

# **SOLDIER**

JUNE 1965 ★ One Shilling





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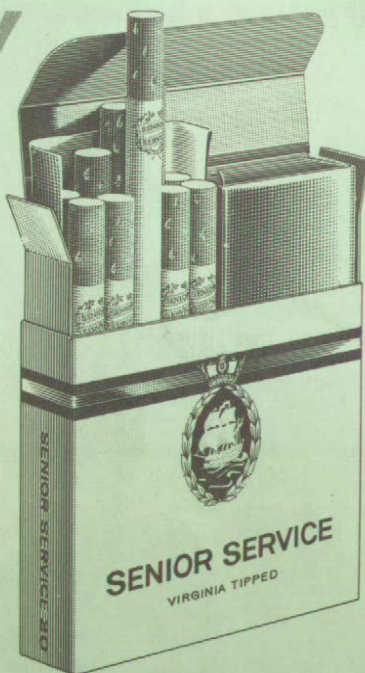
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by Billy Walker

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# SOLDIER

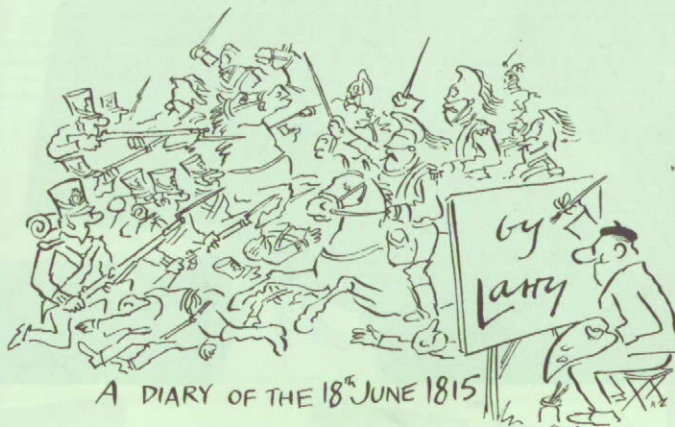
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## The Battle of Waterloo



A DIARY OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1815

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# Sweat & Grit in the Land of Smiles



*On tour in the Far East, Feature Writer RUSSELL MILLER and Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT watch British and Commonwealth troops work on Operation Crown—fashioning an airfield from Thailand scrub and paddy fields*

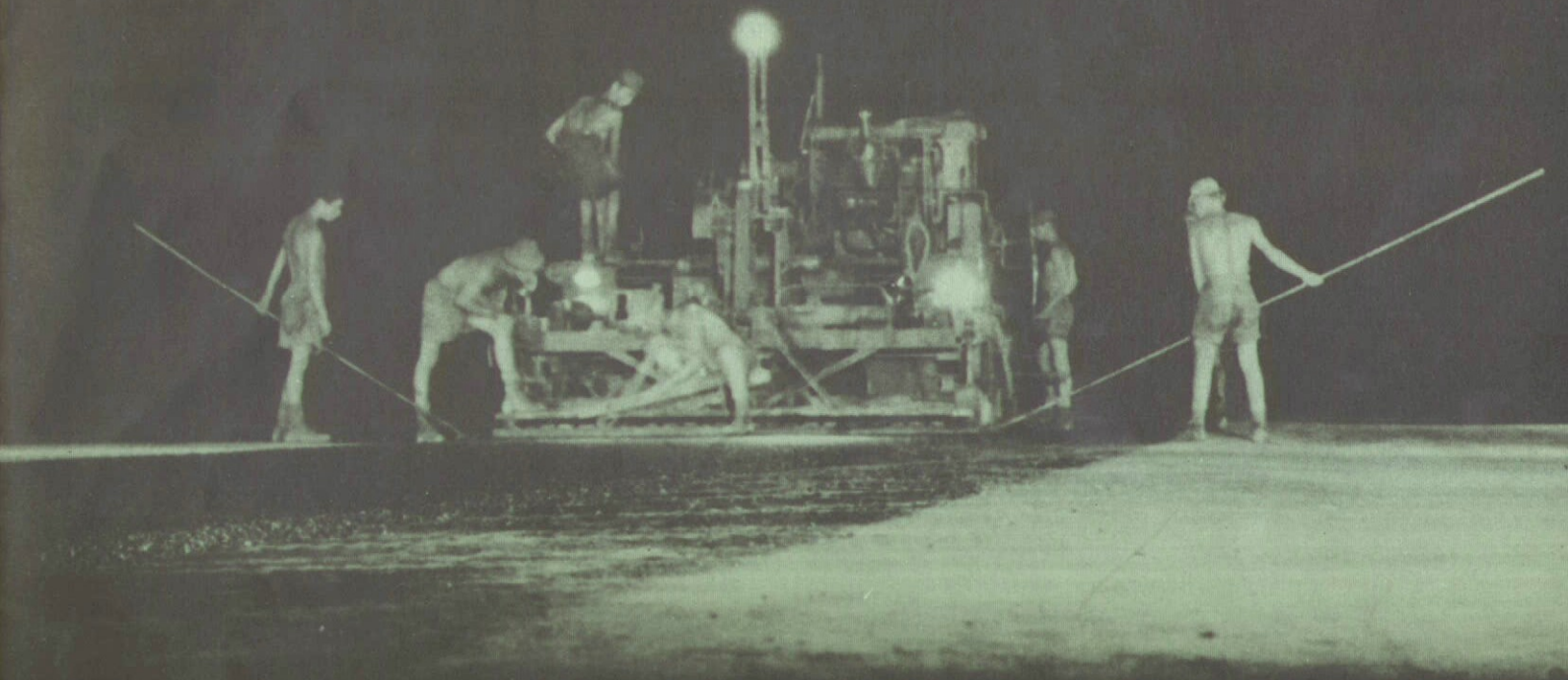
**T**HIS month an airstrip carved out of paddy fields in north-east Thailand will be officially handed over to the Thai nation. It has been built by the sweat, blood and tears of British soldiers working day and night in clouds of choking dust and in temperatures constantly topping 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Every foot of the wide black runway has severely tested the temper and endurance of men squint-eyed and streaming under the pitiless glare of the sun; every foot has been a struggle against inhospitable ground; and if there were grim faces in this Land of Smiles, it was all too understandable.

Operation Crown, the building of Loeng

Nok Tha airfield and the first major task for British soldiers in Thailand since the infamous Siam death railway, has been a relentless grind. But now it is almost complete there is time for the men of Crown to stand back and admire the fruits of their labours. And they can be forgiven their pride.

Crown was conceived by Britain to show





in some tangible way her support of SEATO. Several projects were suggested, the airfield being top favourite as it fitted in with SEATO strategy and Thai Government development plans for the area.

The problems were gigantic. First the airfield had to be semi-permanent, yet require very little maintenance, and second there was the huge headache of mounting, as cheaply as possible, this vast operation in a strange country a thousand miles from the rest of the Army.

The first soldiers arrived on site in December 1963. Their feelings, never recorded, cannot have been too joyful. They had struggled 70 miles along a rutted gravel road from Ubon, the nearest town, crossing several weak, ramshackle bridges on the way. In front of them lay scrub and paddy fields, completely swamped during the monsoon season and covered with a 12-inch layer of dust for the rest of the year. Services were non-existent; amenities nil.

Men of 11 Independent Field Squadron,

A Barber-Greene finishing machine lays the first two inches of asphalt. A half-inch layer follows.



The Howard Stabilisation Train at work on two kilometres of road linking the villages of Kok Tal Lat and Kud Kho Khan. This task was undertaken by the men of Operation Crown as a goodwill gesture.

Royal Engineers, helped by a troop of Australian Sappers, tackled the mammoth task of moving in all the heavy plant required and setting up the camp. Carried by sea from Singapore, the great Sapper machines trundled up the long and tortuous road from Bangkok to the site. Other equipment was flown in to Ubon then moved in by road.

At first the only supply of water was pumped up by hand from a well in a nearby village and the failure of the Thai authorities to locate more water caused grave concern until an Australian Sapper, who had been taught water divining as a boy by an aborigine, grasped a forked twig and pinpointed a well (see SOLDIER, July 1964).

Slowly the tented camp was replaced by corrugated iron huts and vital amenities like showers were installed. In the adjoining "unspoiled" Thai village, a bar mysteriously appeared among the stilted wooden houses—it was to be the first of many.

The conditions were brutal. Long hours,

working temperatures reaching 130 degrees and everywhere the inescapable dust clouds.

Lieutenant-Colonel K N Orrell, the second Commander, Royal Engineers, at Crown, was given the responsibility of constructing the airstrip. He decided to use a process of soil-cement stabilisation—similar to that used on the M1 motorway—to fulfil the semi-permanent little-maintenance requirement.

Simply, it involved using a gravel-type soil dug out locally, spreading it in a thick layer and then stabilising the top six inches with lime and cement. Bitumen was sprayed on the top to act as a "glue" for the top layer of asphalt. It is the first time the process has been used in Thailand.

Sent to Thailand for Operation Crown were British Sappers of 59 Field Squadron and 54 Corps Field Park Squadron, 2 Plant Troop (Royal New Zealand Engineers), 5001 Construction Squadron (Royal Air Force), 16 Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps and 249 Signal



Cpl John Robinson, RE, a soil expert, testing the density of the runway's thick laterite base.

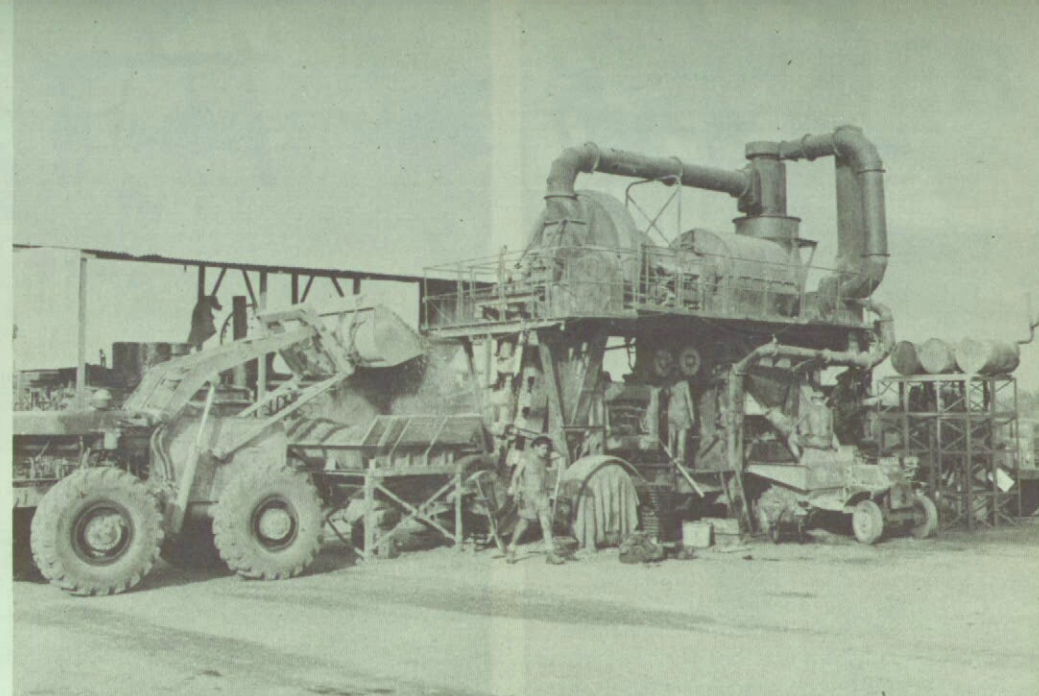
Squadron, Royal Signals. Crown's own transport platoon and workshops both included mixtures of men sent from all over the world specially for the job.

Most of them served a year's tour. Thrown together from many regiments and corps—at one time there were 17 different cap badges in the camp—the men at Crown became a tight-knit band of experts whose slavish lives were governed by their machines and by the slowly growing black scar eating across the paddy fields just outside their huts.

More than a million pounds worth of equipment roared and throbbed. Often, if a vital machine broke down, mechanics were called from their beds to get it going in time for the morning shift.

Much of the work revolved around the Starmix 8, variously nicknamed the Iron Buddha or the Iron Cow and perhaps the Army's nearest approach to a real-life Heath Robinson machine.

Its vital job was to turn out asphalt, and far into the night its chimneys spouted



Above: Stone and bitumen are fed into Starmix 8 to produce about 100 tons of asphalt per shift. Below: Working on a culvert. Drainage was a major problem of the runway (background).



A panoramic view of the 5000-foot long runway of Loeng Nok Tha airfield which British and Commonwealth Sappers have been building in Thailand.



## THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

by LARRY

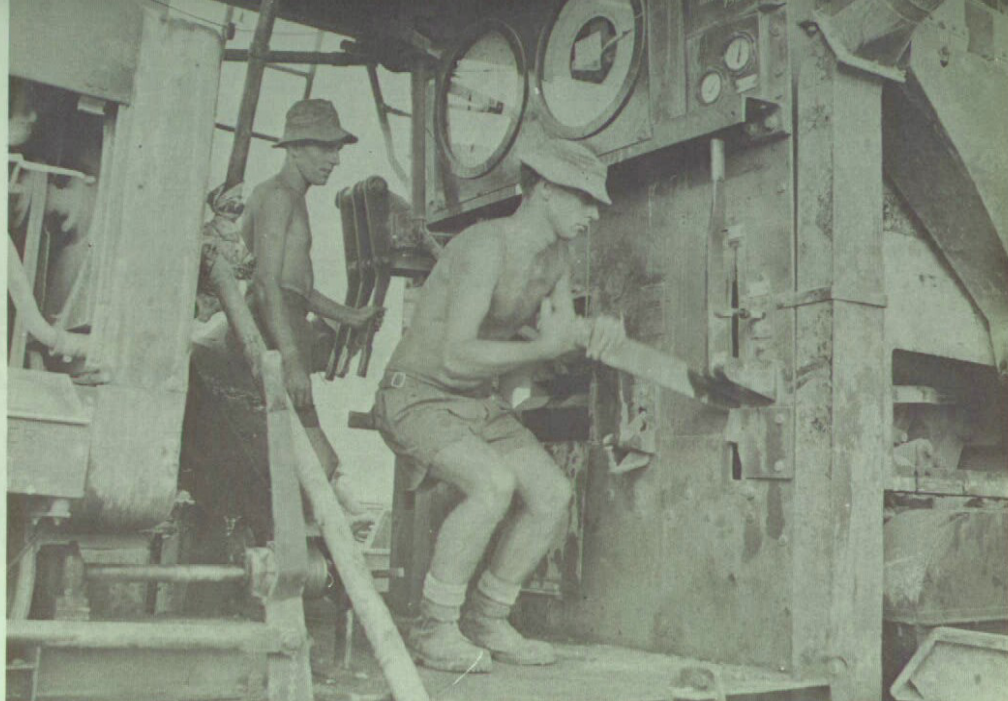


1015 hours. The Iron Duke spots Napoleon at 2000 yards range.





Above: Taking the time-honoured breather—foot on shovel and a cigarette—from hot, dusty work.



The *Starmix*, irreverently nicknamed the Iron Buddha and the Iron Cow, was a key machine in constructing the airfield. L/Cpl Louis Rex, REME, had the onerous task of keeping *Starmix* operational.



Cpl Ricky McGurk and Spr Jimmy Loftus at work in the Army Post Office in a Bangkok hotel.

smoke and its complex components glistened under electric light bulbs strung around the monstrous superstructure.

The work of practically the whole camp depended on the Iron Buddha and many a silent prayer was offered by soldiers at bedtime that it would still be throbbing when they woke—not least from Lance-Corporal Louis Rex, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, whose task was to keep the temperamental machine sweet.

