

# The British Army in the 1980s



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### **Dedication**

To the Gloucestershire Regiment: 'Neither King's nor Queen's nor Royal Marines, but 28th—Old Bragg's'.

**Erratum, p.22:** The reference to the absence of black soldiers from the Guards was rendered obsolete on 30 July 1987 at Pirbright Barracks when 17-year-old Richard Stokes, born in Wolverhampton of West Indian parents, marched in a passing-out parade marking his acceptance into the Grenadier Guards.

### **Artist's Note**

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# The British Army in the 1980s

## Defining a Military Elite

*'Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.'*  
Proverbs 16:18

Given the task of preparing a title for the Osprey *Elite* series, a prudent person might first try to obtain a clear definition of the term 'élite' in its military context. Basic dictionaries declare the word to mean 'the best', but this must surely be a difficult claim to make for a national army.

The description 'élite' is much used nowadays in connection with what are popularly termed 'Special Forces': the relatively small units of all nations with specialist rôles in war. Without exception these units recruit their manpower from volunteers who are subjected to rigorous selection procedures to ensure that only those of exceptional physical and mental resources are accepted for service. The claim to élite status for such organisations as the British Special Air Service, the United States Army's Rangers and Special Forces and the Soviet Union's *Spetsnaz* is beyond dispute.<sup>1</sup> But proof of which of the armies of the world is 'the best' might only emerge as the result of trial in battle. With a future war fraught with nuclear consequences this is a consideration not worth pursuing.

Recent history is of little help when attempting to compile military league tables. The world has seen the armies of two of its most powerful nations humbled of late in attempts to defeat partisan forces in Asia. Numerical superiority, sophisticated weaponry, massive logistical back-up and élite reputations gained in the last World War, have

availed the armies of the United States and the Soviet Union little in their attempts to suppress irregulars in Vietnam and Afghanistan.

Consequently, it may be argued that it is foolish to claim élite status for a national army; yet, observers of the military scene—from expert through to armchair strategist—continue to categorise armies and soldiers as good or not so good—élites or otherwise. Numerical strength, weapons, equipment, leadership and morale—the many factors are computed and considered in an attempt to pick winners for a contest that only a madman would hope to see run.

This study of the runners and riders in the Military Elites Handicap is further complicated for many by what might be described as the tradition or ceremonial factor. With the 21st century almost upon us and the advent of 'Star Wars' now more than just a science-fiction writer's dream, the battlefield of the future seems destined to be dominated by the side with the superior technology. It is therefore remarkable that there is still a body of opinion which considers martial music, meticulously-performed drill, glittering uniforms and even horses the outward signs of élite formations. The proponents of military pomp argue that it continues to foster *esprit de corps* in the same way that it has done for centuries, and that a unit capable of performing faultless ceremonial will fight well in battle. (In Britain, money, time and effort expended on military pageantry are often defended seriously on the grounds that it has its returns in increased tourism!) Those opposed to this point of view stress what they see as the bankruptcy of massed drill and ceremonial as a means of stimulating morale and leadership in an age when the soldier needs all the initiative he can muster.

However, as most nations of the world retain units for ceremonial, it would appear that we all love a parade. Perhaps few people watching a splendid military ceremonial are mean-spirited

<sup>1</sup>See Men-at-Arms 116, *The Special Air Service*; Elite 4, *The US Army Special Forces 1952-84*; Elite 5, *Soviet Bloc Elite Forces*; Elite 13, *US Army Rangers 1942-87*.



Officers' No. 2 Dress, worn by the Commanding Officer of the 1st Bn., The Duke of Wellington's Regt. on public duties in London in 1986. Note cap and collar badges of regimental pattern; red cap badge backing; and lanyard of 'blue No. 7'. The

cap is dark blue except for the scarlet welt round the crown seam and the gold edging to the black peak. (This and all other photographs published in this book are courtesy HQ UKLF)



enough to be reminded of the French Gen. Bosquet's words as he watched the Light Brigade's charge at Balaclava: '*C'est magnifique mais ce n'est pas la guerre*'. The magnificence of a superb parade will mark those taking part as élite troops in the eyes of most of the beholders; but the ceremony is arguably further removed from war today than it has ever been.

Some military bodies, impatient of the opinion of others, confer the status of élite upon themselves, usually as a corollary of what they see as some specialist rôle. This practice adds to confusion, as it blankets units which may be either very good or very bad. Once more, the true reputation may only be proved in battle.

The accolade 'élite', once bestowed or even self-adopted, must weigh uneasily on the soldiers so titled. Reputations have to be lived up to, and great things will be expected of them in wartime. But an unwarranted reputation as an élite breeds an overconfidence which can become a liability in

**1 Duke of Wellington's in a different rôle: with British Army of the Rhine for Exercise 'Bold Guard' in 1986, wearing No. 8 temperate climate combat dress and steel helmets, and carrying the GPMG, SLR and SMG.**

battle. The repulse of Napoleon's Imperial Guard at Waterloo not only shocked a unit used to enemies who ran from their reputation as invincibles, but so demoralised the rest of the French Army that they retired from the field. The superman had been seen to be just as mortal as everyone else.

With most nations of the world relying on some form of conscription to fill the ranks, those armies which recruit solely from volunteers are usually regarded as having a higher degree of competence (sometimes termed 'professionalism'). One volunteer is still seen to be worth ten pressed men in some quarters. The legend of the British Regular Army at Mons—the 'Old Contemptibles'—lives on, and is a strong argument for an all-professional force. A long-serving army is capable of progressing to much higher standards than one with a constant turnover

in short-term conscripts, as it can afford the lengthy training of personnel needed to man increasingly complex equipment. A 'Regular Army' doctrine can be advanced which assumes that a professional force will make better use of the sophisticated weaponry becoming available to obtain a clear tactical advantage over a larger, but less well-equipped and trained enemy. The theory is particularly attractive to those countries where the conscription of young voters is politically unpopular, but in which development, manufacture and marketing of military hardware generates wealth. Some military pundits therefore incline to view regular armies favourably, in comparison with those with a high conscript content.

It has become obvious, then, that many factors need to be taken into consideration when

**Home Service Force companies are being formed for the protection of vital points in time of crisis. Though a part-time organisation the HSF is far removed from the 'Dad's Army' image which some have tried to wish upon this force; many of the members have extensive recent Regular service and have held rank in combat units. Here Her Majesty the Queen reviews the HSF at Stirling Castle in 1986.**



attempting to define a military élite; and even though the exercise may only be conclusively carried out in an historical context, many commentators continue to place the armies of today into categories that range up to 'best'.

### **The British Army as an Elite**

The Army of Great Britain currently enjoys, both at home and abroad, the reputation of being (for its size) one of the best in the world. Composed entirely of volunteers, its morale sustained by its curious and little-understood attitudes towards tradition, the British Army attracts respect and admiration from the military expert and the layman alike. It has kept the peace in Ulster for nearly two decades with a restraint few other armies could muster; and in 1982 it managed to defeat an Argentine army in the Falklands, despite the severe difficulties imposed by the remoteness of the arena of war, and the unpreparedness brought about by poor political foresight.

Not even its staunchest champions would claim the British Army to be without fault. It operates under limitations on manpower, budget and equipment; it is at times stretched to fulfil its tasks world-wide; and it is accused—by a lobby existing within as well as outside the Army itself—of spending too much of its valuable time, effort and resources on out-dated practices.

Yet, because it is held in such high regard throughout the world, the British Army may be claimed to be an élite. Not perhaps the best (this claim—if it is to be made at all—must be made for a far larger army), but certainly among the best.

### **Britain and her Army**

Until recently the British public held its Army in low esteem. History, and the geographical situation of Great Britain and her former Empire, served to promote the Royal Navy as the service dear to the hearts of the British. There was, and still is, much justification for this sentiment; the security of the British Isles is guaranteed by control of the seas that surround them. This duty has always been admirably fulfilled by Britain's 'Senior Service' with, it must be added, a growing part played in the present century by the Royal Air Force.

The British soldier was, in the past, held in a different regard to that reserved for 'Jolly Jack Tar'.



Centuries ago the British nation accepted the principle of engaging mercenary soldiers as the best way to raise an army, hiring men—not always British—to do a job that few British citizens elected to do freely. This policy led to the establishment of a standing army in which the ranks were filled from the dregs of society, while places in the officer corps were purchased by those able to afford them; an army in which the rank and file were poorly paid, brutally disciplined, and socially shunned by civilians. Whatever the respect reserved for the red coat by the enemies of Britain, its wearer was despised in his homeland. The reaction of the soldier towards this treatment is not difficult to imagine. He loathed the civilian in return, and turned to his Regiment for a home, companionship and respect.

This situation prevailed for over two hundred years, until the World Wars of the present century forced conscription (latterly called National Service) on virtually all the able-bodied men of several

**Men of the UKLF Mobile Force exercise on Salisbury Plain, 1986; infantry from a battalion of the Parachute Regt. clamber aboard a Chieftain tank. Note the knit cuffs distinguishing the paratrooper's combat smock.**

generations, thereby promoting the public image of the British Army through a commonly-shared military experience, a sacrifice that touched most homes in the land, and the general satisfaction in the eventual victories. Even so, military service as the duty of all fit male citizens ended for the British a quarter of a century ago. Since then the nation has reverted to the hiring of volunteers to do a job from which most shrink.

The danger of the British Army slipping back into its former image has been averted by a combination of public relations activities, mounted by the Ministry of Defence; sustained recruiting propaganda which has implanted a picture of 'the professionals' in the public consciousness; and a sympathetic press coverage of the Army's activities in Northern Ireland and the Falklands. Together,



**'Bold Guard' once more: these infantrymen wear the latest pattern of 'ballistic' helmet and its camouflage cover.**

these have served to boost the Army in British popular opinion, as the sour memories of millions of former National Servicemen mellow with the passing of time.

As first-hand experience of military life has dwindled, so interest among those no longer compelled to serve seems to have risen. Some young civilians choose to dress in military cast-off clothing to enhance their 'toughness'. Re-enactment societies proliferate; militaria is collected avidly; military modelling is more popular than ever, while the demand for military books has never been so great. No longer is the British Army universally and as a matter of course lampooned on our television

screens; current documentaries and drama usually show the present-day soldier in a reasonably complimentary light.

Let no one imagine, however, that prejudice can be eradicated from the hearts and minds of the British overnight. The sentiment expressed, somewhat stickily but nevertheless truly, by Kipling in *Tommy Atkins* lingers about Britain's present-day Army. Nowhere is this more evident than in garrison towns, where the hostility of yesteryear bubbles to the surface whenever the behaviour of the current generation of Tommies proves that they, too, are not plaster saints. Fortunately, as most citizens of Great Britain rarely come into contact with their Army, its reputation can continue to be nurtured by sustained public relations efforts and a good press.



# The British Army Today

## 'The Professionals'—The British Regular Army

The term 'professional' has lost much of its former meaning of belonging to a profession (lawyer, doctor, etc) or of being paid to do something that others (amateurs) were prepared to do for no reward. The present usage seems to apply to anyone who does their job well, whatever it might be. In this context 'professional' might justifiably describe the British Army's record in recent years; but the appellation really lingers as a result of a recruiting campaign exhortation to 'join the Professionals', a slogan devised by the advertising industry and cribbed direct from Hollywood. Whatever its success as an aid to recruiting, it must be said that the title of 'Professionals' is a bad joke within the ranks of the British Army.

The terms used in the text of this book will include Regulars to describe soldiers in full-time service, and Reserves to indicate soldiers called from civil life to full-time service in time of emergency or war. Whether Regulars or Reserves, all men and women in today's British Army are volunteers.

Great Britain is totally committed to the concept of a Regular Army. Virtually all her European allies in the defence of the West believe that it is a citizen's duty to undertake military service, and operate schemes of conscription; but Britain will not follow this path, for both political and economic reasons. There are strong arguments put forward both in favour of and in opposition to conscription in Britain. Twice this century the country has found it necessary to draft men into military service to fight major wars. Conscription under the National Service Acts was kept in being from 1939 to 1960 to provide the military manpower needed to fight the Second World War and the campaigns of the so-called Cold War which followed it. In that time millions of men were called to the colours, served their country, and then passed back into civilian life

as a potential reserve in cases of emergency. Since the ending of National Service the defence of Great Britain has been entrusted to a Regular Army said by some to be too small to do anything other than put up a token resistance to an invader, whilst the Reserves have dwindled to low levels when compared with those of yesteryear.

Those in favour of a Regular Army argue that a well-led, highly-trained force equipped with the very best military hardware can defeat a numerically superior enemy. Woven into all the argument is the spectre of nuclear war, which would seem to make a future major war unthinkable.

Whatever the arguments, the British military 'establishment' was on the side of the anti-conscription lobby prior to 1960 and has remained firmly so ever since. The post-1945 National Service experience was not a happy one for those charged



Prizegiving at a 1986 passing-out parade at the Royal Armoured Corps Junior Leaders Regt., Bovington. Both the junior RSM and the General Officer wear No. 1 Dress, the former with cavalry shoulder chains.

with the responsibility of making it work; and there was, in the late 1950s, a longing amongst the Regulars for a return to what were remembered as the palmy days of the 1920s and 1930s. The reality of an all-Regular Army in the early 1960s proved something of a shock. Strengths dropped due to poor recruiting; commitments increased as a consequence; and the tempo of life speeded up as the Army attempted to cope. Yet another shock for Regular officers and NCOs accustomed to the human quality of National Servicemen was the comparatively low grade of the recruits which the new Regular Army attracted. These problems were faced up to and, eventually, overcome.

In the 25 years since Great Britain returned to entrusting its defence to a Regular Army, the Army itself has settled down to tackle not only the tasks foreseen for it, and for which its strength and

equipment are planned, but a number of unforeseen emergencies for which it was neither trained, equipped, or had adequate manpower. Its successes in these 'fast-ball' situations reflect great credit on the leadership and human qualities of the British Regular Army of today.

### **The Reserves**

Backing Britain's Regular Army is its Territorial Army. Following a long-established tradition, the Territorials are civilian volunteers who elect to give up part of their spare time to military training, taking up full-time service in the event of a national emergency or war. In the two World Wars the Territorials served Great Britain with distinction, producing hard-fighting formations in both conflicts; and yet the public-spirited citizens who have continued to fill the ranks of the Territorial Army have long had to endure the low regard of the Regulars, while putting up with being subjected to a succession of reforms, reorganisations, disband-

**GPMG No. 1 of 1 DWR crossing a road at the double under the watchful eyes of exercise umpires.**



ments, retitling and re-raising which would have caused lesser men to give up and go home long ago.

The worst of these periodic 'reforms' came twenty years ago when the whole Territorial Army structure (mustering several divisions) was abolished and replaced with a handful of battalion-size units. At the same time the Ministry of Defence tried to wish the title of Army Volunteer Reserve on the units that remained. This was fiercely resisted, and the rather meaningless name of Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve was adopted, to be lately replaced by the old title of Territorial Army once more. In recent years the strengths of the Territorials have risen to their present healthy levels and further expansion is planned. It is to be hoped that the 1966 upheaval will not be repeated, in the name of either efficiency, economy or political expediency. Today, many units of the Territorial Army have the function of reinforcing 1 British Corps in Germany in time of emergency.

Individual reinforcement for the Regular Army in time of emergency or war will come from the pool of men who move into the Regular Army Reserve on the completion of full-time service. Recalled to the Colours, their efficiency will have decreased in proportion with the length of time they have been out of touch with military life. They will also have to cope with any changes in weapons, equipment and tactics that have taken place since their discharge.

### **Tradition, and the British Regimental System**

No work on the British Army, no matter how brief, could ignore the importance attached to tradition by its fighting Regiments.

It is impossible to serve, even for a short time, in a British Regiment without becoming imbued with its customs and its traditions, and without eventually—on assuming senior rank—taking responsibility for their continuity. During service custom and tradition are never questioned, their importance to a fighting unit seeming self-evident. Pride in Regiment is fostered, built around the Regiment's history—usually a history beyond living memory, and shrouded in mystique. Great satisfaction is derived from ancient victories, with 'battle honours' recalled with a pride that never diminishes; and even disasters may come to take on the aspect of glorious events. Careful selectivity

ensures that the inglorious is conveniently forgotten. Surrenders are played down; no one is remembered as having run away; incidents such as the loss of Colours only happened to other Regiments. The effect is to promote the honour of the Regiment above everything else in the minds of the men who serve it. Country and Army become comparatively less important as the natural insularity of the British race works together with the traditional insularity bred into the British Army by centuries of low national esteem.

The battles of recent wars are rarely celebrated: presumably because the survivors of these events are too visibly human to be seen as the stuff of legend. (They also usually have a fund of stories to point out to younger soldiers the frailty of humankind under fire!)

This distilled essence of history is entitled 'tradition', with visible symbols in the form of Colours, badges, ribbons, feathers and flashes to remind the present custodians of their sacred responsibility never to let the 'family' down. Backed up with comradeship and first-rate leadership, regimental pride is a potent factor in the fostering of fighting spirit.

