

THE DEFENCE FORCES MAGAZINE

AN COSANTÓIR

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September 2012



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EU RULE OF
LAW IN IRAQ**

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VOLUME 72

Number 7
September 2012

THE DEFENCE FORCES MAGAZINE

FEATURES

20 "Give it a Go!"
BY CPL PAUL MILLAR



24
Back to the Future
BY COMDT SEÁN MURPHY

REGULARS



30

Ground Sign Awareness
BY WESLEY BOURKE



15

22
No. 2 ISTAR Coy Certified
BY WESLEY BOURKE



26

Relay For Life
BY LT JOHN MC CANDLESS
(58 RES INF BN)

- 6** On Parade
- 10** In Focus
- 14** World Strategic Picture
- 29** Tac Aide
- 30** History
- 32** Sport
- 35** Gear Review
- 36** Notice-board
- 37** Reviews
- 38** What I do...

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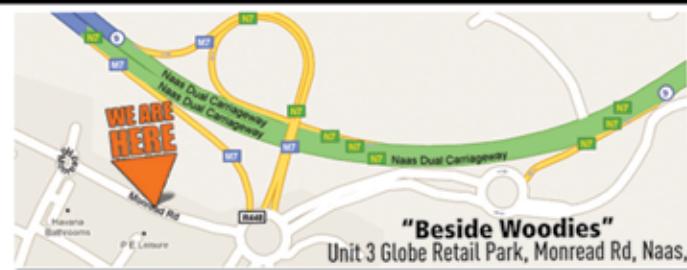


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Front Cover:
Cpl Vinny Di Ruscio - ISKA World
Kickboxing Champion
Photo By: Jim O'Connor

EDITORIAL

Welcome to our Sept issue, this month we had to choose between 28 photos for *On Parade*, so apologies we couldn't fit them all in – but we have made them available in our online issue. Our *In Focus* pages features a story about Comdt Séan Connolly's Sam Brown from the War of Independence, and a look at the ONE's Fuchsia Campaign. Wesley Bourke looks at the last CIED Ground Sign Awareness course ran in conjunction with the European Defence Agency (EDA). We have an interesting piece from Iraq on the Rule of Law by Pte Patrick Hughes (1 ADR). Give it a Go! is an article on the last Infantry Standard Course by student Cpl Paul Millar. Our centre spread is a photographic look at the EU Battle Group certification exercise. In *Strategic Review* this month Comdt Séan Murphy tells us about the Infantry School's Professional Reading Programme. Our *In Reserve* feature is 'Donegal's Relay For Life' with the 58 Res Inf Bn. Our *History* article is After Niemba: The Cavalry Connection by Col George Kerton (Retd.). In a special *Sports Profile* we have the new ISKA World Kickboxing Champion Cpl Vinny Di Ruscio, in *Sports* we have the DF Kayaking club visit to the French Alps, and our regular features – *Gear Review*, *Notice-board*, *Tac-Aide*, *Reviews* and *What I Do*.



Sgt Wayne Fitzgerald - Editor

With the pending re-org happening from the 1st of September, we are planning some features for a future issue, but here is what the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces, Lt Gen Séan McCann had to say *"this is the single most serious and far reaching re-organisation of the Defence Forces in a generation and I fully recognise that the task of implementing this plan will rest on the shoulders of the men and women of Óglaigh na hÉireann.*

Over recent years, the Defence Forces have set an example in terms of public service reform. Through careful management of resources, we have continued to deliver the full range of tasks at home and overseas while implementing a reduction in strength from 11,500 to 9,500 and consolidating from 34 barracks into 14 modernised locations. To get the best out of our organisation, a further re-organisation is now a necessity.

The greatest asset of Óglaigh na hÉireann is its people. We've overcome a myriad of challenges in the history of this organisation I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and respect for their continuing duty, honour and loyalty to the state".




*Special Recognition
Pictured in the new
Visitors Centre at
Cathal Brugha Bks
on the 30 July 2012,
where Col J.J. O'Reilly
(EO 2 E Bde) who
presented a Com-
mendation on behalf
of Ms Julia Thurmann,
a resident at the Ham-
ilton Park Care Facility,
to Sgt Peter Durnin (65
Res Inf Bn) for his dedi-
cated work and efforts
for his service to the
community on teach-
ing Ms Thurmann how
to Kayak. Photo: Cpl
Donal O'Connor (MP
Coy 2 E Bde)*



*Fond Farewell to Mrs Pauline Mullins who recently
retired after 31 years as a civilian employee in the DFTC,
she is seen here receiving a presentation from Capt
McDaid. Photo by: Cpl Noel Coss (PR Sec)*

ON PARADE



WITH THANKS ▲

Members of the 105th Inf Bn UNIFIL, presented a cheque for €2,264 on their return from Lebanon to the Irish Cancer Society, Cork. Monies were raised through a variety of events while deployed overseas. Pictured: Lt Col Tim Daly (centre) Carol Barry (left) and Nuala Dee (right), also pictured are BSM Jerry Dineen and Comdt Seanie Dunne. *Photo by: Sgt Barry McCarthy (Press Office 1 S Bde)*



◀ WELL DONE LADS!