Surprisingly one of the hottest jobs was driving tippers carrying asphalt from the Iron Buddha to the machine actually laying it on the runway. In their cabs these men got no respite from the searing heat of the sun and their vehicle engines.

Under neon lights in the huge workshops, mechanics of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Royal Engineers and Royal Air Force worked every night servicing and repairing the vehicles and plant so that not a minute was lost. The monsoons gave these men a chance to really overhaul the equipment when the incessant rain brought work on the airstrip

to a temporary halt. Stripped to the waist and covered from head to foot in sweat-grimed dust, the men often came off shift too tired to do anything but shower and fall on to their beds.

As the months passed, more amenities were built into the camp, including a swimming pool, football pitch, badminton court, and even a golf course constructed with the help of hundreds of villagers. The fairways were scrub and the greens would have made an English golfer blanch, but nevertheless "Royal Crown St Andrews" provided plenty of sport.

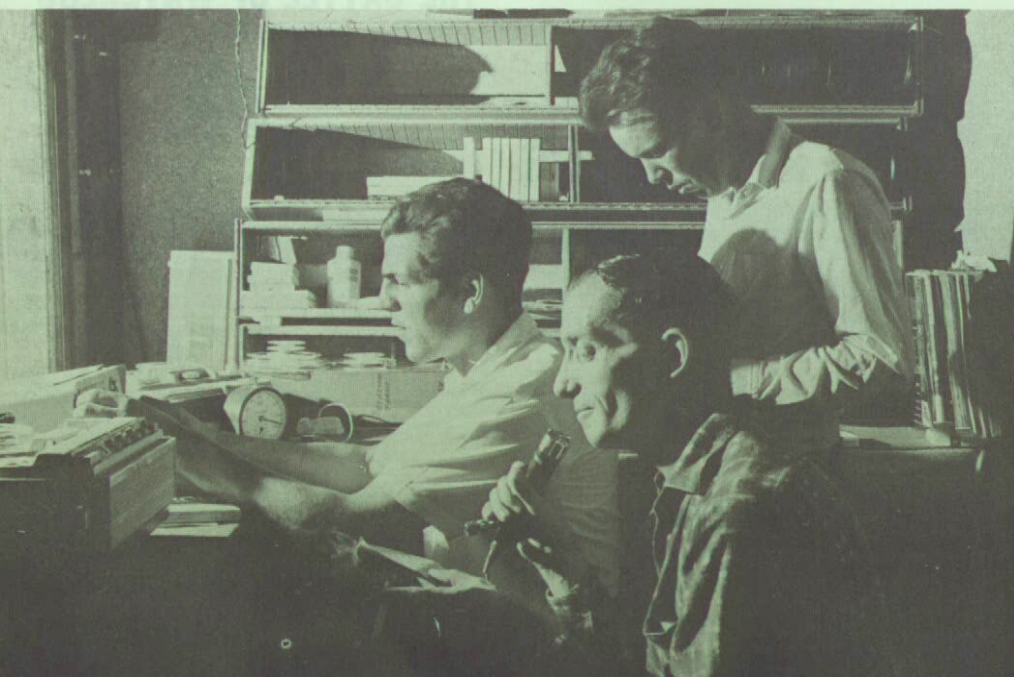
Outside the camp, the men of Crown had little except a few crude, uncomfortable bars in the adjoining village. A leave centre set up in a bungalow on the coast at Pattaya, 90 miles from Bangkok, provided a welcome break for men sick of the sight of the dust-covered camp.

The supply difficulties were prodigious. Nearly everything had to be brought in from Singapore or from Britain. Replacement parts for some of the older machines were often difficult to obtain and Lieutenant Mike Thompson, Royal Engineers, the Crown liaison officer living at the Grand Hotel in Bangkok, was often called upon to shop for bits and pieces urgently required up-country.

In the camp's medical centre, Captain Robert Whitla, Royal Army Medical Corps, found himself handling a huge unofficial sick parade every morning of local villagers suffering ailments often aggravated simply by ignorance. He also gathered a horrifying collection of snakes killed on the camp site, ranging from a four-foot cobra downwards.

The statistics of Crown make impressive reading. The plant equipment used 45,000 gallons of water every day and a further 25,000 gallons were used for domestic purposes.

Camp Crown in fact became an entirely self-contained township with its own services and power station. It housed 199 items of plant of 54 different types and 125 vehicles of 17 different types. They used 25,000 gallons of diesel, 10,000



Below: Crown Radio Station operated twice nightly, mainly records, from the camp church vestry.





**Capt Len Axelby, RAEC, instructs Thai teachers in English. Crown men helped a lot locally.**

gallons of petrol and 730 gallons of engine oil every month. More than 20,000 tons of material had to be brought in by road.

The workshops had under its wing an ordnance section holding about 16,000 items. Spares of every description were constantly in demand to keep plant and machines, often being mercilessly hammered throughout the day, working.

Bulk earthworks—preparation and clearing of the airstrip area—meant shifting 400,000 cubic yards of soil, and 100,000 cubic yards of laterite (the gravel-cum-soil base) were used.

At a ceremony this month the Prime Minister of Thailand will officially accept Loeng Nok Tha airfield on behalf of his country. Some work has still to be completed, but when finished the runway will be 5000 feet long and 120 feet wide, connecting to a parking apron of 140,000 square yards. Also handed over will be Crown camp, stripped of its contents—economically it would not be worth while dismantling all the huts and moving them



**Lieut-Col K N Orrell with Kud Kho Khan's head man at the village's Sapper-built water point.**

back to Singapore. The air-conditioned medical centre will be handed over complete, however, and may be used as a district health centre.

Now Lieutenant-Colonel Orrell faces the last huge problem of Operation Crown—moving out. It will be a long and difficult job. All the great items of plant have to get out of Thailand and some considerable organisation is going to be required.

But when the last soldiers leave Loeng Nok Tha, even if they are not sorry to say goodbye, at least the local Thais will be. Operation Crown has physically helped them in many ways—from providing water on tap at a local village well to simply providing much-needed employment.

Left behind also will be the most tragic situation of all. What will happen to Kok Tal Lat, the tiny village adjoining the camp which has become economically dependent on the soldiers? It will be the only village in Thailand with almost as many bars as houses—and with many, many unhappy girls.

**Below: The Medical Centre daily had a large unofficial sick parade of villagers. Here Capt Robert Whitla, RAMC, examines a small girl who is blind in one eye through not being treated in time.**



# SOLDIER

## to Soldier

**L**AST year the Army's corps and regimental associations spent £222,000 in grants to 34,000 individual cases of need and distress among soldiers, ex-soldiers and their dependants.

The associations received £51,000 from the Army Benevolent Fund to help them in their work, and the Fund also gave £105,000 to five Combined Services organisations and £45,000 to 30 other national Service charities.

This total of £423,000 spent on Army benevolent work in just one year is indeed a large sum and soldier or civilian reader alike may well question the need. Even more might he or she be staggered by the requirement for an additional annual £350,000.

For the aim of the Army Benevolent Fund Appeal Organisation, set up in 1960, is to raise this extra £350,000 every year—£200,000 of it from the Army itself and £150,000 a year from the country—so that grants can be increased, the drain on the Fund's capital stopped, annual grants restored to some national Service charities and special grants made to corps and regimental associations for cases requiring major rehabilitation.

Today there are still survivors of the South African War, now approaching their nineties. There are more than 1,000,000 survivors of World War One, the majority over 70 and with pensions overtaken by the cost of living. There are more than 4,000,000 survivors of World War Two. And there are those who have fought since 1945 in Palestine, Korea, Kenya, Malaya, Borneo, Cyprus and the Middle East.

In the coming months SOLDIER will explain more fully the Army's benevolent work—and will, as ever, always be happy to receive any amount, however small, which readers might wish to donate to specific corps or regimental funds or to the central Army Benevolent Fund.

## WATERLOO



*10.30 hours. General Blücher writes to tell Wellington he hopes to arrive at Waterloo at 12.30*



# Mercury (below) on Olympus



A Mount Olympus blizzard reduced a 60-foot signal tower to ice-coated wreckage.

Below: L/Cpl J Balmer sites a C43 aerial ten feet above the 6406 ft peak of Olympus.



**S**NOW-LADEN blasts from the Russian wastelands submerge the 6406-foot peak of Mount Olympus in a numbing blizzard and hurl icy drifts against the wall of a tiny pre-fabricated hut. Inside, two men of 262 Squadron, Royal Signals concentrate on keeping the Cyprus radio relay station operational.

They succeed, until ice-burdened girders knuckle under to the battering gale and a 60-foot communication tower carrying 12 aerials crashes down. The Signals men fling on their fleece-lined parkas and struggle out into the sub-zero whiteout to begin repair work which goes on far into the night.

The emergency brought by the short—and at 6000 feet—bitter Cyprus winter was accepted by “the mountain men,” as the detachment is nicknamed, as a normal responsibility.

Sergeant John Francis, 24-year-old commander, said of the detachment’s special task: “We’ve learnt to live and work as a team. There’s no need for rigid discipline because everyone realises the difficulties of our position and they all pull their weight.”

Last winter the detachment’s isolation was increased when incessant blizzards kept the road to the mountain top almost impassable. Digging out was routine. Once the snow drifted extra deeply over the two doors and the signallers burrowed out through a tunnel.

With another hard winter behind them, no one in the detachment is anxious to exchange the lonely and occasionally arduous life on the roof of Cyprus for a posting in the warmer regions of the Episkopi and Dhekelia Sovereign Base areas. The skiing season may be over, but the

mountain’s altitude pleasantly cools the summer heat and swimming, in the heated pool of a private hotel, is in full swing.

On duty, the signallers lead a busy and interest-filled life while hobbies—learning to play the guitar and photography—compensate for the lack of entertainment.

Like the mythological gods who lived on Mount Olympus in Greece, the men of the mountain enjoy their independence. It is a long time since anyone asked for a transfer from the tiny Troodos outstation.

*From a report by T. R. Coombs, Army Public Relations, Cyprus.*



Below: Sgt J Francis and Sigm G Jobson check sets in the mountain-top station.

Above: Igloo exit. Signallers or Eskimos? Below: Digging out follows every blizzard.

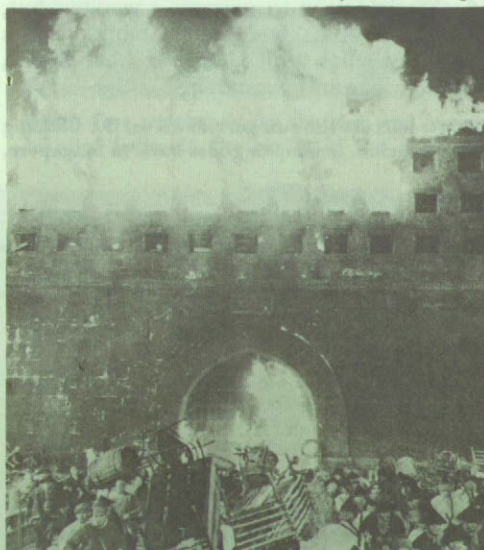


It happened in

## JUNE

| Date |  | Year |
|------|--|------|
| 3    | King George V born                           | 1865 |
| 6    | Field of the Cloth of Gold                   | 1520 |
| 10   | Italy declared war on Great Britain          | 1940 |
| 13   | Boxer Rebellion in China                     | 1900 |
| 14   | Battle of Naseby                             | 1645 |
| 14   | Battle of Marengo                            | 1800 |
| 14   | Germans entered Paris                        | 1940 |
| 15   | Magna Carta signed                           | 1215 |
| 16   | Battle of Quatre Bras                        | 1815 |
| 17   | Battle of Bunker's Hill                      | 1775 |
| 17   | Latvia occupied by Russia                    | 1940 |
| 18   | War between Britain and the USA began        | 1812 |
| 18   | Battle of Waterloo                           | 1815 |
| 19   | Kiel Canal opened                            | 1895 |
| 24   | Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener born            | 1850 |
| 25   | Korean War began                             | 1950 |
| 28   | Field-Marshal Lord Raglan died               | 1855 |
| 30   | Independence proclaimed in the Belgian Congo | 1960 |

Riot, carnage and holocaust in Peking. Flames burst from the Chi'en Men Gate of the towering Tartar Wall in this vivid scene from the film of the Boxer Rebellion—“55 Days at Peking.”



### WATERLOO

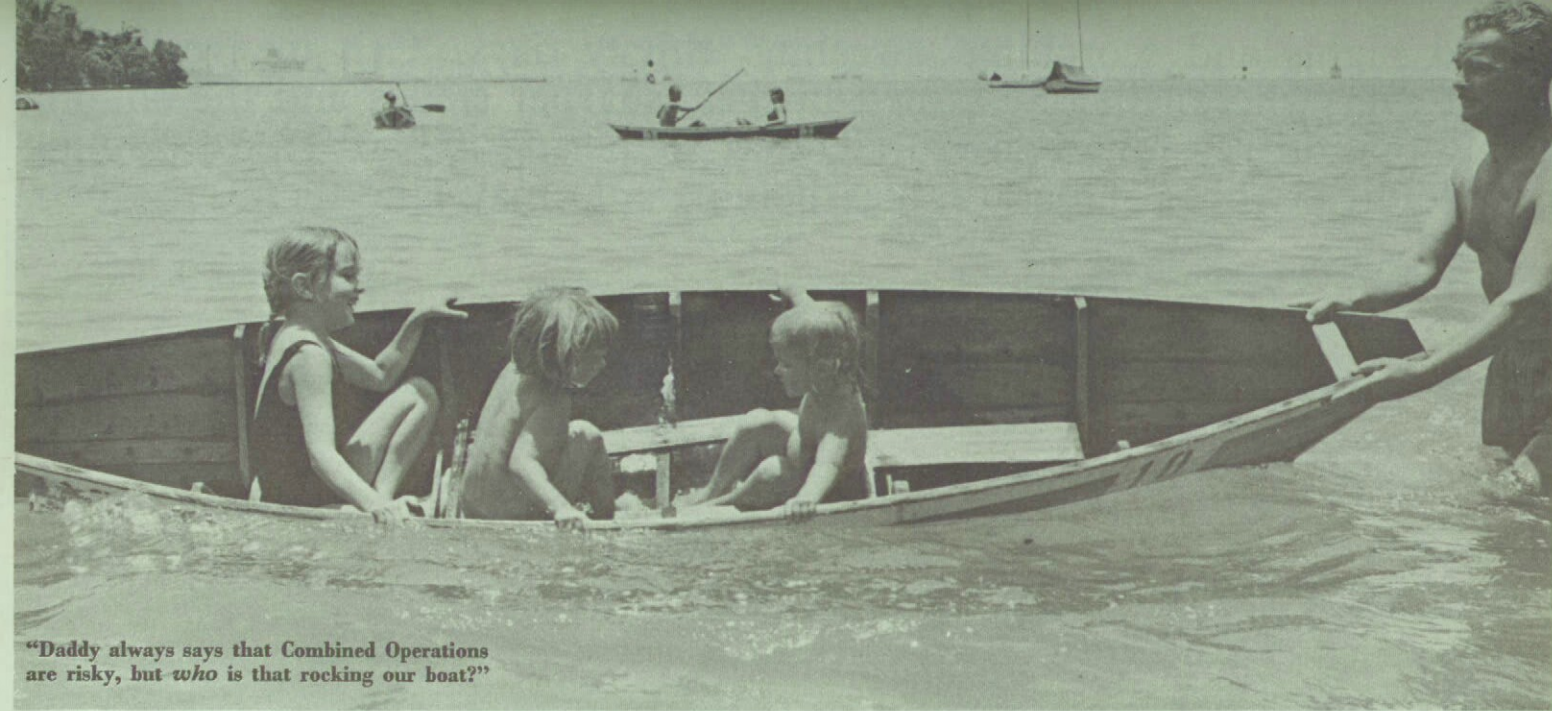


11.30 hours. The battle opens with concentrated French fire on Private Jim Smith.





