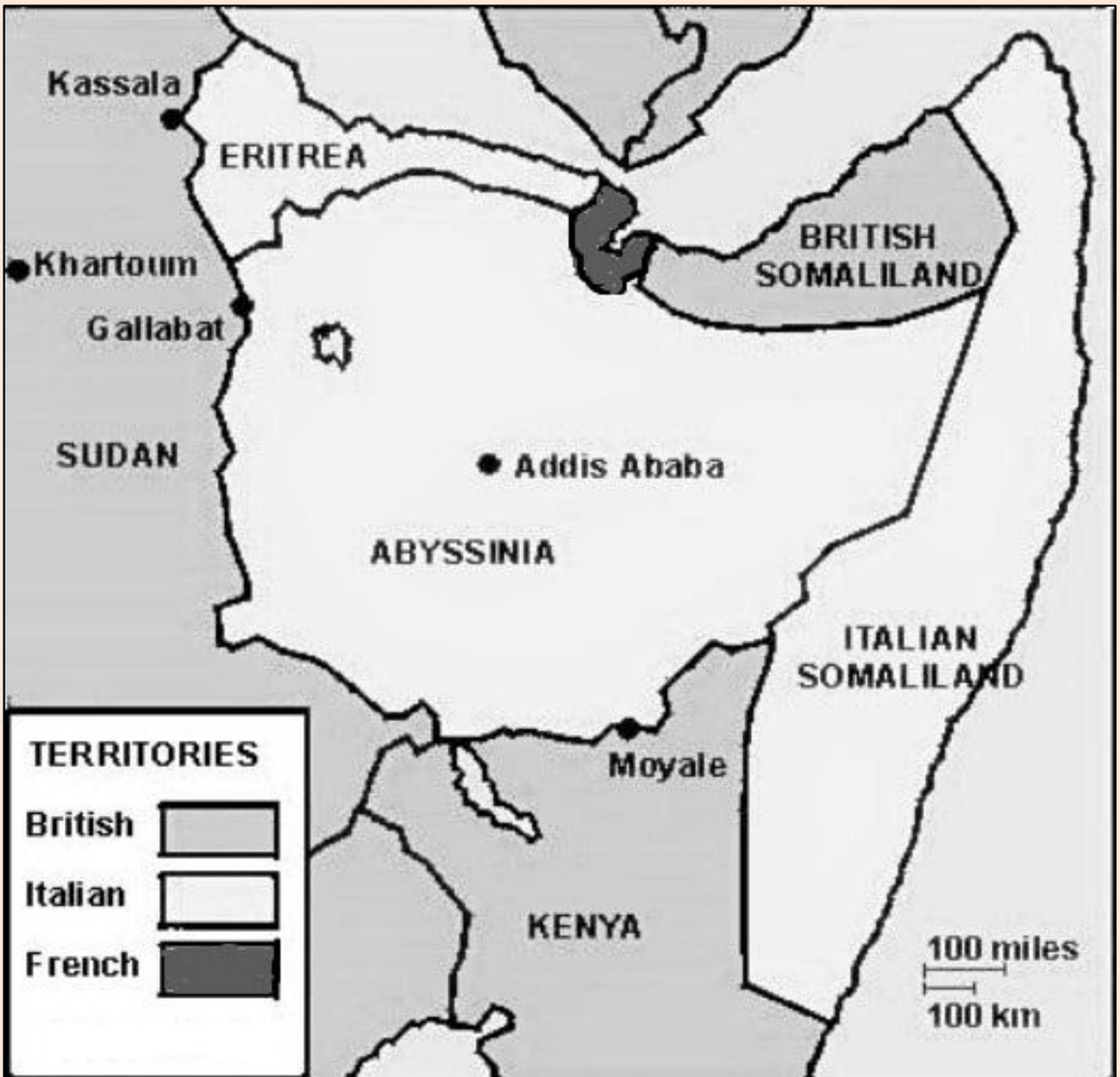




The Military Survey (Geo) Branch

Autumn Newsletter 2021 – issue 81

HISTORY OF THE SURVEY DIRECTORATE OF EAST AFRICAN FORCES



The war zone in northeast Africa in 1939

Introduction

In September 1939 the East Africa Survey Service consisted of one unit, 1 Survey Company East African Engineers (EAE), which was mobilized at the outbreak of war with Germany. There was no Survey Directorate and 1 Fd Svy Coy EAE was controlled nominally by GSO 1 at Force Headquarters. GSO 1, however, had a large say in Survey matters and there being apparently no definite principle laid down as to the control of Survey policy it was controlled by a combination of GSO 1, GSO "I" and OC 1 Fd Svy Coy EAE.

In March 1940 Southern Rhodesia Survey Unit (SRSU) commanded by Major J E S Bradford, arrived in East Africa. With two survey units in the East African Forces (EAF) the need for a Survey Directorate became even more pressing than it had been before.

In April 1940, Major H P Rowe, OC 1 Fd Svy Coy EAE returned to his civil duties as Director of Surveys and Director of Civil Aviation, Tanganyika Territory, and the unit was then commanded by Major F M Ford. Mr Rowe was regarded by Force Headquarters as being technical adviser on survey policy.

In May 1940 Major N G Huntly AD Svy, MFF, Union Defence Forces (UDF) arrived in East Africa with the advance party of G.H.Q. of M.F.F., U.D.F. At that time the intention was to have a South African Force, with its own headquarters, working in parallel with E.A. F.H.Q. The Survey Directorate of M.F.F., U.D.F. was to have consisted of D.D. Survey (Lt. Col, A.D. Survey (Major) and a small staff of computers, draughtsmen, and clerks.

Prior to May 1940 the grid used by E.A.F. was not a projectional grid and A.D. Survey M.F.F., U.D.F. was instructed by D Survey U.D.F. to press for the adoption of the South African 2° grid system with the metre as unit. After discussion between Mr Rowe and A.D. Survey, M.F.F., U.D.F., a grid system based on the 5° Transverse Mercator coordinate systems previously in use for survey purposes in Tanganyika Territory, and which had been extended into Kenya as a basis for the surveys of Survey Service E.A.F was agreed to as a compromise. The unit was the yard, This proposal was approved by E.A. F.H.Q. and the new grid was immediately adopted.

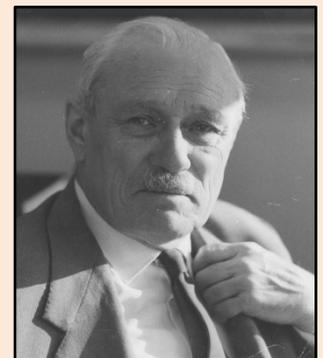
On 29 June 1940 O.C. 1 Survey Coy E.A.E., O.C. S.R.S.U. and A.D. Svy. M.F.F., U.D.F. presented a memo on organisation of Survey Service E.A.F. and a proposed mapping programme for Survey Service E.A.F. The organisation included a Survey Directorate and indicated a possible grouping of E. African, Southern Rhodesian, and West African survey units. The proposed programme dealt with 1:2,000,000 series, 1:1,000,000 series and 1:50,000 series covering the theatre of war. G.O.C. approved all proposals. G staff signalled W.O. asking for F.H.Q. establishment to include a Survey Directorate.

On July 10, Survey units from West Africa arrived. At first these consisted of a Gold Coast Survey Unit and a Nigerian Survey Unit, both controlled by Bde. Commanders of Gold Coast and Nigerian Bdes. Respectively. It had, however, previously been ruled by W.O. that these two survey units should be combined into a West African Survey Unit commanded by Major W Nesham.

