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the magazine of the rhodesian army



Vol. 17, No. 1, 15th May, 1977



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the magazine of the Rhodesian army

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

VOLUME 17, No. 1

15th MAY, 1977

Published under the authority of the
Commander of the Army

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Advertising Office:

P.O. Box 1943, Salisbury.

Subscription Rates:

\$2,04 per annum post free in
Central Africa.
25c per copy from Booksellers.

Date of Publication:

15th of each month.
All contributions must reach the Editor
not later than the 1st of each month.

PRINTED BY CITY PRINTERS

Contents

Cover photograph:

2 (*Indep*) Coy RR Roll of Honour

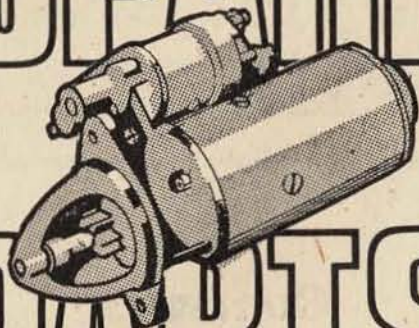
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EDITORIAL	3
HOOTERVILLE HERALD	5
TAKE YOUR CHOICE	7
THE COURAGE OF SERGEANT PEPPER	11
TANLWE CHAUNG WEEK	15
DEPOT DIARY	23
CTD PASSING OUT PARADE	25
CAMERONE: BIRTH OF A LEGEND	27
SALISBURY NEEDLEWORK ASSOCIATION	28
RWS NEWS	29
THE ZULU POLITICAL AND MILITARY SYSTEM	30
CARTOON COMPETITION	35

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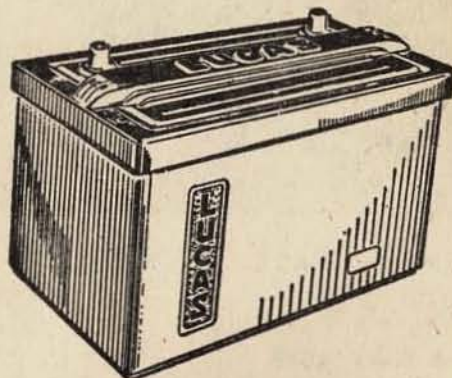
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Editorial

The Commanders of the Security Forces have constantly voiced the need to achieve the maximum number of "bayonets in the field", since this is the obvious way to combat and defeat the terrorist. It was to this end that decisions were made in the past to extend the National Service commitment to eighteen months. Similarly the decision to transfer certain elements of the Police Reserve to the Army was motivated by the intention to utilise the country's manpower to best advantage.

To those former members of the Police Reserve who will shortly undertake their training at Depot, The Rhodesia Regiment, welcome to the team.

A frequent criticism of the Army in respect of the employment of members of the Territorial Army, and more particularly the Rhodesia Holding Unit, is that best use is not made of their skills. This may have been valid criticism in the past but it is certainly not true today. Where specialists skills are applicable and available they are used to the full. But obviously some skills and qualifications are not applicable within the military context or are available in excess of requirements. In such cases the individual thus qualified is used to best advantage elsewhere.

Of course it has been traditionally fashionable in the past to regard the staff of Army Headquarters as an under-employed element of the Army, summed-up by the sobriquet 'the gaberline swine'. However, the present inhabitants of the 'corridors of power' have accepted for some considerable time that the working day does not cease at 1630 hours, or indeed at weekends and public holidays. This is a commitment which will continue for the foreseeable future and may well increase — but that is what soldiering is all about.

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HOOTERVILLE HERALD

With a major upheaval having taken place at 'Hooters' the dust has just about settled. Lt Col Sobey and Maj 'Pedro' Gilchrist are now firmly in the chair recently vacated by Lt Col Jacobs and Maj Dick Lockley on promotion. It should be rather interesting to see boots and puttees as standard dress in an operational HQ! The only member of the staff who still seems to be a bit bewildered by the whole thing is the Adjutant, whose hair has taken a whiter than white appearance as a result.

SPORT

On the sporting side the school has been maintaining its normal high standard. The Hockey team had a recent win in the Midlands Festival. The team earned 90 points out of a possible 100 and beat five other teams to win the

Festival Trophy.

The Rugby side has been practising hard and have had two players selected for the Midlands Provincial Team, those being Regular Cadet Folzoi and NS Officer Cadet Vincent. The Midlands League gets under way on 30 April and 'Hooters' has a fairly formidable team entered..

On the individual side, congratulations must go to WO2 MacFarlane on doing so well in the recent Rhodesian Bowling Championships held in Salisbury over Easter. He also has been selected for the Rhodesian team which travels 'Mac'.

SCHOOL OF INFANTRY ANNUAL SHOOT

The annual School of Infantry Service Rifle shoot took place on the Gwelo Rifle Range on



*The Mayor of Gwelo,
Alderman G. A. Sulter
presents Boet Lamprecht
with the Cumming Cup.*

Courtesy: Army Photographer.

Sunday 24 April 1977.

to South Africa later in the year. Well done

The popularity of the Shoot can be judged by the record attendance of 128 shottists. This year's shoot was a great success and the School of Infantry Rifle Club and all those who assisted during the shoot are to be congratulated on their efforts.

The Mayor of Gwelo, Alderman G. A. Sulter, presented the prizes. Prize Winners were as follows:

Best Lady Shottist: Mrs Anderson.

Best Class II shot (Commandant's Cup): Sgt J. Naested.

Team Application Aggregate (Beverley Building Society Cup): Salisbury PR 'B'.

Individual Application Aggregate (G. P. Engela Trophy): Lamprecht (Boet).

Team Snap Aggregate (CABS Trophy): Salisbury PR 'A'.

Individual Snap Aggregate (Officers Mess Trophy): Lamprecht (Boet).

Team Rapid Aggregate (Thornhill Trophy): Salisbury PR 'A'.

Individual Rapid Aggregate (WOs' and Sgts' Mess Trophy): N. King.

Individual Grand Aggregate (plus Gold Cross Cumming Cup): Lamprecht (Boet).

Individual Second (Silver Cross): B. Enslin.

Individual Third (Bronze Cross): G. James.

Team Grand Aggregate (Churchill Shellhole Trophy): Salisbury PR 'A'.

Congratulations to all prize winners and especially to Boet Lamprecht the individual winner and Salisbury Police Reserve 'A' who won the Team aggregate, also to Sgt Naestead and Capt Galvin who finished 4th and 5th respectively. School of Infantry 'A' finished a well earned 4th overall.

We look forward to seeing all Shottists again next year for what we hope will be an even bigger and better gold cross meeting.

AINSLIE BARRACK ROOM

On 24 April, a new barrack room at the School of Infantry was officially named the Ainslie Barrack Room in memory of the late Maj M. J. F. Ainslie, who was killed in action on 27 March 1976.

Col and Mrs Ainslie and Mr and Mrs Wilson, the parents and parents in law of the late Maj Ainslie, attended the commemoration.

The Commandant, Lt Col Sobey, delivered an address in which he covered the service history of the late Maj Ainslie and concluded by asking Col Ainslie (Director of Medical Services Rhodesian Army) to unveil a commemorative plaque. This is the second barrack room to be named after an officer who has been killed in action, the other being named after 2Lt N. D. Steane.



Left to Right: Mr and Mrs Wilson, Mrs Ainslie and Col Ainslie stand before the plaque naming a School of Infantry barrack room in memory of Maj M. J. F. Ainslie.

Courtesy: Army Photographer.

...TAKE YOUR CHOICE

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, CONTROVERSY HAS RAGED OVER WHICH IS THE BETTER WEAPON — THE M16A1 OR THE AK — WITH EACH SIDE HAVING STAUNCH ADHERENTS. NO DOUBT THE ARGUMENT WILL CONTINUE FOR YEARS TO COME. AT THE RISK OF ADDING FUEL TO THE FIRE THIS ARTICLE COMPARES THE CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE TWO WEAPON SYSTEMS AND ALLOWS THE READER TO DRAW HIS OWN CONCLUSIONS.



Left:

German modifications of the Soviet PPSH-42.

Major changes were the magazine housing and barrel to accept 9 mm rounds.

The Avtomat Kalashnikov translates as Kalashnikov's Automatic Rifle, and was designed by the foremost Soviet small arms designer, former Soviet Army Master Sergeant Mikhail Timovich Kalashnikov. It is a direct descendant

of the German Sturm Geweher-44 (StG-44), the first successfully developed assault rifle produced during World War II — a compact, light-weight rifle capable of being fired in both the semi-automatic and automatic roles.

Right:

The AK-47 Assault Rifle.



Many of the StG-44s produced during the closing phases of World War II were shipped to the Russian Front. The Soviets were quick to realize the merits of this weapon, and, in fact, had already produced their own intermediate cartridge, the calibre 7,62 39 mm M-1943.

