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## THE MAGAZINE OF THE RHODESIAN ARMY



IN THIS ISSUE:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE INVESTITURE

LIFE WITH THE TERR... AND FUN WITH THE FORCES

VOLUME 16, No. 8 — 15 DECEMBER, 1976





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the magazine of the Rhodesian army

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

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TAP 23



## Army Commander's Christmas Message

The traditional Christmas greeting hardly seems appropriate within the Army in these momentous times, when determination to rid our land of terrorists precludes our dreaming of a peaceful Christmas, and prevents so many of us from being with our families.

But think of the original meaning of Christmas, and what it should mean to us. It is still fitting that we should exhort each other to rejoice and count the blessings which are renewed for us on the anniversary of Christ's birthday. Even for those who are not Christians, this is acknowledged as the season of good will and re-dedication to the ideals of a civilised community.

And so, I commend you all, and your families, and indeed, through you the people of Rhodesia, to remember Christ's admonition regarding faith, hope and love. At this time in our history, we need to remind ourselves of his advice.

I won't discourse at length on the advice about love. Love of one's country, treasured memories of the exploits of one's forbears, honouring the promise that exists because of their efforts, sheer recognition of the worth of our countrymen, should need no promotion.

On faith and hope, I offer a few thoughts. There are too many Dismal Jimmies around, who allow themselves to be conned into accepting the inevitability of things changing for the worse. This is exactly what the enemy psychological campaign against us is designed to achieve. And I hope that the oft expressed opinion, that it is the women who are mainly responsible for this negative thinking, is wrong.

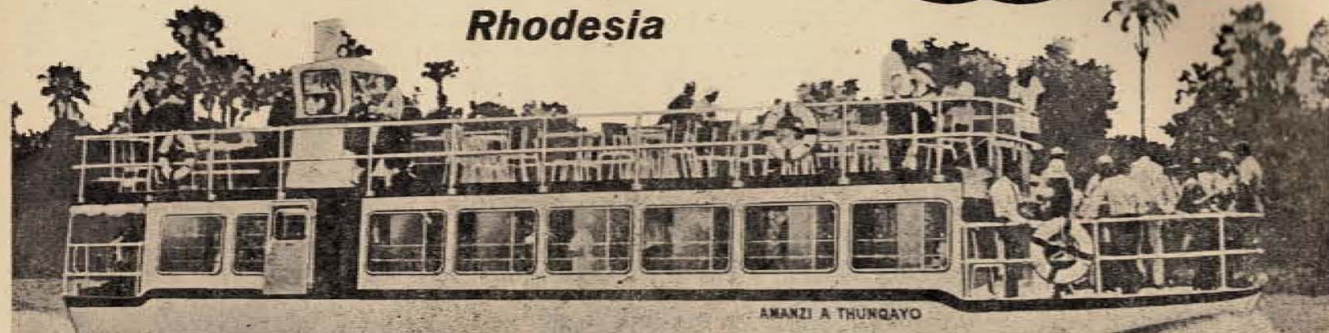
We need positive faith and hope. Not faith in some miracle, or hope that the bogey will go away. But faith in the solid and substantial fact of our military supremacy over our current enemy; faith in the quality of our junior leadership, which makes a dozen Rhodesian soldiers worth hundreds of terrorists; faith in the exuberant calibre of our fighting men, which goes from strength to strength, playing havoc with enemy plans, not to mention inflicting casualties on the hapless terrorists sent to their death while their leaders wine and dine, faith in the worry of self-styled terrorist leaders that we will discover they don't have the numbers claimed in the newspapers; faith in the latent and timid, but nevertheless potentially powerful, good will of ordinary tribesmen, which has inspired them, in at least one village, to form vigilante groups to hunt down terrorist murderers, and the hope that this will develop into a nation-wide trend; faith in the indomitable love of independence and freedom of action which is the hallmark of Rhodesians of all colours (we have built a nation second to none on it), and hope that it will inspire those who have hitherto remained silent, to speak out for what they know to be right.

In rugby parlance, this country is trying to make a break through a pretty narrow gap, and though we are doing well militarily, there must be some concern about the overall situation. But our chances, of securing the vital "try", are better now, in my opinion, than they were a month ago, and they will be enhanced still more if all of us have the love, faith and hope, which our history and our calibre demand of us.

I will be visiting you in the operational area, as usual, over Christmas, but to those whom I don't see, or who are with your families, a joyful Christmas and all the best in the New Year. Thanks for your magnificent work in 1976, and for the spirit that prevails. God Bless.

Lieutenant General G. P. Walls, OLM, DCD, MBE

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## *Government House Investiture*

At an investiture at Government House on 8th December, President Wrathall presented the Defence Cross for Distinguished service to the Commander of the Army, Lieutenant General G. P. Walls, OLM, DCD, MBE, the Chief of Staff, Major General J. S. V. Hickman, OLM, DCD, MC, was invested with the Order of the Legion of Merit, Brigadier A. N. O. MacIntyre, DCD, and Brigadier A. L. C. Maclean, DCD, and Major G. Walsh, DCD, also received the Defence Cross for Distinguished Service.

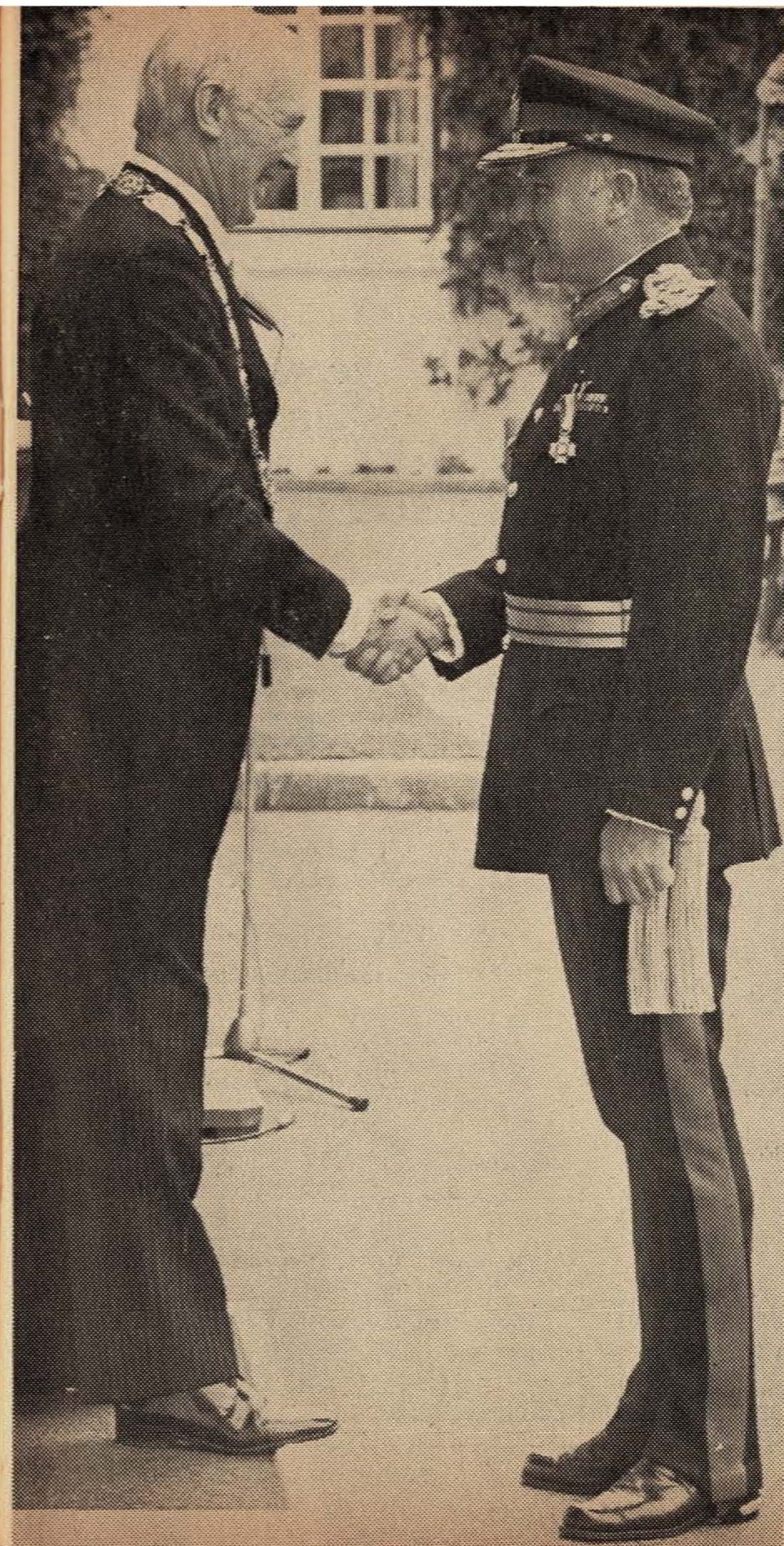
Two officers received the MLM, they are Lieutenant Colonel Peter Brown, MLM, Commanding Officer of 4th Battalion the Rhodesia Regiment and Major T. Culverwell, MLM, of the 10th Battalion, the Rhodesia Regiment.

To all these officers, Assegai extends its respectful congratulations on their well-deserved honours.

### ERRATA

PAGE 7 Government House Investiture  
Line 11. Major General J.S.V. Hickman.  
: decoration should read OLM, MC.  
Line 24. Lieutenant Colonel Peter Browne.  
: decoration should read OLM.

The Editor expresses his sincere apologies to the recipients for this error.



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## "Bless 'em all"

Salisbury's "Bless 'em all" show, held on November 20th was a sell out success; hundreds of men from the security forces, including new arrivals from Britain, South Africa and Australia, helped swell the 4 500 audience for the live performance. The show was staged at the National Sports Centre indoor stadium — and the proceeds will go to the Border Welfare Fund.

More than twenty acts were presented by Rhodesian and South African entertainers — all of whom contributed their services free of charge. Among the artists were Jessica Jones, Kenny Cantor and Bulawayo's John Edmonds—who has donated \$1 000 to the fund from the proceeds of his 'Troopies Songs' LP.

The show was hosted by Wrex Tarr, Sally Donaldson and Barry Taylor, and raised thousands of dollars for the welfare of Rhodesia's security forces.



Sally Donaldson with one of the artists and some of the troops at the "Bless 'em all" Show.  
(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald).



(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)

Lieutenant Colonel the Rev. Norman Wood receives a \$35 cheque for the Terrorist Victims' Relief Fund from five-year-old Sean Stainthorpe.

The presentation was made after a Christmas tableau at the Kersfield Nursery School in Borrowdale in which Sean played the part of one of the Shepherds visiting the crib of the infant Jesus. The ceremony was witnessed by about 200 people who stiffly held back their tears during the presentation, as Sean's father, Sergeant Anthony Stainthorpe, was killed in a contact with terrorists in the operational area. Sgt Stainthorpe was soon to have received a commission.

Looking on 'is Sean's mother, Mrs. Dorothy-Ann Stainthorpe.



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The Union of Jewish Women, represented by Mrs. Irene Barnett (left) the Chairman, and Mrs. Margaret Lewin, publicity convenor, handed over a truckload of goodies for the troops to Colonel D. T. Hopkins and some of the men at King George VI Barracks, Salisbury, recently.

