

# SOLDIER

OCTOBER 16 1989

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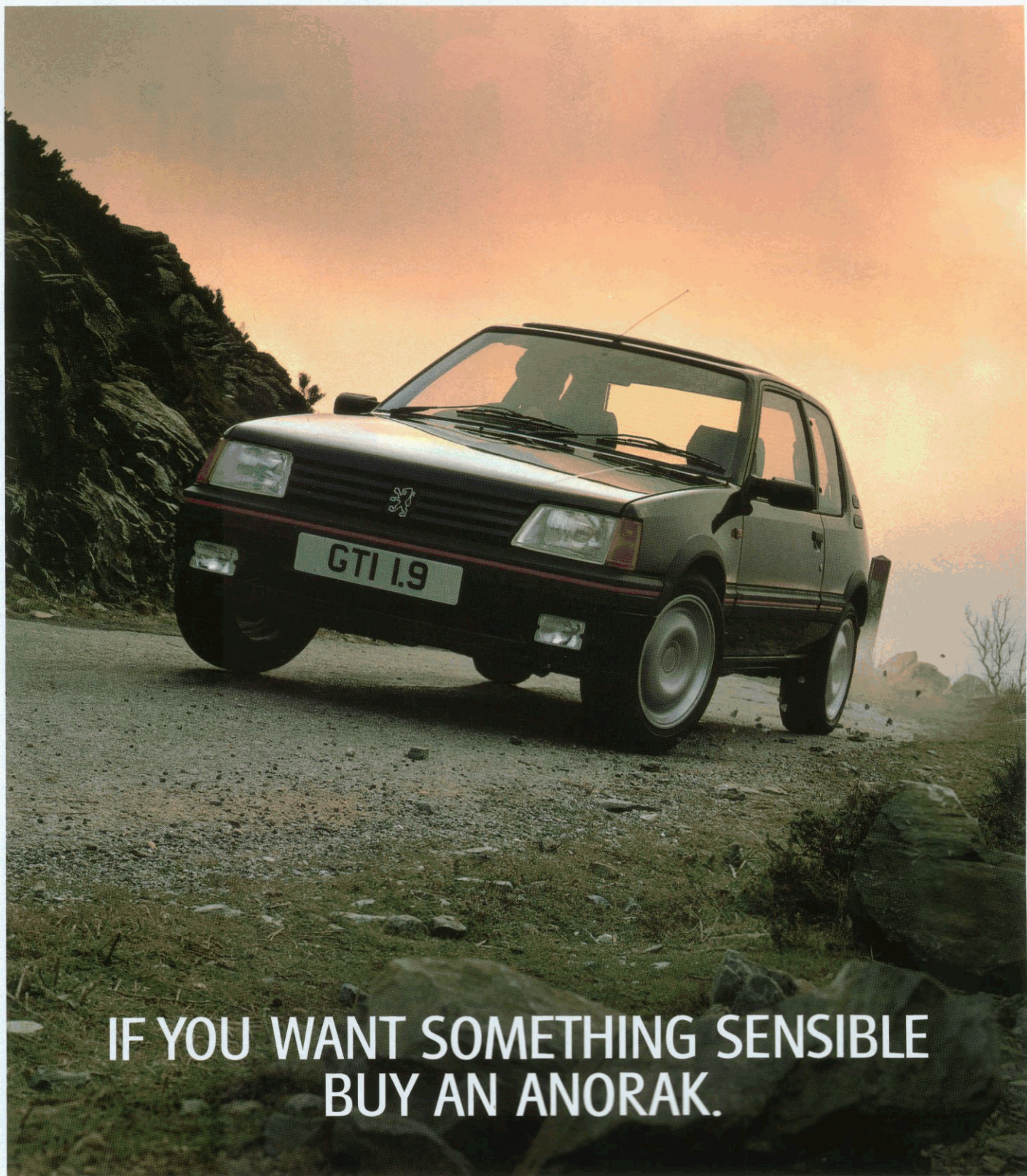
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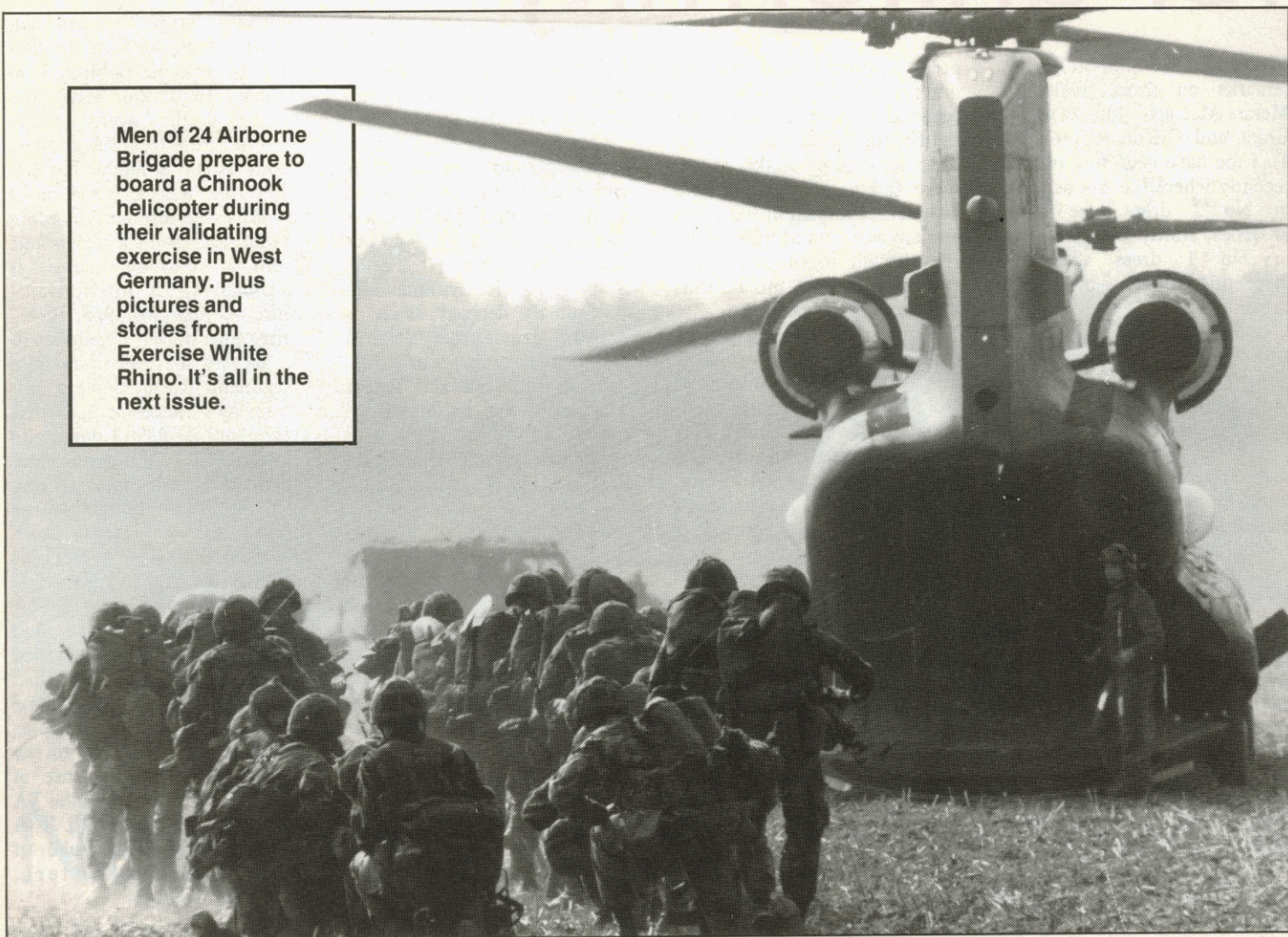


FRONT COVER: Exhibition organiser Dr Linda Washington ensures a former British Expeditionary Force 8cwt truck is spick and span before the opening of the National Army Museum's major new exhibition marking the outbreak of the Second World War. The Morris truck is on loan from the Museum of Army Transport. See Page 13.  
Picture: Mike Weston

# SOLDIER

**THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY**  
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

**Men of 24 Airborne Brigade prepare to board a Chinook helicopter during their validating exercise in West Germany. Plus pictures and stories from Exercise White Rhino. It's all in the next issue.**



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## Time to dress for uniformity

May I add my support to the remarks on dress made by Messrs McLeod (July 24), and Grant and Griffin (September 4). I too have been to a parade recently where the troops were in No 2 dress, the stick orderlies, RSM, Adjutant et al in No 1 dress and the inspecting officers in No 6 dress.

Couple this with the fact that although No 1 dress has not officially existed for the majority of soldiers for 20 years it simply will not go away.

The last attempt to sort out the problem of a smart parade uniform was ten years ago. It resulted in the proposal that No 2 should be replaced by a dark

green uniform. Such was the outcry that No 2 dress was retained on the grounds that the British people expect to see their soldiers in khaki, that a more traditional uniform would be an anachronism in the 1990s and anyway "stand up" collars are difficult to fit, needing a vast range of sizes and are thus prohibitively expensive.

The current state of play is that junior ranks have No 2 dress while senior ranks have No 2 dress and an entitlement to an issue of No 1 dress. This is rarely drawn but they are encouraged to buy an unofficial mess kit at their own expense. Officers have No 2 dress and mess kit but many have No 1

dress (ex-RMAS) although it is only an official uniform for full colonels and above.

Clearly we need a smart parade dress for all ranks while senior ranks and officers need a form of dress for mess functions. Personally, I do not believe that a khaki No 2 dress is appropriate for parades and ceremonial, derived as it is directly from the original camouflage combat kit.

As to the argument that a more traditional uniform is an anachronism in the 1990s, I do not remember the Household Division being greeted with howls of derision at the Queen's Birthday Parade nor military bands raising sniggers.

On the contrary, soldiers will go to enormous lengths to beg, borrow or steal a No 1 dress or a bandsman's uniform to get married in (I suspect the influence of the bride, not to mention mother-in-law, to be fairly powerful here and not to be under-rated).

Undoubtedly, a touch of the peacock is part of a soldier's make-up and always has been.

I would suggest that No 1 dress should replace No 2 dress for all. The problem of matching replacement tops and bottoms would be solved: some regiments and corps would traditionally wear different colour tunics and trousers anyway.

Senior ranks could revert to wearing the No 1 dress they are scaled for in their messes. For officers, No 1 dress could be embellished a little and replace mess kit as well. Stand up collars should be retained. The objections to them could be overcome, I am sure, by modern computerised tailoring techniques (not to mention Velcro) if an expert was tasked with finding a solution. Then we could all go on parade in a dress that is smart, appropriate and – wait for it – uniform.

What is more, we would feel like swaggering again. – Lt Col J N Alford, RA, Central Volunteer Headquarters RA, Woolwich, London.

## TA unit tops for bravery

When I wrote the *Encyclopaedia of the Modern Territorial Army* to be published on January 19, I came across the record of the award of the George Cross to a TA gunner, LBdr Brian Spillett. Regrettably this was a posthumous award as he lost his life while trying to rescue a neighbour from a burning house at Waltham Cross in Hertfordshire on June 16, 1965. In his spare time he was a member of P Battery of 289 Parachute Regiment, Royal Artillery (V).

Today's ancestor of that regiment is 289 Commando Battery RA (V), and more distinction has come its way with the award of the George Medal to Sgt Barry Smith (SOLDIER, Sept 4) for his outstanding bravery in dealing with armed robbers in 1986.

For a TA unit to have had two of its volunteers awarded with two of the top civilian bravery awards in peace time must be unique, as well as being a clear indication of the special qualities and sense of service that members of the TA bring to society. – Maj R A Peedle, RMP (V), Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London.

## His number came up!

As platoon commander of C Platoon, 4 Coy RASC at Gebel Maryam, Canal Zone (Egypt) in 1952, my personal vehicle was a Morris 4x4 15cwt bearing the number plate 41RG58. We had one jeep in service and from those days I dearly wanted a jeep of my own.

After all this time I have finally bought what must be the best restored jeep in Australia, built in 1942, and had it fitted with the number plate 41RG58.

I would be interested to know if that number is fitted to an MoD vehicle nowadays, and if so, what type and where is it? – Maj (Retd) Jim Jeans, 52 Ramsay Road, Pennant Hill, NSW 2120, Australia.

## Sabre search

Do our old (and serving) donkey wallopers ever wonder where all the sabres went? If you multiply 22 cavalry regiments by 600 sabres each (after we were mechanised) that adds up to 13,200 sabres.

I suspect all those blades were wrapped in grease and brown paper and stored somewhere. Is there anybody out there who knows? A year or two ago my own lot had a Guidon parade and had to beg and borrow sabres from sister regiments.

We got over it and actually

became a sabre squadron with sabres! Some genius took away those awful white waistbelts (only bus conductors wear waistbelts!) and every man in my own squadron had a pouch belt and a sabre. There's no finer sight, is there?

Whoever knows where those 13,200 sabres are, please, please tell. The MoD could re-issue them to regiments.

I bet they are greased and bundled "by regiment" in some dark cellar. – G M Frizzelle, 17 Horncastle Road, Lee, London SE12 9LG.

## A very humble VC

The article featuring 8th (Yorkshire) Bn LI (V) in the issue of July 10, mentioning LCpl Jason Yarrow's grandfather, Sgt J W Ormsby VC, prompted me to write and ask if he wanted an original photo of Mr Ormsby. This was taken by my late father, a former gunner, while on a pilgrimage to Lourdes for Catholic ex Servicemen in 1934.

I have since recieved a letter from Sgt Ormsby's granddaughter who remembers him

as "a very humble person, a gentleman and a family man". She also says the names John William have been passed down through the family to his present great great grandson.

I also have an original photograph of Sgt John Caffery VC, taken at the same time as Sgt Ormsby's, which I intend to offer to the regimental museum of the York and Lancs. – Owen A O'Neill, 110 Lingfoot Crescent, Sheffield S8 8DB.





Minister for the Armed Forces Mr Archie Hamilton watches Pte Tricia Edgington (right) and others at weapon training during his visit to the WRAC Centre at Guildford

## New deal for women soldiers

UP TO 10,000 posts now filled by men in the British Army could become available to women under new measures announced by Lord Arran, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces. The decision to enhance the role of women in the Army follows consideration by the Army Board of a report on the long term role and employment of women.

The report, an internal one, made a number of recommendations which are to be studied in detail by an implementation team. The Army Board has, however, made three decisions as the basis for future planning:

- Deployment rules for women to be made less restrictive, allowing women to be employed in all posts except where the primary role is direct combat.
- The Army to increase career opportunities and job satisfaction by integrating women more fully into the regiments and corps which employ them.

● The Women's Royal Army Corps will continue to have a separate identity, maintaining a female focus and overseeing the morale and wellbeing of female officers and soldiers.

More than 100 trades and employments currently available only to men should be opened to women, says the report. This could result in 6,000 posts becoming available to women in the Regular Army and up to 4,000 in the Territorial Army.

Latest Government statistics show there are currently 1,049 female officers and 5,601 Servicewomen in a total Army strength of 153,334.

Lord Arran's announcement means that in time of war women would work in divisional and corps areas, much closer to the front line than previously allowed. They would be able to join the Infantry and Royal Armoured Corps in admin and training capacities, although no decision has been made on the emotive subject of cap badging.

### Natterjack pond dredged by SEME

**SOLDIERS** from the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering at Bordon, Hants have been doing their bit to make life more agreeable for natterjack toads and other rare species at Woolmer Pond, an important wildlife sanctuary in the Army's Longmoor training area.

Two years ago Army engineers created shallow water scrapes to encourage breeding by the endangered natterjack. The latest project involved dredging to prevent one end of the pond silting up.

### Wrecking crew

SIXTEEN abandoned cars have been cleared from the slopes of the upper Rhondda Valley in Wales by Territorial Army soldiers. The men from 157 Regiment RCT (V) based in Swansea and Carmarthen used their new Foden heavy recovery vehicles to retrieve eyesore wrecks which had been dumped off the edge of mountain roads around Treorchy and Rhygys.



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## Queensmen celebrate their royal link with Denmark

THE Queen's Regiment's Albuhera Band and the 2nd Battalion's corps of drums, both stationed at Minden, West Germany, beat retreat before Queen Margrethe II to mark the 300th anniversary of the regiment's first link with the Royal House of Denmark.

Queen Margrethe is an Allied Colonel in Chief of the regiment.

Earlier the musicians had taken part in the Aarhus Festival. The Colonel of the regiment, Maj Gen Mike Reynolds, regimental secretary Col John Francis, and

the CO of the 2nd Battalion, Lt Col Merrick Willis, were received by the Queen at Marselisborg Palace and had lunch with her. Other events included a reception in Copenhagen and a courtesy call by Maj Gen Reynolds on the Royal Danish Lifeguards.

## Training area 'holiday' imposed

TRAINING on the Soltau-Luneberg Training Area will be subject to a number of restrictions following a new agreement to reduce the burden of exercise activities on the civilian population.

From next year there will be an annual four week summer break from training in August and September to coincide with the blooming of the heather.

Activity at weekends after 1pm on Saturdays and on public holidays will be kept to the absolute minimum but small-scale training which the Army considers indispensable will take place on facilities provided by both the Bundeswehr and the British Army of the Rhine.

The only vehicular movement permitted at weekends will be the recovery of broken down vehicles, and reconnaissance and resupply using wheeled vehicles only.

Buffer zones in crucial areas are to be increased beyond the current 400m. Other measures include reafforestation, bypasses and bans on transit. In addition a fundamental ban on tracked vehicles driving through built up areas at night is to be implemented. Other measures include a look at the possibility of building more bypasses for villages in the training area.

The sweeping changes were announced in a joint statement by UK Defence Secretary Tom King and FRG Defence Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg during their visit to Exercise White Rhino.

## They saved it!

THE Vehicles Department at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment (RARDE) at Chertsey, Surrey has won a cash prize and trophy for fuel efficiency. The department appointed wardens and installed such energy saving devices as movement sensors on garage doors to win the 1989 British Gas and MoD Energy Efficiency Award.



