holmes) served in London Scottish in World War One, won MC.



3 This freckled warrior of 1914-18 with the rifle and bayonet nearly as tall as himself is one of today's top-ranking radio and stage comedians. In World War Two they once gave him a guard of honour under the impression that he was M. Maisky.



4 Veteran screen and stage actor, he was a captain in the Essex Regiment, later a "chemical adviser" in World War One.



5 He has played a soldier on the screen and has been a soldier in real life—in fact, he volunteered as a private the day war began.



6 Now domiciled in Hollywood, this film actor served with London Scottish in World War One, was invalided out in 1916.



7 A newcomer to British films, playing romantic parts, he was a Guards officer in Western Desert, where he won MC.



8 The ace "disc jockey" as he appeared in Cologne at end of World War One. He began as a private in the Middlesex, was commissioned in the Royal Fusiliers, became ADC to the GOC of 2nd Division, won DSO and MC.

Can You Identify Them?

Here are the likenesses of 16 men well-known on stage, screen and radio. They all served in the Army. The two large pictures were taken during World War One; in the other photographs SOLDIER's artist has made the task of recognition a little more difficult by superimposing military caps and uniforms on to modern photographs. How many can you recognise? (Answers on Page 46)



9 Titled actor and Shakespearean, married to a famous actress, he served in Sappers in World War One, won MC.



10 This screen and radio actor (who has played Hitler) was a sergeant in the Queen's Royal Regiment, later broadcast for BBC to Germany.



11 He is one half of a famous crosstalk and slapstick team, who met each other as Gunners in World War One.



12 As a lieutenant-colonel he played a second lieutenant in a famous war film; helped to organise the Commandos at MO 9.



13 This screen actor served with the Canadian artillery in 1914-18, was an instructor at Yale and Princeton — and in Siberia.



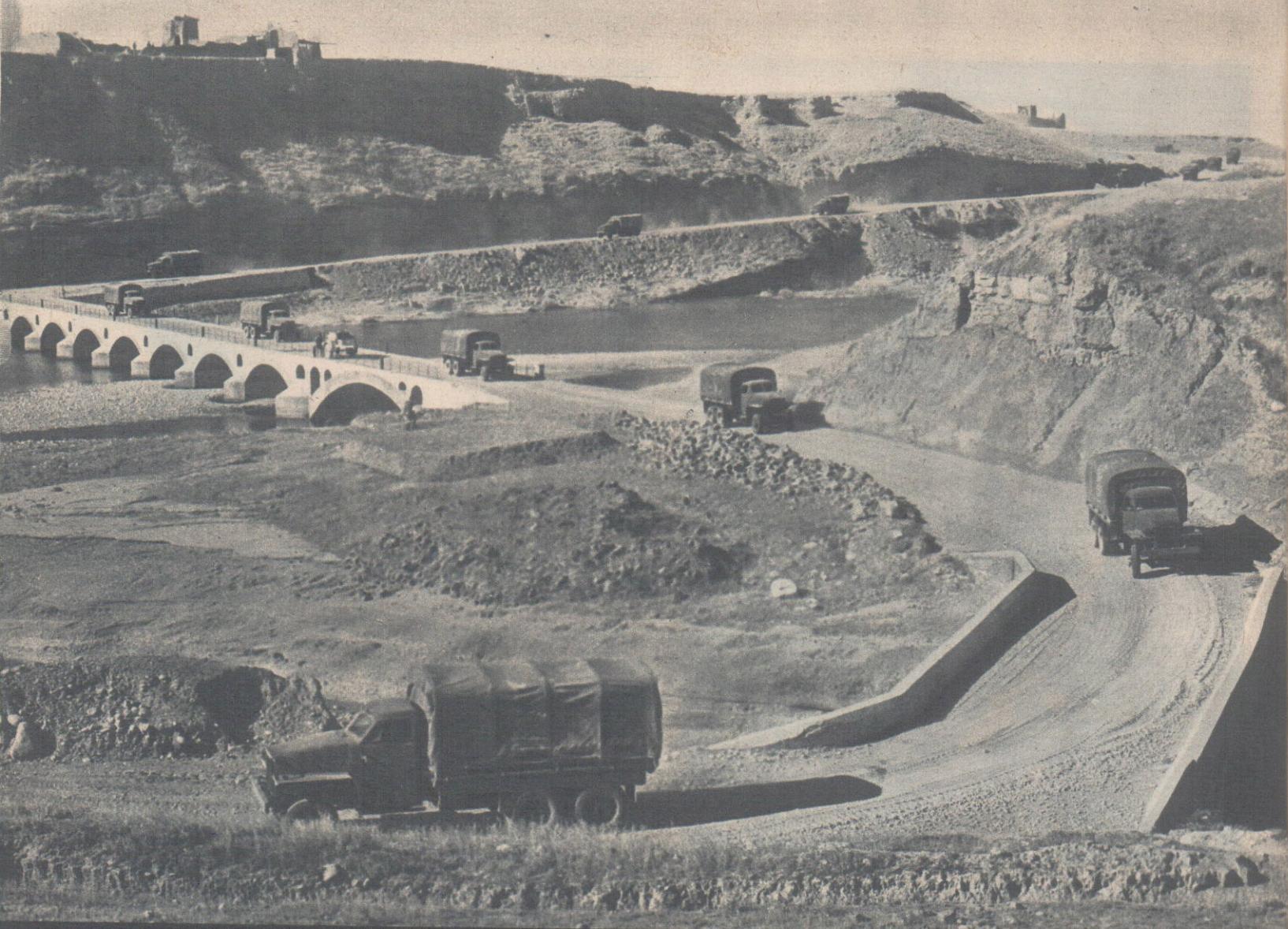
14 No, he didn't wear that beard in the Royal Signals and Airborne. He won MC in Norway, crashed in glider in Sicily. Screen actor.



15 Equally proficient as a frivolous husband or a dipsomaniac, this Hollywood actor was once a trooper in Household Cavalry.



16 Titled actor of stage and screen, he claims to have been the last officer to leave the war zone after World War One.



The road to Russia: a convoy of war supplies, bound from the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea, winds through the high lands of Persia. (See Paiforce story on opposite page.)

SOLDIER SCRAPBOOK OF WORLD WAR TWO

Below: Patrolling the great pipeline which carries oil across the Persian desert — one of the monotonous jobs which fell to the men of Paiforce.



The Colonel Who Would Not Listen

THE elderly colonel wanted to float a 60-ton locomotive, carried athwart two pontoons, up the River Tigris.

Said the experts: "The pontoons will tip together and deposit the locomotive in the water."

"Nothing of the sort," said the colonel. The plan was tried out. And the pontoons did not tip.

"You won't be able to unload it without a 100-ton crane," said the experts, and proved their point with formulae and diagrams.

"I shall run it ashore on a pair of rails," said the colonel.

Since they could not make the colonel see sense, the experts went away quietly to signal for the crane. When they came back the locomotive was on terra firma, and the colonel, who had quite forgotten the foolish incident, was several hundred yards across the desert prospecting for a suitable railway line."

That 60-year-old colonel had the quality of all the outstanding Paiforce figures: "a total incapacity to believe in impossibility." So says the author of "Paiforce: the Official Story of the Persia and Iraq Command 1941-46" (His Majesty's Stationery Office 5s).

This is one of the best of the official war chronicles. The author's name is not given, but he is no mean stylist.

It was Paiforce which stood ready to defend the gateway to India and the Far East against Hitler, and which guarded the vital oil wells of Persia and Iraq. But the men of Paiforce played a more positive part than that: they moved five million tons of urgent war supplies into Russia, by the so-called back door.

The story of the great overland convoys from the Persian Gulf, where the normal atmosphere is that of a steam laundry, over the icy Persian passes to the shores of the Caspian Sea is one of the great romances of the war.

In the early days there were no staging halts on the 700-mile road from Khanquin to Tabriz; men had to sleep on their vehicles or under them. Temperatures varied by as much as 55 degrees in a few miles running. In the morning drivers found bush shirts too hot for them; in the evening they were only too glad to wear balaclavas. The roads were often ice-bound, often bordered by precipices, and oncoming vehicles were as likely as not driven by Persians and Slavs whose exuberance was greater than their

The story of the troops who served in the savage heat and cold of Persia and Iraq is told at last. Across the Persian wildernesses they moved five million tons of war supplies to Russia

road sense. Indian drivers in particular did a magnificent job on this supply route. Three of them received the Order of the Red Star, but a British driver said, "If I was Joe I'd give the Red Star to the whole blooming lot."

Then there was the rail route, which wound over and through the fantastic mountains of Luristan. In 1941 it could carry only 200 tons a day. The Sappers' job was to multiply that figure by twelve. They could not duplicate the track, but they could build more sorting and marshalling yards, and put on more locomotives. It all had to be done without upsetting the Persians... and the Persian drivers and firemen were types who thought nothing of leaving the regulators set, jumping off the train as it went into a loop, drinking a quick glass of tea and then moving smartly across 300 yards of country to mount the footplate again.

The heat in the tunnels was

often insupportable, but there were other perils there. Indian soldiers patrolling them faced not only the danger of oncoming trains but the possibility that bandits were stalking them in the dark to kill them for the sake of their rifles. One British officer always travelled through bandit country unarmed, bearing a carefully calculated amount of ransom money to be seized by his captors when he was ambushed. Periodically he had to bribe back the coolies who had been driven from their work on road and rail by the wild tribesmen.