It would be no exaggeration to say that the traditions of the Regiments of the British Army have now taken on an almost semi-religious form, so that any suggestion that they may have outlived their usefulness will certainly be seen as heresy. Yet experience in both World Wars has shown that British soldiers have been quite capable of doing their job in battle without the hypnotic support of this cult. From the Machine Gun Corps and Tank Corps of 1914-18 to the Parachute Regiment and Army Commandos of 1939-45, exceptional fighting prowess has been exhibited by units with no traditions to draw upon whatsoever, comradeship, good leaders and a highly-developed sense of purpose being—presumably—enough.

One of the main criticisms levelled against tradition is that it bolsters the 'Regimental' system, which is in itself a block to the necessary periodic restructuring and reform of the Infantry Arm and the Armoured Corps. Infantry and Armoured 'Regiments' remain the battalion-size units they have been since the 17th century, having by now reached a stage where only about half the unit strength could be described as fighting troops. The

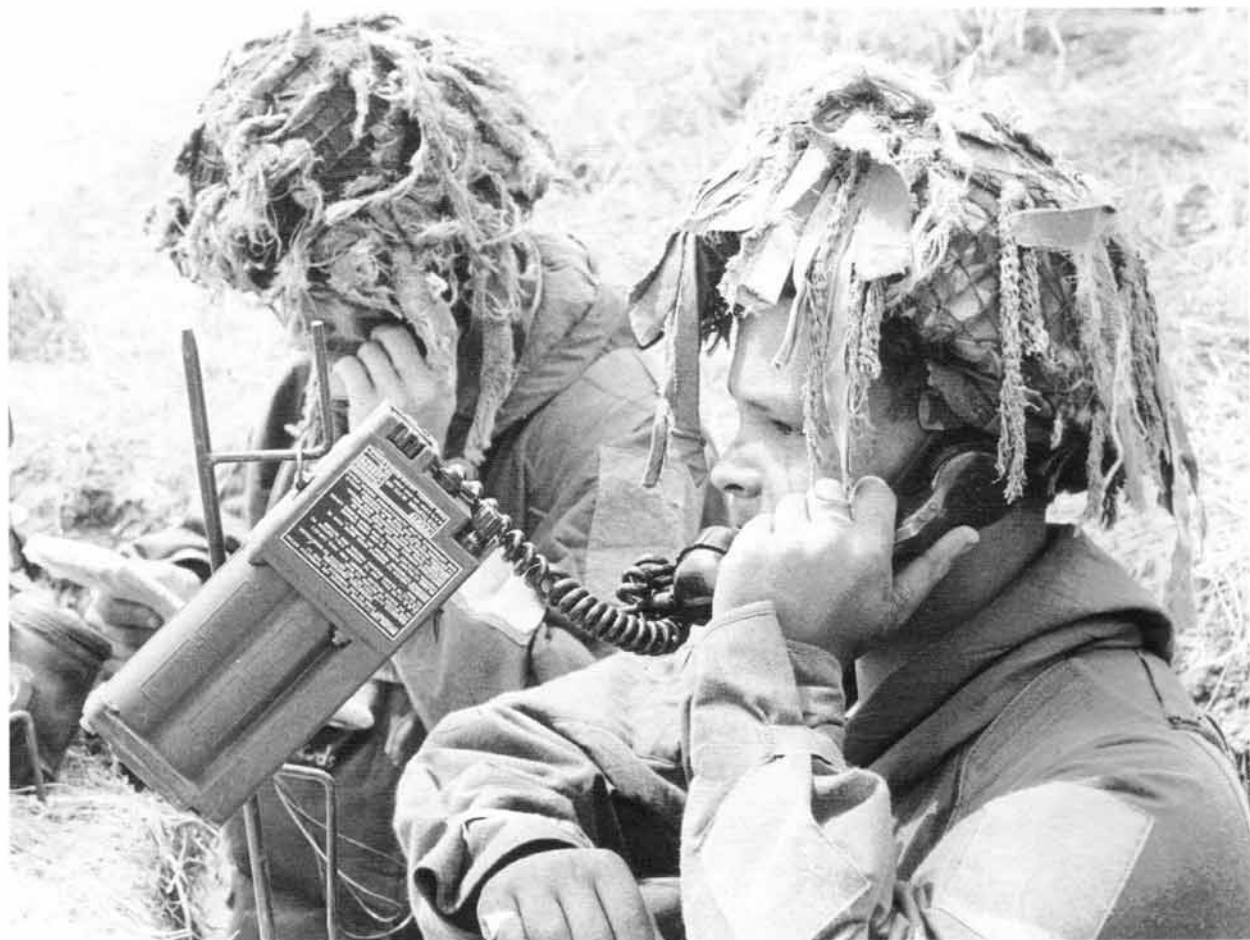
remainder include a large number of 'administrators' who could be reduced in numbers if the true Regimental system (i.e. the three-battalion equivalent of a British 'brigade') practised in the armies of the rest of the world was adopted. The advantages of such a system in improved command, training, administration, flexibility, better use of limited manpower and uniformity of standards would seem self-evident; and yet the peculiarly British 'Regimental' system has remained in much the same form for over 300 years, in the interest of maintaining identity, customs and traditions. Let no one underestimate its power to survive. The recent history of the infantry may serve to illustrate resistance to change.

Since 1945 steady reduction and restructuring has characterised the British infantry. The disbandment of 2nd Battalions in the aftermath of the war; the introduction of the 'Brigade Group' system in the late 1940s; the amalgamations begun in the late 1950s; the disbanding of Regiments preferring

extinction to amalgamation; the introduction of the 'Large Regiment', and the 'Divisional' grouping of more recent years—all these were seen as the beginning of a move towards a 'Corps of Infantry', felt to be essential by the planners. The establishment of a Corps of Infantry would almost certainly have required the abolition of the Regimental system as it stood; but moves in this direction were resisted with incredible fervour from within the Army, with considerable public support and lobbying at all levels. Outcry and indignation followed the announcement of each amalgamation or disbandment, until a stalemate was reached and the planners accepted the inevitable.

Forty years on, the British Army has no Corps of Infantry, nor does it have many Regiments surviving with their original identities (11 out of 65

**Infantrymen of 1 DWR and 1 R. Hamps., UKLF Mobile force, train on Salisbury Plain, all wearing NBC protective clothing and the old-pattern steel helmet. Note the latest field telephone, binoculars, and 84mm 'Carl Gustav' anti-tank weapon.**



listed in 1945). The advocates of reform have wilted in the face of the power of British Regimental tradition, which survives bloodied but unbowed to trace its history, somewhat tenuously, back to the 17th century.

Perhaps it must be concluded that reverence for tradition is an ineradicably British trait. Many anachronistic institutions exist in British public life outside the sphere of the Army. A fondness for looking back to days of greatness, coupled with a reluctance to change anything that is seen to work, leads to a resistance to try anything new until change becomes inevitable. In this respect the British Army mirrors the society it serves.

### **The British Army of the Future**

Nuclear stalemate has provided Europe with one of the longest periods of peace in history. Despite the protests of the abolitionists, nuclear arsenals—in one form or another—are likely to be retained into the foreseeable future, and will continue to guarantee the uneasy peace that has existed since



1945. Britain appears to be firmly wedded to the policy of nuclear deterrence which enables her to maintain conventional forces at their present low levels.

The certainty that any future war in Europe would rapidly lead to a nuclear Armageddon seems to exclude the need for a British Army of the strength levels of the World Wars. No reinforcement will be possible in the brief time available between the first clashes of conventional forces and the commencement of the first nuclear exchanges. Indeed, by its very paucity of conventional forces, Britain is indicating her resolve to resist aggression with nuclear weapons at an early stage.

It therefore seems likely that the British Regular Army may suffer further reductions in the future as its few remaining garrisons overseas become redundant, with compensation—if any—being made by raising additional units within the Territorial Army. It is fairly safe to predict that the British Army of the 21st century will resemble what it will then have been for four centuries: small by comparison with other national armies; a body separate from the society it serves, sustained by what it cherishes as a glorious past.

## Anatomy of an Army

The purpose of this chapter is to set out the organisation and the rôles of the British Army as declared in the statement on the Defence Estimates, 1986, and other current material.

### Strengths

With a population of nearly 56 million, Great Britain maintains a Regular Army of just under 160,000—including nearly 6,000 women and almost 10,000 personnel enlisted overseas (most of the latter being Gurkhas). Reserves total nearly 230,000, of which over 70,000 (rising to 86,000 by 1990) are in the Territorial Army, and the remainder in the Regular Army Reserve. There are 11 battalions in the Ulster Defence Regiment, and 47 companies of the Home Service Force in the process of formation.

### Breakdown and Rôle

Control of Britain's armed forces is exercised by a

Ministry of Defence headed by the Secretary of State for Defence. The professional head of the British Army is the Chief of the General Staff, who heads an Army Council. Below this level the Army divides into three groupings:

- (1) *United Kingdom Land Forces*. (UKLF. Providing a training base and reserves for the reinforcement of BAOR or other overseas locations in time of war.)
- (2) *The British Army of the Rhine*. (BAOR. Part of the NATO forces in Western Europe.)
- (3) *Overseas Garrisons*. (Hong Kong; Gibraltar; Belize; the Falklands; Cyprus; Brunei; Berlin.)

### UKLF

The headquarters of the United Kingdom Land Forces (HQ UKLF) is located near Salisbury, Wiltshire, and controls the Military Districts into which the UK is divided. These are: London; South East; South West; Wales; Western; North Western; North Eastern; Scotland; Northern Ireland.

In addition to these, HQ UKLF commands a number of operational formations, either directly, or through one of its Districts. These include:

*2nd Infantry Division*. (A formation with its HQ at York, comprising the regular 24th Infantry Brigade and the Territorial 15th and 49th Infantry Brigades. The rôle of 2nd Infantry Division in war is the reinforcement of the 1st British Corps in BAOR.)

*19th Infantry Brigade*. (A regular formation committed to the reinforcement of BAOR.)

*1st Infantry Brigade*. (A regular formation committed to the defence of NATO's flanks in time of war.)

*2nd Infantry Brigade*. (A regular home defence formation.)

*5th Airborne Brigade*. (A regular 'rapid deployment' formation.)

*8th and 39th Infantry Brigades*. (Formations committed to the keeping of the peace in Northern Ireland. 17,000 men are stationed in Ulster including six 'resident' Infantry Battalions, two Infantry Battalions on 'short tours', one SAS Squadron, two Engineer Squadrons, two Army Aviation Squadrons, and the 11 Battalions of the part-time Ulster Defence Regiment.)

*42nd, 54th, 51st Highland and 52nd Lowland Infantry*

(continued on P.18)

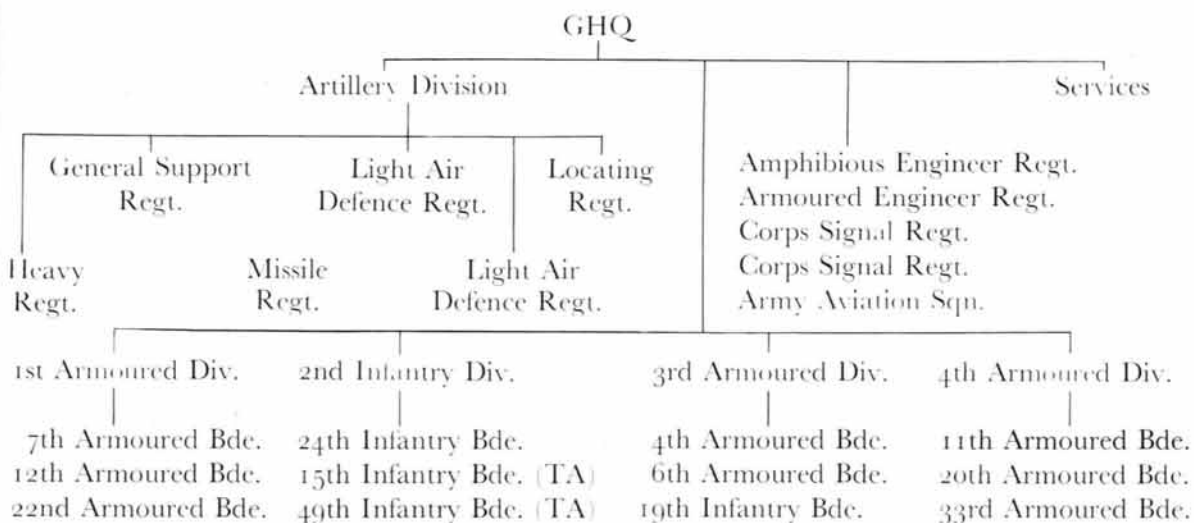


Warrant Officer Class I of the WRAC Provost—the first woman to hold this appointment. Her forage cap has the red crown of the RMP, but the badge of the WRAC: the metal badge pinned to the pullover is that of the RMP, and her warrant badge is sewn to the right forearm.

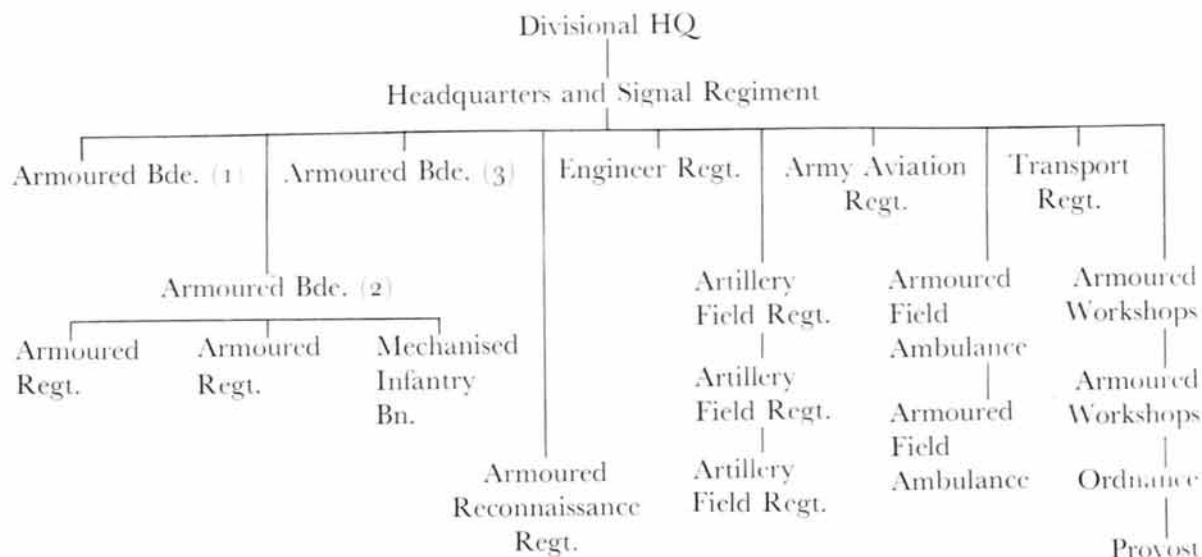


A soldier of the Parachute Regt., displaying, perhaps, a less immediately attractive personality than that suggested by the previous picture . . . though one no less suited to his rôle.

### 1st British Corps



## The Armoured Division

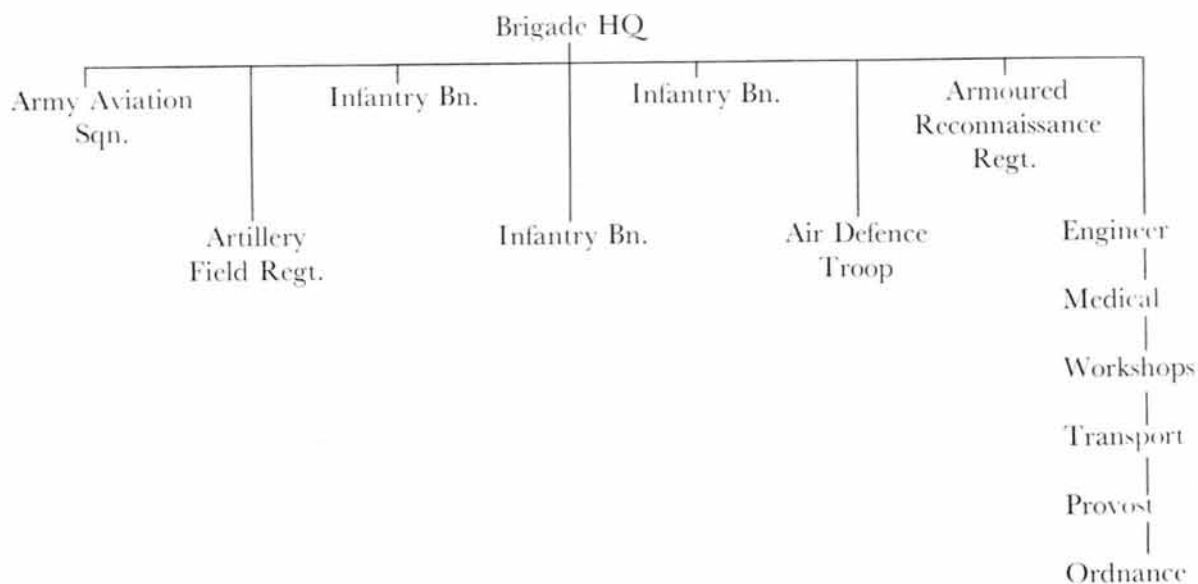


NB: In the above example Armoured Bdes. (1) and (3) would comprise *one* Armoured Regt. and *two* Mechanised Infantry Bns.

