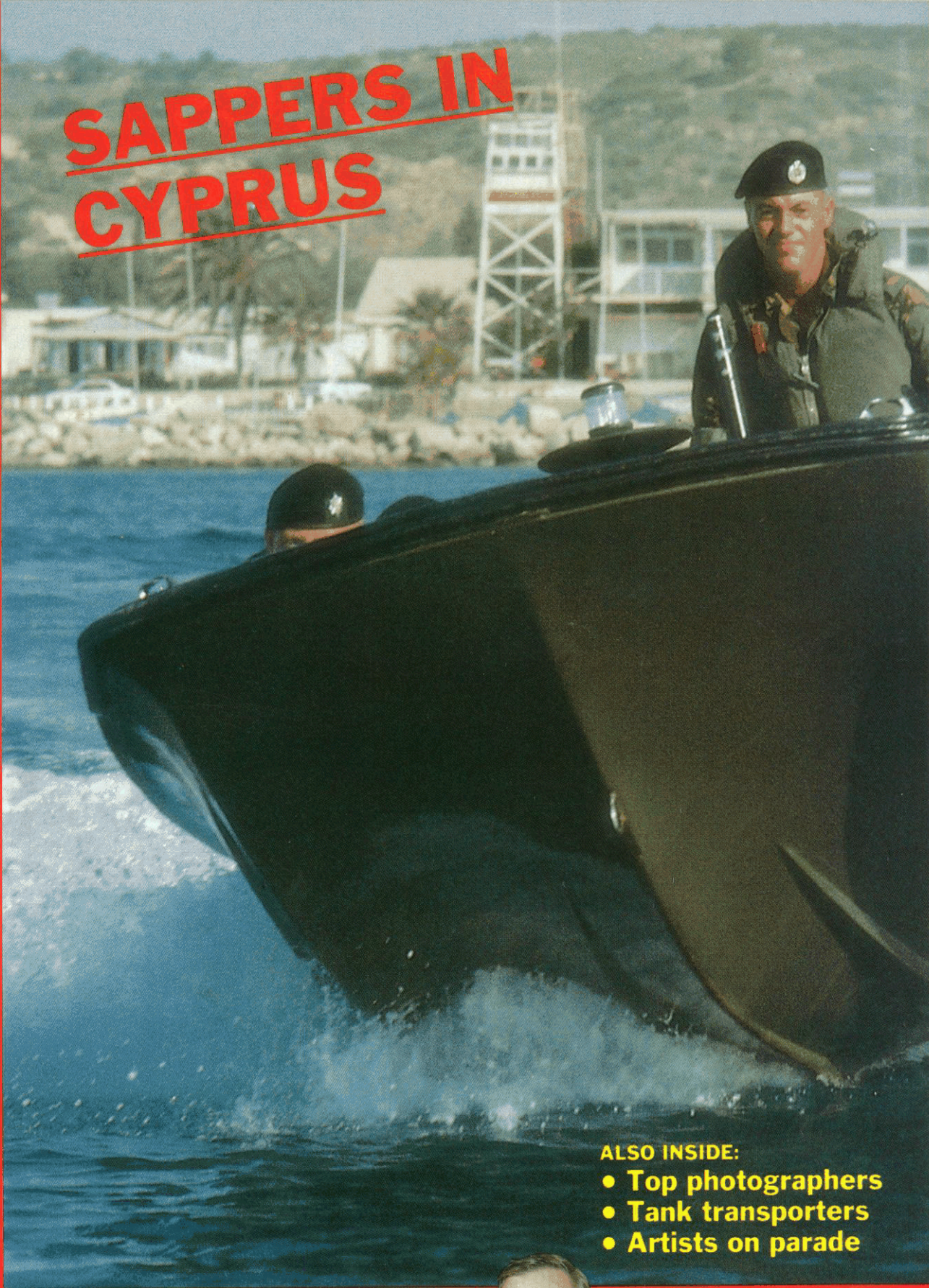


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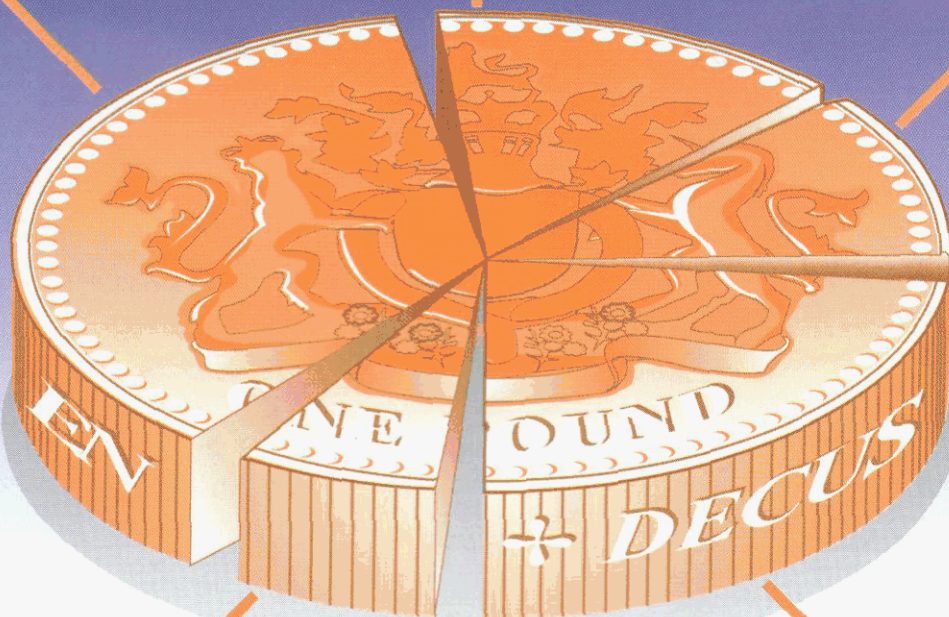
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COVER STORIES

Main picture – Cyprus-based sappers man their boats during an exercise. They can land soldiers, in this case men of the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, on the beaches in their rigid raiders. See Cyprus special feature starting on Page 20. The drum, lower left, belongs to the Woofers.

There's a story behind the other drum, lower right, pictured with Maj Christopher Louch at RHQ Coldstream Guards. It dates from the Boer War, and has just been returned to the regiment after being sold at an auction in Gloucester.

The buyer, Mr Gordon Garbett, discovered it had belonged to Brig Gen John Vaughan Campbell, who won the Victoria Cross during the First World War. Realising its importance to the Coldstream, he offered it to the regiment for the price he paid.

It now enhances the Coldstream's collection of Campbell memorabilia, including the gallant officer's VC and other insignia, and a hunting horn he blew to rally his troops during an attack on a German trench at Ginchy in France.

Pictures: Mike Weston



Mr Gordon Garbett and the Campbell drum he bought at an auction

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A new Army crest has come into being. Turn to Page 7 to find out why.

Slimmer TA to have more bite

THE PEACETIME strength of the Territorial Army is to be reduced by 10,500 under cuts announced by Defence Secretary Tom King. The new force structure of 63,500 would be reinforced in war by the addition of Regular reservists to a fully mobilised establishment of more than 71,000.

Mr King's broad-brush announcement on December 10 will be followed in the New Year by detailed work on the implementation of his proposals, with the restructuring of the TA beginning on April 1. Decisions have still to be taken on regimental titles, affiliations and local estate matters.

Infantry battalions will bear the brunt of the cuts, reducing from the current 41 to 36. With one exception, all will adopt a three-rifle company organisation compared with four companies at present. There will continue to be five yeomanry regiments following the formation of a new regiment in Scotland and one amalgamation.

One of the seven amalgamations announced will see the 15th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment merge with 4 Para, the new battalion including one company based in Glasgow and with detachments where 15 Para is currently based in Scotland.

Royal Signals and Royal Engineers will take on new and expanded roles, and a second Army Air Corps squadron is to be formed.

Two Royal Artillery regiments are to be equipped, for the

first time, with 155mm FH70 towed howitzers, and three air defence regiments will get Starstreak, the new surface-to-air missile, when it enters service. Two gunner AD regiments are to amalgamate.

Overall size of the Royal Army Medical Corps is the subject of a wider review of medical services, but the TA element is to be reorganised into smaller, self-contained units.

The Home Service Force, formed in 1985 to guard key points in the United Kingdom, will be absorbed into the mainstream TA.

The Territorial Army is to be given greater responsibility for the direct defence of the United Kingdom, and will also play a role in Nato's new Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

Major changes affecting the TA corps and regiments are:

Royal Armoured Corps reduces from 18 to 17 sabre squadrons, with one regiment in the ARRC armoured reconnaissance role;

Royal Engineers reduces from 39 to 38 squadrons, but strength to increase by 16 per cent from current level. Three regiments to support ARRC;

Infantry reduces from 164 to

109 rifle companies. Eight battalions allocated to ARRC; **RCT** reduces from 12 regiments to seven;

RAOC reduces from 23 companies to 22;

REME reduces from 20 workshops to 13;

RMP reduces from 14 small to six larger provost companies; **Intelligence Corps** increases by 40 per cent.

New structures in the major combat arms are:

Amalgamations

RAC – The Queen's Own Mercian Yeomanry with The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry.

RA – 102 (Ulster) Air Defence Regiment with 105 (Scottish) Air Defence Regiment.

Infantry – 8th Battalion, The Queen's Fusiliers to form new four-company London battalion with addition of London Scottish and London Irish Rifles.

3rd Battalion, Yorkshire Volunteers with 4th Battalion, Yorkshire Volunteers.

3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales with 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales; 4th Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment reducing to one company within the 5th Battalion, The Light Infantry.

4th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment with the 15th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

New units

One Scottish yeomanry regiment to be created.

AAC to increase from one squadron to two.

SOLDIER

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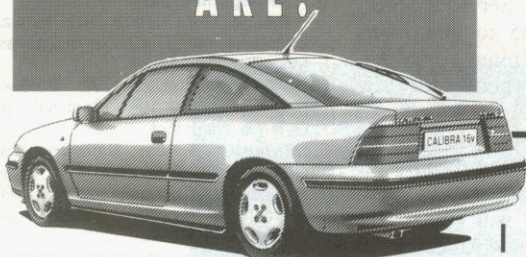
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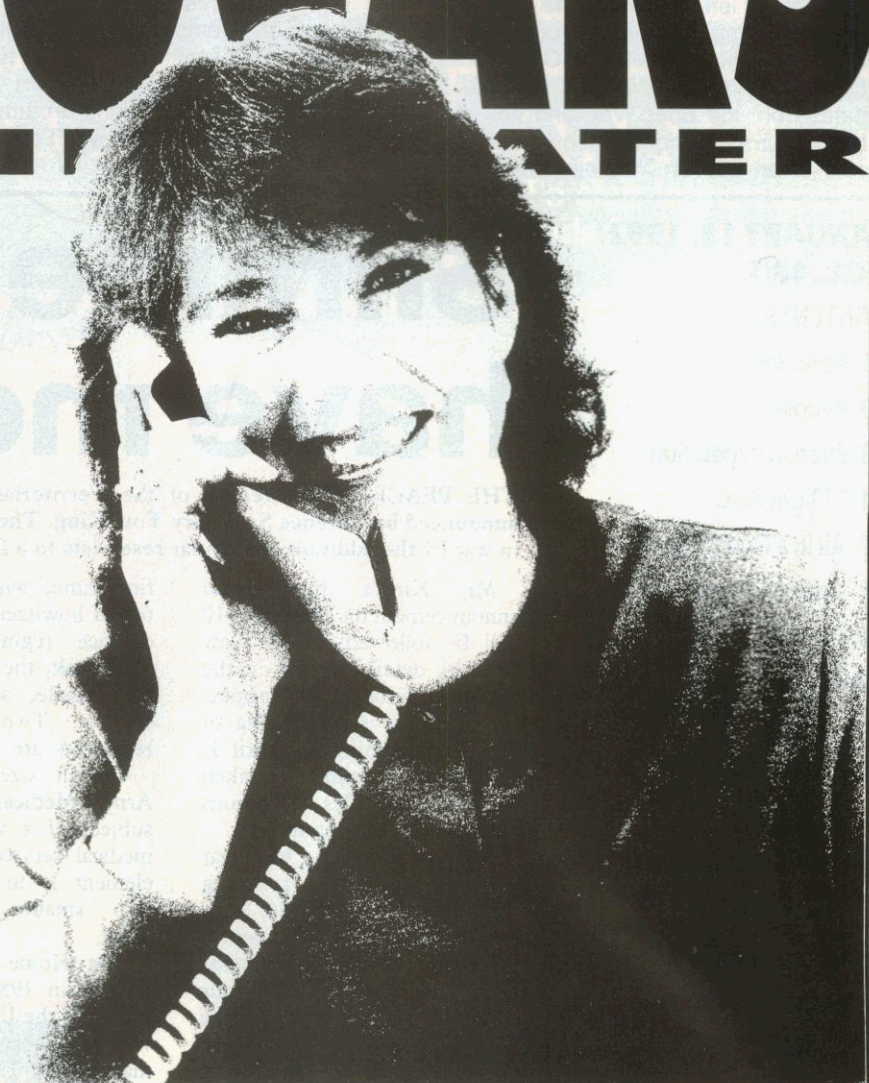
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S/TAN/13/1

Last UK troops quit Colony border

THE LAST troops from the United Kingdom have left the Hong Kong border. From now until April, when the Royal Hong Kong Police take over the one section left to the Army, Gurkhas will man the western end of the 39km border fence.

To mark the historic occasion, 100 men from B (Rorke's Drift) Company, the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot), marched from Sandy Spur, their border station, to Stanley Fort, their base camp on Hong Kong Island.

An additional incentive for the 62km hike was the raising of £2,400 for a Cheshire Home at Chung Hom Kok, just across the bay from Stanley Fort.

The route took them through New Territories villages, along mountain tracks and down the full length of Nathan Road, Kowloon's principal thoroughfare, in the early hours of the morning. They had eight stops on the way for water and refreshments, including a more extended rest on an Army landing craft which took them from Kowloon Public Pier across the harbour to Quarry Bay.

B Coy's only disappointment on the last border tour was its failure to break the 300 illegal immigrant capture mark. A special effort resulted in 299 being caught.

Glosters in Ulster

THE 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment was deployed temporarily to Northern Ireland at the end of November following an increase in sectarian violence.



The last patrol: men of C Coy, 1 RRW on the march



Crown Prince Henri of Luxembourg inspects a Guard of Honour at the Depot, The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces in Aldershot. Prince Henri, who was appointed Honorary Major in the regiment in 1989, took the salute at a passing out parade for recruits. He was met at Browning Barracks by the commanding officer, Lt Col Joe Poraj-Wilczynski, and lunched with the regimental council after meeting the families of recruits

Picture: Mike Weston

RA launches Alanbrooke statue fund

GEN Sir Alan Brooke, later to be Fd Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke and Churchill's principal strategic adviser between 1941 and 1946, is to be honoured with a statue. An appeal has been launched by the Royal Regiment of Artillery on behalf of the British Army. Alanbrook was the first Master Gunner.

The statue, sculpted by Ivor Roberts-Jones, should be ready for unveiling late in 1992. It will be sited between those of his two commanders, Slim and Montgomery, on Raleigh Green outside the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall.

Donations should be sent to the Alanbrooke Memorial Statue Appeal Fund, PO Box 438, Cambridge CB2 2BZ.

Pilot rescued climbers

AN ARMY helicopter pilot who rescued injured climbers from a mountain in Kenya has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air.

WO2 Ron Watkins AAC, serving with the Senior Flying Instructors Department, HQ AAC UKLF at Netheravon, was on detachment to the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards at the time of the incident.

During a routine training sortie at high altitude on Mount Kenya he was advised of an

emergency involving three civilian climbers. At 13,500ft – 1,500ft above the normal operating ceiling of the Gazelle helicopter – WO2 Watkins landed in difficult conditions and, after administering first aid, flew a Swiss woman climber off the mountain.