TWO VERSIONS

The AK-47 (and now the AKM) has been produced in two versions. One has the conventional fixed wooden stock. The other, which was originally designed for mechanized and airborne troops, has a folding metal skeleton stock.

The AK-47/AKM has been manufactured not only by the Warsaw Pact nations — but also by the People's Republic of (Communist) China, North Korea, Yugoslavia, and with some modifications, Finland. The country of origin can be determined by the selector lever markings on the right side of the receiver.

In all front-line units in the Soviet Army, the AK-47 has been replaced by the AKM, but it can still be found in the militia and reserve units of the Warsaw Pact and the armies of the Eurasian Communist nations. In addition, vast quantities of AK-47s (and some AKMs) have been exported in the form of military aid to almost every country in the world.

The AKM is identical to the AK-47 except for the following details:

The AKM has a stamped receiver, as opposed to the forged and machined receiver of

the AK-47. This has brought down the unloaded weight of the AKM.

The AKM has grasping rails on the forestock, or lower handguard, to aid in controlling the weapon during automatic fire.

The rear sight on the AKM is graduated to 1000 metres, on the AK-47 to 800 metres.

The eight gas relief holes in the gas cylinder tube of the AK-47 have been replaced by four semi-circular cut-outs in the forward end of the gas cylinder tube which match similar cut-outs on the gas chamber.

The AKM has a cyclic rate reducer in the receiver to bring the cyclic rate of fire down to approximately 600 rounds per minute, which is the same cyclic rate attributable to the AK-47.

The receiver cover on the AKM is ribbed, while the receiver cover on the AK-47 is smooth.

The AKM has a bayonet stud, which the AK-47 does not have.

THE M16

As for the M16 rifle, the concept for its design is primarily credited to the small arms engineers of the Armalite Manufacturing Company.

The adoption of a small calibre rifle as a standard service weapon is not a recent concept. In fact, in the U.S., the first written requirement for a small calibre weapon (which eventually led to the acceptance of the M16A1 rifle) appeared in 1957, and two types of small calibre rifles were produced in sufficient quantity to be tested in 1958.

COMPARATIVE WEAPON CHARACTERISTICS

	USM16A1	USSR AK-47	USSR AKM
Calibre (mm)	5.56 x 45	7.62 x 39	7.62 x 39
Overall Length w/Stock Extended (in/cm)	39/99.06	34.2/86.87	34.5/87.63
Overall Length w/Stock Folded (in/cm)	—	25.4/64.52	25.7/65.28
Barrel Length (in/cm)	21/53.34	16.3/41.40	16.5/41.91
Weight Empty (lbs/kg)	6.5/2.95	9.48/4.31	6.93/3.15
Weight Loaded w/30 Rd Mag & Sling (lbs/kg)	7.91/3.6	10.58/4.81	8.03/3.65
Sight Radius (in/cm)	19.75/50.17	13/38.2	13/38.2
Magazine Capacity	20, 30	30, 40, 75 ¹	30, 40, 75 ¹
Type of Operation	Gas	Gas	Gas
Type of Locking System	Rotating bolt	Rotating bolt	Rotating bolt
Type of Fire	Selective	Selective	Selective
Maximum Effective Range (metres)	460	470	470
Practical Effective Range, Semi (metres)	350	300	300
Practical Effective Range, Auto (metres)	250	200	200
Cyclic Rate of Fire (rds/min)	700-800	600	600
Maximum Effective Rate of Fire, Semi (rds/min)	45-65	40	40
Maximum Effective Rate of Fire, Auto (rds/min)	150-200	100	100
Stock Material	Plastic	Wood Fixed, Steel folding	Wood Fixed, Steel folding
Bipod	Metal Clip-on	None	None
Flash Suppressor/Compensator	Closed end	Various types available on various models as attachments	Screw on Compensator
Bayonet	Detachable Knife	Detachable/non-detachable prong or Knife	Detachable Knife/ Wire Cutter
Type of Ammunition	Ball, Tracer, Blank	Ball, Tracer, Blank, API, TI, Grenade	Ball, Tracer, Blank, API, TI, Grenade

NOTE: ¹ Although the AK/AKM normally fire from the 30-round box magazine, both weapons will accept the 40-round box magazine and 75-round drum magazine used with the RPK. Both weapons fire the same types of ammunition.

In 1960 the U.S. Air Force tested the AR15 as a replacement for the .30 calibre carbine; two years later, in 1962 (after additional testing and modifications), the Air Force adopted the AR15 as the standard weapon for its security guards and for other limited uses. The AR15 was then officially designated as the M16 rifle.

The Army conducted additional tests with the rifle but before accepting it, demanding other modifications. Eventually, the AR15, with modifications, was designated the XM16E1 rifle, and in November 1963, the Army ordered 85 000 rifles for use by its airborne, air assault, and special forces units. The Army felt that the XM16E1 with its lighter weight and shorter length was ideally suited for the tropical warfare then being conducted in the jungles of South-East Asia.

Later field tests proved that the XM16E1 rifle was, indeed, ideally suited for tropical warfare but it was also found that more modifications were necessary. In February 1967, after those additional modifications were made, the XM16E1 was accepted as a standard Army service weapon and re-designated the M16A1.

The main characteristics of the M16A1 and of the AK-47/AKM are shown in Table 1;

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The Courage of Sergeant Pepper

by
STUDENT NURSE LORRAINE COBURN,
Andrew Fleming Hospital, Rhodesia.



The clatter of the approaching helicopter prompted all of us to feel angry, frightened and perhaps vengeful. It was a noise that told us that some of the boys at the "Sharp End" had been injured, perhaps even killed. Possibly we would know some of the casualties. What would the future hold for them?

On the hospital ward one of a nurse's prime duties is to make a "casevac" feel as secure and comfortable as possible. This was our immediate task on Ward TI as soon as the patient who had arrived by helicopter came to us. He had been admitted straight to the operating theatre after being received in casualty and was suffering from extensive shrapnel wounds, the result of a terrorist mortar attack. He was a tall young sergeant. I shall refer to him simply as "Sergeant Pepper".

Sergeant Pepper's injuries were extensive. His left side had received the main blast of the explosion and he had a serious gash in the deltoid muscle of his left arm, a fractured left humerus (the upper arm bone near the shoulder) and a fractured left clavicle (collar bone). Fortunately the fractures were relatively simple ones and the clean gash in the back of his upper arm stopped its copious bleeding soon after admission.

The left leg had also been extensively injured from thigh to foot. Most of the injuries were superficial and once the shrapnel had been removed and the wounds cleaned, they were lightly dressed. One piece of shrapnel had penetrated deeply, however, to lodge between the tibia and the fibula, the bones of the shin,

but none of Sergeant Pepper's leg wounds presented problems of nursing.

His abdomen was a different matter. Serious damage had been caused and major surgery had been necessary to remove the shrapnel and repair the damaged tissues and ruptured stomach. The surgeon had done an excellent job and the neat sutures belied the mess that had been apparent when Sergeant Pepper had first arrived.

For me the most shocking and distressing of Sergeant Pepper's injuries — and one that he seemed unaware of — was the damage to his eyes. Both were irreparably damaged. Shrapnel had made pulp of his left eye, necessitating its removal. Ironically, the one tiny piece of shrapnel that had penetrated the right eye did no other damage other than to sever the optic nerve, with the resultant total loss of sight. That a young and so spirited man should suffer such permanent disability saddened me immeasurably.

Sergeant Pepper was conscious when he was brought in to our ward. The specialist waited no longer before telling his patient the grim news. But Sergeant Pepper took it unbelievably well — better than the rest of us, in fact. He showed no remorse, no depression or self-pity, his bright cheerfulness and surprising energy did wonders for the nursing staff. He was very dirty on his arrival in the ward and in a great deal of pain. But he never grumbled once — despite the litre of fluid being fed into his right arm, the gastric tube down his nose and the attachment of a catheter. (He was most in-



*Nursing staff
of Salisbury's
Andrew Fleming
Hospital attend to
the needs of an
injured serviceman.*

dignant at the presence of the latter). Having been given a post-operative pain-killer, he did however, relax to a visible extent.

Sergeant Pepper's condition was neither infectious nor critical — such was his wonderful resilience to the traumatic injuries and major surgery he had undergone. In consequence it was decided that he be nursed in the main ward. He required no specialist equipment at his bedside except a stand for the intra-venous drip, and the usual oxygen and suction equipment, which had been thoroughly tested prior to his admission, was readily available in the main ward when he arrived from the theatre.

The extent of Sergeant Pepper's injuries made it impossible for him to lie on his left side or sit up, leaving him with only the choice of lying on his back or his right side. With his left arm strapped to his chest, he was turned at least every two hours to avoid pressure sores. Sometimes he was disturbed more often because the shoulder wound bled a little, calling for a change of bedding.