An early chapter of the book tells of the "Miracle of Habbaniyah," a story which is not as well known as it should be. During the Rashid Ali revolt in Iraq this RAF station — an English township on the Euphrates — was isolated and at the mercy of any enemy gunner who chose to range on its all-too-obvious water tower. To defend the cantonment were 1200 RAF Levies (Arabs,



The flash of Paiforce: inspiration was General "Jumbo" Wilson.

Kurds and Assyrians) and 350 men of the King's Own. Among their weapons were the old-fashioned cannon which had served as ornaments outside Depot Headquarters. Supported by patched-up trainer aircraft, the defenders went out to seek battle; they lost seven killed and 14 wounded, but the enemy sustained nearly a thousand casualties, excluding 26 officers and 408 men captured. Soon afterwards a relief column arrived over the desert from Palestine; it joined with the defenders of Habbaniyah to beat off a counter-assault on Falluja by the Iraqi Army — an assault which was modelled on a Tactical Exercise Without Troops taught them by a British Military Mission! Luckily the "School solution" failed (it would have proved adequate but for certain unscheduled interruptions).

Among the great personalities of this theatre was Lieut-General Sir Edward Quinan, the first commander, who "had an intense dislike for the trappings of office. He refused to have a flag on his car, he much preferred to travel without an ADC, in church he liked to sit next to sepoy. Wearing a trench coat he would turn up at a lonely camp and ask for a tent for the night; the residents would be startled when their guest came in to dinner with crossed swords on his epaulettes."

Under him was a Brigadier Slim, "whose name was not to escape the world's history books." He first appears in this book discussing with some Gunner and Sapper officers the possibility of digging-down the trails of 18-pounders to enable them to fire into the sky. Later, as a general, he is found directing a short, painless campaign in Persia.

The real hero of Paiforce? Says the author:

"Among all the races and types which made up the wartime population of Persia and Iraq there is one figure which stands a little apart: not in hostility or shyness, by no means from lack of friendship, but from a certain quality which makes him older than the rest, whatever his actual age may be. He is nothing out of the ordinary, as he himself will tell you with sincerity; it is just by chance that he has a flair for learning new techniques and getting over difficulties. There he stands, near the entrance to the marshalling yards at Khanquin, calling up the lorries with a jerk of his thumb: his shirt and shorts limp with sweat, his topee pushed back, his arms grubby from a casual job on a Persian driver's engine; unvarying in humour and fabulous in patience; untiring, incorruptible, and in the end invincible: the British soldier."



The present Chief of the Imperial General Staff directed a short campaign in Persia in 1941. Here is General Slim (with sun hat doffed for the photographer) on a visit to the Russian zone in Persia.

(Bookshelf continued overleaf)



A scene of infamy goes up in flame: the burning of Belsen concentration camp.

The Efficiency of Josef Kramer

IF a book on Belsen were published every year it would not be too often," wrote *SOLDIER* in June 1947, reviewing Captain Derrick Sington's "Belsen Uncovered."

Now comes a double-length volume in the series of War Crimes Trials: "The Belsen Trial" (William Hodge and Company Ltd. 30s). It contains all the relevant evidence given at the long trial in 1945 of Josef Kramer, Irma Grese

and the other 43 defendants rounded up in the nightmare of Belsen Camp.

Only a strong man will read this book from cover to cover. Somebody will inevitably ask, "Why rake it all up?" The answer is that the plain facts of Belsen must go on record, not

only for the benefit of posterity but for the benefit of unbelievers of today. Belsen, as the Lord Chancellor points out in a foreword, was the logical result of the Fuhrer principle expressed in the SS oath:

"I swear to you, Adolf Hitler, as Führer and Chancellor of the Reich, faith and steadfastness. I pledge to you and to those to whom you entrust your orders unwavering obedience unto death."

One man who took that oath was Josef Kramer, widely known at the time as the "Beast of Belsen." He was depicted in the press as a shambling gorilla, a sadistic beast thirsting for his victims' blood. (The caricatures are said to have amused him considerably). In his own defence he presented himself as the fanatical Nazi, anxious only to obey orders, however outrageous.

Comments Mr. Raymond Phillips, MC, barrister, in his introduction:

"Probably neither of these pictures is wholly accurate, and the truth is to be found somewhere between the two: for

Trojan (Vaulting) Horse

THE Greeks made a wooden horse inside which they smuggled men into Troy. One Army and one RAF officer, in a German prison camp, made a wooden vaulting horse, under which they tunneled to freedom for months, while weary friends solemnly vaulted above them, to lull the suspicions of the guards.

The story is told by Eric Williams in *The Wooden Horse* (Collins, 10s-6d). For colourful adventure, it bears comparison with the World War One escaping classic, *The Road to Endor*. It is written in the third person (although the author is pretty clearly one of the escapers) and some of the characters have been redrawn and renamed — the law of libel discourages too-candid portraits in print. Otherwise, it is a factual story, based on the "classic" escape from Stalag Luft III.

Some of the best characters are met after the two have escaped. There was the Frenchman in Stettin, where they were looking for a ship, whose cloak-and-dagger manners were so elaborate that they nearly gave the game away. By contrast, there was the drunken Danish ship's crew boss who made love to his wife in public and whose roaring friendliness in the English language also nearly gave the game away. And there was the Danish resistance contact-man who delivered the two escapees to Sweden and then went back to Denmark, though he knew the Germans were looking for him.

And the two central characters themselves are worth study:

though an obedient member of the Party, he does not seem to have concerned himself much with its doctrines; and though quite unmoved by the dreadful fate of his victims, he does not seem to have taken any personal pleasure in their sufferings.

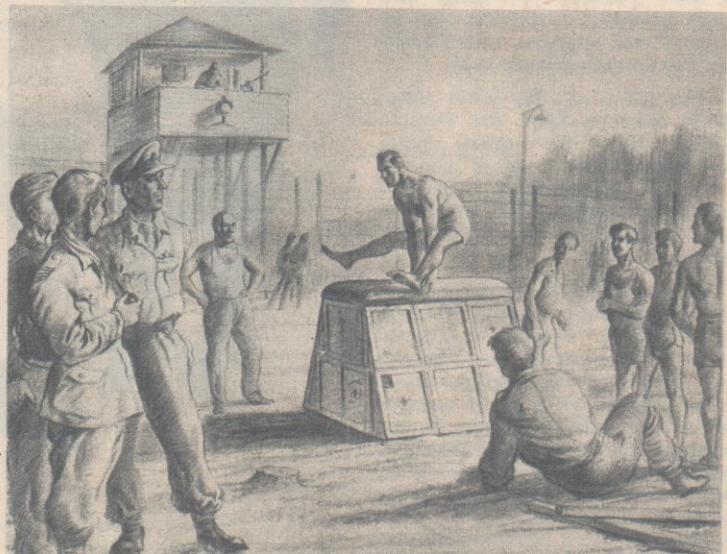
"His type was that of the perfectly obedient underling with no scruples of any kind. If 500 men were ordered for execution at 0900 hours they would be there to the minute and to the man, not a man too few nor a minute late. But this efficiency and the acts to which it led him sprang from his desire to keep a safe, comfortable job, rather than from any deep-rooted Nazi conviction."

The suffering at Belsen was probably unmatched in any of the other notorious concentration or extermination camps. But, as Mr. Phillips points out, there was a distinction between the conditions at Belsen and at, say, Auschwitz. "The conditions at Belsen were caused by criminal and inexcusable neglect coupled with an administrative breakdown, while the conditions at Auschwitz were the direct result of a carefully designed and executed policy of long standing."

There were many complaints about the length of the Belsen trial (54 days) and the latitude given to the defence, but it is to the court's credit that it refused to be stampeded into "the wild justice of revenge." Lord Jowitt, the Lord Chancellor, says in a foreword: "I do not doubt that an experienced judge sitting with assessors would have been able to dispose of this case in a shorter — and probably far shorter — time than was occupied in this trial. If this course had been taken I think that none of those convicted would have been acquitted, but I think it possible that some of those acquitted would have been convicted."

It is well worth noting that, except for some Polish accused, all the defendants chose to be defended by British officers.

The photographs in the book defy description. One of them shows a British soldier bulldozing emaciated corpses into a burial pit. If only one could feel sure that that picture will not, some day, fall into the hands of a hostile propagandist... The ghost of Goebbels must be looking at it enviously.



It looked innocent enough, with the prisoners vaulting a wooden horse in order to keep fit...