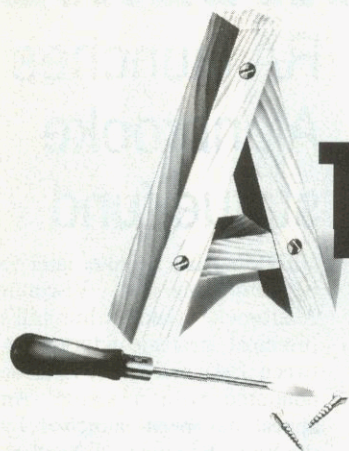
He returned to help a team from 1 WG, then on exercise in Kenya, which was assisting two other casualties.

At the second attempt he managed to land at 14,500ft on a small rocky plateau, enabling

the most seriously injured of the two to be evacuated.

WO2 Watkins returned to evacuate the third climber, then made another sortie to lift off members of the 1 WG recovery party suffering from altitude sickness.

The citation says of the 40-year-old pilot that to operate the helicopter at such an altitude was a remarkable feat of flying skill and determination, to repeat the performance four times in a day was outstanding.



ATTENTION

Here is a message for all personnel about to leave the forces. A message aimed primarily at NCOs - whatever their length of service. And which concerns making the most of the skills you've developed in the military.

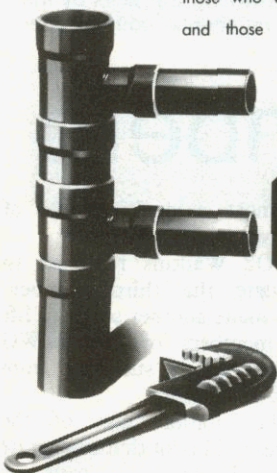
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IN BRIEF

Duchess visits Musgrave

THE DUCHESS of York met patients and staff in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast during a flying visit at the end of November. Two soldiers were killed and the wing badly damaged by a terrorist bomb.

Defence Secretary Tom King also visited Northern Ireland before Christmas, meeting soldiers of 321 EOD Company RAOC; the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Royal Green Jackets; the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; the 5th and 4th/6th Battalions, The Ulster Defence Regiment; and the Army Air Corps. He was welcomed by the GOC, Lt Gen Sir John Wilsey.

Gen Vladimir Lobov, Chief of the Soviet General Staff, toured defence bases in Britain during his visit to the United Kingdom as the guest of Fd Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, Chief of the Defence Staff. It was later reported that Gen Lobov had been dismissed.

The strength of the British Army on September 30 was 147,987, according to the Government Statistical Service. This was an increase of 697 from the previous quarter.

A scenario on fighting in built-up areas based on events in Yugoslavia has been programmed into the Army's £2m computer-controlled Brigade and Battle Group Trainer at Catterick. It was used for the first time in an exercise, based on the defence of nearby Richmond, to test the men of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers.

Service personnel with climbing and skiing skills are being sought for the 1993 Joint Services expedition to Smith Island in Antarctica. Applicants should contact the expedition leader, WO John Kimbrey, RM at RMSA, CTCRM, Lympstone, Exmouth, Devon EX8 4AR (tel: 0392 873781 ext 342).



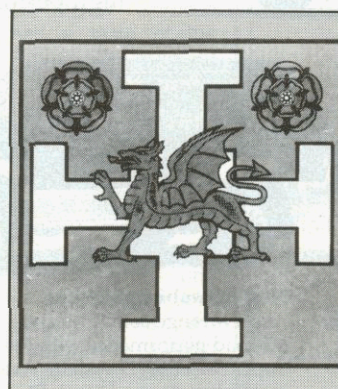
Princess Alexandra speaks to Cpl Eddie Goodwin while meeting members of the Light Infantry Salamanca Band during her visit to Winchester to open the new regimental museum in Peninsular Barracks. Most of the bandsmen served in the Gulf with 24 Air Mobile Field Ambulance. The Princess is Deputy Colonel in Chief of The Light Infantry

All change on Western front

WALES and Western District became the first new military administrative district to be formed in Britain since 1947 when it came into being on November 29.

From his headquarters in Shrewsbury, the first General Officer Commanding the new district, Maj Gen Michael Regan, is responsible for an area stretching from the Scottish border to the Bristol Channel and including Merseyside, Greater Manchester, the Potteries, West Midlands and South Wales.

He commands nearly 30,000 Regular and Territorial Army troops in 42 (North West) Brigade based at Fulwood Barracks, Preston; 143 (West Midlands) Brigade based at Copthorne Barracks, Shrews-



Wales and Western District's new crest, designed by Maj Gen Peter Bonnet, last GOC Western District, incorporates the Red Dragon of Wales superimposed on a gold Cross of St Chad, the 1st Century Bishop of Mercia whose symbol figured in the Western District crest. Red roses of Lancaster represent the North West.

bury; and 160 (Wales) Brigade based at The Barracks, Brecon.

Wales and Western District is the first of three large new districts which will cover England and Wales. Under the major re-organisation announced in July, the United Kingdom's ten military dis-

tricts will be reduced to five.

The formation of Wales and Western District began with the amalgamation of the former North West and Western Districts and was completed on November 29 when HQ Wales District in Brecon hauled down its flag for the last time.

Queen Mother reopens TA hospital HQ

A PLAQUE was unveiled by the Queen Mother at the headquarters of 217 (London) General Hospital RAMC(V) to mark the official opening of the TA Centre in Braganza Street, Walworth, London after an 18-month refurbishment.

The Queen Mother, who is Colonel-in-Chief of

the Royal Army Medical Corps, was met by Fd Marshal Lord Bramall and escorted round the centre by the hospital's commanding officer, Col Bernard Rowe.

She met many volunteers from the unit who served in the Gulf.

Picture: Mike Weston

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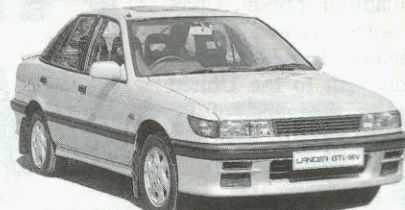
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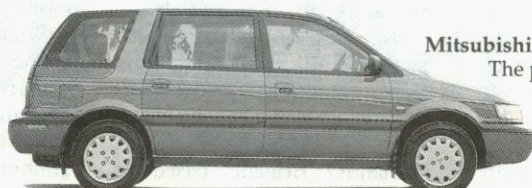
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Colours for 6 UDR

Memorial to fallen dedicated

THE 6th (County Tyrone) Battalion has become the fifth Ulster Defence Regiment battalion to be presented with Colours.

The Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of the County, presented the Colours, on behalf of the Queen, at a parade in St Lucia Barracks, Omagh, on November 24.

At the same time a memorial stone was dedicated to soldiers of the battalion who have lost their lives due to terrorist action.

In June, the Queen presented Colours to the first four battalions of the regiment. The remaining three battalions will receive theirs at a single parade in 1992 before the merger of The Royal Irish Rangers and the Ulster Defence Regiment on July 1.

The 6th (Co Tyrone) Battalion amalgamated with the 4th (Co Fermanagh) Battalion on November 25, and, since 4 UDR was one of the battalions to receive Colours in June, it was important that 6 UDR were presented with theirs before the merger.

This was the fourth time that UDR battalions have been amalgamated and it brings the number of battalions to seven. These will form the home-based element of the new Royal Irish Regiment next year.

The parade was composed of a guard from each company in the battalion and a composite guard of Greenfinches – 120 officers and soldiers in all – who marched on led by the Regimental Pipes and Drums and the Band of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment. They were watched by an audience of several hundred guests, families and friends.

The parade was commanded by Lt Col Tony Slater, CO of 6 UDR, and the Colonels Commandant of the regiment, Gen Sir Charles Huxtable and Col Sir Dennis Faulkner, and the Commander of the Ulster Defence Regiment, Brig Angus Ramsay, were present.



A smiling Duchess of Gloucester is given a resettlement briefing by Lt Col Bob Carstairs at 14 Army Education Centre in Aldershot. The Duchess, who is Colonel in Chief of the Royal Army Education Corps, later met GOC South East District, Lt Gen Sir Richard Swinburn

The memorial which stands in one corner of the parade square bears the names of the 32 officers, NCOs and soldiers of the battalion killed by terrorists.

Lt Col Slater spoke of the battalion's pride in receiving its Colours. He was confident the new battalion that would emerge would be a strong and worthy successor to 6 UDR, and carry on the vital job which had been started.

"I am equally convinced that the merger with The Royal Irish Rangers next year will be to the benefit of the battalion. These changes will allow us to continue to play our part in the continuing fight to bring back peace to this land, alongside our close colleagues in the RUC and the rest of the British Army."

With Lt Col Slater leaving Northern Ireland to take up another posting, Lt Col Mike Smith, CO of 4 UDR assumed command of the new 4/6 UDR.

Battalion headquarters will be in Omagh and the company bases of the old 4 UDR will continue to be in Fermanagh. With a strength of more than 1,100 it will be one of the largest battalions in the regiment and in the Army as a whole.

Detmold gun run

DETMOLD Garrison had a taste of the Royal Tournament when 71. Aircraft Workshop REME took on naval airmen from HMS Osprey, Portland, at the Royal Navy's famous field gun run.

Trained by CPO Martin Sharpe – one of eight Fleet Air Arm personnel on exchange with 71 Wksp – the home side set out to record their third consecutive victory over Osprey but were beaten by 5 sec.

Matterhorn climb fails

INJURY and illness prevented a party of climbers from 10 Postal and Courier Regiment RE based at Hanover from reaching the summit of the Matterhorn via Hornli Ridge. Two members of the original six-man team did scale peaks of 4,000m in the Zermatt area.

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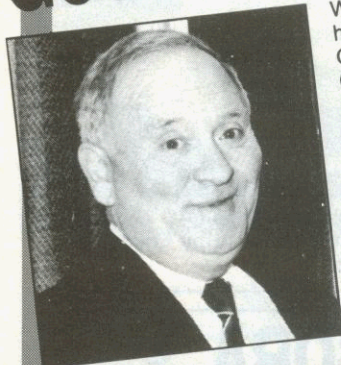
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TA Rangers clear the way

Royal Irish Rangers have lived up to their motto "Faugh-a-ballagh" on Gibraltar. Their slogan means "Clear the Way", and during their two-week training camp, a composite company of TA Rangers from the 4th and 5th Battalions cleared the upper reaches of the Mediterranean Steps on the eastern side of the Rock to make them more accessible to walkers.

During the camp the Rangers rekindled old links with Gibraltarians evacuated to Northern Ireland during the Second World War, and more recent friendships established when the regiment was formed on the Rock in 1969.

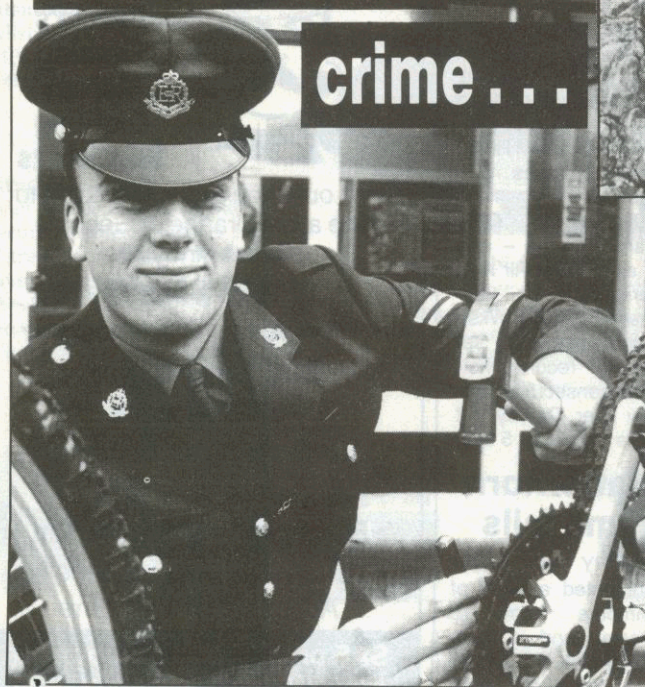
Good work, Peter



WO **Peter Barnard**, RRW, has been commended by Commander British Forces Cyprus for his outstanding work for community services between the local and military population of Episkopi Garrison during the Gulf War. He was presented with the award by Col **Alan Holman**, Commandant, Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, where Peter is serving until he leaves the Service.

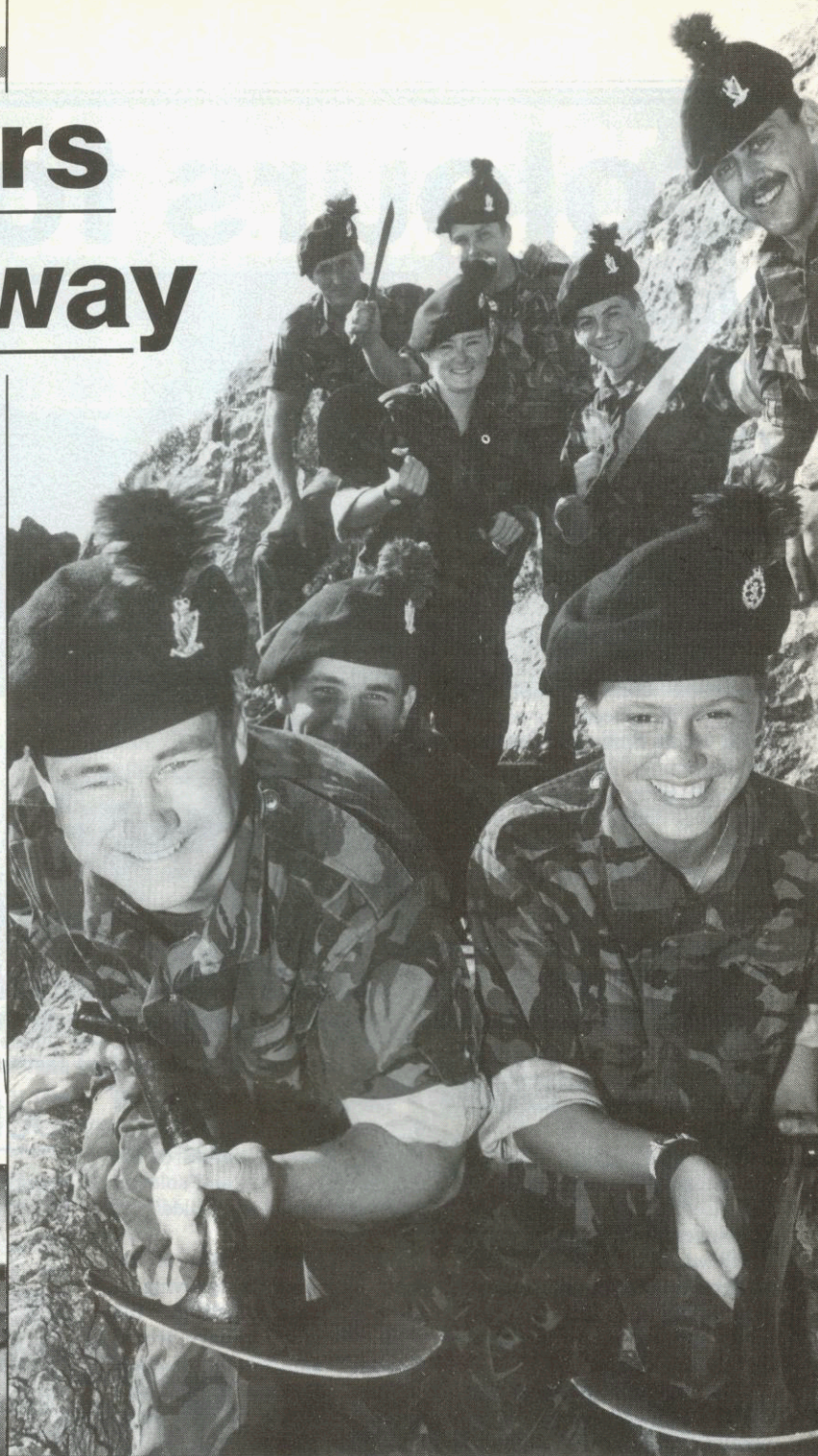
Stamping out

crime...



Helping the RMP to wage war on bicycle thieves in South East District is Aldershot-based Cpl **Jim Davis**, pictured stamping a post code on to one youngster's pride and joy. Military policemen are taking part in a national campaign to reduce the growing number of bike thefts.