Sergeant Pepper was certainly not a demanding patient and I was able to concentrate on making his as snug and comfortable as possible. He was of course on bedrest — he wouldn't have been allowed to get up even if he had been able to — and the catheter obviated any need for a urinal. It would be some time before Sergeant Pepper would need a bedpan.

On the clinical side we found it hard at first to take his blood pressure. His good arm had the intravenous drip in it and the other was

strapped up. But when the drip was changed, we were able to take a reading. It was good, rising and falling only in proportion to the amount of pain he was feeling, which was to be expected. Being a very fit and healthy patient, Sergeant Pepper's pulse bounded steadily at about the 80 mark, which in view of his serious injuries, was also satisfactory. His temperature on arrival in the ward was 37.4 degrees (compared with the "normal" 37 degrees) and gave no cause for alarm. We had to take the patient's word that his weight was still about 80 kg disregarding the shrapnel still in him.

During all this initial nursing Sergeant Pepper was unfailingly cheerful and friendly. It was almost unreal at the time and we wondered how long this attitude would last before the black moods came. But they never did and this helped us tremendously in our task.

On admission to the ward Sergeant Pepper had been placed on a four-hourly temperature chart but the reading proved so regular during those first few days that he was placed on a twice-daily schedule. I feel that he should perhaps have been left on the more frequent observations for longer. A patient's temperature is often the only real indicator of how he is faring.

The day after Sergeant Pepper had graduated to the 12-hourly observations — his third post-operative night — his condition suddenly worsened, much to my dismay. His temperature shot up to 38.9 degrees and his pulse was a

throbbing 220 — the fastest I've ever known a pulse to race. His blood pressure rose to 130/100, thus ruling out the possibility of haemorrhage (when his blood pressure would have dropped). The symptoms all indicated the presence of infection, hardly surprising with all those fragments of none-too-clean shrapnel still in his body. I was terribly concerned and depressed by this change for the worse for Sergeant Pepper had been such a positive and outstanding patient that the idea of a secondary infection succeeding where a terrorist mortar bomb had failed was too terrible to contemplate.

We sponged him with tepid water and he was fanned for 48 hours to try and get his temperature down. Observations were recorded half-hourly and we prayed for an improvement.

Our prayers were answered when, during his fifth post-operative night, Sergeant Pepper's temperature and pulse rate decreased. By the following afternoon his pulse was down to 120 and his temperature was normal. After this crisis he never looked back.

The two days of worry did nothing to weaken the spirits of our prize patient. His family and relatives, who were with him at every opportunity, brought him a tape recorder. Another present was a Braille watch and he very quickly learned to read the time accurately. Very noticeable was the way in which Sergeant Pepper cheered up his visitors, rather than the converse.

Nursing care for Sergeant Pepper became more routine as he recovered. He was given a bed bath every day for as long as his wounds and operative areas remained raw. In his case there was a further psychological reason for the bed bath. Although he was coping fantastically with his blindness, he was very inexperienced in his disability. There was the possibility that he would have made a mess of the task of washing himself, resulting in a feeling of helplessness and humiliation, something that could not be allowed to happen. From a personal point of view, I found that as the days went by there was no need to pity Sergeant Pepper (an emotion that would probably have been destructive) but that I felt an ever-increasing admiration for his courage. The rest of the staff shared this admiration and we all delighted in helping him in little ways without giving him cause to feel that we were too maternal.

The bedbaths were useful in other respects. We discovered numerous painful spots, small cuts, grazes and stiffness which might have otherwise gone undetected. The bathing also gave Sergeant Pepper the opportunity of learning to move in his darkness and exercising his body a little. Through all this his good humour

never once ran low and we almost forgot how dangerously ill he had been — and that he was far from complete recovery.

The first of several amusing confrontations came when we had to take a scrubbing brush to his feet to remove the ingrained Rhodesian soil. That's when we discovered how ticklish he was! We also delighted in admiring his all-over tan. What had Sergeant Pepper been doing out there in the Rhodesian bush?

Cleanliness is next to healthiness and our patient's morale went even higher after each bath. With both arms incapacitated, it was our job to brush his teeth, leaving him to rinse his mouth out with great gusto.

The specialist attended to Sergeant Pepper's eyes every day, changing the pad on the empty socket and applying different ointments. In the early days the pad was full of pus, but the socket gradually cleared up until the dressing was hardly stained.

What with being turned to prevent bed sores, the activities of bathing and bed-making, the oral and eye care, much of Sergeant Pepper's inevitable monotony was partially relieved. Unfortunately there was nothing we or anyone else could do to lighten the darkness that was to be a permanent legacy of Sergeant Pepper's part in the fight for Rhodesia. But within a few weeks he was acting and living as though he had been blind all his life, as though it was a natural condition for him.

The fact of Sergeant Pepper's blindness did not upset him a fraction as much as might have been expected. He seemed more concerned about getting well enough to be allowed home. To speed his recovery he was given physiotherapy, passive at first until he was strong enough to participate in more active treatment. This was to prevent his muscles becoming lazy and wasting through non-use as well as promoting swifter recovery through the improved circulation caused by exercise.

Psychologically, Sergeant Pepper fitted in extremely well with his fellow patients and ward staff. A patient near him, of much the same age and a bright, cheerful and friendly type, played the complete idiot in order to keep the blinded soldier happy and occupied. The unselfish comedian gave detailed humorous descriptions of everyone entering the ward and his running commentaries on all that went on had everyone, including Sergeant Pepper, in fits of laughter. Looking back, it is clear to me just how much good advice and reassurance Sergeant Pepper received from his clowning neighbour. A measure of that helpfulness was the fact that never once did the blinded man give way to spells of sadness or moodiness.

As I've mentioned before, Sergeant Pepper

was an intelligent young man, able to accept all the explanations of the treatment he was receiving with quiet interest, grace and full co-operation. He had been a very active person before being injured and his favourite sports were shooting and archery — activities which required precision and good sight. And now . . .

He accepted his handicap with a dignity that belied his youth. He was conscious of the fact that now his life had changed completely, that he would have to learn all over again — this time in the dark. A few times I caught him looking a little pensive but as soon as he became aware of my presence, his bandaged face would take on a rueful smile. With his patch and one large dark brown eye, these brief episodes made him look for all the world like a shaggy sheep-dog caught out in a moment of naughtiness.

There was a peculiar thing about his one remaining eye, sightless though it was. It never seemed blank but rather gazed at you with an intensity that was almost disconcerting. In addition, Sergeant Pepper was able to sense much more than mere words. Already he seemed to have a mind-reader's perception.

Disturbing in another way was his calm acceptance of the future. Had he moped around feeling sorry for himself, the nurses and his visitors might have gained some satisfaction from trying to snap him out of his dark moods. But he never moped and we were often left with a feeling of helpless admiration. No one could stay sad or melancholy for long in Sergeant Pepper's presence. The tragedy of his blindness seemed to fall harder on his parents, tremendous people though they were. His sisters, who obviously adored him, busied themselves making detailed plans for his future. Perhaps most important of all, arrangement had been made for a guide dog and the puppy was already being trained in Johannesburg. Sergeant Pepper couldn't wait to meet his new friend.

Sergeant Pepper was in hospital for a total of about six weeks. He went home to convalesce when he was nearly one hundred per cent fit. He suffered a little stiffness in his wounded arm — something that would clear up with regular physiotherapy and exercise — but that was all, apart from his eyes. Later he he underwent four plastic surgery operations to tidy up such facial scars as split left eyelid and so on. It was a moving experience for us all when Sergeant Pepper was finally discharged from the hospital, but we kept in touch with him.

Later he went to Britain and was accepted at the internationally-famous St. Dunstan's in Brighton. At St. Dunstan's he applied the same brand of strength and determination to his re-

habilitation as he had shown in Ward TI of the Andrew Fleming. He sailed through the six-month course in only three months; during the six-week basket-weaving course, our Sergeant Pepper completed his basket in just two hours! Such results were incredible, even for a sighted person. During his stay in Britain, Sergeant Pepper also befriended a blind English policeman. Having been equipped with a prosthetic eye, Sergeant Pepper is soon to return to Rhodesia before making arrangements to study for a degree in physiotherapy at an English University.

Sergeant Pepper's basic attitude to life has never changed or faltered throughout his ordeal. He remains the constantly cheerful, high spirited man we all came to admire on the ward, accepting the handicap of blindness with every intention of overcoming such disability.

For myself, my own attitude to life was altered through my contact with this incredible man. He gave me an invaluable gift, especially for a nurse, a deep and penetrating insight of the reservoir of courage, hope and selflessness which is inherent in every human being but so little revealed in most of us. Thank you, Sergeant Pepper.

(Courtesy: The Outpost)

**Wherever you are
Whatever you are
looking for . . .**

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TANLWE CHAUNG WEEK



IRAR MARCH THROUGH BULAWAYO

Captain A R Zeederberg casts a stern eye over the line up before the regiment moves off.