Maj Ray Franklin, Paymaster and longest serving member of the 4th Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, receives the third clasp to his Territorial Decoration from the Princess Royal during her visit to the battalion's annual camp at Catterick. The clasp marks 30 years of service. On the left is Cpl Cavan

Owen who received the Territorial Efficiency Medal. The Woofers showed Princess Anne, their Colonel-in-Chief, their skills at section attacks, grenade throwing and shooting. The battalion's present role, to defend signals installations in BAOR during times of mobilisation, is to change next year to home defence



If the helmet fits! Tpr Wayne Foster of the Household Cavalry gives some informal sword drill to two Harrogate Grammar School pupils at the two-day tri-Service careers display staged at Leconfield, North Humberside and hosted by the Army School of Mechanical Transport

## Blood unit's Deal alert

FOLLOWING the bomb explosion at Deal in which ten Royal Marines musicians lost their lives the Army Blood Supply Depot at Aldershot swung into action to ensure there were adequate supplies of blood to treat survivors.

ABSD stocks were rushed to the National Blood Transfusion Service at Tooting. Within hours the Army's depleted blood bank had been replenished by long lines of donors from Aldershot Garrison. Soldiers from the Depot, The Parachute Regiment, the RAMC, the ACC and Royal Air Force personnel queued to give more than 120 pints.

The ABSD also supplied blood direct to Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich in readiness for the arrival of survivors from Deal, and was on standby to lift blood by helicopter to Deal in the event of traffic jams preventing the delivery of supplies from Tooting.

A few days earlier the unit was host to the Princess Royal, whose visit was a highlight of the depot's 50th anniversary. Princess Anne was shown over the unit by the commanding officer, Col Michael Thomas, and watched members of staff at work.



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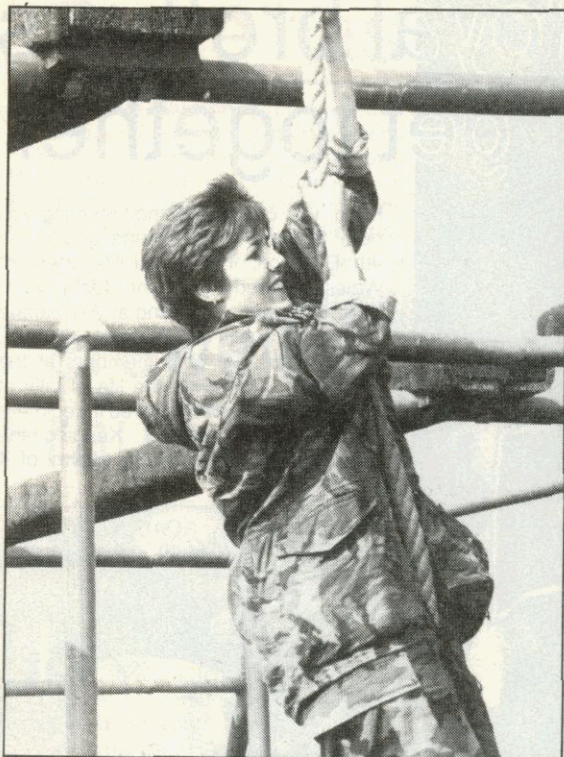
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## Sapper wives go to 'war' and get wet!

Going up (left) or going down (right) the Wives Club of 23 Engineer Regiment in Osnabrück gave their best in Exercise Boar's Delight run specially for them on the Vorden Training Area.

After some basic training involving basha building, field cooking, and drill, they joined in an overnight sequence. Defying enemy activity, obstacles and hazards they rescued a casualty from

behind the opposition's lines. Navigation skills were stretched to the limit but they brought him back alive (almost).

The following morning the wives took part in vehicle familiarisation training, abseiling, tackled the obstacle course, improvised a raft and still had enough puff left for potted sports.

Then they threw organiser SSM Paul Salmen in the lake.

# RCT evacuates cholera camp

A NONE too reluctant farewell has been bidden by 415 Maritime Troop, RCT, to Hong Kong's Soko Islands - at least for the time being.

Since early June, when the Hong Kong Government decided to use the largest of the Soko Islands as a holding centre for newly arrived Vietnamese boat people, the crews of the landing craft of 415 Maritime Troop have got to know the place well.

They have operated seven days a week to provide the only water supply for thousands of Vietnamese living in primitive conditions. They have transported building materials and construction equipment for the provision of basic facilities, removed rubbish, and, for a time, took over daily consignments of steamed rice in an attempt to provide a better diet for the boat people.

After riots broke out over the rice distribution and the tiny police detachment was forced to retreat, one landing craft took in a tactical unit of the Royal Hong Kong Police to restore order.

Latest episode in the unhappy saga of the Sokos involved all three of the troop's landing craft being used on two successive days to clear 4,000 Vietnamese off the island

following an outbreak of cholera. The authorities decided to evacuate the island, clean up the mess, and provide better facilities before using the camp again.

The second day of the move started at dawn and lasted until evening. Then the landing craft were off again, ploughing through Hong Kong harbour in the evening light, to join the resident battalion, the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, on a field training exercise.

## Gunners in Death Valley

EIGHT soldiers from Dortmund based 32 Heavy Regiment RA experienced midday temperatures of up to 47 degrees C while trekking across California's notorious Death Valley.

They succeeded in crossing the desert, at 289 feet below sea level the lowest point the western hemisphere, and went on to climb Mount Whitney, the highest peak in central USA.

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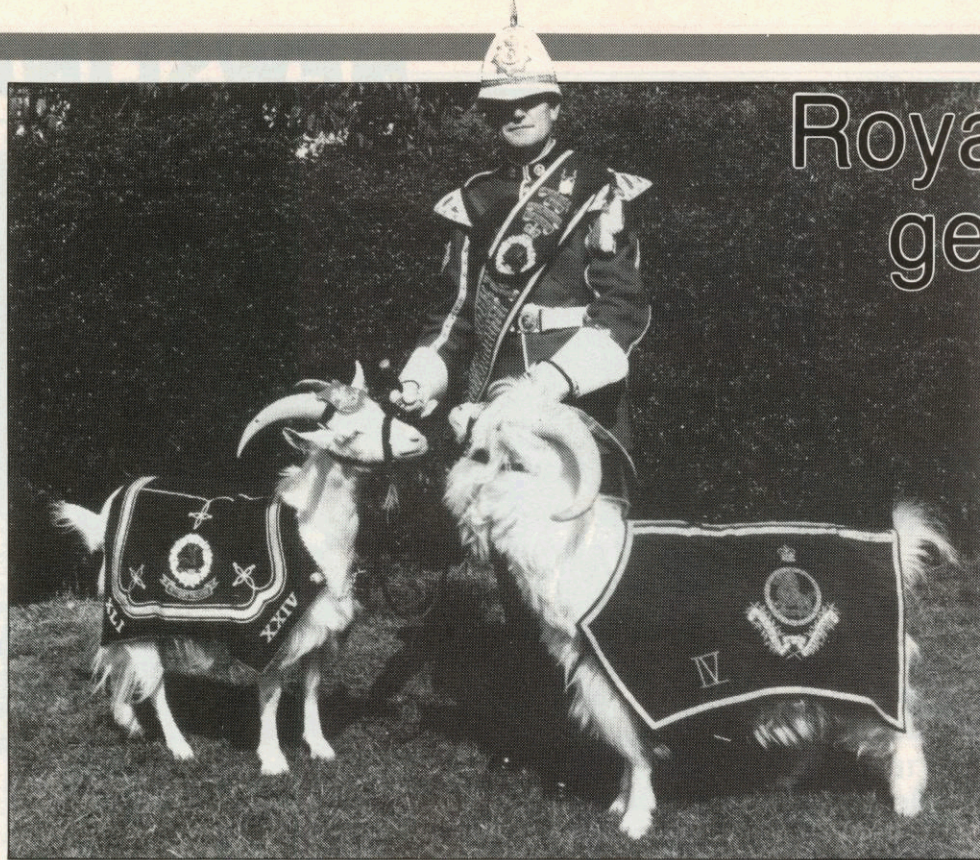
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## Royal brothers get together

Hello, you old goat. Fancy meeting you here! **Sospan IV**, regimental goat of the 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, bumped into brother **Idris** (right) when he spent a weekend at Whipsnade visiting the public and the other animals. The brothers are both members of the royal herd, Idris living the life of billy at Whipsnade, Sospan involved in regimental duties at Swansea. Keeping the peace is Goat Maj **Barrie John** of 4 RRW.



SA 80 LESSON: School teacher Sarah Griffiths

## Hi, Sheriff

Former North West District Territorial Army colonel Col William Elder has been sworn in as the new High Sheriff of Greater Manchester.

The guard of honour at his swearing-in ceremony at Manchester's Courts of Justice was formed by his two former units, 207 General Hospital (which he commanded from 1979 to 1982) and the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, of which he was regimental medical officer for two years.

## Sarah's on target

School ma'am **Sarah Griffiths**, a science teacher at St George's, the British Services school in Kowloon Tong on the northern side of Hong Kong harbour, is also a lieutenant in the Territorial Army.

Which is how she came to be firing SA 80 for the first time during a conversion course on the range at Stonecutter's Island. Now attached to the Joint Services Movements Centre in Hong Kong, 26-year-old Sarah used to be a member of 281 Squadron RCT, the Grantham based specialist transport unit, while teaching in Oldham.



LE ROLL CALL: Back (from left) Capt Danny Matthews, Maj Peter Blyth, Maj Ken Miles, Lt Dave Elwood and Capt Mike Young. Front, Capt Mike Sullivan, Maj Terry Senior and Capt Brian Crummack

## A whole lot of lateness

We wouldn't dare call them the old codgers, but these eight Late Entry officers serving with the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire at Catterick think they may add up to something of a record. Their combined total of service amounts to an impressive 217 years!

So what started as a joke ended up as a challenge to other Regular infantry battalions. Has anyone else got eight or more LE officers on strength at the same time – or more service between their LE officers?

1 PWO, based at Bourn Barracks, Catterick, is part of 24 Airborne Brigade.

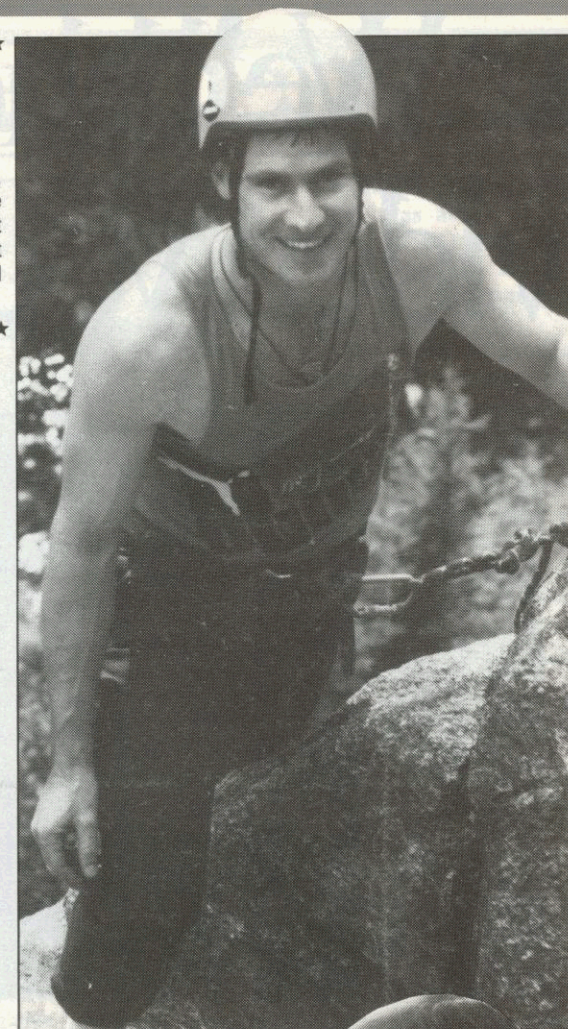
## Steve has a long look

Sgt **Steve Dumsney** of the Royal Australian Corps of Transport is seeing how the other half live Up Above. Usually based at Pukapunyal in Australia as a motor cycle instructor, he is currently being hosted by the Army

School of Mechanical Transport, Leconfield on the exchange exercise Long Look. Steve is pictured on a 120ft rock face in the Harz Mountains, West Germany where he was trying his hand at climbing with 19 Squadron RCT.

## Farewell, Frau Edith

During her 25 years as an interpreter for BAOR, Frau **Edith Peltner** (right) has worked for a number of units, starting with the tattoo performers, a military unit based in Dortmund, and including 33 (Independent) Lines of Communication Signal Squadron, 31 Field Ambulance, RAMC, and the SIB in Dortmund and Werl. Lt Col Ian Fulton, CO SIB RMP BAOR, presented her with several farewell gifts at her retirement party.



## PEOPLE

## Brainwave pays off!

Two senior NCOs on the permanent staff at Otterburn training area in Northumberland are £200 better off following MoD recognition of their bright idea.

WO2 **David Longcake**, assistant range liaison officer, and former colleague ex WO2 **Peter Rowsell** worked in their off duty hours to produce a computer programme to speed up their own routine admin tasks and improve the efficiency of the unit.

Their brainchild, first reported in SOLDIER (August 8, 1988), has

**KEY TO SUCCESS:** WO2 Dave Longcake at his computer

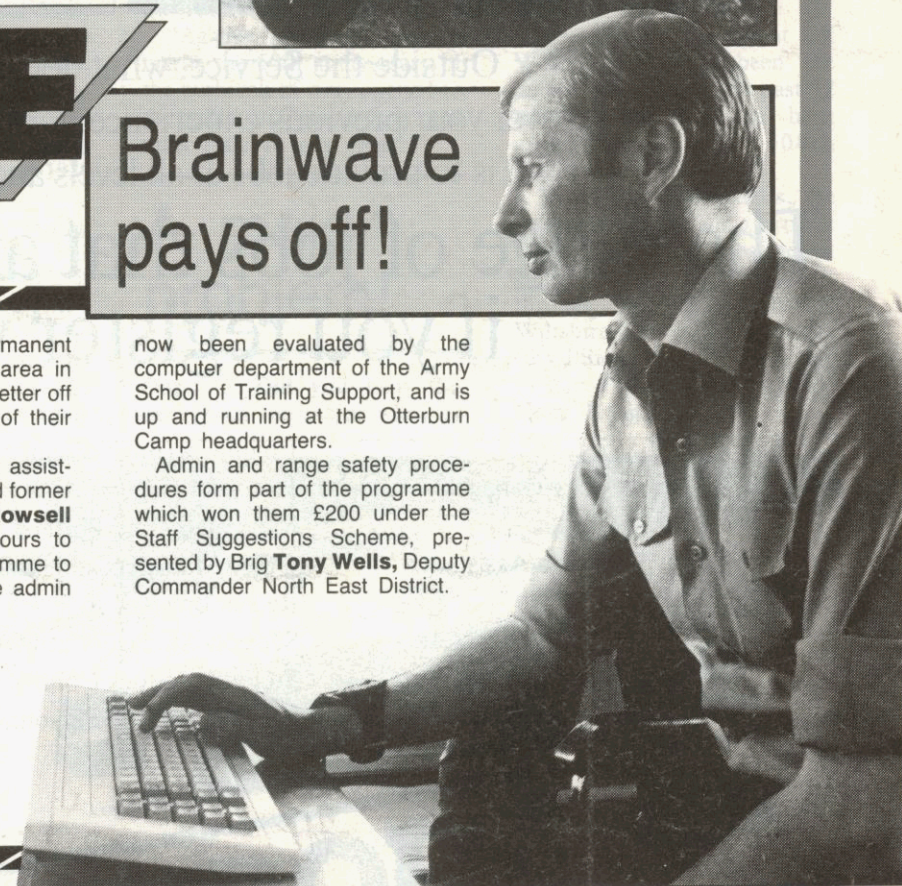
now been evaluated by the computer department of the Army School of Training Support, and is up and running at the Otterburn Camp headquarters.

Admin and range safety procedures form part of the programme which won them £200 under the Staff Suggestions Scheme, presented by Brig **Tony Wells**, Deputy Commander North East District.



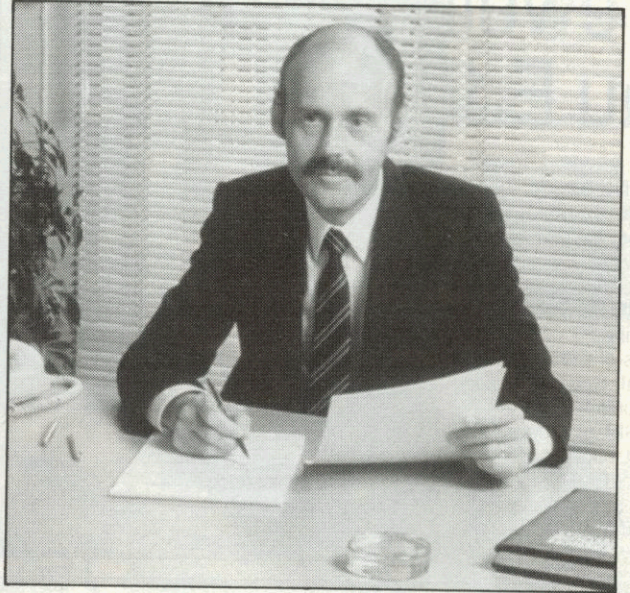
## Tall order

The 6th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers has a big problem. It comes in the lofty shape of 6ft 6in bass drummer **Fus Simon Allen**, on whom the battalion's traditional tiger skin adornment more closely resembles a polka dotted scarf! Has anyone got a tiger skin to fit Simon? If so 6 RRF at Fenkle Street, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 1HW wants to hear from you.





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## Trent River tragedy remembered

Ten Territorial Army soldiers who died in a river accident while on exercise 14 years ago have been remembered in a simple but moving ceremony.

Army cadets from their local area stood to attention as a lone piper played over the memorial cairn which marks the spot where the men, all members of the Grangemouth based 131 Independent Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers, were swept to their deaths on the River Trent in 1975.

