

June 1977 15p

Soldier



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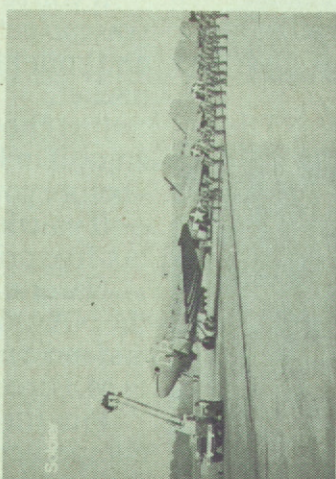
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FRONT COVER

When the Queen Mother visited the Guards Depot at Pirbright, besides meeting Brian Boru, the new mascot of the Irish Guards, she also presented four long service & good conduct medals to members of the regimental band.

Picture by Doug Pratt.



BACK COVER

This month sees the world premiere of Sir Richard Attenborough's multi-million Arnhem epic, 'A Bridge Too Far'. Here men of 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, line up to board Dakotas while a film crew records it all for the big screen.

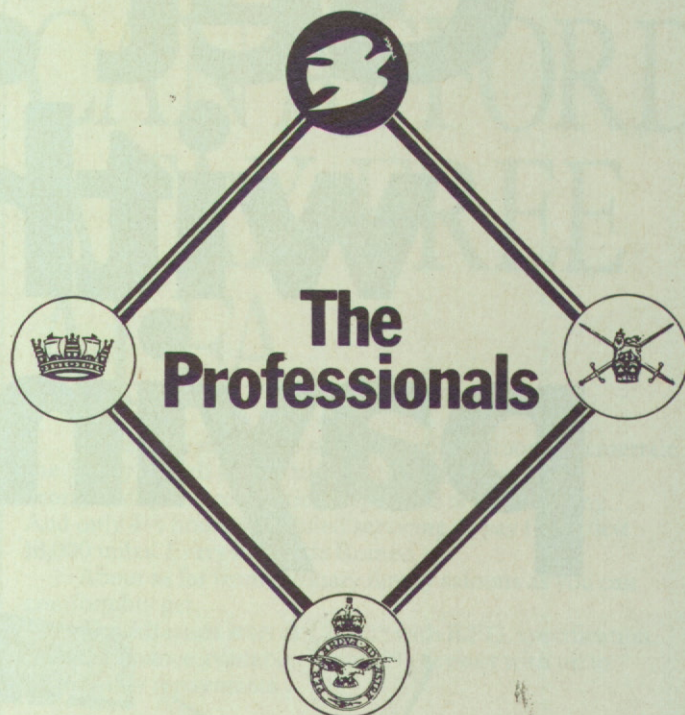
Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

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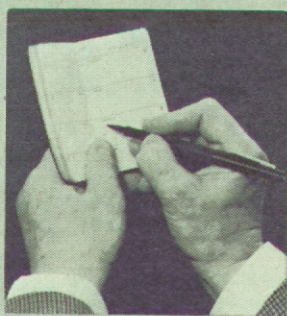
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In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists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

See-the-Army Diary



MAY 1977

- 31 Royal Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet (31 May-4 June) (display; massed bands).
- 31 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (31 May-2 June).
- 31 Hove Lions Day (band).
- 31 Glasgow Army Display (31 May-14 June) (Scottish Division 'Golden Lions' freetail team; band 31 May-5 June, 8-14 June).

JUNE 1977

- 1 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 1 Suffolk Show, Ipswich (1-2 June) (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers 'Pentastars' freetail team; Parachute Regiment 'Red Devils' freetail team; band).
- 2 King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, royal salute, Hyde Park, London (Queen's coronation anniversary).
- 4 Bexley Summer Show (Royal Military Police 'Red Caps' mounted display).
- 4 Lions Club Show, Darlington (Red Devils).
- 4 Second rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 4 Lord Mayor's Show, Birmingham (band).
- 4 Birmingham Spring Festival (4-11 June) (band 4 June).
- 4 Southport Army Display (4-6 June) (Red Devils; Junior Parachute Company 'Pegasus' gymnastic team).
- 5 Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse (Golden Lions; displays; bands).
- 6 Military Vehicles Conservation Group D-Day Show (6-7 June), Blackbushe Airport.
- 6 Derby County Show (Pentastars).
- 6 Hove Lions Club Show (Red Devils).
- 6 Surrey County Show, Guildford (6-7 June) (Red Devils).
- 6 Atherstone, Coventry, Carnival (Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, physical training display; junior band).
- 6 Hertfordshire County Show, Hartham Common (Red Caps).
- 6 Selby (Yorkshire) Carnival (junior band).
- 7 Salvation Army, Croydon, Appeal (Red Caps).
- 7 Massed bands Prince of Wales's Division beat Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (7-9 June).
- 7 Happy and Glorious Silver Jubilee Tattoo/Pageant, Bath.
- 7 Military Band Spectacular, Royal Albert Hall, London.
- 7 State drive from Buckingham Palace to thanksgiving service, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Guildhall lunch.
- 8 Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge (8-11 June) (Pegasus 9 and 11 June; bands).
- 8 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 9 Massed bands Household Division play on forecourt, Buckingham Palace, London.
- 9 South of England Show, Ardingley (Sussex) (9-11 June) (Red Devils; band).
- 10 King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, royal salute, Hyde Park, London (Duke of Edinburgh's birthday).
- 10 Scunthorpe Families Show (10-12 June) (band).
- 11 **Kennington Festival, Oxford, (Red Caps).**
- 11 Massed bands Army, RAF and Royal Marines beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
- 11 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 11 St Neots Riverside Festival (11-12 June) (Royal Signals 'White Helmets' motorcycle team 11 June; Royal Artillery motorcycle team 12 June).
- 11 Vauxhall Motors Spectacular, Luton (Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, physical training team; band).
- 11 Mayor's Carnival and Water Festival, Lincoln (junior band).
- 11 Vehicle Depot RAOC, Ashchurch, freedom march, Tewkesbury.
- 12 Kingston-upon-Thames Tattoo.
- 13 Garter Service, Windsor.
- 13 Massed bands beat Retreat, Newport, Gwent.
- 14 Colchester Gala (Pegasus).
- 15 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 15 **Royal Army Ordnance Corps Freedom of Bicester.**
- 17 Essex County Show, Chelmsford (17-18 June) (Household Cavalry Quadrille; band).

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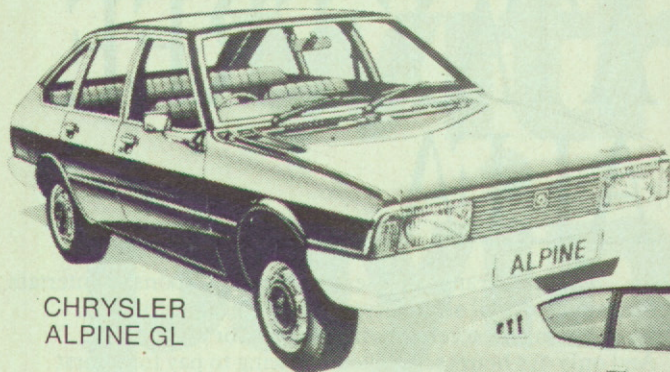
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Diary continued

- 17 36 Engineer Regiment Weekend (17-18 June), Maidstone.
- 17 **Open Day, Central Engineer Park, Long Marston, Warwickshire.**
- 17 HQ Prince of Wales's Division Open Day and Careers Exhibition, Lichfield (17-18 June) (three bands).
- 17 Coventry Carnival (Pentastars).
- 17 Nuneaton Carnival (Jun Ldrs RA PT; band).
- 18 **Open Day, Scottish Infantry Depot, Bridge of Don (Golden Lions; Blue Arrows; bands).**
- 18 Adhesive Tape Show, Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire (Red Caps).
- 18 Silver Jubilee Show, Rossendale, Lancashire (Red Devils).
- 18 Village Fête, Datchworth, Hertfordshire (Red Devils).
- 18 Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot (Red Devils; Pegasus).
- 18 36 Engineer Regiment freedom march, Maidstone.
- 18 Massed bands 52nd Lowland Volunteers beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
- 18 Halifax Gala (junior band).
- 19 Ssafa Air Display, RAF Church Fenton.
- 20 Royal tour of Lancashire, Merseyside and Greater Manchester (20-22 June).
- 22 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.
- 22 Royal tour of Wales (22-24 June).
- 22 Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln (22-23 June) (two bands).
- 24 Aldershot Army Display (24-26 June) (King's Troop musical ride; White Helmets; Red Caps; Red Devils; four pipes and drums; 21 bands).
- 25 **Presentation of new Colours to 2nd and 3rd battalions, Yorkshire Volunteers, York.**
- 25 Royal Signals At Home and Reunion, Catterick (25-26 June) (White Helmets; band).
- 26 Accrington Stanley Round Table Show (Red Devils).
- 26 **Open Day, Recruit Selection Centre, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.**
- 26 Newton Abbot (Devon) County Show (display).
- 29 **BMW car presentation, Silverstone (Red Caps).**
- 30 Military Musical Pageant, Wembley (30 June-2 July).
- 30 Royal review of Reserve Forces and pre-Service cadets, Wembley Stadium.
- 30 First royal tour of London.
- 30 West Bromwich Carnival (30 June-2 July) (White Helmets).

JULY 1977

- 2 Exeter Air Day (Army Air Corps static display).
- 2 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon Weekend Open Day.
- 2 Plymouth Services Week (2-9 July).
- 2 Chichester Gala (Pegasus).
- 2 Fête and Gala Day, Cwmbran (Red Devils).
- 4 Royal Show, Stoneleigh (4-7 July) (Red Caps).
- 6 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 6 Second royal tour of London.
- 7 Queen reviews the Army, Sennelager, West Germany.
- 8 Edinburgh Army Display (8-18 July) (Golden Lions; Red Devils; band).
- 9 Eynsham (Norfolk) Carnival (Red Caps).
- 9 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 9 Basingstoke Tattoo.
- 9 Pudsey (Yorkshire) Show (junior band).
- 9 Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre Open Day, Northampton (band).
- 9 Welbeck (Nottinghamshire) County Fair (9-10 July) (Royal Army Ordnance Corps 'Cannonballs' freefall team; two bands).
- 9 Derby Steam Rally (9-10 July) (band).
- 9 Dagenham Town Show (9-10 July) (Red Devils; Pegasus).
- 9 Shell Sport, Ellesmere Port (Red Devils).
- 10 Hatfield (Hertfordshire) Event (Red Caps).
- 10 Royal Tournament preview march, Horse Guards Parade.
- 11 Royal tour of Suffolk, Norfolk, Humberside, Yorkshire and North East Counties (11-15 July).
- 12 **BMW car presentation, Brands Hatch (Red Caps).**
- 12 Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate (12-14 July) (Adventurous training display).
- 13 Kneller Hall Band concert.
- 14 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (14-31 July).
- 14 Nottingham Military Display (14-16 July) (Red Caps 14 July; Pegasus 14-15 July; Royal Green Jackets freefall team; **unarmed combat team; battle scene; Jun Ldrs RA PT; Royal Marine motorcyclists; six bands.**)
- 16 Basingstoke Carnival (Household Cavalry Quadrille).
- 16 Corby (Northamptonshire) Highland Games (16-17 July) (Household Division freefall team; Red Devils (17 July).
- 16 Fordingbridge (Hampshire) Show (Red Caps).
- 16 Laying up Colours of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Buffs; 4th Battalion, The Buffs (TA); 5th Battalion, The Buffs (TA), Canterbury Cathedral.
- 17 **Ealing Show, Greenford (Red Caps).**
- 18 Dundee Army Display (18-21 July) (Golden Lions; band; pipes and drums).
- 19 Royal Welsh Show, Builth Wells (Household Cavalry Quadrille).
- 19 East of England Show, Peterborough (19-21 July) (Royal Artillery motorcycle team; Pegasus; Pentastars; two bands).
- 20 Kneller Hall Band concert.

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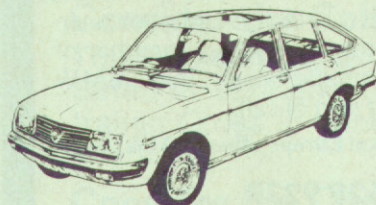
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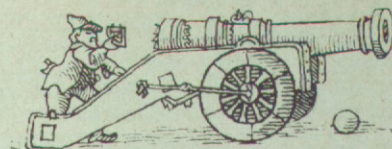
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Among the oldest exhibits are four flat West Kent Militia buttons (1778-95) bearing the ducal coronet above the letter D of their Colonel, John Sackville, Duke of Dorset; the scarlet coat with blue facings and silver gorget worn by Colonel Richard James when commanding the Militia in 1797 during the Irish Rebellion; and the Colour of the Blackheath Cavalry dating from 1793. There is another reminder of early Volunteers in two drums of the Loyal Greenwich Water Fencibles, a West Kent volunteer unit raised in 1803, used at Nelson's lying-in-state in the Painted Hall, Greenwich.

A drum-major's sash, a Russian helmet from Sevastopol, the scarlet shell jacket worn by Lieutenant (later Major-General) J E D Hill at the storming of the Redan, the lock from the door of the house used by Lord Raglan as his headquarters and two Victoria Crosses won by Sergeant John Coleman and Major C H Lumley, recall the 97th in the Crimean War. Also on view is the Bible used by Colonel F M Alderson in the Crimea which he later gave to his son, Lieutenant-General Sir Edwin Alderson, who carried it through six campaigns.

Showpiece of the museum is without doubt the magnificently ornamented Sutlej gun. This splendid piece of artillery, with its pair, was captured in the Sikh wars of 1845-46 and later presented by the East India Company to Field-Marshal Viscount Hardinge during his governor-generalship of India. His grandson gave both guns to the museum in 1955 and the second is now on loan to the National Army Museum. A nearby case is filled with the personal equipment and horse furniture, including plumed hat, gilt stirrups, shabraque and pistol holsters, of Lord Hardinge, who was commissioned into the 50th in 1798 and appointed Colonel of the 97th in 1833.

The 50th is equally well represented. There is a piece of regimental lace approved by George III and a remarkable group of personal items belonging to Sir Charles Napier, who commanded the 50th at Corunna — his leather jerkin which saw service in the Sind campaign of 1843, his medals and decorations, and a gourd he used as a water bottle. Another fine display of per-

sonal equipment, including his Sandhurst Sword of Honour, relates to General Sir Charles Bonham Carter, Colonel of the West Kents from 1936 to 1946.

A fine collection of medals includes some early DCMs, Crimean medals, a very rare five-clasp Egypt Medal belonging to Private W Haddon, several memorable groups and an unusual award to a soldier — the George Medal awarded to Sergeant W H Chick for his action in saving life on Deal beach in 1941. From World War One there is the Victoria Cross of Sergeant T J Harris and the VC won by Lance-Corporal J P Harman at Kohima in 1944.

Among Boer War souvenirs are various items such as a night compass, a device for exploding dynamite under railway lines made from the breach of a Martini Henry rifle, and a stretcher bearer's armband.

Two ornate silver bugles catch the eye in a fine display of regimental silver and in contrast are the battered copper bugle which sounded the 'Charge' at Hill 60, Ypres, in 1915 and a German bugle captured at Vimy Ridge in 1917.

Notable among several items from the two world wars are a tin cigarette box which saved the life of Private Clark and a German brimless grey-green forage cap from the 1914-18 conflict; and from World War Two a combination set of cutlery used by the German Army and the jagged silver spirit flask which saved the life of Major (later Lieutenant-Colonel) J H Whitty at Dunkirk, although he was killed later in the war.

A 300-year-old Japanese surrender sword, a William IV sword, regimental uniforms of various dates, badges, buttons and pictures are among the many other prized items of this well-arranged museum. **John Jesse**

Hon Curator: Major A G Blake (Retd)

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Next month: The Queen's Regiment

Diary continued

- 21 Sheffield Services Display (21-24 July) (Red Devils; Pegasus; three bands).
- 21 Malton (Yorkshire) Show (band).
- 21 Manchester Show (21-23 July) (Red Devils; combat display; two bands).
- 21 St Helens Show (21-23 July) (White Helmets; Red Devils; two bands).
- 21 Aberdeen Army Display (21-25 July) (Golden Lions; band).
- 22 Stafford Carnival (22-23 July) (band).
- 22 Northampton Show (22-24 July) (band).
- 22 **Tenth anniversary Open Day, 39 Engineer Regiment (Airfields), Waterbeach.**
- 23 Lambeth Country Show, Herne Hill (23-24 July) (Red Caps).
- 23 Cleveland Show, Middlesbrough (marching display; two bands).
- 24 Teignbridge Fair, Newton Abbot, Devon (display).
- 26 Tyneside Summer Exhibition, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (26-30 July) (Red Devils; Pegasus; band).
- 26 Inverness Army Display (26 July-6 August) (Golden Lions; RA motorcyclists; band; pipes and drums).
- 27 Ilfracombe Jubilee Tattoo (27-29 July).
- 27 Royal tour of West Midlands, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire (27-28 July).
- 27 Kneller Hall Band grand concert.
- 28 Deal Regatta (28-29 July) (Red Devils 28 July; Household Cavalry Quadrille 28 July; band).
- 30 Air Display, Blackbushe (30-31 July) (Red Devils).
- 30 Open Day, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, Dover.
- 30 Gloucester Festival Fortnight (30 July-14 August) (band 12 August).
- 30 Silver Jubilee Show, Bexhill (Red Devils).
- 31 Open Day, Royal Armoured Corps Centre, Bovington (Red Devils).
- 31 Whitstable Regatta (band).
- 31 Knebworth (Hertfordshire) Air Display (band).
- 31 Royal Military Police centenary march and march past mayor, Chichester.

AUGUST 1977

- 3 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (3-6 August).
- 3 Bingley (Yorkshire) Show (junior band).
- 3 North Devon Show, Bideford (display).
- 3 Tetbury Festival (display).
- 4 King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, royal salute, Hyde Park, London (Queen Mother's birthday).
- 4 Royal tour of Devon, Cornwall and Avon (4-8 August).
- 4 Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo (4-13 August).
- 6 Army Air Day, Middle Wallop.
- 7 Air Day, Doddington (Red Devils).
- 7 Ottery St Mary (Devon) Fête (display).
- 8 Queen reviews County of Avon Volunteer forces, Bristol.
- 10 Royal tour of Northern Ireland (10-11 August).
- 11 Bournemouth Fiesta (11-13 August) (motorcyclists; freefalling; displays).
- 12 Stoke-on-Trent Carnival (12-13 August) (band).
- 13 Car Club Show, Yeovil (Red Devils).
- 13 Wootton Bassett Show (Red Caps).
- 13 Sedgfield Show (band).
- 14 Lambeth Show (Pegasus).
- 14 Yeovil Festival of Transport (Red Caps).
- 17 Cromer (Norfolk) Carnival (RA motorcyclists; two bands; pipes and drums).
- 19 Edinburgh Tattoo (19 August-10 September).
- 19 Reading Show (19-20 August) (White Helmets; band).
- 20 Darlington Show (band).
- 20 Hartlepool Show (20-21 August) (band).
- 21 **Family Funday, Waltham (Red Caps).**
- 21 **Wimborne (Dorset) Rotary Club Show (Red Devils).**
- 21 **Crewe Carnival (Red Devils).**
- 22 Oulton Broad (Suffolk) Regatta (22-30 August) (Red Devils 29 August).
- 24 **Kneller Hall Band concert.**
- 27 South Tyneside Flower Show, South Shields (27-29 August) (band).
- 27 Morecambe and Lancaster Army Display (27-29 August) (Red Devils; Pegasus; White Helmets; four bands).
- 27 Town and Country Festival, Coventry (27-29 August) (Light Infantry freefall team; band).
- 27 Expo Steam, Peterborough (27-29 August) (RGJ freefall; King's Troop; band).
- 27 Quexpo 77, Birchington (Kent) (27-29 August) (Cannonballs).
- 27 **Harlow (Essex) Town Show (Red Devils; Red Caps).**
- 29 St Albans Carnival (RGJ freefall; Red Caps).
- 29 Eye (Suffolk) Show (Household Division freefall).
- 29 Aylsham (Norfolk) Show (RA motorcyclists).
- 29 **Carlisle Historical Pageant, Carlisle Castle (29 August-3 September).**
- 31 **Kneller Hall Band grand concert.**

SEPTEMBER 1977

- 1 Buckinghamshire County Show, Aylesbury (band).
- 2 Watford (Hertfordshire) Show (2-4 September) (band).
- 2 Birmingham Show (2-3 September) (band).

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SOLDIER to Soldier

While the present day has brought the disgrace of hooliganism to the football field and even threatened the sanctity of the cricket pitch, the deplorable aspects of spectator behaviour are offset by the current upsurge in the outdoor life — sport and recreation in all manner of old and new forms. There have been, and always will be, temporary crazes as the more adventurous pursue such new thrills as hang-gliding and hot-air ballooning while older sports enjoy a resurgence not least of them the form of gymnastics made so popular by Olga Korbut and her colleagues.

Sport in the Army reflects changes in public taste and the ability of the British both to introduce their own sports elsewhere and as readily adapt from others. Angling, Britain's No 1. sporting pastime, now has official blessing in the Army and table tennis is knocking at a door which has been opened to volleyball. SOLDIER congratulates the volleyball enthusiasts on the rapid improvement in their standards and is happy to have played some small part in helping this sport to gain recognition. One likes to think, too, that SOLDIER's interest in orienteering some years ago, when only a few regiments were interested, has some influence in bringing this splendid sport, adopted by the Army for its training value, to the notice of the many who have since taken it up.

But there are, of course, limits. Partisans must appreciate that to contribute to Army life as a whole, a sport should provide useful exercise and recreation, be capable of commanding widespread support and earn its keep by providing positive publicity for the Army.

It has to be realised too that the governing body, the Army Sport Control Board, does not enjoy unlimited resources and that a new place among the 30 or so recognised sports — recognition among other things bringing financial facilities — cannot be met simply by dropping an existing sport unless such a course has widespread agreement. It is a question of balance, of according or withdrawing recognition when a new sport has proved itself or a declining sport has obviously outlived its appeal.

The days have gone when the Services could train up top sportsmen almost from scratch — in many sports now an international standard is reached and passed in the early teens — but there are still fields in which the Army competes at national and international level, both in teams and individually. The biathletes and bobsleighters, for example, may not be in the top placings but there's plenty to shout about when soldiers form the basis of an international team in an adopted sport.

And while everyone knows of Olympic gold medallist Lieutenant Jim Fox, let's cheer on too the world champion karate expert, the Army soccer team against Belgian and French professionals, the gymnasts and Women's Royal Army Corps girls who are the backbone of ladies handball.

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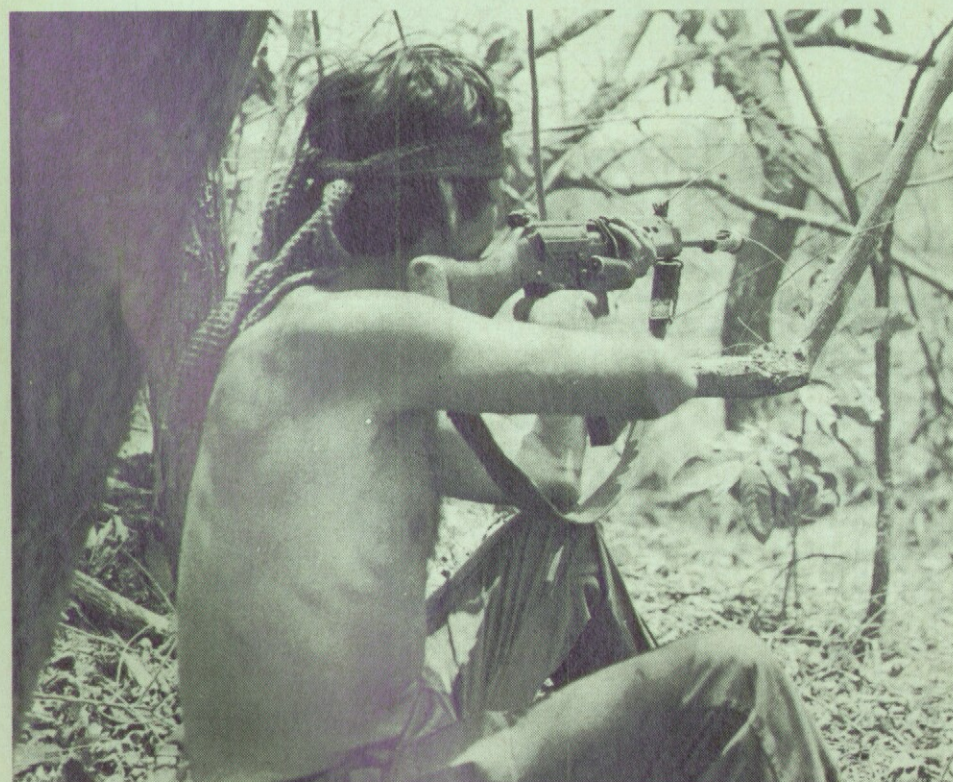
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The British Army has found a new place in the sun to train in tropical conditions. First to test The Gambia were men of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment. To their delight — and sometimes discomfort — they found it . . .

"SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM SENNYBRIDGE!"



Above: Scorching heat beats down on the back of a sapper acting as 'enemy' in The Gambia.

Right: The Queen's Lancashire Regiment crashes through African bush in an attack.

Story: Mike Starke
Pictures: Paul Haley



A HOT BREEZE fanned the sun's blaze to oven heat and stirred another film of fine, grey dust to mingle with the soldiers' sweat. A hand reached into the blessed cool of the refrigerator for the dozenth soft drink of the day and to the fizz of a ring-pull can the major commented: "... Slightly different from Sennybridge!"

Major Bernard Stam — taking a siesta from the 135 degree afternoon — was commanding C Company of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, third of a trio of companies from the unit to spend a month each in The Gambia.

The object of the exercises — Sun River One, Two and Three — was to try out tropical areas for the infantry in this sliver of

a country wedged into West Africa in the middle of the former French colony of Senegal and astride the banks of the mighty Gambia River.

Tactical, adventurous and recreational training, and an exercise involving as many of the soldiers as possible, formed the basic framework of the month. A major obstacle was the unrelenting climate with its dry, intense heat. During an acclimatisation period the troops learned to be self-sufficient in their hostile environment and to be wary of hazards to health from both disease and local fauna, which include snakes, scorpions, some crocodiles and other beasts that can become unfriendly.

Major Stam reported: "In all three com-

panies there were no major casualties. There were cases of minor heat exhaustion but nothing serious. They took the right precautions — plenty of salt and water."

The company exercise at the end of their month was the testing time for the young soldiers of C Company. As well as facing the normal test of their military skills they were up against the more formidable — and potentially deadly — challenge of the Gambian bush.

Said one senior non-commissioned officer: "On the first day the younger lads with three bottles of water each drank it all and had to learn to do without. They'd come to me and say: 'I haven't any water, sarge.' I'd say 'hard luck.' Next day they each had

one-and-a-half bottles left by 1600. We cut through the mangrove and waded over bolons (creeks) on improvised rope bridges. At one stage we met a troop of baboons that nearly ran into us. I don't know who was more scared, us or them."

The company exercise was the climax to the training. The month was carefully planned to get the maximum benefit out of the comparatively short stay in unfamiliar and exotic surroundings. The first three days were given over to familiarisation and acclimatisation. The company's three platoons, in rotation, set off to live in the bush and practise minor tactics. Next came two days of watermanship training and survival techniques. Watermanship is essential in a



country bisected by a river still a mile or more wide at 100 miles from the sea and with a fierce tidal stream.

The watermanship phase was consolidated by a four-day river expedition which covered 50 miles. Rest and recuperation followed with four days at the tented beach camp near Tanji on the Atlantic coast where sailing, water-skiing and canoeing were on hand. In nearby beach hotels, Scandinavian tourists were contributing large amounts to the Gambian foreign currency reserves by spending their holiday money on similar facilities.

After the rest it was back to work with live firing on ranges specially built by the Army on inland salt flats. A two-day defence exercise preceeded the final three-day company exercise which included an assault river crossing, a bolon crossing on foot, patrolling, platoon defence position drills and bush tactics.

The exercise area had been specially picked by the Lancshires with the help of Commander John Clews, head of the local Gambia Police Force and Field Force Unit — a para-military organisation of some 350 men. The FFU helped by providing trans-

Left: Alert and watchful, a soldier is ready.

Right: A Junior Leader barter happily with a trader in the bustling Banjul tourists' market.

Below: Naafi break for El Graffiti rebel band.



Above: Rear link radio encampment and friends.

Below: Maj Stam thanks Mr and Mrs Karlsson.



port and shower facilities at their depot in Bakau, near the capital of Banjul, in the early days before the Royal Engineers built the Army's camp up country.

Base Camp — Tungwars — was set up between two villages some five miles into the bush along one of the many sandy tracks that branch off from the single main tarmac road running roughly parallel to the river. Tungwars is just south of a complex of bolons and mangrove swamp spreading north to the bank of the river which, with the surrounding bush and scrub, provided a good cross-section of terrain.

The sappers of 20 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, who supported the infantry throughout the three-month period, started from scratch when they arrived at Tungwars. The two wells they sank — now capped and ready for use next year, when it

The Colony of The Gambia was created in 1843. It consists of a 300-mile strip of land on either side of the Gambia River — a waterway navigable to ocean-going vessels for 150 miles and to river steamers up to 300 miles from its mouth. The capital and chief port of Banjul (formerly Bathurst) is at the river's mouth.

The Gambians number some 500,000 and their predominant occupation is ground-nut cultivation. The crop is their country's major export. Other crops are grown for home consumption and there is considerable fishing and livestock rearing.

On February 1965, The Gambia became an independent monarchy within the Commonwealth with the British Queen as head of state. On 24 April 1970, after a referendum, the country became a republic within the Commonwealth. The President, Sir Dawda Jawara, has recently been returned to office after general elections. The nation's flag has horizontal stripes of red (the sun), blue (Gambia River) and green (agriculture), separated by narrow white stripes (peace).

The Gambia is 2600 miles from London and situated on the north-westerly bulge of the African continent, sandwiched by the much larger ex-French colony of Senegal. Tourism from Scandinavia have greatly increased the air traffic at the tiny Yundum Airport outside Banjul. Internal communications are by road and, of course, river. There are 794 miles of motor road, 180 miles of which are metalled.

is hoped another unit will go out — had to be bored deeper than was anticipated and, until they were ready, water had to be brought daily by road from Banjul some 90 miles away.

A daily trip to Banjul from Tungwars, five days a week, became a harsh reality of life for one of the camp's varied administrative personnel, many of whom spent the whole three months in The Gambia. Sergeant Mark Davison, of Headquarters United Kingdom Support Postal Courier and Communications Unit, was the 'postie' who made his daily run to collect those all-important letters from home and send back all the replies.

He worked out that he had motored some 6000 miles in his trusty Land-Rover. "Och, she kens her ane way tae Banjul and back by now," he said — and calculated that for the same mileage he could have driven home to his native Scotland and back.

For quicker communication with home there was a quartet of Royal Signals junior NCOs whose modest tent housed the equipment to relay messages in morse to Gibraltar whence they were radioed direct to



Above: Sappers make up charges with explosive.

the United Kingdom. A 24-hour listening watch kept the exercise troops in touch with home and messages out could be sent for most of the day.

Foraging outside the camp for anything from succulent crayfish for a barbecue to pieces of rope and paper cups, was another small contingent, the Royal Army Ordnance Corps' local resources section, whose ingenuity and mysterious success earned them the title 'Long Range Desert Group.' "They are the Mr Fixits and Mr Getits of the outfit," said one admiring 'customer.'

Meanwhile, back inside the barbed wire perimeter of Tungwars Camp, the cooks had to set to work on some of the fruits of the LRS's labours. For them the problem of the heat was accentuated — the temperature in their improvised kitchen, with its massive wood-fed field ovens, soared far above the mere 130 degrees or so suffered by the soldiers outside.

Even compared with the mud-brick huts with their onion shaped thatch in the nearby African villages, many thought the tented Tungwars primitive — even if it did boast 'the first drive-in movie in The Gambia' in the form of frequent open-air showings of Services Kinema Corporation films from home. Characteristically, the inmates of the camp laughed off their discomfort with the formation of an 'escape committee' and warned against using the sapper-built field latrine for fear of disturbing the mythical 'tunnellers' said to be hard at work there.

'Escape' for C Company came with their exercise which took them into the bush and chest-deep in the bolons for three days

before their flight home. The Regulars were joined by two Territorial Army Volunteer Reservists of 4th Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment: Lance-Corporal Steve Curry and Private Steve Barnes. Even the Army Air Corps was represented, by three members of 3 Flight taking a break from an arduous Northern Ireland tour of duty. One of them, Air Trooper Martin Keating, kept his feet firmly on the ground by joining the foot soldiers of one of the infantry platoons for the duration.

The company marched from the tinder-dry bush around Tungwars, set about on all sides by the ochre-coloured termite mounds whose fairytale castle crenellations are deceptively fragile-looking. The laboriously constructed nests are concrete hard and one of them defied the efforts of three pounds of plastic explosive when the sappers were doing a road improvement job.

Nearer the mangrove swamps, with their slippery, clinging mud and short bushes jacked up on stilt-like roots, the air was marginally cooler but it was still hot enough for the fully equipped soldiers to suffer. After day one, Colour-Sergeant Ken Smalley commented: "They were pushed very hard today. Sixty per cent of them are only lads of 18 or so."

A handful succumbed to the heat. Two, fearing they had been abandoned, did not wait for medical attention and set off on what was to be a seven-mile trek to a riverside village where soldiers were known to be. They were shown the way by two guides from an inland village with a friendliness typical of the rural Gambians.

Back in the bush the tired young soldiers

Below: A final frolic before flying home to UK.



Above: A young shaver joins the washing parade.

Below: Back to the green, green grass of home.

spent their first night under the stars. A half-moon served only to accentuate the dark shadows which crackled and buzzed with unfamiliar noises of the African night which falls suddenly before 1900 hours in this tropical zone.

Company Sergeant-Major Don Dennigan told of a previous night when he had awoken to find a python slithering over his elbow crooked close to his head in his sleeping bag. Tales of the fierce wild bush pig and the deadly scorpion rang in recruits' ears. But everyone survived the night and went on to end the three days relatively unscathed.

All thoughts of danger from the local fauna fled in the heat of frequent ambushes by 'El Graffiti' and the 'Ogbourne Loyalist Front,' alias the ubiquitous sappers of 20 Field Squadron, acting as enemy. The troop had to live up to its 'Ubique' motto with its engineering tasks — help to the local community (they built a hostel for a district nurse among other things) and assistance with watermanship, survival and demolitions training.

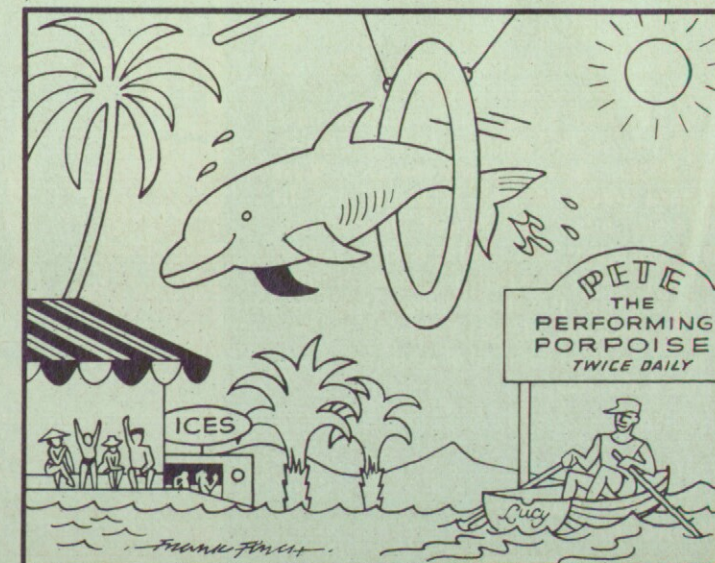
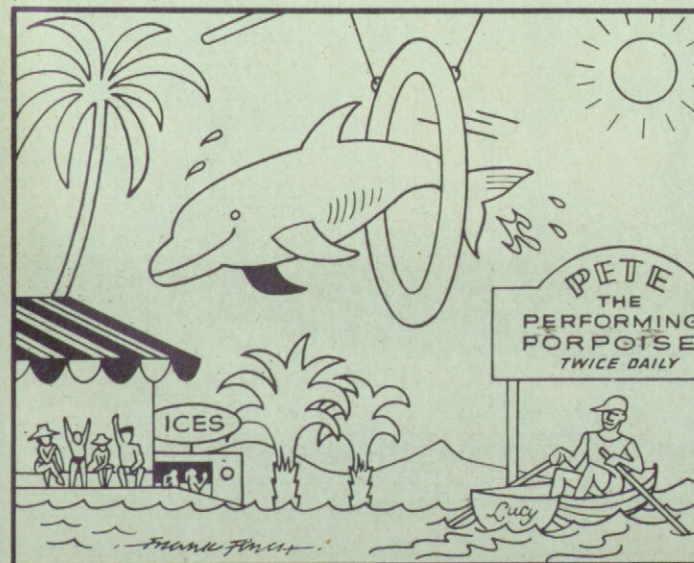
After three nights in the bush the company began to dream of the simple high spot of the social calendar back at Tungwars — the evening shower, a chance to wash off the all-pervading dust and cool down.

A dawn beach assault marked the end of the exercise. The same assault boats used to seal the doom of 'El Graffiti' and his motley



How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 32.



CANADIAN CLUB WITH PORT



Above: A visit from former Nixon aide, General Alexander M Haig Jr, now the Supreme Allied Commander Europe. The meeting was at Lahr.



Above: Portuguese officers and NCOs see a STINGER anti-aircraft missile demonstration.

Below: Canadians and Portuguese troops make a joint attack through their smokescreen cover.

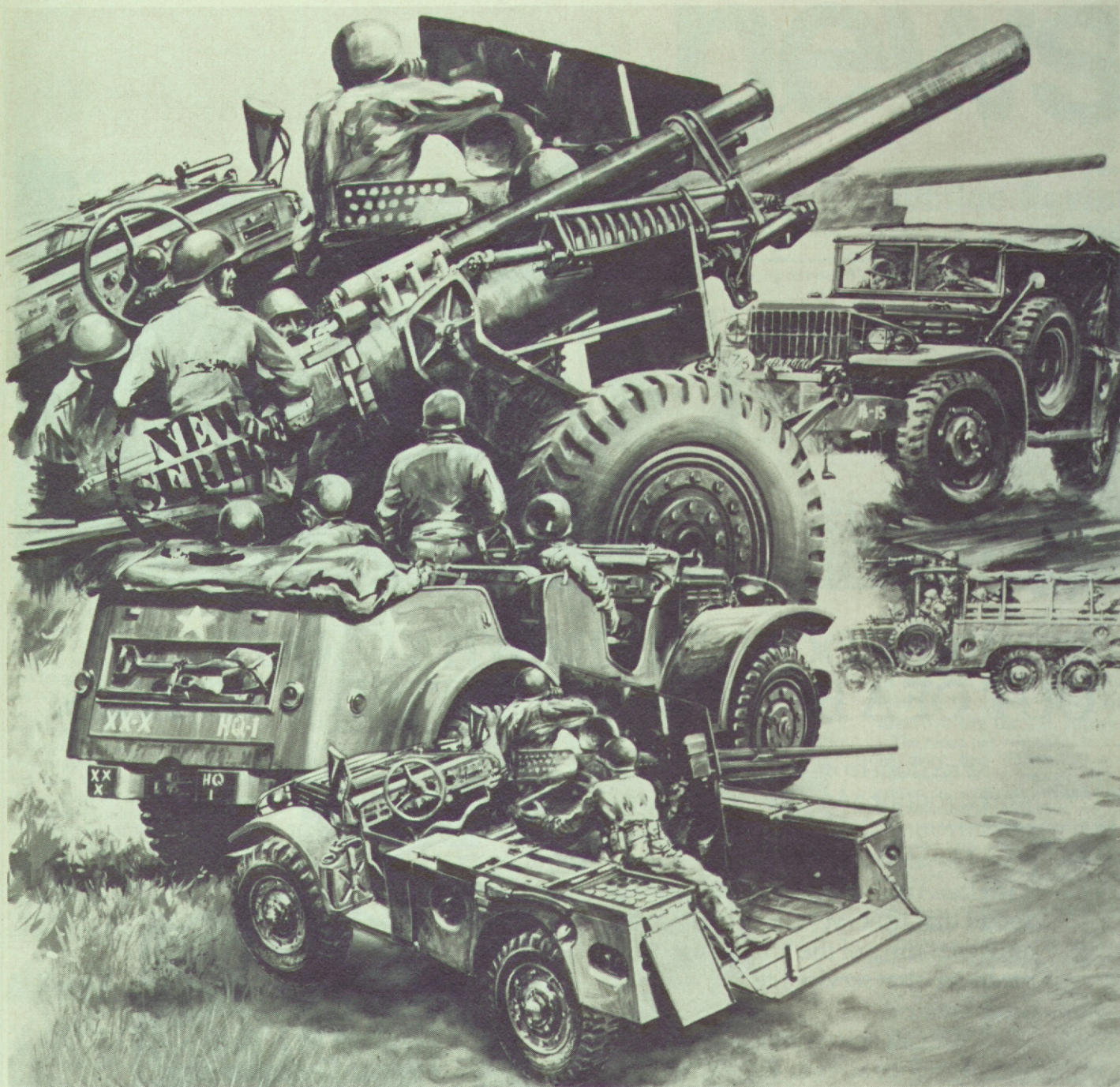
THE CHANGE IN political status in Portugal has led to several Nato member countries agreeing to help the Portuguese Armed Forces with their restructuring plans.

Recently Portuguese troops joined the 4th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group near Lahr in Germany for a series of joint training exercises. This followed a joint Canadian-Portuguese agreement signed last September under which contingents of Portuguese Army junior officers and non-commissioned officers were attached to the Canadian brigade during its concentration at the Hohenfels training area.

So far, four groups of Portuguese have taken part in the training, including Exercise Donau Safari, which involved West German forces as well as Canadians. In addition, other Portuguese detachments have taken part in a combat leaders' course and have been attached to Canadian units, including the Royal Canadian Dragoons, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery and the Royal 22nd Regiment, all of which are based in the Lahr area.



Nato photo feature:
Pictures by
Walter Vanderhagen



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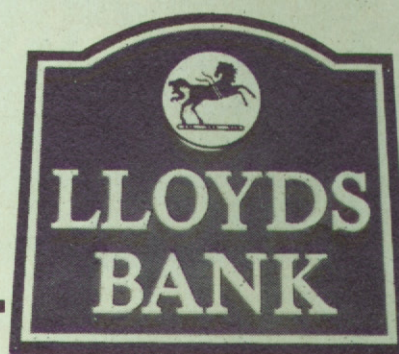
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'Give-and-take' pay deal

Jubilee Review first for BFBS

Controversy rages about the latest 'give-and-take' Armed Forces Pay Review which has been hit by the current economic restraints imposed by the Government.

The pay increases give £2.50 a week more for those earning £50 a week or less and limit increases to five per cent of total earnings for those getting between £50 and £80 a week. A ceiling of £4 a week more is applied to those earning more.

But linked to the rises is an increase in quartering charges which gives the impression to most of producing a give-and-take effect with the pay packet reflecting both extra pay and extra deductions. In some cases, the Ministry of Defence has pointed out, soldiers' pay could actually shrink under the new deal.

The same strictures, of course, apply in Civvy Street, the difference being that the civilian's 'quartering charges' have been rocketing at varying times throughout the year and from various sources and so are not so readily apparent as deductions recorded directly on the weekly pay slip.

Obviously aware of the mounting annual discontent about the 'give-and-take' approach and anticipating Press reaction fanned by political opportunists taking up the cudgels, the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Fred Mulley, issued a personal message to the forces frankly admitting: "The net result will, I know, be disappointing to you," but adding the reminder that times are hard for the rest of the community as well.

A Fund of ammo

An ammunition box has been handed over to the World Wildlife Fund — in it was £300 donated by soldiers.

The money was raised over the last 12 months by men who went on exercise at the Stanford battle area, which has become a haven for many species of wildlife.

The cash was handed over by Major-General David Tabor, GOC Eastern District, to Mr Stuart Johnstone, a trustee of the fund.

The ammunition box is studded with the cap badges of all the units who have made contributions.

New Plain trees

A total of 279 trees has been planted during the past year on land owned by the Ministry of Defence on and around Salisbury Plain to replace trees destroyed by Dutch elm disease.

The planting, part of a continuing programme, has been done in villages and on farms, and 13 varieties of tree have been used to suit different soil conditions and achieve variety in colour and shape.

The planting programme is carried out by the Forestry Department of the Defence Land Agent's headquarters at Durrington.

Guards' new Colours



The presentation of new Colours to 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, must have been a poignant moment for the Queen.

For in her Jubilee Year she was reminded that 40 years ago her father George VI had presented Colours to the battalion, which they have carried right through to this year.

"I know it was to this battalion, and in this garden, that my father presented Colours for the first time after his accession," she said.

"I know too that there are a number of guests here today who were present on parade on that occasion 40 years ago.

Against a backdrop of drizzling rain in the palace grounds, the old Colours were marched off to the strains of 'The Garb of Old Gaul' and of course 'Auld Lang Syne.' Her Majesty inspected the battalion, watched by a large crowd who refused to let the depressing weather keep them away, and then the new Colours were consecrated by the Reverend J F Lyall, Assistant Chaplain-General Scotland.

After the consecration ceremony, Lieutenant J G Treadwell and Second-Lieutenant The Hon T A Fitzherbert marched forward to kneel before the Queen to take the new Colours.

Afterwards the battalion advanced in review order, followed by a Royal Salute and three cheers for the Queen, who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Scots Guards.

British Forces Broadcasting Service TV is to show the Queen's Review of the Army at Sennelager 'live' on the morning of 7 July. At the same time the parade is also likely to be seen by German viewers and on BBC 2.

Says BFBS TV programme controller John Harrison: "This will be our first live coverage of a BAOR event. It could not be a more appropriate one."

The BFBS coverage will be achieved by combining the German pictures with the BBC TV commentary. Commentators will be Tom Fleming and Major Richard MacFarlane, who is second-in-command of 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards.

Amazon trek to primeval forest area

An Anglo-Colombian expedition leaves this month for the rain forests of the Amazon — to try and fill in some gaps from the past and also improve life for the future.

The forest has remained the same for more than 70,000,000 years. Now some of its secrets will be probed by scientists, archaeologists and environment experts.

To leave the boffins free to get on with this vital work the logistics of the expedition will be handled by a combined British-Colombian army team, headed by Captain John Saunders, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

The archaeologists in the team will seek and study remains of human settlements dating back thousands of years, the scientists will seek ways of developing natural resources of the vast rain forests without damaging the environment, and biologists will examine species and plants to see whether they could be farmed commercially.

Hazards

Perhaps the most important part of the expedition is the medical team. They will be looking for ways to combat leishmaniasis, a disfiguring and often fatal disease which has hit both men and animals in the area.

Captain Saunders led the advance party to the Amazon in 1973. This time there will be nine soldiers, including men from REME, Royal Signals and Army Catering Corps.

The team will face many hazards, said Captain Saunders, "including rapids, whirlpools, piranha fish and tropical diseases."

Stars

The Portsmouth ex-Championship and Professionals XI took on an Army soccer side in a charity match to raise funds for the expedition.

A few of the civilian members of the expedition joined the fun and the kick-off was by the stars of 'The Angels' nursing series on BBC TV.

MPs slam Defence policy

The British Government's present defence policy seemed to be based on the hope that the meek would inherit the earth while doing their best to ignore evidence that the strong were intent on contesting the will, declared Mr Philip Goodhart (Conservative, Beckenham) as he opened a House of Commons debate on the Army.

The Army could not be highly selective in recruiting and Mr Goodhart reported that at his local recruiting office in the previous ten months 61 applicants had been accepted and 58 rejected.

But officer recruiting was giving cause for concern. He continued: "I am particularly worried because almost every bright young middle-ranking officer I have talked to during the past 12 months has been seriously considering leaving the Army. The reason that they invariably give is that they see little worthwhile future in a contracting force where petty restrictions seem to mount daily."

Mr Goodhart declared that consideration must be given to the vital question of Army pay and conditions in Northern Ireland. Over the years, thousands of servicemen posted from Rhine Army on emergency Northern Ireland tours had been out of pocket.

In one regiment in Northern Ireland 46 per cent of all privates and 23 per cent of all lance-corporals living in married quarters were receiving rent rebates and were, in other words, considered to be below the poverty line.

Scandalous

"That is a scandalous situation that has split up families. Service wives with children in Northern Ireland live in a security situation that is not normal. The wives cannot get outside to work. The cost of living is abnormally high for many items. That one benefit that most people in Northern Ireland enjoy — namely cheap housing — is denied to them."

Mr Goodhart suggested that the rent of married quarters in Northern Ireland should be cut or better still waived altogether for lower ranks.

He asked for emergency action on rent and heating and lighting charges.

Turning to Nato he said that the Army's strength on the central front had been found wanting by an all-party expenditure committee. The committee had been particularly concerned that Rapier air defence missiles were not equipped with the Blindfire system and the cancellation of the long-term R880 artillery project which left the Army without an area weapon system which could disrupt enemy supply columns, except for the nuclear Lance missiles.