(Shown as for administrative purposes. There are organisational variances from Division to Division which—in battle—are organised into flexible 'Battlegroups')

## The Infantry Brigade

(BAOR reinforcement)



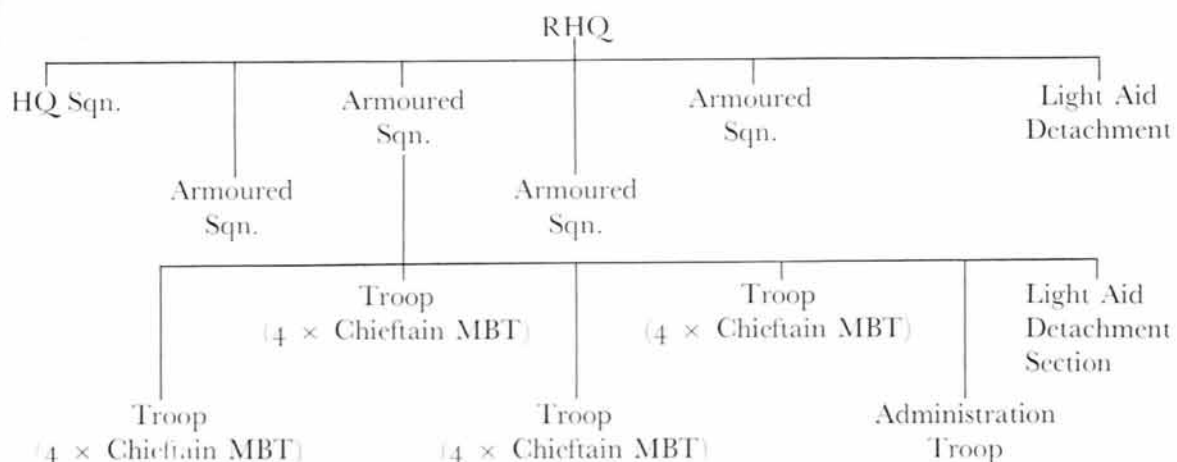




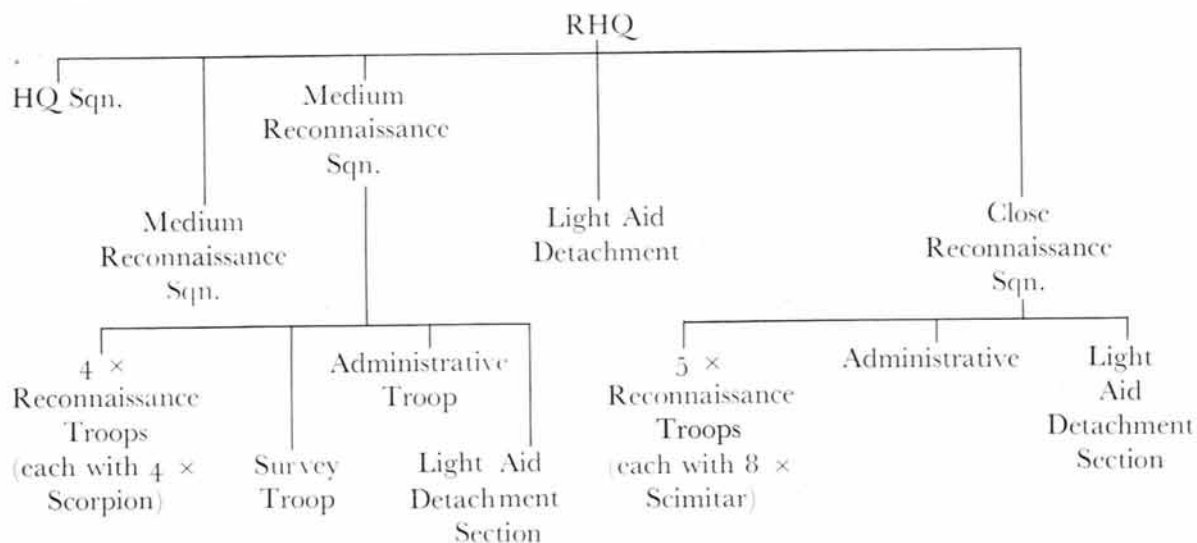
Tradition: the 'goat-major' and the regimental mascot of the 3rd Bn., Royal Regiment of Wales (TA). This is a fine example of the type of full dress which is still worn by personnel with

ceremonial duties, loosely based upon the last universal full dress worn in 1914 and dressed up with various 'wings', dress cords, etc.

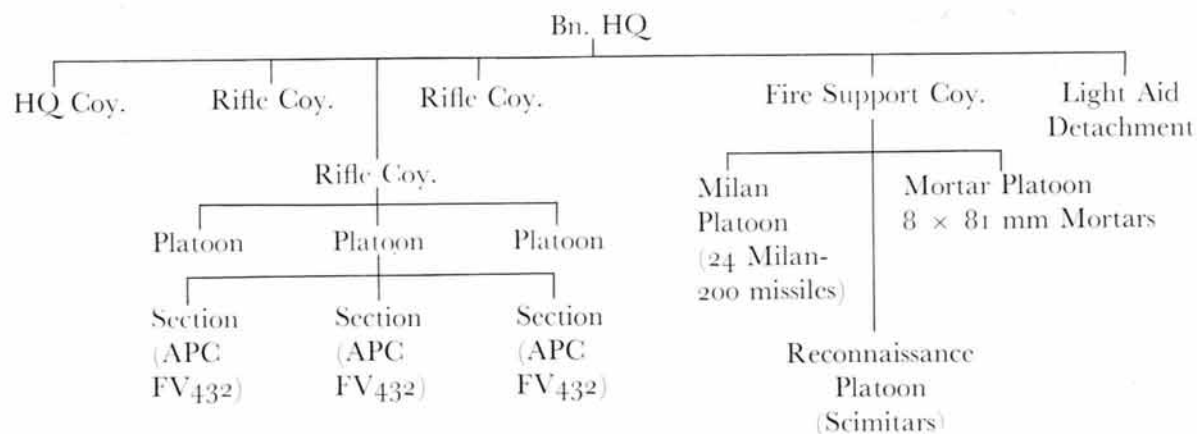
### The Armoured Regiment Type A (BAOR)



### The Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment Type A (BAOR)



### The Mechanised Infantry Battalion (BAOR)



NB: The UKLF Infantry Battalion Type A is organised on very similar lines to the above, but with Saxon APCs taking the place of the FV432, and the Fox light reconnaissance vehicle replacing the Scimitar. In short, the battalion is on wheels instead of tracks.

*Brigades.* (Territorial formations mostly earmarked for home defence.)

#### BAOR

The 1st British Corps is the main fighting component of BAOR. It forms part of the Northern Army Group of Allied Forces, Central Europe, the

centre of the NATO 'line'. A lieutenant-general's command, 1st British Corps comprises an Artillery Division, the 1st, 3rd and 4th Armoured Divisions and, in time of war, the 2nd Infantry Division from the UKLF.

With a peacetime strength given as between 50,000 and 55,000, troop levels in BAOR will be

boosted to 150,000 on mobilisation, at which time 1st British Corps will come under command of Northern Army Group.

### Overseas Garrisons

At present the British Army has the following units deployed overseas, in either 'peace-keeping' or garrison rôles:

*Belize:* 1,400 men, comprising one Infantry Battalion, one Armoured Reconnaissance Troop, one Artillery Battery, one Air Defence Troop, one Engineer Squadron and one Helicopter Flight.

*Brunei:* One Gurkha Infantry Battalion.

*Cyprus:* 3,500 men, comprising one reinforced Infantry Battalion, one Armoured Reconnaissance Squadron, one Engineer Support Squadron, one Helicopter Flight; and with the United Nations Forces in Cyprus, two Infantry Companies, one Armoured Reconnaissance Squadron, one Helicopter Flight and Logistic Support.

*Falklands:* 4,000 men, comprising one Brigade HQ, one Infantry Battalion, one Armoured Reconnaissance Squadron, one Artillery Regiment, one

**Tradition: the Queen's Royal Dragoon Guards full dress as worn by a Staff Sergeant, 1985.**



Engineer Regiment, and one Army Air Corps Squadron.

*Gibraltar:* 800 men, comprising one Infantry Battalion, one Engineer team, one Artillery Surveillance Troop, and one Air Defence Troop.

*Hong Kong:* 6,650 men, comprising the Gurkha Field Force: one Infantry Battalion, four Gurkha Infantry Battalions, one Helicopter Squadron, one Gurkha Engineer Regiment, one Gurkha Signal Regiment, and one Gurkha Transport Regiment.

*Berlin:* 3,000 men, comprising three Infantry Battalions, one Armoured Squadron, and Logistic Support.

*Military Advisers:* Over 600 men in 26 countries including Bahrain, Brunei, Ghana, Kuwait, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Swaziland, the United Arab Emirates, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

## The Corps and Regiments of the British Army

Details of the British 'Regimental' system have already been touched upon. Sometimes considered anachronistic, it has the effect of making it difficult for an outsider to understand the true rôle of some British units. In reality the British Army is as clearly divided into fighting arms and services as any other army; the quaint titles borne by most British units sometimes obscure this. A description of the present-day rôle of each Regiment and Corps is clearly set out in the following chapter, which—in true British fashion—generally follows the traditional 'order of precedence'.

### The Household Cavalry

Traditionally the cavalry element of the troops of the Royal Household, the Household Cavalry today comprises two regiments (as previously mentioned—battalion-size units) in an Armoured Corps rôle—*The Life Guards* and *The Blues and Royals* (*Royal Horse Guards* and *1st Dragoons*)—and *The Mounted Regiment*: a ceremonial unit with personnel drawn from both the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals for horsed 'public duties' in connection with



**Tradition: pipers and bandmen of the Irish regiments at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, 1986. (Left to right): Irish Guards, Ulster Defence Regt., Royal Irish Rangers, Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, Royal Irish Rangers, Irish Guards.**

the Sovereign. The Mounted Regiment are the epitomy of martial splendour, a great tourist attraction with their mounted sentries in Whitehall, and show-stealers on state occasions.

### **The Royal Armoured Corps**

The title of what might be otherwise described as the 'tank arm' of the British Army. All the following units are battalion-sized, and are employed in some form of armoured rôle:

- The 1st, The Queen's Royal Dragoon Guards*
- The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys)*
- The 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards*
- The 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards*

- The Queen's Own Hussars*
- The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars*
- The 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's)*
- The 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own)*
- The 14th/20th King's Hussars*
- The 15th/19th, The King's Royal Hussars*
- The 16th/5th, The Queen's Royal Lancers*
- The 17th/21st Lancers*
- The 1st Royal Tank Regiment*
- The 2nd Royal Tank Regiment*
- The 3rd Royal Tank Regiment*
- The 4th Royal Tank Regiment*
- The Royal Yeomanry (TA)*
- The Wessex Yeomanry (TA)*
- The Queen's Own Yeomanry (TA)*
- The Queen's Own Mercian Yeomanry (TA)*
- The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry (TA)*

All the foregoing are Regular units with the exception of those with Yeomanry titles, which are part of the Territorial Army (TA).

Most of the units of the Royal Armoured Corps are deployed with the 1st British Corps in BAOR. Although it is almost 50 years since the Regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps handed in the last of their horses, 'cavalry' traditions are still as strong as their present-day titles suggest. These do not detract from the skill with which the Royal Armoured Corps handles some of the most complex battlefield equipment in the Army.

### **The Royal Regiment of Artillery**

Although bearing the ancient title 'Royal Regiment', etc, this is the Artillery Corps of the British Army. Units are numbered throughout the Royal Artillery, an organisation which has managed to cope with expansions and reductions with remarkably little fuss. Respected throughout the Army for its adherence to the highest all-round standards, the Royal Artillery's claim to élite status would not be disputed by anyone who has seen the 'gunners' in action. The Royal Regiment of Artillery includes the *Royal Horse Artillery* (a troop of which still maintains horses for ceremonial oc-

casions), the *Royal Artillery* and the *Honourable Artillery Company (TA)*.

### **The Corps of Royal Engineers**

The Corps which carries out the engineering tasks of the British Army, from combat engineering through the full range of military engineering requirements. Like the Royal Artillery, the 'sappers' have an enviable reputation for maintaining the highest professional standards.

### **The Royal Corps of Signals**

Established after the First World War, the Royal Signals has responsibility for communications above unit level, a duty that has become increasingly complex as communications systems proliferate and with the advent of electronic warfare.

### **The Infantry**

All the following 'Regiments' are in reality single

**The SA.80 5.56mm Individual Weapon, photographed at the moment of firing a blank round—note ejected case at top right.**



battalions. Attempts to reform the British infantry have already been described. The last of these grouped most infantry Regiments into six 'Divisions'. *These have no connection with the fighting formations that bear that designation*, but have been formed for the purposes of centralised recruiting, initial training, reinforcement, career structuring and administration. An officer or soldier joining a Regiment within, e.g., the Prince of Wales's Division may expect to be posted to any of its Regiments according to manning needs, although efforts are made, for example, to maintain Welshmen in Welsh Regiments and Hampshiremen in their own county Regiment. The maintenance of 'tribalism' is necessary if the identity of Regiments is to be preserved.

#### *The Guards Division:*

The Infantry element of the Royal Household troops. The Guards Division consists of eight battalions:

*The 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards*

*The 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards*

*The 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards*

*The 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards*

*The 1st Battalion, Scots Guards*

*The 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards*

*The 1st Battalion, Irish Guards*

*The 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards*

Unlike the Household Cavalry, the Guards Division maintains battalions at 'public duties' (the familiar full-dress occasions such as the guarding of the Royal Palaces), and battalions in operational rôles in the United Kingdom and abroad. These battalions are rotated at intervals.

The Foot Guards epitomise exclusivity. Excluding anyone but the preferred from their officer corps, they practice a traditional discrimination in recruitment for the ranks, preferring men above a minimum height. Anyone who has noticed a dearth of spectacles below bearskins will be aware that less-than-perfect eyesight is also a bar to entry. The lack of black faces on Horse Guards Parade is a more serious matter, leading to accusations of racial prejudice. With the rest of the British Army now used to absorbing racial minorities, it will be interesting to see how long the Guards can hold out before accepting their first black recruit.

The influence exerted by the Guards on the

remainder of the Army is considerable, if not always obvious. Though few would admit it, most infantry regiments envy the outward signs of élitism exhibited by the Guards, whose military behaviour is emulated in many ways. Perhaps the most controversial influence exerted is in the field of drill and ceremonial. Through the medium of the All Arms Drill Wing, standards are set and passed to the whole Army. While no one would deny that these are obviously necessary for the Guards, some argue that the time and effort devoted by the rest of the Army to the attainment of these standards are unnecessary, and could be spent in more useful training.

#### *The Scottish Division:*

The grouping of seven Regular and five Territorial battalions of Scottish Infantry. These are:

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment)*

*The 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Cameron)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's)*

*The 1st Battalion, The 52nd Lowland Volunteers (TA)*

*The 2nd Battalion, The 52nd Lowland Volunteers (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The 51st Highland Volunteers (TA)*

*The 2nd Battalion, The 51st Highland Volunteers (TA)*

*The 3rd Battalion, The 51st Highland Volunteers (TA)*

The 'tribalism' previously mentioned is probably more visible in Scottish Regiments than in any other, notably in the areas of dress, military music and tradition. These colourful symbols of the Scottish national character are admired and respected the world over. The reputation for fierceness in battle enjoyed by Scottish infantry, both Highland and Lowland, is legend. (Contrary to popular belief, this fierceness is rarely exhibited outside war, and the martial Scots have a reputation for hospitality that is second to none.)

The five Territorial battalions of the Scottish Division have elected to adopt titles that perpetuate

the memory of the famous Highland and Lowland Divisions in the two World Wars.

#### *The Queen's Division:*

This Division groups together three 'Large Regiments'. These came about as a result of infantry reductions when some Regiments, faced with amalgamation or disbandment, chose to group themselves as battalions of what became known as Large Regiments. In the Queen's Division the units are:

*The 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment*  
*The 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment*  
*The 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment*  
*The 5th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (TA)*  
*The 6th/7th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers*  
*The 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers*  
*The 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers*  
*The 5th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (TA)*  
*The 6th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment*  
*The 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment*  
*The 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment*  
*The 5th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment (TA)*  
*The 6th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment (TA)*  
*The 7th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment (TA)*  
(Nine Regular and seven Territorial battalions.)