The Army received half of all the goods collected, the other half being split between Air Force, Police and Internal Affairs. The total value of the goods collected at eight Salisbury supermarkets was \$3 700. (Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)



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(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)



# Nugget

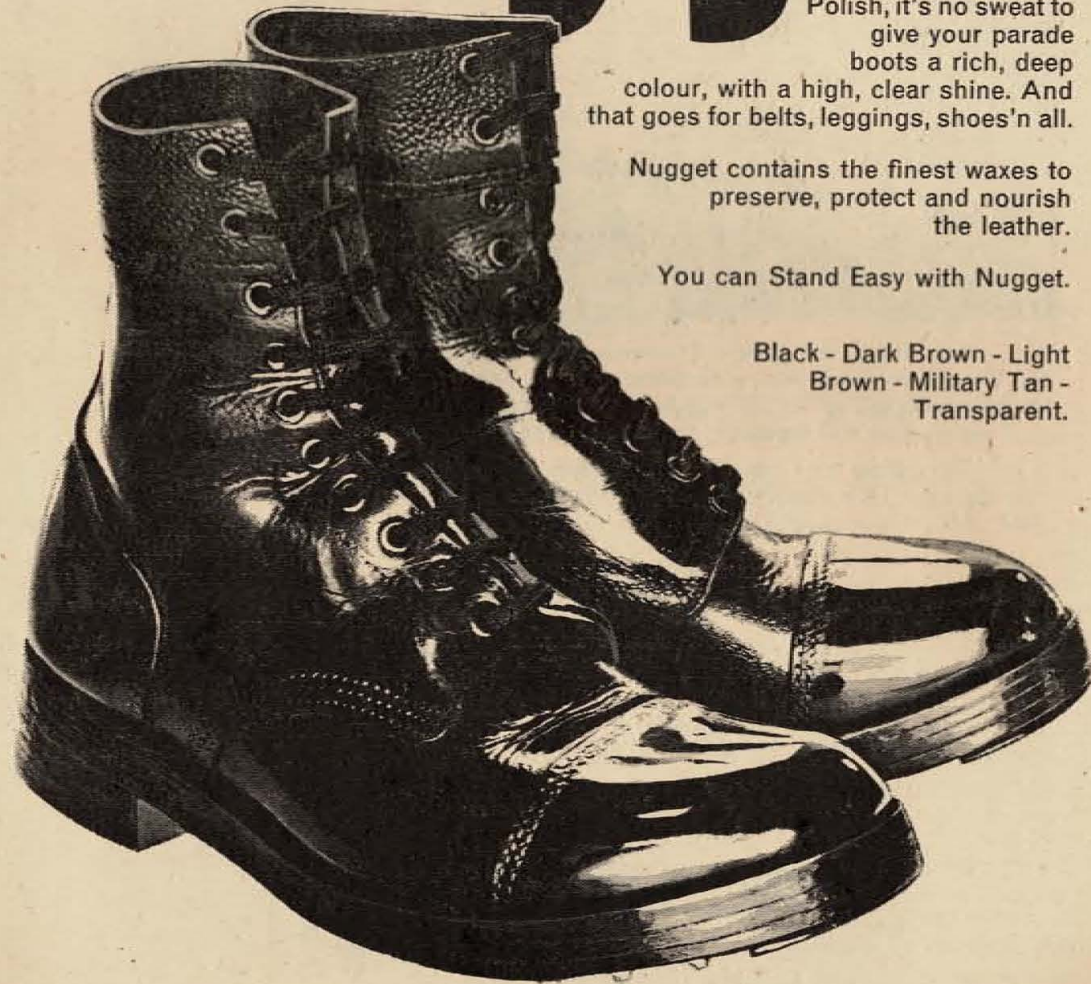


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used successfully with one hand, even on automatic firing.

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A special feature of the L.D.P. is the introduction of the safety controls which are (1) The Butt Trigger lock which prevents the movement

of the trigger until a firm grip is obtained on the butt. (2) The Selector Lever has a safe position which prevents the movement of the trigger, and (3) The Safety Sear, which prevents the firing of the weapon on "Half Cock" or if it is dropped or mishandled.

The L.D.P. has been designed so as to make the handling light and easy with little recoil, which is of great assistance when the weapon is used by women. All enquiries to P.O. Box 1268, Salisbury.



(Courtesy: Army Photographer)

A machine which helps in the early detection of bilharzia has been presented to the Army Health Laboratory in Salisbury. The machine, a \$500 haemoglobiometer, was handed to Colonel J. F. Ainslie, Director of Medical Services, by the manager of CAPS Pharmaceuticals, Mr. D. J. Hepburn, at a brief ceremony in the Army

Health Laboratory, KG VI Barracks. This is just one more example of the close relationship which continues between CAPS and the Army.

The picture shows Mr. Hepburn presenting the machine to Col Ainslie and Maj Goldsmid. Brigadier K. Radford looks on.

## *Seasons Greetings*

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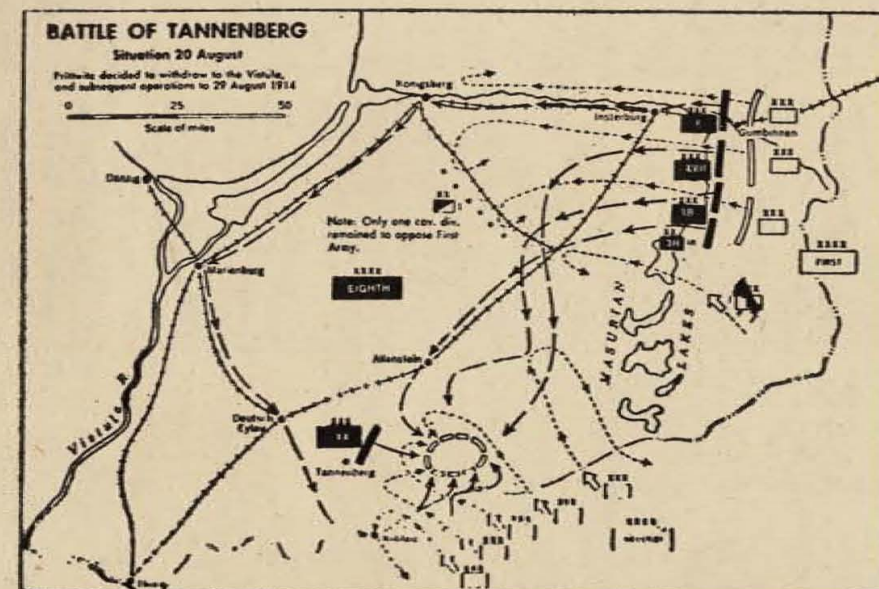
# Battle of TANNENBURG

by John Ormowe

(COURTESY R.B.C.)

(PART TWO)

Confident in the belief that Russia would take months to mobilise her armies Germany declared war on France in 1914, convinced that she could overrun France before Russia could come to the aid of her ally, and thus avoid the nightmare of war on two fronts. But Russia honoured her pledge to assist France and launched her unprepared armies against the surprised Germans in East Prussia. The two Russian armies outnumbered the Germans by two to one; in the first engagement on the new front the Germans were defeated and almost withdrew. For a time it seemed that East Prussia must be lost and the way to Berlin opened — and no amount of victories in France could compensate for such a defeat. Shaken, the Germans stood on the Vistula and awaited the onslaught with little confidence. As the Russians moved towards them, however, it was apparent to the Russians at least that their own organisation, transport, supply, intelligence and communications were far from what they should have been.



Indeed the only word that could describe the advance of the 2nd Army was chaotic. Few of the regiments were adequately equipped and lines of march had been chosen so haphazardly that regiments often found themselves entwined in inextricable confusion. But, above all, the most acute problem was that of supply; little forethought had been given to the necessity for providing fresh rations for the advancing columns, and the men had to march

days from their rail heads in Russian Poland without any kind of re-supply. While the German Staff thought little of the Russians' professionalism in conducting large scale military manoeuvres — and there was much ineptitude on the Russian side — the real blame lay in General Zhilinski's precipitate decision to commit the 2nd Army to the offensive before the Russian mobilisation was complete. The worst failings of the Russian army lay in the fields

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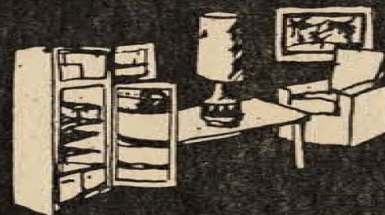


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of communications and intelligence gathering; with rare exceptions, transport was horse-drawn and often the only means of communicating orders was by mounted staff officer — it was not unusual for a regiment to receive its orders for the day in the evening. A rudimentary radio system existed, but when communications were good, to the incredulity of the Germans, signals were sent in "clear", providing the listening Germans with accurate information as to the movement of Russian units. On the other hand, the Russian intelligence service was almost non-existent — Cossack cavalry patrolled ahead of the advancing Russian columns but were more likely to pillage than assess the tactical situation. This contrasted with the highly sophisticated German intelligence system which included aerial reconnaissance. Samsonov's army moved into East Prussia like a blindfolded bear wandering into a trap.

As the Russians moved deeper into East Prussia, Ludendorf and Hoffmann were setting the trap; a number of uncoded radio signals between the Russian 1st and 2nd armies had been intercepted, which not only gave the dispositions of the 2nd but also revealed that the 1st was not moving forward in support of the main thrust from the south. The decision arrived at simultaneously by Ludendorf and

Hoffman was to concentrate the forces at their disposal in a vast encircling movement of the Russian 2nd Army, leaving only token forces to cover Rennenkampf in the east. This was to involve the German 8th Army in a masterly display of logistics — as the whole of Von Francois' 1st Corps was transported by rail across the breadth of East Prussia.

This move was one of the miracles of German efficiency; day and night, at constant intervals of half an hour, a troop train would set off and even the operating regulations of the German railways were treated as something less than a law of nature. On each sector of the line the troop trains moved at perilously close intervals; they used tracks in defiance of red signals, discharged their load of men and were turned around within 25 minutes instead of the usual two hours. The trains travelled right up to the area of the impending battle, so that each battalion only had to march about 5 km to reach its position.

Within 40 hours the entire 1st Corps had detrained at Neumark and Deutsch-Eylau, in striking distance of Samsonov's left. Meanwhile, in a series of forced marches, Von Mackensen's and Von Below's corps were driving south westwards from Gumbinnen towards Bischoffsburg, threatening the right flank of the Russian Army. In order to lure Samsonov's 300 000 men deeper into the forests and lakes of the Masurian plateau towards their encirclement and destruction, the German centre was deliberately weakened and the 20th Corps ordered to withdraw slightly. The trap was set, the two pincers on either side of the advancing horde were ready to close.

