



**UNIFORMS ILLUSTRATED NO. 2**

# The Modern British Soldier

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1. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Commander in Chief, inspects an armoured regiment of 4 Division of BAOR at Sennelager on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of her reign, 7 July 1977.



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# Introduction

## Uniforms Illustrated 2: The Modern British Soldier

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To Charlotte

Placing the emphasis on uniforms and equipment, *The Modern British Fighting Soldier* depicts many aspects of the British Army from routine weapons practice to action on the streets of Belfast and from field training exercises to victory at war in the Falklands. All the photographs are by courtesy of the Ministry of Defence Public Relations Departments unless otherwise stated, and I wish to extend my thanks to Les Wiggs and Paul Haley of Soldier Magazine for their kind assistance in providing several outstanding photographs. Throughout the text several abbreviations recur and they are explained in the appended glossary:

ACE	Allied Command Europe
AFV	Armoured Fighting Vehicle
APC	Armoured Personnel Carrier
BATUS	British Army Training Unit Suffield
CBW	Chemical and Biological Warfare
CEFO	Combat Equipment Fighting Order
CEMO	Combat Equipment Marching Order
DMS	Direct Moulded Soles
DPM	Disruptive Pattern Material
GPMG	General Purpose Machine-Gun
HE	High Explosive
HEAT	High Explosive Anti-Tank
IW	Individual Weapon
LSW	Light Support Weapon
MBT	Main Battle Tank
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NBC	Nuclear, Biological and Chemical
NBCD	Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defence
RA	Royal Artillery
REME	Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
RHA	Royal Horse Artillery
RTR	Royal Tank Regiment
SLR	Self-Loading Rifle
SMG	SubMachine-Gun
WRAC	Women's Royal Army Corps

Simon Dunstan, 1984

2. As dusk gathers, a Royal Irish Ranger takes up position on the edge of a wood. His SLR is fitted with an SS20 Individual Weapon Sight L1A1 to enable the firer to see at low levels of ambient light, which is magnified by as much as 100,000 times. His 1944-Pattern steel helmet is covered with hessian, net and scrim and on his back he carries a lightweight shovel wrapped in a sandbag cover.



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**3.** Members of a Forward Observation Officer's party take a breather during 'Operation Dragons Teeth' on Salisbury Plain. Three of the team are lugging A41 radios on 'Murphy' carriers for communication with artillery batteries to the rear. All are wearing DPM temperate combat dress and either DPM combat caps or blue berets with Royal Artillery badges. The radio operators and the officer lying down in the foreground are armed with Sterling SMGs.

**4.** Sheltering in a shallow foxhole, a Blowpipe team scan the skies for enemy aircraft during 'Exercise Full House' in West Germany. Blowpipe is a one-man operated surface to air missile system for defence against ground attack aircraft and helicopters. The equipment consists of a sealed launcher canister containing the missile and a detachable aiming unit. On firing, the supersonic missile is guided to the target by means of a thumb-controlled joystick and the warhead is detonated by either an impact or a proximity fuze.

**5.** A Royal Artillery Blowpipe detachment with the Royal Anglian Regiment prepare to fire a missile during an exercise in the snows of Northern Norway. Clad in snow suits with Arctic caps and ski boots, the team have camouflaged their SLRs and webbing with white tape. Next to the camouflaged NBC haversack on the nearest man's belt is a case for binoculars which the second man is using as a monocular.

**6.** A Wombat team of A Company, 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, fires sub-calibre practice rounds at Sennelager Ranges in Germany. The crew are wearing NBC 'Noddy' suits with S6 respirators. Webbing is standard 1958 Pattern with the exception of the 1944-Pattern waterbottles and covers. Note the No. 1 has the Wombat towing sling wrapped around his body for better control when firing.



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7. Gunners of 50th Missile Regiment prepare an MGM-52C Lance missile for firing from an M752 launcher vehicle hidden in the depths of a German forest. The crew are wearing DPM temperate combat dress with puttees and DMS boots.

8. Members of the Royal Horse Artillery manoeuvre an FH70 L121 155mm Howitzer into position by means of its integral auxiliary power unit (a 1795cc Volkswagen petrol engine) during an exercise in Germany. Dressed in DPM temperate combat uniforms, these gunners carry SLRs because they are also trained as riflemen. Because of its great length the FH70 is towed (by a Foden 6 x 6 tractor under normal circumstances) with the barrel over the trails.

9. The FH70 is one of the few successful NATO collaborative projects involving the UK (Vickers), West Germany (Rheinmetall) and Italy (OTO-Melara). The sheer bulk of the weapon can be appreciated from this view of the breech and also the brawn required of gunners to load the 43.5kg projectiles and charges. The crew wear blue berets with the RA 'Ubique' badge, and noise attenuating ear defenders.



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**10.** An RHA crew fire an FH70 during an exercise in Germany; for freedom of movement the crew have discarded their webbing equipment and are wearing standard DPM combat dress with puttees and DMS boots. The FH70 has a range of 24km when firing the M107 HE shell and a maximum range of 30km with the L15 rocket-assisted round.

**11.** With an L2A3 'Sterling' SMG cradled in his lap, a soldier of the Royal Regiment of Wales operates an A41 radio in its back carrier. He is wearing a DPM temperate smock with a 6th Field Force flash on his shoulder, 1958-pattern webbing and lightweight trousers.

**12.** The British Army is currently developing a new infantry weapon to replace the ageing 7.62mm L1 series SLR (left). Originally chambered in 4.85mm calibre, the Individual Weapon (right) is a 'bullpup' design with the magazine behind the trigger mechanism which results in a much shorter configuration than conventional rifles. With the NATO decision to standardise on a 5.56mm cartridge, the IW is being modified to accept this calibre and will enter service as the SA80. The new weapon will also replace the Sterling SMG.

**13.** Two well-camouflaged infantrymen in DPM temperate combat dress prepare to fire a 2in mortar during a training exercise, although one wonders why they are loading a parachute illuminating round in broad daylight! The 2in mortar has been in service with the British Army since before the Second World War and will be superseded by the 51mm Light Mortar in the near future.



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14. During an exercise in Germany, an L16A1 81mm Mortar is fired by a crew of the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, wearing DPM temperate combat dress, 1958-Pattern CEFO with NBC haversacks and khaki berets bearing the regimental badge. The 81mm mortar entered service in 1961. It fires the L15A3 HE bomb to a maximum range of 5,650m and, just as important, to a minimum range of only 200m.

15. As a companion to the Individual Weapon a squad support

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version known as the Light Support Weapon (LSW) has been developed. It features a longer, heavier barrel and a bipod mounting for sustained firing and greater accuracy. The weapon is fed from a 30-round box magazine and 80 per cent of its parts are common to the IW. The LSW is not intended to replace the general-purpose machine-gun shown in the background, but to add firepower to the infantry squad in a lightweight form.



16. A Guardsman of the Coldstreams demonstrates the firing position for the L1A1 66mm HEAT Rocket Launcher in a non-tactical setting. The L1A1 is the British designation for the American M72A1 and M72A2 LAW (Light Anti-Tank Weapon) which is the successor to the 3.5in bazooka. The High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead is capable of destroying light AFVs and inflicting significant damage to MBTs and, once fired, the device is discarded. In the Falklands War the L1A1 was highly effective in destroying Argentinian sangars and fortified positions.