Early in July 1940 a signal was received from Mideast to the effect that Col. Brown, D Survey Mideast, would visit E. Africa to discuss Survey policy. An agenda was prepared, and the organisation previously submitted to G.O.C. was slightly modified for presentation to him. After conferences in Nairobi Col. Brown went on a tour of this theatre and on 23 July his recommendations for the organization and future programme of E.A Survey Service were submitted to G.O.C. and approved.

D. Survey, Mideast, recommended: -

- (a) that War Office be asked to send Col. Hotine as A.D. Survey.
- (b) that Lt. Col. Bradford act as A.D. Survey, E.A.F. pending arrival of Col. Hotine.
- (c) that Major N G Huntly act in parallel with A.D. Survey, E.A.F. as A.D. Survey, M.F.F., U.D.F.
- (d) that 1 Svy Coy E.A.E., S.R.S.U. and West African Survey Units be grouped to form East African Survey Group under command of Lt. Col. Bradford.



Col Martyn Hotine

The programme for the next six months recommended by D. Survey, Mideast, was as follows: -

- (1) Africa 1:2,000,000 series. South Africa to be asked to publish and maintain all sheets south of lat. 4° N.
- (2) 1:1,000,000 series. E.A. Survey Service to produce and maintain sheets south of lat. 8° N.
- (3) 1:500,000 series. Desert and inaccessible areas to be mapped on this scale.
- (4) 1:250,000 series. Developed areas behind the line Moroto Pass, Kahiguria, Maralal, Archers Post, Meru to be mapped on this scale by S.A. Svy Coy.
- (5) 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 series. Areas selected by G staff to be mapped on these scales.

D. Survey Mideast issued a series of Survey Technical Instructions. These included the sheet line system for map of E.A. Survey Service. The new grid system was approved, subject to W.O. confirmation and its extent was limited to 8° N Latitude.

1 Survey Flight S.A.A.F. arrived during June. Owing to there being no Survey Directorate, the fixing of a suitable programme was a difficult matter, especially as it was not advisable to waste films and material on areas which were of no military importance. The weather at the time made air photography almost impossible. A route Liboi-Hawina-Sabda-nearly to Afmadu-Dif was photographed on instructions of G.S.O. 1.

On 31 July W.O. finally approved E.A. Grid system. On the same day W.O. approved war establishment of Survey Directorate, E.A.F. with A.D. Survey (Lt. Col) and Captain assistant.

The establishment of E.A. Survey Directorate involved certain adjustments affecting the Survey Department, Dar-es-Salaam. When Major Rowe returned to his civil duties' certain other officers, normally on the staff of Survey Department, Dar-es-Salaam and serving with 1 Svy Coy E.A.E., also returned to civil duties. Survey Department, Dar-es-Salaam was printing all maps for E.A. Survey Service and its staff was a mixed civil and military one. In the near future, Directorate arrangements for map printing in East Africa would be complete. In order to maintain uniformity, it was decided that any map printing by Survey Department, Dar-es-Salaam for E.A. Force, would be on a contractor basis, from fair drawings supplied by E.A. Survey Service. Certain equipment and records of 1 Svy Coy E.A.E would, in terms of new arrangements, have to be returned to that unit. This adjustment was effected during August 1940.

During August 1:500,000 mapping programme was commenced. These sheets, which could only be tackled by compilation, were commenced by S.A. Survey Coy, and E.A. Svy Group. Necessary field work for 1:500,000 series in Northern Frontier District was commenced by E.A. Svy Group and 1 Survey Flight was engaged in photography of certain features such as Uaso Nyro River and Tana River, ground survey of which was out of the question owing to difficulty of access.

Proposals were submitted limiting the extent of E.A. Grid system between 8° N latitude and 12° S latitude South Africa grid system to be used for all Africa south of 12° S latitude. These proposals were finally approved in September 1940.

On 7 August W.O. approved establishment of E.A. Svy Directorate amended to include D.D. Survey (Col.), D.A.D. Svy. (Major), Captain R.E. assistant. It had previously stated that the posts would be filled from England.

“Instructions for Military Mapping” were issued in August. These covered all necessary instructions to ensure that trig. and topo field work by all units of E.A. Svy. Service was uniform and in accordance with Directorate Policy.

At the end of August, a Central record office for all survey data was established. This was called Central Survey Records (C.S.R.).

S.A. Svy Coy arrived in East Africa in August and commenced field work for the 1:250,000 programme early in September. It was originally intended that S.A. Svy Coy would do both necessary trig. and topo work for this programme, but it became necessary to undertake some large-scale surveys of defensive areas at Archer's Post and Isiolo and consequently the small-scale topo work was reorganised so that S.A. Svy Coy did trig and sketch mapping only and two sections were withdrawn to carry out large scale topo work.

In October, D. Survey, U.D.F – Lt Col Whittingdale – D. Survey, U.D.F. – Lt Col Holzer – visited E.A. theatre. It had been found that Envoy aircraft with which 1 Survey Flight S.A.A.F. was equipped were unsatisfactory, and, furthermore, armed aircraft were necessary. After discussion with Air H.Q., the establishment of 1 Survey Flight S.A.A.F. was amended in light of experience and a Survey Squadron equipped with Anson aircraft was formed.

By this time the Directorate policy was crystallised in favour of a strong permanent base organisation for map productions. D. Survey, Mideast, had decided to send immobile litho printing equipment for E.A. Svy Group. H.Q. of E.A. Svy Group and S.A. Svy, Coy were therefore established in permanent camps with adequate facilities for drawing offices, records, and printing equipment.

Permanent photographic dark rooms with equipment capable of high production capacity for a Survey Squadron were included in the S.A. Svy. Coy, H.Q. It was arranged that the ground photographic staff of Survey Squadron would live in this camp.

The Directorate published drawing office instructions to ensure uniformity of the various map series.

In October block photography of certain defensive areas was commenced by the Survey Squadron. A scheme of partial photography of prominent features such as water courses, main tracks, etc., in uninhabited desert country to be mapped only on 1:500,000 scale, was carried out with success after completion of the block photography.

In anticipation of forward moves, G. staff issued instructions for an extension of the 1:500,000 series to cover Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland south of lat 8° N. This was to be done an enlargement of Italian 1/1M series with any available large-scale information added. G staff decided that Italian spelling of place names in Italian territory would be used.

Some difficulty was experienced in establishing a fixed policy with respect to showing of aerodromes owing to divergent views held by G Staff and Air H.Q. It was eventually decided that aerodromes and Landing Grounds (L.G.s) in enemy held territory, would be included.

Since November 1940, the changes to the organisation had been established as follows: -

Survey Directorate Force H.Q.

- (a) D.D Survey Col. M. Hotine
A.D. Survey Major N.G. Huntley
D.A.D. Survey Major G. Laws R.E.
Assistant Capt. B.B. Titchener R.E.
- (b) System of parallel control of Union Defence Forces abolished. All Survey Units controlled by D.D. Survey.
- (c) The Directorate controls directly the following Central Sections, made up by attachment from Units: -
 - (i) Central Cartographic Records (O i/c Capt. W.M. Younger E.A.E.) administered by East African Survey Group. In addition to maintenance of records prepares material for compiled maps and examines drawings before reproduction.
 - (ii) Central Photographic Records. (O i/c Capt. P.H. O'Brien S.R.S.U.) administered by East African Survey Group. Maintains library of all air photos taken by 60 Squadron (SAAF) plus any taken by other squadron likely to be used for mapping.
 - (iii) Central Triangulation Records (O i/c Lt. D.R. Hendrikz S.A.E.C.) administered by S.A. Survey Coy.
- (d) The above Central Records Sections are located at the H.Q. of the Unit administering them, all being in Nairobi.