He continued: "The committee is concerned about the deferment of a replacement for our ageing armoured personnel carriers and the seemingly indefinite deferment of the medium-lift helicopter. Above all, the committee is concerned about our wholly inadequate anti-tank weapons in the face of an ominous mass of Soviet armour."

Snail's pace

Mr Goodhart said the long-delayed date for the introduction of the Milan anti-tank missile had slipped by another year. The helicopterborne Hawkwing replacement had been under evaluation since 1969 and Mr Goodhart said that from this snail's pace he assumed the Government did not want any new anti-tank helicopter system.

When reservists reached BAOR they would find that re-organisation had taken place. Mr Goodhart contended that last autumn's exercises had thoroughly justified criticisms of the plan to do away with brigade headquarters altogether. They were now back under a different name.

The probability of confusion on the central front had been increased by errors on the part of those

responsible for Nato tactical communications. In the course of the following two years seven Nato countries would be introducing new battlefield communications systems of which only two would be interoperable. The systems were likely to survive until 1995 and they could look forward to at least a dozen years of confusion on the potential battlefield.

On research and development Mr Goodhart made a special plea for Army establishments dealing with artillery and small arms to be spared from the common axe. He said it was enormously important that the improved 120-millimetre tank gun should be ready for tests in America by November and in the small arms sector the new British 4.85-millimetre weapon had great foreign sales potential.

The Under-Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Robert Brown, gave an assurance that there were no plans to withdraw from Cyprus. He said any such proposal at the present time would complicate further the delicate political situation there.

In the United Kingdom, with the elimination of the brigade level of command, Regular and reserve forces would come under the command of ten district headquarters. Three of these would provide a new kind of formation to meet wartime commitments. By April 1978, each of these formations, the 6th, 7th and 8th Field Forces would be operational.

Mr Brown said that in Rhine Army the restructuring of the 1 (British) Corps was also well in hand and in one or two areas it was now expected to improve on the original timetable. Trials to test the planned organisation had yielded valuable results and where changes to the plan were shown to be necessary they had been made.

As part of continuing studies on ways of countering the mounting Warsaw Pact threat it had been decided to form a regiment with an electronic warfare capability.

Mr Brown said deliveries of a Blindfire tracking radar for Rapier

had already begun and this would be followed later this year by the Striker tracked reconnaissance vehicle carrying the Swingfire anti-tank guided missile.

Some 37 per cent of Army officers were now drawn from the ranks and Mr Brown hoped this would continue and the percentage would rise to more than 40 per cent next year.

Dissatisfaction

Mr Brown said he had read reports of dissatisfaction by Service families in Northern Ireland. There were problems of costs and lack of job opportunities for wives but these were not peculiar to Northern Ireland.

Mr Brown said some of the problems were not easily remedied because they arose from the security situation. He told the House: "I am aware of the disparities in Northern Ireland in rents and, indeed, in many other respects and I have called for a report. When I have received it, I shall consider what further action should be taken."

Mr John Cronin (Labour, Loughborough) said junior officers in the Army had grown to live with defence expenditure cuts since the Conservatives had first introduced them on a large scale. He added: "Any suggestion that morale in the Army is impaired by the action of this Government is quite wrong and a slander on the high morale and efficiency of the officers and soldiers in our Army."

On welfare, Mr Cronin asked what was to happen as a result of the Spencer Committee report. Its recommendation that there should be more full-time social workers for the Army should be given more consideration. There was also a good case for progress towards fewer unaccompanied tours abroad.

He also called for greater help for the soldier to find housing on leaving the Army and assistance with children, especially those who were handicapped.

Mobilised

Mr John Mackintosh (Labour, Berwick and East Lothian) said he had looked into how reservists and Territorial Army forces would be mobilised and taken to North Germany. The first thing that would happen would be informing them "by first-class letter post."

From his information it appeared that it would take eight days to mobilise the full force of 120,000 in front-line positions. This disturbed him as his impression was that the Warsaw Pact armies were on a ready-to-go basis.

Mr Gwilym Roberts (Labour, Cannock) said that recruiting was costing more than £500 for each recruit. In the present economic climate it might be easier for job centres to deal with military recruitment rather than have recruitment offices in town centres.

One of the things operating against Army recruitment was the sort of class barriers which still existed in the structure of the armed forces. They had different messes and different facilities of every type. He suggested that moves to democracy and an extension of trade union activity within the forces might improve recruitment.

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LEAD CRYSTAL



Joe's fishing for dinner from the deep

An enterprising young Swansea soldier will this summer be leading a serious scientific fishing expedition to the North Sea in an attempt to catch specimens of the new 'white fish.'

Using a rod and up to a mile of line, Corporal Joe Holland, 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, hopes to land the fish that the industry is looking for to replace the diminishing supplies of cod and haddock.

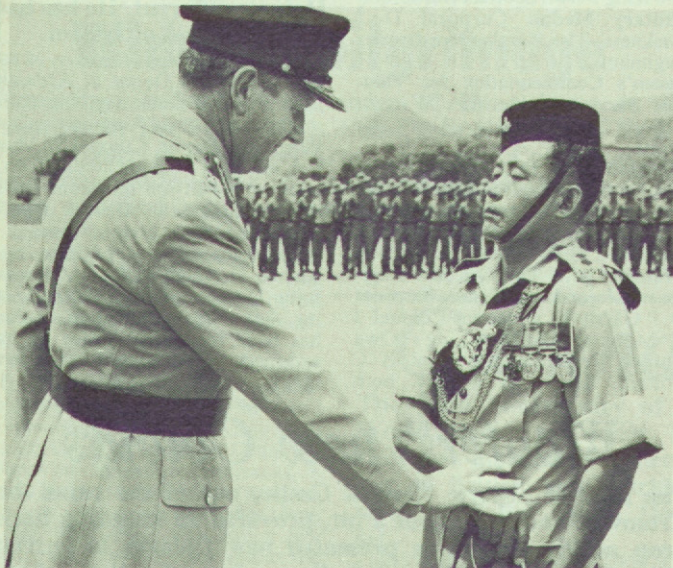
Before the trawlers can begin to land these fish, a lot more has to be found out by the scientists about their breeding grounds. The 'white fish' live in depths of 400 fathoms and more, where the pressure is around 1500lb per square inch, and bringing them to the surface by conventional netting only destroys them; so Joe and his team will spend up to three hours bringing their catch to the surface, to prevent them suffering from the bends.

Cpl Holland's expedition has already attracted the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture who are treating the task as a serious attempt to try to find an alternative fish for Britain's industry.

Although stationed in the divided city of Berlin, some 120 miles from the nearest sea point, Cpl Holland has been given every encouragement by his unit to prepare for the trip. On Boxing Day last year, while training for the adventure, he caught a 42lb conger eel off the coast of Newhaven; "But this will be only bait to some of the monsters we could encounter in August," he said.



VC commissioned



Company Sergeant-Major Rambahadur Limbu, of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, the only serving holder of the Victoria Cross in the British Armed Services, has been commissioned as a lieutenant (Queen's Gurkha Officer) in a ceremony conducted by Lieutenant-General Sir John Archer, Commander British Forces Hong Kong.

Lieutenant Limbu, who joined the Army in 1957 aged 18, won his Victoria Cross at Serikin, Sarawak, in November 1965 when he was a lance-corporal. He charged and captured single-handed an enemy position in the face of heavy machine-gun fire. "his actions on this day," read his VC citation, "reached a zenith of determined, premeditated valour which must count amongst the most notable on record."

In the picture, Lieutenant Limbu is drawing his sword in salute to General Archer. Custom requires the general to push the sword back into its scabbard before it can be drawn.

Voting changes

To provide a more convenient and easier procedure which takes into account the conditions of present-day Service life, The Representation of the People (Armed Forces) Act 1976 amends the current procedure for the registration of members of the Regular armed forces, and their wives as Service voters.

The requirement for the completion of a fresh form each year is to be replaced by a one-time registration procedure. This means that having once registered as a Service voter, a person will usually remain registered until leaving the forces unless he or she cancels the registration.

The wife of a member of the Regular armed forces will be eligible to be a Service voter both when living in the United Kingdom or when abroad; and not, as at present, only when abroad. Under this new procedure she will be able, by law, to register as a civilian voter when in the United Kingdom, even if living apart from her husband because of Service or personal reasons.

A registration form may in future be attested by a commissioned officer, warrant officer, a non-commissioned officer of the rank of sergeant or above, or exceptionally by an officer of a UK government department. Additionally, a wife may also have her form attested by a justice of the peace or by a doctor or clergyman.

Persons otherwise qualified to be Service voters, but who are under

the voting age of 18 years, will be able to complete a registration form. This will enable them to vote on reaching the age of 18 years without any further action on their part.

These new arrangements will be effective for the 1978 register of electors which will come into force on 16 February 1978.

To be included in the 1978 register of electors, persons of voting age, or who will be 18 years of age by 15 February 1979, must complete a registration form by no later than the following dates:

For addresses in England, Scotland and Wales — 10 October 1977.

For addresses in Northern Ireland — 15 September 1977.

Registration forms F/Vote/33 (Revised 1977) for members of the armed forces, or F/Vote/34 (Revised 1977) for wives, will be available in units from July 1977 onwards. With each registration form a leaflet (F/Vote/656) will be issued which gives instructions for completing the registration form and information on how to vote. An envelope (F/Vote/37) will also be provided in which to send the registration form to the electoral registration officer for the constituency in which the address given is situated.

Don't lose your right to vote — remember that while you are serving in the Regular Army you and your wife must first be registered as Service voters if you wish to have a say in the governing of your country.

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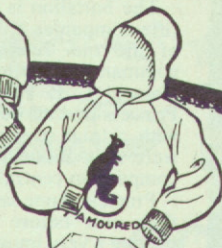
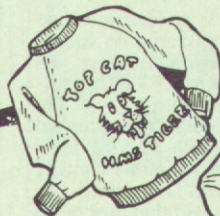
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Sea-horse-soldiers



Regimental history was perhaps made, for 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars from Tidworth, aboard the Royal Navy's frigate HMS Mermaid in Holland — it was probably the first time the regiment's band had ever served afloat.

They embarked at Portland in the frigate HMS Torquay and transferred at Ijmuiden to Mermaid, which led the two ships up the North Sea Canal for a visit to Amsterdam, with the Army band on the quarterdeck playing them in.

Bandmaster Warrant Officer 1 Paul Esplin was not a little proud of the fact that despite a rough night at sea there was not a single case of seasickness among his 20 bandmen.



Northern Ireland awards

The following awards have been made for service in Northern Ireland between 1 August and 31 October 1976.

Officer of the Order of the British Empire: Lieutenant-Colonel J H S Burgess, Intelligence Corps; Lieutenant-Colonel R G Lee, The King's Regiment.

Member of the Order of the British Empire: Major J P D Oliver, The Green Howards.

Queen's Gallantry Medal: Sergeant D M Couling, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Private P A De Lara, The Queen's Regiment.

British Empire Medal: Staff-Sergeant S C Coward, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers; Sergeant D Cunliffe, Royal Engineers; Sergeant M G Healy, Staff-Sergeant K A Underwood, both Royal Signals.

Military Cross: Major W S Turner, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Military Medal: Corporal D J Harkness, The King's Own Border Regiment.

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air: Warrant Officer 2 L V Dicks, Army Air Corps.

Mentioned in Despatches: Lieutenant-Colonel F A L Alstead, Captain A H Cunningham, both The King's Own Scottish Borderers; Captain C G F Charter, Major R H Graham, both The Queen's Regiment; Major D C Clarke, Sergeant D J Garrity, Lieutenant-Colonel J H Milburn, all The King's Own Border Regiment; Corporal B C Collard, Sapper A M Fry, both

Royal Engineers; Sergeant A B Cornet, Royal Corps of Transport; Warrant Officer 2 J Eastwood, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers; Corporal S L Fuszard, Lance-Corporal R C Gladwell, both Royal Signals; Colonel H Howard; Sergeant R A Jordan, Royal Military Police; Sergeant J S Lovelace, Lance-Bombardier K I Loxley, Lieutenant M B Stubington, all Royal Artillery; Warrant Officer 2 M J Stone, Major B F Williamson, both Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Major C G Thomson, Lieutenant-Colonel P F Walter, both The Parachute Regiment; Brigadier B C Webster.

Willy's road

Some people get a medal for long service; in civvy street, some get a clock. Herr Willy Hahn is different. He has had a road named after him.

Willy is the depot foreman of the Petroleum Sub Depot at Arsbeck. In a surprise ceremony, the commandant of 3 Base Ammunition and Petroleum Depot, Colonel W Musson, unveiled a plaque mounted on a one-and-a-half-ton limestone boulder, to rename the Arsbeck depot's main road 'Willy Hahn Strasse'.

The ceremony marked 28 years of service in which Willy has known some 15 commanding officers. During that time his devotion to duty has been legendary. Twice he has returned to the depot after long illness.

Woofers' new Colours

The shell of historic Newark Castle, one of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit, provided an imposing backdrop as Princess Anne presented new Colours to current Volunteers for Her Majesty's Forces from the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire areas.

It was at Newark Castle that Royalist troops held out during the Civil War; after the defeat of Charles I, the Parliamentarians ordered local people to reduce it to its present condition.

But times change and large numbers of local folk gathered to see the Princess, as Colonel-in-Chief, present the Colours to 3rd Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment. On parade were the 'Woofers' own band, the Junior Corps of Drums from the Prince of Wales's Division Depot, Lichfield, and making his first appearance on a royal parade, Derby XXIII, the new regimental ram.

Fully recruited

The battalion is divided into five rifle companies all based on cadres of the old Territorial Army. Its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C E Wilkinson, told the Princess that all were fully recruited with a total strength of 520. They were now about to recruit another company in central Derbyshire.

Princess Anne said that now more than ever before the TAVR was playing a very important role in that it was now an integral part not only of British but European defence.

Among the audience were members of the Grey and Simco Foresters, a Canadian affiliated regiment.

Gunners' gadget

The Ministry of Defence Procurement Executive has awarded a system definition contract for project BATES (battlefield artillery target engagement system) to Marconi Space and Defence Systems Limited. The study, which will be carried out in three stages, will be concerned with the use of computers to assist artillery staff in all areas of the battlefield.

BATES is to be a computerised command and control system which will combine with the target acquisition systems to enable artillery commanders to assimilate a very large amount of information and give them the power to utilise their field resources more efficiently and more effectively.

A major feature will be the use of distributed data processing. This permits flexibility and power in artillery fire control systems. Each command level will have computing power appropriate to its function and will be able to call on information, via data links, from any other part of the system, mainly using radios designed and built by Marconi. The system definition is taking into account the redeployment of artillery so that each computer in the system will be able to function autonomously whenever required.

Lucky clover a prize recipe

A sergeant who cooks for the Commander-in-Chief United Kingdom Land Forces, General Sir Edwin Bramall, walked away with the top cook award at this year's Army Catering Corps cookery contest at Aldershot. Sergeant Leslie Framcome (29) also won the advanced cookery section in 1975.

Notching up a win for the second year in succession were four ACC cooks from 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, in Rhine Army. Their unit competition included preparing a menu in the modern kitchens at the ACC Training Centre as well as cooking another one under canvas — and with pouring rain adding extra water to all ingredients.

Also winning for the second year on the trot was the WRAC team from the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot. Corporals Lesley Frost and Sandra Wood told SOLDIER they knew they were going to win because of the omens of the day before!

Sandra, who was a member of the 1976 winning pair, said: "I walked out of the ACC centre and the first

thing I found was a four-leafed clover. Then we saw six magpies — and that means gold!"

Corporal S J Miller, from HQ South-West District, Taunton, took the overall award for the exhibition classes and the runner-up was another cook from HQ UKLF, Corporal Peter Batty. He cooks for Major-General Laurie Gingell, Major-General (Administration) at UKLF.

This year an overall limit of £5 had been set for meal ingredients — which meant that £1 cabbages were strictly off the menu.

Pictured: Good luck girls Lesley and Sandra plus Snoopy, the dog mascot.



Widow's pilgrimage

Three days before the surrender of Hong Kong to the Japanese in December 1941, Sub-Conductor James Nelson Victor Hearn of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps was shot dead somewhere in the vicinity of Stanley. He is one of the many who died in the battle who have no known grave.

But his name is recorded on the memorial at the Sai Wan Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery. And, thanks to help from the Army, his widow was able to visit his memorial.

Now 72 and living in Australia, Mrs Violet Hearn wrote to Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Weatherburn, commanding the Royal Army Ordnance Corps' Composite Ordnance Depot at Blackdown Barracks, a week before the cruise ship in which she was a passenger arrived in Hong Kong. The result was that a few hours after the ship berthed at the Ocean Terminal, an Army staff car collected Mrs Hearn and drove her to Sai Wan where she laid a wreath in memory of her husband. Conductor Hugh Penman, from the Composite Ordnance Depot, also laid a wreath on behalf of the RAOC.

All Mrs Hearn knows about her husband's death is that he was one of three men who encountered Japanese troops somewhere near Stanley on 22 December 1941. Sub-Conductor Hearn and one other man were killed instantly. The third was captured by the Japanese.

Eighteen years ago Mrs Hearn made a special journey to Hong Kong from Australia to see the sole survivor and hear the full account. But in another tragic twist to the

story he was killed in a road accident five days before she arrived.

Gurkhas guests of Hussars

The 32nd anniversary of a World War Two action in Italy was marked by a meeting of British and Gurkha soldiers at Bovington, Dorset.

In April 1945, the 14th/20th King's Hussars were in Northern Italy forming part of the 43rd Gurkha Lorried Brigade Group.

Their tanks supported the 2nd/6th Gurkhas in an action which resulted in the capture of the small

town of Medicina, near Bologna. To mark the long association between the 14th/20th and the Gurkhas, which has been maintained ever since the Medicina action, the regiment invited some 60 Gurkha soldiers and ten officers to Bovington, where the 14th/20th are stationed as the Royal Armoured Corps Centre regiment.

The Gurkhas are members of 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles who recently arrived at Crookham, Aldershot, from Hong

Kong. The day's programme included a soccer match, a visit to the tank park, rides in armoured vehicles and a tour of the Tank Museum.

Old comrades of the 14th/20th joined in the day's celebrations.

The World War Two link is maintained by the 14th/20th wearing a shoulder badge of crossed kukris, the traditional Gurkha knife, while the 6th QEO Gurkhas have a shoulder badge of a hawk, taken from the 14th/20th cap badge.

Hello SOLDIER!

Look out for the SOLDIER stand at the Royal Bath and West Show at Shepton Mallet, Somerset, from May 31 to June 4. To mark the show's bicentennial, attractions will include the Royal Canadian Mounted Police musical ride, an arena display featuring more than 300 junior soldiers from seven different branches of the Army, and the bugles of The Light Division. The Prince of Wales is visiting the show on the opening day.

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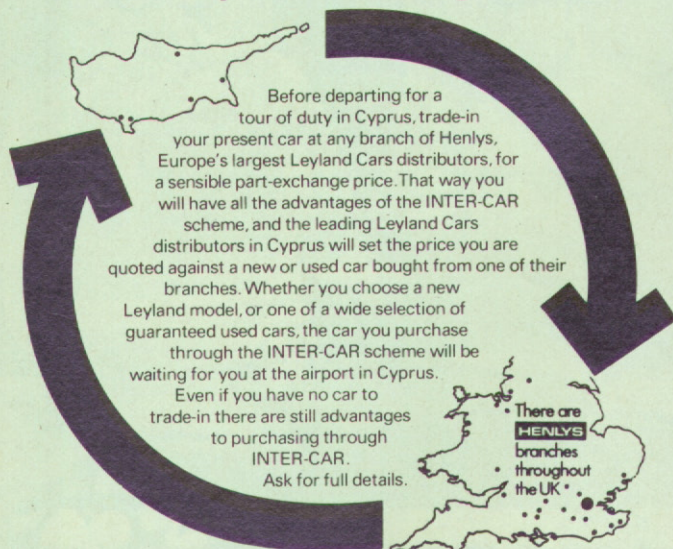
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Trowel used again



A new 'milestone' in the history of British Forces in Hong Kong has been laid — with the same trowel that performed an almost identical task 75 years ago.

The event was the laying of the foundation stone of the new Headquarters British Forces building being erected at HMS Tamar.

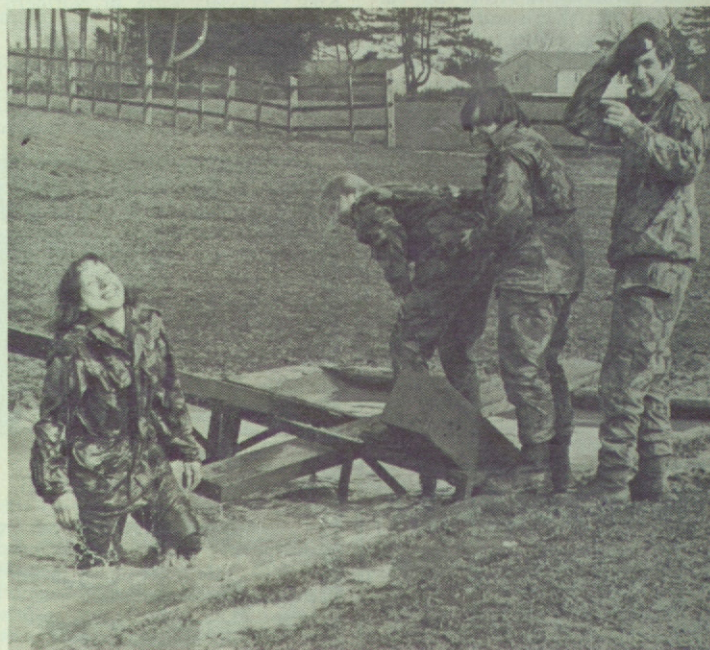
In performing the task, the Commander British Forces, Lieutenant-General Sir John Archer, used the

Victorian trowel that had been used to lay the first foundation block of the naval dockyard in 1902.

Completing the link with history was the fact that the new foundation stone was taken from a block of granite which formed part of the now demolished naval dockyard building.

The new \$60,000,000 headquarters is due to be completed early in 1979 as part of the \$174,000,000 scheme to rehouse various military units under the Hong Kong defence costs agreement.

OTC's wet weekend



While on exercise at St Martin's Plain Camp, near Hythe in Kent, the lads and lassies of the London University Officers Training Corps visited the Royal Engineers Junior Leaders Regiment at Old Park Barracks in Dover. Their training day, under the watchful eye of the regiment's leadership training officer, Captain Ceri Howell, was made up of a series of command and initiative tasks designed to stimulate their 'officer qualities.'

There must be a moral to this somewhere . . . almost everyone got wet!

Meet MacLlama!

Münster's Allwetter Zoo now boasts a pair of South American llamas — thanks to 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots.

Oxford Barracks is only a short distance from the Zoo and, since their arrival in Münster last summer, Royal Scots families have been frequent and welcome visitors.

The two animals, which cost DM 1600, should more correctly be called guanacos as they are the wild, undomesticated variety of llama.

Zoo director Dr Oberstadt made the occasion a Royal Scots Day and free admission was granted to all Royal Scots, their wives and children.

The Royal Scots gave the guanacos the full treatment and 'serenaded' them with the pipes and drums before the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart McBain, handed over the cheque

for the animals — the actual purchase of which had been made by the zoo — and a commemorative scroll to Dr Oberstadt.

Why guanacos? When the Royal Scots decided to buy something for the zoo the choice of animal was left to the director — and guanacos were on his wanted list.

While the CO, Lieut-Col McBain (left), looks on, one of the Royal Scots families, Pte James Haggarty, wife Karen and son Leon, gets acquainted with one of the guanacos which the regiment has presented to Münster Zoo. Pipe-Major Patrick Morecroft is in the background.



The Rock Jocks



Jock Volunteers scramble on to dry land before moving on to 'terrorist' positions in Gibraltar.

The Jocks, of 2nd Battalion, 52nd Lowland Volunteers, spent their fortnight's annual camp on the Rock

on Exercise Copper Beech. The 130 officers and men carried out frontier duties on the Spanish border, ceremonial guard mounting, weapon training, watersmanship and internal security work.

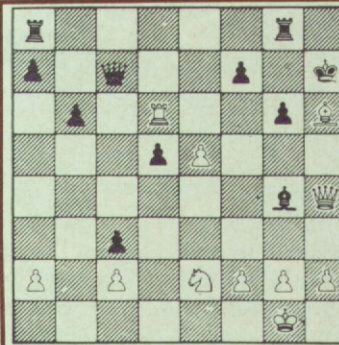


Yeomanry remembered

Memories of the past were toasted when a new pub in the heart of London was named after a famous Old Territorial Army Royal Horse Artillery unit, The City of London Yeomanry.

