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# ARMED FORCES

MAGAZINE  
OF THE  
BRITISH  
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## ARNHEM REMEMBERS



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October 17, 1994

Vol 50/21

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**FRONT COVER:** (Main picture) WO2 (SSM) Chalky Peters (left) of 653 Squadron Army Air Corps bears the Glider Pilot Regiment Association standard at Oosterbeek as Maj Mark Betteridge, Mr Reg Dance DFM and Capt Ian Marlowe remember the regiment's dead. (Inset) A Dutch and British war veteran exchange memories of the Battle of Arnhem. A report and more pictures of the 50th anniversary pilgrimage by Arnhem veterans appears in Pages 24-29. (Pictures: Mike Weston.)

● **ARNHEM:** Veterans of the Battle of Arnhem returned to the Dutch town in their thousands to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the operation that cost the lives of so many of their comrades. Pages 24-29.

● **CHINDITS:** Two veterans of the Burma campaign recall their time with Orde

Wingate's Chindit columns. Pages 14-16.

● **BOOTS:** Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment have tested a new combat boot in the field. Pages 16-17.

● **BFBS:** The studio in Northern Ireland celebrates its first anniversary. Page 23.

## Jobcentres provide new way in



Recruit Dean Stott, Jobcentre manager Maureen O'Toole and Army recruiter SSgt Linda Thompson

# JOIN UP AND BE THE BEST

RECRUITING for the Armed Forces stepped firmly into the nation-wide network of Jobcentres on October 3 under a six-month trial initiated by the Defence Costs Study.

In six areas of the country, would-be recruits will initially be directed to their local Department of Employment Jobcentre rather than the nearest Army Careers Information Office.

Jobcentres will provide a filter before directing potential recruits to a tri-Services Armed Forces Careers Office.

If the trial is a success, 1,300

Jobcentres in the United Kingdom would offer the Army a much bigger shop window than do its current 136 ACIOs. The measure could also assist in attracting the increasing numbers of recruits the Army needs.

Radio and newspaper advertising will be used to direct applicants to a convenient Jobcentre in the trial areas of north Norfolk, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Gloucester, Swansea and South-East London, where ACIOs will remain open while the scheme is assessed.

● A new era of advertising

for the Army has also been launched this month by the Directorate of Army Recruiting with television commercials aimed at potential officer, soldier and Territorial recruits.

The Saatchi and Saatchi campaign, built around a slogan "Be The Best", will also seek to influence friends, parents, career officers and others.

The message is that the Army offers a varied, challenging and rewarding job which helps to develop people and prepare them for life.

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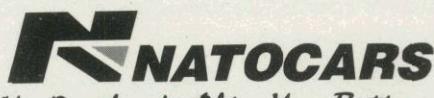
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# Fear halts mass move by Rwandan refugees

REFUGEES wanting to return to their homes in Rwanda are being intimidated and are not coming forward in as large numbers as British Army logisticians hoped.

An initial mass move of 1,500 displaced persons was successful despite the spread of

## Airborne troops give power to the children

SOLDIERS from 5 Airborne Brigade have installed a new generator in the orphanage sponsored by the British contingent serving in Rwanda.

In Aldershot, wives, families and friends of the soldiers are supporting and co-ordinating the project and collecting toys for the 260 orphans.

The 20kva generator, which will provide power until mains electricity is reconnected in Rwanda, was paid for by the Overseas Development Administration and given to the Missionaries of Charity orphanage at Kigali, run by nuns from Mother Theresa's order.

In their spare time, British soldiers are rebuilding war-damaged buildings. They are also raising money to buy cooking and cleaning equipment.

Maj Mike Russell, OC 63 Airborne Close Support Squadron, said: "Installing the generator means we are leaving something behind which will see them through the next few years. It gives us a great sense of satisfaction to be able to give practical help in this way."

The toys were part of a consignment of 18 boxes collected by soldiers' families in Aldershot. Anyone who would like to donate toys, shoes, wellington boots or blankets should contact 63 Sqn's families' officer, or the 5 Brigade padre, the Rev Nigel Knights-Johnson, at the Garrison Church, Aldershot.

rumours that there had been a massacre.

But a second movement was scaled down after only 27 refugees turned up instead of the 500 expected.

Capt Tim Muir, second in command of the British Force Transport Squadron, had to

deal with the frustrations at the town of Gikongoro.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees visits refugee camps to find out how many people want to return, and Capt Muir draws up a plan to move them back to their homes.

"We have elaborate plans with times and routes worked out, plus communications vehicles, to take the refugees back to their villages, then we either end up with half as many as we planned for, or double. We have to be very flexible," he said.

## Bridging a gap to amalgamation



Colour parties of The Gordon Highlanders and the Queen's Own Highlanders meet on the Old Bridge at Craigellachie on September 14 in a symbolic ceremony of friendship before the two famous regiments amalgamated three days later. More photographs of this unique occasion will appear in the next issue

Picture: Mark Owens



Lt Steve White, troop commander, 23 Amph Engr Sqn, leads the advance party to the waiting Hercules

## Hameln sappers deploy to Bosnia

AN ADVANCE party of 30 personnel from 23 Amphibious Engineer Squadron, part of Hameln-based 28 Engineer Regiment, flew to Split on September 15 for a winter deployment in Gorazde and Bugojno.

In all, the regiment will deploy 384 personnel, including soldiers from 29 Fd Sqn, 35 Engr Regt and explosives experts from 33 Engr Regt (EOD), Wimbish, to relieve 36 Engr Regt at Gornji Vakuf, Split, Tomislavgrad, Vitez and Bugojno.

Lt Col Steve Cherry, CO 28 Engr Regt, and Col James Anderson, CRE, were at Hanover airport to see the advance party on its way.

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# Lancers impress at BATUS

A YEAR after the formation of The Queen's Royal Lancers, the regiment has been declared operationally effective following an impressive performance on Exercise Medicine Man 2 at BATUS in Canada.

The exercise was the culmination of a year's intensive training since the 17th/21st Lancers and 16/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers were amalgamated.

During that time, the regiment fired on the ranges at Hohne, carried out two run-up exercises on Soltau-Lüneburg training area and made use of an American battle group simulation system at Grafenwöhr in southern Germany.

The disbandment of its band as part of the defence cuts was an emotive episode for the regiment because a band in one form or another had accompanied the constituent parts of The Queen's Royal Lancers for more than 300 years, initially to bolster morale on the battlefield later to lift morale in camp and act as stretcher bearers.

In December, the regiment begins a six-month United Nations tour as dismounted infantry in Cyprus.

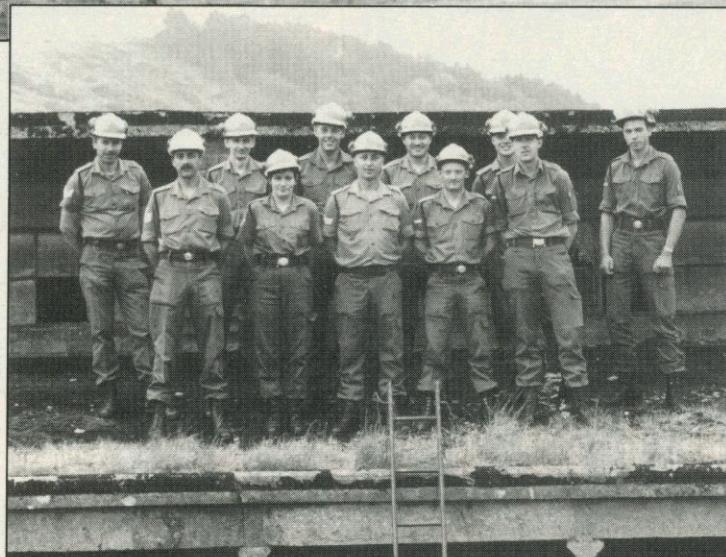
# Sappers cede right of way to badgers

SOFT-hearted sappers from Nienburg-based 21 Engineer Regiment constructed a badger by-pass when their bulldozers threatened a thriving sett while they were improving facilities on Salisbury Plain training area.

A composite artisan and plant troop from the regiment's 4 Field Squadron and 6 (Headquarters) Squadron was tasked to carry out work at Berril Valley as part of a scheme to create a much-needed manoeuvre area for battle groups training with the Combined Arms Training Centre at Warminster.

To the sappers' dismay, the badger sett lay in the path of

# TA hit squad torpedoes old factory



Thar she blows! Volunteer soldiers from 221 Field Squadron (EOD) RE(V) pose for a picture on the roof of a Second World War torpedo factory in Dumfries before demolishing it with more than 200lb of high explosive.

The 20-strong Rochester-based EOD team travelled to Dalbeattie to carry out the task, part of a ten-year programme to clear the factory site.

Under the command of Lt Andy Wood, supported by WO2 Rocky Capelhorne, they flattened a reinforced concrete building equivalent in size to a terrace of eight houses.

## IN BRIEF

DEFENCE Procurement Minister Roger Freeman attended the second Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) conference in Singapore at the end of September. The FPDA – Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom – was established in 1971 to provide for consultation on measures in the event of threat to Malaysia and Singapore.

• • •  
A £9m contract for a command and control system to service the headquarters of the Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) in Germany has been awarded to Hampshire-based EDS Ltd. The system will provide more than 300 staff officers with workstations designed to withstand battlefield conditions.

# RMPs join Op Grapple

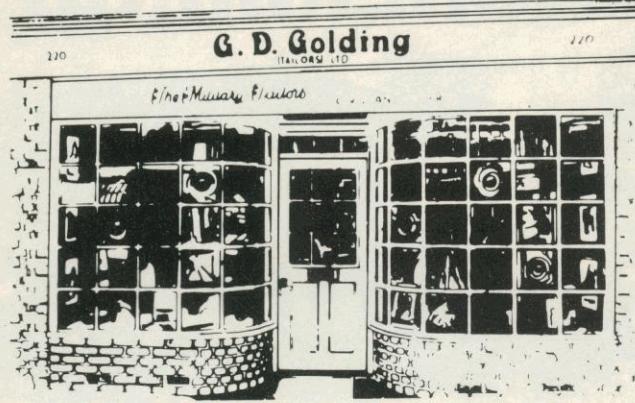
A detachment of 34 Military Police from Colchester-based 156 Provost company has completed a month of intensive training including learning to speak Serbo Croat, in preparation for a six-month tour with the UN in Bosnia.

The detachment, which will form the Force Military Police Unit, is commanded by Capt Frances West.

## RLC FREEDOM

THE ROYAL Logistic Corps marked the Freedom of the Borough of Surrey Heath on September 10 with a parade at The Princess Royal Barracks at Blackdown. Maj Gen David Burden, Director General Logistic Support (Army) formally received the Freedom of the Borough from the mayor.

The training facility is due to open in December.



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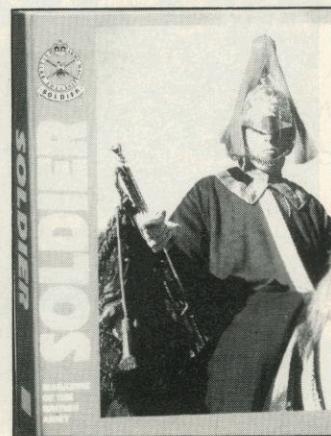
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D4

# The **SOLDIER** Calendar 1995

Next year **SOLDIER** celebrates its half century, and the 1995 calendar is a nostalgic look at 50 years of the British Army through the eyes of its own magazine, from National Service to the present day. Aden, Malaya, Korea, Northern Ireland, The Falklands, the Gulf War and Bosnia are just some of the locations featured in this superb photographic record of the achievements and commitments of the British Army over the past 50 years. The Queen's Silver Jubilee reflects its ceremonial role, and of course not to be forgotten is the famous **SOLDIER** pin-up!



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D7

# Two die in Lynx accident

TWO Army Air Corps soldiers died when their Lynx helicopter crashed during an exercise in south-west Germany on September 22.

Sgt Lesley Berrisford (37) was married and came from Stoke-on-Trent. His co-pilot, Cpl Andrew John Beck (26), from Leicester, was married with two children.

Both men were serving with

1 Regiment, Army Air Corps based at Gütersloh.

At the time of the accident, they were taking part in the 1st (UK) Armoured Division's Exercise Rhino Charge 2 involving more than 2,200 troops.

The cause of the crash is being investigated.

A Paderborn-based infantry sergeant was shot dead during

a live-firing infantry exercise in Canada.

Sgt Mark Frederick Powell (34) was married and serving with the 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry in Germany. He came from Weston-super-Mare, and is the fifth British soldier to be killed this year during training exercises at the British Army Training Unit, Suffield.

# E Battery first past the post

AS MORE units return from Germany, the number of contesting teams for the annual UKLF Observation Post competition continues to grow.

This year, the entry was bigger than ever, with more than 30 forward observation officers and mortar fire controller parties taking part.

Teams were tested in a wide variety of military, general and special-to-arms skills as they strove to prove their operational readiness. Competitors also faced a number of specialist stands run by UKLF Public Information, the Copehill Down FIBUA training team, 103 Battalion, REME(V) and the Gunnery Training Team.

After 30 hours of fierce competition, E Battery, 1 RHA, driven hard by Capt Simon Humphrey, won the Regular Trophy in convincing style from C Battery, 3 RHA (Capt Mark Thornhill).

Capt Chris Reed and his team from 202 Battery, 100 Regiment RA (V) were clear winners of the TA Cup, beating off a challenge from 289 Commando Battery, RA (V) led by Capt Derek Sweeting.

The best Mortar Fire Controllers Trophy was won by Cpl James Heburn and Rhuidh MacDonald of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Highlanders, now The Highlanders (Seaforts, Gordons and Cameronians), operating with an FOO party of E Battery, 1 RHA.



Maj Gen Charles Vyvyan, Chief of Staff HQ UKLF, presents the Best Regular Team Trophy to E Battery RHA and the 1 QO Hldrs mortar fire controllers

# Back to basics for 1 RGJ's C Coy

REPTILES and rabbits were the staple diet of 32 members of C Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets during a gruelling seven days of combat survival, escape and evasion run in Cyprus by Lt Peter Corbin and Sgt Tony Morell.

Normally based at Dhekelia, the company moved to Paralimni to learn about navigation by stars, improvised weapons, dog evasion and water gathering. Similar skills were learned

by ten grade one riflemen attending the first sniper cadre since Dover in 1989. Students had been sent on instructors' courses at the School of Infantry, Warminster, before running the cadre of three weeks of marksmanship followed by two weeks of fieldcraft.

Stalking was the hardest discipline to master, requiring high standards in all sniper skills.

A different approach to sol-

diering was seen by four senior ranks of 1 RGJ and four members of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment detached to the Israeli Defence force's Givati Infantry Brigade for five days during which they visited the Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula.

D Company, 1 RGJ, returned from colder climes after a four-month tour of the Falklands during which the South Georgia detachment rescued a damaged Chilean trawler in high seas.

When 130 members of the Army Cadet Force visited the battalion, their hosts were impressed by A Company (The Robin Hood Rifles) from Nottinghamshire ACF who won the Light Infantry-style drill competition.