17. A 'Para', wearing the famous maroon beret with black regimental badge, lugs a 7.62mm L7A2 General Purpose Machine-Gun during an exercise in Germany; with a loaded weight of 13.85kg it is no meagre burden for a section weapon. He is wearing the distinctive DPM Parachutist's smock with Jungle Green trousers and 1958-Pattern CEFO with an NBC haversack. The GPMG has a blank firing attachment on the barrel and a belt of blank ammunition.

18. A 105mm projectile is loaded into the breech of a Light Gun as the gunners on each side stand by with the shell rammer and the propellant charge. Besides the standard Shell, 105mm, Field High Explosive L31, the Light Gun can fire Smoke, High Explosive Squash Head, Illuminating and Practice rounds. The crew of this gun are wearing DPM temperate combat dress.

19. The 13th (Martinique 1809) Light Battery, Royal Artillery, fire their 105mm Light Guns at Larkhill on Salisbury Plain. The Gun, 105mm Field L118 is the standard equipment of field regiments based in the UK. Commonly known as the Light Gun, it fires a 35-pound shell to a maximum range of 17,200 metres. It can be carried by air in a C-130 Hercules or slung beneath a helicopter. While on the ground the standard towing vehicle is the 1-tonne Land Rover.

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20. Nestled beneath a winter camouflage net, a 105mm Light Gun crew, wearing snow suits and arctic caps, wait for a fire mission during an exercise in Norway. The gun and carriage is partially camouflaged in white stripes and the wheels are fitted with snow chains to aid traction in the icy conditions.





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**21.** A Carl Gustav team prepare to fire their L14A1 84mm recoilless gun. Designed and produced by the Swedish firm FFV, the Carl Gustav is the standard squad anti-tank weapon although it can be used against other targets. Both men are wearing DPM temperate combat dress and the No. 2 is camouflaged beneath a face veil.

**22.** A member of the Queen's Regiment prepares his IWS L1A1 image-intensification sight to locate the enemy during a night exercise in West Germany. Manufactured by Rank Precision Industries, the sight enables the rifleman to engage targets during the hours of darkness. It may also be used with platoon and battalion anti-tank weapons and in a secondary role as an observation device.

**23.** Men of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment set up a ZB298 portable battlefield surveillance radar prior to a night exercise. The system is made by Marconi-Radar systems and is in service with several armies besides that of the United Kingdom. It can detect and locate moving targets on the battlefield by day or night in any weather to a range of 5,000 metres for men and 10,000 metres for vehicles.

**24.** A 'Para', with his characteristic maroon beret and black regimental badge as well as his DPM parachutist's smock, cradles his L1 series Self-Loading Rifle in a foxhole during 'Exercise Royal Reynard' in West Germany. The British model of the Belgian 7.62mm FN FAL (Fabrique Nationale-Fusil Automatique Leger) has been the standard infantry weapon of the British Army since 1957.







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25. A 'silk stick' of the 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, drops from an RAF C-130 Hercules C.1 during an exercise on Salisbury Plain. Each Hercules can carry up to 64 troops in the paradrop role. The three regular battalions of the Parachute Regiment remain a leading exponent of the art of airborne warfare.

26. A soldier of the 1st Battalion the King's Own Royal Border Regiment holds an M203 'over and under' (which is an M16 rifle plus a 40mm grenade launcher) during an exchange exercise at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He is wearing DPM tropical combat dress with DMS boots and puttees. His webbing is US Army issue and the regimental badge is on a patch of red cloth with the US Army Air Assault badge to its right.

27. Men of the 1st Battalion, King's Own Royal Border Regiment, descend a troop ladder from a CH47 Chinook during an exchange exercise at Fort Campbell with the US 101st Airborne Division. They are wearing DPM combat dress, DMS boots and puttees, but their helmets, weapons and webbing are American.

28. An officer of the Royal Army Dental Corps, one of three different corps in the Royal Army Medical Services, performs an extraction in the field with 30th Field Ambulance. The Royal Army Medical Services provide a complete medical service to the Army and, besides their primary function of ensuring dental health and hygiene, RADC personnel are trained in battlefield surgery to treat injuries to the face and jaws.

29. Dressed in DPM combat cap and DPM temperate combat dress, an infantryman of C Company, 1st Battalion the King's Own Royal Border Regiment, operates a C42 radio inside an FV432 APC. On his right shoulder is a parachutist's brevet and on his arm is his blood group 'AB POS'.

30. A Blowpipe team, dressed in old-pattern parkas, of 27th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, take part in 'Exercise Autumn Climax' in West Germany. At a weight of 19.39kg, Blowpipe is barely man-portable and teams are normally carried in Spartan APCs or Land Rovers. Unlike Infra-Red seeking missiles which must chase aircraft from behind, after they might have expended their ordnance, one of the advantages of Blowpipe is that it can be fired at approaching targets.

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**31.** A Wombat 120mm L6 recoilless gun is prepared for firing; mounted atop an FV432 APC in this configuration, the Wombat is highly effective against opposing APCs and even against MBTs although the latter is not its intended role. The crew wear DPM temperate combat dress and 1944-Pattern helmets with hessian and net covers and both hessian and plastic scrim. Similarly, the gun is shrouded with plastic camouflage scrim with the .50in calibre spotting rifle, visible above the barrel.



**32.** MILAN (Missile d'Infanterie Leger Anti-Char) is a wire-guided anti-tank missile which replaces the 120mm Wombat and is produced in Britain under licence from a French-West German consortium known as Euromissile. MILAN is served by a two-man team: a firer and a man carrying additional missiles. The weapon has a range of 2,000 metres and can penetrate armour of more than 350mm thickness.

**33.** A Mortar Platoon Commander briefs the crew of an 81mm mortar, mounted in an FV432 APC. The officer is wearing DPM temperate combat dress, 1958-Pattern webbing with binoculars camouflaged with plastic scrim, and on his epaulettes a rank slide with the initials DER for the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment. On the APC roof beyond the mortar tube is a panorama board used for fire control.



**34.** A member of the Royal Corps of Transport supervises the loading of a Chieftain Mk 5 Armoured Recovery Vehicle aboard the LTC Gull for shipment from England to BAOR. Typical of RCT Movements Staff he wears a civilian safety helmet and Movements brassard and carries a PYE Pocketphone radio.

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**35.** A member of the Women's Royal Army Corps, attached to the Royal Military Police, receives a VIP visitor at Catterick Garrison in North Yorkshire. She is wearing WRAC No. 1 Dress of 'Piper Green' with the special red-topped cap for WRAC personnel attached to the RMP, red brassard with black legend 'MP' and black tie. The cap badge is the rampant silver lioness within a crowned gold wreath of the WRAC.

**36.** The Women's Royal Army Corps numbers approximately 5,000 women who serve in virtually every branch of the Army. Since its formation in 1949 WRAC personnel have not been armed, but with their experiences of security duties in Northern Ireland and the realisation that base areas and lines of communication will be liable to attack in any future conflict, women now undergo smallarms training.

**37.** The next generation rifle for the British Army is the 5.56mm calibre SA80 which was originally configured as the Individual Weapon with a calibre of 4.85mm.







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38. The regimental band of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, in their resplendent uniforms, mark the introduction into service of Challenger – the latest Main Battle Tank of the British Army. (Simon Dunstan)

39. Men of the 244th Signals Squadron stand sentry outside a communications centre during an exercise in West Germany.

40. A Blowpipe team of the Royal Artillery prepare to fire a missile in their role of defence against low-flying aircraft and helicopters.