Old comrades of the now defunct regiment were invited to the opening of the City of London Yeoman, and Ind Coope house in London Street, as well as members of its TAVR successor, The Inns of Court and City Yeomanry.

Pictured are Colonel G S P Carden, pulling the first pint with mine hosts Jane and Syd Fillery.



Chess problem

White mated his opponent very neatly in three moves in this game played in Carlsbad 70 years ago. White to move.

Send your solution to Editor (CH2), SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU, by Monday 11 July. The winner, drawn by lots from correct entries, will receive £5 from the Army Chess Association.

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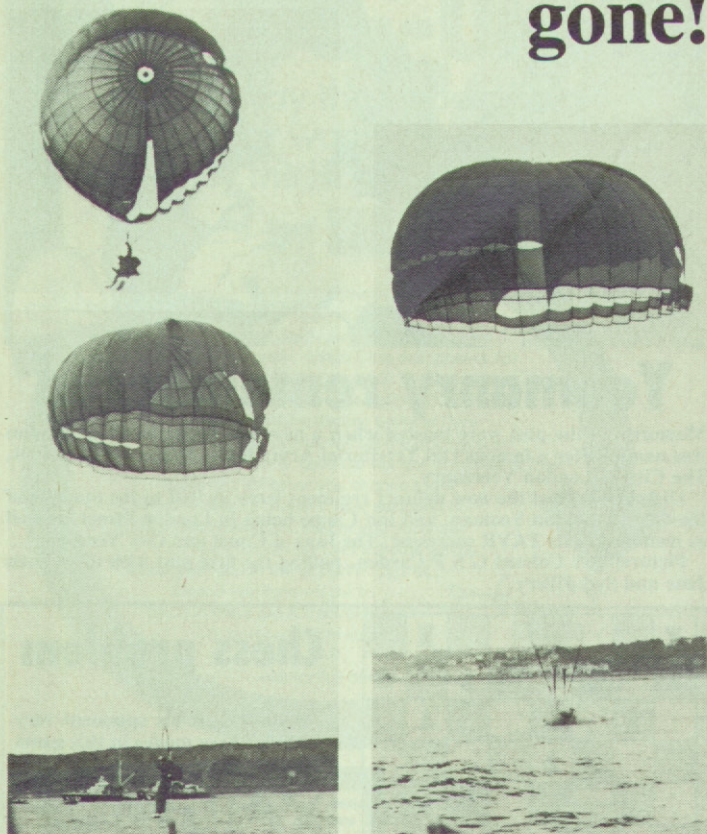
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Splash! and the real danger begins. These soldiers from Depot Parachute Regiment dropped into the sea off Jersey, and as well as the obvious danger from being tangled in their 'chutes they had to contend with the numbing cold of the water.

Fifty-four men made the adventure training drop into St Aubins Bay from an RAF Hercules. The water temperature was only just above freezing and the wind was gusting to more than 20 knots.

They dropped under 22-foot SSL steerable parachutes, which is unusual for The Parachute Regiment because these 'chutes are normally reserved for Special Boat Service and Special Air Service.

"All I know is it was bloody cold," said Colour-Sergeant Mike Hill, "but I was so busy I didn't really have time to think about it, until I was being hauled out. But it was certainly a real shock."

The parachutists were dropped in sticks of three from 1200 feet. Leading the drop were Colonel Gerald Mullins, the Regimental Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel Graham Farrell, depot commanding officer, and Wing Commander Brian White,

commanding the Parachute School at RAF Brize Norton.

Arnhem veteran Colonel Freddie Gough, now 76 years old, had to cancel his drop on doctor's orders because of the low water temperature.

"It was freezing," said Staff-Sergeant Bill Purewal. "It's a bit deceiving watching the water coming up at you, but I knew where I was because I could feel the shock go straight up me as I hit the water."

Safety in the water depended on the speed with which the parachutists could be picked up. There were six gemini rubber boats on duty — three from RAF air sea rescue, Mountbatten, Plymouth, two from the Jersey Fire Brigade and one from Jersey Police.

Co-ordinating them and the two RAF air-sea rescue launches and RNLI lifeboat was Flight-

Lieutenant John Cole and his team from the RAF liaison office at the Aldershot depot.

"Experience has shown that speed is of the essence," he said, "so we had as many boats as possible in the water."

He explained that because of the fear of getting tangled in the har-

ness, a slightly different landing procedure was used for sea drops.

"As soon as their feet touch water, they should disconnect the canopy from the harness. The problem is that height above water is very difficult to judge. But most people knew when they hit because of the shock from the cold water."

Glider flies again

The one and only power glider in Cyprus has been rescued from mouldering obscurity, given a coat of paint, a brush-down and is now flying again.

The glider, powered by a 1500cc Volkswagen engine, crashed in 1974 and was then just dumped in a corner. A year later 103 Maintenance Unit at RAF Akrotiri straightened the glider, named Falke, and put it into flying condition.

But there remained one problem. Falke is really an overgrown model aircraft but instead of being made of balsa wood and covered with tissue paper, it is made of metal tubes and wood and covered with Irish linen.

The linen skin has to be shrunk until drum tight with toughening dope and then protected from the sun with silver dope.

The trouble was that so far as the Army is concerned, this is a dead art. But although the trade is no longer taught, someone remembered that it used to be a skill of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers aircraft technicians when they serviced Austers.

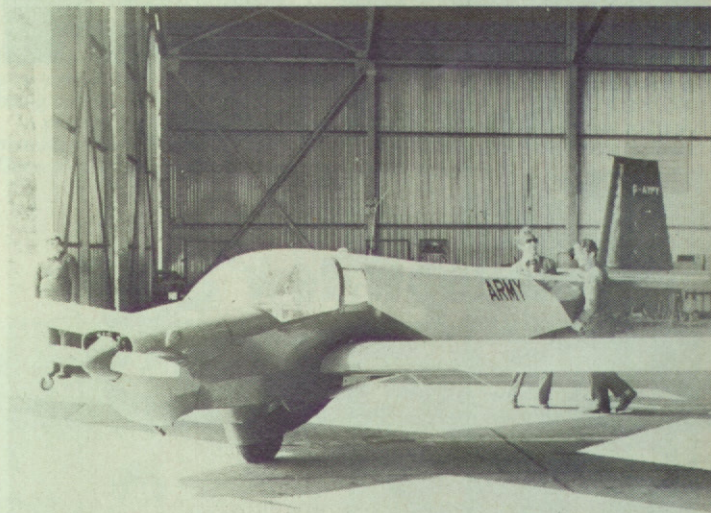
Warrant Officer Keith Corbett, of 48 Command Workshop, was the man and, after a few experiments, he and nearly all of his section made good the glider skin.

Almost a year later Falke lifted off from Kingsfield bound for Akrotiri and a flying display. That normally would be the end of the story, but the glider had run out of hours on its certificate of airworthiness and was grounded once more.

And because Falke was a military machine, the Crusaders Flying Club could not service the aircraft or find spare parts for it.

Finally, after Falke had lain yet another year in a corner of a hangar, 48 Command Workshop was given the job of servicing, overhauling and replacing for the airworthiness ticket.

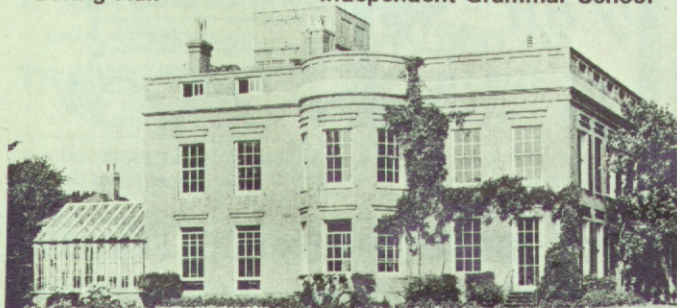
Just 45 months, three moves and about 1000 man hours later, Falke took to the air again.



Falke is rolled out again

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No mines here, detects Sebastian



Army engineers are used to being called upon to carry out unusual tasks. None could be more unusual than that at Ocean Park, Hong Kong.

Sebastian, one of the stars of the performing dolphins at the dolphinarium, was sick and did not respond to treatment. Mr Rod Abel, the operations manager of the park, believed the ailment could have been caused by swallowing a foreign object, possibly something made of metal.

The Army was approached by Mr Abel to see whether it would be pos-

sible to locate the object by the use of a mine detector.

Corporal Egendra Bahadur Mall, of 68 Squadron, Gurkha Engineers, was soon on his way with his small team of experts and a mine detector.

Alas, the story as yet does not have a happy ending for, having emptied most of the water from Sebastian's tank and run the detector several times up and down his body, not a 'bleep' was registered on the machine.

It was not a completely fruitless exercise however because it means that Mr Abel and his staff can now delete metal foreign objects as a possible cause of the dolphin's sickness.

Birthday drums



The Reserve Army's senior regiment celebrated its four-hundredth birthday by exercising its right to the Freedom of its home town and marched through the streets with 'drums playing, flags flying and bayonets fixed.'

The Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (see SOLDIER April 1977) celebrated the anniversary of their founding on 21 March 1577 a

few days late (3 April), but what's a few days in 400 years!

The regiment's squadrons converged from the Midlands, Newport and Swansea to be in Monmouth for the big day and as a reminder of the connection with 6 Canadian Field Squadron (LR), Royal Canadian Engineers, officers of that unit came all the way from British Columbia for the march past.



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New radio is a signal success

The order was simple. Take away the Army's proposed new radio system and test it. And tested it certainly was.

In just a few months the new system, Clansman, was subjected to all the hammer that a battalion of soldiers in the field could give it — and it passed with flying colours.

It was unfortunate for the soldiers involved in the tests, from 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, that they had to face some of the worst weather in recent years. The tests were all carried out at places like Otterburn, Sennybridge, Stan-ford and Catterick, not normally noted for kind weather, particularly in the dead of winter.

But perhaps this was just as well. Clansman will not get a rougher handling than it got on the trials.

"We've had the lot," said Sergeant Joe Courtenay. "Rain, snow, sleet and gales, virtually all the time. When we went to Senny-bridge they called off the Special Air Service Regiment and platoon sergeants courses at Brecon, then four hours later they called us off, and the sets were still working."

Ten exercises were devised, usually lasting just one week and involving one company, culminating in a final battalion exercise.

Better

"The kit is good," said Captain Peter Durrant, regimental signals officer of the Glosters. "It is far better than Larkspur, which it replaces, and we will have to go back to Larkspur afterwards, and that will be a hell of a chore."

"What we have tried to do is look at the logistic implications, sealing and its tactical effectiveness."

"Eventually it will go down to one radio per half-section, so there will be much better command and control. It will mean that section commanders can speak into the radio and can actually see the effect right away, without shouting out commands."

"Performance is much better. From a signalling point of view, Clansman has secondary benefits, which are things to be remembered. With the set in a command vehicle you can slap in a teleprinter. As far as a platoon commander is con-

Above, left: The 349 high on the shoulder, leaving room for pick and shovel. Note the throat mike.

Below, left: The 351. The carrying harness still needs some working on.

cerned there is just no comparison.

"It can even act as a telephone exchange using five remote hand-sets, which is really very important when thinking of electronic counter-measures."

So far as Private Doug Gobey is concerned, Clansman does every-thing except make toast.

He has been involved in packing, range tests, arms tests and generally looking for faults.

"We have found some things wrong with it," he said, "but nothing that can't be put right. It has worked extremely well. The hand sets were said to go only three kilometres but we have had them working up to 15."

"The weight is much better, you can pack it easier and it is much easier to tune."

Major Robin Grist, commanding A Company and in charge of the Clansman trials, does not think that Clansman will be used for internal security work in Northern Ireland.

"We did a rural internal security exercise," he said, "but I can't see it taking over in the towns because the Pye two-way radios are ideal for that purpose."

More emphasis was put on counter-penetration, where communication is so vital, as in the Glosters' airportable role.

Here a new word, exfiltrate, has crept into the Army's jargon. As implied, it is the opposite of infil-trate and describes how the infantry unit, once by-passed by a fast enemy, would make its way through the lines to friendly territory.

The first exercise deployed three companies to bases round the Otterburn training area in a 40-50 square mile area. A company of 1st Battalion, The Kings Own Scottish Borderers, acted as enemy with support helicopters, engineers and even dogs.

Then they moved to about 100 square miles of dense forest high on the Pennines, using few vehicles. On this exercise a battery commander and forward observation officer were given the chance to use the radios. "The radios have been jolly good," said Major Grist. "With two radios per section of eight men you

have the potential for greater control, and that is what the radio is giving to us."

"We have a wide range of VHF manpack sets which pretty well have sufficient power to virtually guaran-tee contact over a far greater range than Larkspur."

"The 320 has a manpack radio which gives 24-hour voice com-munications over a large battalion area which is something you just could not hope for from its pre-decessors."

Pleased

"The basic principles of VHF mean the sets are subject to screen-ing. Buildings or trees do deterior-ate reception, but even so we are really quite pleased with what we have got out of it."

"One thing we have tried is inter-operability with Larkspur. There are one or two difficulties, but basically it worked out all right."

"When we came on exercise we deployed in radio silence but quite a lot of the sets have a remote facility for using wires and a 'telephone exchange'. We are only supposed to 'remote' on a set of wires up to three kilometres, but we managed a ten-tacle from battalion HQ to company

For the technically minded, all four manpacks in the Clansman family were developed by the Racal Electronics Group. They are the UK/PRC-349, UK/PRC-350, UK/PRC-351 and UK/PRC-352.

Integrating the sets wherever possible has resulted in a very compact set, while the modular construction allows easy on-the-spot servicing. All the sets are designed to be waterproof and dustproof and operate over an extremely wide temperature range.

The 349 is small and light enough — only 1.9kg — to enable a soldier to carry it in a combat jacket pocket or a shoulder holster. Operating in the frequency range 37 to 47MHz it provides 400 speech channels at 25kHz spacing. Power output from the transmitter is 250 or 500mW which, says Racal, gives an effective range of between one and two kilometres over rolling countryside.

The 350 has 841 channels covering the frequency range 36 to 57 MHz at 25kHz spacing with a power output of 2W, giving a typical reliable communication range with a similar set over undulating country of five kilometres.

The 351 and 352 have extended frequency ranges of 30 to 76MHz with 1841 channels spaced at 25kHz intervals. The 351 has a power output of 4W, increasing the typical range to eight kilometres while the 352 has a 20W output giving a typical range of 16 kilometres. The 352 normally uses a ground mounted antenna.

All three sets have a 'whisper' facility which reduces audio output and increases microphone sensitivity, allowing safe operation near an enemy.

The 353 vehicle borne set, made by Marconi, has a frequency range of 30 to 76MHz. It has 1841 chan-nels at 25kHz spacing and the power output can be switched between 100MW up to 50W. A typical range would be 30 kilometres.

and then, from company, another net to platoons.

"This meant that we could go to a company perhaps 12 kilometres away, and it worked very well. The only snag is that it is quite a task laying 12 kilometres of line, and of course it is only as secure as any direct line can be."

Deep in his forest hide, Sergeant Joe Courtenay stressed that as far as he was concerned the great thing about Clansman was that it meant that for the first time a platoon sergeant really knew what was going on.

"There is really no comparison with the A41 set. This is excellent. Apart from the carriage problems, which we think we have solved, it's fine."

"The 350 is carried on a series of studs. This was found to be unsatis-factory but the alternative is to attach it to normal '58 pattern har-ness, high on either shoulder, which leaves room for a pick and shovel."

"Something we have never had before is the 'noddy suit' mike which clips on to the respirator. This is really good. You can wear the headphone and talk clearly and be understood."

Problems

"The send-receive switch gave us some problems, because it would jam open if grit got into it, but the answer there is a rubber sock over the whole assembly."

"Before, only three blokes could use a radio in a platoon but now, within reason, anyone can use Clansman."

"I have been in 14 years and it is the first time I have seen kit like this. I've got soldiers who have been in seven months operating this kit. The A41 has flashing torches and

has to be tuned. With Clansman you just change frequency by listening to the clicks as you turn a series of buttons."

Soldier-proof

"At the moment the aerials are not soldier-proof; we seem to be getting through a hell of a lot. And the long lengths of curly wire to the hand switches will have to go. But there seems to be no really unsur-mountable problem."

One of the big problems with a fast mobile army is communication, from the top right down to the sol-dier on the ground. Now, for the first time, it looks as if Clansman might well provide the answer.

It is expected that Rhine Army units will get the first sets, some time later this year. From then on, communication problems could well become a thing of the past, as obso-lete as the bow and arrow.



Top: A hand generator can be used instead of batteries, in this case with the 351.

Right: The 350. Again this system is small enough not to be a nuisance. The curly wire will eventually have to be replaced.

Left: The system can be used effectively with NBC suits and respirators. The headset comes complete with a clip-on respirator mike attachment.

Below, left: The 'big daddy' of the system — the 353 — working in a Land-Rover. It takes up far less room than its predecessor.



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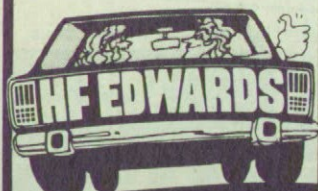
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Saucy Sue



Dash it all, is nothing safe from Women's Lib? Not even the chaps' swimming pool at Sandhurst ... For the latest member of the staff at the Royal Military Academy is the first-ever girl swimming pool attendant, Sue Faulkner, who caused a bit of a ripple when it was discovered she could get a cheeky glimpse of the chaps changing. But she's poured oil on troubled waters by promising not to peep. Pretty sporting for a gel nowadays, what?

Rickshaw Rembrandt

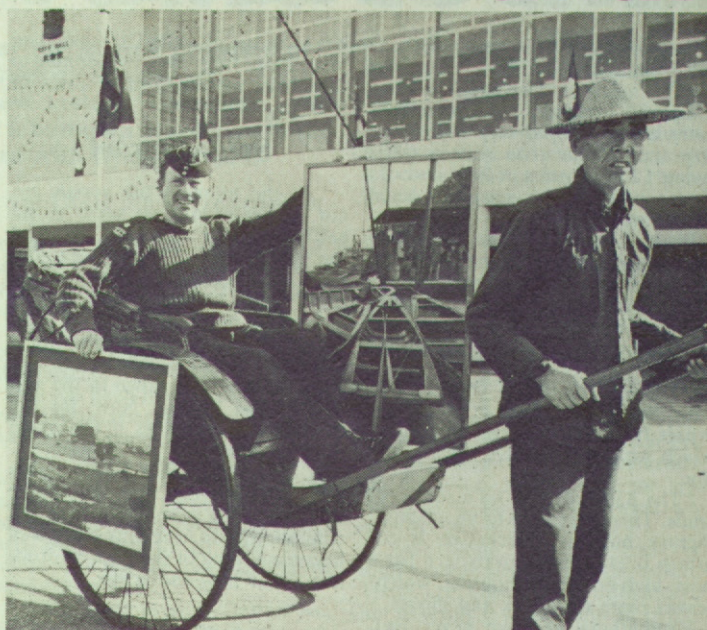
Major Mark Brazier of the Joint Service Public Relations Staff at Victoria Barracks, Hong Kong, is making sure that the Services are represented during the 1977 Hong Kong Arts Festival.

A keen spare-time painter in oils, he has had two of his works selected to be hung in the festival's art exhibition. One depicts the bustling activity of the fishermen at Lau Fau Shan and the other, a more tranquil scene, countryside near Lok Ma Chau.

Major Brazier found a ready market for his paintings during his last posting, in Northern Ireland. Several officers' messes now have his works hanging within, as well as several homes.

Since coming to Hong Kong ten months ago he has found a wealth of suitable scenes to paint, but steers clear of sunsets and sailing junks, subjects all too often depicted by local artists for the tourist market.

He has been offered a one-man exhibition by a leading contemporary gallery in Hong Kong's Central District at the end of this year and is now working in his off-duty hours to achieve this goal.



Picture shows Major Brazier using the traditional form of Hong Kong transport, the rickshaw (now rapidly disappearing from the city's

streets), to deliver his paintings of traditional Chinese life to the City Hall, Hong Kong, for the opening of the Arts Festival Exhibition.

Tankies get new vehicles



The 2nd Royal Tank Regiment may have had to give up its Chieftain tanks but it has the consolation of being the first armoured reconnaissance regiment in Germany to be equipped with Scorpion, Scimitar and Fox.

The Münster-based tankies had Chieftain for ten years and are now equipped with the latest generation of British armoured reconnaissance vehicles.

Pictured in Münster are (right) Sergeant Peter Bennett and (left) Lieutenant Andrew Best in the turret of a Scorpion during a break in the conversion training period. In the background are (left to right) Chieftain, Scimitar and the wheeled Fox.

He also serves ...

What do old soldiers do when they retire from the Army with a long-service medal? If they are like 57-year-old James Philpott of Frindsbury, Kent, they put on Royal Navy uniform and go on to qualify for another long-service medal.

The career of this son and grandson of soldiers started at a Brighton recruiting office in 1937 when he joined the Royal Corps of Signals.

The outbreak of World War Two found him in the Middle East, and there he stayed right through the desert campaign. From there he took part in the Salerno landings, then through Europe from the Normandy beaches to Berlin.

Duty in Cyprus and Korea followed before he retired from the Royal Signals as a warrant officer, after 22 years' service, in 1959.

For four years he was in the Civil Defence before joining, in 1966, the Royal Naval Reserve headquarters unit, HMS Wildfire, at Gillingham.

As a petty officer he has now finally retired after 37 years in uniform and with sufficient service in the RNR to qualify him for its Long Service Medal.

Ex-Warrant Officer and Ex-Petty Officer Philpott now intends to devote his spare time to his garden

and stamp collection. Below, Jim shows off his Army Long Service & Good Conduct Medal on his naval uniform. Soon to be added to the four rows of ribbons will be the Naval Reserve Long Service Medal.



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Comfort in expert hands

As I write this article, news has come in of more murders of British soldiers as well as injuries and more bombs in Belfast. The only comfort for an injured soldier is that he is in expert hands at the Musgrave Park Hospital, a wing of the Royal Victoria.

The Royal Victoria sounds an ancient building. In fact it is only 14 years old. Taken on a tour by the matron and a nursing sister, I quickly noticed the contrast with an English hospital.

There was no bustle. No children.

No families. The reception desks were manned by soldiers and I was checked and searched before I was allowed upstairs. Passing through the wards I saw little evidence of everyday illnesses — instead the beds contained wounded soldiers.

Long way

These men had been sent to Musgrave Park from all over the province. They were mostly a long way from their families — even those who had been accompanied to Northern Ireland.

The media no longer tells of incidents such as that which broke Brian Duffield's jaw. A brick

thrown by a ten-year-old boy had left him with his jaw wired up for six weeks. As he tried to smile he told me: "I enjoy steak through a straw!"

In the next bed was David Reed, his leg shattered by a car bomb. He was in obvious pain but I was able to tell him that I would see his wife on my return.

Well stocked

Watching over the injured men was Mrs Helen Whittle, of the Red Cross, who described her job to me: "I make sure the recreation rooms are well stocked with games, books, papers, puzzles and so on. The craft

side is very important — the patients can make just about anything."

Courage

Nursing in this type of hospital must be very different but the team spirit of the medical staff, coupled with the tremendous courage of the patients, often pulls through apparently hopeless cases.

As I left I passed a 2000-piece jigsaw. I just hope the troubles will end before that number of wounded pass through these wards. But perhaps there have been that many already.

Esprit de corps, loyalty and devotion to duty are all attributes of the British soldier but they can equally be applied to the wives and families who accompany the troops for 18-month to two-year tours in Northern Ireland.

What is it like to live in the Emerald Isle as an Army family? What are the problems? What about finance, separation, travel restrictions, leisure activities, holidays and schools? For here is a posting different from all others. It is in the United Kingdom and yet different from the rest of the United Kingdom. There is danger and tension.

Seven years have passed since 'the troubles' returned to Northern Ireland. We have seen ceasefires, battles, the peace movement, bombs, death and injury to British troops. At one time this sort of news hit the headlines — now time has dulled the interest of the news media.

The wives are perhaps at times forgotten. Yet there is no word of complaint from them. Just loyalty and devotion to duty. A wife may see her husband for only one day in 12; he may be away for four to six weeks on patrol and she is left to look after the family.

One wife — let us call her 'Mrs A' — told me: "My husband was blown up while inspecting a van in the north of the province. He spent some time in hospital and to visit him in Belfast took a whole day there and back. However, I went every day and now he is on duty again."

"When it happened I was asked if I would like to go home. I said 'never' — I will stay here. This is where I belong."

Ninety-nine per cent of the families I spoke to in Northern Ireland praised the excellent education their primary school children were receiving. Teachers said that many children who had come from Rhine Army were not only catching up but going ahead during their spell in the province.

For ten days I talked to wives, saw them in their homes and visited schools, community centres, playgroups, youth clubs and hospitals, as well as visiting the Ulster Defence Regiment and seeing many other facets of life in Northern Ireland.