At midday on August 26th, the first clash occurred when the 2nd Army's right flank horses and wagons was choking the roads to the South; Samsonov's right flank had been turned. Realising that the Germans were not, after all, in retreat, Samsonov despatched messages to Zhilinsky, suggesting a temporary halt, from his position of safety 200 miles behind the front that worthy replied; "Stop acting the coward and resume the offensive." Hoffman was well aware of the animosities that divided the Russian commanders and, in particular, had encountered the two German corps which had marched from Gumbinnen. The Russian 6th Corps was pinned down on the road running down the eastern side of Lake Bossau by concentrated fire from Von Mackensen's artillery. For many the only escape lay in desperate attempts to wade across the shallow lake and marshes to safety — most were machine-gunned or drowned. By nightfall the Russian 6th Corps had disintegrated and a confused mass of men,

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counted on the long-standing enmity between Rennerkampf and Samsonov ensuring a lack of co-operation and co-ordination between the 1st and 2nd Russian Armies. Meanwhile, the leading columns of the main Russian advance were streaming unsuspectingly northwards, deeper into the jaws of the trap — the furthest penetration into German territory was made by men of the 1st Neva Regiment who marched into Allenstein, amazed to find the town empty of German troops and full of civilians going about their everyday business with apparent lack of concern. On the morning of the 27th the hammer blow of the German counter attack fell on the left flank of the Russian army at Nsdau:

“The entire section of the line occupied by the Vyborg Regiment was engulfed by a tidal wave of German high explosive. Instantaneously, thanks to the Germans’ centralised fire control and efficient communications, the fire-power from dozens of guns and howitzers, light, medium and heavy, was switched onto their half mile of trenches. Some of the shellbursts were of unprecedented force, obviously from guns of even heavier calibre than six inches. There, right beside them, the earth was disembowelled by a massive explosion, tearing soul from body. Each shell came screaming straight at you — at the colonel, at every private soldier, every mother’s son, God help us! They were shaken, deafened, occasionally showered with earth or splinters, but there was so much noise there was no hearing the whine of the splinters. They were nauseated by the stinking, clinging reek of explosive, which even men under fire for the first time associated with death. Now there was no telling the shellbursts apart. Everything merged into one shattering ordeal of imminent destruction . . . yet these troops sat it out and were not dislodged. Ingrained in them was the lesson inherited from their forefathers. The inexorable lesson of centuries: suffering must be borne — there is no way out.”

But even as the 85th Vyborg Regiment was enduring its harrowing baptism of fire as Usdau, even as the fate of the Russian 2nd Army was being sealed, a decisive turning point of the war had been reached. Hundreds of miles away Moltke had made the fateful decision to detach two army corps from the 1st Army on the extreme right of the German advance into France and entrain them to the Eastern front. The Schlieffen Plan had called for the concentration of all available forces on the right

wing of the offensive since its driving force would lead to the envelopment of Paris and the reeling French Armies, but now seemed that the grand design to knock the French out of the war in a matter of weeks was to be abandoned; as it happened the reinforcements were not needed on the eastern front since the blow delivered by the German 1st Corps on the Russian left flank at Usdau proved fatal.

That evening a disorderly stream of men poured into the streets of Neidenburg where Samsonov had established his headquarters; these survivors of General Artamanov’s 1st Corps on the left flank at Usdau made it clear to Samsonov that his army was in danger of imminent encirclement. The survivors of the Reval Regiment — a mere platoon on strength — told Samsonov of the devastating fire from hundreds of German guns which had raked their positions that morning, while they could only reply with repeated futile bayonet charges. Usdau, on the left, had now been overrun and the shattered remnants of the Russian 6th Corps were in headlong retreat from Ortelsburg on the right, when Ludendorff ordered the German 20th Corps to attack in the centre. It was here, deep in the Grunfliess forest, that the Russian troops put up the fiercest resistance . . . here the Chernigov Regiment attacked with a reckless



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ferocity that surprised the Germans facing them: "The order was given to deploy into skirmishing order and fire from the shoulder. They fired, although their target was completely invisible, and then ran onward again. The hillside grew steeper and steeper — each man's heart was thumping, his lungs bursting; it was impossible to keep up this pace, all the more in the damp, foggy air. Then, just as the slope began to go slightly downhill, the invisible enemy struck at them, the unseen attackers. Although they could barely see his muzzle flashes, the bullets were whistling very close; one of them struck a stone and sent up a bright spark. Every man threw himself into the spirit of the attack . . . their pouches crammed with ammunition, they fired with reckless enthusiasm, deafened by the sound of their own shots, choking on their own powder, as they slashed and slashed at the mist with bullets. Then, over a ditch and through a hedge they jumped, and now they were having to leap over bodies too — not Russian, but German bodies! — there was no holding the men as they charged in with fixed bayonets. Everything was still obscured in the swirling mist, but it now began to thin out and everything grew clearer. They could see the

heavy dew which had settled on their rifle bolts and bayonets, some of which were streaked with blood. As they were on such high ground the fog was rapidly dispersing in wisps and the men's faces were plain to see; panting, elated with the savage joy of battle. Blue, red and orange droplets glistened on the grass, and the sunshine of the new day was already shedding its warmth over them — the victors!"

Such Russian successes were rare — more often the long lines of grey and green were pounded mercilessly by German shellfire or scythed down by machine guns. But, the Russian regiments in the central sector held their ground steadfastly while around them the noose tightened around the neck of the doomed 2nd Army. As the sound of gunfire drew nearer to Neidenburg, Samsonov resigned himself to defeat, broke up his headquarters and, accompanied by a handful of staff officers, set out for the front. That night he ordered a general retreat; it was now clear that Rennenkampf had no intention of coming to the support of the 2nd Army and that all that could be hoped for was that as many as possible would escape the trap. But after the Germans occupied Neidenburg in the south and Otrelsburg in the north the encirclement was complete; three whole Russian corps were now completely cut off in the forests that had swallowed them up. All that remained on August 28th was the coup de grace . . . in Samsonov's case this was self administered when he wandered away from his staff officers and put a bullet through his brain. Ensnared in the net thrown around them, some units made desperate attempts to break out; few succeeded; many laid down their arms while others were cut down by German machine guns. Some, like the survivors of the Dorogobuzh Regiment not only held their ground to the end but sacrificed themselves in heroic, but hopelessly futile, rearguard actions:

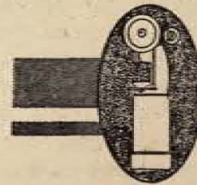
"At Dereufen, on high ground, and flanked by a series of lakes, the Dorogobuzh Regiment stood and held its ground throughout the bright, sunny afternoon and evening. There they exhausted all their ammunition; there they counter-attacked three times with the bayonet; there, at the age of 53, Colonel Kabanav was killed, and, of every company, less than one man in twenty was left alive. This miracle was due to more than just the bravery of the officers. Half of the troops were reservists who a mere month ago had reported to their assembly points wearing best shoes, fresh from their villages, their fields, their private aspirations and their families. They knew nothing about

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European politics, the war, the battle which the 2nd Army was fighting, or the objectives of their army corps, whose number they didn't even know. And yet, they did not run away, they did not waver or malinge, but drew some unknown source of strength to cross the barrier which divides a man's love of family and instinct of self-preservation from devotion to cruel duty. Three times they stood up and walked into fire with their silent bayonets. They had burned their boats. Others like them would retreat, return home; they owed such men nothing; they were not their relatives nor their brothers — yet they would stand and die so that they might live. Who knows what they thought that day, those doomed men, as they looked up into an alien blue sky, across alien lakes and forests? No-one was sent to tell the regiment that its task was done, that it could withdraw. The Dorogobuzh Regiment perished and only a very few survived: Ten men carried away the body of their Colonel

and their colours." How futile was the sacrifice of the men of the Dorogobuzh Regiment — and that of the thousands upon thousands of others who remained in East Prussia in mass graves? The destruction of the Russian 2nd Army in the forests of East Prussia was followed by the routing of Rennenkampf's 1st Army at the Masurian lakes in September. In those weeks the Russians lost at least 310 000 men and by the end of the war Russian losses had run into millions — Ludendorff remarked that the number of Russian dead was incalculable. Tannenburg, Russia's Verdun, inflicted an appalling loss on the flower of the Russian Army — by 1917, when the Russian economy collapsed under the strain of war, there were few loyal or patriotic soldiers left to oppose the Bolshevik seizure of power. But, Tannenburg, graveyard for a generation of Russian youth, had bought time for France; had the sacrifice not been made, Paris might well have fallen and the whole course of the war been changed.



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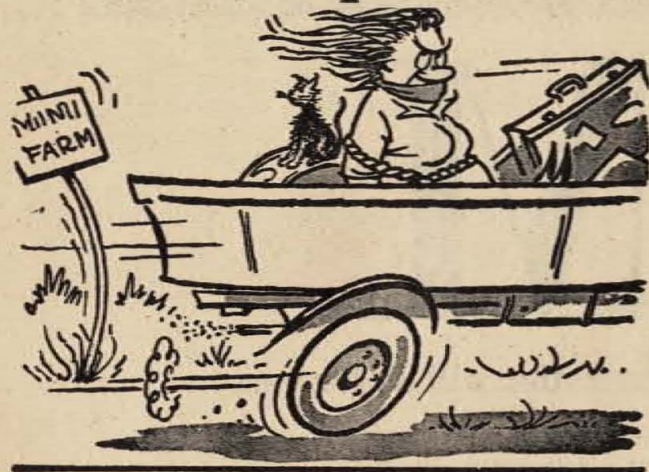
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**CAPTION COMPETITION**

Put a caption to these cartoons and win \$5

Entries to the Editor by 30th December.



Last month's winner — Anon.

Money sent to Terrorist Victims Relief Fund by request.



*Don't pay any attention! Your pudding wouldn't sink battleships.*

# Christmas has come early for Sergeant Williams



The safe delivery of a parcel containing a precious letter from his girl-friend has made an early Christmas for Sergeant Neville Williams, thanks to the efficiency of the Rhodesian Army postal system.

But the fact that it arrived in the middle of

nowhere is also due to the common sense of the girl back home who followed a set of simple instructions to the letter. If she hadn't, Sergeant Williams would probably still be waiting for his parcel with Christmas long since gone.

With the intensification of the terrorist war



*The parcel reaches the forward area — and Sergeant Williams collects it from his visiting commanding officer.*

(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)



*After a neat piece of opening, Sergeant Williams settles down to his mail.*

(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)

and more men being called up, the Army's headaches increased where mail was concerned. After repeated complaints the Army launched an investigation and it was found that letters were being wrongly addressed by the senders.

Steps were taken to encourage men on call-up to leave their correct address at home before

going into the field, and a simple workable routine was evolved to ensure that all items would be safely delivered.

Sgt Williams' happy smile proves that the advice given by the Army authorities has been heeded by his loved one at home.





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**"LIFE WITH THE TERR . . .  
AND FUN WITH THE FORCES"**

Rhodesia has many problems, and to those who are not fully in touch with the security situation, the terrorist menace may seem to grow out of all proportion and become a large, black, threatening cloud.

This book depicts the individual terrorist fairly accurately and exposes him for what he really is — an ineffectual puppet of the extremists!

The Rhodesian has a weapon far superior to any the extremists hold — his unfailing sense of humour. He can laugh at himself, but even more important, he can laugh at the enemy.

Because she's a woman and a civilian, Sue Colquohoun can't take up a rifle and go shooting terrorists, but that doesn't stop her waging her own private war against the terr. Sue, a cartoonist, does battle with pen and ink, and a mighty good job she makes of it.

Readers of Assegai and Bush Telegraph may

have noticed some of Sue's work in recent issues — and now she and the Editors have got together to produce a book of cartoons for Christmas. Entitled: "Life with the Terr . . . and Fun with the Forces," it will be on sale as from next week.

The price is \$1,20 and part of the proceeds



*Mrs. Sue Colquohoun in a pensive mood.*  
(Courtesy: Army Photographer).

will go to the Army Welfare Fund. There are about 60 original cartoons in the book, and says Sue, "My aim is to make the terr out to be a bit of a twit. If I can succeed in this, I may take away some of the fear that exists and also make the problem less."

Born in Lincolnshire, England, Sue came out to Rhodesia in 1951 with her parents. A Secretary to a Stockfeed company, she is married with three children and lives in Mount Pleasant, Salisbury.