After a short service of remembrance a poppy wreath was placed at the base of the cairn on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Scotland, Grangemouth Branch.

The tragedy, still fresh in the memory of the Stirlingshire town, occurred on September 18, 1975. Ten sappers died when their assault craft was swept over the weir at Cromwell Lock in pitch darkness.

Later, a cairn was erected in their memory at the place where they died.

This year, cadets from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were spending their annual camp at nearby Beckingham and members of their Grangemouth Detachment took part in the ceremony.

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

## SOLDIER to Soldier



Cadet Cpl Stuart Sherman tends the memorial cairn

## They defied the odds . . .

More than a year of planning lies behind the National Army Museum's latest exhibition, a tribute to the soldiers who, despite operating under considerable difficulties, emerged with great individual credit from the campaigns of 1939 and 1940.

Centrepiece of the exhibition, "Against All Odds! The British Army of 1939-40", is the re-creation of fighting in a Calais street.

LCpl Richard Rawcliffe and Spr John Nilsson from HQ Engineer Resources at Long

Marston used all their ingenuity to build the street, complete with cafe, grocery, *boulangerie*, and sound effects.

The scene depicts the last ditch defence put up by men of Queen Victoria's Rifles, the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade.

"Against All Odds", which marks the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of war, opened to the public on October 7. It runs until June 10 next year.

## A major problem!

Oops . . . Did you hear the one about the major who, as

the senior military officer on duty, was asked what action should be taken on a car illegally parked in his camp . . . an unnamed RCT establishment.

It had been ascertained that it was not booby trapped, so the major authorised the calling out of the civilian police to clamp the offending vehicle.

Police were hastily recalled to the camp to unclamp the wheel when it was discovered the car had been hired by the camp's VIP visitor - a brigadier!

## Warminster Freedom

Warminster, home for many years to the Army's Infantry Demonstration Battalions, has just bestowed its first Freedom on a regiment - and a Welsh one at that.

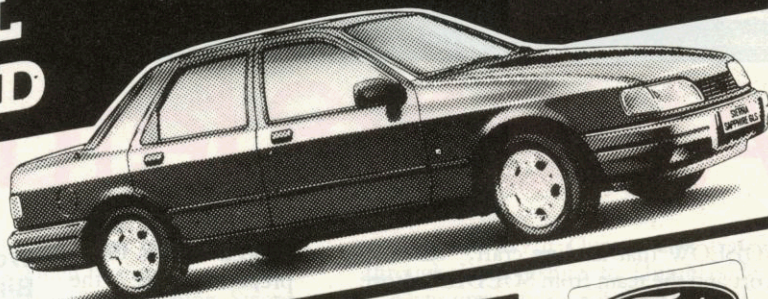
The Royal Regiment of Wales, which has been the demo battalion for the past 12 months, has this year been celebrating its 300th anniversary.

More than 100 soldiers, the regimental Band and Corps of Drums and the regimental goat, Taffy III, paraded through the streets of the Wiltshire town. Next year the Royal Regiment of Wales is due to start a three year posting to Hong Kong.

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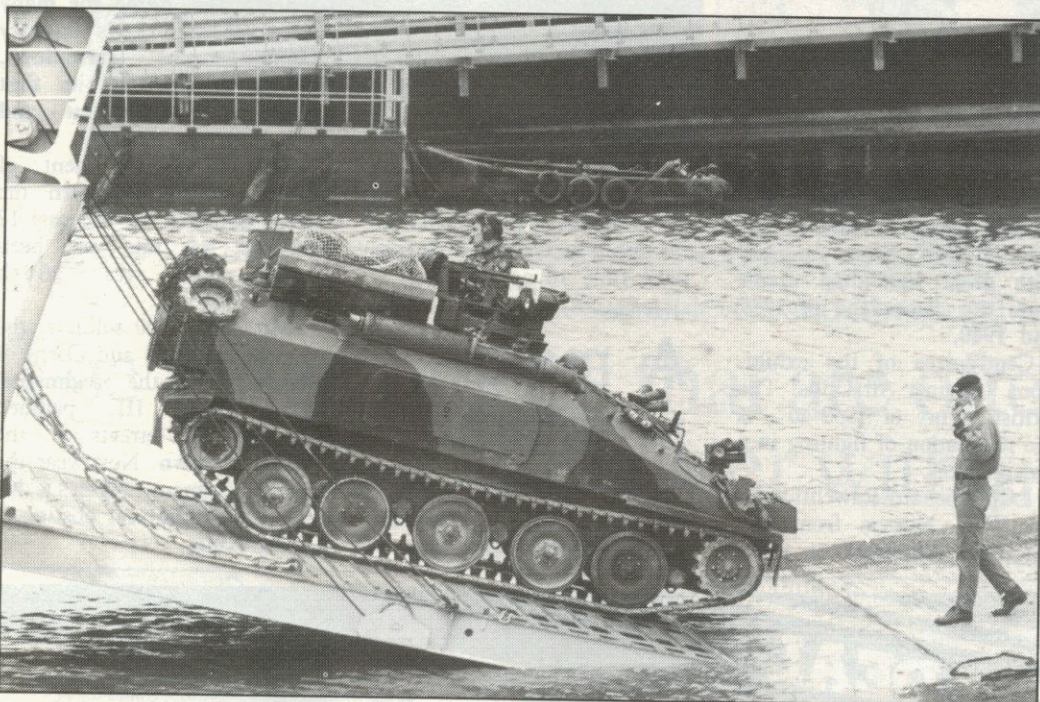
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Left - Like tourists queuing at Dover, vehicles wait to board the landing craft at Marchwood military port

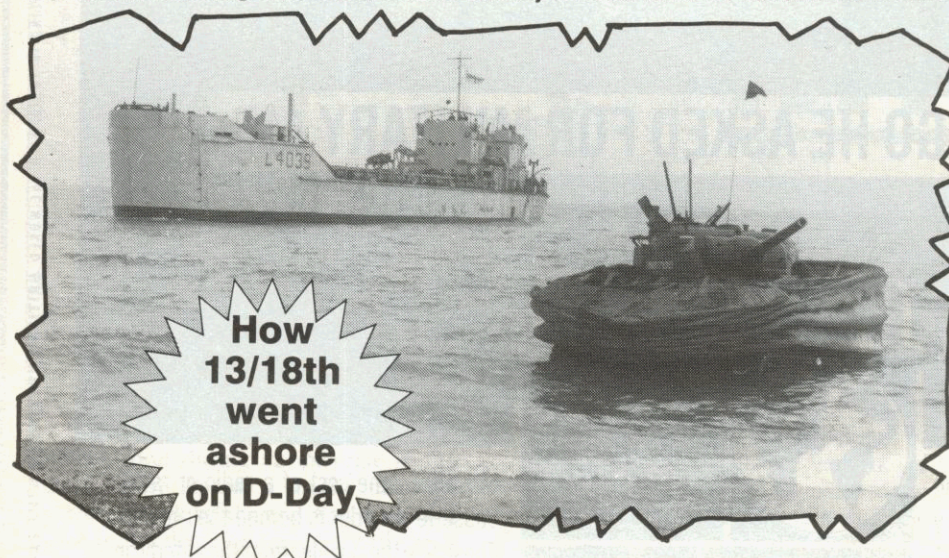


Above - New boy - Tpr Sean Woodley, 19, from Doncaster had just arrived from the depot at Catterick when he heard he was heading back north by landing ship

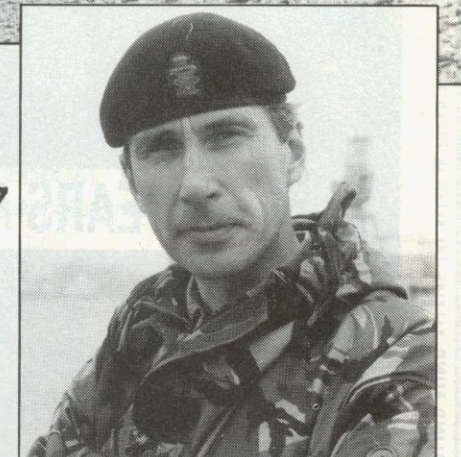
Left - Take it easy - CVR (T) is backed on to an RCT RCL



Royal Marines landing craft touched down for only minutes to let the Hussars roll ashore



How  
13/18th  
went  
ashore  
on D-Day



Above - Lt Col Allan Mallinson, CO 13/18 Hussars

Left - Wartime picture of a DD tank at a demonstration showing the flotation screen dropped as it comes ashore ready to open fire

# An altogether quieter invasion for 13/18H

"FOLLOW that landing craft," said our escort and the team from SOLDIER drove doggedly along the front at Solent-on-Sea, Hants with one eye on the traffic and the other on three dark shapes pushing up bow waves out at sea.

It was some time since anyone from the magazine had been to Browdown training area and the only certain way of getting there on schedule was to keep up with the Mark 9 LCUs\* of 6 Assault Squadron Royal Marines.

Inside the speeding craft were fighting vehicles of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars

(Queen Mary's Own) preparing for the appropriately named Exercise Viking.

Camera bag bouncing, our photographer arrived just as the LCUs turned smartly from line ahead to line abreast and dropped their ramps.

In a matter of minutes Scimitars were scooting up the metal slips laid by men of 51 Composite Port Squadron RCT.

The landing craft, very sinister in their black and beige camouflage which makes them hard to spot against a shore

**Words:**  
**Bill Moore**  
**Pictures:**  
**Mike Weston**

background, were off in a flash to bring in the next wave. Two friendlier looking grey-blue Army RCLs\* hove into sight.

Down came the ramps and away went the REME support Samsons. Not a vehicle stuck in the shingle and the first troops ashore drove back to Marchwood military port a few miles away in time for tea.

The following day they were due to board the LSL\* Sir Tristram and steam north to invade East Anglia. The landing was unopposed.

Lt Col Allan Mallinson, the CO, pointed out the 13th/18th had embarked in similar

landing craft in the same area 45 years ago. They were one of three British regiments which went in on D-Day equipped with DD Shermans.

The tanks were waterproofed and fitted with canvas screens which enabled them to stay afloat while the Duplex Drive propellers drove them ashore.

Elsewhere, because of rough weather, the US tank landing craft ran into trouble off Omaha Beach where 27 out of 32 tanks sank after launching. Others stayed aboard until the craft made the beach.

The 13th/18th, perhaps because they

were in a more sheltered spot, launched two squadrons which "swam" for an hour and ten minutes before reaching Sword Beach. Two Shermans were swamped when landing craft took evasive action but about 25 reached the shore. Some were swamped in the surf but most engaged strongpoints with their cannon.

The invasion of Norfolk was a much more peaceful affair, with more than 400 men involved and 60 tracked vehicles among the 100 deployed.

The 13th/18th formed a battle group with a battery of 47 Field Regiment and

men of the 6/7th Queens and travelled through Lincolnshire to Humberside.

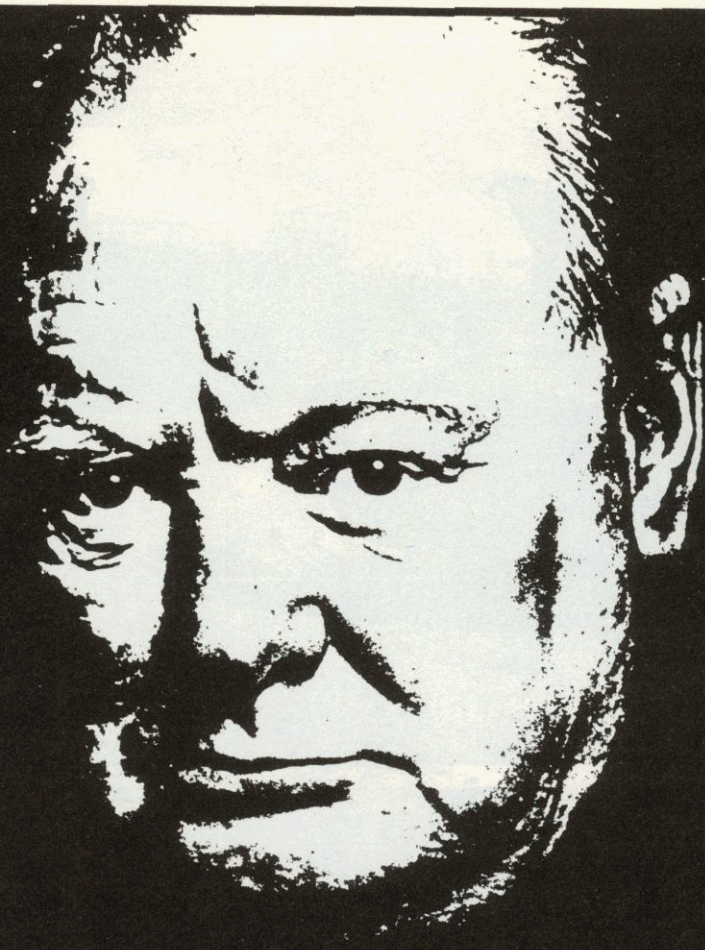
Their opposition included US Air Force security troops acting as special forces.

Main aim of the exercise was to practise the regiment in its varied roles over long distances, testing communications and procedures.

In the final phase landing craft took one squadron across the Humber. 13th/18th recruits mainly in South Yorkshire and Humberside.

\* LCU - Landing Craft Utility; RCL - Ramped Cargo Lighter, LSL - Land Ship Logistic.





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In the search

for training realism, this system is . . .



Left - An American soldier kitted up for laser-simulated warfare during Exercise Caltrop Force in California. Above - Laser receivers on the helmet of a British soldier during SIMEX 88 on Salisbury Plain

# MILES AHEAD

A **BRITISH** observer waiting at a vantage point during an exercise in the Middle East heard a radio message ordering a tank attack and was surprised to see in the distance "a lot of little men crawling about a ridge".

They were, he was told by his hosts, tank commanders taking a good look at the ground before going into action.

"Years ago we'd have probably charged in regardless," said one of them, "but since we've been using MILES we take things seriously."

Though no one is saying British tank commanders never get grass stains on the knees of their overalls, the message is clear. MILES has simply got to be taken seriously. It is revolutionising training all over the world.

Earlier this year the Red Army employed a similar system during large scale manoeuvres in the Ukraine.

The Americans, Swedes, Germans, French and Indonesians are equipping or have equipped with it.

Britain's own plans are developing fast.

No one can afford to be left behind.

MILES, the American version of weapons effect simulators, is not a trade name. It stands for Multi Integrated Laser Engagement System though the multi is sometimes seen as "multiple" and the engagement as "effects".

The initials are not as important as what they stand for. Basically a laser beam harmless to the eyes is fired from a projector fitted to a weapon and if it strikes a responder fitted to a man or machine triggers off a reaction . . . a noise, flashing light or smoke.

The British Army has made use of such things as SAWES (Small Arms Weapons Effect Simulators) for some years on a limited scale.

Technical developments in the field plus a growing recognition of the tremendous

value of this training to all arms have led to many nations spending a large part of their training budgets on it.

At SIMEX 88 on Salisbury Plain the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir John Chapple, told visitors: "We stand on the brink of the most far reaching investment decision on Army training that we are likely to take this century."

Earlier that year the Army had cannily set up a two-man project team with initials which are going to become very familiar . . . TES.

Brig Richard Mountford, a gunner and former instructor at the Royal School of Artillery, the project leader, and Lt Col Tony Clark, Parachute Regiment, were required to establish a philosophy for the introduction of Tactical Engagement Simulation for all training.

They then had to get their philosophy approved and thereafter work out the detail required so it could be brought into service in 1992.

**Reports by Bill Moore  
Pictures by Mike Perring**

● Turn to next page



# Fortune awaits man who invents fear simulator

● From Page 17

One line of approach is the establishment of battle group TES centres in Britain and possibly in Canada (where many advanced training facilities already exist).

Ideally a number of low-level TES training centres could operate within BAOR and UKLF so that the TA could also be accommodated.

To do this a small number of dedicated trainers would be required.

These would have to be not only experts in weapons simulation but up to date with current training concepts.

One title suggested has been SIMBAT (simulated battle advisory teams).

These could vary in size and could help provide observer-controller posts.

The observer controllers ensure accurate debriefings by reporting on what they have seen and also see that everyone plays fair.

"The training is so exciting and demanding and people are so keen to win that cheating is not unknown," said Brig Mountford.

SOLDIER can confirm this and was able to supply the brigadier with sketches portraying some of the Smart Alecs caught in US exercises.

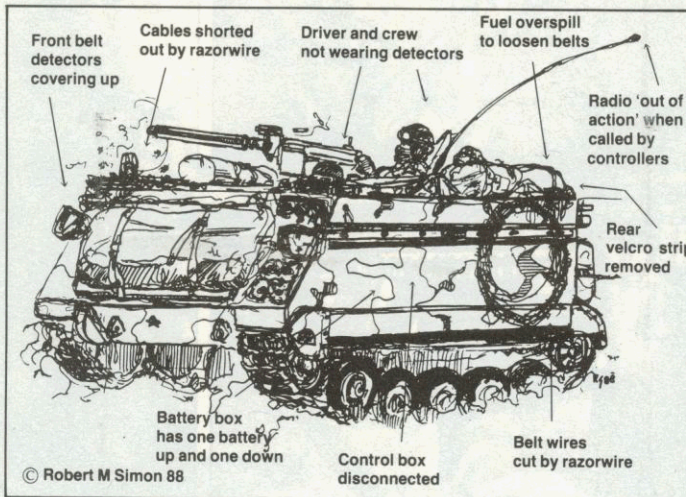
The knockers of lasers in training – and there have been plenty of them – have complained in the past that beams fired by rifles, for example, could activate a responder on a tank.

Early faults have now been ironed out and a complex system of codes fed into the laser projectors ensure a weapon is programmed to do only what it is capable of in the field.

Even the major problems of simulating area weapons (artillery and mortar fire or downwind NBC effects) are being solved.

Area Weapons Effect Simulators are being introduced in the US Army later this year.