41. A Chieftain MBT crew on parade at the conclusion of a firepower demonstration. (Simon Dunstan)



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**42.** The commander and driver of an FV432 APC undergo training wearing NBC protective clothing – known colloquially as ‘Noddy suits’.

**43.** Irish Guardsmen at Camp Rideau in southern Belize man a general-purpose machine-gun.

**44.** WRAC personnel operate a machine for X-raying packets and parcels at the Home Postal and Courier Communications Centre at Mill Hill. As ‘postal and courier operatives’ they are attached to the Royal Engineers who are responsible for all British Forces Post Offices (BFPO) and also provide courier services for classified documents.

**45.** A padre of the Royal Army Chaplain’s Department prepares his instant Communion kit during a Field Training Exercise. The RChD provides spiritual guidance to the British Army and its dependants, and fulfils many social welfare functions. Five principal Churches are represented within the department, embracing those of England and Scotland as well as the Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Board Churches.





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46. Royal Engineers erect an M2 bridge over the River Weser in West Germany. The primary task of the modern combat engineer is to enhance the ability of the Army to move across all manner of terrain while at the same time denying the same capacity to the enemy.

47. An FV439 Signals vehicle negotiates a Medium Girder Bridge constructed by Royal Engineers across a river in West Germany during a field exercise. A successor to the famous Bailey bridge of

the Second World War, the Medium Girder Bridge has proved equally successful and is in service in more than 25 countries.

48. Wearing standard DPM combat dress, DMS boots, puttees and 1958-Pattern CEFO, Royal Engineers feed Bar Mines from a Bedford 4-tonner into the special layer which automatically fuzes the mine and then buries it; up to 10 mines per minute can be laid from a single vehicle in this manner. The Bar Mine is capable of disabling all current AFVs.

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**49.** A soldier of 30th Signal Regiment is issued with Arctic Warfare clothing prior to going on exercise with ACE Mobile Force (Land) in Norway; an interesting illustration of the diversity of uniforms necessary for the modern combat soldier who may be called upon to fight in any terrain or climate.

**50.** A British soldier moves out on an exercise wearing the latest No. 1 Mk 4 NBCD clothing – (Nuclear Biological and Chemical Defence) – in DPM camouflage. The disposable two-piece suit is worn with black rubber gloves (the ones shown here are the Northern Ireland issue) and charcoal paper overboots. The white tape on wrist, ankle, overboots and respirator case is detector paper.

**51.** A simulated casualty is decontaminated before his NBCD suit is removed and he is placed in a full NBC casualty bag for transport to a field hospital for treatment. The casualty's respirator is not normally removed until he is in a 'safe' area.

**52.** A soldier demonstrates a half NBC casualty bag which is used for walking wounded. In the background is the full NBC casualty bag mentioned in caption 51.

**53.** Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers wearing NBC protective clothing, although they lack overboots, repair the suspension of a Stalwart High Mobility Load Carrier during an NBC exercise in West Germany. This suit provides protection against all known Soviet CBW agents for several hours; it is then removed and replaced by a new one.

**54.** Chieftain crewmen of 3rd Royal Tank Regiment, wearing the distinctive black beret and overalls of the RTR, relax on their vehicles prior to moving out on exercise. On their shoulder straps are the green flashes which distinguish 3rd RTR.



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55. With his commander's knees jammed in his back, a trooper of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards manipulates the gun controls of a Chieftain MBT. His cap badge is the interlocking 'VDG' on a dark green cloth backing and he wears the normal working dress of Olive Green denim overalls although the tie seems to be overstating the matter even in such a distinguished regiment as the 'Skins'!

56. A captain of the 1st Battalion, the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, gives tactical orders by radio (Clansman UK/PRC 352) during an exercise at the British Army training area at Suffield in Alberta, Canada.

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57. Royal Army Medical Corps personnel operate on a wounded soldier in the Main Dressing Station manned by 7th Field Ambulance. The rapid evacuation and prompt treatment of casualties is of vital importance to the morale of the fighting soldier.

58. Popularly known as the 'Noddy Suit', this soldier is wearing a No. 1 Mk 3 NBC suit, black rubber gloves over white cotton



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58. inners, and S6 respirator. Each soldier is issued with three NBC suits as well as Chemical and Biological Warfare first aid and cleansing kits.

59. A Royal Artillery observation post party direct 105mm howitzer gunfire in the Belize jungle. All are wearing DPM tropical combat dress with a mixture of 1944- and 1958-Pattern webbing. In the foreground is an A41 radio with remote antenna.

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**60.** A soldier of the Black Watch hacks his way through the jungle of Guyana while a companion keeps watch with an SLR. Both are wearing DPM tropical combat dress and hats, 1958-Pattern webbing rigged for light patrol order, and the new high DMS boots which were sorely missed during the Falklands campaign.

**61.** Members of the Women's Royal Army Corps, wearing 'Noddy suits' and respirators, operate teletypers at a communications centre under NBC conditions.

**62.** Fitness – a vital consideration for any soldier. Troops of 12th Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery, undergo a route march carrying stretcher cases during an exercise at Haltern in West Germany. They are wearing DPM temperate combat dress, DMS boots and full 1958-Pattern CEFO.

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**63.** After a hard day's soldiering during 'Exercise Bold Guard', two soldiers brew-up a post-prandial beverage after consuming their 24-hour ration pack main meal – probably 'chicken *suprême*'! Note the SLRs remain readily to hand, one of which is fitted with a blank firing attachment.

**64.** A soldier of the Royal Anglian Regiment, wearing the 'poacher's rig' or 'ghillie suit' camouflage outfit used by snipers, sights his L42 rifle during a training exercise in West Germany. The camouflage scheme is compromised by the lack of camouflage cream on face and hands. The L42A1 sniper's rifle is a Lee-Enfield No. 4 converted to 7.62mm calibre and is used in conjunction with the Sighting Telescope L1A1, giving an effective range in excess of 1,000 metres.

**65.** Dressed in standard DPMs with DPM combat caps, DMS boots and face veils worn as scarves, these soldiers of the Territorial Army are sharing a cup of tea during 'Exercise Full House'. Weapons include SLRs, 9mm Sterling SMG, 66mm rocket launcher and smoke grenades.

**66.** Sappers of the Royal Engineers transfer demolition stores from an AEC Militant 10-ton truck into their FV432 APCs during an exercise in West Germany.





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67. Two soldiers, wearing DPMs and 1958-Pattern CEFO (less yoke and kidney pouches) with NBC haversacks, shelter in a shallow foxhole during infantry training in Germany. They are armed with SLRs and the nearer man has an L1A1 60mm rocket launcher slung across his back. The 1944-Pattern No. 4 Combat Helmet GS is well illustrated.

68. In front of a line of Chieftains, a Squadron Leader of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards briefs tank commanders during an early morning Orders Group with an RA gunner and an infantryman clad in DPMs in attendance. The tankers are dressed in denim coveralls with 1958-Pattern belts and NBC haversacks and wear the black leather calf-length boots favoured by the cavalry.



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69. With his helmet well-garnished with scrim and natural vegetation, a rifleman lies prone in a slit trench during an exercise at Batus, in Suffield, Canada. He is wearing DPM tropical combat dress with 1958-Pattern webbing and NBC haversack and is armed with an SLR and a 60mm rocket launcher. 70. A Carl Gustav team of the Parachute Regiment demonstrate the new Parachutist's Lightweight Helmet which is made of glass reinforced plastics. The new No. 6 Combat Helmet GS currently entering service is very similar in configuration.