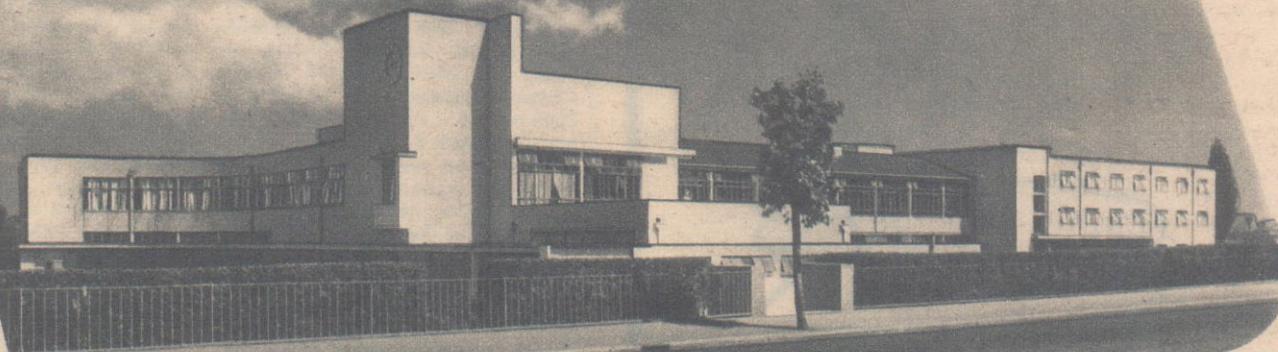
Private,
XIIth Hussars
1813



1813

YOU might have looked fine in that uniform — but how would you have liked to be a soldier in the Peninsular War? Food supplies then largely depended on private contractors who followed the Army about and made profits out of the soldier's necessities. Transport was almost wholly by pack mule. Sickness and under-nourishment caused heavy losses.

To-day, the three Services have, in NAAFI, their own messing and catering organisation which serves them at home and overseas, and is run by them for the sole benefit of serving men and women, returning all profits by way of cash rebates to unit funds, provision of Clubs, Entertainment, Sports and many other amenities. The more the soldier makes use of his NAAFI, the greater the benefit to himself. The more active his interest in the running of it, the better can it serve him.



The NAAFI residential club for O.R.s
at Chatham.

your

NAAFI

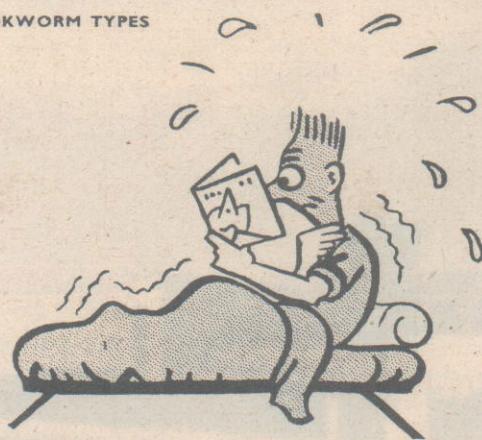
How Much Do You Know?

- Which of these sentences is (or are) correct:
 Neither John nor I are drunk;
 Neither John or I are drunk;
 Neither John nor I is drunk;
 Neither John or I is drunk;
 Neither John nor me is drunk;
 Neither John or me is drunk;
 Neither John nor me are drunk;
- Who asked the famous question: "What is truth?"
- How many legs has a billiards table?
- Sir Benjamin Hall—
 (a) built the sewers of Paris;
 (b) had Big Ben named after him;
- (c) is a trade union leader;
 (d) brought Queen Victoria into the world. Which?
- Which is "the finest club in Europe"?
- What have these groups of letters in common: WVU; RQP; LKJ? And these groups of figures: 404; 512; 053; 116?
- Which of these is a realistic comparison: "As bald as a coot"; "As bald as a fox terrier"; "As bald as Aneurin Bevan"; "As bald as a two-toed sloth"?
- If you don't like ballet, one of these films is not for you: "Fallen Idol," "The Blind Goddess," "Look Before You Love," "The Red Shoes"—which?
- Which of these daily newspapers prints in only one town: *Daily Herald*, *Daily Express*, *Daily Mail*, *Daily Mirror*?
- Johnny Leach is the new world champion—in which sport?
- The lady in the picture (left) could be described as
 (a) a devotee of terpsichore;
 (b) an amanuensis;
 (c) a choreographer;
 (d) Jane Russell. Which?

(Answers on Page 46)



BOOKWORM TYPES



The Old 'Sweat'

He's no highbrow. Just plain blood-and-thunder stuff for him; something with a kick in it. As his unit is supplied with regular parcels of books and magazines from the SCBD (they'll supply anyone, whatever their taste!) he's well-satisfied.

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BOOKSHELF Continued

The Heroes of Hereford

"VISITORS are not encouraged, for there is not much to see that will promote their peace of mind.

"To folks connected with the profession of war it will be an experience, and a sensation, to walk among the mixing-houses and stand beside the tanks of cotton-pulp and cake-presses, which by the slightest mishap may blow them into dust; but ordinary people may be advised not to trouble the War Office for a pass."

That passage from a hundred-year-old description of the Royal Gunpowder Factory at Waltham Abbey is quoted by Ian Hay (Major-General John Hay Beith) in "R.O.F.," the story of the Royal Ordnance Factories 1939-48 (*His Majesty's Stationery Office 2s 6d*). Of the Waltham factory the author says: "It is known to have been in existence in 1560 and may be presumed to have supplied Francis Drake with the wherewithal to singe the King of Spain's beard at Cadiz."

Today life in an ordnance factory is not quite the gamble it used to be; safety precautions have eliminated a great deal of the risk. But with 44 factories pouring out arms and munitions during World War Two it was too much to expect complete immunity from accidents.

Ian Hay describes in some detail the "Hereford Incident," which resulted in 32 awards for gallantry: five George Medals, nine British Empire Medals, an OBE, an MBE and 16 King's Commendations. One evening a 2000-pound bomb began to smoke before bursting into flame. 2000 women were evacuated at once, and three operatives began to damp the flames with water and sand, in the hope that either the bomb would burn itself out, or at least not explode until the building was cleared. In this last aim they were successful, and their action probably saved 800 lives.

Then the factory fire brigade

took over. Their duty was to continue until it was obvious that disaster was imminent. They fought on long after this prescribed period, in constant danger from blast, fire, molten explosives and the fall of white-hot girders.

Even when the bomb exploded they fought on, trying to extinguish four or five more burning bombs. Even after a second major explosion they stayed at their posts. The filling house was reduced to ruins, but the fire was checked and the remaining buildings saved.

There are many other stories which show that ordnance factories were far from being the asylum for the faint-hearted. There was, for instance, the factory officer who carried a sensitised fuze 100 yards. The men who had tried this feat before had been killed.

Of the 44 ordnance factories in operation at the end of the war, only three — Woolwich, Enfield and Waltham — had been in existence before 1937; such was the measure of Britain's disarmament. Now the lesson has been learned: 22 of the factories are to be kept open and capable of quick expansion in emergency; of the others, some have been returned to their owners, dismantled or turned into trading estates. Woolwich is now turning out such items as rail wagons and turbine casings. But production can soon be swung back to weapons if the need arises.

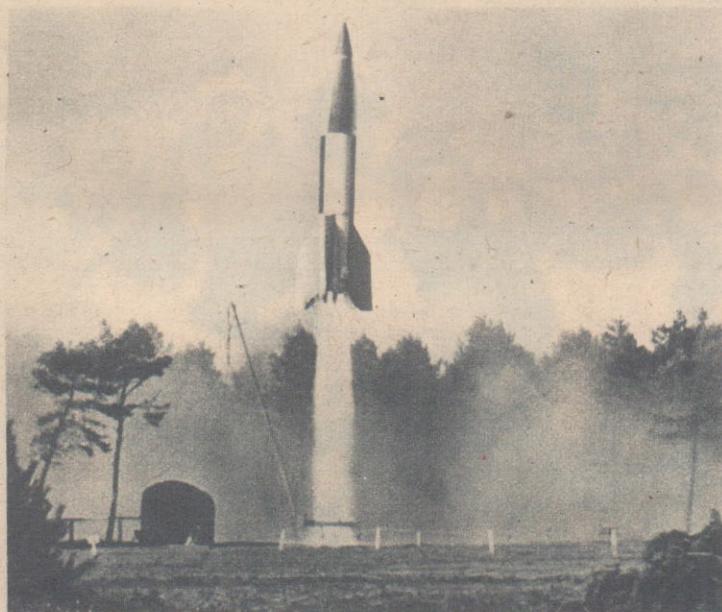
Human problems cropped up in the ordnance factories. In one centre women workers were ordered to anoint their faces with protective cream; they objected, because this form of make-up was far from becoming. A labour officer arranged for a new issue of the cosmetic, in a form specially tinted to enhance the complexion. The women were happy, and the war went on.

The author tells why block-buster bombs came to be called "cookies." The first one sent to Chorley for filling occupied a whole truck. Nobody was expecting it, and the staff ran it to the canteen kitchen where they proposed to erect it as a steam-boiler.

TOMMY ATKINS

HOW did the soldier come to be called Tommy Atkins? A widely held belief is that the Duke of Wellington chose the name in 1843. But Lieut-General Sir William MacArthur, writing in the *Army Medical Services Magazine* says that the War Office used "Thomas Atkins" as a representative name in 1815. Specimen forms of the "Soldier's Book," issued for both Cavalry and Infantry that year, bore against the space for the soldier's signature: "Thomas Atkins, his X mark." With the rise in the standard of education, "his X mark" was later omitted.

Even before that the phrase "Tommy Atkins" was in popular use. A letter sent from Jamaica in 1743 (long before Wellington was born), referring to a mutiny among hired soldiers there, said: "Except for those from N. America (mostly Irish Papists) ye Marines and Tommy Atkins behaved splendidly."



The German V2. This one was fired experimentally by the British at Cuxhaven.