Picture: Terry Champion



Brig David Wilson's final duty as Honorary Colonel of 250 (Hull) Field Ambulance RAMC(V) was to present prizes at the unit's annual awards ceremony. Brig Wilson was commissioned into the RTR in 1947 and transferred to the Royal Artillery in 1949. Now secretary of the Yorkshire and Humberside TAVRA, he retired from the Army in 1981 as Deputy Commander NE District.

Redcaps to the rescue

Military Policemen Cpl **Stuart Cripps** (kneeling) and Cpl **Roy Mutter** climbed over this wall to rescue three men from the top floor of a burning restaurant in Andover, Hants. They were on patrol in the early hours of the morning when they saw flames coming out of the Raj Restaurant in Winchester Street.

Having alerted the emergency services, they climbed a wall at the back and got on to the roof via a fire escape. They found three men on the top floor and escorted them to safety.

Picture: Sgt Matt Timbers, HQ UKLF

Helpful Haldon

Lt Col **Haldon Hole** has been helping people all his life. Now, still a tireless fundraiser at the age of 85, he has received a Help the Aged Golden Award for outstanding service to the community.

Col Hole, who was commissioned into the RAOC in 1941 and spent most of the war on tank supply, stayed on in the Far East clearing ordnance until 1946. He has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for the Royal National Institute for the Blind, the Stockport Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, St John Ambulance, Barnados and many other worthy causes.



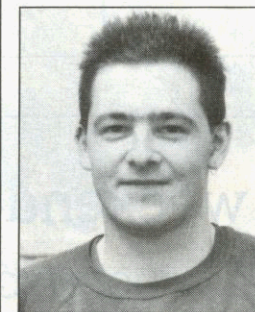
A total of 15 stars – one lieutenant general, five major generals and two brigadiers – from 1st (British) Corps were assembled at Bielefeld HQ for the final 1 (BR) Corps Commander's conference to be chaired by Lt Col Sir **Charles Guthrie**, who has commanded the Corps during a turbulent and challenging period which included the reunification of Germany. Command of 1 (BR) Corps passes to Maj Gen **Jeremy**

GALAXY OF STARS

Mackenzie, who was GOC 4 Armoured Division, while Gen Guthrie becomes C-in-C BAOR in succession to Gen Sir **Peter Inge**, Maj Gen **Mike Shellard**, Maj Gen **Mike Walker**, Maj Gen **Jeremy Mackenzie**, Lt Gen Sir **Charles Guthrie**, Maj Gen **Rupert Smith**, Maj Gen **Christopher Wallace**, and Brig **Rob McAfee**.

PEOPLE

Olympic choice



Former Light Infantryman **Dave Heatherington**, from County Durham, was chosen from ex-Servicemen nationwide to take part in a display of athletics at the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall. Dave, who was crippled in a car accident, has been selected to represent Britain in the Disabled Olympics in Barcelona this summer. He is currently training as a domestic service engineer at Finchale Training College in Durham.

Lift-off to retirement



Flying into retirement in the West Country is Maj Gen **Peter Bonnet**, General Officer Commanding Western District. He and his wife, **Sylvia**, left Copthorne Barracks by helicopter, to which they were escorted by a guard of Junior Leaders from Bramcote Barracks, Nuneaton and the Band

of The Black Watch. Sitting at the controls was the Commander of Shrewsbury-based 143 Brigade, Brig **Richard Nash**, an ex-Army pilot who has not flown for many years.

Unknown to Gen Bonnet, the aircraft was actually flown by a Royal Air Force pilot.



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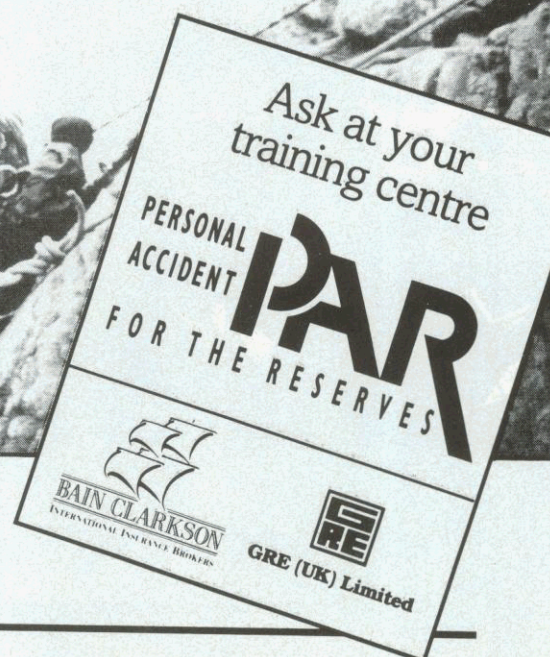
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TOP TEAM



Cpl "Bronco" Lane (inset), who conquered Everest in 1976



The barrels contain equipment found for the British Services Everest Expedition 1992. Pictured during preparations at Church Crookham are (left to right): Capt Simon Lowe, R Signals, Lt Cdr Andrew Hughes RN, Sgt Terry Moore, RAF, team co-ordinator Maj Richard McAllister, RCT, and Maj Nigel Williams, R Hamps

THE FINEST climbers in the Armed Forces leave the United Kingdom next month to tackle the world's highest mountain, writes Laurie Manton.

Selection for Exercise Everest Venture, which involves mountaineers from all three Services, was done strictly on merit, a departure from previous attempts which have consisted of a hard core of climbers capable of reaching the summit, backed up by others there to act as load carriers and gain experience.

"This time we have selected the best 16 climbers to beat the mountain," said Lt Col Mike Kefford, 7 GR, leader of the British Services Everest Expedition 1992.

"It was a condition that each must have been to Everest at least once before, so we have ended up with the pick of the pack in mountaineering terms."

The expedition, which has cost £200,000 to mount, will be using a new £60,000 oxygen system.

One member of the team who has already beaten Mount Everest is its deputy leader, Maj "Bronco" Lane of The Parachute Regiment. He reached the summit in 1976.

The then Cpl Lane and Sgt Brummy Stokes, both members of 22nd Special Air Service Regiment, conquered the peak after camping for two nights in appalling conditions at the joint British/Nepalese Army expedition's camp six, 27,500ft up.

But Maj Lane will not be making a summit bid this time. He will be in charge of the base camp, looking after the oxygen and logistics of the expedition. The British Army has a long connection with Everest having provided the leader, Col John Hunt, of the successful 1953 expedition in which Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing became the first men to reach the summit.

Other Army members of the 1992 team are Sgt Chris Barnes, Lt Col Meryon Bridges, RE, Capt Simon Lowe, R Signals, Maj Kit Spencer, 7 GR, and Maj Nigel Williams, R Hamps.

Flight of freedom

Words: Mervyn Wynne Jones
Pictures: Hendrik Pastor, Mike Klinec

BERLIN's 7 Flight, Army Air Corps, has celebrated 20 years' service in the city.

A familiar sight in Berlin since September 1971 when they first became operational as 7 Aviation Flight, its helicopters are now enjoying unprecedented access to airspace over the former DDR.

Based at RAF Gatow in a Second World War hangar once used by the German Luftwaffe, the flight is non-Nato assigned and is one of the few independent commands within the Army Air Corps.

Regarded as a unique posting because of its status and role, 7 Flight has notched up millions of flying hours over two decades of Cold War and *glasnost* operational flying.

Disbanded in Malaya in 1969 and re-formed in Berlin the following year, the flight originally operated over the city with Sioux helicopters.

Retitled 7 Flight AAC on

Berlin-based AAC celebrates 20 years

January 1, 1973, it was re-equipped with Gazelle helicopters in May 1977.

Supporting Berlin Infantry Brigade throughout its 20-year history, 7 Flight has never been short of flying hours to fulfil its commitments.

Taskings regularly included perimeter flights around what was then West Berlin and a full gamut of visitor orientation and exercise support flights.

With the breaching of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 and the subsequent unification of Germany in October 1990, 7 Flight's options increased dramatically.

"Suddenly we were the only British military aircraft able to fly over the former DDR

because we were not assigned to Nato," said Maj Chris Hogan, OC. "It was amazing because we could now range far and wide and began flying to and from BAOR."

Aircraft which over the years had featured as props in a James Bond film, had flown at outdoor pop concerts and were a highlight of any military parade, were now able to range with previously unimaginable freedom across eastern Germany.

Stripped of any offensive military capability, the Gazelle helicopters have since flown south to Leipzig, Colditz and beyond and north to the Baltic coast.

Flying over the former DDR

is not without its hazards and deconfliction is a major preoccupation for each two-man crew venturing beyond the confines of Berlin.

"Training sorties in eastern Germany are very demanding," said Maj Hogan. "Such maps as are available are almost useless, air traffic control is almost nil, none of the air traffic controllers speak English (the internationally recognised language) and deconfliction with Soviet aircraft is also a problem."

Search and rescue cover was only mounted in former East Germany in August, ironically by Soviet-built MI8 (HIP) helicopters based at a former DDR air base in Brandenburg. Until two years ago, the MI8s were East German head of state Honecker's VIP flight, equipped with armchairs, refrigerator and toilets.

Maj Hogan added: "From an aircrew point of view it is definitely one of the best postings within the AAC. We have a good allocation of hours and an exclusive ability to fly beyond Berlin where flying is both challenging and enjoyable."

The 20 members of 7 Flight



Before the wall fell ... a member of 2 RMP surveys East Berlin beyond the Brandenburg Gate

comprise four pilots, three aircrewmen, REME support and ground crew. Sgt Chris Lee, pilot, and Sgt Ian Collins, aircrewman, served in the Gulf. They operate three Gazelle

AH1 helicopters.

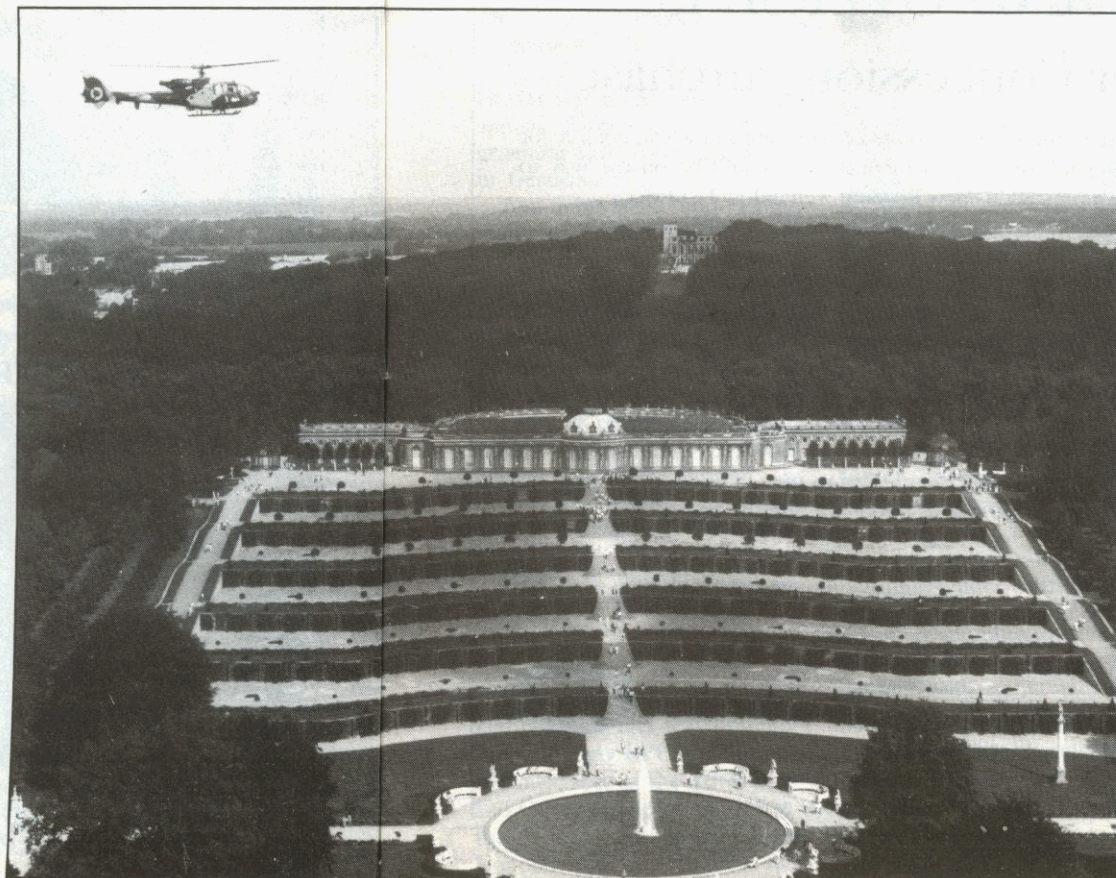
The flight has always been popular with Berliners, not least those of the Borough of Spandau who awarded it the Freedom of the City in October

1982 for its special contribution. The flight will continue to support the Berlin Infantry Brigade until all British troops have withdrawn from the city. Meanwhile, the airmen are

celebrating 20 years' varied and fascinating service in the skies over Berlin by commissioning a handsome piece of silver featuring the Brandenburg Gate.



Aircrew of 7 Flight during a stop-over at Berlin's Tempelhof Airport



Above: A 7 Flight Gazelle lands near the border, watched by an East German patrol
Left: Helicopters of 7 Flight can now fly over such features as the Palace of Sanssouci in Potsdam

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Picture: Terry Champion

Gen Sir Frank King accepts a cheque for £3,295 on behalf of the Airborne Forces Security Fund from WO1 Peter Graves. The money was raised by members of 5 Airborne Brigade Logistic Battalion who marched from Aldershot to Arnhem, a

Arnhem march raises £3,295

distance of 209 miles. The "tab" takes place every two years to commemorate Operation Market Garden. Arnhem veteran

Gen King was shot down on his way to the town during Market Garden, wounded and taken prisoner.

GOSH, that's a big jump!

NEVER one to pass up a chance to make money for charity, Sgt Adrian West of 4 Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment at Herford jumped out of an aircraft to raise nearly £1,000 for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Adrian's last venture for GOSH was to take part in the annual River Aller swim, a gruelling 5km event near Celle in Germany.

And in his latest fund-raising effort, stores accountant Adrian and brother Phil, a carpenter, made a tandem parachute jump at Bad Lippspringe airfield near Herford.

They were spurred on by the fact that Phil's 11-month-old son Patrick recently underwent surgery at Great Ormond Street. Daredevil Adrian, a keen scuba diver, also raised £300 for Herford Sub-Aqua Club.

Now he is planning a bungy jump . . .

★ ★ ★

A cake baked by LCpl David Hardware, a chef serving with 518 Company RPC at Bicester, was auctioned at the Royal Star and Garter Home winter ball at the Hotel Intercontinental in London and raised £100 for



Sgt Adrian West

Falkland veteran Simon Weston's appeal for the Star and Garter home for disabled ex-Service personnel.

★ ★ ★

Adult Under Officer Jake Smith of the Abingdon detachment of Oxfordshire Royal Green Jacket Battalion ACF walked from Slade Barracks, Oxon, home of 5 RGJ, to Bury Barracks, Manchester and raised £1,000 for cancer research at Wythenshawe Hospital. The 200-mile trek took him eight days.



Money to pay for the training of a guide dog for the blind has been raised by the family of a soldier who lost an eye while serving in Northern Ireland.

It was thought that LCpl Mark Reed, still serving with the 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, would lose his sight completely, and his late father began to raise money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

But Mark retained his sight

in one eye, and his mother has now handed over the money to the association.

★ ★ ★

SSAFA and St Oswald's Hospice in Newcastle are to benefit by more than £2,000 following a charity abseil off the Tyne Bridge by members of the Ryton Village Adventure Club, led by ex-Para Ernie Brodrick.

Ernie was helped by Capt Wayne Morgan, APTC, and his 11 Cadet Training Team staff of Sgts Colin Hale, Colin Straughan and Mike Menzies who instructed, encouraged and guided more than 70 people off the 100ft bridge in eight hours.