On Treadmills in Athlone Town Centre are members of Custume Bks who recently ran for 24 Hrs to raise money for Irish Cancer Society. Pictured (l/r): Cpl PJ Byrne (4 CIS), Sgmn Alan Ward (4 CIS), Cpl Neil Buckley (4 Ord Coy) and Sgmn Paddy Wade (4 CIS). *Photo: Sgt Anthony Feery (Press Office, HQ 4 W Bde)*



ENABLE IRELAND ▲

The 87 Cadet Class presented a cheque for €12,000 to Enable Ireland Naas from the proceeds of their Cadet Charity Run from the Curragh to Galway in March. Pictured Front row (l/r): Sabrina Roche, 2/Lt Seán Mooney, Lt Áine McDonough, Anna Meegan of Enable Ireland & CQ Michael Stynes. Members of the 87th Cadet Class with Comdt Jim O'Shea and Monsignor John McDonald. *Photo: Fr Robert McCabe CF*

MILITARY DETENTION ▲

BARRACKS

A presentation was made recently to Lt Tomás Caulfield (DFTC MP Coy), on the completion of the Prison Management Development Course, also known as Prison Governor's Course by John McCrackin, Governor Training Irish Prison Service Training and Development Centre (IPST&DC), Portlaoise. Pictured (l/r): Col Pat Herbert (PM & D MPC), Governor John McCrackin, Lt Tomás Caulfield and Chief Officer Richie Roche (IPST&DC). *Photo: Lt Tomás Caulfield (DFTC MP Coy)*



IN MEMORY ▶

Pictured at the remembrance ceremony on the 1st July 2012 in the Somme, France, for the 16th (Irish) Division Service, Guillemont are Lt Col J.O.M. Lyttle (CO 2 Bn R.I.R.) and Brig Gen T. Behan (IE MIL REP to EUMC & NATO PFP). *Photo: Comdt Ian Byrne*

WELL

DONE! ▶

Pictured are instructors and students from the 4 W Bde RDF Three Star course ran in Finner Camp, July 7-13. Best Student was Pte G. McColgan (58 Res Inf Bn) and Best Shot GPMG was Pte C. Lynch (51 Res Inf Bn). *Photo: Lt John McCandless*



FOR THE CHILDREN ▼

Instructors and students from the Military Training School, Air Corps College raised €6,718 by completing a Plane-Push from Baldonnel to Galway. They are pictured here with Sgt Luke Byrne presenting the cheque to Mr. Gerry Cully (Community Fundraising Manager, Crumlin Children's Hospital), Comdt Flood (OC MTS) and Lt Col Hickey (OC ACC). *Photo by: A/Man Paddy Reilly (105 Sqn)*



B COY 'BLOODS' YOUNG HISTORIANS ▼

B Coy, 3 Inf Bn Det, DFTC visited the Stonebreaker's Yard in Kilmainham Jail as part of a unit programme to examine the foundation and history of the Irish Volunteers. Photo: Lt Darragh Kennedy (B Coy Det, 3 Inf Bn)



IN COMMEMORATION ▼

Pictured at the National day of Commemoration in Limerick are members of The Lower Ormonde Branch, Nenagh of ONE with Gerry McLoughlin, Lord Mayor of Limerick. Photo by: Salvatore Conte - www.facebook.com/Sightscene



◀ MILITARY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Members of USAC presented a cheque for €5,484 to the Galway Hospice & the John Paul Centre, both in Galway recently. Pictured (l/r): Lt Bronagh McMorrow, Lt Ross Wainer, Ms Orla Feeney (Galway Hospice), Mr Marty Beatty (John Paul Centre) & Comdt Kevin Campion (OC USAC & 2IC 1 Cn Cois). Photo by: SS John Geelan (1 Cn Cois)



IN RESERVE ▲

Pictured are members of the Naval Service Reserve (NSR) who held their Annual Inspection at the Naval Base, Haulbowline in July 2012. Photo: John Mc Garry

ANNUAL MASS ▼

Pictured are members and friends of the Fr. J. Gilmore Br of ONE at their annual mass in St. Monicas Artane. Photo: John Whelan



SHARE A DREAM ▶

Members of 31 Res LSB Tpt Coy participated in the Half Marathon during the Great Limerick Run and raised over €1,000 in aid of the Share a Dream Foundation Limerick. Pictured (l/r) Capt Phil Dee, Cpl Eamonn Quaid & Cpl Ronan Heaslip with them is Aishlinn Quaid who was recently treated to a Dream from the foundation. Photo: Marie Quaid



ON PARADE



UNITED NATIONS DAY ▲

Pictured in June 2012 at a presentation on United Nations Day to His Excellency Bobby McDonagh the Irish Ambassador to the UK, in Whitehall, London. From (L/R): Timmy O'Connell (NS Retd), Kieron Ryan, Kevin McCormack, HE Bobby McDonagh, John Cooke (Chairman UN Vets UK), David The O'Morchoe CB CBE (President Royal British Legion Ireland) and Maura McCormack. Photo: Kevin McCormack (Irish UN living history)



ALL-IRELAND PARTICIPANTS ▲

Pictured are members of the DF team that entered the All-Ireland One-Wall Handball Championships in City-west (July 06- 08) (L/R): Cpl Conor Laffey (4 BTC), Armn James Byrne (Air Corps), Pte Denis Dowd (3 Inf Bn), Cpl Eddie Clifford (3 Inf Bn), Tpr Stephen Smullen (EUBG), Pte Damien Brennan (3 Inf Bn), Gnr Conor O'Sullivan (4 FAR), Gnr Stephen Conway (4 FAR) & Lt Tadgh Culbert (EUBG). This was the first time a DF team entered a national championships. Photo: Cpl Eric O'Brien (USAC)

FUCHSIA APPEAL ▼

Pictured at a recent Fuchsia appeal day in Limerick are (L/R): Deputy Mayor of Limerick, Marie Byrne, Joe O'Mahony (Pres. Patrick Sarsfield Br ONE), Mary Costello (Br Chairlady) and Capt Lorraine Fahey (Sarsfield Bks).



