

SOLDIER

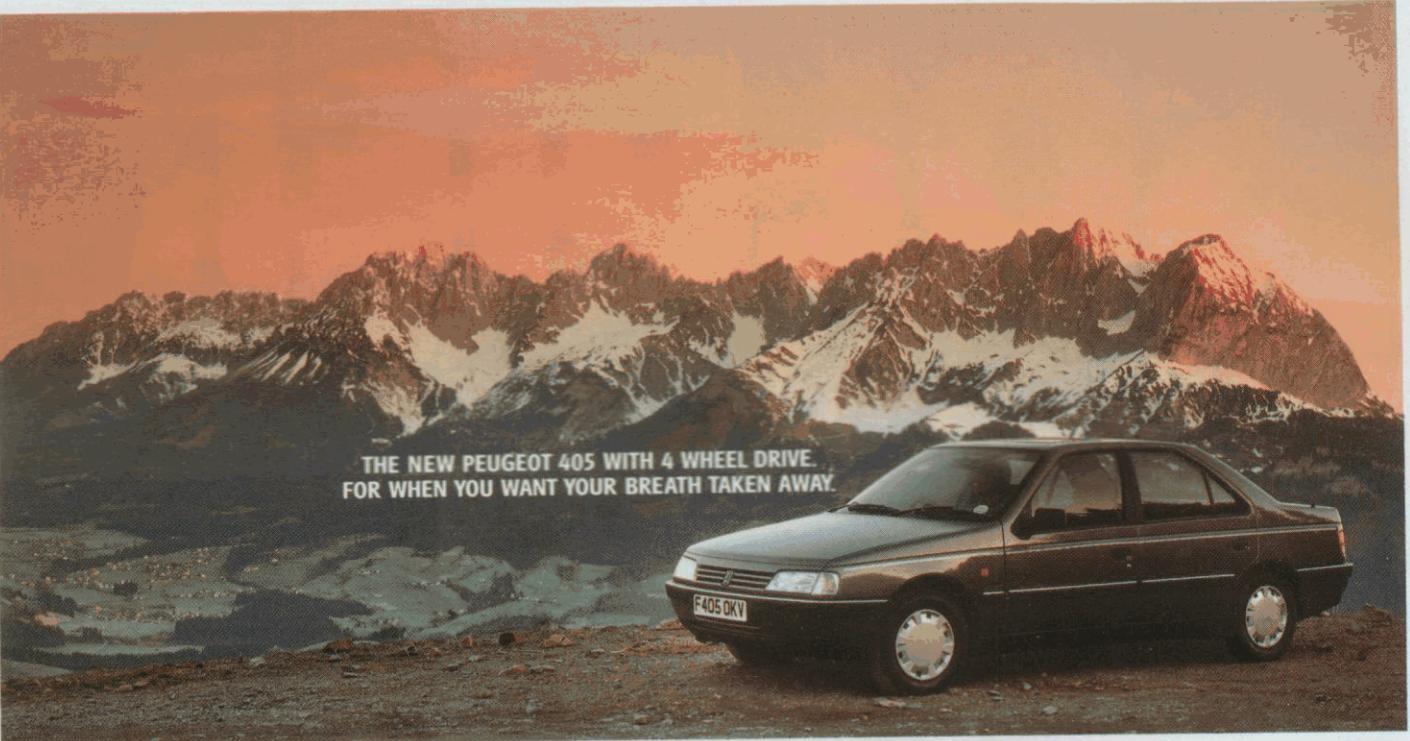
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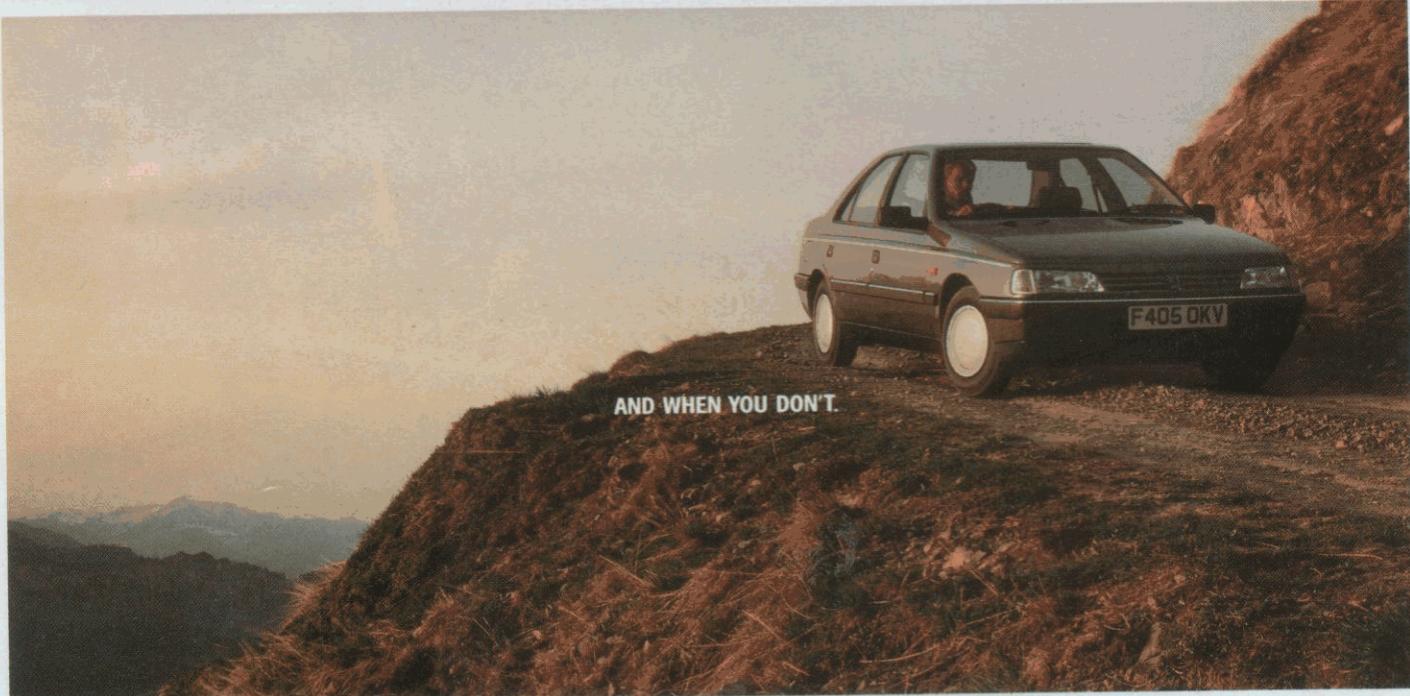


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FRONT COVER: Working in the Battalion Operations Centre during 1st Bn Welsh Guards Battle Group (South) exercise in Belize are radio operator Gdsnn Craig Edwards (foreground), Capt Chris Klein, watchkeeping (centre), and Capt John Warburton-Lee. See Pages 25-29.

Picture: Mike Weston

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



A SOLDIER team watched NORTHAG win the prestigious Canadian Army Trophy tank competition, this time contested in the absence of a British Army entry. Calls have been made for the emphasis of the competition to be altered. Read about it in the next issue. Also more from Belize.

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Another hero who deserved VC

There can never be too much reverence put on the Victoria Cross, never too much respect shown to those who wear it.

Nobody must detract one sparkle of the glory its

Reunions

● Monte Cassino Veterans Association will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War with a concert at the Winter Gardens, Eastbourne, on September 2, followed by a parade and service the next day. Details from Mr John Clarke, secretary, 41 Aldermary Road, Manchester M21 2QW.

● Herr Herbert Konig, of Magdeburger Str 41, 4900 Herford/Westf, West Germany, is anxious to contact Allen Victor Emery who was stationed at Harewood Barracks, Herford, about 25 years ago, and is believed to have been in the Life Guards or REME.

● Suffolk/East Anglian/Royal Anglian annual Minden Day reunion will be at The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds on July 30 1100-1800 hours.

recipients have earned for themselves. However, I do agree with John Evans (SOLDIER June 26) that many others also deserved the supreme award but never received one.

The most glaring example of injustice is the case of Cdr Clouston, RN, Pier Master at Dunkirk from the start of the evacuation until a few hours from the bitter end.

Under his guidance some 200,000 men were sent to safety but he remained there for so long under the most terrible conditions, one of the most courageous acts in history. Eventually he snatched a few hours rest in England before returning to his task, only to drown as he neared the beaches.

If ever a VC was deserved it was in this case. It seems very strange that no VC was awarded to anybody at all

actually at Dunkirk - or Calais.

And only one Victoria Cross was awarded during the Battle of Britain, also the sole VC awarded to Fighter Command in the Second World War. From my native Kent and from Hawkinge airfield I saw scores of pilots do enough to warrant recognition.

Capt Heaton, MC, the Buffs and a veteran of the First World War staggered to an open space carrying an unexploded bomb.

Yes Mr Evans, the wearers of campaign stars are people of valour - but no stars to wear does not mean that valour did not exist.

It just means that an ungrateful nation failed to recognise that valour.

Thousands fell in the streets of these islands, and not one received a campaign star. - H V Cossons, 4 Rickhays, Winscant, Somerset BA9 9BH.

Security guard uniforms

I agree with Mr Thornton's letter on the drab No 2 uniform. Since they have done away with the breast pocket pleats and the belt hooks (now we have sagging belts on parade), the No 2 uniform looks more than ever like that of a supermarket security guard.

Make our soldiers look military again, bring back the traditional red coat with the dog collar. Why should only the Guards Division have them? Top it off with the pre-1914 style Home Service Helmet.

Come on Army Dress Committee, get rid of the all-polyester drab khaki No 2 dress, bring back the smart military uniforms of yesteryear. And don't forget the Light Division dress, in green, with the rifleman's busby. - D J McLeod, 18 Beachcroft Place Lancing, Sussex.

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Leading the way

RCT's Young Soldier of the Year kept cool in fire



DVR Richard Corbett has been chosen Royal Corps of Transport Young Soldier of the Year for his bravery and dedication to duty and for being an inspiration to others.

Richard (pictured left), currently with 617 Tank Transporter Squadron in Hamm, Germany, received the award for his action during an exercise when he took command of his unit after his commander was disabled. When the fire alarm was raised in a barracks building, he crawled into the heat of the fire to ensure there was no one left in the building.

The award was presented to him by Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, when she visited RCT BAOR in Bielefeld as its Commander in Chief.

Truck contract

A CONTRACT worth £155m has been awarded by the Ministry of Defence to Leyland DAF for the supply of more than 5,000 four-tonne trucks for the British Armed Forces. The decision follows an evaluation programme of vehicles from three competing companies.

Instant parking

WATERBEACH based sappers from 34 Field Squadron RE laid 5,600 metres of trackway in London's Regents and Hyde parks to create extra car parking to offset the effects of the national rail strike.

1 QLR so fit

FOR the second consecutive year the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment can claim to be the fittest in BAOR. It has won the BAOR Tickle fitness competition.

• Northern Ireland Tickle winners — Page 10.

Double delight in Nato trophy

TEAMS from 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and the AMF (L) Logistic Support Battalion RAOC have won both sections of Nato's coveted Challenge Cup.

The cup is competed for annually by members of Nato's ACE Mobile Force (Land) — Britain, Canada, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy, Germany and the United States.

It consists of an assault course followed by a strenuous march and shoot competition which was even more taxing this year because of the heat. The competition is split into two groups for Infantry and Non-Infantry and this year the British contingent won both for the third consecutive time.

In the Infantry Company competition the results were: 1, A Coy 2 RRF 389 points; 2, 2 Coy 262 Parachute Battalion (Germany) 387 points; 3, C Coy 2 RRF 370 points.

This put 2 RRF in first place with an aggregate score of 379.5 points, followed by the German 262 Parachute Battalion second (360.5 points) and the Canadians third (322 points).

In the Non Infantry competition the placings were: 1, AMF (L) RAOC Support Battalion (UK); 2, 249 Sigs Sqn (UK); 3, D Sqn 13/18 Hussars (UK).



The A Coy 2 RRF team in action during the AMF march and shoot competition

RTR NCO killed in car explosion

CPL Steve Smith, RTR, died and his wife and four children were injured when a bomb exploded under his car outside their married quarter in Hanover. The 31 year old NCO joined the Army in 1976 and came from Yorkshire.

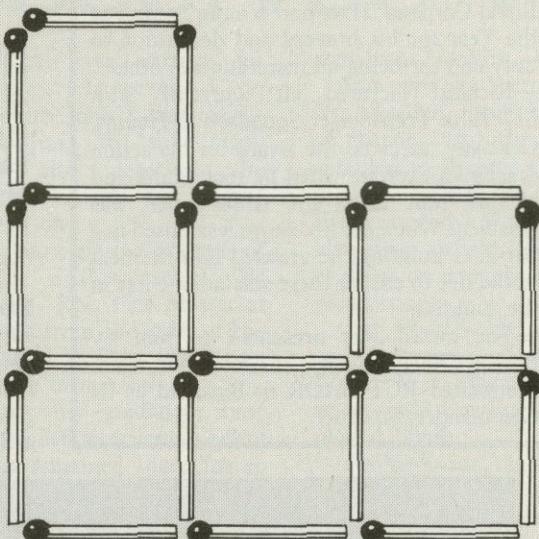
A second device was found under another car parked close by and Service chiefs are warning troops and their families to be vigilant.

Combat medic top of class

WINNER of the coveted Leishman Prize for highest marks in the Combat Medical Technicians Class 1 exams during 1988 was LCpl Alex Strong of 5 Armoured Field Ambulance. He received the medal and purse prize during a ceremony when the Colonel Commandant of the RAMC, Maj Gen Norman Kirby, visited the unit at its base in Munster, West Germany.

During his visit Gen Kirby watched demonstrations of casualty rescue and handling and dressing station treatment.

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Bandsman Nick's in time to save woman's life

QUICK-THINKING bandsman Cpl Nick Wakeford of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers saved the life of a Danish pensioner who suffered a stroke while watching his band give an evening performance in Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens.

The bandsmen leapt from the stage to

give mouth to mouth resuscitation and heart massage when he saw the 69 year old woman collapse during a pause in the music.

The incident happened on a Sunday evening when clarinetist Cpl Wakeford and his colleagues in St George's Band of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers were giving a

performance during a break from a military exercise in Denmark.

Cpl Wakeford had revived the woman by the time an ambulance arrived and she recovered in hospital.

"He saved her life", said hospital spokesman Dr Karl Knudsen.

Two AIDS cases in Services

THE Services' attitude to AIDS sufferers has been outlined to the House of Commons by Mr Michael Neubert, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces.

There are currently only three known HIV-positive individuals and two AIDS cases in the Armed Services, revealed Mr Neubert, adding that the position was being properly monitored.

The Services continue to employ HIV carriers and AIDS sufferers until their health deteriorates to a point where discharge on medical grounds becomes appropriate, he said.

"The Services take a compassionate view of the AIDS sufferers. If a Serviceman has to be discharged on medical grounds he will be treated humanely and allowed to leave with dignity, as would anyone leaving on any health ground."

Air defenders out in force

MORE than 2,000 troops from BAOR and the United Kingdom took part in Exercise Whirligig 89, BAOR's largest air defence manoeuvres. Elements from the Canadian and Danish armies also took part.

Units from the UK included 103 AD Regt (The Manchester and Merseyside Gunners) and elements of 16 AD Regt from South Humberside.

QLR marks D-Day date

FORTY-FIVE years after soldiers of the 1st Battalion The South Lancashire Regiment led the D-Day assault on Sword Beach in Normandy, 50 of their successors in the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment travelled there from Paderborn to take part in the 45th D-Day anniversary ceremonies.

With soldiers of the French army they lined the route to majestic Bayeux Cathedral



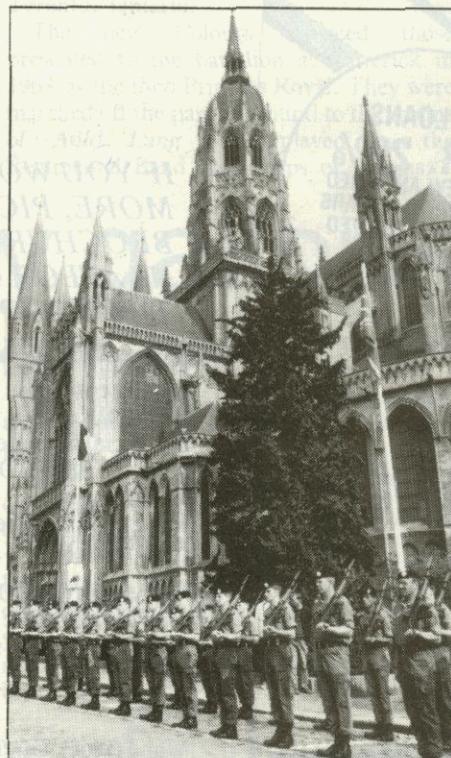
COMPANY 2ic Capt Andy Proctor presents laurel leaves to soldiers of his company during the Waterloo Day Parade at Alanbrooke Barracks, Paderborn, West Germany.