Picture: Mike Weston

Maj Gen Timothy Toyne Sewell, Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, presents a cheque for £3,000 to Mrs Jill Aylott, chairman of Camberley Association of Disabled (CAD). The money was raised at the RMAS open day and will go towards the building of a new resource centre. The Academy has already raised £2,000 for CAD in the past.

All the world's their stage

IF THEIR subjects are anything to go by, members of the Armed Forces Art Society are a well-travelled lot.

They are also talented, as visitors discovered when the society's 59th annual exhibition opened at the National Army Museum in Chelsea.

Despite the Service connection, works on show were not exclusively military. Many of the 400 submitted, which included sculptures, reflected a variety of world-wide locations.

They ranged from a young Masai girl in Kenya to Fulham



Awaiting visitors to the annual exhibition of the Armed Forces Art Society are committee members: (From left) Brig Brian Horridge, Vice Admiral Sir John Webster and Air Vice Marshal Norman Hoad

Parish Church and its allotments and from Osnabrück in mid-winter to winkle-gathering on the Isle of Skye.

A small display of Gulf War paintings reflected the tri-Service nature of Britain's force. Sgt Liz Forrai showed two small pictures of oil fields ablaze in Kuwait and a view of a convoy crossing the desert from Iraq to Kuwait at the time of the ceasefire.

Paintings by other artists

depicted a Royal Navy fleet diving unit in Kuwait harbour and RAF Tornado aircraft. There was a striking portrait of Britain's Gulf Commander, Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, by Gillian Mary Hodges.

Aim of the society is to encourage art in the Armed Forces and among ex-Servicemen through an annual exhibition in London. It enables talented amateurs to

exhibit their work alongside professionals, and demonstrates to the public that the pursuits of arms and the arts are compatible.

The society evolved from the Army Officers' Art Society, founded in 1925 by two retired officers in Chelsea.

The society was reformed in 1947 as the Army Art Society, and all ranks of the three

Words: Laurie Manton



Col Jo Grieve, QARANC,

Services became entitled to exhibit. Its current title was adopted in 1964.

"Eligibility to exhibit is open to anyone of any rank, or their spouses, who is serving or has served in the Armed Forces, including Auxiliary, Territorial and Reserve units. We are always on the lookout for new members," said assistant secretary Capt Bill Blake.

Enquiries should be addressed to Capt Blake, c/o D Block, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London SW3 4SE.

Hussar draws on experience

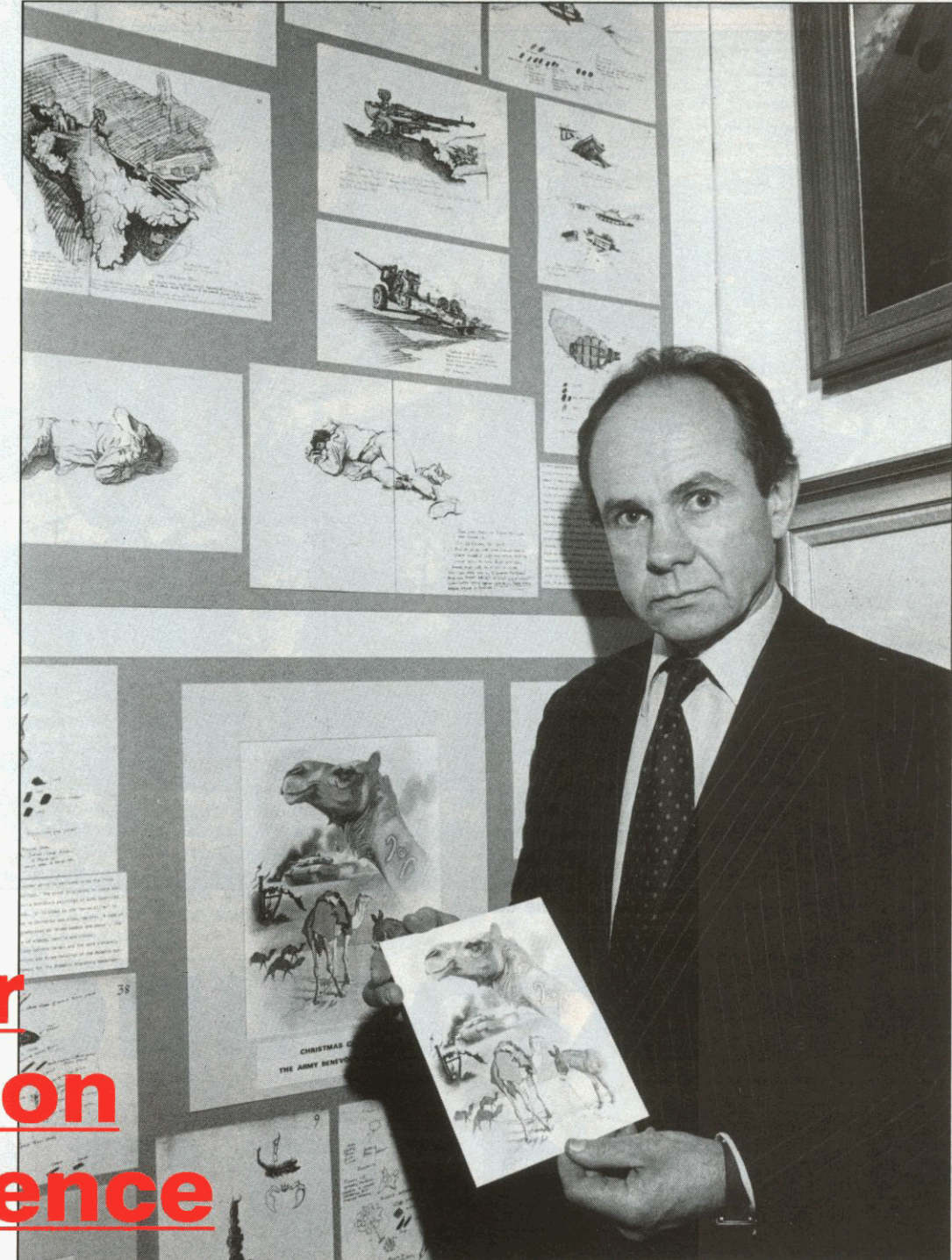
AMERICAN FORCES deployed a number of uniformed war artists to the Gulf to capture the conflict on canvas.

They worked in conjunction with combat reporting teams from the US military public affairs department and their finished work has added much to the record of the Gulf War.

Britain's official contribution was more subdued with just one official war artist - John Keane - being appointed by the Imperial War Museum.

While Maj Robin Watt's work on behalf of the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) was unofficial, the Royal Hussar's role as a war artist was officially "sanctioned".

Armed with a sketchbook, Maj Watt was attached to 7 Armoured Brigade during



Maj Robin Watt with some of his Gulf War sketches. He is holding a 1991 Army Benevolent Fund Christmas card featuring his work

Operation Granby to produce an account of the brigade and its supporting elements to raise money for the ABF.

The account which he hopes to have published will combine sketches with text.

His original field sketches were not intended for public view, being simply the germ of his ideas for subsequent paintings.

"A few made during Operation Desert Sabre (the land war) were drawn at night in almost pitch darkness and driving rain," explained Maj Watt. "I could hardly see either the point of the pencil or the paper on which

I was sketching. Nevertheless, I always worked on the principle that something was better than nothing.

"My main enemy was time and the elements, but I did the best I could in the time I had. My plan is to use these raw field sketches to produce some properly finished work with images that I hope some may recognise."

The Bovington-based officer was being modest. At the Armed Forces Art Society's exhibition in London he exhibited four boards of drawings, showing soldiers living, training and fighting in the desert.

Soon after the ceasefire, a SOLDIER team came across Maj Watt sketching in the wreckage of an Iraqi convoy destroyed at Mutlah Ridge on the Basra road.

His drawings conjured up harrowing images of corpses and wrecked vehicles belonging to the defeated Iraqi Army.

Since returning from the Gulf, Maj Watt has finished paintings of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment and the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

He reckons it will take him at least another 12 months to complete a painting of each element of 7 Brigade.

David Rowlands, artist at war - see Page 31



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Sapper help ensures rapid reaction along the coast



Above: LCpl Tony Dand checks traffic at checkpoint "Black Knight"

Right: East Midlands Universities OTC old boys came to different solutions at a junior officer promotion practice exercise run by 1 WFR in Cyprus. Lt Jeremy Collier, Glosters, (right) is attached to 2nd Royal Canadian Regiment and in 1988 his platoon sergeant was Lt Richard Gordon, plant troop commander of 62 (Cyprus) Spt Sqn RE (centre). Lt Mark Davies of 4 RTR was also in the same OTC at the same time



A coffee, coke and a good natter for the families at St George's Club, Dhekelia

qualification. For some companies it is an introduction, others are able to specialise so instead of just snorkelling, we can try aqua-lung diving at the end of the four-day package."

One of the two men from the battalion who helped the Army beat the RAF in the Inter-Service water sports cham-

pionships for the first time in nine years was Capt Martin Thomson, an ex RSM who is OC HQ Coy.

He had mixed feelings about the posting to Cyprus: he had just finished a 2½-year-tour as Dhekelia Garrison Adjutant when the battalion was posted back to Dhekelia.

The military presence on the

island has shrunk a lot since he first visited in 1968. "I was a private at RAF El Adan near Tobruk in Libya and could thumb a lift on an aircraft coming over and have a long weekend here or in Malta. It was a good experience for an 18-year-old when my contemporaries' idea of a good time

● Turn to next page

Rock-bound Woofers ended up in Cyprus

AFTER the challenge of Northern Ireland the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment has changed the profile of its internal security duties.

The Woofers are well settled into Cyprus as the first in recent times to take on the security of the Eastern Sovereign Base Area without having to lose two companies for United Nations peace-keeping duties in Nicosia.

Many had already been on a UN tour in 1987 but a two-year posting rather than a six-month stint has at least one advantage: wives and families come too.

"We were to be resident battalion in Gibraltar, but when the new Gibraltar Regiment took on the duty, we moved to

Cyprus," said Capt Jerry Cartwright, Operations Officer. "Most of the battalion were very pleased because of the facilities.

"Having come from Northern Ireland, there are a lot of conventional skills which have not been practised recently so a whole new generation of soldiers has to be taught different radios and drills, and platoons such as mortar, Milan, recce have to be trained up.

"Cyprus is a good posting but nothing comes for nothing and you have to work at it. We have to fit in our static duties plus all the fatigue-type duties, so it is quite hard work."

It is difficult for a soldier to see a logical threat on permanent vehicle checkpoints



Lt Col Geoff Silk - first indigenous Woofers CO

when there has been no device thrown at him. Terrorist attacks such as the mortaring of Akrotiri in 1986 are rare.

In Ireland the need for guard duties was obvious; in Cyprus

commanders have to motivate soldiers a little more.

One great benefit of a Cyprus tour is the chance to come off six months on operations and go on to adventure training, like Cpl John Davidson of the Mortar Platoon. In common with many others, he was with the battalion when it was on split duty between the Eastern Sovereign Base Area and the UN in 1987.

"We are more in the public eye because of all the tourists passing through," he said. "Working with locally-employed police on vehicle checkpoints can have a drawback: the music from the radio drives you mad!"

"There are many more security duties compared with

our tour in 1987," added Cpl Jason Field. "We don't touch the UN now, and the only time we see Turks is when on patrol."

The facilities in Cyprus are renowned, but there is a particularly strong incentive to take up diving. Reputedly the fourth most interesting wreck in the world is off Larnaca - a Scandinavian ship that went down with a cargo of lorries full of bottles of whisky.

"We teach soldiers the basics," said Adventure Training Warrant Officer Pete Peacock, "then if they want to take the sport up seriously, they can join the garrison water sports club, sub aqua club or whatever, which have facilities to teach them to a higher

Woofers

● From Page 21

was a week at Butlins or Clacton."

He pointed out that for the first time the battalion is now commanded by an indigenous Woofers, Lt Col Geoff Silk, and also has a Woofers RSM, WO1 Tony Hodgetts.

It has taken 21 years – since the amalgamation of the Worcestershire Regiment and Sherwood Foresters in 1970 after separate existences for nearly three centuries – and they are glad they have not been singled out again.

"We still have some mickey-taking, but it is nothing serious. In the early days I can remember sergeant majors not talking to each other in the mess for the first four or five years," said Capt Thomson.

Funnily though, the majority of officers are Worcestershires and the bulk of the soldiers are Foresters, 'from Derby or Nottingham.

Lt Col Silk follows in the

footsteps of his brother Ronnie, a Worcester, who commanded in Hemer from 1982-84. His policy is to reduce static duties in sangars as much as possible and he believes that the mix works well: company roulement of high-profile security, and low-key infantry training with adventurous training, water sports and leave periods.

Life is better for the married man accompanied by his wife and family. The heat can be a shock to the system, but isolation from UK is lessened by a progression of visitors, says Jeanette Sheldon, whose husband, Tim, works in MT.

"Lots of parents and friends have visited, and there are so many places to see. My parents really enjoyed Cyprus."

Mrs Julie Harris, whose husband, John, is an Army Catering Corps sergeant, has taken a cruise to Israel and Egypt. "It is the chance of a lifetime to see different countries and how other people live, even if Jerusalem was a bit hot," she said.



Leading tip LCpl Phil Hammond and the WFR Corps of Drums practise a new beating



Constructing a road such as this one near Polymenia is a military plant for a man's dream. Several skills are required, ranging from surveying to heavy bulldozing



Cpl Neil Webster, LCpl Alex Steward and Spr Dave Larcombe of Field Troop check their environmentally friendly sangar

Why the 'Cyprus experience' is special to the sappers

ENVIRONMENTALLY friendly engineers have made their mark in Cyprus.

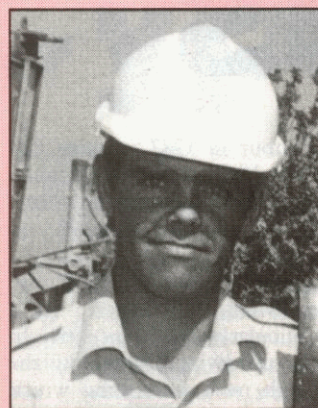
Instead of an ugly sangar, 62 (Cyprus) Support Squadron Royal Engineers wanted one to blend with local tradition.

So the guard post overlooking the entrance to the resident battalion at Dhekelia has a tile roof reminiscent of a Greek taverna.

It is something they can easily put their hand to. Many of their projects are community-based, ranging from new roofs on ancient churches to 17th century guns raised from the ocean bed.

Modern weapons had to be catered for early in Operation Granby in the squadron's war support role.

Vast quantities of kit were unloaded and a score of extra ammunition bays were quickly constructed to store war stocks. A large, level base required for



WO2 Baz Cook, Military Plant Troop Foreman

equipment on land dipping seven metres was provided in seven weeks as against 18 months for a similar base provided by others a couple of years earlier.

It was a busy time over the whole Sovereign Base Area with the installation of wiring, internal tracks and temporary

sangars – minus roofs.

"We were a bit upset, not going to the Gulf," said WO2 "Baz" Cook, Military Plant Troop Foreman. "We were acclimatised, the kit was here and the Gulf was just down the road waiting for airfield damage repair specialists."

But they had a priority job in Cyprus, so others went to the front line.

The squadron provides construction combat engineering and logistics as well as resources functions, and this support is available to the UN.

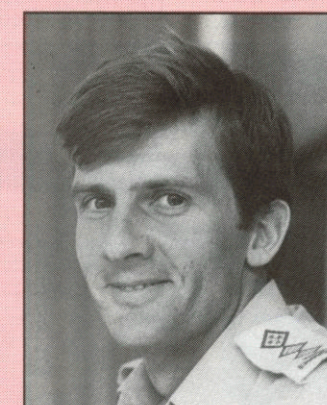
Damage repair and maintaining Akrotiri in war is a prime task, as well as keeping routes open to communications sites. Artisan support is given to the Sovereign Base Areas, and there is always a threat from terrorists.

Royal Engineer Search Advisers are trained to assess situations if called out by police

or operations rooms. They advise whether there is a low risk, in which case infantry deal with it, or whether a specially trained team of sappers is required.