# Bristol medics provide air cover

BRISTOL-based medical staff serving with 219 (Wessex) Field Hospital, RAMC (V) provided a casualty clearing station and emergency medical cover at this year's Fairford international air tattoo in Gloucestershire as part of their

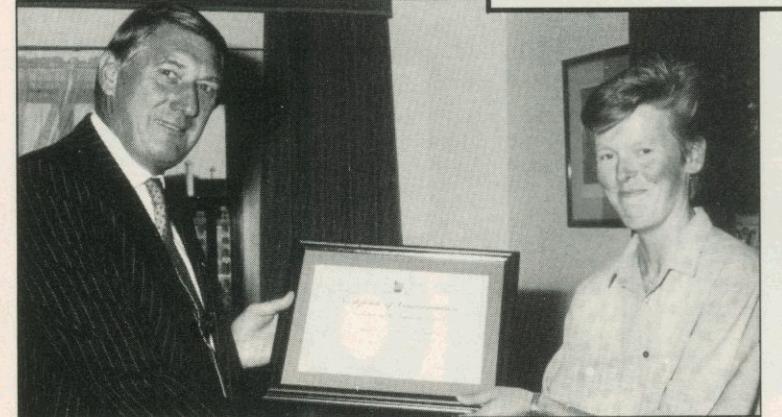
annual camp. During the deployment, the hospital's Quartermaster's Stores shared a hangar with a recently-restored Mk 9 Spitfire fighter aircraft whose past history records a "kill" on D-Day.



## Ian's Frank exchange

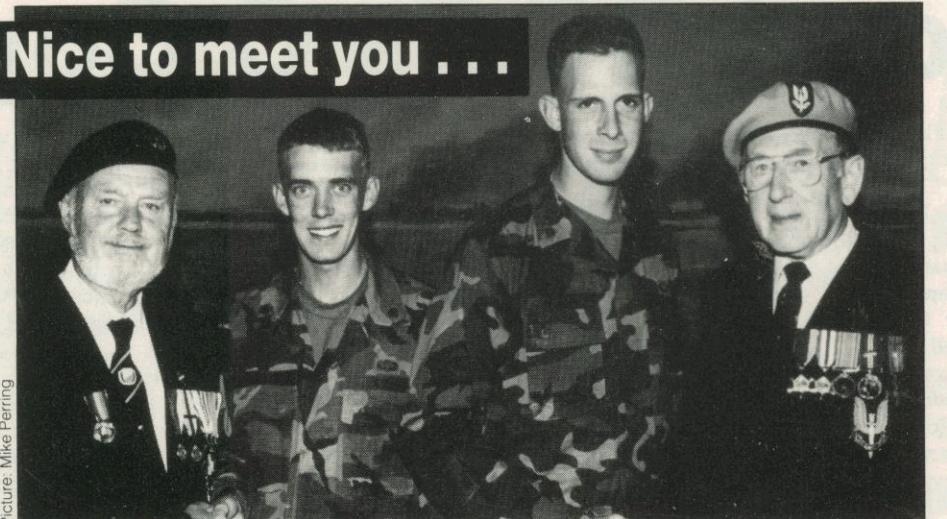
Boxing day came early for Sgt Ian Grant, AGC (SPS) when former heavyweight champion Frank Bruno dropped into Headquarters British Forces Hong Kong during his preparations for a bout with Ray Mercer of the United States – part of a HK\$100m fight bill at the new Hong Kong stadium on October 23. Just watch that left hook – know wot I mean, Ian?

## GREAT SCOTT!

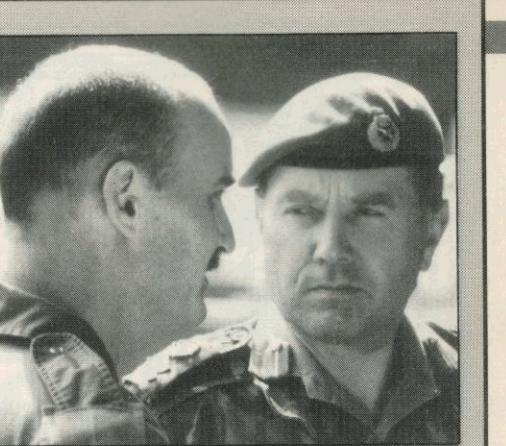


Gen Sir Michael Wilkes, the Adjutant General, presents a framed certificate of commendation to his personal assistant, Sgt Dawn Scott, AGC (SPS), who has worked for him in outstanding fashion for the past three years. It is the first time the AG had awarded his commendation.

## Nice to meet you ...



Two American paratroopers taking part in an Operation Market Garden battlefield tour at the Dutch Liberation Museum near Nijmegen – Specialists William Dunning and Charles Fair from Fort Bragg, North Carolina – meet a couple of British Second World War veterans with a very adventurous past. Ernest Betts (left) is a former Desert Rat who served with the Long Range Desert Group. Arthur Wood (right) was awarded a Croix de Guerre for his exploits with the Special Air Service. In 1944, he and other SAS soldiers were parachuted into occupied France to fight alongside the Maquis.



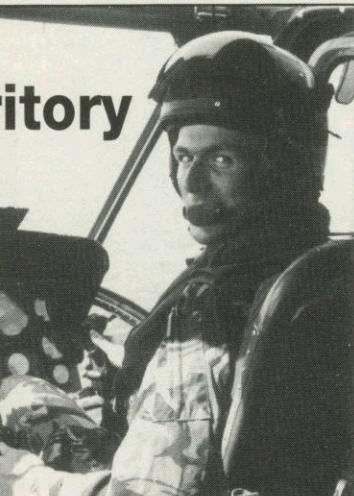
Artificer SSgt Steve Bromby, REME attached to The King's Royal Hussars, briefs Maj Gen Anthony de Camborne Leask, Commander Land Forces, during the general's visit to the regiment's barracks in Northern Ireland. He and Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind were among a number of senior officers who were sampling at first hand the daily routine of a soldier's life within the camp.

## General discussion

## A unique combination



Picture: Mike Perring  
Wartime glider pilot Peter Gammon and former RAF flight lieutenant Don Saunders have a rather unique relationship. The two men are thought to be the only surviving combination of tug and tow pilots from the Battle of Arnhem. Don, flying a 233 Squadron Dakota, towed Peter's Horsa glider to the landing zone. For several days afterwards he braved German flak and fighters to drop food and ammunition to 1st Airborne Division soldiers dug-in around Oosterbeek. Don was recently presented with the US Air Medal for his services during the battle, 50 years after the event.



## Lancers try some new territory



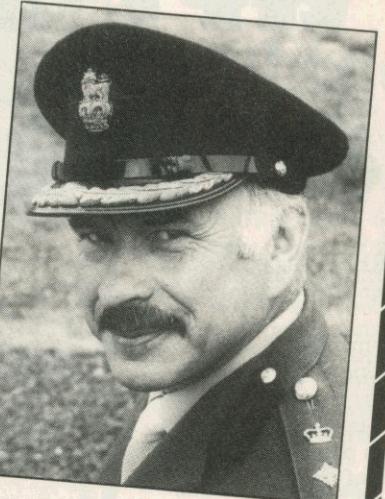
For at least two members of The Queen's Royal Lancers it has been a case of getting a change of scenery of late. 2nd Lt Nigel Best (left) recently finished an attachment to the German 143 Panzer Battalion at Stadt Allendorf. He went with the unit to Canada – where he is pictured in the turret of a Leopard 2 main battle tank – to carry out brigade training, with the aim of seeing the German Army at work at battle group level. Fellow QRL officer Lt Will Packard was given the opportunity to fly a Sea King helicopter during a visit to the regiment's affiliated ship, HMS Ark Royal. He witnessed the Royal Navy at work and play as the ship patrolled off Bosnia providing back-up for Operation Deny. He later visited Malta with the aircraft carrier.

## Richard rides into the sunset

Handing over the reins, metaphorically speaking, to his successor at Catterick Garrison is Garrison Corporal Major WO1 Richard Stephenson (left). Taking over from WO1 Stephenson on his retirement after 24 years in The Life Guards is WO1 Neil Oswin (Queen's Royal Lancers), who reverts to the more familiar title of Garrison Sergeant Major after the Life Guards' slightly different ranking system. By coincidence, Richard and Neil have been friends for years since serving together in Canada.



## Med Herring ...



New commanding officer of Newcastle-based 201 (Northern) General Hospital, RAMC (V) is Col David Herring. After commanding another part-time TA unit, David, a consultant surgeon and urologist in Durham, returned to 201 as OC Surgical Division before taking up the post.

PEOPLE  
PEOPLE  
PEOPLE  
PEOPLE  
PEOPLE

## Fitting tribute



Tpr Felix Gonzales of Westminster Dragoons Yeomanry makes sure that a 19th century North Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry officer's helmet fits Anne Callaghan of Christies in London where the helmet – on loan from Shropshire Regimental Museum – was one of numerous spectacular items on show to commemorate the bicentenary of the Yeomanry.

# Part-time paras on target for busy time

THE GREEN flag on the control tower was exchanged for red.

A moment's silence ... then, taking their cue from a rapid burst of small arms fire, the three tanks trundled menacingly on parallel paths in the direction of the ridge and the sea beyond.

Following them, the infantry edged forward to attack "Oscar One", the first of two objectives as they set about achieving their big prize: the high ground overlooking Brandy Bay.

The men from 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (Volunteers) were taking part in a live-firing exercise on the Westholme Heath ranges at Lulworth Cove.

Hours earlier, at 0400, 80 men had floated silently on to the nearby drop zone.

The hard ground caused a few injured limbs, but the main casualty was a planned assault from the sea. Weather conditions prevented two landing-craft from getting in to secure a beachhead.

Undaunted, soldiers from Yankee Company in the assembly area went ahead with the scheduled attack, throwing themselves into the demanding exercise which formed the culmination of their annual camp.

A year ago they practised a defensive role: this time they were involved in quite the opposite - a joint rolling attack.

The all-Arms exercise, which involved Chieftain main battle tanks and Scimitar recce vehicles, was run entirely by the Territorial Army, with Regulars acting as safety advisers.

Visiting them on the day was Director of Infantry Maj Gen Ray Pett, one of several VIPs - including the Commander of 5 Airborne Brigade, Brig John Holmes - who dropped in over the two-day period.

Phase One of training had begun at Sennybridge camp, where valuable practice in live-firing had been carried out at section and platoon level.



Ready for the fray: Ptes Paul Sutcliffe (left) and Tony Hugill

While Yankee Coy were active at Lulworth, X-Ray Coy were cooling their heels at Bovington Camp, from where they were flown to RAF Lyneham

to repeat the exercise in the early hours of the following morning.

amount of tabbing.

Ceremonies over, the part-time paras completed a four-day field training exercise in the Arnhem area, clearing enemy enclaves over a 50km stretch.

With the exception of Arnhem, where the Terriers were accommodated in barracks, all five phases were in the field.

"A battle inoculation exercise gets officers and men used to the sights and sounds of battle, as well as carrying weights and having to talk to tanks."

"If they achieve all that, they will have done very well."

As the left-hand platoon moved into the attack at Lulworth, following the Chieftains, plumes of smoke billowed from the battlefield and mortars exploded.

Oblivious to the frenetic goings-on so close to them, motorists on the adjacent busy West Country road drove on as normal.

From a distance, the



Live action: determined para, Chieftain as a backdrop, makes his way into enemy territory at Lulworth



Director of Infantry Maj Gen Ray Pett (second left) gets a close-up taste of the pyrotechnics

paras, moving slowly in the direction of the ridge, weapons across their chests, gave all the appearance of beaters on a Scottish moor in August.

But the smell in the air was from a heavier sort of gun, and their targets were of the human, not feathered, variety.

"By the end of the camp, I reckon we will have covered 180km on our feet," said one of the officers, "but in terms of experience it will have been worth every minute."

Report: Phil Wilcox  
Pictures: Terry Champion

## Sappers ease village fears

SAPPERS from 62 Cyprus Support Squadron went to the aid of villagers threatened by overhanging boulders in the Troodos mountains.

Following an approach from the Cypriot Works Department, nine soldiers from the squadron were tasked to move rocks perched precariously above Moutoullas.

During the two weeks it took them to complete the assignment the sappers were visited on site by Commander British Forces, Maj Gen Alex Harley, and the Permanent Under Secretary for Comms, Works and Services. The VIPs were flown in with a Cypriot TV crew.

Delighted villagers rewarded the engineers with a meal and appropriate refreshment in a local restaurant.

The squadron completed several other projects during the summer, including the construction of a 250m road at Akrotiri and a mole and small jetty at the Cyprus Joint Services Adventure Training Centre, and the levelling of the polo pitch at Episkopi.

A section from the squadron's Field Troop under the command of SSgt Colin Elton provided lighting for the entrance to the Monastery of Cats, built on the site of a Byzantine monastery at Akrotiri. Two trenches had to be dug to house cables for lamp posts along the driveway, and the posts concreted in place.

The new mole at CJSATC was completed by a section of sappers and an RE diving team after weeks of back-breaking work. The original site had to be abandoned after divers found an underwater rock shelf which would have prevented the berthing of an RCL.

A party from the squadron flew to Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, USA for a climbing and walking exercise. The trip ended with a white water rafting on the Arkansas River.

• A charity raft race organised by 62 Cyprus Support Squadron earlier in the year raised £4,000 for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children and local Cypriot charities.

**10 Para in action - from Lulworth Cove to Arnhem**

# The major and the muleteer

NEVILLE Hogan could not wait to join the Army.

In August 1939, three weeks after his 16th birthday, he purloined his brother's birth certificate, presented himself in front of "the tallest Tank Corps sergeant major he had ever seen" and found himself enlisted as a private in the Burma Auxiliary Force.

Several escapades followed, including "killing his first chap" with a pistol in 1942 when Neville was in an armoured car unit and the assailant threatened to throw a grenade into the vehicle.

Swimming rivers, driving lorries loaded with aviation spirit between Mandalay and Meiktila and, after washing the truck, doing the return journey with wounded as cargo – occasionally being strafed by Japanese – proved excellent grounding for action with the Chindits to come.

Then, in 1943, Neville, a member of the Karen hill tribe, was commissioned into the 2nd Battalion, The Burma Rifles.

A unit of the 3rd Indian Infantry Brigade, 2 BR was a composite battalion of Karens, Chins and Kachins whose role – because of their intimate knowledge of Burma and its people – was to act as a reconnaissance unit for the long range penetration group.

"My job as a recce platoon commander was to march a day or two ahead of the main column with mules and a wireless set and glean information on enemy movements, sometimes sending my Karens into villages in native dress," said Neville.

He found the teenage girl from the village of Bassein making rice cakes for her captors – who were also holding her parents and three brothers.

They lost touch, but met again at a badminton party in 1947 at an officers' training centre in Maymyo, where he had been sent as a demonstration company commander.

Neville and Glory, pictured right, married in 1949 and settled in England in the 1950s.



Youthful officer: Neville Hogan in his uniformed days

In February 1943 the 3,000-strong Chindit force (the 77th Brigade) crossed the Chindwin river in two groups, with the intention of penetrating enemy lines in Burma.

After an abortive attempt, under Orde Wingate's direction, to cross the Irrawaddy, the columns suffered appalling hardships on a lengthy march back to Assam.

Although more than 2,000 members of the force returned, most were never fit to serve again.

A second expedition flew into enemy-held territory in March of the following year – the force having been increased to about 9,000.

They were given the daunting task of establishing strongholds which would be supplied by air.

Wingate was killed in an air crash before he could see his plan go fully into action, but it is generally held that his two missions played their part in causing the Japanese to change their plans – and increasing morale at home.

It was always the Burma Riflemen's job to retrieve parachutes which floated towards the Japs, and it always seemed to be the mail," said Neville.

"I didn't realise at the time the amount of responsibility involved." He had 60 lives under his control, and the main column of 400 following behind him.

Travelling on foot through the jungle could be hazardous.

"Word would be passed down a column to stop and any soldier wishing to relieve himself would leave the trail, never alone, counting the number of steps before digging a hole and – most importantly – noting who was behind and in front of him in the column.

During the ensuing 12 months, he was a member of a small SOE-type organisation

"Many were never seen again. The jungle is so thick that no one can hear you, and the column just moves on,"

said Neville, who spent his 21st birthday in hospital, suffering from a gunshot wound and tic typhus.