WE MUST NOT FORGET THESE LOYAL AND DEVOTED WIVES.



ALL IN THE FAMILY

WITH

ANNE ARMSTRONG

...A wife writes...

Dear Anne,

On your recent visit I do feel that the wives painted rather a bad picture of life in Northern Ireland. Really there is a lot to do and see if the wives get out and about.

Our Monday Club aims to do just that and with the help of the transport people we manage to do quite a few things. Of course we have to have security clearance on all our activities but if we do come unstuck then we can always call on one of our pre-booked speakers to oblige at the last minute.

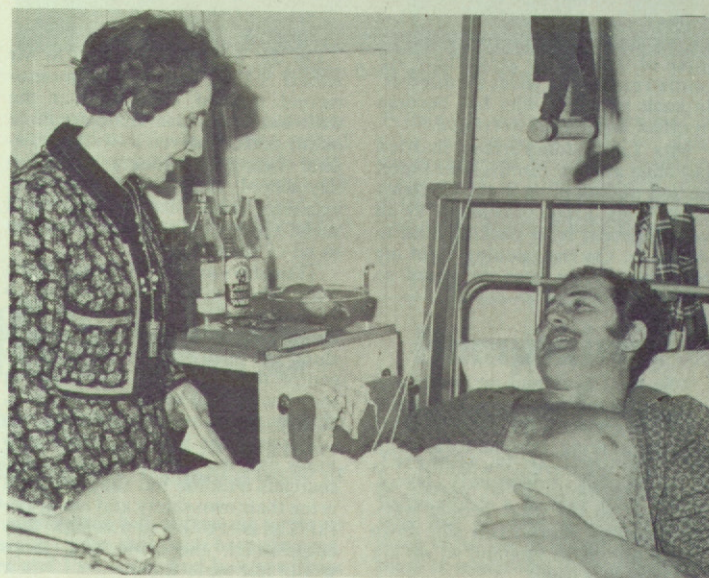
My family (I have two boys of ten and 11) and I went camping in the Glens of Antrim last year and had a truly great time. We often go out for car rides at the weekends, the scenery is terrific over here and the Mountains of Mourne do look down to the sea!

The three men in my life are members of the Rod and Reel Club and are often up at the crack of dawn sorting and reviving maggots for the day's sport.

Anthea Sheppard
Lisburn
Northern Ireland.

Warming news in quarters

Good news for Northern Ireland came from Mr Robert Brown, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army. He told the Commons that the programme of improving the insulation of married quarters in the United Kingdom would give priority to Northern Ireland and other areas with similar problems.



Anne chats to a Musgrave Park patient.

The 'social worker wives'

The recent Army welfare enquiry mentioned the future role of commanding officers' wives and said the Army could no longer be expected to rely on them as unpaid social workers.

Yet in Northern Ireland, for the past seven years, these wives have worked and are still often working a 12-hour day. To be on call for 24 hours a day is by no means unusual — rather the norm. Of course they do it because they regard it as their duty to look after the 'regimental family.'

There is only one highly trained

SSAFA social worker in the province — covering an area the size of East Anglia with 3000 families. Yet her pay is less than that of the Women's Royal Army Corps welfare assistant who helps her. The SSAFA worker too is always on call and feels she cannot let down the families who need her.

But unless more social support is forthcoming the wives and children of servicemen in Northern Ireland may suffer in the not-too-distant future. The COs' wives, the full-time social worker and all the others who spend hours of their own time are doing a wonderful job. I hope people both inside and outside Northern Ireland realise that.

Anne Armstrong

Coldstream wives bridge Derry divide

Londonderry, a town divided by a river. On one bank lies the notorious Creggan and it is here that soldiers on four-month tours are stationed. On the other bank is a relic from the past, a former naval station, now a military camp guarded and occupied by 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards. Some 234 families with 200 children have opted to accompany the husbands during their 18-month tour.

The families live in five separate patches of quarters. The furthest is 15 miles away, the nearest within walking distance of the camp. The Coldstream commitments mean that the husbands are away a lot — several bad trouble spots are within their territory.

Yet life has to go on and in their five months in Northern Ireland the Coldstream wives have not just sat back. Transport has been the major problem with the wives being so scattered but it has been arranged so that the families can live as normal lives as possible.

Shattering

A shattering start to the New Year was the discovery of a bomb under a community centre on New Year's Eve. Fortunately a vigilant guardsman spotted it and the centre and the families inside were saved.

It is the community centres which I would like to highlight. They play an extremely important role. In three of the quarter areas there are centres run by the wives themselves. In each is a wife who has become in effect a publican overnight.

Mrs Linda MacFarlane married last June and six months later found herself pulling pints in the Chenney Park Arms. Linda told me: "It's all very different from packing flour in Andover. On the opening night my husband, Stuart, was on guard so that left just me.

Busy

"So far I have had no floods and even changing the barrels is quite easy now. I am kept busy ordering and stocktaking. It is the focal point for these quarters — whether it is for coffee mornings or parties we are here to do what people wish. The families cannot just slip down to the pub as in England so we are the next best thing.

I met Mrs Sue Pyle on a Saturday afternoon preparing for a candle-light disco to be held that evening at the Nelson Drive Arms. From 8.30 to 11 that night she would stand behind the bar pulling the pints.

Shock

With no previous experience, Sue was enabling some 80 families to have some enjoyment. She had not let the bomb incident affect her running the centre and declared: "It was a shock but you cannot let something like that get you down or you would have no life at all."

Eight miles away, in the Eglington Arms, I found Mrs Bridget Powell who said: "This is a full-time job and I enjoy it. I open normal pub hours and of course during the day for the Good-as-New Club, coffee mornings and a children's disco.

"We try to do our best because

boredom can be a problem out here as we are some miles from camp. It is so important to have some entertainment and to have somewhere to meet and talk and where the children can let off a bit of steam."

Isolated

I was told that sometimes when soldiers come home late and are due to go out early the following day they often knock on the door to get cigarettes. Bridget confirmed this: "Yes I do get up and let them have some. The poor chaps need a smoke with the job they do."

Campsie has a smaller number of quarters and is isolated and well guarded like all the quarter areas. Here I had tea with several wives and found that even though they are so far from camp they still help with activities.

Highlight

On the way back I talked to Mr Albert Smith, who has the monumental task of ensuring that the daily transport runs. There are three major schools served as well as hospital visiting, the kindergarten, Sunday school, church, shopping trips, exchange shop, families centre and social activities. Transport is the key to all of these.

Thursdays are the highlight of the week when wives come from up to 15 miles away to meet, have their hair done or to buy at the thrift shop. At the shop in the families centre they can also sell anything they have made such as marmalade, chutney, jumpers and soft toys.

These wives told me they sometimes find the continual checks and searches irksome but they realise it is for their own safety and are grateful. The cost of living was high, they complained, and some local shops would not serve them.

Church

As I sat in the church that Sunday it could have been anywhere. Except that overhead a helicopter whirled and the only thing that made it a Sunday was the church service. Outside everyone else was on duty or having a brief rest before the next patrol.

☆☆☆☆

Benefit claims

Claim forms for child benefit are available in all British Forces Post Offices in Northern Ireland, says the Department of Health and Social Security. Please let your unit families officer know if you experience a delay of more than three weeks in obtaining them.



Linda MacFarlane behind her bar.

Foster mums . . .

It was a pleasant surprise to find two Army wives in Ballykelly who are fostering babies. Both Mrs Patricia Odell and Mrs Mary Rogers have husbands serving with 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, in Ballykelly.

Mary has two young children of her own and they have now been joined by baby Shaw, aged 13 months. Mary told me that the chil-

dren are placed by the local health authority who provide the foster parents with money and welfare extras.

Patricia acquired baby David at just the right time, for her 17-year-old son has just left home. She told me proudly: "It is back to the baby routine again — but I would not miss it for David is no trouble at all."



Left: Mrs Odell and David; right, Mrs Rogers and Shaw.

Gordons' Hollywood stars

A miniature garden containing a windmill and a pond provides a tranquil touch in contrast to the high-wire fences and the searches as you enter Hollywood Barracks, home of the Gordons. Yet, if a recent car bomb had exploded, the garden, windmill and pond would all have been obliterated.

Inside, Hollywood is a separate community, one which has its problems but has decided to cope with them and make the best of it. The Naafi shop has become a meeting place and its notice board is smothered with literature advertising such things as the Good-as-New and Thrift Shop, launderette times, activities for children (including a crèche and kindergarten), keep fit, badminton, swimming, a hairdressing salon . . .

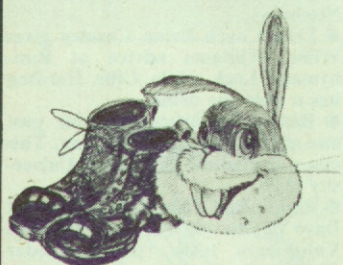
Other activities inside the camp include a drama club, folk group, ballet, Brownies, Guides and Cubs, a youth club and the Boys' Brigade. Merely an indication of how families in Northern Ireland do help themselves in spite of their limited resources.

Studying

At the Naafi shop I met Hilary Cumming who let slip that she was studying with the Open University and hopes to complete her degree in social sciences next year. How had she had managed to study for six years as an Army wife and mother of three as well as carrying out voluntary work?

Said Hilary: "It has been a struggle as since I started I have hardly been in one place any time at all. Aberdeen, Inverness, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and now Belfast — I can tell you that moving at exam time is no joke. But it will be worth it."

...Foster dads



It's not only the wives who do a bit of fostering in Northern Ireland. The 18 members of the Army Air Corps at RAF Sydenham (plus one RAF man) have adopted a seven-week-old baby.

The baby, named Eric, is a wild rabbit. He joined 657 Squadron, Army Air Corps, in a very unusual way. He was found dying on the runway and was literally given the kiss of life. His diet at first consisted of warm milk but he is now being weaned on to shredded carrot (what else?) and will soon be on other solids.

The men on duty take it in turn to feed Eric and as soon as he is placed on the ground he heads for the nearest pair of Army boots (which he obviously associates with food).

Soon Eric will be old enough for his helicopter familiarisation course and a flight will probably come later. Already he is well used to the noise of helicopters . . .

It would be interesting to know how many other Army wives are doing Open University courses.

I asked Mrs Angela Sharp, wife of the regimental sergeant-major, about the coloured stickers on the doors of houses. Apparently the various colours denote who is on call — so that when a call out occurs after dark it is easy to knock up the right people.

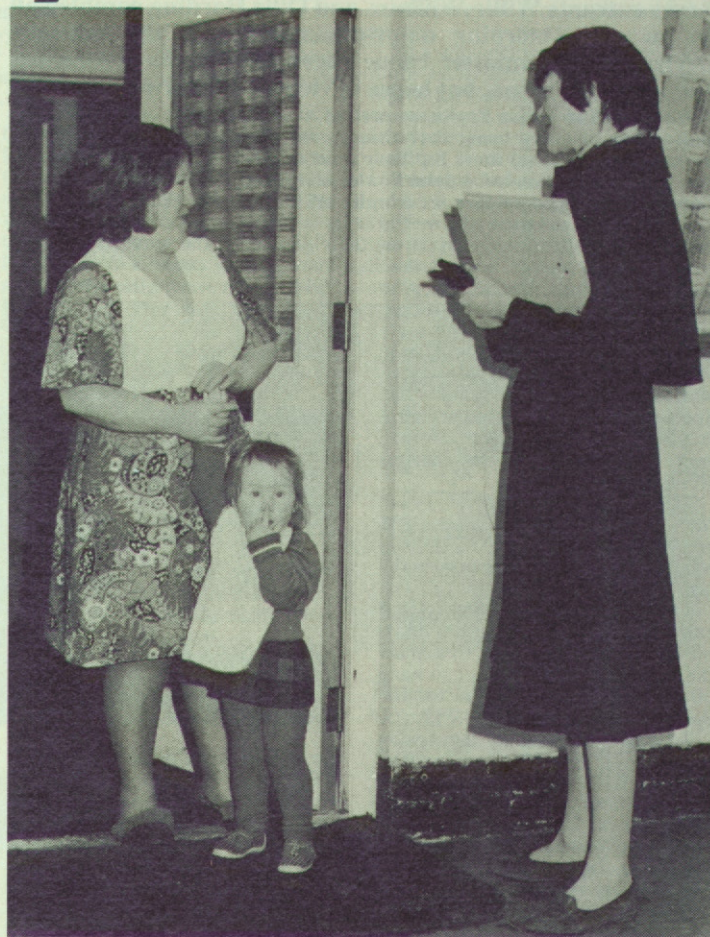
Employment agency

Many wives seek jobs when they are in Northern Ireland. Or their teenaged children look for holiday employment. The 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders, has set up an experimental unit employment agency. In charge is Mrs Margaret Jordan, a mother of three who is capable, efficient and has plenty of drive.

Margaret told me: "When we were in Britain more than 200 of our 380 wives were bringing in some sort of income. But when we came here the wives who could get jobs dropped to only 16. It has now risen to about 40 but that is still a long way from the previous total."

Her first task was to find possible areas of employment both inside and outside the camp. At the same time Margaret did a survey among the wives and registered those who wanted employment and the type of work and hours required.

"At first, employers were rather reserved but when I had explained the idea to them they were very helpful and now I will have to see what can be done to match up the two lists."



Margaret Jordan finds work for wives

Margaret, an excellent ambassador of the Gordons, then rushed off on her round of potential employers and employees. Of course not everyone in Northern Ireland can get a job and if you have worked in

Britain for the required amount of time you may be able to claim unemployment benefit in Northern Ireland. If in doubt check with DHSS leaflet NI 12 — available at any unemployment benefit office.

Behind the wire

Living inside a four-mile perimeter high-wire fence would seem strange to anyone who has not served in Northern Ireland. But there it is normal for families, including those of the 9th/12th Lancers in Omagh.

Omagh is set in some very attractive countryside but, as you see an Army patrol about to start its three-week cycle, you realise that times have changed. They leave their families inside the fence and I set out to find just how those families coped.

The first thing I learned was that all resources are pooled. The Rev Tony Heney and Mrs Jill Grant took me to meet some of the wives. Mrs Carol Biddescombe runs a crèche and this is invaluable. This view was confirmed by one mother, Mrs Susan Sinclair, who told me: "I would be lost without it. I have three children under five and with this I can at least shop with peace of mind."

For slightly older children there is the kindergarten run by Mrs Christine Kergerson and a group of helpers. Not to mention the youth club, under the guidance of Sergeant Andy Mooring.

Inside a warm, cosy caravan, sipping a cup of coffee, I met Mrs Mary Whetton. She had the idea of converting the old mobile home into a meeting place for morning coffee.

Another wife practises archery,

there is a library and fishing and sailing attracts others. In fact all the wives try to get together and make the best of the unusual situation in which they find themselves.

☆☆☆☆

Talent

Northern Ireland does not stunt creative talent, as I saw at St Patrick's Garrison Church in Omagh. Here, on a once bare wall, Mrs Evelyn Radford has created a magnificent mural of Joseph, Mary and the baby Jesus.

Mrs Radford, who was putting the finishing touches to her masterpiece, told me: "It has taken me two-and-a-half months to do. I have never attempted anything like this before and it has been quite an experience."

Hampshires' seaside home

The home of 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, at Ballykelly is a former RAF station with lots of green grass stretching down to the sea. It is cold, windy and bleak in winter and the 500 quarters, half of them occupied by Hampshire families, are very isolated.

Transport is extremely limited. And because the primary school is slightly less than two miles away there is no welfare transport available. The regiment hires (at great cost) buses to take the children.

As elsewhere the families have to rely on their own resources. They have a swimming pool, a squash court and a social amenities club which has just had a facelift. There are also a thrift club and a launderette.

One very useful amenity I saw was an internal phone to the camp so that wives could leave messages for their husbands and obtain information. At Christmas there had been a problem in obtaining presents but a bulk order of 2000 saved the day. It was drizzling again as I left but it had not dampened the spirits of the Hampshire wives.

Sappers pipped at the post

Army entrants Willie Williams and Ollie Harding gambled all on an early morning do-or-die attempt on the 125-mile Devizes to Westminster canoe race. They broke the record and were first home, but hopes of victory were cruelly dashed.

When the two Royal Engineers arrived at Westminster, soaked through and aching in every bone, they thought they had won after slashing 45 minutes off the record time. But their quiet satisfaction changed to resignation when the next morning John Fowler and Brian Greenaway of the Royal Canoe Club clipped another six minutes off the sappers' time.

And then, to put the tin lid on the sappers' hopes, one of their nominated team boats dropped out, scuppering their chances of the team prize.

The sappers had six boats in the race but only four could be counted for the team placings. Dickie Self, who with Phil Oliver was in the nominated boat, was taken to hospital with exposure.

The best Service team was again from the Royal Marines Canoe Federation, coming second overall, with the first Army team, 21st Special Air Service Regiment, third. A J Ince and J W Sage of 21 SAS won the trophy for the fastest Reserve Forces crew.

The dilemma for the fast crews in the race was to plan their timing to get them from Devizes to Teddington to catch the outgoing tide on the last lap to Westminster.

The choice was to start at the earliest possible time of 0700 hours on Good Friday morning to aim for the evening tide at 1850 or to hang on till much later and aim for the Saturday morning tide at 0715.

To catch the best of the Friday evening tide would mean arriving there at 2100 hours and finishing only two hours later.

The Royal Engineers' first boat, crewed by Williams, who rowed for Britain in the last Olympics, and Harding, elected to set off at 0700 hours, closely followed by Oliver and Mason from the Nottingham Kayak Club. The Nottingham lads were fully aware of the risks they were taking, because they tried exactly the same gambit three years ago, ran out of steam at Putney, and had to give up.

These two crews chased each other all the way to Reading, a distance of 54 miles, with the sappers arriving at Blakes Lock, the last lock on the Kennet and Avon Canal, just ten minutes in front of their rivals. Both crews had averaged a magnificent seven miles an hour.

Then disaster struck the two civilians. They had been falling

behind because of a pulled shoulder muscle, so when they realised they had no chance of making Tedding-



ton in time, they pulled out.

By now, Williams and Harding were really digging into the water. They arrived at Teddington at about 2200 hours, some three hours after high water. In spite of this they managed a fast time on the tideway section down the Thames and finished just after midnight, on the turn of the tide.

"This was a sort of vengeance really," said Williams when he arrived at Westminster, knowing that they had broken the record, "because I had to drop out last year. We both had trouble with our wrists, but no other problems, except for a numb bum."

"It was lethal," said team-mate Ollie. "We really had to graft against the headwind. When we came through Reading I knew we were well inside the time, and we were fast off the canal so I thought we had clinched it."

But it says something for the sappers' team spirit that half-an-hour after they were out of the water they were speeding back up the Thames in a support vehicle to cheer on their team-mates, when lesser mortals would have sought a cosy bed.

When the two arrived under the shadow of Big Ben, nobody was more jubilant than team coach Warrant Officer 2 Brian Cazaley. Last year he was forced to sit on the sidelines in Northern Ireland and watch the honours go to the Royal Marines team. This year, his last year before retirement, he wanted to make amends.

The next morning an obviously disappointed Brian Cazaley said:

"Well that's the way it goes. Last night everything looked so good, and now it's all turned to worms. But I still believe that to go hard on the first day is the right way to do it. And this is the first time this race has ever been done all in one day."

"It was very cold in the water, and I think everyone did extremely well under the conditions. Some of the guys could not knock the ice off their chests and they also had ice across the rudders, freezing them solid."

The choice of which tide to go for means taking a number of points into consideration — wind, weather, maximum daylight and density of pleasure craft on the Thames. An important point is the crews' confidence in their own ability to make Teddington at the right moment.

John Fowler and Brian Greenaway, of the Royal Canoe Club, decided not to go for the evening tide because in their opinion it was too hit-and-miss. They started at about 1700 hours on the Friday night. The northerly wind died down and conditions for the night paddle were good although cold.

They hit the tide exactly right and it worked for them all the way down to Westminster. What the result might have been if Williams and Harding had used the same tactics is anyone's guess.

Of the 83 crews who started, only 56 finished. This included six mixed crews. Nineteen Service crews completed the course.

The Army turnout for the junior race was very disappointing with teams only from the Army Apprentices College, Arborfield, and the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers. The Infantry Junior Leaders from Shorncliffe had two boats in the race.

Sixty-nine junior crews started and 59 finished.

● Above: Apprentice Tradesmen Eric Sutherland and Clive Smith, from AAC Arborfield, paddle into Newbury.

● Left: Coach Brian Cazaley gives Willie Williams advice at Runnymede Lock while Ollie Harding has a welcome drink.

● Below: Canoeists scramble past one of the Army control posts. This one was manned by London University OTC.

● Right: Rod Fisher (16 Para) and Dave Beattie (44 Para), in the SAS Volunteers team, paddle under Westminster Bridge.



Dukes win for third year

The Dukes lived up to their record again to carry off a major rugby title for the third year running.

Nineteen teams from the Army, Navy and RAF, and a guest side from France, joined battle for a whole day in the now well-established Army seven-a-side contest sponsored by the Courage brewery and held at the newly refurbished Aldershot military stadium.

From the start of the tournament there was little doubt in anyone's mind that the men of 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, holders of the three-year old title, were determined to set their seal on the event again.

And it took only a couple of the short, sharp 20-minute matches to foresee that the visitors from the French Forces' Light Aircraft School would be likely contenders with the Dukes in the final.

Against often tough opposition the finalists reached their last hurdles with the Dukes meeting Guards Depot in an uncompromising needle match and the French clashing with School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering skippered by veteran Army scrum-half Dave Spawforth, who is shortly leaving the Army to return to his native Yorkshire.

On their form throughout the day the French were heavily tipped to

tackle the champions in the final. But it was not to be. When it came to the test, the visitors made the mistake of playing their game as with a 15-man team — whereas the Duke of Wellington's Regiment played intelligent seven-a-side



The fast Dukes wingers easily cover a French breakthrough.

Challenge in the sky



Three soldiers on exercise in Norway took up a sporting challenge in the sky and on skis to take part in the highlight of the Narvik Winter Festival.

Major Ronnie Young, Captains Nigel Neame and Graham Harris, of 7 (Sphinx) Commando Light Battery, Royal Artillery, joined three civilians of the local Harstad Parachute Club to battle for accuracy by parachuting some 6000 feet to touch down as near as possible to a saucer-sized target.

In this part of the event the British dominated the field with a total of six metres distance from the disc. The Norwegian total was 30 metres. But skiing was the Norwegians' forte and they made up their losses to win the overall contest.

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Star match christens pitch



The re-seeded pitch at Aldershot Military Stadium was christened by a 2-2 draw between an FA representative XI and the Combined Services, using the somewhat slippery turf for the first time since last summer's drought defoliated it.

The draw reflected fairly on a game which brought together well-matched sides who gave an entertaining display of football interspersed with snatches of really skilful play. Particularly pleasing to watch was the FA's N Glover (Tooting and Mitcham) whose footwork on the ball baffled almost every tackle he faced.

First blood went to the Services when the Army's Corporal Micky Doig slammed in a goal after 20 minutes. Relentless pressure by the Services seemed to be paying off but the FA XI came back with a number of probing attacks which threatened to end as scoring chances and they were finally rewarded in the 43rd minute with the equaliser by L Pritchard (Sutton United).

The Services opened the second half on the attack with striker F Ovard — the only Royal Marine on the field — spearheading some determined moves. But the FA brought off T Horsman (Wycombe Wanderers) and sent on London University player P Corcoran who almost immediately proved the wisdom of the decision by slotting in the FA's second goal.

Despite the fact that danger-man Doig was inexplicably left unmarked for much of the remainder of the match and big Sergeant J Lazarri (RAF) managed to break away more than once, another goal evaded the Services side right up to injury time.

Then a goalmouth scramble ended with the ball finding the back of the FA's net. But not before Army referee Major Ron Roberts — who ran as hard as anyone in the game all evening — had blown his whistle for a handball infringement which gave the Services a penalty.

So the ball was retrieved from the goal only to be returned there

sharply by Ovard whose penalty equalised the scores.

Combined Services: CPOPT M Patterson (RN), POSA D Horton (RN), SAC K Walton (RAF), Cpl Aly MacDonald (Army), L/Cpl Alec Hamilton (Army), LPT T Johnson (RAF), L/Cpl Bob O'Hara (Army), Cpl I Hornby (RAF), Sgt J Lazarri (RAF), Cpl Micky Doig (Army), Mne F Ovard (RM). FA XI: J Overton (Woking), C Smith (Uxbridge), G Stewart (Uxbridge), M Preston (Woking), A Gillette (Carshalton Athletic), R Green (Tooting & Mitcham), T Horsman (Wycombe Wanderers), L Pritchard (Sutton United), N Glover (Tooting & Mitcham), J Kelman (Hungerford Town), D Alexander (Woking). Subs: D Evans (Wycombe Wanderers for Smith, P Corcoran (London University) for Horsman).