One third of the search teams have experience from Northern Ireland, and willingly pass this on during courses for the two resident infantry battalions, said SSgt Keither Lowerson.

Infantrymen will also join sappers in rigid raiders if patrolling is necessary along the beach. It is like driving a two-litre car down the motorway, said LCpl Andy Clark, except that you can get blown off the



Capt Stuart Ruxton, squadron 21C

water if you go too fast.

"It is not so bad in the morning when the Med is smooth, but the wind gets up in the afternoon and you start bouncing from wave to wave, which makes it very uncomfortable and dangerous."

Cyprus is exciting for a sapper because of special engineering aspects in operating plant and provides a breadth of experience not found anywhere else.

Much of the emphasis is on aid to either the military or civilian community, rather than digging anti-tank ditches and trenches as in Germany. Plant

work continues during the whole year, including snow clearing.

"When you are working in the mountains during winter and there is a 1,000ft drop away to nothing, you need to be an experienced sapper because you're operating on ice," said Capt Stuart Ruxton, 21C, a civil engineer who designed London underground escalators and helped build the North Wales road with Britain's first immersed tube tunnel.

An operational commitment to regrade tracks for the UN takes the sappers into some of the most dangerous terrain in which he has seen plant operate.

"You wouldn't get civilian operators there. The sappers earn their money and after two years in the squadron the plant operators are the most experienced in the corps."

● Turn to next page

Sappers

● From Page 23

"A sapper could get a job anywhere and be one of the better operators or foremen because we really hammer the new boys to get 'saddle' hours in," said Cpl Kevin Williams. "We don't give them stick but if they want to go on a machine, it means they are familiar with it and won't benefit, so they are put on machines they don't like or are bad at. After a week or so they are confident and can move on."

Newcomers are often apprehensive. Cpl Williams admitted he was worried about going to Cyprus because he had done only a few jobs, to much lower tolerances.

"The experience the lads gain is phenomenal. You actually do what you otherwise only remember from courses. At training school you have a sand field and go through a lot of theory but this is the first time you can see actually what plant is all about."

"The Cyprus experience is one of its big advantages. In the UK we wouldn't really touch axle graders, heavy dozers or medium dozers at all. Here, we are pushing out about 400 hours in each vehicle, while a unit in the UK pushes out about 20 to 50 a year."

A new section is sucking out thousands of gallons of sea water and converting it into drinking water in an operation named "Birdbath".

A reverse osmosis plant

rushed into service for the Gulf now sits at the entrance to the tunnel built by the Tunnelling Troop of 32 Fortress Squadron, RE, in 1955 – when SSgt Baz Clarkson was a sapper, according to his men in what they call the "Birdbath Troop".

"The main water source from boreholes was drying up after a particularly dry winter," he explained. "It operated in short spurts in the Gulf, but this is the first time it has operated continuously for several months."

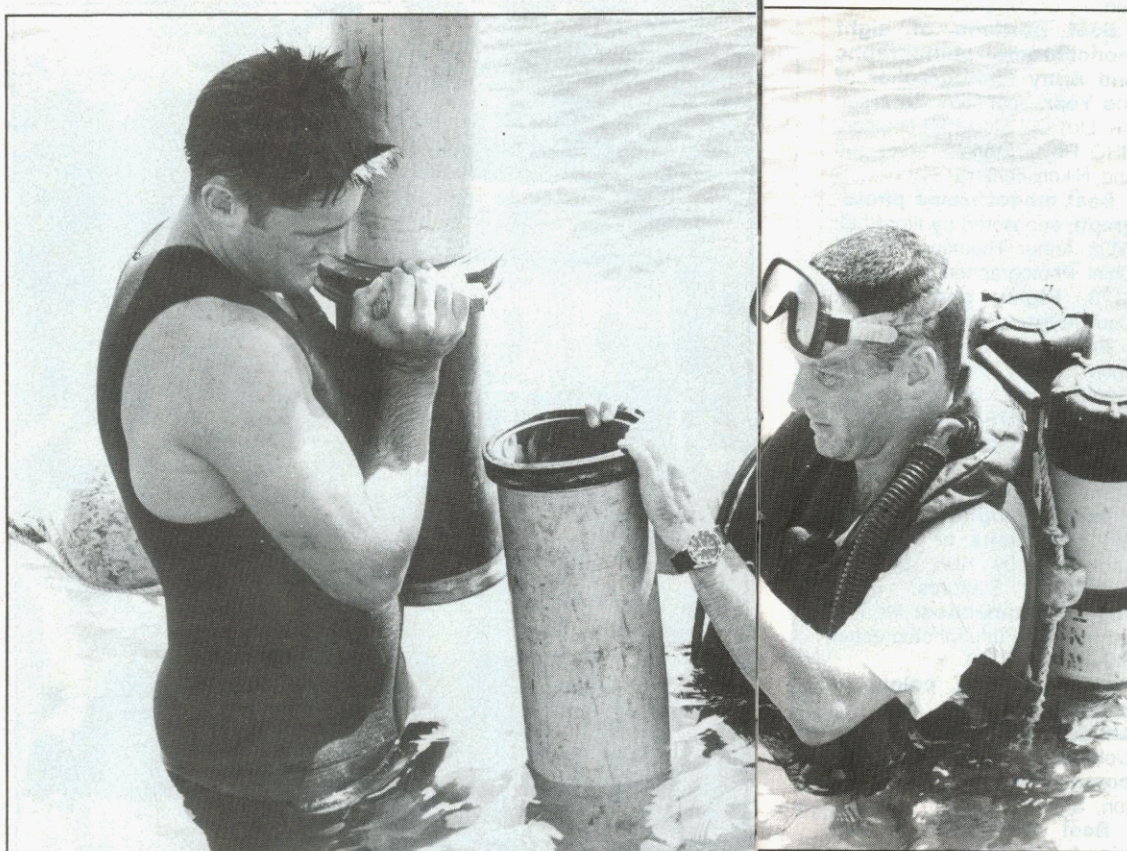
With water rationing in force, it was a welcome addition to meagre resources before a new dam could be completed, and has been supplying nearly a quarter of the garrison's needs.

"We had to lay the pipes at night because we were wearing rubber protective clothing," said LCpl Phil Hunter, referring to the heat problem, "otherwise we couldn't have done it."

The pipes had been used for fuel in the Gulf and a high-pressure drain cleaner was obtained from the UK to scour them out.

The plant is still flavour of the month, with top brass and politicians regularly being given tours. "We're getting used to commanders popping down and have started a visitors' book which they sign and which we then have completed in script," said Sgt Keith Otter.

But even he was taken aback when the Provost Marshal turned up unannounced when the shift was having a break.



Above: Lt Ivan Jones (left) and LCpl Chris Simpson prepare another intake of sea water to convert to drinking water

Beware speeding goats!

THE "Berengaria bypass" will cater for 60 mph goats, according to one of the sappers building it near Limassol.

Cpl Kevin Williams and 62 (Cyprus) Support Squadron's Plant Troop are replacing a goat track obliterated when married quarters were constructed in 1964. Rather than build a single track they are providing the base for a

two-way version capable of taking any vehicle, or goat, at that speed.

The goat chosen for the opening ceremony will have to be the best of the bunch: the area is named after the beautiful Berengaria, whom Richard the Lionheart married on the island between conquering Cyprus and defeating Saladin during the Crusades.

Below: Best feet were forward during the build up to Op Granby. LCpl Danny Holmes (left) received a Commander's Commendation, Sgt Pete Willey the BEM



SSgt Baz Clarkson and the reverse osmosis plant have plenty of water. Helping him sample it are Sgt Keith Otter, Sprs Alex Martin and Sven Hassell, LCpl Phil Hunter and Spr Paul Hoodless



Sgt Archie Duncan remembers Sgt Jock McGaw VC

VC hero's grave is out of bounds

A VICTORIAN hero whose exploits passed into folk mythology and whose grave lies largely ignored in a forbidden zone has been honoured by another gallant soldier from his regiment.

"Jock McGaw of the Forty-Twa" had a folk song written about him after he won the VC in January 1874 during the second of seven wars against Ashanti slavers on Africa's Gold Coast (now Ghana). Despite being badly wounded early in the action at Amoafu he continued to lead his section, chasing tribesmen through the bush for the rest of the day.

He survived both this action and the country known as "The White Man's Grave" to become one of the first British troops to land in Cyprus with the 42nd Royal Highlanders, The Black Watch, in Kyrenia four years later.

Tragically, he collapsed and died of heat stroke on the line of march during the climb from the coast to a camp at Chiflik Pasha and was buried in what was to become part of a small European cemetery.

It now lies in Turkish-occupied territory, forbidden to British soldiers.

Paying his respects to Sgt Samuel McGaw was Sgt Archie Duncan, who is on the

United Nations staff working for the Commander of the British Contingent, Col Edward de Broe-Ferguson. Both men are Black Watch.

Sgt Duncan, who has been with the colonel for 17 years as his driver, received the Queen's Gallantry Medal after spotting armed terrorists in Northern Ireland.

A replica Byzantine sarcophagus replaced the original cross as a more appropriate memorial to the gallant Sgt McGaw, but Sgt Duncan also paused beside four other crosses, of soldiers who died in the first months of the British presence: Ptes George Marr, James McDonald and James Barrie of the 42nd, and Pte Stephen Troubridge of the Army Hospital Corps.

A memorial on the cemetery wall commemorates the Highlanders, as does a plaque in St Andrew's church beside ancient Venetian fortifications at the harbour.

The Black Watch suffered badly from fever during their four-month tour: eight men died and an officer and 58 men were invalided out with malaria.

Although F Coy of the Black Watch landed at Kyrenia (where the Turks were to land nearly 100 years later in 1974) the main landing took place at Larnaca under Lt Gen Sir Garnet

Wolseley, who had led the campaign against the Ashantis.

Along with the 42nd were the 71st Regiment of Foot (Highland Light Infantry) and Indian troops on their first deployment outside India.

The 71st sent a detachment inland to Dhali on the road to Nicosia, and an unnamed soldier died there.

At the same time the Royal Highlanders sent a detachment to Paphos, where another four soldiers were to die of fever.

The headquarters were set up at Monastery Camp in Nicosia with units spread round the island's ports. Limassol emerged as the main base once the 20th Regiment (Lancashire Fusiliers) arrived and when they were replaced, the 35th Regiment (Royal Sussex) had a difficult time in the first landing there. They, too, suffered from heat on the march to the camp at Polymedia.

In the early days the only road in the area was the military road leading to a summer camp at Troodos. This was for foot and mounted traffic only until 1892 and seven sappers from 31st Company RE are buried at Troodos, along with the infant daughter of Sgt Robert Adams.

PHOTO finish



BEST MONOCHROME: WO2 Arthur Thomson's photograph of Prince Harry on a visit to the Gurkhas. He was watching his father, the Prince of Wales, firing a machine gun

1991 ARMY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

SAPPER snapper Lt Col Tom Foulkes snapped up more than £1,000 in cash prizes in the 1991 Army Photographic Competition.

Using the Nikon F801 camera which he won in last year's contest, the commanding officer of 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment at Hameln came out on top in three categories, including Army Photograph of the Year.

The prizes were presented by Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton at a ceremony in the Imperial War Museum, London. The competition attracted more than 400 entries from all ranks – private soldiers to generals – as well as wives and dependants.

There were surprisingly few Gulf pictures among the winning selections, the most notable exception being a study of Iraqi prisoners-of-war taken by Pte Ian Burns, 1 Staffords (centre right, Page 27).

Photographer of the Year Col Roger Thompson has now won five cameras in the competition

over the years – but admitted that the computer played just as important a part in the success of one of his winning pictures this year.

A basic photograph taken at Sennelager of two soldiers of J Troop, 21 Signal Regiment, with three helicopters in the background was loaded into a computer, followed by further helicopter images.

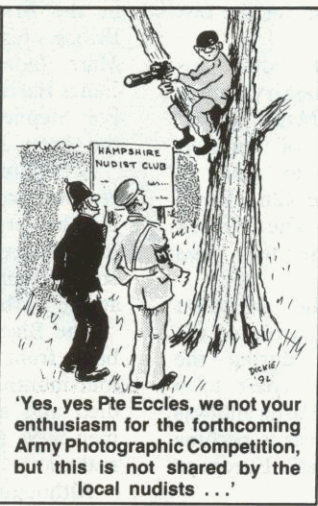
The result was "You called, Sir" (bottom right, Page 27), which won Col Thompson, Regimental Colonel Royal Signals, first prize in the category sponsored by SOLDIER Magazine.

Thirteen proved to be lucky for SOLDIER write Laurie

Manton, who had precisely that number of prints on display in the prizewinners' exhibition, many taken during his coverage of the Gulf War for the magazine. As the husband of a member of

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, Laurie qualified for the category of best photograph of Service family life by a member of the Regular Army or a dependant.

He was joint winner with London District photographer Sgt John Harding – as well as runner-



'Yes, yes Pte Eccles, we not your enthusiasm for the forthcoming Army Photographic Competition, but this is not shared by the local nudists ...'

up in the best amateur portfolio section and being specially commended in the Army Photograph of the Year awards.

The prize-winners' list also included successes for Capt

RESULTS

FULL list of winners in the 1991 Army Photographic Competition:

Best portfolio of eight monochrome photographs and Army Photographer of the Year, sponsored by Nikon UK Ltd: Col Roger Thompson, RHQ Royal Signals, silver cup and Nikon camera.

Best monochrome photograph, sponsored by Ilford Ltd: WO2 Arthur Thomson, RAOC, Chief Photographer HQ UKLF, £175. **Highly commended:** Capt Anthony Lynn, 7 LI, £75.

Best colour photograph, sponsored by Kodak Ltd: Lt Col Tom Foulkes, 28 Amph Engr Regt RE, £175. **Highly commended:** SSgt Andy Mason, RAOC, Plinfo photographer 1 Armd Div, £75.

Best photograph of military operations or training, sponsored by Kiwi: Pte Ian Burns, 1 Staffords, £250. **Highly commended:** Mr Trevor Smith, Plinfo photographer HQ BAOR, £150.

Best portfolio, colour or monochrome, by an amateur, sponsored by Fuji: Lt Col Tom Foulkes, £500. **Highly commended:** Mr Laurie Manton, SOLDIER, £200.

Best photograph of Service family life by a member of the Regular Army or an Army dependant, sponsored by Naafi: Joint winners, Sgt John Harding, Plinfo photographer London District, £175 and Mr Laurie Manton, £175.

Own choice best photograph, sponsored by SOLDIER: Col Roger Thompson, £125 and a year's subscription to SOLDIER. **Highly commended:** Maj Kay Foster, QARANC Training Centre, £50 and a year's subscription to SOLDIER.

Army Photograph of the Year, sponsored by Vickers Defence Systems: Lt Col Tom Foulkes, £350 and silver cup. **Highly commended:** WO2 Arthur Thomson, £200.

Best TA photograph, sponsored by Defence Public Affairs Consultants Ltd: Capt Anthony Lynn, £125 and silver cup. **Highly commended:** Maj Roy Bevon, Merseyside ACF, £75.

Tony Lynn, admin officer of D Coy, 7th (Durham) LI, and WO2 Arthur Thomson, RAOC, of HQ UKLF.

Competition judges were Terry Fincher, Director of Photographic International; Peter Smith, Deputy Picture Editor, Press Association; and Nigel Gillies, Command Public Information Officer, HQ UKLF.

Prospective entrants for the 1992 contest should contact Terry Clark, Competition Manager, G3 Plinfo, HQ UKLF, Wilton, Salisbury, SP2 0AG, after April 1.