ACK-ACK'S HEADACHE

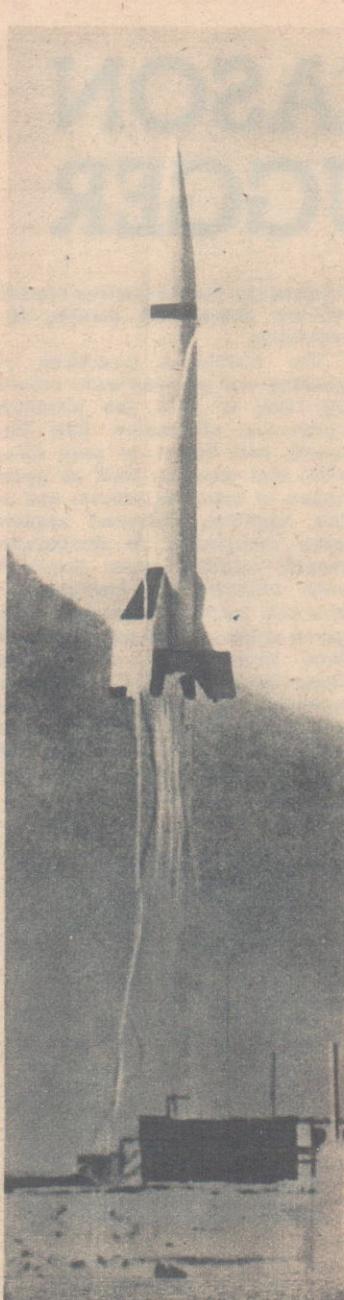
THE V2, as the Germans used it, was not a precision weapon, though useful enough for bombing a huge target like London. Since the war British and American scientists have been exploring its further possibilities.

The Americans have just announced two new versions of it. They are described as "true guided missiles which can be launched in one direction then changed in their flight to hit another target." (These are distinct from the Two-in-One rocket which recently reached a height of 250 miles).

All of which is quite a headache for the anti-aircraft defences. As the American *Anti-Aircraft Journal* points out, the German V2 could travel at twice the speed of any ack-ack shell, and go six or eight times beyond the maximum range of the largest guns. "We need detecting devices more sensitive than radar, to tell us when the target takes off. We must develop intercepting devices that exceed the speed of the targets, and with greater manoeuvrability." But, says the *Journal*, there is no need to be discouraged, considering how ack-ack science rose to the many challenges of World War Two.

In his war despatches, General Sir Frederick Pile, of Anti-Aircraft Command, records that a drill was worked out in the last stages of the war against V2, but he could not obtain the War Cabinet's permission to use it.

Left: America's Consolidated Vultee 774 is 32 feet long (13 feet shorter than the V2) and is "potentially capable" of rising 100 miles. Right: The NATIV is 13 feet long, is launched from a metal framework, can rise ten miles. Both rockets have liquid fuel motors and are controlled by movable fins.





It takes a good deal more than a snowstorm to damp down an Army rugger game: a scene from an Army-Navy match at Twickenham.

SPORT

A RECORD SEASON FOR ARMY RUGGER

There were 80 entries for the Army's rugger cup this season: striking sign of the popularity of a game which has long been open to all ranks

EVEN though, this season, Welsh hopes of gaining the Army Rugby Challenge Cup vanished in the semi-finals, the story of Army Rugby is mainly the story of Welsh supremacy. Appropriately enough, it was a Welshman who took the leading part in the formation of the Army Rugby Union 43 years ago, which in turn led to the introduction of this much-coveted trophy.

The pioneer was J. E. C. Partidge, then a subaltern in the Welch Regiment. He had toured South Africa with the British XV in 1903 and was a member of the long-established Blackheath Club.

Travelling back from Scotland with two brother-officers and fellow Blackheath players, W. S. D. Craven of the Royal Field Artillery and C. G. Liddell, Leicester Regiment, he proposed the constitution of a Service ruling body, affiliated to the Rugby Union, to encourage the playing of the greatest of all team-games among all ranks of the Army.

They put the scheme on paper, consulted two other subalterns, R. B. Campbell, Gordon Highlanders and J. R. Simson HLI, and

placed their proposal before the Union. The parent body, which had been in existence since 1871, agreed after consulting every unit in the Army, and presented the Challenge Cup which is competed for annually, and with such tremendous enthusiasm, by unit teams.

The game, of course, had been played in the Service long before then. The Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, was one of 20 clubs playing in the London area in 1864; the RMA and the RMC, Sandhurst, have been meeting annually since 1876; as far back as February 1878, the Army fielded a team against the Royal Navy at Kennington Oval; and some 50 Army officers had already won International honours, the greatest being perhaps W. N. Bolton, of Sandhurst, whose fine robust threequarter play earned him 11 England caps in the 'eighties.

But rugby in the second half of the nineteenth century was still in a state of transition. Admittedly it had progressed much since that sensational afternoon on Rugby School's Bigside in 1823 when William Webb Ellis, with that fine disregard for the rules of football as played in his time, first took the ball in his arms and ran forward with it, thereby shocking the purists of the day,

originating the distinctive feature of the game, and earning immortality.

The barbarous practices of hacking and tripping were vetoed by 1866; in 1875, the Varsitys ruthlessly eliminated five forwards and began to play 15-a-side, and tries as well as goals began to count as scores; and in the 'eighties, coloured armlets were introduced to distinguish teams, referees were provided with whistles, and umpires (we now call them touch-judges) were given sticks; at the same time the four threequarter combination came into existence. Correct wear consisted of jerseys, breeches which fell below the knees and were tucked into stockings, and caps or bonnets rather like night-



Lieut. N. M. Hall, Royal Signals, who captained England in their first two matches this season, is a fly half "in the very top class."



The Army's rugger colours (white on red).

caps, though one famous Blackheath "goalkeeper" in the 'seventies never took the field without his felt hat.

By the time the Army Rugby Union came into existence, the game and its rules had crystallised into the form which, but for minor exceptions, we know today. In addition to the Army Challenge Cup, the Union arranged an annual fixture with the Royal Navy, which quickly became one of the leading matches of the season, and placed Army rugby into the category of first-class clubs. Until the outbreak of World War One only officers were selected, but thereafter the game was open to all ranks.

In 1919, the RAF joined the fray to make it a triangular tournament. In the following year, the Army also embarked on an annual match with the French Army; this was discontinued in 1931 when the home unions severed relations with the French Federation, but was resumed in 1947. In 1931, the Territorial Army was brought on to the fixture list, and in more recent years the Civil Service.

The Army can look back with no little satisfaction on the results of these games, which always provide terrific battles, with every man making the great effort of his rugby career. Though the Navy was supreme before and just after World War One, winning 10 of the first 12 games, the Army have since fully redressed the balance. The soldiers' saddest reverse was by 26 clear points in 1909; their most favourable margin 23-3 last month. An unforgettable match came in 1935 when they had to play almost throughout without two Internationals, left-winger B. T. V. Cowey (Welch Regiment) and the 6 ft., 14 st. Leicester Regiment forward and England skipper, D. A. Kendrew, both of whom were quickly injured. After some des-

perate scrummaging by their six remaining forwards, the red jerseys just lasted out to win 11-8.

A unique record is that of Major H. C. Harrison, DSO. Nicknamed "Dreadnought", this monumental forward with the sloping shoulders represented the Army in 1910, 1911 and 1914—and the Royal Navy in 1909 and 1912. For he was a Royal Marine, and the rule then was that the Navy had first choice when a Marine served afloat, but that the Army could claim him when he was back in barracks ashore. This, too, was rectified after World War One, since when a Marine has been eligible only for the Navy.

The Royal Air Force has had much the worst of the Inter-Service argument, and can claim only seven wins to the Army's 15. Seven times have the Army exceeded 20 points, their highest score being 29 in 1937 when C. R. Owen, the Welch Regiment's finest hooker, kicked six goals—and struck the upright with his only other attempt. But his 14 points do not represent the highest personal tally in this series. In 1922, H. L. V. Day, Leicestershire Regiment, scored three tries and kicked four goals—17 points in all.

If there is nothing finicking about Inter-Service rugby, there is no lack of the old-fashioned virtues either about Army Cup matches, in which no quarter is ever asked or given.

The popularity of this competition, and the ever-growing interest in rugger among Army units, can be gauged from the fact that whereas only 12 teams took part in 1906-7, there were 49 by 1925, and this season the total entries reached the record number of 80, including 28 BAOR units. Nor is it an officers' preserve, for the rules limit the number of officers in any XV to eight, a figure rarely achieved.

Here's a concerted Naval action against the Army—but Signalman I. S. Gloag is breaking through.

Welsh units have thrived on the keenness of the competition and have succeeded in upholding the great national traditions of fast, skilful open play. At one time, units from Wales enjoyed a near monopoly of the trophy, holding it for nine successive seasons. In all, they have won 16 times in 32 seasons, and have been runners-up on 10 other occasions.

Pride of place must go to the Welch Regiment, nine times Cup winners. The 2nd. Battalion carried all before them just after World War One, when four of their five successes were obtained in five seasons; but only one member of the side, C. W. Jones, achieved International honours. The 1st. Battalion came into their own in the five years before Hitler's War, when they fielded perhaps the best balanced attacking machine in unit rugby (though the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in their vintage year of 1931 must run them close). They won the Army Cup three times in that period. Their team included two of the finest wing three-quarters of their day: B. T. V. Cowey, a very quick starter, determined in attack and defence, with a vein of unexpectedness running through his play and the tall, long-striding F. J. V. Ford; Owen, masterly kicker of goals and most reliable of hookers; A. M. Champion and H. Ibbetson, the halves; and centre three-quarter, J. Delany. All these six represented the Army, and Cowey and Ford also appeared in the Welsh national colours.