Her interest in drawing began in a most unusual way. As a child during the war her eyes had been slightly damaged when German planes dropped around the area in which she was living. This never cleared up properly in the left eye and throughout her life, she has never been able to focus properly. Then she decided to have an operation and as part of the post-operative treatment she was given the task of drawing little stick figures and making them smaller and smaller until she could focus properly. From this developed a lasting interest in drawing — and coupled with her keen sense of humour, she was soon into cartoons. Sue describes herself as a born hell-raiser and she will also lend a sympathetic ear to anyone in distress. If someone comes to her with a moan about some bureaucratic inefficiency, nine times out of ten, Sue will be itching to take up the cudgels on their behalf — and this has led

to several clashes with the authorities.

Two of her pet hates are the fuel rationing office and traffic wardens. Not so long ago Sue drew an hilarious series of cartoons for the magazine, "Illustrated Life Rhodesia", in which the fuel rationing office was depicted in a very unflattering light. Needless to say the staff were not amused.

They must have been rather pleased to hear that later on Sue had got a parking ticket when her meter (right outside the office) ran out while she was inside attending to some negotiations over units. Sue herself was furious — and this led to her writing to The Rhodesia Herald to protest and also state flatly that she would not pay.

Finally, she was summoned, but rather than pay up she went to court and stated her case. Her argument was that meters outside the fuel rationing office should be for a longer period than one hour when it was highly unlikely that a motorist is going to be in there for a long time and cannot keep nipping out to feed the meter, because he will lose his place in the queue. The magistrate let her off.

"The point is that I made a protest at something I thought was wrong", she said, "I am not a person who will just sit there and accept things. At least in this way one can say one is living."

## "LIFE WITH THE TERR . . ."

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"Life with the Terr . . ." is now available throughout Rhodesia. Readers can obtain copies from the Assegai office for \$1,20 post free. Please complete the form below and return with your cheque to:-

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# THE LEGEND OF SANDY McGOONEY



A Scots lad named Sandy McGooney  
Came out to Rhodesia one day  
and fell for the fair Eastern Highlands  
and made up his mind he would stay.

CHORUS: With his bright, tartan kilt a-swirling  
He'd march down each dusty road  
With his bagpipes squalling and skirling —  
Through the mountains and valleys he strode.

When the army enlisted McGooney  
They cut off his long, rusty hair  
Then told him to roll up his sporran  
And gave him khaki to wear.

CHORUS:

McGooney detested the Khaki  
And his sporran and kilt were his pride;  
From his bagpipes he couldn't be parted --  
So they locked young Sandy inside.

CHORUS:



In his cell he kept playing his bagpipes,  
Causing his cell-mates to shout  
For the noise that he made was appalling  
So they finally let the lad out.

CHORUS:

To the border went Sandy McGooney  
In his kilt, his sporran and spurs  
Perched high on the back of a pony  
He set out to tangle with terrs.

CHORUS:



But the terrs — when they spied Sandy coming  
Stared at his kilt filled with awe.  
"I'll fight any man!" cried their leader,  
"But I'll not fight his mother-in-law".

CHORUS:

Then Sandy McGooney got blowing  
And his bagpipes started to wail.  
The terrs fled over the border  
With Sandy still hot on their trail.

CHORUS:

For days he followed the blighters  
And he piped 'til his lungs nearly burst  
Then the terrorists dropped all around him,  
Weakened by terror and thirst.

CHORUS:

Then back to his camp Sandy cantered  
With his prisoners all shaking with fear  
Stumbling ahead, each one crying  
With their thumbs pressed firm in each ear.

CHORUS:

But the end of our hero is tragic  
An elephant bull, filled with lust  
heard the pipes and thought — That's a love song  
And ground poor Sandy to dust!

CHORUS:

Sometimes in the still of the morning  
Or late, when the sun starts to fall  
You can see the ghost of McGooney  
With his bagpipes, his sporran and all.

CHORUS.

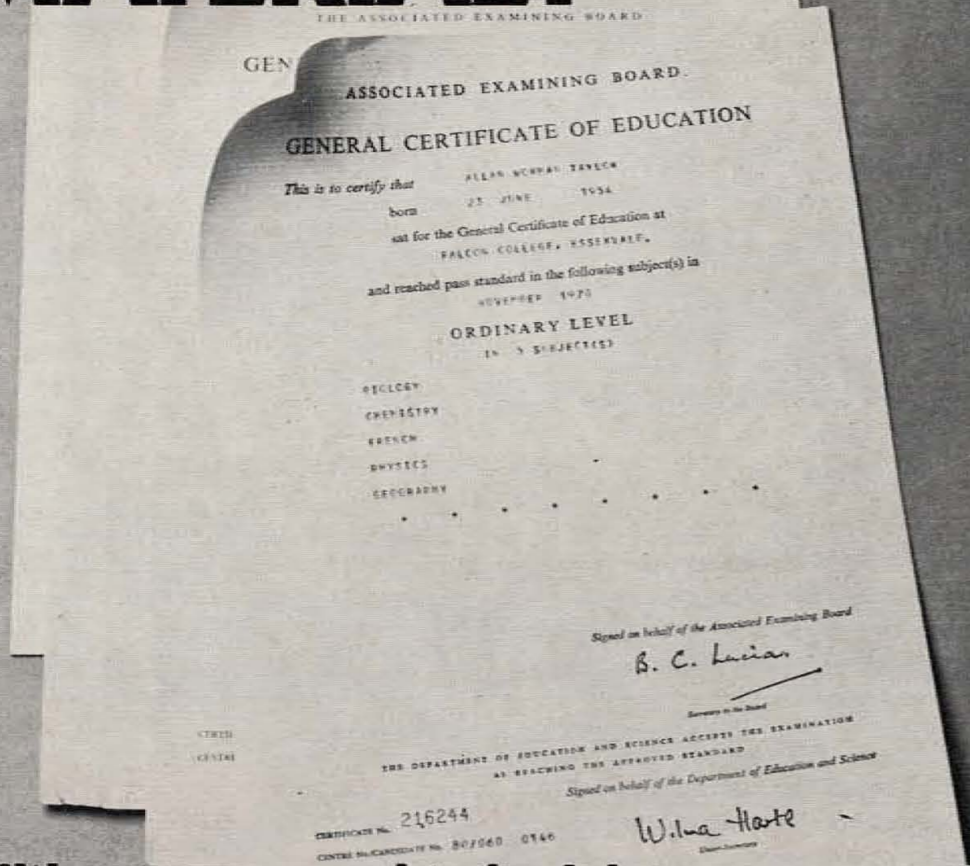


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So if you think you could be Officer material, call our Major Nick Lamprecht in Salisbury on 707060, or write to him at Army Careers Office, Private Bag 7720, Causeway Salisbury.

**OFFICER  
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# Adopting them all . . .

by  
PHILLIPA BERLYN

When some of us heard that money instead of glory bags would be in the pipeline this Christmas, we disagreed. Besides, when your country is at war, everyone wants to be involved; everyone wants to help wherever possible. So we started the Adopt-a-troopie campaign. You think you've got problems? How about me? I've got the whole Army. . . .

So many people have asked me what they could do to help that I actually sat down in my thinking place and thought, and then I came up with what I thought was a great idea — well, you know how it is. Let's get all the ladies to adopt a troopie, I thought, and send him a regular goodies pack, with a personal touch. How about that?

"How about it?" I asked a conventional colonel friend. "Good idea?"

I was astonished to see him looking dubious.

"I don't want any angry husbands on my doorstep," he said severely, "they might get beady if the little woman adopts a troopie and he turns out to be something more than an adoptive child, so to speak."

I really hadn't given this aspect of the idea much consideration. A second opinion is always a good thing, so off I went, slightly lower down the rank structure, to talk to a major.

"What are you up to?" he asked. "Setting up a marriage bureau? I'd hate to have enraged mammas knocking on the office door because their daughters have adopted . . . er . . . some rather full grown children."

And then there was a certain P.R.O. who took the whole thing literally, and looked at me very askance.

"Would the troopie have to be over twenty-one or not?" he queried. I had a sudden vision of a very large sunburned young man arriving home, and demanding to see his new mum. Nice.

These hassles notwithstanding, the scheme did actually get under way, when a group of us managed to collect enough small goodies and books to cater for my friends in Charlie Company IRAR. The parcels were small, but the hearts behind them were not. I was finally

convinced of the value of the idea when, some weeks later, letters started arriving.

"Chewing some biltong, smoking a cigarette, reading your paperback, a soldier forgets for a little time to think about his home . . ."

There were heaps of friendly, grateful little notes like that, some of them written in Shona, some in immaculate English. The company commanders began to like the idea — especially they liked the idea of the personal touch. So we started spreading the story, and very soon I had our hall — which is large — piled high with parcels for troopies. Some of the parcels were superbly put together, tied up in mutton cloth. Others fell apart as I looked at them, and had to be repaired with whatever supplies of brown paper I could discover. A few African women — Army wives — began to help a little as well. The first lot of parcels was ready for collection and I spent happy hours addressing each one — and then bullying someone to come and take them all to deliver to the recipients.

Th next consignment was due to be sent to the Engineers — doggie squadron. Some of the people who made up parcels decided to add dog biscuits for good measure. The parcels began piling up in the hall again. My dogs were fascinated. So were the ants. Some bright bird had obviously included a gloriously sticky item in her pack. I was glad to wave goodbye to the Engineers' parcels.

For just one day the hall was tidy.

And now here we go again — if anyone sends me a bag of horse cubes I'm going to have a sense of humour failure — yes, you've guessed; we're busy sorting out the Christmas goodies for our Rhodesian cavalry.

# Women's World



**"NOW THEY ARE TRULY ONE WITH THEM"**



One of the most singular honours that can be bestowed upon a military person is to be "Dined-in?" "Out?" in the Mess of a Regiment to which that person belongs.

The RWS of the Units within Brady Barracks took full opportunity to complete and strengthen military tradition by doing just that and on Friday 29th October 1976 the members "dined-out" Mrs. B. A. Trow on her transfer to Salisbury at the JPS (lucky people).

Although the formality in the form of "Mess Kit" had to be dispensed with — you know what women are — all other aspects of a formal dining-in-night were observed.

Lt R. O. Loter, Rh Sigs, the Mess Supervising officer, was the only military male present — how lucky can you be! (There were no civilian males present either — so he had no competition.)

The "Loyal Toast was proposed by "Mrs.

Vice", Mrs. B. Hunter (Strange how one has got to adapt to new formality, I nearly wrote Mr. Vice!)

It has also been confirmed that a well-known firm donated 24 bottles of wine for the 25 members present — someone made a mistake — probably forgot the SO— regrettably they say, he had to share with the PMC.

As it was the first occasion, all members "dined-in", how is it that Miss Trow was "dined-out"? surely, also, she was "dined-in"? Really is there such a thing as to be "dined-out" or is it the last occasion when one is "dined-in"? Help me, I am so confused! In-Out — In-Out. I wish I was the "cox" of the Cambridge and Oxford eights — it would be so simple.

All in all, it was a new experience that was fully justified and the members in future years and reminiscences will be heard to say — "Remember when we dined-'in-out' old TROW old girl!" "GAD MAM — WHAT A NIGHT."

Army HQ.  
22 November 1976.

Air Marshal M. J. McLaren,, CLM,  
Air Force Headquarters,  
Private Bag 7721,  
Causeway.

Dear Mick,

I wish to offer the Army's warmest congratulations on the 29th Anniversary of the Rhodesian Air Force on 28 November 1976.