While based in Maymyo, with the task of preventing a vital bridge (partially built, coincidentally, by his great grandfather) from being blown up, he was ordered to investigate civilian internment camps in the region.

Cutting through barbed wire in the early hours at one camp, Neville found the place almost deserted and ascertained that reports of beatings were unfounded.

He also met a beautiful young internee ... but that is another story.

At another, much further south near the town of Ye where military prisoners from the notorious Railway of Death were being interned, he took advantage of lax Japanese security at night to smuggle in quinine, morphine and other medical supplies to alleviate the PoWs' suffering.

Neville, who was promoted major in December 1944, celebrated his 22nd birthday a month before the end of the Second World War – with a hard-boiled egg.

But the Chindit's adventures were still not over. He remained in the Army until 1949, resigning his commis-



Reminiscing: John Hesketh in bush hat

codenamed Force 136, working alongside two members of the Royal Signals and an explosives expert.

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A contemporary cartoon, taken from SEAC Newspaper's *Laugh With SEAC*, gives tongue-in-cheek version of John Hesketh's views

sion after Burma's independence. In the intervening period he was captured by Burmese rebels, escaped from an officers' mess, and married the girl he had met in the prisoner-of-war camp before ending up as an insurance executive in England in the 1950s.

Now the national vice-chairman of the Chindits Old Comrades Association, he looks back on the Burma campaign with little sentiment.

"My lasting memory of those days is of just being tired, hungry, wet, sweaty and frightened," he said.

"If you were going downhill, you knew you had to go up another. Your guts were coming out, you had blisters on your hand from hacking all

day, but there was a great sense of comradeship, of pure love for each other from all ranks."

At the time, he admitted, he had not appreciated the importance of the Wingate expedition, with troops "sitting on the line of the road and rail communications" to thwart the Japanese.

"As a young officer, I was only really thinking about what was 100 yards in front or behind me, and where the next grub was coming from."

"If I had known what was happening, I would have got up and run away, volunteered for a patrol and never come back, attacked a few Japs and made my way to India ..."

John Hesketh's war couldn't

have been more different. A bombardier, his exploits had included a stint in Egypt in 1941 as a Bren and anti-tank gunner until his regimental colonel volunteered his entire complement to help fellow RA officer Orde Wingate.

"We handed over our guns and became infantry," said John, who suddenly found himself part of 51/69 Column, 16th Brigade, Royal Artillery, led by the monocled Maj (later Brig) Bernard Fergusson.

"The training was worse than the actual thing. It was very hard, and we lost men crossing rivers."

The erstwhile gunner was transformed overnight into a muleteer, or mule-leader, in the flame-thrower section, accompanied by his faithful steed Jessica, who carried five

● Turn to next page

# The major and the muleteer

From Page 15

days' rations in cardboard boxes. "We marched and marched until we were due to go into action for the first time, about three to four hundred miles behind the Japanese lines."

"While we were marching with Fergusson's brigade, another brigade went in by glider, landing on jungle strips with nicknames such as Piccadilly and White City."

John missed out on the action (51 had the job of attacking Lon King) because at the last minute it was decided that only one flame-thrower was needed.

"The Japs were prepared. In their fox-holes they had dogs which started barking to warn them of any approach. We lost two men and quite a few were wounded. One chap got the Military Medal."

Marching with a mule was not the easiest of tasks, as the intrepid Hesketh soon discovered.

"If I got too far behind, they would post a man further along the trail to show which way the column had gone."

"On one occasion, I reached a junction and there was no one in sight, so I got down on my knees looking for mule prints, without success."

"I went off the track, tied the mule up, unloaded and tied a rope to two trees to trip any unwelcome visitors. Then I covered the mule, camouflaged the packs and walked into the jungle."

It suddenly dawned on him that he was on his own. His war ended in Germany, where he guarded farms against raids by displaced persons – and spent a grim night on guard duty at Belsen.

Then it was back to his pre-war job as a supervisor at a brewery not far from his present flat in Roehampton, south London.

On winter nights, he writes to old comrades from the Chindits.

"After the war, a lot of those who had been out there died in their 50s from heart failure," said John.

"I saw them, went to sleep, and the next thing I knew, I was being woken up by a search party!"

Another incident etched on his mind was a visit by Wingate to headquarters, where a comparative banquet had been arranged.

"What are the troops on?" he had asked.

On being told "K rations", he had ordered that the food be cleared away and that the officers should have the same as the men.

Crossing the Chindwin was "like Bank holiday Monday at Southend-on-Sea: all the columns caught up with each other, and the mules proved to be troublesome."

"Some were pushed across, others had to be towed," said the 83-year-old.

Like Neville Hogan, he has few sentimental feelings about the campaign, preferring instead to remember the more humorous aspects, such as the panic caused when the message "Gap in column" filtered down the line, the first word having been unaccountably altered somewhere along the way to "Jap" . . .

"We weren't really brave," he told *Soldier*.

"I wasn't among the lot who actually did the fighting. It was a waste of time, and expensive in the way of human life – especially the first campaign."

"They didn't know what to expect, and the casualties were terrible. At least we knew what to expect, and had improved dropping zones."

His war ended in Germany, where he guarded farms against raids by displaced persons – and spent a grim night on guard duty at Belsen.

These days, it is boots for soldiers which make up a goodly proportion of business for G B Britton, who took over the establishment more than 40 years ago.

In particular, the firm's new combat assault boot (CAB), which came into service earlier this year and has been seen on the streets of Northern Ireland and in Bosnia, is making inroads into the traditional combat boot niche.

"Comparing the CAB to others is like comparing a Bentley to a Ford," said factory manager John Haggett, who is naturally delighted with the MoD contract.

"I saw a lot of brave things in Burma which should have received recognition, and it was usually the blokes who said the least who were the bravest."

The manufacturing operation is split between Brynmawr



In stitches: Pte Glen Conroy is given a demonstration by Donna Duggan at Brynmawr



Thelma Denning shows the lads from 1 WFR the finished product which leaves the Brynmawr factory

## Simply bootiful!

– where the leather is cut and the uppers prepared – and Britton's factory in Bristol, where the process continues, from the complex task of adding the soles through to the final packaging.

"To comply with European law, everything from leather to stitching to eyelets has to be certified before we can use it," said Mr Haggett.

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The all-important "clickers", named years ago after the sound of the knife clicking at great speed, select and cut the best parts of the leather, which are used in the front of the boots, the rough boots are stitched and insoles attached to the lasts. A silver stamp mark

on the raw material indicates where the stitching should be done.

Stitching of uppers and sealed, waterproof, leather lining complete, and now in a more recognisable form, the products – duly trimmed and examined – are tied in bundles of 24 "rights and lefts" for daily dispatch to Bristol.

For ease of access by MoD inspectors, the leather for Army boots is kept separate from Britton's other products.



Best boot forward: (left to right) Woofers Pte Ben Hollis, LCpl Dennis Gallagher and Ptes Nicholas Catton and Mike Elsmore get a lesson in lacing from Bristol factory manager Martin Ireland

An hour or so away, at the firm's Bristol premises – also formerly a miners' boot factory – the second part of the manufacturing process goes into action.

"We have got a good relationship with the Army, and we hope to strengthen it and keep it," said factory manager Martin Ireland.

Only the best workers were used on the MoD contracts side, with no trainees involved, he added, as the party of Woofers was whisked round the shop floor.

Toes are shaped over lasts and the all-important soles are moulded by injection under intense pressure.

"We are very proud of recent developments," said Mr Ireland.

"There has been a wind of change at the MoD, and the CAB is a major leap forward. It has not just been thrown together: a lot of thought has gone into it."

Once excess material has been removed, the boots are washed, polished, laced and packed.

"A soldier's feet are his most important asset," the manager added, "so we take care that air bubbles, for example, are removed, so that there is noth-

ing detrimental to the wearer of the boot."

Reaction from Woofers who have been wearing the CABs for months was encouraging.

"They are a better boot all round than the combat highs," said one.

"They are more supple, have more flexibility and are more comfortable."

Although increased needs have meant that the factory floor has had to be built over the firm's former cricket pitch, the usurping of white boots by those of a more bellicose nature can only be good news for Army and manufacturer.

"We hope that you now have a much clearer idea of what goes into making the end product," said Martin Ireland, as he gave one of the youthful Woofers a quick lesson in correct lacing.

"It's a two-way process, and we welcome any recommendations."

To him and George Bryant Britton (1857-1929), the sound of seven pairs of boot-clad feet echoing down the stairs after an enlightening visit must have been music to their ears.

Report: Phil Wilcox  
Pictures: Terry Champion

## BA pledges hot offer on leisure travel

BRITISH Airways has announced new leisure



### Nat's long service at Wilton is recognised

Mrs Natalie Nutting (pictured above) has received the Imperial Service Medal from the C-in-C, Gen Sir John Wilsey, to mark 36 years of service to the Crown.

Nat to her friends, Mrs Nutting has worked as a typist at Wilton – first in HQ Southern Command, later HQ UKLF – since the early 1950s.

Her first job was as a typist in a regimental pay office in Salisbury, and her first "office" at Wilton was a large tin hut. Since then she has witnessed the transformation of the headquarters into today's purpose-built complex.

## FAW conferences give you chance to have your say

THE SEASON of political conferences is upon us, and the Federation of Army Wives is about to launch its own series of annual get-togethers.

Cyprus, Germany and the UK have conferences coming up and Sherie Williams Ellen, speaking in *Counterpoint*, made the point that they provide an opportunity for women to ask questions about issues which they feel affect them.

The last conference I attended was in Germany and what struck me was the

diversity of the women involved with FAW.

Communication between different branches seems good. I asked Sherie if, for example, someone raised a question in Cyprus that had implications for all Army wives, could it be passed along to other conferences for discussion?

Yes, she said, it could. And if a matter was raised before the UK conference it could be researched before the conference.

So, in theory, if you're overseas and you've come

Cari Roberts

### → COUNTERPOINT ←

up with an issue which you think should be discussed, go to your local conference.

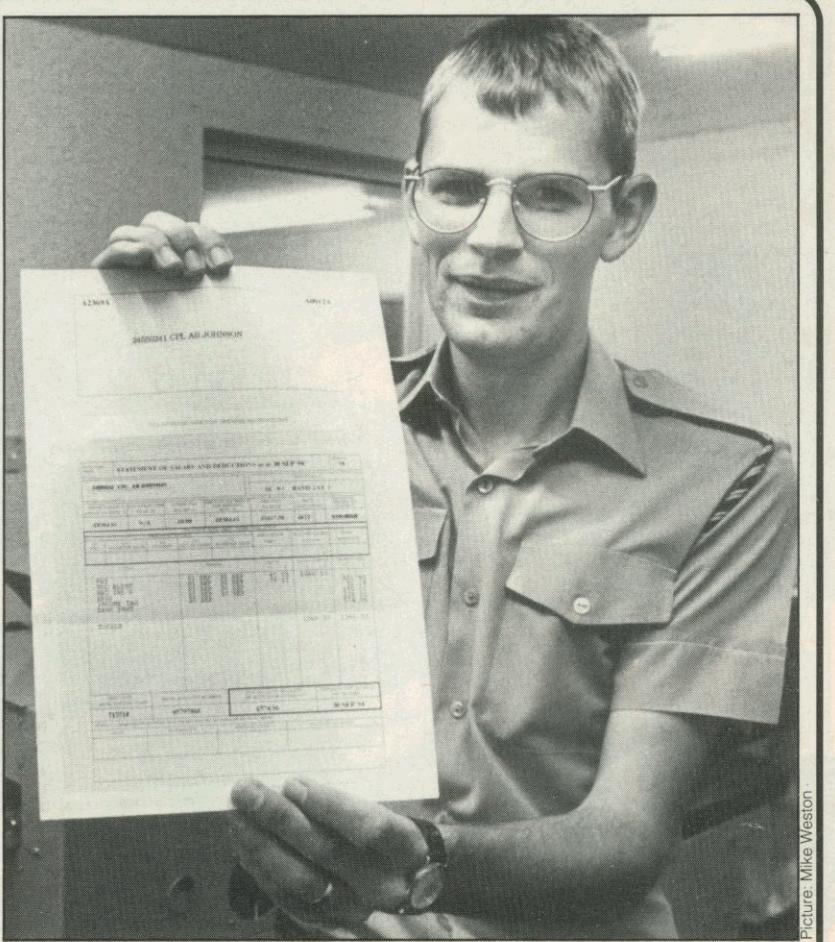
The level of debate depends entirely on the commitment of those taking part. If there is a chance to go to any of the conferences, please do. If you can't get there, send the Federation your comments.

While we were talking, Sherie referred to the *Army Wives Journal*. It is evolving all the time and recent issues will concentrate on exploring big issues.

The team that put the *Journal* together are not afraid of a little controversy either. Asked if she thought people with influence read the magazine, Sherie said

that whenever there was something in it with potential to raise a few hackles a reaction always got back to them.

If you'd like to see the *Journal* or your unit isn't getting copies, do get in touch with the Federation of Army Wives. If you don't have a local co-ordinator drop them a line at HQ



Sgt Wayne Danks holds a sample of the new pay statement at AGIC Worthy Down

## Common approach over new pay slip

NEW, simpler pay statements common to all Regular officers and soldiers are due to be introduced this month.

Issue to the Territorial Army and Royal Irish Regiment (HSPT) will follow later.

The innovation has come about as part of the move towards greater standardisation and rationalisation

of administrative procedures.

The old-style officers' statement – AF O 9538 – contrasted in almost every aspect to the soldiers' AF O 9537 pay slip. Size, shape and content differed, as did presentation. Officers' pay slips were sealed, while those for other ranks were manually folded and stapled by units prior to issue.

In the last issue we reported that press stories predicting the axeing under the Bett Review of the boarding school allowance had been dismissed as "pure speculation". Here, midway through the work of the review team, its chairman reports

## Questionnaires go out to 8,000

## Bett Review: No savings targets

By Michael Bett

Chairman of the Independent Review of Armed Forces' Manpower, Career and Remuneration Structures

IT IS almost six months since the Armed Forces Independent Review was set up by the Secretary of State for Defence. I thought that the midway point might be a good time to explain how the review team is tackling the task that we have been given.

The purpose of the review is to ensure that the Armed Forces continue to be able to recruit and retain people of the right quality into the 21st century.

We have been asked to consider how the Services' pay and allowances structures, pensions, rank and career structures, housing and accommodation policy, as well as terms and conditions of service, can best be designed to meet this longer-term need.

The other members of my review team are Tony Vineall (former personnel director of Unilever), Michael Garner (ex-finance director of Tube Investments) and Sir John Kerr (recently retired as Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command).

We are supported in our work by a project team of Service officers and civilians. We are working very closely with all three Services and are very grateful

to them for arranging an extensive series of fact-finding visits to front line and support areas.

We have visited units in the UK, Northern Ireland, Italy and Bosnia and we are to visit Germany shortly. We have visited ships and submarines.

We are also visiting Armed Forces of other countries and looking at the Police and at major companies in this country.

My colleagues and I have greatly valued the opportunity to discuss a number of issues directly with Service personnel in all ranks and their spouses, and to hear the views of the young, as well as of the more senior.

These visits have left us very impressed by the calibre, professionalism, ethos and education of today's Servicemen and women. It is our prime concern to ensure that those qualities remain with the Armed Forces in the next century, and that our work makes a positive contribution towards enhancing opera-

tional effectiveness. We fully recognise that the Services are not commercial organisations and we have no intention of proposing inappropriate business practices.

But it would be wrong for anybody to assume that the Services have nothing to learn from good practice elsewhere.

I would also like to emphasise the independent nature of the review. I know there will be speculation and a great deal of jumping to conclusions as we go about our business, ask questions and test our ideas.