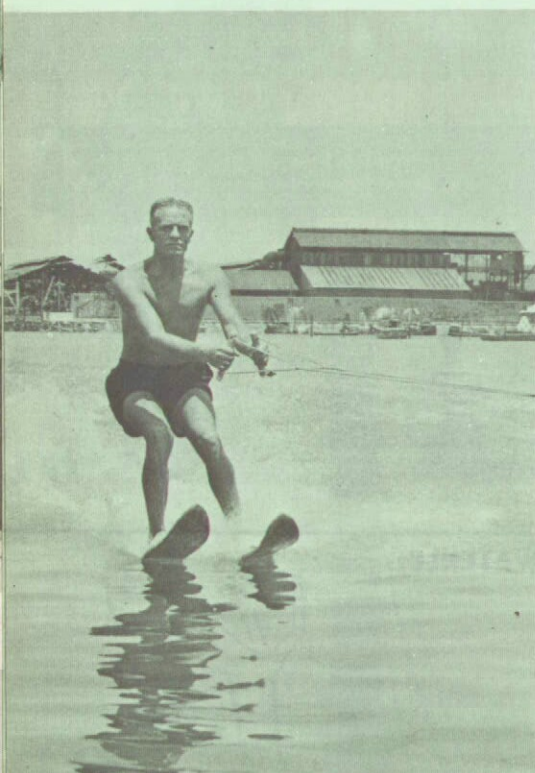
A sheet of spray briefly ruffles the South China Sea calm as L/Cpl Carl Butler skids into a turn.



"Daddy always says that Combined Operations are risky, but *who* is that rocking our boat?"

## Playtime on BLAKANG MATI!!!

Story by RUSSELL MILLER / Pictures by FRANK TOMPSETT



Above: Maj A G Gill, RASC, leaves a sparkling wake and the island's waterfront behind him.

**T**HE cheapest water skiing in the world is among the attractions offered at a beach run by a handful of soldiers on Blakang Mati, an island off Singapore. Ten years ago it was just another deserted beach; today it is an informal playground with facilities that would not shame the French Riviera.

Ski at 3s 6d for a quarter of an hour; hire a canoe for 1s 2d an hour or a boat with an outboard motor for 4s 8d; eat lunch served under an umbrella on the beach for a few shillings with an iced drink from the bar (open all day); swim in the warm South China Sea or just lounge in the shade of the green trees that fringe the golden sand.

All this is offered by the Canoe Club of 30 Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, stationed in Singapore. It's enough to make Billy Butlin green with envy.

"Discovered" in 1955, the beach has been developed entirely by the effort and interest of a successive chain of soldiers. A thatched lean-to became a wooden hut, changing rooms were built, tables, chairs and umbrellas added, then a boat-house, kitchen, bar and verandah.

Manned entirely by volunteers, the beach attracts a good crowd every weekend throughout the year. Visitors pay up to 2s 4d beach fees and these "paying guests" plus the profit from the bar have brought more than £300 into the Canoe Club kitty.

One of the pleasant aspects of Blakang Mati is that it is completely informal with very few restrictions. There is none of the martial discipline often imposed on European beaches when hiring a boat or canoe.

The 16 locally-built canoes at the beach are treated with cheerful abandon and often capsize, but so long as no one paddles too far out, no one bothers much.

Even very small children hire the canoes and have a fine old game in them. If they swamp them and submerge then it is so much the better—they pretend they are in a submarine.

But the freedom is far from reckless and on the verandah of the bar some helper is inevitably standing scanning the area with binoculars.

Four Malaysian soldiers run the boat hire. Corporal Sharif, a battalion clerk, looks after the bookings while Corporal Tex Suhaimy, Lance-Corporal Ramly and Private Majio drive the speedboat and

organise the water skiing. Regulars behind the bar are Corporal Tony Thompson and Private Jim Martin. All the helpers get their expenses paid, but no wages.

An Indian contractor runs the kitchen, somehow producing quite good meals from his little tin shack, and a harassed waiter with all-gold teeth rushes up and down the beach serving food.

The general running of the beach is now the responsibility of a three-man committee—Major Harry Higgins, Warrant Officer Graham Belfield and Staff-Sergeant Harry Vincent. Mrs Belfield and Mrs Vincent usually collect the beach fees—wearing bikinis and bus conductor-type cash bags.

Most families get to Blakang Mati by hiring a sampan for a few shillings in Singapore to take them across in the morning and pick them up in the evening. It makes an excellent day out.

Blakang Mati beach is a superb example of unselfish enterprise by a few soldiers and has reached such a stage of prosperity that it even finances regimental charities.

And, unfortunately, it is the sort of facility that all too often is taken for granted by soldiers and their wives.

Below: Informal committee meeting. Left to right: S/Sgt H Vincent, Maj H Higgins, WO G Belfield.



Beach fees which pay for the club and leave something over for charities are collected by the two bikinied ladies in the centre of the picture, Mrs Audrey Belfield (left) and Mrs Audrey Vincent.



Below: The children hate leaving their island paradise, so re-embarkation can take a long time.



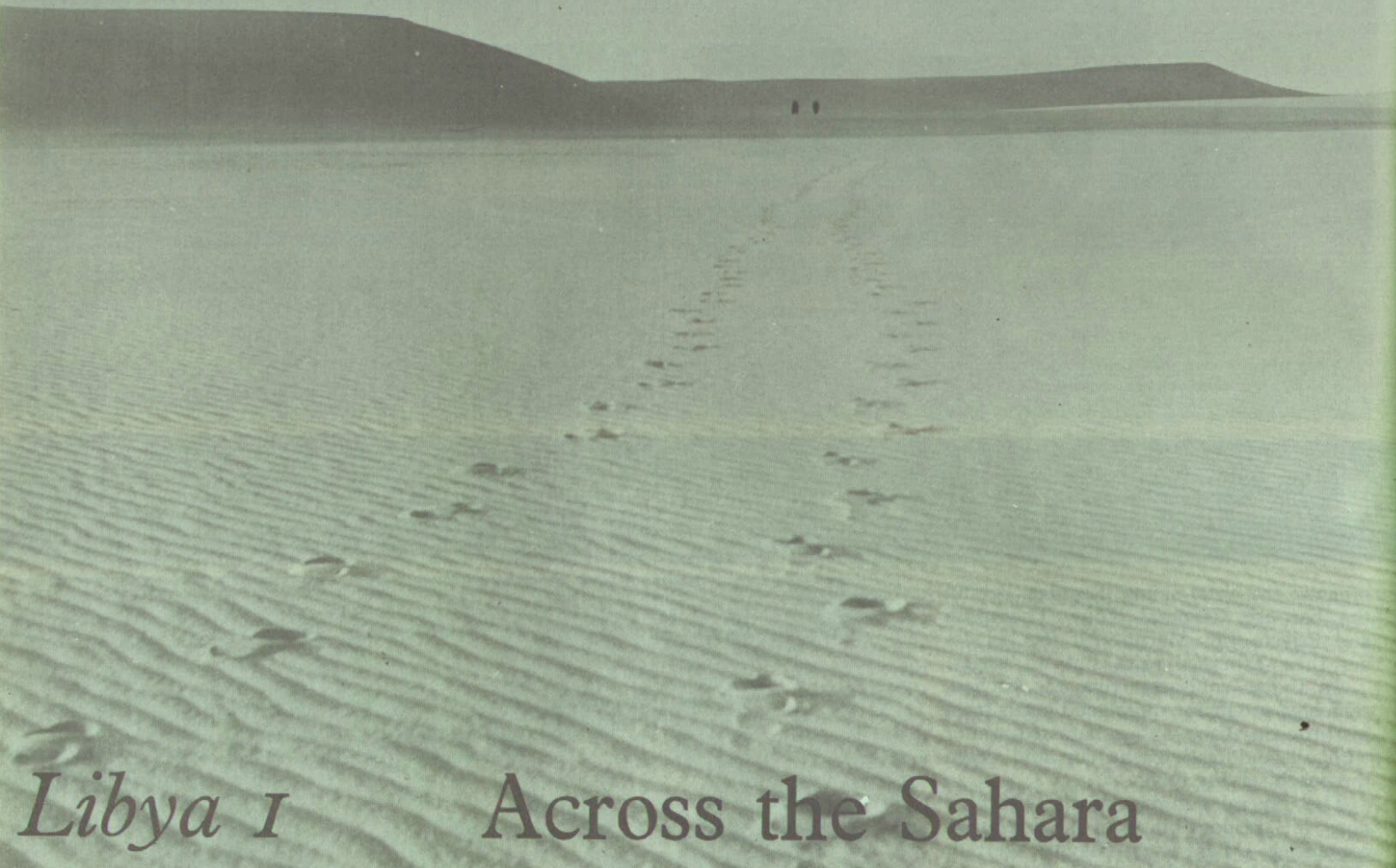
### WATERLOO



1131 hours. First French casualty.



Cold nights and scorching, sweating, thirsty days. Grit in everything, dust everywhere. Sharp-thorned bushes, sharper stones and the shifting sand that turns a mile into four. Desert soldiering is hard—ideal training for soldiers whose global trouble-shooting role may take them anywhere



## *Libya I* Across the Sahara



**B**UZZING over the Sahara Desert for long, tedious hours, an Army Air Corps *Auster* reconnoitred the route for a 14th/20th King's Hussars 4000-mile expedition to the Tibesti Mountains.

Captain Henry Joynson of the Regiment's Air Troop clocked 58 flying hours, including a 780-mile emergency flight to Tripoli for a spare part, in ten days. From the air he spotted a pass invisible to the 17-man ground party in their four three-tonners and two long-wheelbase *Land-Rovers*, and led them to a region not previously penetrated by vehicles.

The arduous double crossing of the Sahara took the party, led by Second-Lieutenant John Smales, from the Regiment's station at Benghazi to the Libyan-Chad border 1500 miles due south. Three easy days on the 760-mile metalled road to the Fezzan town of Sebha gave the adventure training trip a gentle start.

But from Sebha, the rapidly deteriorating route headed south-east across the Sahara

Above: in the barren Sahara wastes, lone trees are mapped and footprints are landmarks.

Left: A three-tonner crests a dune after being dug out yet again by the sweating soldiers.

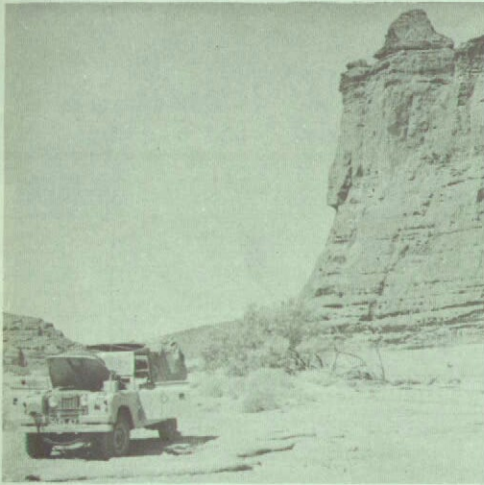


# Libya 2 Back to Knightsbridge



Above: Desert stalemate. Bugged again, and only sand channels and shovels will free it.

Below: A 14th/20th King's Hussars' Land-Rover cooling off near the Tibesti Mountains.



and the party sweated in the relentless heat with shovels and sand channels as the vehicles bogged down repeatedly in soft sand.

Although water was rationed to one-and-a-half pints a day—little enough when the mercury is nudging the 100 degree mark!—none of the party came near to obliging a white vulture circling hopefully overhead.

Arriving at the oasis village of Waw El Kabir to replenish water stocks, the expedition found a fully-fledged ghost town with houses abandoned though intact, and a deserted "Beau Geste" fort.

A base camp was established at the desert paradise of Waw En Namus, the crater of an extinct volcano, which boasted a bamboo plantation, palm trees, wild duck and several million white-man-eating mosquitoes.

Two hundred and fifty miles south lay the fantastically wind-blasted sandstone heights of the 10,000-foot Tibesti mountains. Here, wary contact was made with the Tibu—men of the rocks. These tribesmen are of uncertain temperament and carry two throwing knives, but they proved friendly.

Among the mountains, the expedition found neolithic rock paintings of giraffes, lions and gazelles and flint arrowheads.

From a report by Michael S Simon, Army Public Relations, Libya.

**THEY** call it air mobility. What it meant for 100 Guardsmen was a chameleon switch from the great-coated immobility of duty in London to the hot, hard grind of Infantry soldiering in North Africa.

The Guardsmen flew from London to Germany to rejoin 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, and found themselves in the middle of preparations for Exercise

Long Stop which was to lift the Battalion from the frost and snow of Germany to the dust and sunshine of the Libyan desert.

Soon after, the complete Battalion flew with vehicles and support weapons to El Adem and moved to Bomba Bomba camp. In the extensive desert training area between Derna and Tobruk the companies field-fired and practised assaults with "live" support from the mortar platoon.

## WATERLOO



*1200 hours. British Troops make a temporary withdrawal behind a cloud of blanco.*



## Back to Knightsbridge *continued*

While in Libya the Coldstreamers visited the scene of a famous last war action by their Regiment at Knightsbridge Box. Walking over the ground where he fought in 1942, a former platoon commander, Sir Edward Imbert-Terry MC, joined the battlefield tour and described the action. He was able to show Guardsman Ernie Cademy where his father, a lance-sergeant in Sir Edward's company, had dug in.

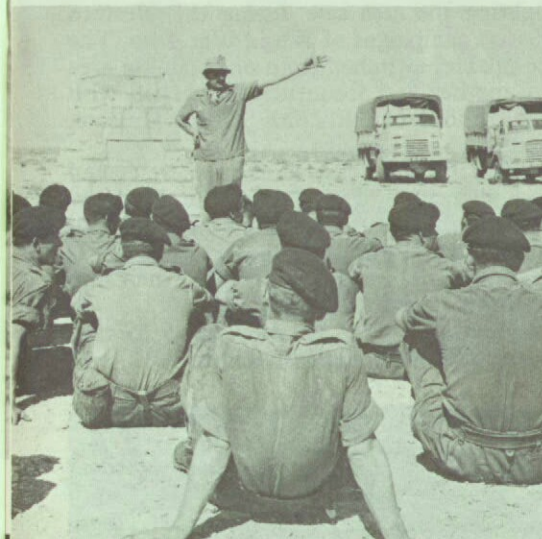
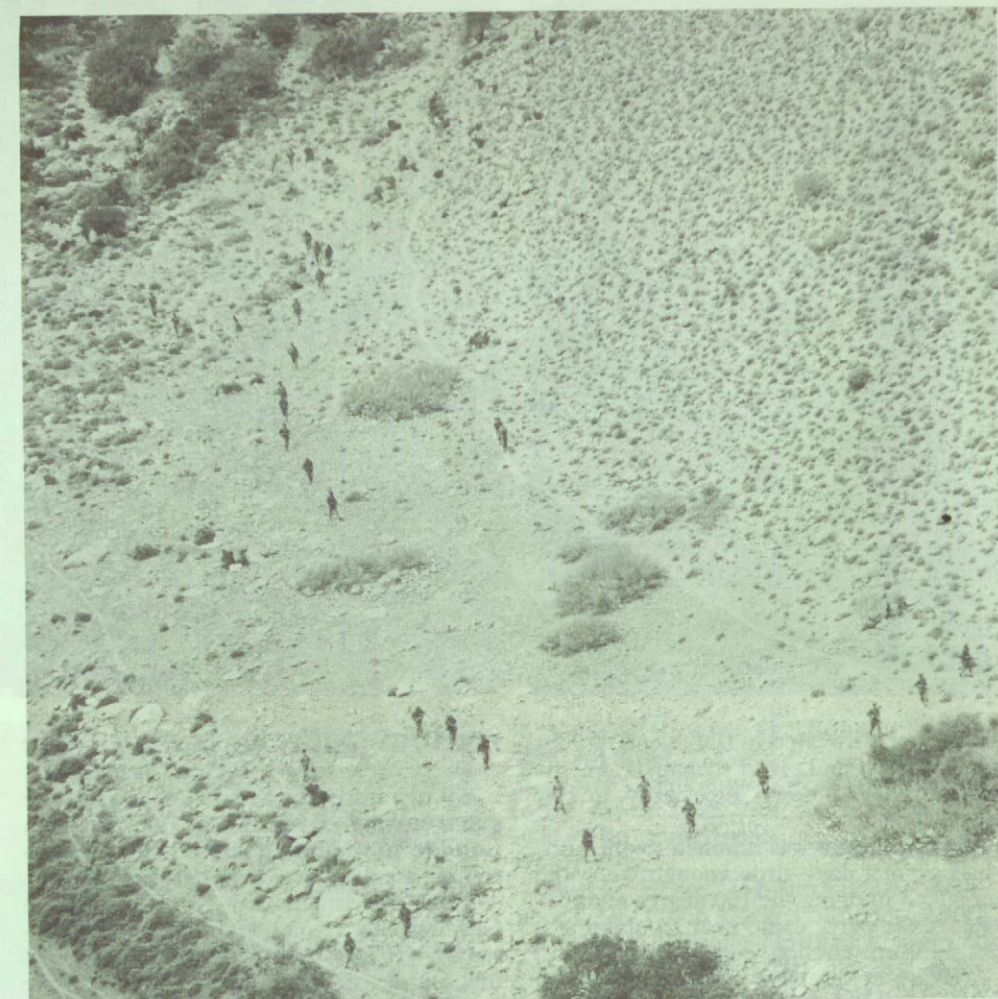
*From a report by Army Public Relations, Libya.*



Above: Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Pemberton, Commanding Officer of 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, watches from a high vantage point as a platoon flushes "terrorists" from a wadi in the Libyan desert training area.