Through a system of VHF radio triangulation, signals are sent to a specific area of the battlefield which cause a device fitted to men or vehicles to tell the carrier what sort of fire they



Cheat check – how they try to beat the MILES system

are coming under, whether they are going over a mine and so on.

ESIK is another recent development. A tank which fires its main armament at a house in a training area can now activate a device inside the building which will cause "kill

codes" to be discharged at random in, say, a room occupied by a team manning a missile delivery system.

The effect will be similar to that of a shell exploding in the house.

A grenade which has a similar effect has also been

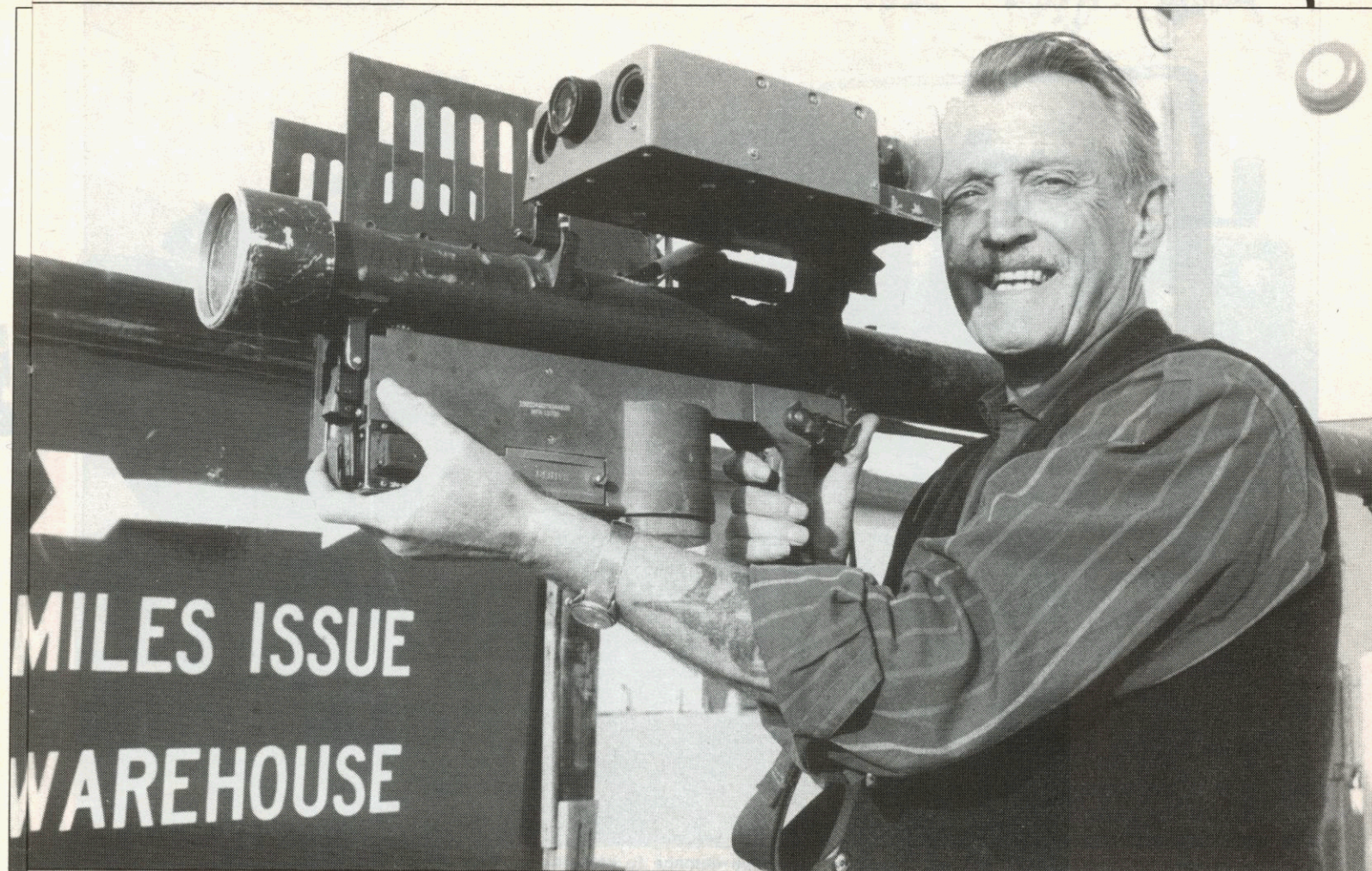
developed for street fighting.

One element which has not been so far produced artificially on the exercise battlefield is fear.

Brig Mountford: "When people come under heavy shell fire they are apt to show a lack of interest in taking a prominent part in the action. They can't see because of the smoke and dust and sometimes are very afraid."

"We can induce a lack of interest by swamping individuals in non-toxic smoke released by the signal of the area weapons effect simulator. We can cause obscure vision by other effects . . . but we have not yet found a way of simulating fear. There is a healthy award awaiting anyone who can tell us how to do it."

SOLDIER's suggestion: Find something to simulate the RSM. Any other ideas should be forwarded to Brig Mountford.



Old soldier – new system. Tom Stone, former Marine electronics warfare officer, with Stinger and MILES attachment

## US Army puts whole divisions to test



Make and mend in the MILES warehouse. "Mike" Hatfield, a Hawaiian, has a degree in electronics

"IT can be so goddam embarrassing," said old Tom Stone. "You get out on that exercise, maybe as a platoon leader in tanks, you get in a spot and lose all of them in eight minutes. Well, I can guarantee they're going to show it all to you in the movie later."

The ex Marine shook his head. "I can guarantee too, that some light (lieutenant) colonel or even a colonel is going to be sitting there saying: 'Jeeze, lieutenant, we spent all that money training you and all we get out of it is eight minutes and five dead tanks.'

"Yes it can be goddam embarrassing." Tom was describing an imaginary scene at the US Army's National Training Centre at Fort Irwin, Utah, where training realism has reached new peaks.

Every battle group in the US Army is tested there by a resident brigade trained, dressed and equipped with Warsaw Pact weapons and vehicles – some relics of the Middle East wars, others simulated.

He was also talking about MILES, without which such realism would be impossible.

Tom Stone, a former electronic warfare officer, runs the MILES workshop at Fort Ord, California, from which the multi national Exercise Caltrop Force was mounted earlier this year.

Training together for the first time since the Korean War, battalions from America, Britain, Canada and Australia (the ABCA countries), were fully equipped with MILES.

In use were 4,500 infantry systems, plus kits for 106 vehicles, 15 tanks, 380 Vipers, 105 Dragons and 40 TOW anti-tank weapons.

MILES was also fitted to 50 helicopters and to Stinger and Vulcan air defence weapons.

MILES is not a brand name but describes a system. Tom Stone's job is to maintain the kit provided by his employer (Loral Electro-Optical Systems). To help him he has a female assistant, 30-year-old "Mike" Hatfield, a Hawaiian and a graduate in electronics.

"The Army doesn't want to involve soldiers in non-combat duties," said Tom. "The 7th Division is not going to take MILES with them if they go to war so I look after the hardware."

"Everything that breaks in the lasers used by either the 7th Infantry or 40th Armoured Divisions (the 40th is a National Guard formation) comes here to be fixed."

Though Tom has a vested interest in promoting his employer's product, his 15 years in the ranks and 11 as an officer took

him through muck and bullets in Korea and Vietnam so he is worth listening to.

In his opinion the US Army did not at first make the best use of MILES in the years immediately after it appeared in 1981. Now he is full of admiration for the progress made.

"At Fort Irwin, all the tanks have transponders linked to antennas on the mountain tops so that after a battle a computer can re-run the sequence on video."

Which explains his story of the platoon leader who lost all his tanks.

"MILES ain't worth a crap," he said, "if you don't come up with the correct scenarios, if you don't debrief . . ."

"If you're out on patrol and a guy gets killed, after it's over you've got to sit down and say how come he got killed . . . what was he doing, where was he going . . ."

"When troops have been engaged for four or five hours on an exercise and people are being 'killed' and carried out of the line they become very aggressive and competitive . . . it's no longer bang, bang you're dead . . . now you're snoopin' and poopin' and when that buzzer bleeps twice (signalling a near miss) you think to yourself someone is directing aimed fire at me and I'd better do something about it."

"None of our lasers work in the field

unless you simulate the firing of the weapon.

"If you get rid of your 130 rounds and it's one o'clock in the afternoon somebody had better get ammunition to you . . . and that brings logistics into it."

Infantry anti-tank weapons are loaded with a cartridge which simulates the flash and smoke of, for example, TOW.

"Take the tankers. They're up there looking around and if they see a TOW go off at around maximum range – 2,700 metres . . . time of flight is nine and a half seconds . . . they've got a direct fire cannon and if they're fairly close on their traverse to begin with . . . if they can get it over and lay it on the TOW, the missile will be off into the wide blue."

US researchers have estimated that troops trained at the National Training Centre where MILES is comprehensively used (though other factors also apply) have a 20 to 30 times better chance of accomplishing a real assault mission.

Tom Stone puts it in simple terms. "If you survive your first 24 hours of combat, you do pretty good . . . they say people who train on MILES have a 60 per cent better chance of arriving at that position."

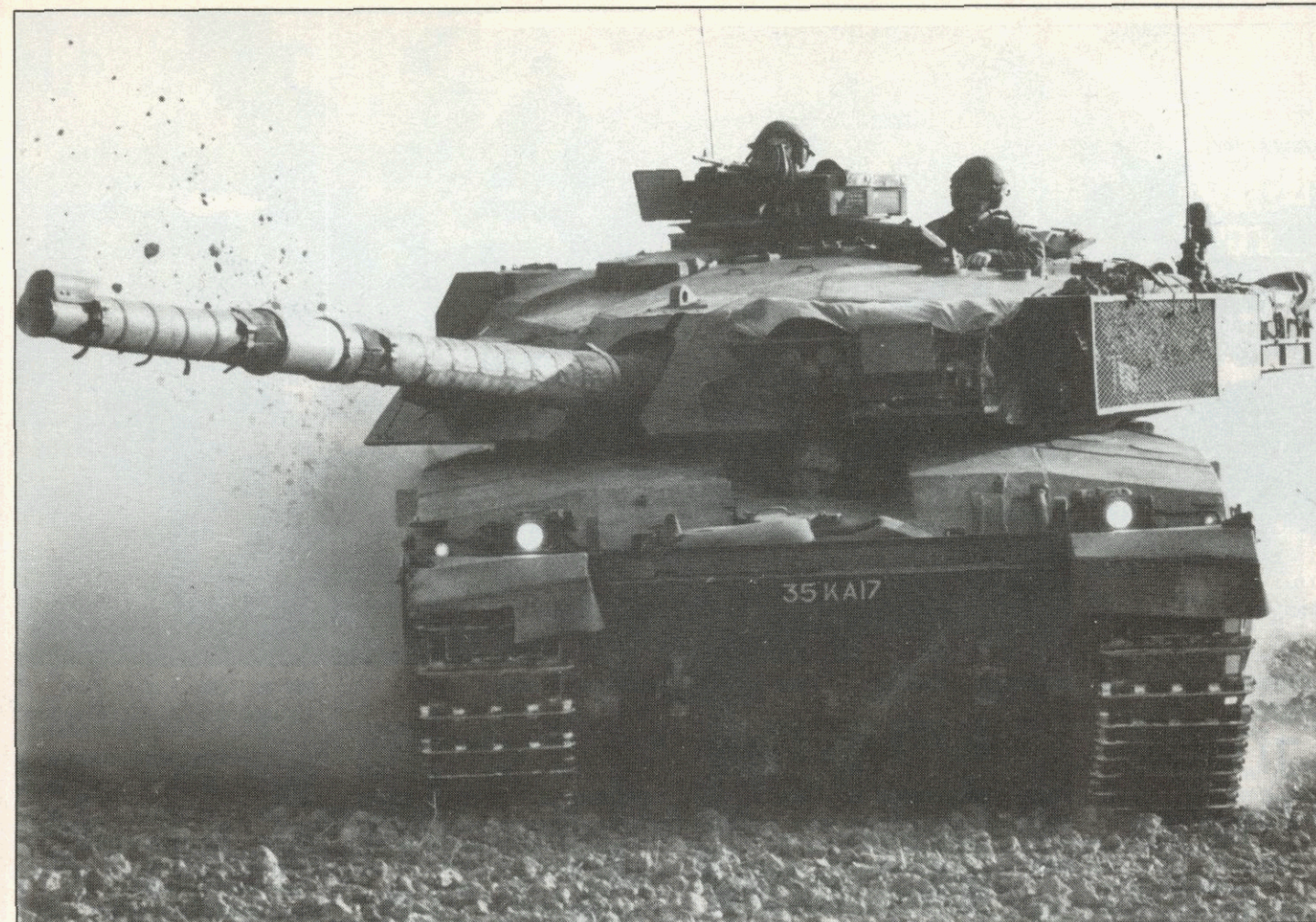
"The hard bit is to get to be a veteran . . ."





Words: Laurie Manton  
Pictures: Mike Perring

Damage Control. Lt Steve Beck of 42 Field Squadron RE notes damage to kerbstones. They cost £28 each to replace



Challenger raises a dust cloud as it roars across a field

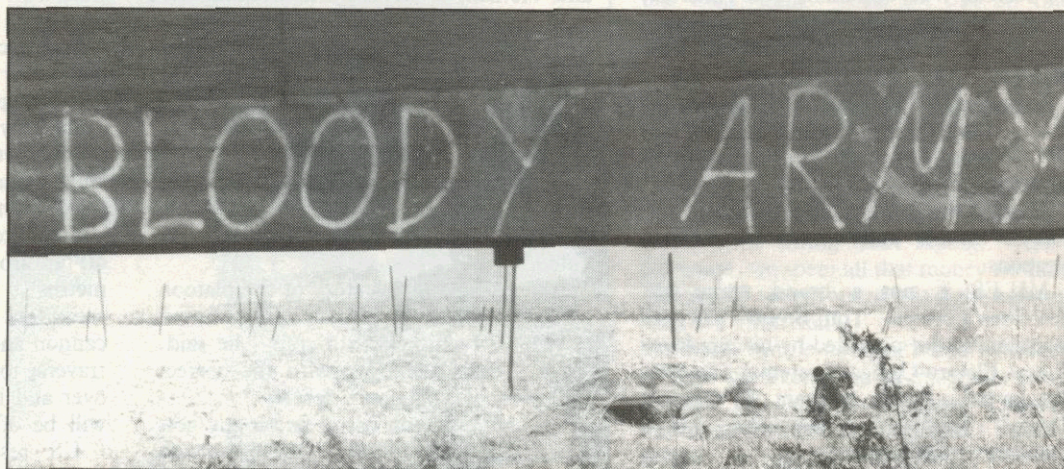
# WHITE RHINO TURNS GREEN

THE FUTURE of large scale military exercises in West Germany is proving to be an emotive subject, with local people raising ever-increasing protests against the need to test troops and equipment in towns, villages and countryside outside the normal Army training areas.

In the light of peaceful overtures from the East and the growing strength of the Green party, civilians are questioning the need for military exercises, especially in districts where full scale manoeuvres have been held annually.

Besides the peace and environmental issues, damage to roads, fields and property is proving not only expensive but bad PR.

Over the past month, three exercises have been run concurrently in the same area of West Germany. Exercises White Rhino, Potent Gauntlet and Key Flight involved 22,000 troops, 400 tanks and 5,700 tracked and wheeled vehicles.



Sign of the times! Unaware of the anti-manoeuvre graffiti, a soldier mans a slit trench

The numbers involved meant damage was unavoidable, even though great efforts were made by the Army to lessen the impact on the local community.

There were accidents – a tank ran into a pub – and there were incidents – protests, road blocks and graffiti – and one German newspaper went so far as to describe soldiers as “hooligans”. But that was

extreme, for much of the Press was positive and praised British soldiers for their efforts to minimise exercise damage.

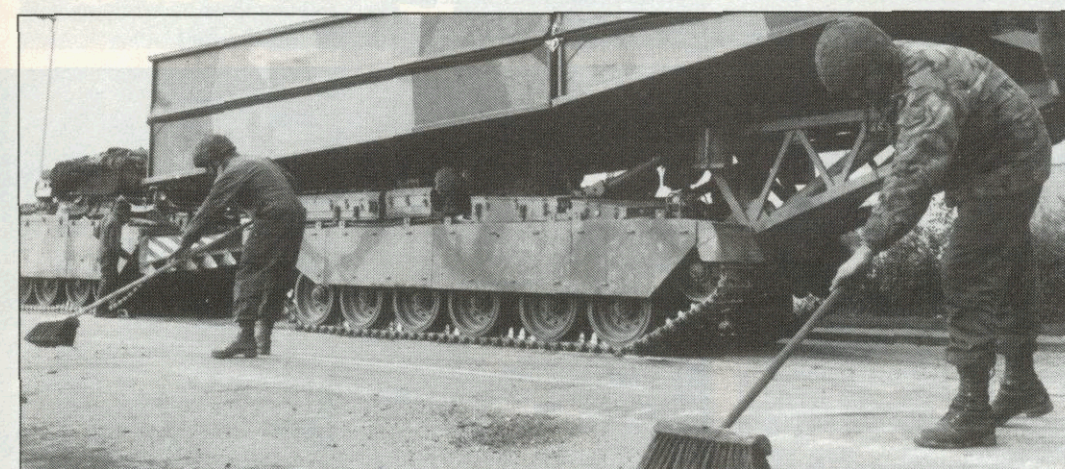
During 20th Armoured Brigade's exercise Potent Gauntlet, the SOLDIER team witnessed a battle held over open farmland.

Two squadrons of Chieftain tanks and another of Challenger, as well as assorted

Warriors and APCs, skir-mished over fields, some planted, some freshly ploughed and others recently harvested.

One 60 plus tonne leviathan roaring across fields at top speed does an immense amount of damage, but the effect of a large number of armoured vehicles doing the same thing was devastating.