However, I can assure you that – whatever the newspapers may say – we have not yet reached any conclusions, and will not do so before early next year.

We are not part of the Defence Cost Studies and although we are concerned to promote better value for money, savings targets have not been set for the review. Nor are we responsible for recommending pay levels. That remains the responsibility of the Pay Review Bodies.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who are making our visits so interesting and informative. They really are invaluable in helping us to understand more about the Services.

But the number of visits we can make is inevitably limited and, because we wish to get the views of as many Service people as practicable, we shall be sending questionnaires over the next few weeks to about 8,000 further Servicemen and women.

If you're posted to an area around Wiltshire, Surrey and Hampshire, the good news is that you will be able to pick up Forces FM, a local "out-station" of BFBS during October (see *Soldier* October 3).

Drop me a line and let me know if you hear the programme.

The last job I had overseas was helping BFBS build one of its small, local radio stations in Hohne. It

ARMY parents returning from overseas – or merely on the move in the UK – would be well advised to consult one or other of two paperback books recently published.

The 1995 edition of the well-established *Equitable Schools Book* gives you as good a reason as any.

"Choosing the right secondary school is probably the last critical decision your children will allow you to make for them," it says. "And they won't thank you for just sticking a pin in a league table or relying on other people's judgement."

This "independent guide to independent secondary schools", produced in association with *The Sunday Times*, reports on 550 such establishments, including 25 British schools overseas.

Its 878 packed pages also include a guide to issues such as dyslexia and bullying and special advice about fees.

Lighter at 438 pages but no less valuable is *The Sunday Times State Schools Book* edited by Greg Hadfield, Bloomsbury, £12.99.

## Teaching yourself by the book . . .

*Schools Book* which, for the first time in its new, expanded form, quotes from inspectors' reports where available.

This is "the definitive guide to over 500 state schools throughout the country" says the cover (although the title page, while obviously not wrong, gives the figure as "over 400". But who's hair-splitting, arithmetically speaking?). – CH

● **The Equitable Schools Book 1995** edited by Klaus Boehm and Jenny Lees-Spalding. Bloomsbury (in association with *The Sunday Times*), £12.99. **The Sunday Times State Schools Book** edited by Greg Hadfield, Bloomsbury, £12.99.

## Norway 'patch' up and running in the far north

AFTER a sometimes traumatic move from Oslo to Stavanger on the west coast of Norway, United Kingdom Support Element HQ NORTH (formerly HQ AFNORTH), is reported to be "alive and kicking".

The unit, situated in a brand new office complex rented from the Norwegians, provides admin support to 75 British tri-Service personnel at the new NATO headquarters.

Biggest problem for the element was housing all its personnel. Not only were

### BUPA offer

DISCOUNTS of between 21 and 40 per cent are available from BUPACare for Service families. The discounts will apply to personnel within three months of leaving the Service. Write for details from BUPA, FREEPOST DC50, Lincoln LN3 5BR.

the British support staff in competition with their NATO allies, but also with the many oil companies based in Norway's "oil capital".

After testing the market it was decided to acquire purpose-built housing, meeting married quarter scales, from a Norwegian leasing company.

The final phase is now nearing completion and all who have arrived so far have been housed.

Families serving there highly recommend a posting to Stavanger. It is in a beautiful part of Norway, well situated as a base to explore the country.

The final phase is now nearing completion and all who have arrived so far have been housed. Families serving there highly recommend a posting to Stavanger. It is in a beautiful part of Norway, well situated as a base to explore the country.

# NOW AVAILABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

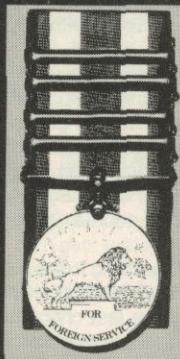
## FOREIGN SERVICE MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE

CRIMSON-GOLD-BLUE

BLUE-GOLD-CRIMSON



OBVERSE



REVERSE

This medal is to commemorate overseas service in war and peace that has not been recognised by any other award.

Both this superb medal and its miniature are STRUCK in bright cupronickel. The design is deliberately reminiscent of the by-gone days of 'Empire'. Cost - Medal @ £45; Clasps @ £20. (Jeweller Fitted)

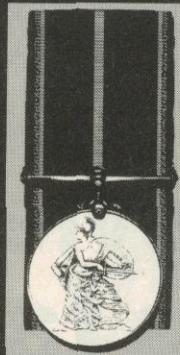
In civilian dress this commemorative should be displayed after or below Official Awards.

For an application form with full details, please send a STAMPED addressed envelope to:

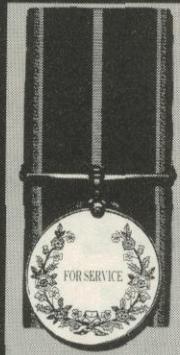
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P.O. BOX 4, Hinckley,  
Leicestershire LE10 3ZT

## NATIONAL DEFENCE MEDAL

EX-SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE



OBVERSE



REVERSE

Here at last, is a Commemorative which everyone who has served a minimum of 28 days, whether in a voluntary organisation or as a serviceman or woman, can be proud of; the National Defence Medal Commemorative.

This commemorative for National Defence Service is to be available to all British Commonwealth and allied ex-servicemen and women, both regular and reserve, and to Civilian Volunteers (Police, Fire Service, Essential Services, Emergency Services, Officers of Cadets, Coast Guard, Merchant Navy, Home Guard, Womens Land Army, Ambulance, Red Cross, etc.) who have served their homeland faithfully, for a minimum period of 28 days.

Both this superb medal and its miniature are STRUCK (not cast) and have a high grade bright nickel finish that will not require polishing. The medal and suspender bar are two-piece assembly. (This is not some inexpensive casting.) The design is deliberately reminiscent of the by-gone days of "Empire". In civilian dress this commemorative should be displayed after or below Official Awards. Cost - Medal @ £45

For an application form with full details please send a stamped self addressed envelope.

To:- SERVICE COMMEMORATIVES,  
P.O. BOX 4, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 3ZT

# ARMS AND ARMOUR PRESS

## RAGGED WAR

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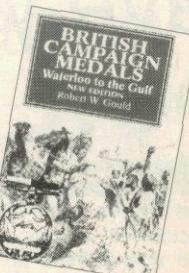
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# User-friendly

## Naafi now on line

A NEW telephone ordering system which will replace all previous arrangements for messing in every British military establishment has been set up by Naafi, writes **Phil Wilcox**.

Introduced on October 1, the telesales system - linked with a central storage warehouse for speedy despatch - comes as a direct result of an MoD agreement for Naafi to take over operation of the Public Messing Fund (PMF) contract for a three-year period, in tandem with the tri-Service Directorate of Services Food Management.

To meet the expected increased demand, an additional distribution centre to the present building in Amesbury, Wiltshire, will open next year



Col John Houchin

at Grantham, Lincolnshire and a third, in Edinburgh, has been leased.

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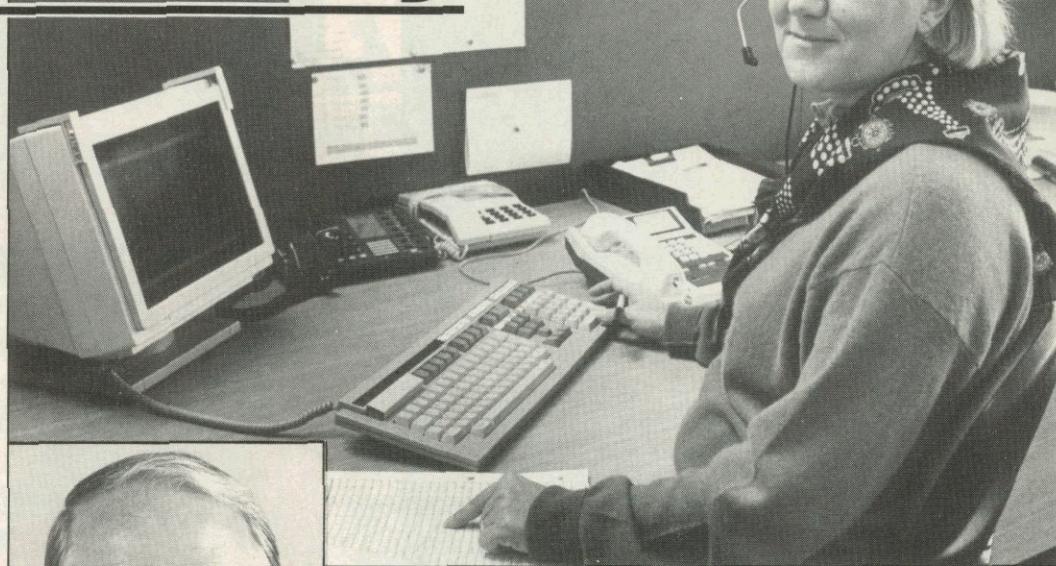
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Specially trained: Naafi telesales operator Jocelyne Hornbuckle

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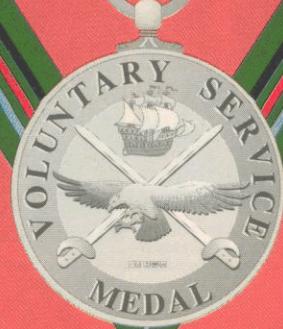
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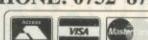
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# BFBS brings community radio to N Ireland

BFBS Northern Ireland was a year old in June but had to wait until September 3 for its birthday present - a new transmitter, writes **Gordon Skilling**.

Traditionally a lifeline for British soldiers and their families based overseas normally without access to the programmes they like, the British Forces Broadcasting Service now has a closed-user transmitter in Northern Ireland.

It serves a Germany-based unit in the Belfast area, broadcasting within the unit's buildings but not outside, and makes the city the first in the UK to receive BFBS on a full-time basis.

Located in the HQ NI complex at Lisburn, BFBS NI is run from a portable building which was destined for the Gulf but never made it because the war ended so quickly.

The station itself is a two-year trial and has been making programmes for Germany and Bosnia/Croatia for over a year, raising the profile of British Forces in Northern Ireland among the British public and overseas commands.

It also aims to link Germany-based units with their families.

As well as providing a service to British soldiers, BFBS NI doubles as a vehicle for sending news items back to Great Britain and Germany.

Station manager is Jon Bennett, who is on attachment from BFBS London and has been "everywhere except Belize" with BFBS over 15 years. He was station controller in the Gulf War.

He and assistant Emma Davies concentrate on covering "good news" stories, ranging from human interest to cross-community events.

Their primary role is to provide a link between roulement units from Germany and their families. Dedications are recorded and broad-



Station controller Jon Bennett on the air with station assistant Emma Davies

cast on "Ulster Calling" every Saturday (1100-1300 BST, 1200-1400 CET) carrying on a tradition from years gone by when "Ulster Calling" was done by the BBC and presented by various people - including Gloria Hunniford.

The link is strengthened by arranging for recorded dedications to be broadcast on units' local radio stations at home.

Dedications for "Ulster Calling" can be telephoned via Fastnet 40924 for broadcasting on the next show, and since September 3, families and friends have also been able to make dedications for soldiers listening in Belfast by calling UK 846 601426.

New technology enables BFBS NI to provide local radio stations with a well-oiled service. Previously, material had to be sent in the post or via the London office - a very time-consuming and expensive operation.

BFBS NI is now able to send news direct to the local radio's receiver, at a fraction of the cost. Local stations do not have to pay for this ser-

vice, which also saves them the expense of sending a reporter to the unit and should raise the unit's profile "back home".

The whole operation is very cost-effective, said Mr Bennett. "Before the Gulf War it would have cost £100 an hour to transmit a stereo programme from Northern Ireland to Germany after booking a line six weeks in advance.

"Our first three months of operation cost only £600 for four hours live, daily, to the whole network including features, and reports, dialling to anywhere with no testing and no booking."

On the television front, coverage of events is broadcast on SSVC's magazine programme *Scene Here*. Much of the work is bi-medial, with the soundtrack dubbed and used to compile a radio feature - which doubles the amount of coverage a unit receives.

The new trial transmitter runs 24 hours a day. Programmes are distributed by satellite and produced in London, Germany and in

Lisburn and reflect a change throughout BFBS.

The daytime service used to come from London, but from the end of June the main day output has been transmitted from BFBS Germany.

Since the new transmitter went into operation, soldiers have been able to hear the same programmes as their wives in Germany during the day. BFBS London caters for evenings and weekends.

Germany is still a high priority, but the emphasis is changing with drawdown, and BFBS NI concentrates equally on Germany and Britain-based units.

Having a full-time transmitter within UK will be quite a landmark, said Mr Bennett, who hopes the service will be extended to all units to provide "community radio" for the forces in Northern Ireland.

"Community radio is coming all over UK and ultimately, I would like to see us with a proper dedicated BFBS service as in Cyprus and Germany," he said, "but we'll see how the trial goes first."

Picture: Mike Pering



Above - General Sir John Hackett (83) is the senior surviving commander of the Battle of Arnhem

Left - Parachute canopies blossom over Ginkel Heath, as the first wave of Paras, already on the ground, gather their 'chutes

Right - Members of the Glider Pilot Regiment Association gathered at the Airborne Monument, Oosterbeek

# ARNHEM REMEMBERS

MORE THAN 2,000 Arnhem veterans and 100,000 Dutch and British spectators braved high winds and driving rain to watch 800 paratroopers mark the 50th anniversary of the 1st Airborne Division's part in Operation Market Garden.

The mass airborne landing on the original wartime drop zone at Ginkel Heath included troops from the British Army's 5 Airborne Brigade, the 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (Volunteers) and the Special Air Service.

New Zealand special forces and airborne troops from South Africa, Canada, Poland and America also jumped.

Twenty-one paras were

injured in the drop - none seriously - but a planned jump by 58 veterans, the oldest 84, was cancelled because of the weather.

One 76-year-old veteran did jump. Former sergeant Tex Banwell, from north London, parachuted, as he has done in

Report: Laurie Manton  
Pictures: Mike Perring

previous years, from a private aircraft.

The event was just one of dozens organised throughout Gelderland, Holland to commemorate Market Garden - Montgomery's ill-fated operation to shorten the war.

The Battle of Arnhem was the British Army's last defeat

**Colour pictures - Pages 26/27**

in war. Of an airborne force of 11,920, almost 1,500 were killed or died of wounds. A further 6,500 were captured or left attempting to escape.

The suffering of the residents of the Arnhem and Oosterbeek area was immense.

One of the biggest cheers was reserved for blind veteran Mr Ray Sheriff. He was blinded and his Bren gun crew killed when a mortar shell fell among them on the first evening of the operation. He received his

destroyed in the fighting, and they were later driven away and their homes ransacked.

The 50th anniversary airborne pilgrimage began with a reception and opening ceremony at the Rhine Hall, Arnhem. Children from Britain, Poland and the Netherlands performed on stage, and soloist Caroline Kaart sang a medley of wartime songs before an audience of appreciative veterans and their families.

The first 17 commemorative medals being issued this year to Arnhem veterans and next of kin were presented on stage. The recipients included two war widows, Dutch resistance fighters and the chairman of the Arnhem Veterans' Association, Mr Dave Morris.

One of the biggest cheers was reserved for blind veteran Mr Ray Sheriff. He was blinded and his Bren gun crew killed when a mortar shell fell among them on the first evening of the operation. He received his



medal from eight-year-old Michael de Jong.

Local residents and minority groups, remembering the executions of Dutch civilians and looting of homes, objected angrily to a suggestion that German veterans should be invited to this year's official ceremonies.

Arnhem mayor Paul Scholten, who initially suggested their inclusion, decided not to invite former German

Left - The deputy pilgrimage leader, Maj Gen Anthony Deane-Drummond takes the salute of veterans. He was 2IC 1st Airborne Divisional Signals at Arnhem

Right - Dutch children lay flowers on the graves at Oosterbeek cemetery

soldiers. "It was the most difficult decision I have had to take in my five years

as mayor."

