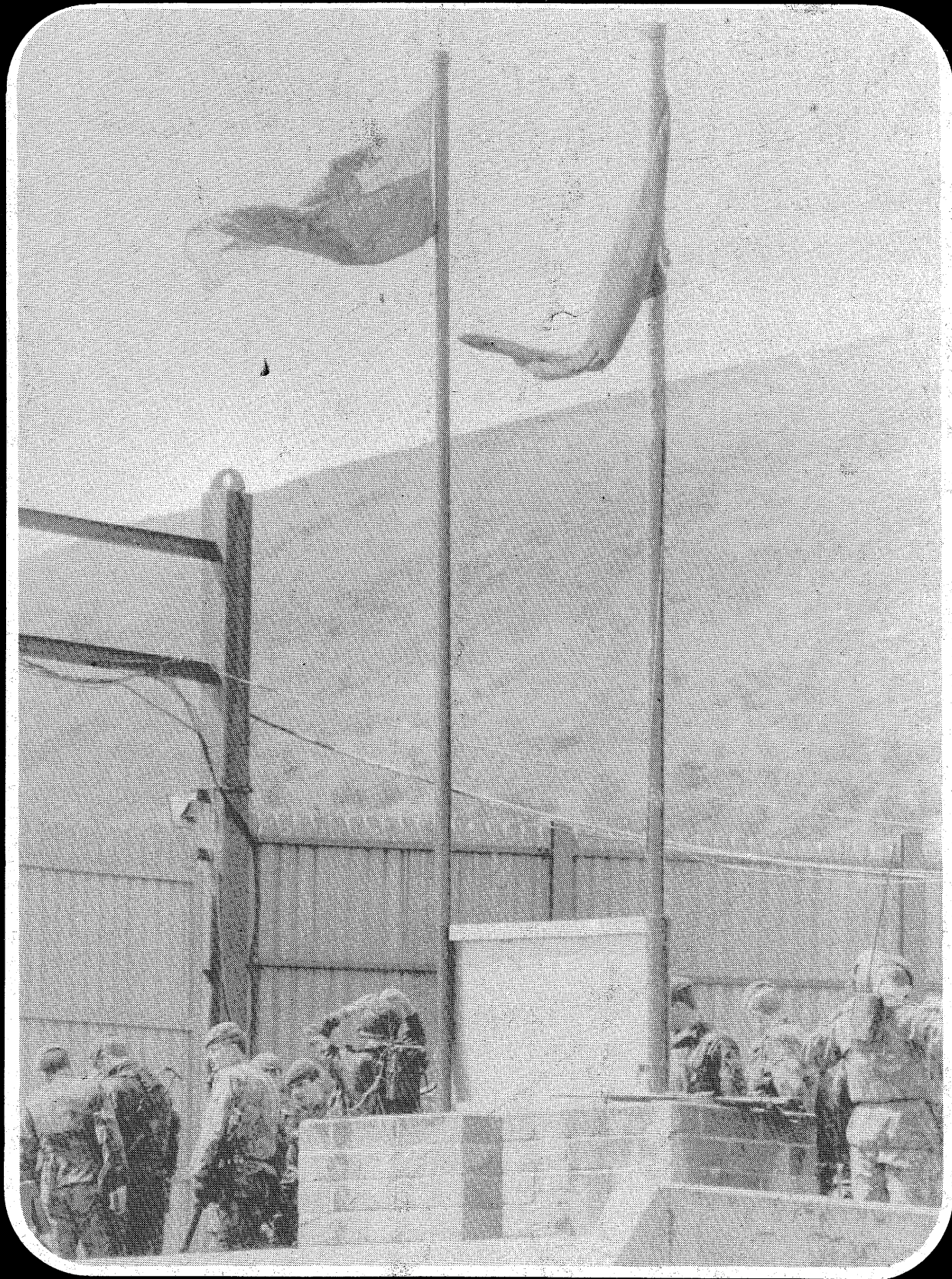


THE LEEK



This last edition of The Leek acts as a postscript to a full and busy four and a half months in 1986, our fifth tour in Northern Ireland. It records for posterity and for those who took part, memories of good times and not so good times, reminders of some hardship and much comradeship, serious moments and moments of laughter which are typical of all the campaigns in which Welsh Guardsmen have ever been involved.

These photographs fix a moment in time, enabling us to look back in later years at the places where we were, the equipment we had and the things we did. As time goes by, I have no doubt that we will look at these pictures with increasing disbelief, just as we look now at pictures of the Battalion in Aden and elsewhere.

Above all it is a record of people, and the Battalion is and always will be all about people. Whatever else has been achieved, this tour has brought people together in a way which is rarely possible at other times of their service. It has forged bonds of friendship, trust and pride which will last and be cherished for a life-time. May it always be so.



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

(Signature)

C. F. DREWRY,



CSM. Covell, The Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major M. L. Hughes



The Prince of Wales's Company Fort Whiterock

The Fort Whiterock contingent has kept as cheerful as always since you last heard from us. This is our last contribution! Hasn't time flown by?

A steady work rate has been maintained, but various things of interest have broken up the routine. We were very lucky to have another CSE show which turned out to be even better than the first one. A large audience turned up and were entertained by a fast moving Cabaret Show which featured a Cockney Comic, girls who wiggled (and sang) and a top billing act from Wales called "TOMFOOLERY".

Several of the platoons have managed to get out of Belfast for a day in the country by the sea at Ballykinler. "Awayaday" entertainments included football, shopping in the NAAFI and beach barbecues. The Gdsm. were able to unwind and really relax for a short period of time.

A good number of bricks have gone to the RUC disco at New Forge which is open on Wednesday and Saturday nights and has proved a great success.

After much "ado" the controversial Company Sweatshirt has finally made its appearance. The Company Commander personally supervised the transportation of boxloads of sweatshirts from the Wiltshire factory across the Irish Sea to West Belfast. The shirts bear the motif designed by Lt. Pritchard-Barrett and on the back each platoon or Sub-unit has its own decoration which varies from the Company Motto to "Med Ops" and "Drums".

Contrasting with the abysmal standard of football displayed by the English and Scottish teams in Mexico the standard of sport at Fort Whiterock remains high. Gdsm. Hermanis and L.Sgt. Chittock are competing for the "Slimmer of the tour award". A visiting nurse described "Bongo" as a mere "Slip of a lad!" Gdsm. Bannan-Ryder is still running his "Jane Fonda" style Company Headquarters "Work Out" course. Finally on the sporting side, 2Lt. Ford has organised the "GRAND PRINCE OF WALES'S COMPANY SQUASH COMPETITION" which is being keenly contested. Anyone who can vaguely hold a squash racquet has been awarded a crippling handicap which will enable even the most unco-ordinated individual a chance of becoming the Fort Whiterock Squash Champion.

Various members of the Welsh Press have visited us to get the "LOWDOWN" on life at the sharpest tip of the Province. Guardsmen have been interviewed and photographed by the Western Mail and the Celtic Press. A discjockey from Marcher Sound (Wrexham area) interviewed members of the Company in both Welsh and English. Last but certainly not least BFPS's own "BAS" RILEY made a star appearance and played Gdsm's requests for their wives,

girlfriends and families.

Well that's about all for now. We all look forward to leave!!