PHOTOS BRYAN PETRIE





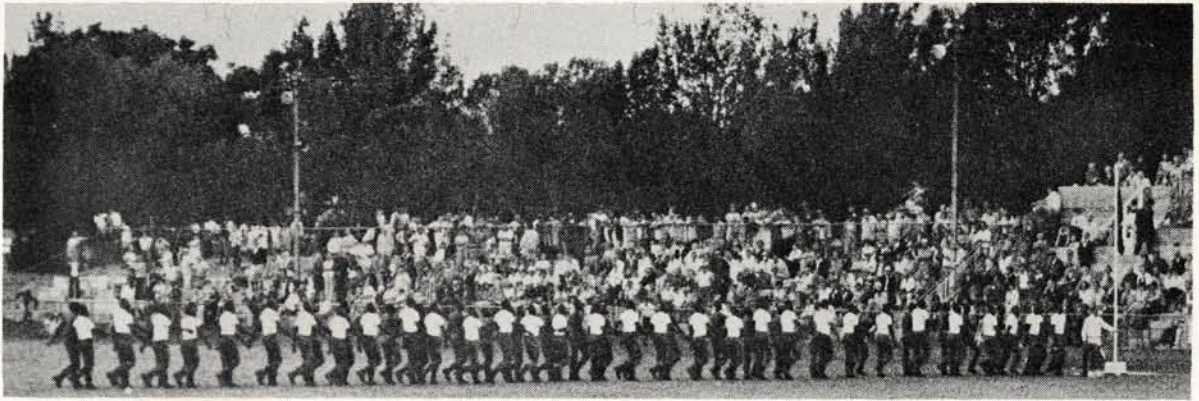
As part of their Regimental Week commemorating this battle honour "Tanlwe Chaung" 1RAR exercised the right which had been granted to them in the freedom of the city of Bulawayo of marching through the city "with banners flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed".





Apart from the obvious pageantry of the occasion the march also signified the return to 1 Brigade and Bulawayo of the Battalion after several years service in the North-Eastern border area.





The teams march onto the pitch to the strains of "Sweet Banana" ready to do battle in 'friendly' fashion in Karimojo.

Regular sports feature prominently in the training programme, and both players and spectators enjoyed the 'needle' match between 1RAR and 2RAR.



Further events in this week included a soccer competition and a demonstration of the Regimental pastime of Karimojo. This latter event was held at Hartsfield where a static display of regimental trophies and equipment was also staged.

KARIMOJO

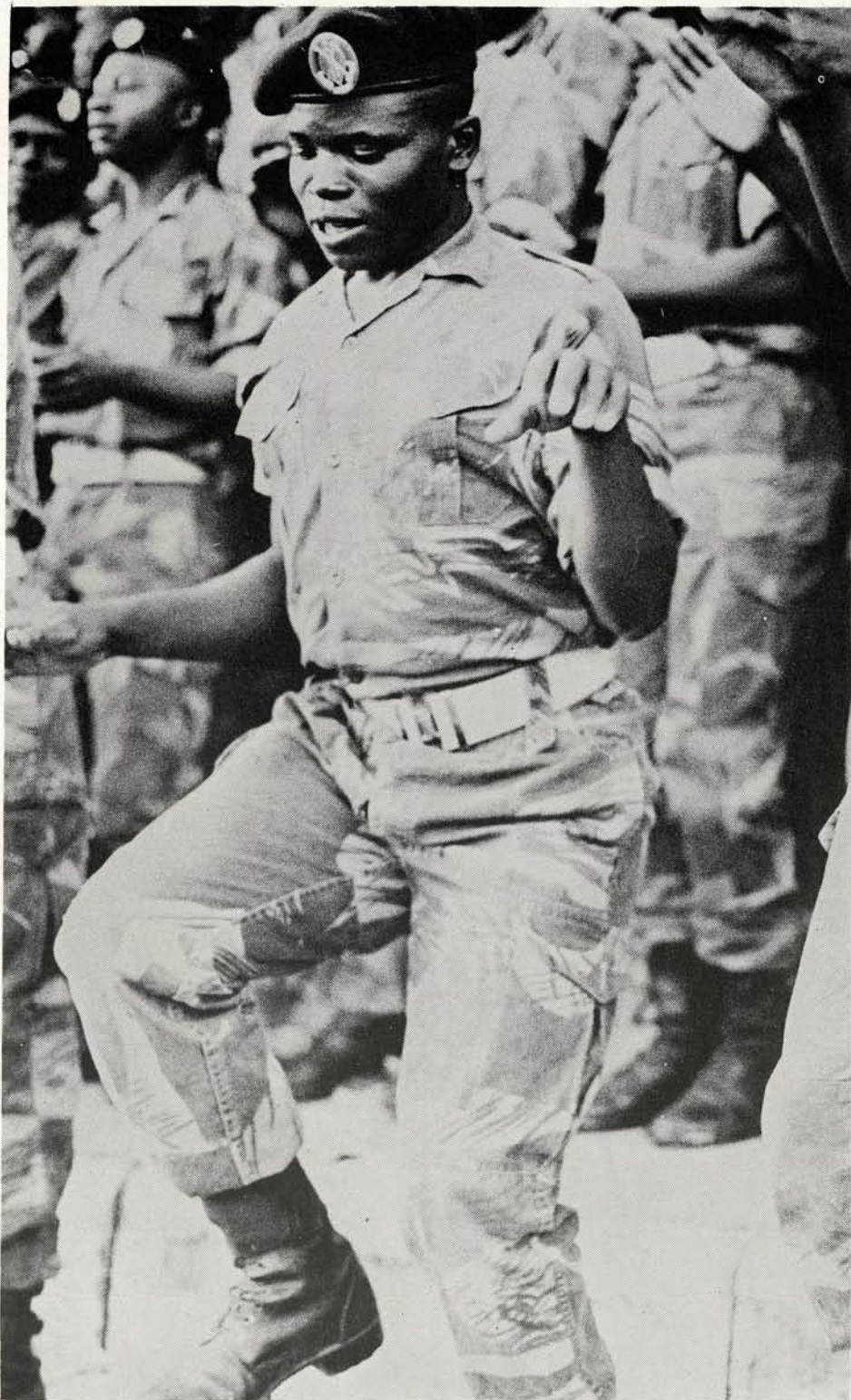
It's not all work in the RAR — Sport plays an important part too. Part of the week's celebrations included a football competition between 1RAR and 2RAR, and on less conventional lines, a demonstration of Karimojo was given.

Karimojo rather resembles Rugby League without rules, and with unlimited numbers on either side. The game is designed to encourage aggression and co-operation and the demonstration match delighted spectators.

Before the match the teams were presented to Colonel Heppenstall.



"Some of the spectators got quite carried away . . ."





RETREAT

The first weekend of "Tanlwe Chaung" week ended with an impressively staged retreat ceremony at Hartsfield. Once again the band proved its professionalism, to the approval of the crowd. Star of the show was the regimental mascot, who never put a hoof wrong.

The culmination of Tanlwe Chaung Week was a drumhead service held in the main arena at the Trade Fair. During the Regimental Week over \$4 000 were raised for the Garden of Rest which is to be established at Depot The Rhodesian African Rifles, Shaw Barracks, Balla Balla.

Above and below. The band during the opening stages of the ceremony.





Nduna and handler look on impassively as the retreat proceeds. . . .



TINKER, TAILOR....

The static display mounted by the RAR at Hartsfield attracted a large number of visitors. On show were the educational, medical and "running repair elements of the regiment, as well as more traditional stands showing the working of an ops room and the cookhouse. Perhaps most popular was the mortar section which dashed about with great enthusiasm. A display of captured ter equipment was also well received.



A member of the RAR stands guard over a display of the Regiment's silver, colours, honours and awards.

Various stands depicted the lesser known features of the soldier — here the regimental tailor and carpenter can be seen at work.



DEPOT

DIARY

DEPOT HEADQUARTERS

Somewhere in the past some sage muttered something about 'the old order changeth', or something approximating to that — and so it came to pass at Llewelin. The grand reshuffle has resulted in Lt Col Rowley leaving on promotion shortly followed by Maj Boyd-Sutherland who was heard muttering something about 'the corridors of power'.

Lt Col Mickelsfield has now taken-up residence as CO. Repercussions of the changes have also been felt around the companies also with Maj Cameron-Davies moving to 2 RAR and being replaced by the Adjutant who in turn was replaced by Lt Ken Seiler. Only the paymaster, Capt van Vollenhoven, has remained immune to such change — as befits the custodian of the cash box.

Just to round things off we have also changed the RSM — for Hutton read Erasmus.

A COMPANY

Out of our original intake of six platoons, we are now reduced to two having released the remainder to various specialised tasks throughout the Army. Our highly select and gallant band of infanters are now well into their training for classical war and are finding this much more interesting than their basic training stages.