All over the former battlefields of Operation Market Garden, many pilgrimages and acts of remembrance were made by regimental associations and individual groups of soldiers.

A number of widows visited their husbands' graves for the first time, on Government-sponsored war graves pilgrimages organised by the Royal British Legion.

One ceremony commemorated the valiant attempt by 315 men of 4th Battalion, The Dorset Regiment to reinforce 1st Airborne Division troops holding out in Oosterbeek by crossing the river under withering German fire on September 25, 1944.

The only formed British unit from 30 Corps to enter the battle from the ground, they suffered heavy losses. All but 75 were killed or captured.

This year, 12 veterans crossed the Rhine again. They were ferried across the river in four assault boats paddled by soldiers from the Territorial Army's 4th Battalion, The

Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.

One of the most poignant annual ceremonies is the silent procession from Arnhem's restored Eusebius Church to Airborne Square set inside a sunken roundabout close to one end of the famous bridge.

Standards lowered, the veterans bowed their heads as prayers were said for the fallen. Many shed tears. Two primary school children unveiled a plaque of dolomite limestone bearing the inscription "Battle of Arnhem - Bridge to the Future".

Only the tramp of feet and the jingling of medals could be heard as the old soldiers marched to the square.

In the centre of Airborne Square - which is actually round - stands a broken column of stone from the town's former Palace of Justice, destroyed in the fighting around the bridge.

Standards lowered, the veterans bowed their heads as prayers were said for the fallen. Many shed tears. Two primary school children unveiled a plaque of dolomite limestone bearing the inscription "Battle of Arnhem - Bridge to the Future".

At Oosterbeek, where the main force held out before withdrawing across the Rhine,

● Turn to Page 28





Happy smiles light up the faces of Duncan Brown, ex-3 Para, and a Dutch schoolgirl. Children from Arnhem and Oosterbeek accompanied veterans on a pilgrimage to the banks of the Rhine



Above – War veterans Ted Hotine and Dave Morris are the first to make a call from an old GPO telephone box given to the villagers of Oosterbeek by the Arnhem Veterans Association

Right – More than 1,000 Arnhem veterans pay homage as flags are lowered to half-mast during a service of remembrance at the Airborne Square



Paras from the 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment and other airborne units march with Arnhem veterans at a parade of honour on the outskirts of Arnhem



Wearing authentic wartime uniforms, re-enactment groups recreate the passage of Lt Col John Frost and 2 Para to the bridge



## ARNHEM REMEMBERS



Above – The Prince of Wales meets some disappointed Arnhem veterans at Ginkel Heath. They had been due to parachute in again, 50 years after their original wartime landing, but bad weather caused the flight to be cancelled. They finally achieved their aim 24 hours later when they parachuted over a nearby airfield

Left – Standard bearers head the silent procession as it leaves Arnhem's Airborne Square. Second from left is WO2 (SSM) Chalky Peters of 653 Squadron AAC



Arnhem veterans braved wind and showers to take part in a march past

# ARNHEM REMEMBERS

• From Page 25

the Arnhem Veterans' Association (AVA) presented an old-fashioned red GPO telephone box to the village.

The association's vice-president, Maj Gen Anthony Deane-Drummond, watched as the Mayor of Renkum cut the ribbon. Afterwards, AVA chairman Dave Morris and fellow veteran Ted Hotine squeezed into the box to make the first telephone call.

On the night of September 25-26, 1944, almost 2,400 British and Polish airborne troops were ferried to safety across the Rhine by British and Canadian Royal Engineers who made dozens of trips in their small boats under heavy German fire.

On a river bank at Driel, their gallantry is marked by a simple white granite slab bearing the badges of the two regiments. An inscription reads "They were just whispers and shadows in the night". A wreath is laid there annually.

Following their drop at Ginkel Heath, the paras picked up their bergens and marched towards Arnhem. Their destination, eight miles away, was the John Frost Bridge.

When they arrived, they gathered by the river to hear the commanding officer of 10 Para, Lt Col Robert Kershaw, describe the wartime action of 2 Para at the bridge.

He is suitably qualified to talk about the Battle of Arnhem, having had a book published on the subject, albeit from the German perspective.

The Colonel-Commandant of the Parachute Regiment, Maj Gen Rupert Smith, and the GOC 3rd (UK) Division, Maj Gen Mike Jackson, looked on appreciatively as Col Kershaw spoke.

Soldiers from United Kingdom and Germany-based Army Air Corps squadrons joined more than 100 of their wartime predecessors from the Glider Pilot Regiment in paying homage to fallen comrades at the Airborne Monument in Oosterbeek.

Glider Pilot Regiment Association chairman Mr Nick Nicholls told *Soldier* that AAC personnel had accompanied their regiment's pilgrimage for the past three years.

"Every year, after the main service of remembrance at Oosterbeek War Cemetery, our members gather here to lay a wreath.

"Being the 50th anniversary, we have had our largest turnout, but many ex-glider pilots may

never return. In the fullness of time when we are all dead, we see today's Army Air Corps carrying on the tradition," said Mr Nicholls.

Sometimes overlooked in accounts of the Battle of Arnhem are the Commonwealth aircrew from Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa who braved heavy flak and attacks by German fighters to resupply troops on the ground.

Responsible for pushing out supplies of food and ammunition from Stirling and Dakota aircraft were Royal Army Service Corps air despatchers. They lost 79 soldiers during the operation.

Frustrated by the weather, old paras were determined to jump again, and they did so 24 hours later over a nearby airfield.

First to go was 80-year-old George Sheldrake, who jumped in tandem with AAC helicopter pilot Sgt Dick Kalinski. One of the last to jump, Bill Kimpton (73), broke a vertebra in his back as he landed and was taken to hospital.

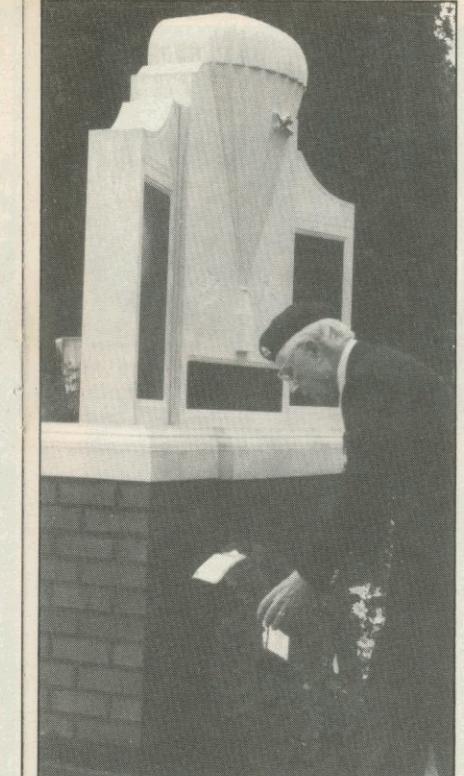
The veterans had been trained by Maj Bob Card AAC, who said his decision to call off the jump at Ginkel Heath was one of the hardest he had ever had to make.

"It was terribly sad. They were all so disappointed," he said.

Throughout the region, other aspects of Market Garden were commemorated.

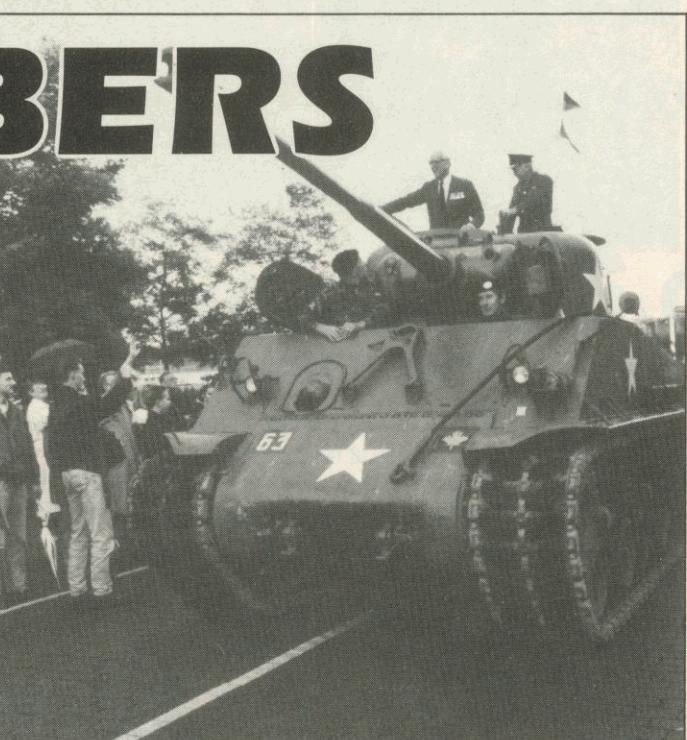


On parade at Ginkel Heath was this much decorated former Dutch resistance fighter. He and others like him took up arms and joined in the fighting after the airborne landing in September 1944



Above - Parachute Regimental Association standard bearers at Arnhem's Rhine Hall

Left - Mr Cyril Marshall lays a wreath at the Air Despatch Memorial at Oosterbeek. He flew with 63 (Airborne) Composite Coy RASC, on resupply missions during the battle



Acknowledging the cheers of the crowd, wartime tank commander, Lord Peter Carrington and the Grenadier Guards' Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Maj Gen Bernard Gordon Lennox ride in a Sherman tank to commemorate the capture of the bridge at Nijmegen

The "Garden" part of the operation intended that troops on the ground thrust forward up what became known as Hell's Highway through Nijmegen to link with airborne troops in Arnhem.

At Nijmegen's Waal Bridge, a plaque commemorating the crossing of the Grenadier guards was unveiled by Lord Carrington, in 1944 a captain and 2iC of 1 Squadron, and who commanded the second tank to cross.

With Maj Gen Bernard Gordon Lennox, Regimental

Lieutenant Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, he mounted a Sherman tank and was driven across the bridge, waving to thousands of enthusiastic spectators. He was followed by a 700-strong convoy of old military vehicles which had driven from Belgium to the town.

The pilgrimage culminated in an airborne memorial service at the Oosterbeek War Cemetery attended by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and the Prince of Wales.

More than 1,700 soldiers are

## Rwanda force pays tribute

MEMBERS of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment joined British Paras serving with the United Nations in Rwanda in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Arnhem.

The British contingent is mainly comprised of units directly descended from elements of the 1st Airborne Division that took part in Operation Market Garden.

Those taking part in a service of remembrance at a sport stadium in Kigali were 23 Parachute Field Ambulance RAMC, 9 Parachute Squadron RE, 10 Airborne Workshop REME, 216 Parachute Signal, 82 Airborne

General Support and 63 Airborne Close Support Squadrons RLC.

The commander of the British soldiers in Rwanda, Lt Col Mike Wharmby, told them that the qualities of sacrifice, courage and unfaltering determination at Arnhem characterised Britain's Airborne Forces.

Padre Andrew Phillips took the service at which Spr Marc Dorkings of 9 Para Sqn RE read a representative list of names from a roll of honour of the 1,485 troops killed in the battle. LCpl Gary Mahaffy of 10 AB Wksp REME played the Last Post.

husbands who died in September 1944.

The cemetery's roll of honour swells with each passing year. Set to one side of the cemetery, close to the Polish plot stand two headstones.

They mark the graves of Ptes Douglas Lowery and Ernest Ager of The Border Regiment, whose remains were uncovered last year when the slit trench in which they died was excavated.

Former comrades carried the coffins when they were reinterred late last year. Recently the remains of an as yet unidentified Royal Engineer were discovered. He, too, will be buried at Oosterbeek.

Local schoolchildren laid flowers beside each white headstone. This year, they were joined by pupils from Putney High School, London and Polish children and scouts.

The rain that had dogged the veterans during their four-day pilgrimage held off for most of the service, but began again during the sounding of the Last Post and the one-minute silence that followed.

Raindrops mingled with tears as veterans and war widows wept quietly while remembering comrades and

the passage of half a century, this admiration will remain in their hearts for years to come.

• Book review - Page 35

# SOLDIER

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# Soldiers are there when you need them...



Mike Moore / TODAY Newspaper

## Please be there when they need you

The Army Benevolent Fund provides help to any man or woman and their families if they are serving or have served in the British Army and are in real need. This help is given in two ways: through grants to supplement Corps or Regimental aid and by financial support to over 70 national charities providing for the special needs of those in distress.

Our overall aim is to bring help to the many cases where state assistance is inapplicable, inadequate or unable to meet the immediate need.

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## Awarded on merit

CAPT (Retd) Richard A Steward (September 5) suggested that the LS and GC and the MSM should be amalgamated as a single long service award.

The MSM is much more than a simple extension of the LS and GC. First, it is awarded only to SNCOs and warrant officers and for a minimum of 27 years' unblemished service.

Secondly, a recommendation from your CO is not sufficient to obtain the award. This is a citation award and must be recommended by the recipient's district commander.

The MSM is a special award for meritorious service and should remain separate for these reasons. — WO2 M I Kippin, Intelligence Corps, MSM LS and GC (and bar), Cheltenham.

## 1 RGBW's US citation

I WRITE to say how pleased I was to see the article (July 11) about Colours for the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucester, Berkshire, Wiltshire and Wiltshire Regiment.

You recorded the addition of the Solmar-Ri streamer, representing the Presidential citation, tied on by the Chief of Staff of the US Army — though I pass over the (dare I say?) insolent gesture of the 49th

and their red hackles, a regrettable incident in an altogether regrettable war.

I thought your readers might like to know that the gold-edged blue rectangle directly below the regimental badge on the Drum Major's sash on the front cover represents that Solmar-Ri streamer, the US Army's way of indicating a battle honour. — Mrs Douglas Ryan, New York.

## Time lapse and medals

JUST a small point about the Suez Emergency Medal.

It appears that the main argument now used to sustain the negation is the "unequivocal" ruling by the Honours and Decorations Committee "not to consider proposals for awards recognising service many years after the events in which that service was given". (Extract from the Prime Minister's letter to Col Newton dated July 12, 1994).

How is this statement reconciled with the H and D Committee's recent institution of the Accumulated Campaign

Service Medal which is necessarily given for service "many years after the events"? — Suezvet (name and address supplied).

I STRONGLY agree with J Singh (July 25) who asked why there is no BAOR commemorative medal.

As a former member of the British Army and a current member of the Canadian Forces I believe that if it is good enough for Canada to

## BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"That's torn it . . . he told his missus he was going fishing for the weekend!"

• Arnhem remembers — Pages 24-29

## What will happen to Pte Stevie?

AS A German Shepherd dog owner and enthusiast, I was delighted to learn that Private Stevie Alsatian had found a good home with the RLC Pioneer Detachment at Split (Soldier, August 22).

I hate to be a wet blanket but the British squaddie's record in caring for his locally acquired pets is not, with few exceptions (Rats in N Ireland) particularly good when things get difficult.

It worries me, therefore, what will happen to Stevie when the British leave in a hurry or when the costs of transport to UK and quarantine bills have to be faced. — Colin J Cummings, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire.

## If it's good enough for Canada . . .

recognise those soldiers who have served in Germany with a Special Service Medal (SSM), why can't Britain?

In recent weeks I have been reading about PC Ken Fowler and his creation of a Voluntary Service Medal (VSM). I know this is not officially sanctioned

but would it not make sense to recognise it and add a BAOR clasp for those who served in Germany? — S W Billich, Toronto.

• Similar sentiments about the Canadian SSM have been expressed by James W Jacobs, of Fareham, Hants. — Editor

## SOLDIER to Soldier

### King's Troop in colour action

A SUPERB painting of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery in action at the Royal Tournament is available in a limited edition of 2,000 signed prints.