F.W.R. ORBAT PERSONALITIES

Coy Comd

Maj C. R. Watt

2 I/C

Capt A. S. Morgan

Admin Officer

Capt M. Lombard

Doctor

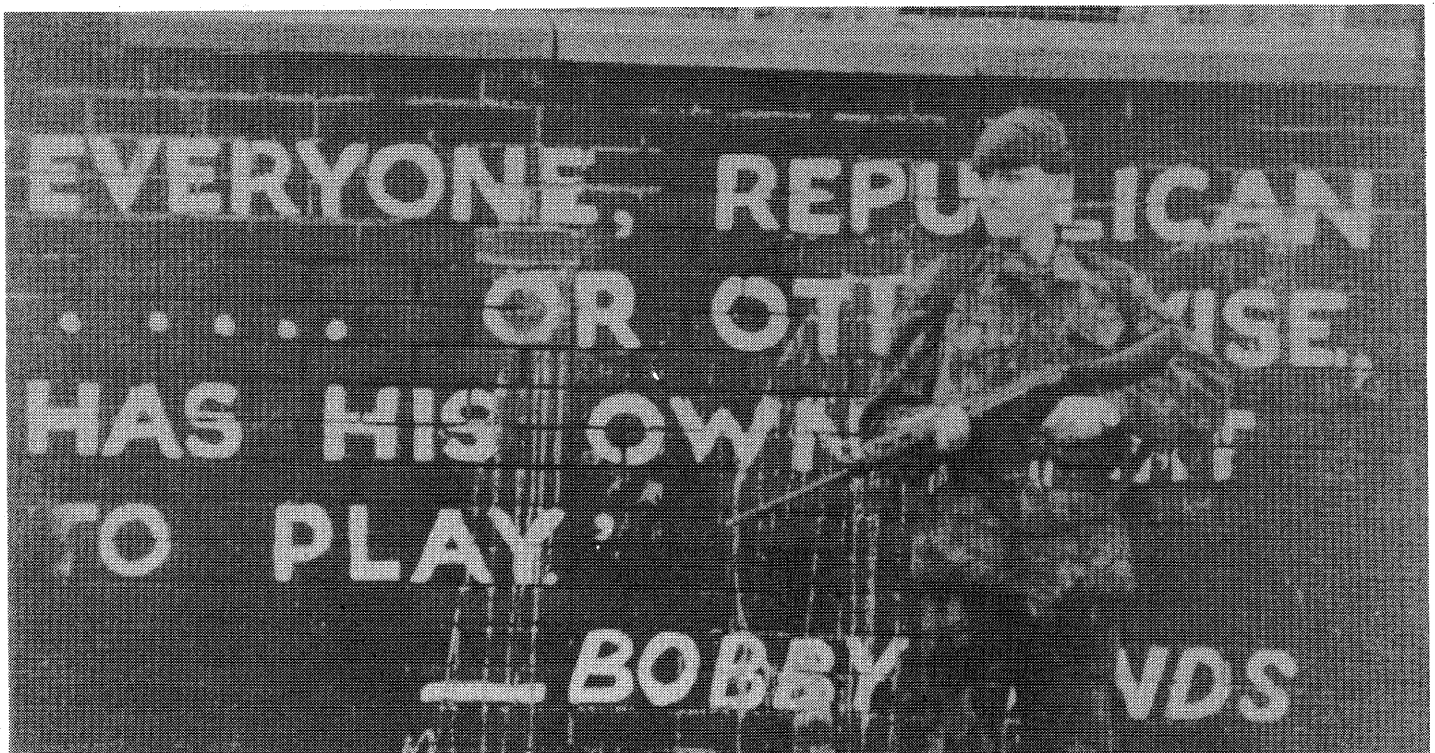
Capt P. Sokolow

PL Comds

J. D. H. Daniel
T. L. MacDonal-Milner
D. R. B. Bulbeck
J. R. Pritchard-Barrett
J. M. H. Ford

Sgts Mess

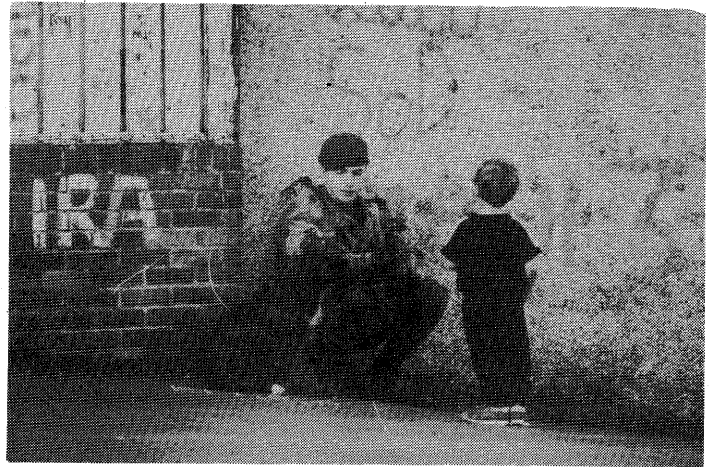
CSM Harvey
WO2 Dyas
WO2 Williams
Sgt. Owen 52
Sgt. James 30
Sgt. Williams 54
Sgt. Rowlands
Sgt. Evans 70
Sgt. Davies 39
Sgt. Barton
Sgt. McGuinness
L.Sgt. James 30



What more can be said? — Gdsm. Glover



L. Cpl. Hayes on patrol in "the Murph"



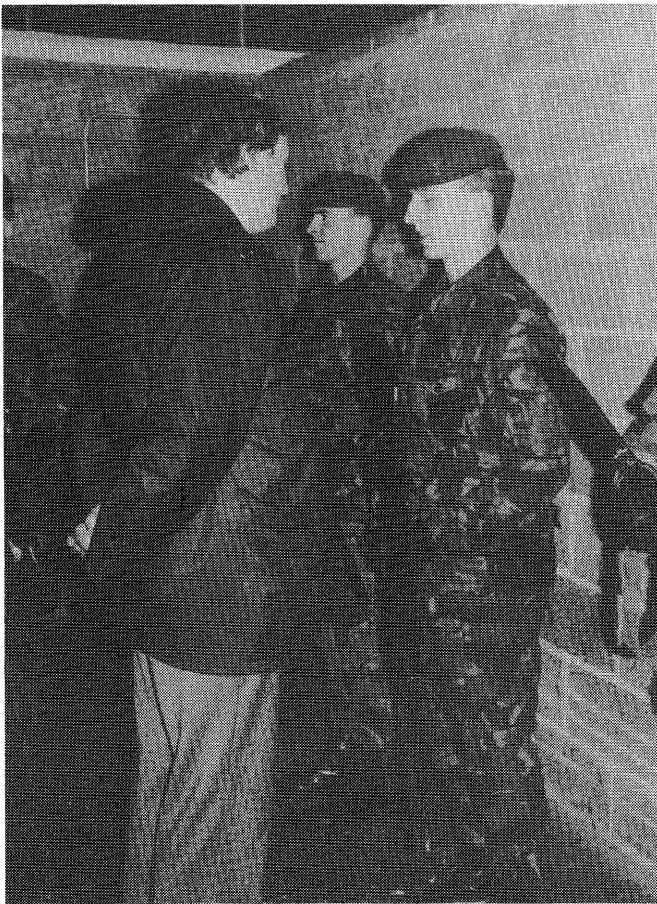
Gdsm. Davies 97 and friends



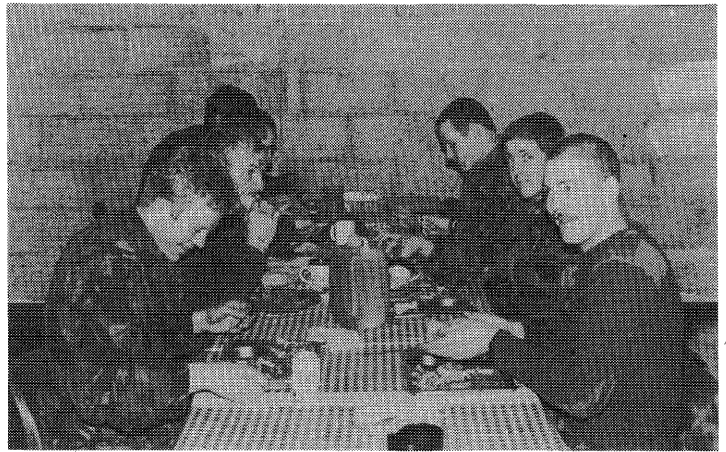
The Drums at the Loading Bay, Fort Whiterock



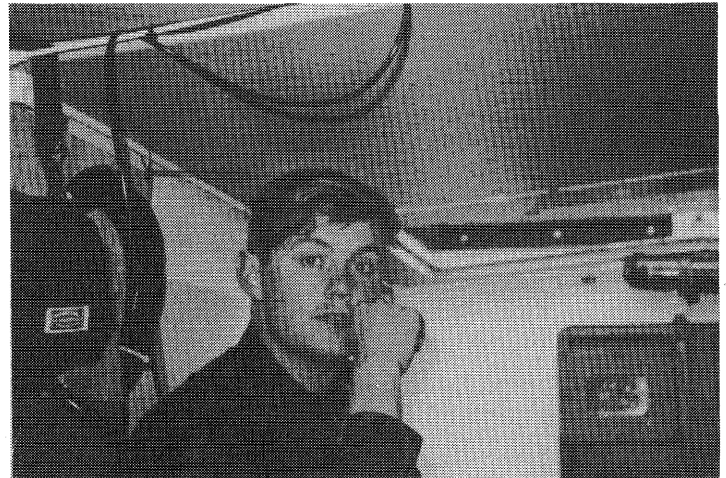
A nice day for a stroll — L. Cpl. Brown



Gdsm. King and Bowen — *Visit by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces*



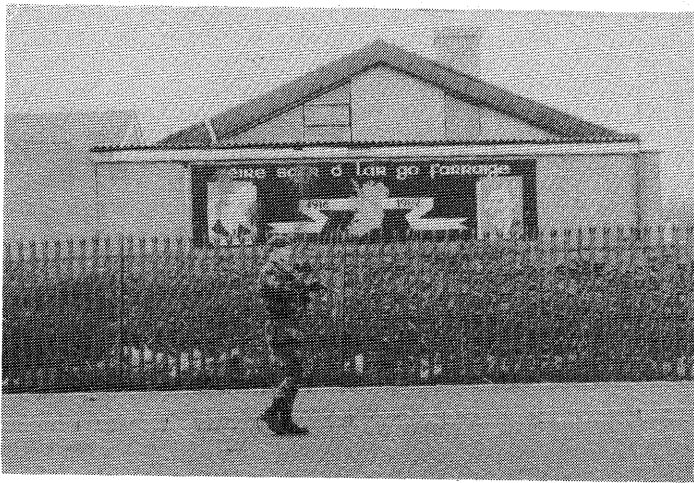
"Scoff"



Gdsm. Baker 04 — *4 more months and it might grow*



The Good the Bad and the Ugly — Members of No. 1 Platoon



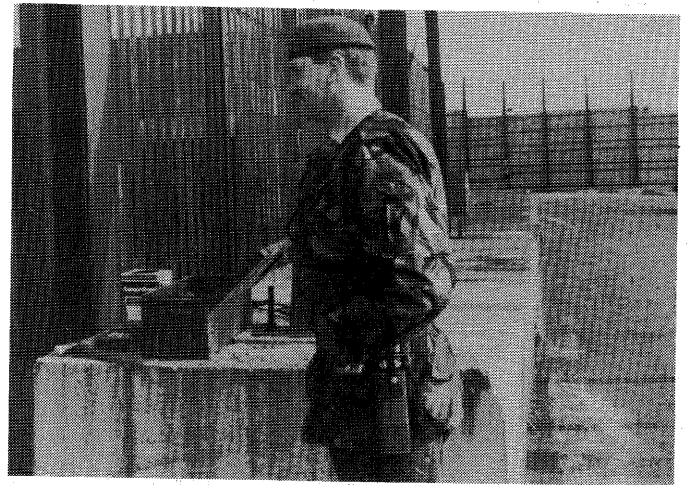
L.Sgt. Edwards — *Walking down the street . . .*