VETERANS DAY UK

Armed Forces & Veterans Day, Worthing, West Sussex UK held on July 1st 2012. Pictured (L/R): High Sheriff, Martin McKeown IDFVUK, Edward Bell IDFVUK, Mayor of Worthing and the Lord Lieutenant (RAF Vet). Photo: Edward Bell

MUNSTER'S TOP SPORTSMEN ▶

Pictured at the Munster Senior League Awards recently are (L/R): Tpr Mark Horgan (1 Cav Sqn) awarded Senior Player, Comdt Ger McAnaney (OC 32 Inf Bn) DF Rep to FAI and Sgt Dan Deady (1 MP Coy) awarded Referee of the year. Photo: BSM Leslie Doyle (1 S Bde HQ)



ON YER BIKE! ▼

Members of Tpt Coy DFTC who recently completed their Annual Curragh to Wexford Charity Cycle in aid of the Drogheda Memorial Hospice, Kildare. Photo by: Cpl Noel Coss (PR Sec)



ONE AGM CAVAN ▼

Members of ONEt marching to mass in Cootehill during their annual convention, held in Cavan in July this year. Photo: Sean Shinnors





KFOR HQ ▼

NATO Secretary General, Mr Anders Fogh Rasmussen inspects a Guard of Honour on his recent visit to KFOR HQ Kosovo. In the background is CS Paul Mulhern, Senior NCO Joint Visitors Bureau (JVB). *Photo: Harry Mulhern*



MASS PARADE ▼

Members of Fr. J. Gilmore Br of ONE at their Fuchsia appeal stand in JCS Swords in July. Pictured (l/r): Mick Keogh, Ronnie Lewis and Sean Shinnors. *Photo John Whelan*



◀ STAY SAFE

Best regards to Ex-4th Inf Bn Pte Richard Robinson now serving with the 1st Bn Irish Guards based in Aldershot UK. He is seen here proudly flying the Irish flag in Kenya on acclimatisation training prior to deployment on Operation Herrick 18 to Afghanistan. *Photo: Richard Robinson*



LOGGIES ▲

Pictured are instructors and students on completion of the recent Logistics Accountancy Course ran in the Sch of Admin, Mil Col. *Photo: Armn Billy Doyle*

CORK CITY'S NATIONAL MONUMENT ▼

The unveiling of a special commemorative plaque by Councillor Terry Shannon, Lord Mayor of Cork took place in April, pictured with him is Lt Col John Ó'Neill (OC Collins Bks Cork), Brig Gen Derry Fitzgerald (GOC 1 S Bde) and members of ONE. *Photo: Domhnall Mac Cárthaigh FS (PRO Southern Area Council of ONE)*



FUCHSIA ▶ APPEAL

Fr. J. Gilmore Br of ONE also had a stand in Trim Co. Meath as part of the ONE Fuchsia Appeal campaign in July. Pictured are (l/r): Peter O'Hanlon, Cathal Rogers and Charlie Ashe. *Photo: Cathal Rogers*



HISTORIC SAM BROWNE PRESENTATION



Comdt Cooke is presented with Seán Connolly's Sam Browne in the Officers' Mess, Custume Barracks by Mr Donal MacLochlainn. Also pictured are Mrs Rita MacLochlainn and Brig Gen Aherne.



Comdt Cooke and Mr MacLochlainn pictured with members of 4 Cav Sqn outside Seán Connolly House. Included is Sgt Maj Johnny Enright, Sergeant Major of the Cav Sch and former Squadron Sergeant of Connolly Bks, Longford. Members of the MacLochlainn family are also pictured.

BY LT DONNCHA LENIHAN (4 CAV SQN) PHOTOS CPL BILLY FINNANE (6 INF BN)

On June 1st 2012, 4 Cav Sqn was honoured with the presentation of the Sam Browne belt that once belonged to Commandant Seán Connolly of the Longford Brigade IRA during the War of Independence, from whom the unit draws a great deal of its heritage. The barracks in Longford that housed the unit from 1972 until 2009 was named in his honour, as is the Squadron's present headquarters, Seán Connolly House, in Custume Barracks, Athlone.

The presentation was made by Mr Donal MacLochlainn, a nephew of Connolly who wanted to give the belt to the unit that was identified so strongly with his late uncle. Before the presentation Mr MacLochlainn, his wife Rita and members of their family were treated to lunch in the Officers' Mess attended by Brig Gen Gerald Aherne, GOC 4 W Bde, and Comdt Eugene Cooke, OC 4 Cav Sqn.

Accepting the presentation on behalf of 4 Cav Sqn, Comdt Cooke spoke briefly about the significance of Seán Connolly in the unit's history, the challenges faced by the unit during the barracks closure and redeployment to Athlone in 2009, and recent sporting and military achievements, including the All-Army Recce Concentration won by a detachment from 4 Cav Sqn.

The Sam Browne has been mounted in a display case and will be hung in a prominent location within the headquarters building as a reminder of the proud history and heritage of 4 Cav Sqn.

Séan Connolly (1890-1921)

Séan Connolly was an IRA activist in the Longford region who rose to prominence in the years from 1916 leading up to the War of Independence, during which he held the position of vice-brigadier of the Longford IRA, being an able second-in-command to the famous Seán MacEoin.