#### *The King's Division:*

The Regiments comprising this Division are:

*The 1st Battalion, The King's Own Border Regiment*  
*The 4th Battalion, The King's Own Border Regiment (TA)*  
*The 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment*  
*The 5/8th Battalion, The King's Regiment (TA)*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers (27th Inniskilling, 83rd and 87th)*  
*The 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers (27th Inniskilling, 83rd and 87th)*  
*The 4th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers (North Irish Militia) (TA)*

*The 5th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers (North Irish Militia) (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment*

*The 4th Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment (TA)*

*The 5/8th Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Yorkshire Volunteers (TA)*

*The 2nd Battalion, The Yorkshire Volunteers (TA)*

*The 3rd Battalion, The Yorkshire Volunteers (TA)*  
(Eight Regular and nine Territorial battalions.)

#### *The Prince of Wales's Division:*

The Regiments comprising this Division are:

*The 1st Battalion, The Devon and Dorset Regiment*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers*  
*The 3rd Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers (TA)*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales*  
*The 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales (TA)*  
*The 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales (TA)*  
*The 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment*

**Company Sergeant Major and Fusilier of 3 RWF in Gibraltar, 1986. Both wear No. 9 Dress, tropical DPM camouflaged combat clothing.**









An infantryman posing the latest helmet and cover, latest No. 8 Dress, combat gloves, the load-carrying equipment currently

under evaluation, and the SA.80. In the background, a Warrior IFC.

*The 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (29th|45th Foot)*

*The 3rd Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment*

*The 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Wessex Regiment (TA)*

*The 2nd Battalion, The Wessex Regiment (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Mercian Volunteers (TA)*

*The 2nd Battalion, The Mercian Volunteers (TA)*

(Nine Regular and eight Territorial battalions.)

#### *The Light Division:*

Although this Division bears the name of a famous fighting formation of the past, it is today the administrative grouping of English infantry Regiments claiming 'Rifle' and 'Light Infantry' traditions. These are perpetuated by the distinctive dark green dress appointments, peculiarities of drill and rate of marching, and the bugle music of these Regiments, which are:

*The 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry*

*The 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry*

*The 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry*

*The 5th Battalion, The Light Infantry (TA)*

*The 6th Battalion, The Light Infantry (TA)*

*The 7th Battalion, The Light Infantry (TA)*

*The 1st Battalion, The Royal Greenjackets*

*The 2nd Battalion, The Royal Greenjackets*

*The 3rd Battalion, The Royal Greenjackets*

*The 4th Battalion, The Royal Greenjackets (TA)*

(Six Regular and four Territorial battalions.)

#### *The Parachute Regiment:*

Because of its specialist rôle, this Regiment is not grouped into one of the administrative Divisions, but exists as a separate body within the Infantry. Despite its short existence its exploits are legend, from Arnhem to the Falklands. The battalions of the Regiment are:

*1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment*

*2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment*

*3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment*

*4th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (TA)*

*10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (TA)*

*15th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (TA)*



Similarly equipped, this soldier wears the latest DPM NBC protective suit, and respirator.



### *The Brigade of Gurkhas:*

The continuing service to the British Crown by these Nepalese hillmen may be seen by some as a hangover from the days of Empire, or as a cynical exploitation of foreign mercenaries. Whatever the merits of these extreme points of view, both Nepal and Great Britain derive gains from the system: Nepal, from the employment of many thousands of its young men, coupled with the revenue their pay and pensions bring into the country; Britain, from the right to recruit from a tough, hardy people who take readily to soldiering and make ideal troops for

**Private of the 1st Bn., The Queen's Own Highlanders stands sentry at Edinburgh Castle, 1986, in No. 1 Dress of 'archer green' doublet and kilt of No. 2 Mackenzie tartan; the Regiment's blue glengarry has a scarlet toorie but no diced band. Invisible here is the buff rear 'slash' of the QOH doublet.**



the garrisons remaining in the Far East. When these are finally given up the future of the Brigade of Gurkhas must be in doubt. Problems of language and the increasingly technical nature of the mechanised infantry rôle may exclude the Gurkhas from British service in the 21st century. At present the Brigade comprises:

*The 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles)*

*The 2nd Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles)*

*The 1st Battalion, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles*

*The 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles*

*The 1st Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles*

*The Queen's Gurkha Engineers*

*The Queen's Gurkha Signals*

*The Gurkha Transport Regiment*

### *The Special Air Service Regiment:*

Also listed as 'Infantry', the SAS has several important rôles in war and in peacetime emergencies, most of which are shrouded in secrecy. The Regiment draws its recruits from the best human material available in the Regular and the Territorial Armies. The selection procedures used to filter these volunteers are probably the toughest in the world—the death rate having caused adverse criticism in the British press from time to time. Few would dispute the British Special Air Service's claim—frequently made by others but never by the Regiment themselves—to élite status. The Regiment comprises one Regular and two Territorial 'Regiments'. Their strengths and composition can only be guessed at. Their titles are:

*The 21st Special Air Service Regiment (TA)*

*The 22nd Special Air Service Regiment*

*The 23rd Special Air Service Regiment (TA)*

### **The Army Air Corps**

The Corps who fly, fight and maintain the Army's aircraft.

### **The Services**

*The Royal Army Chaplains Department*

The Corps of commissioned clergymen charged

with responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the Army.

#### *The Royal Corps of Transport*

The Army's transport and distribution Corps.

#### *The Royal Army Medical Corps*

The rôle of this Corps is obvious. It continues to discharge its duties, in peace and war, with what may truly be described as the highest professional standards.

#### *The Royal Army Ordnance Corps*

The Corps that supplies the British Army with all the stores it needs to fight, to be mobile, and to survive. The RAOC also provides technical support ranging from 'bomb disposal' to clerical services. It also maintains the large vehicle depots and store complexes needed by the Army in Britain and BAOR.

#### *The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers*

REME provides engineering support for the technical equipment of the Army. In certain formations REME have responsibility for the maintenance and repair of damaged equipment, while most major units have a REME Light Aid Detachment responsible for the serviceability of the technical equipment.

#### *The Royal Military Police*

The 'Redcaps' are responsible for the maintenance of discipline, traffic control, and crime prevention.

#### *The Royal Army Pay Corps*

Responsible for financial services throughout the Army.

#### *The Royal Army Veterinary Corps*

The RAVC looks after the many animals which the British Army continues to have on strength. The Household Cavalry, the Royal Horse Artillery and the Military Police continue to use horses in quite large numbers, while dogs serve the Army in a number of useful rôles. Recent experience in the Falklands has highlighted the need for the retention of pack-transport equipment and techniques.

#### *The Small Arms School Corps*

The British Army's own corps of professional instructors. The Corps is small and select, admitting to its ranks promising students from infantry courses after a suitable probationary period. An all-NCO/WO corps at one time, the SASC now commissions long-serving instructors. The Corps provides teaching and supervisory staff for most infantry instructional establishments as well as staff

for depots. The SASC prides itself, with justification, on its high standards of instructional ability, skill-at-arms and marksmanship. However, the career structure of the Corps is such that, once accepted into its ranks, the individual NCO, Warrant Officer or Officer rarely has the opportunity to exercise or test his skills in active service conditions. Critics make a case for the rotation of instructional staff from infantry units with recent combat experience, in the manner of the 'Battle Schools' of both World Wars.

#### *The Military Provost Staff Corps*

Traditionally this corps provided the staff for the Army's prisons. Thankfully, these are no longer necessary in an all-volunteer army where a bad soldier can be discharged 'services no longer

**Subalterns of the 1st Bn. The Black Watch and 1st Bn. The Queen's Own Highlanders at the ceremony of changing of the guard at Edinburgh Castle, 1986. Note the 'bonnet, Highland' of the Black Watch; and the variations between the officers' No. 1 Dress of these two Regiments.**





**Five members of the WRAC demonstrate various orders of dress: (left to right) No. 8 Dress; W6 (warm weather parade uniform); W14 ('shirtsleeve order'); W2 (temperate parade uniform); and physical training and sports kit.**

required'. The British Army still maintains a 'corrective' training centre for those who have temporarily gone astray, and the MPSC run and staff it.

*The Royal Army Educational Corps*

An all-officer corps responsible for the education of officers and soldiers.

*The Royal Army Dental Corps*

*The Royal Pioneer Corps*

A corps trained for a variety of rôles, but mainly in the movement of stores.

*The Intelligence Corps*

A corps dealing with security and combat intelligence.

*The Army Physical Training Corps*

A corps of instructors whose principal responsibility is with physical fitness.

*The Army Catering Corps*

The corps responsible for the feeding of the British Army in peace and war. Catering standards in the ACC have risen steadily in the years since the end of the Second World War, to a point where their excellence is world-renowned. Alarm at the number of overweight soldiers has forced diet-consciousness on the ACC of late. (In fairness to the Army's cooks it should be stated that the consumption of beer, the British soldiers' favourite pastime, is probably the biggest contributory factor to his obesity.)

*The Army Legal Corps*

The Army's lawyers, usually only seen by the average soldier at court-martials.

*The Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps*

The corps in which the Army's female nursing staff serve.

*The Women's Royal Army Corps*

The WRAC nowadays provide personnel for almost every branch of the Army.

# Uniforms and Distinctions

## Uniform Regulations

The current regulations for the wearing of all forms of uniform by the British Army are published by the Ministry of Defence in Volume 3 of *Material Regulations for the Army*. Extracts from these regulations follow, in order to avoid constant repetition of uniform detail in the captions to the colour plates and photographs illustrating this book.

*Material Regulations*, Volume 3, consists of the following 16 pamphlets:

**These infantrymen exercising in BAOR carry the SA.80 and (foreground) the Light Support Weapon version of the same. Both are 5.56mm calibre; with full 30-round magazines the weights are respectively 4.68 kg and 5.28 kg; and effective ranges are given as 400 and 1,000 metres respectively.**

No.	Army Code No.	Title
1.	62031(PAM 1)	Supply, accounting maintenance and disposal.
2.	62031(PAM 2)	Regular Army—soldiers' & service-women's clothing on posting, transfer, leave and discharge.
3.	62031(PAM 3)	Scales for officers of the Regular Army.
4.	62031(PAM 4)	Scales for soldiers of the Regular Army.
5.	62031(PAM 5)	Scales for servicewomen of the Regular Army.
6.	62031(PAM 6)	Scales for civilians.
7.	62031(PAM 7)	Clothing regulations & scales, TA (All ranks) & the UDR.
8.	62031(PAM 8)	No. 1, W1 and No. 3 dress Regular Army (all ranks).
9.	62031(PAM 9)	Scales for medical units.



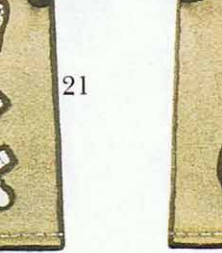
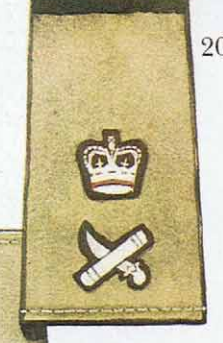
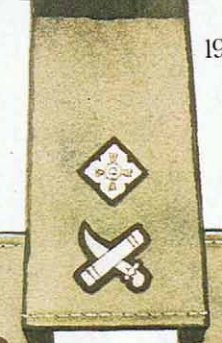
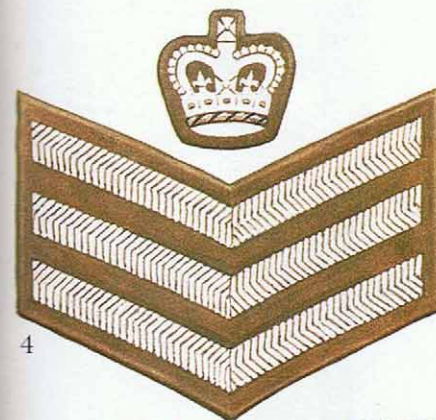
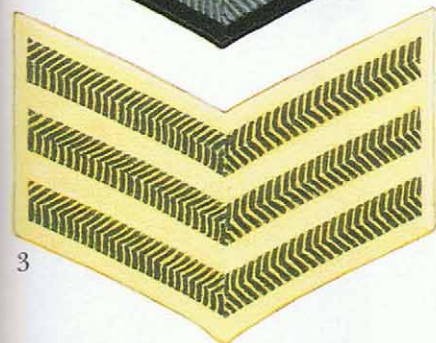
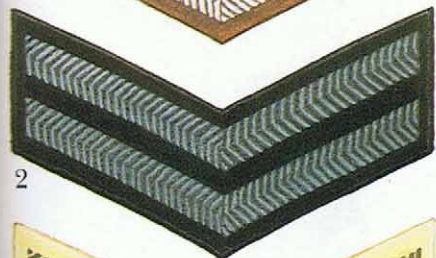
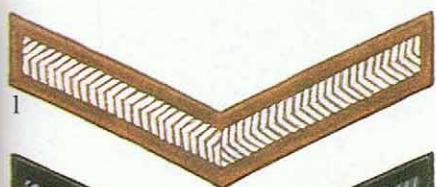


10. 62031(PAM 10) Instructions for the wearing of the insignia of Orders, decorations and medals.
11. 62031(PAM 11) Scales for the Gibraltar Regiment and Hong Kong MSC—all ranks.
12. 62031(PAM 12) Full Dress.
13. 62031(PAM 13) Instructions for the wearing of uniform & scales of clothing & personal equipment for CCF (Army) and ACF.
14. 62031(PAM 14) Standards, guidons, colours & banners; drum-major's belts & staves, bugle-major's staves.
15. 62031(PAM 15) Badges, embellishments and head-dress.
16. 62031(PAM 16) Optional items of dress.

**Royal Artillery, 1985-86: Left**—a gunner loads his 105mm light gun during live firing in Portugal, wearing No. 8 Dress and his dark blue beret with the 'Royal Regiment's' cap badge; and **Below**—a Rapier anti-aircraft missile detachment in full combat kit with the new 'ballistic' helmet and cover.







Insignia of rank, appointment and qualification: see Plates commentaries in text for identification.

Full Dress:

1: Colour Sergeant, Coldstream Guards

2: Warrant Officer II, Parachute Regt.

3: Drum Major, Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regt.



No.1 Dress:

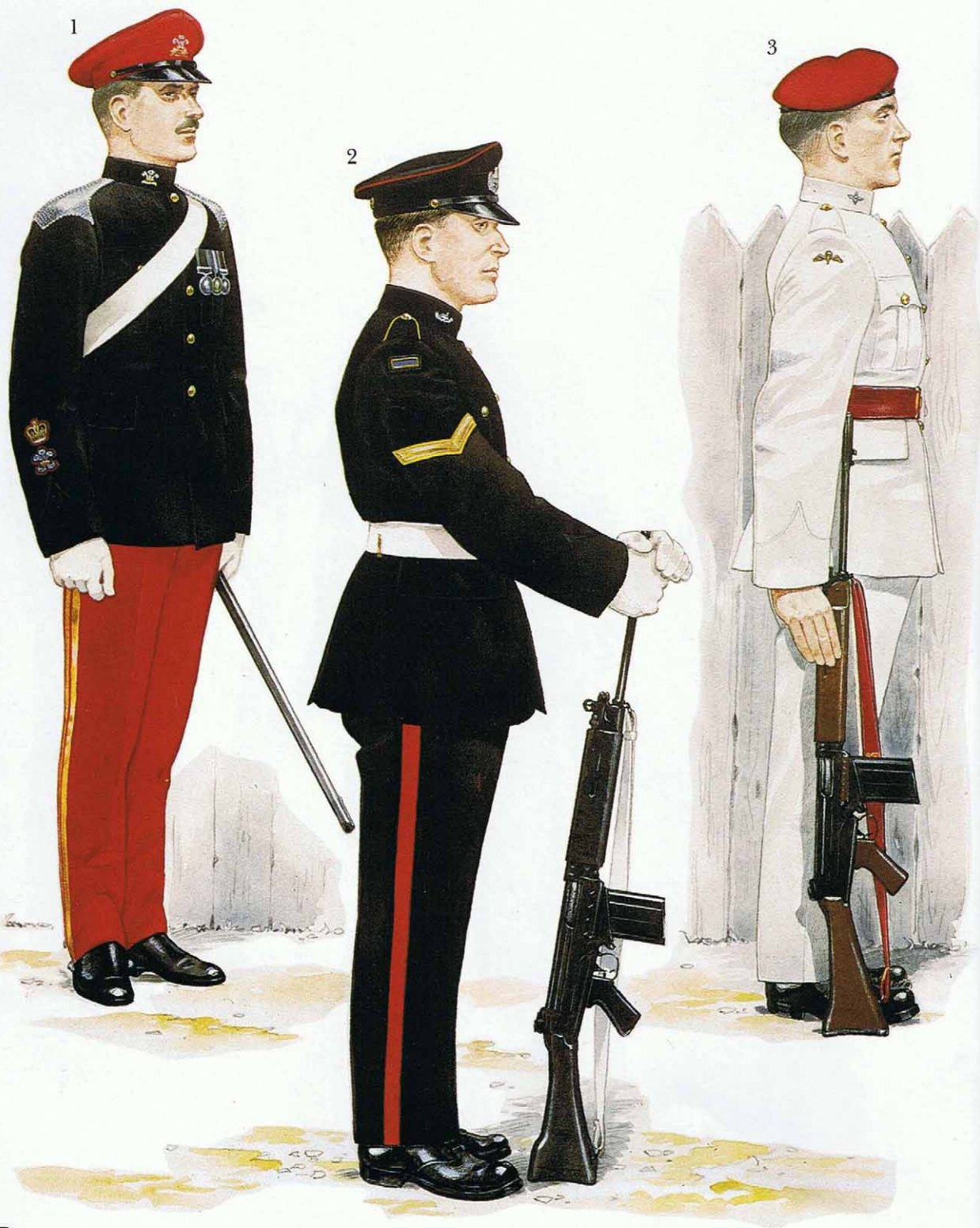
1: Sergeant, King's Own Scottish Borderers