The tradition commemorates the heroic part played by the 30th and 40th Regiments of Foot (now the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire

Regiment) in the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo.

For their steadfastness and discipline during the battle soldiers of 30th and 40th Foot were permitted to encircle their badges with a wreath of laurels.

The wearing of a laurel leaf behind the cap badge on Waterloo Day maintains an unbroken tradition of 174 years.



The QLR guard of honour rehearses in front of majestic Bayeux Cathedral

as the Queen Mother arrived to unveil a stained glass window dedicated to all who served in the liberation of Normandy.

REME link celebrated on parade

ANGLO-GERMAN partnership was well to the fore when 4 Armoured Workshop REME and 210 Instandsetzungs-Kompanie held a joint parade to celebrate the 15th anniversary of their association.

It was at the express wish of the German and British soldiers that the parade was held – at the General Feldmarschall von Rommel barracks in Augustdorf – and that the two contingents stood on the square not as two national companies but shoulder to shoulder in two Anglo-German groups.

Lt Col Peter Morgan (4 Armoured Workshop) and Capt Detlev Nowak (210 Instandsetzungs-Kompanie) both carried out the inspection and both took the salute as the soldiers marched past to the music of the band of the 1st Bn, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

They even made their post-inspection speeches in each other's language.

After the formality, there was a football match with mixed teams, and an equipment display with soldiers using each other's equipment.

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King Olav V presents the Queen's Colour to Lt Neil Knox before the presentation of the Regimental Colour in a similar ceremony and (above right) inspects men of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards. Behind the King is the CO, Lt Col John Powell (left) and Lt Gen Sir Peter Inge (centre), Colonel of the regiment

Pictures: WO2 Arthur Thomson, UKL

Colours from a King

Green Howards parade marks 300th anniversary

AS PART of their 300th birthday celebrations the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards were presented with new Colours by King Olav V of Norway, Colonel in Chief of the regiment, at their Catterick, North Yorkshire, base.

On parade were 350 members of the regiment joined, as they marched off with the 85-year-old King taking the salute, by 400 old comrades of the regiment.

Watching were families, guests and

members of affiliated units including the Rocky Mountain Rangers from Kamloops, British Columbia, and The Queen's York Rangers (1st American Regiment) from Toronto, Ontario.

The new Colours replaced those presented to the battalion at Catterick in 1963 by the then Princess Royal. They were marched off the parade ground to the strains of *Auld Lang Syne* played by the Regimental Band and Corps of Drums.

Battle Day gallop

STROLLERS in London's Hyde Park, startled to see a line of cavalrymen thundering across the turf, swords flashing, were reassured that they had not slipped through a time warp.

Men of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment (Life Guards and Blues and Royals) were simply practising for a big moment in the Royal Armoured Corps Battle Day to be held near Bovington Camp, Dorset, on July 30.

On the 50th anniversary of the Royal Armoured Corps (formed just in time for the Second World War) the pageant is

portraying "Armour through the ages" tracing it back to Boadicea's chariot.

Certain to enjoy the charge more than anyone are the 20 horses which will take part.

"They love getting away from the constraints of London ceremonial," said Capt Ed Connolly, their commander.

The traditional battle day is generally seen by around 15,000 people. It has raised tens of thousands of pounds for charity over the years. For RAC anniversary year a record number of the latest armoured vehicles will be on display.

Physio block opens for Scottish Division juniors

THE opening of the new physiotherapy building in Albermarle Barracks, Newcastle, home of the Junior Infantry Battalion (Scottish and King's Divisions), means better treatment facilities for staff and the

500 Junior Leaders under training.

Early treatment of injuries, particularly of the lower limbs, can now take place in more spacious surroundings and with more patients able to be treated simultaneously.



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Brothers enlist at the Double

No, you're not seeing double. You're seeing double double!

When 16-year-old twin brothers **Leighton** and **Lawrence Eynon** called at the Army Careers Information Office at Pembroke Dock in Wales to enlist in the Royal Artillery, looking on were their 18-year-old twin brothers **Wayne** and **Justin**.

Leighton and Lawrence will join 22 Air Defence Regiment RA at Dortmund in Germany when they finish their basic training at the Royal Artillery Junior Leaders' Regiment at Nuneaton.

Wayne and Justin are in the same regiment.

Scotland bound

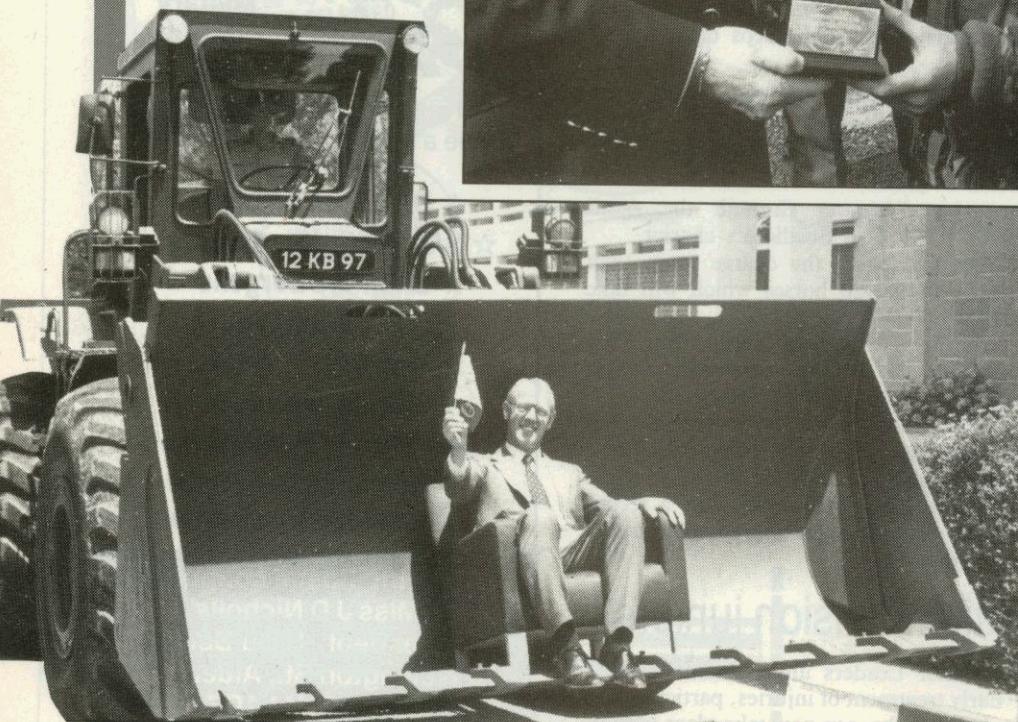
Col **Francis 'Miff' Tuck** (late Royal Engineers) found an unusual form of transport waiting to transport him into retirement when he left the British High Commission at Nicosia in Cyprus where he was the Defence Advisor. But fortunately it did not take him all the way to his retirement home in the highlands of Scotland.

Col Tuck had spent 36 years in the Army and was commissioned into the Royal Engineers almost exactly a quarter of a century ago.

The transport was provided by Plant Troop 62 (Cyprus) Support Squadron RE.

Picture: WO2 Arthur Thomson

PEOPLE

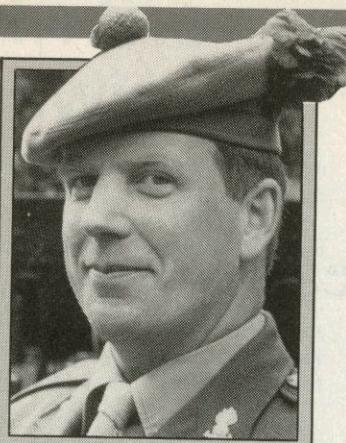


Stars of Combat

Pte John Kernagan receives a silver statuette from Falklands veteran Simon Weston on behalf of the 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment who won the final of the Combat 89 television series.

Capt Chris Kemp, Sgt Bob Parry, LCpl John Baycroft, and Pte Kernagan formed the team that snatched top honours from the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards in the hard fought contest.

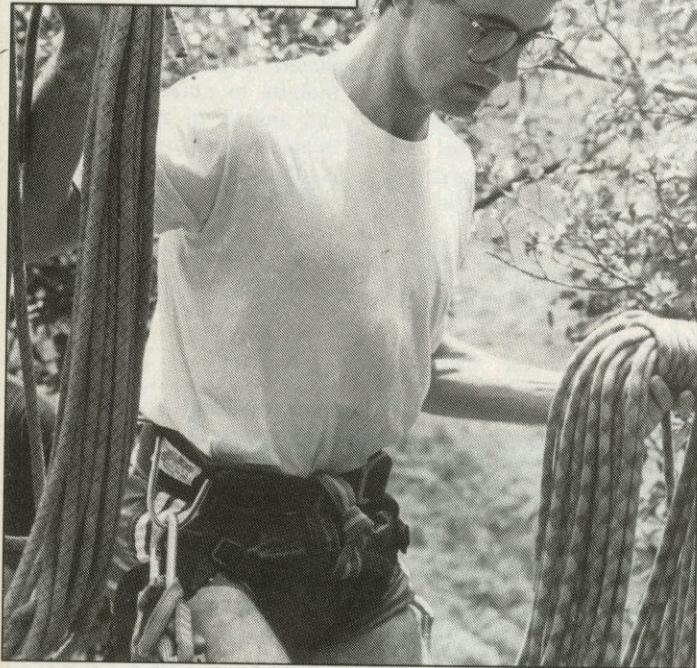
A £5,000 charity prize is to be divided between Airborne and local charities, the Weston Spirit and the Nanyuki Cottage Hospital Appeal in Kenya.



Distinctive red hackles were worn when Newcastle based TA volunteers of 204 (Tyne-side Scottish) Field Battery RA were on parade at York, firing a ceremonial 21-gun royal salute in honour of the 68th birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Geordie gunners assumed the title and head-dress following a reorganisation within the TA in 1967, the only battery within 101 (Northumbrian) Field Regiment RA (V) to follow the tradition.

Battery Sergeant Major WO2 **John Robson**, who comes from South Shields, proudly sports the tam-o'-shanter and hackle.



Climbers thwarted

Unexpected victim of the events in China was a unique expedition mounted by the Composite Ordnance Depot based at Blackdown Barracks, Kowloon.

It was to have attempted to climb Mount Bogda Feng, an 18,000ft mountain in Xingjiang Province.

The party planned to make the ascent of the formidable glacier with porters and mules and spent many weekends training on the rock faces of Hong Kong.

Expedition leader Capt **Howard Scott**, RAOC (above), whose experience includes climbs in Norway and Cyprus, hoped to follow in the tracks of the celebrated British climber Eric Shipton who was thwarted in his attempt in the 1930s.

But the expedition had to be called off – after the advance party had set out – because of the internal unrest in China.

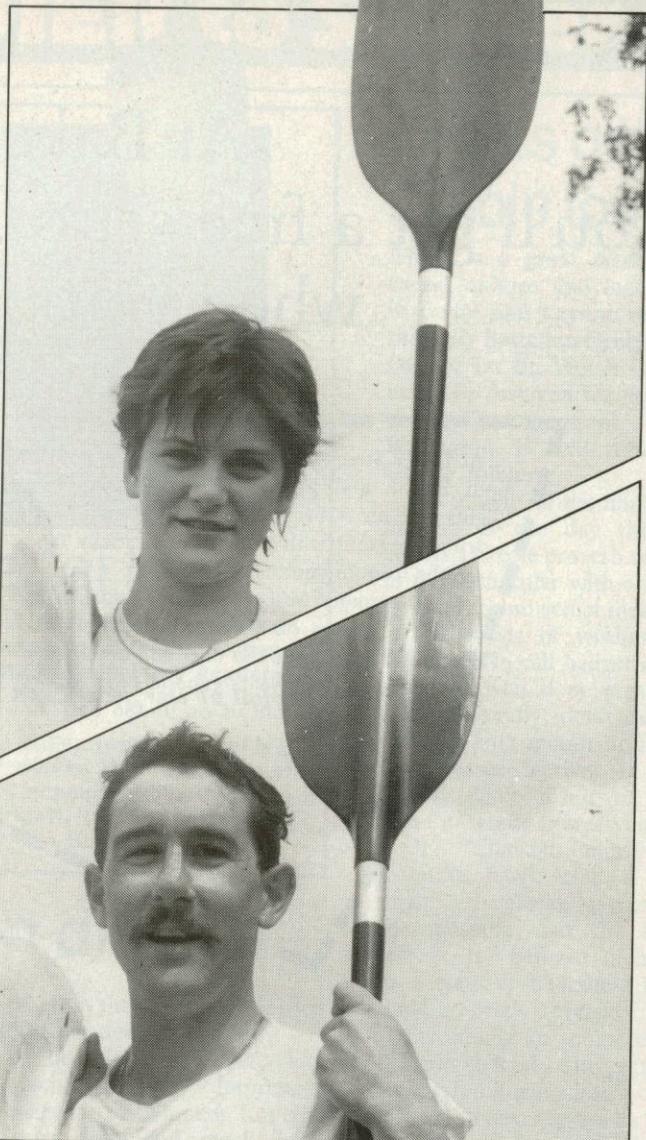
Seven intrepid soldiers stationed in West Germany are to attempt a marathon canoe ride down the Maenamwah River from Chiang Mai to Bangkok in Thailand.

The 450 mile trek will take four weeks with around 22 days spent on the water and the others resting in villages on the river bank.

The expedition, called Siamese Diamond, was to start in early July and be completed by early August. All the soldiers are from 7th Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron at Soltau in Germany.

Only female among the canoeists is Pte **Irene Allan** (right), aged 19, who got her first taste of canoeing at Douglas Ewart High School, Newton Stewart, and joined the Army in May last year.

For Cpl **Victor Hayes** (below), another of the team, it will mean a few thousand miles closer to his fiancée who is Thai and lives in Bangkok.



There are those who move around, and those who don't.

★ WO1 **Clive Elliott**, ★
★ 1st Royal Horse Artillery ★
★ has spent all 22 years of ★
★ his service in BAOR since ★
★ completing his basic training ★
★ at Oswestry in 1967, and all of it with 1st ★
★ Armoured Division.

★ But, at last, WO Elliott ★
★ has been posted – to the ★
★ Royal School of Artillery at ★
★ Larkhill on Salisbury Plain. ★
★ Could his 22 years in ★
★ BAOR, from gunner to ★
★ WO1 in the same division, ★
★ be a record?



One of the Army's newest recruits dropped in on his unit aboard a Sea King helicopter carrying exercise "wounded" soldiers from a forward combat zone.

The new visitor was an internationally renowned surgeon, Professor **Ivan Johnston**, Head of Newcastle University's Department of Surgery and a consultant surgeon at the Royal Victoria Infirmary who had just taken over as honorary colonel of the TA's 201 (Northern) General Hospital, RAMC.

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In Germany, you won't.

In the swim

Good news for soldiers in the far off Falklands. Although they are surrounded by water, the South Atlantic cannot really be ideal for swimming. Now, it has been announced, they are to have an indoor swimming pool at the military garrison at Mount Pleasant airport.

The pool will be paid for by the Falkland Islands government who will also contribute towards the operating costs.

It will be built by the Field Squadron, Royal Engineers (and subsequent squadrons). Work is scheduled to start later this year, and the pool is due for completion in 1991.

Expressing his thanks to the Falkland islanders, Air Vice-Marshal David Crwys-Williams, Commander of the British Forces on the island, said it showed their gratitude to the Servicemen and women based there, many of whom fought in the 1982 conflict.

Gordon's yellow jacket on display

The Chinese Army's recent bloody repression of student demonstrators in Beijing has an echo in a purchase made at Christie's for the Royal Engineers' Museum at Gillingham in Kent.

Time was when the Chinese government could call on European generals to help its

Views expressed in SOLDIER are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.

SOLDIER to Soldier



Lucknow medal loan

The Victoria Cross awarded to Lt (later Maj) Thomas Adair Butler of the East India Company's 1st Bengal European Fusiliers has been loaned to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst by Maj Gen (Ret'd) Hew Butler, late 16 Royal Green Jackets.