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71. A patrol of the Black Watch moving through a German village illustrates the limitations of using the GPMG as a light machine-gun. Besides the GPMG's excessive weight, the use of uncovered, linked ammunition belts exposes the firer as a priority target as well as accumulating dirt which leads to stoppages of the weapon.

72. Paratroopers of the 10th Battalion (V), The Parachute Regiment (TA), rest with their loaded rucksacks during an

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exercise on Salisbury Plain. The kneeling man wears the earlier parachutist's steel helmet while the others wear the new lightweight type.

73. An 81mm mortar crew, wearing DPM tropical combat dress and hats, with 1958-Pattern webbing, fire their weapon during an exercise in Cyprus – the baseplate has bedded into the ground and is no longer visible. In the foreground is the mortar cleaning kit and sight case.

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**74.** An infantryman prepares to fire an L1A1 66mm HEAT anti-tank rocket. In action the waterproof sealing endcaps are removed and the tube is extended telescopically. The sights are then raised and the weapon is ready to fire. After firing the tube is discarded. Despite its limitations against the latest generation of MBTs, the L1A1 remains a highly-effective weapon against many other battlefield targets by virtue of its small size and weight which allow almost any infantryman to carry it without discomfort.

**75.** Clad in DPM tropical combat dress, two members of a patrol confer during a jungle exercise. The soldier on the right is armed with an L2A3 9mm 'Sterling' Submachine-Gun. Designed as the replacement for the famous Sten gun, the Sterling is a simple, robust weapon with a side-mounted, 'banana' magazine holding a maximum of 34 rounds, but experienced users load two or three rounds less so as not to overstrain the magazine spring which can lead to stoppages.

**76.** A dramatic view of a Milan anti-tank missile firing at night; a shot which evokes images of the Falklands War when Milan missiles destroyed Argentinian fortified positions at Goose Green and on the hills overlooking Port Stanley.

**77.** Wearing the pale blue berets of the United Nations, a British Army peacekeeping force prepare their Ferret armoured cars for a patrol in Cyprus.



78. A Chieftain MBT kicks up the dust as it passes a Carl Gustav team sheltering in a foxhole at the British Army Training Unit in Suffield, Canada.

79. Gunners of 50th Missile Regiment, RA, prepare a Lance missile for launching. When fitted with a nuclear warhead, Lance is the British Army's most powerful weapon. (Simon Dunstan)

80. Mechanics of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers undertake the recovery of a stranded tank, using a Chieftain Mk 5 ARV. (Simon Dunstan)



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**81.** An infantryman armed with a 66mm rocket launcher illustrates the effectiveness of the Disruptive Pattern Material (DPM) of the current British Army camouflage combat dress.

**82.** Purdey, a search dog of the Royal Military Police, checks out a national institution for explosives prior to a VIP visit. (Simon Dunstan)

**83.** A British Army member of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force supervises the disarming of a guerilla following the ceasefire in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe.







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84. An officer of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, in full dress.

85. A crew commander of the 17th/21st Lancers checks his position on the map during 'Exercise Avon Express' on Salisbury Plain. He wears the 'Dan Dare' AFV Crewman's Helmet

manufactured by Racal which incorporates headphones and communications gear. Around his neck is a radio control box for an armoured fighting vehicle. In the background is his FV101 Scorpion Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance (Tracked) or CVR(T).

86. A Wessex helicopter flies low over a ski patrol of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, during 'Exercise Atlas Express' in Norway. All are dressed in Arctic caps, snowsuits and mittens, and their weapons and equipment are camouflaged with white tape; rucksacks are covered with white sheeting. The third man from the front is carrying an L4A4 LMG – the famous Bren Gun chambered for 7.62mm ammunition.





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87. Huddled against a cold wind in a temperature of minus 30° Centigrade, a gunner of the 32nd Guided Weapons Regiment, RA, keeps watch during 'Exercise Hardfall' in Norway. He is equipped with a separated sight mechanism which allows him to control a Swingfire anti-tank missile fired from an FV102 Striker hidden nearby.



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88. With their distinctive white over red hackles on their berets, men of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, practise riot drill with shields and batons at Warwick Camp in Bermuda.

89. A company commander and his reconnaissance party from 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, take part in 'Exercise Avon Express' on Salisbury Plain. All are wearing DPM

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temperate combat dress with 1958-Pattern CEFO and khaki berets with black patches and regimental badges. The major in the foreground has a compass-case on his belt, and pencil brassard on his left arm.



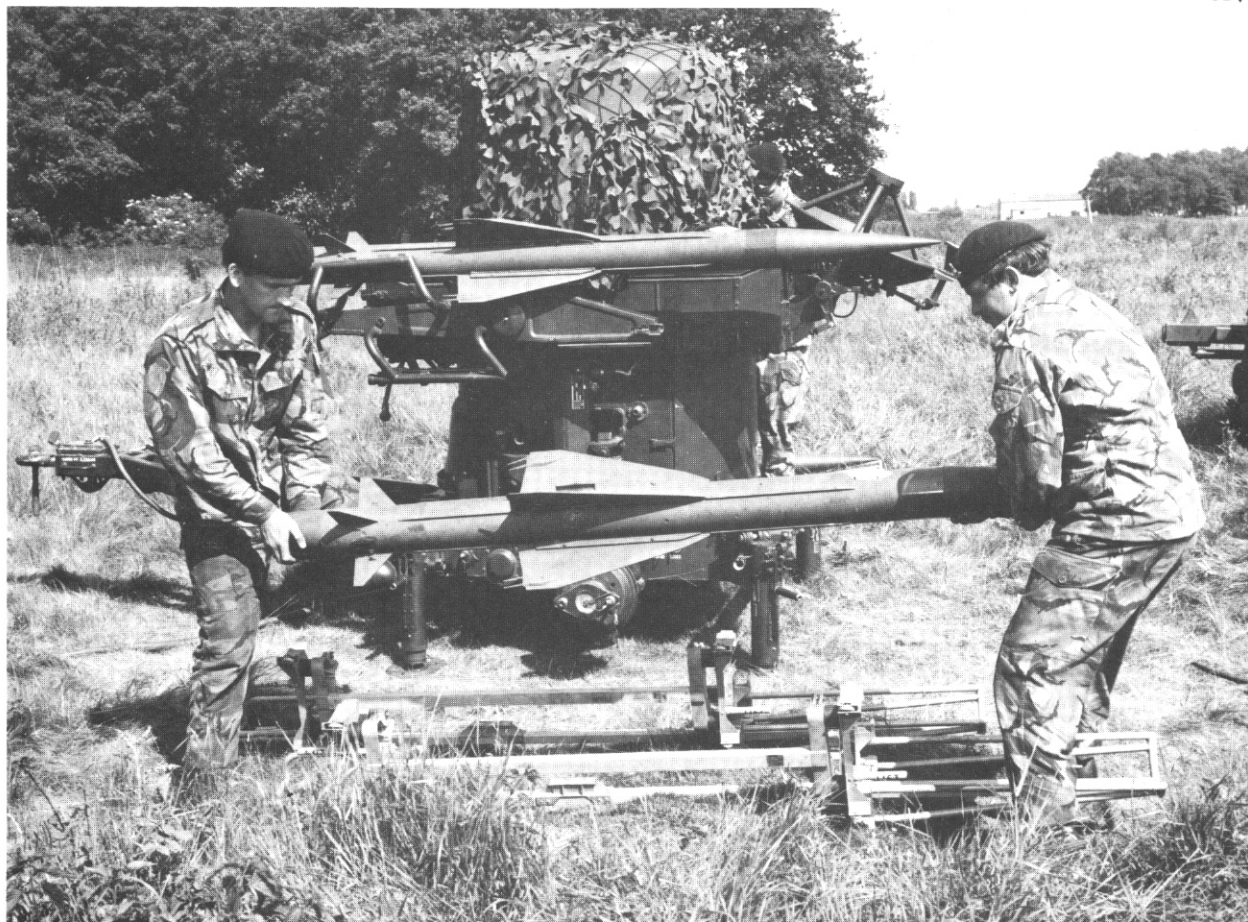


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90. Men of the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, line up for a helicopter lift during 'Exercise Sky Warrior'. No hats are worn when boarding helicopters as they constitute a hazard to aircraft and their helmets are strapped to the packs at their feet. Lightweight picks and shovels are attached to the 1958-Pattern CEMO.