I feel that the formal and rather impersonal signal usually sent on these occasions is inadequate between two Services which work so closely together in our common cause.

The Army holds the Air Force in the highest esteem, and with good reason. The unflinching co-operation and close liaison that exists between us is something that many countries must envy, and could well emulate to their own advantage. From this co-operation has sprung a great mutual respect, and many firm friendships have been formed between all ranks of the Browns and Blues, both Regular and Territorial.

I am personally extremely grateful for the unflinching gallantry, cheerfulness, and spirit of brotherly affection, shown by the pilots and their crews who work with us in the operational areas, and my feelings are shared completely by all ranks, in all units, of the Army, deployed in these areas. I would like to mention, in particular, the risks taken, frequently at night, in the deployment of troops, and their re-deployment, under fire, and, indeed, the willing and unhesitating response to all tactical demands made under hazardous conditions. This includes, of course, the frequent casualty evacuations by various aircraft, which often put a pilot and crew at considerable risk, but which they undertake cheerfully in the knowledge that speedy evacuation saves lives, and gives a tremendous boost to the morale of the chaps who know they can rely on this back up.

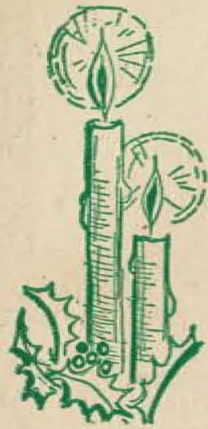
The psychological advantage, as well as the obvious physical advantage, of having strike and transport aircraft on call to provide our joint team with overwhelming fire power and mobility at the exact time these are needed, does not need stating, but I would not like you, or the members of the Air Force, to think that we take them for granted.

May we long continue to work together to defend Rhodesia in the spirit of mutual respect, co-operation, and genuine affection which has been the hallmark of our operations to date, and which seems to have been recognised by the rest of the world, friend and foe alike.

To all ranks of the Force I send the Army's best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,  
Peter.

From: Lieutenant General G. P. Walls.  
GPW/MKS



## Give and Take

by  
PADRE JOHN FALL,  
Rhodesian Army



"It isn't the gift itself, so much as the thought behind it," is an expression which is quite often used to comfort a disappointed recipient. I think it is often rather inappropriately used, when the gift displays an almost total lack of thought in its selection — as, for instance, when a china ornament, or a particularly virulent tie, is the gift in question.

Still, there is something in the saying. When we receive a small gift, from someone whom we know cannot really afford even that, it is pleasant to reflect that the sender thought enough of us to buy, or make, even the small remembrance.

And, let's face it, the business of giving Christmas gifts has got out of hand. People — some people, anyway — do spend far more on presents than they can really afford. Sometimes it is embarrassing to receive a present when we know that its monetary value is greatly in excess of what we can afford. Then, it almost seems that the donor is thinking more of the impression that his — or her — generosity will produce, than of the pleasure the recipient will get out of it.

Anyway, getting presents is very nice, and so is giving them. The practice give pleasure to the giver and to the receiver. It is part of the Christmas tradition, and a good old tradition it is, too. Long live Merry Christmas!

If you ask where the tradition started, some people would say that the shepherds brought gifts to Baby Jesus; although it isn't in the Bible, there is a strong tradition that they did. Other people would tell you that it was an imitation of the Wise Men, who certainly did bring gifts, of gold frankincense and myrrh. That's in the Bible, and no argument about it. Others, again,

would talk about Santa Claus, but that is only an Americanisation of Saint Nicholas, who is the patron saint of sailors, and also, as it happens, of Russia. He was (or is thought to have been) a bishop of Myra in Lycia about the year 300. Not much is known about him, though one of his symbols is three bags of gold, which he is supposed to have given to three poor girls as their dowries. He is the patron saint of children, and his feast day is the 6th December, but there isn't any reason to suppose that he resides — or ever resided — at the North Pole, nor that he was ever possessed of a sleigh and reindeer. As for Good King Wenceslas, who Looked Out on the Feast of Stephen (which is better known to most of us as Boxing Day) — well, he was a Bohemian prince and was martyred in about the year 929. He became the patron saint of Bohemia, and his feast day is on the 28th September. The well-known carol, which was written by the Revd John Mason Neale is, alas, wholly imaginary.

Perhaps, after all, we don't need a reason for giving presents at Christmas. And yet, we might like a reason, if we could think of one. Perhaps the best one is that we — and all mankind — were given the greatest gift of all on the Christmas Day. We were given our Saviour — God Himself in human form. Some people would say that if that is the case we ought to give God something at Christmas. As Christina Rossetti put it, "What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my part; Yet what can I give Him — Give my heart." Some people would object that that wasn't very much — but I don't know; like we said at the outset, "It isn't the gift itself, so much as the thought behind it."



## Lions' bus will help injured troops on the road to recovery



At the beginning of this Lions' fiscal year, when Lion Jack Ward was inducted as president, he said that, although the Lions Club of Marlborough had had a Forces Liaison Officer for some time, he felt that with the growing need Marlborough Lions Club would concentrate this year on Forces aid in every way possible.

The Committee set up is chaired by Lion Shaun Stringer with Peter Gardner, Tony Alford and Ian Campbell forming the team.

When Tsanga Lodge, a convalescent hospital for members of all security forces who had sustained injuries in the "sharp end", was handed over to Army authorities, the only vehicle available for transporting the recuperating members was a long-wheeled base Land-Rover.

During this time the Lions Club of Marlborough had already tendered for an old mobile bank and thanks to the Chief General Manager

of the Standard Bank, Mr. S. H. Dittmer, we acquired the vehicle. Initially, this vehicle was destined to be converted to a mobile dental clinic similar to the one presented to the Army by us last year and now better known to the troops as the "Fang Wagon". However, the Tsanga Lodge transport project proved very much more urgent.

It was decided, in view of the nature of the passengers the vehicle would convey, that the bus should be made as luxurious as possible. Through the kind action of Mr. T. Minks and Mr. J. Townsend of Air Trans Africa, 12 aeroplane seats were made available at no charge to the Club, and thanks to Mr. J. Barber and Mr. J. James of Karina (Pvt.) Ltd. sufficient carpeting was donated to install "wall to wall" carpeting.

The vehicle at this stage — a mobile bank —



The Lion's bus as it was while being used as a mobile bank.

(Courtesy: Army Photographer)

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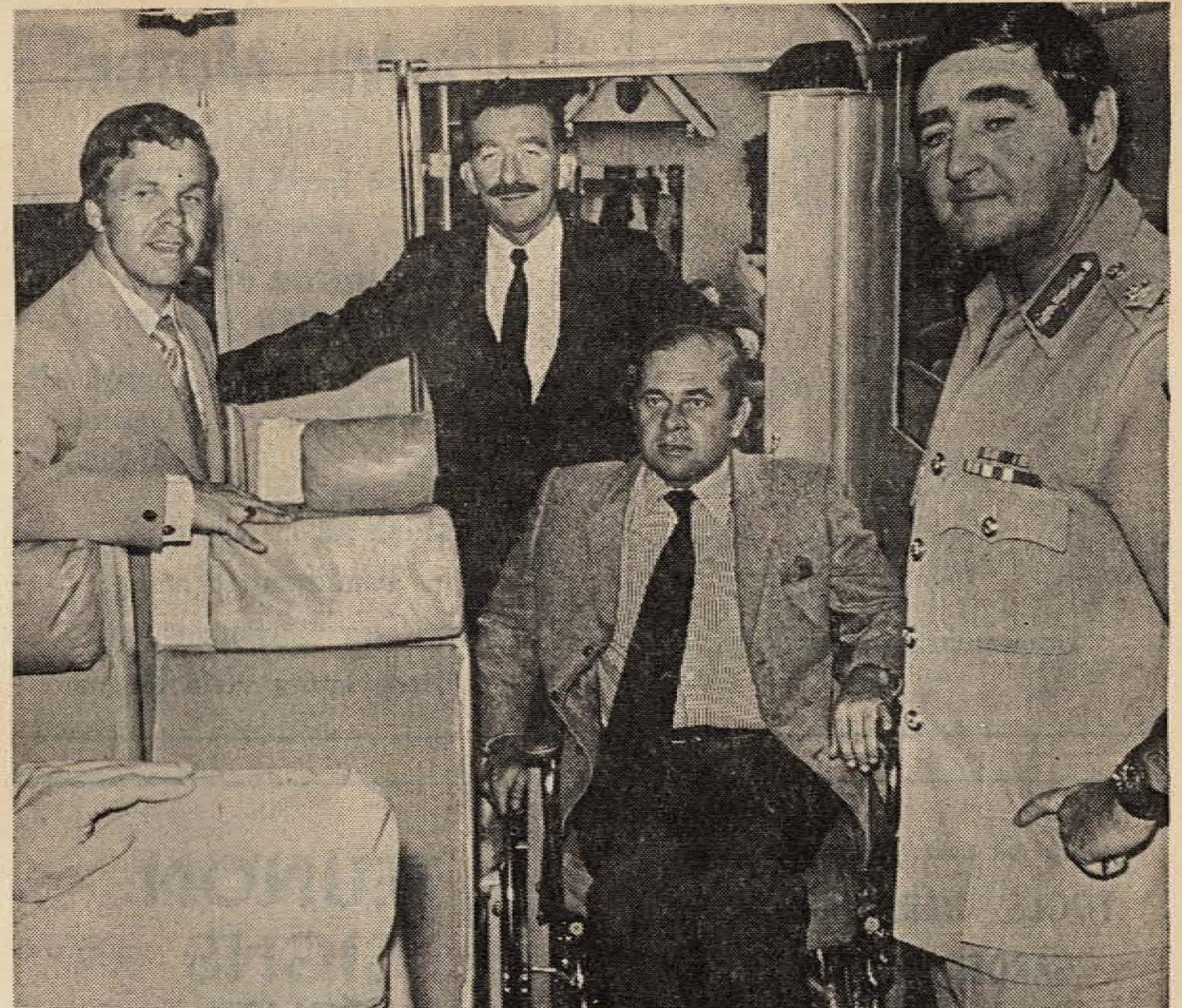
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*Maj Genl J. S. V. Hickman, OLM, DCD, MC, inspecting the bus presented by Mr. Alec Kapnias (far left) and Mr. Shaun Stringer, while Major J. Stokes looks on.  
(Courtesy: Rhodesia Herald)*

obviously required considerable alteration and through the wonderful support from Mr. B. Nicholas and Mr. Levett, Zambesi Coachworks Co. undertook to do the complete conversion at no charge. This included modifying and re-covering the seats, laying a steel floor and fitting the carpet, moving the main door to the rear, fitting a roof rack and altering the windows.

A ramp was also made so that wheelchairs can easily be put into the bus. In case it should rain en route, Mr. E. Cook from William Smith and Gourcock saw to it that the luggage would remain dry by donating a complete canvas cover for this purpose. Tape music has also been installed by Mr. Ian Porter, an auto

electrician, the 8-track unit having been donated by a Lion from our Club, who wishes to remain anonymous. The 8-track tapes have been made possible by the kind action of the Marlborough LEO Club.

A rather magnificent plaque manufactured and donated by P.A. Plastics, thanks to Mr. Le Catsas, has been mounted in the bus, listing all those who assisted the Lions Club of Marlborough with the conversion of the travelling bank and making it what it is today.

The bus, now completed, can seat 12 passengers as well as 4 passengers in wheelchairs.