The medal was awarded to Lt Butler, great uncle of Maj Gen Butler, for his gallantry during the recapture of Lucknow in the Indian Mutiny Campaign of 1858. Picture shows Maj Gen Peter Graham (right), RMAS Commandant receiving the medal from Maj Gen Butler.

Orders get Creole touch

There is a great mixture of races, culture and languages in Belize and anyone reading the daily Battalion Orders Part One of 1st Bn Welsh Guards could be forgiven for thinking the adjutant, Capt Hugh Bodington, is well versed in Creole folklore.

For among all the important matters of the day there is always a Creole proverb written in the vernacular with a literal translation and actual meaning.

The words of wisdom tell soldiers "No call haligetta lang mout till you done cross the riva" – literally, don't call the alligator long mouth until you have crossed the river. In other words, don't insult or defy those in whose power you are.

Or "Chicken merry da manning hawk pick a befo night" – the chicken is merry in the morning, but the hawk seized it before nightfall, or a state of happiness often finds a speedy reversal.

Continuing an animal theme "If crab no waak, e no get far, if e waak too much e lose a claw" if the crab never leaves its hole, it doesn't get fat, if it walks too much it loses its claw. It means new experiences are necessary, but can be dangerous.

Surely providing these pearls of wisdom suggests an in depth study by the adjutant? Alas, no – Capt Bodington admits to lifting them from a book!

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Gordons in tune with Falklands

THE Gordons have left a musical memento in the Falklands.

When A Company of the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders left the remote islands at the end of their spell as resident infantry company, they presented to the islanders – via the Governor – a pipe tune appropriately called *The Gordon Highlanders Farewell to the Falkland Islands*.

The tune was composed by Pipe Major Willie Rugg of the 1st Battalion during the visit of the Drums and Pipes to the islands in April. It now hangs in the Governor's office in Government House.

The Jocks had a varied role during their South Atlantic sojourn ranging from carrying out guards and patrols as part of the islands' security, to rounding up 2,000 sheep for one of the local farmers.

They regularly carried out ten man foot patrols all over the islands, covering up to 70 kilometres during six or seven days, carrying all their rations and equipment across particularly rough terrain, with the onset of the Falklands winter

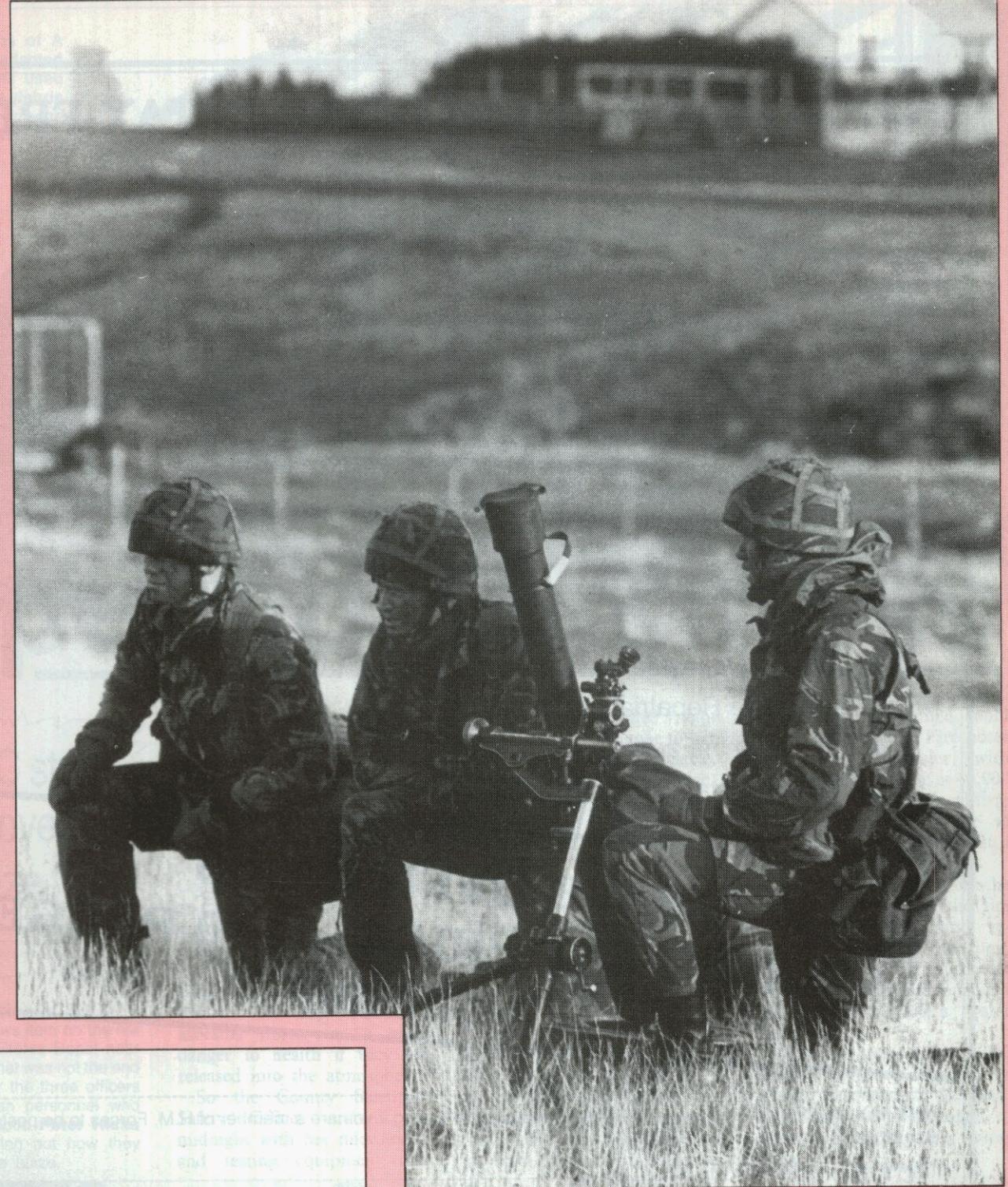
bringing deteriorating weather conditions.

But tough though the patrols were, it gave the Jocks a chance to see the extensive wildlife and also to meet islanders in some of the more remote settlements.

The soldiers became involved in a variety of community tasks, such as restoration work in Stanley museum, building sheds, and spending a day cleaning up Stanley town which resulted in the small group of soldiers involved being rewarded with an invitation to tea at Government House.

Towards the end of the tour, the company was able to practise operating as a complete unit in Exercise Claymore Thrust, deploying by ship from Mare Harbour to launch a beach landing at San Carlos Water while under simulated attack by Phantom jets.

Under the command of Maj Doug Connon, the Jocks then patrolled towards Onion Ridge for a live firing phase which included platoon attacks, a company night ambush and a live firing attack with fire support from mortars.



Clockwise from top left
 ● Pte Kevin Douglas pipes A Company on board HMS Newcastle for passage to San Carlos at the start of Exercise Claymore Thrust

● With San Carlos settlement in the background, a Gordons mortar team sets up

● Maj Doug Connon on the radio during the exercise

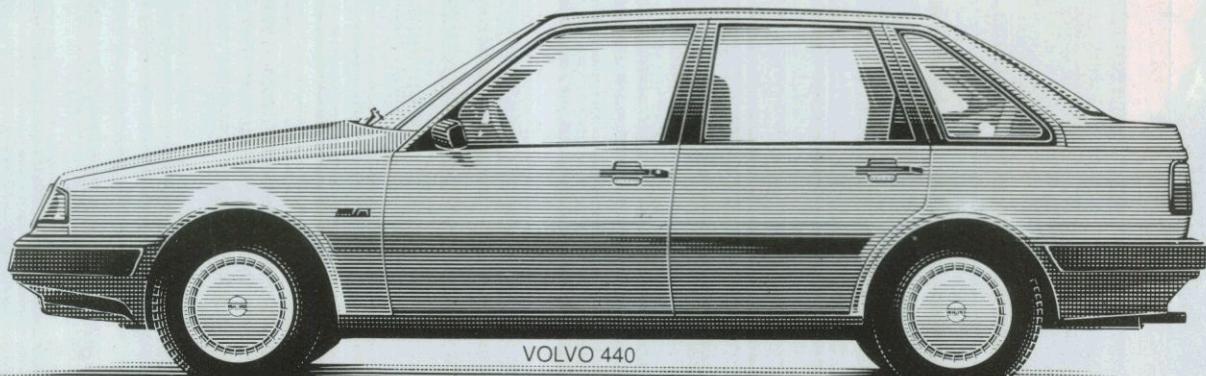
● Charge! The attack goes in during Claymore Thrust

● With the onset of winter in the South Atlantic adding to the hardship these Jocks appreciate a warming brew



Pictures:
 WO2 Arthur Thomson, UKLF

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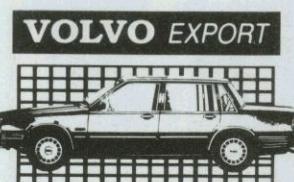
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The remains of A Shed. The adapted crop sprayer used to keep the debris damp is on the extreme left



Open for business

RAOC store destroyed in blaze

A FIRE at RAOC Stores Depot, Morton on Lugg near Hereford destroyed three of the ten bays of a large warehouse, but prompt action by the civilian fire brigade contained

The July 10 issue of SOLDIER contained a news item on the fire at the RAOC Stores Depot near Hereford. But that was not the end of the story for the three officers and 168 civilian personnel who work at the depot. **Peter Hicks** has been finding out how they coped after the blaze.

THREE of the ten bays of A Shed, RAOC Regional Depot, Morton-on-Lugg went up in smoke but thanks to great efforts by the staff, the depot was functioning reasonably normally the next day.

Hereford and Worcester County Fire Services contained and reduced the fire by midnight.

Equally important, the sheds had Crocidilite (blue asbestos) linings, which helped to contain the fire, but blue asbestos fibres are a great danger to health if they are released into the atmosphere.

So the County Scientific Safety Officer arrived by midnight with her microscope and testing equipment and

worked through the night testing samples brought to her by the Western District Environmental Health Team, who took samples of air and smears of dust from the area of the shed and for seven miles down wind of the plume of smoke.

By 10am next morning Western District could reassure the public, through the news media, that there was no asbestos contamination in the area.

Once the fire was completely extinguished and the County Fire Brigade had handed over to the Army Fire Brigade, the sheds had to be kept damp for more than two weeks to stop asbestos fibres getting into the

atmosphere. Only then could debris be removed. Fire hoses take a lot of water, with consumption running at 40,000 gallons an hour, so a local firm modified a crop sprayer to cover the area of the shed with a constant mist.

Water was taken from the river Lugg, used by the fire appliances, filtered and returned up-stream to the Lugg. However, pumping equipment became silted up with mud so it was decided to make a "water farm".

Engineer stores hold 30,000 gallon "pillow tanks" for storing petroleum in the field. Four of these were linked to form a 120,000 gallon water farm.

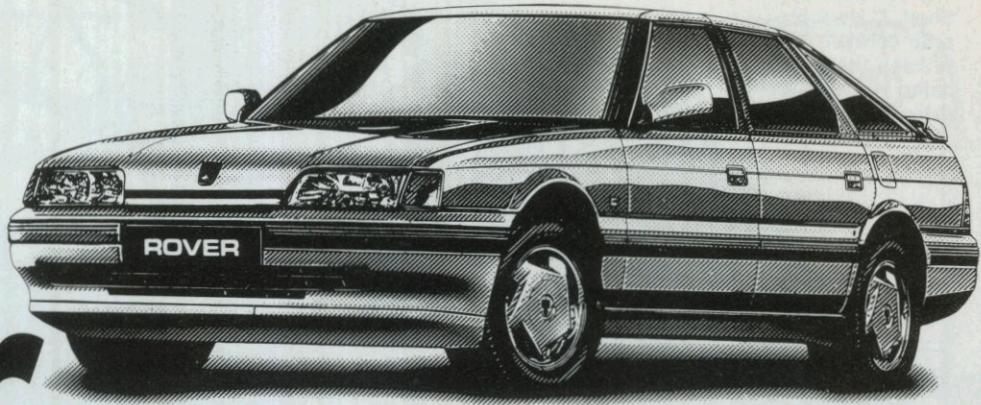
Hose connections for petroleum are quite different to connections for water, so more ingenuity was needed to adapt the various appliances for this temporary use.

RAF Hereford uses the depot training area for NCOs' upgrading courses, and luckily 75 students were there at the time of the fire. Apart from guarding the perimeter, controlling traffic and spectators, they found the whole week was good practical training for them and invaluable for the RAOC Depot.

Monitoring of the area continues, anyone going into A Shed area must wear protective clothing and mask until the debris is cleared by authorised contractors, but the depot is back in business.



Huge quantities of water were needed after the fire. A "water farm" was created to provide it



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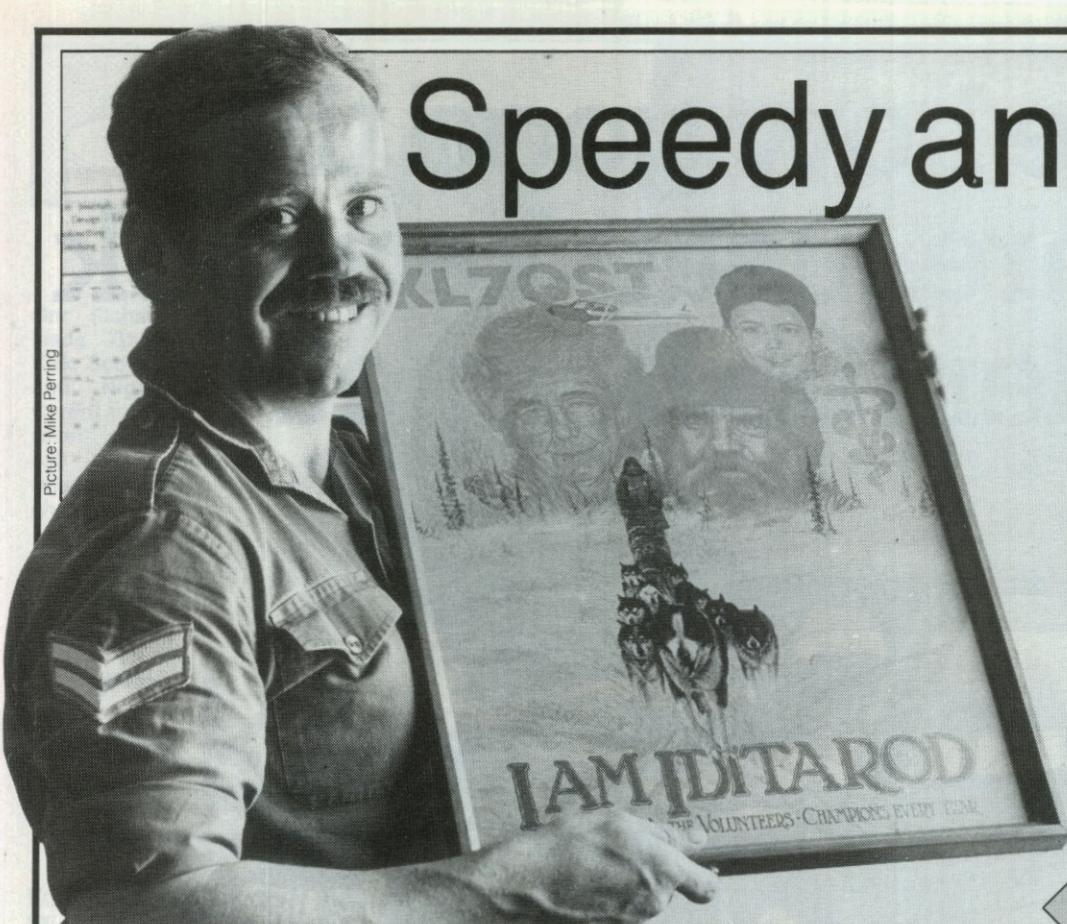
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Speedy answers call of the wild



... but his Alaskan dog team race ambitions remain an elusive dream

Cpl Speedy Elstub displays his Iditarod poster which is presented to the willing volunteers who make the "last great race" possible

MAN with an unusual ambition is Cpl Peter "Speedy" Elstub. He wants to mush his own dog sled team in Alaska's gruelling Iditarod race.

A supply specialist with 15 Battalion RAOC at the Central Ordnance Depot Donnington, Cpl Elstub has been wild about the sport since 1976 when detached duty in Canada gave him the

ideal opportunity to visit the frozen wastes.

Since then he has returned to the area ten times, acting as a volunteer helper during the 1,049 mile marathon. He intends to settle there when he retires from the army in 18 months time.

When helping out at the race he doesn't mind what job he gets landed with. Be it packing a container with 15

tons of dog food, answering the race telephone or manning one of the checkpoints, Speedy does the job with his customary gusto.