"One man and his dog" — Gdsm. Mathews 98



L.Sgt. Bishop and Gdsm. Saunders at New Barnsley



"Jiffy" — CSM Harvey



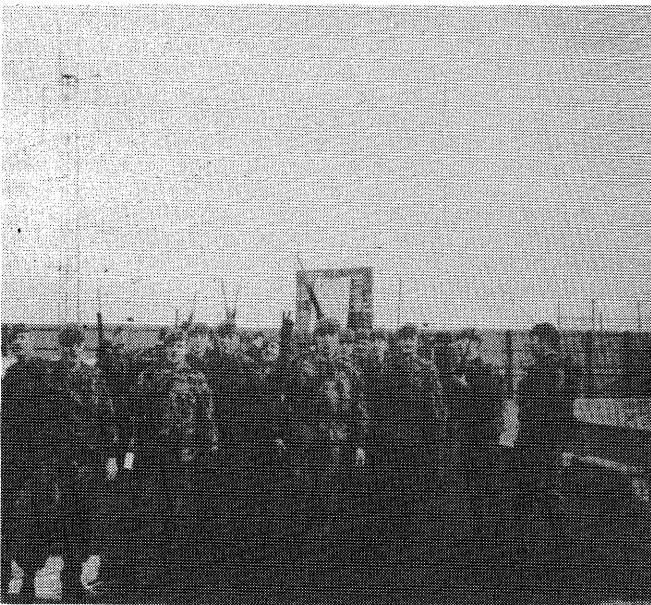
Taking it sitting down — L.Sgt. Price and Brick



I caught one this big! — Brig. Denison Smith with L.Sgt. Vaughan-Jones, Gdsm. Mathews and Jones 45



I'm on film! — Gdsm. Mainwaring



Milan Platoon Multiple Patrol, Fort Whiterock — *Victory is ours*



Look over there — Gdsm. Williams 16, Bragington, Hall and L.Sgt. Cunlippe



Members of No. 2 Platoon — *Oh, So happy!*



The POW'S Company Road Show



Gdsm. Hermanis (grounded), L.Sgt. Loveridge and Gdsm. Baker



Looking good! — The Drums Multiple at New Barnsley

Number 2 Company North Howard Street Mill

Time has flown. We've had fun, we've been bored, and we've been quite excited at times. We also feel that we've done a good job, frustrating though it has often been, for all of us. We look horribly pale, having been either sweating buckets on patrol, or cooped up in sangars and in the Mill — everyone has a lot of steam to let off when we go on leave: Cardiff beware!

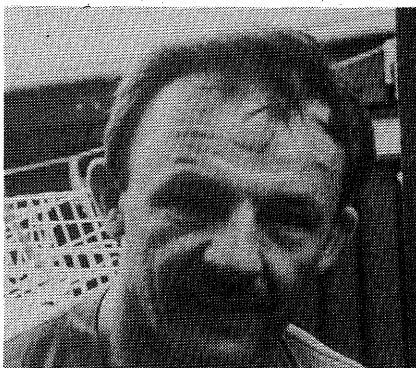
This month will be the testing period, and by the time you read this, you will know whether we've passed or failed; there is a very real danger of switching off and relaxing too much through over-confidence, boredom, and excitement at forthcoming Leave. If we manage to keep up the standard, then this will have been a very successful and happy tour.

A special note of appreciation must go to C/Sgt. Fry, Sgt. Oultram and the others who've been in the O.P. on top of the Divis Tower; and also to the troop from 50 Missile Regiment, all of whom have been outstanding. Overall, to coin an expression, "it's been a lot of fun!"

- Company Commander*
Major A. C. Richards
- Second in Command*
Captain J. D. G. Isaac
- Platoon Commanders*
Lt. J. H. B. Warburton Lee
Lt. R. H. B. Cockcroft
Lt. M. J. B. Rudd
- OC 50 Missile Regt. Troop*
Lt. P. Roberts, R.A.
- Company Sergeant Major*
WO2 F. G. Covell
- CQMS*
C.Sgt. Walford
- Divis OP*
C.Sgt. Fry
- Divis OP*
Sgt. Oultram
- Int Officer*
Sgt. Ranson
- Platoon Sergeants*
Sgt. Evans 15
Sgt. Adamson
Sgt. Frost



