

SOLDIER



30 NOVEMBER 1987

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—Page 26

Inside

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FRONT COVER: A helicopter built for battle. Looking more like a tank than a sleek flying machine is the 6th US Cavalry's AH-64 Apache. Full story in Pages 26-27.

Picture: Terry Champion

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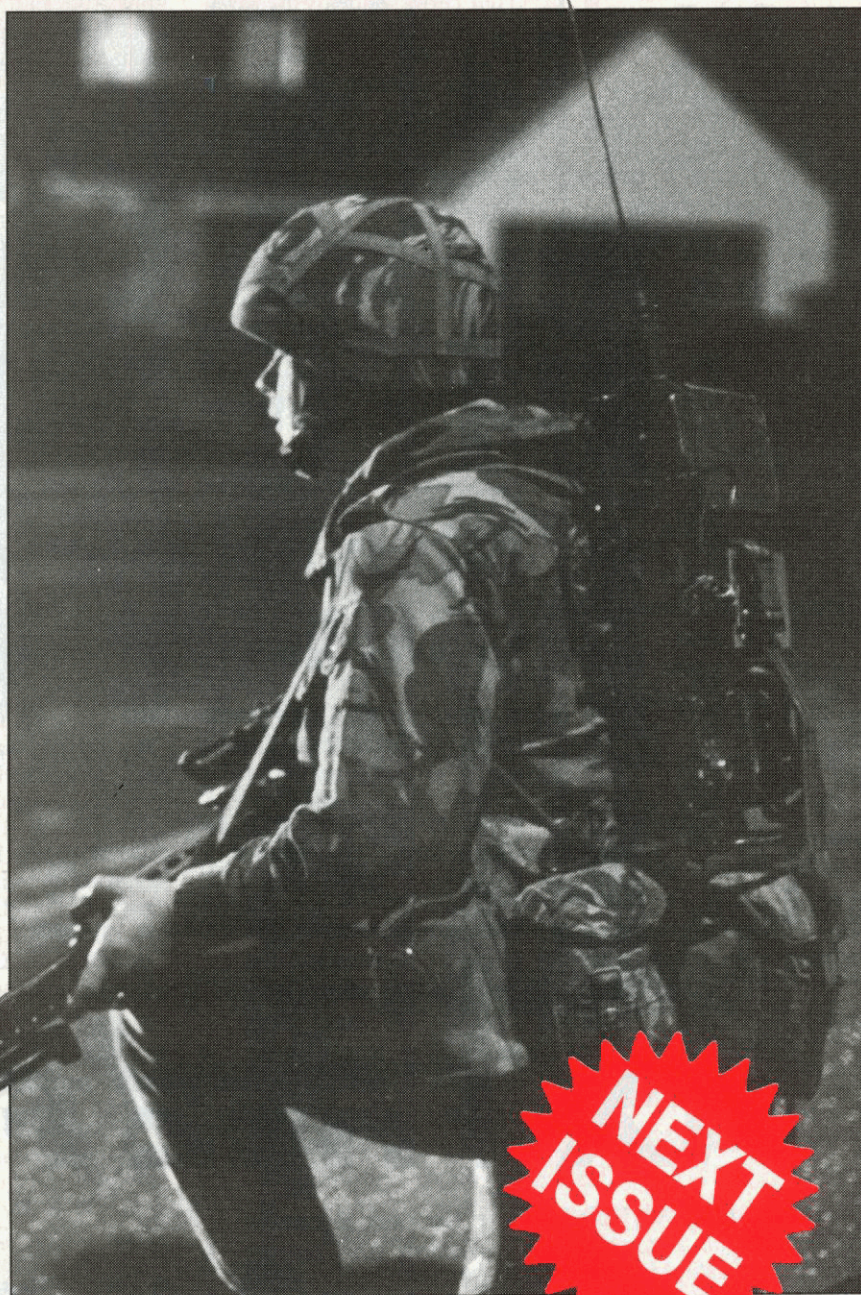
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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



There is no need to remind soldiers on night patrol in Northern Ireland of the need for vigilance. This picture of a Royal Welch Fusilier taken when SOLDIER accompanied a patrol in Castlewella in County Down captures the tension of the moment. Reports and pictures on the Royal Welch and the Army Air Corps will appear in the next issue.
● PLUS a chance to meet the staff of "The Musgrave" in Belfast.

LETTERS

Write to:
SOLDIER,
Ordnance Road,
Aldershot,
Hants GU11 2DU.

Calling...

● Former members of W Coy, 1st Battalion, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers who served in Korea with Mr W "Butch" Glaister, who now lives at 10 Northgate, Moorends, Doncaster DN8 4LW, and hopes to organise a reunion.

Reunions

● No 2 Forward Observer Unit RA (Airborne) reunion to commemorate the 45th anniversary of its formation is planned for 1989. Details from R W Mortimer, 155 Dolphins Road, Folkestone, Kent, or Dr J R Purser (066 651 394).

● Beachley Old Boys' Association 1988 reunion will be held on June 10-12. Details from the Hon Secretary, Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, Gwent NP6 7YG.

Notice to authors

SOLDIER receives a large number of letters from authors, researchers and others wanting to contact soldiers and ex-soldiers, or to obtain information about military subjects - too many for SOLDIER to publish in its Letters page.

In future issues of SOLDIER there will be a special "Information Wanted" heading in the classified advertisement pages for such requests, at the usual advertising rates.

Medal lottery odds stacked

Your correspondents in answer to my letter (SOLDIER, August 24 - *Medals galore on parade in Berlin*) have totally missed the point. I was speaking as an expert in the RAF in which I served, and not about the other two Armed Forces.

In answer to Mr Charlie Gray, my main complaint was that I, with six other RAF NCOs from my unit, formed part of the RAF route lining detachment on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation in June 1953.

There were only three Coronation Medals awarded to

our RAF unit - the Commanding Officer who was a flight lieutenant awarded himself one, another medal was awarded to the oldest airman in the unit (who never took part in the Coronation), leaving one medal between seven of us which was "drawn out of the hat" to one of my fellow NCOs (which I did not begrudge).

So you see the unfairness of the system by the Air Ministry.

I did not expect a "gong" for every conceivable reason and I certainly did not expect medals for every event. - C E C Cavadino, 67A Shirley Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 7LQ.

What happened to CSM White's gun?

During the month of June 1944 my father, Mr Denis Frank Hopkins, who served from 1939 to 1945 with the 7 Worcestershire Regiment in Burma, was a member of a section in charge of a Cpl Plumley when they attacked and captured a Japanese 75mm Howitzer at Maram in Assam.

This gun was then given into

the charge of CSM J J White and shipped back to England. My father, who is now 70, would very much like to know where this gun is now. He lost several good friends in that action; at the time his regiment was part of the 5th Brigade, 2nd Division, 14th Army. - D Hopkins, 46 Greenland Ave, Ramsey, Isle of Man.

They snapped up the prizes



Pictured outside the National Army Museum London, are a group of people more used to being behind the camera than in front of it. All were prize winners in the Army Photographic Competition.

Pictured on the Saladin armoured car are (left to right) CSgt Leo Callow, Army Photographer of the Year and

winner Best Colour Photograph; SSgt Arthur Thomson, RAOC, Best Monochrome Photograph and Army Photographer of the Year; and Cpl Leslie Scott, 17/21st Lancers, Best Unit Photographer.

In front of them are (from left) Mrs Tania Yeacobb, 5 Regt RA, Best Photography by a Dependant; Sgt Karen

Atkinson, 3 WFR(V), Best TA Photograph; and Mrs Angela Yorke, Att RAF Bruggen, runner up Best Photograph by a Dependant.

Missing is Maj Patrick Gouldsbury, Public Information 3 Armd Div, who won the Military Training or Operations and Adventurous Training and Sport categories.

Neasden in the money

Neasden is in the news! That's where the latest winner of SOLDIER's £50 prize in the HOAY competition lives. The lucky winner is P Brickell of Southview Ave-

nue, Neasden, London, who correctly spotted all ten differences in the pictures in HOAY No 424. If you want to be a £50 winner, turn to Page 43 for this issue's competition.

Long running history of a REME vehicle

A few years ago I purchased a Land Rover series 2 long wheel base. The previous owner had bought the vehicle at an auction in the British Army in Germany in 1980.

The vehicle was a Fire Unit Truck G W serial No 33016,

Mannock VC not listed

In the list of 'Air' VCs of the Great War (SOLDIER, September 21) there is a notable omission, that of Maj E Mannock VC DSO MC.

He was, I believe, credited with more victories than any other Allied airman. - Maj C R Arthur, 11 Clos de Fromental, Pontorson Lane, Le Hocq, St Clement, Jersey, CI.

SOLDIER's list was of RFC VCs. Maj Mannock won his VC for the period June 17-July 22, 1918, after the formation of the Royal Air Force. - Ed.

is thought to have been a fire unit at Munich airport.

The transmission with a bit noisy and during repairs a plate was discovered, stamped 37 Rhine Workshop, REME.

The vehicle has since been repainted from battleship grey to maroon red with a 4 inch yellow strip along each side. I assisted to strip the old paint and discovered the Union Jack flag on the left hand front guard.

The top half of the vehicle is covered with white vinyl. The tyres are 8 inch wide Goodyears, the spare is mounted on a swinging bracket fitted to the rear of the vehicle and the front seats are now the bucket type.

A spare fuel tank has been fitted for long distances. The vehicle is in perfect condition and mechanically a credit to those who serviced the vehicle during its early days. - C Machin, 39 St Clair Road, Wantirna South, 3152, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

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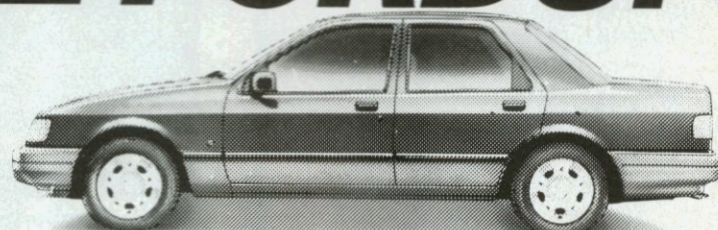
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S 22

POPPY ANGER

As we stood in front of the war memorial before the Remembrance Day service, we were all admiring the turn out of the military personnel, when it was pointed out that all present had removed the centre of their poppies and replaced it with the chinstrap button. The exception was one officer.

We were most hurt that our poppy should have been

defaced in this way. Who gave the order for this? Did it come from above, or was it something that was thought up at local level? This must never be allowed to happen again. -

Derek C Schofield, Secretary, The Royal Regiment of Artillery Association, 5 Madison Avenue, Heavitree, Exeter EX1 3AH.

Double helping of Bermuda

I would like to point out that (reference SOLDIER Nov 2), a detachment of my former regiment 1 RWF was based in Prospect Camp, Bermuda twice in 1953.

We went there for the Big

Three conference, which was cancelled, but subsequently went back to Bermuda from Jamaica in December 1953. - R E Thomas (ex-Cpl 1 RWF), 6 Glen View, Heath, Cardiff CF4 5QL.

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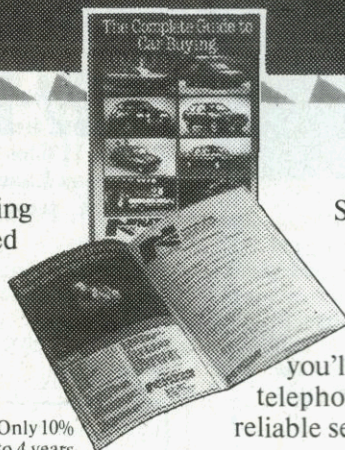
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Injured sergeant saved blinded officer

THE Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct has been awarded to a senior NCO who saved his officer from far more serious injuries when both were badly hurt while testing safety fuses for a live display to trainee soldiers.

The recipient was SSgt Geoff Evans who helped Capt Jamie Cuthbertson when both were instructors with 3 Training Regiment, RE, at Hawley, near Farnborough.

Capt Cuthbertson lost an eye, the tips of both ears and suffered extensive facial injuries and wounds to the lower part of his body. SSgt Evans, then a sergeant, suffered surface blast injuries including shrapnel wounds to the lower body.

The Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct was made by Brig Geoffrey Field, RE, Commander 11 Engineer Group. SSgt Evans is currently serving with the regiment's 57 Training Squadron.



SSgt Geoff Evans (left) and Capt Jamie Cuthbertson pictured after the award

Picture: Terry Champion

Double freedom

A UNIQUE tribute was paid to the city of Lancaster when for the first time ever both Regular and part-time soldiers of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment jointly paraded through the county town.

Some 260 soldiers from both the 1st and 4th Battalions - Regular and Territorial Army respectively - exercised the regiment's right of freedom to march through the streets.

The regiment's age-old links with Lancaster are maintained through the location of the 4th Battalion's headquarters in the city.

The 1st Battalion leaves its Colchester, Essex, base this month for a six-month tour of duty with the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus.



Baby Felicity Norman, daughter of Sgt Paul and Mrs Tina Norman of the RAF leaves Aldershot's Louise Margaret Maternity Wing watched by the nursing staff who cared for the infant

Picture: Mike Weston

Vandalism toll on war graves

THE Commonwealth War Graves Commission which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year was established by Royal Charter in 1917 and is responsible for the graves of and memorials to 1,694,857 Commonwealth dead in 140 countries.

Political changes over the years have allowed the Commission access to more cemeteries. One of the latest followed the signing of an agreement with East Germany allowing for proper maintenance of the cemetery at Stahnsdorf by East German labour. There are four cemeteries in East Germany in which 1,173 Commonwealth dead are commemorated. Commission officials will be allowed to inspect and supervise the Stahnsdorf cemetery work, says the Commission's annual report.

The Commission's largest structural maintenance project during the year was the re-roofing of the Arras Memorial featuring a stone roof with concealed drainage.

Vandalism and war took their toll during the year. In Milan 70 headstones were daubed with red paint but were restored in time for an annual remembrance ceremony. At Stafford all but one of 67 Commonwealth, German and Polish headstones were broken, 48 so badly they had to be replaced.

Belgrade, Djibouti and New Caledonia remembered the war dead in less world-publicised events. Corfu, Malta and El Alamein were others to recall the efforts of the Commonwealth fallen.

In the Lebanon, fighting has destroyed most of the structures in the two Beirut cemeteries though the graves themselves have not been disturbed. Replacement stonework is ready to be taken to Lebanon when the situation improves.

See also Page 13

Mercy dash baby recovering well

THANKS to the care and expertise of staff at the Louise Margaret Maternity Wing, Aldershot, and its neighbouring baby care unit at the Cambridge Military Hospital, RAF Sgt Paul Norman's two-day-old daughter Felicity, who was involved in a 2,000-mile mercy dash by VC 10 from Cyprus, is on the road to recovery.

Baby Felicity, who was rushed from hospital at RAF Akrotiri two days after Caesarian delivery, was flown to Heathrow and then by ambulance to Aldershot.

Maj Andy Lyon, Consultant Paediatrician at the Cambridge Military Hospital, said that Felicity had been suffering from exacerbated physiological jaundice.

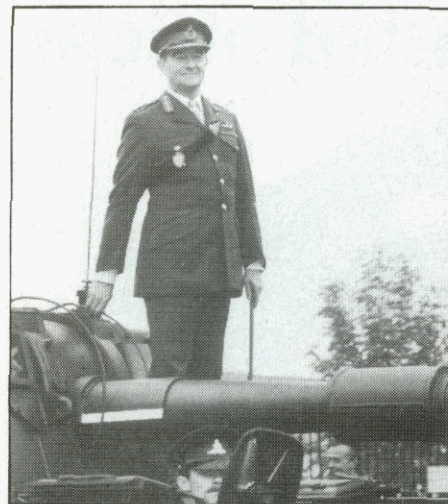
"She was brought here because we have

more facilities for investigation. RAF Akrotiri's hospital had done a wonderful job. In retrospect it turned out she was not seriously ill but it justified the concern of the Akrotiri staff," said Maj Lyon.

That figures!