JOINT WINNER: SOLDIER's Laurie Manton took this emotive picture, entitled "The Pilgrimage", during a visit to Italy



THE WINNERS: Pictured in front of the Imperial War Museum are (back, from left) Laurie Manton, Col Roger Thompson, Maj Kay Foster, Trevor Smith and Maj Roy Bevon, and (front) Sgt John Harding, Lt Col Tom Foulkes and WO2 Arthur Thomson



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR: "Back to Barracks", Lt Col Tom Foulkes's study of a winter training run at Bindon Barracks, Hameln



BEST ILLUSTRATION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS: "Ceasefire 0800 hrs" by Pte Ian Burns, 1 Staffords



CREATIVE CATEGORY: "You called, Sir?" Col Roger Thompson's computer gimmickry won him the SOLDIER prize



Above and left: Two dramatically different photographs from Col Roger Thompson's award-winning portfolio



Trevor "Geordie" Smith's clever mock-up shot of Royal Engineer Cpl John Proffitt-White creates the tension of a mine-clearance operation



Portrait of a Kurd, taken on Op Haven by Col Roger Thompson



"Decent Burial" is the title of this Gulf War photograph by Capt Chris Robinson of the UKLF Mobile News Team



Above: Clowns, by Maj Kay Foster
Right: Sgt John Harding captures the pageantry of the Royal Tournament



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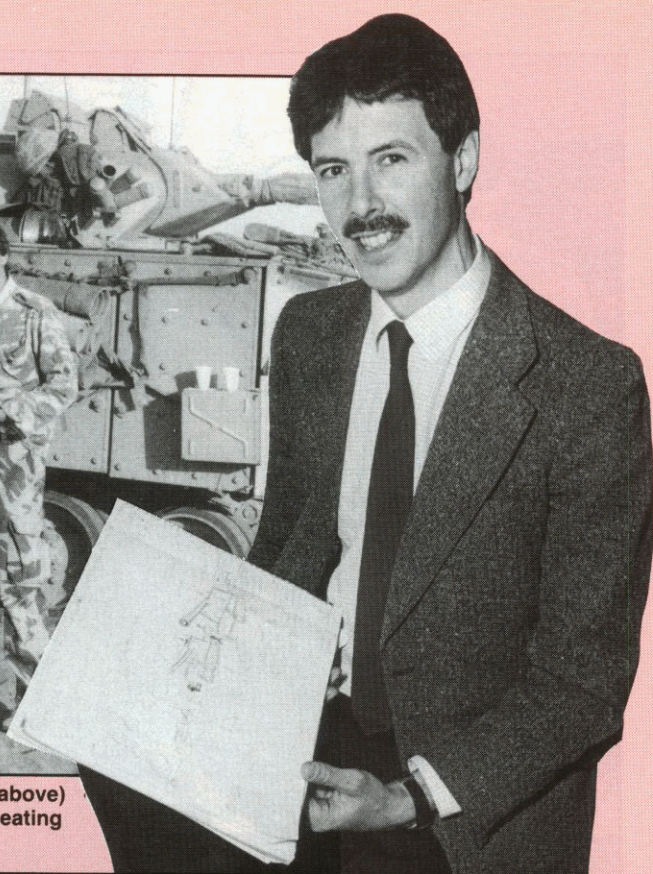
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Yes, send me more information

DEADLINE 30th JANUARY 1992.



David Rowlands (right) with the rough sketches he made in the desert and (above) eating on the move in Saudi Arabia with 3 RRF. On the left is Capt Bob Keating



Brush with destiny

DAVID ROWLANDS remembers all too plainly walking around the West End of London, holes in his shoes, desperately trying to sell miniature paintings at £3 a time, writes Phil Wilcox.

Nowadays, his canvases are more likely to measure 5ft across and – to put it mildly – a row of noughts could be added to the price.

His oil-rags-to-riches story didn't happen overnight, however.

After leaving his job at the National Army Museum in 1977, he struggled for several years "painting anything and everything" until, following a chance suggestion, the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers commissioned a picture ("Two VCs at Nimy, 1914") for their 1982 dinner in Balham.

The word got around and, for the past six years, commissions from the Army have rolled in.

"I've always been fascinated by military subjects," said David at the Cavalry and Guards Club in Piccadilly where he was handing over his latest commission.

"Even as a boy, I used to draw Napoleonic soldiers. Now, with the Army, I've covered all sorts of things:

Cyprus, the streets of Belfast, the Royal Marines, and so on."

He had been desperate to get to the Gulf to record the historic events for posterity.

"I had been wondering how I could get out there. It was no use buying a ticket . . ."

Enter "fairy godfather" in the shape of David's long-time friend, Capt Bob Keating, serving with 3 RRF, who wrote to him in February last year from Saudi Arabia, asking David to "get yerself out here."

Bob had recommended him to the battalion's CO, Lt Col Andrew Larpent, who was keen to capture in pictorial form something of the battalion's "first armoured endeavour".

David flew out to take on the first of several Gulf commissions.

"To see what it's like from a soldier's viewpoint was totally fascinating. It was good to rough it.

"I was told: 'Try these boots on, this is your home' – a bivouac by the side of the Warrior tracks."

He was proud to be a civilian at the front, even going into Iraq where he saw captured enemy artillery.

"There was a jagged metal cross, with a line of metal helmets. Apart from that, the spot was totally empty, except for Bob Keating, a colour sergeant, the pilot and myself. It was very moving."

David has vivid memories of Kuwait City and the Basra road, and of the humour and good nature of all ranks.

He was at the Cavalry and Guards Club to unveil an oil commissioned by the 14th/20th King's Hussars of their Chal-

lenger tanks in action.

"The Battle of Al Haniyeh – early morning" depicts a captured enemy

tank in the foreground, a first line of Challengers, followed by a Warrior (named Optimist) and a second line of Challengers with more Warriors.

The painting (see back cover) began life as a sketch done in the CO's tent, David explained. Further preliminary sketches, to aid composition and layout, followed, together with detailed notes of the individual tanks and enemy equipment.

"When it comes to projects like this, despite having the essential imagination of any professional artist, there is a distinct advantage in being on

the spot to get the atmosphere," he said.

"For instance, one automatically thinks of the desert and its sunshine. But it was often dull and matt, without rain but with a wet surface. A bit like a winter's day on a British beach."

His paintings are destined to become an important record of the battle to liberate Kuwait.

"It's been quite a privilege to add another chapter in the history of several regiments. It's an intriguing thought that one's painting will be the next in the line of recorded events."

Now he is up against deadlines for several other Gulf commissions.

"The Army is quite a closed world, everybody knows each other, and word gets around. I can't think of any other institution which commissions pictures on such a regular basis."

David Rowlands has come a long way from painting signs for pubs and bingo clubs.

These days, he is more likely to be called in for a personal sitting with the Queen or Prince Charles, as Colonels-in-Chief of their regiments.

In 2091, someone may well point out a Gulf War painting on a mess wall and say: "That's a Rowlands, y'know . . ."

'His paintings are destined to become an important record of the battle to liberate Kuwait'



Post war arrivals at 3 Squadron are the men of C Troop and their leased vehicle fleet

HEAVYWEIGHTS IN A MOVING INDUSTRY

A CENTURY ago the men of 3 Horse Transport Company, Army Service Corps went into action with a mixture of mules, camels, horses and trains to move essential stores and equipment along the British Army's lines of communication in the Sudan.

Today, 3 Tank Transporter Squadron RCT, as it became, is based in Sennelager as part of 7 Tank Transporter Regiment RCT.

During the Gulf War, the unit used massive Scammell Commander tank transporters to move 1 Armoured Division three times.

Total lift on the first occasion was 3,000 vehicles. For the men, it was an innovative and interesting time. They became expert at double loading – two AFVs on one transporter. Special ramps were fitted to the swan neck of the trailer to allow

the first vehicle to crawl up the trailer's neck. A second vehicle was squeezed on behind.

A Troop, commanded by 2nd Lt Andy Mutch, deployed 17 tractors, 16 trailers and a bicycle to move its share.

"The first move saw the troop drive 22 continuous loops of up to a 1,000km," said SSgt Allan Butcher. "It took 24 hours to complete each of those loops, and if it wasn't for REME we wouldn't have made it."

The bicycle, of East German extraction and painted in desert camouflage scheme, cost just £10 and was pedalled in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait by SSgt Butcher.

All the vehicles carried by the squadron were fully bombed up, fuelled and often crewed. Many vehicles had been up-armoured, increasing weight, width or length. They

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Terry Champion

loaded them all.

The squadron "battle loaded" using the minimum of restraints, sometimes none at all, to ensure a rapid off load at the other end. Discussions were held on the possibility of tanks firing from the transporter decks, but the idea was discarded.

During the ground war, the squadron carried 1 Armoured Division's war maintenance reserve. Known as the Armoured Delivery Group (ADG), it filled 55 tank transporters and was commanded by Headquarters Company, The Queen's Own Highlanders.

The ADG was organised as a

four-lane box formation with tanks and infantry on the outside of the box to provide defence during the move into Iraq.

"It packed quite a punch because it consisted of 70 armoured vehicles and 300 men including sections of infantry with Warrior," said Squadron OC, Maj Jonathan Newis Edwards.

By the time the war had ended, the tank transporters had logged more than three million kilometres. A detachment of tank transporters kept on to shuttle equipment from Kuwait to Al Jubail after the main force had left theatre, covered another 580,000km.

Also moved by the squadron were large numbers of Iraqi tanks and guns. Many were shipped to the UK to be studied by military scientists and intelligence experts. Others

were marked as trophies of war and are destined to end their days as gate guardians outside military bases in Germany and the UK.

The squadron brought back its own trophy, a Chinese-built T59 tank abandoned by the Iraqi Army. It will be displayed at the squadron's Normandy Barracks home.

During SOLDIER's visit, the crews were just completing a respray of the last two sand-coloured tractor units that had been in the Gulf.

The mighty Scammell Commander is the British Army's largest vehicle. When it has a Challenger tank on board it tips the scales at 105 tonnes. The 26-wheeled transporter is more than 64ft long and powered by a 12-cylinder, turbo-charged Rolls Royce engine developing 625 horsepower – the equivalent of 20 Minis.



A captured T59 tank to be put on display at 3 Tank Transporter Squadron is unloaded at Sennelager



Dvr Kevin Hall and LCpl John Wright stand by to repaint the last Gulf transporter

On its return from the Gulf, 3 Squadron grew in size when it took under command a light armour vehicle fleet of 28 leased Mercedes Benz 2644S tractor units and King 35 tonne semi-trailers, known as "trains". The "LV" in each transporter's registration number stands for leased vehicle.

It takes skill and a cool nerve to take the transporters out on the road, as our team discovered when they accepted an invitation to test drive a "train" around the camp. There was a certain amount of relief on both sides when the trains eventually shuddered to a halt.

The official qualification badges earned by drivers who pass their tank transporter course are certainly well-deserved.



SSgt Allan Butcher and the bike that saw action in the Gulf War. Its frame was too small to add on the Allied identification chevron



BE PREPARED!

Preparation is the keyword for Service men and women facing the prospect of redundancy. One individual to whom I spoke showed such a positive approach to the future, after 20 years in the Army, that I asked him to write to me to help encourage others. This is what he said:

One soldier faces up to redundancy

or more years working life ahead and have a great deal to offer.

The question of selling ourselves to the next employer is, of course, the problem. In some cases the ex-Serviceman will have readily marketable skills but others of us will not and it is here that we can do a great deal to help ourselves for the future by starting to prepare now.

On top of the qualities of management, loyalty, a capacity for hard work and an ability to produce the goods under a variety of circumstances which can be applied on a group basis, each of us is an individual and it is the individual who will have to meet the next employer and impress him.

In an age of competition, I believe that the best way to do this is to demonstrate the preparedness and enthusiasm for which he will be looking as well as having as many skills to offer as possible.

In other words it is up to the individual to increase his appeal; if possible to the point where his time in the Army is linked to tangible selling points to make him more attractive than his otherwise better

qualified civilian rival.

There are two ways that I can see to do this and, incidentally, show an active brain and positive outlook:

- Training while still serving.

- Transition training after leaving the Army.

The first takes advantage of Service (largely RAEC-sponsored) or, for those in UK, civilian facilities.

The scale of learning varies from a degree to a language to a mechanical skill and the method can be distance learning, night classes or even the humble textbook.

I believe that, with only a few exceptions, most of us are in a position to develop our capacity in this way. The method of learning may not be ideal, the subject may not be the one that we would have chosen above all others but, given forethought and effort, a useful and marketable qualification can be gained.

All this, of course, is in addition to the normal resettlement advice and courses on offer.

(This applies to those leaving at run out or PVR as well.)

The second applies mainly to redundees since it involves expense to support the family while retraining and, if necessary, pay for a course.

It may be that I will be fortunate and, by effort or chance, someone will offer me a challenging, lucrative

job in the right part of the country.

But I do not believe that such optimism is sensible. My special capital payment will equate to more than two years' pay and, if I include my pension, can keep my family in our current standard of living for three years without touching my terminal grant.

Many may need to use varying sums for housing or educational needs but most will have some opportunity to invest in themselves. This period of transition also provides time while qualifying, to adjust to the civilian world and look for a job.

I will go to college for a year so that I can translate my military experience properly into civilian terms and then go into the marketplace well-qualified for a good job.

Since we are now a part of Europe, I have also started to improve a language while still in the Service as a second string to my bow. In this way, I intend to beat the opposition on its own terms.

This is a genuine statement of personal intent which may give others some ideas for their futures and, by what is hopefully a realistic, planned approach, make the inevitable difficulties of transition more easy to overcome.

But my main message to myself is that it is no good waiting. The time to start is NOW.

Play area book is a guide to a safer future

A NEW design guide for Service playgrounds could signal the demise of those poorly thought out, poorly sited and poorly maintained play areas which have for so long blighted married quarter estates.

Ever since the seven-year-old daughter of a soldier lost a finger in a playground accident 12 years ago I've been campaigning through SOLDIER for better, safer facilities.

Yet only recently I was shown an unimaginative proposal for a playground costing at £90,000 – nearly £30,000 over budget! What a waste of money and resources.

Fortunately, the plan was amended after consultation with the National Playing Fields Association. The result was a splendid play area within budget and boasting 75 per cent more equipment.

The change began last year when the Ministry of Defence untied itself from the Property Services Agency (PSA). Until then PSA was responsible for the design and maintenance of play areas, and shared with the Directors of Quartering responsibility for funding new play projects and maintaining the old.

Early in 1990 the Director of Army Quartering asked Clive Cain, Director of Requirement Services in the newly-



Two-year-old Jake Holdsworth seems pleased with the new playground guidelines. Behind him is Scott Foster (3), with Mrs Vanda Murray and 19-month-old Gwen Sayle looking on

formed Defence Works Services, to take up the thorny problem of MQ playgrounds.

Aware of my interest in the subject, Clive contacted me and I accompanied him on a number of visits to Service and local authority play areas. He readily identified the problems and set about rectifying them.

One consequence is the new design guide (cost £12) targeted at MoD property managers and a free leaflet, available in the New Year, to raise awareness among MoD works staff and families.

The new publication, which replaces an inadequate and outdated PSA guide, was created by Playground Services Ltd, a subsidiary of the National Playing Fields Association.

The team that co-

ordinated the project consisted of Clive Cain; Col Robert Crawley, Deputy Director of Army Quartering; NPFA technical director Jean Wenger; and Peter Heseltine of Playground Services.

I was asked to represent the views of Service families.

Their initiative is a great start, but it is now up to all those involved in providing play areas to ensure that the best possible value is achieved for the benefit of all children using Ministry of Defence playgrounds.

Chairman of the National Playing Fields Association, which is campaigning for improvements in the quality and provision of children's playing space, is Gyles Brandreth.

He said: "The publication of this new guide is particularly welcome because

for the first time, it establishes badly-needed guidelines for the provision of safe and imaginative play facilities for the children of our Service families."

Jean Wenger, the NPFA's Technical Director, commented: "This new guide is the result of close consultation between the NPFA and various Service departments who have been working to improve the quality of play equipment, and increase the numbers of playgrounds in the Combined Services married quarter estates."

"It provides detailed information on planning and choice, and practical advice on inspection and maintenance procedures, and will result in better facilities through more effective use of existing resources."

In my . . .

UB: Disgrace that will not go away

I HAVE just been ticked off by an Army wife for not mentioning dependants' unemployment problems in recent editions. In fact, it is an issue that has been close to my heart for the past 14 years, and one which I have aired frequently on these pages.

It seems Army wives are as unfairly discriminated against by Unemployment Benefit (UB) rules as they have ever been. So much so that I have organised a petition. The first batch of signatures has already been sent to the European Parliament.