Top right: Garlanded with ammunition for his GPMG, Guardsman Jeff Aldridge takes a short stop during Exercise Long Stop. The Guardsmen flew from Germany with their weapons and vehicles to train in the Libyan Desert.

Right: A platoon of Her Majesty's Foot Guards exchanges London ceremonial duties for a wary advance over the stones and scrub of a wadi bottom. Field firing exercises over difficult terrain tested marksmanship and stamina.



Top: The Guardsmen broke off desert training to visit at the Knightsbridge War Cemetery, the graves of soldiers of their Regiment who were killed in the battle of Knightsbridge Box. This famous Coldstream Guards action was fought before the fall of Tobruk in 1942.

Above: A new generation of Coldstreamers surround a 1942 platoon commander, Sir E Imbert-Terry, as he describes the bitter fighting. Behind him a cairn built post-war.

Below: Men of 2 Company of 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, wasted no time in shaking the German snow from their boots. Libyan sunshine made a change from Rhine Army.



## The Army's Medals

by Major John Laffin

## 42 VICTORY MEDAL 1914-18



CONSIDERING the blood and sweat, tears and torment that this medal represented, its design might well have been more striking. Also, it could have been more durable; it tarnishes very easily.

However, after World War One all the Governments which issued a victory medal were conscious of cost.

Britain alone awarded 5,125,403 Victory Medals but as they were all in bronze the cost was considerably less than that for the War Medal.

The obverse shows the winged, full-length figure of Victory, with left arm extended and with a palm branch in the right hand. The remaining space is bare. The reverse carries the inscription "THE GREAT WAR FOR CIVILISATION, 1914-1919" surrounded by a wreath.

At least 14 countries, by agreement, incorporated the figure of Victory in their respective victory medals.

The watered ribbon of red, yellow, green, blue and violet, merged into a rainbow pattern, is threaded through a loop fixed to the top of the medal. This ring will move forwards and backwards but not sideways.

The medal went to all who received the 1914 or 1914-15 Star and, with some exceptions, to those who received the War Medal. It was never awarded alone. Those men-

tioned in dispatches between 4 August 1914 and 10 August 1920 wear an oak leaf on the ribbon.

The oak leaf came in two sizes—a point not commonly known. The larger was worn with the medal and was attached to the centre of the ribbon at an angle of 60 degrees from the inside edge of the ribbon, stem to the right.

At least, this was the regulation; it was often not followed. The smaller oak leaf was worn, when the wearer was in service dress, transversely across the ribbon. Only one oak leaf may be worn, regardless of the number of "mentions."

Many women received this medal, as they did the War Medal, including the eight members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service who were awarded the Military Medal.

Naming of the medal is in faint impressed block capitals, giving the recipient's name, number, rank and unit. The name of the regiment was omitted from those medals awarded to officers, except in the case of the Royal Artillery. I have heard of no logical reason for this omission, which I regard as regrettable.

Unfortunately, many thousands of War Medals have been sold for their silver content and melted down, thus breaking up groups and leaving the Victory Medal a lone, mute symbol of four terrible years.

## WATERLOO



1300 hours. Prussian Troops arrive on the field of battle.



# Libya 3 Ballykinler to Bomba Bomba



Sun-tanned and sand-blasted riflemen of 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, cluster round Sergeant Nicholas Trevor as he explains the situation in some of the sand the Kingsmen found in Libya.

**W**HILE Ballykinler, Northern Ireland, was wondering where 500 soldiers had gone so suddenly, men of 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment, were bouncing over a rock-strewn desert in their three-tonners singing "Where have all the Kingsmen gone, . . . Gone to Libya everyone."

In two days, an air mobility exercise mounted in Royal Air Force *Britannias* swept the whole Battalion from the Mountains of Mourne to a tented camp at Bomba Bomba near Tobruk. The Kingsmen then pitted their stamina against the sandhills of Cyrenaica for three weeks in Exercise Leg Drive.

Rusting bully beef tins and petrol flimsies were a constant reminder of the fierce fighting the area saw during the Western Desert campaigns of World War Two. The companies switched from one training area to another and frequently linked up with the armour of 14th/20th King's Hussars, stationed at Benghazi.

Back in camp, the Kingsmen welcomed the chance to wash off in the Mediterranean the dust and grime accumulated after days in the hills. Less pleasant was the torrential rain which flooded the camp and threatened the tents.

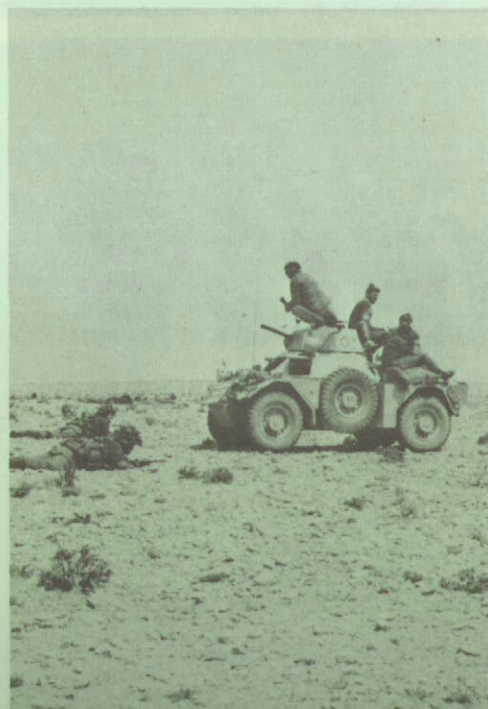
*From a report by Michael S Simon, Army Public Relations, Libya.*



Above: Rusting petrol flimsies link the 1965 "desert rats" with men who fought before them.

Below: Rifles ready for action, a King's patrol toils up the side of a *wadi* on Exercise Leg Drive.

Below: "Enemy" travel in style to a new position in a 14th/20th King's Hussars' *Ferret* scout car.





# Libya 4 Green Howards Improvise



Pte Kenneth Smith on radio watch in Cyrenaica.  
Left: An alert Green Howards section stays on its haunches ready to move off in a quick advance.

**W**HEN "guerillas" ambushed a stores vehicle and vanished with their *Land-Rover* spare parts, 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, improvised and chased the enemy, into the barren hills of Cyrenaica.

Sub-machine-gun slings served as fan-belts, springs were botched up with signal cable and waterproof sticking plaster was used to mend countless punctures.

The Battalion was already operating with skeleton transport and administrative support and the loss through breakdown of more vehicles would have been crippling. But the ingenious repairs held and the patched up *Land-Rovers* ran in guarded convoys to supply the Battalion as it marched to the "rebel" area.

From the Green Mountain country, through Al Abiar—the town of 90 wells—the Battalion advanced 60 footsore miles

into the desert. A night move threw the rebels off balance and they were easily routed from their fort at Bu Gassel.

With 60 pounds of equipment per man, the Green Howards found the constant activity of Exercise Cymbal Clash tough going and the cold desert nights made sleeping with one blanket difficult.

All the companies of the Tripoli-based Battalion were reunited by the exercise for the first time in two years.

The company currently stationed in Benghazi provided a lively enemy and found time to collect a mascot platoon of tortoises.

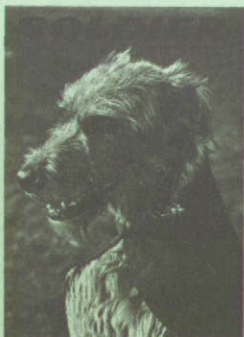
A convincing practical demonstration of the Battalion's ability to make a smooth, swift move from a secure base area to an emergency operational theatre ended with a return airlift in Royal Air Force *Hastings* from Benina to Tripoli.

From a report by Michael S Simon, Army Public Relations, Libya.



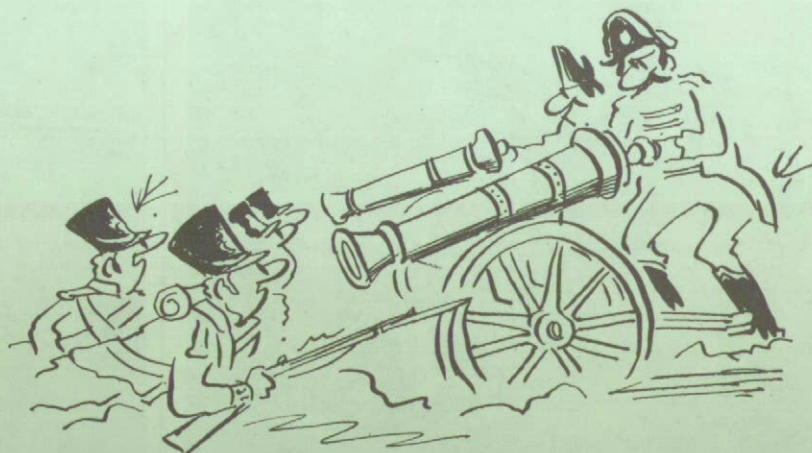
The turbaned "enemy" were surprised by the pace of an attack on their fort and fled with as much equipment as they could carry. The enemy came from A Company, stationed in Benghazi.

## COVER STORY



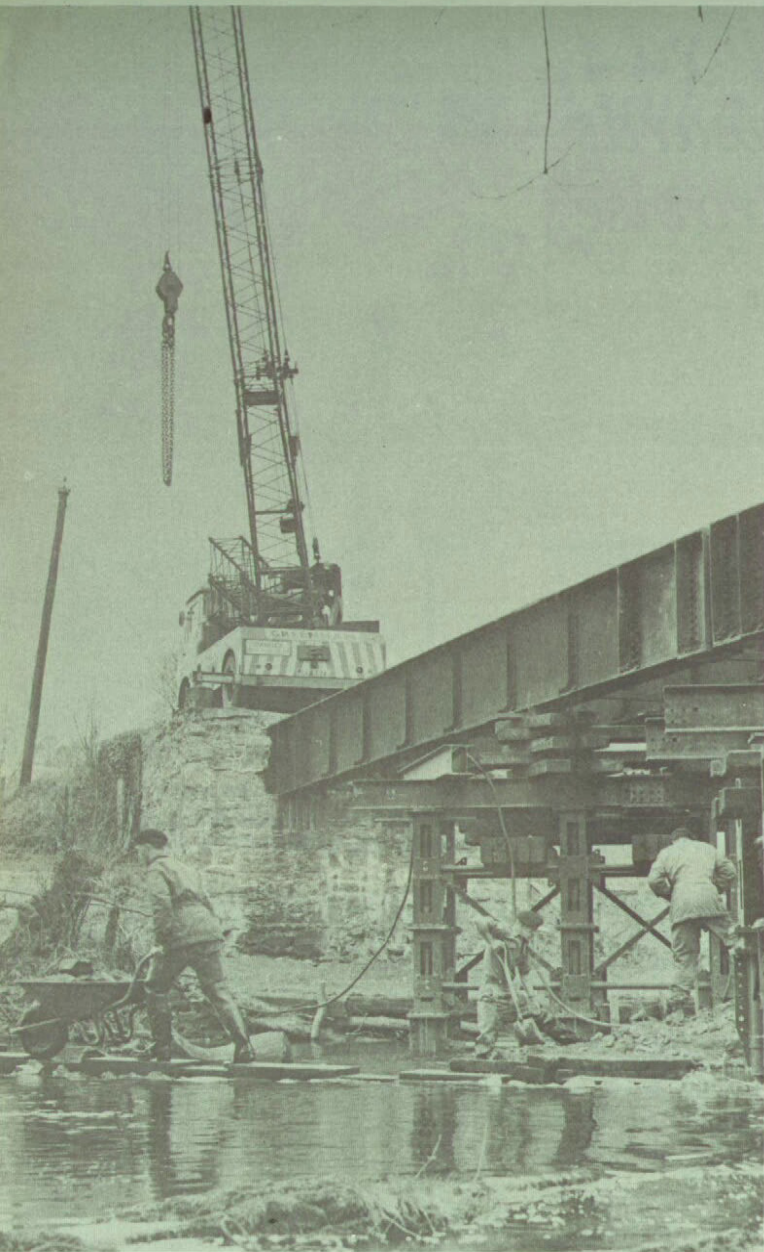
Shaun, the six-year-old Irish wolfhound mascot of the Irish Guards, proudly wears the red Irish linen coat presented to him by the Irish Linen Guild. The coat bears an embroidered Regimental Star on each side. The Guild also gave Shaun a blue-grey cape for wear in wet weather. Shaun, born Rory of Ballygran in May 1959 and presented to the Irish Guards in August 1960 by Second-Lieutenant R Lakin, 11th Hussars, weighs over 12 stones, sleeps on a man-sized Guardsman's bed, eats about five pounds of meat and innumerable dog biscuits every day—and is very fond of *Mars* bars. The Irish Guards have had an Irish wolfhound as mascot since 1902 when the Irish Kennel Club presented Brian Boru (Rajah of Kindall) to the Regiment. Portrait of Shaun by SOLDIER Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT.

## WATERLOO



1630 hours. French guns close range.





▲Thirty pounds of skilfully sited plastic explosive felled this 100-foot brick chimney. Sappers of 225 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, Territorial Army, accepted the stack demolition task as excellent training and brought it crashing down exactly as planned between two occupied buildings. The explosion followed a day spent drilling boreholes and building blast walls on the restricted site. Other members of the Squadron used 200 pounds of plastic explosive to blow up 30 tree stumps on a farm.

◀Last year Sappers of the Army Emergency Reserve—men of 150 Squadron—spent their annual camp working on the Welshpool-Llanfair light railway (SOLDIER, July 1964). Now the Regulars have lent a hand to the railway's 900 owner-enthusiasts by repairing a flood-damaged bridge. Men of 8 Railway Squadron and 49 Railway Depot, from Longmoor, jacked up the bridge on temporary steel trestles, rebuilt a damaged stone pier and lowered the bridge again.

◀A rainstorm greeted the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, when she visited the 1st Battalion at Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth. Fortunately the weather cleared and the programmed parade, inspection, visits and photographs continued uninterrupted.