Shed not OK!



"Better than the crummy old shed we used to change in," was the approving verdict of Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, GOC South East District, when he officially opened the brand new pavilion at Aldershot's military stadium.

General Wilson paid tribute to the help of local authorities in the area when he spoke, as a member of the Sports Council, of how the new complex — including changing facilities, a bar and restaurant — represented what he claimed the council wanted to see "more and more."

He referred to the co-operation between local authorities, the Sports Council and the Services as being "very important" to sport, and went on to point out how much the local community used Army facilities in Aldershot — "which is quite right," he said.

The general unveiled a plaque bearing the crests of the Army, Sports Council and the four councils of Hart, Rushmoor, Surrey Heath and Waverley which encircle the Aldershot area.



Army back L/Cpl Alec Hamilton has been chosen as Army soccer player of the year. The trophy was presented to him after the Combined Services v FA XI match at Aldershot by Lieut-Gen Sir James Wilson. There to cheer Alec's award was the Army skipper, QMSI Alf Coulton, to his left, who held the trophy last year.

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The Army's up-and-coming gymnasts were put through their paces at the Army School of Physical Training and Apprentice Tradesman Lance-Corporal A Halliday, Army Apprentices College, Arborfield, emerged the winner in the junior gymnastic championships.

RAF's plain sailing

A Royal Air Force Sailing Association team held on to the Victory Trophy in the Civil Service Sailing Association's inter-Service team dinghy championship, winning for the eighth time in nine years.

Led by team captain Doug Newman — a former Fireball champion — the RAF won by 10½ points from the Army. Wins in two matches put the Army, led by former Olympic helmsman Stuart Jardine, into second place by a mere quarter point ahead of the Royal Navy. The Navy won two matches too.

The Civil Service team was soundly beaten into fourth place. Scores were RAF 48½, Army 59; Royal Navy 59½, Civil Service 82; making the results much closer than in previous years. With no one team winning all three of its matches the

situation was open right to the end.

On the first day — wet and hazy with only light winds — the RAF beat the Army by 10½ points to give them an apparently strong lead. But on the morning of the second day, at Littleton Sailing Club, with clearing skies and freshening breezes, the RN unexpectedly toppled the RAF by two points to give the Senior Service a winning chance too.

In the afternoon a combination of defeat for the RN at the hands of the Army and a strong RAF win over the Civil Service produced the eventual result.



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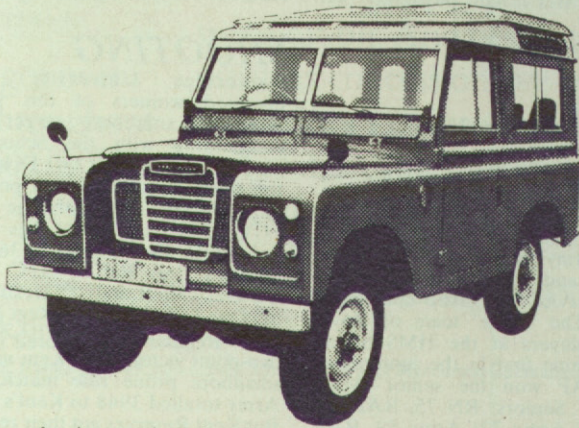
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A whole new ball-game!

Another popular sport is on the brink of official Army recognition — thanks to tireless campaigning by enthusiasts and help from SOLDIER coverage.

Scarcely a single soldier in the Army can claim he has not at least a nodding acquaintance with the game of volleyball. But amazingly it has stayed out in the cold... Up until now that is. For the game has Army players aiming to put it on the map.

Spearheading the campaign has been Sergeant Gordon Neale, of 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, who has steered Army players through the wilderness to inter-Service standards of play to prove that they deserve a place among the 30-plus recognised Army sports.

At a recent meeting with heads of the Army Sports Control Board he and his colleagues put their case so convincingly that the coveted recognition seems assured.

The board itself is now happy to class volleyball as a Category A sport (this gives the all-important right to raise representative Army teams, award colours and so on, although no cash is involved by way of aid) and a jubilant Sergeant Neale paid tribute to SOLDIER's efforts after his successful meeting: "Things are really looking up," he said. "No doubt some of it is due to the coverage SOLDIER has given the sport."

Equally pleased was the Army Sports Control Board which is ever eager to give a helping hand to sporting activities but has to temper enthusiasm with purse-strings prudence in this economic climate.

Board Secretary Colonel John Gratton explained that the procedure now was for all commands and districts to be asked for their approval of the recognition and he said he was "pretty sure" this would be forthcoming.

He added: "I hope this will get off the ground. I can't see districts saying 'no' — they know a large number of units play a lot."

Now the enthusiasts have to write a formal constitution for their volleyball association and are already well on the way to gathering a committee to run their affairs.

There is a distant possibility that

volleyball might eventually be linked with basketball under the control board's umbrella.

Arctic canoe marathon

An Army canoeist will be one of a four-person team to undertake a marathon sea canoeing expedition, never before attempted, in north-west Greenland.

Joint Services Mountain Training Centre instructor John Bull, of the Army Physical Training Corps, will be one of three men and a woman to make the gruelling 200-plus mile paddle from Dundas to Kap Alexander this summer when the polar sea is free of ice.

This is the most westerly point of the Greenland sub-continent and, with the possible exception of the Eskimos, will be the furthest north ever canoeed (north of latitude 78).

Kap Alexander, dubbed by previous explorers as the 'Cape Horn of the North,' is at the entrance to Smith Sund which is completely iced over in winter.

The expedition's main aim is to further advanced sea-canoeing expedition techniques but the choice of location was influenced by the design of the canoes chosen by the team. These are fibreglass adaptations of the West Greenland Eskimo kayak and it is hoped to compare the European version with the originals.

Although the expedition will be in the Greenland 'summer,' the natural hazards are many. The remote coastline is virtually uninhabited and both sea and air temperatures will be low with the air only just above freezing. The sea is not frozen but icebergs abound and variable winds bring many gales.

National title bid



Lance-Corporal T Williams (right), of 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, proved himself as one of the nation's top boxers by reaching the finals of the Amateur Boxing Association's annual title struggle. He fought in the light middleweight division and was beaten on points by C Malarky from Scotland.

Best boy boxers

Army junior individual boxing championships results: —

Class B (16 years and under 17), 45-48kg: J/Gnr J Garwell (JLR RA) (no contest — one entry). 48-51kg: J/Ldr J Swain (JLJB). 51-54kg: J/Gnr K Worthington (JLR RA). 54-57kg: J/Ldr J Swain (JLJB). 57-60kg: J/Ldr G Kirby (JLJB). 60-63.5kg: J/Pte M Cocoran (LI Depot). 63.5-67kg: A/T C Robinson (AAC Chepstow). 67-71kg: J/Gds B Amos (Gds Depot). 71-74kg: J/Inf C Walker (Jun Para).

74-77kg: J/Ldr A White (JLJB).

Class C (17 years and under 18), 48-51kg: A/T P Parkes (AAC Arborfield) (no contest — one entry). 51-54kg: J/Gnr F Hibbert (JLR RA) (no contest — one entry). 54-57kg: J/Spr Carrington (JLR RE). 57-60kg: J/Ldr P Allen (JLJB). 60-63.5kg: J/L/Cpl S Green (JLR RE). 63.5-67kg: J/Ldr S Mitchell (JLJB). 67-71kg: Bglr G Gilbert (LI Dep). 71-75kg: J/Spr A Burns (JLR RE). 75-79kg: A/T S Turner (AAC Chepstow) (no contest — one entry).

Sports shorts

BASKETBALL

The Army came second in both senior and junior events in the inter-Service basketball championships. The 'home' team of Royal Navy players at the HMS Sultan court came first in the juniors but the RAF won the senior event. Results. Seniors: RN 75, RAF 99; RN 55, Army 72; Army 59, RAF 72; 1st RAF, 2nd Army, 3rd RN. Juniors: RN 65, RAF 61; RN 63, Army 52; Army 79, RAF 59; 1st RN, 2nd Army, 3rd RAF.

The School of Electrical Engineering (UK winners) beat 2nd Armoured Division HQ and Signal Regiment (BAOR winners) 55-42 in the all-Army basketball final at Bielefeld. The Warrior's Trophy for the outstanding player of the match was won by S/Sgt M Smith of SEE.

SHOOTING

Cambridge University OTC emerged winners of this year's inter-unit smallbore target rifle competition with the School of Signals second and COD Donnington third. Results (highest possible score 1600): 1st Cambridge Univ OTC 1555, 2nd Sch of Sigs 1538, 3rd COD Donnington 1536, 4th Queen's Univ Belfast OTC 1533, 5th Gds Depot Staff 1527, 6th HQ SE Dist 1524, 7th 8 Sig Regt 1502.

The Regular Army scored only a two-point victory over Kent in their smallbore prone rifle match. The Army totalled 3948 to Kent's 3946. But Kent Reserves got their revenge winning 3890 to 3884.

TETRATHLON

The Army individual tetrathlon champion is SSI Peter Brierley (APTC) whose 4438 points in the test of contrasting skills of swimming, fencing, shooting and running was enough to clinch the title. The Army team championship went to REME A team (L/Cpl D Archibald, Cfn G Woodall and Cfn K

Chesham) with 10,846 points. The guest team contest was won by the RAF A team (10,521). The tetrathlon event was the qualifying competition for the Army modern pentathlon championships which add show-jumping to the list of skills — 29 of the 31 tetrathletes go forward to this.

WATER POLO

The Army water polo team beat Bracknell WP Club 12-2 but lost 7-11 to Old Mid Whitgiftians. Representing the Army were Maj K Pinder (REME), SSIs D N Clay and M A Gibson (both APTC), SIE A Martin (APTC), Sgt B Cosier (Coldm Gds), Cpls W J Soper (RE), R Billing (RCT) and Skillington (Coldm Gds), L/Cpls R Clayden (Coldm Gds) and R Sippe (RE), Spr Palmer (RE). Coach: Maj J W G McLeod (REME).

VOLLEYBALL

A much-improved Army volleyball team reinforced arguments for recognition as an official sport by winning three of its seven games in the

inter-Services tournament as opposed to the 100 per cent loss record of last year.

They competed against sides from the Fire Brigade, Royal Navy, RAF, Royal Marines, Prison Service, Police and Post Office. Volleyball secretary Sgt Gordon Neale is going ahead with plans for the Army to host the armed services tournament in November.

HOCKEY

The Army hockey cup was won by 5 Heavy Regiment RA who beat the holders, Royal Army Pay Corps, Worthy Down, by two goals to one. The stronger side won although the Pay Corps could have equalised from a penalty stroke which failed to find the mark.

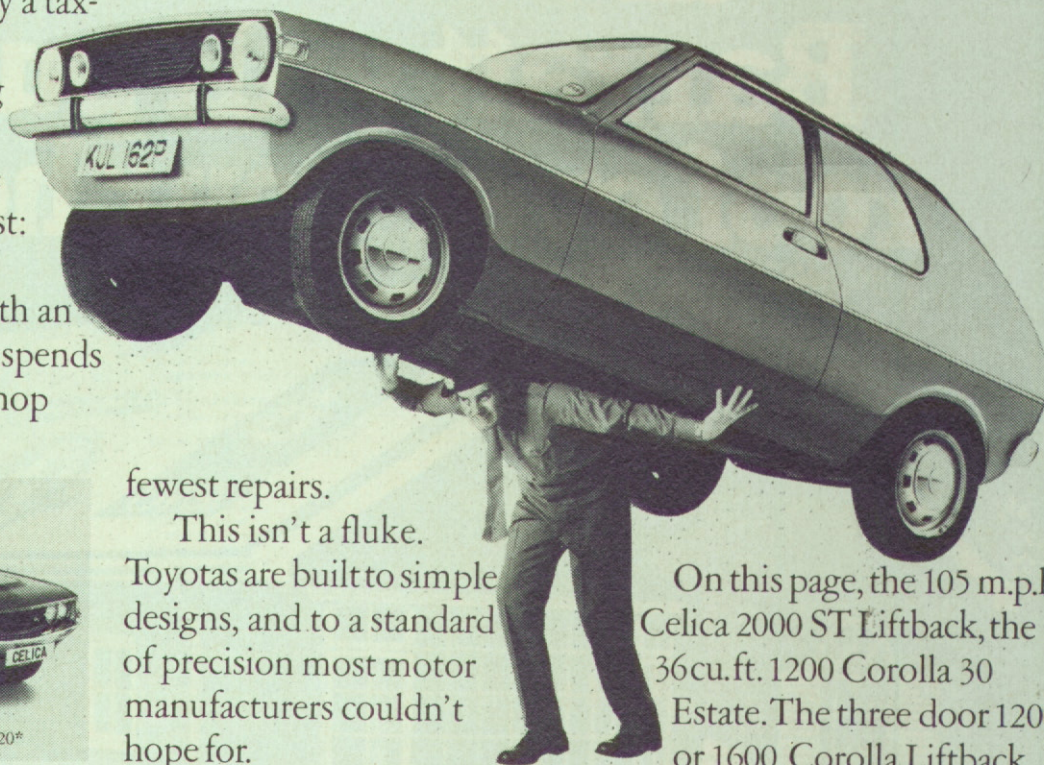
The Army won the inter-Services hockey championship after defeating both the RAF and Royal Navy. Junior champions are the RAF under-21s who avenged their seniors 1-3 defeat at the hands of the Army with a reversal of the same score.

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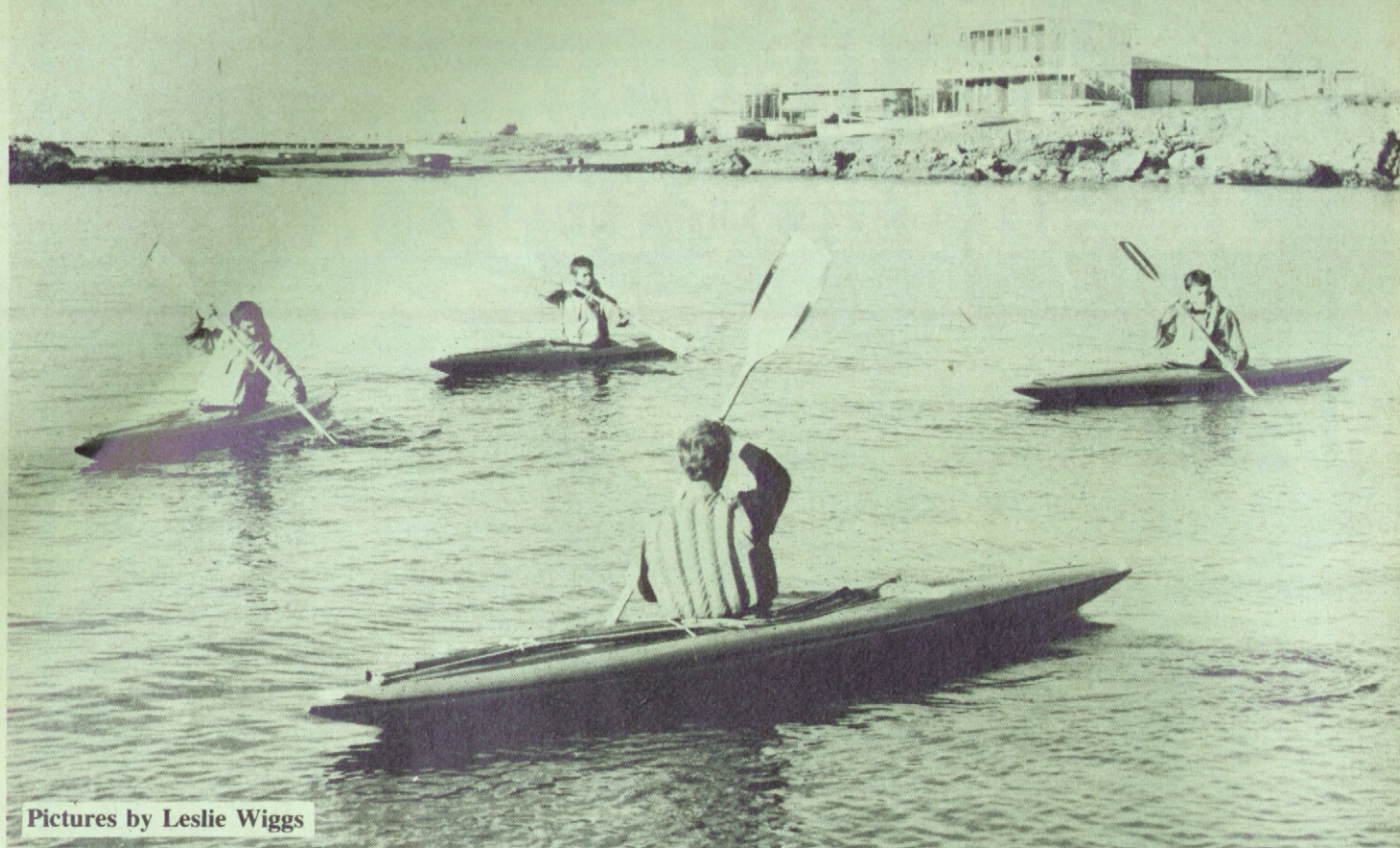
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CYPRUS

— Still a sunny posting



THE CLOUDLESS summer sunshine threw unheard-of shadows on the parched soil of Cyprus — shadows of Turkish Army parachutes as invasion troops launched their attack three years ago this July. Soon the air was thick with the din and smoke of battle and the idyllic isle that had become a plum posting for British Army families became yet again in its chequered history the scene of civil strife.

In the two months that followed in 1974 the Republic of Cyprus was squeezed into the southern two-thirds of the island and the Turkish community, supported from the mainland 40 miles away, occupied the northern portion. A border was set up and the United Nations stepped in to keep the peace.

Tension mounted for the Service inhabitants of the two British sovereign base areas on the south-eastern and south-western corners of the island and a massive RAF airlift evacuated families. At Akrotiri and Episkopi in the west they watched and waited while in the east the Turks thrust south to come eyeball-to-eyeball with troops in the Dhekelia base. But there they stopped. Soon the 99 square miles of British soil in the two sovereign bases became a haven for refugees and British troops were busy tending their needs.

The ceasefire settled uneasily over the island and a kind of normality returned, except for those who had lost all but their lives in the conflict. Today the refugee vil-

lage in Athna Forest near Dhekelia has taken on a stoical air of permanence despite the flimsy appearance of its hardboard houses and breeze-block shops. But in cafés on the main street, Greek Cypriots sip coffee and play cards and backgammon as eagerly as they ever did in more permanent surroundings.

Life goes on too for British troops in the bases. There are fewer soldiers and even fewer families than before — only some 3000 troops man the bases which are separated by 70 miles of Republic of Cyprus territory.

The invasion and its aftermath have now drifted into history and are simply referred to as the 'Coup.' But nothing can be quite the same again and the after-effects are felt by the British forces even though theirs is not the personal involvement of Greek or Turk.

The Commander Land Forces, Brigadier John Acland, explained: "Here an operational situation exists and there have been incidents when British soldiers have been shot at." The very presence of the British on the island contributes stability to the delicate balance of the truce between Greek and Turk. Both have laid claim to the sovereign base areas at one time or another and, if Britain were to pull out, a rapid deterioration and increase in incidents would be inevitable.

While this is a problem for politicians back in Whitehall, the soldiers in Cyprus

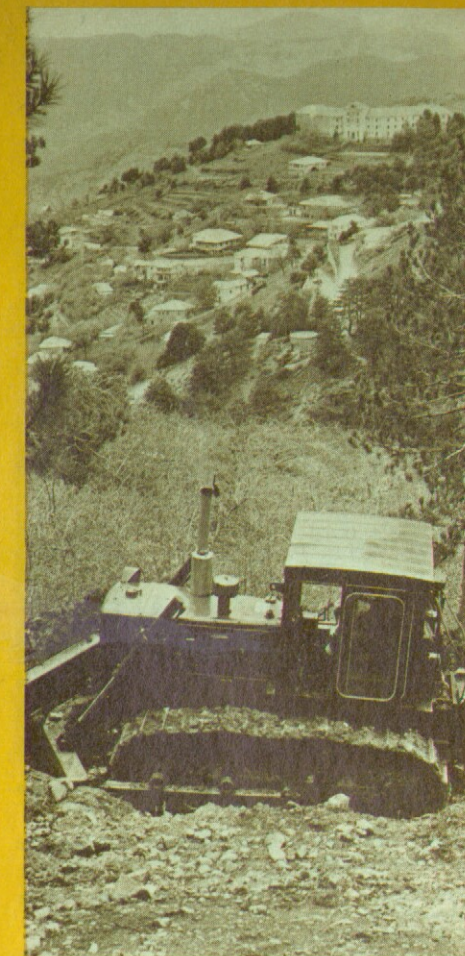
have still got their jobs to do. Perhaps the most important single unit is 9 Signal Regiment. Infantry battalions protect the regiment and the rest of the two sovereign base areas.

At the time of SOLDIER's visit, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, was at the western base but had a company detached to 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, in the east where reconnaissance Ferret scout cars of 15th/19th The King's Hussars helped maintain the internal security of the Dhekelia area.

Both the Paras and the Hussars had detachments serving with the United Nations force in Nicosia. But there is no formal connection between the sovereign base 'teeth arm' troops and the UNFICYP contingents which come under the command of the New York-based international peacekeeping body.

There is however a very firm connection between the support arms of the British bases and the United Nations forces, for the British provide logistical support for the six-nation contingents.

The Royal Army Ordnance Corps supply detachment at Dhekelia sees to it that not only its own 'customers' but the other nationals get their regular orders of the fresh fruit and vegetables bought locally. Massive red tomatoes and cabbages weighing as much as seven pounds each are grown by the local farmers who manage to squeeze up to three crops out of the fertile volcanic soil of



Above: A sapper bulldozer in the Troodos area carving out a road to help the local people.

Left: Royal Anglians patrol the orange groves on the fringes of the sovereign base areas.

Far left: Canoe training in the Mediterranean.

Below: Sport parachutists emplane for a drop.

what remains of the Republic's territory.

The corps' bakers are used to turning out innumerable loaves to feed the families and men of the bases. Nowadays they also produce daily bread for each UN contingent and this involves baking wholemeal, Vienna and milk bread as well as long, round and square rye bread in addition to the normal British-style loaf.

Another contrasting corps task occupies men occasionally from the western base when RAOC bomb disposal teams are called out by the UN to deal with left-overs from the Coup. For the duration of these tasks, the bomb disposal men become UN soldiers in the interests of the scrupulously guarded integrity of the UN peacekeepers.

Ever in demand are the sappers of 62 Cyprus Support Squadron, Royal Engineers, assisting with internal security duties and working on varied engineer tasks. High in the Troodos mountains, where a light dusting of snow promised skiing at the splendid Services recreation centre, a team of sappers was helping the Cypriot Forestry Commission. An all-important road was gouged out of the mountainside near Prodromos to form a connection between two valleys vital to the commission's work.

The onset of snow also meant more work for the sappers in clearing it from roads leading to the small RAF outpost near the mountain tops. This team gets little time to enjoy the facilities of the leave centre which sees some 500 to 600 skiers on its slopes each

season. And here one of the specialities of Cyprus has not changed — it is possible at some times of the year to ski in the Troodos mountains and within hours be bathing in the balmy Mediterranean back on the coast.

At work or play, Brigadier Acland insists: "The fundamental impression I have is that there is absolutely no reason why people should not enjoy themselves out here. The job is worth while and there are endless facilities for recreation."

A team of signallers working on the instal-

lation of a new 650-line telephone exchange in Dhekelia confirmed his statement. One added: "You're slightly more restricted than before the Coup by not having all the island to move about in but there are still plenty of recreational facilities and it is still a very good posting for married soldiers."

The major tourist resort and commercial port of Famagusta has been occupied by the Turks and the empty shells of its once opulent tower blocks etch a gaunt but distant skyline viewed from the eastern





Above: Sport for all as Dhekelia Garrison takes on the might of 1 Para in a rugger line-out.

Right: Hospital Staff in Dhekelia practise the emergency drills on a 'crashed' Ferret's crew.

Below right: Taking the plunge are some trainee divers being instructed in the sea at Dhekelia. Connecting new telephone exchange lines.

extreme of the Dhekelia base. They say Famagusta is a ghost town now with only the Turkish sector inhabited. The Republic uses Limassol as its main seaport.

Kyrenia — another 'Forces Favourite' — is no longer accessible but there still seems to be enough for off-duty soldiers and their wives and children to do. And the popularity of Troodos does not appear to have waned.