Indeed. One Platoon were training so enthusiastically in the vicinity of Falcon College that the "Old Retainers" thought that they were being attacked by the Fantasian Army, mobilised their Home Guard, and quickly saw off the intrepid warriors of One Platoon who then retired to Falcon College Store to drink coke and lick their wounds.

Two Platoon have also entered fully into their Phase Two training and can be seen doubling around barracks in full war paint under the eagle eye of "Big Chief" Tyler, who now has a problem in finding his IS Store now that the new Learmoth — type camouflage has been applied!

Congratulations to L/Cpl Wood in the Orderly Room who won his "starvation class" boxing final and was promptly promoted L/Cpl to maintain law and order in Coy HQ.

B COMPANY

Easter Holidays were busy days for B Coy, "The Coy". They were tasked to provide security for tourists and others enjoying the facilities of Matopos National Park. B Coy provided patrols, set up road blocks, searched vehicles and occasionally caught a glimpse of a bikini here and there.

Our congratulations to Padre Beale for winning his debate with the gate guard at Maleme Dam who wanted to charge the Padre an entrance fee. Good show, Padre!

B Coy finished the Classical Warfare Exercise in good fashion with much sweat, blisters on feet, and the urgent need for baths all round on return. The OC gave us a critique that flayed us alive but brought home some vital points in Infantry tactics Then for the good news'. Passes he had signed were most happily welcomed. We're looking forward to the next Phase of training. Our CSM is to command the Speacial Guard Detail for Trade Fair Rhodesia.

HQ COMPANY

On Monday 25 April 1977 the Company decided that they had seen enough of the OC, Major Cameron-Davies, so a Farewell Sundowner was organised to say cherrio to him on his posting to Fort Victoria. From all Accounts the Sundowner went very well, so to end it all off, the hardened few found themselves at Holiday Inn saying hello to Gary and Spider, who were doing a show, although we are still not sure whether they were doing a show or certain members from HQ Coy.

This is a time of transition for the Company. It might even be termed the lull before the storm since intakes 156 and 157 have just about departed and their replacements are not far away. At the same time the long serving/suffering Coy clerk, George Kaufman, leaves with the standown of intake 148.

The Inter-Company Boxing took place just before Easter and was ably won by HQ Coy after pulling a few punches.

The 10 most asked questions about the Army



And haircuts?

Over the past two or three years, the rules have relaxed to the point that you don't stick out like a sore thumb when you're wearing civvies but you still look smart in uniform.

How strict is the Army?

There is discipline, there is drill. But it's all designed to help you work as an efficient member of a team. When you're relying on your friends, and they're relying on you, there's no room for slackness or sloppiness. Funny thing about Army discipline, we haven't come across a single individual who can say that it hasn't stood him in good stead later on in life.



What's it like in the operational area?

Tough, tiring and often dangerous. But the training you get beforehand is so thorough that you're capable of dealing with any situation that might arise.

How tough is basic training?

Again, very tough, especially the first six weeks. But if you're reasonably fit, you shouldn't have too much trouble keeping-up. If you're not, the training will get you into shape. You'll probably feel better than you've ever felt before and have an appetite like a horse.

What about bull?

There is now no unnecessary spit and polish. Of course, outside the operational area, we expect you to look smart and presentable. However it's nothing you can't handle. Once you get into the swing of things, kit cleaning takes only a few minutes each day.

What about the time off?

There's plenty of free time, except when you're on ops. Usually, evenings and weekends are your own. And there's 49 days paid leave a year.

Why is the Army still recruiting when there is such a wide-spread call-up?

The Army is an organisation that needs a nucleus of trained men to keep it at peak efficiency. The Army can't afford any gaps, so recruitment is an ongoing process to maintain the force the country needs. A team of professionals.

Can I choose any Army job?

Yes, if you're good enough and if there's a vacancy. What we like to do is show you all our careers at a Recruitment Centre. This is a thorough process that helps us see where your talent lies. Together we'll spend some time in pinpointing the job you'll be a natural for.

Do I commit myself by going to an Army Recruitment Office?

Far from it. The office is there as a recruitment point. It's also there to supply you with all the information you need to help you decide if the Army's for you.

And just because you might want to join, doesn't mean to say that the Army will take you on automatically. The standards are high because the demands of soldiering are tough.

Is there much travel?

It's possible that your role could call for you to be in Bulawayo one day and the north-east or Kariba the next. Variety is the keynote and you'll travel to remote parts of the country where it's quite an event to see a European. Any other questions?

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General Walls Reviews Passing Out Parade at CTD

Lieutenant General G. P. Walls, OLM, DCD, MBE, performed his final official duty as Army Commander on Friday 6 May 1977 when he reviewed the passing out parade of the first recruits to be trained by the Corps Training Depot at Inkomo Garrison.

General Walls, on arrival at this parade, was met by the Deputy Commander 3 Brigade, Colonel John Thompson, the Officer Commanding CTD, Major Bill Edwards and the Officer Commanding RDU, Major Jim Parkin. Five detachments of troops, three of which were the recruits due to pass-out, paraded under the Command of Capt W. T. Fenton. The Corps of Signals band under their Director of Music, Major Frank Hayes was also in attendance.

Following the inspection of the parade by the Army Commander the detachments marched past in slow and quick time, followed by the advance in review order. The precision with which these movements were performed was evidence of the high standard of instruction given by the staff of CTD. General Walls then presented the trophy for the best recruit to 648722 Recruit Herbert.

Addressing the recruits Lieutenant General Walls remarked that the parade brought to an end their phase of recruit training and served as the first step in their chosen career; a career in which they will always be learning. The Army Commander said "For many years, and perhaps even today when people of this country think or talk of African soldiers, or as I prefer to call you 'Black Rhodesian Soldiers', they tend to think mainly of the Rhodesian African Rifles. Many of them forget about, or perhaps they do not know of, the supporting arms and services like Engineers, Signals, Medicals, Pay and the Service Corps itself. The soldiers in these Corps are as much fighting soldiers as anybody in the Infantry, and the work of these soldiers is as vital to the success of the Army as that of any infantry men. Not only is that so, but the importance of junior ranks is as great as that of senior people. Let me remind you of something written by Field Marshal Viscount Slim in his book 'Defeat into Victory' 'A clock is like an army, there's a main spring, that's the Army Commander, who makes it all go; then there are other springs, driving the wheels round, those are his generals. The wheels are the officers and men.

Some are big wheels, very important, they are the chief staff officers and the colonels. Other wheels are little ones, that do not look at all important. They are like you. Yet stop one of those little wheels and see what happens to the rest of the clock! They ARE important".

"As Field Marshal Slim says the Signaller, the Medical Orderly, the driver, the storeman the clerks — all are fighting men — all are part of the clock which he described. Communications are vital in modern fighting conditions — without signallers no General could fight his Army, no platoon Commander could play the important operational role of today's Counter Insurgency Campaign. The Medical Orderly is responsible for the maintenance of morale because every wounded man knows that he will receive immediate and skilled help. I could go through all the skills, but surely, there is no need for me to do so. I only need to add that where a man works, whether it is in a base workshop or in a forward OP matters not when measuring the contribution he makes. Indeed I would say that the public of Rhodesia would be overwhelmed and gratified if they knew how much solid constructive effort is put into the operational machine by men and women whose deeds are rarely publicised and not often known about. Fortunately our system of Honours and Awards allows for recognition by the president of what is achieved in all spheres of soldiering and previous Awards tell their story. Many of you are being posted to the Service Corps, almost as many to Signals, while others go to the RDU and a couple to the Greys Scouts. Learn well the skills which you will need in your new Corps and units and take pride in the fact that you have earned your right to be a member of those units. Each unit has its own tradition and pride, and soon you will join them and wear their embellishments. They will require of you complete dedication and loyalty, discipline and pride. In addition you have become a full member of an Army with a reputation for fighting efficiency, and you must never let it down. You, wherever you go have your part to play. Good-luck to you all".

Among the guests present were the Churchill School Pipe Band who had been invited in return for their services at the passing out parade of the RHU a few weeks previously.

ARMY COMMANDER OPENS THE OFFICERS MESS

At the conclusion of the parade the recruits and guests dispersed to their respective Messes. The gathering at the Officer's Mess, while forming part of the tradition following a parade, was a special occasion for it was the official opening of the Mess.

For many years the officers stationed at Inkomo Garrison have used a married quarter as their Mess but obviously this building had limitations; particularly when entertaining. Before the acquisition of the married quarter the Garrison had a Mess which was the home of the WO's and Sgts and which the Officers used by invitation.

The new mess was Officially opened by Lieutenant General G. P. Walls in the presence of the guests who included many well-known local personalities. The Chairman of the Mess, Major Bill Edwards marked the occasion with the presentation of a silver salver and the first of the CTD plaques to the Army Commander.

