

# BERLIN BULLETIN



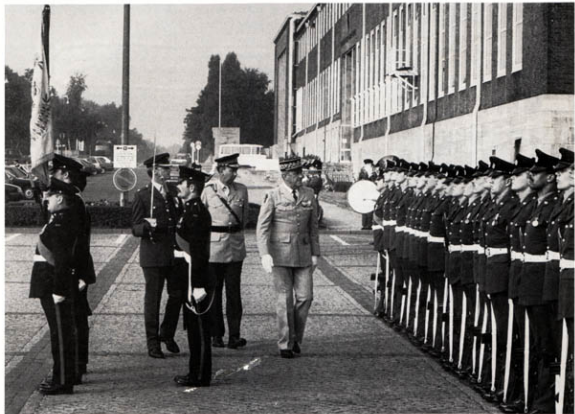
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## Guard of Honour for French GOC



The Guard of Honour was formed by the 1st Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment for the first visit of the incoming French Commandant, General de Division François Cann, to HQ Berlin (British Sector).

*Photo: Army PI*

## Visit of Pate's Grammar School CCF Cadets to 1 GLOSTERS

### *Return Visit After 19 Years*

Twenty-four Cadets and two Officers from Pate's Grammar School, Cheltenham CCF were hosted by C Coy, 1 GLOSTERS for a CCF attachment camp from 25 August to 2 September. These senior cadets (the contingent is 165 strong) took part in company training, drill and an exercise in the Grunewald as well as sightseeing in both West and East Berlin. Close observers of the Berlin scrapbooks may be interested to

note that the CCF visited 1 GLOSTERS during their last tour in Berlin in 1968.

At the farewell barbecue, mutual thanks were exchanged and the Commanding Officer of the CCF Major M. Dray presented 1 GLOSTERS with a framed print of Cheltenham. The CCF are badged GLOSTERS and are grateful for their links over the years and the opportunity to experience the unique atmosphere of Berlin.



# 1 GLOSTERS

## Swim, Run and Cycle for Charity

On Friday, 28 August, 'A' Company 1 GLOSTERS swam, for the second year running, the length of the Havel. This time it was in aid of the Meningitis appeal. Like last year, the swim was carried out as a relay with one team starting from the north, led by 2 Lt Dutton, swimming from the area of Heiligensee, the other team swam from the south, led by Lt Felton, leaving from the Customs Jetty by Montgomery Barracks. Boats to carry the teams and to act as safety were manned by 1 GLOSTERS Assault Pioneer Platoon and the Royal Engineers. Each swim was divided into three legs with teams changing after each leg. The two teams met in the area of the Ruhlebener bridge.



'A' Coy swimmers on the boat.

WO2 (CSM) Bryan, a guest swimmer from Support Company, started the swim from the south and swam the whole way from the Customs Jetty to the BBYC. LCpl De-Banks in the north, however, developed cramp almost immediately he got in the water and had to be pulled out straight away. In between these extremes, swimmers swam as far as they felt comfortable.

The majority managed a swim of 500 metres or more. The swim took six and a quarter hours to cover 22 kilometres.

Whilst the swim was taking place 2 Lt Nicholas and a select group of runners were running round the Berlin Wall. The event took the form of a run / cycle and involved two small teams.

Both teams started at the Reichstag; one took a northern route, the other a southern route, both meeting up again at Staaken Checkpoint, the finish. The distance was broken down into about 10 kilometre legs with each man running and cycling one leg.

Like the swim, all the pain endured was in a good cause. We hope to have raised DM 5,000 for Meningitis research in the UK and would like to thank everyone who sponsored us.

The day culminated in a Company party at the Berlin Brigade Canoe Club where all the swimmers and runners were able to relax their weary bones.



'A' Coy runners at the Reichstag.

## The Air Training Corps: Opportunities for Young People to join at RAF Gatow

The Air Training Corps is a national youth organisation which encourages a practical interest in aviation, adventure and sport. It provides training which will be very useful in any walk of life.

The A.T.C. can do a lot for youngsters; it brings a new interest in life, builds self-confidence and self-discipline while providing lots of fun. There is a great deal of emphasis on sports, annual camps and adventure activities.

Any person, of British nationality between the ages of 13 and 18 can join the Air Training Corps.