2: Corporal, Black Watch

3: Rifleman, Royal Greenjackets

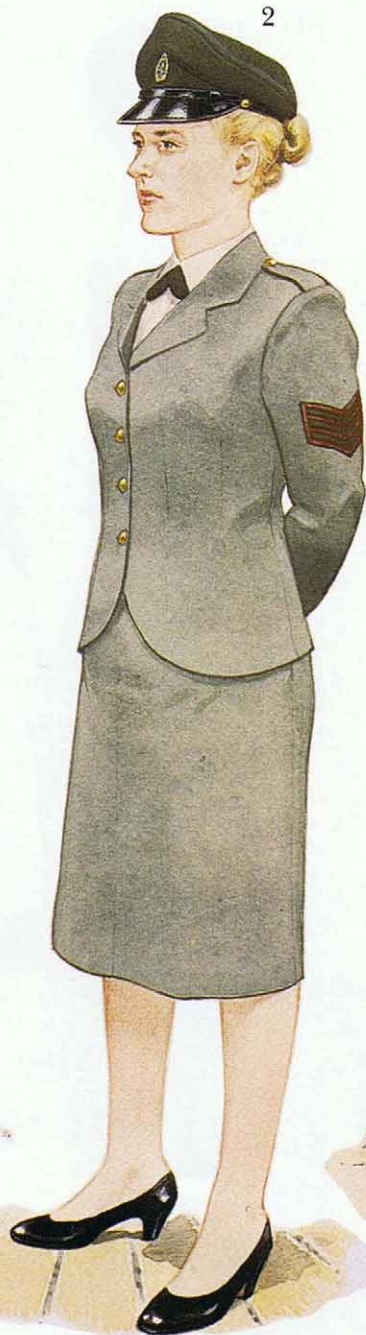
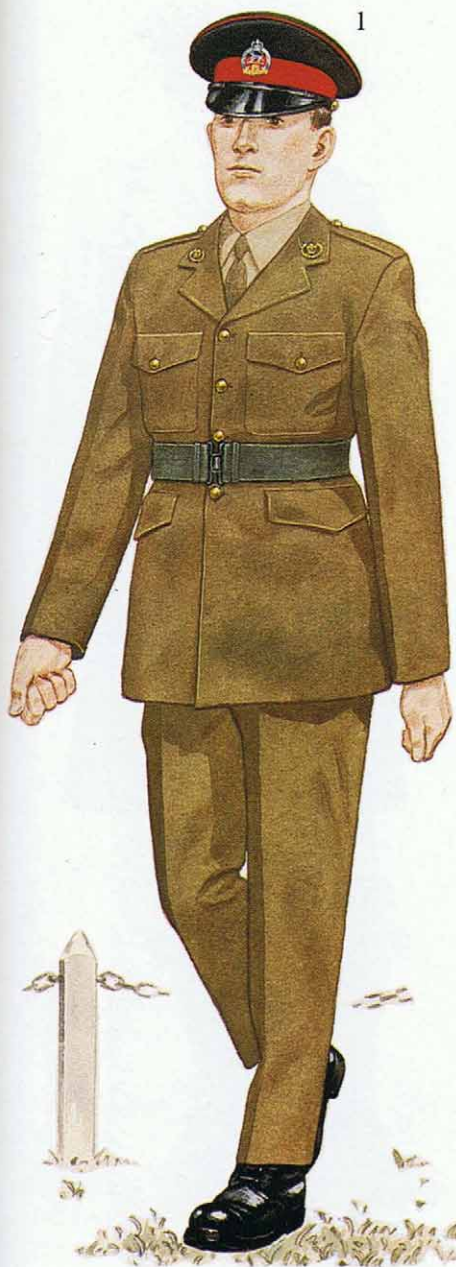


- 1: No.1 Dress, Royal Hussars  
2: No.1 Dress, Gloucestershire Regt.  
3: No.3 Dress, Parachute Regt.



No.2 Dress:

- 1: Private, Royal Hampshire Regt.
- 2: Sergeant, Women's Royal Army Corps
- 3: Captain, Devon & Dorset Regt.



No.2 Dress:

1: Sergeant, Royal Irish Rangers

2: Gunner, 7th Regt., Royal Horse Artillery

3: Lieutenant-Colonel, Gordon Highlanders



- 1: 2nd Lt., Royal Corps of Transport; No.4 Dress  
2: Rifleman, 7th Gurkha Rifles; No.6 Dress  
3. Trooper, Special Air Service; No.7 Dress



No.8 Dress:  
1,2: Infantry private  
3: Corporal, Parachute Regt.





1: Cdo. Lt. Regt. RA; No.8 Dress  
2, 3: Infantrymen, No.9 Dress



No. 12 Dress:

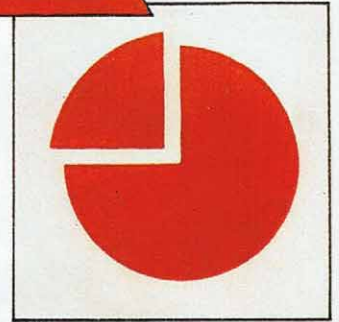
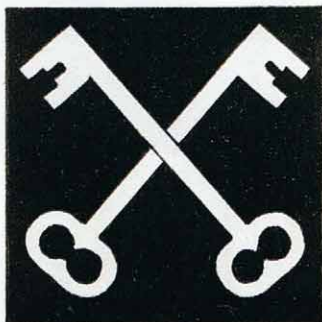
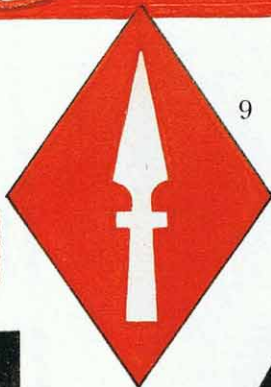
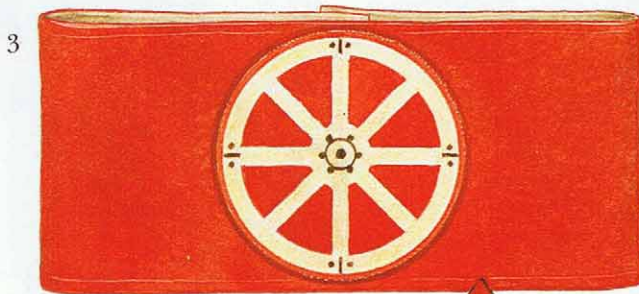
- 1: Trooper, Royal Hussars
- 2: Sergeant, Royal Tank Regt.
- 3: WO, Army Catering Corps



1: WOII, Gloucestershire Regt.; No.14 Dress  
2: Corporal, Army Air Corps; No.13 Dress  
3: Major, Argyll & Sutherland Hldrs.; No.14 Dress



Insignia; see Plates commentaries in text for identification.



(Indications are that these pamphlets may be available from Her Majesty's Stationery Offices.)

## Groups of Dress

The orders of dress authorised for servicemen of the British Army are:

*Full Dress:* The familiar, traditional dress of the Household troops when carrying out public duties.

*No. 1 Dress:* The temperate ceremonial uniform, usually referred to as 'blues'.

*No. 2 Dress:* Service Dress. The standard drab ('khaki') temperate parade uniform worn since 1960.

*No. 3 Dress:* The warm-weather ceremonial uniform—the white cotton version of No. 1 Dress.

*No. 4 Dress:* The Officers Service Dress-pattern warm-weather uniform.

*No. 6 Dress:* The bush jacket-pattern warm-weather parade uniform.

*No. 7 Dress:* Warm-weather barrack dress.

*No. 8 Dress:* Temperate combat uniform.

*No. 9 Dress:* Tropical combat uniform.

*No. 10 Dress:* Temperate mess dress (optional for WOs and senior NCOs).

*No. 11 Dress:* Warm-weather mess dress (optional for WOs and Senior NCOs).

*No. 12 Dress:* Protective clothing.

*No. 13 Dress:* Temperate barrack dress.

*No. 14 Dress:* Shirt-sleeve order.

(NB: *Temperate areas* are given as—The UK, NW Europe; *Warm-weather areas*—The Caribbean, Brunei, Nepal, Canada, Hong Kong, The Mediterranean, USA.)

## Full Dress

Full dress and ceremonial items for wear with full dress are provided at public expense by the RAOC for the following:

The Household Cavalry

The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery

The Guards Division

Material regulations declare full dress obsolete for the rest of the Army, but permit it to be obtained at regimental expense for wear on certain occasions. Of these the only significant authorisation is that of bands, corps of drums, pipes and trumpeters. Pamphlet No. 12 then goes on to list in 25 pages of closely-written schedules the myriad items that go to make up full dress for the Household troops. Full

dress for the rest of the Army is not laid down in material regulations. (Section 2—Care and preservation, contains the following: '213. CARE OF BEARSKINS. The refurbishing of bearskins is extremely costly—ON NO ACCOUNT should any chemical or preparation be applied to them; the use of hair lacquers, boot polish, nail polish or liquid paraffin are all forbidden' . . .)

## No. 1 Dress

This uniform is now seen less and less as No. 2 Dress and full dress for bands become more frequently used on ceremonial parades. Reminiscent of the old-fashioned postman's uniform, 'blues' were never popular with the Army from their introduction in the early 1950s.

No. 1 Dress is issued to soldiers at public expense but must be purchased by officers from their uniform allowances. It may be supplied for wear on 'appropriate occasions', and is issued to certain

**NCOs of the Foot Guards demonstrate drill with the SA80 (left) and the weapon it will replace—the L1A1 Self-Loading Rifle. Note the differences in the full dress distinctions of the Irish Guards (left) and the Grenadier Guards.**



soldiers on a permanent basis. (These include all senior ranks; bandsmen, pipers, drummers and buglers; the Royal Military Police; the Royal Signals motorcycle display team; and Sandhurst cadets.)

*Cap and collar badges* authorised for wear with No. 1 Dress are the regimental patterns, as are buttons. Cloth *belts* are authorised for all but the Scottish regiments, who are ordered to wear a leather or plastic waist belt.

*Shoulder chains* are ordered for the Royal Armoured Corps regiments but not the Royal Tank Regiment.

*Dress cords* are authorised for bandsmen as follows: beech brown, *WRAC*; black, *Royal Green-jackets*; black-amber-green-purple-red, *Royal Hampshires*; blue and buff, *Queen's Own Highlanders*; dark green and silver, *Light Infantry*; gold, *Scots Dragoon Guards*; green, *Devon and Dorsets*; green with green, scarlet and white tassels, *Royal Regiment of Wales*; Lincoln green, *Worcesters and Foresters*; royal (scarlet,

blue and yellow), *Royal Scots*, *Royal Highland Fusiliers*, *Royal Anglian*, *Queen's Lancashire Regiment* and *Duke of Edinburgh's*; silver, *Royal Irish*; yellow, all other regiments.

*Sashes*, crimson silk for WOsI and scarlet worsted for other senior ranks, are authorised for the *Guards Division*, *Infantry of the Line* (except *Greenjackets*), the *SAS*, the *SASC* and the *Army Physical Training Corps*.

WOsII, S/Sgts and Sgts of the *Light Infantry* are authorised to wear 'whistles with chain and ornament' as a ceremonial item.

Staff bands wear  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. gold piping at the top and bottom of the collar, gold 'crows feet' on cuffs, and twisted gold shoulder cords.

White *gorget patches* are worn by Sandhurst cadets, and by the *13/18th Hussars* and *17/21st Lancers*. Scarlet *gorget patches* are worn by the

**Men of 666(V) Sqn., Army Air Corps on parade in No. 2 Dress in 1986. Note the Corps' eagle arm badge and light blue beret. (Right) The pilot of an AAC Scout helicopter photographed in Hong Kong, wearing No. 9 Dress and standard NATO life preserver and 'bone dome'.**





*Queen's Own Hussars* and the *9/12th Lancers*.

'Wings', braided with the colour of the authorised piping, are worn by bands of the *infantry*, *RCT*, *RAMC*, *RAOC*, *REME* and corps of drums and pipes. Band sergeants', bugle majors', drum majors' and pipe majors' wings are braided in gold or silver as appropriate.

For most Regiments the colour of the *jacket* is dark blue, with that of the Scottish Regiments called a 'doublet' and cut from 'archer green' cloth. The Royal Irish Rangers have a 'piper green' jacket, while the jackets of the regiments of the Light Division and the Gurkha infantry are 'rifle green'. Jacket and skirt for the WRAC are given as 'green'.

*Trousers and overalls* are dark blue for most regiments. The *5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards* have green trousers, and the *Royal Hussars*, crimson. Scottish infantry wear either 'trews' or the kilt in regimental tartans: *Royal Scots*, No. 8 Hunting Stuart trews; *RHF*, No. 5A Mackenzie trews; *KOSB*, No. 7 Leslie trews; *Black Watch*, '42nd' kilt; *Queen's Own Highlanders*, No. 2 Mackenzie kilt; *Gordons*, No. 3 Gordon kilt; *A&SH*, No. 1 '42nd' kilt.

Further regimental distinctions on No. 1 Dress are shoulderstrap piping, and the stripes of coloured

cloth worn by most regiments on the sideseams of the trousers:

*Piping*: RA, Queen's, RRF, Royal Anglian, King's Own Royal Border, Queen's Lancashire, Duke of Wellington's, RWF, DERR, 2nd Gurkhas, RAOC, REME, RMP, MPSC, Royal Pioneers, APTC, *all scarlet*; King's, Green Howards, Royal Irish, Devon and Dorset, RRW, WFR, RADC, Intelligence Corps, *all green*; Prince of Wales's Own Yorkshire, Light Infantry, Gurkha Transport, RCT, *all white*; Cheshire, *buff*; Glosters, Royal Hampshire, Staffords, RAPC, *all yellow*; 6th Gurkhas, 7th Gurkhas, 10th Gurkhas, *all black*; Parachute Regt, RAVC, *maroon*; SAS, AAC, SASC, *all light blue*; RAMC, *cherry*; ACC, *light grey*.

*Trouser stripes* vary in width—these are given in inches after the regimental title. *Scarlet*—Life Guards  $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{3}{8}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ ; Blues and Royals  $2\frac{3}{4}$ ; RA, RRF, AAC, REME, RMP, MPSC, Royal Pioneers, all  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ; RE, R Signals, Gurkha Engineers, Gurkha Signals all 2; Gren Gds, Coldstream Gds, Scots Gds, Irish Gds, Welsh Gds all  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Queen's, Royal Anglian, King's Own Royal Border, King's, Prince of Wales's Own Yorkshire, Green Howards, Queen's Lancashire, Duke of Wellington's, Devon & Dorset, Cheshire, RWF, RRW, Glosters, WFR, Royal Hampshire, Staffords, DERR, SASC, RMA Sandhurst, Royal Military School of Music all 1; RAOC  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $\frac{5}{8}$ ; APTC  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

*White*—1st QDG  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ; 13/18 RH (coloured *buff* regimentally), 17/21 L, Gurkha Transport, RCT all  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . *Yellow*—RSDG 1 and 1; 4/7 RDG, 5 Royal Inniskilling DG (bandsmen) all  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ; QOH, QRIH, 9/12 RL, 14/20 KH, 15/19 KRH, 16/5 QRL all  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . *Black*—RTR 2. *Rifle Green*—Light Infantry 1. *Maroon*—Parachute Regt. 1, RAVC  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . *'Pompadour Blue'*—SAS  $1\frac{3}{4}$ . *'Dull Cherry'*—RAMC  $1\frac{3}{4}$ . *'Primrose'*—RAPC  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $\frac{5}{8}$ . *'Emerald Green'*—RADC  $1\frac{3}{4}$ . *Green*—Intelligence Corps 2. *'Grebe Grey'*—ACC  $\frac{3}{8}$  and  $\frac{3}{8}$ .

The Black Watch, Queen's Own Highlanders, Gordon Highlanders and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have coloured rear slashes on their doublets. These are dark blue, buff, yellow and yellow respectively.

The *head dress* intended for wear with No. 1 Dress is the 'Cap, forage, peaked' for most regiments, with berets being worn by the RTR, Parachute Regiment, SAS, and Army Air Corps. Royal Irish



A good view of the parachute smock in this study of a mortar detachment of 1st Bn., Parachute Regt. on an exercise in

Portugal. The cap badge would be blackened in combat.