TOTAL strength of the Armed Forces at the end of September was 319,093, of which 159,693 were in the Army according to the latest MoD manpower figures. There were 6,369 women in the Army.

In the 12 months to the end of September 19,541 personnel were taken into the Army from civilian life and during the same period 22,117 serving personnel left the Army.



GOODBYE: Gen Sir Martin Farndale departs on an Abbot of 1 RHA



HELLO: Gen Sir Brian Kenny (left) arrives to take over. With him is Air Marshal Sir Anthony Skingsley, Commander Second Allied Tactical Air Force

Top change in BAOR command

GEN Sir Martin Farndale, Commander Northern Army Group and C-in-C BAOR has retired. His departure from BAOR was marked by a musical farewell from the Alanbrooke Staff Band and trumpeters from 1 RHA before he travelled a short distance aboard one of the regiment's Abbot SP guns.

The Army Air Corps mounted a fly-past as a token of respect for Gen Farndale who is the Corps Colonel Commandant. He was commissioned in the Royal Artillery in 1948.

He told soldiers from five nations from within JHQ Rheindahlen: "You know you have got the most important of all jobs to do, the job of a soldier. The job of providing peace and security for the world. It is the most noble of professions."

Gen Farndale's successor is Gen Sir Brian Kenny who was previously Commander of 1st British Corps in Bielefeld.



The Prince of Wales inspects a guard of honour at RAF Gatow provided by men of the 1st Bn, The Black Watch. Escorting him are guard commander Maj Nigel Lithgow, Maj Gen Patrick Brooking and Lt Col Brian Anderson, the Prince's equerry



The Prince and Princess pause to chat with Mrs Bridget Chapman

Berlin's Black Watch welcome

FAMILIES and off-duty Servicemen from the 3,000-strong British Garrison in Berlin gave a rousing welcome at RAF Gatow to the Prince and Princess of Wales at the start of the Royal six day tour of West Germany.

Among the greeters at the aircraft steps was Maj Gen Patrick Brooking, Commandant of the Berlin British Sector. Prince Charles inspected a guard of honour provided by men of the resident 1st Bn, The Black Watch under the command of Maj Nigel Lithgow.

In relaxed mood, the Prince of Wales stopped to chat with soldiers on parade. Princess Diana had a special word with Mrs

Bridget Chapman, who is confined to a wheelchair. Dozens of flag-waving Service children looked on and cheered.

On the departure of the Royal couple from Berlin for West Germany the aircraft steps guard comprised men of a troop from D Squadron, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards of whom the Prince is regimental colonel-in-chief.

The Skins are normally based at Paderborn but the troop from D Squadron had been in Berlin on an exchange with members of the Armoured Squadron in the divided city, B Squadron, 14th/20th King's Hussars.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

HQ 2 Signal Brigade has opened for business at Corsham, Wilts, after a ceremony performed by Lt Gen David Ramsbotham, Commander UK Field Army. The brigade is responsible for all communications within the UK based Army. It moved to Corsham from Aldershot.

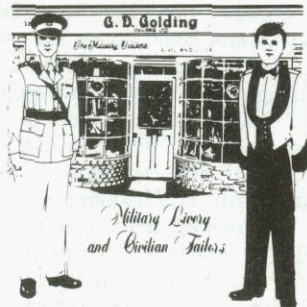
BACK IN NEW ROLE

THE first of three trunk node troops from the disbanded 3 Squadron, 7 Signal Regiment, has arrived for duty with the 1st Armoured Division. The defunct squadron has split its trio of troops within each of BAOR's three armoured divisions.

MINISTER AT BRUGGEN

MR Ian Stewart, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, visited RAF Bruggen, Germany, where he saw men of 52 Field (Construction) Sqn, Royal Engineers, on exercise.

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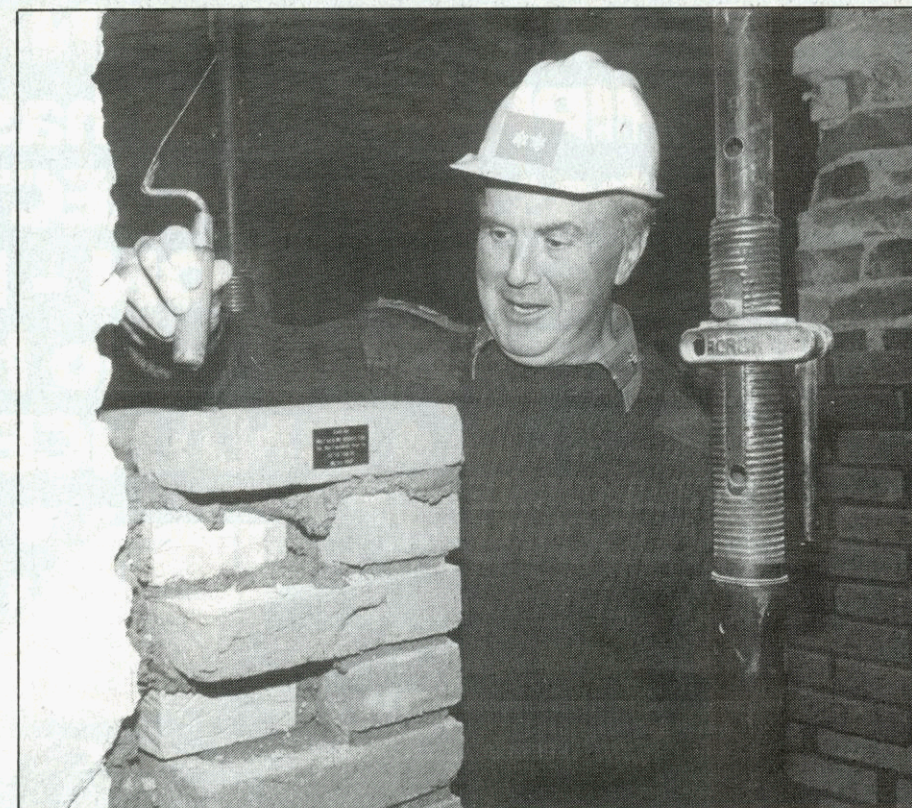
MINTY TRADITION: grandfather Arthur, new recruit John and proud dad Norman

Minty link stronger!

WHEN Pte John Minty joined The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment he was upholding a proud family tradition. He represents the sixth successive generation of his family to serve in the British Army. The previous five generations of Mintys, from Devizes in Wiltshire, notched up 100 years of service.

The link goes back to John's great great granddad who joined the 62nd of Foot in 1839.

John's father, Norman, is RSM of 1 Wessex at Devizes and a member of the DERR. Also there for John's passing out parade was granddad Arthur, who left The Wiltshire Regiment in 1957.



TRUE BRICK: final pat from Gen Hobbs

Fangs a lot, mate!

A 200 mile mercy dash to Nairobi with a soldier bitten by a deadly snake has earned for Pte Michael Tierney a C-in-C's commendation.

Pte Tierney, from the Colchester based 19 Field Ambulance RAMC, was woken in the early hours during an exercise in Kenya to

be told that Spr Stephen Allen had been bitten by a cobra.

The local doctor could not be traced so the pair drove 200 miles to Nairobi, stopping frequently so that Pte Tierney could administer life saving first aid. Pte Tierney was on attachment to 3 Troop, 34 Field Squadron at the time.

The citation says he undoubtedly saved Spr Allen from far more serious injury and possibly death.

Pte Tierney commented: "I was only doing my job."

Spr Allen said: "Thanks, mate!"

Paul's right number

MAJOR Paul Sheridan, who is serving with the RCT TA at Grantham and is also a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Carmen, has had his car branded by the Princess Royal.

Nothing sinister, though. The ceremony is an ancient one involving the licensing of cars and carts and means that Paul is now free to ply for hire in the City of London. Only Freemen of the Worshipful Company of Carmen who are also Liverymen have the right to register their vehicles. Paul's number plate - RCT IR - shows allegiance to the Army and his pride in the TA.



STAR PLATE: Liveryman Paul Sheridan

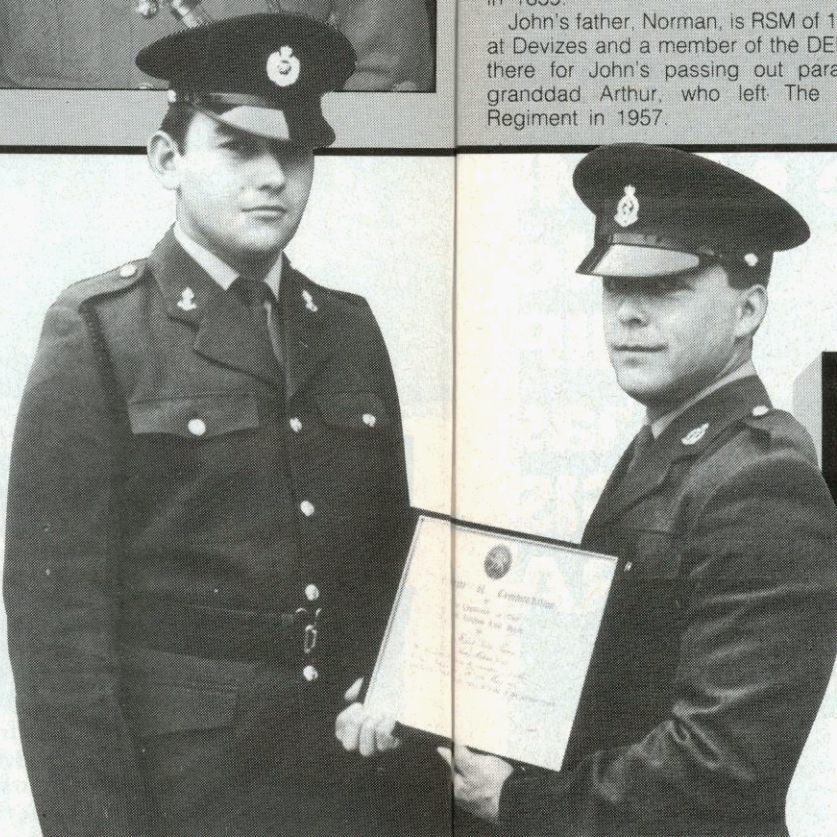
FIRST PRESIDENT

LT GEN Sir Michael Gray, who is soon to retire as GOC South East District, has agreed to become the first president of the Forces Retirement Association.

The FRA was formed in 1983 for the benefit of non-commissioned men and women of the Armed Forces. It provides

advice and assistance on pensions and gratuities and on retirement generally.

The association is also committed to negotiating for improvements in benefits and methods of payment and promoting the welfare of ex-Servicemen and women and their families.



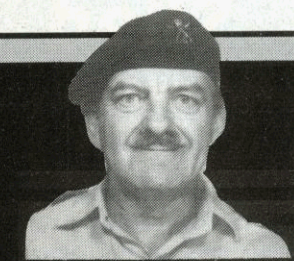
SNAKE BITE: Spr Stephen Allen (left) and saviour Pte Michael Tierney

Tich takes his leave

AFTER 47¼ years Lt Col Tich Harvey has hung his uniform on a hanger for the last time on retiring as Commandant Training Area Camps in Aldershot.

Col Harvey, a double MC holder, retired twice from the Army. The first time was from the Active List in 1977 to an appointment on the Retired List the same day.

He enlisted as an 18-



year-old in July 1940, won his first MC during the crossing of the Sangro, Italy while serving with 1/5 Royal Gurkha Rifles, and his Bar in 1955-56 during the Malayan Emergency.

He later commanded the 2nd Bn, 6 GR during the Borneo Confrontation and was awarded the OBE.

Tich Harvey also received the Brunei decoration, the DMMB.

Welcome back, Sir...

LT COL David James has taken over command of the 3rd Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers based at Catterick. He is the first officer to be commissioned into the RRF and subsequently to command one of its battalions.

Previous commanding officers had come from the four fusilier regiments amalgamated in April 1968 to form The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Col James served in the 1st Battalion as a company commander and was adjutant of the 2nd Battalion before attending Staff College in 1980.

In March 1989 he takes 3 RRF to Hemer in West Germany for a six year tour as the first UK based battalion to be



RRF 'OLD BOY' MAKES GOOD: Lt Col James takes over 3 RRF

equipped with the Army's new armoured fighting vehicle, the Warrior.

General builder

MAJ GEN Mike Hobbs, Commander 4th Armed Div, proved he is a dab hand with bricks and mortar when he visited 35 Engr Regt during a farewell visit to Hameln Garrison, West Germany.

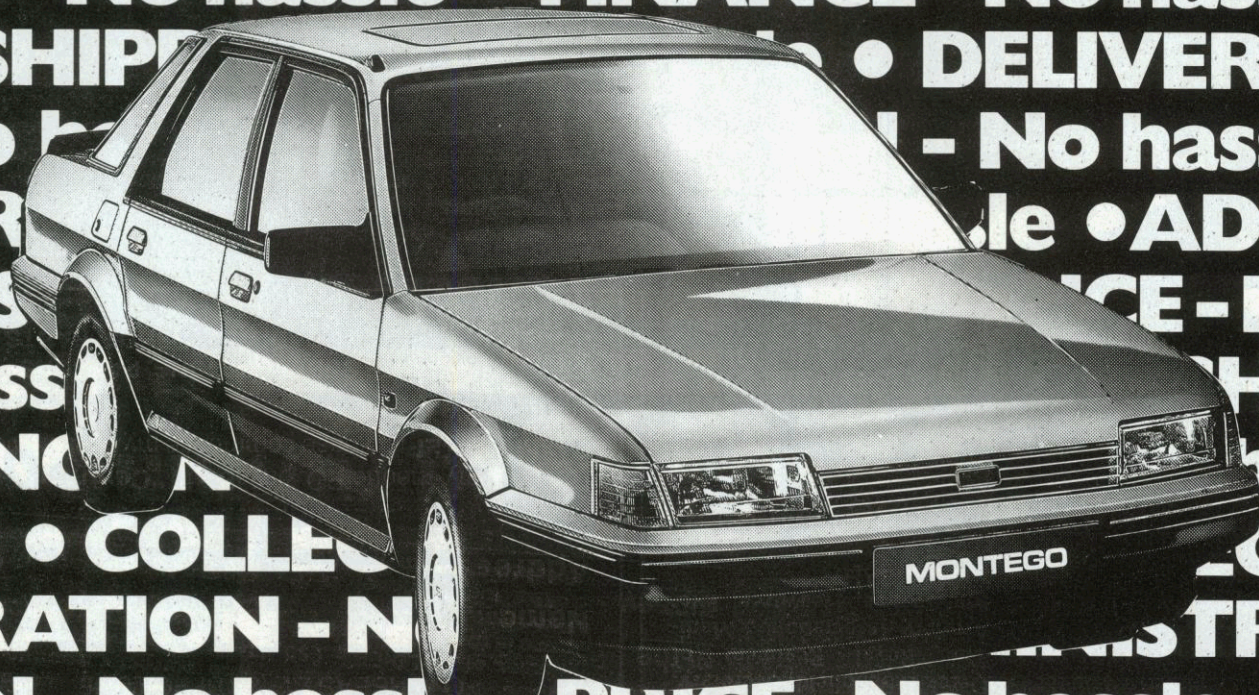
He went to work, briefly, with sappers of 37 Fd Sqn, who were carrying out trade training on a new squadron club project. And the general was even given a specially engraved brick to place in position.

Gen Hobbs opened a new training wing for 28 Amph Engr Regt and was later kidnapped by pirates on the Weser River. Fortunately he was rescued by sappers dressed in 1787 uniforms and so will be able to enjoy his retirement after all.

Col Protheroe takes charge

ALAN Protheroe - Colonel TA, Adviser to DPR (A) - the former Assistant Director General of the BBC, has been appointed Managing Director of the SSVC (Services Sound and Vision Corporation). He takes up the appointment in April.

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Here's news for the Barrak boys

Barrak seems a strange name for a newsletter. But the name is a clue to the fact that the newsletter is produced, albeit irregularly, for the old boys of the Imperial Camel Corps.