1st (S.A.) Survey Company

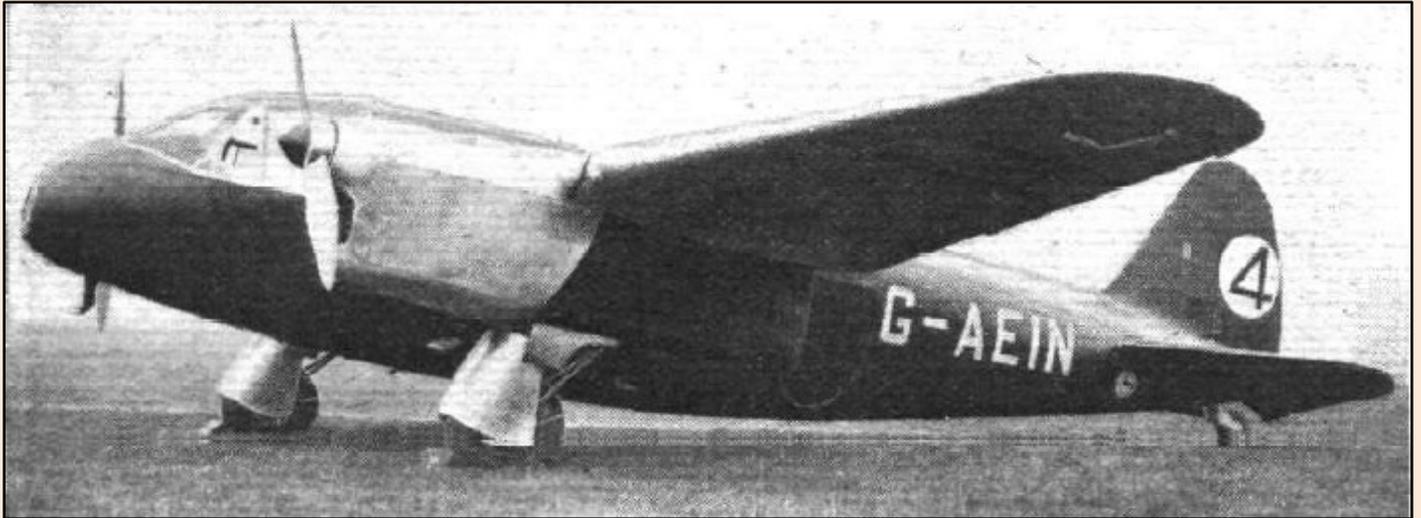
- (a) Independent control of Map Reproduction abolished by attachment of Litho Sections (3 Officers and about 46 O.R.) from A.P. & S.S. to 1st (S.A.) Survey Company. Arrangements made for certain additions to plant mainly a better camera, grainer, and whirler.
- (b) Unit reinforced by two mapping sections (approx strength each 1 officer 15 O.R.), capable of rapid mapping from air photos.
- (c) New establishment, including and re-arranging the unit but without additions to total strength since approved arrangements made for 1st reinforcements.

East African Survey Group

It was considered necessary that each Survey Unit should be capable (subject to broad interchange) of reproducing its own maps. The Group has no suitable camera and nothing between a fast-running 2-colour machine and a hand press for short runs. Personnel (Mainly on detachment from 512 Svy Coy R.E.) also insufficient to run existing plant on continuous shift. For these reasons application was made to the War Office in November 1940 for a British Reproduction Unit to be attached to this unit. Approved but not yet arrived.

60 (Photographic) Squadron S.A.A.F

(a) The unarmed Double Eagle could only be used in back areas and became finally unserviceable (for lack of spares) in January 1941.



The third Double Eagle was sold to the Aircraft Operating Company in South Africa as an aerial surveying aircraft and in 1940, was pressed into service with 60 Squadron of the South African Air Force.

(b) The Ansons have done a considerable amount of survey photography in operational area (notably in the S.A. Divisional Front astride Lake Rudolf) during the period of Italian air inactivity preceding ground operations. They could not, however, operate far enough ahead to be sure of securing results in time and following the loss of one over AFMADU, had to be withdrawn completely from the Strat/R zone during active ground operations. A third Anson was obtained from the Union in January 1941. Lack of spares for these aircraft have given continual trouble.



60 Squadrons lamentable state was to be remedied with the arrival of a third Anson to the Squadron from the Union on 17 January 1941 when serial number 1107 touched down in Nairobi Kenya.

(c) Repeated attempts have been made to get 60 Sqn SAAF re-equipped with faster and better armed aircraft. Such as the Glen Martin bomber. An appeal to Mideast by both the G.O.C. and the A.O.C helped secure a Special Survey Flight of three Glen Martins from Mideast, but this could not be made available in time for current operations here. Some invaluable photography was obtained by mounting a survey camera in the nose of one of the two Glen Martins with 60 Sqn for operation by an officer detached as second-pilot. This enabled some large-scale mapping of Italian positions along the Juba River and routes into Italian Somaliland.

(d) The future of this unit will require careful consideration. It contains highly skilled personnel who will be wasted unless the Squadron is re-equipped with three or four suitable aircraft.



Glen Martin Maryland Mark II, AH284, of No 39 Squadron RAF, undergoes servicing on a landing ground in the Western Desert as another aircraft returns from a reconnaissance flight. These are the type of aircraft used by 60 Squadron SAAF in 1940-41

Divisional Survey Sections

(a) All three Divisions and 25 E.A. Bde., have been provided during active operations with small survey sections consisting of 4 field surveyors (Officers or B.N.C.Os) and 4 Draughtsman with a proportion of Africa ranks and transport. The section is trained in rapid plotting from air photos and in the reproduction of sketch maps by Ditto Machine, Ozalid or Ferro-prussiate prints.

(b) These Sections are detached from their parent Units and placed under the operational control of Divisions.

(c) Divisions are thus enabled to make their own maps from Army Co-operation photos of specific small objectives, which cannot be foreseen in time for centralised arrangements, particularly in view of the large distances and poor communications in this theatre. These sections are also required to grid (for artillery use in case strong opposition is encountered) the necessarily uncontrolled maps prepared in advance of operations under Force arrangements. They are also used for guiding mobile columns through the bush etc.

Map Distribution

(a) A.P. & S.S. responsibility has been terminated and the Survey Service has assumed responsibility – subject to broad instructions from the General Staff at Force H.Q. – for distribution to H.Q.s of Divisions and in some cases to Brigades operating at considerable lateral distance from Division H.Q.

Also, to the Navy, Air Force H.Q., and Units of Force Troops. Responsibility for distribution within the Division rests with the General Staff, who may however, use the Division Survey Section to assist.

(b) Advanced Map Depots were established well forward in Divisional areas before active operations commenced, in order to ensure initial supplies and to act as connecting links during the subsequent advance for the supply of ad hoc operational maps.

Owing to curtailment of ground surveys in back areas during the period in question it has been possible to use Unit transport for the purpose. Distribution of new maps during the later stages of current operations had necessarily to be carried out entirely by air, using both the Ansons of 60 Squadron and Communications aircraft.

Mapping

Prior to 8 November 1940, approximately 2000 miles of plane-table or instrumental road traverses and about 15,000 square miles of controlled small-scale topographical mapping had been carried out or was in progress by ground methods, mostly covering rear defensive positions. Limited areas (as for example the Tana River and certain defensive localities) had been photographed from the air.

In November 1940, a change to a more offensive policy involved the following changes in the Survey programmes: -

- (a) Acceleration of a compiled 1:500,000 series (initially to be in 32 sheets; now extended to 37) covering the entire theatre of war and intended to serve both as a strategical map and as an emergency tactical and while reorganizing for forward mapping on larger scales.
- (b) Cessation of ground topographical surveys on completion of current programmes. Survey personnel thus released were made available for Division Survey Sections or trained in air photo plotting. Enlisted native personnel thus released were put into a survey Depot for more extended military training and numbers have now been made available for guards etc. A number of M.T. drivers has also been released.
- (c) Reorganisation and reinforcement of H.Q. Sections to deal with a larger volume of air photography.