# LEFT RIGHT AND CENTRE

A march that began in 1915 when the volunteers of the Post Office Rifles first set foot in France, ended precisely 50 years later when 100 veterans paraded in London for the last time. The Lord Mayor of London took the salute with the Postmaster-General and unveiled a plaque in honour of the 1836 men who died serving with ▼the two battalions.







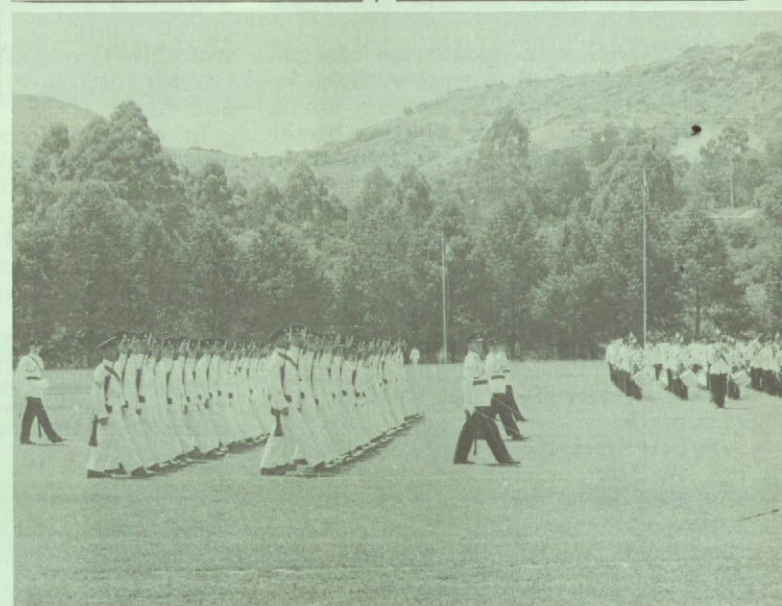
A pinewood pyre blazes on St George's Day and the 13th Shoreham Platoon of the Army Cadet Force know that Enterprise Neptune is on the wing throughout the land. Their beacon on the summit of Chanctonbury Ring, South Downs was one of 500 burning simultaneously on hilltops in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to warn the nation of invasion from within—by developers who are spoiling Britain's 3000 miles of coast. Neptune is the code name for the National Trust project to raise £2 million for preservation and many Army Cadet Force units co-operated with other youth organisations by lighting the ▼chain of warning beacons.

Despite being two weeks late on ►parade, the men of 1st Battalion, The Lancashire Regiment, trooped the Colour in memorable style in Swaziland. They were commemorating the 150th anniversary of Waterloo, the Regiment's proudest battle honour. Two weeks before, the last of 22 full rehearsals had just ended when the Battalion was called out to cordon off an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (SOLDIER, April). The whole affair ended happily with the Battalion winning the thanks of the Swazis for controlling an epidemic which threatened the nation's economy and giving an immaculate display in brilliant sunshine on the Mbabane cricket ground.



◀The only English pub-type club in Detmold, Germany, has been opened by men serving in 20 Ordnance Corps. Behind that hanging sign hangs a tale. The spare-time pub-builders needed a swinging sign and successfully appealed to a London brewers for help. Major-General B O P Eugster unveiled the sign to open the "Ordnance Arms"—and drank a glass of stout in its honour.

▲This housewarming parade was given by men of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group when Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein DSO came to open their new barracks in Aldershot. He christened the Brigade's £3 million home and headquarters, Montgomery Lines, and joins the elite of British generals—Marlborough and Wellington—who have important Aldershot barrack areas named after them.



## WATERLOO

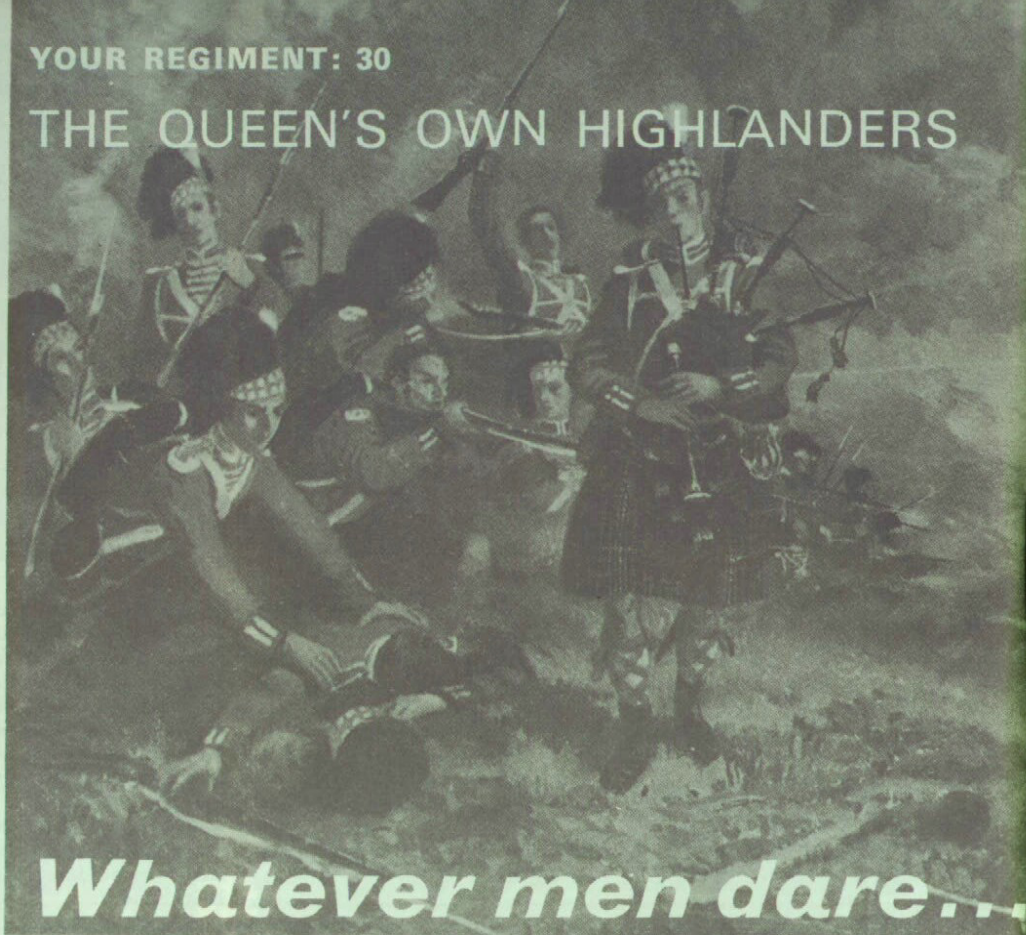


1800 hours. British Troops stand firm.



YOUR REGIMENT: 30

# THE QUEEN'S OWN HIGHLANDERS



Brigade badge, blue hackle and Erracht tartan patch unites Cameron and Seaforth badges.

At Waterloo, Piper McKay defied the charging French Cavalry to rally the weary Camerons.

*Whatever men dare...*

**STRONG** as a broadsword forged of three metals, strong as the three great Highland regiments which formed it—that is the fighting birth-right of The Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons).

The amalgamation in 1961 of the Seaforth Highlanders and The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders was a "no flowers or epitaphs by request" occasion. Like an earlier union between the closely associated 72nd and 78th Highlanders to form the Seaforth Highlanders in 1881, it was a coming together of kinsmen and a renewal of strength.

In past times, the Seaforths and Camerons left their mountain homeland to spill and shed blood together at Sebastopol, Lucknow, Loos and El Alamein. Often they fought shoulder to shoulder, as at Atbara in 1898, when the Cameron men

staunchly stood their ground before a Dervish stockade to fire their friends the Seaforths in.

In only four years these old glories have been respectfully laid aside and the men of The Queen's Own Highlanders have created a new Regiment in the lion-hearted traditions of the old. Distinguished active service in Brunei and Borneo inspired a feeling in the Regiment that the new

Colours presented in 1964 by the Colonel-in-Chief, Prince Philip, had been earned. The two tartans of their forebears are still proudly worn and the Seaforth Gaelic motto "Cuidich 'n Rìgh" (Save the King) is inscribed on The Highland Brigade badge.

Switchback conversion from jungle warfare to ceremonial duties in Edinburgh and then in June 1964 to a new mechanised

Open rebellion flared in Brunei in 1962 and The Queen's Own Highlanders flew in under fire to make a two-pronged attack on Seria where 400 European hostages were being held.



It augurs well for the future of The Queen's Own Highlanders that within four years of formation the Regiment has supplied the Army with a Chief of the General Staff. General Sir James Cassels DSO was commissioned into the Seaforths in 1926. After a distinguished war career in the course of which he commanded 152nd (Seaforth and Cameron) Brigade in North-West Europe, he commanded 6th Airborne Division and the Commonwealth Division in Korea. General Cassels is Colonel of the Regiment.



Infantry role in Rhine Army has not jolted the long stride of the Highlanders.

Soldiering has always been an honourable profession in Scotland and recruits today are as anxious to bear arms as their ancestors. However the population of the Highlands and Islands has shrunk since the Napoleonic Wars when the Isle of Skye alone contributed 10,000 men. Today Lowlanders and English, many of Highland stock, make up nearly 60 per cent of the Regiment.

The fine warrior qualities of the Highland army bloodily defeated at Culloden in 1746 were remembered 32 years later. The sons and nephews of the slaughtered rebels were asked to show "true Highland blood" by enlisting in the King's service in the 78th, later the 72nd Highlanders.

The call to arms was irresistible and in five months the Earl of Seaforth mustered more than 1000 men. In 1793 the 78th Highlanders and the 79th Cameron Highlanders were raised. All three Regiments were destined to serve the monarchy with loyal ferocity.

Foreign service for the 72nd began with an escapade in the Channel Islands and continued with a disastrous 10-month voyage to India during which the Colonel and 247 men died of scurvy. The 78th had better fortune and were prominent in a brilliant triumph over a vast Mahratta army at

Assaye. Later, all three regiments fought in India against the Bengal Army mutineers and the 78th won eight Victoria Crosses.

Standing firm against cannonade and repeated Infantry and Cavalry charges at Waterloo, the 79th were nearly annihilated, yet the remnants rallied and charged forward-cheering on the order "The whole line will advance." This epic feat is remembered in the annals of the Regiment as is the bravery of Piper Kenneth McKay, who stepped outside the protection of the square to play a stirring pibroch.

In World War One blood flowed from the stone of the Highlands. The Seaforths and the Camerons raised 32 battalions and nine from each regiment went into the line. Their deeds shone brightly through the unmitigated gloom of the massive sacrifice with which they were purchased. Companies and battalions were practically wiped out, yet none failed. At Loos the Camerons rallied round a tattered flag carrying the clan tartan. Every time the flag went forward in a desperate attack on Hill 70, the men followed it. An awed historian wrote: "Nothing but death could stop such men."

The helpless surrender of several surrounded battalions in France in 1940 was avenged by the two regiments at El Alamein. Both regiments fought against the Japanese in the Far East and helped to

drive the Germans from Normandy, via France and Holland to total defeat in Germany.

In the two World Wars, Commonwealth-domiciled Highlanders whose instincts rebelled at just looking on, served with honour in affiliated regiments from Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The raw energy which produced superb Territorial Army units is now concentrated in three battalions, 11th Battalion, The Seaforth Highlanders; 4th/5th Battalion, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; and 1st Battalion, The Liverpool Scottish (Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders).

Piping, anachronistic survivor of centuries of battlefield music, is still cherished and each year a competition is held wherever the 1st Battalion is serving. The British Army's senior piper, Pipe-Major John MacLellan, is a Queen's Own Highlander. This year the Battalion football team won the 2nd Division Cup and reached the Rhine Army semi-finals. In July a Battalion team represents the Army in the Prix LeClerc shooting competition for NATO countries.

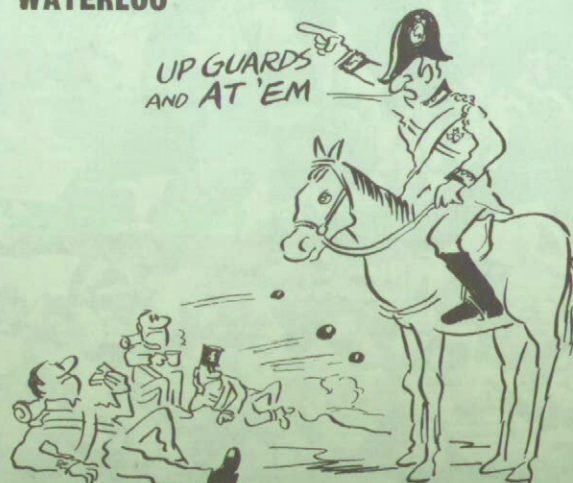
In Osnabrück, a town blasé about foreign soldiers, the kilted men of the Queen's Own Highlanders are respected. They face the future eagerly, with the sure confidence of a Regiment that knows the truth of its motto—Whatever men dare, they can do.

After driving the well-armed rebels out of Seria, Highlanders cordon a *kam-pung*, to search for guns. The "Jocks" were the toast of the town.

General Sir James Cassels, Colonel of the Regiment, presented new badges, hackles and history booklets at the formation parade.



## WATERLOO



20 35 hours. The Duke utters the immortal words.





Italian Alpini, rugged mountain soldiers famed for their staying power, drive the Austrians from an Alpine pass. Italy joined the Allies in 1915.

## JUNE 1915

Explosive-packed tin cans made effective bombs in Gallipoli when munitions ran short. The Infantry improvised imaginatively when all else failed.







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### WATERLOO

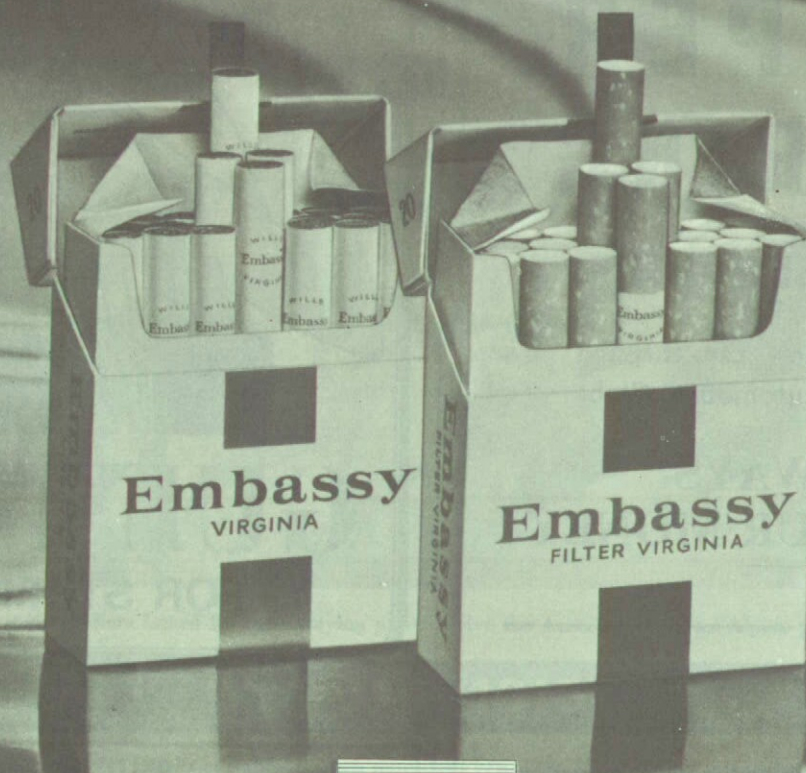


*2045 hours. French colours captured.*



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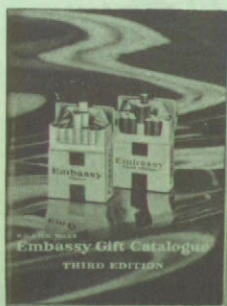
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(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)



# FIFTEEN MINUTE FERRY

**W**ITH a brilliantly simple idea, a Gurkha Engineer has solved a problem which has defeated design experts of the Royal Engineers for years.