Connolly later served as a staff officer in GHQ in Dublin, before being sent to north Roscommon to organise and train the IRA in that area. He proved to be a man of great organisational ability and was ordered to raise a flying column in County Leitrim; a tremendous challenge and a dangerous assignment - Michael Collins described

Leitrim as being the most treacherous county in the country. Sadly, Collins's fears would prove to be well-placed.

Early in the morning of 11 March 1921, Connolly and ten young volunteers arrived in Selton Hill, near Mohill where they set up a base of operations in two nearby houses. It is thought that Connolly's intention was to reconnoitre possible targets towards Ballinamore. Unfortunately, word of their arrival travelled quickly in the nearby village, and, through an informer, reached the ears of the RIC district inspector, who sent for troops immediately.

Two officers and 25 men of the Bedfordshire Regiment

were sent from Carrick-on-Shannon and attacked Connolly's men that evening. The Volunteers were taken completely by surprise. They were outnumbered and out-gunned, and six were killed or mortally wounded, including Connolly, who was taken prisoner but died on reaching Carrick-on-Shannon.

Comdt Séan Connolly is remembered as a key figure in the struggle for Irish Independence in Longford. To learn more about him read: *Rising Out: Séan Connolly of Longford (1890-1921)* by Ernie O'Malley, edited by Cormac KH O'Malley, UCD Press. Published: 2007 - ISBN: 9781904558897 - List Price: €20.00





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ONE Fuchsia Launch 2012

BY SGT WAYNE FITZGERALD
PHOTOS JIM O'CONNOR



On July 2nd, the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women (ONE) launched their Fuchsia appeal in Brú na bhFiann, Smithfield by the Defence Forces Chief of Staff Lt Gen Seán McCann. The funds raised by selling these €2 badges in honour of our re-

lief City to open a Drop-in centre. The centre will be a meeting point where veterans can go for advice and a friendly chat over tea or coffee. It is hoped that this project will be a template for further projects in the future.

The Fuchsia was chosen as the



Pictured at the launch l/r: Sgt Wayne Fitzgerald, Ollie O'Connor (CEO ONE), Lt Gen Seán McCann COS, Martin Coyne (Chairman ONE), Brig Gen Derry Fitzgerald (GOC 1 S Bde), Austin Berry and Lt Elizabeth Barrett (NS).

tired Defence Force colleagues who have fallen on hard times, goes into opening up and maintaining the accommodation for them. ONE needs over €600,000 annually to run its current facilities in Dublin, Athlone and Letterkenny. The organisation is currently providing accommodation for 40 former Defence Forces members.

One of ONE's overall objectives is to ensure the welfare of ex-servicemen and women, they also promote comradeship between serving and retired members as well as providing information on pensions, social welfare and other entitlements. They are with the support of Limerick City Council in the process of refurbishing premises in Limer-

ick City to open a Drop-in centre. The centre will be a meeting point where veterans can go for advice and a friendly chat over tea or coffee. It is hoped that this project will be a template for further projects in the future.

The Fuchsia was chosen as the emblem back in 2007, as it grows all over Ireland and was seen as a reminder of home when seen from overseas. The Fuchsia badge is stamped with the words 'Cuimhnimis' (let us remember), in remembrance of those that have served and the many who have given their lives while serving.

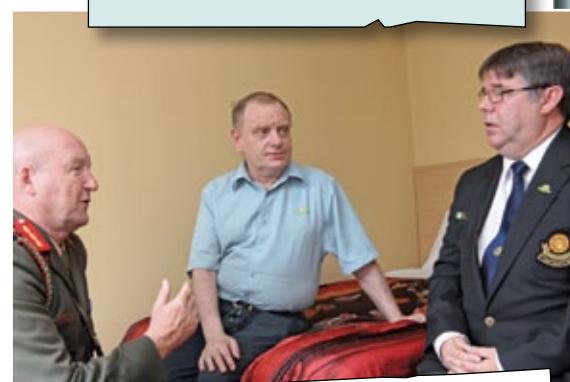
Another fitting tribute is the title of ONE's main residence in Smithfield, Dublin 'Brú na bhFiann' translated as 'home of the brave'.

Ollie O'Connor CEO of ONE said "The Fuchsia appeal is of critical importance to the organisation. The three homes do not only provide

accommodation, but also an opportunity to meet and socialise with others who have served. This we feel is important. Most people who spend time with us move on to independent living, after a period of time with support and comradeship." ONE has helped over 550 former ex-servicemen with a temporary place to stay and they have been assisted in many other ways over the years.

COS Lt Gen Seán McCann gave a fitting tribute to ONE, for their continued assistance and support provided to ex-members of Óglaigh na hÉireann. He quoted General Richard Mulcahy "Óglaigh na hÉireann has been the people, is the people and will be the people. Our green uniform does not make us less the people. It is a cloak of our service, a curtailer of our weakness, an amplifier of our strength." ■

Please see the advert on page 30 for another other way to support ONE by way of a payroll deduction of €0.50pw or €2pm. For more info on ONE please visit www.oneconnect.ie or 01 485 0666 – info@oneconnect.ie – Registered charity no: CHY13868



Chief of Staff Lt Seán McCann chats with Seán Keating a resident of Brú na bhFiann and ONE CEO Ollie O'Connor, while viewing the facilities.

WORLD STRATEGIC PICTURE



EUROPE

Belarus's air force commander was sacked after activists flew over Minsk, the capital, dropping scores of teddy bears wearing parachutes and pro-democracy signs.