Much has happened since they last lifted the trophy in that fateful spring of 1939. This season they were knocked out of the semi-final by the holders after a high-scoring game. Cowey, Owen, Delany and Ibbetson are no longer available, but Ford and Champion are still there. These two "veterans" are now building up a new team which may yet rival the pre-war XV.

The 2nd. Bn. South Wales Borderers set up a record in the twenties when they won the trophy four times running, and the 1st. Bn. Welsh Guards have three successes to their credit. They reached top form in the early 'thirties thanks largely to dark, saturnine W. C. Powell, one of the tallest, strongest and heaviest men ever to play scrum-half. Incidentally, it was the Army that turned "Wick" into an inside-half after he had started his career as a forward for Artillery. When he first reported for duty at the Guards Depot, the sergeant-major in charge of PT decided that he was not tall enough for a forward and sent him to the base of the scrum—a happy decision, for "Wick" played for



Guardsman W. C. Powell played for Wales 27 times between 1927 and 1935—a record number of International caps for any Army player.

Wales 27 times between 1927 and 1935, a record number of International caps for any Army player. His greatest performance in the national side was in the unfamiliar position of wing three-quarter at Murrayfield. He had travelled as reserve, but a player dropped out at the last minute, and "Wick" was put on the wing. He had to mark Ian Smith, and he not only bottled up the famous Scots flyer, but won the game for Wales. He is now an architect in Johannesburg.

Another great Army and International scrum-half was diminutive A. T. Young, Royal Tank Corps, who wore the England jersey on 18 occasions and the Army colours on ten. He was a joy to watch in his palmy days between 1924 and 1928. He was killed in India during the war. The Tanks produced another very effective inside-half in G. J. Dean, and a doughty forward in H. Rew, capped ten times for England.

The most successful English unit in the Army Cup over the years has been the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the first name to be inscribed on the trophy; the two battalions have each won twice. Their greatest player was one of the finest wing forwards of all time, the late William Fraser "Horsey" Browne, who is generally regarded as the creator of modern Irish forward play and the nearest thing to a tornado ever to wear the famous green International jersey. He was a great personality, as strong as an ox, and the most devastating tackler. His loose forward play inspired Ireland to great heights.

(Continued on Page 41)



HAVE YOU BEEN THROUGH THE MILL?

WHEN Anti-Aircraft Command were preparing for their recent boxing championships in the Albert Hall, someone suggested that the evening should be livened with a "mill."

A mill, in case you have not come across it, is a non-stop series of brisk one-minute bouts which can usually be relied on to generate great excitement among the onlookers. As soon as one pair have fought out their 60 seconds the next pair are in the ring. The pace never flags.

But Army boxing, if staged in public, comes under Amateur Boxing Association rules, and so the assistant honorary secretary of Army boxing, Major Dick Lonsdale, DSO, asked the ABA secretary if there would be any objection to a boxing mill. The ABA reply was, "Sorry, no mill."

This reply has since been criticised by one newspaper boxing writer, who said: "True, the mill smacks of the battle-royal and other cock-fight exhibitions, but the ABA ban goes further—and deep into the realms of blind dictatorship, in this reporter's opinion. It forbids any form of exhibition bout between amateurs, professionals or amateurs and pros."

Even in the Army there is controversy over the boxing mill.

The boxing "mill" may be good fun, but does it encourage good boxing?



It is a long way removed from the old battle-royal (in which a group of competitors used to go on battering each other till all but one were senseless), otherwise it would hardly have been allowed at such places as the Army's Physical Development Centre for building up physically backward recruits.

Most mills in Army boxing are fought by young beginners making their first public appearance in a ring. They are lined up, according to weight, and go in when the referee blows a whistle, with instructions to hit as hard

as they can. Most of them do in the excitement of the moment a man sometimes hits out at the member of his own team who is trying to get out of the ring, his minute up, instead of his proper opponent. The mill is wild and often funny and nobody seems to get seriously hurt. Points are awarded to teams and not to individuals. According to its advocates, the mill gives the novice a "battle inoculation" which may take the edge off his nervousness when he gets his first proper bout in public.

Critics of the mill say it encourages slogging rather than science, and that competitors get carried away with the excitement and the urge to score a sensational win in a few seconds. For these reasons some boxing instructors in the Services will have nothing to do with it. They also say that the mill is not a good introduction to the game for youngsters who have never boxed but would like to if they could be sure that they would not be made to look foolish.

How then does the Army propose to encourage young boxers?

The answer to the question is being broadcast from about 12 Forces radio stations abroad just now, in a 30-minute recorded programme called "Boxing in the British Army." To the microphone comes Lieut-Colonel R. W. Littlehales, secretary of Army Boxing, to explain how he keeps in close contact with civilian boxing clubs who tell him when their promising lads are called into the Army. He then asks Command boxing secretaries to have them tried out and to report back to the War Office.

CSMI F. Verlander, this year's chief coach to the Army, then tells how the Army encourages the "unknowns" who pop up in

units. He divides them into three classes—novices who have had four or five bouts in a competition without winning it; novices who have had one bout and lost; and the chaps who have never boxed before.

CSMI. Verlander makes them all put on the gloves and try out the medium punch bag. If a man is really raw the instructor starts teaching him from the beginning himself. Otherwise the lad is paired with "moderate opposition".

Says CSMI. Verlander: "I never put a newcomer on to an assistant until I have sized him up, and he does not go in for competitive boxing until he has been under my charge for at least six weeks."

An interesting part of the broadcast is the selection committee at work deciding on the Army team. As an example, Brigadier L. F. E. Wieler and the committee reconstruct the choosing of the team to meet the Sparta Club, Denmark, last November. The bout under discussion is the McCartney-Burn fight, from which they chose Burn. The two men are called in and listeners can hear them receiving the verdict with rather unemotional voices.

The broadcast ends with a reconstructed commentary of the contest between Morrison and Browning at the Albert Hall in April 1948, when Morrison became Army bantam-weight champion; and a speech by the Adjutant-General, Sir James Steele.

This programme should help boxing in the Army, for it may clear the air on many points for the man in the barrack-room who feels he could become a champion. And the Army certainly needs fresh blood to replace the top-liners who went on release last year.

BOB O'BRIEN



The Army broadcasts about boxing: Left to right—Lieut-Col. R. W. Littlehales, hon. sec. of British Army Boxing Association; CSMI F. Verlander APTC, Army boxing coach; Private C. Burn KRRC, formerly of Army's "A" boxing team; Corporal A. McCartney HLI, of "A" team's second string; Col. Dudley Lister; Brigadier L. F. E. Wieler, Provost-Marshal, chairman Army Boxing Association; Lieut-Col. A. A. Goodwin, Chief Instructor, Army School of Physical Training.

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Shade of Things to Come

ALL soldiers serving on a Regular or short-service engagement will have heard of the "shadow" promotion scheme which is explained in ACI 1129/48, but there are probably many men who are not too clear on the aims and working of this scheme.

Substantive promotion by vacancy cannot be re-introduced yet, but to give Regular other ranks some guarantee of future prospects and to ease the change-over when a peace-time code is eventually brought in, each man concerned is being given a shadow rank.

While not affecting him in any way at the moment, this represents the lowest rank the man may be granted under a peace-time code, providing he qualifies under the disciplinary and medical rules in force at the time.

If a soldier is compulsorily transferred he will retain his shadow rank, but if he transfers voluntarily he will be given a new one which may, or may not be, as high.

The scheme does not apply to all Regular soldiers. Bombardiers of the Royal Artillery are excluded. So are men in trades and employments in which promotion is regulated by time, because such time promotion has never been suspended. However, those who have risen as high as they can by time promotion and whose further substantive promotion depends on vacancies, will be included in the scheme.

Separate regulations are being considered for soldiers whose progress depends on alternate steps of time and vacancy promotion and for those who have been held up owing to the abolition of the rank of lance-serjeant. They do not come under the shadow scheme at present.

If a man who has been given

a shadow rank later becomes subject to a time scale, his shadow rank, with its future guarantee, will lapse. The guarantee will also lapse if a soldier is reduced in shadow rank, but if some lower shadow rank is granted, this will carry its appropriate guarantee. Shadow rank will be reduced, for instance, if an NCO is reduced by disciplinary action to a war-substantive rank lower than his shadow rank. He will then be placed at the foot of the seniority roll in the lower rank. If the reduction is for inefficiency or unsuitability only, however, the case will be reconsidered and he may be granted a higher position on the roll.

Estimating the probable size and composition of the peace-time Army, the War Office will issue lists of vacancies to be filled. These will naturally be conservative estimates in order to ensure that the shadow rank guarantee will be met.

When the vacancies are being filled, names on the seniority list will be brought forward strictly in order. Whether a soldier is accepted for a vacancy will depend on the war-substantive rank he held on 1 July 1948, but special cases will be considered

on their merits. If a soldier was a prisoner-of-war, for instance, consideration will be given to the rank he probably would have attained had he not been captured.