The word barrak may not be in the OED, but it's a sound which camels apparently recognise as the command to kneel. Whether they obey is another matter!

Barrak has just produced its Christmas 1987 issue, edited by Laurence (Rory) Moore from Leeds, 70 years after the first one appeared near Beersheba. The first editor was Capt Frank Morgan, now 94 and Col Morgan.

Mr Moore was corporal in charge of signals with the Hejaz assault column with T E Lawrence (of Arabia) in 1918, and he recalls using flags, heliograph, field telephone, smoke signals, whistle and klaxon horn which he had been trained to use with Capt Morgan.

Memories of a long time ago, and of a corps formed (in 1915) from volunteers from Australia, New Zealand, Scottish, Welsh and English county yeomanry and regiments.

Saved by the bell?

FOUR RAMC recruit Combat Medical Technicians from Keogh Barracks, Aldershot, who rescued three children from a blazing house, were rewarded when the family watched them during their pass out parade.

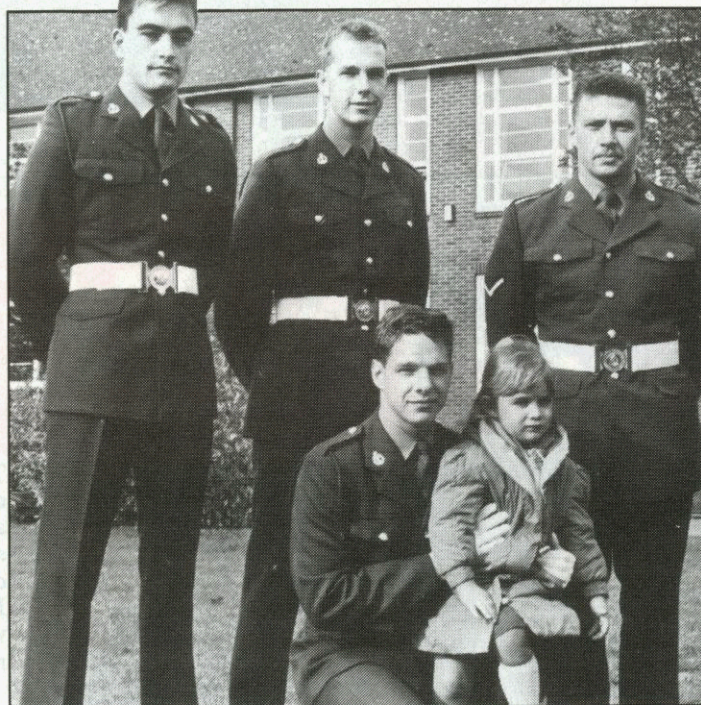
The quartet noticed the fire while using a public 'phone box, raised the alarm, and helped neighbours to douse flames which could have spread next door.

They were LCpl Carl Hand, now of 19 Fd Ambulance and Ptes Simon Hey, now with Aldershot's RADC Centre, Graeme Quinn, now serving with 5 Armd Fd Ambulance in BAOR and Wayne Gosling awaiting a clerks' course.

Ammo wagon on display

An open bogie wagon used to move ammunition, stores and coal to the front areas during the First World War has been restored by the Lincolnshire Coast Light Railway Historical Vehicles Trust.

Help was given by volunteers from the railway section of the Museum of Army Transport in Beverley, Humberside where the Class D ten ton wagon is on display. The general purpose wagons were adapted to take wounded men back to base hospitals.



Pte Simon Hey holds young Amy, one of the children saved from the house, with (from left) Pte Graeme Quinn, Pte Wayne Gosling and LCpl Carl Hand looking on



Mr Grice in the cockpit

SOLDIER to Soldier

Reconciliation in a graveyard

Prince Charles was taken to task by a section of the British Press for speaking in Munich about "the excellence of (German) military officers down through history" – just three days before Remembrance Sunday.

The previous day, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission issued its annual report recalling, among other things, that during the past year when its German counterpart completed its war ceme-

tery beside the Commonwealth Dely Ibrahim war cemetery in Algeria, it was agreed to remove part of the hedge between them "thus symbolically marking the reconciliation of two former belligerents."

The commission reported: "Reconciliation ensures that the bitterness associated with those wars no longer tarnishes our relationship with former enemies."

Or, as one national newspaper put it: "Let the dead lie in peace. And let past hatreds be buried too."

Gardeners' tribute

Each year since 1933 gardeners from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission have laid a wreath of berries, flowers and foliage gathered from the war cemeteries of Northern Europe, in St George's Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

This year, following an address by the Dean of Westminster, the wreath was laid by Arthur Clements, who has worked for the Commission in France for 40 years and whose son is now also on the gardening staff in France, and Reginald Gander from Belgium who has followed in his father's footsteps in a career with the Commission lasting over 35 years.

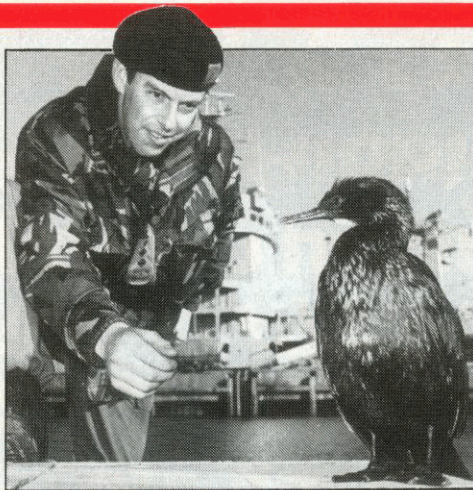
Look . . . that's me!

Remember SOLDIER's story about the brave men of the Glider Pilot Regiment (SOLDIER, August 10)?

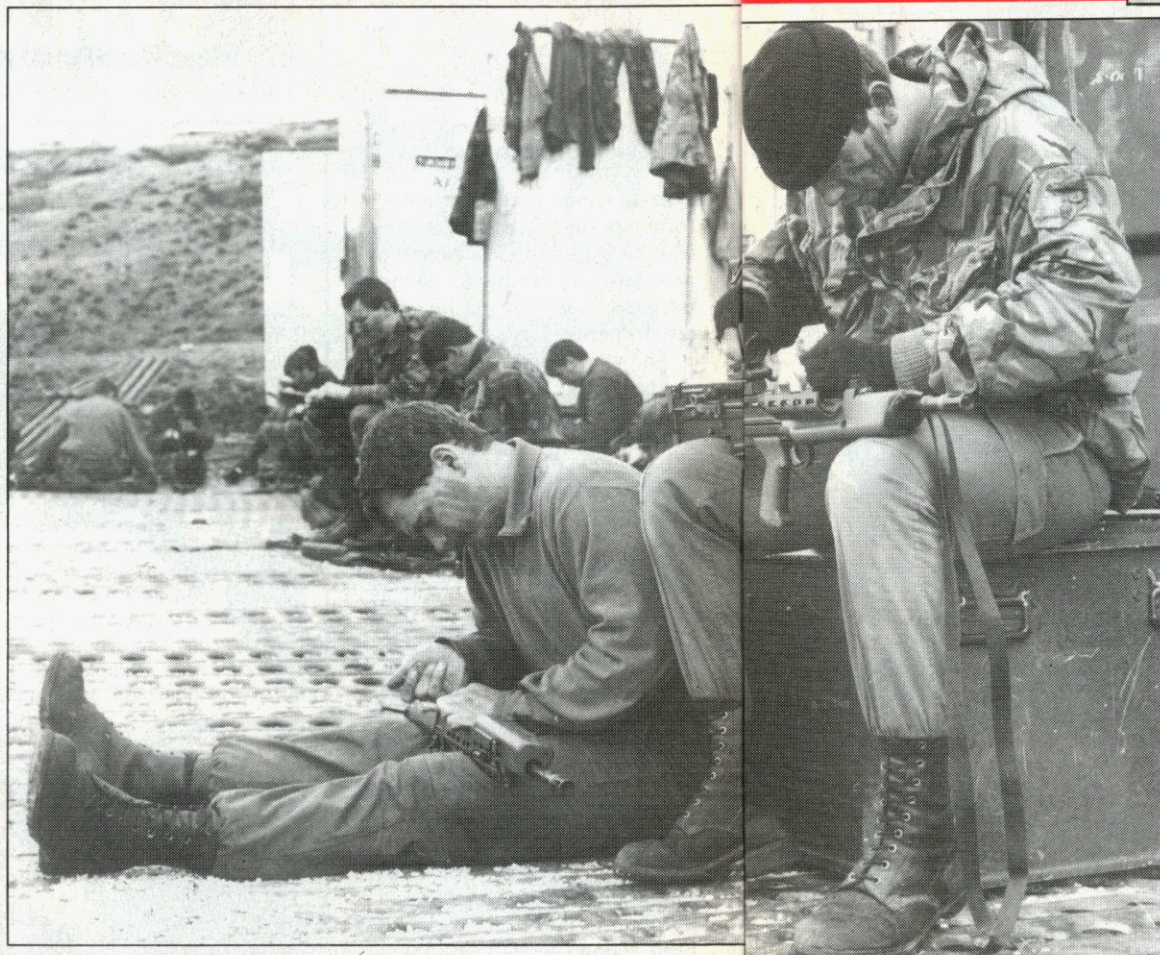
When Mr John Grice of Welwyn Garden City, Herts, saw it, he recognised the pilot under training in the cockpit of a Hotspur as himself. The photograph was taken in 1942 at Kidlington RAF base in Oxfordshire.

Mr Grice is now 75 and "in good health". He has recently been to a glider pilots' reunion dinner at Weston super Mare, where he met many of his old comrades, some of whom he had not seen for more than 40 years.

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



Left – Capt George MacFarlane makes friends with a young rock cormorant



Right – No matter the environment, the routine is the same. After an exercise comes the clean up

The MEN of C Company Group 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment thought that they were pretty good soldiers when they boarded an RAF Tristar for their tour in the Falkland Islands.

Four months later – and now rejoining the rest of the battalion at Kiwi Barracks, Bulford, Wilts – their Officer Commanding, Maj Chris Biles, knows his men are razor sharp after a unique soldiering experience.

The Janners took full advantage of service in the South Atlantic. Where else can a unit train on an area such as Onion Range in the heart of East Falkland? The boundaries are as far as you can see and live firing can take place with absolutely no fear of disturbing the civilians – there are none for miles!

Every week of the tour a platoon of D and Ds exercised on the range – despite the ever changing Falklands weather

which can produce horizontal sleet and a wind chill factor of minus 15 degrees Centigrade in a matter of minutes.

Maj Biles said: "I believe there are few places for the infantry to train that can better Onion Range. The conditions can be harsh and it is no fun to stumble up to your waist into a peat bog at night.

"A highlight of the tour was undoubtedly Exercise Sea Trout when a battery of 29 Commando Regiment RA provided support for a live firing company attack. It was an experience few will forget."

JANNERS' JAUNT!



Cheque mates!

Sgt Steve Felton (left) hands a cheque for £1,000 to Maj Ann Ward QARANC of King Edward Memorial Hospital while Lt Rupert Gibb presents a plaque of the battalion's battle honours to Wendy Fitzgerald, the civilian chief nursing officer at the islands' hospital

THERE was a cutting edge to the duties of C Company Group, 1 D and D – the Falkland Islands are still an operational area with a high degree of military preparedness. Every soldier was aware that he was in the South Atlantic to do a real job, not just train.

The infantry has a key role in protecting vital assets at RAF Mount Pleasant and the East Cove port complex about five miles down the road. Platoons were on standby day and night.

"Knowing that there is a real threat to be guarded against all the time made people realise that there was an important job to do," said C Coy Group OC Maj Chris Biles.

Perhaps the soldiers' favourite tasks – after exercises on Onion Range – were settlement patrols across many scattered islands.

Patrols varying from six to 12 men were dropped by Chinook helicopter or inserted from the sea by warship with a two-fold purpose – to demonstrate that the islands are actively defended and to foster good relations with the

Falkland Islanders. A typical patrol would cover between 30km and 60km over four to seven days.

It was rare for the small groups of soldiers to find anything but a warm welcome from the locals and unheard of for the company's high reputation to be anything but enhanced.

Patrols walked through dramatic countryside on East and West Falkland, while others visited wildlife havens such as Sea Lion Island and New Island where penguins, elephant seals and rare birds abound.

Maj Biles said: "The soldiers found they were entering a

difficult world when they visited settlements. Young men from a throw away society suddenly found themselves in a world where survival depended on making the maximum use of everything. Nothing could be wasted.

"What might have appeared to be an old piece of wood to us could have been earmarked as part of a kennel door to the local farmer."

The soldiers also had the chance of working side-by-side with the other two Services, gaining a valuable insight into the working of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force – even if one or two soldiers did return from sea a greenish shade of khaki!

Despite the hard work – 100 hours or more a week for some – the Devon and Dorsets did have time to relax – if you call pushing a bed 35 miles down the bumpy pot-holed road to Stanley recreation. The 5½ hour effort raised £1,000 towards the cost of an incubator for the local hospital, and the company has challenged anyone to beat their time!

D and Ds sharpen up in Falklands

A patrol from C Company Group passes Many Branch House on West Falkland



Pte Darren Whitworth finds the going a trifle damp on Onion Range

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And yet again, when 'What Car?' compared 22 performance Hatchbacks in May 1986, it was the Colt 1600 Turbo model that picked up all the praise.

There are five superb model variations to choose from; the 1200GL 3-door, the 1500GLX 3 and 5-door models (with an automatic transmission option on the 5-door), and the 116mph Colt Turbo.

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A long trek across the Brecon Beacons faced Regular soldiers in the Cambrian Patrol

THE BOYS from the Black Country – plus the sapper commandos – struck gold in this year's Cambrian Patrol, a gruelling test of true grit, military skills, guts and stamina, set high up in the Brecon Beacons National Park, writes **Gerry Nicholas**.

Contrary to past policy, this year's Cambrian did not take the form of a competition. Instead, the accent was placed on testing each individual soldier's stamina, skills and guts, with team members competing against a standard not each other.

In the Regular Army event gold awards – won by teams attaining 75 per cent marks or more – went to the Black Country boys of the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, and to 59 Commando Signal Squadron, Royal Engineers.

Silver awards (60 to 74 per cent) went to teams from 1 Royal Australian Regiment; 1 Para; Commando Logistic Regiment; 2 Squadron RAF Regiment; 2 RGJ and RAF Regiment Depot.

With more than 45 per cent marks, the Italian 4 Alpini team won a bronze medal, and 1 King's Own Border Regiment competed well. The Dutch Royal Marines were among unplaced teams taking part.

The three day course was staged over a 90 kilometre route taking teams from Crickhowell up and over Pen-y-fan, the Black Mountains, the Usk Reservoir, and finally to the

Stroll on Staffords



Competitors had to swim across 200m of open water

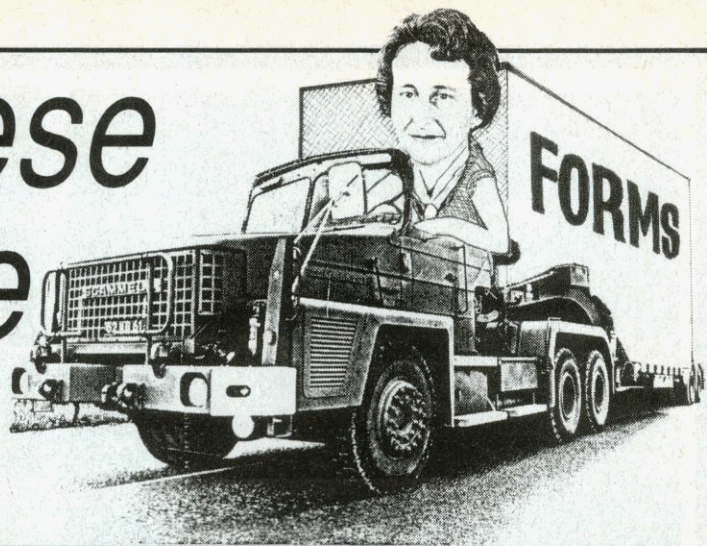
North of Sennybridge ranges, where the entire event culminated with a shoot.