91. Gunners of the 12th Light Air Defence Regiment, RA, load Rapier missiles onto a launcher; loading time for the four missiles is approximately two minutes. Three RA Light Air Defence Regiments are equipped with Rapier. Each regiment comprises 36 firing units.

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92. On the wide open prairie of Suffield in Canada, a Carl Gustav team shelters in a foxhole. Besides HEAT, the Carl Gustav fires High Explosive and Smoke rounds.

Armour penetration of the HEAT projectile is in excess of 200mm.

93. Members of the British contingent to the Commonwealth Monitoring Force in Zimbabwe fix a large Union Flag to their Land Rover in order to reinforce the white crosses which indicate that the vehicle and men are unarmed.

94. Mechanised infantrymen disembark from the close confines of an FV432 Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC). The FV432 transports a crew of two plus ten infantrymen at a speed of 50km/hr to a range of 600km. The nearest soldier wears an early-pattern DPM combat smock and second-pattern trousers. The others wear the standard DPM pattern and all are wearing full CEFO, but without NBC kit.

95. A welcome drink for men of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, after the completion of a 10km run at Sennelager; both men are wearing blue berets with green patches behind their regimental badges, DPM combat smocks and lightweight trousers, DMS boots and puttees.

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**96.** A lance-corporal of the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, guards the Battalion Lines during 'Exercise Snow Plough' in West Germany. He is wearing DPM temperate combat dress and field cap (note black rank chevron on brassard on his right arm). Around his neck is a face veil and binoculars. The tube attached to the left shoulder strap is an earplugs container, and in the pocket of the left sleeve is a thunderflash.

**97.** Medical orderlies of the Coldstream Guards give first aid to 'wounded' comrades prior to evacuation in the ambulance variant of the FV432 visible in the background. Note the Red Cross brassards which have replaced the former 'SB' (stretcher bearer) ones.

**98.** Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, run through the Grunnewald after landing from assault boats. They are wearing the old-style Denison smocks, so grudgingly given up by the paras on the introduction of DPM, with 1958-Pattern belts and pouches and Olive Green 'jungle' trousers. The nearest man has a thunderflash in his smock pocket, and on his left shoulder, the 'Flaming Arsehole' insignia of the Berlin Brigade.

**99.** A rifleman of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, shows the effective use of camouflage and cover during training at Sennelager in West Germany.

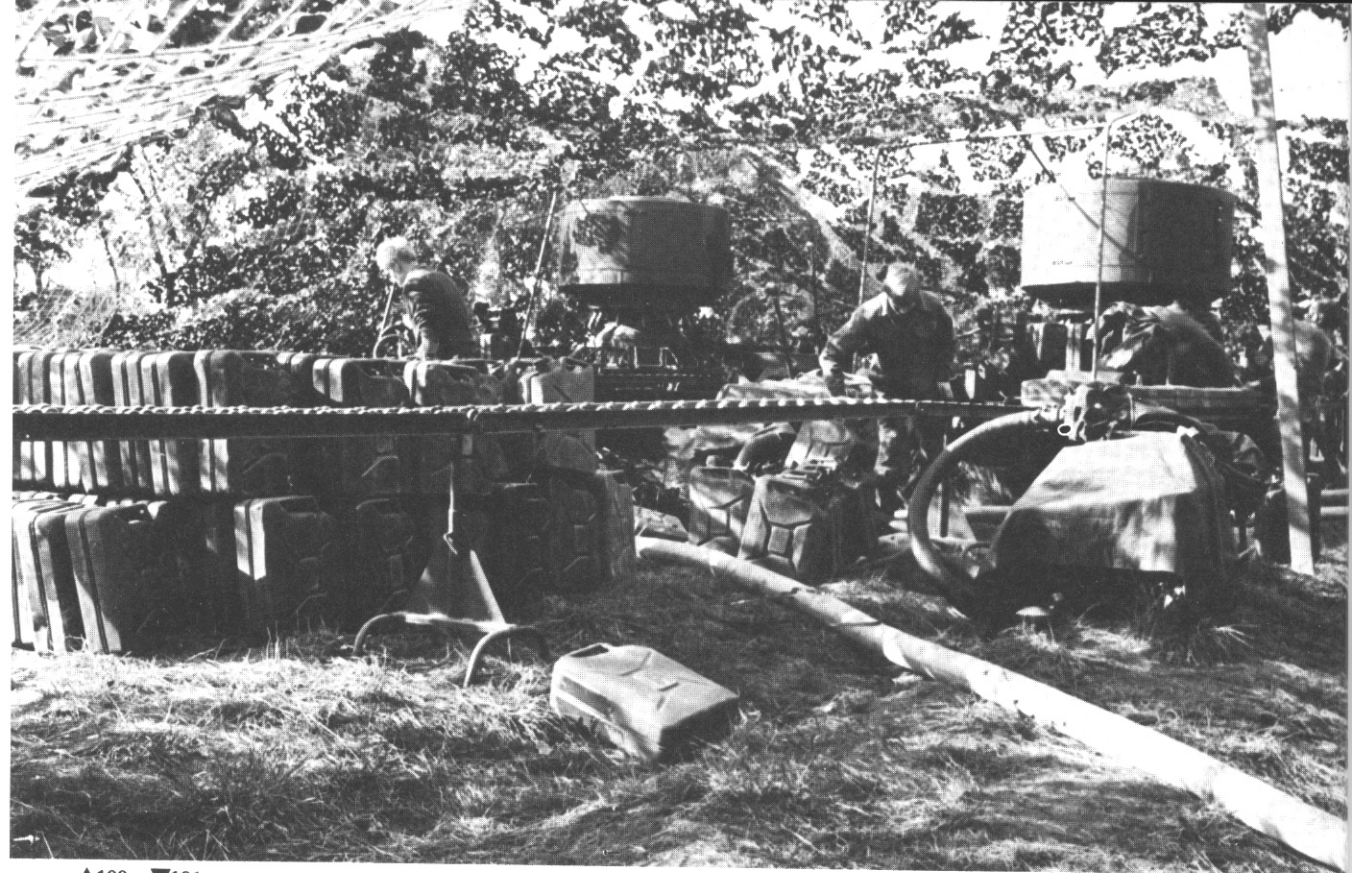
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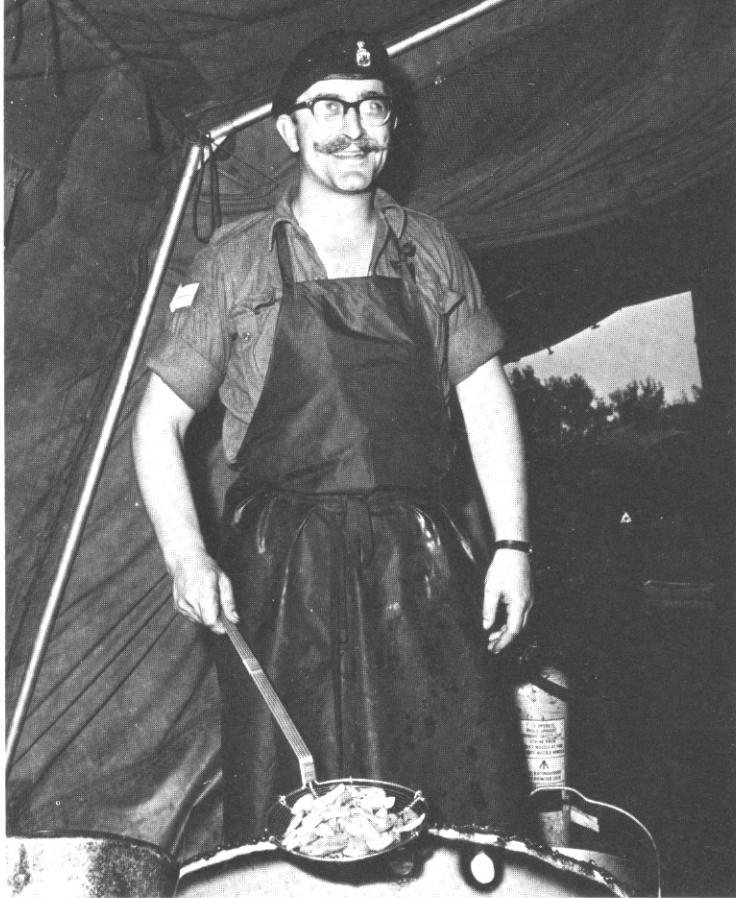
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- 100.** Fuel – the vital ingredient in modern mechanised warfare; personnel of the Royal Corps of Transport fill ‘jerrycans’ from bulk fuel dispensers at a POL (Petrol, Oil and Lubricants) point during ‘Exercise Bold Guard’.
- 101.** The ‘woolly pully’ – one of the most widely-known items of British Army uniform. Here, a REME craftsman of 9th Field Workshop, cuts away the tailplane of a Focke-Wulf Fw200 Condor Maritime Reconnaissance Aircraft and Bomber which crashed in the Norwegian mountains in December 1942.
- 102.** ‘Chips with everything’ – essential to the morale of the British fighting man. A corporal of the Army Catering Corps prepares lunch in a field kitchen during ‘Exercise Bold Guard’.
- 103.** A soldier of the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII’s Own Gurkha Rifles, crosses the River Batang Limbang in Brunei, with his kit wrapped in a buoyant bag made from his waterproof poncho. The Brigade of Gurkhas numbers five battalions and remains an integral part of the British Army.