Describing the country as spectacular, he enjoys living way out in the wilds of Alaska which can only be reached by aircraft or dog team. There are no roads.

Said Speedy: "Jack London summed it up right when

he wrote *Call of the Wild*."

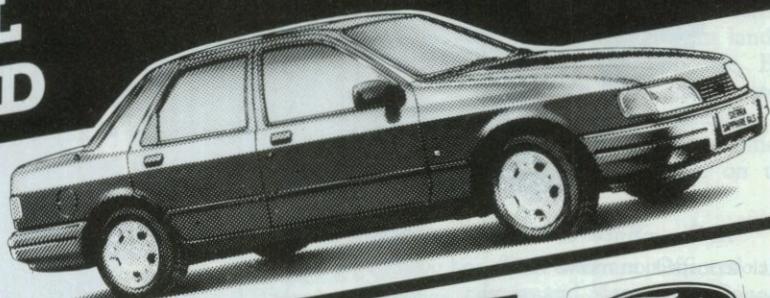
A real expert on the country, he says he will gladly advise any unit thinking of sending men to Alaska for adventurous training.

By his own reckoning, Speedy has hitch hiked more than 500,000 miles.

Sadly he has so far been unable to find a backer to make his dream of entering the Iditarod come true.

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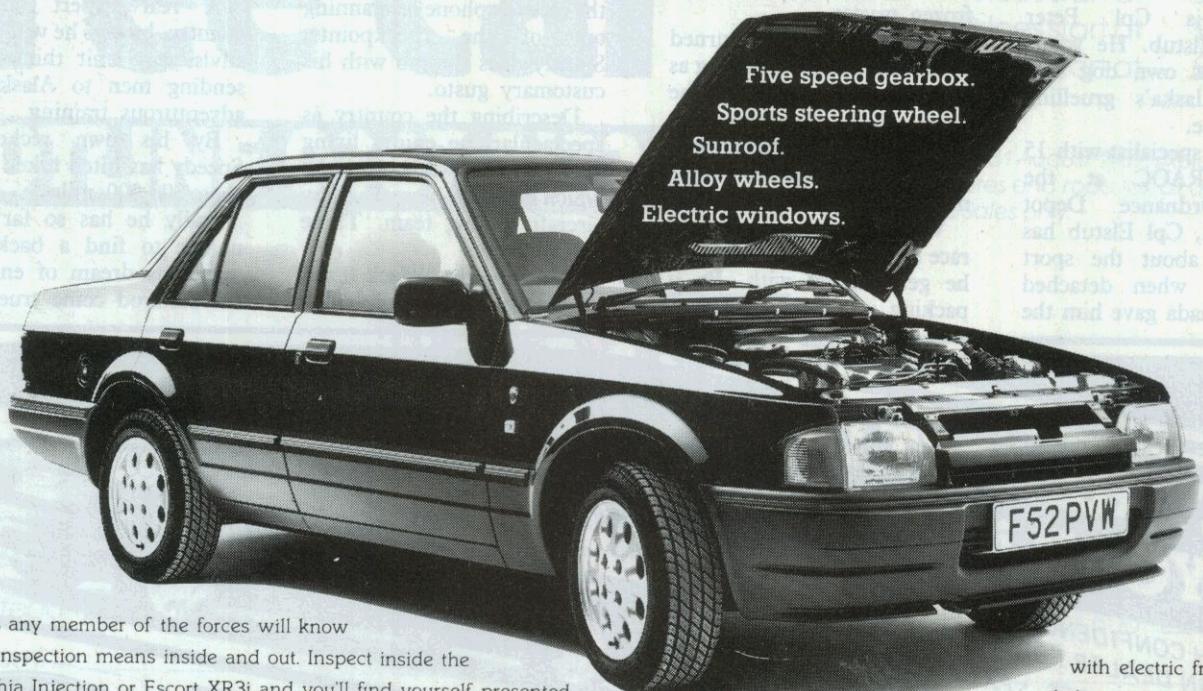
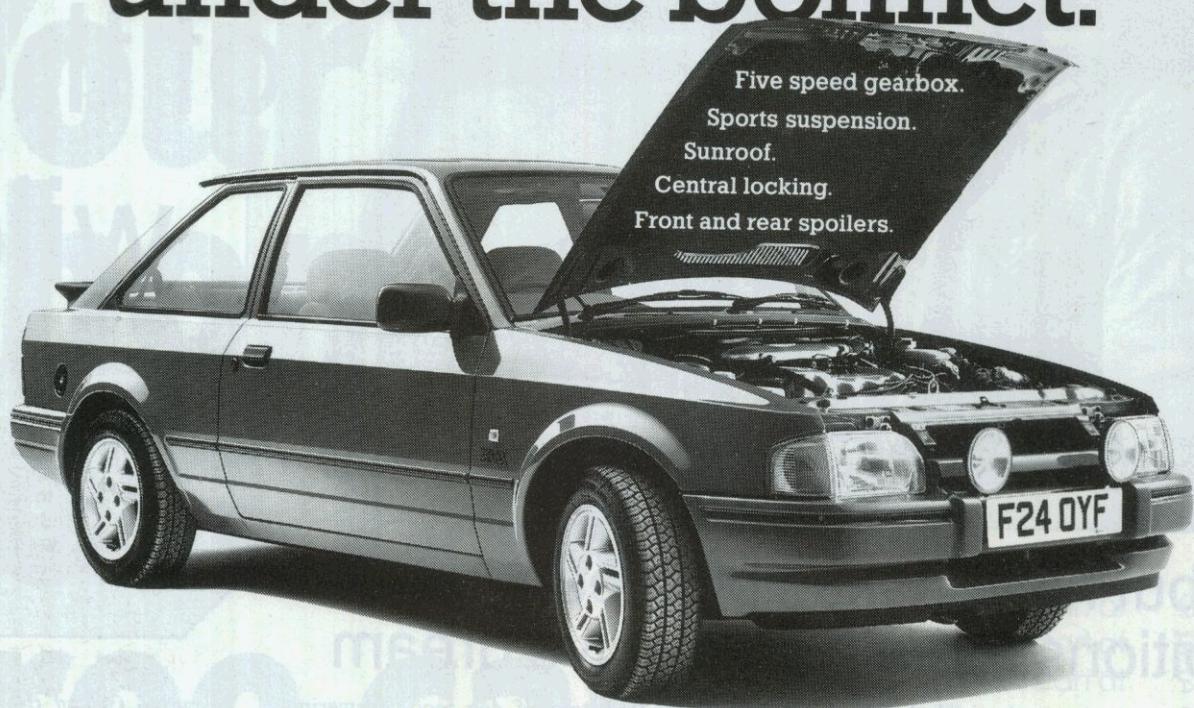
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And to make sure your manoeuvres run smoothly the Escort has road hugging sports suspension.

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Gnr Richard Briggs leads Gns Patrick Kirk, Scott Lockwood and Nigel Harris, Cardiff bound on roller skates. Their 650 mile marathon raised £1,500 for charity



Skating gunners

FOUR soldiers from the 'Welsh Gunners' have completed a gruelling 650 mile trek across Europe, from Dortmund to Cardiff - by roller skate.

Gns Patrick Kirk, Nigel Harris and Scott Lockwood enlisted the help of Richard Briggs, also a gunner in Dortmund based 22 Air Defence Regiment, an experienced roller skater to coach them for their non-stop, day and night charity skate.

They were able to present a cheque for £1,500 raised from individual sponsorship to the children's ward at the East Glamorgan Hospital in Church Village.

★ ★ ★

A ten mile cross country race, organised by The Depot Parachute Regiment raised £800 towards the Airborne Forces Security Fund, with Depot Para adding a further £700. The cheque for £1,500 was presented by Lt Col Donald Campbell, Depot CO, to Regimental Colonel Hamish McGregor.

★ ★ ★

A lot of leg work went into the raising of £2,250 by members of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps at Bovington. A team of staff and Junior Leaders walked the length of the south Cornish coast in ten days, staff took part in the London Marathon, and staff and Junior Leaders ran the 80 miles along the Dorset coast



All kitted up and ready for their sponsored parachute jump, husband and wives of 1st Bn The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment



Lt Col Frank Freeman, RTR, CO of the Junior Leaders' Regiment RAC, presents a £2,250 cheque to Maj Gen Richard Keightley, vice president of the Dorset Children's Centre Appeal

from Lyme Regis to Bournemouth.

The result of all that running and walking was a bumper cheque for the Dorset Children's Centre Appeal, presented by Lt Col Frank Freeman, RTR, CO of the Junior Leaders' Regiment.

Husbands and wives from 1st Bn The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment jumped to it to raise about £2,000 for the Dales School of handicapped children at Morton on Swale. Organised by the Warrant

Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, they were trained by WO2 (TQMS) Alan Wright to take part in a sponsored parachute jump, and all of them landed successfully at Topcliffe. But there were a few near misses, with two wives landing on aircraft hangars and one almost making a hole-in-one on the golf course.

★ ★ ★

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess of the Second Royal Tank Regiment raised £430 for the Great Ormond Street Wishing Well appeal through a series of sponsored and charitable events at Fallingbostel.

In-pensioners John Robinson and Harry Johnson from the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, presented the cheque for the proceeds to Sir Anthony Tippet, General Manager of the hospital.

Right – Standard Bearers of the Parachute Regimental Association march past led by WO2 Kerry Hastings

Below – Old Comrades being what they are, Parade Sergeant Major WO1 (RSM) John Weeks tries out a novel way of making himself heard!



As expected the Naafi beer tent proved a popular place to be during Airborne Forces Day



Members of 5 Airborne Brigade put on a demonstration of fighting skills in front of a large crowd at Rushmoor Arena



Members of 5 Airborne Brigade put on a demonstration of fighting skills in front of a large crowd at Rushmoor Arena

Airborne celebration

LOW cloud and scattered showers brought out the umbrellas and turned the Airborne Forces annual gathering at Aldershot into what one wag described as a "brolly fine day" but failed to dampen the spirits of the thousands of past and present paras who attended, writes Laurie Manton.

However, a planned attempt by the Red Devils on the Army regimental parachute record by having 25 parachutists link up during free fall over Rushmoor Arena was scrubbed from the programme, although the team did manage to stage a normal drop during a break in the clouds.

Last year the paras broke with tradition and began their Airborne Forces Day celebration with a Drumhead Service in the military stadium and this year they introduced something new into the programme to both entertain and inform.

Hence the short tattoo which simulated the role of 5 Airborne Brigade in an "Out of Area" scenario and the move to Rushmoor Arena which will stage the next Airborne Forces day during Para 90 celebrations next year.

Para 90 comprises a full year's programme in a variety of locations throughout 1990 to mark the golden jubilee of The Parachute Regiment and Britain's Airborne Forces.

Its objectives are to celebrate this anniversary with the public while recruiting for the future; to establish a



Our stand proved popular with visitors to Airborne Forces Day, manned here by SOLDIER sweethearts Dawn Homewood (left) and Lindsey Champion

permanent memorial; and to raise the funds to finance the programme as well as provide much needed support for Airborne Forces charities.

As one of its many operational roles, 5 Airborne Brigade has responsibility for evacuating British subjects under threat in foreign countries. Accordingly, the main event in Rushmoor Arena was a demonstration of how the evacuation of British nationals would be carried out.

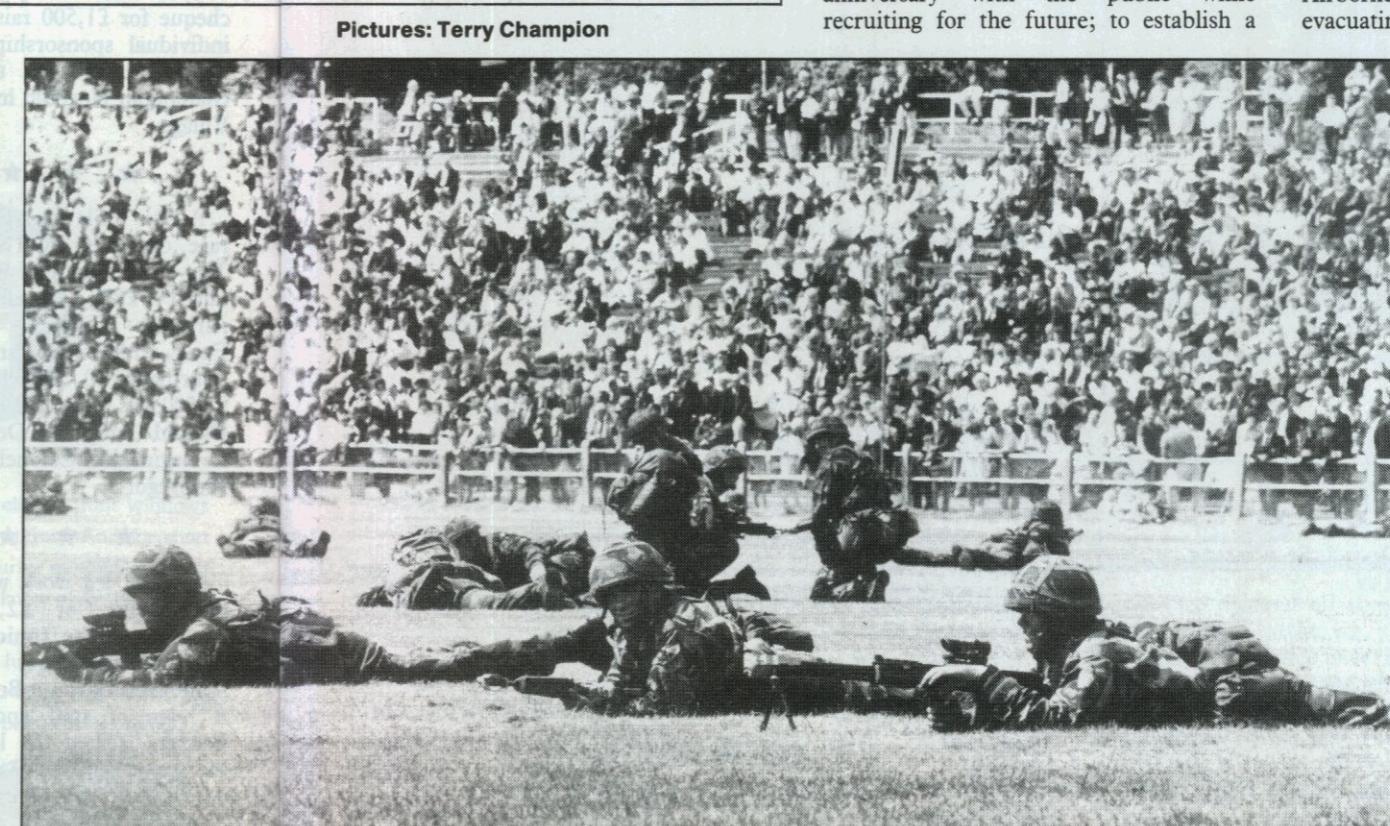
Elements of 2 Para, 7 RHA, the Airborne Troop of the Life Guards, 9 Para Sqn RE, 1/2 GR, 5 AB Bde Logistic Bn and 23 Para Field Ambulance RAMC took part.

So good was the performance that it stirred a memory or two among spectators old enough to have witnessed the world renowned searchlight tattoos held in the arena until the 1950s.

Another stirring sight was the march past of the Old Comrades in red berets and wearing rows of medals earned during the short lifetime of Airborne Forces.

Bringing up the rear were the four guards of the Parachute Regimental Association contingents who will parade in London next year.

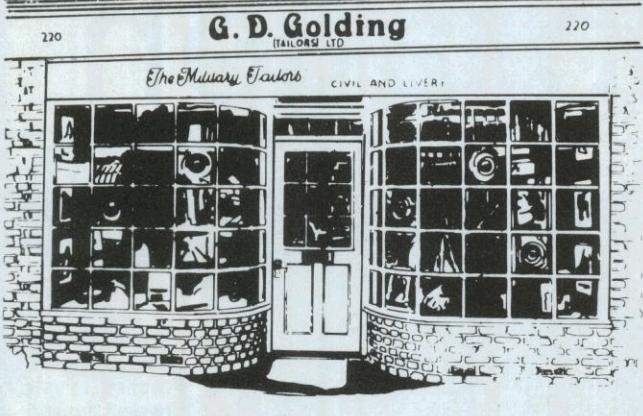
Pictures: Terry Champion



Members of 5 Airborne Brigade put on a demonstration of fighting skills in front of a large crowd at Rushmoor Arena

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Q. What is the training obligation?