The Territorial Army event, run on similar lines but over a 50 kilometre course and lasting

two days, saw teams from R Mon RE (V), and 3 (V) RWF taking silver awards, with bronze awards going to 3 (V) RRW, 3/51 Highland Regt (V), and 157 Tpt Regt (V).

In both Regular and TA events, each soldier taking part had to cover the whole of the course, carrying his 60lb pack, full ration supply, plus personal weapon.

Let's get these forms on the right road



RECENTLY a soldier and his family had to pay a large medical bill abroad when they ran into problems off station and had neither private medical insurance nor the European Community emergency treatment certificate.

Service personnel and their families will continue to be caught out if they do not carry the EEC certificate while travelling in Europe.

Free medical treatment is available only in the country where a soldier is serving.

This does not apply to visiting relatives and friends who must pay regardless even if they are treated in a British Military Hospital.

So they should make certain they are carrying the certificate. The price of a stamp is a small sum to pay for peace of mind. With Christmas leave coming up be warned.

All a person has to do is obtain DHSS leaflet SA 30 and use the application form it contains to apply for EEC Certificate 111.

Since 1975 I have been campaigning for soldiers and their families to obtain an E111 before travelling on posting – an illness or accident in Holland, say, en route to Germany could mean they are liable.

In that year I also drew the attention of the MoD to the need for SA 30s with the application forms to be made available at all duty stations in EEC countries.

After a long and protracted correspondence I broke the deadlock by taking the tube to Stanmore, Middlesex, the DHSS distribution centre and ordering 30,000 SA 30s for the Army.

The leaflets were duly produced in large cardboard cartons but I was told mournfully that there was no transport available to move them any further.

A friendly RCT officer

In my view . . .

was more helpful and I managed to have them heaved aboard a low loader operating in the area.

I think the driver enjoyed drawing up outside Lansdowne House, the old MoD building in Berkeley Square, London.

It then took weeks before they made the voyage to Germany and vanished.

I eventually traced them to the custody of a charming brigadier who telephoned one of his minions to find out what had happened to them.

I was in his office and could just hear a strangled voice on the phone say they were safe . . . in the basement.

Very decently the brigadier assured me they would be distributed forthwith and was as good as his word.

This experience alerted me to the need for all current DHSS leaflets to be available in all overseas

stations. This resulted in a pilot scheme being run in Cyprus where it proved there was a need.

The first issue arrived in the late 70s and were used up. The re-ordering system did not work.

I arranged early in 1980 for all applicable DHSS leaflets to be sent to the Postal and Courier Service at Mill Hill, London, where the sappers did a marvelous job.

For two years at least the overseas stations had stocks. Now they are

running down. Many BFPOs do not have them.

I have written again to MoD requesting that with the New Social Security Act due to start in April 1988 it is vital that the new and current DHSS leaflets are available in all BFPOs.

The MoD assures me that 1987 leaflets are available. Check the date because not all are reissued every year. Write to me if you have any problems – hopefully I won't have to borrow a low loader this time!

Old brigade growing

THE formidable problems that will face Service charities in the next few years were highlighted at a symposium organised by SSAFA, sponsored by Help the Aged and chaired by General Sir Hugh Beach.

It was estimated that by the end of the century the number of men and women aged 75 and over who might have a claim on charitable organisations could total 2.5 million.

The current figure is 1.5 million.

It was stated that around half the population over 60 today have Service connections.

John Mayo, the Director General of Help the Aged, stated that the representatives of the various charities were in the best position to set up a structure of trained volunteers working to common principles.

More than 200 representatives from charities connected with the Services attended the symposium.



LARKHILL Hive, opened this summer, is buzzing well. The vacant premises put at its disposal now have a drop-in coffee shop run by volunteers from the Federation of Army Wives and a playroom for toddlers.

A Good Neighbours scheme has been started and plans are in hand to set up a crèche.

The Hive has an Ansaphone service with remote control so that organiser Pat Le Feuvre can monitor calls from her home when the Hive is closed. (Left) Mrs Liz Grey, wife of Maj Gen Charles Grey, SSAFA Controller, at the Hive opening ceremony.

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

WHAT A shower! Tickets galore – 160,000 of them – were sold but only three of them came tops in this year's famous SSAFA 3-Car Draw.

And there at SSAFA Central Office to pick

the lucky winners were uniformed representatives from each of the Services (l to r) SACW Anna Hanbury, SACW Nicchi Roberts, WRAF, Pte Sandra Buckfield, of the WRAC and Wren Julie Pettitt.

Among the winners of three Metro City cars was Sgt C Aland, WRAC. The draw raised £30,000 for the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association's vital work relieving hardship.



Schools – new look at an old problem

I HAVE had a number of letters recently raising educational problems.

The Service Children's Education Authority have been kind enough to give some guidance on a variety of subjects.

TRANSFER of children's documents when a posting comes up during the two-year assessment period for the GCSE.

This it seems is up to the parents.

As courses leading to the new GCSE qualifications will be assessed on the work pupils have done as well as the final examinations it is essential that a full record is provided for the new school.

Parents should ensure that all available documentation relating to GCSE course work is transferred.

There is further information in the Education Year Book.

FINDING a new school on a short-notice posting.

The moment that parents know they're moving they should write to the Group Education Officer in their UK District. He/she can

ALL foreign-born wives of British Servicemen who married before January 1, 1983 and have not applied, but may be contemplating registration as British citizens, should register their application before December 31, 1987 to avoid a big fee increase. If in doubt seek advice.

advise on local education authority schools in the area.

If time is pressing a signal may be sent.

Once contact has been made parents are advised to write direct to the local education authority and the head of the school.

OBTAINING mandatory and discretionary awards for the children of Servicemen overseas.

These guidelines apply to young people whose families will be abroad when a course starts. (If they return permanently beforehand they apply to the local education authority where they live.)

For courses starting in autumn students should apply to the LEA in the area where the family was last resident before being posted abroad, but only if it was within the two year period previous to June 30 of the year in which they start their course.

If the family has been abroad for more than two years previous to June 30 of the commencement year then the student should apply to the last LEA in whose area he was physically present.

A young person may have been lodging with a relative or friend even though he may not have lived in the area before.

If the family has been abroad for more than two years previous to June 30 of the year the course begins and if the student has not set foot in this country throughout the two year period then the individual should apply to the LEA in whose area the college is situated.

Check out the little red book

THOUGH paying the handover bill on leaving quarters has been eased by the introduction of instalment recovery, the charges raised are often unexpected.

Wives may be interested therefore to know some of the contents of the little red book of the Property Services Agency which schedules charges for losses and damages in MQs.

Examples of replacement and repair costs include:

JOINERY
Nail holes in wood £1.41

each
Safety gate £32.02
Fire guard clips and chain £2.85 each
Toilet roll holder chromed £10.31 each.
PLUMBING
WC pan white £35.96 each
WC seat wood £13.15 each
WC seat plastic £8.54 each
Glass bathroom shelves £12.91 each.
PLASTERING AND TILING
Nail holes in plaster 25p each.
(20 nail holes in any one

room means a charge will be made for repainting the walls.)
COOKER FITTINGS
Meat tin gas cooker £3.28
Gas cooker 4 burner £353.88.
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS
Cooker meat tin £5.56
Cooker four plate £344.74
Bowls white glass, ceiling lights £14.79 (14" 350mm)
Plugs 15 amp £2.79.
GLAZING
Glass clear or patterned medium pane £13.53 (24" x 24").
IRONMONGERY
Upright mortice locks with

two keys £24.16.
PAINTING
Ten pencil marks – if all walls are marked you will be charged for redecoration.
Re-decoration if only one coat emulsion is required £78.44

The little red book is held by housing commandants and station staff officers and Accommodation Service Units.

IT'S A DATE
NOTE for your 1988 diary: the 18th all ranks meeting will be held at NAAFI HQ, Kennington, London, on February 4.

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until March '88**



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It's well worth applying for a Naafi Chargecard... it gives you extra spending power and to celebrate its introduction we are pleased to offer interest free credit until March 1988*. Next time you call in at your Naafi shop, make an application for a Chargecard...it's the simple and convenient way to spread the cost of your purchases and no interest will be charged prior to your March 1988 statement of account. Instant credit facilities are available. Typical APR after 1 March 1988 21.6% (variable). Please ask for written details.

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Pictures by
Stephen George



IF HE looks like a successful businessman it's because he is. Only his business is dealing with bombs, explosives and booby traps.

Maj Mark Blatherwick, OC of 321 EOD Company RAOC, controls teams in Londonderry, Omagh, Armagh, Bessbrook, Lisburn and Belfast. Plus a reserve.

In his hands is one of the latest terrorist weapons, a grenade filled with an Eastern Bloc explosive powerful enough to damage armoured vehicles.

It is a sign of the livelier times some areas of the Province are experiencing

at the moment, an upsurge in activity.

He said: "We had 121 live devices in the last three months of last year out of a total of 266. By mid September this year we had already dealt with 280 live devices.

"Having said that I must add that our neutralisation (defusing) rate is also increasing. It is up by 15 per cent this year so far.

"We have some excellent kit and experience is adding to our knowledge all the time. We've also got the men."

To date 760 officers and men of the RAOC have served on bomb disposal duties in Northern Ireland and have received a total of 230 awards for gallantry and bravery.

Bombs are their business

FELIX, the legendary cartoon cat, keeps watch over a door in the depths of Bessbrook Mill, a bustling security base in the heart of the Ulster countryside. He wears a protective helmet of sorts and doesn't look too sure of himself.

According to the notice, this is the lair of "The Bang Gang". Above Felix's head is a logo like a halo bearing the motto *Against All Odds*.

Inside, the atmosphere is more domestic than macho. An ironing board is tucked away neatly in a corner and visitors are offered a choice of tea or coffee from sparkling mugs hanging in a kitchen corner like a ship's galley.

Apart from a man-size

**Bill Moore pays
tribute to
321 EOD Coy,
in the front
line against
terrorism in
Northern Ireland
since 1970**

portrait of Felix in combat kit there are posters in the bunk rooms showing sports cars and rural views as well as pin-ups. The place is spotless.

WO1 Tony Thorogood, Senior Ammunition Technician

from Lisburn, was standing in for WO Mick Swift (absent on rest and recreation leave) when SOLDIER called.

He looked fit and lean and grinned when asked why he hadn't got the Bessbrook pallor.

The mill is a fine Georgian building dating from around 1760, a monument to the industry of the linen merchants whose names are engraved on a massive marble plinth in the yard.

The view from the top is great but its interior is a labyrinth of corridors and The Bang Gang who live in the heart of it tend to see the light of day beyond the mill only when called out.

This year's residents are getting plenty of fresh air during their four month stints. One of them on a quick calculation totted up 34 heliborne operations alone. And he still had time to do.

SEVENTEEN YEARS ON and as far as the squads of 321 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company RAOC are concerned it is business as usual.

Until recent tragic events readers on the mainland may not have got that impression from TV and radio but things become different if the echo of some of the bigger bangs is heard across the Irish Sea.

● Turn to next page

For 321 EOD Coy it is safer to expect the unexpected

● From Page 21

In a way, however, it is something of a compliment to the company that whenever terrorist explosives are encountered either in quantities of up to 3,000lb or just a few (still deadly) ounces, the Great British Public expects the media to announce "Army bomb experts have been called in".

SEVENTEEN YEARS ON and the truth is that though conditions in Northern Ireland have improved immeasurably – "normalisation" is an appropriate well-used word – the world's most experienced anti-terrorist bomb squads are in regular demand.

Terrorists are still trying to blast their way to the conference table – and 321 EOD Company, whose mission is solely to prevent loss of life and damage to property, is working diligently and often successfully to stop them.

By early November this year the 1,100 plus tasks carried out throughout the Province were about double for the same period in 1986.

The total of recorded incidents involving live bombs was over the 320 mark. The amount of explosive found, neutralised or detonated had reached an estimated weight of 25,000lbs and was still rising.

Late autumn with its season of political conferences in the Irish Republic has an unsettling effect on the more demonstrative members of extreme nationalist organisations.

SEVENTEEN YEARS ON and the pressures on 321 EOD Company have fallen into a rough pattern. But it is a pattern which can change at any moment. Something new is



Bessbrook Bang Gang go through the drill (left). While Cpl Chris Mooney, RCT, covers with his SLR, LCpl Mark Thompson, RAOC, adjusts the front of WO1 Tony Thorogood's bomb suit, Dvr Paul Fletcher RCT fixing the back. Sigmn Geordie Green (hidden) puts on the pads. Cpl Skip Hopper RAOC loads Wheelbarrow's manual arm



Above and top left – ATO examines the suspect object up steps mounted by Wheelbarrow. Note the new shape of the helmet which has a demister built into it to keep the visor clear. Left – Dvr Fletcher installs the "TV aerial" for Wheelbarrow

The world's most experienced anti-terrorist bomb squads

always turning up. It is safer to expect the unexpected.

Mortar bombs, which first appeared in the mid-70s, have now reached the Mark 10A model. They tip the scales at 130lb when filled and contain more than 40lbs of explosive.

A more recent "infernal machine" is an ugly black metal grenade resembling an outside specimen of the classic German "potato masher" of the First World War.

Not long ago one missed a Security Forces vehicle and landed close to a group of children without exploding.

Inside it 321 Company found

an orange substance identified as Semtex, an Eastern Bloc product as powerful as British standard military explosive. The Libyans are believed to have large stocks of it.

The Semtex was packed round a light metal cone so that the explosion produced an effect similar to that of hollow-charge ammunition used against tanks.

Lobbed accurately, a grenade could seriously damage a light armoured vehicle. The children who were playing near the sample that didn't explode wouldn't have stood a chance if it had gone off.

SEVENTEEN YEARS ON the terrorist bomb makers are still using whatever they can get from whoever is willing to supply it. Cordtex, which looks like flex and contains a powerful explosive, has been reaching their hands from Canada. Detonators also come from North America.

Manufacturers may be subtle or clumsy but rarely risk their own necks. Sixty "delivery men" have been blown up by their own home-made bombs.

SEVENTEEN YEARS ON it is hard to recall that in 1969 when the era of indiscriminate bombing dawned, "bomb disposal" duties were performed by the Northern Ireland Ammunition Inspectorate at Army HQ Lisburn. They dealt with any old shells turning up on the ranges, faulty rounds, and other ammunition and explosives problems.

After the terrorist campaign developed it was decided in 1970 to establish 321 Company with teams throughout the province at appropriate locations including Londonderry, Omagh, Armagh, Lisburn and

Bessbrook as well as Belfast.

"Appropriate" meant such places as Albert Street Mill, Belfast, a grimy disused factory (long given up) where a succession of ATOs (Ammunition Technical Officers) and ATs (Ammunition Technicians) spent four unpredictable months dealing with sinister objects in unpleasant places.

In winter "The Mill" was dark and grimy and reeked of damp combat jackets, bacon butties and sweaty bodies. It became hot and airless in summer – but the smell was still the same.

Bessbrook was even darker

and drearier than Albert Street then, with an unpleasant scum on the floors in bad weather which made walking difficult. Unlike Albert Street it has remained operational since 1972 but the conditions have improved.

It is just as well as the team based there answers calls throughout a dangerous country area around Newry and the borders of South Armagh.

Team means what it says. Strengths can vary from four to eight men and may be commanded by an officer, WO or senior NCO of the RAOC. He is the Number One, the

ATO, the operator, the man who, when the task demands it, makes the long and lonely walk to examine the unknown.