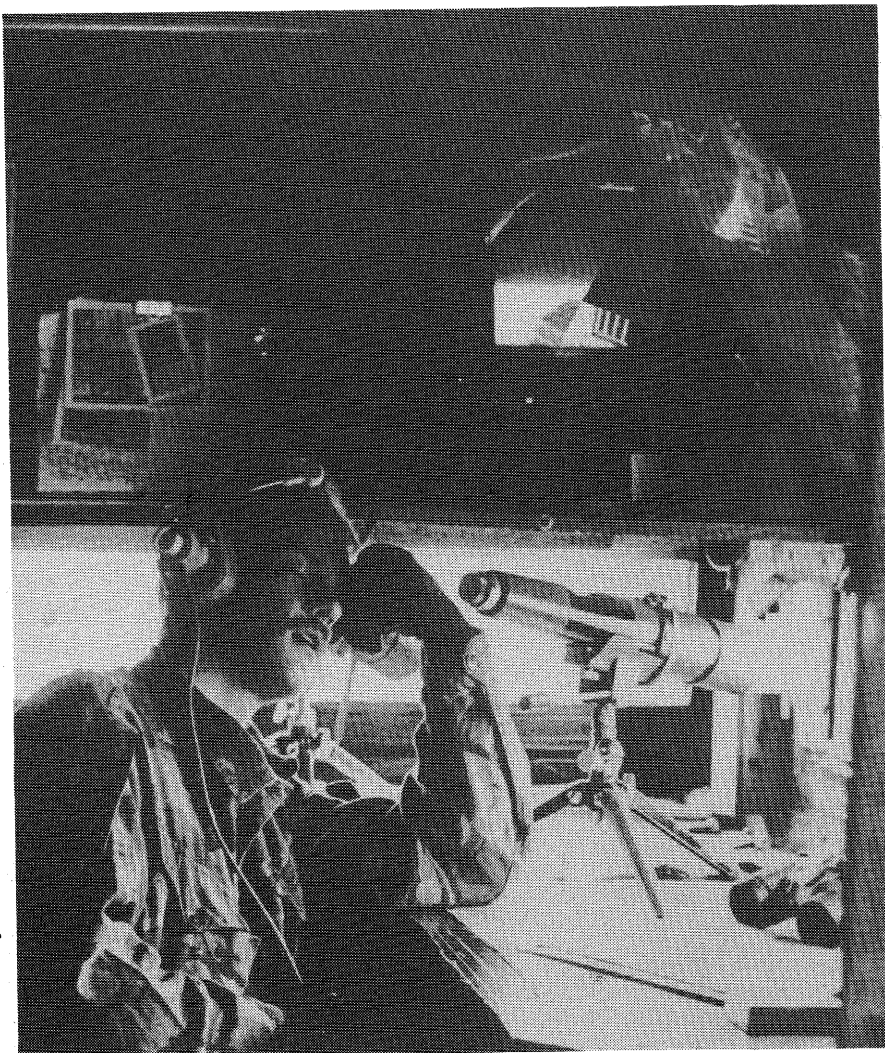
Gdsm. Poole, Covert on the Divis OP



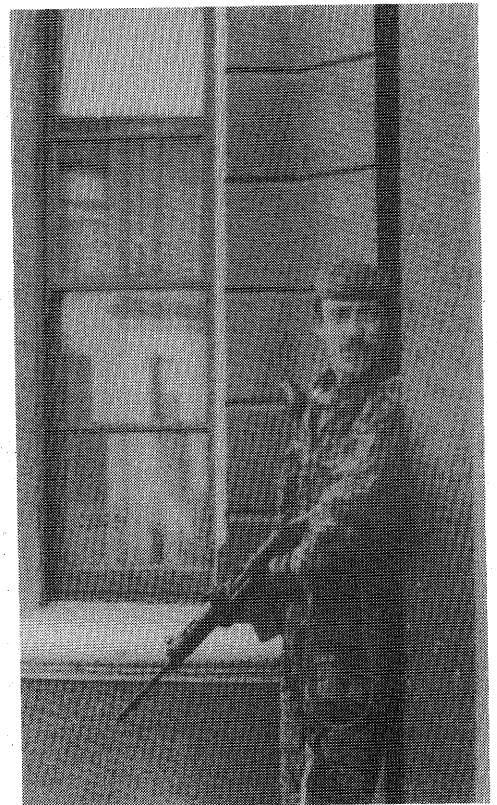
No problem! — C.Sgt. Fry, Divis OP



On top of Belfast — L.Cpl. Sullivan, Gdsm. Wilson and C.Sgt. Fry on the Divis OP



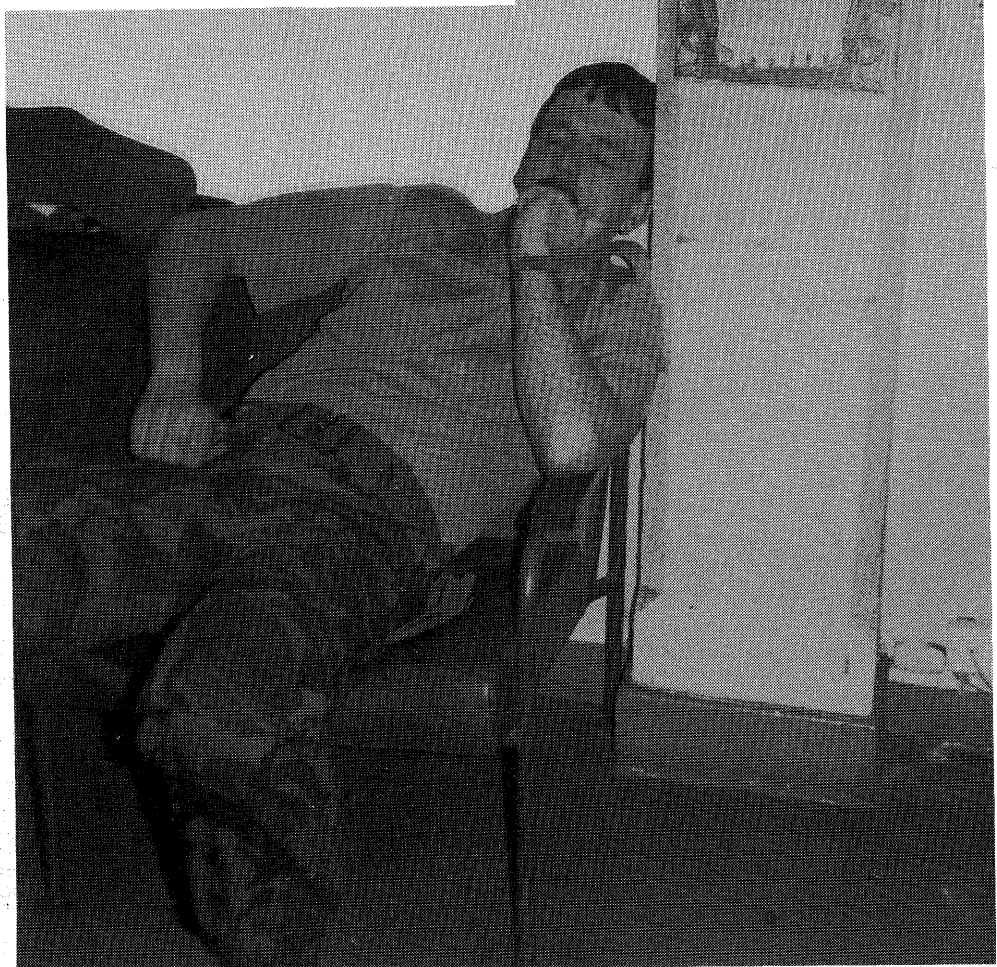
Always vigilant — L.Cpl. Sullivan



Cornered — L.Cpl. Mills



L.Cpl. Evans 24 in the Divis



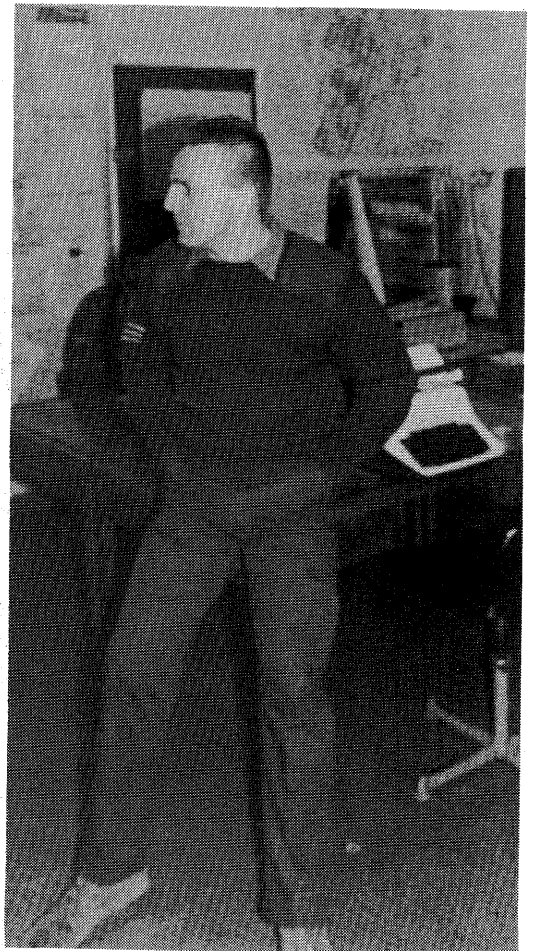
All in a days work! — Sgt. Ranson



The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel talking to members of No. 6 Platoon about real soldiering



A man's best friend — Gdsm. Evans 15



CQMS Walford — Body Beautiful!



Patrol briefing — No. 5 Platoon



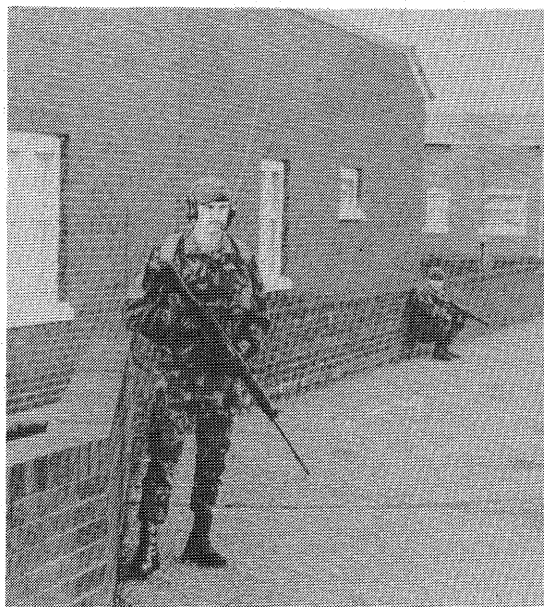
Call this lunch! — Gdsm. Kell, Bushell and Maj. Richards