Rangers wear a green bonnet. Gurkhas wear the kilmarnock cap, and Scottish infantry the glengarry (except for the Black Watch, who wear a blue bonnet). In most cases these caps are also worn with No. 2 Dress:

Blue cap, scarlet band and scarlet welt round crown—*Life Guards, Blues and Royals*<sup>1</sup>, *RA, Gren. Gds, Queen's RRF* (ranks below WOI wear beret), *Royal Anglians, King's Own Royal Border, King's, Queen's Lancashire, RWF* (ranks below WOI wear beret), *RRW, Royal Hampshire, DERR, RAOC, REME, SASC, Royal Pioneers, RMA Sandhurst, Royal Military School of Music.*

Blue cap, blue band and welts—*1 QDG, Royal Signals.* Blue cap, yellow 'vandyke' band and blue welts—*RSDG.* Blue cap, royal blue band and welts—*4/7 DG.* Green cap, primrose band and welts—*5 Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.* Scarlet cap, band and welts—*QOH.* Red cap, band and welts—*QRH, 14/20 KH.* Scarlet cap, scarlet band, blue welt and blue quarter welts—*9/12 RL.* Crimson cap, band and welts—*RH.* White cap, blue band—*13/18 RH.* Scarlet cap, band and welts—*15/19 KRH.* Scarlet cap, blue band, blue welt and quarter welts—*17/21 L.* Black beret—*RTR.* Blue cap, blue band and scarlet welts around crown and top of band—*RE.*

Blue cap, white band and piping—*Coldstream Gds*<sup>1</sup>. Blue cap, scarlet/white/blue diced band and scarlet piping—*Scots Gds.* Blue cap, green band and piping—*Irish Guards.* Blue cap, black band, vertical stripes and blue piping—*Welsh Guards.* Blue glengarry, scarlet/green/white dicing, scarlet toorie—*Royal Scots, RHF, KOSB.* Blue glengarry with scarlet toorie—*Queen's Own Highlanders.* Blue glengarry with scarlet/blue/white dicing, scarlet toorie—*Gordon Highlanders.* Blue glengarry, scarlet/white dicing, scarlet toorie—*A&SH.*

Blue cap, blue band and scarlet welt—*Prince of Wales's Own Yorkshire, Green Howards, Duke of Wellington's, Devon and Dorset, Glosters, WFR, MPSC, APTC.* Rifle green cap, band and welts—*Light Infantry.* Rifle green cap and band, black piping around crown and top and bottom of band—*Royal Greenjackets.* Maroon beret—*Parachute Regiment.* Tan beret—*SAS.* Light blue beret—*AAC.* Blue cap, blue



**Aid to the civil power: a CVR(T) of the Life Guards pictured with a policeman during a security exercise at Heathrow Airport, 1986.**

band, white piping around crown and above band—*RCT.* Blue cap, dull cherry band and welt—*RAMC.* Blue cap, blue band, primrose yellow welts—*RAPC.* Blue cap, maroon band and welts—*RAVC.* Blue cap, emerald green band and welts—*RADC.* Blue cap, green band and welts—*Intelligence Corps.* Blue cap, grebe grey band and welts—*ACC.* Green cap—*WRAC.*

### Number 2 Dress

The scale of issue is one suit for every soldier, except for certain personnel (including the Guards, Military Police and Recruiters) whose special duties require them to have two suits.

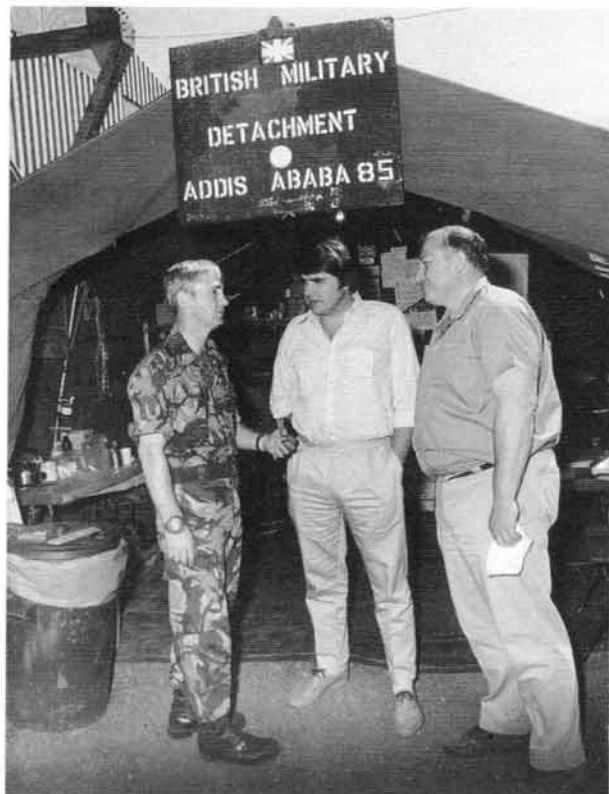
A 'Scottish pattern' jacket is issued to soldiers of the Scottish Division and pipers of the Scots Dragoon Guards, Scots Guards, Irish Regiments and the 4th Royal Tank Regiment. This is worn with kilt or trews as appropriate.

Crimson trousers are worn with No. 2 Dress by soldiers of the Royal Hussars; green trousers by soldiers of the 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards and the Royal Irish Rangers.

### Number 3 Dress

Supplied for wear in 'warm weather' areas for principally, bands, corps of drums and bugles. The scale of issue is two suits (jackets only for pipers). Broadly speaking, all badges, headdress, footwear, etc, worn with No. 1 Dress are worn with No. 3 Dress.

<sup>1</sup>WOs, NCOs and soldiers of the *Household Cavalry* and *Foot Guards* wear gold rank distinctions on the peaks of their forage caps.



Another sort of aid: a Warrant Officer of the RCT with aid organisers during Operation 'Bushel', 1985, which saw RAF Hercules transports flying food and other vitally-needed supplies into famine-stricken areas of Ethiopia, manned by RCT air despatch personnel.

#### **Number 4 Dress**

This uniform is made up in the style of No. 2 Dress from stone-coloured polyester and wool worsted material. It is for wear in 'warm weather' areas on formal occasions when not on parade with troops.

There is no longer a Number 5 Dress.

#### **Number 6 Dress**

Worn for ceremonial and formal parade purposes in 'warm weather' areas. This 'bush jacket'-type uniform may be worn with or without a shirt and tie. A Scottish-pattern jacket is worn with trews or kilt, otherwise trousers of the same stone-coloured material as the jacket are worn.

#### **Number 7 Dress**

This form of dress is worn as a work uniform in 'warm weather' areas. It consists of a stone-coloured, short-sleeved shirt and stone-coloured trousers.

#### **Number 8 Dress**

The familiar DPM (disruptive pattern material) combat dress worn in temperate areas. There have been several patterns of No. 8 Dress since the first issues in 1970. There are special combat smocks for parachutists and the SAS, and a DPM waterproof smock and trousers.

#### **Number 9 Dress**

The tropical combat dress (also made up in DPM material) of hat, jacket and trousers. Three suits are issued per man for field wear in 'warm weather' areas.

#### **Number 10 & 11 Dress**

These are the forms of dress worn by Officers, Warrant Officers and senior NCOs in their respective messes on formal occasions. The style of 'mess dress' reflects tradition, with those regiments entitled to the red coat opting to wear it in No. 10 dress. No. 11 Dress is the 'warm weather' version of mess dress and usually features a lightweight white jacket.

#### **Number 12 Dress**

No. 12 Dress covers the many orders of dress that come under the general description of 'protective clothing'. These range from the 'coveralls, flame resistant, AFV crewman' and 'coveralls, man's black, RTR' of the Royal Armoured Corps, through special items for RA, RE, Royal Signals, RCT maritime units, RAOC and REME, to the special dress required by cooks and butchers.

#### **Number 13 Dress**

The order of dress most frequently worn in barracks in 'temperate' areas. The possible combinations of hats, caps, kilts, trousers, etc, are too many to consider, but the one item worn with them all is the 'jersey, wool, heavy', the unlovely 'woolly pully'. This garment can be directly traced back to khaki heavy pullovers issued in the Korean War and which were worn with pride by veterans (and those who wished to be seen as veterans!) afterwards.

#### **Number 14 Dress**

Simply No. 13 Dress without the woolly pully: 'shirt sleeve' order, worn in the summer in temperate areas.

## Footwear

The most common item of footwear is now the 'Boot, combat, high', but material regulations list many other forms of boots and shoes still on issue to the British Army including Boots, ankle, GS; Boots, DMS; Boots, George; Boots, jungle (US pattern); Boots, jungle; Boots, knee, MS (1964 Cavalry pattern); Shoes, black leather DMS; Shoes, brown leather; Shoes, highland; Shoes, brogue with buckle; Shoes, gymnasium.

## Headdress

The headgear authorised for wear with No. 1 Dress has already been described. These items are also ordered to be worn with No. 3 Dress, No. 10 Dress and No. 11 Dress on all occasions, and with No. 2 and No. 6 Dress on formal parades.

The Cap, khaki, peaked (Officers) is permitted to be worn by all officers and WOIs on all occasions other than when in No. 1, No. 3, No. 10 and No. 11 Dress.

The Cap, khaki, peaked (Soldiers) may be worn by soldiers of the King's Troop RHA; Master Gunners and SMIG RA; Bands of RAC, RA, RE, Royal Signals, RCT, RAMC, RAOC and REME; RAVC; Mounted Troop RMP; and WOIs of the Queen's.

*Berets.* The following regiments wear the beret with all forms of dress: *RTR*; *RRF* (except officers and warrant officers); *RWF* (except officers and WOIs); *Parachute Regiment*; *SAS* (except 21 and 23 SAS, who wear the forage cap with No. 1 and No. 10 Dress); *AAC*; *Intelligence Corps* (the colour of the last-mentioned being 'cypress green'). Dark blue berets are worn as 'secondary headdress' by those regiments and corps not specified as wearing berets of another colour. The *Royal Hussars* wear a brown beret. The green Royal Marine beret is worn by

**Infantryman undergoing jungle training in Belize. The American M16 rifle was used by the British Army in the Far East in recent years and is still in service for jungle use in preference to the heavier SLR. This will presumably not be the case when the SA.80 is general issue.**



those Army personnel serving with the Commando Forces who have passed the RM Commando Course. Rifle green berets are worn by the *QRIH*, *Light Division*, *Gurkha Rifles*, *SASC*, *WRAC* and the *UDR*. Grey berets are worn by the *Scots DG* and the *QARANC*. Khaki berets are worn by the *Guards Division*, *Royal Anglians*, *King's Own Border*, *Prince of Wales's Own*, *Green Howards*, *Duke of Wellington's*, *Yorkshire* and the *Royal Pioneers*. Scarlet berets are worn by the *RMP* and *WRAC Provost*.

*Turbans*. Sikhs enlisted into the British Army are authorised to wear turbans with all orders of dress. The outer turban (*pagri*) is the colour of the top of the appropriate forage cap, and the inner turban (*pag*) is the colour of corps or regimental facing colour. The cap badge is worn at the front of the headdress.

*Coloured Side Hats*. These are permitted to be worn on 'informal' occasions in accordance to regimental custom and when permitted by the officer commanding. Officers of the *QRIH* wear the tent side hat with all non-ceremonial orders of dress.

The *Bonnet*, *khaki*, *tam o'shanter* may be worn by Scottish infantry 'when training'.

The *Felt hat* (slouch) is worn by the Brigade of Gurkhas in No. 2 and No. 6 Dress.

The *Glengarry*, *Cameronians* (green with black toorie) is worn by 'D' Coy. 1/52 and 4 Coy. 2/52 Lowland Volunteers. The *Glengarry*, *London Scottish* (blue with royal blue toorie) is worn by 'G' Coy. 1/51 Highland Volunteers. Blackcock feathers are worn behind the glengarry badge by the Royal Scots; KOSB; pipers of Scots Gds; pipers of Scottish Infantry less Black Watch and Queen's Own Highlanders; certain companies of the Highland Volunteers, and the 4 RTR. Eagle feathers are worn behind glengarry badges by pipers of the Queen's Own Highlanders.

The following units wear *hackles* in their headdress: glengarries, bonnets, bonnets TOS and berets. *Black*—52 Lowland Volunteers Cameronian companies; 'B' Coy. North Irish Militia. *Blue*—Queen's Own Highlanders; 51 Highland Volunteers Queen's Own Highlanders and Liverpool Scottish companies; certain members of 'D' Coy., North Irish Militia. *Blue and red*—'A' Troop 208 AD Battery RA(V). *Green*—Royal Irish Rangers; 'C' Coy. and all pipers, North Irish Militia; certain members of 'D' Coy., North Irish Militia; 152



**A motorcyclist of the British Army on exercise in Turkey, 1985. (Right) British infantrymen, lightly equipped with 'belt order' only worn over No. 9 Dress—note distinctive hat—come ashore during an exercise in Cyprus, 1985.**

Ambulance Regt. RCT(V) pipers and drummers; Northern Irish band (TA) (R Irish element). *Light grey*—'A' Coy. North Irish Militia. *Red*—Black Watch; 51 Highland Volunteers Black Watch companies and band. *Red and white*—RRF; Northumbrian band RRF(V); Warwickshire band RRF(V). *Red, brown and green*—RTR (ceremonial only). *White*—RHF; RWF; 52 Lowland Volunteers RHF companies.

*Gloves*. In No. 2 Dress black gloves are worn by the RTR, Royal Greenjackets, Brigade of Gurkhas. Green gloves are worn by the Light Infantry and Royal Irish Rangers. Brown leather gloves are worn by Officers and WOIs of most regiments and corps. Gloves (combat) are a general issue and have replaced the khaki knitted variety formerly issued.

White gloves are worn by the RMP on duty.

### **Badges and Chevrons**

In No. 1 Dress, badges and chevrons denoting rank are embroidered in gold, silver or black lace on a coloured backing, as authorised for regiments and corps, and are worn on the right arm only by soldiers. Badges of appointment or qualification are embroidered on a backing the colour of the jacket. Good conduct chevrons are embroidered in gold, silver or black lace on a background the same colour of the jacket and are worn on the left arm.

In No. 2 Dress, badges and chevrons two-thirds the size of those for No. 1 Dress are worn. They are white embroidered on a khaki ground. Badges of rank are worn on both arms by soldiers. Household troops wear the patterns of badges previously authorised for battledress; and regiments and corps wear collar badges, except for the Guards Division

and the Brigade of Gurkhas who wear shoulder titles in lieu. Cavalry regiments and the Light Division wear shoulder titles *and* collar badges.

In No. 3 Dress chevrons are worn as for No. 1 Dress. Metal badges of rank, appointment and qualification are worn backed with cloth the colour of the No. 1 Dress shoulder piping. In No. 4 Dress, officers wear badges as for No. 2 Dress. In No. 6 Dress, badges are as for No. 2 Dress. In No. 7 Dress tape or metal badges of rank are worn only.

In No. 8 Dress, badges and chevrons embroidered in dark brown on an olive drab background are worn on the right arm only by soldiers, and on epaulette slides by officers. Parachute wings, flying badges, 5 Airborne Brigade arm ('DZ') flashes, UDR slip-on flashes and the Berlin Brigade formation sign are the only other badges permitted on No. 8 Dress. These rules also apply to No. 9 Dress.

Miniature badges are worn with No. 10 and No.



11 Dress. In No. 12 Dress, badges worn are those as prescribed for No. 7 Dress. In No. 13 and No. 14 Dress, badges of rank as for No. 2 Dress are worn on the right sleeve of the shirt or jersey, or in metal on a wristband by soldiers. Officers wear ranking on epaulette slides. Certain qualification badges may be worn on No. 13 Dress.

### Ranking

Non-commissioned ranks and appointments in the British Army are complicated by custom. In the following only one description of each rank (not appointment) is given, that being the most common.

<i>Badge</i>	<i>Rank</i>
<i>(Upper arm)</i>	
One chevron	Lance Corporal
Two chevrons	Corporal
Three chevrons	Sergeant
Three chevrons with crown above	Staff Sergeant
<i>(Lower arm)</i>	
Crown	Warrant Officer, Class II
Royal Arms	Warrant Officer, Class I
<i>(Epaulette)</i>	
One star	Second Lieutenant
Two stars	Lieutenant
Three stars	Captain
Crown	Major
Crown and star	Lieutenant Colonel
Crown and two stars	Colonel
Crown and three stars	Brigadier
Crossed sword, baton with star	Major General
Crossed sword, baton with crown	Lieutenant General
Crossed sword, baton with star and crown	General
Crossed batons and crown	Field Marshal

*Badges of appointment* as defined by the regulations, and supplementary to any badge of rank, are: bugle; crossed trumpets; drum; hammer and pincers worn by artificers REME; grenade worn by staff sergeants and sergeants RE; figure of Mercury



**Men of the 1st Bn., Parachute Regt. jump into a Norwegian DZ, 1986; reinforcement and protection of NATO's northern flank is a major British commitment.**



worn by staff sergeants of the Royal Signals; crossed swords and grenade worn by certain warrant officers and NCOs of the Grenadier Guards; gun worn by staff sergeants and sergeants RA; eagle worn by staff sergeants and sergeants AAC; pipes, Scottish and Irish; small metal crown worn by NCOs of the Household Cavalry; crossed flags and crown worn by army recruiters.