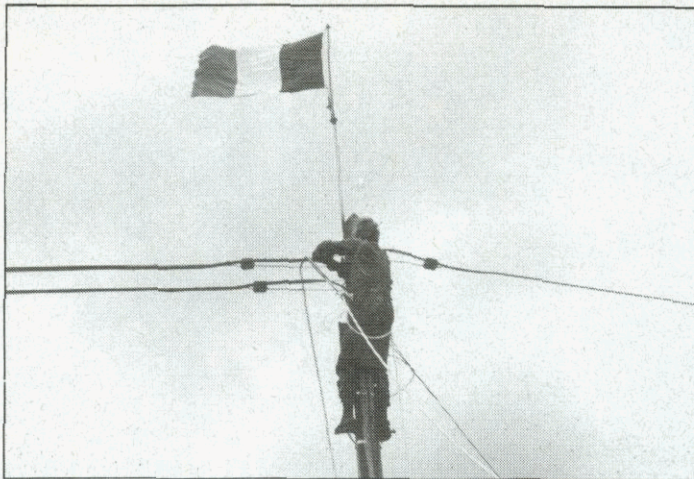
He is backed up by a Number Two, who could be an RAOC corporal.

All operators are trained in a wide range of technical duties at the Army School of Ammunition. In the case of an ATO the course lasts for a year.

Essential to the team are drivers from the Royal Corps of Transport, "Bleeps" from the Royal Signals to handle the electronic counter measures

● Turn to next page

HARMONY IN ARMAGH...



Deadly provocation . . . An ATO from 321 EOD Coy neutralises a booby trapped Republican flag



On the way out . . . The familiar bomb squad "pigs" are being replaced by new custom-built vehicles



On the way in . . . The new vehicles being used by 321 EOD Coy are specially designed to carry equipment including Wheelbarrow

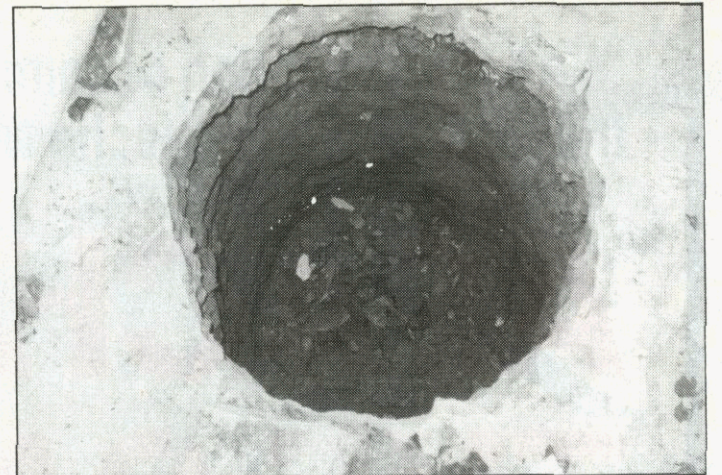


THE Red Setter bitch was found by the Armagh section of 321 EOD Company at the scene of an incident. From their observation later they concluded that she had not only been badly frightened but probably badly treated by her owners as well. Somehow she was called Boy and the name has stuck. The cat is called Axle because it appeared from under

a vehicle when it returned from a task. Someone suggested she had travelled on the axle.

Though Boy is still very nervous where strangers are concerned she lives in complete harmony with Axle in the comfortable airy headquarters occupied by the section in Armagh.

There seems to be a lesson here somewhere.



Hide . . . A small ATO began to explore this hole



And seek . . . But what was at the bottom of the plastic drum?



Deadly answer . . . A larger ATO used a hook and line to extract this cache of weapons from the drum

There are no cowboys . . . its

● From Page 23

equipment, and escorts from the infantry.

According to the requirement up to four vehicles may be taken to the scene of an incident. In some country areas where the team could be ambushed en route the squad goes in by helicopter.

Equipment is constantly improving, though the "hook and line" is still a highly regarded part of the armoury. The familiar "pigs" are being superseded by a custom-built

bomb squad wagon to carry the tools of the trade.

Wheelbarrow, the robot which began life as an improvised pram chassis, is now tracked and carries cameras and sundry firing tubes to perform a variety of functions to disrupt IEDs (improvised explosive devices).

From simple cable control the Wheelbarrow has graduated to the Mark 8 which is radio operated and can climb the stairs of a three-storey house.

Another new feature has

altered the shape of the helmet that goes with the operator's bomb suit. A demister has been fitted to keep the visor clear, essential in a damp climate.

About the only thing which has not altered in 321 Company over the years is the quality of the men.

There are no cowboys among the operators. It is not a job for volunteers with heroic ideas.

Anyone sufficiently qualified in the ammunition trade may be posted to the unit.

Men who have doubts about

themselves or their skills can quit at any time – and revert to a lower status and a different branch of the RAOC.

What is often overlooked is the fact that to an EOD team every operation is "for real".

It may turn out that a suspect parcel is a hoax; it may be that a call is a false alarm; it may be that a device is defective.

But no one, including the ATO, knows that until the task has been fulfilled. Seventeen EOD operators of the company have been killed putting that

not a job for volunteer heroes

question to a bomb alone and at close range. A further two team operators have died on operations.

Despite the drills emphasising the preservation of the life of the operator and teams, the job by its very nature has an element of danger. It is not a career for the unsuspecting and gullible.

The terrorist uses every type of booby trap. Recently a would-be killer cut a baseball bat in half, stuffed it with explosives and inserted a

mechanism which enabled the reassembled bat to be used for a time before it blew up. Two policemen were hurt when it detonated.

Sometimes the enemy sets out with the sole purpose of snaring an ATO or trapping a team.

So what do the men who carry out the task get out of it?

Maj Mark Blatherwick, the current company commander whose Northern Ireland service can be measured in years, said:

"The thing that always

strikes me is the job satisfaction expressed by all members of the teams, whether they are operating in the city or country.

"Their motivation springs from the knowledge that they are succeeding in their objective to prevent the terrorist inflicting the damage they wish to cause.

"Teams which deal with perhaps a dozen incidents a day are still as keen at the end of the day as when they started. It's up to me to make sure they don't overstretch themselves."

In a briefing for foreign journalists in Belfast recently Lt Col Hugh Heap, CATO (Chief Ammunition Technical Officer) in the Province, stated that statistically it had been worked out that every pound of explosive detonated in Northern Ireland did an average of £1,500 worth of damage.

On this basis it may be estimated that 321 EOD Company has prevented about £250 million worth of destruction. Did someone mention cost effectiveness . . . ?

'We have a tradition of naming our helicopters after Indian tribes . . . and the Apache were the most cunning we fought'

APACHE JOINS THE CAVALRY!

"THIS IS the meanest, most effective, most competent and most capable helicopter in the world!"

Lt Col Tom Raines, Vietnam veteran and Deputy Commander of the US 6th Cavalry Brigade, is without doubt a master of the adjective but his enthusiasm for the new AH-64 Apache was both infectious and well founded, writes Mervyn Wynne Jones.

Making a grand entrance in the European theatre during Exercise Reforger/Certain Strike, Apache was turning heads wherever it went – not only among aviators but among tankmen and infantry who could readily appreciate its formidable payload.

Brought over by the Texas based 6th Cavalry – the largest aviation unit in the US Army and the first to receive it – Apache is now a permanent feature of Nato's front-line forces.

Armed with both Hellfire missiles and 70mm aerial rockets, and mounting a 30mm chain gun on its chin, Apache has an air-to-air, anti-tank and anti-personnel capability.

A maximum of 16 Hellfire laser guided missiles can be carried on four pods – or a maximum of 76 70mm aerial missiles. The payload can be varied and the 30mm chain gun can fire 625 rounds a minute from its 1,200 round magazine.

The latter can puncture APCs and is very effective against other attack helicopters. Its weapons system as a whole is tailored to kill tanks and suppress an enemy on the ground.

Apache can fire its Hellfire missiles almost in ripple sequence because each is guided to a target by its own designated laser – either from the air or from the ground.

An on-board navigation package means that flight route and targets can be programmed into a cockpit computer.

Weighing a maximum 17,560 lbs, Apache can stay in the air for one hour and 45 minutes and can cruise at 140 knots. It can fly 1,000 navigable miles into a ten knot headwind.

Flying low to conceal intent and location, Apache has its own video camera to enable crews to bob up from behind

trees, scan the route ahead, duck back down and then replay the film to identify targets and plan the next leg of their flight.

Missile systems are computer linked for rapid target acquisition and engagement and, with a range of more than 5,000 metres, Apache is able – in the words of Lt Col Raines – to "kill the enemy at distances where he cannot even see us. He is dead before he knows what has hit him."

Apache has been designed with electronic warfare in mind and has devices and innovations to reduce its aural, visual, radar and heat signatures – it is more difficult to hear, see and pick up on radar and with infra-red.

Built-in systems within Apache reduce its heat signature and heat from the engines is vented from the sides and dispersed by the rotor blades.

Its dark green paint acts as an infra-red suppressor and it carries flares and chaff to throw missiles off their scent. However, it carries its own infra-red equipment to detect heat emitted from potential targets.

Its state-of-the-art survivability equipment also includes a radar warning receiver and a radar jammer. Once an enemy radar has been detected and knocked out the jammer automatically switches itself off to reduce its electronic signature.

Everything is tailored to save both crew and helicopter for another mission: rotor blades can take a substantial amount of punishment before breaking and if one engine goes down the other will keep the helicopter airborne.

Composite armour protec-

tion and self-sealing fuel cells offer added crew protection and the crew compartment is designed to withstand a 30mph vertical impact with 95 per cent crew survivability.

Costing eight million dollars – without missiles, rockets and bullets – the McDonnell Douglas AH-64 Apache is not cheap but it is certainly a potent addition to the Nato armoury.

"We have a tradition of naming our helicopters after Indian tribes," said Lt Col Raines, "and the Apache were the most cunning, conniving and able we fought."



Above and left – The new AH-64 Apache looks like a rough, tough machine of war. Tough it certainly is, but its less than sleek exterior conceals a mass of sophisticated equipment designed to destroy or confuse the enemy

FACT FILE

Max weight 17,500lbs

Duration 1 hour 45 minutes

Cruising speed 140 knots

Weapon fit includes Hellfire missiles, 70mm rockets and 30mm chain gun

Max vertical climb 2,880ft a minute

Engines two, 1,536shp General Electric T700-700 free turbine turbo shafts



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Pictures: Terry Champion

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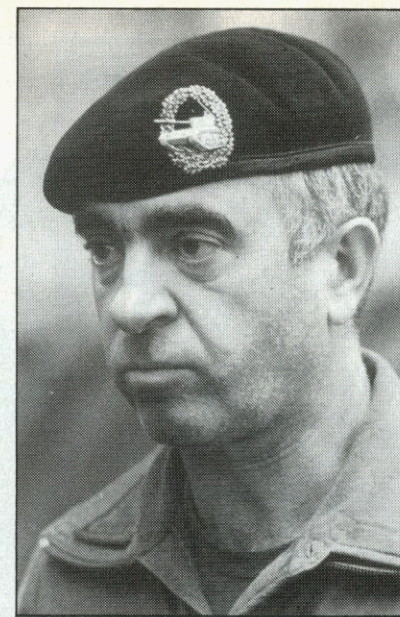
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MILITARY SALES



Above – ENDEX. 534 Bn's panzers are loaded on a train for the journey back to Düren. Inset – Feldwebel Gerd Künze, tired but determined, after a fortnight on a tough exercise. He is a social worker at a children's home in civilian life.



Oberstleutnant Uwe Schrader (above), CO of 534 Panzer Battalion, pictured after a hectic night's activity during Exercise Keystone 87. He was pleased with the performance of his reservists and highly complimentary to the British troops his units worked with.

Oberstlt Schrader comes from an old German naval family. His grandfather served aboard the battlecruiser *Lutzw* which had to be sunk after being badly damaged at Jutland in 1916. His father was in the navy and this year his son enters naval college – the same attended by his forbears

Story: Bill Moore
Pictures: Terry Champion



Below – Heimatschutzbrigade 53 fielded 97 M48A2C tanks. This is one of 533 Bn's. The machines are based on US M48s produced in the 1950s but rebuilt and vastly improved during the late 1970s by the Wegmann company of Kassel, West Germany. Weight (loaded): 47 tons. Main armament: 105mm L7A3 as in the Leopard 1. The improved square mantlet can be clearly seen below the cam net which obscures the infra red searchlight



Wunderbar! British infantry impress Panzers

TO HEAR British soldiers praised for their skills is good at any time, but when the words come from a professional they have added weight.

Oberstleutnant Uwe Schrader's 534th (West German) Panzer Battalion was deployed in support of the 24th Infantry Brigade, from Catterick, during Exercise Keystone 87.

"Enemy" forces had broken through a minefield and a battle which required fast response raged all night long on the Weser in North East Germany.

At the end of it Oberstlt Schrader declared that "the British infantry were outstanding". He was "deeply impressed".

He will be pleased to learn that Brig Peter Woolley (Commander 24 Bde) held the men of Heimatschutzbrigade

53 in equally high regard. They were, he said, "damn" good".

Heimatschutzbrigade 53 is one of six West German formations which have no UK parallel.

As "Home Defence" brigades they do not come under Nato in peacetime but fit into a regional command structure (WBK – Wehrbereichs Kommando).

They are tasked with the protection of rear areas, close co-operation with the field army, and they reinforce Nato if an operational emergency arises in time of war.

The official title and the role give a slightly misleading impression of the firepower and mobility of these formations.

Heimatschutzbrigade 53, for example, is a veritable mini-panzer division. On Keystone

87 it deployed 94 main battle tanks plus two jager battalions with armour and anti-tank components.

Two nine-gun batteries of 105s gave artillery support and there were the necessary engineer, logistic and medical troops.

In peacetime the brigade has a strong cadre – 65 per cent of personnel including national servicemen doing their 15 months in uniform.

Its armour consists of 533 Tank Battalion at full strength plus a company of 534 with the rest of its tanks and weapons

A professional challenge

Oberst Volker Glatt (pictured right), Commander Heimatschutzbrigade 53: "We have exercised with our British partners for the third time; this time was the most demanding. The high physical and organising performance of these military professionals is, of course, a big challenge to us. We readily accepted this and I was pleased to see how much energy and commitment our reservists showed on the job."

Oberst Glatt studied psychology at university before joining the Army. Apart from regimental duties he has served at Nato HQ, Brussels, and in the German Ministry of Defence. He took command of Heimatschutzbrigade 53 in April 1985.

maintained by an equipment holding unit.

On mobilisation Oberstlt Schrader leaves his job with the staff at Cologne and takes command. The shortfall is made up by reservists – 450 of whom were called up for Keystone, including men be-

tween 30 and 40, some of whom had not served for several years.

(With the falling birthrate – due to the introduction of the "Pill" in the Sixties – there are not enough conscripts to make up all establishments.)

The reservists come from a



radius of 50kms from their barracks and are required to attend courses from time to time to bring them up to date with weapon and tactical changes.

Three schools exist for this purpose in the Düren area where Heimatschutzbrigade 53 has its headquarters.

On mobilisation, reservists can expect to join units with which they are familiar – the same company or even section they have reinforced on exercises either in the field or barracks.

They come from all walks of life and all parts of North Rhine/Westphalia. For example Maj Heinrich Shulte Uemmingen, of 534 Bn, turned out to be a marketing manager for Thyssens the steel firm.

Maj Klaus Scharzeluhr,

liaison officer at Bde HQ during the exercise, visits Britain regularly as an exporter of steel tubes.

Feldwebel Gerd Kunze, 2 i/c of a troop of four tanks, worked in the education service at a children's home in the Eiffel.

He had known Oberstlt Schrader since they both served in the same unit many years previously.

Feldwebel Künze, 40, found the exercise demanding with considerable movement required. But no more than some older British TA soldiers.

Oberst Volker Glatt, commanding Heimatschutzbrigade 53, made the point that was echoed throughout British units taking part in the exercise. "It was absolutely not boring. Every soldier had the chance to meet the enemy."

Para MP Alasdair is back in action

EURO MP Alasdair Hutton found himself wearing another hat while touring his constituency during the exercise.