The vehicle had a trial run last month when it went up to Tsanga Lodge in Inyanga for the



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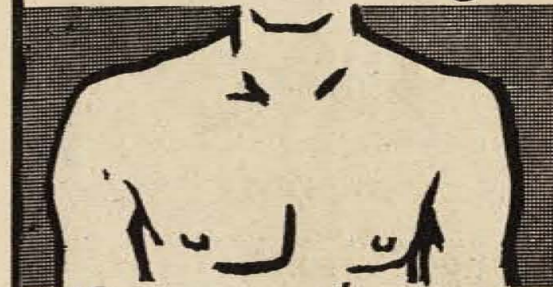
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official opening of the hospital and although it managed to run out of petrol it behaved like a dream.

This bus project is now complete, but the Forces Liaison Committee is already looking for another suitable offer so that they can go ahead with the much needed second mobile dental clinic "Fang Wagon II". The bus was handed over to the Army at a ceremony on Friday 26 November at the Officers' Mess, KGVI Barracks. Maj Genl J. S. V. Hickman, OLM, DCD, MC, formally accepted the bus from Mr. Alec Kapnias, first vice-president of Lions. In making the presentation he said: "We live in a sick world filled with corruption and destruction. We Rhodesians are a different people and our standards of civilisation are the envy of many. Today we see a glimpse of the light of hope and this is due to our security forces."

General Hickman paid tribute to the continuing gifts received by the Army from Lions and expressed the hope that although the vehicle would be put to good use in view of the reason for its existence, few people would need to use it. Having mentioned a previous Lions gift — a mobile dental clinic which has since acquired the nickname of "Fang Wagon" — General Hickman was sure that the latest acquisition would also gain a nickname in the near future.

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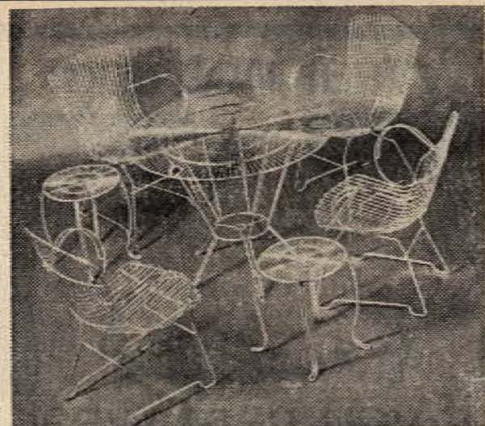
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*before you speak*

By

A SMALL SEAGULL

It was Aloe Festival time in Umtali, we had yet to experience Fred's rockets and spring was a-coming in. In these halcyon days war was the furthest thing from our minds and ters were, now, as simply of nuisance value. The twilight came softly through the bar windows and the contented quiet was only disturbed by a murmur of "Same again" or the thunk of the darts in bristle. But free gratis advice came regularly from psychological action officers and one said: "It's not that we have insufficient tasks to keep us busy in THRASHER, it's simply that we don't have the muscle we'd like to have to flatten what we have got." The Psyops chap threw a treble twenty, made the statement with the total nonchalance of Mr. Rabin telling his Chief of Commandos to go and fix Idi, or General Walls giving the order to sort out a camp close to the border, threw his second arrow into the treble nineteen, the third one into the double sixteen for a 149 finish and without a pause, added in a languid drawl, "Sorry, lad, but mine's an Oudemeester".

Dear reader, you may have been told that every man of Dalton's Division, that mysterious TOP SECRET bunch of Psyops experts, is a leader of some commercial or industrial concern. Well, maybe, but if so, there must be an awful lot of boardrooms or managerial offices in Rhodesia with dart boards. But I've started at the end of my story and we must go back a bit.

The President of the local Lions International phoned the Brigade Commander one day and asked him to speak at their Annual Dinner. When the Commander asked the Lion what he wanted him to speak about and for how long, the answer was positively stunning in its utter simplicity. He had replied "About 15 minutes on anything you like", and put the phone down. At least that is what the boss said when he came

off the phone and we could see that his thoughts went no further than Glenfiddich, KWV, golf and chess, although not necessarily in that order. And that was the way it stayed for the next few weeks — total, blank inability to find a subject, and it began to affect the old man's darts. Instead of buying three rounds for Psyops, against every one that they bought for him, we now had a suspicion that Ollie (our Chief Censor known affectionately as Rose Budd) was deliberately trying to lose the Commander.

Then the day before the speech the staff were summoned to the inner sanctum and given the task of making notes for the speaker. "Make it light — Lions are a happy bunch," he said, "and can we have something original for a change?" That was it and clearly the boss fondly remembered that afternoon in Hurricane when Arfur and Snarlington-Bloodworthy had solved all the Army's problems on the naming of the Mounted Infantry.

The BM was away on R and R and our Member of Parliament LO not available, so we were thin on the ground. Without the BM's brain the "Buffalo Drop Inn", as we have affectionately re-named the Old Cecil pub, is more likely to produce manure than mental munificence and our MPLO had proved his ability to find or scrounge anything, even though he missed out on the issue of long-johns! As the senior G Staff member present I sat and looked at the assembled brain stormers and wondered at the strange quirk of fate that had given us such a breadth of experienced talent.

The master tractor salesman, Ollie, was radiantly enthusiastic but perhaps the radiance came from the half dozen Oudemeesters that he had taken us for immediately after the JOC meeting had finished. Getters, Intelligence's



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## Wright Rain

English bull's tail, sat with the firelight reflecting on his glasses and a broad grin that made him even more like the Camberley Owl. The Brig had detested owls ever since Camberley and thus Getters had had a less smooth passage since his arrival. Driver McLean was half asleep. AQ Kanga sat with his "doormats coir silver one" bursting out of the neck of his shirt, his bottle of local vinho on the arm of his chair. Kanga hadn't really been happy since his Kiwi mate, Little Roo, was posted to play a piccolo in the Signals Band. Roo's departure has cut Kanga's intake of plonk to one bottle per evening, much to the disgust of the Simleit family and Lorraine (whoever she is). Diver McLean, the only intellectual in the HQ, explained what the object was and after announcing that any idea would be welcome, we let the hounds of war loose. "The war," said Getters, "they'll expect war stories from a chap like the Brig", obviously trying to make the next three months less of a purgatory. A snore from the deep sea diver, then he opened his eyes and said with some feeling, "Anything BUT the B—— war, leave the war with P.K. or in the P.K." He was almost awake and as usual had to add, "I remember," which is how he normally starts, "A Guards NCO at Sandhurst reprimanding a cadet name of Piper and shouting, Stupid Piper, Daft Piper, Toilet Piper, Sir — since that day war stories have always been inextricably bound up with the loo in my mind." We finally agreed that Umtali probably knew more about the war than we did.

Kanga sees things with an outsider's eye. He said "Model it on the Ford-Regan match. Tell them that the old man's canvassing for President of an independent Manicaland." "It's going to be a good clean fight between him and Jack Mussett," said Ollie. "Yes," said the Diver, forgetting that he was against war stories, "and if it's not going well, tell them about our plans to march on Salisbury led by General Koos van der Merwe of Chipinga". Getters said "Try that trick and the Brig will be back in the General's office with the proverbial blotting paper in his dear old denims yet again." Pause while everyone nodded, then Ollie said, "But you must admit it has scope for a witty address, we could have a Bird amendment allowing Army HQ to have some of the more cultured, good-looking RWS, compare Internal Affairs to the US Marine Corps and allow them to have a Navy as well as Air Force, introduce bussing in the deep South at Chipinga, consider legalising dagga, which might attract a fair portion of the Brig's old regiment to his own Army, and legalise gambling and quickie divorces in Inyanga a la Nevada."

The Diver woke up again. "No, far too long. The best speeches are short speeches. Simply get him to stand up and say: "Thank you, Lions of Umtali for your support. I shall always wear it —then sit down!" We reprimanded Ollie for his strange civilian views on the RLI, ordered a round of drinks and went on.

Getters was as fascinated by war as the Diver wasn't. "What about the boss's experiences in Mocambique," he said, "Peter Rich's Portuguese compatriot who made his strategic plans on the Shell road map, or if you want it to be humorous get the Brig to take along his beret and his imitation of the officer who couldn't find Fingoe on the 1:250 000 map. Perhaps not, the boss is so like that Portuguese Colonel that the Lions would never take him seriously again." The owl's glasses started to steam up as he realised the implication of what he'd said. Trying to recover ground he giggled and said "Or what about the day he hit the goats with his new staff car. 3 Brigade's first contact, two kills and one wounded/captured." There was a stony silence and the Diver said menacingly, "Yes, Getters, and get the boss to agree that he was drunk at the time and that his wife said to the General that she told the boss it was bound to happen if he kept using his staff car for family trips to Mermaids Pool."

Ollie tried to cheer Getters up and get off the subject of Portugal. "Well, what about hobbies — what he really enjoys doing in his spare time — well, maybe not, especially if Mrs. MacIntyre is going to accompany him. What I mean is, she wasn't exactly impressed with the Old Man's Mess Bill last month," and weakly tailing off, "The ancient and honourable game of 301 isn't exactly inspiring." It wasn't one of Ollie's better efforts. So he started again, voice ringing with enthusiasm.

"What Umtali needs is cheering up. Tell them Umtali's great. Of course if it was ME speaking I could start with something like this — I went out to the Aloe Park Motel the other night and met a gorgeous bit of succulent. Aloe, Aloe, Aloe, wot's this I said, I'm Rose Budd, and she replied, "If you think you are going to cross-pollinate with me, my dear Oliander, you have another think coming." There was a pregnant pause.

Getters took it up again. "This is definitely the line, the fighting spirit of the ordinary citizens of Umtali is second to none, the ters are in complete disarray and 3 Brigade are on top." The Diver chipped in "Ndabaningi is a 'nan, Samora is a paw paw, Peter Browne is a



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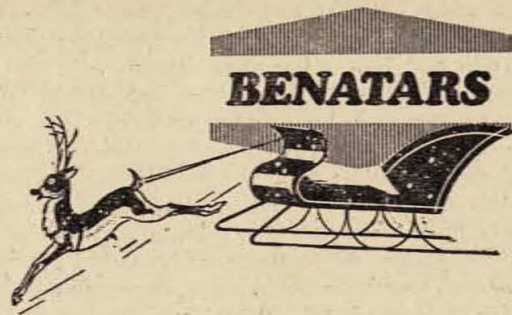
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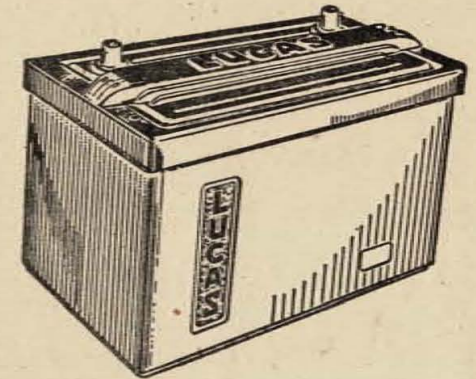


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Rotarian but all the men of 4RR are Lions in the bush." Kanga came to light, "A bottle of Marandellas Madeira is better than Sally Donaldson's little brown bottles when you holiday in the Honde Valley or on the Ryenya. Fawcett's tapping a barrel of wine at the Pungwe Rest House — why not join him at any of the Eastern Sun's immaculate establishments — all run by retired Blues Officers — darts, bridge and grazing at all hours."