*Skill-at-arms badges (advanced/instructor).* Worn on the right arm above chevrons by NCOs and below badge of rank by WOs. Crossed bayonets, pass infantry platoon sergeants course; crossed bayonets and star, distinguished pass; crossed flags, regimental signalling instructor; crossed flags and star, distinguished pass; crossed guns, WOII RA instructor in gunnery (SMIG); crossed rifles, SASC instructors, and tactics and weapon training instructors; crossed rifles and star, distinguished pass; crossed swords, assistant instructors in physical training; crossed swords with crown, APTC instructors; grenade below crown in wreath, warrant officer instructors in combat engineering;

parachute wings, 'APJI', assistant parachute jumping instructor; 'QADI' with crown and wings, qualified air despatch instructor; 'QI' in wreath, instructor RE; rod and serpent, first aid instructor; spur, riding instructor.

*Skill-at-arms badges (Class 2 and intermediate).* Generally worn on the left forearm. These include (Class 2): the air despatch badge; 'AT' in wreath (Anti-Tank); crossed flags (signaller); crossed hatchets (infantry pioneer); crossed rifles (marksman, rifle); crossed rifles and 'S' (sniper); divers' badges; 'E' in wreath (surveillance); 'GUN' in wreath (RARDEN gunner); 'LG' in wreath (marksman, LMG); 'L' in wreath (Layer, RA); 'MG' in wreath (marksman, GPMG); 'M' in wreath (mortarman); 'O' with wing and crown (observer, AAC); parachute (trained parachutist); parachute with wings, upper right arm (parachutist serving with airborne unit); 'R' in wreath (rangetaker cl. 1); 'SMG' in wreath (marksman, SMG); star (MT driver); rod and serpent in wreath (regimental medical assistant); anchor and crown



on purple (chief engineer RCT fleet); anchor and crown on ultramarine (ocean watchkeeper RCT fleet); fighting knife (qualified Commando). *Intermediate*: crossed bayonets (section commander's course—with star, 'distinguished'); crossed flags (regimental signaller standard 1—with star, 'distinguished'); crossed hatchets (Class assault pioneer—with star, 'distinguished') crossed rifles (anti-tank detachment commander, guided weapons detachment commander, mortar CPO/MFC—with star, 'distinguished'). All intermediate skill-at-arms badges are worn on the right forearm.

*Employment badges.* Generally worn on the right upper arm. These include: 'A' in wreath, group A tradesmen; army flying badge; air gunner's badge; air observer's badge; 'AT' in circle with wings; aircraft technician; 'B' in wreath, group B tradesmen; bayonet, Class 1 infantryman; bit, saddler/harness maker; circle and flashes, com-

munications technician/operator; 'E' within flashes, control equipment technician; flaming grenade, ammunition technical officer; hammer and pincers, armourer and various other trades; lyre in wreath and crown, musician; parachute with wings SAS, qualified SAS personnel; 'RADAR' in wreath, fire control operator; 'R' within flashes, radar technician; shoe, farrier; 'S' in wreath, surveyor RA; 'S', regimental surveyor; 'T' within flashes, telecommunications technician Royal Signals; wheel, carpenter and joiner.

*RAMC/RADC.* Tradesmen Class I and II wear bars of braid on the right sleeve, Class I having two bars and Class II having one bar. RAMC, cherry red; RADC, green.

### Cap Badge Backings

The following corps and regiments wear coloured cloth backings to their badges or headdress:

*Scots DG*, yellow; *4/7 DG*, maroon (beret); *5 Inniskilling DG*, green; *Royal Hussars*, crimson

**CVR(T)s of the AMF(L) Reconnaissance Sqn. in Norway, 1986.**





(beret); 14/20 Hussars, primrose (beret); 15/19 Hussars, red; Royal Scots, red; Scottish Division less Royal Scots and Black Watch, Regimental tartan (TOS); Devon and Dorset, green; Light Infantry, red; RRW, green (beret); Worcesters and Foresters, green (beret); DWR, red; Queen's Lancashire, primrose (beret); Staffords, buff; DERR, red; 7 Gurkhas, Cameron of Erracht No. 4 (felt hat); 10 Gurkhas, Hunting Stuart No. 8 (felt hat); Gurkha Signals, Red Grant No. 15 (felt hat); AAC, dark blue (beret); RAMC, dull cherry (beret); RADC, green (beret); APTC, red and black (beret); QARANC, scarlet; WRAC, beech brown (beret); 'A' Sqn. Royal Yeomanry, scarlet (beret); 'D' Sqn. Royal Wessex Yeomanry, scarlet (beret); 32 Signal Regt. (V), Red Grant No. 15 (glengarry); 52 Lowland Volunteers HQ, 'A', 'B' and 'E' Coys., Mackenzie 5A (TOS); 52 Lowland Volunteers 'C' and 3 Coys., Leslie No. 7 (TOS); 52 Lowland Volunteers 'D' and 4 Coys., Douglas No. 6 (TOS); 52 Lowland Volunteers 1 and 2 Coys., Hunting Stuart No. 8 (TOS); 1/51 Highland

Voluntters, 'E' Coy. Sutherland No. 1A, 'G' Coy. Elcho, 'V' Coy. Forbes No. 9 (all TOS); 2/51 Highland Volunteers, 'HQ' and 'D' Coys. Gordon No. 3, 'C' Coy. Cameron of Erracht No. 4 (all TOS), 'A' Coy. black cloth in bonnet Lovat Scouts; 3/51 Highland Volunteers, 'HQ' Coy. Gordon No. 3, 'B' Coy. Cameron of Erracht No. 4, 'C' and 'D' Coys. Sutherland No. 1A (all TOS); North Irish Militia, 'A' Coy. scarlet, 'B' Coy. rifle green, 'C' Coy. light green, 'D' Coy. rifle green (all bonnet, Irish); 15 Para, Hunting Stuart No. 8 (beret); 153 and 154 Transport Regt. RCT (V), Red McDuff (glengarry and beret); 225 Field Ambulance (V), Red Robertson No. 18 (TOS).

### Collar Badge Backings

Scots DG, yellow; Staffords, buff; DERR, red.

**A member of the Women's Royal Army Corps 'brews up' during a 1986 exercise in Norway.**



## Special Arm Badges

Worn on the sleeves in various orders of dress as noted:

13|18 Hussars, blue and white flash (No. 2 Dress); 14|20 Hussars, crossed silver kukris (No. 1 and No. 2 Dress); Blues and Royals, eagle (No. 1 Dress and by officers and WOs on No. 2 Dress); AAC, eagle (by aircrew on flying overalls); cavalry regiments RAC, worsted regimental arm badge (No. 2 Dress); cavalry regiments RAC, metal regimental arm badge with cloth backing (No. 2 Dress); Queen's Own Hussars, 'Warsaw crest' (No. 2 Dress); Maritime units RCT, blue ensign and crossed swords (all orders of dress except No. 8 and No. 9); RTR, the tank (all orders of dress except No. 8, No. 9 and No. 12); 5 Field Battery RA and Devon and Dorsets, ribbon of French Croix de Guerre 1914-18 (No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 Dress); 170 Field Battery RA and Glosters, emblem of

the US Presidential Unit Citation (No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 Dress); King's Own Border and Staffords, glider (No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 Dress); 7RHA, pegasus (No. 2 Dress); EOD units RE, bomb (No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 Dress); Infantry Demonstration Battalion, bayonet (No. 8 and No. 14 Dress and on combat shirts); Royal Yeomanry RHQ and 'HQ' Sqn., tank; 'A' Sqn., Prince of Wales's feathers; 'B' Sqn., SRIY monogram (NCOs); 'D' Sqn., maple leaf; 'D' Sqn. Royal Wessex Yeomanry, crest of Lord Rolls (WOs and senior NCOs); 201 Field Battery RA (V), pegasus; 72 Engineer Regt. (V), Tyne electrical engineers badge; 104 Field Squadron RE (V), insignia of submarine miners; 37 Signal Regt. (V), winged lion; 39 Signal Regt. (V), sword from the arms of the City of London; 44 Signal Sqn. (V), title 'Cinque Ports'; 83 Signal Sqn. (V), former 47 (London) divisional sign; Bn. HQ, 'HQ' and 'K' Coys. 1|51

**Nerve centre: inside the command post of a Royal Artillery battery, 1985.**



*Highland Volunteers*, ribbon of the French Croix de Guerre 1914–18; 'A' Coy. 2/51 *Highland Volunteers*, red fouled anchor; *Bn. HQ, 'HQ' and 'C' Coys. 1 Mercian Volunteers*, glider; 3 *Worcesters and Foresters*, ribbon of Belgian Croix de Guerre 1939–45; *Bn. HQ, 'HQ' and 'E' Coys. 5 Light Infantry*, ribbon of French Croix de Guerre 1914–18; 217 *General Hospital (V)*, rhinoceros; 211 *Field Hospital (V)*, ribbon of French Croix de Guerre 1914–18.

## Lanyards

'Worn around either shoulder at the discretion of the commanding officer' by soldiers except where noted:

*Household Cavalry*, blue No. 14 (Officers and WOs); *Blues and Royals*, white (NCOs and junior ranks); *Queen's Dragoon Guards*, white (sergeants, corporals and trumpeters); *Scots DG*, white; 4/7 *DG*, white; 5 *Inniskilling DG*, white; *QOH*, white; *QRIH*, yellow No. 2; 9/12 *L*, red and yellow; 13/18 *H*, white; 14/20 *H*, white; 15/19 *H*, white; 16/5 *L*, white; 17/21 *L*, white; 1 *RTR*, red No. 12; 2 *RTR*, yellow; 3 *RTR*, green No. 3; 4 *RTR*, blue No. 10; *RHA* and *RA*, white; *RE*, blue No. 3; *R Signals*, blue No. 2; 6 *Field Force HQ and Signal Sqn.*, khaki and green; 1 *Queen's*, dark blue (Officers and WOs); 2 *Queen's*, dark blue (Officers and senior ranks); 3 *Queen's*, orange (Officers and senior ranks); 1 *Royal Anglian*, yellow (Officers and senior ranks); 2 *Royal Anglian*, black (WOs only); 3 *Royal Anglian*, purple (Officers and senior ranks only); 4 *Royal Anglian*, grey-red-black (Officers and senior ranks only); *King's*, green (sgts. and above); *Green Howards*, green (sgts. and above); *Queen's Lancashire*, red (sgts. and above); *Duke of Wellington's*, scarlet No. 3 (sgts. and above); *Devon and Dorset*, grass green (sgts. and above); *Cheshire*, red (sgts. and above); *RWF*, Lincoln green (sgts. and above); *Worcesters and Foresters*, green (sgts. and above); *Staffords*, black (sgts. and above); *DERR*, blue No. 7 (sgts. and above); *Light Infantry*, rifle green (sgts. and above); *Greenjackets*, black and green (Officers and WOs); 1 *Para*, red; 2 *Para*, blue; 3 *Para*, green; 2 and 10 *Gurkhas*, black; 6 and 7 *Gurkhas*, black and green (worn by WOs, staff sgts., sgts. and cpls. in Gurkha infantry); *Gurkha Engineers, Signals and Transport*, blue; *RCT*, blue; *RAMC*, red; *RAOC*, blue and scarlet; 3 *Field Workshops REME*, maroon and light blue; *RAPC*, primrose and blue; *RAVC*, white; *SASC*, light and dark blue; *MPSC*, blue and



## Ammunition Technical Off

A member of 591(V) Explosive Ordnance Disposal Sqn., Royal Engineers, wearing the extensive body armour developed during the all-too-serious duties carried out by this branch of service over the past two decades.

scarlet; *RAEC*, dark blue and minerva blue (Officers only); *RADC*, green; *Royal Pioneers*, red and green; *Intelligence Corps*, green No. 7; *APTC*, black and red; *ACC*, grebe grey; *QARANC*, scarlet and grey; *Royal Yeomanry, 'A' Sqn.*, scarlet; 'B' Sqn., green; 'C' Sqn., yellow and green; *Queen's Own Yeomanry*, white (sgts. and above); *Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry*, white (sgts. and above); 41 *Signal Sqn. (V)*, red and grey; 47 *Signal Sqn. (V)*, khaki and green; 1/51 *Highland Volunteers (Bn. HQ, 'HQ' and 'K' Coys.)*, red and green (sgts. and above); 1/52 *Lowland Volunteers, 'B' Coy.* white; 'D' Coy. black (sgts. and above); 2/52 *Lowland Volunteers, 2 Coy.* white; 4 *Coy.* black (sgts. and above); 5 *Queen's*, green; 6/7 *Queen's*, blue No. 1 (WOs and sgts.); 5 *RRF, Bn. HQ and 'HQ' Coy.* dark green and red, 'A' Coy. black, 'B' Coy. dark green and red (sgts. and above); 5 *Royal Anglian, 1 Coy.* yellow, 2 *Coy.* black, 3 *Coy.* purple, 4 *Coy.* grey-red-black (sgts. and above); 1 *Yorkshire, 'B' Coy.* drab green, 'C' Coy. scarlet, 'D' Coy. amber and black (sgts. and above); 2 *Wessex*, green; 2 *Mercian*,

black; 4 *Greenjackets*, black-green-scarlet (NCOs); 4 *Para*, black (sgts. and above); 10 *Para*, maroon and blue (sgts. and above).

## The Plates

### A: Insignia:

#### *Non-commissioned badges of rank:*

*A1*, Lance Corporal (standard No. 2 Dress); *A2*, Corporal (Royal Irish Rangers); *A3*, Sergeant (Light Infantry); *A4*, Staff Sergeant/Colour Sergeant (standard No. 2 Dress); *A5*, Warrant Officer Class II (WRAC); *A6*, Warrant Officer Class II in the appointment of Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant (Royal Regiment of Wales); *A7*, Warrant Officer Class I (Infantry); *A8*, Sergeant (combat dress).

#### *Appointment/qualification badges:*

*A9*, Sniper; *A10*, Air gunner; *A11*, Commando.

#### *Commissioned badges of rank:*

*A12*, Second Lieutenant; *A13*, Lieutenant; *A14*, Captain; *A15*, Major; *A16*, Lieutenant Colonel; *A17*, Colonel; *A18*, Brigadier; *A19*, Major General; *A20*, Lieutenant General; *A21*, General; *A22*, Field Marshal.

### B: Full Dress:

(As individual items of uniform and insignia peculiar to particular Regiments and Corps are listed extensively in the body of the text, the Plates commentaries are limited largely to simple identification.)

**Dismounted troopers of the 16th/5th Lancers man a GPMG, 1985.**



The troops of the Royal Household are the only units issued with full dress today. With very few changes this is of the pattern worn in 1914. *B1*, a *Colour Sergeant of the Coldstream Guards*, demonstrates the 'present arms' with the new 5.56mm service rifle. Note the colour sergeant's badge of rank; the tunic buttons grouped in pairs; and the General Service, United Nations Cyprus, and Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. *B2* shows a *Warrant Officer Class II of the Parachute Regiment* in Mess Dress—the form of dress in which the red coat survives for most of the British Army. Note the wings of an Assistant Parachute Jumping Instructor; the miniature badge of rank; the collar badges, and the miniature medals. *B3*, the *Drum Major of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment*, is typical of the 'modern' full dress adopted by bands and corps of drums in recent years. It differs from the 1914 full dress considerably, but the essential appearance has been preserved.

### C: No. 1 Dress:

'Blues' as a British Army uniform can be traced back far beyond the introduction of No. 1 Dress in the early 1950s. They were never really popular, their resemblance to the uniforms of postmen, policemen, and bus-conductors being obvious. However, some Regiments manage an unmistakably military appearance in No. 1 Dress, as witnessed by *C1*, a *Sergeant of the King's Own Scottish Borderers*; *C2*, a *Corporal of the Black Watch*; and *C3*, a *Rifleman of the Royal Greenjackets*.

### D: No. 1 and No. 3 Dress:

Certain Regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps also manage a distinctive appearance in No. 1 Dress, with their coloured caps and trousers. *D1* illustrates the uniform of the *Royal Hussars*. By comparison with the previous three figures *D2*, a *Lance Corporal of the Gloucestershire Regiment*, presents an almost dull appearance. *D3*, a private soldier of the *Parachute Regiment* in No. 3 Dress, displays metal parachute wings, and the Regiment's maroon-finished webbing.