Squadrons are run by officers who are commissioned in the RAF Volunteer Reserve (Training) branch, assisted by adult Warrant Officers, civilian and 'service staff' instructors and Squadron Chaplains. All are volunteers and come from every walk of life.

The first meeting of the new A.T.C. Squadron, based at RAF Gatow, is to be held in The Havel School Dining Room at 1900 hours on Wednesday, 16 September. This time has been chosen to tie in with the route bus service leaving Edinburgh House at 1820 hours.

This inaugural meeting is designed to inform parents and potential cadets of the reasons for setting up an ATC Squadron and putting forward ideas for the way ahead.

Following a few words of introduction there will be an opportunity for teenagers to be enrolled into the squadron provided that a parent is present to sign the necessary indemnity form. Those who have decided to join will also be measured for their uniforms.

It is intended to hold meetings each Wednesday at 1900 hours starting on 30 September. If those who are interested cannot attend the first meeting on September, 16, then enrolment can take place at any later meeting.

Any enquiries relating to the new A.T.C. Squadron may be addressed to Flt Lt Rod Walker (work 309 24 61 or other times 309 24 06) or Mr. Dave Howatson (work 309 26 60 or home 365 59 02).

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We are pleased to consider contributions for publication. Material should be typed and submitted by 1200 hours on Tuesday for the Friday of publication. The office is situated in Gloucester Block.

Send articles for inclusion to: Berlin Bulletin, HQ Berlin Infantry Brigade, BFPO 45.

# 1st Troop 'B' Squadron, 14th/20th Kings Hussars Walk the Berlin Wall



Resting at Checkpoint Charlie.

Wednesday, 26 August; 0600 hours; Smuts Barracks. Twelve members of 1st Troop stirred and thoughts turned to the three and a half day walk around the Berlin Wall. No-one was entirely sure of what to expect but morale was high. However, by 1615 hours on the first day 34 km had been completed.

Our second day was much harder, not only in distance, but we also had to avoid losing any members of the team in the city. The pace was faster and lunchtime on the steps of the Reichstag provided an entertaining sight as everyone shed their shoes and socks to carry out the necessary servicing on their feet. The final eight kilometres of the day had the Troop frequently asking "How much further?" and the frequent reply came of "Just around the corner!" The team were rewarded for their efforts with a night in Smuts Barracks and the chance for a much needed shower.

Tpr Randall set a blistering pace on Friday and by 1100 hours we had covered more ground than expected so the sight of a Pizzeria, open for business, provided a chance for refreshment. The Gloucestershire Regiment was running the Wall the same day, using a relay system, and it was from our comfortable seats that we toasted their good health in true cavalry spirit. Camp that evening was pitched at a civilian

site where many efforts were made at Anglo-German relations. Cpl Beaver thought it prudent to leave Tpr Pinkerton's clothes outside the tent lest it should disturb his sleep. Unfortunately it rained all night and it was a bedraggled Pinkerton who completed the final 8 km to the Glienicke Bridge, with the other nine members of the team. The total distance completed was 118 km.

Our thanks must go to Tpr Mitchell who provided our support and Tpr Hird who, despite the weather, filled us with optimism by wearing his sunglasses throughout!



At the Pizzeria.

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## VOLVO IN STEGLITZ LOCHNER

## History of British Scouts in Western Europe

Rover Scouts were formed shortly after the end of the 1939/45 War but it was not until sometime in 1946 when service families moved to Germany, that Scout Troops and Cub Packs were formed in the various Garrisons throughout the area of operations in Germany. These Groups were then directly administered by Scout Headquarters in London.

In 1947, Scouting had become well established in Germany and a local organisation was set up and it was then that British Scouts in Germany became official and 916 members were registered. A local Scout Council was organised with a President and Zonal Commissioner and the services of a Field Commissioner provided, on loan from Headquarters in London.

In 1952, British Scouts in Germany were placed under the administrative control of the International Commissioner of the Scout Association and were responsible for other Scout Groups which were operating in Austria, Belgium, France, Holland and Italy. It was then that the title was changed to British Scouts in Western Europe. The then Commander in Chief of the British Army of the Rhine was invited to become the first County Commissioner and continues to do so to this day.

British Scouts in Western Europe was now established and given the status of a British Scout County with its own Commissioner, Scout Council and Executive Committee. The Scout Association then

provided the services of a full time Field Commissioner to be based in Germany. The County Scout Badge was adapted from the formation sign of the British Army of the Rhine which is a blue cross on a red shield but without the crossed swords.