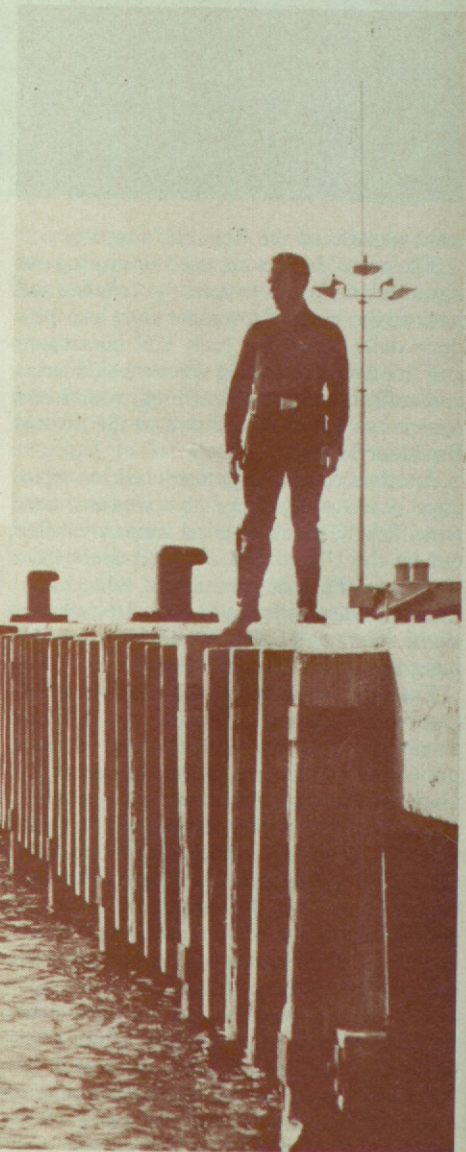
There is no denying that restrictions both



real and imagined have affected life on the island for the British communities and more than ever they give the impression of being small, isolated communities with the close-knit spirit of remote English villages. Nearly all are now quartered on the bases — very few live in the towns outside, as in the past. This adds to the feeling of restriction for some and many miss being in a big town.

But there is contact with the local Greek Cypriot community. The Army meets Cypriot teams in football, basketball and athletics. Families mingle at social events, too, such as summer picnics in the Troodos mountain resorts and on the beaches.

Incursions do occur and incidents sometimes flare up when a Greek farmer tills land too close to the Turkish soldiers. But a rapport has built up between the British and the Turks as they face each other along the edge of the base. As a Turkish soldier waved cheerily across, a Para returned the gesture and said: "We're all professionals doing a job, and that's it."



MILITARY MODELS

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

THE LUFTWAFFE, which unleashed 'lightning war' on Europe, was itself to be struck from the skies — by Soviet Stormovik assault bombers and allied rocket-firing Typhoons and Thunderbolts.

Allied air superiority towards the end of World War Two hastened the development of the Flakpanzer (anti-aircraft tank) of which the two most successful were the Wirbelwind (Whirlwind) and Ostwind (East Wind). Both vehicles had angular barbettes mounted on Panzerkampfwagen IV Ausführung J chassis, the Wirbelwind being armed with four 20-millimetre guns and the Ostwind with one 37-millimetre gun.

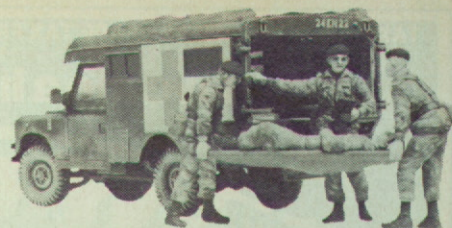
With a combined rate of fire of 800 rounds a minute from its quadruple cannon, the Wirbelwind could make an attacking aircraft look like a kitchen colander.

Despite the use of Zimmerit anti-magnetic mine paste and a camouflage cov-

ering of fern and twigs, the vehicles were vulnerable both from land and air because of their relatively high silhouette and open-topped turrets.

The Wirbelwind, which was introduced in December 1943 and ran into production figures of 346, is the subject of this month's main model (below, right) from the Japanese firm of Tamiya. It comes as a kit of more than 300 plastic parts in 1:25th scale at a recommended retail price of £3.73.

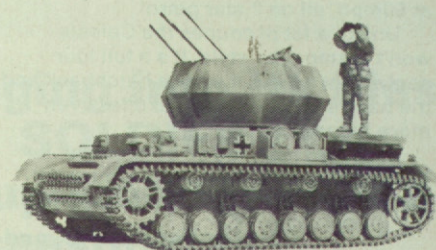
Being open-topped, all the fascinating interior detail of the turret is exposed to view. There is a tracker and right and left loaders, magazines, armour shield and complex Flakvierling (quadruple machine-gun) assembly. When painting the machine-guns use Humbrol 'gunmetal' as the base colour, then rub gently over the surface with the side of a brush containing half-dry silver paint. This highlights the exposed edges and



gives an authentic metallic finish. The kit comes complete with step-by-step instructions, tips about camouflage painting and transfer decals for the 1st and 116th tank divisions.

Tamiya, marketed in the United Kingdom by Richard Kohnstam Ltd of 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, has also recently released a kit of particular interest to British Army modellers — a Land-Rover ambulance (above). It is in 1:35th scale and costs £2.20.

The vehicle itself features steerable front wheels and opening rear doors. There are figures of a driver, officer/NCO, two orderlies and a wounded man on a stretcher. It all has potential for a topical, but tragic, diorama set in Northern Ireland. **HH**



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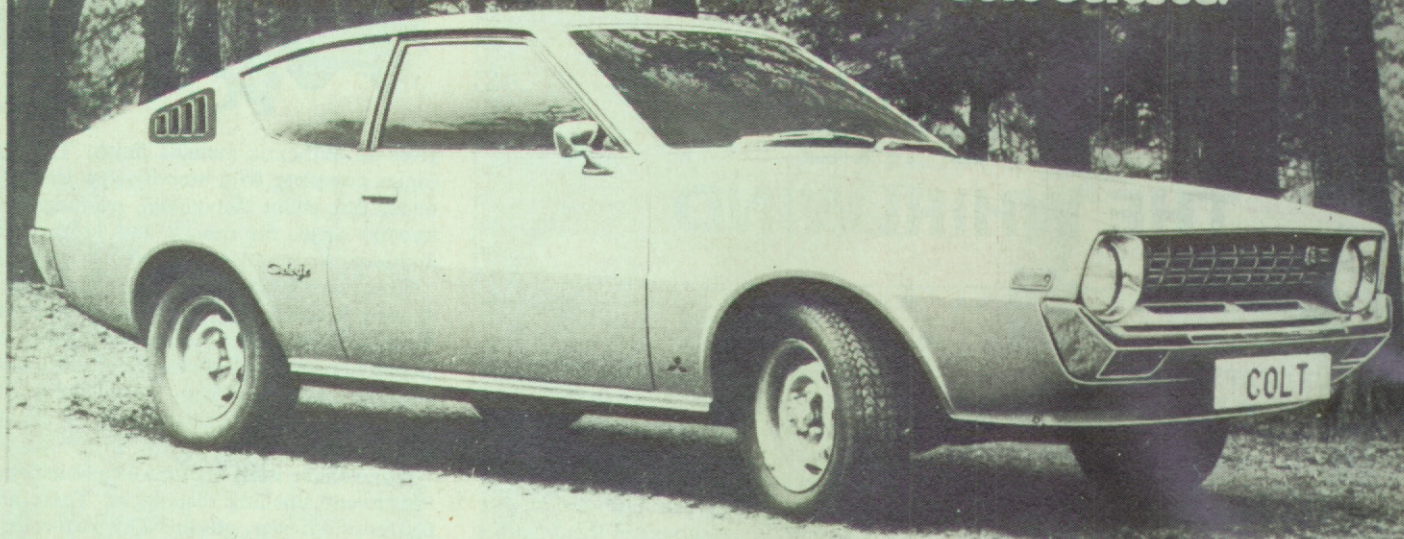
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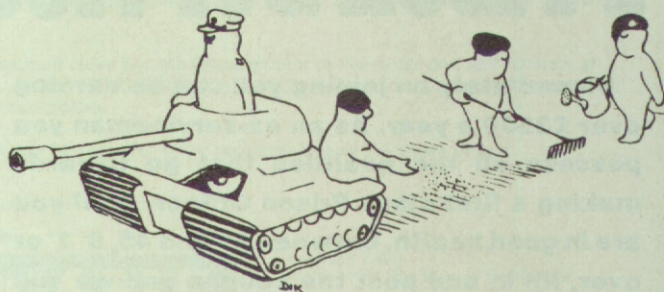
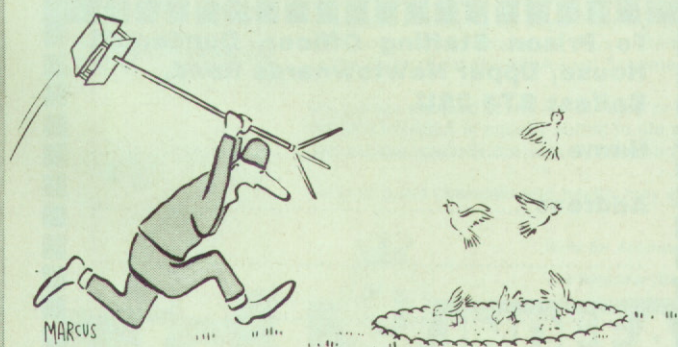


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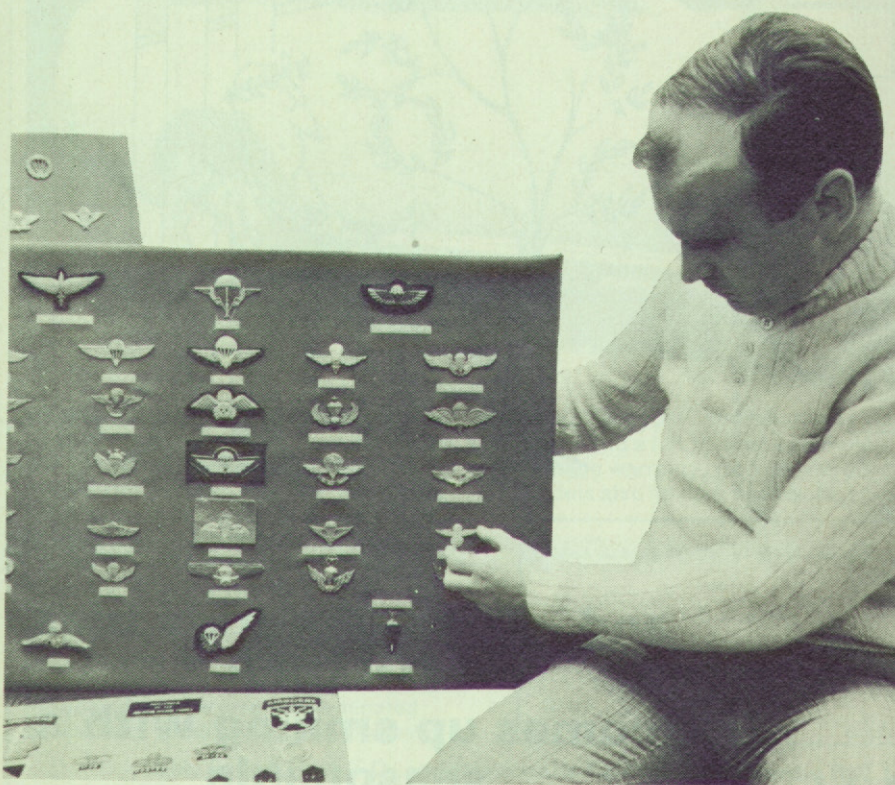


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WING COLLECTOR JIM



THERE ARE bigger collections of military badges than Jim Kerr's. Probably even bigger collections in his specialised subject of airborne badges. But it is unlikely that these collections mean more to their owners than Jim's does to him.

Jim Kerr is a colour-sergeant with 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, and it is obvious that he has a high regard for anything to do with airborne forces.

Although he started collecting badges only two years ago, when recruiting in Sheffield, he has quickly amassed a formidable array from all over the world, each with the underlying airborne theme. And, so far as Jim is concerned, his collection is far from complete.

"I want a badge from every country that has airborne soldiers," he says. He has built up a list of contacts around the world, who send him badges. Some of these he has never met, others he knows through parachuting in various parts of the world.

"I have Soviet badges, but not too many from the Soviet satellites. I am hoping to get more when I am posted to Berlin.

"Every one of my badges means something to me. It is just something about them. Parachute wings are a distinction and there is an esprit de corps between parachutists even if you cannot speak their language.

"If I meet a parachute soldier, I can always get on with him. I suppose to some extent that explains why I want to collect their wings."

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LETTERS

Still open

The Gurkha Welfare Appeal reached its target of £1,000,000 in December 1972. Since that time, however, the Gurkha Welfare Trusts has been adversely affected, not only by unprecedented inflation affecting Nepal no less than the United Kingdom, but also by the lower value of the pound sterling. These factors have reduced our financial aid by some 25 per cent.

The Trusts are still open and donations would be particularly welcome at this time. — **Lieut-Col H C S Gregory, Managing Trustee, The Gurkha Welfare Trusts, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA.**

Closing down

It was with great regret that I read in *SOLDIER* of the closing down of South West District Headquarters, Taunton. Sherford Camp had the most beautiful surroundings of any near an Army camp. I served there from 1952 to 1954 as a National Serviceman and they were some of the best years of my life.

It was a charming camp setting of wooden huts, some ranch-style, set in the former Batts Park and kept up to scratch by the civilian staff. In my time it was a busy camp serving as headquarters of 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division, TA, and HQ South West District. We were a hive of activity and had quite a large civilian staff then.

I have often meant to go back some day to see the old camp and how the place and people have changed. — **D G Marriott (ex-Q Maint), 11 Cressington Avenue, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead, Merseyside.**

Although the bulk of the headquarters staff will move out of Sherford Camp this autumn, the buildings will not finally be vacated until March 1978.

No decision has yet been taken on their future — although there will not be a further military occupancy.

Militia pubs

While staying in London recently, I visited the sites of the former barracks of the various regiments of Middlesex Militia. The results were extremely interesting because, although most of these barracks were vacated a hundred years ago, in a number of cases local public houses still retain a military character.

Pride of place must go the Militia Canteen in Elthorne Road, Cowley, near Uxbridge. The 5th Royal Elthorne Militia barracks round the corner in Villier Street have long gone but the history of the regiment and its connection with the district can be studied on the wall of the bar.

Seeing the Rifleman in Hanworth Road, Hounslow, I knew I was not far from the old 4th Royal South Middlesex Militia barracks in Pears Road. Although the building has not been altered to any great extent, it is almost hidden by trees which must have been planted by the militia staff more than a hundred years ago.

While there are many public houses around Turnham Green, I failed to find any with a military flavour. The 3rd Royal Westminster Militia barracks in Heathfield Terrace now form part of a furniture depository, which makes it difficult to determine how much of the building is original.

I could find no memorials of the 2nd Edmonton Royal Rifle Militia in Barnet even though that was their headquarters until the beginning of this century. The site of the barracks in Stapylton Road is now a car park; the buildings have been demolished and only part of the barracks wall remains.

The sign showing a soldier with a

powder flask outside the Flask in Flask Walk, Hampstead, looked encouraging as I approached the 1st Royal East Middlesex Militia barracks in Willow Road. This building has been altered recently and renamed Toad Hall.

I hope this brief account will show that some of the places where militiamen were billeted during their annual training in the last century are well worth visiting today. — **C M Humphreys, 2 Bosmere Court, 991 Bristol Road South, Birmingham.**

Jubilee Medal

I felt I must reply to the plea of Mr F Edwards (Letters, May) that consideration be given to allocating a percentage of the Silver Jubilee Medal to disabled ex-servicemen.

I am sure everyone appreciates the wonderful service these veterans have given but I feel the medal should be allocated to soldiers who have served during the period of the Queen's

reign, or for outstanding service. In today's Army it is difficult to acquire a medal unless one serves in Northern Ireland or has 18 years' undetected crime. Mr Edwards, with his MSM, LS & GC and other campaign medals, would seem to be more than adequately endowed already. So unless he is thinking of opening a medal shop I feel he should withdraw from the bidding. — **WO2 M Hester, 47 Fd Regt RA, Kirkee Barracks, Colchester, Essex.**

How observant are you?

(see page 17)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Top right frond of palm tree. 2 Hat of left spectator. 3 Arms of spectator third from left. 4 Left edge of right palm trunk. 5 Waves in front of spectators. 6 Blade of rower's right oar. 7 Length of porpoise's mouth. 8 Rower's cap. 9 Notch in stern of boat. 10 Slope of right cable holding hoop.

'Price of Freedom'

A painting by Terence T Cuneo, who is now a well-established recorder of military events, will be reproduced in full colour on a commemorative cover to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee review of her Army at Sennelager, Germany, on 7 July.

The original, commissioned by the Army's Silver Jubilee Philatelic Committee, is Mr Cuneo's first representational picture for the Army. He calls it 'The Price of Freedom' and his five feet by four feet canvas depicts an infantryman in combat dress on a river bank. In the background are a bridging tank, Chieftain, Abbot self-propelled gun, infantry armoured carrier and a Stalwart cross-country load carrier. Helicopters of the Army Air Corps hover under a stormy sky and, of course, the artist's logo, the mouse, is there wearing a soldier's beret.

The cancellation stamp of the commemorative cover will bear the legend 'Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee. The Army Review — 7 July 1977 — Sennelager. British Forces Postal Service 7777.' This serial number, specially reserved for the event, relates to the cancellation date.

The cover, with nine pence commemorative stamp, will cost 60p and, with the full set of four commemorative stamps, 90p. There will also be limited issues, each of 500 covers, bearing the full set of stamps and signed separately by General Sir Roland Gibbs, Chief of the General

Staff (£3.00), Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Worsley, Commander 1 (British) Corps (£2.50) and Major-General Nigel Bagnall, GOC 4th Division, who will command the jubilee review parade at Sennelager (£2.00).

The above prices all include ten pence postage and packing. Orders should be sent to Philatelic Officer, 1 (British) Corps PCCV, BFPO 33, and accompanied by UK cheque, UK postal order or international money order. All proceeds will go to Service charities.

A limited issue of 850 prints has also been made from the painting. Each print is signed personally by the artist and authenticated by the Fine Arts Guild. This print is on offer, on a first-come first-served basis, at £30 plus 30 pence postage and packing. This print is available to the Service community at £12.50 plus 30 pence. Orders for the print should also be sent to the philatelic officer with UK cheque, UK postal order or international money order.



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Collectors' Corner

Master John Hadden, c/o Farrell, 3/8 Piershill Square East, Edinburgh, EH8 8BD. — *Seeks LPs Edinburgh Tattoo pre-1971 and Scottish Regular or Territorial regts (massed bands, pipes, drums, bugles etc) especially of Cameronians, Royal Scots Fusiliers, HLI, Seaforth and Cameron Highlanders.*

D L T Pigott, 11 Churton Place, London, SW1V 2LN. — *Will pay fair price for KRRC cap badge in plastic with red flash.*

S/Sgt D J Nash RAPC, 21 Engr Regt, BFPO 48. — *Requires information on, or any items having connection with the old British garrison at Mhow, India, to help research. Willing to buy or exchange items for stamps, coins etc.*

Donald G Skinner, 2-802 16th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2R 0T1, Canada. — *Seeks back issues The Guards Magazine, specifically Autumn 1948, and any other issues with historical material on Household Cavalry.*

A W Green, 26 Glebelands Road, Filton, Bristol. — *Offers clean copy 'Army Manual of Horsemanship, Equestrian and Animal Transport, 1937' in exchange for other militaria.*

Keith L Moody, 58 Meadow Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside, DN17 1RS. — *Collector selling accumulation of GB, IOM and Channel Isles stamps, either mint, used or FDC. Also mint Gibraltar, Eire and Malta, few crowns and medals. Wants priced sae or mint stamp for reply please.*

Cpl L Stillman, Army Apprentice School, Balcombe, Victoria, Australia. — *Wishes trade all period*

Australian infantry and cavalry badges for similar items. Some items for trade are 1948-60 Byron Scottish NSW Scottish etc, 1914-18 56th Yarra Borderers, several 1930-42 infantry and cavalry, also collars etc all periods. Also wishes swap British for British.

Robert Neilson, 2 Cot Lane, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent. — *Seeks regimental badges including overseas regts.*

App David Coates, 3 PH A Coy, Army Apprentices School, Victoria 3935, Australia. — *Wishes swap Australian Army badges for British badges. Will also buy British badges.*

James Moran, Rt 1, Box 247, Carl Junction, Minnesota 64834, USA. — *Seeks British and other medals and militaria. Has American medals and insignia for trade.*

B W Day, 5 Holly Terrace, Balby, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN4 8RE. — *Wishes buy or exchange any war souvenirs British or German — medals, badges, daggers, bayonets, shells, bullets, flags etc.*

R Crowter, 78 Unity Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1HX. — *Wishes buy LPs or 78s East Surreys, Queens, Royal West Kents, Buffs or any other infantry regts, Canadian and South African regts; also South African cap badges.*

Michael S Gozo, 1644 Sauriol Street East, Montreal, Quebec, H2C 1X1, Canada. — *Seeks badges and insignia air-sea rescue, para rescue or civilian rescue units, any country. Also medical unit cap badges. Has for trade Canadian, Rhodesian, Australian and RCMP cap badges, insignia.*

Royal Pioneer Corps Association. Corps weekend and annual general meeting 8, 9 and 10 July, RPC Training Centre, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northampton. Details from Secretary, RPC Association, 51 St George's Drive, London, SW1V 4DE, or Corps Secretary, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northampton, NN4 0HX.

The Sherwood Foresters. Annual pilgrimage and service 3pm, Sunday 3 July, at regimental memorial, Crich, near Matlock, Derbyshire. Preceded in morning by Derby Branch SFA service at Depot Church, St Giles, Normanton, Derby, and buffet lunch. Sherwood Foresters Association branches and individuals interested in morning proceedings should contact R Bates, 36 Branksome Avenue, Alvaston, Derby, for details.

Airborne REME. Due to disbandment Para Wksp Sqn, the 1977 reunion will be in Corporals Mess, Bail

lieu Barracks, Training Battalion and Depot REME, Aborfield, 2000 hrs, Friday 17 June. Accommodation available on request. Coach may be available to take overnight personnel to Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot, Saturday 18 June. All Airborne REME invited. Details from S/Sgt E Wroe, Trg Bn and Depot REME, Poperinghe Barracks, Aborfield, (phone Aborfield Cross 760421 or Aborfield Mil, ext 295).

The XVIIIth, The Royal Irish Regiment and South Irish Horse. Annual reunion dinner, Irish Club, 82 Eaton Square, London SW1, Saturday 4 June, 7.30pm. Annual remembrance service, Cenotaph, Whitehall, Sunday 5 June, 11am. Details from P J Boyce, 13 Sticklepath Terrace, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 2AY.

14/28 Field Regiment RA (1, 3, 5 and 57 field batteries). Annual dinner, Saturday 5 November, at HQ RA Sergeants Mess, Woolwich, 2000 hrs. Names and cash to Mr A Dufall, 39 Waiblingen Way, Devizes, Wiltshire.

Royal Warwickshire Regimental Association. Annual reunion dance and buffet, Saturday 11 June, 7.30pm, at TAVR Centre, Greens Road, Keresley, Coventry. Tickets £1.50. Enquiries to Regimental Secretary, St John's House, Warwick.

Army Apprentices College, Arborfield, Old Boys Association. Reunion of members and associate members, 15-16 October, to include sports versus the apprentices and a dinner. Accommodation available.

Recent apprentices particularly welcome. Details from Hon Sec OBA, Army Apprentices College, Arborfield Camp, Reading, RG2 9NJ.

The Royal Hampshire Regiment Comrades' Association. To permit 1st Battalion participation and avoid clashing with local Silver Jubilee celebrations, the annual reunion will be on 8 October in Winchester. Further details later.

Competition

Major Calamity's heraldic banner ('Strange device' — Competition 223, February) was not so complicated as it appeared at first sight. The symbols were simply in progression — the dominoes from 1 to 7, the marks on the rectangles rotating clockwise and some symbols rotating entirely, again clockwise.

The answer, the occasion on which one of the major's ancestors honoured the family name, was The Charge of the Light Brigade.

Prizewinners:

- 1 Flt-Lieut A Boulder, Officers Mess, RAF Upavon, Pewsey, Wilts.
- 2 Charles Robertson, 45 Alloway Avenue, Lochside, Dumfries.
- 3 A Cave, 279 Overton Close, Aldershot, Hants.
- 4 Sgt N P Maws, 208 Pine Close, Middle Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants.
- 5 M Lockie, 9 Fifth Avenue, Walkerville, Catterick Garrison, N Yorks.
- 6 Mrs A Walsh, 19 Warwick Road, Walton-le-Dale, Preston, Lancs.