A. The training obligation is a minimum of 19 days a year. This comprises 15 days annual camp which may be completed in more than one period. The remaining four days (two weekends) consists of specialist training at The Royal School of Artillery on Salisbury Plain. All soldiers are encouraged to attend more than the minimum two weekends up to a maximum of six weekends.

Q. Do I need special qualifications to transfer?

A. No. All soldiers receive specialist training for the employment for which they are considered most suited.

Q. I am an NCO, do I keep my rank?

A. No, only RA NCOs who are already qualified in one of the three employments detailed would be eligible to retain their rank up to Staff Sergeant. NCOs and soldiers of other arms would be required to transfer to the Royal Artillery in the rank of Gunner, promotion prospects in the Pool however, are good.

Q. What are the rates of pay and bounty?

A. These are the same as for other group A units which are reviewed and published annually.

Q. How can I obtain more information?

A. Write to:

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THE 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards, whose UK base is at Pirbright, Surrey, complete their six month operational tour of Belize in October.

They have rifle companies at Airport Camp, Salamanca, Holdfast and Rideau. The attachments are Recce Troop Royal Hussars, 8

Battery 29 Commando Regiment RA and Rear Link Detachment, R Sig.

Typical duties include jungle, river and mobile patrols, with helicopter drop off, border and island operations, and airport defence. R and R is at St George's Cay (island) with a wide range of sporting facilities available.

Words:
Jennifer Griffiths
Pictures:
Mike Weston



Two Welsh Guardsmen prepare to fend off a simulated air raid laid on courtesy of the Belize Defence Force at Mafredi

EXERCISES in the heat, humidity and extraordinary privation of Belize have shown that the adaptability and professionalism of the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards in a jungle scenario are something of which they can be proud.

But, when they started their six-month Central American tour in April, their versatility was already acknowledged.

These new jungle skills complement their widely-differing expertise gained previously in the wide open spaces of the Canadian prairies, and the spit and polish of public duties in London, not to mention tours in Northern Ireland and BAOR!

The battalion is divided into Battle Group North and Battle Group South. Exercises, which include Belize Defence Force soldiers, simulate an attack by neighbouring Guatemala.

Carrying on up the jungle

The CO, Lt Col Paul Belcher, on exercise with BG(S), led 400 soldiers, including guardsmen, sappers, gunners, and medics, backed up with Pumas, Gazelles, rigid raiders and RPLs.

He said: "We have a very mixed force, and this allows me to run probably the best exercise I have ever been able to lay on. I

have at my disposal all those facilities, which in the UK or BAOR you very seldom have. It has tested everybody and the Guards have done very well, some extraordinarily well."

Col Belcher said he was particularly pleased with the co-operation between the various facets of the exercise including the Royal Air Force.

"It has been very gratifying to work so happily with them. I think that probably the most memorable thing that will come out of this exercise is the very close co-operation."

He felt that serving in Belize's hostile climate had sharpened up everybody, in a military sense. "It has tested everybody

● Turn to next page

Look what HQ Coy used in lieu of digs...

EXERCISES in Belize gave 1 WG plenty of opportunity to utilise what few facilities were available.

A toilet in the terminal building of the tiny Punta Gorda Airport provided a convenient base for company headquarters.

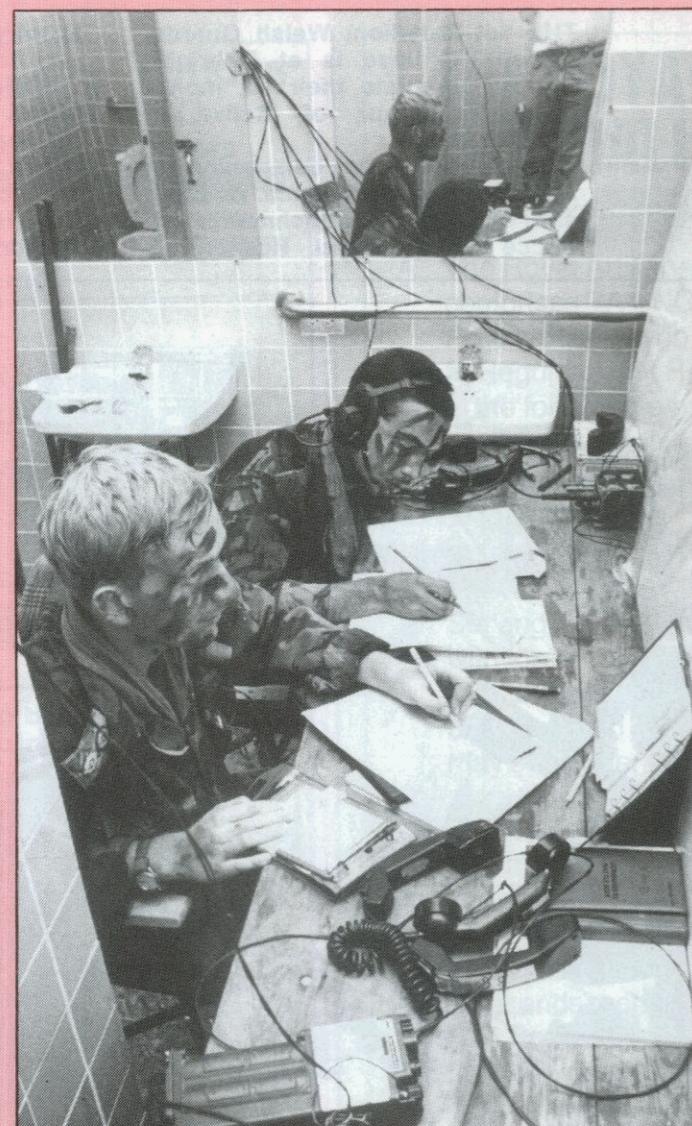
Drummers Mark Blythen and Darran McHugh, who were digging a sustained fire trench unearthed part of an old runway which they were able to utilise as a shelf for cooking.

"It's all part of the new trench design", joked Sgt Martyn Griffiths.

The arduous task of digging long and hard in high temperatures and humidity seemed a little easier when done to the rhythmic beat of music from a radio in the airport cafe!

However, heavy overnight rain put a different complexion on things. Drummer McHugh said: "We put our ponchos up at first, but we were soon flooded out. We put a plank across the trench and slept on it. I was so tired I could have slept on a washing line."

Drummer Blythen was asleep when a land crab crawled on to him and pinched him on the shoulder. "I suppose it just wanted to be friendly! It crawled into the trench and was joined by a bullfrog, which croaked all night and kept me awake."



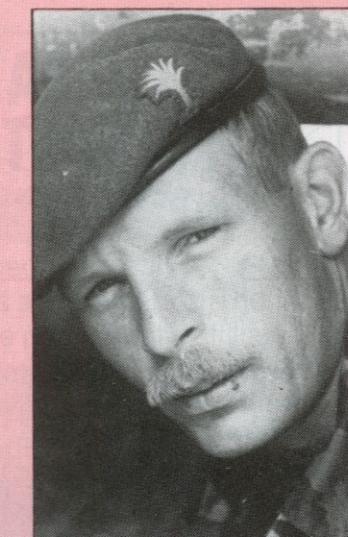
Lt Richard Stanford (left) and LCpl Wayne Rimmer in Company HQ in the toilets at Terminal Building, Punta Gorda airport

"You don't mind getting wet because you know you will dry off completely in half an hour when the sun gets up."

8 Commando Battery were busy on the gun line, where Gnr Darren Miles said for him it was an exciting first tour in Belize.

"There is lots to see and do, and you can save quite a bit of money."

Gnr Robert Dawkins volunteered for the posting. "It is how I expected it to be", he said.



Sgt Edward Vaughan-Jones who found termites bitter



Scorpion commander Capt Dermot Daley and operator LCpl Nigel Thomas, of the Royal Hussars Recce Troop, provide a stark contrast in transport as they chat to a Belize farmworker



Lt Col Paul Belcher, Commanding Officer of 1 WG



A loud hailer seems an incongruous piece of equipment on a battlefield but it was invaluable during Battle Group South's exercise in Belize.



SSgt Philip Powell of the Royal Engineers briefs members of the Welsh Guards on the finer points of river crossing tactics in rigid raiders during the exercise

the information that comes from the observers, and that is passed on to the guns. "Normally, you would have a live telephone system, but up here we don't have one."



BG(N)'s exercise prompted a lot of curiosity from the locals. At their homestead in the jungle Trinidad and Anna Peche met Gdsmn Jason Harries

You've got to be fit to exercise in this heat

From page 25

in the sheer business and difficulty of living in the jungle, getting through it, communications and navigation.

"Here people are much more careful, much more professional and take life much more seriously. So everybody will be leaving here infinitely tougher, both mentally and physically."

Maj Tom Bonas, 2ic, Commander of BG(N), found the unrelenting heat had taken its toll on soldiers during their

exercise. "Water stops are vital; we must have drunk the equivalent of the London Reservoir!"

BG(N)'s exercise had

included a 25 kilometre tab, and a river crossing which would have been much harder if the expected rainy season had started. "I am extremely pleased with the way things have gone. It has been a long night and we are all very tired.

"It has been a demanding week, chiefly because of the weather, operating in tempera-

tures of 105°F with very little shade and quite a lot of physical activity, but I was confident we would come through with flying colours."

Capt Simon Treadwell, co-ordinator of the umpires and the "enemy" said heat exhaustion had affected a few soldiers, but generally their fitness had been good.

"They have adapted and acclimatised to conditions in Belize very well, and their basic soldiering skills have greatly improved. They are much more

resilient and their ability to survive in the field has risen."

Lt James Ford said the exercise had emphasised that fitness, kit and weapon skills were vital. "It all comes back to basic soldiering. It is here that basic skills learned as a recruit at the very lowest level, actually do come in."

Should rations ever dry up in a jungle war, Welsh Guardsmen should not go hungry. They have been on a survival course, which introduced them to a new menu which included the bark

and leaves of trees, reptiles and small animals.

Though they did not have to resort to such an al fresco menu in either exercise, Sgt Maj Edward Vaughan-Jones recalled the flavour of fried termites.

"They are a bit bitter, but there's bags of protein in them. You don't think too hard about what you are eating, but if it was for real and you were very hungry, it wouldn't matter."

BG(N)'s exercise culminated in a dawn attack on an area dominated by Hill 107 over-

looking the Western Highway, which would offer a speedy route from Guatemala to Belmopan.

But by 8 am it was all over and breakfast was the priority. It had meant a 3 am start in the kitchens at Holdfast Camp to cook 50lbs of bacon, 70lbs of sausages and five gallons of baked beans, as well as preparing 150 rolls, washed down with 100 litres of squash, tea and coffee and ten gallons of milk. The tables were cleared in 20 minutes!

Tidworth sappers plug a 20 year leak

THE Belize Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, currently 8 Fd Sqn from Perham Down, Tidworth, probably has the most varied role of all units serving in Belize, and when not practising its primary role, does a number of jobs for British Forces Belize and the local community.

One of the first to benefit was St John the Baptist Cathedral which is supported by 300 families and has the largest parish in the diocese of Belize.

Parish priest Father Leroy Flowers explained: "For 20 years we have had a leaking roof, which couldn't be repaired because of a lack of know-how and cash."

Sappers were soon on the scene to put matters right at the cathedral which was built in 1812 and survived hurricanes in 1931 and 1961. Fr Flowers said he was delighted with the work.

The squadron's programme also includes building accommodation in Rideau and Airport camps, a jetty, sea wall and slipway at the Force Adventure Training Centre on St George's Cay, and a suspension footbridge over the Belize River.

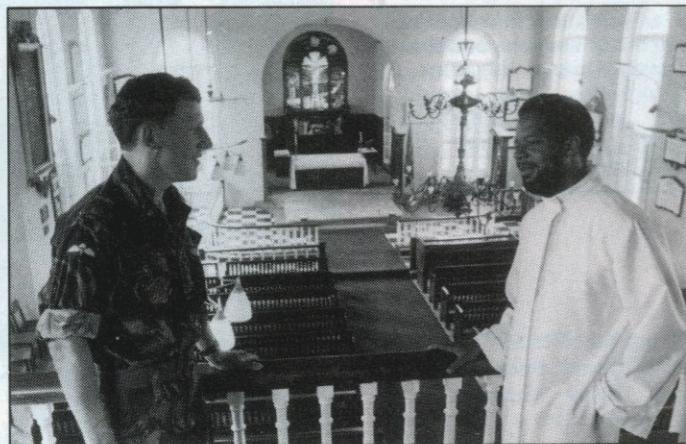
The sappers will be building a dam and pipeline to provide a water supply to an outlying village, cutting down and removing a large tree in the Novitiate of Nazareth, carrying out plant work to dig a ditch for a water pipeline to link two villages, and demolition work to create a flood ditch along a road in the Mayan Mountains.

Attached to the squadron is a platoon from 518 Coy, Royal Pioneer Corps, based at Bicester and four men from 11 Fd Sqn, Ripon. The majority are based at Airport Camp, with a field troop in the south at Rideau.

Primary role of the sappers is to provide combat engineer support to British Forces Belize. This includes the traditional tasks of minelaying, demolitions, route denial, water supply, field defences, route clearance and river crossings. They have a rapid runway repair



8 Fd Sqn RE from Perham Down, Tidworth, have been involved in community tasks during their Belize tour. Here members of 2 Tp put the finishing touches to roof repairs at the cathedral in Belize City. On the roof is LCpl Robert Elms (right) with Spr Graham Baxter (left) and Spr Alan McCormick. Standing on the ladder is Spr Martin Hendrick, and steadyng it is Spr Svenn Derrick. Opening the pitch bucket is Spr Kevin Benstead



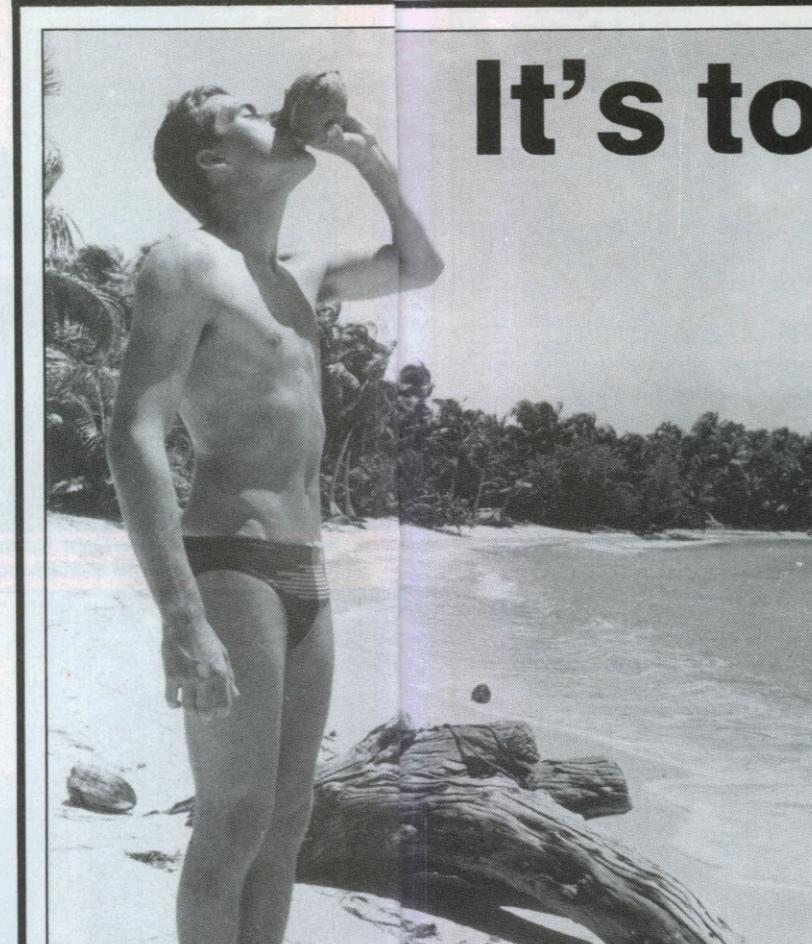
Maj Keith Montgomery, RE and Father Leroy Flowers pictured inside the cathedral

capability and a small detachment in support of the Harrier Force.