The central painting by Joan Wanklyn is surrounded by seven monochrome sketches. All proceeds from the sale of the 17in by 24in "The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery in the 90s" will be shared between the Royal Horse Artillery and the Gunner Heritage Campaign.

Priced at £10 plus £3 p and p, the prints are available from the Secretary, Royal Artillery Association, Artillery House, Old Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, London SE18 4DN.

### Gunners' world of adventure

FANCY a break in Snowdonia? Rock-climbing, hill-walking, canoeing and caving are some of the attractions offered by the Royal Artillery Adventure Training Centre in the National Park.

Situated just off the A470 between Betws-y-Coed and Blaenau Ffestiniog, the centre boasts AT facilities and qualified instructors for up to 24 soldiers. At a push, accommodation will stretch to 37.

Open all year round, the RAATC can be used for leadership courses, officer recruiting and school and CCF camps.

The cost is £5 a head a night and units using the centre must apply for land clearance. Details from Lt Littlejohn on 06906 267 or write c/o OIC Centre, Hafod



Pictured outside the Airborne Museum, Hertenstein are members of R Battery, Hertfordshire Army Cadet Force. Led by 2nd Lt Derek Dunbar, the detachment was in Holland to represent the 1st Airborne Reconnaissance Squadron at the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Arnhem.

Gwenllian, Dolwyddelan, Gwynedd LL25 0NQ.

All monies are ploughed back into the centre's upkeep and running costs.

### PoW diaries help others

DIARIES written secretly on scraps of paper by an RAMC captain during three and a half years as a Japanese PoW in Singapore have raised more than £2,000 for charity.

After the fall of Singapore in February 1942 Capt Gordon Marshall became a GP in Kent until a year before his death in 1974.

Fourteen years later his widow Sheila published *The Changi Diaries* as a tribute to her husband and the first two editions raised £2,000 for charities, including the Burma Star Association.

The third edition, a 234-page paperback which tells the story of those years of captivity in vivid detail, is available at £10 a copy from the Gordon Marshall Memorial Fund, The Clock House, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 3AY, with proceeds going to the Margate Theatre Royal Trust.

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### Old stone signals new intent

Maj Gen Archie Birtwistle (left), Master of Signals, and Mr Peter Monson, Master of the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, unveil the foundation stone for a new wing of the Museum of Army Communications at Blandford. The ceremony took place during a regimental dinner night at Blandford Camp and marked another step forward in the campaign to extend the museum. Construction is due to start on October 19 and be completed by July 8 next year, in time for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Corps of Signals.

The foundation stone was originally taken to the camp in 1966 as part of the camp entrance roundabout which was dismantled earlier this year. A statue by Faith Winter, presently at Catterick, is to be erected on the site.

Kranji. Released in 1945, Capt Marshall became a GP in Kent until a year before his death in 1974.

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### Royal uniforms in exhibition

A UNIFORM worn by the Queen when she served in the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) during the Second World War is one of the exhibits in a free exhibition which has opened at the National



Army Museum, Chelsea. Telling the story of women in Britain's land forces from the 17th century to the present, *The Right to Serve* includes many items donated to the museum from the WRAC Collection last year. The WRAC uniform of the Duchess of Kent is also on show.

### Quality posting

IT IS estimated that up to ten million silk postcards were issued between 1900 and 1945 – many of them depicting military badges.

A large number from the First World War are listed in *The Concise Catalogue of Embroidered Silk Postcards*, by John Westland.

The paperback, published to coincide with this year's centenary of the first British picture postcards, contains 32 colour photographs and is available at £8.95, plus £1 postage and packing from J S Westland, 35 Henrys Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9RB.

## DIARY

### NOVEMBER

17-19: Army Arts Society Festival, Rheindahlen (entry forms from HIVEs).

20: QARANC Museum Open Day and Christmas Fayre, Royal Pavilion, Farnborough Road, Aldershot, 1100-1500.

## REUNIONS

● 7th and 3rd (V) Bns, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment (TA): Annual reunion at the Armoury, Stockport on October 29. Past and present members of the 3rd, 4th or 7th Battalions and A Coy, The Mercian Volunteers welcome. Tickets (£3) from Secretary, 95 Hazelwood Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 4NB.

● Trucial Oman Scouts: Launch of the official history of The Levees/Scouts takes place in the National Army Museum, Chelsea, on November 18 at noon. All former members urged to attend. To book buffet at £10 a head contact Officers' Association or All Ranks Association.

● 29 Tpt Sqn RLC: All ex-29 Sqn RLC members are invited to a reunion. Details from AO/Ch Clk, 29 Tpt Sqn RLC, BFPO 1.

1995

● 1151-1157 Boy's Battery reunion: Reunion, to include wives and members of the ex-India Boys' Battery, will be held in Royal School of Artillery WOs' and Sgts' Mess, Larkhill, April 7-9. Anyone not on mailing list should contact Mr T C Holden, 3 Kilburn Street, Watershedding, Oldham OL1 4JF (tel: 0161-633 8194).

● 5th Bn The King's Liverpool Regiment: Past and present members invited to Kolding, Norway for 50th anniversary celebration of liberation on May 4. Those who served in 1945 are asked to contact K V G Moore, The Granary, Church Road, Bacton NR12 0JP (tel/fax: 0692 651086).

## APPOINTMENTS

### APPOINTMENTS

**Brigadiers** – T McG Brown – To be Ch Exec DPCS-DSA, Sept 19; T E O'Donnell – To be Comd AGC Trg Cen, Sept 19.

**Colonels** – G R Cooper – To RLC MRO(S), Sept 19; C W Haskell – To HQ PSCNorth(BAE), Sept 19; J D Lacey – To JSDC, Sept 19; C S Wakelin – To be DA/MA Tel Aviv, Sept 21; R D George – To HQ W and WD, Sept 19; C R Winfield – To BMH Rinteln, Sept 21.

M R Townsend – To HQ and Cent Gp RADC, Sept 8; D P Fleming-Jones – To 3 Dent Gp, Sept 14; R S Jeffrey L/RADC to 7 Dent Gp, Sept 13.

**Lt Cols** – W T Browne RHG/D – To be CO H Cav MR, Sept 23; A C Callis AGC(ETS) – To RAS, Sept 19; P J Gilbert RE – To be CO R Mon RE(M), Sept 19; C O Hodges, Kings – To be CO 1 Kings, Sept 19; R J F Owen RE – To be DA Bucharest, Sept 21; I C Shuker, R Signals – To HQ UKSC(G), Sept 19; J R C Harper RADC – To 10

Dent Gp, Sept 24; N A Hoad RAMC – To CMH, Sept 23.

B Barclay RADC – To 3 Dent Gp, Sept 6; H J Cunningham RADC – To Primary Health and Dent Care Svcs(G), Sept 7; C Dieppe RAMC – To Primary Health and Dent Care Svcs(G), Sept 6; C Hannon RAMC – To HQ Catterick Garrison, Sept 10; M J Von Bertele RAMC – To HQ AAC HQ UKLF, Sept 5; J W A Harvey RAMC – To AMS Trg Gp, Sept 12; J A Davies RADC – To 8 Dent Gp, Sept 30; C A Paithorpe RAMC – To Cambridge Mil Hosp, Oct 1; B A Price RAMC – To 22 Field Hosp, Oct 1.

**Retirements**

**Lt Gen** – Sir Peter Beale, late RAMC, Oct 1.

**Brigadier** – K P Burke, late R Signals, Sept 29.

**Colonels** – A T Brett, late RE, Sept 21; T Graham, late RAMC, Oct 1; D H Wright, late RAMC, Sept 29.

**Lt Cols** – J F Aitken RADC, Sept 14.

## SEARCHLINE

● 47A (Chepstow, Taunton, Harrogate): A reunion is planned for ex-Boys of 47A, in particular the Beachley Boys who were moved to Norton Manor Camp, Taunton, in February 1948. All 47A and anyone who served at Taunton please contact Bill Poor (tel: 0705 374851) or Keith Butcher (tel: 0730 261933).

● 164 Rly Opr Coy: Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Frank Sheppard or Jock Lythgoe of 164 Rly Opr Coy RE, 1939-45, please contact L R Swindale, 6 Yewtree Crescent, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent DE15 9QL.

● Former LCpl Margaret ("Jackie") Jackson wishes to hear from anyone who served with her in 547 HAA Bty RA (1942-46). Replies Margaret Hampton (née Jackson) at 75 Walter Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 3PP (tel: 0642 611546).

● H Fieldhouse, 55 Theobald House, Brighton BN1 4FL wishes to contact his son, **David Harold Fieldhouse** (24029481), served Royal Sussex and Queen's Regiments, and later resided in London W4, with whom he has lost touch.

● V Squad, Apprentice Chef Wing ACC 1956-59: Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the following is asked to contact Maj M C Hann RLC or Lt Col (retd) T Sillett on Aldershot (01252) 348000 or Pirbright (01483) 798416 for a reunion dinner at Aldershot in November: Ex Apps J M White, R W White, D White, Payne, Matchett, Bilborough, Whitcombe, M Rogerson, Merrison, C Rowlands, A L R Graham and Jeffries.

● Capt R F Delahunt, R Signals, wishes to contact **LCpl Frank Menelaus**, R Signals, for whom he was best man in Edinburgh in June 1947. Replies to The Cottage, 14 High Street, Rillington, Malton, N Yorks YO17 8LA.

● RAVC – Indian service: Capt Narinder Saini, c/o 148 Alfreton Road, Radford, Nottingham NG7 3NS, returning to India mid-September, wishes to contact members of Royal Army Veterinary Corps who served at the following stations: Meerut Cant, Babugarh, Remount Depot Saharanpur, Ambala Cant and Lucknow.

● Pte Charles Manning, born 1912, stationed Bangalore Barracks, India, 1931. Information sought by family member Lynne Mess, ITB Ouston, Albermarle Barracks, nr Harlow Hill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 0RF. All claims are to be made in writing by January 10. Postage, packing and insurance to be paid for by those requesting return. On closure, ITB Ouston will move to ITC Catterick.

a reunion. He seeks photographs, plans, maps and documents relating to the camp, and a list of resident units from 1914.

● **Frederick Maybank**: Mrs Barbara Saltmarsh, 16A Broad Walk, Chelsfield, Kent BR6 7RZ, seeks anyone who remembers her late father, Frederick Maybank, who was captured in North Africa in 1942 and held as a POW for 3½ years, initially in Italy and then in Stalag 4B or 4A in Germany. He worked at a coalmine called Erika. She also seeks copies of the Red Cross publication *The Prisoner of War* sent to families with relatives in prison camps.

● **Fayid and Ismailia 1948-52**: To assist with a research project, members of the Royal Artillery (HQ 2 AGRA, including 1 RHA, 71 HAA, 73 HAA, 80 LAA, 6 Fd Regt and 7 Fd Regt) who served in and around Fayid and Ismailia between these dates, and also 6th Airborne Div in Palestine 1947-48, are asked to write, phone or fax (with own telephone number) Sara Doremus, PO Box 694, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866, USA (tel: 301 8471477).

● Ex-gunner 23824500 **George James Lowden**, who served with RHA 1966-67, is asked to contact Mr D R Wilson, 52 Whitefields Road, Solihull, W Midlands B91 3NQ (tel: 0121-711 1569).

● For transmission during the run up to the VE Day anniversary in May 1995, BBC 1 is preparing a series, entitled *For Valour*, of six half-hour films telling the stories of men and women who have won medals. Emphasis on stories from Second World War, but not exclusively so. Each film will tell a single story through reconstruction and interviews with key people such as witnesses and family members. If you have a story which you wish to be considered, producer Nick Shearman and researcher Amanda Lock can be contacted on 081-752 4584 (answerphone after hours) or fax 081-752 4557, or c/o Room 4418, BBC, White City, 201 Wood Lane, London W12 7TS.

## CLOSURES

● **ITB Ouston**, formerly JIB Ouston, will draw down by April 1995. Units or individuals who have made presentations to the WOs' and Sgs' Mess and would like them returned are asked to contact the PMC, WOs' and Sgs' Mess, ITB Ouston, Albermarle Barracks, nr Harlow Hill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 0RF. All claims are to be made in writing by January 10. Postage, packing and insurance to be paid for by those requesting return. On closure, ITB Ouston will move to ITC Catterick.

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# THE HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY MOUNTED REGIMENT CALENDAR FOR 1995

The Warrant Officers' and Non-Commissioned Officers' Mess of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment have commissioned Miss Christine Bousfield to paint thirteen original pictures depicting various aspects of regimental life.

These pictures have been compiled into a calendar for the year commencing January 1995. The calendar is so designed that after each month the relevant print of the original picture can be removed, mounted and framed, if required.

This Calendar not only makes a practical gift to members of the Regiment and friends, but will also make that attractive "extra" to military collectors and horse enthusiasts all over the world.

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# Gamble that almost succeeded

"THROUGHOUT the 50 years which have elapsed since those fateful days of September 1944, the controversy over Operation Market Garden has endured with much discussion, and indeed disagreement, over reasons for its failure.

"1st Airborne Division's epic battle at Arnhem and Oosterbeek has often been referred to as a glorious defeat.

"It has also been described, in the words of a much respected former senior officer of Airborne Forces, as 'the biggest cock-up of all time' . . ."

So writes Peter Harclerode in *Arnhem: A Tragedy of Errors*, published to mark the half-centenary of a very costly gamble.

The book is an extremely well-researched account of what went wrong with Montgomery's throw of the dice which was aimed to prove that he was the greatest strategist of the Second World War.

It may well have been a justifiable risk had it not been for the discord and disagreement between Allied commanders that festered since the Normandy landings.

On the American side, Gens Bradley and Patton had a dislike for Montgomery, regarding him as a commander of no great ability.

No doubt Montgomery wanted, more than anything, to prove that his strategy to drive up through Holland and then on to the Ruhr was the war-winning plan. But generals are only human, sometimes willing to take gambles if the odds seem attractive enough, even deliberately disregarding German signals, intercepted and interpreted through Ultra by Station X at Bletchley Park.

Montgomery was dismissive of this intelligence when it concerned the deployment of German forces around Arnhem as well as those threatening the relieving forces of XXX Corps.

"Lt Gen Brian Horrocks was one of those who questioned



Army cameramen Sgts Lewis and Walker share a meal with a Dutch girl after landing with the first troops at Arnhem

Picture: Imperial War Museum

## But the dice were loaded at Arnhem

later why XXX Corps in particular had received no intelligence about the enemy forces at his front.

"He believed that it was probably due to a determination at high level to commit First Airborne Army to battle in an operation designed to finish the war before the end of 1944."

The author spares little in his emphasis on the inadequate planning of Operation Market Garden and how Maj Gen Roy Urquhart was forced to accept fewer aircraft for his 1st Airborne Division.

He, it is said, would have been able to land more, if not all, his infantry and anti-tank elements on the first day if Lt Gen "Boy" Browning had not insisted on flying in his 1st Air-

borne Corps Main HQ which was far from imperative for the operation.

The choice of landing and dropping zones at Arnhem comes in for criticism as it has many times in the past.

In and around Arnhem itself, one of the main problems encountered by 1st Airborne Division was that of communication and particularly the unsuitability of radio equipment issued to airborne forces. It is certainly apparent that the equipment failed to work satisfactorily under operational conditions.

Another factor contributing to the failure at Arnhem was the lack of close air support from the RAF.

Planning and preparation aside, it is the recriminations

directed at Lt Gen Sir Miles Dempsey's Second British Army, charged with driving its support to Arnhem, that takes up most of Harclerode's explanation for the débâcle.