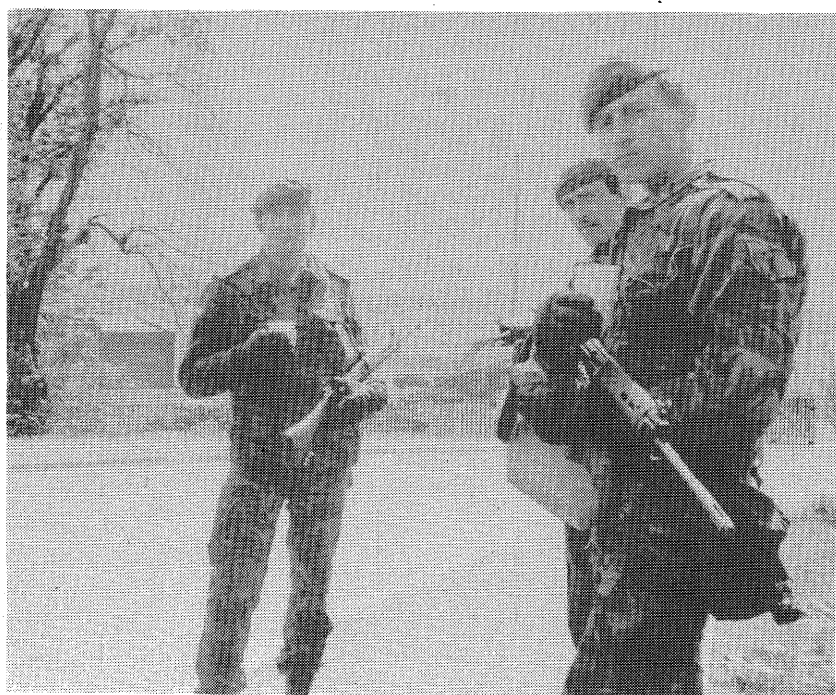
Gdsm. Morgan 12 against the wall



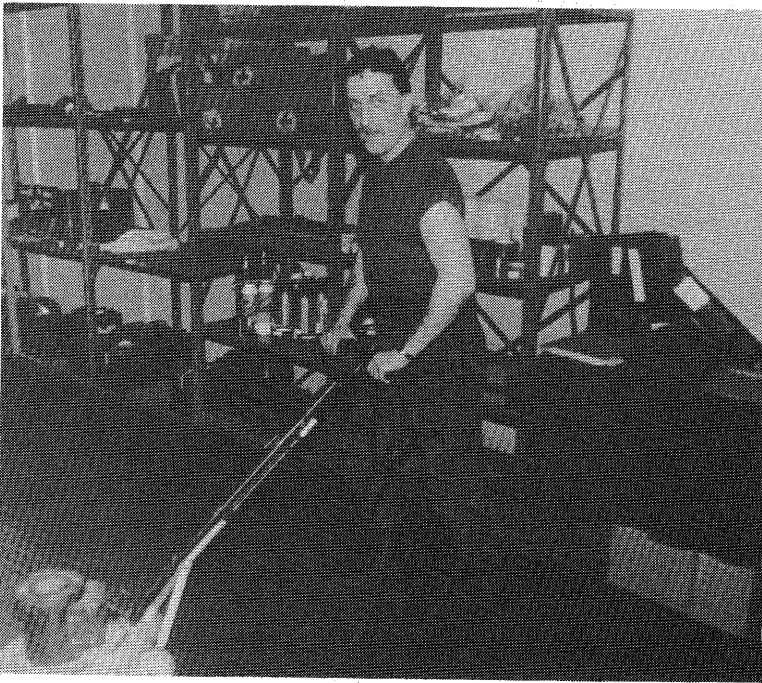
In the Divis Flats



Gdsm. Llewellyn over the wall



Tea break! — Lt. Roberts, L.Cpls. Mills and Gardner



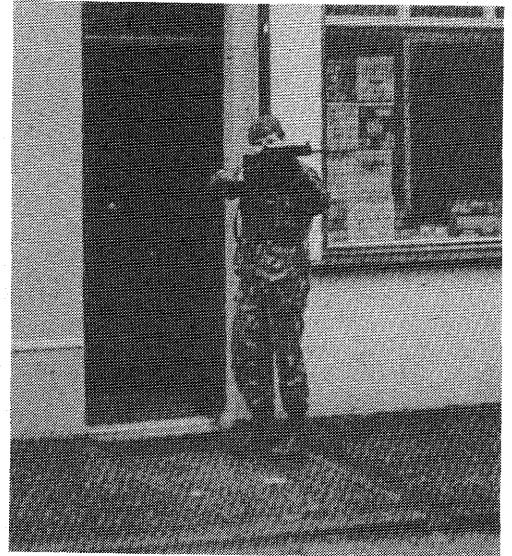
Hi Tech — Gdsm. Morris 97



Two's Company — L.Cpl. Jones 29 and L.Cpl. Coulthard



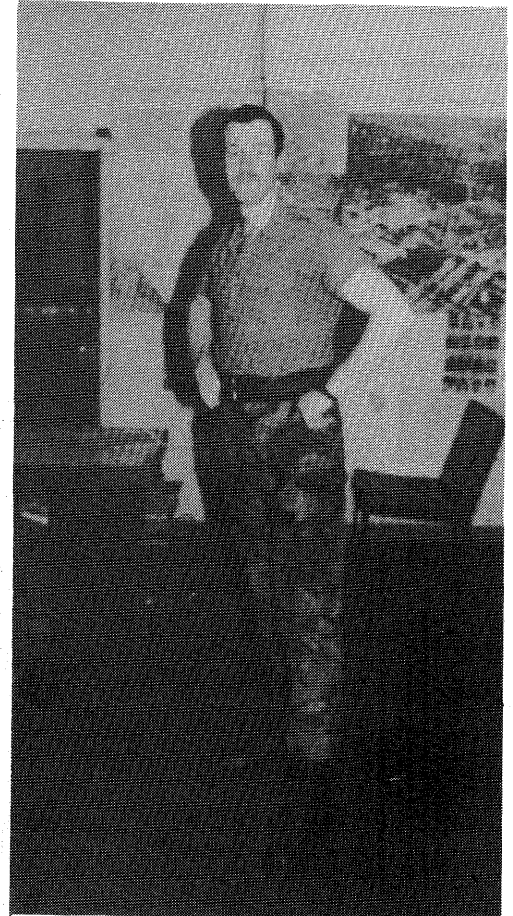
Before the patrol — Members of No. 5 Platoon



Looks good! — L.Cpl. Coulthard



Lt. Roberts, 2Lt. Lyle, Cato, Rambo and woofers



Runner-up — Mr. North Howard Street Mill 1986 — L.Sgt. Jones 98



Number 3 Company

Musgrave Park Hospital

Coy Commander

Maj. Syms

Ops Officer

Capt. Dymoke/Lt. Hartigan

CSM

CSM Hopkins/CSM Dyas

CQMS

CQMS Hunt

Int

S.Sgt. Reavill (REME)

7 PI

Lt. Scriven
Sgt. Roberts 32

8 PI

Lt. Dyer
Sgt. Price 21/Sgt. Bennett 20

9 PI

Lt. Talbot Rice/2Lt Presland
Sgt. Powell 01

With less than a month remaining of our stay in Belfast, and with talk of the Marine pre Int Advance, the "Little Iron Men" can look back over a very successful and satisfying three months. There have been frustrating times, however it must be said that our job has been easier and more enjoyable due to the friendly relations we have managed to maintain with the RUC.



"Say that again!" —
Sgt. Price 21 and Gdsm. Regan



A Little Iron Maiden — One of the CSE show

The Company has had to cope with three finds, three house take overs, a blast bomb and a shooting. This obviously doesn't compare with the hectic and tiresome programme that 'Tin City' had to offer, however it has certainly kept us on our toes and given us plenty to think about.

Petrol bombs have caused occasional concern, but they have been mainly directed at RUC houses in the Orange Suffolks. As a result patrols have spent a great deal of their time in this estate. Although this has been somewhat tedious, L.Sgt. Jones 73 has managed to discover various water holes, which have rendered endless cups of tea, and Gdsm. Brittain has had to refrain from his romantic liaison — Hearts and Minds can be taken a bit too far!

As for bricks and bottles, patrols have had to travel further afield into the 'Swinging Twinbrooks', where top cover sentries practice their heading skills, and where foot bricks relive Botham's unbeaten 154 against the West Indies. We've also had to rewrite the Company SOI's, for the backfire on the new V8 engine, has sent patrols of 'Iron Men' diving for safety over walls and into back gardens.

Platoons have also been sent to the other locations to help out with the Easter parades, the Marathon and the famous Portadown campaign.

Apart from the statutory six days R & R, the Company has also managed to get bricks out for shopping sessions in Lisburn and the city centre. Others have been kindly invited out by the RUC to some of their local discos. We've been entertained by the Regimental Band and also by a CSE group, whose dancing girls left most of the Company in a state of shock — R & R, for most of us, had long since been and gone!

Sgt. Hinder and his band of diligent signallers, despite their limited surroundings, have kept Woodbourne (The Sharp End) very much alive, and S.Sgt. Reavill and his 'Int Mob' have entertained us with their humorous but informative briefs.

The cliché, 'a picture paints a thousand words' seems a suitable introduction to the following photographs:



"Bravo Whisky 80 and 81, Mike Echo 4, crew up!"



Yes, we can patrol as well — Gdsm. Coleclough, L.Cpl. Leigh and L.Sgt. Ricketts



L.Sgt. Jones 10 (Zelda) and his Terrahawks



Members of No. 8 Platoon



No. 8 Platoon — *"Spring Drills"*



This one belongs to me! — L.Sgt. Salmon, Gdsm. Evans, Wheeler, Sgt. Hindes, Gdsm. Price



L.Cpl. Davies 76 and his Brick



No. 9 Platoon — *Loading up*



S.Sgt. Reavill and his Int Mob



32 and the Magnificent 7 Platoon, but where is M. I. Scriven?



78, 18, 13, 63, 94, 21 and 54



L.Sgt. Roberts 20 (Freddie Mercury) and his men



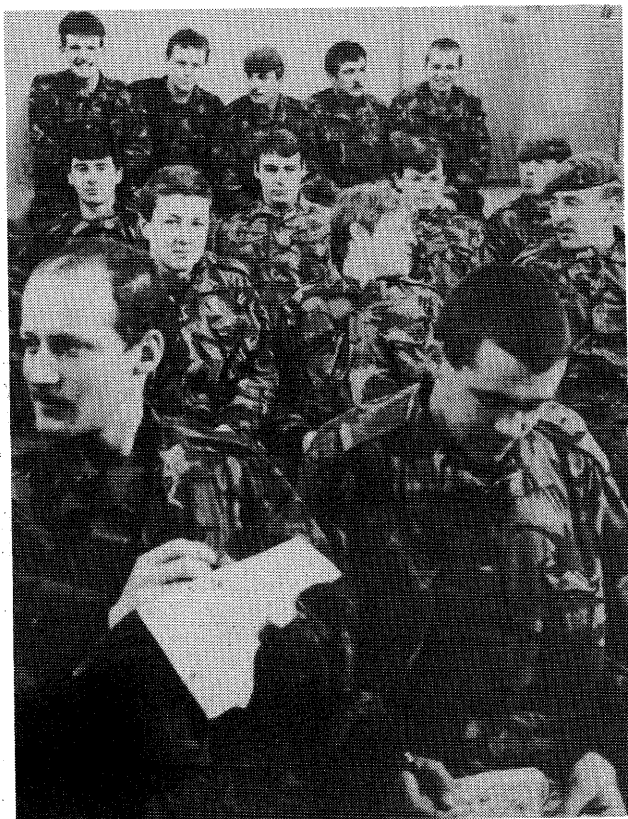
The Company Commander's Rover Group



"Hello N12D, this is Nø, Send Sitrep, over" — L.Sgt. Plant



I'll show you mine if you show me yours — Lt. Talbot-Rice and Sgt. Powell O1



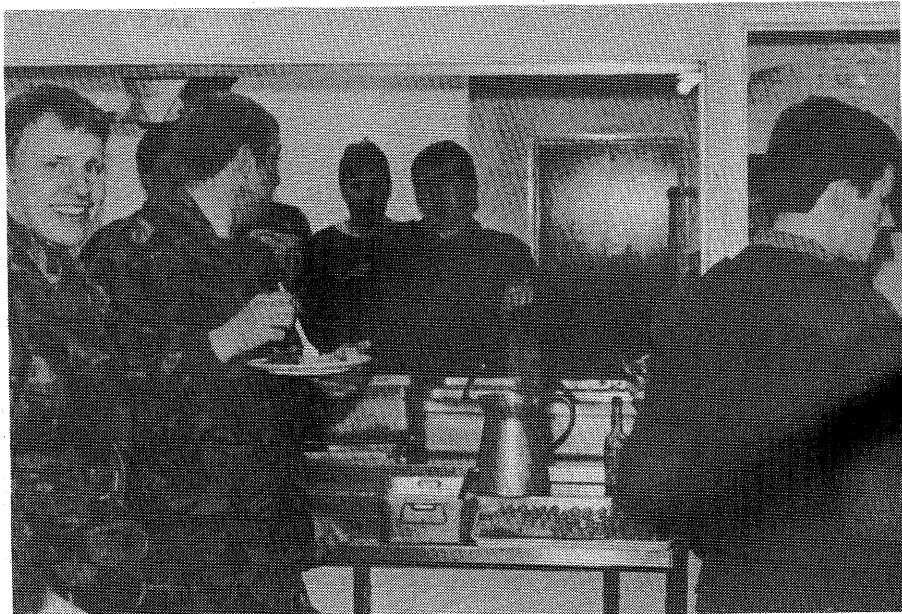
Eyes down for a full house — No. 9 Pl.