After months of tension in the **French** city of Amiens clashes broke out between police and youths. Several buildings were set on fire and 17 police were injured.



Rebels from the Kurdish Workers Party in **Turkey** kidnapped Hüseyin Agyün, the deputy leader of the main opposition party, as he toured the province of Tunceli. He was released 48 hours later, but the rebels gained much publicity.

8 people were killed and 66 people wounded in a bombing in the South-Eastern **Turkish** city of Gaziantep. Interior Minister Idris Naim said "It is rare to hear of an attack this deadly in Gaziantep, which is outside of the usual area of operations for the Kurdish Workers' Party, or PKK". Turkey, the EU and the US have formally labelled the PKK a terrorist organization.

A suicide bombing in Ingushetia, **Russia** killed at least 7 people and wounded 11 who were attending the funeral of a police officer Ilez Korigov Malgobek, who was killed in a shootout with militants a few days previous. Russia blames the attacks on militants who want to establish an Islamic state in the Caucasus region.

THE AMERICAS

Colombia police arrested John Ericson Vargas Cardona aka Sebastian. He was leader of a criminal outfit associated with Pablo Escobar, the late infamous boss of the Medellin cartel.

In **Wisconsin** a man shot and killed six worshippers at a Sikh temple near Milwaukee. The killer was said to have been a white supremacist. It was the second gun attack in as many weeks.

The fourth **NASA** rover to be sent to Mars, Curiosity, landed successfully. Over the next two years Curiosity will investigate Martian geology and analyse the atmosphere. Scientists are anxious to find out if Mars ever possessed the ingredients for life.

AFRICA

Two bombers tried to attack the official buildings in Mogadishu, **Somalia's** constituent assembly voted in favour of a new constitution. The vote paves the way for a government to be elected.



Gunmen attacked former **Ivory Coast** President Laurent Gbagbo's party headquarters, injuring several people. The attackers wore military fatigues and rode in on a minibus to the opposition Ivorian Popular Front headquarters in Abidjan. Gbagbo is in custody at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands.

MIDDLE EAST

The Civil War in **Syria** rages on. Heavy fighting across all the country has sent thousands of refugees fleeing for safety. Although there have been several top defections from the government, including Prime Minister Riyad Hijab to Jordan, the Assad regime holds on. The heaviest of fighting occurred over Syria's second city, Aleppo. In the north east rebel Kurds took control of several towns, while in the North West Free Syrian forces hold much of the territory bordering with Turkey. Iran has reiterated its support for President Bashar Assad after a group of 48 Iranian citizens, who said they were pilgrims, were kidnapped in Damascus by rebels.



Ehud Barak, **Israel's** defence minister, gave the country's armed forces a month to prepare to conscript ultra-Orthodox Jewish men after a law exempting them from service was lifted in July. The US Secretary of Defence, Leon Panetta, played down reports that Israel was making closer moves to taking military action against Iran.

Yemen's government blamed Al-Qaeda for a suicide bombing that killed at least 40 people at a funeral in Abyan.

ASIA



South Korea suggested that with the fun loving style of North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, along with the sacking of the North's top general, may indicate reform is on the way. North Korea denied the suggestion.

Myanmar's army was accused by Human Rights Watch of killing and persecuting Muslims from the Rohingya ethnic group.

Some 300 people were killed in two earthquakes in Iran's north-western province of **East-Azerbaijan**. At least 3,000 people were injured.

130 people were wounded and 50 killed in a series of bombings in **Afghanistan**. The attacks took place along the Iranian border and the province of Kunduz.

14 activists in **Japan** were arrested after they had sailed to the disputed islands claimed by China, Taiwan and Japan (who control them). The activists were from China, Hong Kong and Macau. The islands are known as the Senkakus in Japanese, and as the Diaoyus in Chinese.

After being urged by Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, two **Japanese** cabinet ministers visited Yosukuni shrine in Tokyo to mark the anniversary of the end of WWII on August 15th. The shrine commemorates Japanese war dead, including war criminals. China, South Korea and others see it as a reminder of Japanese military past.

READING THE SIGNS

BY WESLEY BOURKE
PHOTOS BY CPL NOEL COSS
AND PENCARI LTD



The threat posed by IEDs (improvised explosive devices) is ever present, both at home (last year EOD personnel received 280 callouts in Ireland) and overseas. In July three French soldiers serving with UNIFIL in Lebanon were wounded by a roadside bomb near Saida, and in December five French soldiers and two civilians were wounded by a powerful roadside bomb in Tyre. Both attacks deliberately targeted UNIFIL personnel. It is no surprise therefore that counter-IED training has taken on increasing significance.

While counter-IED tasks fall mainly to specially trained C-IED/IED disposal teams it is every soldier's responsibility to be aware of their environment. Combating IEDs requires a holistic approach and includes everything from attacking the IED network at the top level all the way down to the individual soldier's eyes and ears.

Sometimes the simplest training can be the most effective. Ground-sign awareness teaches people how to read signs, not too dissimilar to what you would see a tracker doing in the old Westerns. A sign can be defined as any

change to the natural environment made by a human, animal, or machine: a boot print or Mars bar wrapper, for example. Ground-sign awareness training for troops serving in Afghanistan with ISAF is estimated to have improved the soldiers' capability of recognising an IED by up to 80%.

As part of a European Defence Agency (EDA) programme ground-sign awareness training is being made available to all EU member states. Jim Blackburn, the EDA Project Officer for C-IED, says: "The EDA takes the train-the-trainer approach. The new instructors can then train their own personnel. It's about enabling capabilities across the Union."