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CAMERONE: Birth of a Legend

In 1862 Napoleon III of France committed France to war in Mexico, in the vain hope of installing the basis of an Empire which could challenge growing American power. In March of the following year 2,000 men of the Foreign Legion were added to the invasion force.

On April 29th, 1863 orders came that the Legion should provide a company to clear the way for a convoy of siege material and bullion, a routine enough instruction in what was essentially a guerrilla war. The 3rd company of the 1st battalion were allocated the task, and formed up, their ranks reduced to 62 by sickness. At their head came Captain Jean Danjou, a veteran of both the Crimea and Italy, notable for his artificial wooden hand, and two second lieutenants, Maudet and Vilain; none of the officers were from the company, but volunteers for the duty. At dawn on April 30th the little column set off, carrying 60 rounds per man for their percussion rifle/muskets. The rations for the 24 hour duty were carried by mule. Ahead of them, waiting for the convoy, lay 500 regular Mexican cavalry, three battalions of regular infantry and 300 mounted irregulars.

Around 7 a.m. the company passed through the deserted hamlet of Camerone, and a mile further on paused for breakfast — black coffee and bread; the water hadn't begun to boil when sentries sighted strong bodies of cavalry bearing down on them. In good order the legionnaires formed square and fell back on Camerone, losing 16 men and the mules — with all the rations and spare ammunition — in the process.

Camerone — a battered farmhouse surrounded by broken down walls and huts — was already occupied by Mexican snipers, but the company nonetheless established itself around the perimeter walls. From here they beat off repeated attacks by the cavalry, now dismounted, often meeting them with the bayonet in the breaches of the walls, and refused demands to surrender. But the position was precarious; the tiny garrison was under fire from within and without and the Mexicans were armed with the greatly superior repeating carbine. Casualties rose and snipers took a heavy toll of any who went to aid the wounded. At 11 a.m. Danjou was killed, though not before he had taken from each man an oath not to surrender.

Around noon, the thirst tortured legionnaires heard bugles, and for a while thought relief was

on the way, until the dust cleared to reveal 1,200 Mexican infantry. Grimly the survivors met them on the walls with the bayonet, and were still holding at 2 p.m. when Vilain was killed.

The Mexicans grew impatient and set fire to the buildings, adding smoke to the torment of sun and thirst. The snipers increased their activity and the Mexicans charged again — only to be driven back.

By 5 p.m. Maudet, the only surviving officer, had only 12 men left, but responded to a demand for surrender with 'Merde'. The Mexicans then charged again, and forced the walls this time. The defenders were driven into a group of battered sheds, now under fire from all sides. By 6 p.m. Maudet was down to four men and five rounds. Each fired his last cartridge then launched into a bayonet charge against the surrounding mass.

Maudet and one legionnaire fell at once, but the others were spared by order of the Mexican commander for their heroism. 52 of the defenders died, 12 survived imprisonment. The company had held off 2,000 men for 11 hours, saved the convoy (which turned back on hearing the gunfire), and inflicted 600 casualties, half of them fatal.

But the legacy of Camerone was its ideal — defiance despite the odds. At Camerone a legend was born that lives on to this day. April 30th is more important in the Legion calendar than Christmas, and on the anniversary of the battle its story is read aloud to all units — at Dien Bien Phu it was shouted from one foxhole to the next while the Vietnamese attacked.

The ideal also takes tangible form; picking through the smoking ruins of Camerone the relief force found Danjou's hand, which now takes pride of place in the Legion's museum at Aubagne, visible evidence of an example to be followed. Colonel Milan, who led the Mexicans at Camerone commented 'These are not men but devils'. Since 1863 the Legion have never proved him wrong.

The Salisbury and District Needlework Association

Over the years it has been the pleasant duty of the wife of the Army Chief of Staff to call upon wives of Army officers to contribute articles of clothing, or in lieu, donations of money, to the annual display of the Salisbury and District Needlework Association.

All the articles, and contributions, which are donated by the Army wives for display are presented to charitable institutions. The presentation in recent years has taken place at the Police Sports Club. This is quite a social occasion and the ladies gather for morning tea. This year Mrs Morton Jaffrey introduced the Mayor-ess of Salisbury, Mrs Wynn Wright, who recounted the history of the Association which dates back to 1912 when it was formed as a development of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild by Lady Isabelle Grey.

A new name appeared among the recipients this year and this was Tsanga Lodge who joined other long established organisations such as Hopelands Trust, which is the largest charitable organisation in Rhodesia, St Giles, The Rhodesia Childrens Home, Jairos Jiri, Sascam and the Salvation Army to mention but a few. All very worthy causes and deserving of this tangible expression of the Army wives support.

15 College Road,
Alexandra Park,
Salisbury.

10 May 1977

Dear Army Wives,

Mrs Paver, the secretary to the Salisbury and District Needlework Association has written to thank us for our wonderful contribution.

We collected over \$400 in cash donations and 131 articles of clothing, we also received \$109 in cheques. With the money we purchased sheets, towels and school clothing that were urgently required. Our final total was 310 articles and \$109 in cheques.

Thank you all for your continued wonderful support, assistance and enthusiasm, and as this is a annual event I do hope that I can rely upon the same generous response next year.

Bless you and thank you most sincerely.

Jackie Hickman.



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RWS news . . .

It's a long long way to

Ft Victoria! Alas and alack we're losing one of our 'Bright young things' — Lorna Moore has finally succeeded in getting herself packed off to the 'bushveld' or is it the Lowveld! Look after her 'you lot'. We will miss her merry face around HQ. Her last Friday here, she was told to 'Drill the Squad, at her final muster; quite honestly I have never seen such an array of colour on anyone's face before — she nearly didn't get to Ft Vic — on account of her 'heart you know. She recovered sufficiently to attend her farewell at 'evn tide, at which was gathered a most glorious cross-section of HQ staff. Mr Eaton celebrated his birthday at the same time so As it was a few hours later various bodies were requesting to be picked up from the Hub.

A little "body" from A is being transferred to "Shsssh you know who" and we're wondering if a certain parrot's fate will be in her 'Tea cup' we hope not!

After a faithful years service the 'darling' of education has finally succeeded in getting the Corps to accept her resignation (Good RWS are worth their weight in Gold). She is embarking upon a Tour of Europe and the Island some people call Gt Britain. We wish her well. Hurry back Hilary — Maj Harrison is plumbing for another interview with you!

One of the other RWS (ex Mil S) has been seen limping around with a Donald Duck type bandage on her foot and we presume this injury was not a result of "Active Duty", however no comment is available as she has 'Buckled up'.

The poor old "Hub" is changing again sometimes we wonder how on earth the Walls — outer — remain standing. One day there is going to be a rumble and this place will be Rubble and Dust — in the meantime the new commander's quarters are going ahead in a most awe inspiring manner — scientifically planned perhaps! As a result of this the ladies have lost their rest room — it's rather drastic when the mind is taxed to this extent (not to mention the body). One of the poor occupants of the typing puddle went straight out of the new door, made a sharp right turn and made a rather painful contact with the bricks in the newly blocked-off passage. The question arises "Should the girls in the pool have their eyes tested more often than the rest of us".

Dedicated workers arriving early at the Hub one Monday morning were greatly amused to find the door of a certain officer in A Branch blocked up with the messiest brick wall possible. The ardent bricklayer had been courteous enough to leave a gap at the top for ventilation but had proceeded to lay a few courses across the passage floor. He must have been disturbed because he had left his tools behind. At the top of the door was pinned the following missive, "Bricked up on account of his remark" and signed, 'The Saint'. Has a movement started akin to the mafia? Admittedly, we have the Godmother with us but this poor officer had only closed his door against the dust and noise and had stuck a notice up to the effect that "This door has been closed on account of the NOISE and DUST".

Merely goes to show that it does not pay to trifle with the Engrs.

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The Zulu Political and Military System

by Major K. J. Busby,
Rhodesian Army

The Zulu have been traditionally regarded as the elite martial race of the Southern African Nguni peoples. Since the arrival of the European the martial aspect of the Zulu has declined although vestiges of their former organisations are still retained.

As far as the European is concerned, Zulu power reached its zenith at Isandhlawana where an impi defeated the 23rd Regiment (South Wales Borderers). However, the outcome of that battle could have been different had the British forces not stuck rigidly to their administrative instructions, particularly in regard to the transfer of ammunition between companies. This of course can in no way detract from the Zulu feat of arms in gaining victory over a sophisticated opponent armed with modern weapons. On the other hand the subsequent defeat of the Zulu at Ulundi near the White Mfolozi river restored the prestige lost at Isandhlawana.

This, however, is to anticipate the demise of the Zulu as a martial people and does not indicate the considerable achievement of the emergence of the Zulu nation.