We enjoy the occasional photo! — L.Cpl. Roberts 34, L.Sgt. Salmon, L.Sgt. Jones, L.Cpl. Williams and Lloy



I thought you had the map — Sgt. Bevan



He's actually eating the stuff — Sgt. Hinder



ECHELON

Musgrave Park Hospital

Company Commander
Major J. D. G. Sayers

Quartermaster
Captain (QM) E. L. Pridham

Motor Transport Officer
Lieutenant D. R. Evans

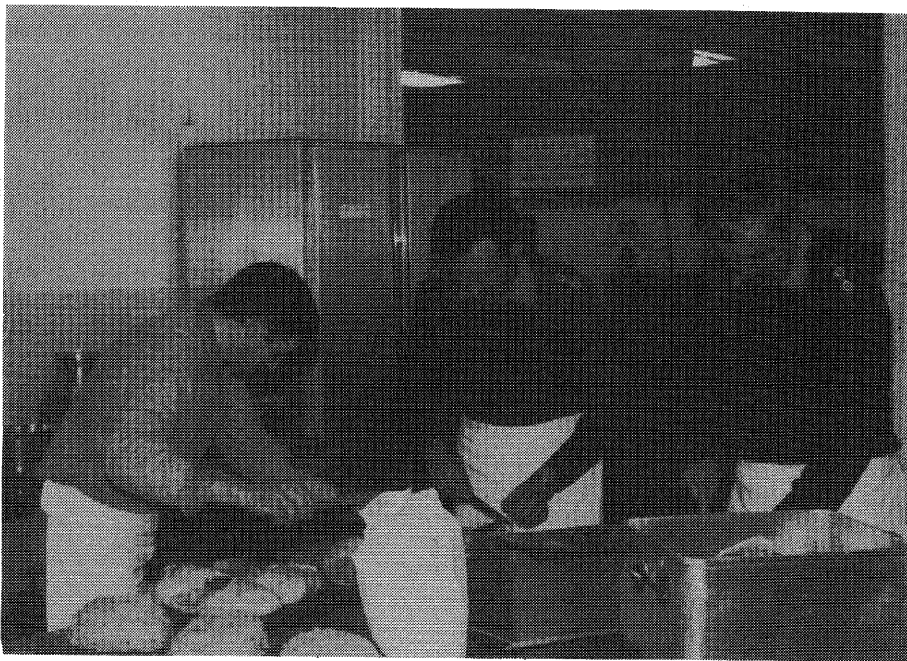
Paymaster
Captain G. J. S. Hutchison (RAPC)

Company Sergeant Major
WO2 R. I. Bellis

Company Quartermaster
C.Sgt. G. Carlisle

SQMS (ACC)
WO2 D. A. Rae

AQMS (REME)
WO2 C. R. Wren



The Master Chef, the MTO and the QM at work!



MPH Heli-port



*The Cambridge Diet indeed! —
Brig. Denison-Smith and
Capt. Hutchison*



Shoulder hips! — Echelon Guard Mount



Gdsm. Rowlands 05 and Sgt. Hurley of Taxi Pig fame



Argentina 2 England 1 — L.Sgt. Bukowski, Gdsm. Weekes and Phillips



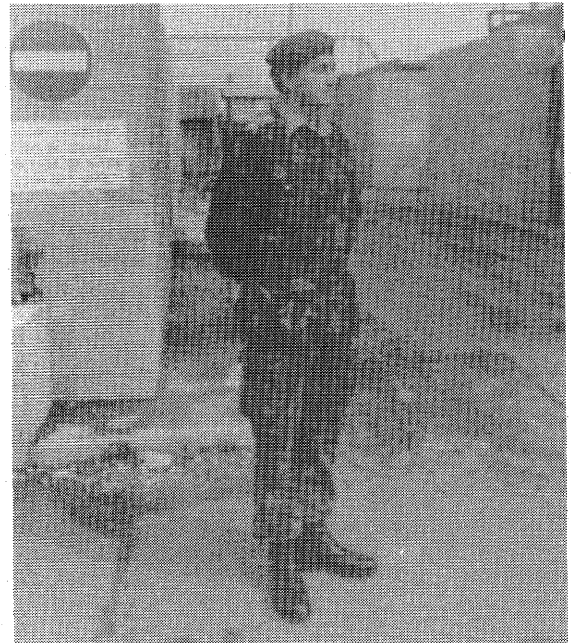
The writing is on the wall — A Taxi Pig in the Beechmount



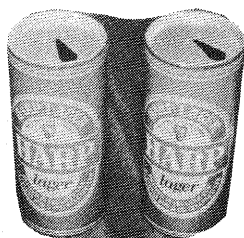
It's all go — L.Sgt. Evans 14



Where is the engine? — Gdsm. Edwards 85 and Drinkwater



The things I do for the Regiment — The QM



Daily Rations



TAC **Springfield Road**

Commanding Officer
Lieutenant Colonel C. F. Drewry

Second in Command
Major S. Fordham
Major M. Senior

Adjutant
Captain A. J. E. Malcolm

Operations Officer
Captain J. R. Scott-Bowden

Signals Officer
Captain A. W. Ballard

Intelligence Officer
Captain C. N. Black

Regimental Sergeant Major
WO1 M. Hughes

Assistant Intelligence Officer
WO2 R. Scott

Company Sergeant Major
WO2 B. Thorne

Operations Warrant Officer
WO2 R. T. Morgan 40

Signals Warrant Officer
WO2 J. A. Perry

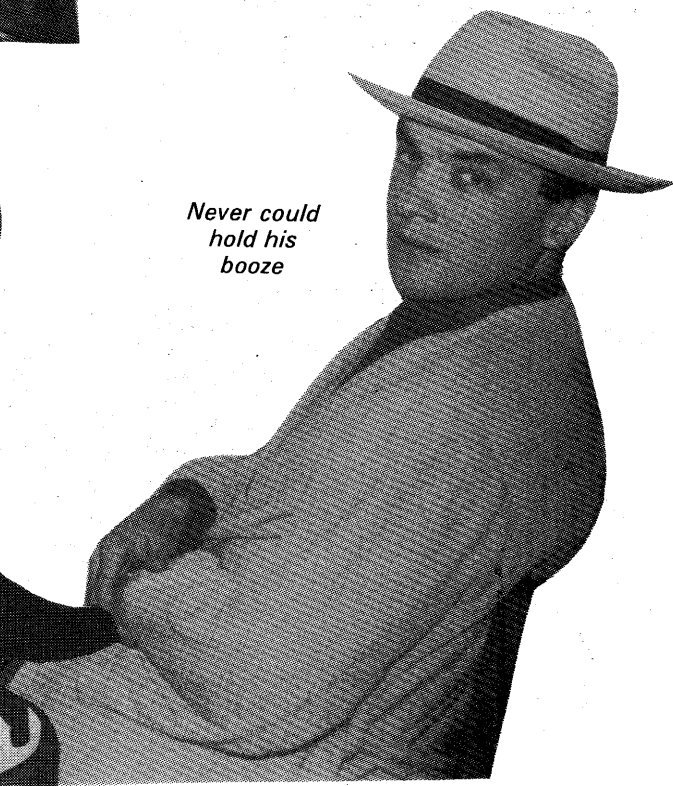
Orderly Room Colour Sergeant
C.Sgt. K. Stacey

Company Quartermaster Sergeant
C.Sgt. A. Downes

Orderly Room Clerk
Sgt. P. Atwell



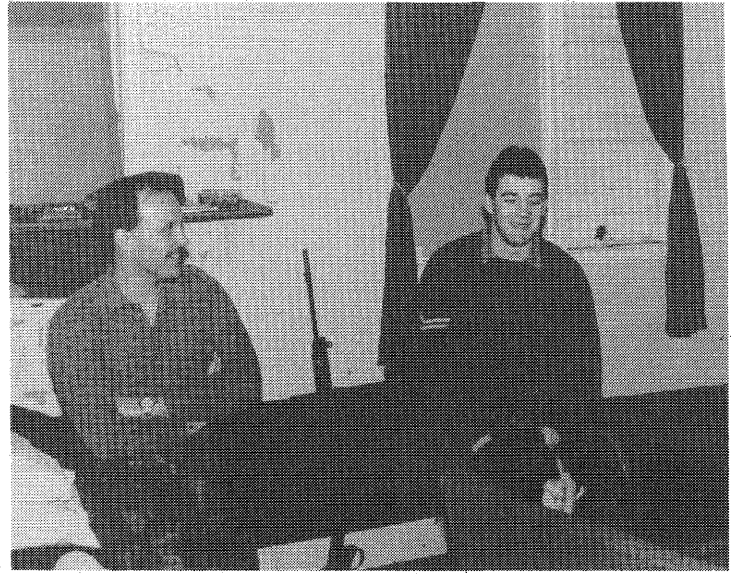
*The Great TAC
Drinking Contest*



*Never could
hold his
booze*



The Regimental Sergeant Major and the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel



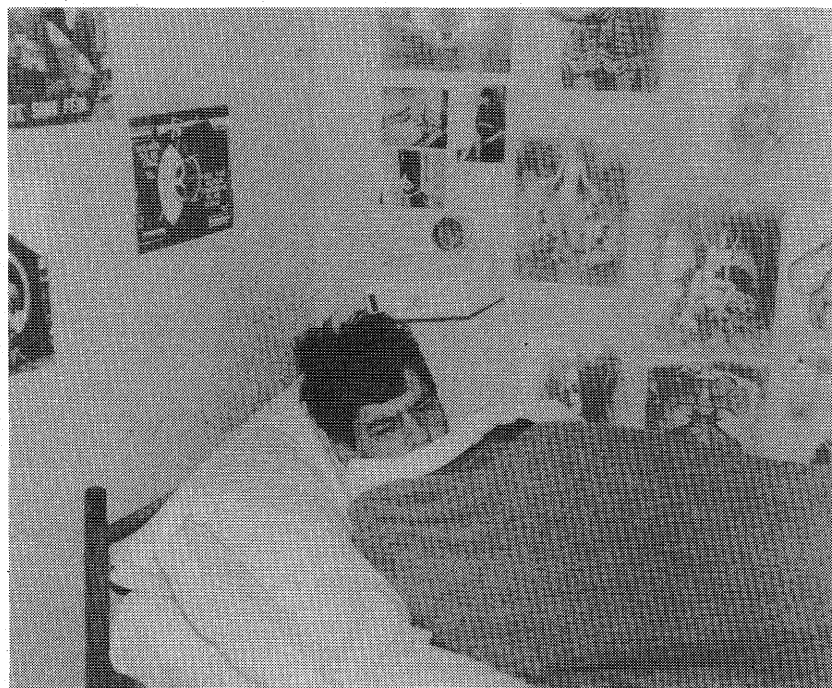
Gdsm. White and L.Cpl. Owen 23 — Rover Group