When all Regulars have been dealt with, the prospects of non-Regulars who intend to enter into Regular engagements will be considered. Each non-Regular will be told the shadow rank in prospect for him and the date by which he must enter into a Regular engagement in order to secure it.

Shadow promotion rolls will be kept and will be used to fill any increase in the number of vacancies or to replace casualties.

All Regular other ranks of the WRAC will also be granted shadow rank. Their initial rank and position on the shadow promotion rolls will be worked out in the same way as the men's but will be subject to detailed instructions to be issued later.

Peace-time technical and educational qualifications are shortly to be re-introduced, but men will be allowed a period of grace in which to attain them. No initial shadow rank will be lost because a man does not hold the necessary educational qualifications, but he will have to attain them within the period of grace to be eligible for substantive promotion, even shadow promotion.

When the war promotion code ceases and a peace-time code is re-introduced it is intended that all shadow ranks held on that date shall be converted into the same substantive ranks. The Army seniority of all Warrant Officers and NCO's will then be determined by their position on the shadow promotion rolls at the time of conversion.

This does not imply that the war promotion code is about to cease. The date has not yet been decided. When it is, ample notice will be given.

NOTE: Emergency commissioned officers who still have the right to re-enlist in the ranks and ex-Regular other ranks who have been granted short-service commissions will also be given shadow ranks. The regulations governing their shadow promotion have been omitted here because, usually, officers have easier access to ACI's and can therefore read up ACI 1129 for themselves.

ARMY RUGGER

(Continued from Page 37)

between 1925 and 1928, when he played 12 times. He also represented the Army in 16 Inter-Service fixtures. Six "Dukes" wore the Army jersey in their greatest season, 1930-31, which is the largest number from any one unit to be honoured in one year. Other great names in the unit's rugger history were C. K. T. Faithfull (the present hon. treasurer of the Army Boxing Association), and F. J. Reynolds, who made his mark as an exhilarating outside-half in the years preceding World War Two; both played for England.

The Leicestershire Regiment's finest period came in the first years of the competition, when their 1st Battalion won three times; their 2nd Battalion twice reached the final in the early thirties. Their stars then were A. L. Novis, a determined wing threequarter with a neat swerve, and D. A. Kendrew, a great worker and scrum-leader; between them, they won 17 England caps.

Until World War Two entries were limited to units serving in the British Isles (overseas commands had their own competitions), but when rugger hostilities were resumed in 1946-47, BAOR teams were made eligible, the champion unit from Germany meeting the home champions in the final. This season, with fewer BAOR units participating, their champion unit came into the semi-final alongside three home teams.

First post-war winners were the Depot and Training Establishment RAMC (Aldershot) — the first Corps side to be successful — thanks to such experienced players as J. A. Gregory, the speedy winger who recently made his debut for England, and Jackie Matthews, the great Cardiff centre who has been playing regularly for Wales.

The Medicals were succeeded last year by the Signal Training Centre, and the 1st Signal Training Regiment completed a fine Signal double last month by beating the 9th Independent Airborne Squadron RE (BAOR). The Signals have had the advantage of having in successive seasons two of the leading fly-halves of the present day: Glyn Davies, the brilliant Welsh International at present at Cambridge, and "Nim" Hall, who captained England in their first two matches this season. Hall, star of the brilliant St. Mary's Hospital war-time team and a great defensive player, is in the very top class, possessing an effortless side-step and swerve and a deadly kick. This year, too, the Signals have been able to call on the hefty and speedy Scottish International winger T. G. H. Jackson, and Hall has struck up a happy partnership with W. R. Mason, a very promising 18-year-old scrum-half with a fine physique, rather after the build of "Wick" Powell. If the Signals can retain this combination next year, the Army Cup may well remain in Catterick for a third term.

PETER LOVEGROVE



MP's and Your Suit

MR. A. V. Alexander, Minister of Defence, was strongly pressed in the House of Commons on 28 February to issue a clothing allowance to National Servicemen. "One of the most important adjournment debates for many months," was the verdict of one MP.

Mr. G. R. Chetwynd (Stockton-on-Tees), a captain in World War Two, brought up the subject. Pressing for an allowance, in place of a suit, to be included in the release benefits of National Servicemen called up after 1 January 1947, he refuted previous objections which had been made by the Defence Minister.

Although the decision not to issue a civilian suit or a cash grant had been made a long time ago, he said, its effects were only just beginning to be felt with the release of the first National Servicemen. Conditions had changed since the decision had been made, the period of service had been lengthened for instance, and there was now no reason why the decision should not be revoked. To issue a clothing allowance of between £15 and £20 per man would cost the country about £1,500,000 a year, but it would be money well spent. Otherwise the feeling that they were not getting a fair deal would sour the attitude of the National Servicemen towards the Army both before and after release.

Mr. Chetwynd pointed out that most men put on weight and height during their military service and could no longer wear their old clothes on discharge. A soldier's pay was not so high that he could save the necessary £20 to £25 during his term of service to fit himself out with new civilian clothes on release.

In special cases, said Mr. Chetwynd, a soldier who could prove that he had no suitable clothing in his possession could be given a battle-dress dyed blue. But that was "a re-echo of a means test which should not be applied."

Several other Members supported Mr. Chetwynd. Mrs. Jean Mann (Coatbridge) put the case of the mothers whose sons were doing National Service. She also

pointed out that the 60 clothing coupons issued as a release benefit were no longer of any practical use and that the price of clothes had risen steadily since the war.

The difference between the National Servicemen and the men called up during the war was stressed by Mr. Alexander in his reply. The wartime soldiers were called up for an unlimited period, he said, and ran very grave risks during their service. They were also released at a time when suits were very scarce and hard to obtain. The question was whether the difference between their circumstances and those of the National Servicemen justified the difference in their release benefits.

He could not promise that any change of policy would arise from the representations made by Members, but he would promise that the question would be very carefully examined in the light of present economic circumstances.

Mr. Chetwynd: Before the right hon. gentleman sits down, would he try to see if a decision can be arrived at before the bulk of the men are coming out?

Mr. Alexander: I do not think that my hon. friend had better ask me to enter into a pledge on this debate.

Further pressed, Mr. Alexander would only repeat that the matter would be examined and added that Members could ask further questions at a later date if they desired.

COMING YOUR WAY

The following films will be shown at AKC cinemas shortly:

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY

The reigning monarch of English-language comedians, Danny Kaye, sets to dreaming and becomes the captain of a schooner, an RAF ace, a surgeon, a Parisian milliner, a gambler and a cowboy, with the cooperation of Virginia Mayo and the Goldwyn Girls. James Thurber wrote the story, but Danny added plenty.

BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE

The story of the Young Pretender and his escape after the battle of Prestonpans; with David Niven in the dashing lead and Margaret Leighton as Flora Macdonald. Some of the critics didn't like it — and Sir Alexander Korda placarded Britain saying they were talking nonsense. See it for yourself.

ONCE A JOLLY SWAGMAN

Not, as you would expect, about bushrangers and Waltzing Matilda, but a film of dirt-track racing in Britain, with plenty of speedway sequences and flying cinders. Stars: Dirk Bogarde, Bonar Colleano and Renee Asherson.

YOU GOTTA STAY HAPPY

Joan Fontaine plays one of those brides who realise it is All A Terrible Mistake as she leaves the altar. Then she meets James Stewart, a chimpanzee and a lot of frivolity.

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AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERING

Gen. Automobile Eng.—Motor
Maintenance & Repairs—High
Speed Diesel—Garage Mngt.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Gen. Elec. Eng.—Elementary &
Advanced Elec. Technology—
Installations—Draughtsmanship
—Supply—Maintenance—
Design—Electrical Traction—
Mining Electrical Eng.—Power
Station equipment, etc.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Gen. Civil Eng.—Sanitary Eng.—
Structural Eng.—Road Eng.—
Reinforced Concrete—Geology.

RADIO ENGINEERING

Gen. Radio Eng.—Radio Servicing,
Maintenance & Repairs—
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LETTERS

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Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

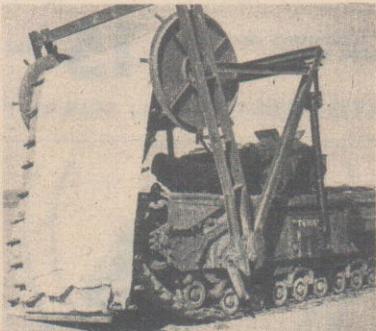
● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your own orderly room or from your own officer, thus saving time and postage.



NOTHING NEW

In the article "Three Brainwaves from America" in your February issue, one of the ideas is that of a vehicle laying its own track as it goes over swampy ground or soft sand.

This idea had already been used by the British 79th Armoured Division on D-Day. A Churchill tank was equipped with a carpet of canvas matting across which were fastened tubular steel pipes about a foot apart. The whole thing was rolled on a spindle mounted on the front



of the tank. The "Bobbin," as the apparatus was called, could be unwound to lay down a track for the tank to use over swampy ground or soft sand. This carpet carried a 40-ton tank.

I think we can claim the "Brainwave". — C. W. Maughan, 417 City Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 17.

SHADOW CRITIC

Every effort is being made to attract men into the Regular Army, but I do not think the recruiting posters give a very true picture of Army conditions.