The Nguni peoples of South Africa underwent a period of considerable upheaval at the end of the Eighteenth Century and beginning of the Nineteenth Century which caused the virtual destruction of their relatively unsophisticated policies. From this upheaval there emerged three dominant centralised nations; the Ngwane, the Ndwandwe and the Mthetwa and through the competition between these three groups the pace of political and military change was accelerated. It was against this background with the need for improved military organisation that the ritual or initiation through circumcision was abandoned and the ritual seclusion replaced by military service. Through these changes the Zulu rose to pre-eminence and at a later stage the Ndebele under Mzilikazi broke away to form an independent nation.

It is not unnatural to expect a great degree of similarity between the Zulu and Ndebele systems but the circumstances of their individual evolution inevitably brought differences.

ZULU (TRADITIONAL) In the pre-mfecane period, the chief held a pre-eminent position as the political, judicial, military and spiritual head of his people. He was ultimately responsible for taking all political decisions affecting his people as a whole. He acted as the court of first

instance and also of appeal. He was the link between the living and the ancestors. It is possible that with the early policies the position of the king tended to be autocratic but as the size of polities increased and assumed nation status the autocratic nature of the king underwent change.

POLITICAL SYSTEM: The political system of the Zulu centred on the person of the king and the allegiance of the people to him through the medium of land. This allegiance transcended the barriers of kinship and faction. The political structure of the Zulu may be seen as delegated authority over ever-decreasing numerical groups with a corresponding lessening of executive power. One aspect of this process is that as the scale decreased the ties of kinship increased.

The smallest political unit in the Zulu system was the kraal which was under the control of an unnumzane. The unnumzane was responsible at his level for any disputes which arose. At the next level in the political ladder was the head of the district ward (isigodi), the induna yesigodi, who had control over a number of kraal heads, and his powers were a mirror of their powers at a relatively higher level. A number of isigodi combined to form a tribal area (isifunda). The head of an isifunda was an important induna who was frequently an hereditary chief. The chiefs of these tribes could be princes of royal lineages or heads of important clans representing the remnants of conquered and incorporated peoples. Additionally persons rewarded by the king could occupy similar positions.

Executive control in the Zulu system was vested in the king and his council for the king could make no new laws without the consent of his councillors who represented the people in custom and public opinion. There were of course occasions when the king did not follow the tradition but even under Shaka these occasions were probably fewer than popular tradition imagines. It is evident that these did occur for Glukman states that in cases where the king ignored the opinion of his council they could take one of his cattle. It is quite probable that the king put his views to close councillors who influenced the council. This would avoid contradiction of the king's view for no councillor would unwittingly express a strong opinion opposed to that of the king.

The construction of the King's Council was:

Representative	Function/ Responsibility	Personality
Chief Indunas	District	Commoners
Princes of tribes	Kinship	Royal lineage
Heads of Clans		
Personal Bodyguards	Security	Commoners
Brave Warriors	War/defence	Commoners
Learned Councillors	Judicial	Commoners

The Council of the King (isigungu and amapakhati) does not appear to have been firmly constituted and the members were called into attendance when matters affecting them were under consideration. Krige states that all councillors were obliged to reside in turn at the capital for a certain period during which time they formed the King's Council. This of course had the effect of being a form of surveillance. The effective government of the tribe/nation thus rested upon a system of territorial division which was under the control of relatives of the chief and selected commoners. In this can be seen a measure of control imposed by the king to safeguard his own position for the commoner element would serve as a check to the ambitions of those of royal lineage.

The terminology applied to members of the council is somewhat confusing. Krige states that the members were merely headmen but this is as much a relative term as is the term induna.

It is clear that from these councillors some occupied more elevated positions than others. Thus the supreme representative of the isigungu was the High Umnumzane, who was also the spokesman of the abanumzana. Additionally there was the great induna of the tribe (induna yesizwe enkulu). Although the evidence is not clear on this point it occurs to the writer that

Title	Representative	Action
Kings (isigungu)	Nation (Tribe)	Executive
Imbizo yabanumzane	Tribal (sub wards)	Semi-executive
Umkhandlu wamadoda	Family heads	Sounding Board
Imbizo yesizwe	Whole tribe (Males)	Informative

this latter personality may in fact be the Prime Minister. The evidence which appears to point towards this is the reference to the 'ears and eyes' of the king. In concert with the izinduna zezigodi yamabutho, the induna yesizwe enkulu was responsible for the control of the central (royal/military) preserve of the king. Both these persons exercised control through their own administrative channels and would thus have representatives throughout the nation. They would thus have a comprehensive intelligence system which would function as the 'eyes and ears' of the king. Within both the political and

military systems the wives of the king occupied positions of importance which indicate that they were extensions of the intelligence system and also an additional point of focus in the pattern of allegiance.

At levels below the King's Council other councils existed but their function was largely informative. Thus the council structure would appear to have been:

However, while in diagrammatic form the divisions appear clear cut it is probable that in practice there was a measure of overlapping in some areas of responsibility.

MILITARY SYSTEM The Zulu military system was brought to fruition under Shaka. The change of tactics and the emergence of a professional warrior resulted from the system of age regiments. In the period of the mfecane the will of a nation to survive depended upon military prowess and to this end the military system evolved.

The system of age regiments served to centralise power in the hands of the king and undercut the potential military power of territorial chiefs, it further served to integrate the nation. A military area was developed near the centre of the kingdom in which military towns were established for the regiments where they lived in 'barracks'. Regiments which were so garrisoned belonged to the king alone and chiefs exercised no control over those who had originated from their areas. Again, the allegiance to the king was re-enforced by the military towns contained in a royal homestead in which wives of the king would be present. The ikhanda, or 'head' acted as a gathering point for the regiment and as time progressed became hereditary in concept. New regiments were formed by assembling an age group from the respective 'heads'. Once a warrior was assigned to a specific 'head' his allegiance to it could not be changed. This may appear somewhat inflexible but without

an administrative machine, not possessed by the Zulu, transfers between 'heads' would only lead to confusion. In part the system attempted to rationalise the natural movement of people by having tactical units of several regiments in each 'head'.

The military organisation under Shaka was not by any means perfect. There was a counter-balance to the royal regiments in that territorial chiefs had regiments of their own although it is suspected that they did not operate with the same efficiency. The reasons for this supposition are two fold; firstly, members of such regiments had been virtually reduced to the level of a reservist who besides performing this function also had to provide for his family. This of necessity dictated that less time was available to the pursuance of the military arts. Secondly, it would be both practically and diplomatically advantageous for a chief's regiment to maintain a somewhat lower level of efficiency in order to avoid possible accusations of attempting to rival the power of the king. Members of these regiments were probably members of royal regiments who had been granted permission to marry (probably to members of a female regiment) and had returned to live in their original territorial areas. In addition to this certain incorporated clans/tribes were permitted to retain their own regiments (i.e. the Khumalo) and this in itself was an invitation to secession. A further factor was that although the commoner induna was not a threat to the system in himself he could influence events by the transfer of allegiance. This was evident in 1828 when Induna-Mbopha transferred allegiance to Dingaan. Gluckman suggests that command of the regiments rested largely with the 'royals'. This may be true to a point but the governing consideration was that of expertise and thus commoners could rise within the system. The importance of the commoner induna rested upon the fact that he owed his position as much to ability as he did to the king's favour.

It is interesting to record that the Zulu Army also had its problems with exemptions from military service. The reasons for exemption were few but a popular one appears to have been the profession of diviner for UmPande was so well aware that too many men were avoiding military service by membership of this profession that he brought them together to form a regiment of their own (the psychological impact of that regiment should have been considerable!). Similarly, each induna of an ikhanda was responsible for ensuring that each warrior undertook a reasonable amount of service each year.

The regiments were distinguished from each other in dress and shields. Some confusion seems apparent in relation to the shields for tradition

favours the idea that each regiment had a distinctive shield colouring. Krige appears to have a point in linking the predominant colour of the shield through reference to 'white' 'black' and 'red' warriors except that the 'black' and 'red' warriors seem to be a duplication. The 'white' warriors were the unmarried men and were considered as being of more importance while the 'black' or 'red' warriors were married men.

In addition to distinction by the shields identification was also possible by differentiations in regimental dress. Selected regiments used the tails of the monkey or genet and all regiments had a distinctive headdress which included the plumage of birds and animal skins such as leopard and otter.

Inter-regimental rivalry was evident and the evidence suggests that at large reviews the regiments were allocated different specific areas in order to minimise faction fights. The regimental tradition was cultivated through songs and war cries. One very obvious weakness of the system would appear to be that because of the 'age' grouping the de-activating of a regiment brought to an end its traditions rather than passing them on to new recruits.

The Zulu military system also had its scale of awards for bravery which appears to have operated at two levels. Awards could be made for bravery by the principal regimental indunas in the form of armlets and collars. In addition there appears to have been an automatic award of a necklace for those warriors who had killed in battle. Over and above these awards were those conferred by the king which could take the form of a necklace, a weapon of cattle.