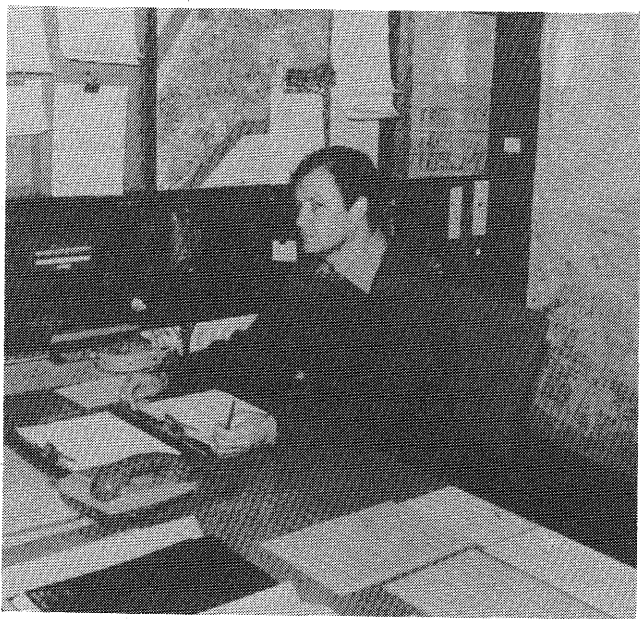
I'll do the cleaning — Sgt. Griffiths 75



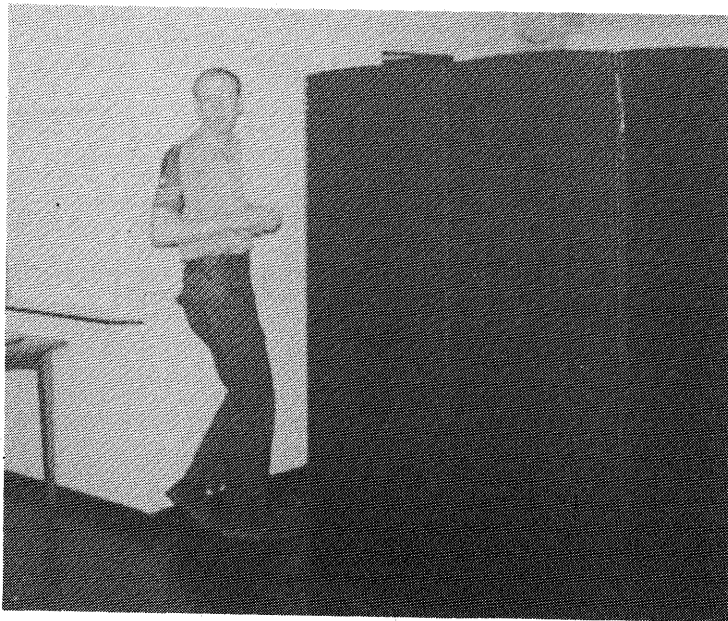
L.Sgt. Owens 99 — Sitting pretty



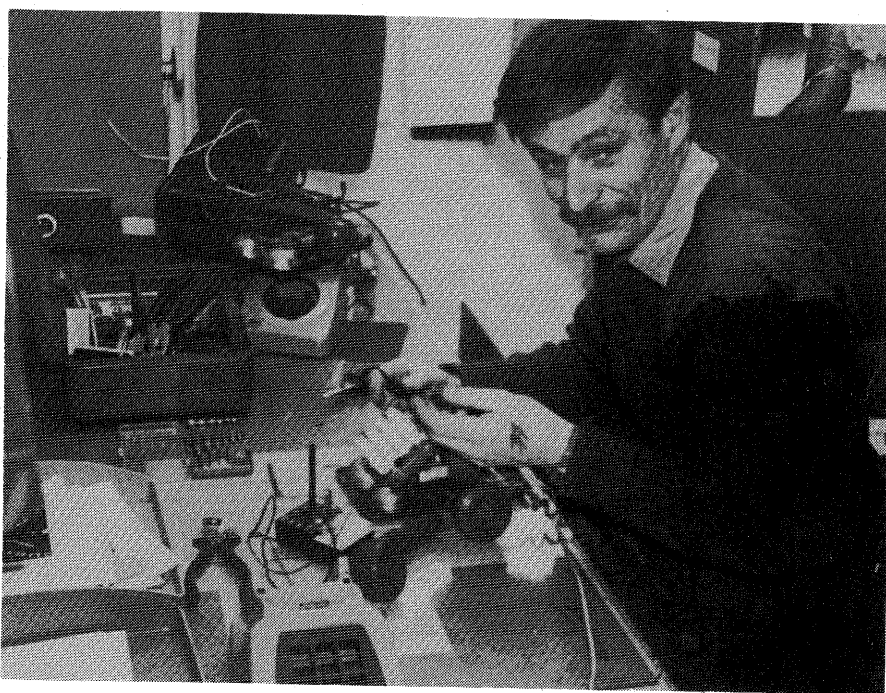
Not again — L.Cpl. Tutt



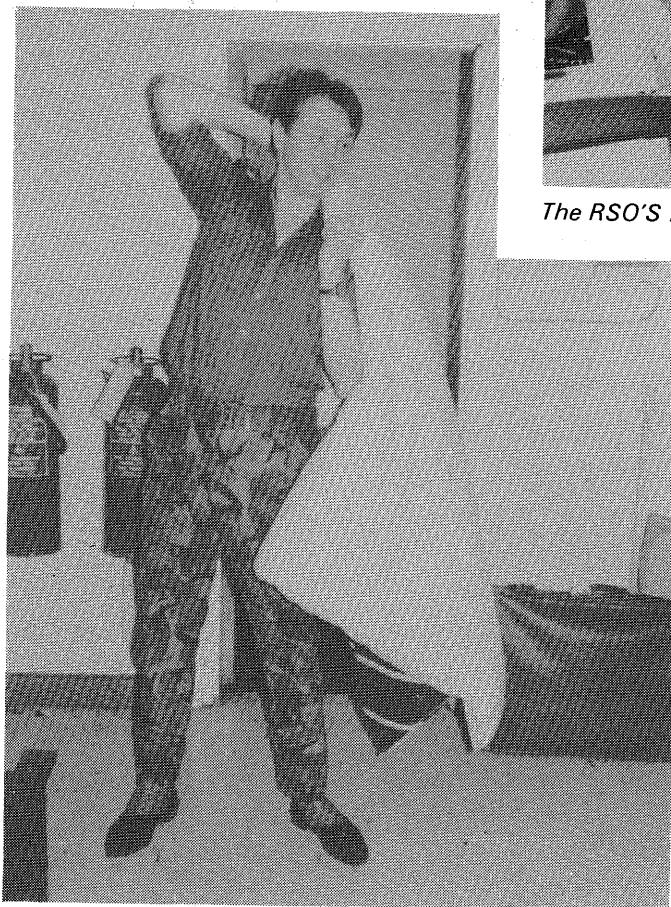
It's too early for photographs — CSM Thorne