### E: No. 2 Dress:

No. 2 Dress has undergone little modification since its introduction in 1960. The latest pattern—seen here worn by a private soldier of the *Royal Hampshire*



**Territorial NCO signaller (note 'subdued' small-size chevrons on sleeve of No. 8 Dress) of the Royal Regiment of Wales, carrying Clansman manpack radio during Exercise 'Brave Defender', 1985.**

*Regiment at E1*—features unpleated breast pockets, and modified skirt-pocket flaps on the jacket. *E2* is a *Sergeant* demonstrating the No. 2 Dress of the *Women's Royal Army Corps*. *E3*, a *Captain of the Devon and Dorset Regiment*, shows a typical No. 2 Dress for an officer. This pattern is standardised for the Prince of Wales's Division, of which the Devon and Dorsets form part, but differs in material and cut from patterns standardised for other Divisions. Note the regimental lanyard, Croix de Guerre ribbon on the sleeve, and ribbon of the General Service Medal.

*F: No. 2 Dress:*

The Royal Irish Rangers are another Regiment managing a distinctive appearance in No. 2 Dress. The 'caubeen' bonnet has been worn in the past pulled down on the left, but is now worn as illustrated by *F1*, a *Sergeant of the Royal Irish Rangers*; note the regimental badges of rank, and the trousers special to the Royal Irish. His ribbon is that of the

United Nations Cyprus medal. *F2* shows a gunner of the *7th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery*. Note the distinctive cap badge worn in the maroon beret of airborne troops, and the 'Pegasus' arm badge peculiar to the 7th RHA. *F3* is a *Lieutenant Colonel of the Gordon Highlanders*. Note the No. 2 Dress regimental distinctions of the Gordons, including the officer's pattern badge in the glengarry, 'belled' garter flashes, and leather 'purse' with crowned stag's head badge. The No. 2 Dress jacket has cutaway skirts and gauntlet cuffs.

*G: No. 4, 6 and 7 Dress:*

A reversion to 'khaki' tropical dress was made with the introduction of the stone-coloured No. 4, 6 and 7 Dress in recent years. At the same time a DPM combat dress was introduced for tropical wear,

making redundant the old 'jungle green' and 'khaki drill' uniforms which had previously been worn in the field. *G1* shows a *Second Lieutenant of the Royal Corps of Transport* in No. 4 Dress—an officers-only uniform. *G2*, a *Rifleman of the 7th Gurkha Rifles*, wears No. 6 Dress with regimental headdress, buttons and belt. *G3* is a trooper of the *Special Air Service* in No. 7 Dress: the stone-coloured shirt worn with overall trousers and regimental stable-belt.

*H: No. 8 Dress:*

Combat dress in the now-familiar DPM ('disruptive pattern material') has been worn by the British Army for a number of years. *H1* and *H2* show the uniform worn by an *infantry private* (no regimental distinctions are visible) together with the personal load-carrying equipment which is now under evaluation, and the 5.56mm Individual Weapon

**Territorial soldiers of the Queen's Regt. under fieldcraft instruction during 1985 exercises.**

now coming into service. *H3*, a *Corporal of the 1st Bn., Parachute Regiment*, wears the combat smock special to airborne forces: note the large pockets, knitted cuffs and stud fastenings which distinguish this from the standard combat smock.

*I: No. 8 and 9 Dress:*

*I1* shows a gunner of the *Commando Light Regiment, Royal Artillery* in No. 8 Dress with the Commando beret, and the Commando qualification badge on the sleeve of his pullover. *I2* and *I3* show front and side views of the tropical combat uniform, No. 9 Dress, without regimental distinctions.

*J: No. 12 Dress:*

Positively unmilitary, but nevertheless vital are the various forms of protective clothing worn by personnel of the British Army. *J1*, a trooper of the *Royal Hussars*, wears the standard coveralls issued to most soldiers for protection when servicing vehicles, etc. The *Sergeant of the Royal Tank Regiment* at *J2*





**Tradition:** band and drums of 1st Bn., The Duke of Wellington's Regt. parade through the streets of London during a stint of public duties, 1986.

wears the black coveralls adopted by the Royal Tanks in the 1920s. *J3*, a *Warrant Officer of the Army Catering Corps*, wears typical clothing seen daily in a thousand Army kitchens.

*K: No. 13 and 14 Dress:*

From late spring until autumn in British Army garrisons at home and in BAOR, 'shirtsleeve order' is the dress most frequently seen in barracks. At *K1* is a *Warrant Officer Class II (company sergeant major)* of the *Gloucestershire Regiment*; note badge of rank worn on a leather wristband, secondary beret badge, pace-stick, and the millboard so vital to his administrative duties! The shirt here is the flannel combat shirt. At *K2* a *Corporal of the Army Air Corps* wears the 'woolly pully' usually seen in barracks in colder weather; while *K3*, a *Major of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders*, wears a variation on shirtsleeve order exclusive to the officers of his Regiment.

*L: Insignia:*

The British Army displays a bewildering array of insignia. Some are 'tribal', and are meant to show the pride in regiment so dear to the hearts of British soldiers. Some have a more practical purpose; in the latter category are the brassards shown as *L1* (Medical), *L2* (Military Police) and *L3* (Movements Staff). *L4* is the 'flash' of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, worn on the collar of No. 2 and other forms of dress. *L5* is the sign of the Infantry Demonstration Battalion. *L6* is the US Presidential Unit Citation, worn by the Glosters and a unit of the Royal Artillery. *L7* and *L8* are strips of the ribbons of the French *Croix de Guerre* 1914-18, and the Belgian *Croix de Guerre* 1939-45; these are worn by a number of British units, as mentioned in the body text. *L9* is the formation sign of 1 (British) Corps, Rhine Army; *L10* is that of the 1st Armoured Division; *L11*, the 2nd Infantry Division; *L12*, the 3rd Armoured Division; and *L13*, the 4th Armoured Division.

## Notes sur les planches en couleur

Il est conseillé aux lecteurs de contrôler les brèves légendes suivantes à l'aide des entrées qui y ont trait dans le corps du texte, pour les différentes *Orders of Dress* (tenues réglementaires), les unités et les pièces d'uniforme.

**A** Voir la légende en anglais pour l'identification.

**B1** Manoeuvres d'exercice de démonstration avec le nouveau fusil SA.80, ce soldat porte une tenue complète, en tant que membre de la seule partie de l'armée à laquelle elle est toujours distribuée pour tous les grades—les Régiments de la Garde, les *Royal Household Regiments*. Notez l'insigne de grade sur la manche; les distinctions régimentaires sur le col et les manchettes et les doubles boutons *Coldstream's*. **B2** La tenue de mess est le seul uniforme dans lequel la veste rouge ait survécu pour la plupart des soldats britanniques. L'insigne de grade et les médailles sont portés sous forme miniature. Le titre honoraire d'insigne de pilote—'wings'—identifie un *Instructor auxiliaire de Saut en parachute* (Assistant Parachute Jumping Instructor). **B3** Caractéristique de la tenue complète moderne, qui prend plus ou moins exemple sur la tenue de 1914 et portée maintenant dans la plupart des unités uniquement par les musiciens et quelques autres membres du personnel qui ont des fonctions lors des cérémonies.

**C1, 2, 3** La *No. 1 Dress* n'a jamais eu une grande popularité et on l'a voit maintenant rarement dans la plupart des unités. Certaines d'entre elles, cependant, parviennent à une apparence chic au moyen de variations 'tribales', tels que les unités de la Haute Écosse et les *Royal Greenjackets*.

**D1** Particularité de la *No. 1 Dress* de couleur plus vive de certaines unités de cavalerie; le képi de couleur et les pantalons sont des articles régimentaires. **D2** La tenue *No. 1 Dress* plus sombre d'un régiment de ligne d'infanterie. **D3** L'équivalent pour temps plus chaud de l'uniforme de parade *No. 1*, cette *No. 3 Dress* sur laquelle tous les écussons sont généralement portés, etc. comme sur la *No. 1*; ce parachutiste a un insigne de pilote, les 'wings', en métal et porte la ceinture maron de son régiment.

**E1** Le tout dernier modèle de la *No. 2 Dress*, distribué en 1960, et devenu maintenant uniforme de parade et de sortie pratiquement universel du soldat britannique. La liste des différences régimentaires—normalement d'ordre mineur—est donnée dans le corps du texte. **E2** L'équivalent féminin. **E3** Une tenue *No. 2 Dress*, Spécifique aux officiers; des petits détails dans la coupe et l'étoffe peuvent varier entre les régiments d'une Division (une formation organisationnelle plutôt que tactique) à l'autre. Le cordon et la bande du ruban de la Croix de Guerre sont des distinctions régimentaires.

**F1** La tenue *No. 2 Dress* à nouveau, égayée par des particularités régimentaires telles que la garniture de tête (ici, le 'caubeen' irlandais), les pantalons et les insignes de grades. **F2** Notez le mélange des distinctions de l'artillerie et des troupes aéroportées sur l'uniforme de cette unité d'artillerie aéroportée. La pièce cousue 'Pegasus' qui était, pendant la Seconde Guerre Mondiale, l'écusson de toutes les Forces aéroportées, est encore portée uniquement par cette unité, purement par tradition. **F3** Les régiments écossais affichent le plus grand nombre de particularités 'tribales' sur la tenue *No. 2 Dress*.

**G1** La *No. 4 Dress* est l'équivalent tropical pour les officiers uniquement de la *No. 2 Dress*. **G2** La tenue de parade tropicale des troupes est la *No. 6 Dress*, portée ici par ce Gorkha avec garniture de tête, boutons et ceinture régimentaires. **G3** Une tenue de travail pour pays tropical ou temps chaud, désignée comme étant la *No. 7 Dress* est portée ici avec des distinctions de SAS.

**H1** L'uniforme de combat avec camouflage ('DPM') est la tenue *No. 8 Dress* et il est rare de porter des distinctions d'unité avec celle-ci. Toutefois, **H3** présente de légères variations portées par le *Parachute Regiment*, dont la chemise a des poignets tricotés, des poches plus grandes et d'autres différences mineures.

**I1** Le *Commando Light Regiment, Royal Artillery* opère avec les *Marine Commandos* et son personnel se qualifie comme soldats membres de commando, ce qui les habilite à porter leur écusson de képi régimentaire sur le béret vert et un écusson arborant le poignard sur la manche de pullover. **I2, 3** Des vues différentes de la tenue de combat en pays tropical avec le camouflage *DPM*, désignée comme la *No. 9 Dress*.

**J1** La tenue *No. 12 Dress* est la désignation de toutes les combinaisons de protection; **J1** porte la combinaison pratiquement universelle pour les 'travaux salissants', **J2** porte une combinaison noire particulière au *Royal Tank Regiment*; et **J3** est un cuistot gradé.

**K1** L'uniforme à manche courte pour l'été—la tenue *No. 14 Dress*—est celle que l'on voit le plus souvent dans les casernes; avec un pullover elle devient la *No. 13 Dress*. Cet adjudant porte son insigne de grade—normalement sur l'avant-bras—sur une bande de cuir au poignet. **K2** Le 'woolly pully'; les insignes de grade sont portés sur le bras droit uniquement. **K3** Une variation régimentaire, particulière aux officiers de cette unité.

**L** Voir les légendes en anglais pour l'identification.

## Farbtafeln

Die Leser mögen die folgenden kurzen Bildtexte mit den entsprechenden Einträgen im Haupttext für *Orders of Dress*, Einheiten und Uniformteile gegenkontrollieren.

**A** Für Identifizierung siehe englische Bildtexte.

**B1** Bei Vorführung von Übungen mit dem neuen Gewehr SA.80 trägt er volle Paradeuniform—die königlichen Hausregimenter sind der einzige Teil der Armee, der solche Uniformen für alle Ränge immer noch erhält. Siehe Rangabzeichen am Ärmel, Regimentsauszeichnungen an Kragen und Manschetten und die Knopfaare der *Coldstream Guards*. **B2** Die Messe-Galauniform ist die einzige, bei der für die meisten britischen Soldaten noch die rote Jacke fortbesteht. Rangabzeichen und Orden werden in Miniaturform getragen. Die Brevet-Schwinge zeigt hier einen Assistent Parachute Jumping Instructor an. **B3** Typisch für die moderne Paradeuniform, ähnlich der von 1914, wie man sie jetzt in den meisten Einheiten nur bei den Mitgliedern von Militärkapellen und anderem Personal mit rein zeremoniellen Funktionen findet.

**C1, 2, 3** Die *No. 1 Dress* war nie sehr beliebt und ist heute bei den meisten Einheiten nur selten zu finden. Manche aber erzielen ein elegantes Aussehen durch verschiedene 'Stammesvariationen', wie etwa die *Scottish Highlanders* und die *Royal Greenjackets*.

**D1** Typisch für die farbige *No. 1 Dress* mancher Kavallerieeinheiten; die farbige Mütze und Hosen sind Regimentsmontur. **D2** Die weniger auffallende *No. 1 Dress* eines Infanterie-Linienregiments. **D3** Das Warmwetter-Gegenstück der *No. 1 Paradeuniform* ist diese *No. 3 Dress*, im allgemeinen mit allen Abzeichen usw. von *No. 1*; dieser Fallschirmjäger hat Metallschwingen und den braunen Gürtel seines Regiments.

**E1** Die neueste Form der *No. 2 Dress* von 1960, jetzt die nahezu universelle Parade- und Ausgehuniform des britischen Soldaten. Die regimentsmässigen Unterschiede—meist geringfügig—sind im Haupttext angeführt. **E2** Das Äquivalent für Frauen. **E3** Eine typische Offiziersuniform *No. 2 Dress*; kleine Einzelheiten in Schnitt und Material können zwischen den Regimentern der einen und der anderen Division (eine eher organisatorische als taktische Formation) variieren. Lanyard und Croix de Guerre-Ordensband sind Regimentsauszeichnungen.

**F1** Wieder eine 'aufgelockerte' Version von *No. 2 Dress*—durch Kopfbedeckung (hier die irische 'caubeen'), Hosen und Rangabzeichen. **F2** Eine Mischung aus Artillerie- und Luftwaffenabzeichen bei dieser Uniform für Lufttransport-Artillerieeinheiten. Der 'Pegasus'-Aufnäher, im 2. Weltkrieg das Abzeichen aller Airborne Forces, wird von dieser Einheit allein immer noch getragen—rein aus Traditionsgefühl. **F3** Die schottischen Regimenter zeigen die weitesten 'Stammesvariationen' bei der *No. 2 Dress*.

**G1** *No. 4 Dress* ist das typische Tropen-Äquivalent für Offiziere zur *No. 2 Dress*. **G2** *No. 6 Dress* ist die Tropen-Paradeuniform für Mannschaften, hier getragen von einem Gurkha mit regimentsmässiger Kopfbedeckung, Knöpfen und Gürtel. **G3** *No. 7 Dress* ist die Dienstuniform für tropisches oder warmes Klima, hier getragen mit SAS-Abzeichen.

**H1** *No. 8 Dress* ist die Tarnuniform ('DPM'), wobei Abzeichen der Einheit selten zu sehen sind. Hingegen zeigt **H3** die geringfügigen Variationen des Fallschirmjägerregiments, dessen Jacken gestrickte Manschetten, grössere Taschen und andere kleine Änderungen aufweisen.

**I1** Das *Commando Light Regiment* der *Royal Artillery* wird zusammen mit den marine Commandos eingesetzt, und seine Angehörigen sind als Commandos qualifiziert, was sie zum Tragen ihres Regimentsabzeichens auf der grünen Kappe und des Dolchabzeichens am Pulloverärmel berechtigt. **I2, 3** Verschiedene Ansichten der tropischen *DPM-Tarnuniform*—*No. 9 Dress*.

**J1** *No. 12 Dress* heissen alle Schutz-Overalls. **J1** Er trägt den praktisch universellen Overall für 'Schmutzarbeiten'. **J2** Schwarzer Overall des *Royal Tank Regiment*; **J3** ist ein Oberkoch.

**K1** 'Hemdsärmelige' Sommeruniform—*No. 14 Dress*—ist in den Kasernen am häufigsten zu sehen; zusammen mit dem Pullover wird das zur *No. 13 Dress*. Dieser Unteroffizier trägt sein Rangabzeichen—normalerweise am Unterarm—auf einem Lederriemen am handgelenk. **K2** Der sog. 'woolly pully'; Rangabzeichen nur am rechten Arm. **K3** Eine regimentsmässige Variation, nur bei Offizieren dieser Einheit.

**L** Für Identifizierung siehe englische Bildtexte.



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MICHAEL CHAPPELL, who comes from an Aldershot family with British Army connections stretching back several generations, enlisted as a teenage private in the Royal Hampshire Regiment in 1952. Over the next 22 years of infantry soldiering, many of them spent with The Gloucestershire Regiment, he held every rank and many regimental appointments up to WO1 and Regimental Sergeant Major. He retired in 1974, as RSM of the 1st Bn., The Wessex

Regiment (Rifle Volunteers), after seeing service in Malaya, Cyprus, Swaziland, Libya, Germany, Ulster and home garrisons. Since then he has become well-known as a military illustrator, and has written several books in the Osprey *Men-at-Arms* series. He lives in Devonshire; and has recently begun publication, under his own Wessex Military Publishing imprint, of a series of detailed booklets on British military dress and equipment of the 20th century.

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