While the battle was in



Clean sweep. Tracked vehicles drop a lot of mud and soldiers were quick to remedy the problem

progress it was impossible not to be moved by the sight of a distraught farmer moving from journalist to journalist crying out: “Why? Why? Why do they do this to my land each year?”

It is regrettable that such training is unavoidable in the maintenance of peace, as commanders endeavour to keep soldiers' fighting skills up to scratch but at least the farmer

will be compensated.

The battle was in sharp contrast to another incident during the run up to White Rhino.

The team had watched with curiosity as a long line of FV 432 armoured personnel carriers drove up and down a country road for some minutes.

Eventually, the lead APC stopped and a very concerned

officer who identified himself as the company commander approached the Public Information Land Rover to seek advice.

His route had been blocked by a simulated minefield and there was no apparent way around it without recourse to cross-country movement, an option he was loath to implement because it would

inevitably cause damage.

It was a sticky situation for the young officer because civilian traffic was beginning to build up on the roads and his column of armoured vehicles was becoming a hazard to other road users.

“If I keep driving my APCs up and down this road, someone is going to get killed,” he warned.

When last seen, the squadron was searching for an umpire to help them.

At 1st Armoured Division's Exercise Control this year, the civil affairs section was enhanced by the addition of a community relations and environmental protection organisation to smooth the path of exercising troops and clear up the mess they left behind.

“We have put a lot of emphasis on damage control and every soldier has been briefed and carries with him a blue card on the do's and don'ts of exercise damage protection,”

● Turn to next page





It is a tight squeeze in the high street as Challenger tanks take up positions in a small country village

## Green Rhino

● From Page 23

said the Chief of Staff, Col John Reith.

"Units have two first line repair teams each and we have full field squadrons and plant troops available for second line repairs.

"In addition we have moved road sweepers into our area to ensure we can control any mud on the roads," he explained.

An enterprising DamCon officer dug out an old film made by the German Army to explain the consequences of vehicle movement and how to prevent damage. So successful was it that the Army is seeking to make a training film of its own to carry the same message.

When a tank drives on to a field, the ruts it leaves behind affect the crop's future growing patterns and drainage for a number of years. If the tank turns on the spot instead of reversing out along its own track, the resulting "hole" almost doubles the recuperation period.

White Rhino included part of C-in-C BAOR's continuing study on the conduct of field training which is examining ways to produce cost effective

and realistic training while doing everything possible to alleviate pressure on the environment.

The exercise was officially designated as a trial for a new concept of exercising, the Command Field Exercise (CFX).

Basically, it involved a third of the number of troops and vehicles needed to take part in the exercise. One tank was deemed to be three and a single APC represented a platoon of mechanised infantry.

Although the CFX tests commanders at all levels in operating troops, it produces a high boredom factor for the few soldiers involved.

## Costly business

**SOME idea of the money paid out in compensation for exercise damage is revealed by 1987 prices listed on the soldiers' blue cards. Examples include concrete farm roads at £66,500 per km and earth tracks at £6,500. The humble kerbstone costs £28 a time.**

**Crops and forestry are no less expensive. Potatoes cost £60 per 100 square metres while reforestation of a hectare of oak trees costs £6,500.**

Maj Gen Roger Wheeler, GOC 1st Armoured Division, told a Press conference that despite the new relaxed political climate in Europe the Army had to be ready for the unexpected.

"The British have a recent example of being caught on the hop in the Falkland Islands and it is for this reason we must train regularly," he said.

He realised only too well that exercising troops brought disruption but to achieve the aim of readiness, he said: "My troops must continue to exercise across open countryside."

He also outlined the actions his division had taken to minimise the problems caused by such disruption.

"During the planning process earlier this year we worked with officials of local government and other agencies for several months in order that everyone knew what we planned to do."

His division had taken four steps to reduce disruption and crop damage:

- Changed the timing of the exercise and reduced its length from three to two weeks.
- Reduced the number of soldiers from 20,000 to 11,000.
- Examined the structure of the exercise and reduced the number of soldiers and tanks in the last week by approximately 40 per cent, restricting parti-

cipation to platoon commander level.

● There had been increased liaison with civil authorities.

"As commander of a division, I have two responsibilities. The first is to provide effective deterrence as a member of Nato, and to be seen to do so. We must prove to ourselves, our allies and potential enemies that we mean business.

"My second responsibility is to my own soldiers. It is they who could be faced with the rigours of war and they must face this full of confidence and readiness to respond. The only way I can achieve this is by training them and training with them," he said.



New kind of camouflage support poles mean a lot of headroom for the crew of this Challenger tank

## Challenging role for Tpr Claire

**BIGGEST surprise of the exercise was finding a girl tank gunner serving with 2 RTR, but closer inspection revealed that Trooper Almonds was in fact the regiment's Assistant Adjutant, 2nd Lt Claire Almonds, WRAC.**

Aim of the exercise was for Claire to get a feel of how tanks are operated in the field and a better understanding of the work of her men.

She volunteered herself for the job because she needed to get out with the tank crews at some stage to gather material in her capacity as unit press officer.

For the duration of the exercise, she was assigned to the Troop Leader's tank as a trooper, but with increased status befitting her rank.

"It has been great fun," she told SOLDIER.

"Normally during an exercise I would be left in camp



Fledgling tank gunner, 2nd Lt Claire Almonds tries a Challenger for size

holding the fort.

"It is an unusual role for a member of the WRAC, a one-off, and I feel very lucky to be permitted to do it."

Because she has not trained in the tank gunnery field, much of her work has involved dealing with "matters domestic".

"My jobs at present include cooking and washing up, because the

gunner would normally act as mechanic as well," she said.

Said her tank commander, Lt James Anderson of 4 Troop: "Yes, it is unusual to find a female on a tank, but she is mucking in all right. It has proved a bit of a steep learning curve for her because working with tanks is so much more personal. "Claire has gone into the

gunners seat which is not too demanding but still hard work. She is responsible for traversing the turret and keeping the gun on target. "Obviously there are certain limitations on what she can and cannot do. We haven't been able to put her on stag in the slit trench and she hasn't been able to dig in as quickly as the others," he said.

## Stirrings in the woodland

MISSION impossible was almost the task set for SOLDIER writer Laurie Manton when he went out to find the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment who were taking part in Exercise White Rhino, for they were using a remarkable new type of camouflage that is making the regiment masters of concealment.

Camouflage Woodland is its official title, and it consists of double-sided netting. One side has the correct pattern for coniferous forests. Turn it over and it represents deciduous woodland.

The system is further improved by the use of a new system of flexible support poles which form a framework over the tank. Not only does it push the cam net into a good camouflage shape, but also makes it much easier to pull the netting over the vehicle.

The metre-length poles just slot together and are easily

dismantled if the crews have to leave in a hurry. Easy to tow and replacing unwieldy wooden poles, CASS (Camouflage Support System), to give the system its correct name, is proving a big hit with crews.

"We are very pleased with it. It is a major improvement on the old system," said the leader of Ajax Squadron, Maj Bertie Millington. "It is very easy and user friendly."

To make life even more difficult for enemy forces, the tankies fit their vehicles with a wraparound thermal screen that shields the thermal signature of Challenger. The use of turf and other live camouflage laid on the vehicle helps conceal the tank when it is being driven over countryside.

On the move or concealed in a forest, British tank crews now have a distinct advantage when it comes to hiding their activities from prying eyes.

## NEXT ISSUE

● THE NEXT ISSUE will include further reports on the autumn exercise season including 24th Airmobile Brigade's validation exercise, Key Flight, and a look at some unusual equipment and techniques employed by the brigade during its first deployment to BAOR. Also featured are the views of the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR), Gen John G Galvin, on the value of training exercises and their future, and the prospects of a female SACEUR.



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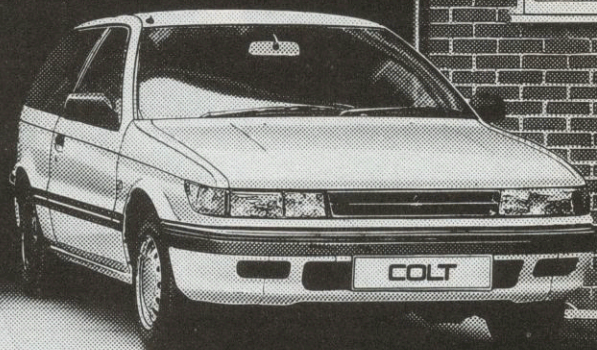
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# Forensic science vital to BAOR crime busters

FORENSIC science plays a vital part in modern crime detection, and the success rate of SIB RMP BAOR would be severely limited without it.

Forensic science covers the skills of lifting and identifying fingerprints and fibres, retrieving, examining and grouping body fluids, such as blood, saliva and semen, and matching inorganic substances, such as paint and glass.

Whereas most, if not all, civil police forces have a bevy of experts to help them, SIB BAOR relies on one expert to supervise and control each region.

In each section there is at least one scenes of crimes officer, usually a staff sergeant who, apart from doing normal investigative work, is also responsible for scenes of crime work in the section. This involves recovering forensic evidence and photographing the scene.

WO1 Barry Cawdell is Senior Forensic Warrant Officer East and is based in Bielefeld. He explained: "We are trained to look for, identify and pick up evidence, but it has to be sent to a forensic laboratory to be expertly examined and matched.

"For handwriting samples and comparisons and some drug identification we use the Government Chemist at Teddington. When we are dealing with samples from a rape victim, we sometimes use the United States Army Investigation Laboratory at Frankfurt." Samples are also examined at the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory at Lambeth.

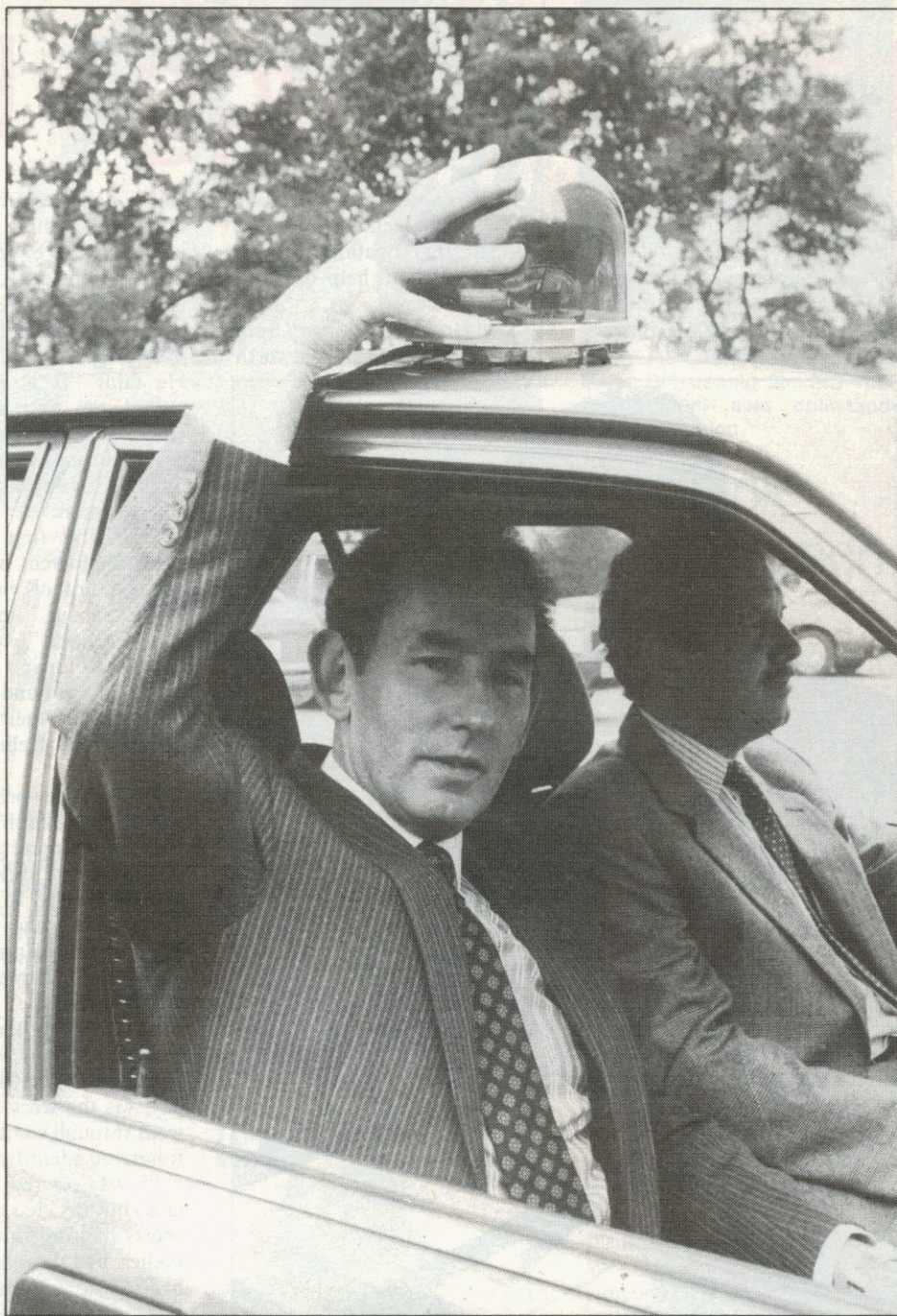
DNA profiling – or genetic fingerprinting as it is popularly known – has been the great step forward in crime detection. WO1 Cawdell said: "It gives you the impression that Him Upstairs has reached the end of all His fingerprints and has had to invent something different!"

Much forensic work involves painstaking examination of the scene and the removal of evidence. "After a bomb explosion there is not a lot left of the device. It's a case of getting down on your knees and doing an inch by inch search.

"My work is like a massive jigsaw puzzle and I find it fascinating. I don't get a lot of hands-on experience because with a relatively minor offence, the local scenes of crime officer has specific expertise. But he might phone me for advice. I get called out when there is a major incident, such as a bomb or a murder.

"We have progressed a long way since the time the police used to put a chalk mark around the corpse. Where there is a body, I would be in control of the scene, allowing only the doctor in, and he would only approach the body on the route I suggested. Then the scene would be mine for videoing, photographing and examining."

WO1 Cawdell said in arson cases there was usually little evidence left. But in one case he had found a fingerprint on a piece of sticky tape attached to a poster that had



On the move to their next case are (left) Maj Jack Pike, OC Eastern Region based at Bielefeld, and WO1 Barry Cawdell, the Senior Warrant Officer East for SIB RMP BAOR

Words by  
Jennifer Griffiths  
Pictures by  
Terry Champion

## THE DETECTIVES

been used to start a blaze. It led to the arsonist's conviction.

WO2 David Bankcroft is the Forensic Warrant Officer for the Western Region and in charge of the colour process centre in Dusseldorf, making sure all scenes of crimes officers have photographic experience, equipment and prints.

Copies of photographs are available for

both the prosecution and the defence.

During previous service in Berlin he attended, in his coroner's officer role, the post mortem examination of Rudolph Hess. It was conducted by Professor 'Taffy' Cameron, honorary consultant in forensic medicine to the Army, who also played a major role in the Australian

● Turn to next page



# Harrowing memories of the Zeebrugge Disaster

THE Royal Military Police in BAOR played a vital, behind-the-scenes role in the aftermath of the Zeebrugge Disaster, and the poignant and harrowing memories will always remain with the team.

Both uniformed military police and members of the Special Investigation Branch were detailed to help out in a variety of ways.

SSgt Brian Hodgkinson from the SIB and now at Tidworth

had a delicate and diplomatic task – recording evidence of identification by relatives and friends of the dead from *Herald of Free Enterprise*.

A sports hall had been taken over as a temporary mortuary. He said: "It is still hard to record my first reactions on entering when I was confronted by 64 coffins, which had been lined up in rows of male, female and children.

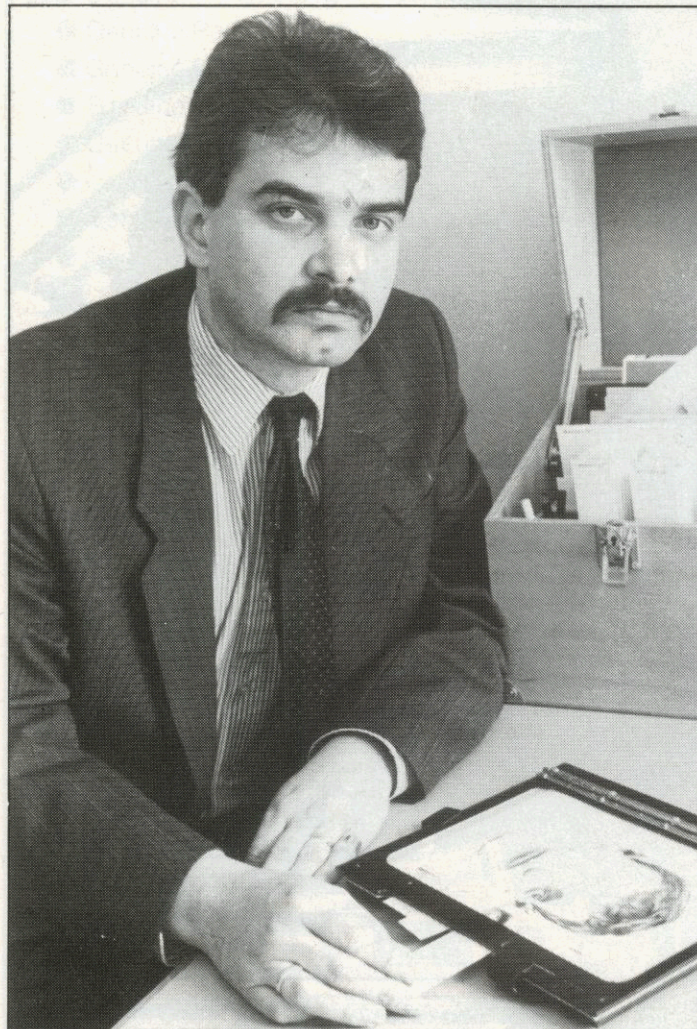
"For the first two hours everything went well from a police point of view, and we made about ten positive identifications." He said because of their long police experience he and a colleague went about their task "not allowing our feelings to come out".