The principal fighting formation of the Zulu was the umkhumbi (semi-circle) which sought to encircle the enemy. However it is probably incorrect to attribute the evolution of this formation to the Zulu for evidence suggests that it was used previously by others and in any case it is such a basic manoeuvre, providing at once concentration and control, that it was an early acquisition.

In the field the Army moved in extended regimental columns with scout to the front, rear and flanks. The administrative tail of the Zulu army in the field was small consisting as it did of a few carriers (batmen!) to the principal warriors who also herded cattle which provided food on the march. Equally, these carriers also became the herders for the cattle which were acquired as the spoils of war. Additionally, girls would accompany the Army on the march within Zululand to carry beer and food for their relatives for as long as it lasted. These bearers/herders normally appear to have remained with the Army for a few days only for the speed of a

herd of cattle would undoubtedly inhibit mobility. The Zulu was capable of a forty-mile approach march by night and was ready for battle at dawn.

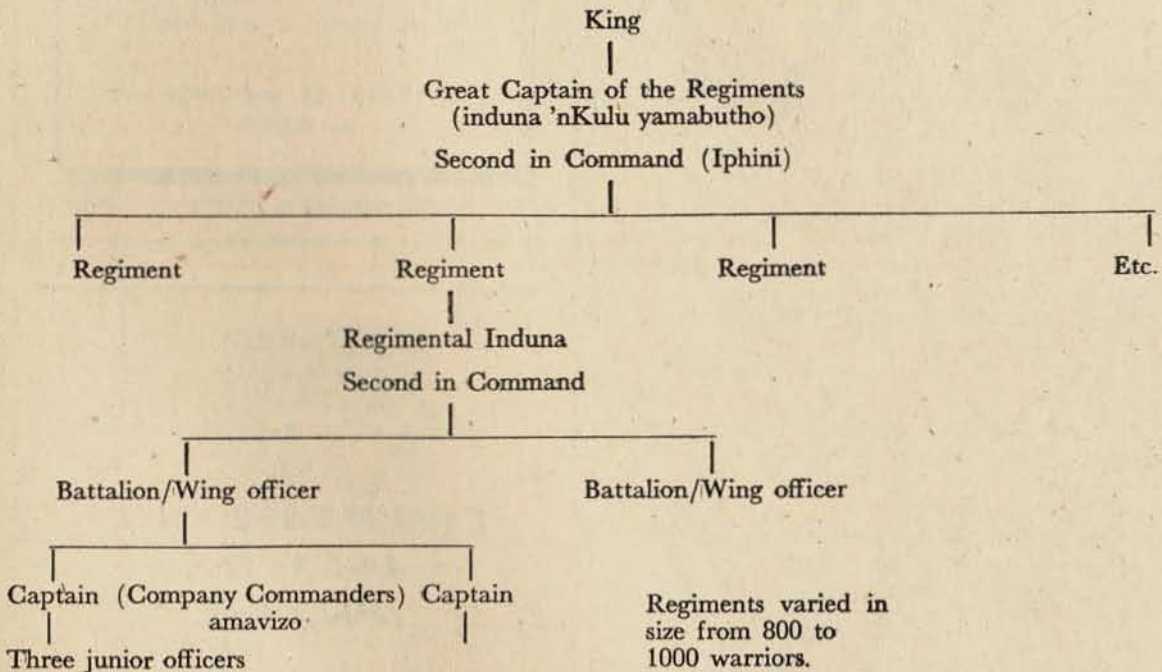
A closer formation was adopted by the Army once enemy territory was entered or the ground became broken. In addition the main body was split into two with an advance guard of some ten companies some sixteen kilometres ahead of the main body. It was considered a serious omission of tactics if the army failed to establish an advance guard and main body. Small scouting parties operated ahead and on the flanks of the advance guard.


COMMAND AND CONTROL: The king held the prerogative of mobilising for war although in sudden and local emergencies the induna was authorised to call out troops to deal with the situation. It is possible that the command struc-

ture of the Zulu Army followed the pattern indicated below which is based upon a British War Office precis of the period.

There is, of course, a danger in accepting the below diagram too rigidly since the author has probably equated the Zulu system too closely to his western military concepts. It is possible that where the author of the precis refers to regiment and battalion the Zulu regarded them as one and the same term.

Notwithstanding the final defeat of the Zulu by virtue of superior technology it is evident that their rise was due in no small part to the emergence of quite distinct political and military systems. Although these systems were distinct there were of course points of contact below the level of the king, which indicates clearly that there was more to the Zulu nation than mere prowess in the military arts.





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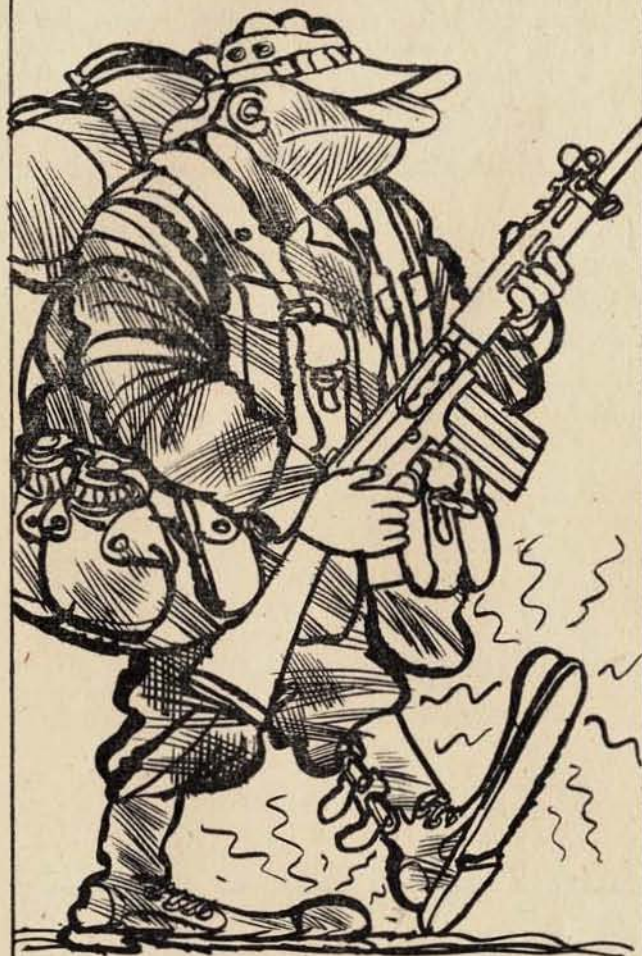
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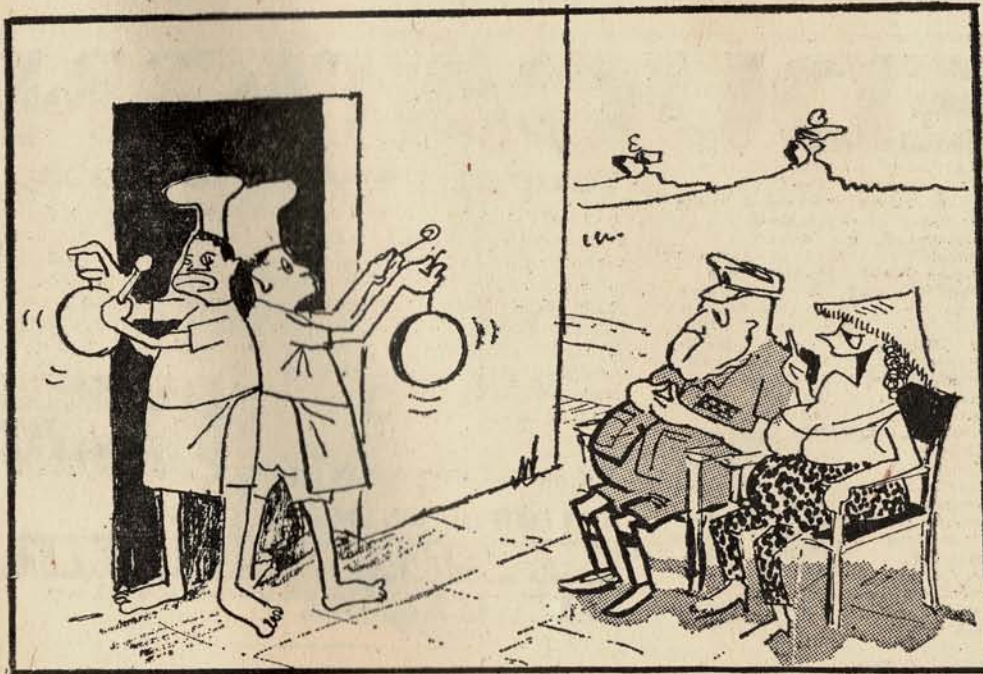
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