It went on and on, and got worse and worse. The speech next day was not the greatest — no member of the Cabinet needs to fear loss of office. There was a distinct communication gap between staff and Commander for a week or two because he finished by writing his own speech. But you may wonder why the opening Sensor quote at the beginning of the article, indeed you may wonder why I write this rubbish at all. It is simply an extended plea in mitigation before the case is presented against the Buffalo Brigade. We have shortages in many departments, not only muscle, and so we always return to the dart board. After all, if you can tell us a better way of arranging tactical deployment of companies other than throwing a few arrows at a map of Manicaland, we'd be delighted to hear from you!

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WO 2 Mahaboyo has served for over twenty-seven years with the First Battalion RAR; he first saw service with the Battalion in Burma and over the years has worked his way up from private soldier. His exemplary record bears testimony to frequent service over and above the call of duty.

Among the recipients of honours and awards were four civilian ladies who have served with the Army for many years. It is particularly

pleasing to see their services acknowledged and our congratulations are extended to Mrs. Joan Ewing, Mrs. E. M. Ford, Mrs. V. K. Harrison and Miss Joy Martin.

Miss Martin is employed in the Ministry of Defence, Establishment Staffing Section. However, her Army connection goes back to 1940 when she commenced work at Army Headquarters. In the course of postings Miss Martin served at the Drill Hall, Salisbury, Ordnance and Defence Accounts Department, and was an inaugural member at the formation of the Services Directorate at Army Headquarters.

Mrs. Ewing has been at Army Headquarters since 1958, and was appointed Supervisor of Central Registry in 1967. Mrs. Ford joined Army Headquarters in 1954 and in 1956 took over the Career Planning Statistics Registry. Mrs. Harrison came to Army Headquarters in 1957 and assumed the post of Secret Registry Custodian.

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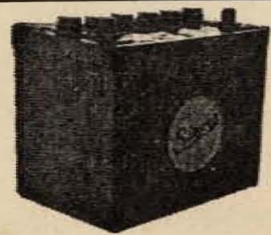
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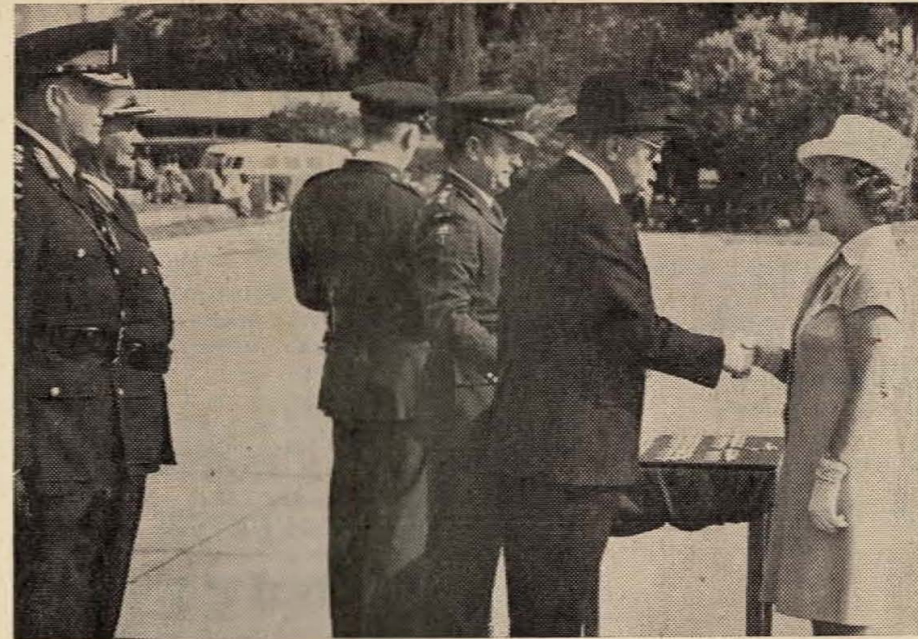
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*Mrs. E. M. Ford receiving her award.*  
(Courtesy: Ministry of Information)



*Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Ewing and Mrs. Ford, all employed at Army HQ.*  
(Courtesy: Army Photographer)

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## MAKE-UP PAY

As you may or may not know the Government has been working out a policy to help out frequently called up TF and Reserve soldiers with financial problems — the new policy will help out those employers who have been providing make-up pay as well. The policy will become effective on December 1st, and details have appeared in the press, but in case you missed the papers or didn't grasp a couple of the points, here's an outline of the new system.

### National Servicemen and D Intakes

These will not fall into the scheme for make-up pay as they have a statutory liability to go through initial training and service. However, the current system of Supplementary Allowance does allow for relief to be claimed if financial hardship can be proved — if in doubt see your unit paymaster.

### TF/Reserve

Employers have been asked to adopt the following system:

While a soldier is on army service the employer should continue to pay his basic civilian pay — that is, his gross pay before any deductions, and excluding any overtime, commission, bonuses, etc.

In return the soldier will pay over 70% of his gross service pay for the same period to his employer. That is 70% of pay, including marriage and specialist allowances before any deductions, such as kit losses.

The soldier thus keeps 30% of his gross service pay plus any amounts received such as ration, travel, subsistence allowances. This 30% represents the average amount of extra time spent working by the soldier when in the army — i.e. a 7-day instead of a 5-day week.

Employers who use this system can claim a "Make-up Pay" allowance based on the difference between 70% of the soldier's gross service pay and his normal civilian pay, up to a maximum of \$19,70 per day (approximately \$600 a month). Employers wanting to make up pay above \$600 per month will have to bear the additional cost themselves.

### Claims for overtime, commission, etc.

Where the soldier's civilian pay is supplemented by regular overtime, commission, incentive bonus or the like, he can apply for reimbursement for this loss of earnings — again with the ceiling of \$19,70 per day.

### TF/Reserve Public Servants

Instead of the flat rate of \$3,50 per day Public Servants will be paid 30% of their gross service pay — an incentive to seek Army promotion.

Confused? A few examples to help make it clear:

1. Rfn Izzet is called for D Intake training. His civilian pay was normally \$700 per month, which he can prove. In the army his daily rate is \$7,55 (M + 1). So, Rfn Izzet can go through his unit paymaster for supplementary allowance for proved financial hardship:

Civilian salary, \$700 per month  
= \$23,33 per day  
Army pay and allowances  
= \$ 7,55 per day

Which leaves a shortfall of \$15,78 per day.

The maximum he can claim is the amount which will bring his Army pay and allowances up to \$19,70 per day, so — Supplementary Allowance of \$12,15 per day will bring his army pay up to par.

2. Rfn Green is called up for September, his normal civilian earning is \$750 per month. His gross service pay is \$7,55 per day (M + 1). His employers elect to make up his pay in full whilst he is in the Army.

The Army will pay Rfn Green his full entitlement (30 days at \$7,55 = \$226,50).

Rfn Green retains 30% of his Army pay (\$67,95) and pays to his employer 70% (\$158,55).

The employer may claim from Central Payments Office:

Basic Civilian Emoluments \$750 per month  
= \$25,00 per day  
Reduce claim by any amount in excess of \$19,70  
= \$ 5,30 per day

MAXIMUM CLAIM \$19,70  
Less 70% of Rfn Green's Army pay (70% of \$7,55) \$5,28  
EMPLOYER'S MAKE-UP PAY ALLOWANCE \$14,42

3. Rfn Black is called up for November, his normal civilian earnings are \$450 per month and he earns a regular \$150 per month, i.e. \$5 per day in overtime which he supports by a certified

statement from his employer's accountant. Claim for loss of overtime will be assessed as follows:

Maximum Claim admissible \$19,70 per day  
Claimed by Employer (\$4,50 — 30) \$15,00 per day  
\$4,70 Balance

Rfn Black may claim up to \$4,70 per day for loss of overtime, etc.

4. Major Tickbird, employed by C and AG Department is called up for 30 days. He is married plus two children. As a Public Servant he is entitled to be paid 30% of his gross service pay only, e.g.:

30% of Basic Pay  
= 30% of \$7,00 per day = \$2,10  
30% of Service Allowance  
= 30% of \$2,00 per day = 60  
30% of Marriage Allowance  
= 30% of \$3,30 per day = 99  
30% of Children's Allowance  
= 30% of \$1,30 per day = 39  
\$4,08 per day

If your employer agrees to adopt the above system you can help him by ensuring that every time you are called up you complete a Make-up Pay Form and hand it to your unit paymaster and that on stand down from duty you hand over to your employer 70% of your gross service pay.

If you wish to claim loss of regular overtime, commission or incentive bonus, you are to produce to your unit paymaster written evidence certified by your employer's accountant of your normal basic salary and the amount of regular overtime, commission or incentive bonus that you receive.

Public Servants who are to receive 30% of their gross service pay must still complete a Make-up Pay Form endorsed with details of what department they are employed by.

The above is a condensed version of the policy to be operative from 1 December, 1976. Members serving at the moment who stand down before 31 December, 1976, will be dealt with under the current system of submitting individual claims for Supplementary Allowance. The old maxim will still apply: **IF IN DOUBT CONTACT YOUR UNIT PAYMASTER.**

## Regimental

## Nicknames:

# The Gentlemen of the Life Guards



Gentlemen of the Life Guards and men of other regiments — today this statement is only uttered by troopers of the Life Guards in jest, but it had a very real meaning in the year 1660.

In that year King Charles II formed into a troop a body of cavalier gentlemen who had rallied round him and placed them under command of Lord Gerard. They were described as 'gentlemen of education and good birth' and were paid the then princely sum of four shillings a day. On formation they had the title '1st or His Majesty's Own Troop of Guards'.

In the same year another troop, also drawn from cavalier gentlemen, was raised and styled 'The Duke of Albemarle's Troop of Guards'. In 1685 the two regiments became the 1st and 2nd Troops of Life Guards of Horse, and in 1788 the 1st and 2nd Life Guards.

In 1788 that the Life Guards gained their first nickname, 'The Cheeses'. In that year there was a sharp decline in social qualifications demanded of recruits to the Regiment; so much so, in fact, that many of the 'old hands' declined

to serve in the Life Guards, maintaining that they were no longer gentlemen but cheesemongers. This nickname fell into disuse — but was revived at the Battle of Waterloo where an officer led his men with the exhortation 'Come on Cheesemongers!' No social status was involved in this particular charge, described by one historian as 'the severest hand-to-hand cavalry fight in the memory of man'. Nor was there anything of the snob about the Duke of Wellington on this occasion — Waterloo was scarcely a social event — and when the Regiment came out of action he saluted them with grave ceremony, saying 'Thank you, Life Guards'.

In 1810 the Life Guards acquired one of its more opprobrious nicknames when they became known as 'The Piccadilly Butchers'. They were used to quell the Burdett riots, but the term 'butcher' seems hardly fair; indeed it would appear that the Life Guards on this occasion — as they have on many others in the invidious role of 'Aid to the Civil Power' — acted with remarkable restraint, and there was only one fatal casualty.