But even this professionalism was no protection.

"A brother and a sister, both serving police officers, identified the body of their elder brother who had just retired. We saw the strain on their faces and the way they accepted the job we had to do. "I think we were both surprised to see tears running down our cheeks. Looking back, I think that first day was the worst, because we went through some particularly traumatic identifications.

"I was offered a change of task, but decided to stay at the sports hall until the last of the bodies had been identified. I had to do my best for their sakes. It was a great relief when the last of the coffins was placed on the multiple hearse to go back home on the ferry.

"My last and most vivid recollection is fixing an ID label on the coffin of the last Serviceman to be identified. While placing the label on the open coffin, I found myself talking to the deceased. I still do not know why I did it, but it seemed right at the time."



SSgt Andrew Jones makes up a photofit picture

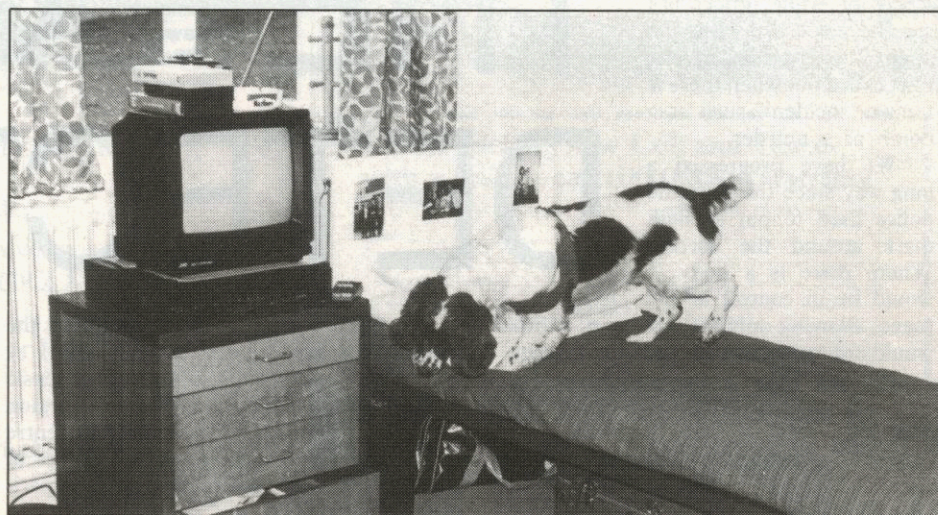
## The detectives

● From Page 25

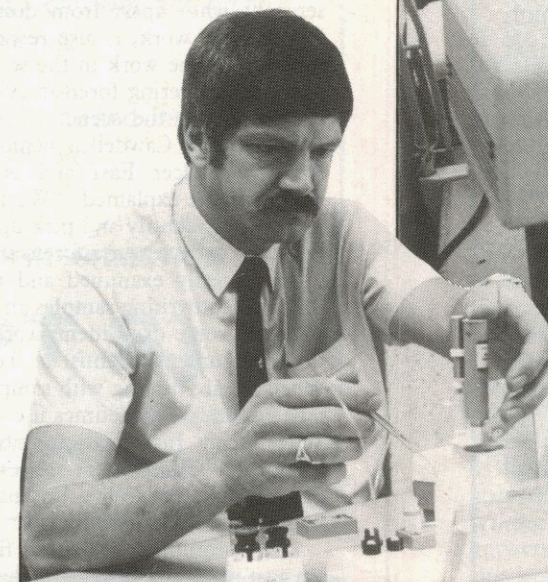
'Dingo Baby' case. The examination lasted four hours and WO2 Bankcroft controlled the live transmission which had to be relayed into a room next to the mortuary because there were so many interested parties.

He said: "I was very interested to see Rudolph Hess. But it was something of an anti-climax. He was just another old man.

"Over the years, I have attended many post mortem examinations, and have found them all very interesting. Sometimes the job can be very distasteful, but you have to switch off. You have got to be professional. I believe we are providing a service which some people simply could not do."



Chummy the sniffer dog gets to work looking for drugs



Left – SSgt Alan Wood using equipment which analyses urine for drugs  
Above – CRIO, the Criminal Records and Intelligence Office, the hub of the police wheel in BAOR, is responsible for the collection, collation and recording of all criminal data and for the dissemination of criminal intelligence. It maintains all statistics on cases investigated by RMP in BAOR and produces daily crime bulletins and a weekly gazette which gives a brief account of all matters being dealt with by the military police. The staff pictured are: standing, Cpl Dave Brown with Mrs Sharon Thomas, and background, Cpl Scott Stevenson and Cpl Frank Kennedy

## On guard against the drug pushers

A RELAXED attitude towards so called "soft" drugs, readily available in Holland for instance, means the British soldier in BAOR can become a target for the pushers.

Capt Roy Winfield, OC of the Drugs Intelligence Team,

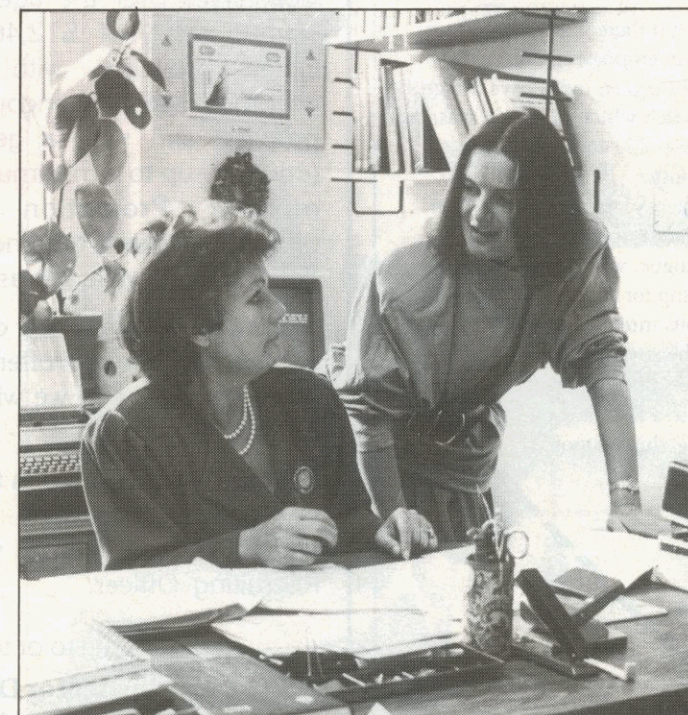
IB RMP BAOR, said: "A soldier is under tremendous pressure wherever he goes socially in BAOR. Throughout Germany there are a large number of pushers.

"I won't say they target the soldier specifically, but the soldier these days has more money in his pocket, a lot of free time, and he goes to places where drugs are pushed."

Statistics reflect civilian convictions. The whole drugs scene is monitored by the team, essentially a covert operation.

Capt Winfield said: "We are able to deploy and become very much part of the local scene. The people who work for the team are chosen because of their adaptability and expertise in blending into the background.

"In Germany the legal attitude towards drugs is the same as that in Britain. But in Holland there is a more relaxed attitude. The Dutch police will



Two of the interpreters whose translations are vital to the SIB's work are Frau Ulla Deterling (left) and Frau Sheila Brever

not prosecute if you have less than a certain amount and if it is for your own use. But in the British Army we always prosecute."

The team is backed up with high tech surveillance equip-

ment and 'sniffer' dogs. Their drug education programme has brought about a greater awareness of the dangers.

"It is good the whole of the Army, and not just the SIB is vigilant," said Capt Winfield.



Major Bill Jones, 2ic SIB RMP BAOR, who also commands Western Region

## Re-think on approach to victim support

A "SOFTLY softly" approach has been adopted by the SIB RMP BAOR as part of their victim support scheme.

Maj Bill Jones, who is 2ic and commands Western Region, said: "Where there is bereavement or a suspected sexual offence, we are anxious not to be black and white policemen, which may have been the case in the past."

The SIB has had a complete re-think on its approach. In the past its aim had been to break down the story of a woman claiming she had been raped.

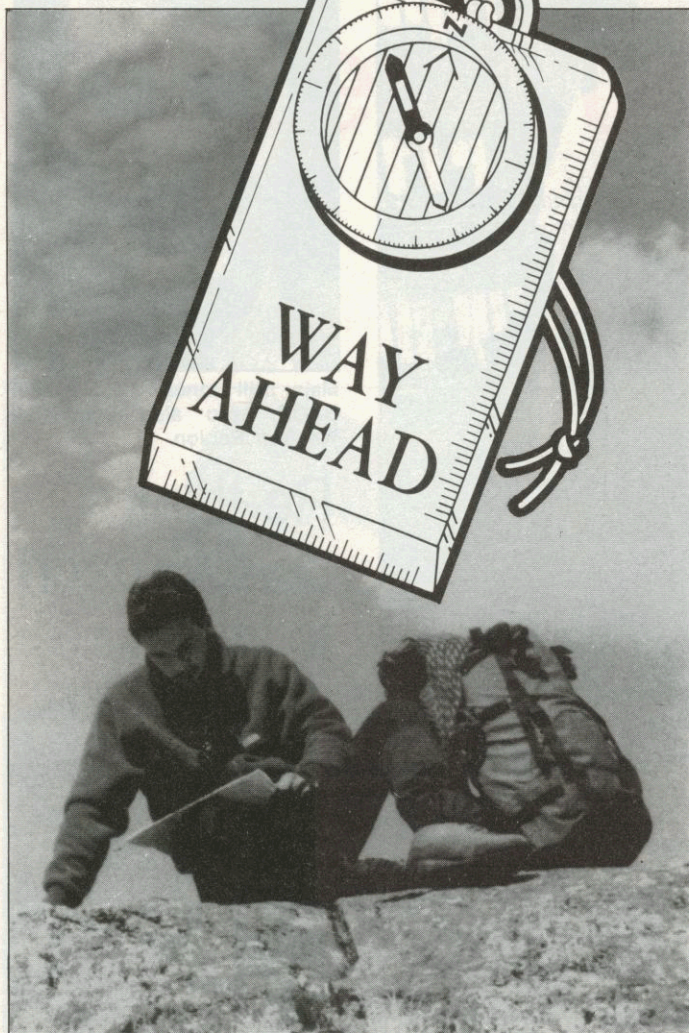
Maj Jones said: "In our new approach, we take the complaint on face value, assuming she is genuine, giving her support and attention.

"We used to make sure she stayed fully clothed until the forensic side was sorted out, but we now recognise that one of the first things a rape victim wants to do is to have a bath and a change of clothing. We are now more sympathetic to that view.

"In the past we have treated all sudden deaths as suspicious. But there are cases where you can almost guarantee death was from natural causes. Our approach is now much different and we only interview the bereaved if it is essential.

"Obviously, we can't throw away the rule book and treat every case as though it is not suspicious. Circumstances will dictate which way we go, but we are very conscious of the need to give support to those who are victims or bereaved."





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## High tech in the interview room

# Video helps gentle touch

A MASSIVE £350,000 capital investment in video equipment, tape recorders and new or improved interview rooms will revolutionise interview techniques for the Royal Military Police worldwide.

The videos will be used to film interviews with the victims of sexual abuse, and are being welcomed by investigators from SIB BAOR.

Capt Larry Taylor, OC 87 Section, said: "It will mean we can concentrate on the child. Before this the interviewer was as much concerned with accurately and laboriously writing down the questions and answers. With the best will in the world we couldn't devote our full attention to the child.

"Now we will be able to concentrate on what the child is saying, her reactions and body language. It means we can study the film time and time again, and is particularly useful as the person who carries through the investigation is not necessarily the one who does the interview.

"Other interested agencies, such as the doctor, can also see it. We are finding that the younger the child, the quicker they forget the video is on.

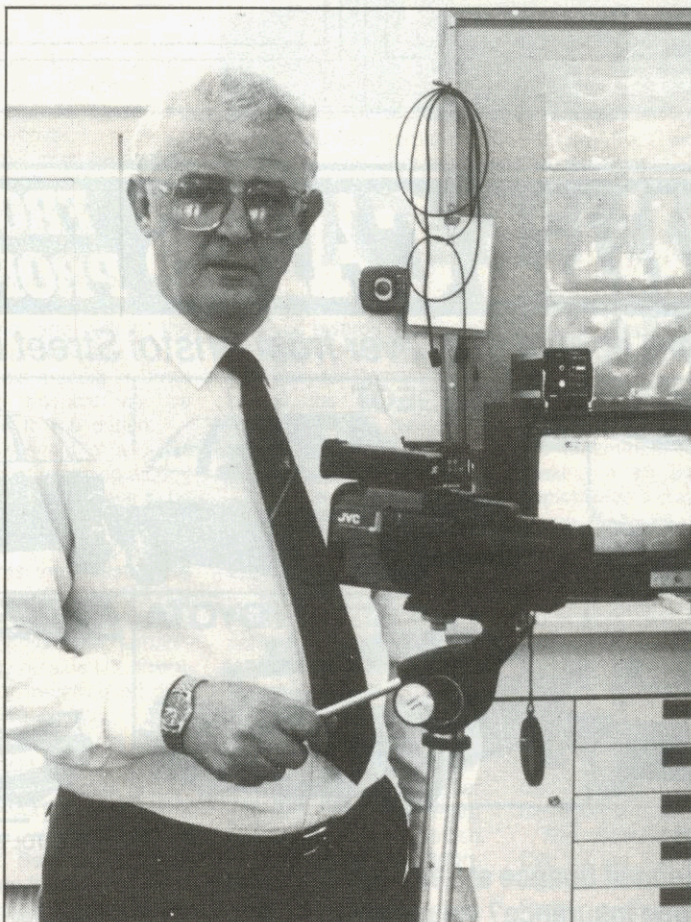
"They are much more natural, and it is better all round. With all the writing we used to have, it meant the interview was slowed down. We do not have a shorthand writer, and in any case we would not want too many people in on the interview.

"Where we have had full disclosures from children on video, I suspect it would have taken a lot longer and been far more traumatic for the child under the writing down system."

Sgt Alison Chaters, who has interviewed a number of victims of child abuse, said it was essential to get to know the youngster first in order to



Sgt Alison Chaters gains the confidence of a child before gently asking her to explain what happened with the help of anatomically correct dolls. The interview is being recorded on video



Capt Larry Taylor, OC 87 Section, and some of the recording equipment that will revolutionise SIB interviewing techniques

establish a good rapport.

"With a video we can sit down and play games for however long it takes the child to have confidence in us."

During the interview, the

child will be shown anatomically correct dolls so he or she can clearly indicate what they are referring to.

"Children use different words from adults, and it is

very important to know what they are talking about.

"I gradually introduce what we are going to talk about. At the end of the day our main concern must be with the child rather than pushing the case. It is rewarding if we get a criminal prosecution at the end of it but that is not our main aim. That must always be the welfare of the child."

Another big change for the SIB will be, from January 1991, the use of tape recorders during interviews. Investigators have always had to take contemporaneous notes with their attendant difficulties.

Capt Taylor said: "It will mean we can concentrate on the suspect, on his answers and reactions. At the moment, I'm amazed that my staff get so many admissions when so much of their time is taken up in laborious writing with little time to scrutinise the suspect and take in what has been said."

The new facilities and laws covering them have been introduced to give soldiers parity with civilians. In fact soldiers have more rights – they are allowed to have an observer present during the interview, which does not apply in civilian interviews.

In areas where it is impractical to have special interview rooms, portable tape recorders will be used.



# COMBAT STRESS

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Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G't'r'e, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

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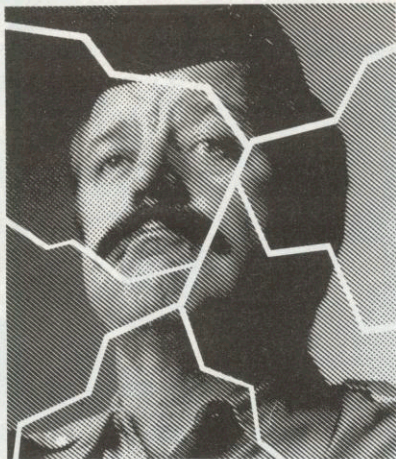
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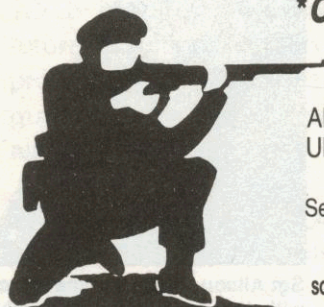
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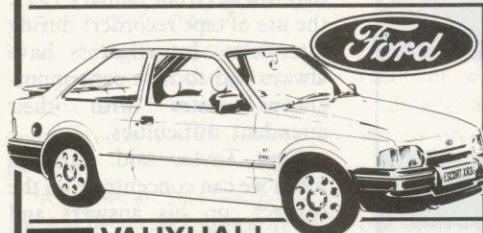
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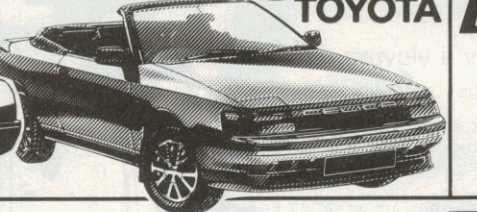
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# WITH FAMILIES IN MIND *Anne Armstrong*

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## INSURANCE: HOLIDAYS ARE RISKY

SERVICEMEN and their families are, generally speaking, better catered for by their medical branches than many civilians but there are certain vulnerable grey areas.

One such problem is knowing when a soldier is technically on or off duty.

As Mike Adler from the Army Agents points out:

"If a Serviceman is hit by a sailboard while bathing off the Southern Spanish coast why should that be a liability to be covered financially by the Ministry of Defence?

"No civilian employee on holiday in similar circumstances would expect his firm to repatriate him and treat his damaged head with private local hospital care.

"Clearly it is of vital importance that the appropriate DSS form E111 (when applicable) should be completed and also that usual holiday type insurance is effected. Any thinking holiday-maker makes arrangements whether he is a Serviceman or not."

A recent Joint Service DCI (JS81/89) sets out to clarify the provision of medical treatment for Service personnel and dependants while on leave overseas.