Apart from continued mapping and revision of back areas for training and administration, production has since been confined mainly to: -

- (a) Preparation of 1:250,000 maps extending well into areas of operations wherever the available material warranted an expansion of the 1:500,000 map. The main series on this scale covers Western Italian Somaliland in 13 sheets.
- (b) Preparation of tactical maps on scales varying between 1:5,000 and 1:50,000 from air photos of specific operational areas. These mostly cover certain defined routes of advance or specific objectives, but in some cases (e. g. The Juba River and Ono River Areas), the amount of photography has been sufficient for large scale sheet series on ad hoc sheet lines.

The limitations in available aircraft discussed above, plus the fact that 1:250,000 maps have had to be produced largely from captured Italian maps, has necessitated high pressure production and distribution during actual operations. Large areas on the South African Division Front between LOKITAUNG and MOYALE were mapped before the advance but had to be extended during operations. Tactical mapping on the front of 11 and 12 African Divisions in Italian Somaliland has had to be carried out almost entirely since the advance commenced. The average rate of production during February for all fronts has for example been 5.3 sheets per day. Units have been working day and night with little rest for over a month. This, of course, matters nothing, but it is doubtful whether – in view of the extreme range and mobility of operations and the length of the L of C - essential maps could in all cases have reached Forward Units in time to be of full use. The importance can hardly be emphasised of making all enemy mapping material available in time from War Office records, and of providing sufficient suitable aircraft to get air photos well in advance.

Arrangements have been made for production in PRETORIA of a new 1/M series covering the theatre, mainly for Air Force use. Owing to pressure of other work in the Union, the speed of production has not come up to expectations, but some sheets are not arriving.

Air Photography for mapping completed

Block photography 11,750 sq miles

Partial photography of routes, rivers, or areas of incomplete strip photography

Whether for topographical or tactical reasons 9,230 sq miles

Printing Statement (for Jan and Feb 1941 only)

Number of Map sheets printed (in black or colours) 190,300

Number of impressions 385,590

The above does not include a considerable volume of straight lithographic work executed for other services.

Distribution statement to date	
1/2M (including military communications)	11,300
1/M	11,600
1/500,000	64,000
Large Scale operational maps	66,700

Field Surveys

Apart from ground topographic mapping mentioned previously surveys have been carried out on cadastral scales for 61 camp sited, compensation area etc. A party has been lent to the Kenya and Uganda railways for the survey of the new Thika-Marsabit railway.

Chains of triangulation, about 600 miles in length, and fixing 1038 stations, have been observed to control topographic mapping and for Northward extension to Abyssinia. A strong party is following the advance of the 1st South African Division to control air photo maps already produced and to provide a firm basis for future extensions. The Kenya and Uganda triangulations have been connected to provide a firm basis; and 100,000 sq. miles of existing triangulation have been re-adjusted by rapid graphical methods, to the unified East African War System of co-ordinates. 25 miles of spirit-levelling to aerodromes have been measured.

ORGANISATION PRIOR TO 6 NOVEMBER 1940

Survey Directorate Force H.Q

A.D. Survey – Lt. Col. Bradford S.R. (T.F) (also acted as Commander East African Survey Group)

A.D. Survey (Union Defence Forces) – Major N.G. Huntly.

East African Survey Group

(a) Formed on the advice of the Director of Survey G.H.Q Middle East during visit in July 1940, from the following Units, none of which was sufficiently representative or large enough to operate independently. The individual Units retain their identity and establishments but provided composite sections for field work, air photo plotting, drawing and reproduction.

55th Survey Company East African Engineers mostly recruited in Tanganyika but with personnel also from Kenya, Uganda and N, Rhodesia commanded by Major F.M. Ford. Formed soon after the outbreak of war.

56th (West African) Field Survey Company recruited in Nigeria and the Gold Coast – commanded by Major E.W. Nesham arrived in Kenya in July 1940.

57th (S. Rhodesia) Survey Unit – commanded originally by Lt. Col. J.E.S. Bradford, command now vacant. Arrived in Kenya on 12th April 1940,

(b) Total approx strength: - 35 Officers
(with attached personnel) 36 B.N.C.O.
12 B.O.R.s
370 African O.R.s
120 Drivers

(c) Equipment including a hand Litho Press, a 20” x 20” camera (from Nigeria) and a photostat (from Zanzibar). A Crabtree 2-colour Double Demi machine, two proving presses, whirler, and grainer had arrived from 512 (Army Field Survey) Coy, R.E. and were erected later. 512 Coy – Also provided later an erecting and operating detachment of 8 men (two of whom have since been returned)

(d) The Unit was mostly employed on topographical surveys by ground methods in the Northern Frontier District.

1st (South African) Survey Company S.A.E.C.

Commanded by Major W. Short

(a) Total approx strength: - 33 Officers
170 European O.R
130 African O.R

- (b) Mostly employed on triangulation control but some topographic mapping. Had a strong drawing section, but no reproduction sections.
- (c) Commenced formation in the Union on 3 June 1940. Left the Union on 19 July 1940 and arrived in Kenya 4 August 1940.

Map Printing and Printing Coy (Union Defence Forces)

In Letterpress and Litho Sections and controlled by the director of Army Printing and Stationary Services, the intention, which has proved unworkable everywhere else except possibility in civil practice in the Union, was that responsibility of the Survey Service should end at the drawing stage; reproduction and distribution by post of maps being undertaken by A.P. & S.S.

The relevant plant comprised two hand-fed Mann Double-Demy Offset machines (one lorry borne), on proving press, one 35" x 22 1/2" camera (lorry borne) worked by strong detachments of excellent tradesmen and capable of 24-hour operation.

60 (Photographic) Sqdn S.A.A.F.

Commanded by Capt S.B.F. Scott

- (a) Formed initially from personnel and some equipment of the Aircraft Operating Coy., Johannesburg. Equipment on 6 November 1940 included one Double Eagle (unarmed) and two Anson Aircraft.
- (b) Under operational control of Survey Directorate, subject to restriction by Air H.Q. as regards flights over enemy territory or in forward areas.
- (c) Had photographed the Tane River and certain other defensive localities.
- (d) The unit arrived in this theatre at the end of June 40, since then 450 hours of operational flying have been undertaken; of which 303 hours on photography. Very little photography was possible in July, August and September owing to weather.

Primary Source

TNA File WO 402/389 - *East Africa Survey Service History – September 1939 to August 1941*
(Researched, transcribed, and compiled by Noel Grimmett in 2020)

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Group 71C Celebrate Their 50th Anniversary

On the 9th of September 1971 over 250 young men entered the gates at Beachley Camp, Chepstow to become Group 71C intake at the Army Apprentices College.



Part of that Group was an intake for the five trades within Survey: Field Survey Technician, Air Survey Technician, Cartographic Technician, Photographic Technician and Print Technician. Initially the Survey intake for 71C consisted of:

Field: Jim Cowley, Jak Crossley, John Firth, Mike Herring, Martin Jackson, Alan Jones, Mac Maclean, and Fred Thomas. After one term they were joined by a late arrival: Norman Beckwith.

Air: Geoff Adcock, Martin Boatwright, Anthony Hopkins, Jeff Johnston, Ashley Kennedy, Dave Turner and Steve Wilden. After one term they were joined by a late arrival: Brian Biggs.

Carto: Mark Binfield, Richard Brazier and Chris Slade

Photo: Steve Chapman, Steve Coventry, Brian Gill, John Gough, and Nick Milne.

Print: John Burnett, Nick Collins, David Eves, Ray Wilkinson.