The County now operates Scout Groups throughout Germany and Berlin and provides Scouting for boys of the families of BAOR / RAF (G) personnel stationed in Germany and Berlin. It also provides Scouting for boys whose parents are with NATO Units in Oslo, Portugal and Naples and with the EEC in the Benelux Countries of Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg and operate Scout Groups in Antwerp, Liege, Mons, Waterloo, Brussels, The Hague and Luxembourg. There are various civilian communities amongst these organisation whose boys are involved in Scouting and three such Groups are in Paris, Milan and Rome.

The Scout County is organised in 3 Regions, 15 Districts and over 70 Groups of which ten of the latter are completely civilian Scout Groups. Several of the Groups, both service and civilian, are International in their content having boys of several nationalities all following the British Scouting programme and working together as one unit. The annual membership of the County is approximately 3,000 boys and 500 Leaders, but due to normal Service postings an average of 350 Leaders change over each

year. The Scout Troops and Cub Packs tend to remain fairly static in numbers but there is a growing interest in the development of Beaver colonies and the Venture Scout Section.

All members of the various British communities co-operate with each other and have full Association membership in the British Scout Movement. The assistance that each member gives the other, including the goodwill and facilities that are provided by the Service Units and formations, help Scouting to flourish in Western Europe. Therefore, British Scouting provides suitable programmes for any British boys who are interested in Scouting anywhere on the Continent of Western Europe.

Further information on Scouting is available in Unit / Station / Garrison Information Handbooks, from any Education Centre or direct from either:

1. Field Commissioner — Maj (ret'd) T. D. Hill (JHO Ext 2525)
2. BSWE County Secretary — Mr. David Haigh (JHO Ext 2805)

Vacancies exist in most areas for:

Beaver Scouts	(Minimum age 6)
Cub Scouts	(Minimum age 8)
Scouts	(Minimum age 10½)
Venture Scouts	(Minimum age 15½ male and female)

For information about scouting in Berlin contact:

Sqn Leader Chapman	Tel. 309 26 11 (work) or 309 24 45 (home)
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### Allied Carol Service British Sector Choir

The Sector Choir will start rehearsing on Sunday, 4 October from 1900 hours to 2100 hours at St. George's Church, Preusseneallee. All interested singers are invited to come along and lend their support.

The Choir List will be closed on the last Sunday of October.

### Wesley House and Trinity Church

The Reverend D. V. R. Harvey, B.A., Th.M., F.S.A. (Scot) RAF, the new Command Chaplain (Church of Scotland and Free Churches), will be preaching in Trinity Church, RAF Gatow (Education Centre) on Sunday, 13 September at 1030 hours. It will be a Family Service and the children will be participating. Padre Harvey will be preaching at 1830 hours at the evening service in Wesley House Chapel (Klosterstrasse 18, Spandau, next to the BP Garage). There will be refreshments after both services and a crèche is available. A very warm welcome is extended to everyone!

### Signs of the Kingdom

Over the next few weeks at the Informal Evening Service in BMH, Padre Blakey will preach on the Kingdom of God, and in particular some of the Signs of the Kingdom.

13 September	The Preaching of the Good News
20 September	People being Born Again
27 September	The Healing of the Sick
4 October	The Casting out of Demons

As usual there will be time for ministry, and coffee will be available. Everyone will be made welcome at this small, inter-denominational gathering.

### Birth Announcement

#### British Military Hospital Berlin

JACKSON. To Pte and Mrs. Jackson, 1 KOSB, a son, on 10 August.

OGLESBY. To Cpl and Mrs. Oglesby, RAF Gatow, a son, on 1 September

GIBSON. To Pte and Mrs. Gibson, 1 KOSB, a daughter, on 4 September.

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# BERLIN BULLETIN

## BERLIN DIARY

A look at the news and events in the Berlin Bulletin this week ten, twenty and thirty years ago.

1957

### The Berlin Police Show



German Police Show.

In the blazing sun of what must have been one of the warmest days since July a crowd of about 100,000 people gathered in the Stadium on Sunday for the 'Große Polizeischau 1957'. For over six hours they were treated to a programme of non-stop entertainment provided by the Berlin City Police. At times the arena resembled the main hall at Crufts, as dogs dashed here and there barking wildly, at other times it reminded one of the Speedway Track of Bellevue, Manchester. Dogs, gymnasts and riders all contributed to a magnificent show.