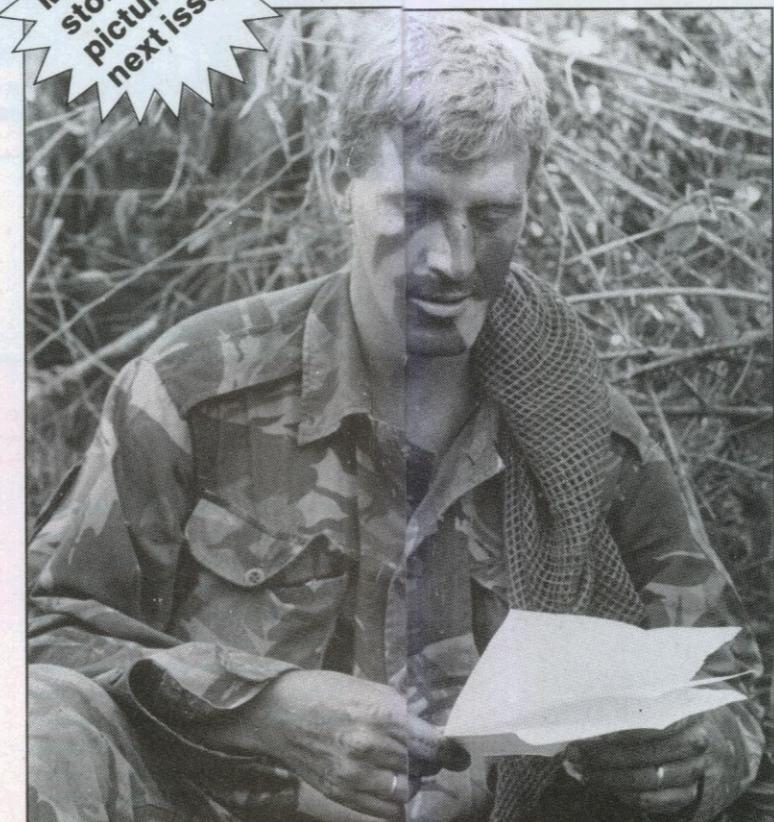
They also operate boat patrols in rigid raiding craft on the major Belize rivers, and have an operational diving team. During the handover of the infantry battalions in October, they will

mount jungle patrols.

OC Maj Keith Montgomery said: "The sappers have to work long and hard hours in Belize, as they do anywhere in the world. The rewards are a great sense of achievement, particularly when building something for the local population."



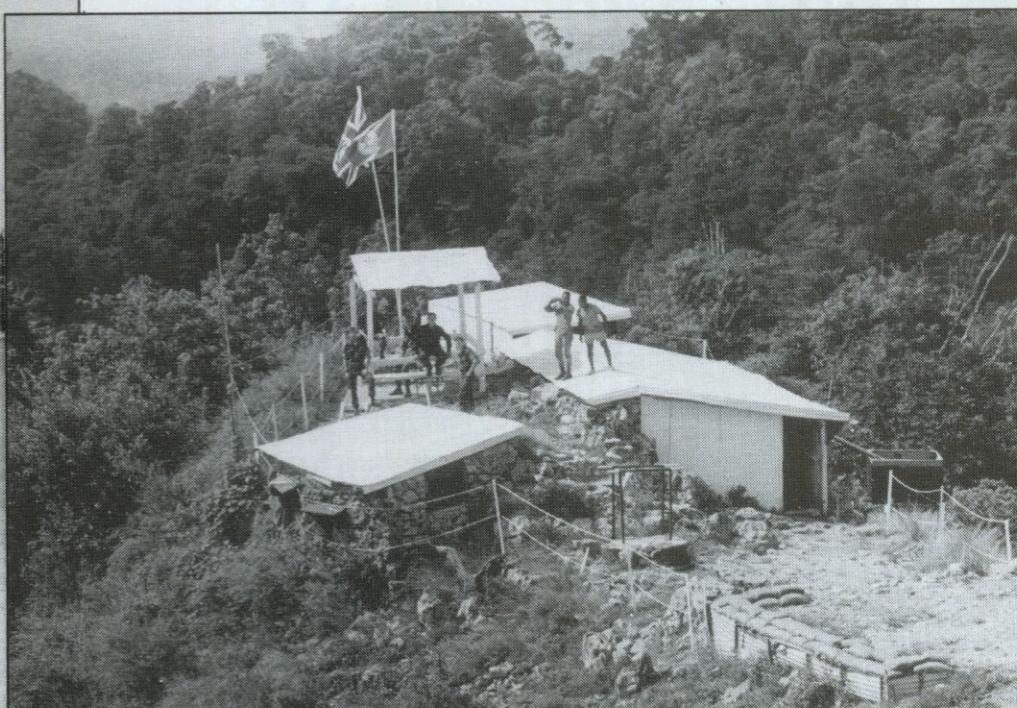
More Belize stories and pictures in next issue



The mail must get through – even of the jungle. A letter from home Gdsnn Dick Clark

when you're on exercise in the heart proved a welcome diversion for

It's tough in paradise!



Above – The higher you get the better the view! But Cadenas OP is so inaccessible everything is brought in by helicopter

Keeping tabs on Guatemala

MANNING observation posts in Belize brings a new dimension to soldiering – especially at Hunting Cay, a small island which offers a true Robinson Crusoe existence. The OPs are staffed jointly by members of the Belize Defence Force and the resident British battalion, and at Hunting Cay the 13 soldiers are there to establish a military presence on an island which Guatemala claims. They also log shipping, patrol neighbouring islands and obtain information from inhabitants and visitors.

When SOLDIER visited Hunting Cay, sappers were standing in for Welsh Guardsmen who were on exercise, and were refurbishing accommodation and ablutions. But with palm trees, exotic fruit and coconuts ripe for the picking and excellent water sports, it was hard to believe soldiers were being paid to be there.

Sgt Chris Flannagan said: "It is difficult to convince



Keeping a close watch on the Western Highway at Cayo OP were Welsh Guardsmen and members of the Belize Defence Force. They are (from the left), back: Pte Robert Ramclam, Gdsnn Gary Williams, Gdsnn Michael Williams, Pte Leon Baizar and Pte Dennis Lopez. Front: LCpl "Crow" Williams, Cpl Aled Hughes and Pte William Flowers

friends that you actually do any work on a paradise island."

Cadenas OP scored the highest marks for being the most remote OP – it overlooks the Guatemalan border and the only way to get to it is by helicopter. Meanwhile Cayo OP

overlooks the Western Highway and a Guatemalan garrison and airstrip. Sgt Alec Wright and his men were greatly amused to plot the meandering efforts of the SOLDIER team to find them.

POLL TAX? SOME OF THE ANSWERS

MAJ Gen Patrick Stone, Director General of Personal Services, has circulated a letter to help Commands answer queries on the Community Charge due to come into effect next year.

Many Service personnel are still unsure how they will be affected.

One wife asked me: "We have a house in Northampton and by May 1990 we will have a posting. Because of Service rules it looks as if we will have to find tenants or sell. How do we stand if we can't find tenants? Or if we do will we, as landlords, be responsible for paying the Poll Tax if our tenants don't pay, or if our house is empty for a month or more? Will we be caught twice?"

The guidelines to Gen Stone's letter say that

SECURITY QUESTION

A WIFE has asked me whether it is obligatory for names and addresses to be entered on the Community Charge Register as military families will not for security reasons wish to be identified.

The MoD has taken up this issue but I understand it is the decision of each local authority whether or not to withhold addresses.

The MoD is to distribute a leaflet of its own shortly (in the UK and overseas) covering the subject of the Community Charge.

Be warned

ACCORDING to the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre an outbreak of pertussis (whooping cough) may be expected in the autumn. Parents are advised to make sure their children have been immunised.

General's circular

where private houses are left empty the local authority may raise a standard charge, which may be any multiple of the Personal Charge from 0 to 2.

Where a house is let the landlord has no responsibility for paying the tenant's community charge, nor is he responsible for the standard charge.

A JNCO is worried that a posting to a high rated area will mean he'll be paying a lot more and he will be 'broke', especially if his wife can't find a job.

Those who have a low income will be entitled to apply to the local authority for a Community Charge benefit. Husband and wife may both be eligible for the benefit but only one application need be made.

The reduction can be as much as 80 per cent. Gen Stone's letter says: "It is thought that married lance corporals and below with two children or more will qualify."

So JNCOs, you must apply - this benefit is designed to help you.

One wife asks: "Do I pay both charges if my husband is away on a course?"

No! Each person is responsible for his/her own payment, but serving personnel will be able to take up the Army's offer to make 12 monthly allotments if the individuals and the local authority wish.

But if a person arrives in the area towards the end of

the financial year, the local authority may ask for a lump sum payment of up to three months' charges.

Servicemen can ask for an advance of pay but wives would have to use another source, i.e. bank loan, etc. You can however pay by cheque, cash or standing order.

Problems will arise if soldiers and wives do not pay, or fall behind in their payments.

This could mean a local authority asking for the entire amount owing for the year.

Another problem which worries some is what happens if they are posted to a high charge area, as has happened in Edinburgh where the Community Charge is £392 each, compared with the average of £291 in Scotland this year.

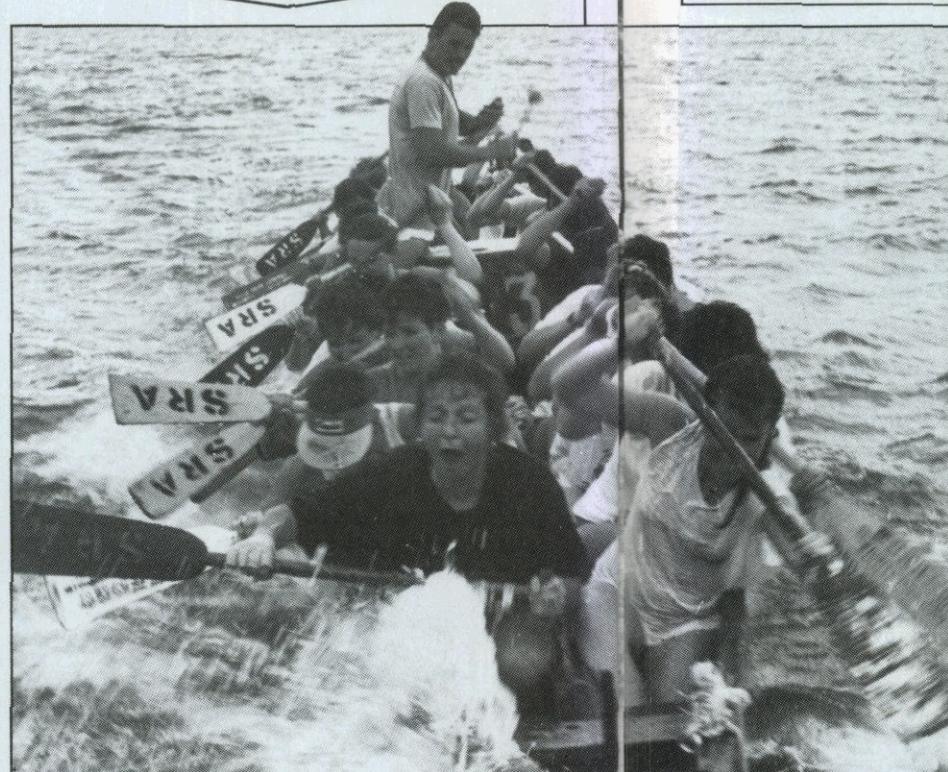
Soldiers both single and married and their spouses who are in high rated Community Charge areas of Scotland will be able to claim a refund from the Imprest Account.

If the Community Charge is more than £52 above the Service average - £291 in Scotland - they will qualify for a refund of accommodation charges.

This rebate only applies to the claimant's and/or spouse's net Community Charge liability after reduction of any benefit which he or she might be entitled to claim; the rebate does not apply to any other adult members of the family.

Army Form 01798 Claim for Accommodation Charge Refund in respect of Community Charge Payments in a High C.C. Area is held at all pay offices.

THE LADY DRAGONS SPLASHOUT



HATS off to a bunch of good sports - 28 wives and a daughter or two of the men of 1 DERR who entered for the dragon boat races at Hong Kong this year.

Some of them were pictured during training at Stanley Fort when (above) they reached such a speed they nearly crashed into the photographers' motor boat.

The relief at not sinking can be seen on the faces (right).

The man beating time on the drum (below) is WO2 (QSMI) Bob Cady, the battalion's PTI.

A job that's hard to beat?

Pictures by Robert Higson of JSPRS Hong Kong.



WITH FAMILIES IN MIND
Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

Boarding schools: Parents please note

Sympathy assured when problems arise

Parents seeking boarding education for their children for the first time need to know the questions to ask, such as:

Has the school a Board of Governors?

The TV programme has raised a number of issues of interest to all Service parents looking for Boarding School Allowance.

Why were three quarters of the children at this school from Service parents? Was it because the fees were attractive?

How do parents calculate if they are getting value for money? Or whether their child would be better off at a day school, Service school overseas or as a weekly boarder?

The new school computer selection system at FOCUS, 8 Kandy Road, Bulford, can help initially, as can all the other agencies but before a placement is made it is vital to investigate all possible options.

Perhaps recent problems have highlighted the need for a continuing monitoring of your child's school, but children must be told to confide in their parents if any problems arise.

SCEA says: "The MoD will give sympathetic consideration to all requests from Service parents who wish to remove their children, for justifiable reasons, and this can be done without financial penalties in particular cases."

Furthermore, such requests for removal can be handled urgently when circumstances require swift action; although the majority of cases normally involve at least a term's notice.

Further advice is available from: SCEA, MoD, Court Road, Eltham, London SE9 5NR. (Tel: 01-854 2242).



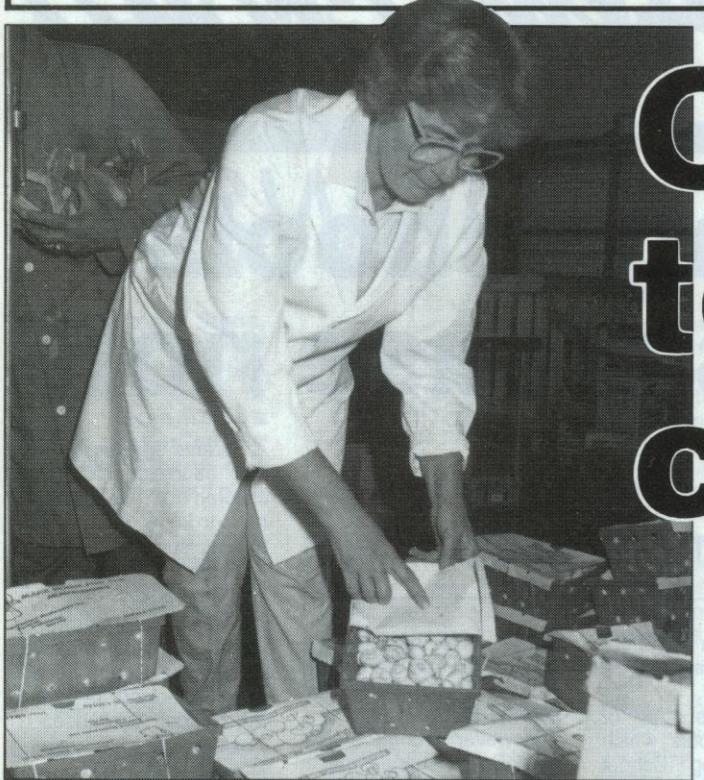
Read the small print

RECENT terrorist attacks on barracks have led to soldiers' personal belongings being lost or damaged.