ARMY APPRENTICES COLLEGE - CHEPSTOW

Senior Group 71C

'A' Company

October 1973

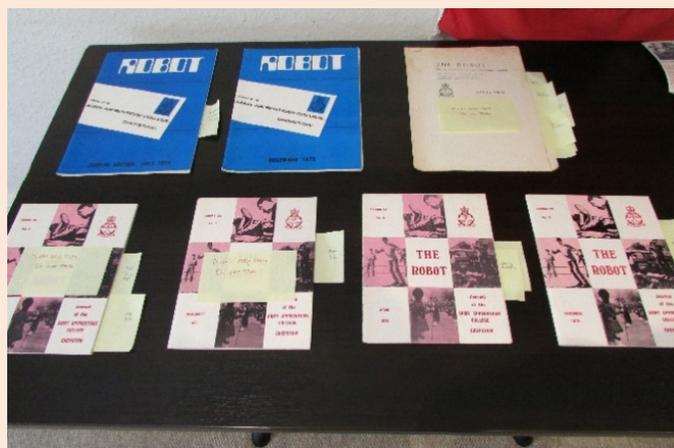


As time marches on so did the lives of these 27 young men but the majority of them served a number of years within Military Survey before some moved on to new careers. Despite the fact that, as a Group, we did not stay together in the Army we have tried to hold a reunion every five years with the aim of staying in touch. We have been fortunate and enjoyed many great reunions and visited several of our old postings.

So, the 9th of September 2021, saw the Group reach its 50th Anniversary! This was a date that had to be 'marked' but Covid was in the way and things looked extremely doubtful. The aim was to hold a dinner on the evening of the 9th and then visit the Regiment on the 10th ... if only things were as easy as writing them on paper! Covid was the main concern but to make things easy it was decided that we would hold a dinner in the Peterborough area so we could then travel to Wyton for the following morning. A month before the event Steve and Carole Wilden kindly allowed Ann and I to stay at their lovely home so we could explore venues and we found the Black Horse at Elton.

On the morning of the dinner night, we received the news that the Regiment could not host us for a visit! Like all 'old soldiers' we had a plan B., and this is covered below.

The reunion on the Thursday night was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who were able to attend. We missed those who couldn't and fully understand that there were very good reasons and sadly most of them revolved around Covid! The Black Horse at Elton was a wonderful venue and the staff made us all feel very welcome, and the food was brilliant. As you will see from the photos, we decorated the room with a variety of items.



The Dining Room at the Black Horse at Elton

We started the evening by toasting absent friends and made special mention of Geoff Adcock and Ray Wilkinson who have both sadly passed away. Mike Herring read out a special message sent from Denyse and Fred Thomas which was extremely emotional because they now live in Trinidad and Fred suffers from Alzheimer's. We also wished Richard Brazier congratulations on becoming a Grandad for the first time and we were all glad that he managed to make it to the US to attend the birth. We all applauded those who were able to attend and in particular thanked Jac Crossley for travelling the furthest, all the way from the US. Before the event we had been in touch with Bev Adcock, Kate Wilkinson, John Burnett, John Gough, Nick Milne, and Mark Binfield but sadly they were unable to attend. It was also brilliant to be able to share the evening with Kev Smith and Garry Asbery who were our platoon App Sgt and App Cpl respectively. Finally, and most importantly, it was also lovely to have the ladies attend, they all looked radiant and hopefully also enjoyed the evening.

At the table, for each of the men, was a commemorative stamp cover which was issued on the 26 July 1973 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Army Apprentices College and it was felt that this coincided nicely with our 50th Anniversary. In addition, there was a small booklet entitled Poems for Heroes.

Steve Wilden read the Corps Grace before we started to dine. Due to Covid regulations we had to leave the venue at 2300hrs but that was after we had wine, dined, and chatted throughout the evening. At the end of the evening everyone departed after a wonderful time where we relived many memories but also made some new ones.



The Ladies:

L to R: Kim Asberry, Jill Smith, Unni Jackson, Ann Collins, Carole Wilden and Ginny Herring



The Men:

*Back Row L to R: Brian Biggs, Kev Smith, Martin Jackson, Garry Asbery, Jak Crossley, Nick Collins, Mike Herring.
Kneeling L to R: Steve Wilden and Chris Slade*

Some met for breakfast on the 10th before we followed the advice of Carole Wilden and travelled to Stamford because the Regiment were unable to host us. For anyone who has not been to Stamford it can only be said that it is a beautiful town with so many interesting features. Unfortunately, rain spoilt the day, and we should have been aware of this fact because Jacko did say that it had rained each and every time, he had visited Stamford in the past ... cheers Jacko!! After coffee and cake later in the morning some left for the next stage of their journeys, whilst others went on to enjoy lunch and a drink together at the Bull and Swan in Stamford.

On the Sunday night, once we had all moved on from the Peterborough area, we all received some bad news from Jacko that he has been feeling a bit unwell since Friday night and in consequence has completed a COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test and it has shown positive. The following day he had a full PCR test and it tested positive. Everyone took the sensible approach and started to get tests and unfortunately Chris Slade found, he was positive. What a way to end a wonderful get together!

Nick Collins

Daniel Craig ‘Truly Privileged’ To Be Appointed Honorary Navy Commander

The new title matches his on-screen rank as ‘007’ James Bond.

Roxan McCrae – 1st October 2021 at 10:35am



Daniel Craig in uniform in front of the London skyline as he's appointed an honorary Commander in the Royal Navy (Picture: Royal Navy).

Actor Daniel Craig has been made an honorary commander in the Royal Navy – matching the rank of his on-screen character, ‘007’ James Bond. Honorary officers in the Royal Navy aim to strengthen the Navy’s ties with the communities it serves. Cdr Craig has a particular interest in service families, according to the Royal Navy.

In photos shared by the Navy to mark his new honorary rank, Cdr Craig can be seen wearing the newest design of the service's uniform. "I am truly privileged and honoured to be appointed the rank of honorary commander in the senior service," Cdr Craig said.

First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Tony Radakin said: "I am delighted to welcome honorary Commander Daniel Craig to the Royal Navy. "Our honorary officers act as ambassadors and advocates for the service, sharing their time and expertise to spread the message about what our global, modern, and ready Royal Navy is doing around the world.

"Daniel Craig is well known for being Commander Bond for the last 15 years – a Naval officer who keeps Britain safe through missions across the globe. "That's what the real Royal Navy does every day, using technology and skill the same way as Bond himself. "I look forward to him getting to see more of our sailors and marines over the coming months and years."



First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Tony Radakin (next Chief of the Defence Staff from 30 November 2021) with Daniel Craig as he's appointed honorary commander in the Royal Navy (Picture: Royal Navy).

The announcement comes ahead of the premiere of the newest Bond instalment *'No Time to Die'*. Filmmakers worked closely with the Royal Navy and Ministry of Defence in the production of the latest film in the franchise.

Warship HMS *Dragon* features in the movie with a sneak preview of the distinct Type 45 destroyer, with her red dragon emblem on the hull. As well as HMS *Dragon* making an appearance, the Royal Air Force also granted access to key assets and personnel for the film.

RAF Brize Norton, in Oxfordshire, was used as a backdrop in the film, standing in for a NATO airbase in Norway where Bond joins MI6 allies and later boards a C-17 Globemaster. Meanwhile, the Army supplied troops from the Household Cavalry. They offered their time at a pivotal moment in their calendar, just before the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.

As reported by Forces News at the beginning of the month, the Royal Navy's HMS *Dragon* plays her own starring role in Daniel Craig's fifth and final appearance as the famous spy. The warship, from the Daring-class of Type 45 destroyers, appears on the big screen with her red dragon emblem on her hull, cutting through the waves.