The main events of the afternoon began with a football match between the

Berlin Police Team and an eleven from Berlin Independent Brigade. At first the British play was a little ragged, and the Police scored the first goal of the match a few minutes after play started. This goal seemed to rouse the British team to action for then on their play improved rapidly and they went on to score two goals in the second half, thereby carrying off the victory.

At dusk came the highlight of the evening. First as the lights in the Stadium were switched off, motor cycles with lights twinkling on their wheels, and on the helmets of their riders, sped round the arena, while at the top of the steps at the far end of the Stadium, could be seen the reflected light of the torchlight procession gathering outside the Stadium walls. At a given signal, as the cycles left the arena, thousands of candles were lit by spectators, and slowly down the steps and on to the arena, swept a vast cascade of flickering light. The torchlight procession, moved round the stadium as the band played. The crowd fell silent. There was more music, and then the show was over.

Once again the lights were switched on, and the spectators came away, no doubt making a date to go again next year. (Don't miss the 1987 show — tomorrow at the same venue!)

1967

### 247 (Berlin) Provost Company RMP



Runners-up of the BMW Team in the Berlin Infantry Brigade Motor Cycle Trials being presented with their awards by the Brigade Commander. Left to right: LCpl J. Bradley, Cpl T. Benton, Cpl D. Carhart, Cpl J. Poole.

This year for the first time RMP in BAOR entered a team in the Nijmegen Marches. The Company despatched Staff

Sergeant Wilson, Corporal Gardiner and Lance Corporal Joynes for this pleasant stroll in the Netherlands. Bronzed, bearded and cheerful they returned to Berlin eager to recount their tales of hardship and privation. Volunteers for next year have already been dominated by the RSM.

RMP BAOR entered a team in the annual International League Police Rally again this year and Staff Sergeant Vasquez driving an 850cc Mini is congratulated on gaining second place.

In the recently held Berlin Brigade Motor Cycle Trials our team were runners-up in the Berlin Section of the competition and Cpl Poole was joint winner of the BMW and Novices prizes.

### Sporting Achievements 1967

- Winners Berlin Squash League
- Winners Minor Units Badminton League.
- Joint Winners BAOR and UK Badminton Doubles.
- Winners Berlin Water Polo League and Knockout.
- Winners Berlin Minor Units Weapon Meeting.
- Winners Swinden Cricket Cup (BAOR RMP Knockout Competition).
- Joint Winners Individual Trophy Berlin Inf Bde Motor Cycle Trials.
- Joint Winners Novice Trophy Berlin Inf Bde Motor Cycle Trials.
- Winners Berlin Ten Pin Bowling Winter and Summer Leagues.

1977

### Medals for Senior Postmen



WO1 MacFarlane, Brigadier Grey and WO1 Twigg.

It was a proud moment for the Berlin Postal, Courier and Communications Unit when two of its senior postmen received Long Service and Good Conduct Medals on the same day.

WO1 S. MacFarlane and WO1 W. Twigg were presented with their medals on Tuesday, 6 September by Brigadier Grey.

Glasgow-born Mr. MacFarlane joined up in 1959 and has served in Hong Kong, Borneo, Singapore and BAOR before coming to Berlin. He is married with an 11-month-old son, Colin.

He takes over from WO1 Twigg in the PCCU. Mr. Twigg was originally a Field Engineer, then a TA Infantry man before transferring to the Postal section of the Royal Engineers. He has served in Cyprus and Gibraltar and leaves Berlin next week to be commissioned and serve at the UK Postal Depot.

# Berlin in Brief

A news round-up from the Berlin Press



Prominent coverage was given in the local press to the first day of Erich Honecker's visit to the Federal Republic. Chancellor Kohl and his East German guest both came out in favour of closer co-operation and further improvements in the relations between the two German states. Herr Honecker, before going in for his talks with the Chancellor, gave some figures for GDR citizens allowed to travel to the Federal Republic up until the end of August, i.e. 3.2 million, of whom 866,000 had been below pension age.