"Good Prospects for Promotion", they say. So there may have been until the ACI dealing with Shadow Promotion was published. Apparently shadow rank will be based on the war-substantive rank held on 1 July 1948. This will probably not affect the old sweats who are getting past their prime, but to a new-comer, who has worked hard to attain his present rank, it seems that all his effort has been in vain. It certainly provides no incentive. — Sjt. K. Wilde, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt., Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot, Hants.

★ With the Army steadily contracting to peace-time size, it is obvious that rank vacancies are likely to grow fewer. Some system had to be devised whereby a guarantee was given to Regulars of their eventual substantive

rank under a peace-time code and it would be difficult to think of a better one. After all, 1 July 1948 was only six months before the publication of the ACI. Not so many men will have risen in rank during that time. The "shadow" system is explained in detail on page 41.

STROKE OF THE AXE

In your February issue you print two letters on how to make an Army career more attractive. One you call "Axe the Veterans" and the other "Bold Stroke Needed." I suggest that the writer of the first should digest the contents of the second. Why does he advocate the removal of senior ranks who have completed pensionable service? Is it perhaps because he holds a war-substantive rank and is hoping to create a vacancy for himself on the peacetime establishment? A far greater incentive to the potential Regular would be security on discharge rather than promotion while serving. — Armourers' Convention (name and address supplied).

CLASS DISTINCTION

In your February edition you quote, with enthusiastic agreement, the Headmaster of Tonbridge as saying that the time spent by the ex-student soldiers "in daily comradeship with their fellows of all classes will ... broaden their minds."

As an ex-student whose studies were NOT interrupted, may I say that the class-barriers of the Army are much more clearly defined and emphasised than their civilian equivalents. Cavy Street's loose distinctions between worker, foreman, lower and upper-middle class are much less rigid than the legally enforced divisions between other rank, sergeant and warrant officer or between junior and senior officers. The modern British university mixes its classes much more effectively. — "Class Conscious" (name and address supplied).

★ In the sense that sergeants, warrant officers and officers must first serve in the ranks, the Army can surely be said to mix the classes?

VOLUNTEERING

It appears that the appeals and recruiting campaigns for the Territorial Army are not meeting with much success, yet there must be hundreds of medically down-graded ex-soldiers like myself who have offered their spare time to instruct National Servicemen.

Surely the time has come to cut red tape and welcome all such offers. Otherwise I feel sure that the target of 150,000 volunteers will never be reached. — Clive Harrison, Abinger Common, Dorking, Surrey.

★ While every offer of assistance is no doubt appreciated, the present shortage is not so much of instructors as of active rank and file who can be mobilised in an emergency.

MACKINNON

You have often mentioned Mackinnon Road (the Army's new base in Kenya), but you have never told us how it gets its name. — **Sgt. J. Waller, 50 RRU.**

★ Sir William Mackinnon (1823-93), of Campbeltown, was the founder of the first East Africa Company. He had traded extensively in India and on the Persian Gulf, before turning his activities to the eastern seaboard of Africa. His ideas were bigger than those of the British Government, who would not ratify his first proposal in 1878 for leasing 590,000 square miles of Africa, including Lakes Nyasa, Tanganyika and Victoria Nyanza. Eventually the Company leased a more modest slice of East Africa, and later the Government took over from them. Mackinnon built the railway to Nairobi as far as Mackinnon Road. From an unknown settlement this has now become a name in the news — but Mackinnon deserved more than a "one-horse town" as his monument.

BOYS' SERVICE

I see from your February issue that boys who signed on for 12 years with the Colours have the option, on completing seven years of their engagement, to vary their terms of service to eight with the Colours and four on the Reserve. Is this applicable to all boys? — **Sgt. E. Walder, 2nd. Inf. Workshops, REME, Greece.**

★ No. Our answer in the February issue was rather misleading. The regulation applies only to boys who enlisted on an engagement of 12 years with the Colours between 1 April and 20 October 1947. These boys were not given any option at the time. They had to sign on for 12 years colour service. To make up for this, they are now being given a chance to vary their terms of service after they have

completed seven years of their engagement. No other boys are affected.

Variation of terms of service in general has been in abeyance since 1939. At present it is not known whether and when it is likely to be re-introduced.

FIRST BOY

As I was the first Boy to enlist in the Boys' Battery RA when it re-opened in November 1942 I was very interested in the much merited and accurate article on the subject which appeared in your February issue.

In those days we were living in bomb-damaged billets in the main depot, with only a yearly firing camp to relieve the monotony.

Will any "Badgies" who are interested drop me a line? — **Gnr. L. T. Clarke, att British Military Hospital, Tripoli, MELF I.**

OLD BOYS

Having been a boy at the Depot RA, Woolwich many years ago, I was very interested to read the article about the Boys' Battery RA in your February issue.

If there are any ex-Boys who were with the Borgard Section 1st. Boys' Battery RA at the Depot during the year 1933-34, still serving, I would very much like to hear from them with a view to arranging a reunion, preferably in the summer. This invitation includes ex-Sjt. O'Hara and ex-L/Bdr Moore, who were our instructors. — **BSM. J. C. Watson, RASO, BAFO, RAF, Fassberg, BAOR 23.**

FIRE AFLOAT

You say in your "Interval for Adventure" in the January issue that Cpl. Pickett and Rusling used fire extinguishers on the blazing oil tanker Orlotto. In fact the equipment used was a Dennis Medium Trailer Fire Pump, working a multiple jet inductor and foam branch No. 10 and two foam branches No. 2. Four hundred gallons of foam compound were used.

Without detracting from the grand

job done by the two corporals I would like to point out that the vessel they were in was an MV 51, on charge to 22 Army Fire Brigade RASC at Adabiya, Spez and used as a fire float. They were the coxswain and engineer of the float. The actual operations were under control of WO 1 Andrews and the fire-fighting crew was composed of German POW's. It was due to the corporals' excellent handling of the vessel that the fire brigade were able to control the flames and earn the two men their commendation. — **Capt. R. D. Crichton, RASC, Staff Capt (Fire), HQ BTE & Med. Comd.**

"BULL" BRUMMEL

In a book on the life of Beau Brummel which I have just read I found, two interesting points on the cleaning of boots. Brummel, who spent four years with the 10th Hussars, insisted that



boots should be polished on the soles as well as the uppers. Might it have been the Beau who introduced spit and polish in the Army, or was he merely following the practices of those before him?

He stated that the most brilliant shine was obtained by mixing boot blacking with finest champagne — a useful tip for one-star privates! — **Sjt. J. I. McFie RAEC, Middle East College, Geneifa, MELF.**

FULL DRESS

Public opinion has shown itself in favour of a smarter kit than khaki for the Household Cavalry sentries. When they changed into khaki there was a protest from *The Times*, which was re-echoed in the *New York Herald-Tribune*. This newspaper pointed out that the red coat and cuirass attracted travellers from America and that it helped to cheer up the drab British scene. The article also noted that the red coat was the emblem of an army that had spilt its blood on many a battlefield, an emblem that should not be lightly cast off.

On 1 January, to the delight of all, the sentries at the Horse Guards once more donned their full kit. At Buckingham Palace, however, the Guards still wear drab khaki. Scarlet and bearskins are only for very special occasions. Stocks are in short supply and, as full dress is abolished, they will not be replaced when they are used up. Surely this is false economy. These colourful uniforms are dollar-earners.

In France, Denmark and Holland, full dress is maintained at the palaces and official buildings. Are we, a monarchy, to have our Guards deprived of the King's scarlet? Without it the Army and the country lose prestige and that "panache" which is so essential to a smart soldier. The present policy needs urgent revision from all points of view. — **Capt. Russell Steele, late RAMC, Penrhyn Lodge, Gloucester Gate, London NW 1.**

GRATUITOUS

When I leave the Army in 1949 I shall have done ten years Colour service, including boy's service. Will the Army pay me the £10 gratuity from the sixth year onwards? — **Cpl. B. Charlwood, Netherlaw Farm, Kircudbright, Scotland.**

★ No. Boy's service does not count for gratuity purposes. A soldier must do ten years man's service before becoming eligible for any gratuity.

(More Letters on Page 46)

Buying Out in 1812

FORMER Sergeant A. W. Nugent, of Neston, sent SOLDIER two interesting documents found by his wife between the pages of a second-hand book.

These show that once upon a time, if you had money, you could dodge your service with the local militia. One of the documents was a form addressed to a Mr. William Duke, of Birmingham. It read:

Notice is hereby given to you, that you are chosen by Lot to serve in the Local Militia of the said County (Warwickshire) and that you are to appear at Vauxhall, in the Parish of Aston, in the said County, on the eleventh day of March next at Eleven of the Clock in the Forenoon, before the Deputy Lieutenants and Justices of the Peace for the said County, to be then and there assembled, to take the Oath in that Behalf required, and to be enrolled to serve in the Local Militia of the said County, as a private Local Militia Man, for the Space of Four Years; and in Case you fail herein, you will forfeit the Sum of thirty pounds; or if your Income does not in the Whole amount to £200 you will forfeit the Sum of twenty pounds; or if your Income does not in the Whole amount to £100 you will forfeit the Sum of ten pounds.

Given under our Hands the 29th Day of February in the Year of our Lord 1812, Edward Baker, John Linwood, Constables of Birmingham.

Note the date: three years before the Battle of Waterloo.