**Military Survey (Geographic) Branch REA
Annual Award for “Spirit of Good Fellowship Beyond Normal Expectations”**



Cpl Seymour was awarded by Col (Retd) Mark Burrows, Mil Svy (Geo) Branch Chairman, with a cheque to the value of £200 together with a framed printed version of the “Hurrah For The CRE” surrounded with eight pictorial views of various RE uniforms through the ages (originally painted by Kim Seddon, renown military artist).



MILITARY SURVEY (GEOGRAPHIC) Branch

A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

TO

CPL LUCY SEYMOUR, 16 Sqn: ROYAL ENGINEERS

FOR

“Spirit of Good Fellowship Beyond Normal Expectations”

Cpl Seymour is a Geospatial Analyst within 42 Engr Regt (Geo). She is nominated for her tireless efforts to support the welfare of her fellow JNCOs over the past 14 months. Throughout the pandemic, she remained in work maintaining critical Defence Intelligence outputs. During her limited free time, she became determined to improve the mental wellbeing and welfare facilities for her peers; she independently decided to focus on the development and re-opening of the Station Cpls' Club. She overcame myriad obstacles and spent a considerable amount of her personal time on this project; the re-opening and the improvements, including a new bar and furniture, have been an unmitigated success.

The Club, which had suffered years of management neglect, required significant investment to ensure its compliance with H&S policy. **Cpl Seymour** tackled this with methodical efficiency and great enterprise. She volunteered as Deputy Building Custodian to work on the building fire safety management logbook and a backlog of checks. She ensured that the building was safe for use and compliant with all legal fire safety requirements and those of the Station. Moreover, she has set the procedures and completed the COVID-19 Risk Assessment for Wyton Station Cpls' Club, ensuring compliance with Government and Station requirements. Her tireless efforts were rewarded when the Wyton Station Cpls' Club received approval to open from Station Health and Safety, Station Fire department and the Station Quartermaster. Her labours have not gone unnoticed by her peers, and she has now been recognised as the President of the Club Committee (PCC).

The newly opened Club now serves as a haven of respite for her fellow Station JNCOs, and this is solely due to the momentous efforts of **Cpl Seymour**. Succeeding where others withdrew, she is inspirational.

Cpl Lucy Seymour is nominated for the 'Spirit of Good Fellowship' award.

The Branch Award is presented annually to the individual who has given outstanding and loyal support to the Regiment; whilst participating and contributing in a variety of activities throughout the training year.

The fact that Cpl Seymour has been selected for this honour, demonstrates the significance of her outstanding contribution to unit life, during this period.

Notification of Deaths

WO2 Adrian “Ady” Beard MBE

4 May 1971 - 10 September 2021



Ady grew up in Chorleywood, NW London. He joined the Royal Engineers in September 1987 at the Army Apprentice College Chepstow and trained as a Field Survey Technician Class 3. After qualifying, Ady was posted to 19 Topographic Squadron, 42 Survey Engineer Group in August 1989. During his career, Ady worked on survey tasks in South Georgia, Norway, Mozambique, Cyprus, Kenya, and Bosnia & Herzegovina. He also served in Germany and in Italy, where he served as part of NATO for 3 years. It was while working in Naples that their youngest son was born in the US military hospital. For his outstanding contribution to his work, Ady was awarded an MBE by Her Majesty the Queen in 2000.

A keen sportsman, Ady represented the Army at wind surfing and the Corps at alpine skiing. He was an instructor in both disciplines, enabling him to pass on his love of these sports to many others. He was also a keen mountain biker and would spend endless hours with his boys biking around the Nevis range in the Scottish Highlands near where he lived. After a 24-year career, Ady retired from the military in 2011, relocating to Argyll & Bute. He initially worked for Fugro UDI Ltd as a hydrographic surveyor and latterly became a project manager for The Scottish Association for Marine Science.

Ady was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2020 and with the fervor he was known for, he became an active member of Pancreatic Cancer UK, helping to raise thousands of pounds for the charity. His last charity event was in July 2021. After a long and courageous fight, Ady passed away peacefully at home in his sleep.

A loving husband and father to Ange and their two boys, Fergus, and Finlay, Ady will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him. He will be fondly remembered for the kindness and compassion that he showed to everyone he met.

Capt Ian D Somerville RE

Joanna Mawdesley Burrows (née Hamilton)

17 April 1932 - 3 January 2021

Joanna was a daughter, a wife and mother to Military Survey officers. Her father, Archibald Hamilton OBE was instrumental in establishing the School of Military Survey at Longleat and Hermitage.

She was born in Choma, Zambia to Archibald and Joan Hamilton. Educated at Roedean School, Johannesburg, South Africa and in Brighton UK. She subsequently qualified as a Physiotherapist. She later met and married a certain Senior Instructor Field Survey, the then Major TR Burrows. Together they went on their first overseas posting, in 1957 to 84 Field Survey Squadron in Kuala Lumpur. Joanna threw herself into supporting the wives' community and worked as a physiotherapist in the British Military Hospital, as well as in the local communities. In 1959, they produced their first child who eventually became the Commandant of the Hermitage Station and the first CRE(Geo)



Her Physiotherapy qualification enabled her to work in both the UK and what was then Malaya. Her particular interests were in pre-natal care, maternal care, and the early childhood years. Latterly she experimented with ultrasound treatment for those suffering from shingles. When living in the UK she became a Community Physiotherapist, attached to Newbury Hospital, being responsible for the wellbeing of all, from cradle to grave.

During her life she travelled the world from Malaysia, Singapore, and Germany, raising a family along the way. Wherever the family landed, Joanna was determined to make the most of a new environment by meeting the local people, learning a new language, and fully comprehending that the family were guests in someone else's country. When her husband was CO 42 Survey Engineer Regiment, Joanna was a committed commanding officer's wife, taking on the responsibility of caring for the families of those serving with her husband. She enjoyed the regimental social life and made a point of integrating new families into the military system. Ben and Joanna finally settled in Chieveley, Berkshire and became enthusiastic members of the village. They were both involved in the Gardening Club, something of a long-term passion for Joanna as she created an English country garden from what was originally a building site. She even won the village prize for Sweet Peas, the first woman to do so. Her continuing love of flowers spilled over into the art form Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging) in which she became qualified, competed, and taught in Singapore, Germany, and UK. Her love of flowers and loyalty to her husband and husband's regiment meant that she produced flower arrangements in the village church for Remembrance Sunday for more than 30 years.

Joanna's other interests included fine art and in particular antique silver. She was a founding member of the Newbury NADFAS and thoroughly enjoyed the lectures, museum trips and overseas travel. However, it was always the silver that piqued her interest: she was an avid hunter and could be seen squinting at hallmarks with her magnifying glass at auctions and antique stores.

After her husband's death, Joanna continued her support of the Military Survey in her annual presentation of the Hamilton Prize to the Army Survey Course.

Joanna is survived by her three children Mark, Jeanne, Clare and 9 grandchildren.

Mark Burrows

Major (Retired) Michael Goronwy Jenkins MBE RE

30 October 1962 – 24 August 2021

Michael Goronwy Jenkins was born on 30 October 1962 in the tranquil seaside resort of Penarth in South Wales. He remained intensely proud of his Welsh background even though he left Wales at a young age to move to Birmingham where his father started a new career for the Birmingham Post and Mail. His father travelled ‘under the mast’ as a young merchant seaman, whose stories inspired his son’s interest in adventure. Jenkins harbored a desire to join the Royal Navy at 16 but was soon denied when medical officers found him to be colour blind. Undeterred, he went on to find the Army Recruiting Office, where the Naval recruiters had kindly pointed him in the right direction and saying, ‘don’t worry son, they take anyone next door.’