Dempsey has come in for criticism for lack of supervision of the three corps in his Army, leaving too much to the devices of their commanders, Horrocks, O'Connor and Ritchie.

The author contends that had Dempsey exercised closer supervision, it is possible that VIII and XII Corps would have made better progress and caught up sooner with XXX Corps.

"It is worthy of note that throughout Market Garden, VIII and XII Corps between them suffered a total of 3,874 casualties, and XXX Corps 1,480."

Nevertheless, as is well known, the Second Army and, in particular, XXX Corps, failed to reach Arnhem in time and Maj Gen Roy Urquhart voiced criticism of Lt Gen Horrocks and his divisional commanders, adding an impli-

• Turn to next page

## Gamble

• From Page 35

cation that XXX Corps had an easy time in Belgium prior to Market Garden, an accusation that Harclerode believes to be unfair and incorrect.

Market Garden, we are told, failed at a heavy cost: "The destruction of Arnhem and Oosterbeek, the virtual annihilation of 1st Airborne Division and a total of more than 16,000 casualties . . ."

However, on the credit side, the operation drove a wedge between the German 1st Parachute and Fifteenth Armies, preventing a counter-attack on Antwerp, and provided a base for subsequent operations on the Rhine. The war was not to end before the close of 1944 as Montgomery and many others had hoped.

But it must be remembered that those who took part in Operation Market Garden very nearly achieved their objectives. — JM

**Arnhem: A Tragedy of Errors** by Peter Harclerode. Arms and Armour Press, hardback, £16.99.

## Pride of the 51st recalled

FORMED in 1908, disbanded in 1967, the 51st Highland Division's life was short compared with some regiments.

One striking aspect in this account is that pride in the Division apparently took precedence over that of the regiment, even though the Division included such regiments as The Black Watch, The Seaforth Highlanders, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

With D-Day 50 just passed and the anniversary of VE Day approaching, a reprint soft-cover version of the 1952 *History of the Highland Division 1939-45*, has been issued.

In the 1914-18 war thousands of its men were killed, 8,500 on the Somme alone; Festubert, Ancre, Rouex, Flanders, Havincourt, Flessquieres and Fontaine-Notre Dame accounted for another 12,000 or more.

Between 1939 and 1945 the 51st carried on the traditions

laid down by their old comrades, winning praise from all quarters, including the enemy.

PRINCE Rupert was an amazing man. He excelled at art and mathematics, he could speak six, possibly seven languages by the time he was 13, he was a superb horseman, swordsman and shot, with a life-long passion for hunting.

He was a natural athlete with an iron constitution and stood 6ft 4in in his socks.

Born in the Palatinate, a historic division of West Germany, it is uncertain whether he possessed charm as well as these other qualities: Gen Sir Frank Kitson points out in *Prince Rupert - Portrait of a Soldier* that, as a youngster, he had an uncontrollable temper.

Childish tantrums or not, he was to become at an early age an extremely brave and dashing cavalry commander supporting his uncle King Charles I against Cromwell.

**The History of the 51st Highland Division 1939-45** by J B Salmon. Pentland Press, £12.

## PRINCE RUPERT RE-EXAMINED

But even though defeated at Marston Moor and Naseby and the Royalist cause lost, he was still only in his mid-twenties and switched to the sea to command a Royalist privateering fleet. He lost that one as well, being hounded from the seas by Admiral Robert Blake.

Still not finished, he returned to England in 1660 - 11 years after Charles was executed - to distinguish himself as an admiral and director of England's naval affairs in the Dutch Wars.

Rupert's life has fascinated Gen Kitson since his own early military days and is another step on the way to restoring something of the German's reputation as an outstanding military leader.

A number of earlier books view him as a playboy leader of the Cavaliers. Gen Kitson disagrees, seeing him as "one of the sharpest intellects of the age to bear upon military problems". — JM

**Prince Rupert - Portrait of a Soldier** by Frank Kitson. Constable, hardback, £18.95.

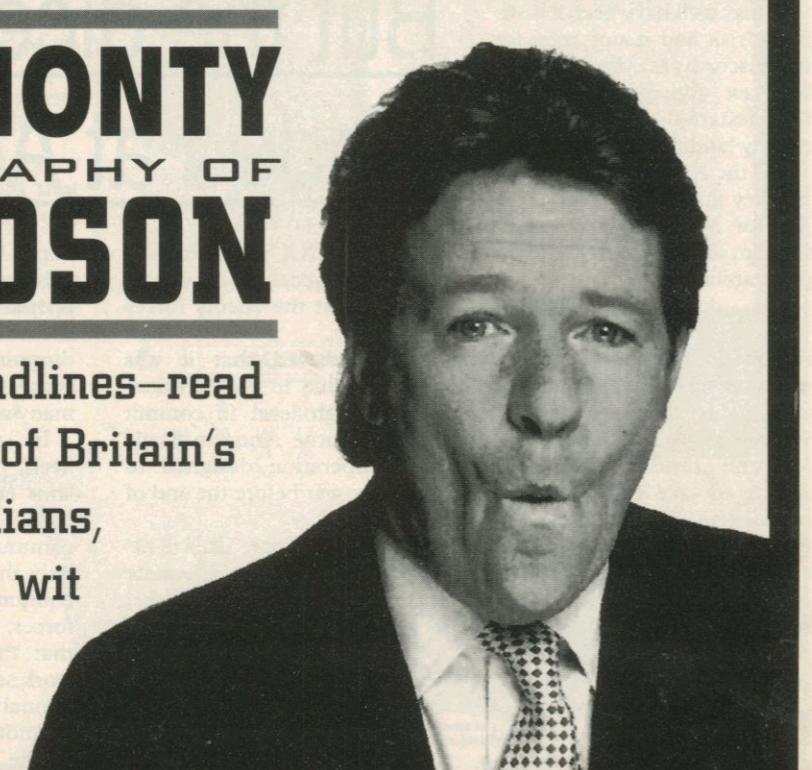
## SEX, DRUGS AND ... COMEDY

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## Sticking to their guns

A BEWILDERING array of handguns of every description, from the Snaphance pistol of the 16th century to caseless cartridge rifles and plastic-bodied sub-machine guns of today and the future, is listed and lavishly illustrated in *Military Small Arms*.

With more than 500 full-colour pictures of every conceivable hand weapon, the editor, Graham Smith, a former *Soldier* staff writer, has put together a remarkable catalogue and reference detailing the history of revolvers, automatic pistols, rifles of all types and machine-guns.

But it is the photographs which will captivate most readers. They are attractively set out, numbered and well captioned.

Throughout history hand-

## Stable diet for last meal

**The End of an Era**  
Band of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers  
Conductor: Bandmaster G J Bright

ANOTHER farewell from the long list of disappearing regimental bands. A cavalry band this time, and a right royal farewell it is, with most of the horsey music enough to make old troopers weep.

Having recently dined with an ex-Colonel of the Regiment my ears are still ringing with what I can only call stable language.

An absolute must in such a programme was the old mucking-out song *Tarpaulin Jacket*, always sung by troopers as Old Stable Jacket. It is all about a lancer's wishes when he dies - six stalwart lancers shall carry me - and of course, wrap me up in my old stable jacket.

The tune is now part of the Queen's Royal Lancers march, and is nicely sung here by Cpl John Park without sentimentality, yet more emotive than any other soldiers' song.

After the *Regimental Call* we have my march *Cavalry Walk* for trumpets and band, and Suppe's overture *Light Cavalry* in which I preferred Mr Bright's version to an Austrian conductor's at the Proms recently. The latter's tempi were neither walk, trot nor gallop in the main tune.

The *Post Horn Galop* marks the end of this particular cavalry era, light music brightening the mood after the nostalgia.

After which Wales comes to the fore with Mr Goodwin's fanfare *Castell Conwy*, Sousa's march dedicated to and named after the regiment, a march originally for

guns have appealed to the ingenuity of untold numbers of inventors who sought to solve the problem of firing more than once without reloading. The answer was eventually found by using multiple barrels, stationary and revolving.

It was a significant development in the history of hand guns, paving the way for a multitude of variations - except for the fact that, when all is said and done, it is still a missile discharged from a length of tube that does the damage.

Smith and Ian V Hogg, who

tune *Music, Cavalry Last Post* and *Hymn Tune*, and a last request from this band for God to bless the Prince of Wales.

A very fine programme skilfully played, sung, and conducted. Even infanteers will find it most enjoyable.

• From *Music Masters*, MM CD 435 £12, cassette £7, End House, Gurnell's Road, Seer Green, Bucks.

## Welch wake

**We'll Keep a Welcome**  
Band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers  
Conductor: Bandmaster P Goodwin

AFTER the cavalry wake we have a Welsh one, or should it be a Welch one?

The band is now part of one of the Prince of Wales's Division bands and here it gives a final programme of marches, mostly with a regimental association.

They are interspersed with a light overture by Trevor Sharpe named after a house he once lived in called Southfield, the catchy *Serenade* by Derek Bourgeois, *A Nightingale Sang*, and a medley, *That's Entertainment*.

Standard marches are *Namur*, *Bond of Friendship*, and *Blankenburg*'s quite rare *My Congratulations*.

After which Wales comes to the fore with Mr Goodwin's fanfare *Castell Conwy*, Sousa's march dedicated to and named after the regiment, a march originally for

two harps also called *Royal Welsh Fusiliers*, Derek Kimberley's setting of *God Bless the PoW*, a concert march by Gordon Langford *The Prince of Wales*, and another based on a regimental song *The Flash and Hackle*. The theme continues with T J Powell's well known *Castell Coch*, a piece called *The Princess of Wales*, and the obligatory *Men of Harlech* in an arrangement by Robert Farnon.

By way of finale are the St David's Day Toasts, which I gather involve a little raw-leek eating, regimental mascot, fifer and drummer, followed by the Loyal Toast and National Anthem.

An amazing fact is that it is 70 years since the battalion served at home in Pembrokeshire, so *We'll Keep a Welcome* has a special significance this year.

• From Bandleader, BNA 5107 CD £12, cassette £7.60, Sound and Picture Co, PO Box 177, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5FE.

wrote the foreword, acknowledge this, but point out it is a combination of tremendous costs and the falling demands of the world's military which is slowing future developments.

Messrs Smith and Hogg could well hit the target with this book. — JM

**Military Small Arms** edited by Graham Smith. Salamander, large-format hardback, £19.99.

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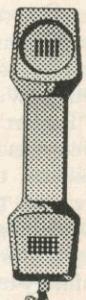
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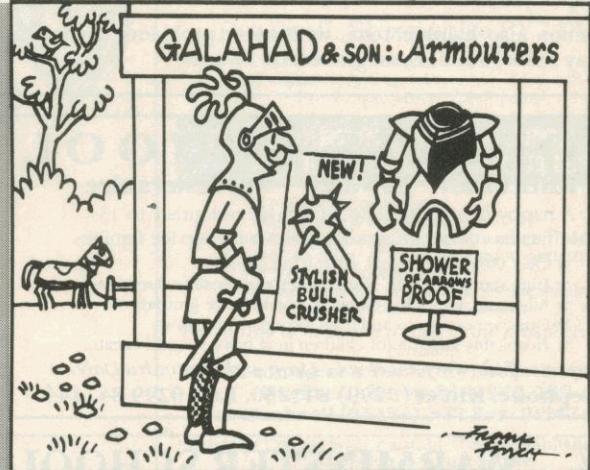
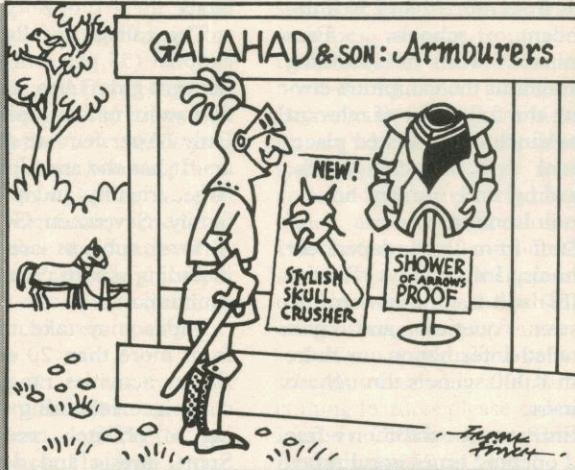
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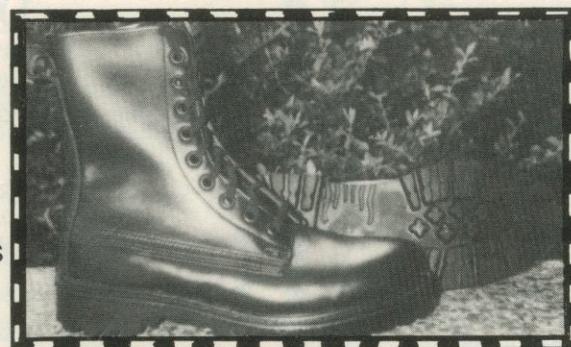
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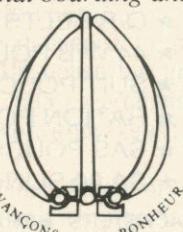
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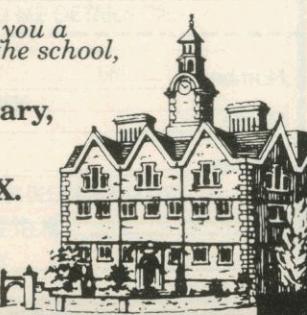
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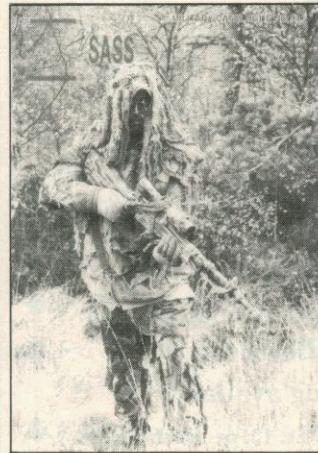
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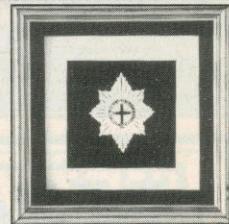
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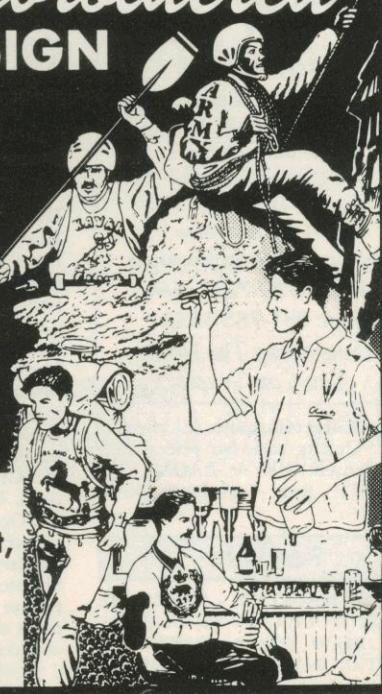
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All correspondence to: Pen Pals, Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

**Kim**, 25, 5'10", brunette. Hobbies include: reading, socialising, keep fit, holidays and having fun. I would like to hear from anyone age 23-35 who has similar interests and gsoh. **P67**

21/94

**Lively, vibrant**, redhead, mid-30s, seeks interesting and amusing pen pal. Hobbies: water sports, camping, cooking, Art Deco. I have my own home and career, but I'm very bored. **P68**

21/94

**Eligible, wealthy** bachelor with TVR and dog, seeks female 35+, divorcee preferred. I am an Army Officer and interests include: intense country walks, quiet nights, music and reading. Photos appreciated. **P70**

21/94

**Lorraine**, 31, Staff Nurse, 5'6", lives in London. Interests: rock/blues music, eating/drinking out and socialising. I'd like to hear from genuine single fellas with similar interests, anywhere, any age. Photo appreciated, ALA. **P71**