Under the hammer



A scarce gilt 1847 Albert pattern heavy cavalry helmet of a King's Dragoon Guards officer fetched £460 when sold at auction by Weller & Duffy Ltd, of Birmingham. A 19th century light cavalry officer's levee sword, a collector's item, fetched £160, and £120 was paid for a rare William IV light cavalry officer's levee sword.

At a sale by Messrs Wallis & Wallis, of Lewes, £280 was paid for a rare 1795 Scottish hilted broadsword of The Breadalbane Fencibles while a heavy cavalry trooper's sword realised £245, a Victorian field officer's sword of the 72nd Highlanders £127, a Scottish officer's dress broadsword £160, a cavalry officer's sabre of the 7th (Queen's Own) Light Dragoons £175 and an 1821 pattern light cavalry presentation sword £105. At the same sale £450 was paid for a post-1902 officer's full dress uniform of The Black Watch. A Georgian staff officer's cocked hat realised £130.

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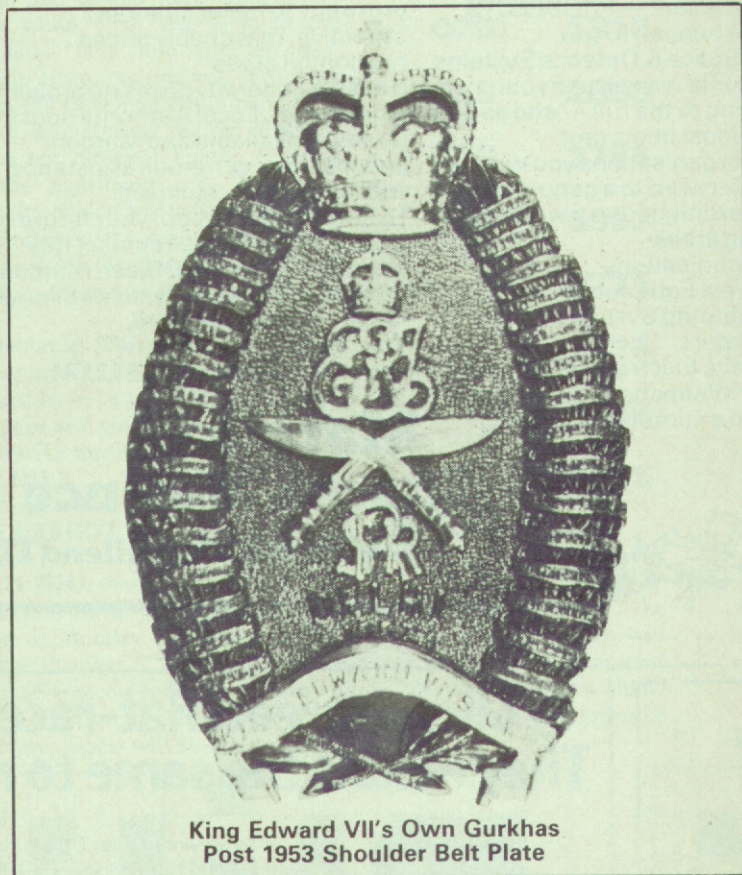
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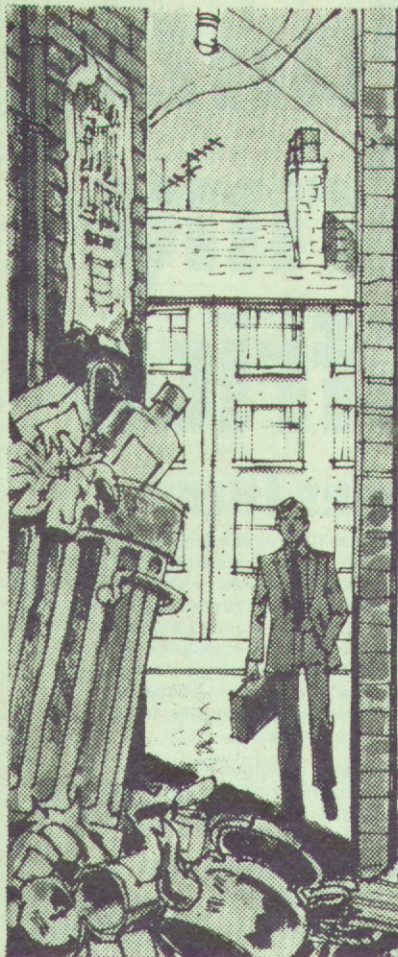
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THIS MONTH'S numerical crossword is fairly tough and should keep competitors quiet for a while. First step is to fit the numbers listed here into the left-hand grid. No help given, but one way of making a start is on the three-figure numbers.

Stage two is to convert the ten different figures into ten different letters, entering these on the right-hand grid. Again, no starter, but the incidence of the figures should help you in selecting the appropriate letters.

Finally read off the ringed letters, from left to right in column order, to give the name of a body of soldiers.

The question is: Who commanded them?

Send your answer — just the name of the commander — on a postcard or by letter, with the 'Competition 227' label from this page and your name and address, to:

Editor (Comp 227)

SOLDIER

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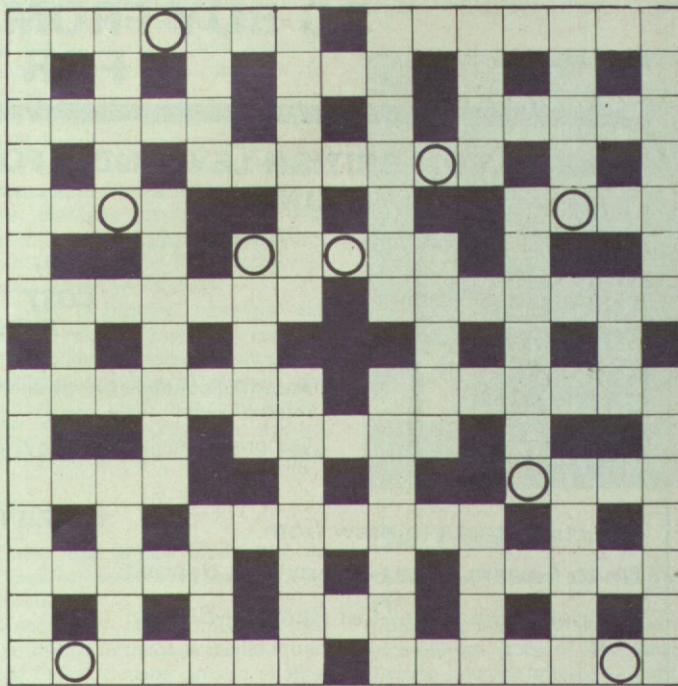
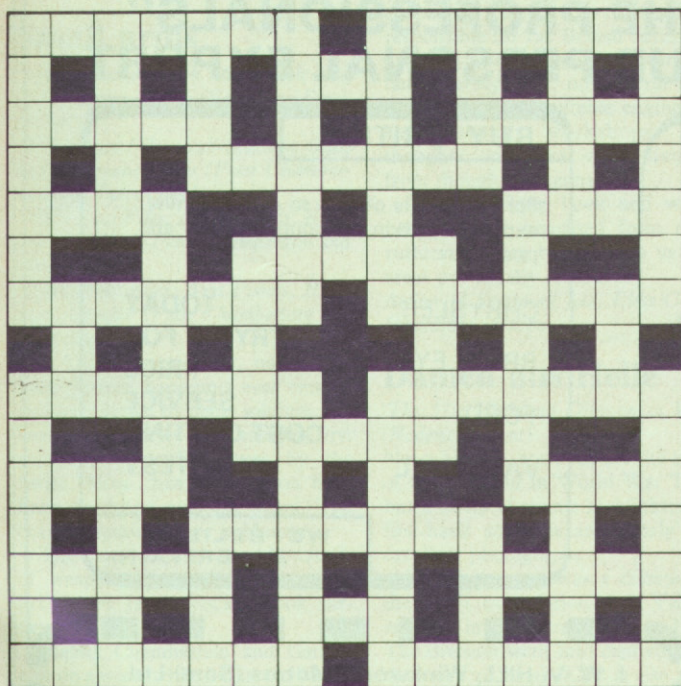
ALDERSHOT

Hants

GU11 2DU.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Monday 8 August. The answers and winners' names will appear in the October SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 227' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or official pre-paid labels will be disqualified.

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089	2893	28618	1768975	7617325
678	3786	31827	1792346	7697271
727	5983	50826	2727185	9028675
	6771	53936	5031472	9273971
	7325	57615	5039972	9281176
	9769	67325	5082976	9399885
	9855	67595	5311765	9761725
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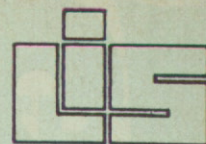
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BOOKS

Horsed soldiers

'The Cavalry' (Edited by Lieut-Col James Lawford)

This book is divided into sections, each written by an expert. Military historian R Crosbie-Weston, for example, contributes chapters on Charlemagne and the Mongols. Another historian, Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Sheppard, tackles the Thirty Years War and American writer Curt Johnson makes an interesting contribution on the decline of the knight.

The age of the Sun King, Louis XIV, and the importance he attached to horsed soldiers is ably handled by David Chandler, who also writes a short piece on the Cossack. There are chapters on Frederick the Great by Dr T Heathcote, Moguls and Mahrattas by Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford, Napoleonic wars by Brigadier Peter Young, the Crimean War, American Civil War and the twilight of the cavalry with a final picture of Polish Lancers at the canter in 1939.

An introduction to the book reviews chargers and riders, their roles, equipment and training. There are diagrams of saddlery, pictorial descriptions of cavalymen and their mounts the world over and several splendidly detailed coloured prints.

Written by experts and lavishly illustrated, this notable work is highly recommended.

Sampson Low, Berkshire House, Queen Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 1NS, £6.95

JFPJ

Small arms

'Jane's Pocket Book 16: Pistols and Sub-Machine Guns' (Edited by Denis Archer)

'WW2 Fact Files: Sub-Machine Guns and Automatic Rifles' (Peter Chamberlain and Terry Gander)

'WW2 Fact Files: Allied Pistols, Rifles and Grenades' (Peter Chamberlain and Terry Gander)

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The Luger 9mm pistol, one of the most famous handguns ever created and still carried by many soldiers, has been around since 1900 and was first accepted for military use by the Swiss. More than two million have been produced over the years. The current manufacturer is Mauser.

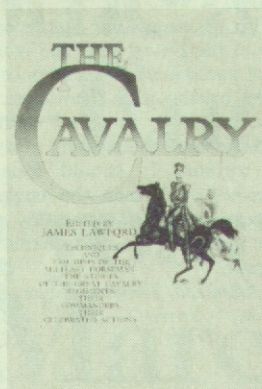
The Luger is just one of hundreds of weapons featured in this comprehensive Jane's Pocket Book survey.

Messrs Chamberlain and Gander also do a worthwhile job in the World War Two Fact File series. The personal weapons of all the warring powers are covered in detail and there are many illustrations both of the weapons themselves and their use in action.

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JCW



Tank lag

'The Business of Tanks 1933-1945' (G MacLeod Ross)

From 1933 to 1945, save for a short break when he helped in the reconstruction of the Quetta cantonment after an earthquake, Brigadier Ross held senior posts in the field of tank design and from 1942 to 1945 was Britain's chief technical liaison officer to the US Army Ordnance Department and the American automobile industry in Detroit.

He was thus at the centre of things in a critical period during which Britain should have been capitalising on her invention of the tank.

When war came in 1939, Britain lacked adequate numbers of battle-worthy tanks and had to rely on the American-designed and built Sherman. Why? Brigadier Ross attempts to answer that question by listing the 'missing links' which, apart from the failure to grasp the theory of armoured tactics, were basically responsible for the British failure.

There was no technical cadre for tank development, no General Staff specification, no suitable engine, no experimental workshops and thoughts on tanks were divorced from thoughts on guns.

This is a long book and would perhaps have benefited from more ruthless editing but it takes us into areas not usually recorded.

Arthur H Stockwell Ltd, Elms Court, Ilfracombe, Devon

JCW

Damen aus Helle

'The 51st Highland Division at War' (Roderick Grant)

Not a history, nor even the full story of this division in World War Two, but a series of events highlighted by first-hand accounts and nearly 200 excellent photographs.

The first event was a disaster — the 51st's capitulation at St Valery-en-Caux in Northern France in 1940. The division went into captivity and the story of Stalag XXB is also told. Rommel took the surrender and when the new 51st Highland Division was formed and sent to North Africa it was all the more keen to take revenge.

The new victorious saga started at Alamein and the Afrika Korps was soon calling the Scotsmen 'Damen aus Helle,' 'The Ladies from Hell.' The division fought gloriously and gained honours in 14 major battles in North Africa, Sicily, Normandy and

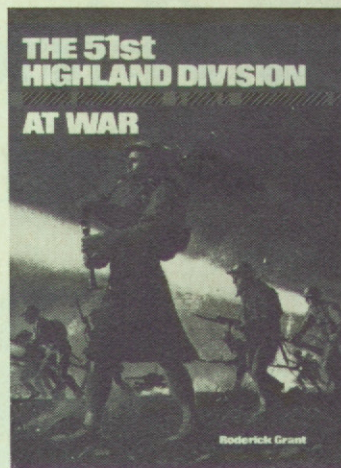
Germany. At Wadi Akarit, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, commanding the 7th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, won the Victoria Cross.

The photographs will bring back memories to old comrades and the letters are nostalgic: "Never at any time were we faced with the prospect of defeat, thus we had amazing confidence in ourselves," wrote Sergeant McPherson from North Africa.

That confidence carried them into Sicily and Normandy, and across the Rhine, Ems and Weser.

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GRH



Irregulars

'Small Wars' (Colonel C E Callwell)

First published 80 years ago, this work was recognised as an official Army handbook in 1896. It was brought up to date ten years later after the author had taken part in the South African War. Small wars are defined not as minor affairs but as conflicts between regular and irregular forces, no matter how large the hordes of irregulars nor how few the regulars.

Even small wars so distant may hold lessons for today. Such as the tactics of the French General Bugeaud in Algeria in the 1840s who met insidious guerilla warfare with guerilla counterstrokes and defeated rebel leader Abd el Kader at his own terrain.

Some 15 plans of campaigns and actions help the reader to appreciate the subtleties of feints and surprises, boldness and vigour, pursuits and retreats and many aspects of tactics. EP Publishing Ltd, East Ardsley, Wakefield, W Yorkshire, £8.50

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Victory

'Caen: The Brutal Battle and the Break-out from Normandy' (Henry Maule)

Montgomery always intended that the British formations should attract and fight the enemy armour to allow time for the Americans to drive south and east from their bridgehead.

The bocage country vastly favoured the defending Germans with their formidably Tiger tanks dug down and their well-sited 88mm guns in almost impregnable positions. More and more German armour was thrown at the British front and although Monty was criticised he stuck to his plan which eventually destroyed a great mass of the

German army and allowed the Americans to rush eastward almost unmolested.

For the British this was a bloody battle, as many personal narratives record. It was also a famous victory, hard fought against almost fanatical SS troops, and hard won. The allied air forces played a massive part by night and day and the British soldier who endured the break-out knew the worst of war in gaining a remarkable victory.

David & Charles (Publishers) Ltd, Brunel House, Newton Abbot, Devon, £4.95

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Final volume

'Arms and Uniforms: The Second World War Part 4' (Liliane and Fred Funcken)

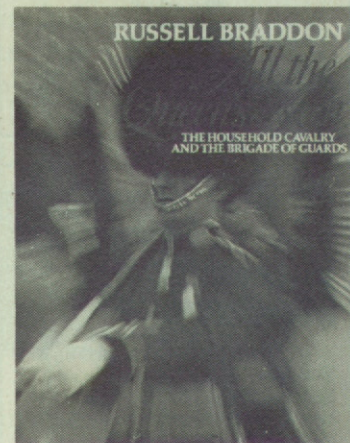
This is the final volume of this instructive series on weapons and uniforms of World War Two.

The book is divided into four sections, the first devoted to France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, Germany and Italy, showing badges of rank, headgear and every kind of equipment from the British commando dagger to the German MP44 assault rifle adapted for firing around corners. The smaller nations such as Denmark, the Netherlands, and the Balkan and Danube states, are similarly handled. Another part is devoted to technological developments in artillery and transport while a fourth concentrates on submarines, shipping and aircraft with some final pages on the United States, Japanese and Russian navies.

Profusely illustrated in colour by the authors, this book, like its predecessors, has much to offer the enquiring military mind.

Ward Lock Ltd, 116 Baker Street, London, W1M 2BB, £3.95

JFPJ



The Guards

'All the Queen's Men' (Russell Braddon)

A daunting task — to condense the three-century story of The Guards Division into one volume — but the Australian author, taking a distant and critical look, has made an excellent job of it. Necessarily, much has been left out, but the omission of names, repetitive paraphernalia of battles and details of changing uniforms have helped to bring the result down to a concise and understandable story.

Soldiers of mere ordinary regiments and perhaps civilians too, will here get the 'feel' of the Guards. But

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it takes a real expert to understand the subtle differences between the regiments. The author has delved deep and produces many fine stories and lusty tales to illustrate the progress of events from 1659 when General Monck became the 'father of today's Household Division' by marching to London with the force he had commanded at Coldstream.

Since then the Guards have fought with honour and their own particular unflappable phlegm in many parts of the world and in roles varying from infantry to armour, parachutists to marines, in the desert and jungle, in peace-keeping and anti-terrorist operations.

Overall are their own special discipline, their unsurpassed ceremonial and their close association with the Sovereign. The illustrations augment a fine volume.

Hamish Hamilton Ltd, 90 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3PT,
£7.50 GRH

Greatest

'Austerlitz 1805' (Christopher Duffy)

Many military historians consider Austerlitz to be Napoleon's greatest victory, and here the battle is reviewed in depth. The French were at a disadvantage in numbers and their armies were somewhat scattered yet Napoleon ably chose his own battlefield and his better-trained troops knew how to achieve the advantage.

The Austrian and Russian troops, especially the latter, had full belief in their own prowess. They fought bravely, the Russians with savagery, but the Grande Armée of 1805 was the 'finest force Napoleon ever took into the field.' They had had three years of hard training at Boulogne while vainly awaiting an opportunity to invade England and they were well organised in manoeuvrable formations, each able to act alone.

During the battle Napoleon received news of Nelson's victory at Trafalgar and the following morning he was still 'in an atrocious temper.' Seeley Service & Co, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL,
£5.95 GRH

To Berlin

'Desert Rats at War, Vol 2' (George Forty)

After chasing Rommel's Afrika Korps across the burning sands of North Africa from Alamein to Tunisia, the 'Desert Rats' (7th Armoured Division) trained for the invasion of a vastly different kind of terrain. They rested and re-equipped at Homs and in mid-September 1942 made a landing at Salerno when the allies had moved across the Straits of Messina from Sicily.

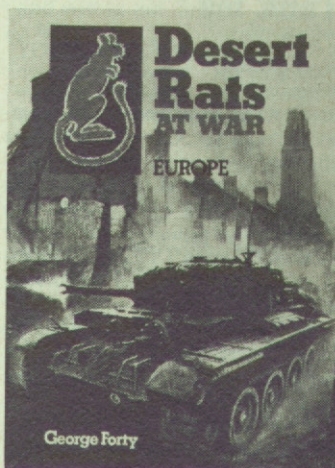
After three months' hard fighting they left Naples for Britain in December and then reorganised and trained for the invasion of Normandy five months later. There they experienced a very different kind of warfare from the open spaces of the desert. The bocage countryside, close hedged and with sunken roads and fields, was excellent for stubborn defence, difficult to advance in.

When they did eventually get through they followed, fighting and

out-maneuvring, the Germans all the way to Berlin where, at the end of the autobahn, they erected a stone monument recording their long route through two continents and three theatres of war.

This second volume completes the saga of the Desert Rats and is made up of anecdotes and pictures contributed by the men themselves and ably moulded into an exciting, dramatic and entertaining story by the author. It should long be cherished by the men who fought, by their own descendants and by those who followed in 7th Armoured Brigade.

Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Surrey, TW17 8AS,
£5.25 GRH



In brief



'For Gawdsake Don't Take Me' (Martin Page)

A startling collection of the songs, ballads, verses and monologues of servicemen past and present. 'The Ball of Kirriemuir is there, it gave me quite a shock . . . ' No, I won't go on. Never was much of a poet, but this book will bring back memories of nights out with mates bawling their heads off, of bumping along in the back of a three-tonner to you-name-it and singing yourself hoarse to hide a host of emotions. . . .

Not a book to show the kids — or the padre unless it's for his education. By the way, whatever happened to 'Eskimo Nell,' 'Rangy Lil' and 'You'll Never Go To Heaven?' Just asking.

Bill Tidy's illustrations round off this chunk of bawdy nostalgia quite nicely.

Hart-Davis, MacGibbon Ltd, 3 Upper James Street, London, W1R 4BP,
£2.95

WRNS, WRAC, WRAF

'Service Women' (Vivienne Reynolds/Elizabeth Saxon/Helen Renton)

Excellent accounts of life in the WRNS, WRAC and WRAF. The stories are wittily, interestingly and amusingly written by servicewomen who have succeeded in their chosen careers. The Women's Royal Army Corps story is told by Major Elizabeth Saxon, who writes poetry and children's books and is working on a novel. She has a style that holds the reader and her varied and satisfying Army service has obviously been moulded to her liking with hard work and enthusiasm.

It has taken her in a few short years to many parts of Britain, to Singapore, Canada and the United States. She has moved from the drill square to the adjutant's chair, on to various staff appointments, to Cambridge to study international relations, to the RAEC to lecture to male officers on limited war and then to read for a MSc (Econ) degree in strategic studies.

The story is fascinating and must greatly interest any youngster seeking guidance for her own career. The book is one of a series, 'My Life and My Work,' which includes more than 60 titles. They vary from accountancy through the armed forces, banking, farming, journalism and retailing to veterinary surgery, and cater for youths and girls.

Educational Explorers Ltd, 40 Silver Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2SU,
£2.95 GRH

'The War Illustrators' (Pat Hodgson)

Before the camera, pictures of war were drawn and painted by hand for news-hungry magazine readers back home. The story of one artist who made his drawings on tissue paper and rolled them up as pills to swallow to avoid the charge of espionage reflects only one of several hazards of the game.

This book contains well over a hundred drawings of 19th century wars, by top-rank artists. Each picture is accompanied by fully descriptive text and there is an introductory account of the processes by which drawings reached the printed page.

The author's companion work, 'Early War Photographs,' was reviewed by SOLDIER in May 1975. Osprey Publishing Ltd, 12-14 Long Acre, London, WC2E 9LP, £5.95

'Hertfordshire Yeomanry and Artillery Honours and Awards' (J D Sainsbury) The result of more than ten years' research, this remarkably thorough publication lists honours and awards to officers and men of Hertfordshire yeomanry and artillery units from 1897 to the present day.

Awards for gallantry in war and peace, for long service and efficiency, for coronation and jubilee are all faithfully listed and described. A brief history of each unit highlights the main actions for which decorations were given.

Hertfordshire Yeomanry and Artillery Historical Trust, 8 Mornington, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts, £3.00 (including postage)

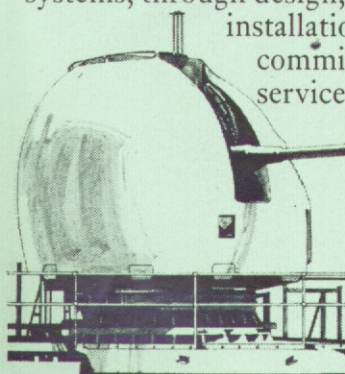
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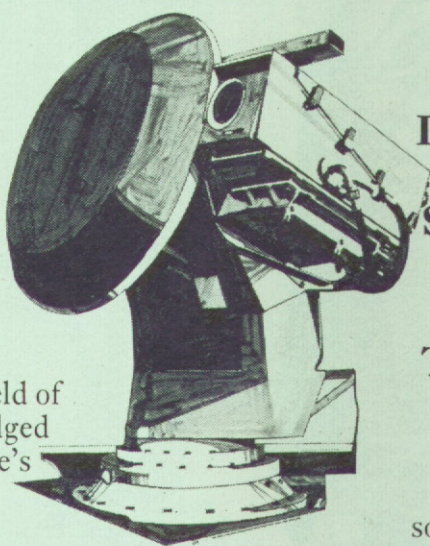
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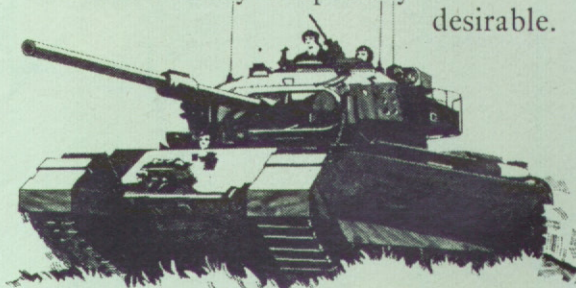


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