Jenkins joined the Army as a Royal Engineer apprentice map maker in 1979 aged 16½ and started his climbing career on rock in the South Wales Wye Valley. His Army career took him curiously into the world of Defence Intelligence and Bomb Disposal where he served on varying classified operations in the UK and abroad including having a key role during the London 2005 bombings.



At that particular time, Jenkins was in Scotland with a team of Explosive Ordnance Disposal officers and soldiers providing high level security to world leaders at the G8 conference, including President Bush and Prime Minister Blair and he recalled that ‘The whole of the UK government was in Scotland along with the top officers of SO13 counter terrorist command. The next thing I knew, I’m on a Chinook helicopter with Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, and heading back to RAF Northolt as the first and only counter terrorist officer to leave G8 with the PM and heading into a trail of carnage left in London.’

Mick spent the following four weeks after the 7/7 and 21/7 bombings, supporting the police and SAS in house searches to chase down the bombers. Mick often recounted with humour, the story of his team sat at the traffic lights in an unmarked ‘blue light’ car, heading to the terrorist flat in Ladbroke Grove, when they received the order by radio to ‘mask up’. Robbo, in the passenger seat, calmly put his black balaclava over his head, glancing over to his left where a very old lady sat ‘terrified’ in her Fiat Punto on her way to the shops! Robbo was the first man into the flat after the bombers came out stripped to their pants, with their hands up. Wary of booby traps, the teams cleared the flats and found nothing but broom sticks with knives strapped to the handles to stab and fend off the police – the 21/7 bombers had been caught and the teams of 58 EOD Squadron, to whom Mick was their Operations Officer, led the way on forensic retrieval with the Met Police specialists.

Mick finished off his 28 years crown service charged with delivering a Defence Intelligence capability to Afghanistan in 2006. Mick operated as the strategic UK intelligence officer providing an all-source system of intelligence with a team drawn from GCHQ, MI6, MI5 and Defence Intelligence analysts. He fondly recalled stories of SAS interdiction ops using his team’s intelligence and often chuckled when senior staff asked those without ‘Strap 3’ vetting to leave the room for sensitive Top-Secret briefings. He always left the room returning with a big smirk when it was further mentioned ‘everyone except Jenkins that is please.’ It was wholly curious to all that it was Mick that was briefing the intelligence, yet without the relevant vetting levels.

Upon retiring in 2007 Mick received a call from his CO asking him to put his uniform on one more time to receive an MBE from the Prince of Wales. His citation for his MBE read: *‘Jenkins’ contribution to UK counter terrorist operations has been nothing short of phenomenal. During a period of intense operational activity, Jenkins was responsible for providing intelligence and evidence that put many criminals and terrorists behind bars for many years.’*

Jenkins was teased from the Army in 2007 by his long-term mentor and close friend, Brigadier John Almonds SAS, who helped him achieve a successful business career with Infinity SDC, and latterly as a founding Director of PGSS, a private military company providing global defence services worldwide. Mick also created his own company before PGSS, where he won contracts with federal agencies in Europe, and he also had a three-year spell with the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games in charge of security for the Olympic Park and Athletes' Village planning.

Aside from his military duties, Mick spent many a year pouring over maps to satisfy his hunger and passion for exploring unknown mountain regions where others rarely trod. He sought 'blanks on the maps', and unclimbed peaks, living his dream of 'daring do'. He led numerous major mountaineering and scientific expeditions, often working with host scientists, and was rewarded for his pioneering efforts and leadership of young soldiers with the Royal Geographical Society's 'Geographical Award' in 2001. He remained a Fellow of the society for many years and often sat amongst the historic archives with his pals seeking out his next 'boys own caper'. He had fond memories of Lord Jellicoe, a Patron for his expeditions, chuckling and enthusing about his own deeds of 'daring do' and convincing Mick to go one step further with bigger and better 'jolly japes' as he would call them.

In his world of mountaineering, the aim of Mick's series of 'Apogee' expeditions were to undertake mountain exploration, to remote and unclimbed peaks using GPS technology, whilst giving young military soldiers the taste for adventure and exploration. He recalled the rigors of some of his challenges in a Discovery Channel documentary climbing in the Atacama Desert in Chile in 1998 quoting 'Every conceivable obstacle has been placed in our way, from the earthquakes of El Nino to the high access roads being destroyed or snowed in – even then, the locals told me no-one comes to the high Andean peaks in the height of winter: 'So why are you here?'

His expeditions also had their comedy and danger in equal measure – bouts of high-altitude sickness in India's Ladakh saw his mates unceremoniously straddled across ponies to get them down quickly due to high altitude sickness; whilst Ecuadorian volcanoes saw them assist an American off the mountain after breaking his femur. India also saw his teams stranded in the north Himalayas due to freak weather conditions – but his only ever life-threatening incident was in Scotland when he was helicoptered off the Cuillin Mountains after nearly losing his life with peritonitis.

Mick's love of the mountains was equally matched by his love of his homeland Wales. He immersed himself in a passion for the country's history, values, and sport where he would often be heard describing his religion as 'Welsh Rugby', and that he had six loves of life. Rugby would be the first three, followed by singing, drinking, and rugby once more. Like many Welshmen before him, he turned his hand to them all including writing poetry, writing novels based on his military experiences, and a memoir for family reading. His passion for all things Welsh, rugby, mountaineering, travel, excitement, adventure, and risk taking, knew no bounds and he often quoted that his nine cat's lives were hanging on the ninth thread.

Mick attributed his greatest ever success not to his military career, or global exploration, but to winning over the love of his wife, Rebecca who he adored. In typical Jenkins's fashion, they met during a Wales v New Zealand rugby match, and he remained fiercely proud to have married a Kiwi, just as his father would have been. Marrying in Santorini in August 2015 Mick had finally found everything he had ever wanted and along with their daughter Holly, and his children Matthew and Ramina from his previous marriage, Rebecca gave Mick a whole new lease of life as he embarked passionately on becoming a true family man.

Major Michael G Jenkins MBE FRGS RE, mountaineer, author, sportsman, global explorer, Intelligence Officer, Bomb Disposal Officer, Geographic Officer lived his life for travel, adventure, and risk. He will be missed enormously by all who had the pleasure and honour to have known him.

Dave Hirst – Speech made at the funeral

Good morning, ladies, and gentlemen with us here today and to those who have had to dial in from around the world. I too would like to carry on from Al's theme of choosing one word that best describes Mick Jenkins. That word for me is trust. Like so many of us here today I had the pleasure of working with Mick on operations and on countless training exercises here in the UK.

These complex high-level exercises involved us making life changing decisions which if played out for real would have changed the course of history; they were really that important.

In the military there is an expression called mission command whereby the service person in charge would convey their intent and let his subordinates get on with the job and figure out the best way to achieve the mission. Mick always trusted me and the soldiers that worked for him with monumental decisions. He would always say 'that your decision to make Dave but just remember it's big boys' rules and I trust you will not let me down'. It was his trust in us and those words that would make us work hard not because we didn't want to fail or mess it up, but because we didn't want to disappoint Mick or let him down.

And it wasn't just work where he trusted those around him, it was everywhere in his life, on the rugby or hockey pitch, mountaineering expeditions or just day to day living, Mick always trusted those around him.

As Alan has already said Mick would hate this to be a sombre affair even though it seems I'm making it that way so I'm going to keep on the theme of trust.

Mick could always be trusted to be in the bar to the end of the night with a beer in his hand albeit his threshold for alcohol was significantly less than most of us due to his small stature hence his nickname *Jockey* Jenkins. If you had made plans to meet Mick in London for an afternoon session, or 'Leo Sayer All Dayer' or to watch the Army Navy rugby match or 6 nations match, you could always trust that Mick would be there on time and stay to the end. And when you hadn't planned to meet him for a match when your team was playing Wales, you could always guarantee that Mick would send you countless messages of congratulations or commiserations. I will miss receiving those messages.