In the past 12 months I have raised the matter with the Minister for Social Security, Tony Newton, Home Office Minister Angela Rumbold, and the Conservative Back Bench Committee.

In my opinion, the UB situation for Army wives who have to quit their jobs to follow their husbands on posting is a disgrace. It's a form of discrimination against a minority who can do little about it. I only hope that when we have a "smaller and better" Army, the anomaly can be addressed.

. . . view

Redundancy payments to be tax free

SPECIAL Capital Payment (SCP) will not be made to any individual whose discharge is for reasons other than redundancy.

This message is being emphasised to unit pay staffs following a number of questions put by soldiers to the "roadshows" run by the Military Secretary and the Director of Manning (Army).

The ruling is particularly relevant if an individual selected for redundancy dies before discharge.

But there is good news concerning SCP, and indeed all redundancy payments. They will be tax free.

Leaflet update

THE leaflets *The British Army of the Future* and *Options and You* are a sitrep, not a final answer, says the Adjutant General in his foreword.

The brochures are designed to give an idea of what is available now, while the MoD goes on in its efforts to provide a comprehensive package of redundancy benefits.

Worth the wait

FALLINGBOSTEL's new station community centre – the House on the Heath – opened its doors after an eight-month delay caused by the Gulf War.

The £250,000 centre, funded by the PSA, Naafi and the unit – houses a post office, HIVE, wool and thrift shops and a hairdres-

ser in addition to ground floor Naafi facilities in the shape of the Wild Boar Inn, a bistro, restaurant, and take-away shop.

Brig Tim Sullivan, Commander 7 Brigade, cut a tape to open the centre and described it as a milestone in the station's development.

Dear Anne, The Vale of White Horse District Council has refused my application to join its housing list, quoting the eligibility categories, one of which is:

"Those now living outside the district. HM Forces who can show a strong connection and lived in the Vale area immediately prior to enlistment. Those employed or with firm promise of employment within the district."

Anne writes: This could be just another rejection along with hundreds of others which Service personnel are receiving.

But the council's letter does demonstrate its policy following a hearing in the Divisional Court, London in

Vale's ruling casts shadow

1984 when it contested the right of two ex-Service families to be accepted on its housing list after the MoD had terminated their MQ licence.

After Mr Justice Woolf dismissed both families' applications, the council distributed a circular to local authorities in England

and Wales, an extract of which says:

"Mr Justice Woolf was left in no doubt that these were important cases for the District Council, particularly as an increasing number of personnel seem to be opting for RAF Abingdon for their final term of service."

"The Judge also said that the particular section of the Act in issue (Section 18), defining 'local connections' with an area with particular reference to Service personnel) had not previously been fully tested in the Courts and for this reason, he reserved his judgement in both cases."

The Vale of White Horse District Council knew that neighbouring authorities had expressed consider-

able interest in the outcome of these cases and while a Divisional Court judgement is not as strong as a Court of Appeal judgement, it is certainly sufficient to uphold the District Council's present policy with regard to Service personnel.

So sadly the 1984 cases go down in history as one of the starting points of current policies of many councils with regard to ex-Forces housing applicants.

The letter I received from an Army wife shows that the policy adopted by this particular council nine years ago continues.

It is a great pity that no appeal was lodged at the time to test the judgements.

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SOLDIER



DISCOVERY

OPERATION RIMAU

Veil lifted on an official cover-up

RIMAU – it rhymes with how – is the Malayan word for tiger. It was also the codename for a daring Second World War operation aimed at blowing up Japanese shipping by limpet mines in Singapore Harbour. It was a disastrous enterprise from which none of its participants – 23 British and Australian officers and men – were to survive. They were either killed in action or died at the hands of their Japanese captors, ten of them executed only five weeks before the end of the war in the Far East.

Unlike a similar raid on Singapore, Operation Jaywick, in August 1943, which achieved the destruction of 37,000 tonnes of shipping and the creation of absolute chaos in the harbour, Operation Rimau, which took place a year later, has been kept hidden by a curtain of embarrassed official secrecy.

"Through ignorance and apathy, the authorities had cast a terrible and lasting slur on the memories of 23 men who had simply died for their country. Swept under the carpet, they and their operation were all but forgotten," writes Lynette Ramsay Silver in *The Heroes of*

Rimau. Ms Silver's co-author and researcher is Australian Army Major Tom Hall, whose interest in Rimau began in 1958 when he discovered that the scant official records marked the operation as a complete failure, with the fate of 11 of the party remaining unknown.

Tom Hall's painstaking examination of thousands of Japanese and Australian documents, and meetings with several Indonesians and Malays who witnessed the ill-fated events, has revealed the story of Rimau to be a chronicle of daring courage in the face of overwhelming odds.

He has also been able to establish how and where all 23 members of the party died.

Throughout the book there emerges something of a biography of Jaywick's and Rimau's leader, the Gordon Highlander, Lt Col Ivan Lyon, a remarkable and tough character whose wartime adventures started with an escape from Singapore and ended when he died on Soreh Island, Riouw Archipelago, on October 16, 1944, aged 29.

Tom Hall's accusing finger is pointed at lack of support and the bungling of arrangements

to pick up members of the party according to plan: "For 30 anxious days, the remaining survivors of Operation Rimau had watched and waited for the submarine to come. They waited in vain." The submarine was days late and when it did arrive, the landing party missed the survivors.

The final condemnation is of the official cover-up for not bringing to trial those who tortured and beheaded their prisoners. The Japanese claimed that the Rimau party were spies because they were not wearing uniform. It appears that the Allied authorities were in agreement:

"By asserting that the adoption of a disguise had been voluntary, when in fact it had been an integral part of the plan . . . the Australian government neatly distanced itself from potentially embarrassing questions about Operation Rimau, for which it is answerable . . ." – BJ

The Heroes of Rimau: Unravelling the mystery of one of World War II's most daring raids by Lynette Ramsay Silver. Leo Cooper Pen and Sword Books, hardback £16.50.

Soldier was a man of letters

IN the early 1940s Stanley de Smith wrote 400 letters, totalling nearly half a million words, to Joan, who against all the odds would later become his wife.

In that time they met alone on only 12 occasions and his burning ardour was not always reciprocated.

The letters spanned Stanley's life as a Cambridge undergraduate, through his early Army days in various English locations to the war in Europe with 77 Medium Regiment RA (DLOY).

At the end of the war Stanley moved into Military Intelligence, then back into the academic world, where he rose to become Downing Professor of English Law at Cambridge before a tragically early death at the age of 51.

In *Dog Easy* (his Army nickname) his widow has taken extracts from his correspondence and set them against their historical background to tell a captivating tale. – CH

Dog Easy: The Love and War Letters of a Cambridge Professor by Joan de Smith. Sawd Publications, Sittingbourne, hardback, £14.95.

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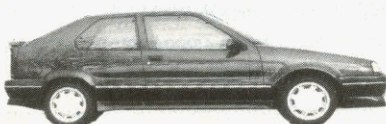
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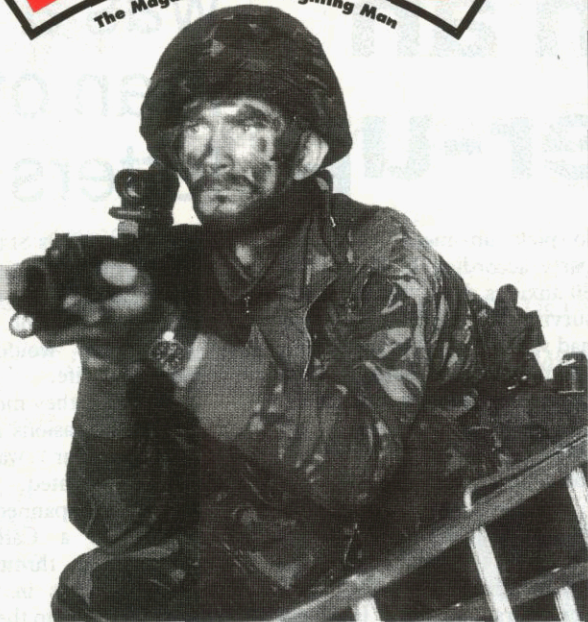
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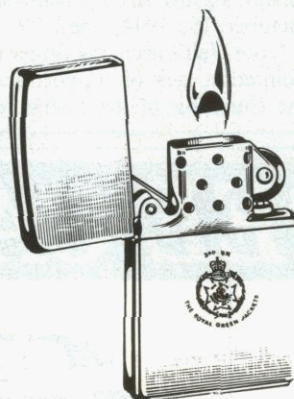
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Why was Cyprus special?

AS a serving soldier who spent six months in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia between September 1990 and March 1991 I feel that it is a strange decision to single out Cyprus for special recognition with regard to the Gulf Medal (SOLDIER, November 25).

This decision must cause a great deal of unrest among staff of such units as RAF Movements, Ordnance supply depots, the Army Blood Supply Depot, and DMED Ludgershall, all of whom worked extended hours in "vital support of in-theatre forces".

In addition, these unsung heroes were also carrying out the normal day-to-day duties required of their units with a reduced manning level due to Op Granby commitment.

Is this another case for an award to be made on the same basis as the Jubilee Medal? After all, were not most members of the Forces involved with this operation? – SSgt N J Rampton, RAMC, Army Blood Supply Depot, Aldershot.

MC ribbon on the MM

I AM writing with regard to the photograph of the recipients of the Gulf War gallantry medals (November 25 issue).

Your picture shows Pte Thomas Gow with the Military Medal.

However, he seems to be wearing the medal ribbon of the Military Cross. – WO1 Ken Kershaw, Depot and Training Regiment RCT, Buller Barracks, Aldershot.

Quite right. Pte Gow is wearing the Military Cross medal ribbon, the result of a small confusion in the tailor's room. The mistake was speedily rectified, says 1 RS. Dr C B A Lloyd-Williams of Groesfaen Pontyclun, Mid Glamorgan, was another reader to spot the difference. – Editor.

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



'The honeymoon's nearly over Private Blessington-Smythe. When you get back to the Depot it's a short back and sides and report to my office ...'

Right time to open up Naafi

ANNE Armstrong is quite right to point out in her item, "Let's act to open up Naafi" (SOLDIER, November 25) that Naafi, like the Services, is having to come to terms with the effects of Options for Change strength reductions.

Naafi is strongly in favour of her suggestion that Service personnel should be able to use Naafi facilities and services, including financial and insurance, once they leave the Forces.

Throughout their careers many will have been loyal customers, who would themselves wish to continue trading with us.

Apart from the benefits to them and Naafi, those new to, or remaining in, the Forces will reap the dividend of greater rebate and extra rebate that will arise from the increased business.

Our direct financial contribution to the Services, locally and centrally, helps pay for many leisure, recreational, welfare and other amenities Forces personnel and their families are able to enjoy. – Rob Howell, Press Officer, Naafi.

One pace backwards

WHAT a really nice photo of 17-year-old Rachel Thomson on parade in her school combined cadet force uniform and carrying a pace stick (SOLDIER, November 25).

It is a great shame, however, that whoever took the photo did not notice that not only was she holding the stick incorrectly but that she was also taking a pace with her left foot and swinging her left arm at the same time.

I truly hope that all concerned, less Rachel, are duly embarrassed. Sorry, Rachel. – WO2 (CSM) R G Kirkland, Irish Guards.

White horse and motto was Kent's

WITH reference to your "Arranged Marriages" feature (October 28), the white horse and scroll "Invicta" used as their cap badge by the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment is in fact the badge and motto of the county of Kent and was so long before the old 50th of Foot (The Dirty Half Hundred) and the 97th of Foot were raised.

The motto of the 50th of Foot was "Quo Fas et Gloria Ducunt" (Wherever right and glory lead). This motto was carried forward to the Royal West Kent Regiment when they formed in, I believe, 1881.

The 50th of Foot were raised in 1755 and with the 97th of Foot formed the original Royal West Kent Regiment in 1881 under the Cardwell reforms. – A Maddock (ex-REME), Folkestone.

Depressing timetable

I HAVE been a regular reader of SOLDIER since coming out of the Army in 1952 and I have always enjoyed the magazine.

However, the article on the drawdown timetable (November 25) has made me feel really

depressed. So many famous regiments with glorious histories are being axed.

A more honest title for Options for Change would be "Destruction of an Army". – J M Twomey, Swansea.

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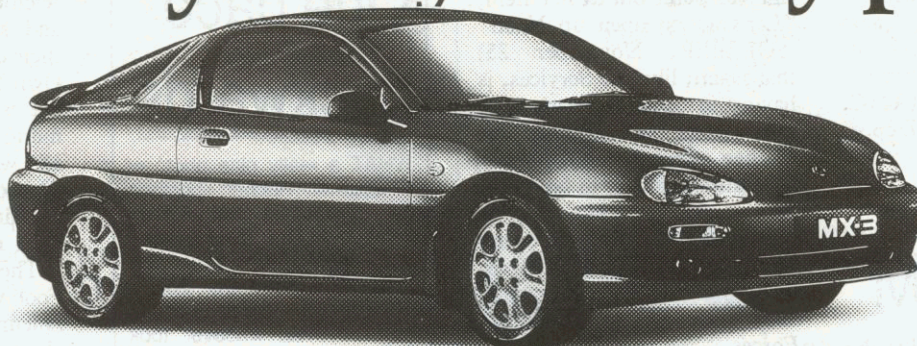
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SOLDIER to Soldier

Osborn VC memorial on move

FOR TEN years a bronze statue of a First World War soldier has stood outside the guardroom of Osborn Barracks, Hong Kong. It was donated by a wealthy Chinese family when Eucliffe, their castle-like residence in Repulse Bay, was closed down.

Later it was erected inside the barracks which bears his name as a memorial to CSM Robert Osborn, of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, and others who died in the defence of Hong Kong 50 years ago. CSM Osborn was the only man in that battle to be awarded the Victoria Cross.

Now the statue is destined for a new role and a new home across the harbour on Hong Kong Island. It is going on public display outside Flagstaff House, the former residence of Commanders British Forces and now a museum devoted to the display of Chinese tea ware.

In due course the bronze figure will be officially unveiled as a memorial, not just to the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong, but also to Victoria Barracks, the British military headquarters which once occupied what is now the new Hong Kong Park.

Yorks and Border memories

ONE result of the 1967 Territorial Army reorganisation was the formation of the Yorkshire Volunteers from several TA artillery and infantry units in the county.

The Hallamshire Battalion, The York and Lancaster Regiment



Queen's Gurkha Engineers from 68 Field Squadron, work to free the statue from its pedestal at Osborn Barracks

was one such unit, itself having derived from the Hallamshire Rifle Volunteers, raised in 1859.

In *Hallamshire Rifle Volunteers 1858-1989* Maj Anthony Podmore has compiled in brochure form a story which mirrors the changing fortunes of Britain's volunteer soldiers over the past 130 or so years, fortunes which are about to undergo yet more change.

Copies are available from the BAO, 4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers (South Yorkshire), Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield S10 3EU. Price is £3.99 plus 60p postage, cheques payable to PRI 4 Yorks.

Available from the same source is the republished *Normandy to Arnhem: A Story of the Infantry*, by Brig T Hart Dyke, which first appeared in 1966. The price in this case is £5.99 and postage 68p.

The history-minded will also have an interest in the pamphlet *Memories of The Border Regiment in the First World War*, compiled and edited by Walter F Ewbank, Archdeacon Emeritus of Carlisle, three of whose uncles served with the regiment (two fatally).

Copies are available, price £5,

from The Regimental Museum, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, The Castle, Carlisle CA3 8UR (tel: 0228 32774). All proceeds go to the museum.

The kilt in action

A PAINTING depicting the last wearing of the kilt in action by a Highland regiment has been commissioned by The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders Regimental Association.

This particular bit of history was made in 1940 by the 1st Cameron Highlanders in the hard-fought battles around the Escourt Canal and La Basse before the withdrawal to Dunkirk. No other Scottish battalion fought in the kilt in the Second World War, nor has any since.

The painting has been commissioned from David Rowlands (see Page 31) to mark the bicentenary of the raising of the Cameron Highlanders in 1793. The project is being fully supported by the Queen's Own Highlanders, to whom the completed painting will eventually be presented.