Pencari, specialists in the field, have been contracted by the EDA to train the trainers. "What do you see in front of you? Is there anything that doesn't look like it belongs there?" These words were spoken to students by Dean Williams, a director with Pencari, on a ground-sign awareness course conducted in the Curragh. Looking over a small grassy area I didn't notice anything at first. But when you are asked to describe what you see it starts to hit home: cigarette butts in one area...trampled grass in another...a

rock has been moved revealing fresh soil. "I'm sure you've all heard about 'attacking the network' and 'exploiting the scene,'" Dean continued. "Well, ground-sign awareness is another tool to compliment these at a force-protection level for troops on the ground."

One of the students on the course, C-IED instructor Lt Johnny Dicker, 1 Cav Sqn, described the six characteristics used to identify signs. "Regularity: things that stand out from the norm. Change of colour/textured: when someone has walked across grass it can appear to have a different colour. Flattening: again, someone walking on grass flattens it. Transfer: an object taken from one environment and left on another. An example of this is would be someone stepping in a puddle and then walking on concrete. Disturbance: any disturbance that doesn't fit into the above characteristics; such as freshly dug clay. Discardables: things that someone has either deliberately or accidentally dropped; like a cigarette packet."

"These characteristics tell you a lot.

Until I came on this course I would have seen a sign and simply said 'Yes, someone stood there', but now I can see a lot more: everything from the age of the sign, direction of travel, the speed they were moving at, if they were carrying weight. If you notice a boot print turned around every now and then it could indicate a good rear gunner checking his six o'clock, but then again it could be an insurgent nervously checking to see if anyone is following him."

Lt Dicker is especially appreciative of the relevance of ground-sign awareness as he comes from a cavalry background where small teams may be carrying out an ISTAR (intelligence, surveillance, target-acquisition and reconnaiss-



sance) role, operating out of hides and OPs. "Before this, I never really thought of what signs I could be leaving when working out of a hide," he said. "This is something I will be recommending we look at in my parent unit. It is so simple and so effective."

The basic ground-sign awareness course lasts three days and is geared for the average soldier going about his daily job, whether that is

on patrol overseas, or driving on escort duties at home. "If we can teach him the basic signs so that he can then spot something that is out of place and say 'Stop, that doesn't look right!', " Dean Williams explained, "that is saving lives. It has proven extremely effective with troops in Afghanistan."

A boot print is obvious to anyone, but when Dean showed us the impression made by a battery pack or an uncoiled command wire you think to yourself 'I'll remember what that looks like'. These are low-level tactics that a soldier on patrol can use. It's much safer to call in a specialist search-and-clearance team than to walk over an area where there are unfamiliar footprints, removed soil or flattened grass.



Vox Pops



Ground-sign awareness is also being used to attack the network by specially trained teams. "When a device is found, the IEDD team moves in, makes the IED safe and exploits the scene," Dean continued. "Personnel with advanced ground-sign awareness and combat tracking training analyse the signs left behind and build up a picture of the individuals involved."

Dean outlined an incident that took place in Afghanistan where evidence helped put an IED maker behind bars. "The same signs, specifically three sets of footprints, were found at the scene of a series of IEDs. Studying the footprints it was found that two were made by sandals of the type worn by locals but the other was made by runners, which are not worn by villagers in Afghanistan. It also looked as if the person wearing the runners was standing in an instructing position. Cigarette butts from a Pakistani brand were also found at each site. Along with other evidence gathered, combat trackers were able to build a profile and through this a Pakistani IED instructor was eventually caught."

Due to the importance of C-IED measures, ground-sign awareness training is set to become part of the Defence Forces' C-IED syllabus. This is the norm in most modern armies and in some countries all military personnel are trained and tested annually.



Lt David Marquez Torres, Instructor, Belgium Engineer School

"I'm a specialist search team instructor in Belgium. Our job is to go back and teach these skills to our personnel. We did not have ground-sign awareness training before so this will be one more tool in our TTPs (Training Tactics Procedures)."



Lt Cornelius Ragin, German Centre for Counter-IED

"The Counter-IED Centre is constantly looking at ways to enhance the defence capabilities of our personnel. We do not have ground-sign awareness in Germany so I think it is a very good additional asset."



Sgt Ann-Marie Larkin, C-IED Cell 106 Inf Bn

"Every unit travelling overseas now has a C-IED Cell. Ground-sign awareness is going to become standard for all troops travelling overseas. Training for 106 Inf Bn has finished but we can do further training in Lebanon and put in place what is required for the next unit. I did the C-IED instructors course last year and we would recommend that ground-sign awareness becomes part of that course. This was very different from last year's C-IED course. Last year we were physically searching for the device whereas this time we were able to stand back and locate the device using ground-sign awareness."



L/Cpl Carvalho de Matos, British Army 33 Fd Eng Regt

"I am a team commander with a Royal Engineer search team and I did a tour in Afghanistan with a specialist search and clearance team in 2010/2011. A lot of the time we were route-clearing for the infantry. Although we had basic ground-sign awareness training, this course has taught us is that with more advanced training more lives can be saved. Basic ground-sign awareness has become part of the British Army's

Military Annual

Training

Tests

(MATTs).

When we go

back to our

unit we will

be incorpo-

rating this

training into

our unit."