The problem was to design a light, portable, small raft suitable for use in the Far East and capable of carrying a quarter-ton vehicle. It had to be simple and fast to construct, easily manoeuvrable and quick in operation.

This apparently simple task turned out to be not so simple after all. Nothing seemed to fulfil all the requirements, and design after design was rejected after experiments.

The problem remained unsolved until a Queen's Gurkha officer found himself with the job of getting 22 *Land-Rovers* across a river in Borneo while on an exercise with 69 Gurkha Independent Field Squadron.

Carrying them across by storm boats—apparently the only means—would have been a lengthy job, so Lieutenant Sherbahadur Limbu had an idea . . .

He removed some of the metal super-

structure from obsolete storm boats to use as ramps. Then he erected four collapsible assault boats, positioning two with their flat sterns together and one on each side. He lashed the ramps across the boats from one side to the other at the correct width to take the wheels of a *Land-Rover* and made the height of the ramp ends adjustable so that they could be raised or lowered with ropes to rest on different river banks.

An outboard motor was fitted to each of the outside boats and the result was a motorised, drive-on, drive-off ferry, now known as the Sherbahadur Raft and in use as standard Far East equipment.

With nothing more than a good idea and bits and pieces of standard equipment, Lieutenant Sherbahadur designed and constructed in a few hours the raft that had beaten the boffins.

After the exercise, a good look was taken at the makeshift ferry and it was discovered that the raft performed all the tasks required of it, filling at last the Far East Sappers' need for a Class 5 assault ferry.

The experts were called in but the only

improvement they could suggest was special clips to hold the ramps on the four assault boats. These were designed at the Engineer Base Workshops in Singapore.

The Sherbahadur Raft, powered by two 40 horse-power outboard motors, will carry a *Land-Rover* and *Wombat* or a one-ton vehicle or their equivalents. The whole thing can be taken to pieces and packed on a trailer towed by a *Land-Rover* and an experienced section of Sappers can build it complete in less than 15 minutes.

One major economic advantage of the Sherbahadur Raft is that, except for the clips, which cost only a few shillings, it not only requires no new equipment but puts obsolete equipment to good use.

Lieutenant Sherbahadur, a Gurkha for 23 years, is now stationed at the Headquarters and Training Establishment, Gurkha Engineers, at Kluang in Malaya. In 1957 he attended the Field Engineers Course in England and he was commissioned in 1960. Soon he will be retiring from the Army—but the Sherbahadur Raft still has plenty of service ahead of it.



The Sherbahadur Raft crosses a river comfortably carrying a *Land-Rover*, anti-tank gun and a crew of Gurkha Sappers.



Lieutenant  
Sherbahadur  
Limbu.

## WATERLOO



2100 hours. 21st Paris Regiment surrenders after running out of vin rouge.



## WARRIORS REACH THE TOP

**A**N unofficial Army team, the Aldershot Warriors, shattered an all-conquering Oxford University side 79-63 to win the National Senior Basketball Championship at Crystal Palace. A capacity crowd expecting to see the Warriors demolished by a confident side packed with American undergraduates, including their captain, All American star John Wideman, was electrified by the match.

The Warriors played the best game of their three-year existence (see **SOLDIER**, March 1963), for the first-ever national championship victory by a Services' team. At the start the Warriors played like underdogs and the Oxford stars scythed through with demoralising ease to shoot a 10-0 lead in the opening four minutes.

Worried coach Sergeant-Major Instructor Jack Beasor, Army Physical Training Corps, brought on two substitutes and the Warriors gradually found their usual fast and accurate offensive game. The Army players cut down the Oxford lead and then spurted ahead with Lieutenant Peter Harrison, The Lancashire Regiment, scoring 10 points in a row.

With defeat looming very large after 30 consecutive wins, Wideman led the undergraduates in a fine counter-attack. The Warriors weathered the storm thanks largely to Sapper Vic Tinsley and Craftsman Bob Mackay, two 19-year-old 6ft 5in giants who were dominating the back boards and pulling down the rebounds.

Then Staff-Sergeant Instructor Bill Robson came on for the first time and scored nine points in less than four minutes to crush the Oxford revival and put the seal on a spectacular victory.

In the Aldershot Warriors team were SSI Arthur Judge, APTC (captain); Lieut Peter Harrison, Lancashire Regt; Cfn Bob Mackay, REME; Sgt-Instr Dick Woods, Sgt-Instr Gary Fuller, SSI Bill Robson, APTC; Spr Vic Tinsley, RE; Sgt Brian Osman, REME; Sgt Graham Pugh, Welsh Guards; Cpl Terry Goulding, REME; and two civilian guest players, George Whitmore and Dave Bluck.

The Army senior and junior teams both retained their inter-Service basketball titles in the 1965 championships at Portsmouth.

The senior team set a new scoring record for the championship with massive wins over the Royal Air Force, 105-32, and the Royal Navy, 102-38. The junior team beat the Royal Air Force by 79-39 and the Royal Navy after a tougher battle, 59-50.



Soaring into the air (right) English international Dick Woods seems almost to be heading the ball. He was one of the Warriors' top scorers and was awarded the trophy for the best player of the match.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### HOCKEY

With ten minutes to go and a 3-1 lead in their match against the Royal Air Force, the Army looked comfortably set to win the Inter-Services title. It was not to be. Two raids split the defence, and having levelled up, the Royal Air Force hung on grimly to force a draw and share the championship.

### FENCING & SHOOTING

The 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Fusiliers, have won the British Army of the Rhine fencing and major units small-bore shooting titles.

### GLIDING

Captain Peter Goldney, Royal Signals, was runner-up with 2222 points in the Gliding Championship of the British Armed Forces. Captain Nick Goodhart, Royal Navy, won with 2593 points.

### RUGBY

Twelve matches played and 12 won is the record of the Royal Artillery Rugby Football Club this year. Its most successful season ever included tours in Dorset and France and a "past and present" match with the Royal Marines. In the last three seasons only two games have been lost and the composition of the pack has hardly changed. This year nine Gunners have played for the Army and the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, side has won the Army Junior Cup for the fourth year running.

An 11-11 draw with the Royal Air Force and a precarious 5-3 win over the Royal Navy were sufficient to win the Inter-Services rugby title for the Army. Wing-forward Captain J P Fisher

touched down for the Army's solitary try against the Navy after Captain J D Macdonald had intercepted a pass. Second-Lieutenant C P Simpson converted.

### FOOTBALL

A 3-1 defeat by the Belgian Army cost the Army side the Kentish Cup, which consequently goes to the French Armed Forces. The damage was done in the first 30 seconds when the Belgian centre-forward evaded a tackle and scored with a well-placed ground shot. So the British, who had gone into the match needing only a 1-0 win, needed a 4-1 win to beat the French goal average. They never looked like getting the goals and the Belgians scored twice more.

The Army regained the Inter-Services Football Championship by beating the Royal Air Force 2-1 in a close game at Aldershot. The airmen almost snatched a draw in the dying minutes, but Army goalkeeper Lance-Corporal A Callister dived hell-for-leather at a forward's feet to save.



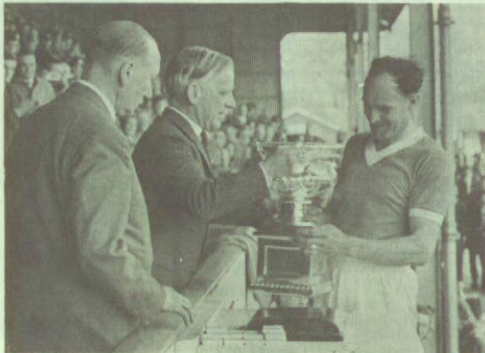
## SCOT'S FOUR AGAINST THE SCOTSMEN

**G**LASGOW-BORN Lance-Corporal Gerry Strain hammered four goals against his brother Scots of 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, and was the chief executioner in their Army Soccer Cup Final defeat by the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering.

Strain was one of three Scots forwards in a team which outplayed the Fusiliers and gave them a 6-3 beating. The School's side included two Army players, Craftsman Steve Morton at left-half and Private Andy Myles at left-back. It was their experience, plus better positioning and shooting power, which defeated the Jocks despite the cheers, pipes and banners of the 100 Fusiliers who came from Germany to support them.

The School built up a three-goal lead in the first 20 minutes with two Strain specials and another from right-half Morton. The Scots fought back after Lance-Corporal Andy Purden had scored for them from a penalty and three minutes later Staff-Sergeant George Bent sent their fans wild by making it 3-2. The brief rally ended sadly with an own goal by right-half Barr.

In the second half Strain scored twice and only Morton's bad luck and Fusilier Jimmy Cowan's



Below: Lieut-Gen Sir Kenneth Darling presenting the trophy to Sgt Brian Moriarty, SEME captain.

brilliant goalkeeping kept the final tally down to six. Fusilier Jimmy Wells scored a third consolation goal for the Rhine Army champions.

The referee was Captain A Tennuci, RAMC.

The British Olympic Association has presented the Army Sport Control Board with an engraved shield in gratitude for £3500 raised by the Army for the British Olympic Fund towards the cost of sending a full British team to Japan.

## Tigers are Middle East champions

**S**URGING unstoppably upfield, 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment (left), thumped home three second-half goals to win the Middle East Command Cup final 4-1 against the Ordnance Depot, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Cup-final jitters spoiled promising early moves by both sides and the first real shot in 20 minutes of play put the Tigers one up. Centre-forward Hinson collected a loose ball and cracked it past goalkeeper Fletcher. Left-back Jewitt scored from a penalty to put the Ordnance Depot level.

After the restart, the Leicestershire defence clamped down on the Depot forwards. The Anglian inside-left Tomlin finished off a three-man raid by chipping the ball past an unsighted Fletcher. With the Depot defence at full stretch, yet unable to rouse any life in the forwards, Hinson scored a third. Right-winger Collins rounded off the scoring with a fourth.



L/Cpl Freddie Rea (left) won his third title by outpointing ex-featherweight Mne Mike Frampton.

## Four Army boxers win titles—three lose theirs

**T**HREE times Sergeant Gary Fuller was punched to the canvas and three times he pulled himself painfully up. Then it was his opponent's turn to go down—four times before the fight was stopped to save him unnecessary punishment. The Army Physical Training Corps sergeant's spectacular win was one of four Army successes in the Imperial Service Boxing Association Championships.

Corporal "Pip" Taylor was taken the full distance for once while winning his third successive light-welterweight title and the middleweight champion, Lance-Corporal B White, 17 Recovery Vehicle Depot, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, outpointed a Marine to hold his title.

Lance-Corporal Freddie Rea, Home Postal Depot, Royal Engineers, slugged it out toe-to-toe for three rounds with Marine Mike Frampton for his third Imperial title.

Of the three Army boxers beaten in defence of their titles, Private Bruce Robertson, 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots, was knocked out in the first round; Guardsman Brendan O'Sullivan, 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, was outpointed, as was flyweight, Lance-Corporal P Teasdale, 16 Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

## WATERLOO



21 10 hours. Le Petit Caporal  
has heartburn.



Record holders C/Sgt G Howe and Cpl C Tandy, RM, who came second to the two paratroopers.

## ROYAL MARINES OUT-PADDLED

**A**TWO-CREW challenge from paratroopers of 63 Company, Royal Army Service Corps, broke the Royal Marine stranglehold on the Devizes-Westminster canoe race this year.

The two superbly fit teams slogged over the course's 77 locks and 125 miles with Drivers Maurice Stimpson and Trevor Cooke battling for the lead with the veteran Marine crew, Colour-Sergeant G Howe and Corporal C Tandy. Urged on by numerous supporters at every bridge and lock, the Para pair drew away to win the toughest and longest race of its kind in the world in 20 hours 27 minutes and 22 seconds.

This time was only four minutes outside the record set in 1962 by Howe and Tandy, who paddled into second place 71 minutes later. The Royal Marine Canoe Club, which has won this race ten times since 1957, also claimed third place with A Bambridge and K Aston reaching Westminster Steps 30 minutes ahead of P Pagnanelli and B Jupp, 63 Company.

The fastest crew in a rubber collapsible canoe were J Lane and J Ashdown (Royal Marine Canoe Club) and R Ridley and D Austin (Royal Air Force, Oakington, Canoe Club) were the fastest crew in a home-built canoe.

The three-and-a-half day junior race was won by an experienced pair from the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, Sappers D Williams and C Lloyd, with team-mates Sappers D Evans and C Haskey second.





## COMPETITION: 85

# ON 'THE SQUARE

FALL in the crossword enthusiasts! Here is a somewhat unorthodox puzzle that follows no particular pattern of clues, gives you some easy answers, throws in a couple of two-letter words and uncharitably presents longer words with little to help.

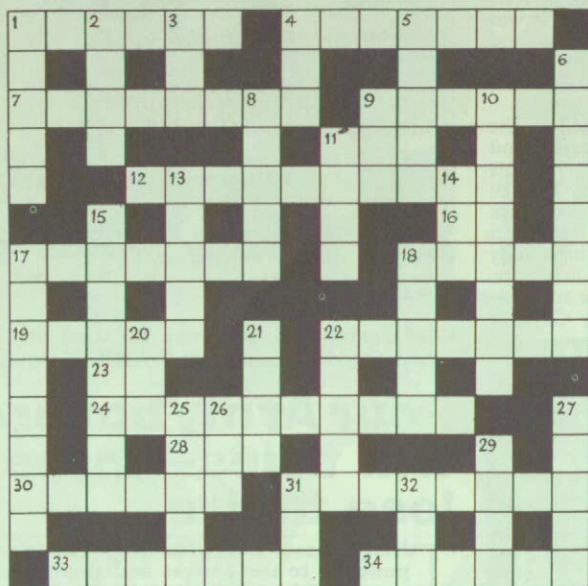
If you do not wish to cut out the crossword, write the clue numbers and your answers on a sheet of paper, add your name and address and the "Competition 85" label from this page, and post to:

The Editor (Comp 85)  
SOLDIER  
433 Holloway Road  
London N7.

Closing date is Monday, 16 August; solution and winners' names will appear in the October issue. The competition is open to all readers. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 85" label.