Donations to the £10,000 project will be welcomed – even if they do not necessarily follow the four-figure example of 98-year-old Gen Sir Philip Christison, a Cameron who fought in the kilt in the First World War.

Cheques made out to the Queen's Own Highlanders Picture Fund should be sent to The Picture Fund, Regimental Headquarters, Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons), Cameron Barracks, Inverness IV2 3XD.

SEARCHLINE

● **Youth Club seeks unit to adopt:** St Simon's Youth Club, South Shields, wants to adopt an Army unit. Contact Mrs Jan Fettes, Youth Leader, 37 Wenlock Road, Simonside, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 9BA.

● **PoW Camp Westertimke, Teufelsmoor, Nr Bremen:** Former Waffen-SS officer wishes to contact British soldiers who guarded this camp from November 1945 to December 1948. Any other information about the camp, such as regiments which formed the guard, welcomed. Write to Mr James D McLeod, 39 Cruachan Court, Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 8JW.

REUNIONS

● **Yeoman of Signals:** Reunion to celebrate 30th anniversary of the first Yeoman of Signals course is planned for July 25, 1992 at the WO's and Sgts' Mess, Blandford Garrison. Open to all who have passed the Blandford course since 1962. Wives and girlfriends welcome. Details from WO1 (YofS) Tony Reynolds, OC Radex Troop, 1 Sqn, School of Signals, Blandford Camp, Dorset DT1 8RH.

● **50th Anniversary of the Raid on Bruneval** is being commemorated on Sunday June 14, 1992 in France. Any survivor of the battle, Navy, Army or RAF, anyone knowing of a survivor, or any interested individuals wishing to attend are asked to forward details to Maj (Retd) C M Steggle, Controller, Airborne Forces Security Fund, Browning Barracks, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2BU (tel: 0252 20772).

● **3/82 Venning Platoon, B Coy Army Apprentice College, St Omer Barracks, Aldershot:** Ex-squad members interested in attending a reunion in Aldershot in September 1992 please contact Chris Kennedy, 44 Torwood Road, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0AR (tel: 061-665 3731).

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● **The International Military Music Society** invites anyone with an interest in military bands and their music to become a member. Regular journals and newsletters are issued and quarterly meetings held. Annual subscription £7 (UK). Details from Mr Jack Clemmy, 70 Halifax Road, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancs BB9 5BB.

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● To include public events in this diary contact the Editor.

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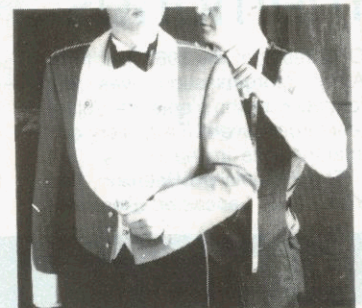
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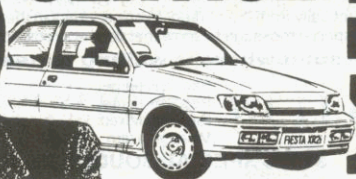
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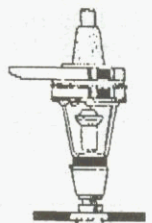
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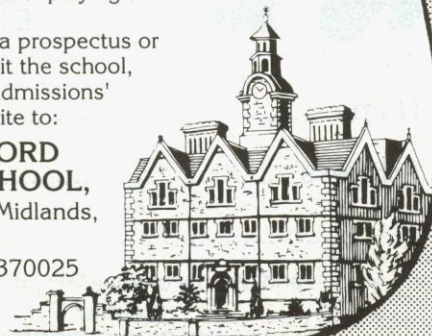
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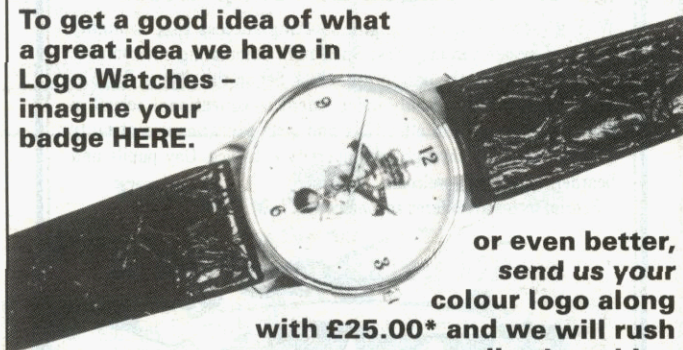
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Write the Box Number clearly in the top left corner of the envelope.

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Box P27 115 1 92

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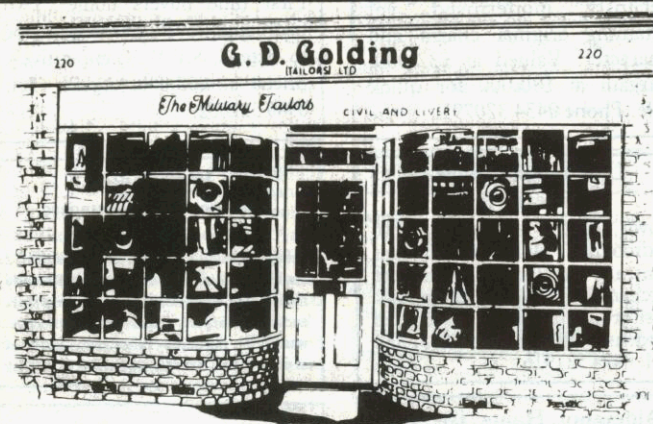
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FOOTBALL TUG OF WAR TENNIS SAILING

Gunners hang on to title

THE ROYAL Regiment of Artillery retained the Corps Quadrangular Trophy at Minley Manor after an exciting week of football in which the outcome was in the balance until the final minutes, writes Pat Massey.

The Royal Engineers, the sponsoring corps, lost their opening match to the Royal Signals by 3-1 while the gunners got off to a stuttering start, drawing 2-2 with REME.

But the hotly tipped signallers were given a jolt by the gunners, who beat them 2-0. REME, so often winners of this prestigious competition, were a shadow of former sides and were walloped 4-2 by the sappers.

Only the artillery had their fate in their hands at the start of the final day. By beating the Royal Regiment, the sappers could have edged ahead, but would then have had to wait for the result of the other tie, hoping the signallers came unstuck.

In the event, the outcome was decided minutes from the end.

REME battled to hold Royal Signals to one goal in the first half, while the sappers scored first against the gunners but conceded a goal themselves before the interval.

As the second halves progressed, the gunners edged ahead, opening up a two-goal lead ten minutes from full time.

On the adjoining ground the signallers were missing a hatful of chances before finally coming good and rattling in three more goals.

When the sappers reduced their arrears with minutes left, it all depended on the gunners keeping their noses in front. A draw would have allowed Royal Signals in on goal difference.

But Royal Artillery were worthy winners, so claiming the trophy for a second successive season.

The Army 0, Territorial Army 1

The Regulars were unable to break down a resolute Volunteer defence and were defeated by the only goal of an enjoyable encounter.

The Regular Army created some good chances but the final pass always went astray.

Soon after the break a fine save by Fisher prevented the Army going ahead. The ball was whipped down to the other end where a sloppy clearance fell at the feet of McCartney.

He drove in a low, hard shot through a packed defence. Taylor in the Army goal saw it only at the last second and, although he got his hand to the ball, it bobbed over the line to break the deadlock.

In the final minutes the Army had two strikes knocked off the line before, with virtually the final kick of the match, a good move left Davis clear in the penalty area.

But with only Fisher to beat, he pushed the ball wide.

3 RTR 4, 13/18 H 1

Two goals by Lt Steve Jones helped 3rd Royal Tank Regiment on their way to a 4-1 win over 13th/14th Royal Hussars in the Vickers Cup final at York Barracks, Munster. The other RTR goals were scored by Barber and Dibble, with Perry converting a penalty for 13/18 H.

Royal Engineers 3, The Infantry 2

Despite leading 2-0 at half time through goals by Cpl Taff Taleb (RRW) and LCpl Tony Thorne (R Hamps), an injury-hit Infantry team lost a close encounter with the RE at Cove.

The sappers equalised midway through the second period with goals by Sgt Jock Christie and LCpl Andy Wilson, and Cpl Trevor Keen scored the winner five minutes from time.



FOD Dulmen pit their combined strength against 4 UDR, winners for the fourth consecutive year of the 680kg division at the Army indoor tug of war championships

Victories mark UDR's farewell

THE ULSTER Defence Regiment, for so long a force in Services tug of war, bowed out with two more titles when they made their final appearance in the Army indoor championships at the RAMC Training Centre, Aldershot.

In July the regiment is to amalgamate with The Royal Irish Rangers, so this time next year there could be a new name on the Army's tug of war trophies - that of The Royal Irish Regiment.

The Ulstermen, in the guise of 4 UDR, won at both 640kg and 680kg, although in the former they were given a good run for their money by the Junior Leaders Regiment RA.

The young gunners from Bramcote had to face 4 UDR only six minutes after beating FOD Dulman by two ends, with both ends lasting about 1min 30sec.

Although not fully recovered, they put up extremely tough opposition before fatigue set in. Even so, the ends lasted 1min 19sec and 47sec.

The Junior Leaders did win the 560kg and 600kg divisions,

beating FOD Dulmen into second place in both. During an outstanding season, both indoors and out, the Young Guns have won national youth titles at six different weights.

Dulmen, who with 21 Engineer Regiment had travelled from Germany, were also second in the 680kg category and third at 640kg.

Other well-placed teams among the 37 who took part were 47 Field Regiment RA and 7 Para RHA.

The Army outdoor championships are scheduled for July 7, with the Inter-Services following on July 29.

The Junior Leaders' Regim-

ent RA won three of the five categories at the UKLF tug of war championships, also staged at the RAMC Training Centre.

In the 560kg competition the young gunners finished first and second, and they were first and third in the 600kg category.

They also won the 640kg trophy, beating 47 Fd Regt RA into second place.

The competition was again dominated by the gunners, with 47 Regt winning the 680kg, taking second places in the 600, 640 and catchweight (won by the hosts, RAMC Trg Centre), and third place in the 560.

Tennis veterans go close

COMBINED Services' tennis veterans pulled off a remarkable achievement by reaching the final of the national inter-county veterans' championships.

Showing that in Services tennis life begins at 45, the team beat the strongly-tipped Yorkshire team by four rubbers

to one in their semi-final.

The final, against Surrey, was a nail-biting match, with the county winning by a desperately close three rubbers to two.

So close were all the matches that the Service veterans actually won five more games than their opponents.

SPORT

Bisley clay shoot

A CLAY pigeon shoot open to all members of the Armed Forces and uniformed civilian services will be held at Bisley on February 21.

Entry is limited to 100 guns in 20 teams of five and will cost £25 a gun. Details of the shoot, which will comprise 70 individual birds over seven stands, and a 150-bird team grouse flush, are available from Lt Cdr Richard O'Kill, Training Officer, HMS Royal Arthur, Corsham, Wilts.

Columbus berths to be filled

THERE has been a poor response from younger Servicemen to this year's tri-Service entry in the Columbus 500 sailing expedition from Spain to Boston.

The closing date for bids has been extended to January 10 and details are published in JS DCI 94/91. The expedition, which sets sail in April, is expected to attract more than 500 Tall Ships.

Picture: Terry Champion

Grant sets pace for victory

MAJ Glen Grant led the Army to its first victory since 1980 in the annual cross country match against the Universities AU and British Polytechnics at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham.

The evergreen 38-year-old, currently in excellent form, made his intentions clear from the gun, leading a quality field into the first uphill section of the race with Dave Berris and Colin Boulton of the Universities' team in close contention. At the end of the first of three laps Grant had been joined in the lead by both Berris and Boulton and had drawn 20m clear of the chasing group which included established Army runners Geoff Wade, Jeff Martin and Army squad newcomer Alan Shepherd, who was having an exceptional race.

With 1km to go, individual honours were reduced to two contenders, Berris and Grant. The stadium in sight, Berris put in one final effort and opened up a short but decisive gap which he held to the finish,

MARINES LEAD MERIT TABLES

BY BEATING REME at Arborfield, the Royal Marines moved into an unbeatable lead in the top division of the Army Rugby Union's new Inter-Corps merit table. Their 14 points to seven victory was the result of a goal, a try and a penalty try (awarded for a high tackle) to a try and a penalty.

The Royal Marines are the only "outsiders" in the three-tier merit table, involving all the corps in three divisions.

Although affiliated to the Royal Navy Rugby Union, the Marines were invited to play in the ARU competition on the strength of traditional fixtures with several of the

senior corps sides.

By winning four out of four matches, the Marines have already made sure of the Division 1 title, and were due to receive the trophy after their final game against the Royal Signals at Harrogate on December 18.

The new competition gives Army selectors an opportunity to see leading players at a level higher than unit rugby.

The six sides in Merit Table One are the RM, REME, RE, RA, R Signals and Infantry. Tables Two and Three have not yet been resolved. In the second pool are the RCT, RAOC, ACC, RAC and Army Medical Services, and in the third pool

the APTC, RAPC and RMP.

This year's clash between the Army and the Royal Navy takes place at Twickenham on March 21 followed by the RAF-Navy game a week later, and the RAF-Army match on April 11. The airmen are the defending champions.

The annual match between the Royal Engineers and the Royal Artillery, the oldest regular fixture in Services rugby, ended in a 12-8 victory for the gunners.

Played at Chatham, the game dates back to 1889 and is played for a 32-pounder cannonball found in Gibraltar. The match score stands at 33 victories each.

beating Grant to the line by just four seconds.

With the individual honours settled tension turned to the team event. Boulton, who had been dropped from the leading group at the start of the last lap, finished very tired in third position, ahead of the fast-finishing Army trio of Wade, Shepherd and Martin.

Steve Overton crossed the line in 9th position, and with Rod Finch returning from injury home in 15th place it was enough for the Army to snatch



Glen Grant

victory by just one point.

The women's race was won by LCpl Kelly Holmes, WRAC. She ran brilliantly to hold off the strong UAU team, which packed in behind her to take the trophy. The Army women's team finished second.

Men's race - 1, Army 41 pts; 2, Universities Athletic Union, 42pts; 3, British Polytechnics Sports Association, 158 pts.

Women's race - 1, Universities Athletic Union, 20pts; 2, Army, 39pts; 3, British Polytechnics Sports, 48pts.

Thirteen corps have expressed an interest in the first Inter-Corps cross country match to be staged at Longmoor Training Camp, Hants, on February 5. Any who have not already declared an interest should contact Army team captain Capt Peter Marsh at Armoured Vehicle Sub Depot, Ludgershall, near Andover, Hants SP11 9RP.

Capital performance

AN Army select boxing team defeated London ABA at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent by seven bouts to five.

There were wins for Spr Winspear (36 Engr Regt), Pte Hamer (1 Queens), Pte Mills (3 Para), LCpl Ollerhead (1 Kings), LCpl Rajcoomar (1 DERR), Dvr Bessey (1 Armed Div Tpt Regt RCT), and Spr Whittaker (38 Engr Regt).

Beaten on points were Dvr Duncan, RCT (16 Fd Amb RAMC), Tpr McGowan (1 RTR), Pte Dugan (1 R Hamps), Kgn Thompson (1 Kings) and Pte Beckinsale (1 Queens).

Late goal rush floors CS

Civil Service 0, The Army 3

IT WAS not until ten minutes from time that the Army finally overcame the Civil Service with a goal by newcomer LCpl Smidge Smith (AAC), writes Pat Massey.

That gave the Servicemen a two-goal cushion, soon afterwards extended to three when

the excellent Sgt Alan Higgins (R Signals) capped a terrific performance by firing in a penalty.

The Army's first goal was scored by Cpl Dave Maynard (DERR), who controlled a 40-yard pass from Sgt Johnnie Mathis (RE) on his chest before lashing the ball into the net.

(More football reports on Page 52)

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Gulf War artist David Rowlands unveils his painting of Challenger tanks of 14th/20th King's Hussars in action at Al Haniyeh. He is working on a number of commissions for units which fought in the war. Full story in Page 31.

Picture: Terry Champion