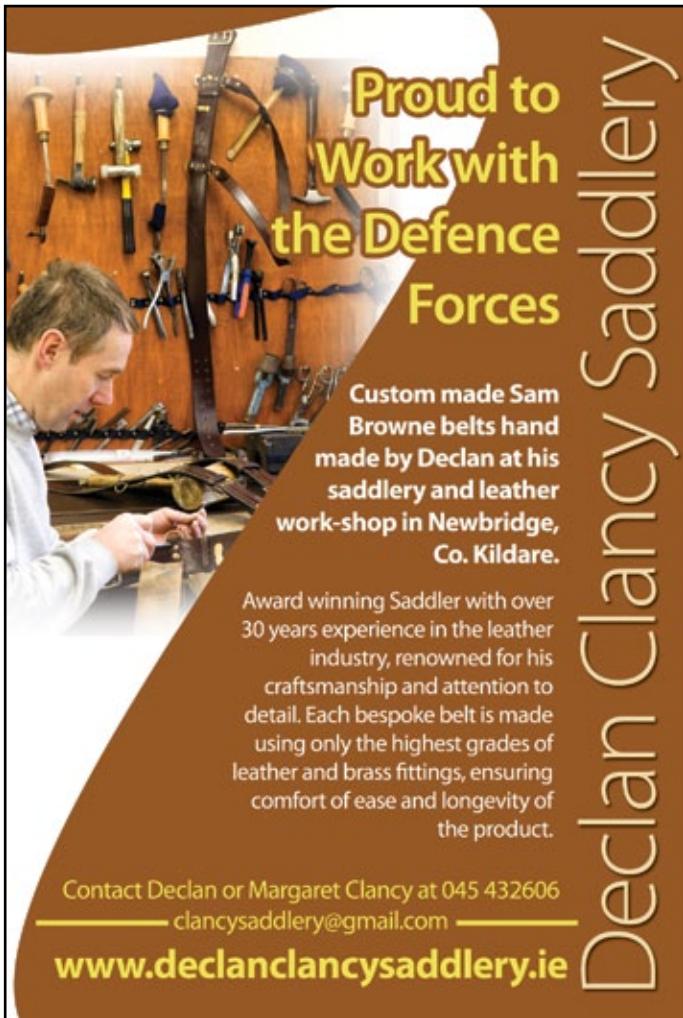


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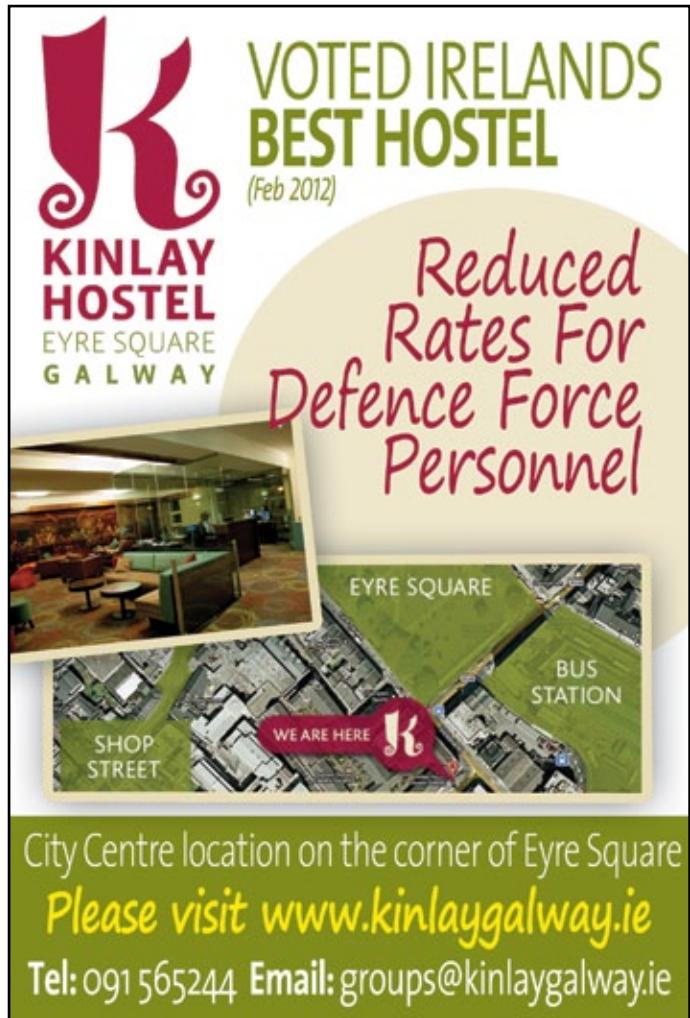