Finally, Mick would also trust that those of us who are able to make it to London Welsh this afternoon would celebrate his life in style and raise a glass for him. And those not able to make it today, well I'm sure he would understand but trust that wherever you are in the world you would raise a glass in his name. Farewell my friend and I'll see you in the bar.

Major Alan Beeton RE 2i/c 35 Engr Regt
Major Dave Hirst RE RMAS

Captain (Retired) John Robert (Bob) Payne RE

1936 – 2021

Bob signed on in September 1951 and reported to AAS Harrogate for his initial training followed by training for two Class 3 trades, Topographical Draughtsman (Cartography) and Topographical Surveyor (Air Survey).

On completion of his apprenticeship, he passed out in August 1954 and was posted to 9 Training Regiment RE at Cove to undertake the Combat Engineer course, following on with a Junior Cadre at the SMS Hermitage.

In March 1955 he was posted to 14 Ind Topo Sqn in Germany as a Lance Corporal where he found there were more vehicles than soldiers and he had two vehicles on charge. Most of the work consisted of revising the German 1:25,000 from air photography.

Having previously obtained his Class 2 trade rating he was posted to SMS in January 1957 to attend a Topographical Draughtsman Class 1 course. He then joined 42 Svy Regt in Cyprus and as a Sergeant ran the drawing office in 22 Cartographic Sqn. With the EOKA troubles he was required to carry a pistol on and off duty. Most of the technical work was on the 1:250,000 series of Aden, with many rapid reaction maps in support of the para's of US Sixth fleet, in one or other of the Lebanon or Jordan sagas.



In June 1960 Bob moved back to the UK and took up a post at SMS as a Draughtsman instructor. During this tour he also obtained Topographical Surveyor Class 1 and 2 qualifications, which enabled him to come back in 1965 and attend an Air Survey Technician Class 1 course.

In the meantime, he was posted to 1 ASLS at RAF Wyton in March 1963 working on flight planning for 58 & 543 (PR) Squadrons, which included a 3-month tour with 543 Sqn in Zimbabwe.

Having completed his Air Survey Technician Class 1 course, it was back to 42 Svy Regt in Barton Stacey arriving on New Year's Eve 1965. His time at 42 was spent working on Borneo 1:50,000 and Aden 1:000,000 series mapping.

It was then to AAC Chepstow in December 1968 for an instructional tour followed by a return trip to Cyprus as SSM of 1 ASLS in July 1970; this included a number of detachments to Oman, Kenya, North Yemen and New Hebrides Islands (Vanuatu) with 13 (PR) Sqn RAF.

In 1973 Bob was back in the UK and working at MCE Feltham and on commissioning was posted to SMS in September 1975 and appointed AI Air Survey and became involved in instructing the Army Survey Course (ASC).

Bob retired from the service in September 1980 only to return to the SMS as the RO3 Training Adjutant in October 1982. Living locally the appointment suited him very well and lasted until his retirement in 2000. During his time Bob has seen many of the survey officers through their careers, both as an instructor and working with many when they became Chief Instructors of the RSMS.

Bob's final comments were that his - *lasting impressions will be the extremely high calibre soldiers and officers it has been my privilege to serve with and to call 'friend.'* Also, *all the overseas officers who have given me great joy, great despair and, occasionally, sheer frustration – but never a dull moment.*

John Knight, past Principle of the RSMS commented on learning of Bob's death – *I worked closely with him for many years until he retired. He was a great help to me not least in understanding the myriad of acronyms and military jargon! Bob was loved by our overseas students many of whom kept in touch with him after the course. He took great pride in collecting them from the airport, settling them into their accommodation, sorting out bank accounts and schools for their children. He was very much the unofficial welfare officer for these students.*

Sadly, Bobs wife Barbara passed away on 21 April this year after a short illness. Bob's wishes were that he was returned to his boyhood home in Buckinghamshire and in accordance with that a family funeral was arranged at Aylesbury Vale Crematorium, Aylesbury, Bucks at 1030 am on Tuesday 12 October 2021. All of Bob's surviving family were in attendance, most of whom, live in the Aylesbury area.

*Bobs brother and his son Dr Steve Payne provided details of the funeral.
(Details of Bob's Army Career were compiled from his Ranger article - 50 Years in Military Survey - published 2001)*

Reverend (Padre) Trevor Maines

Nick Collins has advised us of the passing of Trevor Maines on 8 October after a short illness.

Trevor was an outstanding gentleman and true friend to me when he used to assist me on the Welfare front. He regularly offered spiritual, moral and 'down to earth' assistance to our Regimental family for a number of years. As the Regimental Padre he conducted the funeral of Cpl Colin Clark and was especially valued for his participation in the Service of Life for Keith Fenton. Trevor used to love all the elements of Regimental life and one of his particular enjoyments was attendance at a Dinner Night.

On a personal note, Nick says – *Trevor made a great impression on me and my life and will be a great loss to the community.*

Captain Richard Patrick Venner Newberry RE

Dick Newberry was born on 30 January 1937 in Dartmouth, Devon. After leaving school, he joined the Army Apprentices School in Harrogate where he obtained the rank of Apprentice/CSM. An army career involving survey work took him to various places around the world, a favourite of his being Cyprus where he learned to ski.

On retirement Dick resided in Ash Vale and managed the Stainforth Ski School in Aldershot. He died of heart failure at home in May 2021 at age 84.

Information provided by Mark Newberry, younger brother

WO2 Patrick S (Pat or Paddle) Pearson RE



Pat joined as a boy soldier and trained as a Topo Surveyor. On qualifying he was posted to Germany and then to the Middle East in Muscat. He was always keen to remind family members that he was blown up as the vehicle he was in drove over a land mine and survived!!

He travelled on duty to far flung places such as Townsville, Trinidad & Norway. He also spent time at Chepstow as an instructor and then relocated to St Neots when he was posted to JARIC in 1979. He had previously attended a number of courses at Hermitage including the first Survey Staff Specialist Course in 1973 and an Air Survey Conversion course in 1974.

Pat's final posting was to the Mapping and Charting Establishment at Feltham. On retirement he returned to Cambridgeshire and was employed as Operations Manager for a Frozen Food Company in Bolnhurst near Bedford, and later worked for a recruitment company in St Neots.

Always an active person he skied unto age 74 and continued to enjoy the outdoor life and with pockets full of birdseed he made sure the local wildlife was well fed. He had a keen passion for preserved railways and in particular the Nene Valley Railway near Peterborough and had great fun building a model railway in his loft.

Pat was a keen gym enthusiast and would go to the gym everyday... and of course stopping off at the pub on the way home!! He was an active member of the rugby club and would participate in the VPs lunches along with Bruce Oxley and was also a member of the Conservative club. He was a keen gardener and enjoyed growing vegetables and in particular pumpkins for his grandson for Halloween. He would always be recognised for his taste in cars...fast, sporty and the last one being bright yellow.

Pat spent the last 2 years living with Nicola in Buckden, where he would travel on the x5 bus to Cambridge and Bedford and spent time walking around Buckden towers.

The Editor recalls a very funny incident when serving with Pat at JARIC in 1980 - *Pat, Dave Whyborn and I had strolled over to the Brampton Mess for lunch one day and having sat down with Pat at the head of the table, prepared to eat. I can't recall what was on the menu, but Pat decided that it needed spicing up a bit so grabbed the sauce bottle. Unfortunately, he did not spot that the previous user had not screwed the cap on properly, so the first shake shot sauce up in the air and onto Pats head and down his back. Needless to say, Dave and I were in fits of laughter and very pleased that we were sitting out of the line of fire!!*

Nicola Pearson