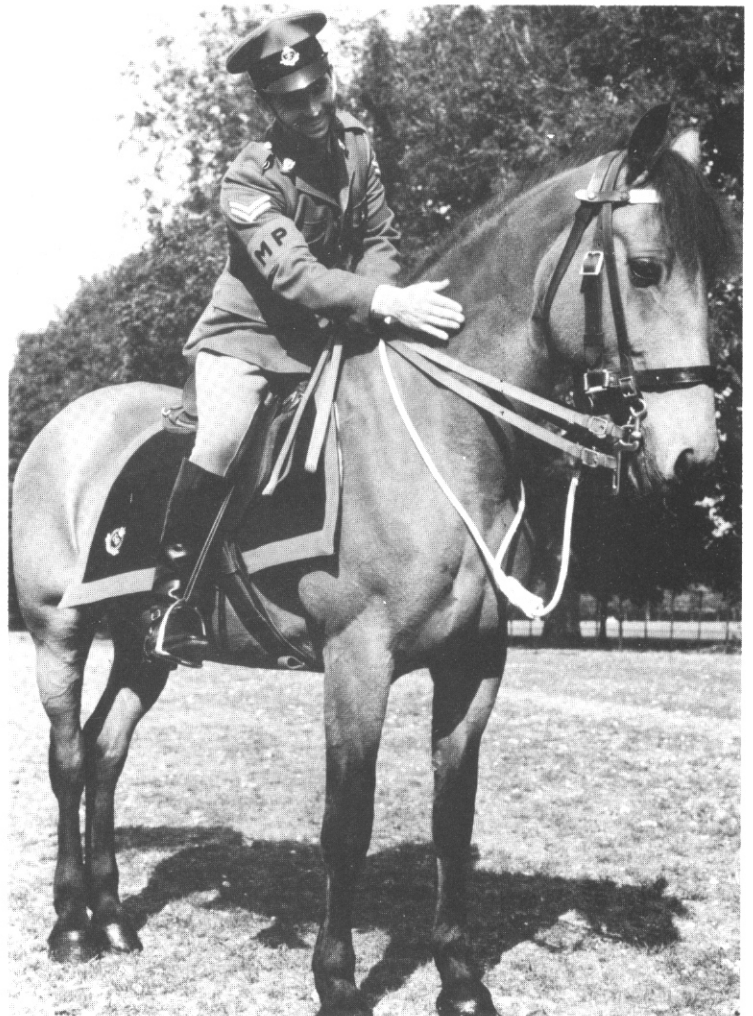
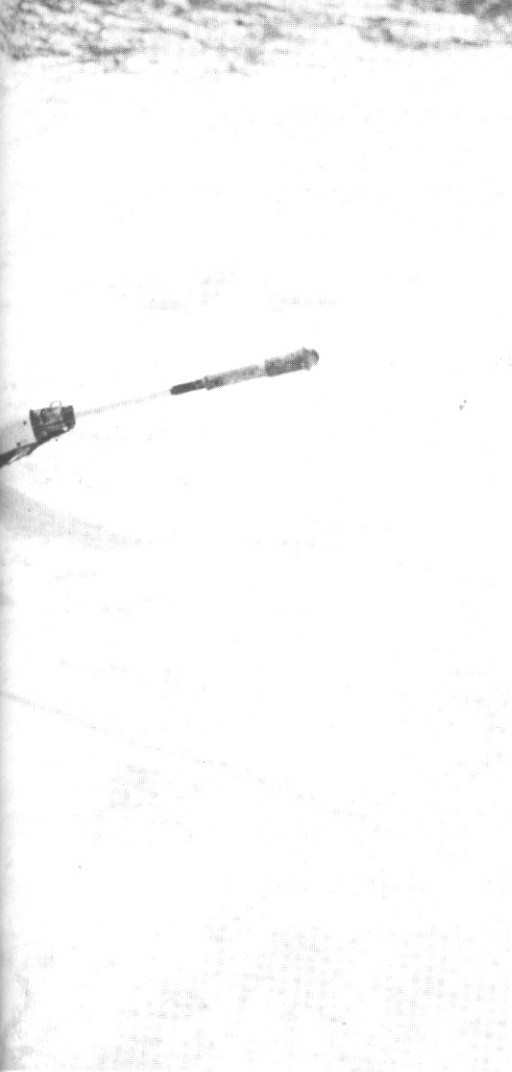


**104.** Well protected against the cold, in Arctic caps, parkas and snowsuits, men of the Royal Anglian Regiment stand guard in a snow trench during 'Exercise Atlas Express' as part of the ACE Mobile Force in its role of protecting NATO's northern flank. Note the weapons are camouflaged with white tape and the 'snow shoes' on the bipod of the L4A4 LMG.