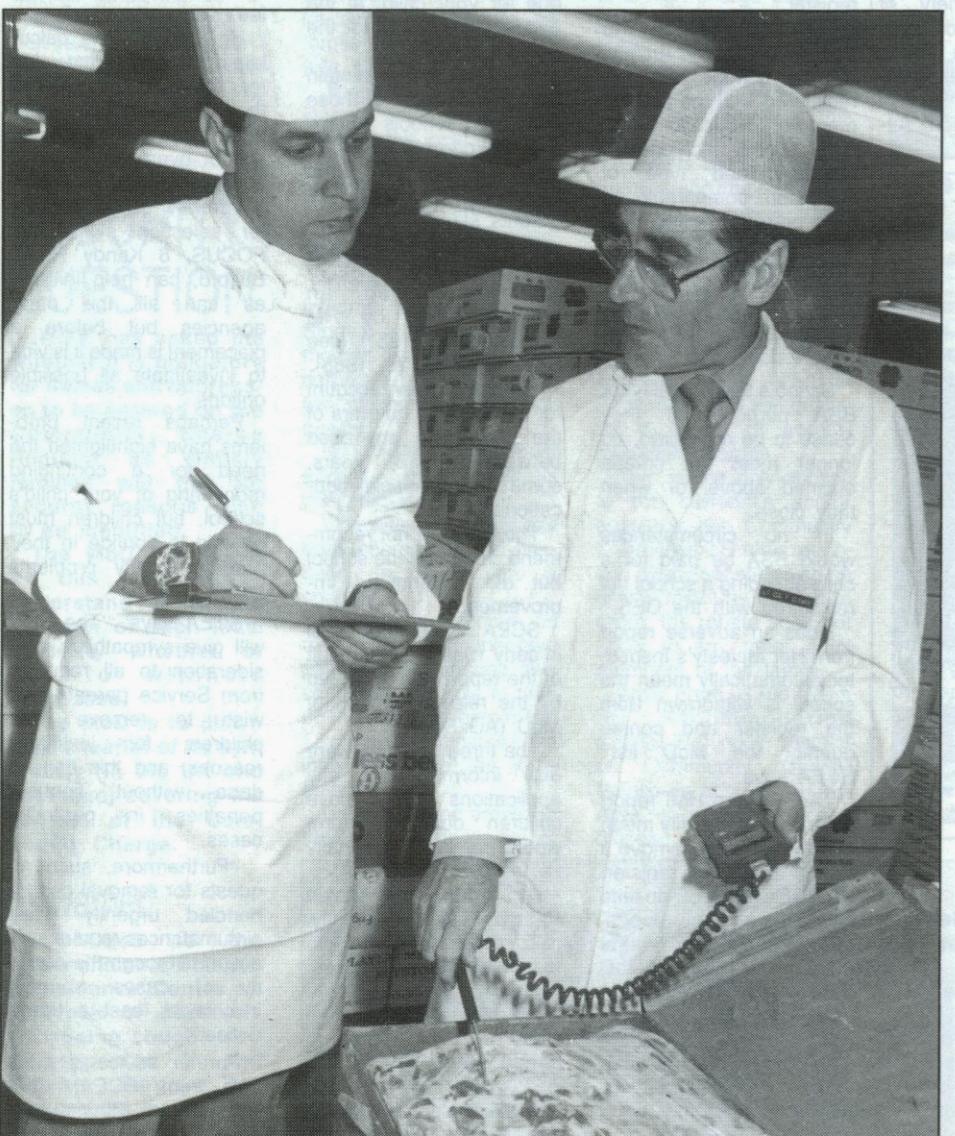
In some cases, insurance claims for compensation have been rejected.

All Service personnel are urged to read the small print of their policies to see if they are covered against terrorist action.

Pay Offices hold a full list of the members of the Armed Forces Insurance and Investment Brokers' Committee (AFIIBC).



June Bland of Naafi checks the quality of mushrooms ready for distribution to units



Lt Col Frank Clewes tests meat temperature watched by WO2 John McEwen

Catering to the caterers

FEEDING the scattered units of the Army is a difficult task. Demand for high standards and a wide range of quality products requires a sophisticated operation in which Naafi plays a vital role, writes Sara Alexander.

Sixty five per cent of all Service messing in the United Kingdom is supplied by Naafi. Orders are usually met through the corporation's own warehousing and distribution operation, but where additional quantities are required, Naafi arranges deliveries direct by manufacturers.

This messing trade accounts for more than £50m of Naafi's near £400m turnover and involves warehouses, distribution depots and messing stores in the UK and overseas, backed by purchasing, supply, and distribution operations.

Naafi's biggest customer is Catering Group, based at St Omer Barracks - home of the Army Catering Corps - at Aldershot. Spending £8.5m a year to provide up to 40,000 meals a day for soldiers in 100 different locations, Catering Group depends on Naafi to provide much of its food requirements.

Their range of demands - from every day basics to curry powders and spices for the Gurkhas (or an aubergine in flower for an Army catering competition!) - is dealt with by the same set up as the one for even the smallest unit.

Some orders are met immediately from non-perishable messing stores delivered weekly from warehouses in Amesbury, Darlington, Devonport, Portsmouth and Kempen in Germany. Orders for perishable fresh and frozen or chilled goods are normally met within 72 hours by daily deliveries from distributive depots in Aldershot, Lincoln and Edinburgh, and from Herford and Kempen in Germany.

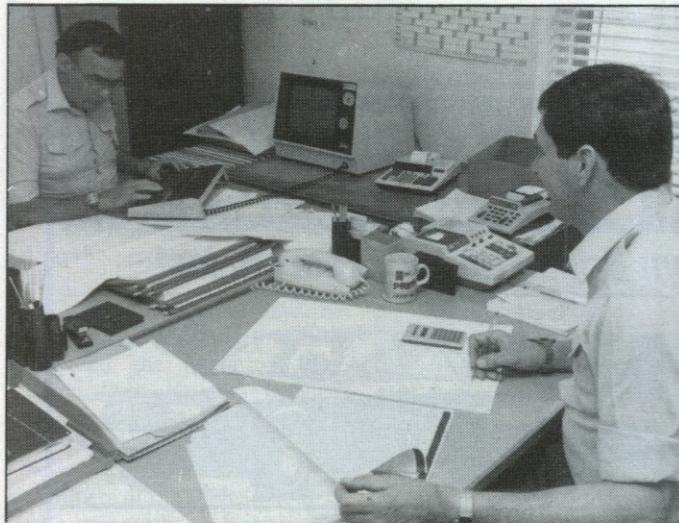
The process is helped by computer terminals linking each of the smaller depots, via Naafi headquarter offices in Nottingham and London, to mainframe computers in the "big two" warehouses at Amesbury (UK) and Kempen (Germany); and by a fleet of vehicles, including double-decker trailers and microvans, for deliveries.

A visit to Naafi's daily distributive depot at Aldershot illustrates only too well the difficulties of getting perishable goods - from fruit and vegetables to pork pies - out on time.

Delivery of non-perishable, or "dry



Finishing touches are made to gateaux destined for units



WO1 Keith Peyton, RAPC, and WO1 David Ashburner, ACC, analyse orders from units



LCpl Pat Gant slices meat before delivery to customer units

goods" is a less difficult task. These are delivered to separate Service messing stores directly from the warehouses ready for collection by the units.

The Army messing store in Ordnance Road, Aldershot, is Naafi's biggest. It receives weekly deliveries from Amesbury, direct deliveries from merchants, and daily deliveries of fresh or chilled products from the neighbouring distributive depot.

Their main customer - Catering Group - sets very high standards.

Manager Bob Tiernan explained: "The Army Catering Corps does insist on the best. It frequently has royal visitors or VIPs. We have been asked for everything from octopus to long legged chickens before now."

Catering Group is proud of the high standard it sets. Col Ewen Macdonald, Commander Catering Group, and his staff use the latest technology in their food research to ensure quality catering on a large scale.

He said: "My job is to ensure 13,000 soldiers a day are fed and it is vital to keep an eye on what's happening in the food industry. We work with Naafi buyers to ensure that our customers are given the best service and are helped enormously by the experience of Naafi."

Supplies from Naafi and the Army Ordnance Corps are broken down to kitchen requirements at Catering Group. Meat is prepared and sawn into steaks and chops, and caterers cook and bake gateaux

and cakes for dispatch to units.

Lt Col Frank Clewes, technical supplies/production officer, said: "Our relationship with Naafi is a two-way thing. It helps them as well as us. For example, we test food such as a meat pie and analyse it. If we are not satisfied we go back to Naafi and say we want something else and that helps them to buy the right supplies."

Col Nicholas Prideaux, who represents Army interests on the Naafi board of management, said: "During my service, Army food has come a very long way since being generally described as 'disgusting'. Today's soldiers are very well fed and Naafi plays an important part in supplying the excellent food prepared by the Army Catering Corps."

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**EXPORT
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A herald of regimental histories

EX GUNNER Alex Summers is besotted with his job because it combines art and the military – the interests he most enjoys – and he is making a living out of it, writes Jennifer Griffiths.

He had a variety of jobs after being invalided out of the Royal Artillery with hearing difficulties, working briefly as an airport security guard, a railway trackman and a cook on a Channel ferry.

As a youngster he had excelled at art, and had turned down a place at Slade College of Fine Art, London to become a soldier because he was 'Army barmy'. A continuing interest in heraldry led him at 34 to become a mature student at Reigate College of Art, where he took a course in calligraphy, illumination and heraldry.

He said: "I qualified in June 1986 and saw a need for a heraldic artist specialising in the military field." He and his wife Pamela successfully applied for a Government Enterprise Allowance grant.

"She runs the office side and I do the pretty bits," explained Alex.

During his student days, he completed a design which included the badge of The Royal Irish Rangers because the Second Battalion happened to be stationed in Dover where he was living. He showed it to members of the sergeants' mess who promptly commissioned him to illustrate their regimental history.

They had one thousand copies printed for sale, retaining 50 as special presentation



Alex Summers at work on another heraldic design

gifts. Since then commissions have come in from many branches of the Army for designs which include presentation shields, exercise certificates, regimental badges, and soccer anniversaries. He has also designed a map of the Second World War artillery

defence of Dover – "Hellfire Corner".

Alex, 38, is now working on a design to mark the tercentenary presentation of Colours to The Cheshire Regiment.

He has produced *The Duke of Thirssel Knights*, a book on

The Knights of The Thistle, which is Scotland's equivalent of the Knights of the Garter. It includes the Arms of many British and foreign royalty, and Alex's ambition is to get it into print. When it went on display in Edinburgh Castle it was insured for £20,000.

Army on the march in Paris

direction of Capt Geoffrey Kingston, Director of Music for the Scottish and King's Divisions.

THE BRITISH contribution to the "Celebration of The Marseillaise" during the bicentennial celebrations of the French Revolution in Paris will be 225 musicians from British Army bands in Germany.

With participants from many nations, they will be part of the grand procession marching down the Champs Elysée from the Arc de Triomphe to Place de la Concorde.

The bands will be under the

The leading group of bands will come from English regiments. They will be the Regimental Bands of The Queen's Own Hussars, the 15/19th Hussars, 1st Royal Tank Regiment and the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment.

The second group will be the massed bands, pipes and drums from Scottish and Irish regiments. They will be the Regimental Bands of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, the 2nd

Royal Irish Rangers, Queen's Own Highlanders and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The Pipes and Drums will be from The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, the 2nd Royal Irish Rangers and Queen's Own Highlanders.

Also on parade will be the Bugles and Drums of the 2nd Royal Irish Rangers.

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards will also be parading their drum horse Ramillies.

BOOK REVIEWS

Life and times of Russia's Spetsnaz

BRITAIN has the SAS and SBS, the USA has the Green Berets, SEALS and Operational Detachment Delta, and most armies of both East and West Bloc nations, as well as those not so firmly designated, have their elite special forces.

The schoolboy's image of a soldier today is not so much an immaculately turned out product of the parade ground; it is more of a tough, individualistic fighting man who can get himself in and out of trouble with professional aplomb, break into a terrorist held stronghold and melt into the scenery, gather intelligence or perform an undetected assassination if so required.

Operation Spetsnaz by Michael G Welham and Bruce Quarrie is a book about the Voyska Spezialnoye Naznachenia (Special Designation Troops) – the Soviet's elite information gathering and sabotage force, a military formation whose very existence is largely unknown within the Soviet Union, or even within the armed forces of Russia and the nations of the Warsaw Pact.

Spetsnaz has its roots in the Soviet partisan movement of the Second World War and its current strength is estimated variously at between 15,000 and 30,000 men and women, working as the eyes and ears of the KGB and GR, whose roles and responsibilities are briefly described in the book.

There is a chapter devoted to mysterious deaths and disappearances among British scientists and technicians in defence work since 1982 and particularly over the last couple of years. Coincidence or organised assassination and abduction?

The authors put up a reasonably convincing circumstantial case to suggest the latter explanation. – BJ

Operation Spetsnaz: The Aims, Tactics and Techniques of Soviet Special Forces by Michael G Welham and Bruce Quarrie. Published by Patrick Stephens. Price £10.95.



Insider's peek at Monty's menagerie



Montgomery in pensive mood

MONTGOMERY's headquarters in Western Europe was something of a zoo.

"Among Monty's four-legged, finned and feathered friends who lived at Tac to give him comfort and companionship, Mabel was the only one to serve a useful purpose: to provide the Chief with regular supplies of fresh milk.

"Mabel was to join the rest of the menagerie which included the two dogs, named Hitler and Rommel, a horse which had belonged to Rommel, an aviary of budgerigars and other birds and an aquarium of tropical fish.

"The sheep had not yet arrived. Swans, cygnets and a peacock arrived later to grace our peacetime headquarters."

This is a glimpse of the insular village that was the home of the Commander and Staff of 21st Army Group as told in *1100 Miles with Monty*, by Norman Kirby, a sapper who transferred to the Intelligence Corps in 1942 – "thanks to having been a schoolmaster at Dartford Grammar School."

As a sergeant in the BLA (British Liberation Army)

Norman Kirby does not mind telling a few stories against himself, such as the time he was trying to boil shaving water by the time-honoured method of petrol soaked earth. Things went wrong and he set his trousers alight, nearly starting a forest fire. Only 50 yards away were the C-in-C, his staff and all the Allied wartime plans and hopes.

Highlight of the author's service with the Tac HQ was when he acted as interpreter at the delivery of the final surrender terms into the hands of Fd Marshal Keitel, Supreme Head of the German Armed Forces. A momentous occasion indeed.

The book provides an interesting insight into what life was like in the Commander-in-Chief's fast moving headquarters. It was not the soft number that many in Europe in other roles thought during the campaign. – BJ

1100 Miles with Monty: Security and Intelligence at Tac HQ by Norman Kirby. Published by Alan Sutton. Price £12.95.

BUTTONS can be quite difficult to manage when previously all your clothes have been fastened with ties.

Young Gurkha recruits struggle into their first uniforms at the Quartermaster's Store in Nepal, one of many colour plates – this one taken in 1961 and the intervening years have seen changes in clothing – from *The Mountain Kingdom*, a beautifully produced picture book of portraits of Nepal and the Gurkhas.

Written and photographed by Col Bruce Niven, who has spent 29 years with the Gurkhas, led the joint British and Nepalese army expedition that climbed Annapurna in West Nepal in 1970, and is currently

Getting to grips with uniformity

commanding the Gurkha contingent with the Singapore Police Force.

Available in the UK from The Gurkha Museum, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Church Crookham, Hants GU13 0RJ, from the author at Gurkha Contingent, Singapore Police Force, Mount Vernon, Singapore 1336, or from the publishers, Imago, Productions (FE) Pte Ltd, 5 Lorong Bakar Batu, 05-01 MacPherson Industrial Complex, Singapore 1331. Price in UK £9.

IN BRIEF

Last Man Out by H Robert Charles. The infamous Burma railway where 100,000 Allied prisoners died in slave labour camps from starvation, disease, torture and execution, told by a prisoner of the Japanese. Published by Crowood Press. Price £12.95.

World War One: 1914 by Philip J Haythornthwaite. Picture booklet of the soldiers of nations who were in the first year of the war. Published by Arms and Armour. Price £19.95.

Armies in Low-Intensity Conflict edited by David Charters and Maurice Tugwell. An examination of low-intensity operations in the armies of the United States, Israel, France, Canada and Britain. Published by Brassey's. Price £25.

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Territorial Army in sharp focus

THE fact that in the past ten years a quarter of a million men and women have been in the Territorial Army could illustrate its popularity.

Unfortunately, it is also evidence of the TA's greatest current problem – retaining its trained personnel against the pressures of family, friends and, above all, civilian employment.

To counter the annual turnover of about 30 per cent, MoD launched a major campaign to improve the TA's public image, to encourage employers to support the TA, and to attract more and better officer candidates.

The first of these aims is certainly admirably served by *The Territorial Army*, a picture book about the TA, commercially produced but doing a very good PR job.

Describing the TA's historical background, its place in the modern British Army, and its units, equipment and tasks in wartime, the book aims to dispel the common illusions about the TA – that it's a sort of 1980s version of Dad's Army, perhaps. Or a second-best home for those who cannot get into the Regulars.

"Today's British citizen soldiers are none of these", is the message in the book's preface. "They are, quite simply, an indispensable and

ings during 1941-45, with more than 400 illustrations. Reissued by Arms and Armour. Price £10.95.

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The Chieftain Tank by Simon Dunstan. Picture booklet about the tank which entered service in 1966, with some 900 produced for the British Army. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £4.95.

very cost-effective part of the British armed forces, providing over 30 per cent of the Army's mobilised establishment for only five per cent of the Army's share of the defence budget."

Unfortunately, not everyone realises that.

A recent survey indicated that 78 per cent of people were either unaware of the TA's existence or had a false view of its role. National Service and the Second World War are long gone, and only the Falklands and Northern Ireland in the last decade have kept the Army operationally in the news.

The authors discuss possible ways of reducing the turnover to the "unavoidable" figure of 15-20 per cent. Increased financial rewards, perhaps? But the TA's basic pay cannot be increased unilaterally. Better bounties? It is questionable, they say, whether a few extra hundred pounds a year would retain a TA soldier.