Fading away — ORCS, C.Sgt. Stacey



The RSO'S Legacy — CSM Perry

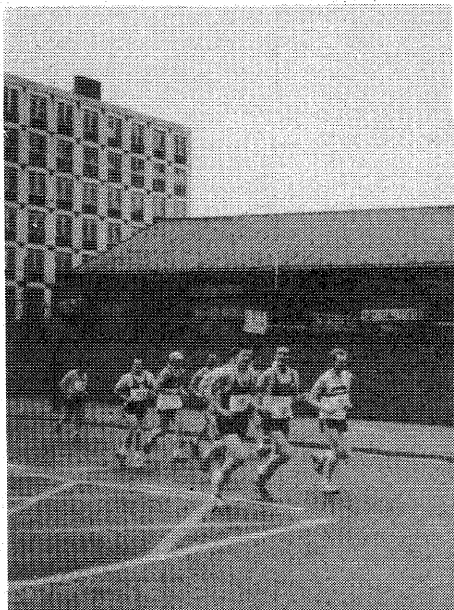
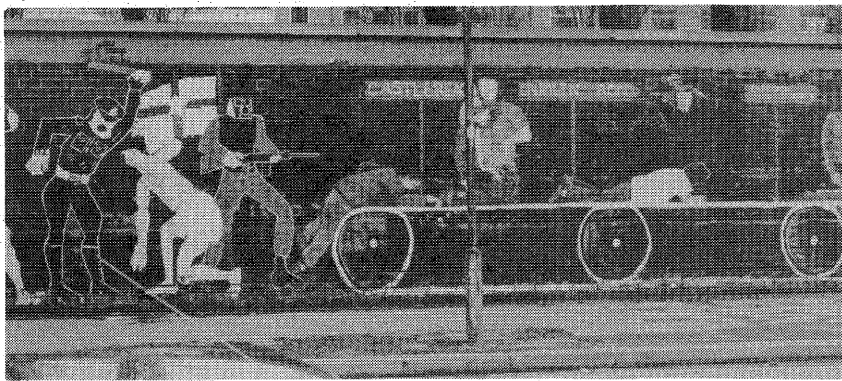
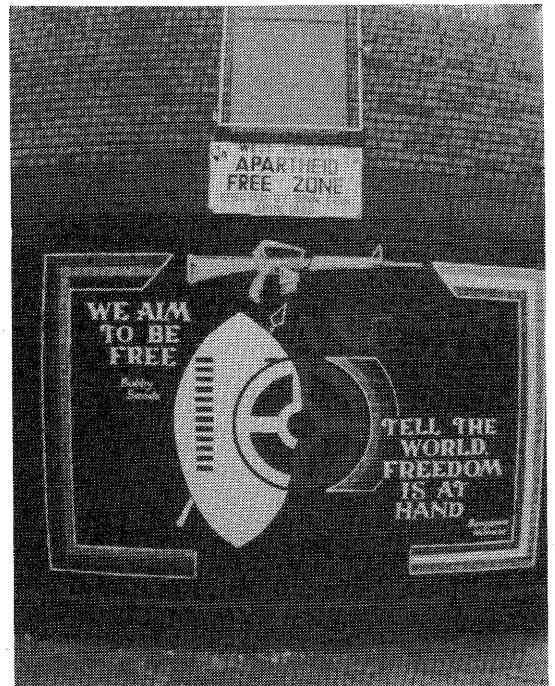
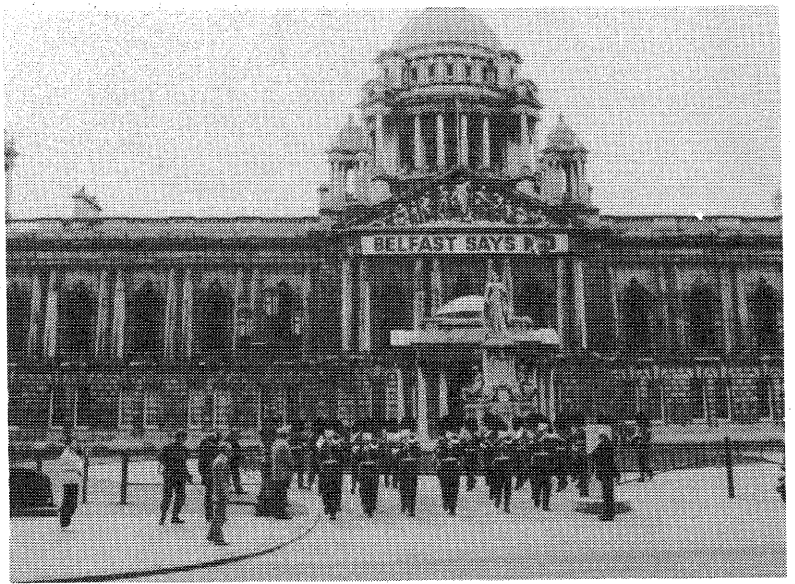
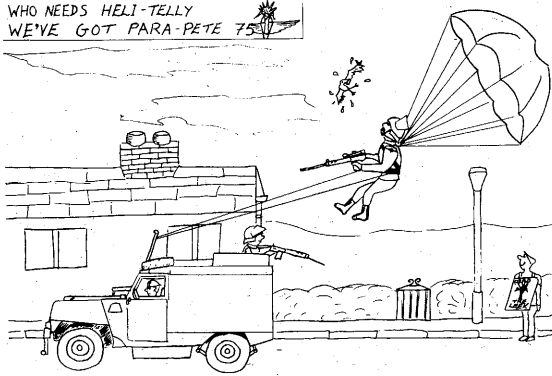


Mattress stuck — Capt. Ballard



So you want to join the Marines — Maj. Senior

WHO NEEDS HELI-TELLY
WE'VE GOT PARA-PETE 75

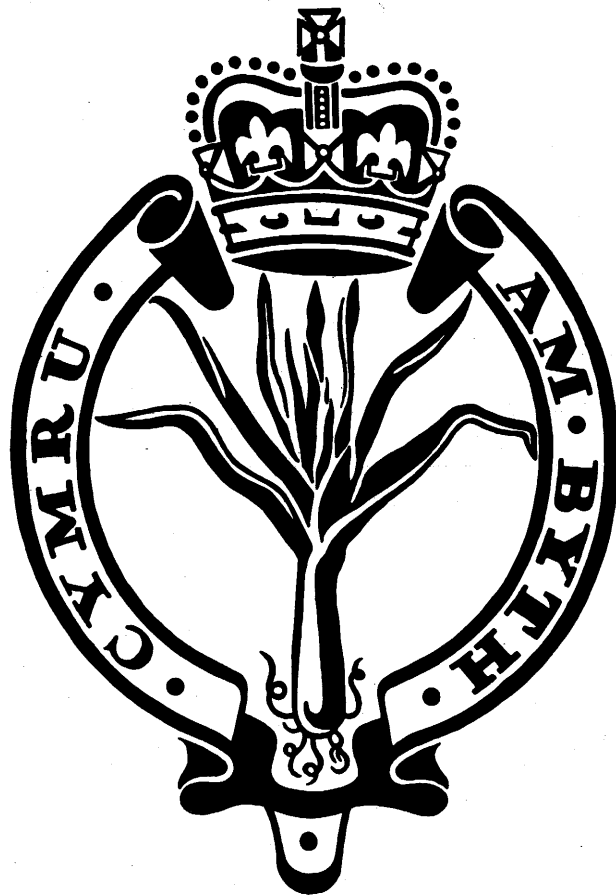


OP BANNER



West Belfast

March - July 1986



GOOD LUCK
45 Commando, Royal Marines

FOR ALL YOUR
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS
Land, Sea and Air
It must be . . .

**WARNERS
TRAVEL**

EBBW VALE
Telephone: 303 419

Gwent Gazette

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THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1986



THE
VOICE
OF
BLAENAU
GWENT

18p

**SPORT
AID
PICTURES**

Pages
5 & 6



TREDEGAR 10-MILE RACE

Pictures and report

Next week: Full list of
finishers and times

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ian MacGregor asked to visit

AN invitation has been sent to NCB chairman Ian MacGregor to visit the old Roseheyworth Colliery following controversy over proposals to build a hyper-market at the site.

Traders in Abertillery are worried that if the NCB sells the land to Gateway Foodmarkets many shops in the town centre may be forced to close.

Blaenau Gwent councillors and Michael Foot MP are both fighting the proposals to build a hyper-market so near the town and the borough council have now sent a letter to Mr. MacGregor asking him to come and visit the area.

Former mayor, Coun. Roy Edmonds said the council were now awaiting a reply from Mr. MacGregor.

Gateway Foodmarkets Ltd. was founded over 100 years ago and now has over 700 supermarkets throughout England and Wales.

They employ 36,000 staff and had an estimated turnover for the last financial year of around £2 billion.

In January Gateway acquired the 350-strong International Store chain and the company plans to open around 35 new stores this year.

Pick up pints and pamphlets

TOURISTS in Brynmawr can now enjoy a pint and pick up information about local beauty spots.

The country's first tourist information centre at a public house was opened at the Bridgend Inn, King Street, Brynmawr, by the Mayor, Coun. Brian Scully.

The centre is part of an 18 month pilot scheme by the Tourist Board and there are plans to open three further centres throughout the rest of the United Kingdom.

Mrs. Pat Court, of the Bridgend Inn, said "I think the centre fills a gap that's always been there."

The centre will provide tourists with information about local beauty spots and accommodation.

Juveniles reported after store theft

FOUR JUVENILES have been reported by the police for offences committed last year at Leo's Superstore, Ebbw Vale, when £2,600 in cheques and cash went missing.

Police are now putting charges involving alleged conspiracy. A report on the matter is now being sent by Ebbw Vale police to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

War memorial fund boosted

A FUND to erect a war memorial plaque at Nantyglo has received a boost of £3,500.

Blaenau Gwent borough councillors have agreed in principle to set the money aside for the memorial.

Mayor, Coun. Brian Scully, said: "The money will be provided to the community of Nantyglo and the memorial will commemorate all those who lost their lives in the wars".

VILLAGERS' FU

The front line in Northern Ireland



By MARION McMULLEN
and
CATHERINE WALTON

JEERS and shouts were hurled at councillors by angry villagers after a vote was taken to demolish the tiny village of Troedrhigwair.

The banner-waving crowd of 100 villagers and their supporters sat quietly in the public gallery while the fate of the village was discussed by Blaenau Gwent borough councillors, but they erupted into fury when a vote was passed to buy and demolish the remaining homes in Troedrhigwair.

The council meeting had to be adjourned for ten minutes while the public gallery was cleared following the uproar.

Cries of "Fascist" and "sheep" were hurled at the councillors and the villagers said they had been betrayed by the Labour council. Many vowed they would never vote Labour again and said they would carry on the fight to save their homes.

They waved banners and chanted in the council chamber. One of the banners showed the new mayor Coun. Brian Scully, welding an axe in one hand and a bag of money in the other over Troedrhigwair.

Brian Gardner, secretary of the resident's association, said: "It was a forgone conclusion. We knew what would happen. It shows they have no respect for us at all."

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He said: "The council has got to realise that all we want is to be left alone and we only ask the council to do something about the derelict properties in the valley."

The demonstrators left as the police arrived outside the civic centre but they later blocked the

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Villagers scorn

THE new Mayor of Blaenau Gwent much of the abuse hurled by councillors decided to pull down

Some of the residents of the village laughed when he told the full consideration has been given to anyone in the borough can say I power to help them." He added been maximised to reimburse the council.

Members of the Prince of Wales's Company in Belfast. Gdsm Les Pimm, Gdsm Kevin Weeks, Gdsm David Matthews, Gdsm Nigel Hughes and Gdsm Dan Edwards.

FROM the South Wales valleys to West Belfast — members of the Welsh Guards are now on four in Northern Ireland.

The Welsh Guards are patrolling some of the most troubled areas of Northern Ireland as part of a four-and-a-half month tour.

It is the Guardsmen's first operational tour since they took part in the Falklands War.

Members of the Battalion's three companies come from all parts of Wales, including Abertillery, Tredegar, Merthyr, Pontypridd, Aberdare and the Rhondda.

So far it has been a quiet tour with no serious injuries.

L. Cpl Gary Went, (24), of Powell Street, Abertillery, said: "You do not know who you are fighting over here, you never see who does the shooting."

Read next week's Gwent Gazette for a full report and pictures of the Welsh Guards in Belfast.

Len Hill remembered

TRIBUTES WERE paid last week to one of Abertillery's staunchest Labour supporters Mr Len Hill.

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