**105.** A Royal Military Police sergeant directs traffic at a control point during movement of Chieftain tanks at Catterick. He is dressed in green flannel shirt with RMP shoulder titles and non-regulation sewn creases, red beret and Corps cap badge, red brassard with black 'MP' legend, traffic control armllets, 1958-Pattern belt, pouch and pistol case with L9A1 Automatic Pistol and lanyard, NBC haversack and DPM combat trousers.

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**106.** A fine study of a member of the Royal Military Police mounted detachment who is wearing No. 1 Dress cap (red-topped), No. 2 Dress tunic, regimental cap and collar badges, red and black brassard, breeches with riding boots and spurs. 'Yogi Bear', the horse, is equipped with a 1902-Pattern bridle and bit and 1912-Pattern saddle with red, black and gold wire embroidered saddlecloth.

**107.** A MILAN team of the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire prepare a missile for firing during 'Exercise Anorak Express'. They are wearing DPM Arctic windproof combat dress, mittens and Arctic caps. The Union Flag patch on the right shoulder indicates that they are attached to ACE Mobile Force.





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**108.** Gurkhas of The Sirmoor Rifles advance along a jungle trail during a patrol in Brunei. They are dressed in the last-pattern Olive Green tropical shirt and trousers with the 1944-Pattern webbing which was modified for the war in Burma, but which only saw active service in the post-war jungle campaigns. The Gurkhas often carry the lighter M16 assault rifle in preference to the SLR.

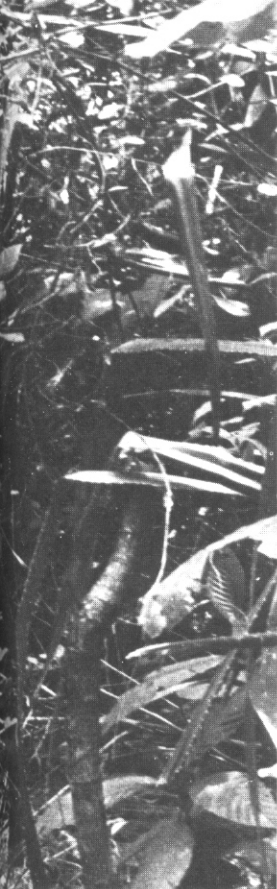
**109.** A radio operator of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, communicates on his A41 equipment during a jungle exercise in Brunei. He is wearing jungle boots and the last-pattern Jungle Green shirt, trousers and tropical hat. His modified 1944-Pattern webbing is interesting because the small pouches are for M16 assault rifle magazines although he, of course, is carrying an SLR.

**110.** A MILAN team take up a concealed firing position in the undergrowth. The crew are wearing DPM temperate combat dress and 1944-Pattern helmets with hessian and well-garnished net covers. The 1958-Pattern CEFO shows the poncho below the kidney pouches, but lacks digging tools and NBC gear.

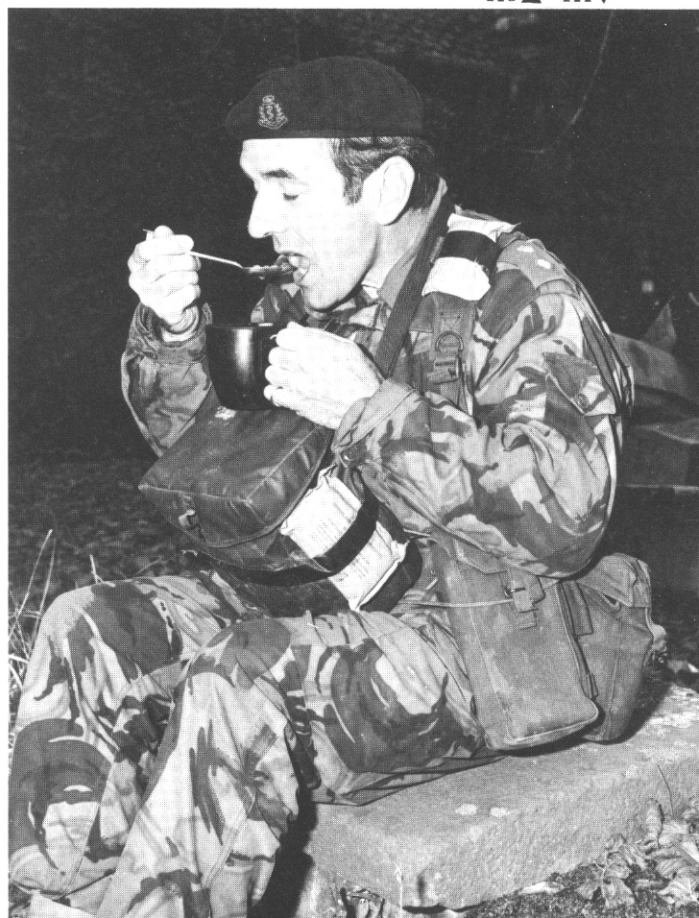
**111.** A lieutenant-colonel of the Royal Army Medical Corps, wearing the distinctive cap badge of entwined snake and staff, snatches a meal during 'Exercise Full House'. The tools of his trade in the form of shell dressings are taped to his NBC haversack and to the yoke of his 1958-Pattern CEFO.

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**112.** A section of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, embarks in a Royal Air Force Puma helicopter during 'Exercise Advent Express'.

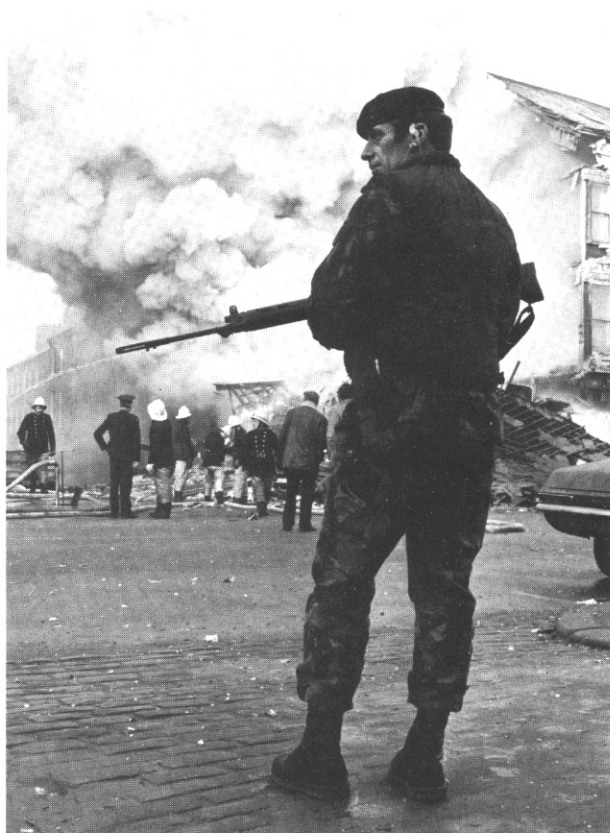


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**113.** A Scout helicopter of 2nd Division Aviation Regiment (note the crossed keys insignia of 2 DIV) comes into land during an exercise in Schleswig-Holstein. The pilot displays the Army Air Corps patch on the right shoulder of his overalls.

**114.** A paratrooper on night manoeuvres during 'Exercise Steel Trap'. His SLR is fitted with an L2A1 SUIIT (Sight Unit Infantry Trilux) which improves night fighting capability and assists target identification in poor light or at long range.