More flexible training obligations with perhaps an opting out period if civilian employment warranted it? Better training and man management?

The point is made that only the best officers and NCOs should be posted to the TA, and that they should see it as an essential step in their career, not as a demotion or promotion sideways.

There have been suggestions that the TA might provide even more services to the civilian community. Or that TA Centres be used as a meeting place for local community groups, keeping the TA in the public eye.

"If the British public appreciates what the TA does in peacetime, and continues to support it both morally and more practically by joining, and as long as any potential aggressor appreciates what it could do in wartime, then the money will be well spent," the authors conclude.

The Territorial Army by Graham N Thompson and Teddy Nevill. Published by Ian Allan. Price £5.95.

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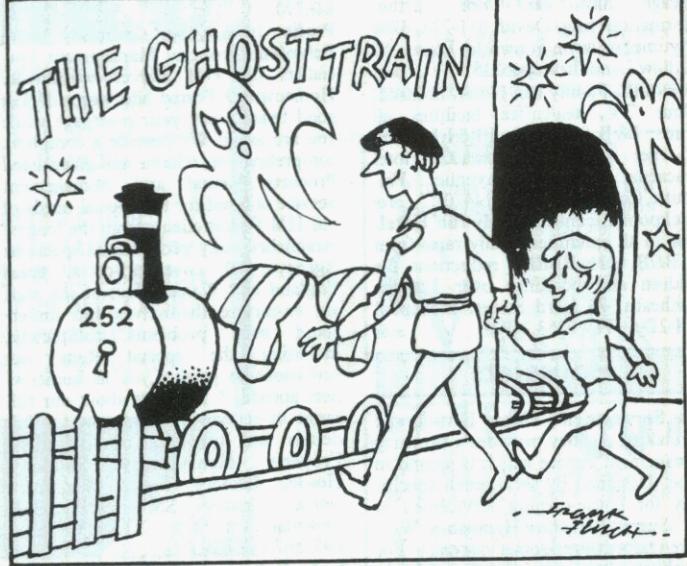
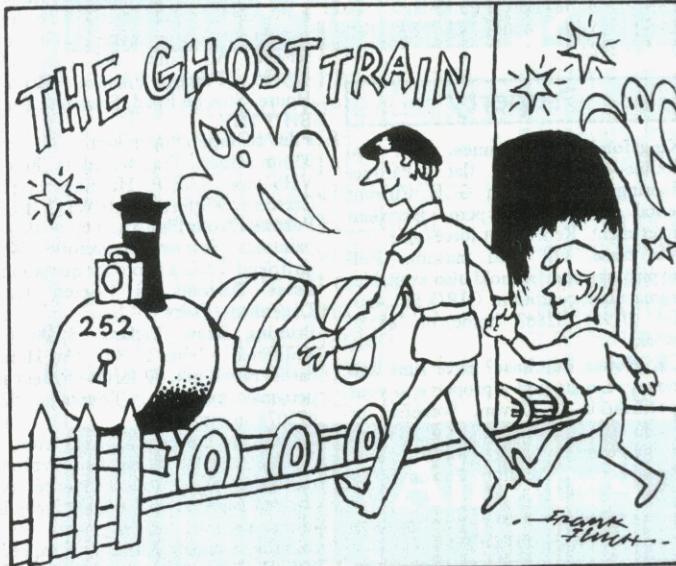
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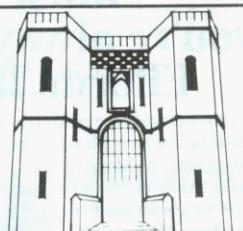
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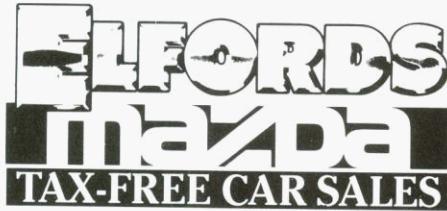
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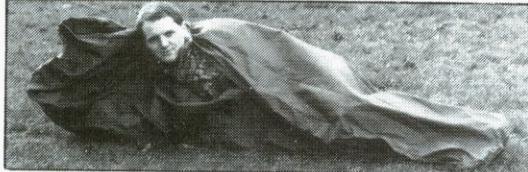
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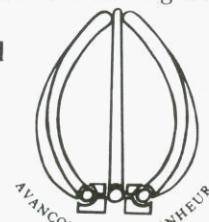


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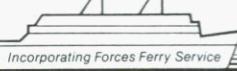
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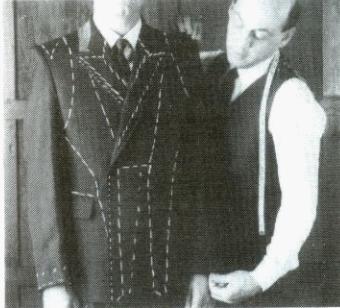
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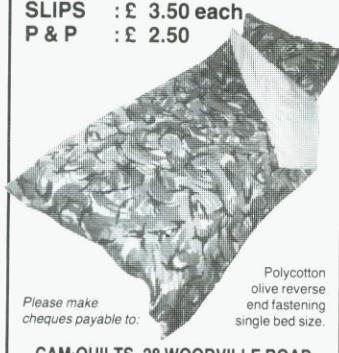
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Paul's a Woofer wonder

AFTER ten days of shooting at Bisley, the 1989 Army champion shot is Cpl Paul Brunt of the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment and the team champions are the 2nd Battalion, Ulster Defence Regiment, writes David Thomas.

2 UDR took the Major Units optical sights title, and the iron sights competition was won by the Queen's Gurkha Signals.

In the Minor Units Competitions the honours went to the Depot, The Queen's Division (optical sights) and 69 Gurkha Independent Field Squadron (iron sights).

The annual Service Weapons Championship at the Regular Army Skill at Arms Meeting is the pinnacle of Service shooting and is restricted to 476 individuals, including 45 major unit teams.

Places are shot for and earned in District and corps skill at arms meeting in the United Kingdom and abroad.

RASAM is the start of a hectic month at Bisley and is followed by the Territorial Army and Junior Soldier SAMs. These in turn lead into the Inter Services cadet rifle and National Rifle Association meetings. Many soldiers stay on for these, competing in both Service rifle and target rifle events.

The matches at RASAM are designed for Service weapons only. They reflect current operational scenarios and are constantly reviewed and updated by the Army Rifle Association. The ARA is in fact responsible for the smooth running of the RASAM under Lt Col (retd) Lofty Graham and Maj Fred Parker and their small staff.

This is the third year that the SA 80 system has shot alongside the old SLR. Soldiers armed with both weapons shoot the same courses of fire at the same ranges, although the scoring surfaces have different values for each weapon.

Based on the results of the previous Bisley meeting the new scoring surfaces reflect the enhanced accuracy and tighter grouping of the SA 80 rifle

equipped with the optical sight.

An interesting development this year has been the success of the iron sighted SA 80 which shoots on the same target dimensions as the SLR. Second place in the first stage of the Army championships, which has three stages, went to Sgt Krishna, Queen's Gurkha Signals, who was firing one of these rifles.

Overall, about half the competitors have been using some form of SA 80 and half the SLR.

Recent years have seen major unit successes going to the battalions of the Gurkhas, Ulster Defence Regiment and the Foot Guards. But the 1989 meeting has seen a resurgence of the line infantry battalions, among them The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, and the Queen's Own Highlanders, all former winners of the major units championship.

Success has also been achieved by many of the 58



Cpl Fung Kin-man Service pistol champion

individual title to be won by a Hong Kong Chinese. To cap it, his unit won the pistol team championship.

Weather for the championships was exceptionally warm and was reflected in an overall rise in scores, despite the fact that the first stages were shot in the only really bad weather on the very first day.

There was, however, a difficult wind to judge on Century Range (it gets its name from the fact that it boasts more than 100 targets) during some of the longer range shoots and it caught out quite a few competitors.

Whether or not those who participated won or lost they will invariably return to their units as better shots and coaches. Those units who take part at Bisley can demonstrate their superior Annual Personal Weapons Test results as proof of the experience.

The professional experience and unique camaraderie of Bisley do much to improve the standards of Army shooting.



Competitors in the Parachute Regiment Cup match. Major Units winners were 2/2 GR followed by 6 GR and 2 UDR, Minor Units winners were 69 Gurkha Ind Fd Sqn, Queen's Gurkha Engineers, followed by 1 Tg Regt RE and Dragon Company HKMCS

BISLEY RESULTS

Rouppell Cup – 1, Sgt Salmon, 1 WG; 2, Lcpl McDougall, 1 QOH; 3, Lt Burton, Class B – 1, Gdsnn Robinson, 2 SG; 2, Lcpl Cooper, 1 QLR; Rfn Man Bdr Garbuta and 2nd Lt Morwood, 2 UDR.

Henry Whitehead Cup – 1, Rfn Kham Bdr Garbuta, 2/2 GR; Cpl Metcalf, 1 QLR and Ssgt Dharmendra Gr. 6 GR, Class B – 1, Pte Robinson, 6 UDR and Rfn Sherkaji Gr. 6 GR; 3, Lt Glover, 1 WFR.

Association Cup – 1, Ssgt Krishna, QG Sigs; 2, Ssgt Dharmendra Gr. 6 GR; 3, Cpl Ram Prasad, 1/2 GR, Class B – 1, Rfn Bdr Tamang, 10 GR; 2, Pte Gardener, 1

DERR; 3, Lcpl Poyntz, 1 QLR. **Presentation Kukri** – 1, 2nd Lt Morwood, 2 UDR, Class B – 1, Ssgt Dharmendra, 6 GR.

Moving target – 1, Lcpl Sushil Kumar Gr. 6 GR; 2, Csgt Pickwell, 1 QLR, Cpl Craven, 1 LI and Cpl Malin Pradhan, 10 GR.

Whittaker Trophy – 1, 2nd Lt Morwood, 2 UDR; 2, Lcpl Duthie, 1 RRF.

Graham Trophy – 1, Sgt Salmon, 1 WG; 2, Cpl Summersett, 1 BW; 3, Lsgt Salter, 2 SG, Class B – 1, Pte Coulter, 6 UDR; 2, Pte Nicol, 1 Gordons; 3, Pte Wetherall, 1 QLR.

Worcestershire and Sherwood

Forresters Cup – 1, Cpl Metcalf, 1 QLR; Ssgt Campbell, 6 UDR; Capt McLean, 6 UDR, Class B – 1, Rfn Pedgeth, 3 RGJ; 2, Rfn Sherkaji Gr. 6 GR; 3, Lcpl Chambers, 1 WFR.

Royal Ordnance Trophy – 1, 6 UDR; 2, GR; 3, 1 QLR.

Short range sniper match (The Queen's Regiment Cup) – 1, 11 UDR; 2, 2 UDR; 3, 1 Staffords.

Long range sniper match – 1, Cpl Harrison, 11 UDR; Pte Mulingani, 1 Staffords; Lcpl Doak, 11 UDR. SNI Class – 1, 1 Staffords; 2, 11 UDR; 3, 2 SG.



Queen's Medal winner Cpl Paul Brunt of the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment is given the traditional sedan chair welcome



Up and over in the team snap shooting match which was won by 6 UDR with 1 WFR in the runners up position. Teamwork plays an important part



Good hurdling technique from a competitor in the Parachute Regiment Cup combat shoot involving a two mile run and obstacles on the range

Ton up Barrett canes students

CAPT Julian Barrett of the Light Division Depot was in cracking form for Combined Services against Cambridge University at Fenners and Oxford at The Parks, scoring centuries in both matches.

His first innings 72 and second innings 127 not out at The Parks failed to stop the undergraduates winning the three day match by seven wickets, but it did confirm the rich vein of form that Barrett has found with the bat.

Lt Tom Thickness took 3-77 with his slow left arm spin in the university first innings, and in a terrific game on a benign Parks wicket Oxford scored 305-3 in the fourth innings to win with an over to spare.

Thickness played himself into the team the previous week after being elevated from 12th man at Fenners against Cambridge. He picked up a couple of wickets in each innings as Services beat a full strength Light Blue side by five wickets.

Barrett's contributions were 134 in the first innings and 36 in the second. Capt Charlie Hobson of the Royal Marines hit 63 and Capt Peter Germain 53 not out as Services notched up a victory of note.

Barrett was also in the runs with 61 in Combined Services' four wicket win in a limited overs match against Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk's XI at Arundel.

A strong Essex 2nd XI which included former England stalwarts John Lever and Geoff Miller bowled the Army out for 102 on the first morning of their two day fixture at Woolwich, but the pitch was blameless.

Last year this fixture was abandoned when a minefield of a track threatened serious injury for beleaguered batsmen. Woolwich were given a



Picture: Mike Perrin

Former Army and Combined Services footballer Alf Coulton (left), now a Football Association staff coach, pauses for a photograph with his Class of '89 during a Joint Services FA advanced coaching course at Aldershot. The only similar courses are held at the Football Association's centre of excellence at Lilleshall. Three current Army players took part, including skipper Sgt Sandy Brown (kneeling, second from right), and all will disperse to their units worldwide to help raise the standard of Services football.

year to get it right and responded with a much improved wicket.

In the Army's second innings that man Barrett hit 82 in a partnership with skipper Capt Edward Gordon Lennox (96) which improved the position from a somewhat parlous 18-3 to 169-4.

Army 102 and 207. Essex 2nd XI 208-8 dec and 104-1. Essex won by 9 wickets.

Six batsmen caught out told its own tale of woe as the Army were bowled out for 119 in the 48th over of a one day game against Northants 2nd XI at Aldershot. Lt Jim Cotterill top scored with 29, Peter Germain (26 not out) and Cpl Andy Taylor (19) were the other main contributors. Taylor took the only two Northants wickets to fall as they knocked off the runs in 25 overs.

Army 119. Northants 2nd XI 123-2. Northants won by 8 wickets.

There was some bright young talent on show at the Army Under 25 festival at Tidworth and Aldershot as the junior side warmed up for their Inter-Services tournament at Vine Lane, Uxbridge.

Three out of the four matches were won by the Army Under 25 side, culminating in

an extraordinary game against Buckinghamshire who were hell bent on avenging last year's defeat.

After six overs the Army total was an embarrassing six runs for five wickets! But Tom Thickness (63), Fus Jonathan Jeremias (31) and Gdsmn Andrew Boxall (20) bumped it up to 131 all out.

Thickness (5-18) and Lt Charlie Redmayne (3-16) then turned the match on its head by bowling out a by now bemused Bucks for 70.

The Army U-25 XI beat BAOR and a strong Fire Services team but lost to Wiltshire.

Boxall, a former Sussex 2nd XI player, made a strong impression, as did Lt Rob Thomson, skipper of Cambridge Crusaders for the past two years. He is joining 1 RGJ from RMA Sandhurst.

BAOR 162 (Dahl 43, John-Pier 52; Thomas 3-15, Boxall 2-23, Thickness 2-18), Army U-25 163-6 (Cotterill 46, Boxall 46 not; Lawson 3-35). Army won by 9 wickets.

Army U-25 135. Wilts 136-1. Wilts won by 9 wickets.

British Fire Services 175 (Redmayne 2-32, Thomas 2-25, Jeremias 3-33). Army U-25 176-3 (Thomson 52 not, Bird 48 not, Jeremias 40). Army won by 7 wickets.

Army U-25 131 (Thickness 61, Jeremias 31, Boxall 20). Bucks 70 (Thickness 5-18, Redmayne 3-16). Army won by 61 runs.

RCT tug team win

WINNERS of the 680 kilo event at the UKLF tug of war championships at Colchester were Vehicle Squadron RAC Centre who beat MCTC by two straight pulls in the final.

But there was a double triumph for the men of 17 Port Regiment RCT, who went home with the 560 and 640 kilo titles.

In the lighter division they beat 16 AD Regt 2-0 and in the 640 kilo competition 1/2 GR were the losing finalists.

Sporting double

THERE was a double triumph for the Army at the Inter Service athletics championships at RAF Cosford, with both the men's and women's teams taking their respective titles. The men won by a single point from the RAF to win the championship for the third consecutive year. Details in next issue.

Women third

THE Inter Services women's golf championships at Hayling Island were won comprehensively by the Royal Navy team who hosted the tournament. They won 12 out of 18 matches, pushing the RAF women's team into second place and the Army into third.

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Close co-operation between British Forces in Belize and the Belize Defence Force as Grenadier Guardsman Jason Goodwin, who is attached to 1 WG, and Pte Milton Busano, a BDF volunteer, share a hide. Milton is a citrus farmer who would like to become a full-time soldier.

Picture: Mike Weston