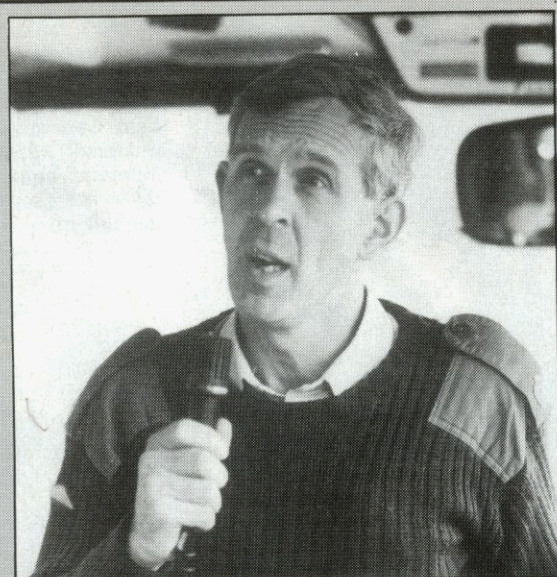
A maroon one, to be precise, in his capacity as former second in command of 15 Para (V) and a current member of the Woolwich based TA watchkeepers pool.

Maj Hutton, 47, leapt at the opportunity to combine his military and political pursuits when he heard that the western corner of his South of Scotland constituency was to be the scene of the exercise.

A BBC broadcaster

before being elected to the EEC's European parliament in Strasbourg in 1979, he was a member of 15 Para for 22 years.

"Regrettably I had to cut down on my TA activities as the job of Euro MP started taking up more and more of my

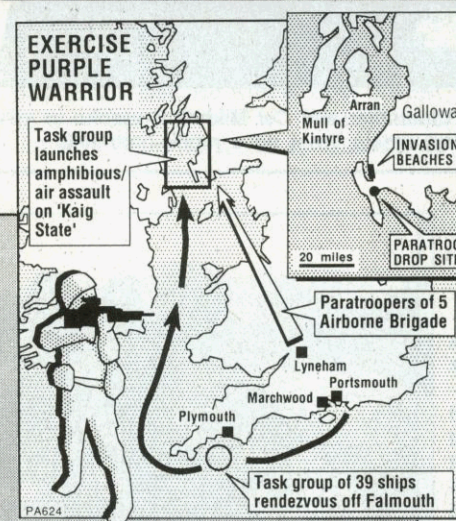


Maj Alasdair Hutton, charged with guiding Fleet Street reporters around the exercise area

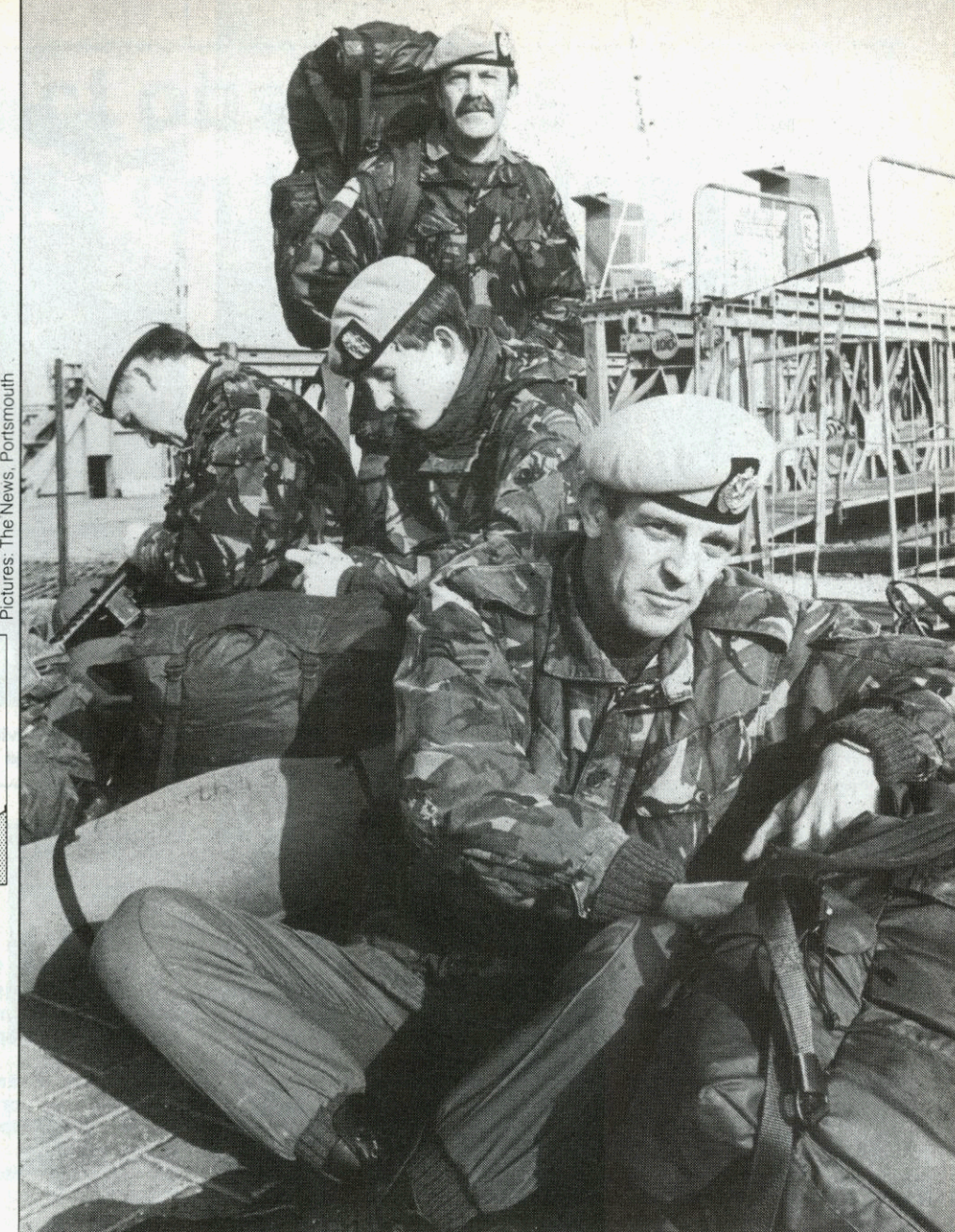
time," said Maj Hutton who still finds himself airborne regularly while commuting between his home in Kelso and offices in Strasbourg and Brussels.



Brig David Chaundler, commander 5 Airborne Brigade, (left) and Lt Gen Sir Michael Gray, GOC SE District and Purple Warrior controller, watch troops embark at Marchwood



Pictures: The News, Portsmouth



SSgt John Keyte (foreground) and Army Air Corps colleagues get ready to go to sea at Marchwood

Words: Mervyn Wynne Jones

Pictures: Terry Champion

Behold the Purple Warriors

ALTHOUGH committed to Nato and her allies, Britain is also responsible for the defence of her dependent territories and the protection of British communities abroad.

While Britain does not maintain forces exclusively for operations outside the Nato area, she has the ability to deploy forces anywhere in the world.

In surroundings reminiscent of the Falkland Islands, the men of 5 Airborne and 3 Commando Brigades practised just this as they mounted a mock "out of area" operation on the south west coast of Scotland.

Two years in the planning and costing £7 million to stage, the exercise drew 20,000 men of all three Services to the beaches and

heathland of Galloway, Arran and Kintyre.

Dubbed Purple Warrior, the exercise was a predominantly maritime operation and gave participants every opportunity to flex their amphibious role.

The exercise scenario called for a task force to be sent to a far off independent island group invaded by enemy forces.

A fleet of 40 ships - the biggest to be amassed (apart from Operation Corporate) since the Suez campaign of 1956 - took the combined force to the exercise location.

Among the ships were the aircraft carriers HMS Ark Royal and HMS Illustrious and

the assault ship HMS Intrepid, while buzzing like hornets overhead were 50 helicopters and 40 fixed wing aircraft.

1 Para arrived by parachute after boarding with their vehicles and guns at RAF Lyneham. They were soon in action against "enemy" orange forces who included the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Based at Church Crookham in Hampshire, 6 GR are normally part of 5 Airborne Brigade but found themselves pitched against colleagues in 3 Para, The Life Guards, 7 RHA and 3 Queens.

Other units from 5 Airborne Brigade

taking part were 36 Engineer Regiment, a detachment of 244 Signal Squadron, 63 Squadron RCT, 82 Ordnance Company RAOC, 10 Field Workshop REME, 23 Para Field Ambulance and a detachment of 160 Provost Company RMP.

Created in 1983 after the restructuring of 5 Infantry Brigade, 5 Airborne Brigade is tailored for speed of reaction, flexibility and operational self sufficiency.

Speaking about the combined forces exercise, Maj Gen Nick Vaux, Major General Royal Marines, said: "After our adventures together in 1982, it is a particular

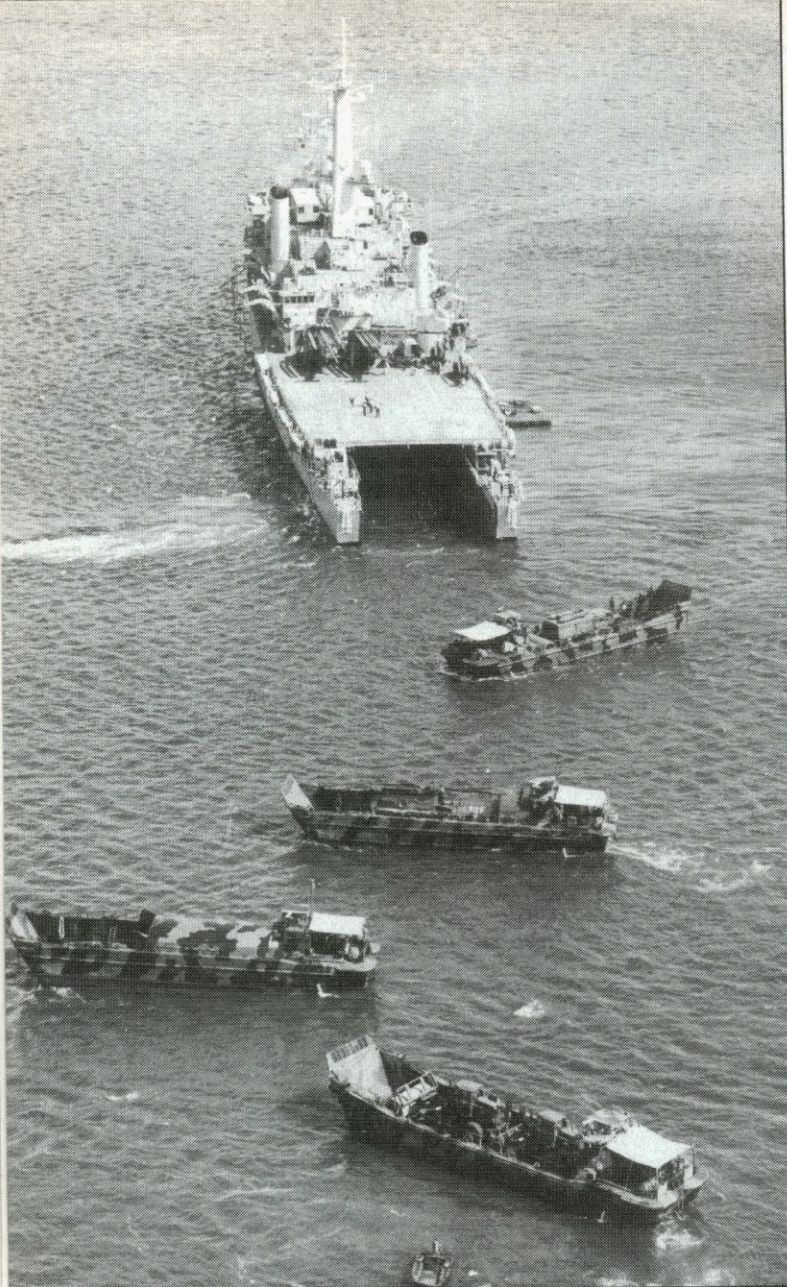
pleasure for me to see the victorious association of 3 Commando Brigade and 5 Airborne being resumed.

"I believe this combination provides unique advantages of flexibility and surprise. Whether for operations in Nato, or out of area, the amphibious force with its ability to 'loiter with intent' provides a unique and valuable capability in rapidly developing and changing circumstances," added Maj Gen Vaux.

More Purple Warrior stories in Pages 34-35



Picture: The News, Portsmouth



Picture: HMS Intrepid Photographic Section



Brig David Chaundler and Col Mikhail Krutenko in jovial mood as East meets West on a mock battlefield

Intrepid flock

Left - Just like a re-run of the battle for the Falkland Islands - landing craft mill around HMS Intrepid off the coast of Scotland before landing equipment for 5 Airborne and 3 Commando Brigades on the imaginary island of Kaig



Vehicle disembarking from the landing ship Sir Percivale



Warsaw Pact observers have a trained eye on the action

"IT IS better to meet here than on the battlefield," Col Georgi Gueorguiev of Bulgaria told SOLDIER.

"After such meetings it will be very difficult to go out and shoot at each other on the battlefield," he added.

One of a clutch of senior Warsaw Pact officers observing Exercise Purple Warrior, he and others from 20 nations braved the chill of a grey Scottish dawn to watch the opening moves of the largest ever tri-Service exercise on British soil.

It was the first observable exercise in the UK since the Stockholm conference last year on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

Col Mikhail Krutenko, a Soviet parachutist, watched with obvious interest as more than 500 men of 1 Para tumbled out of a dozen Hercules to establish an

airhead at the MoD ranges at West Freugh near Stranraer.

Brig David Chaundler - commander 5 Airborne Brigade - had arrived in a Special Forces C-130 Hercules before dawn to greet his guests.

The specially equipped Hercules, whose crew had night vision devices, landed without lights to drop off one company and two Scorpions to secure the drop zone.

Quizzing Brig Chaundler after the arrival of the rest of the battalion, Col Krutenko sought details on everything from the weight of their bergens to the amount of ammunition and the type of entrenching tools they carried.

Commenting on his visit he said: "We are enjoying it and everything is in accord with the Stockholm agreement. It is very important to trust each other and reduce

international tension."

Ideally suited to his temporary role as interpreter to Brig Chaundler was Lt Milosh Stankovic of A Coy 1 Para whose Yugoslav parents now live in Cornwall and who studied Russian at university.

Lt Stankovic said: "This guy is asking some typical para questions. It is very interesting to hear him talk and I can certainly relate to him as a fellow professional."

All military tastes were catered for as the party made a whistle-stop tour of the exercise area.

Donning more formal wear at the end of their visit, the observers were wined and dined at their Stranraer hotel in the manner of a regimental dinner during which they were entertained by the orchestra of the Welsh Guards.



Above - Heads down in the wind as sappers check a pump at the bulk fuel installation

Right - Testing the quality of all fuels before delivery to the participants on Purple Warrior were Pte Andy Cunningham (front) and LCpl Des Wilby

Sappers pitch in to keep show running

BERETS of all colours were seen among the Royal Engineers setting up the exercise bulk fuel system, a huge operation supplying upwards of three million litres to all participants.

Elements of 9 Para and 59 Independent Commando Squadrons joined members of Maidstone based 36 Engineer Regiment in establishing a fuel supply system from the RFA Olwen moored nine miles offshore to the 14 tanks onshore each capable of holding

136,000 litres.

Members of Marchwood based 20 Port Squadron RCT pitched in with a workboat and crew to support the sappers' combat support boats towing the fuel-laden barges from the RFA to moored storage points a few hundred yards offshore.

The site was chosen and designed by members of 516 Specialist Team RE and the running of it was then passed over to the men of Corsham based 4 Petroleum Platoon

RAOC who handled thousands of litres of aviation fuel, diesel and petrol daily.

Ensuring that the quality of all fuel arriving ashore was of the best were LCpl Des Wilby RAOC and two other chemical laboratory assistants from 4 Petroleum Platoon.

Carrying out nine different tests on each fuel sample, LCpl Wilby commented: "You certainly learn things about fuel that would never have crossed your mind before!"

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SOLDIER magazine was just four issues old when, in April 1945, it announced to a shocked readership "Here is the evidence..."

"The human race has, in the last two weeks, been confronted with the ultimate in man's inhumanity to man," stated the article.