**115.** A soldier of 45th Medium Regiment, RA, mans a heavily-sandbagged barrier built across the road approaching the Rosemount RUC police station. He is wearing DPM temperate combat dress, flak jacket and No. 4 helmet with visor. His S6 respirator is strapped to his right arm. (Soldier Magazine)

**116.** A rifleman stands guard as firemen extinguish a blaze following a bomb explosion – an all too common occurrence in the continuing conflict in Northern Ireland. (Soldier Magazine)

**117.** Behind a thin screen of barbed wire, soldiers of the Welsh Guards form up in front of a harassed RUC policeman in the face of a hostile and abusive Protestant crowd. (Soldier Magazine)



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**118.** The 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, lands on Green Beach at Port San Carlos at the outset of 'Operation Sutton' - the British landings on the Argentine-occupied Falkland Islands, 21 May 1982.

**119.** The men of 5th Infantry Brigade come ashore on 31 May while a Guardsman provides protection against air attack with a .50cal M2HB Browning heavy machine-gun. Twenty-four of these weapons were taken out of storage for the Falklands campaign. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)

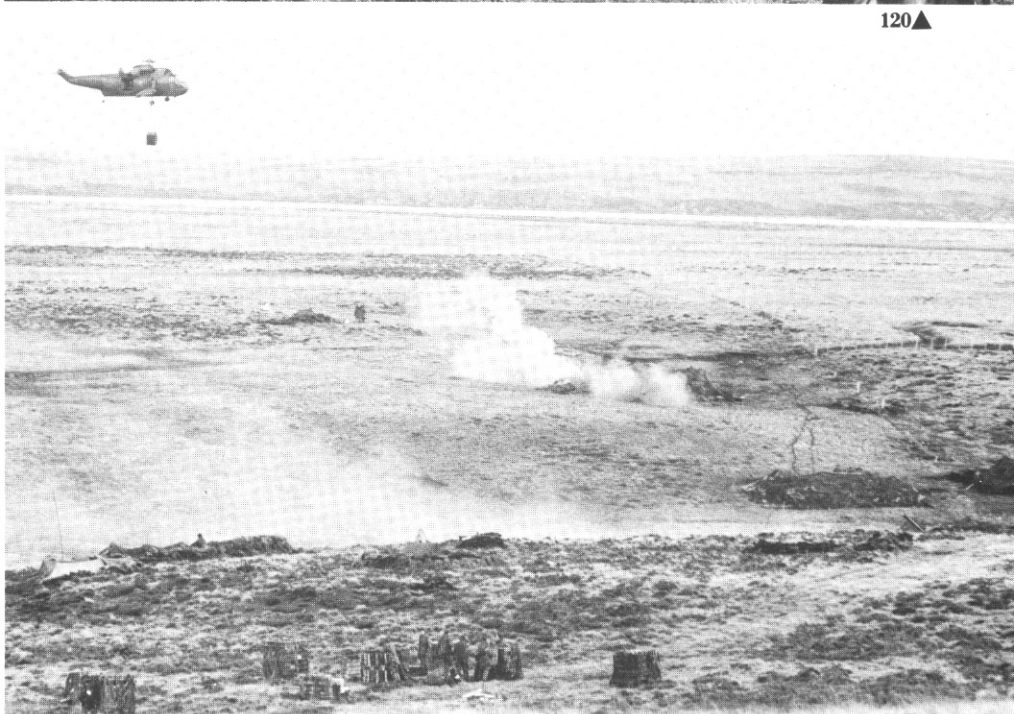
**120.** 'Yomping' and 'tabbing' - Marine and Para slang for marching cross-country in full kit; words that became synonymous with the infantryman's war in the Falklands. Lack of helicopters meant that the troops of 45 Commando and 3 Para had to march for 40 miles across the most treacherous terrain and in the foulest weather; each man's kit weighing up to 120 pounds. Here, heavily-laden Scots Guards move out of the bridgehead towards Goose Green. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)

**121.** After positions had been established facing the Argentine fortified hills before Port Stanley, every round of ammunition and tin of combat rations had to be moved forward from San Carlos by helicopter in preparation for the assault. Approximately 175 helicopters were deployed by the British Forces in the South Atlantic and throughout the campaign they operated beyond their normal endurance limits. A Royal Navy Sea King flies in ammunition (15,000 rounds in all) for the 105mm Light Guns of the artillery.

**122.** The thirty-six 105mm Light Guns of 29th Commando Regiment, RA, and 4th Field Regiment, RA, played a vital role in the final battles. It being impossible to dig gunpits because of the high water table, revetments were built around the guns and masked beneath camouflage netting, but even so, each time a gun fired it sank into the soft peat and had to be realigned completely after firing about 20 rounds. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)



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**123.** Psychological warfare. The fearsome reputation of the Gurkhas spread panic and terror among the largely conscript Argentinian army which believed the Gurkhas to be drug-doped cannibals who take no prisoners. At Mount William, almost an entire battalion fled rather than face the Nepalese mountain men, and the hill was taken unopposed, much to the disappointment of the Gurkhas. Clad in windproof, foul-weather smocks, men of the mortar platoon of 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, establish a position on Goat Ridge. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)

**124.** In the final battles for the hills overlooking Port Stanley, one of the fiercest engagements was the Scots Guards' attack on Mount Tumbledown which was defended by the regulars of the Argentinian 5th Marine Battalion. In seven hours of ferocious fighting the hill was taken. Here 7th Platoon, G Company, 2nd Battalion, The Scots Guards, pauses on the summit, minutes after white flags had been seen flying over Stanley. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)

**125.** Argentinian prisoners are led away from Mount Tumbledown by a Scots Guardsman wearing windproof DPM Arctic combat smock, cap and trousers and armed with an SLR fitted with an IWS. (Paul Haley/Soldier Magazine)

**126.** Following carefully in the footsteps of the man in front, Marines of 45 Commando march from Two Sisters along a track bordered by minefields towards Port Stanley after the Argentinian collapse; within a short distance 45 Commando walked into a minefield and for 20 minutes each man stood perfectly still while Sappers cleared a path.





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127. Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, move through a debris-littered street in Port Stanley shortly after the Argentinian surrender. The first unit to enter Stanley, 2 Para had seen more action in the Falklands than any other battalion, fighting two major battles at Goose Green and at Wireless Ridge.

128. Royal Marines of 40 Commando raise the Union Flag at Port Howard on West Falkland after the surrender of the isolated Argentinian garrison. 40 Commando had a 'bad' war and saw no

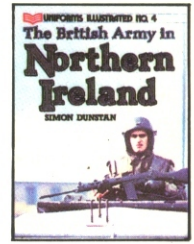
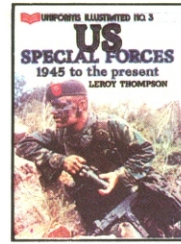
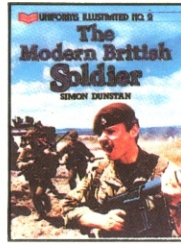
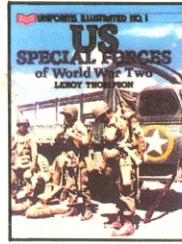
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action of consequence, being charged with the defence of Ajax Bay and San Carlos against possible Argentinian amphibious or paratroop attack, but, as with all units of the British Forces in the South Atlantic, victory was assured by their sheer professionalism and motivation, apart from their expertise in arms based on thorough training.





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