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## ACROSS

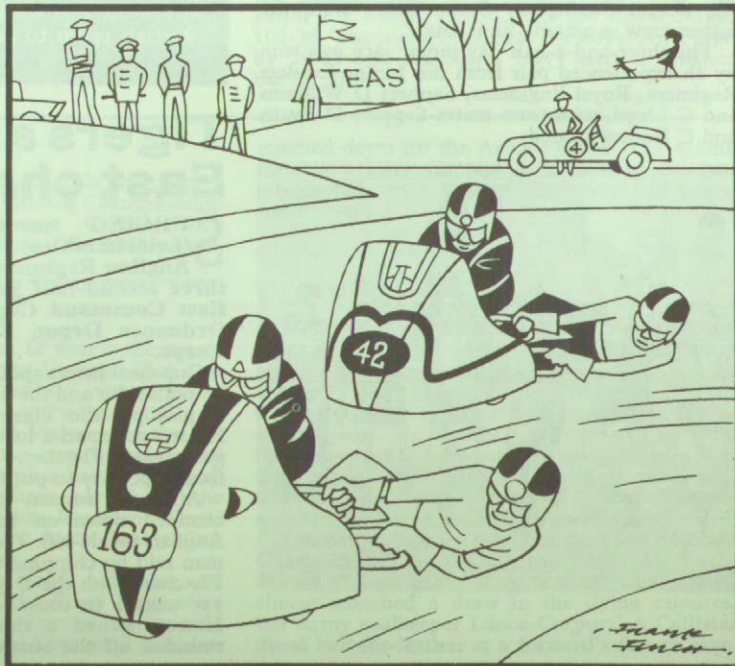
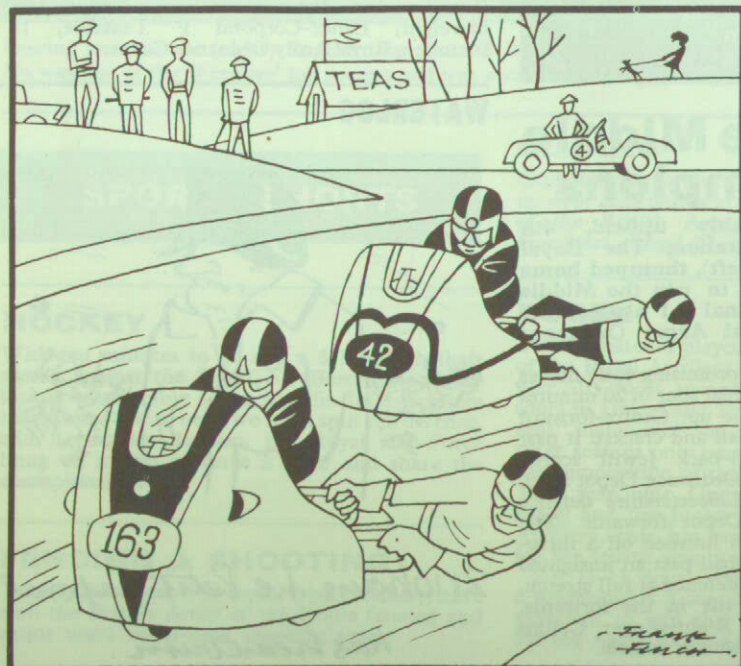
- 1 Central attraction on the range and in France gets fired! (6)
- 4 Ration suppliers get a 50 for a shilling—the scoundrels! (7)
- 7 The art of conducting a campaign (8)
- 9 Courage in drink? (6)
- 11 Royal Air Force goes back a long way (3)
- 12 Corps of cooks attached to the USA and it returns on a charge! (10)
- 16 Indefinite article (2)
- 17 What those on sick report are will create bad feeling! (7)
- 18 Push the Fourth Estate (5)
- 19 So is a sight made welcome in the desert (5)
- 22 Old sweats had their bed—and ate it too! (7)
- 23 Brief transportation (2)
- 24 Changed since sport to rank higher than sergeants (10)
- 28 Vegetable (3)
- 30 All spadework for this Commonwealth soldier? (6)
- 31 A ship with an animal in is a killer! (8)
- 33 British European Airways circle in this direction (7)
- 34 Army doctor I found in mixed-up Royal Horse Artillery is a bit of a goat! (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Association football personality found with Hussars and Horse Artillery (5)
- 2 Fifty-one Gunners passed around in Italy (4)
- 3 You can this 22 Across (3)
- 4 Beam (3)
- 5 Headwear heads an island (5)
- 6 Gazes at changed east star (6, 2)
- 8 There's much to be sorry for in this porridge! (5)
- 9 Stayed on his horse at the end of 6 Down (3)
- 10 Messenger out of bed? But he didn't win! (6-2)
- 11 ... He wasn't this enough! (4)
- 13 With everything these days? (5)
- 14 Essential for a row (3)
- 15 Cursing one's way through obstacles (8)
- 17 Armoured Puritan Cavalryman? (8)
- 18 Model problem (5)
- 20 Source of 9 Across one way (3)
- 21 Extent of basement (4)
- 22 Hideouts for grouchers on the range? (5)
- 25 Earp's weapon? (5)
- 26 — ardua ad astra (3)
- 27 No bull here, but very nearly! (6)
- 29 Is rising in a motor club for a large 22 Down (4)
- 31 In short, assistant instructor in gunnery (3)
- 32 Much about nothing (3)

# How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. If you cannot detect all the differences, turn to page 34.





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only  
I had  
the  
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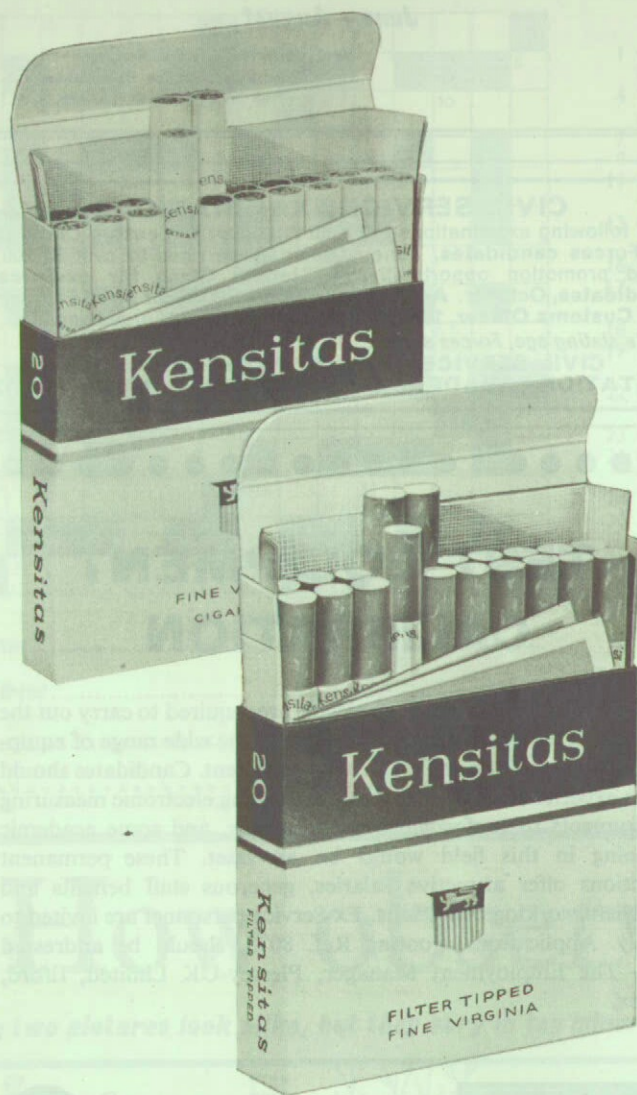
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# LETTERS

## Six months at home?

I read in a newspaper recently that soldiers who get married are not sent overseas without their brides for at least six months. Can SOLDIER please quote the regulation for this?—**Gnr U Bique, BAOR.**

★ There is no such regulation, but whenever possible the Ministry of Defence (Army Department) follows unwritten rules on the subject of unaccompanied service.

When operational circumstances allow, every effort is made to ensure that individuals are:

- (a) Not sent on emergency tours for more than six months unless they have at least three months' notice;
- (b) Not sent on an unaccompanied tour for longer than twelve months irrespective of the amount of notice they are given;
- (c) On return from an unaccompanied tour, given twelve months in their "home" station before being considered for another unaccompanied tour;
- (d) Allowed time to settle in to a new station before being sent on emergency operations, and also time to pack up before changing permanent stations.

It is emphasised that it is not always possible to apply these unwritten rules and so they should not be regarded as being too firm.

## Bouquet

Many will agree with me when I say that SOLDIER is an excellently produced magazine, but please give us more military history such as the article on punishments (February) and the series "Your Regiment." SOLDIER would not be the same without the "Letters" pages, from which one can glean much valuable information, and I enjoy the book reviews for here I can gain the necessary information on what books to add to my own library.

I like SOLDIER because you stick up for your rights but at the same time you are always willing to admit any faults. Two other chaps where I work also read SOLDIER and we often discuss its contents.

My heartiest congratulations on SOLDIER's 20th birthday—keep up the good work, for your magazine continues to be a source of enjoyment to many.—**R Castle, 97 Stakes Road, Purbrook, Portsmouth, Hants.**

## "Ake, ake, kia kaha"

I was delighted to see the motto of The Canterbury Regiment, "Ake, ake, kia kaha," printed in your pages (January). The true translation of this is "Forever, forever, we will fight on,"

and it was the reply given by a Maori chief when offered the chance of honourable surrender after being besieged for days during the Maori wars. Eventually the chief, Rewi, and his men broke out and charged right through the British lines. They would have escaped almost without loss had they not run into Colonial Cavalry and rangers. As it was, half their number, including Rewi, managed to escape.

On the occasion of our Regiment's centennial we were presented with a silver bugle by The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. This bugle was carried off parade by a very proud Maori Territorial soldier, a mark of the respect in which the Maoris are held for their superb fighting qualities.

We have had many Maoris in the Regiment and we all hold their old motto with equal pride.—**AH Blackler, Drum Major, 2nd Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (Canterbury, Nelson, Marlborough West Coast), 58 Burlington Street, Christchurch 1, New Zealand.**

## Dettingen

Some confusion seems to have arisen about the date on which the Battle of Dettingen was fought.

The battle took place on 16 June 1743. Eight years later, in 1751, Great Britain adopted the Gregorian Calendar and in 1752 eleven days were left out, 3 September being reckoned as 14 September 1752. Hence the Dettingen date is now celebrated on 27 June.—**Maj E N Hebden (Retd), National Army Museum, RMA Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.**

## Cart before horse

Your correspondent WO/II W Pittman (April) may be a little surprised to learn that serving in this unit we have three Regulars who have been awarded the Territorial Army Efficiency Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in that order. They are the captain quartermaster, the regimental sergeant-major and a warrant officer permanent staff instructor.

This naturally prompts me to ask "Any advance on three?"—**Ex-WO J L Belton, 383 Field Regt RA (DCRH) TA, Connaught TA Centre, Stanhope Road, Portsmouth, Hants.**

## Sir Winston Churchill

I seem to recollect having read in one of his books that the late Sir Winston Churchill, not having passed very highly out of Sandhurst, was posted to and joined an "unfashionable" Infantry regiment stationed in Ireland. The influence of his father, Lord Randolph, quickly got him transferred to the then more classy Hussars. What

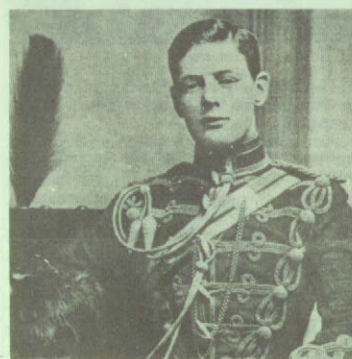
# 'The Regiment'

During my young soldiering days there was a periodical circulating in the Army called *The Regiment*. I believe it was published at Rye, Sussex, and its price was just one penny. Though it was popular in the barrack room it was not quite in favour with "higher-ups" because of one feature—a page of grouses under the heading of "What we want to know." However, Tommy Atkins regarded these as a source of humour rather than otherwise.

The Regiment contained interesting articles and I still have numbers of cuttings dealing with Victoria Cross incidents and military history which were published between 1904 and 1914. I wonder if any SOLDIER reader has retained copies of this publication, though I suppose World War One ended its existence.

I congratulate SOLDIER upon attaining its 20th year and wish it a long and continued success.—**Canon W M Lummis MC, Fen Farm, Barnham Broom, Norwich, Norfolk.**

★ The Regiment commenced publication in April 1896 and the Ministry of Defence Library (Army) has Volumes I to XIII (1896 to 1902). We have been unable to trace when the magazine ceased publication.



regiment was this and why does it not (or perhaps its newly organised successor) lay claim to being "the fustest?" After all, Sir Winston was the greatest soldier-statesman this country ever had or probably ever will have.—**Capt H M Sullivan, Dunree, 26 Queen's Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight.**

★ According to the London Gazette of 19 February 1895, Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, Gentleman Cadet, was commissioned from Sandhurst into the 4th (The Queen's Own) Hussars (as a second-lieutenant, above).

## Saluting

On the question of saluting when riding in cars (SOLDIER, April), my knowledge may be somewhat out

of date as I have no access to modern Queen's Regulations, but in my day there was no question of "up 2-3-4 down" when saluting from a vehicle as the hand was not used. The procedure was to sit to attention and turn the head and eyes in the direction of the officer being saluted. In the case of an equestrian soldier the reins were passed into the left hand, the right arm cut away to the right side with the hand behind the right thigh and the head turned towards the officer, who in returning the salute did so with his right hand whether he was mounted or not.

I would suggest in view of the speed of modern vehicles, both civil and military, that any form of salute when on the move is inadvisable and would only add to the already large number of traffic accidents.—**L A Whittingham, 58 Dawes Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex.**

## 51st Highland Division

A reunion for certain categories of former members of 51st Highland Division will be held at the Highland Brigade Depot, Gordon Barracks, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, on Saturday, 2 October, beginning at 11am. The reunion will range around the Divisional Games and a cordial invitation to attend is extended to:

- 1 Ex-members of 51st Division who served with the Division between mobilisation in 1939 and St Valery.
- 2 Ex-members who served in the

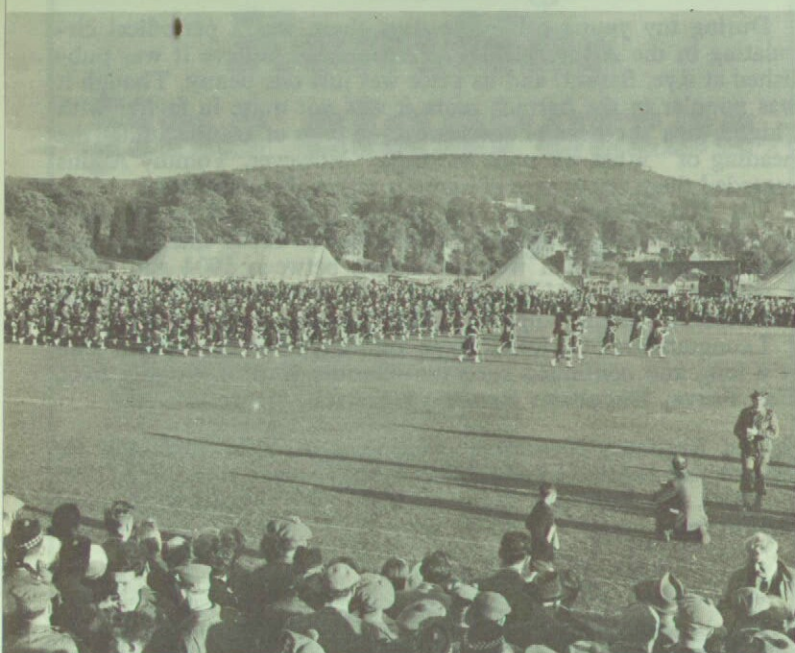
## WATERLOO



217 hours. Blücher and Wellington meet.



# LETTERS *continued*



Division overseas in 1915.

3 Ex-members of the Highland Infantry battalions who served in 1914 or 1915 and are entitled to wear the 1914-1915 Star. The reunion also commemorates Loos.

4 Ex-members of the Auxiliary Territorial Service and First-Aid Nursing Yeomanry who served with formations and units of the Division in 1939 and 1940.

Regimental tents will be set up as meeting places and as well as the Divisional Games there will be a display by the Massed Pipes and Drums

of the Division and a Divisional concert in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, in the evening.

Admission to the reunion and concert for ex-Servicemen, wives and families will be by ticket only which can be obtained, with requisite information, by applying to HQ 51st Highland Division (Reunion Office), Highland House, Perth.—Maj G Phillips, PRO, 51st Highland Division/District, Highland House, Perth.

★ Last year's first reunion, on The Inch, Perth, is pictured above.



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## Bristol in the title

**T**HE North Somerset Yeomanry/44th Royal Tank Regiment, Territorial Army, has changed its name to The North Somerset and Bristol Yeomanry. The new title recognises the Regiment's association with Bristol where the 44th Royal Tank Regiment, originally 6th Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, converted from Infantry to armour and changed its name in 1938.