The MoD is not responsible for providing medical treatment or for paying any costs which may be incurred for treatment sought by personnel who go abroad on leave.

Just because a single or married person is on leave in the vicinity of a Service hospital does not mean he or she and the family will be able to receive treatment, although according to the DCI they may. That is the crucial word.

Overseas leave schemes are not exempt as before. Anyone travelling on leave to Europe or to

### Are YOU covered?

postings in EEC countries should ensure they have EEC reciprocal agreement medical cover.

But this must be applied for and individuals must be in possession of the E111 certificate of Entitlement to Medical Benefits.

Treatment will be given on the basis of space available and within the resources available.

Any extra costs incurred by the hospital will be charged to the patient.

In the event of a death the cost of returning a body to the UK would have to be paid.

What is not generally known is that these rules now apply to Service personnel who are posted or on detachment, temporary duty outside UK, taking leave or travelling off duty in a third country.

However, MoD is finalising details for a Tri-Service Personal Accident Insurance (PAX) scheme which will be available to all regular Service personnel including members of the Permanent Cadre of the UDR and Brigade of Gurkhas.

PAX will cover accidental death or serious injury resulting from an accident incurred either on or off duty.

MoD hopes to announce the details of the scheme by December 1.



**PRIZE GUYS:** Bernard Boast in the front with handicraft instructor Helen Singleton, and George Ray (left) and John Parlour at the back

## FIGHTING FIFTH FIRST

THREE war pensioners received awards from Lord Henley, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Security, at the annual War Pensioners' National Homecraft and Art competition and exhibition.

It was the culmination of thousands of hours of work undertaken in spite of severe disablement.

The 439 exhibitors whose entries reached the national finals must be between 50 per cent to 100 per cent disabled.

This year's outright winner was wheelchair bound 72-year-old ex Royal Northumberland Fusilier (Fighting Fifth), Mr Bernard Boast, who lives in a British Legion home in Northumberland.

He is suffering from extreme osteo-arthritis

which crippled his hands but nevertheless tackled the mammoth task of making a 6ft by 8ft rug depicting an Indian hunting scene, the most difficult of the Readicut designs.

George Ray, 69, who served with the Armoured Corps from 1941-47 and is profoundly deaf, added his name for a third time to the Skinner Cup for the best craft entry.

A magnificent carving "The Australian Fun Cycle" won the day. It took him 800 hours to complete.

The Salter's Challenge Cup for the fine arts entry was won by Mr John Parlour, a wartime warden, registered blind in 1988. He

painted "Corner of New Orleans" although he could only see the canvas at a distance of six inches.

The standard was so high that a further 24 presentation plaques, 137 first-class certificates and 143 certificates of merit were awarded.

In 1950 the Department of Social Security introduced a homecrafts scheme in an attempt to rehabilitate house-bound war pensioners.

Mrs Helen Singleton, an occupational therapist for the past six years and one of the seven UK handicraft instructors, looks after the NE Region from which this year's three winners came.

"We are here to help any pensioner, man or woman, who is 50 per cent or more disabled regardless of age, and we can help with an initial £30 grant," she said.

Organiser Chris Hilton told me: "In spite of the declining number of First World War pensioners, Second World War veterans are now reaching retiring age."

### Fit the bill with BSA

MANY Servicemen receiving Boarding School Allowance require the receipted bill as proof of payment. With immediate effect all those requiring the receipted bill must include a stamped addressed envelope with their BSA claim. Without it the request may be delayed.



# It's all Plain Sailing as . . . Terriers hit the trail

IT WAS a case of all roads that led to Grantham being very busy for the start of the Exercise Plain Sailing, the largest reinforcement exercise from the UK since Lionheart in 1984.

It was designed to test and rehearse communications and staff procedures for the reinforcement of BAOR, involving 13,500 troops, both Regular and Territorials, passing through the Low Countries to West Germany.

Aim was to exercise the use of the Rear Combat Zone in its job of supplying and replenishing 1 (BR) Corps with ammunition and other requirements. Plain Sailing followed another exercise, Packsaddle, in which simulated ammunition was brought from the rear into the Corps supply areas – all testing how well men and vehicles could cope under pressure.

The Prince William of Gloucester Barracks at Grantham is home to HQ RCT TA, and Depot RCT TA. It was the focal point for assembling and moving on the RCT TA soldiers taking part in Plain Sailing.

Administration was carried out by the Depot. Soldiers collected kit, vehicles and equipment for the field, and drew personal weapons just as they would at a time of mobilisation.

They crossed the Channel by air and sea, and, on landing, some soldiers went through a repeat performance of picking up vehicles before assembling at mobilisation locations to report to their operational commanders that they were ready for tasking.

As the thousands of soldiers passed through en route for the Continent, it was business as usual at Grantham for Maj Andy Anderson, senior instructor, and his team.

Of the 142 recruits on a course visited by a SOLDIER team only three had dropped out. One had aggravated an old knee injury but would return for a subsequent course and the other two had left for personal reasons.

The RCT TA, at around



Range practice with WO1 (RSM) Ken Reece in charge of the firing party



Motor cycle instructor Cpl Paul Whyblow shows how it is done



Dvr Russell Barr (left) and Dvr Howard Todd discuss the finer points of a range card

10,000 strong, is the second largest single element in the TA when RCT personnel cap badged with the RAMC are included. The RCT TA is made up of independent and specialist units.

Independents recruit mainly from untrained sources, but

specialists have to have the appropriate qualification. In the RCT that means an HGV licence or a rail operators or port qualification. Specialist TA units train for 19 days, the independents 27.

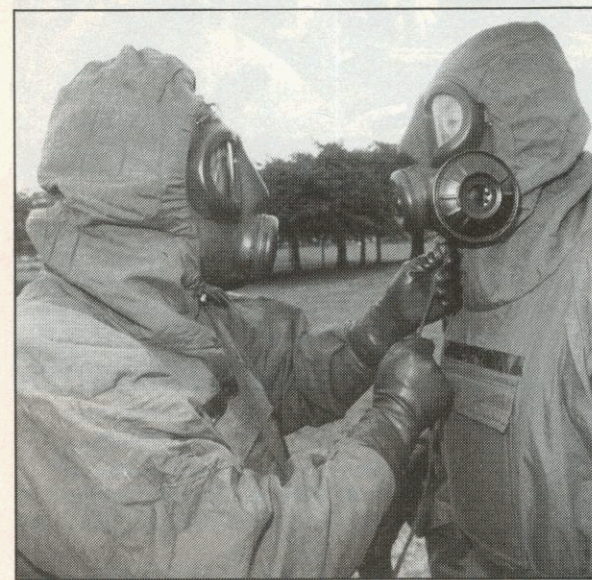
Lt Col Martin Stevens, CO Depot RCT TA, said: "The joy

of serving with the TA is their enthusiasm. They are keen to learn and to participate. Anything we can produce they seize avidly, and they put everything in to it. I am impressed by their standards.

"My only regret is that they cannot give more time so that



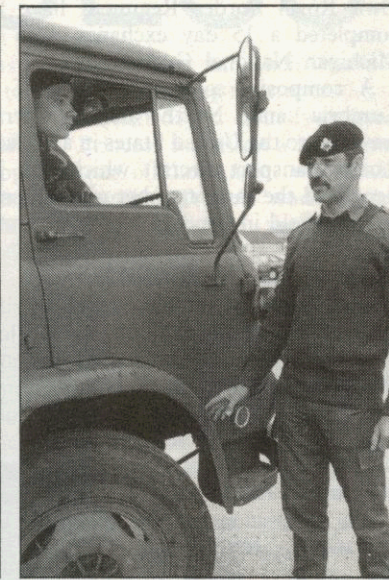
Dvr Phil Walker negotiates an adverse camber on the specially made off-road driver training circuit at Grantham



TA staff sergeants seeking promotion to warrant officer carry out chemical immediate action drill at Grantham



Dvr Leungsangnam of 265 Port Squadron prepares supper



Dvr Roger Sopp reverses, watched by Sgt Keith White

we could reach even higher standards. They respond magnificently to the pressures and standards we require of them."

The first half of the recruits' course is spent learning basic military skills, such as drill, skill at arms. NBC, first aid and map reading. Driving for both

heavy vehicles and motor cycles is practised, and the rest of the week is spent testing.

Maj Anderson has found: "Drill is certainly not the TA's favourite subject. In addition to instructing in drill, we almost have to give instruction in the reasons for drill and why we

teach it. While they can see the need for being able to shoot a weapon and drive a vehicle, which are exciting and fun, drill tends to be hard work and something that has to be done.

"We are required to teach drill as part of the normal process of instilling discipline,

teaching recruits to work as a squad, comradeship and for the simple function of moving large bodies of men around in a military fashion."

Carrying out chemical immediate action drill is not high on the popularity list either.

● Turn to next page



# Terrier transporters

● From Page 33

There is always enthusiasm for camping overnight in the Beckingham Training Area. Dvr Adrian Winter, aged 24, a council poultry and meat inspector, was coming to terms with sharing two pints of water for 24 hours with Dvr Mike Haworth, 27, an assistant bank manager.

Dvr Winter said: "We have been using the water very economically, which has meant the soup, though tasty, is a bit thick. We started off with dried nuts and raisins but skipped a cuppa because there wasn't enough water. We are learning the importance of conserving water."

Dvr Haworth said: "It is brilliant. Half the appeal is that it is so different and that is why I joined the TA. I wanted to join the RAMC as a Regular, but didn't make it, so I decided the TA was the next best thing."

Dvr Des Bartholomew, aged 25, is an HGV driver for a textiles firm, and Dvr Greg Bourne, 21, is a clerk. Both were section commanders.

It was a second stab at the course for Dvr Russell Barr, aged 22, a labourer. He had previously withdrawn because of an inflamed tendon.

"I was very disappointed at the time. I had got to within three days of the finish and ended up sitting on the sidelines while everybody else passed out."

Dvr Howard Todd, aged 21, is the managing director of a motor cycle courier company and, as his own boss, doesn't have to ask permission for time off!

Dvr Camron Forster and Dvr Allan Twaine are both member of the Continental TA - 213 (BAOR) Sqn RCT (V) - and were among a number of TA soldiers from West Germany on the course.



First the cam cream, then the foliage . . . Dvr Andrew Keningale (left) applies the finishing touches that will blend Dvr Lee Busby into the background

## Border engagement

MEN of the 4th Battalion of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment have just completed a 15 day exchange with the Michigan National Guard.

A composite company of 150 of the Cumbria and North Lancs Terriers travelled to the United States in a National Guard transport aircraft which had just deposited the same number of guardsmen at an airfield in Lincolnshire.

Under the command of Maj Nigel Lewis the Terriers flew from RAF Waddington in a C141 of the Mississippi National Air Guard to join their hosts at Camp Grayling, Michigan on Exercise Mulberry Tree.

For many it was their first overseas tour. Their first two days were taken up with an introduction to the M16, M60, M203, Dragon anti tank weapon and claymore. Highlight of the exercise which followed was a heli-lift of the entire company by Huey helicopters which the National Guard seemed to have in abundance.

All ranks were equipped with MILES laser simulation equipment (see Page 17) to make the exercise more realistic.

Two days of R and R were spent at either Traverse City or Mackinac Island



Above - US National Guardsmen firing the SLR while at Otterburn



Left - Men of 4 Kings Own Border on an assault craft on Lake Margaurite, Michigan

close to the Canadian border, but the exercise was marred by the death in a road accident of LCpl Steven Porter.

Back in the UK, the Michigan National Guardsmen made the long journey to Otterburn where they were met by Maj Andrew Longhurst. Their stay included a 42 Infantry Brigade field training exercise during which they and 4 Kings Own Border took on the 4th Battalion, The

Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

Quote of the week at Otterburn camp was the following exchange between Col Jeremy Gaskell, Kings Division, and a Kings Own Border soldier.

**Col Gaskell:** "Have you tried the Newcastle Brown Ale yet?"

**Soldier:** "Yes, sir."

**Col Gaskell:** "And can you still function?"

**Soldier:** "Function! I can do nothing but function!"





Picture: LCpl Chris Dixon, UKLF

The Princess Royal watches as a parachutist drops on Airport Camp with a pair of scissors which she used to cut a ribbon opening the new direct link telephone with the UK. With the Princess are Capt Barry Keegan (centre) and Lt Neil Stevens, both the of the Royal Signals

# JUNGLE PRINCESS

TEN minutes before the Princess Royal landed at Belize International Airport, a substantial Press contingent jetted in, hurriedly disembarked and hared up the runway to a camera point where they could capture the royal arrival.

Some had obviously been dispatched in haste from Fleet Street . . . for heavy tweed jackets were out of place in a central American temperature topping 100 degrees F.

Happily, they made it before the Princess Royal stepped out of her plane to be greeted by Brig Dick Lambe, Commander

British Forces Belize.

The Princess Royal was on a private visit to Belize in her capacity as Colonel in Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals.

She set the tone for her visit the very first night at a buffet supper party at the Airport Camp officers' mess. The meal ran late as the Princess insisted on meeting everyone. It was the same next day when she visited the Belize Ex Services League in Belize City.

She spoke to two veterans of the Dardenelles campaign, both frail old men who refused to greet the Princess seated.

Walking sticks were thrust aside as they stood proudly to talk to her.

Then it was back to Airport Camp to visit 633 Signal Troop (Caribbean) and their families, accompanied by Brig John Alexander, commander of 2 Signal Brigade.

The Princess Royal officially opened the new direct dial-home service to the UK, laid on from traditional red telephone boxes by British Telecom International.

Accompanied by the Force Signals Officer, Capt Barry Keegan, she had lunch with

633 Troop and their families before touring their operations.

Next day, a casually dressed Princess set off on a helicopter tour of the jungle, where she saw 633 Troop's work in the field, and also the resident infantry battalion, the Welsh Guards, taking part in jungle training.

Jungle expert Sgt Phil Lloyd, WG, told her how to cook monkey and build a clay oven in the jungle, adding that the Army was "conservation conscious, Ma'am".

"I'm sure my brother will appreciate that," she joked.

Lunch was at the spectacular ruined Mayan temple of Xunantunich, where Welsh Guards CO Lt Col Paul Belcher and some of his officers greeted her with starched tableclothes and regimental silver in the middle of the jungle!

The Princess ended her visit to Belize by opening the new Airport Camp School for Service children.

## Veterans watch yeomen at work

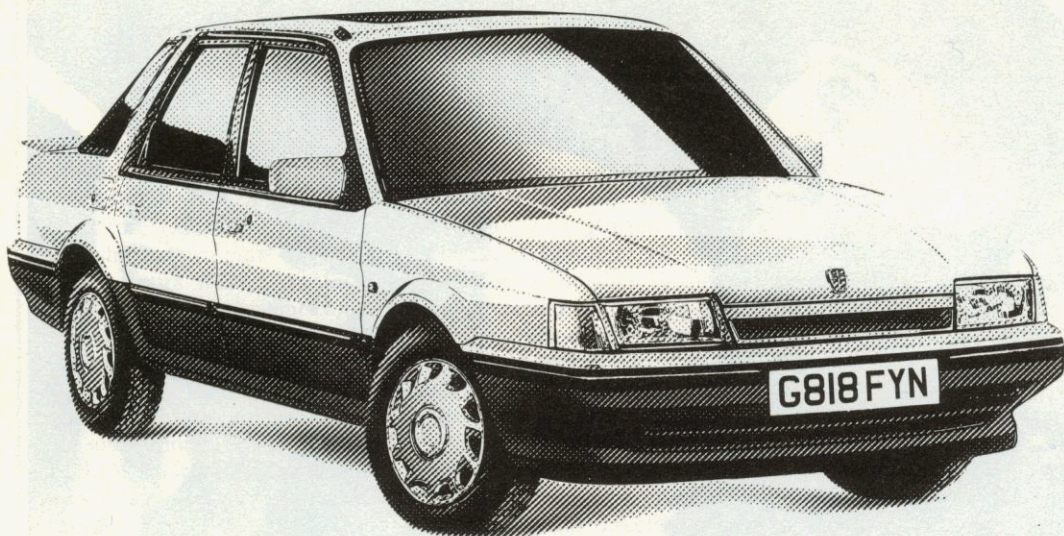
MEMORIES came flooding back as old comrades watched A (Ayrshire Yeoman) Squadron, The Queen's Own Yeomanry make a beach landing in Luce Bay, West Scotland, as part of Exercise Salty Fox, 50 years after they had mobilised for war.

The squadron was delighted to see Col Bryce Know, who at the outbreak was the most junior officer in the regiment, Col David Greig, Capt

Alastair Jack, Col John Henderson, and Yeomen David Hamilton, John Prott (who was awarded the Military Medal with a bar), Hugh Johnstone, Gilbert McCall, John Patterson, Thomas Kerr, Willie Galloway and others.

It was an eventful exercise that kept Support Troop, under the command of Capt Chris Harrison and Sgt Ronnie McMurdo, busy all night clearing a safe lane through a minefield.





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# The 'tom cat' response to insurgence

"IN some wars Generals January and February or Generals Sickness and Starvation have played their part. In this war the decisive part was played by General Cost and General Disillusion."

This comment about the Vietnam war is from Sir Robert Thompson in *Make for the Hills: Memories of Far Eastern Wars*, an autobiography by an author with intimate experience of many eastern lands, whose expertise, demonstrated in an earlier book, *No Exit from Vietnam*, led to his appointment as consultant to the White House and personal representative of the President of the USA - a unique assignment for an Englishman.

The author's span of experience goes back to 1938 when he joined the Malayan Civil Service, followed by war years with the RAF when he was left behind in the New Territories in China to harass the Japanese after the capture of Hong Kong.

Less irregular RAF service in

India followed in the summer of 1942. Sir Robert was offered liaison work with a column of Wingate's Chindit forces.

It was the background to his later formulated *same element* theory in counter-insurgency: "If you want to make contact you must put yourself in the same element with the same purpose as your adversary and you will almost certainly clash. I called it the tom cat theory. If you want to find a tom cat in an alley put in another tom cat. They will both be looking for the same thing and are bound to meet."