21/94

**Attractive female**, divorced with children, would like to write to unattached, down to earth, soldiers, 25+ **P72**

21/94

**Mary**, 35, 5'5", divorced. Likes cinema, restaurants, keep fit, entering competitions. Would like to hear from fun, happy, soldiers 34+. **P73**

21/94

**Are there any** unattached squaddies out there, 35+, who would like a pen pal? I'm slim build, enjoy being happy and have a good sense of humour. **P74**

21/94

**John**, 20, fit, medium build. I'd like to hear from females of any age. My interests are keep fit and travelling. All letters answered. **P75**

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**Does any officer** (male) wish to 'trot' to the post box? Bored, over 30, huge sense of humour? Brush the dust off your trusty steed then, or your Skoda! **P76**

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**Hi, I'm Karen**. I'm 34, divorced with two children and have a gsoh. I like writing and receiving long letters and meeting new friends. Photo appreciated, ALA (promise). **P77**

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**Chris**, 30, Sgt. My interests include cinema, pubs, travelling abroad and playing squash and football. I'd like to hear from ladies aged 28-33, photo appreciated. **P78**

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**Christine**, 50, 5'9" redhead, slim with brown eyes. Widow, works as Nursing Auxiliary. Interests: writing, cooking walking my dog (Charlie the Boxer) and driving my 4WD. Would like to hear from anyone 40+. **P79**

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**Elizabeth, young 34, blonde, 5'4", blue eyes.** Interests: football, computers, dining out, watching golf and music. I've got a wicked sense of humour and a great personality and would like to hear from anyone aged 26+. **P80**

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**Lad, 28,** would like to hear from female or male Army pen pal, age 30+. My interests are: rugby, surfing, cinema, pubs, travelling and correspondence. **P81**

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**Nina, 38, 5'5", slim.** Enjoys travel, reading, wine/dine and nights in. Looking for a pen friend who enjoys the finer things in life. **P82**

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**Hi, my name is Caryn.** I'm 30, tall, with blonde hair and blue eyes. I'm an outgoing, working, single mother of a seven-year-old son. Interests include: horses, dogs, dining out, theatre and travel. **P83**

21/94

**Julia, 39, 5'6",** divorced, brown curly hair. Interests: films, letter writing, walks, dining in/out and lots more. I've got a gsoh and would like to hear from soldiers aged 30+. **P84**

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**Elaine, 33, 5'2",** slim with blonde hair and blue eyes. Interests: walking, dancing, cooking, aromatherapy. I'd like pen pals aged 30-35, please send photo if possible. **P85**

21/94

**Berkshire blonde, 5'5",** green eyes, Rubenesque figure, 34, divorced. Would like to hear from warm-hearted, good humoured soldier scribe. **P86**

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**Samantha, 23, 5'2",** dark hair and green eyes. Hobbies: collecting, gymnastics, reading and socialising. I'd like to hear from someone aged 23-30 with a good sense of humour. **P87**

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## ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

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**Two-way tie for first prize (21 goals, £1,500 each)** Spr R P Ellwood, 1 RSMR Regt, Chatham; Lt Col M R Keen, MoD Tpt & Mov 2.

**Six-way tie for third prize (20 goals, £250 each)** SSgt R L Bennett, 1 A and SH, BFPO 801; Capt J G Capewell, 33 Engr Regt (EOD), Wimbish; Cpl V B Doherty, ATR Pirbright; LCpl R D Jenkins, 7 Regt RLC, BFPO 39; Lt Col G F Lesinski, HQ Foot Guards, London; WO2 A D Maine, School

of Infantry, Warminster.

**SEPTEMBER 24, 1994**

**Five-way tie for first prize (17 goals, £900 each)** Sgt D I Bradbury, 3 Para, Aldershot; Pte R A Burnet, 98 PC Sqn RLC, BFPO 39; Cpl J A Gordon, ATR Winchester; SSgt J N Morgan, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst; LCpl A P Morris, 1 PWO, Warminster.

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Tennis champion Maj Barry Hill

## Hill sets highest standard

THE NAME may have changed and the numbers diminished, but the standard of competition at the UKSC(G) lawn tennis championships remained as high as ever.

Sponsored by Coca-Cola Germany, the tournament was staged at Rheindahlen and dominated by Maj Barry Hill, who won the men's singles, the men's doubles (with Mr A Butterworth), the mixed doubles (Mrs Dalglish) and the veterans' singles.

Rain held off until the prize-giving when the heavens opened as outgoing chairman of lawn tennis Col Robin Field-Smith and Herr Charles Honigwachs from the sponsors presented the trophies.

## Results:

**Men's singles** – Maj B Hill bt LCpl Fletcher; **women's singles** – Mrs L Dalglish bt Mrs B Hamilton; **men's doubles** – Maj B Hill/Mr A Butterworth bt SSgt Talbot/LCpl Fletcher; **women's doubles** – Mrs Dalglish/Mrs Hamilton bt Sig Molloy/Sig Smallman; **mixed doubles** – Maj B Hill/Mrs Dalglish bt Mr and Mrs Cousins.

**Arms and corps doubles** – SSgt Talbot/LCpl Ingham (R Sigs) bt Cpl Thomas/Cpl Kelly (REME); **veterans' singles** – Maj B Hill bt SSgt Talbot; **U-25 singles** – LCpl Fletcher bt LCpl Ungham; **men's plate** – SSgt Davidson; **women's plate** – Sig Molloy.

## RAF notch first win at long range

THE REGULAR Army finished as runners-up to the Royal Air Force – winners for the first time – in the Inter-Services long range small bore rifle championships for the Gilbert Trophy at Ash Ranges.

The airmen won both the long range and 50m matches and were third in the PSK (prone, standing, kneeling) match. The Army, whose final score was 16 to the RAF's 18, won the PSK match, were second in the long range and 50m competitions.

Cpl Sue McGregor (RAF)



UKSC(G) women's plate winner Sig Molly with chairman Col Robin Field-Smith and Herr Charles Honigwachs of Coca-Cola

## Now BAD athletes are good

BAD Kineton's winning margin in the Minor Units athletic championships at Aldershot in July – the largest in the history of the competition – was the high point of a rewarding season for the RLC base's athletes.

The Leamington Spa-based team won five other championships during the season, including the Wales and Western District, the RLC Minor Units, the Army (UK) southern semi-finals, the Army single events, and the minor units marathon.

Kineton's athletes were impeccably turned out thanks to a sponsorship deal negotiated by Capt Clive Osborne and ex-WO2 (QMSI) Steve Grimwade with former England international Rosemary Duddle, who runs a specialist athletics shop in Loughborough.

## RELAYS VENUE CHANGE

THE ARMY's competitive cross country season gets under way on November 12 when the relays will be run at Tweseldown, not Rushmoor as previously scheduled.

The Army's domestic championships will be at Longmoor on February 1, RAF Halton hosts the Inter-Services on February 17 and the Combined Services match on March 4, and the Infantry will be organising the Inter-Corps cross country championships at Warminster on March 8.

There is a doubt over the timing and venue of the Regular Army-Territorial Army match scheduled for March 25, but the Army half and full marathons will be run concurrently with the Fleet and Gosport events.

won the Inter-Services individual championship for the Wilkinson Sword.

Maj Peter Underhill (D and D) won the Army small bore title, also shot at Ash Ranges, after a decisive standing/kneeling phase. His winning tally of 2,865 took him a point clear of Lt Col Alan Glasby (RLC), with Capt Cameron Ferguson (REME) third on 2,819.

Entries for the competition were again disappointingly low, with only ten shooting, two fewer than last year.

## Arborfield youths impress against county

PRINCESS Marina College, Arborfield took on Hampshire Youth at Jubilee Park, Waterlooville in preparation for the forthcoming Apprentice and County Youth Cup competitions, writes Derrick Bly.

Coach Chris Eade, fresh from a SEE District sixes success in the afternoon, had reason to be proud of his side despite a 3-1 defeat.

Both sides entertained the small crowd to a skilful, attacking game played at a cracking pace. Hampshire took the lead in the 14th minute and PMC should have equalised immediately when Martin's superb pass was headed wide by White.

But the Arborfield side did draw level five minutes into the second half thanks to a tremendous drive by Banks. Hampshire regained the lead when the unfortunate Lee Elliott, under pressure, hooked an awkward ball past his brother Jan in the PMC goal.

At the other end, PMC won a penalty when White was brought down, but Barnard's shot was well saved.

Chris Eade gave substitute 'keeper Ritchie, Butcher and Irvine a taste of the action but the county sealed victory with a third goal.



Picture: Mike Weston

## Prison side puts lock on young Army team

Midfield player Pte Lee Bradbury (1 PWRR) rises above the HM Prison Services defence at the Military Stadium, Aldershot.

Wearing the No 9 shirt is former Army and Combined Service boxing champion LCpl Lee Innes (1 RSME Regt, Chatham).

An inexperienced Army side led by coach QMSI Joey Roach lost 1-4 to the prison officers.

SSgt Mick Johnson scored the home side's consolation goal.

## Where there's Hope ...

### Carshalton Ath 3, Army 3

AN experimental Army side took on a mixed Carshalton Athletic team at the Diadora League ground and fought back to snatch a creditable 3-3 draw, writes Derrick Bly.

Cpl Wayne McHugh was fractionally offside when put through by Pte Mark Shaw and Bdr Steve McCusker, and Pte Lee Bradbury fired over from a Pte John Wills corner.

The home side scored in the 18th minute and might have gone two up but for a brilliant save by Army 'keeper Sgt Nigel Wiscombe. Pte David Hope put the Army back on level terms just before the break when he was put through by SSgt Mick Johnson.

McHugh went to hospital after an accidental clash of heads left him with a nasty gash needing five stitches.

Carshalton scored twice more, striker Vines – who bore a passing resemblance to Football League goalscorer Cyril Regis in both looks and ability – completing a hat trick before the Army came back strongly, scoring twice in the last three minutes to level the scores.

Cpl Steve Bowie scored his first goal in Army colours when the ball reached him from a strong Dover side missing only David Leworthy from their full line-up.

● Sixteen units from all over

with his second. From the restart Johnstone found David Hope who neatly beat two defenders before gently pushing the ball through

to Bowie who tucked it away with a minimum of fuss.

**Dover Athletic 7, Army 0**  
A below-strength Army side was crushed 7-0 by Vauxhall Conference outfit Dover Athletic at the Crabble Stadium.

Stand-in 'keeper Cpl Andy McWilliams had an anxious time as shots rained in from a strong Dover side missing only David Leworthy from their full line-up.

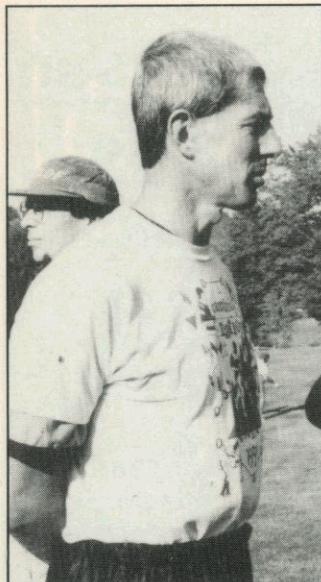
● Sixteen units from all over

the UK took part in the Army FA women's six-a-side finals at ATR Bassingbourn, with 15 Regt RLC proving worthy winners.

Women's Services Northern Ireland were the pre-tournament favourites, although in the event 15 Regt, PCD Mill Hill, 8 Arty Sp Regt, and Colchester Garrison gave them little opportunity to relax.

The match between WSNI, holders of the title, and 15 Regt proved crucial, SSgt Dawn Parker deciding the tie for the loggins with a thunderous shot which was the only goal of the game.

WSNI finished as runners-up, Colchester were third, 8 Arty fourth and PCD fifth.



Capt Colin Dickson, first in an international field in Canada

## Infantry orienteer sets the pace

CAPT Colin Dickson of the Small Arms School Corps achieved a fine result against international competition in winning his class at the Canadian and Northern American orienteering championships.

Dickson was one of a six strong Infantry team which competed in the Great Lakes orienteering festival at Ontario in Canada.

The festival included both Canadian and North American championships and attracted athletes of high calibre. Courses were physically tough and demanded a high standard of technical ability.

Other members of the Infantry team also produced good results, WO2 Richard Bonnett (R Anglian), finishing a close fifth behind Dickson on the M35 course. On the M21 course, Maj Chris Kemp (Para) was seventh, Maj Mike Nott (Para) 20th, Capt Dennis Vincent (R Anglian) 26th and Cpl Geoff Jeffrey (RGJ) 27th.

The team were shown great hospitality by Canadian Forces based at Border where they visited 3 Royal Canadian Regiment, one of the new "90:10" (ten per cent Regular, 90 per cent part time) battalions. British liaison officer at the base is Maj Steve Colling (REME).



Cpl Cheryl Campling (PCD, centre) in action against 2 Sqn, 8 Sig Regt at Bassingbourn. Report in Page 49

# Kingsman takes over in hot seat

SGT NORMAN Phillips (PWRR), who coached the Army boxing squad to its 11th consecutive Inter-Services team title last winter, is to hand over the reins after just one year in the hot seat, **writes John Elliott.**

Phillips, due to leave the Service after Christmas, is currently handing over a promising young novice squad to RSM Tom O'Connor, coach to the highly successful 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment team.

O'Connor will be the man in charge when the serious business of the Inter-Services defence begins in the New Year.

His baptism of fire will be in the cauldron of HMS Nelson, home of Royal Navy boxing, on February 2. Two weeks later, on February 16, the Army is due to meet the Royal Air Force on home ground at Aldershot.

First shots in the Inter-Services' tournament will be fired on January 19 by the RAF and the Navy at RAF Cosford.

The CSBA individual cham-

pionships, on March 1-2, are also to be hosted by Cosford, as will be the ABA quarter-finals involving Combined Services on March 18.

In a radical departure from tradition, the ABA has matched Combined Services with London in the quarter-finals. For as long as anyone can remember, the Servicemen have boxed off against Western Counties for a place in the all-England semi-finals.

Under the new regime, the county opposition will change every two years.

WO2 O'Connor gets his first taste of Army-level competition with matches against British Police in London and a joint Army-Police bill against North Western Counties at Stockport.

His 1 Kings boxers won the Army Grade 3 championship in 1992-93 and were runners up last winter. In the past two seasons he has coached no fewer than 13 individual novice champions.

Of last year's squad, heavyweight champion Cpl Steve Burford (REME) has hung up

his gloves, Pte Paul Treslove (Para) will be on duty in Northern Ireland, and Pte Sven Hamer (Para) has left the Army.

Cpl Joe Rajcoomar has also left. The live-wire Mauritian, so long an integral part of the team as both boxer and coach, has started a business studies degree course at Durham University.

Tragically, Fus Dale Duncan (RRF) sustained serious spinal injuries in a road traffic accident in the North East. All involved in the sport will be hoping the little bantamweight makes a complete recovery.

Two newcomers to Army boxing include flyweight John Davidson of The Royal Scots, who wore Scotland's colours in the recent world Under-19 championships, and Gnr Hunter of 3 RHA, a former Young England squad member.

Pte Sam Boreham (PWRR) returns to training after a tour of duty in Northern Ireland. He was an NABC runner-up at lightweight in 1992-93.

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A recce platoon Scimitar CVR(T) of D Squadron, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment crewed by Tprs Scott Banford and Elton Nutton provides a sentry post on the Route Triangle approach to Prozor Lake in Bosnia. The 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers will replace the Poachers whose tour of duty ends later this month. Rotation of these and several support units will take place during the next two months.

Picture: Mike Perring



**SOLDIER**