Chancellor Kohl stressed that the Federal Republic would continue to stick to its aim of achieving German Unity. He went on to point out, however, that existing boundaries would be respected and that the division was to be overcome by peaceful means. Herr Kohl also stressed that the central question of the situation in Germany was Berlin and the preservation and extension of the city's ties with the FRG. Herr Kohl also demanded the lifting of the order to shoot at the Inner German border.

According to information from the Rathaus Schöneberg, the Governing Mayor told the Senate meeting last week that, based on signals from Bonn, one ought not to put too much hope in the Honecker visit as far as significant improvements for West Berliners were concerned in the sphere of travel and visits. It was also revealed that the GDR appears to be willing merely to make minor concessions regarding the applications procedure.

The Federal Chancellery has announced that the modernisation of the rail link between Berlin and Hanover via the GDR will be top of the list for discussions with Erich Honecker. The Federal Government appears to have several projects in mind, including a link for Berlin with the Intercity network, an extension of the Express train connection Paris / Brussels / Cologne as well as a magnetic railway. It was not revealed which one will be most favoured. The Government in Bonn is hopeful, however, that the debates will bear constructive fruit.

Last week, persons unknown, fired two shots from a motorcycle into the left leg of a local judge, Günter Korbmann. Herr Korbmann is in charge of the department at the Federal Administrative Court which deals with asylum cases. The bullets came from

the same calibre gun which injured the Head of the local Aliens Office last October. Investigators are proceeding from the assumption that it was not intended to kill Herr Korbmann. "Revolutionary Cells", have claimed responsibility for the "kneecapping" and reported Herr Korbmann had been injured because of his leading role in passing judgement in asylum application cases. Herr Korbmann is recovering in hospital after an operation.

East Berlin border guards prevented an escape attempt at Checkpoint Charlie last week. According to a spokesman, a man approached the border crossing point walking zigzag when he was headed off by border guard soldiers and led away. No shots were fired.

Following this incident the US Mission in Berlin issued a statement on behalf of the three Western Allied Commandants. The statement reminded that there was freedom of movement for the Berliners in all four sectors of the city and that the Commandants deplored the unjustified and unacceptable use of physical force to prevent this free movement.

A spokesman for the Federal Transport Ministry has announced that one million GDR pensioners plus a further half million younger East German citizens visited the Federal Republic last year in urgent family matters.

The Governing Mayor, the US Commandant and high-ranking Allied representatives were present last Tuesday at the hand-over ceremony of Berlin's first rescue helicopter, which will be starting operations on 21 September.

Persons unknown set fire to a wreath at the West Berlin memorial to Peter Fechter (the young man who died trying to escape during building work at the Wall in 1962).

RAF Gatow's airport became the scene for a few hours last Tuesday for a US film about the spectacular escape of three GDR citizens in a plane in 1978.

Last week large numbers of GDR citizens continued to besiege the offices in West Berlin which pay out the newly increased welcome money. The town hall of Neukölln was full to overflowing and the police had to be called to restore order.

A 32-year old GDR citizen used a ladder last Thursday night to climb a boundary fence at the Inner German border, reaching Bavaria safe and sound.

The Soviet Supreme Court has sentenced Matthias Rust to four years in a labour camp, albeit under somewhat easier conditions of imprisonment than the harsher regime prescribed in some cases. Bonn has expressed the hope that the Soviets will show mercy and release Rust in the near future. A fair verdict, thought Tagesspiegel's Günther Matthes, while Morgenpost took the view that Rust was a lucky young man, agreeing with Tagesspiegel and Volksblatt that too many high-ranking officials had been dismissed after Rust's landing on Red Square, to allow him to get away with his exploits unpunished.

The local SPD has introduced its own radically simplified plans for Berlin's urban transport, which gives the thumbs down to the Senate's idea of zoning, suggesting instead that passengers should be charged according to the time they spend on the public system, eg. 15 minutes, 2 hours, 3 hours or the whole day.

Newspapers report, quoting CDU HQ in Bonn, that the British and French Prime Ministers will be present in Berlin between 24 and 26 September at a conference of the International Democratic Union (IDU), which is taking place at the invitation of the Federal Chancellor in the Reichstag. The IDU, formed in 1983, is a working association of leading Christian Democratic and Conservative parties.

Local athletics fans will be delighted with the decision of the World Athletics Federation to hold the Grand Prix Final 1988 in Berlin. The city won with 11 votes to 9 against London. The votes in favour included those of the GDR.

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