In the following year 50th Royal Tank Regiment was formed as a second-line of the 44th. The post-war Regiment was called the 44th/50th Royal Tank Regiment, but the "50th" dropped out of the title on amalgamation in 1956 with The North Somerset Yeomanry. The 44th was first in action at Tobruk in November 1941, played a big part in the Western Desert, though with heavy losses, and went on to Sicily and Italy. After coming home to re-equip, the Regiment fought through North-West Europe from Normandy to Bremen.

The North Somerset Yeomanry traces its origin to 1794. It fought with distinction in the South African War and in World War One was in action as early as November 1914, suffering heavy casualties near Ypres. Remaining a Cavalry regiment between the wars the Regiment parted finally with its horses after fighting in Syria in 1941. Then it converted to Air Formation Signals, to serve in the Western Desert, Sicily, Italy and North-West Europe, and became armoured in 1947 when the Territorial Army was re-formed.

The North Somerset and Bristol Yeomanry is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel A S A Lawson and equipped with Centurion tanks. The Somerset element of the Regiment comprises regimental headquarters at Keynsham and squadrons at Bath and Weston-super-Mare. The Band, B Squadron and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers detachment are based at the Drill Hall, Old Market Street, Bristol, the original home of the 44th.

## Military bands

May I draw readers' attention to the Military Band Historical Research Society? The Society was formed in 1960 and publishes an illustrated quarterly journal which has a world-wide coverage of its subject. Each copy contains a list of members to facilitate correspondence among them. Every aspect of military bands and model soldiers is catered for as well as the latest private and commercial gramophone records of military bands. The annual subscription is 25s, which includes a free quarterly journal, attendance at meetings and use of the Society's library. Any interested reader is invited to write to me.—Maj A T Bradley, Sec, Military Band Historical Research Society, 93 Portland Crescent, Leeds 1.

## Boots, ammunition

The query from A Flint (April) about ammunition boots can be given a clear answer which has nothing to do with legends about "waking tired soldiers." The word "ammunition" is now used exclusively to describe supplies of small arms cartridges, artillery shells and other explosive items, but from the 17th century and for the greater part of Army history it referred to military stores of all kinds. The word itself is a corruption of the French "la munition" from "munitions de guerre" or war stores.

Ammunition as a term applied to boots may not now be official but it certainly was until comparatively modern times. Queen's Regulations of 1844, 1857 and 1862 refer to "Ammunition boots and shoes," although it was dropped by 1868 and thereafter.

In 1668 there are references to "ammunition bread and cheese," and in the 18th century there are frequent references to "ammunition breeches." The word was used officially, therefore, from the 17th to the second half of the 19th century to describe all kinds of military stores.

"Ammunition boots" is a perfectly legitimate expression, based on the fundamental meaning of the word, as a description of an item of military equipment and simply means "Army issue" or "Issued from store."

The term "Munitions of war," in the industrial and political sense, still refers to everything from soldiers' boot laces to battleships.

It is interesting to note, and wonder why, the ammunition boot is the last item to retain the original use of the word.—W A Thorburn, Curator, Scottish United Services Museum, Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh.

## COLLECTORS' CORNER

J Davis, 28 Bowland Road, Moor Nook, Preston, Lancs.—Requires cap and collar badges of foreign Marine corps. Two British Army badges given in exchange for each.

M Christesco, 46 Blvd Henri IV, Paris (4e), France.—Wishes to exchange photographs of tanks and armoured cars, all periods and nations, especially French and German.

J Meglish, 38 Victoria Road, Falling's Park, Wolverhampton.—Requires fireman's brass helmet and other fire service items of any country. Will exchange for SOLDIER magazines from January 1949 to December 1964 and other items.

S/Sgt M Hay, 48 Command Workshop REME, BFPO 53.—Requires pre-1950 military model Dinky toys, British and French.

## REUNIONS

The York and Lancaster Regiment, 12th (City) Battalion, Annual dinner at Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, Saturday, 3 July; annual remembrance service at Sheffield Cathedral, Sunday, 4 July. Ex-members wishing to attend the dinner should inform Capt Roberts, 71 Bents Drive, Sheffield 11, before 25 June.

Military Provost Staff Corps. Past and Present Association reunion dinner, Saturday, 10 July, at Berechurch Hall Camp, Colchester. Details from Hon Sec, Past and Present Assn MPSC, Berechurch Hall Camp, Colchester, Essex.

The Worcestershire Regiment. Annual reunion Saturday, 3 July at Norton Barracks, Worcester.

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See page 30)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1 Right arm of third spectator from left. 2 Door of tea hut. 3 Spare wheel of sports car. 4 White dot on leading machine. 5 Triangle on leading driver's helmet. 6 Length of tea hut. 7 Belt of passenger of leading machine. 8 Front wheel of second machine. 9 Figure "2" on second machine. 10 Left leg of left spectator.



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## WATERLOO



21 20 hours. Marshal Grouchy arrives  
too late for the battle.



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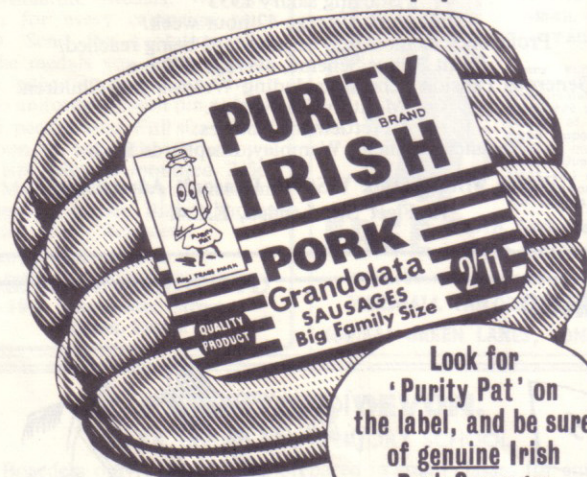
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## ARMCHAIR TACTICIANS

"The Education of an Army" (Jay Luvaas).

**D**R LUVAAS, an American, takes a look at 11 British military writers who have sought to influence the Army over the past 150 years—and an interesting collection they are.

The latest, Major-General J F C Fuller and Captain B H Liddell Hart, were two of that vigorous band which campaigned for mechanisation between the two world wars. That the lessons they taught were better heeded in Germany was not their fault.

Both have written widely, from tactical training manuals to the highest strategy and the philosophy of war. Liddell Hart has described Fuller as "the first British military theorist who ever made the heads of Continental armies look to England for professional guidance."

Liddell Hart himself was probably never so influential as in his two years as unofficial adviser to Hore-Belisha, then War Minister. He was the man behind Hore-Belisha's hurried and much-needed reforms before World War Two.

In contrast to these two forward-looking theorists is the first of the author's selections, Major-General Sir William Napier, whose best-known work is his classic history of the Peninsular campaign. This established the Peninsular tradition and for decades kept the Army looking to the past rather than to the future.

Napier refused to join the Army Reform Association because "if members are military their proceeding is an act of grave insubordination; if they are civilians they are incompetent persons, perniciously meddling with what they do not understand." Not surprisingly he upheld the purchase of commissions, was sceptical of the value of the "complex" Minie rifle over the simple smooth-bore musket and opposed the idea of Military Crosses and other awards.

Spenser Wilkinson started life as a barrister, became a Volunteer officer and was one of six Volunteers who formed the Manchester Tactical Society. This led him to writing books and pamphlets on military matters and so to giving up the Bar for journalism as military correspondent, leader-writer and dramatic critic. He was a notable campaigner for the setting up of a general staff and the improvement of the part-time army.

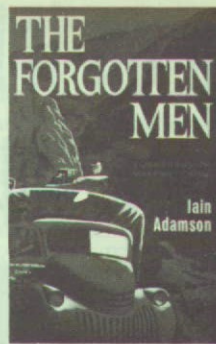
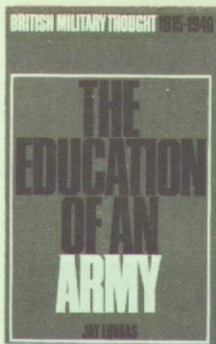
Lieutenant-Colonel Charles A Court Repington, a Regular soldier whose promising career was wrecked in a divorce court, took to writing military history and graduated to journalism.

Because *The Times*, for which he worked, was regarded abroad as an official mouthpiece, it was alleged in France that Repington was instrumental in "leading the Allies to commit errors in strategy which have cost millions of men and endangered the issue of the war."

Repington's disclosure in *The Times* of the shortage of shells from which the British Army in France was suffering led to the fall of the Government.

These two incidents say something of the relative powers of the pen and the sword.

Cassell, 50s. **RLE**



## BOOKSHELF

He thinks the generals achieved the first object of a military commander, to gain and retain the loyalty of his men. Their appreciation that the war could be won only on the Western Front turned out to be correct, and they won after fighting it in the way they had foretold, carrying the soldiers with them.

He admits envying the generals and staff officers the splendours of their chateaux while he grovelled in the mud, but has changed his views since being a staff officer himself in World War Two. He compares Haig's modest retinue of 200 favourably with the one-star generals and their British equivalents all trying to persuade each other they were busy.

As a feat of organisation, he says, the staff work of the British Expeditionary Force of World War One was supremely efficient; as a machine for putting soldiers into battle it could hardly have been bettered.

Hutchinson, 30s.

**RLE**

### UNDER "VINEGAR JOE"

"Behind the Burma Road" (William R Peers and Dean Brelis).

**D**ETACHMENT 101 was an American Office of Strategic Services unit for guerilla and intelligence work behind the Japanese lines in Burma, operating under General "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell.

Backed by the resources of the United States and ungrudging co-operation of the British in India and Burma—to which the authors pay tribute—it started with much in its favour.

Recruiting as agents Britons, Burmese and others who knew the country, it parachuted, submarined and boated its men behind the Japanese lines. Its guerillas ambushed and sabotaged, grew to more than 10,000 and, graduated to more overt operations.

Of the authors, Colonel Peers commanded the Detachment and Dean Brelis, now a novelist, served under him.

Hale, 18s.

**RLE**

## FAILURE AND FRUSTRATION

"The Forgotten Men" (Iain Adamson).

**T**HIS is a tale of failure and frustration in the darker days of World War Two. The British 204 Military (Commando) Mission was formed to go to China if Japan declared war. Originally there were five cadres trained in guerilla warfare. They were to move into China to become the sabotage experts of five battalions of Chinese guerilla troops which, the Chinese claimed, were operating behind the Japanese lines.

When the time came, three of these cadres, each 50 strong, set off along the Burma Road. By truck and train they travelled 2100 miles to set up a guerilla school. The Chinese trainees sent to them were poor and the interpreters provided spoke a dialect unintelligible to the students.

They set off again on a seven-week march to Chiu Chia Kai but exhaustion, malnutrition, malaria, dysentery and typhus depleted their numbers. By the time they reached their destination scarcely a handful was fit to fight. The only action they saw was when a small group, on a reconnaissance patrol with Chinese Surprise troops, came under Japanese fire.

This experience and the sight of the efficient Japanese front-line defences finally convinced the Mission's commander that even if they had been fit his men were going to serve no useful purpose in China. After nine months the Mission returned to Burma and India.

This might be called a tale of non-war, but war meant for many men just this kind of frustration, if not so much hardship. They deserve a niche in the war's history for doing their bit. The lack of results was not their fault.

Bell, 21s.

**RLE**

### IN BRIEF

"Like it or not" (Lieutenant-Colonel W Kirkbride).

Reminiscences of a young officer's life in the 'twenties and 'thirties, mainly social, gastronomic and tourist. The author was at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, then commissioned into the Royal Engineers. Later, having married under age, he transferred to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps for financial reasons. He served in Singapore, with leaves to Sarawak and Shanghai, in Egypt, and various parts of England.

Stockwell, 12s. 6d.

**RLE**

"Limited War and American Defense Policy" (Seymour J Deitchman).

The author describes his scope as "the job to be done, how it gets done, but not who does it." He looks back at 20 years of limited wars and speculates on the future; examines military forces available, the problems of planning, the structure of the American regular forces, and some special problems of unconventional warfare.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, \$10.00 or 75s. **RLE**

## TRENCH AND DESK

"Soldier from the Wars Returning" (Charles Carrington).

**C**HARLES CARRINGTON was one of the many young men who in their impatience to get into World War One added a bit to their ages. In due course, commissioned, he served in a Territorial battalion of The Royal Warwickshire Regiment on the Western Front.

There was probably no keener young officer. He wrote to his mother that his two years on the front were the happiest of his life. So obsessed was he with the unity of front-line soldiers that he resented the barriers between officers and men. On leave he dressed as a private soldier and happily joined in the life of the pubs and fish-and-chip shops of London's East End.

Fifty years later he looks back on that young officer with tolerance and a pride nobody will grudge him. This pride is not limited to his younger self. It extends in particular to his Regiment and the 48th (South Midland) Division in which his Battalion served throughout the war and in general to his entire generation which saw the whole business through.

## WATERLOO



21 55 hours. Napoleon goes off into retirement.



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# Purely Personal

## Long player ▶

When grown-ups said to nine-year-old clarinettist **Victor Staddon** "What do you want to be . . . ?" he replied "I want to be an Army bandmaster." And he was, in the Regular and Territorial Armies from 1931 until his retirement recently at 66. Bandmaster Staddon fought in World War One, studied at the Royal Military School of Music for three years and devoted the rest of his 36 years' Regular service to the playing of good music for The Devonshire Regiment. After seven years with the Band of The Devonshire Regiment, Territorial Army, he leaves it with the reputation of being one of the finest Territorial Army bands in the country. Which is a fine note to end on.



## ◀ Down to earth padre

**Padre Kit Kelly** takes a long melancholy look before making his last parachute drop with 131 Parachute Engineer Regiment, Territorial Army. A wartime Army Commando, he has jumped, climbed, dug and marched with the Regiment for ten years. Ten years in which the airborne Sappers have recognised in the quiet, unassuming Vicar of St Oswald's, Knuzden, Lancashire, a companion and friend as well as a padre. Now he is 50, and after making a final drop into Little Aden during his last annual camp with the Regiment, he hung up his helmet "to make way for a younger man." The job is still open. No one who knows how well Kit Kelly was liked cares to try and replace him.



## General duties ▼

If the Army should ever want a pamphlet on "Generals—And How to Drive Them," then without a doubt, **Sergeant Raymond Hill**, Royal Army Service Corps, is their man. In the past two years he has driven the GOC 43rd (Wessex) Division/District tens of thousands of miles in the West Country. Before that he was awarded the British Empire Medal for outstanding service while driving the head of the British Military Mission to Soviet Forces in Germany.

Yes, Sergeant Hill could certainly write a sparkling pamphlet, or he could if he were able to take time off from the job of driver to the Commander, British Army Staff, Washington which has taken him, his wife **Norma** and their daughter **Katrina** to the United States for three years!

For bravery in jungle clashes with Indonesian paratroopers, three Gurkhas of 1st Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, are to be decorated and four others have been mentioned in despatches. The incidents all occurred in the Labis, Johore, area of Malaysia last year.

**Captain (QGO) Aitabahadur Limbu** has been awarded the Military Cross for leading a successful company assault with great skill and determination after his company commander had been killed. For "astute and tireless leadership of a platoon" which hunted out, contained and eliminated all the infiltrators in its area, **Sergeant Manbahadur Tamang** wins the Military Medal. The Military Medal has also been won by **Lance-Corporal Dilbahadur Rai** for leading an attack on an enemy position. Mentioned in despatches were **Major Richard Mark Haddow** (killed in action), **Lieutenant (QGO) Abiraj Rai**, **Corporal Lalbahadur Limbu** and **Lance-Corporal Indraj Rai**.

## WATERLOO



22 30 hours. Hero Jim Smith ceremonially presented with a Wellington boot.





**SOLDIER**



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