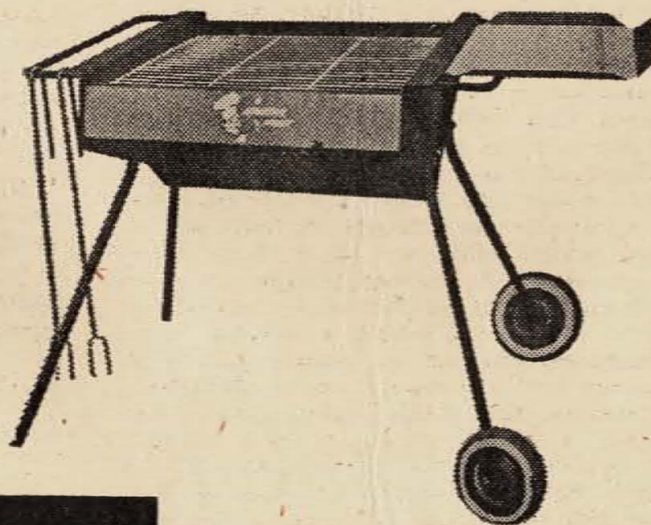


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## Depot Diary

After three years DRR is saying cheerio to 2IC Maj Chris Horn. We hope the short service hasn't seemed long, but you will have a long and fruitful short service when you've swapped with Major Micklesfield whom we'll say something about when we've seen him around here for a bit. Major Horn, during his service in the Army has served for fairly lengthy periods at DRR and on behalf of everyone at Depot we would sincerely like to thank him for all the effort and good work which he has put in, in making Llewelin Barracks a more organised and pleasant post to live with. Rest assured, he has done a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes and it is very evident that the "Depot Men" will miss him a lot.

The Drumhead Service and Band Sunday is in preparation for Sunday 5th December, and we look forward to a stirring address from well-known Padre Terry Spong.

### HQ COY:

HQ Coy is going through a relatively quiet period with no NS undergoing training at the present moment. We are all standing by for the new intake in the middle of December. A quiet Christmas for some.

The OC, Major Cameron-Davies, has shot off on some kind of leave, just when he will be back nobody seems to know.

We have with us at the present moment a bunch of lads who look like they have come from DAD's Army — indeed, the last time some did a military call-up was some twelve years ago. They have been lent to the Depot to do guard duties from 6RR — a special thanks to Lt Col Tarr.

Our Company Clerk, George Kaufman, has arrived back at work having tried to break the Casino at Kariba, but alas the Casino broke him, so rumour has it he spent his leave going out with a Jewess — seven years good luck, so they say.

Rumour has it that our famous radio announcer John Smith and his wife fiddled the books and won a trip to the Seychelles. John

and Tina, we believe this is your third honeymoon — make the most of it, John, with continuous call-up it could be a long time before you have your fourth!

With Christmas around the corner HQ Coy would like to wish all the other Companies in Depot a Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year. We know how busy you are going to be, maybe we could give you a hand.

### A COY (THE WORKERS):

Skit on recruiting advertisements for the French Foreign Legion seen in an eminent overseas magazine —

"Join the Army. Travel to distant and exotic lands.

"Meet exciting and interesting people — AND KILL THEM!"

Hails and farewells are the order of the day here at Depot and fortunately this time we do not say goodbye to anyone. A warm welcome, however, to Cpls Dave Fill and Gordon Wood — may your stay be a long and happy one.

So the sceptics thought the OC was just telling war stories when he told them about the Boy Scouts' motto "Be Prepared"; that is until they found themselves "fambaing" across the "gangeng" looking for real terrors. Now they all nod understandingly during lectures and suddenly there is an awareness of their future role.

Already they have experienced the discomforts of mopani flies, "mossies", the odd puff-adder and a bed of gravel and nylon, not to mention the blistering November sun. Never let it be said, however, that when the great call came "The Workers" were found lacking.

Next comes the Classical War Exercise, a short Christmas break (we hope!) and then the COIN Exercise. But more of this later . . .

### B COY:

B Coy at the present time are enjoying their Coin Phase out in the middle of nowhere, and once again Horace is left to cope with the difficulties of running the company. At this stage

*(Continued on Page 65)*



# The Knight's Move

by

WO1 J. J. WINCH (Rhodesian Army)



The Russian being predominantly of eastern stock, and chess being of eastern origin, it perhaps follows that the Russian should have an especial empathy with the game. Indeed writers have suggested that chess masters' advice has been sought in the planning stages of Russian moves and counter-moves in the cold — and for that matter the hot — was. If this is accepted it is an interesting exercise to apply the basic rules of chess to world strategy, with the west represented by the white pieces and the east, appropriately enough if you are familiar with the old-style chessman, by the red pieces.

The idea in the game is not to clear the board of one's opponent, but to put him in such a position that he capitulates, conceding all his men and territory to the master. To achieve this aim the master will not only use his pieces to support each other but will also employ bluff, force, subterfuge, psychology and opportunism; all this must be prefaced by a deep study of the game in all its many gambits.

Apply this to world strategy; it can be accepted that neither side, being human, would wish for the hollow victory which obliteration of the planet would bring about: as in chess, although the game could be closed by tipping up the board — the action clearly of an uncontrolled mind — it is far more satisfying to achieve the same end by mastery of the game.

To play the game with all the pieces taken into account it would have to be three-dimensional which is beyond the scope of this article. However, before continuing to explore the similarity of chess moves to the world scene, certain pertinent points will have to be clarified.

**LIMITED WAR:** A war using conventional weapons (including nuclear) to take over or acquire a selected target in isolation without allowing escalation to world wide conflict.

**TIME DISTANCE FACTOR:** The period of time covering the identification of a hostile nuclear strike and the defenders ability to interrupt such a strike in time and far enough away to ensure that the homeland target area is not affected by the destruction of the threat.

**A SHIELD:** As in the ancient meaning — a piece of portable protective armour from which a viable attack/defence can be made (to the front) but susceptible to attack from the flanks

unless wielded with great dexterity, resulting from rigorous training and practice.

**TERRORIST WAR:** The infiltration of a society, corruption of morale, terror tactics, discrediting of authority, leading to anarchy, enabling the eventual takeover of the target. Its aims are the same as a limited war.

Chess terms which will also be used:

**THE 'KNIGHTS' MOVE:** 1 square down, 2 squares across in any direction in any one move.

**THE 'CASTLES' MOVE:** In a straight line of any length in any direction at right angles to the starting point.

**'PAWNS' MOVE:** One space in any one move. The piece of least value on the chess board.

**THE KING:** The most valuable piece on the board; a head of State with limited powers and restricted movement.

**CHECK:** Announcement of the exposure of the King to attack which demands the King move to extricate himself.

**CHECKMATE:** Announcement to the opponent of inextricable check to the King. The final defeat at chess or any other enterprise (from the Arabic Shah-Mata — The King is dead).

With these factors and the realization that world strategy must be borne in mind, coupled with the avowed Red intention of world conquest with no time limit, let us proceed.

The West, the heartland of which is invested in the Eastern Seaboard of America, is ably protected in the North by the Distant Early Warning Radar Screen in Canada, in the East by the NATO shield, in the West by the far reaches of the Pacific, and to the South by an unsophisticated continent very much an American area of influence logistically divorced from Redland.

If the time/distance factor is applied it becomes apparent any nuclear attack from the Red homeland, of a limited war nature, and any resultant fallout will not in any way affect the heartland or King. Defensive interception will result in the North in fallout in Canada or the Arctic; in the East, in fallout in Western Europe or the Atlantic; in the West in the Pacific or Western States, and in the South in fallout affecting the North of South America and the Caribbean.

Limited war was tried in the Caribbean — the Cuba debacle — but was unsuccessful because of the long line of communication and logistics — The Cuban pawn was unsupported. The West with its fleets at sea, strategic Air Command overhead, rocket silos and alliances, feels secure. Where then is the Achilles heel? Definitely the East, but from where? Bearing in mind that the Reds intend to dominate the world using hot, cold, limited and terrorist war with an unlimited time factor, how could they checkmate the West? Certain military and economic factors have to be taken into account.

The British Empire, contrary to popular belief, was to an extent strangled by the Suez Canal. The ship-building industry had to limit itself in size to ships that could pass through the canal. It wasn't until the closure of the canal that the construction of the super tankers/freighters was forced by economic expediency; to British surprise this was a much cheaper proposition, despite the increased mileage to run. Only two docks to service these monsters were built in the West's sphere of influence, one in Portugal and one in Japan. The life blood of the West is in oil concentrated in the Middle East, East on the Suez. In contrast, the Reds have been hindered for years by not having quick access to the Indian and South Atlantic oceans, Archangel and Murmansk being their only two ice-free ports, and they half a world away.

In the preparation for their 'coup' the Reds have used their pieces to good effect, by manipulation of the ME/Israel/Arab situation the reopening of the canal has given them, gallingly with the West's help, quick access to the Atlantic and Indian oceans from the Black Sea and the huge Southern arsenal and Industrial Area of the Crimea. With the judicious influencing of the small North African States to the Red sphere of influence, coupled with discord within the ranks of NATO, the way has been prepared. Their Goal? The Western Sahara, this being the closest point to heartland America and with rocket sites in this area and a secure line of communication and supply along the North African Coast they can put America in checkmate. The threat alone is enough — they need never fire a missile for the time distance factor ensures that White Defence Mechanism will be of no avail.

What of the NATO Shield? Short range missiles along the northern African Coast will dominate the holders of the Shield in the classic flank attack. The bonus is the elimination of the bulk of the West's life blood — oil — situated in and around the Horn of Africa, the sealing off of which would quickly, possibly in a matter of hours, cripple Western Europe.

The Red Knight's move should now be apparent, '1' down S. Russia-Lebanon-Israel to Egypt; '2' across Libya-Tunisia-Algeria-Sahara, with two supporting pawns moving in Eastern Europe and Arabia.

Why hasn't this been carried out? The way is now clear. Is the North African move safe? It all hinges on White's Ivory Tower or Castle entrenched with supporting pawns in the South. Does White have a nuclear capability? If so the White Castle's defence of the west makes the Red Knight's move suicidal.

This threat is appreciated and developments indicate that the Reds are now endeavouring, with success, to neutralise the threat. Two pawns have gone already and third is under attack. The Suez Gambit has made the Castle's flanks vulnerable and if missiles on the Zambezi could (time distance factor) be countered, can they be on the Limpopo? The White Castle and Pawn must be supported soon or they will be manoeuvred from the game. If the Red tactics succeed not only will they have eliminated the threat but acquired the treasure house of South Africa, and the population to be exploited, and exploit it. Two pawns (Israel and Rhodesia) one castle (Republic of South Africa) are the three pieces that hold the West's key.

Where is the all-powerful White Queen and her Court???

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(Continued from Page 61)

B Company consists of D5, D4 and D3, so giving the staff something to do instead of their usual lurk. These elderly gentlemen seem to be coping rather well, and one can gather enjoying themselves. Even Rfn Manuel had the energy to exert himself through a game of football on Sunday morning.

We at B Company seem to be losing a great deal of instructors now, only for a short period though — we have lost Sgt Maeser, Sgt Ottman and Cpl Smith to School of Infantry for a long weapons course. We are all praying like mad that we're going to get them all back.

C COY:

With only two trainees in the Coy at present, all the staff are enjoying a "B Coy Lurk" until the arrival of Intake 155 in December.

Our 2IC Capt "Lurker" Scott bids us farewell on his posting to A Coy. In his place we welcome Capt "Lurker" Hickman — what an exchange we get — one American for one Australian.

We also say farewell to our typist, Pat Radford, who leaves us to lurk in Kariba.

Our RWS Miss Elaine Smith is off on leave to South Africa and we wish to deny the rumour that she is eloping with a certain member of the staff — we hope she has got better taste!



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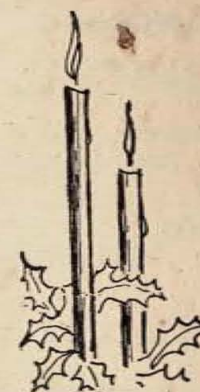
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