"The concentration camps at Belsen, Ohrdruf, Nordhausen and Buchenwald have been uncovered by the Allied Armies.

"What was perpetrated there by the Germans reaches such depths of

foulness, degradation, misery and bestiality that none may close his eyes or look the other way... for here Evil is bared."

More than 40 years on the spirit of the dead is almost tangible as one treads the paths between a dozen or more huge, heather-capped

mounds – mass graves to at least 30,000 victims of the Final Solution.

A heavy silence hangs over the site – still surrounded by pine forest – where prisoners lived in unspeakable squalor in row upon row of huts.

Starved of food and

water beaten mercilessly by their guards, suffering from dysentery and stomach diseases and prone to epidemics of typhus and tuberculosis, the prisoners died in their thousands.

Originally an army barracks and later a camp for Russian prisoners of war – thousands of whom also succumbed – Belsen was transferred to the SS in April 1943 and became a detention camp for several thousand Jews.

Overcrowding was aggravated by the transfer of inmates to Belsen from other concentration camps and by December 1944, when Josef Kramer – the notorious Beast of Belsen – was appointed commandant, the camp was already on course for a place in the annals of infamy.

Between January and April 1945 the number of inmates escalated from

Writer Mervyn Wynne Jones and photographer Terry Champion visited the site of Belsen camp while in BAOR recently and found it an eerie experience...

WHERE NO BIRDS FLY

PEACE AT LAST: Heather capped mounds are the last resting places of at least 25,000 victims. No buildings remain



THE END: British troops destroy the Belsen buildings

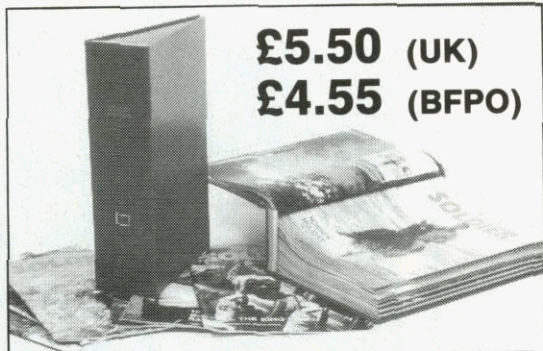


THE REALITY: Weak and dying carry the dead to make piles of corpses

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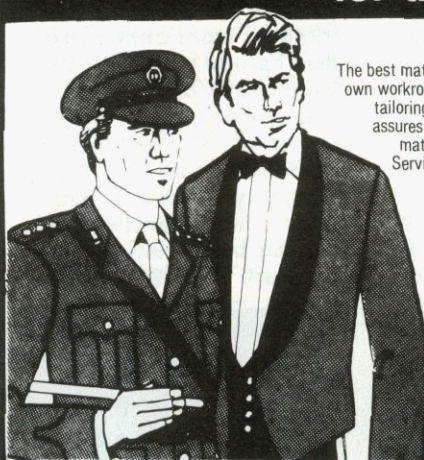
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KOREA – WHERE THEY DREW THE LINE AGAINST COMMUNISM

THE Korean War may almost be called the “forgotten war” so little has been written about it and so seldom is it mentioned. Yet it is the one conflict in which the United Nations put a fighting force into the field and the one occasion when it was seriously suggested that atomic weapons should be used.

There was a great fear at that time in the West that Communism was fiercely on the march. The fear was built up into McCarthyism, which almost became hysterical.

When troops of Communist dominated North Korea invaded and quickly overran South Korea in 1950 the United Nations acted with speed to drive the invaders back to the 38th Parallel, the line agreed after the Second World War.

Twenty nations offered ground troops, nine made naval units available and six supplied aircraft and helicopters. The United States provided three Army corps, a Marine division and the necessary supporting elements, including naval forces and aircraft.

The British Commonwealth responded well and from Britain went two brigade headquarters, five infantry battalions, a field artillery regiment and an armoured regiment.



Happy conclusion for these British soldiers being filmed for television on their repatriation from prison camps in North Korea

The advance went slowly forward and there seemed no doubt of a United Nations' victory. Then, on the night of November 1, 1950, an American company position was suddenly overrun by a horde of shouting, shooting, grenade throwing, bugle blowing fiends mouthing an unknown language.

Communists from China had entered the war. They came “like a thunderbolt in the night” and the war was to drag on for another 2½ years.

Britain remembers the war chiefly because of the heroes of the British 29th Brigade who long stemmed the advance at the Battle of the Imjin River. They had an enormous task with 7½ miles of front, the Northumberland Fusiliers and the Gloucestershire Regiment forward, with a Belgian battalion on their right. The Royal Ulster Rifles were in reserve. There was a two miles gap between some companies.

The Chinese put three divisions against them in an

attack which was sudden, unexpected and devastating. The heroes included two Victoria Crosses for the Glosters.

Why this war happened, how it progressed, and the political and military aspects, are well recorded in Max Hastings' book, together with maps and photographs to bring it fully to life. – GRH

The Korean War by Max Hastings, published by Michael Joseph. Price £14.95.

Russian campaign was biggest ever

IN 1939 Hitler knew that he had to subdue the forces of the Soviet Union before they could build up their immense resources to hard military proficiency.

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Poland was in the way, but a surprise attack, fast, furious and hard, should be enough to force a way through. The Soviet Army was patterned on the German, but had not the *Wehrmacht's* initiative nor thorough cohesion.

The war that Russia felt thrust upon her became the Patriotic War in defence of the homeland. It was the biggest campaign in history and as it progressed so the Soviets' vast armies became stronger in armaments and more experienced in strategy and tactics.

There were fierce battles for vast areas, huge deployments by almost countless divisions.

The Soviet Union seemed to have an unlimited number of men and, as the war progressed, the people produced a massive number of tanks and guns, which improved in

defensive armour and offensive fire-power as they gained knowledge and experience.

The battles of Moscow, Stalingrad, Leningrad and Kursk have been well recorded, but there were also great offensives in Byelorussia and the Crimea, at Königsberg, Jassy and the Vistula. Throughout, the Soviet Union had to keep watch with many divisions on her Far East boundaries. – GRH

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SERVICE personnel have a deserved reputation for generosity when there is a good cause to be supported. Wherever a child needs expensive medical treatment, whenever a community is struck by tragedy, soldiers and Servicewomen are always among the first to offer a helping hand.

It is a rare day when the SOLDIER mailbag contains no report of a sponsored run, jog,

swim, parachute jump, cycle, bed push, darts marathon or some other physically punishing event designed to fill charity coffers.

Unfortunately, so many money raising reports are submitted that we simply do not have room to publish more than a smattering of them.

Now, however, SOLDIER intends to carry a regular column listing brief details of

each completed event. It will name the units, the type of event, the cause which will benefit and the amount raised.

At the end of it we will keep a running total to see just how much money the British Army does raise. It will be no surprise if the total runs into hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Please mark your envelope "Good Causes" and we will acknowledge it in the column.



Bombardier Secombe flaunts his new stripes, presented to him by men of 22 Air Defence Regiment RA

Welsh Gunners have got Sir Harry taped!

MORE THAN £11,000 was raised for Service charities by an all star variety show "Sir Harry Secombe And Friends" held in Belfast City Centre's Ulster Hall.

The show, sponsored by The Army Benevolent Fund, was watched by a capacity audience, including the Lord and Lady Mayor of Belfast, The Lord Lieutenant Sir Robin Kinahan, and the GOC Northern Ireland, Lt Gen Sir Robert Pascoe.

The proceeds are expected to bring the amount raised in the province this year for the fund to over £20,000.

Among the stars who appeared with Sir Harry were Nicholas Parsons, Kenneth Kendall, Alfred Marks, Willie Rushton, Moira Anderson,

guest stars of the Royal Ballet, the dancers of *Touch of Class*, Ramon Remedios, Lorna Dallas and Margaret Fingher.

Music was provided by The Pipes and Drums of The Ulster Defence Regiment, and the Band of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

The show was the more remarkable for the fact that such an assembly of personalities in support of Service charities is unprecedented in recent years in Belfast. Sir Harry is a long time supporter of Service charities, and as well as contributing his talents, made a substantial personal cash donation to the Army Benevolent Fund after the show.

There was a surprise in

store for him as well. The Welsh Gunners - 22 Air Defence Regiment RA - normally based in Dortmund, BAOR, are currently serving a roulement tour in Omagh. They arrived during rehearsals to award Sir Harry an honorary promotion. At the age of 66, ex-war-time gunner Sir Harry, who served as a lance bombardier, finally made it to bombardier. He was formally presented with his two stripe chevron by the CO Lt Col Charles Holden.

The Army Benevolent Fund is the Army's central charity, and annually provides £1,500,000 assistance to soldiers, ex-soldiers or dependants, normally through corps or regimental associations.



Sprs Simon Harrison, Bob Hodkins, Keith Evans, Mick Gough, Richard Stuart and Darren Carey of 590 EOD Sqn, RE (V) completed a parachute drop for MENCAP £800

SSgts Doug Stirling, Graham Pollock, WO 1 Geoff Cook and Sgt John Fitzpatrick of SIB RMP UKLF ran from Edinburgh Castle to Chichester, West Sussex for the Oncology Research Endowment Fund of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh £5,000

Cpls Steve Hodson and Arnie Palmer and WO 2 Steve Browne of the gym staff at the RMP Training Centre in Chichester, West Sussex, completed a run, swim, cycle triathlon to the Isle of Wight and around it to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund (£412) and the RMP Benevolent Fund (£35) £447

WO1 Alan Hale and SSgt Rick Morris of 3 Sqn, 13 Signal Regt ran in the Berlin Marathon for Age Concern (£500) and the National Children's Homes (£500) £1,000

RQMS Tony Walsh, LCpl Jason Figgitt, Cfn Geordie Green and Tpr Malcolm Martin of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars based at Munster, West Germany followed in the footsteps of Pheidippides to complete the Athens Marathon for the Martin House Appeal £1,706

Total £8,953

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COMPETITION
427

The pictures below differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer. Just circle the differences in the right hand picture, cut out the whole panel, and add your name and address.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is December 21. The name of the winner of the £50 prize will be announced in our February 8 issue.

More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

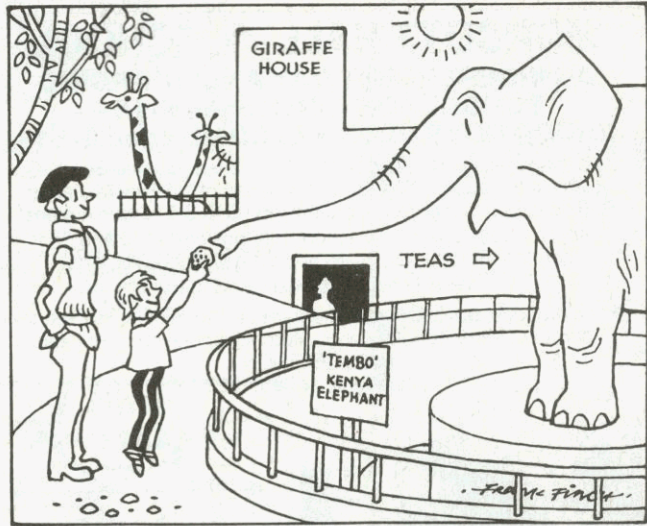
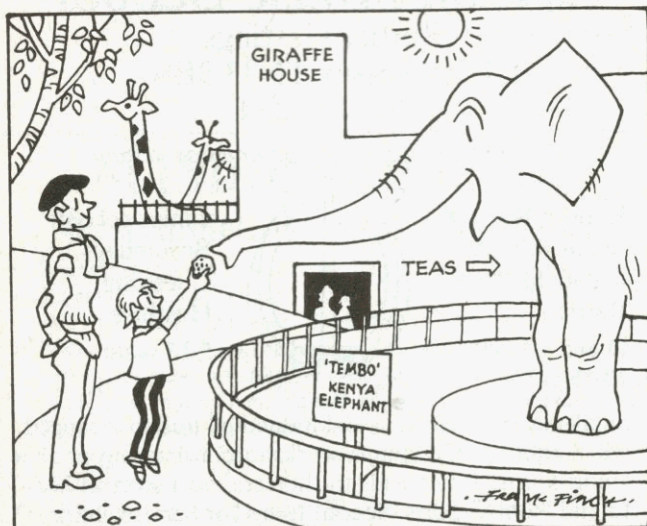
The first correct entry drawn will be the winner. No correspondence can be entered into. Answers to: HOAY No 427, SOLDIER, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

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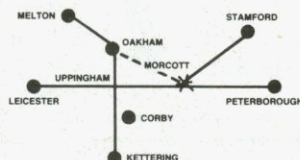
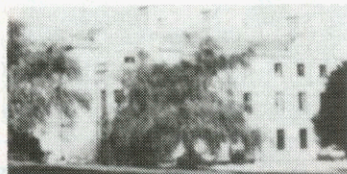
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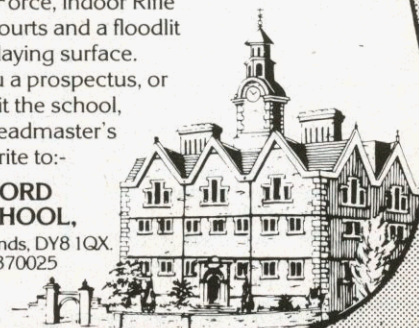
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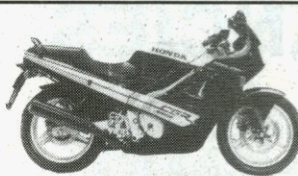
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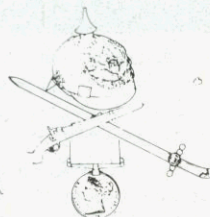
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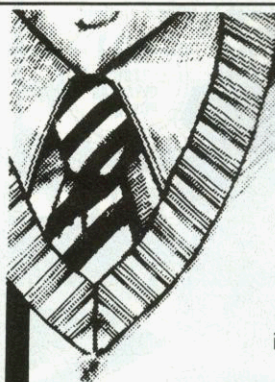
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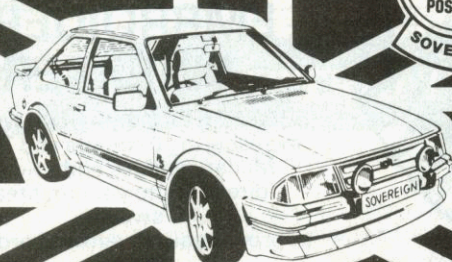


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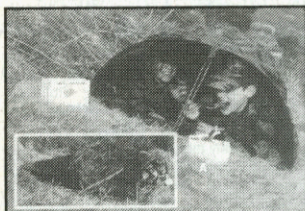
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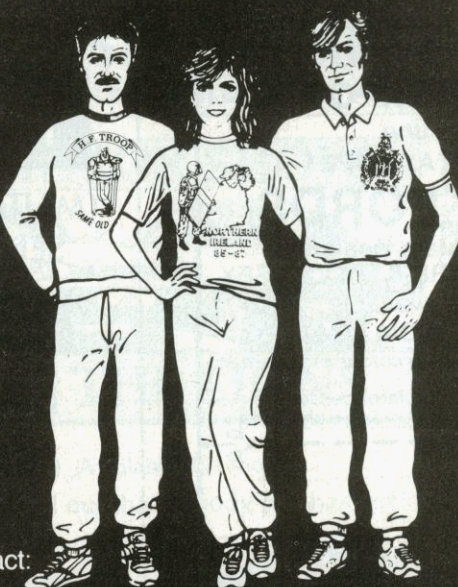
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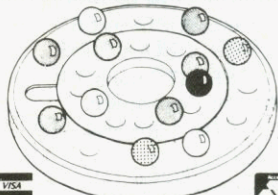
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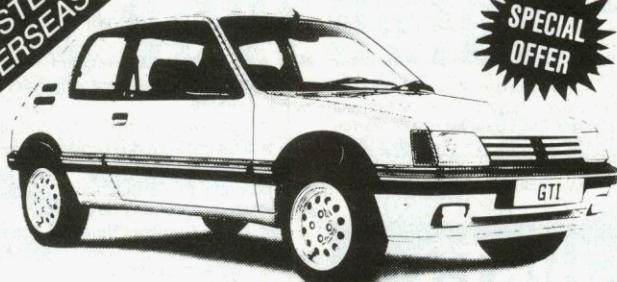
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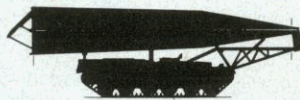
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MORE than 200 horses were declared for the Army and Royal Artillery hunter trials at Larkhill, including 84 Service entries.