The author was one of the last people to talk to Orde Wingate before the Chindit leader was killed in a plane crash while flying back to his HQ at Sylhet.

In January 1946 the author returned to Malaya, posted to Ipoh as Advisor on Chinese Affairs. The chapter dealing with this period provides a

good and clear background to the troubles in Malaya.

After Malayan independence in 1957 Sir Robert stayed on as Secretary for Defence, and was engaged in the setting up of the Malayan Navy, Royal Malayan Air Force and Army.

As a member of the British Advisory Mission in Saigon in 1961, the author presents some fascinating glimpses of the counter-insurgent structure in the Vietnam war and on the assassination of the Vietnamese President Ngo dinh Diem.

But it is not only in the straight from the shoulder punches that the author excels; he also has the knack of making his experiences, no matter how hazardous, seem civilised and often enjoyable. - BJ

**Make for the Hills: Memories of Far Eastern Wars** by Sir Robert Thompson KBE, CMG, DSO, MC. Published by Leo Cooper. Price £17.50.

## A life of adventure

DAVID Baird entered the Army in 1772 at the age of 15. Eight years later, while serving in India with the 73rd Highlanders, he was severely wounded and fell into the hands of Hyder Ali of Mysore, whose prisoner he remained until 1784.

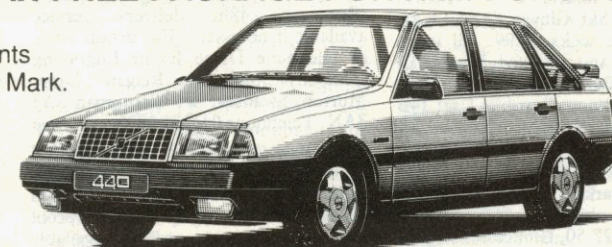
Knighted in 1804, Baird led the successful expedition against the Dutch at the Cape in 1805-6, commanded the first division at the Siege of Copenhagen in 1807 and two years later the right wing at Corunna.

Wellington believed he had no talent, no tact, had an unpredictable temper and was unfit to govern natives. But the Duke had to concede that the adventurous 18th century soldier "was a gallant, hard-headed officer." - BJ

**Our Davy: General Sir David Baird (1757-1829)** by Arthur H Haley. Published by Bullfinch Publications. Hardback £14.50, paperback £5.95.

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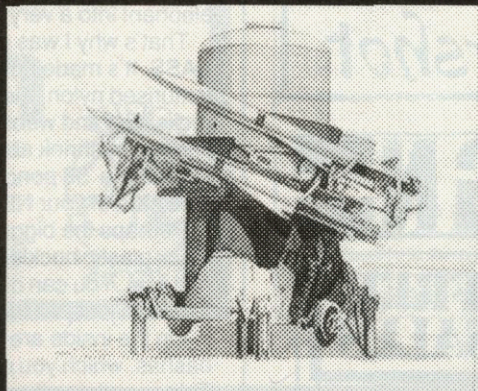
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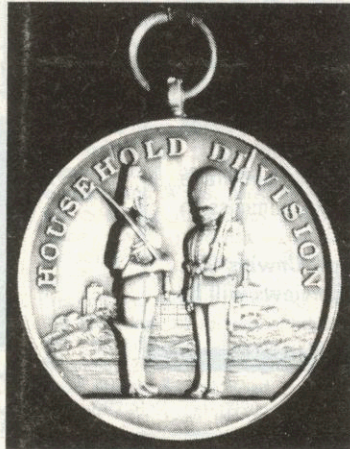
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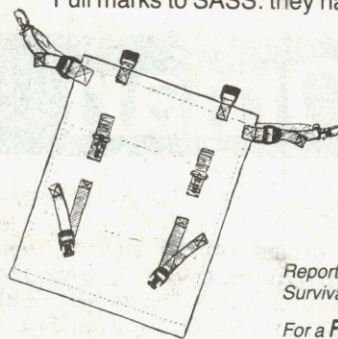
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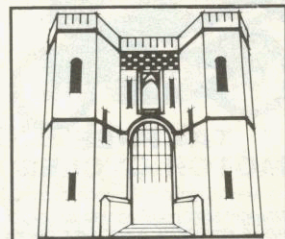


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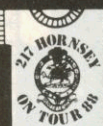
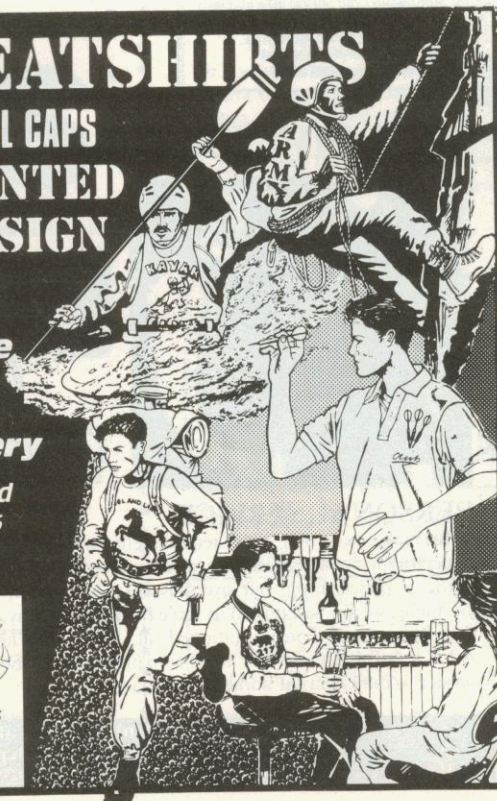
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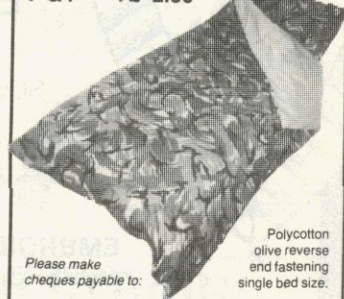
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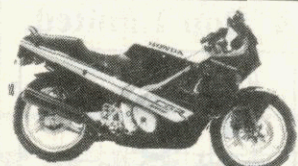
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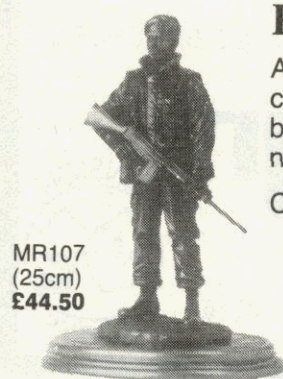
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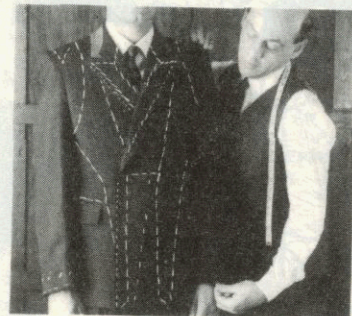
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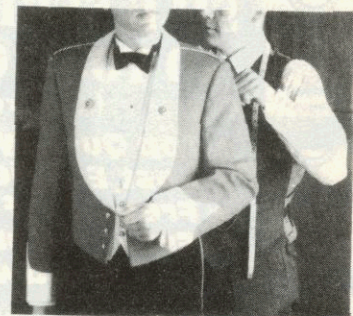


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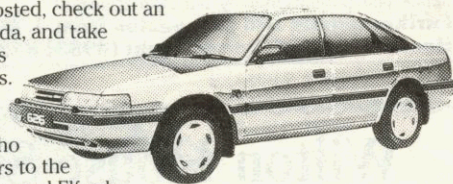
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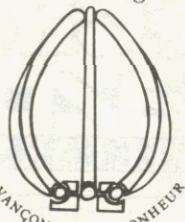
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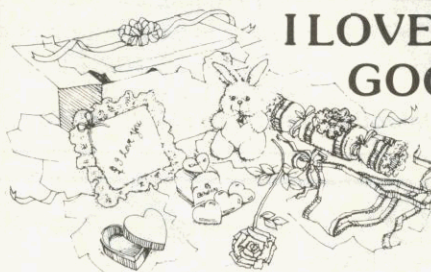
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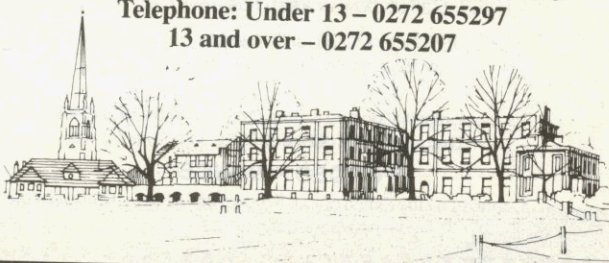
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## RE Depot sees off Fd Wksp

ARMY minor units cricket champions for 1989 are Depot Regiment RE who beat 3 Field Workshops REME by 14 runs in the final at the Officers Club in Aldershot.

Depot Regiment scored 167 for five in their 40 overs, with all their batsmen making useful contributions. Openers Pick (39) and Brown (36) put on 79 before they were separated, and Frazier (20) and Allen (27 not out) added useful runs in the closing overs.

Moore picked up two wickets for REME although his ten overs cost 53 runs.

Hosken (49) propped up the REME reply but was one of four wickets to fall for the addition of six runs during the middle part of the innings. That knocked the stuffing out of the 3 Fd Wksp challenge and it needed a defiant 22 not out by tail ender Mason to get them as close as they did.

Mutch's return of 4-17 and Frazier (3-40) saw 3 Field bowled out for 153 with two balls remaining.

## Infantry triumph

WINNERS of the Army's Famous Grouse Inter-Corps cricket A Division were the Infantry. REME were second, the RCT third and the RAC fourth. Eight corps took part.

The B Division title was shared by the RAEC and RAPC.



Redcoat crew. From left are SSI Jack Goodwin, Cpl Nick Withers, Capt Nick Bateson, Capt Graham Lewis-Taylor (rear), Capt Nigel Montagu and Maj Bob Hill

## In the money!

ARMY boxing has received a £2,500 shot in the arm from Naafi. For the third consecutive year the boxers are getting a big chunk of the £9,000 Naafi donates annually to Service sport.

Basketball in the Army is also benefiting from the sponsorship.

ABA bantamweight champion Sgt Keith Howlett and Scottish flyweight champion LCpl John McLean received the cheque from Naafi managing director Mr James Rucker in the ring at the Army Boxing Centre in Aldershot.

Howlett and McLean have both been helped by sponsorship to meet expenses on their extensive boxing travels.

WO2 Mick Gannon, the team coach, said: "The money goes to novice boxing in the main, and that is the important factor for me. The novices of



Cheque mates, from left, Sgt Howlett, Mr Rucker and LCpl McLean

today are the champions of tomorrow."

Gannon is currently on international duty himself as coach to the Young England squad competing at a tournament in Salonika.

Howlett was selected to box for England in the European championships in Rumania and flies to Finland on October 17 to represent his country at a multi nations tournament. He

is also due to box for England against Poland at HMS Nelson, Portsmouth in November 22.

McLean appeared in a Scottish vest in the world individual championships in Moscow.

Army boxing secretary Maj Denis Sears said that Naafi donation would be used to upgrade kit and trophies and to assist with travel and training facilities.

## Saddle success

BRITISH Winter Olympics biathlon team member LCpl Ed Nicoll from 35 Engr Regt burst into a new sport in one of the most gruelling races on the sporting calendar.

Competing in the United Kingdom mountain bike championships at Aviemore, Scotland, he finished tenth in a field of 400. Eventual winner was the world champion from the USA, Mike Kloser.

The two day event was held over a 30km loop around the Cairngorms. A time trial on the first day decided placings for the second day's Le Mans-style start for the 60km course.

LCpl Nicoll, who took up mountain biking to complement his training for the winter, surprised many of the professionals. The result qualified him for the world championships in Belgium.



Nimrod crew with prizes. From left are Capt Debbie Foggin, Capt Ruth Littlejohns, LCpl Tracey McDermott of the support team, 2nd Lt Jean Heron, Capt Lynne Joyce and Capt Mandy Hudson

## Defender ninth to Uruguay

SATQUOTE British Defender reached Punta del Este on the Uruguayan coast early on October 1 in ninth place at the end of the first leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race.

The Services entry, skippered by Lt Col Frank Esson, AAC, had been involved in a close fought race for fifth place with a group of five yachts ever since leaving the doldrums, the area of calm near the equator.

The first four yachts had broken away at this point, with SBD in a chasing group behind them. First to Punta del Este was the New Zealand ketch Steinlager 2.

All the crews now have until October 28 to prepare themselves for the Southern Ocean passage to Fremantle. British Defender will be using



Lt Col Frank Esson

the break to make small modifications, refit and do maintenance work.

Three crew changes were due to take place before the

yacht tackled the longest leg of the race. Capt Garfield Smith (7 GR) was replacing Capt Tim Morris (7 GR), Lt Nick Bate (16/5 L) was replacing Flt Lt Mandy Gallow (RAF) and Lt Richard Nicolson (RHF) was taking over from Lt Justin Packshaw (4/7 DG).

The 8,000 mile voyage to Australia poses all sorts of challenges. Not least on skipper Esson's mind will be the possibility of ice. The further south a course is set the shorter the distance becomes, but with it comes the greater possibility of encountering icebergs.

## Running sailors endure to end

TWO Army yachts took part in the Universal 500, a 500 mile running and sailing endurance race calling at Southampton, Fowey in Devon and the Channel Island of Alderney.

The ASA racing yacht Redcoat was skippered by Maj Bob Hill and navigated by Capt Nigel Montagu, both RE. Capt Graham Lewis-Taylor, R Signals, organised the running team from 30 Signal Regiment and shared the helming of the boat. The runners were Capt Nicholas Bateson and Cpl Nick Withers, both R Signals, and Blandford based SSI Jack Goodwin, APTC.

Second entry was an all WRAC crew skippered by Capt Ruth Littlejohns on board the Joint Services Sail Training Centre yacht Nimrod. Capt Mandy Hudson navigated and the runners were Capt Debbie Foggin, Lt Leisha Derben, 2nd Lt Jean Heron and LCpl Celia Duffield.

Both crews had land-based support.

With the yachts calling at Salcombe, Dartmouth, Exmouth, Alderney, Fowey, Plymouth and the Isle of Wight, the runners were set a series of gruelling courses, including a circuit of Alderney and the Royal Marines endurance course at Lympstone near Exmouth.

The Redcoat runners finished third overall and won the Marines endurance course section. On the sailing side Redcoat was the second monohull and fastest yacht on the Alderney-Fowey leg. Nimrod won the prize for the first all women team and a special sailing prize.

As Redcoat's runners arrived at Plymouth in the early hours of the morning they were stopped by police investigating a burglary. They managed to convince the police that they were not escaping with ill-gotten gains!

Plans are being made for a third Army entry next year with one university OTC already showing an interest.

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## Triallists impress on debut

THREE wins out of four gave the Army an encouraging start to the football season as the management ran a selectorial eye over young hopefuls aspiring to the red shirt in the 1989-90 representative campaign.

Two goals in two minutes by Cpl Gary Britton (RE) and Cpl Dave Adams (REME) put the skids under Vauxhall Opel League side Uxbridge, and Army trial teams also hammered four goals against HM Prison Services and Waterlooville of the Beazer Homes Premier Division.

The hiccup came in the second match of the season during which an inexperienced Army line up conceded a fourth minute penalty to the Amateur Football Alliance and ended up losing 4-1. Cpl Alec Lundie (A and SH) got the Army's consolation goal.

While many of those on trial will not make it to the senior squad this time round, two or three are likely to make the grade into an Army shirt, at least in the B XI which is to be fielded for matches against the university sides of London, Oxford and Cambridge.

Among them may be another young Guy Whittingham in the making. Last season's top Army striker joined Second Division Pompey during the summer and soon chalked up his first goals in the Football League, scoring against Hull and Middlesbrough.



**QMSI Jim Wood (3 ADSR)** raises his arm in triumph as he retains the 3rd Armoured Division Ironman Triathlon title. Guest competitor **SSgt Steve Mulloy (28 Amph Engr Regt)** crossed the line at the same time after a 900 metre swim in the Mohnesee, a 25km cycle ride and a 10km road race. Second place went to **Cpl Keith Balsdon (204 Sig Sqn)** and third to **Cpl Michael Duggan (3 ADSR)**. 3 ADSR won the team prize



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## Fencers in form

ARMY fencing was given a big boost when a three man team was invited to represent the Inter-Service champions at the Royal Air Force military international foil tournament at RAF West Drayton.

Maj Charles Ottowell LI, currently ground liaison officer with 18 Squadron at RAF Gutersloh, and LCpl James Williams and Spr Roscoe Tanner of 25 Engr Regt took on powerful opposition from the Netherlands, Canada and the

RAF, emerging victorious after convincing wins over all the other teams.

Williams and Tanner fenced with flair to win all their three fights in a 7-2 victory over the fancied RAF A team, while Ottowell recorded two 5-0 wins in the Army's 7-2 defeat of the Royal Military College from Canada. After beating the RAF B team 6-3 the Army clinched the Winderplas Windows trophy by hammering the all officer Dutch fencers 8-1.



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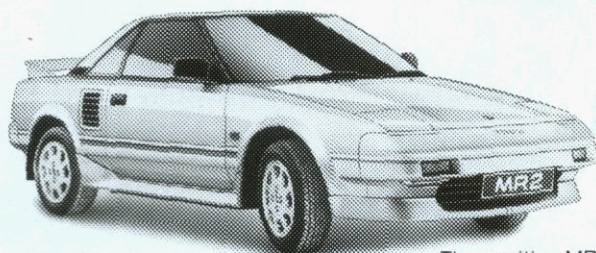
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A Ferret mounting a .30 Browning comes ashore from an RCL of 17 Port Regiment RCT as the 13th/18th Royal Hussars prepare for Exercise Viking. Just over 45 years ago 13/18 H, who "swam" their tanks ashore in Normandy, loaded near the same spot on the South Coast. See Pages 14 & 15.

Picture: Mike Weston.