If you claim Exemption on the Ground of having more than two Children born in Wedlock, and being poor, you must produce a Certificate of your Marriage; if you are more than thirty Years of Age, you must bring a Certificate of your Baptism.

Reasonably enough, a man could not claim exemption because he had a string of illegitimate children, as the above note makes clear. Below: The receipt for the £10 paid over by William Duke.

Warwickshire.

WHEREAS *William Duke* of Birmingham in the County of Warwick, Gentleman, was on the 28th Day of February 1812 duly chosen by Ballot to serve in the LOCAL MILITIA for the said County—THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the said *William Duke* has this Day paid the Sum of *ten* Pounds, as his Fine for not being enrolled in the Local Militia of the said County. Witness my Hand this 28th Day of March 1812. — *Thos. Welch*

Clerk of Birmingham Subdivision.

The above Fine of *ten* Pounds was paid in the Presence of

W. Metherell *J. H. H.*

MORE LETTERS

WHY NO GONGS?

Why are serving soldiers not yet permitted to wear their medals, although Territorials wore theirs in a recent recruiting parade? — **SSM. E. J. Clayton, HQ BAOR Signal Regt., BAOR 15.**

★ Authority was granted recently to serving soldiers to wear decorations and medals on certain parades. An ACI is shortly to be published which will give full details of how and when medals will be worn in the Army.

MEDAL AND PENSION

If someone joins the TA as a boy in 1928, comes on to man's service in 1931 and in 1933 joins the Regular Army (in which he is still serving), can he claim the Territorial Efficiency Medal? Is there any increment to be claimed on his 22 years Regular Army pension? — **Certa Cito (name and address supplied).**

★ The Efficiency Medal (TA) is awarded for 12 years continuous service on a TA or Auxiliary Force attestation. Regular Army service can count during war-time only, and if the qualifying period is completed during the embodiment of the Territorial Army. If the TA Efficiency Medal were accepted under these conditions it would automatically absorb 12 years of the service towards the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, because service may reckon towards one medal only.

In this case, the embodied service in the TA does not affect the assessment of the Regular Army pension, although

in certain circumstances TA service may count towards a service pension. Briefly, under the New Code all full time paid military service may be counted towards pension. This includes embodied service in the TA over the age of 18.

MEDAL EQUALITY

Now that pay and pensions are being put on an equal footing for all three Services, perhaps the award of service medals could be standardised too. At present the Army and RAF Long Service and Good Conduct Medals are awarded after 18 years, and the Navy equivalent after 15 years and the Territorial medal after ten years (six in war-time).

The three Royal Navy Reserve medals can be earned by periods of service varying from 12 to 15 years and there is no Army Reserve medal. It is about time something was done to even things up. — **MSS. W. Robinson, No. 1 Holding Bn. RASC, Thetford.**

★ Although the facts quoted here are correct, they are rather misleading. For instance, Navy Reserve is roughly equal to Army Territorial Service, while Army Reserve is something quite different, if it can be called "service" at all. The Navy Long Service medal for 15 years service is roughly equivalent to that of the Army, because the Navy does not count boy's service towards it and the Army does.

Nor must Regular and Volunteer Force medals be confused. Volunteer Force medals were instituted with the idea of attracting men to join and are therefore easier to earn, while Regular medals are a reward for a life-time

career in the Army. They are hard to earn, much sought after and highly valued. Lessening the qualifying period for Regular medals would undo the very purpose for which they were instituted.

WRONG RIBBONS

A corporal friend of mine wears seven medal ribbons. Among these are the Burma Star and the Pacific Star. Is this right? — **L/C D. Cann, D Coy, 1st King's Own, BAOR 24.**

★ No one is permitted to wear the ribbons of both the Burma Star and the Pacific Star. A soldier should wear the first one earned and a rosette on it to indicate the earning of the second star.

LIVING AT HOME

My wife and I live in civilian quarters at Caterham and I have to travel to London every day. Why am I not entitled to full travel allowance? — **Trooper, Royal Horse Guards, Hyde Park Barracks, London.**

★ Travel allowance is issued to men whose wives occupy Army quarters some distance from barracks. Men separated from their wives by the exigencies of the service do not receive travel allowance. The fact that a man's wife may live near enough for him to go home every day does not alter this.

FULLY FURNISHED

My German fiancée has a house full of furniture which she would like to bring to Britain when we are married. Is there any way of doing this? — **Csm. T. W. Crook, R. Leicestershire Regt. "Q" Branch, HQ BAOR.**

★ Not through the Army. However, if the furniture can be brought as far as Hamburg under private arrangements, there are British firms which undertake to ship it to Britain.

NO LEAVE

If a soldier goes on release and, at the end of his release leave, signs on again to complete 12 years service, is he entitled to RENLEAVE? — **E. Hector, Chevrons Club, Dorset Square, London NW 1.**

★ No. RENLEAVE is only for men who re-engage while still serving.

OVERSEAS LEAVE

In your November issue you state that release benefits for Regulars will not include overseas leave after 31 March 1949, but that an element of their overseas leave will be included in their disembarkation leave. How about the Regulars who served overseas during the war, but are already back in Britain and are not due to go out until after 31 March? Can they claim overseas leave or cash in lieu? — **Gnr. W. Dickinson, 17 AA Brigade, Wawne Hall, Wawne, nr. Hull.**

★ Overseas leave cannot be claimed until release. Those Regulars already back in Britain from overseas, but not due for discharge until after 31 March 1949, have already had all the disembarkation leave to which they are entitled and SOLDIER is informed that no overseas leave will be added to the 28 days terminal leave which they receive on discharge.

NOT FROM NAAFI

At the end of my release leave I was given an extra £1, which I believe comes from NAAFI to all Regulars at the rate of £1 per year. Later I came back to complete 12 years with the Colours and have now been accepted on a 22-year engagement. Three weeks ago I received a note from the Paymaster re-charging me for the £1. Is this in order? — **Sjt. M. Burrows, 10 A/T Regt RA, BAOR 14.**

★ The £1 a year which you thought came from NAAFI is, in fact, a

NAAFI

CANTEENS

HOW do NAAFI prices compare with those charged in civilian works canteens?

Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, War Minister, was asked this question in Parliament by Brigadier O. L. Prior-Palmer. He replied that in many cases canteen prices were subsidised by the firm, so that no real comparison was possible, but he issued the following list:

NAAFI prices per portion	Typical Canteen prices per portion		
	from	to	
s. d.	d. s. d.		
Soup	2½	1	3
Meat and two vegetables	11½	9	1
Fish and two vegetables	1	0½	0
Sweet	3	3	4
Tea	1	1	2
Coffee	1½	1½	2

Service gratuity from Army Funds, authorised by the Secretary, Royal Hospital, Chelsea under Art. 1056 of the Royal Pay Warrant 1940. This says that when a soldier is discharged before completing a pensionable engagement, or is transferred to Section "B" Army Reserve, he will receive £1 for each completed year of Colour service.

If the soldier later re-joins to complete his 12-year engagement, which is not normally permitted, and if he is accepted on a 22-years engagement the £1, which he would not have received had he carried straight on to finish his normal engagement, is reclaimed.

THANK YOU

I wish to thank those of your readers who so generously responded to my appeal for certain missing numbers of your splendid magazine. The December issue had hardly been published before offers began to arrive, and I am sure that often these offers were made from cherished collections.

In many cases I was able to write and thank the donor personally, but in some, copies were received without any indication as to who was the sender, and it is to the senders of these particularly I wish to say thank you for helping to complete a set of SOLDIER for the Australian War Memorial. — **J. McGrath, for Australian War Memorial, Australia House, London.**

Answers

Can You Recognise Them?

(Pages 28-29)

1. Peter Ustinov.
2. Basil Rathbone.
3. Arthur Askey.
4. Leslie Banks.
5. John Mills.
6. Ronald Colman.
7. Derek Bond.
8. Christopher Stone.
9. Sir Lewis Casson.
10. Marius Goring.
11. Bud Flanagan.
12. David Niven.
13. Raymond Massey.
14. Trevor Howard.
15. Ray Milland.
16. Sir Cedric Hardwicke.

How Much Do You Know?

(Page 34)

1. Neither John nor I is drunk.
2. Pontius Pilate.
3. Six. 4. (b).
5. The Houses of Parliament.
6. Letters in each group are in reverse of alphabetical order; numerals in each group add up to eight. 7. As bald as a coot (a kind of water fowl). 8. "The Red Shoes." 9. Daily Mirror.
10. Table tennis.
11. A devotee of Terpsichore (Terpsichore was the Muse of Dancing).

IN WHICH SQUARE ARE YOU?

1 IS YOUR PERSONALITY GOOD?

COULD YOU address a public meeting to-night without notes? Have you personal courage? Can you "create" will-power? Are you a good mixer? Can you think and talk "on your feet"?

3 IS YOUR MENTAL ORGANISATION FIRST-CLASS?

DO YOU HAVE a 100% perfect memory? Are you always "mentally alert"? Can you plan and organise? Can you write and talk convincingly? Can you conduct interviews?

2 DO YOU HAVE PERSONAL DEFECTS?

ARE YOU a "shut-in" personality? Are you handicapped by marked shyness, inability to "mix"? Are you a prey to fears, worry, weariness or depressions? Do you suffer from inferiority complex?

4 ARE THERE MENTAL WEAKNESSES?

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JEAN SIMMONS

— J. Arthur Rank

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