The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery and The Household Cavalry Regiment were well represented, and there were six riders from the

Royal Navy and four from the Royal Marines.

Designer and builder of the course was Maj C L Moore RA, whose handiwork impressed both competitors and officials.

Sweepstake (pairs) - Cpl Newman on Bracken and LBdr Winchester on Windrush (2nd overall and winners of 7th Queen's Own Hussars Cup).

Open - Maj C R Burke on Mel Shadow (winner of the Land Rover Challenge Trophy for the third consecutive year). Sgt Line on Tarrant (winner of King's Royal Irish Hussars Cup and D'Arcy Cup).

Intermediate - Col Stevenson on Marigold (winner of Services section, Hamilton Cup and Mounted Infantry Cameronian Cup); Capt Lonsdale on Abelard (Woolwich Cup).

Novices - LBdr Armour on Tweed (winner of Poett Cup and first in Services section); Lt Newell on Crest of the Wave (Stuart Sea Horse Plaque); Col Stevenson on Marigold (Mounted Infantry Alderson Bowl); 2nd Lt S Robinson on Monkswell (first sub-altern).



11 Sig Regt's winning golfers line up with the impressive Challenge Cup. From left to right are WO1 Dave Woodroffe, WO2 Chris

Essex held in thriller at Dagenham

Essex 2 Army 2

THE ARMY travelled to Dagenham for their annual tilt at Essex and fought out a very creditable 2-2 draw. It was an all action, end to end game with neither side deserving to win but both pleased to draw, writes Pat Massey.

Essex set the early pace but the Army defence coped well until goalkeeper Sgt Kevin James APTC was deceived by a low cross which squirted under him and landed at the feet of an Essex forward.

But the Army battled back and were rewarded when Cpl Sandy Brown R Signals rifled home a 30 yard shot. Two minutes later the Army went ahead when LCpl Shane Smith REME skilfully finished off a move started by LCpl Guy Whittingham REME. Essex equalised midway through the second half.

Army XI 2 Cambridge U 0

The Army reserve football team travelled to Fenners for the first of the season's University matches and, following a good and hard fought match, they ran up a repeat of last year's two goals to nil win.

Goals, five minutes either side of the interval break, were enough to secure success over an enthusiastic University XI.

Fus Mark Johannessen, 2 RRF, knocked home the opening goal following a good solo run. Cpl Tony White, Dep R Irish, clinched the victory with a blistering shot just after the break.

This was a good performance played in dreary conditions. After the game, the referee in charge was high in his praise of both sides.

Combined Services 0 Southampton 4

The Combined Services found a strong Southampton XI just too good on the night, although the game was not nearly as one sided as the score suggests. The Services had a number of chances and missed them - the Saints didn't.

With no mid-week fixture to play, the visitors fielded a number of first team regulars.

Saints goalkeeper Tim Flowers was forced to make two fine saves just before the end, the second of which had him at full stretch to push wide a fine shot from LCpl Guy Whittingham. The good sized crowd was left wondering what might have happened had the Services converted one of the not too difficult chances which fell their way.

Services' Man of the Match, despite his failures in front of goal, was the RAF's Steve Thompson who worked tirelessly throughout.



Carveth, AGA vice chairman Lt Col Nick Flemming who presented the trophy, Maj Terry Lightfoot and Maj John lent

Chris leads 11 Sig Regt to cup win

FORMER Army golf captain WO2 Chris Carveth made his mark during the finals of the Army Challenge Cup played over two days at Catterick

Garrison Golf Club.

His final round of a gross 66 was just one stroke off the Catterick course record and helped 11 Signal Regiment to a 23-6 win over 3 Bn The Ulster Defence Regiment.

Eight teams representing the UK districts started the competition's final stages in high winds and difficult conditions.

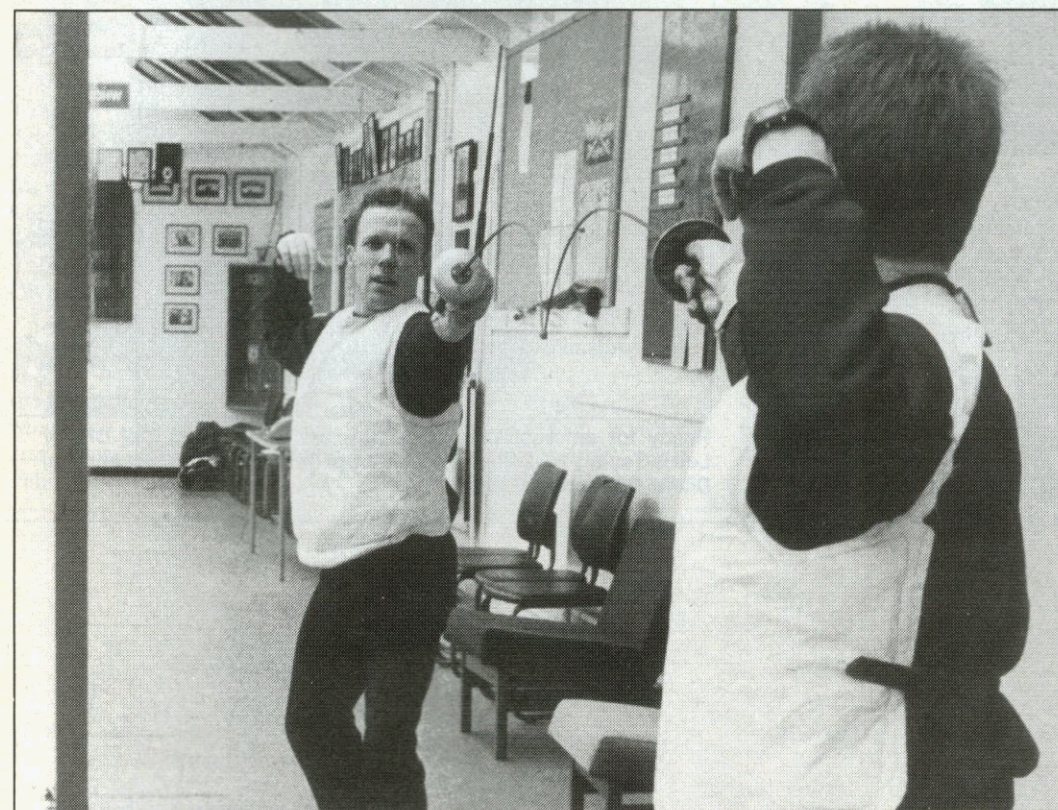
The Royal School of Artillery ran out winners of the British Army India Cup for teams eliminated in the first round of the Challenge Cup competition.

11 Sig Regt were represented by Majors Terry Lightfoot and John lent, WO1 Dave Woodroffe and WO2 Chris Carveth.

Army Golf Association vice-chairman Lt Col Nick Flemming presented the imposing Challenge Cup to the 11 Sig Regt team. A former Army champion, he was a member of the Royal School of Artillery team beaten by the signallers in the first round proper.

To reach the finals, teams had to play qualifying matches in their own districts.

The Challenge Cup is a straight match play competition, off scratch with no handicaps and with all matches played to the 18th hole.



Man with a mission: fencing coach SSgt Derek Archibald

Wanted: coaches to sharpen up Army fencing

ARMY fencing coach SSgt Derek Archibald wants to put the thrust and parry back into Army fencing, particularly at junior level where there is a great need for coaches in all three disciplines of epee, foil and sabre.

Based with the Army Physical Training Corps School (South) at Aldershot, Derek says there has been a noted decline in the number of junior fencers in the sport.

Throughout the Army he estimates there are about 50 fencers but there is a dearth of junior talent coming through from the apprentice colleges and junior leaders' regiments.

He puts this down to the fact that fencing is a minority sport within the Army.

"Anyone who is seriously interested in coaching at junior levels should contact me on Aldershot Military 2114," says SSgt Archibald.

Bully for Phil

THERE was only one winner at the British Forces individual darts competition - and that was Sgt Phil Medhurst of 24 Squadron RCT. Phil (right) won the lot, taking home prizes for being first overall, the highest individual score, the highest checkout and the fastest game (based on the least number of darts to win).



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Cherry's crew set to take on the Tall Ships

A CREW of 12 women, four of them from the Army, are to sail the Hobart to Sydney leg of Australian Adventure 88 marking the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia.

Skipper of the all-woman team is Maj Cherry Lewis-Taylor, WRAC, an RYA Ocean Yachtmaster and skipper of former sailing expeditions to the Caribbean, Gibraltar and around the UK.

Cherry, 29, is serving on the staff at the RCB Westbury, Wilts.

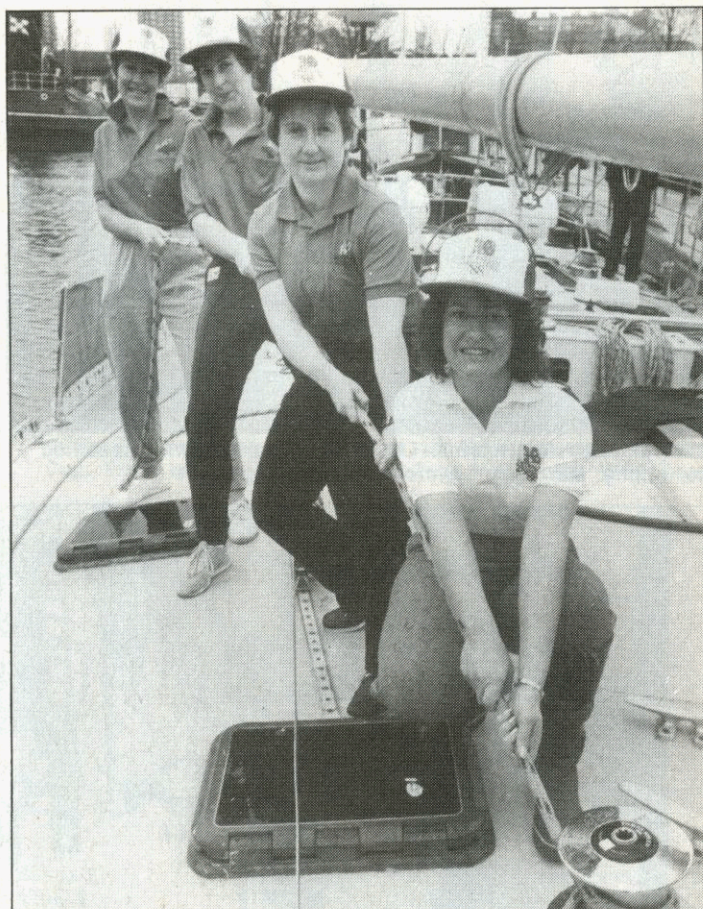
She is married to Capt Graham Lewis-Taylor, R Sigs, stationed with 30 Signal Regt at Blandford. Together they are the current BAOR dinghy

champions.

The three other Army personnel aboard the Sabre will be Maj Diana Quarinton-Wilson, QARANC, ship's doctor; WO2 Sharon Hope, a watch leader; and LCpl Bernadette Thomas.

The yacht will take part in the Tall Ships race from Hobart, Tasmania to Sydney, culminating in a Parade of Sail in Sydney Harbour on January 26, Australia Day.

The Servicewomen, who include three members of the WRNS, two from the WRAF and two from the Australian Forces, are due to fly out two days before Christmas to join the Sabre which is already in the Far East.



Ready for an Australian adventure are (from front) Maj Cherry Lewis-Taylor, WO2 Sharon Hope, LCpl Bernadette Thomas and Maj Diana Quarinton-Wilson

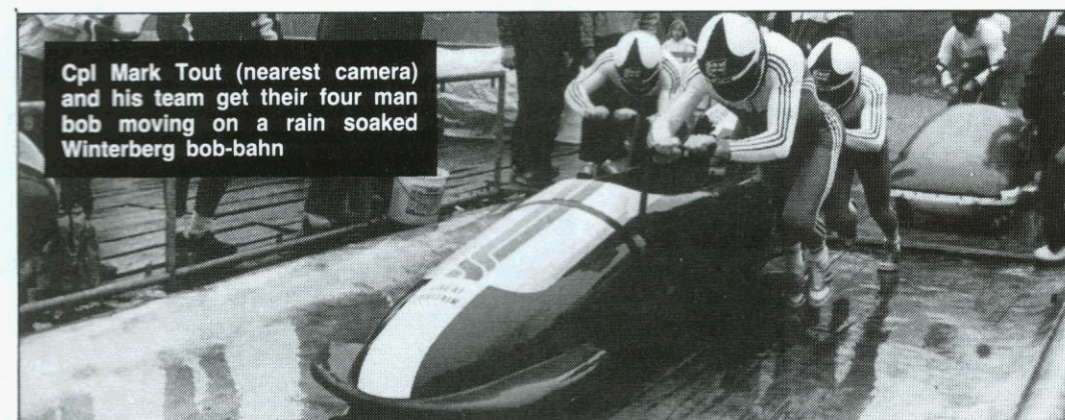
Picture: Mike Weston

Tout's team warms up for Winter Olympics

THERE were only practice runs for the Army four-man team driven by Cpl Mark Tout during the British bobsleigh championships at Winterberg in West Germany.

The team, which included Cpl Lennie Paul (3 R Anglian), Gdsm Dave Armstrong (1 Gren Gds) and Gnr Aubrey Richards (4 Fd Regt RA), has already been selected for the Winter Olympics to be held in Calgary, Canada. This meant they were not involved in the championships and could concentrate on preparations for World Cup matches in East and West Germany, Austria, Italy and Yugoslavia as a lead up to the Olympics.

Calgary will be Cpl Tout's second Olympics. At Sarajevo in 1984 he was brakeman for the British number 1 team which was drawn entirely from 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, Fallingbommel. Now in his



Cpl Mark Tout (nearest camera) and his team get their four man bob moving on a rain soaked Winterberg bob-bahn

Picture: SSgt Steve Bird

seventh season, at the age of 26 he is piloting the British number 2 bob.

Maj Mike Pugh, 2 RTR, Britain's number 1 driver in 1984, was a competitor in the national championships at Winterberg.

He came fourth in the two-man bob which was the best result the Army could manage. In the four-man event

former QDG Sgt Gomar Lloyd drove into third place with a team which included SSgt Corry Brown, another 2 RTR bobsleigh veteran who is to take on the coaching of Army novices.

Top honours at Winterberg belonged to the Royal Air Force with two United Kingdom based teams fighting for selection as the third British

Olympic team.

But there was promise for the future as far as the Army was concerned in the performance of 21-year-old Cpl Dave Bunce, REME, who managed a very creditable 8th place in both the two-man and four-man bobs. He has been selected for the British B squad to train for the World Junior Championships at Winterberg in February.

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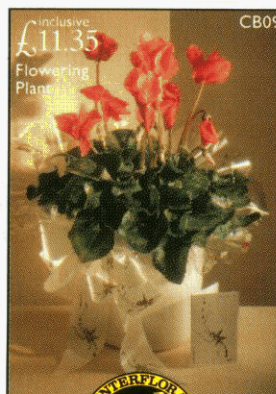
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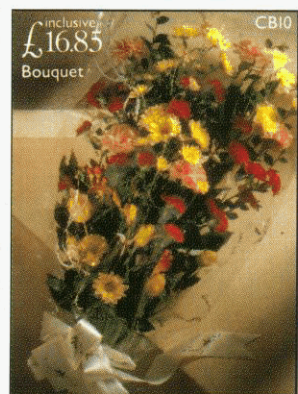
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