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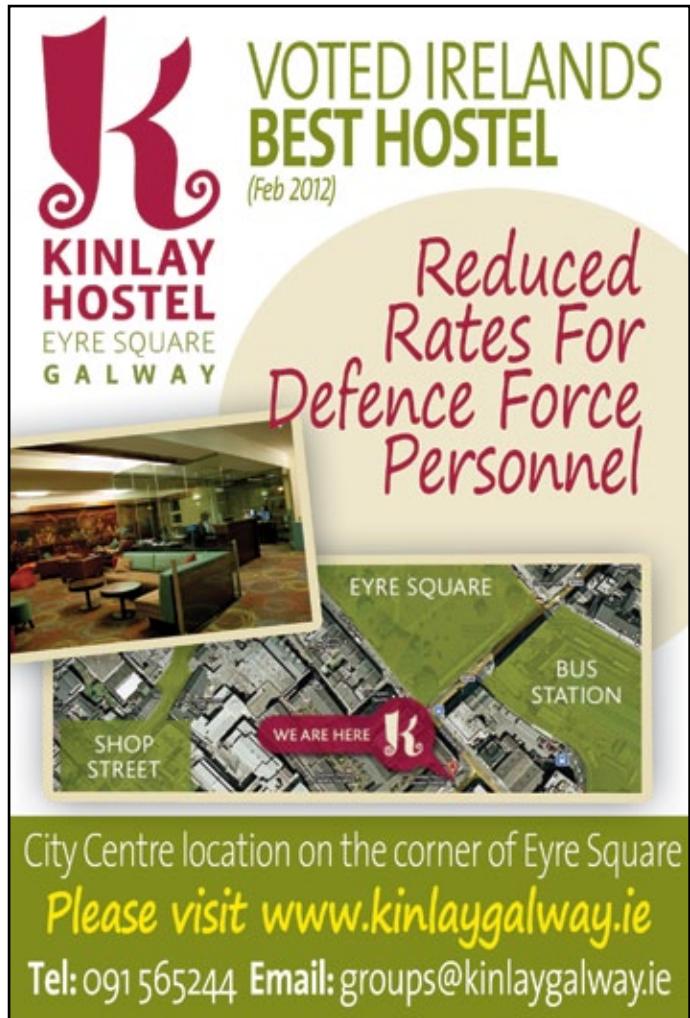
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PROMOTING THE RULE OF LAW IN IRAQ

BY PTE PATRICK HUGHES (1 ADR)

One of the smaller and lesser known EU missions, the European Union Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX-Iraq), is an excellent example of how a small group of international and domestic professionals are steadily improving the way of life for people living in a war-torn region. Some people may be inclined to react with a yawn to a 'rule-of-law' mission: what could be more boring than slowly educating and training judges, police officers and prison governors?

But this would be to miss the reality that, in what is still a conflict-ridden country, dedicated experts are continually striving to impart the benefits of their experience so that in due course their Iraqi counterparts will be able to take over and continue the task of bringing Iraqi jurisprudence to an international standard.

EUJUST LEX-Iraq, is currently led by Brigadier General László Huszár, who was Director-General of the Hungarian Prison Service. His deputy is Jonas Westerlund, a Swedish diplomat.

The majority of the mission's activities are facilitated through in-house expertise, with the assistance of visiting EU experts, or in co-operation with other international actors. Apart from command and support elements, the 53 international staff are divided into three functional teams: judicial, led by a Bulgarian prosecutor; police, led by a UK policeman; and penitential, led by a UK prison officer.

The mission started on 1 July 2005 following an invitation by the Iraqi prime minister to the EU, calling for the start of integrated training for Iraqi professionals working in the criminal justice system.

Originally based in Brussels for security reasons, EUJUST LEX-Iraq has operated in Iraq since the spring of 2011. The headquarters is in Baghdad, with a field office in Erbil, an 'antenna' office in Basra, and a support office in Brussels.

The mission was established with the core aim of contributing to a consolida-

tion of security by underpinning the rule-of-law system. The mission promotes a culture of respect for human rights and provides professional development opportunities for Iraqi officials from the criminal justice system.

Working closely with the Iraqi authorities the mission has successfully carried out 492 training courses and trained 5,069 participants from the Iraqi Correctional Service (ICS), the judiciary and the police.

Some specialised courses are held in EU member states, as are work-experience secondments. All activities offer learning opportunities and demonstrate rule-of-law best practice, as well as facilitating the exchange of views between trainers and participants.

EUJUST LEX-Iraq has excellent relations with its local and international counterparts and co-ordinates its activities on a bilateral basis as well as in rule-of-law policy fora.

The mission systematically follows-up on its alumni through evaluation workshops, to assess the applicability of its training and adjust it to Iraqi needs. Furthermore, the mission has achieved considerable progress in mainstreaming human rights and gender equality into its training activities with positive feedback from the Iraqi participants.

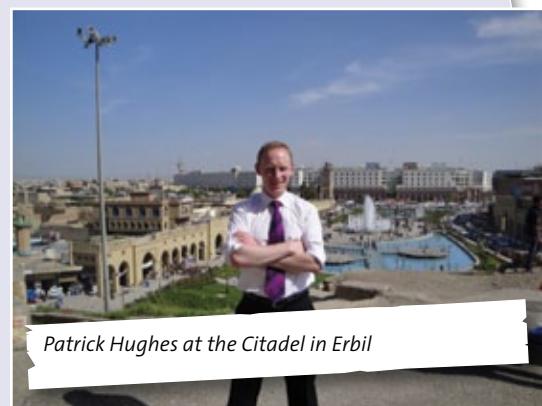
Working on this mission gives incredible job satisfaction and despite the dangers of living in a conflict zone such as Iraq all mission members claim that the improvements in the Iraqi justice system make their efforts worthwhile.

In addition to this author, another Defence Forces connection with this mission comes through Lt Col John Durnin (Retd) who took up the position of Press and Information Officer (PIO) following his retirement from the Defence Forces in February 2012. John previously served as PIO with the EUMS in Brussels and also served as Deputy Chief LO with UNIFIL.



For more information on the mission check out the following: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/eeas/security-defence/eu-operations/eujust-lex?lang=en> or www.facebook.com/eujustlexiraq.

About the author: Pte Patrick Hughes (1 ADR) spent the last two years on secondment to EUJUST LEX-Iraq serving as PA to the head of office in Erbil. Having completed his tour of duty, he is currently undergoing a course with the Folke Bernadotte Academy in Sweden. ■



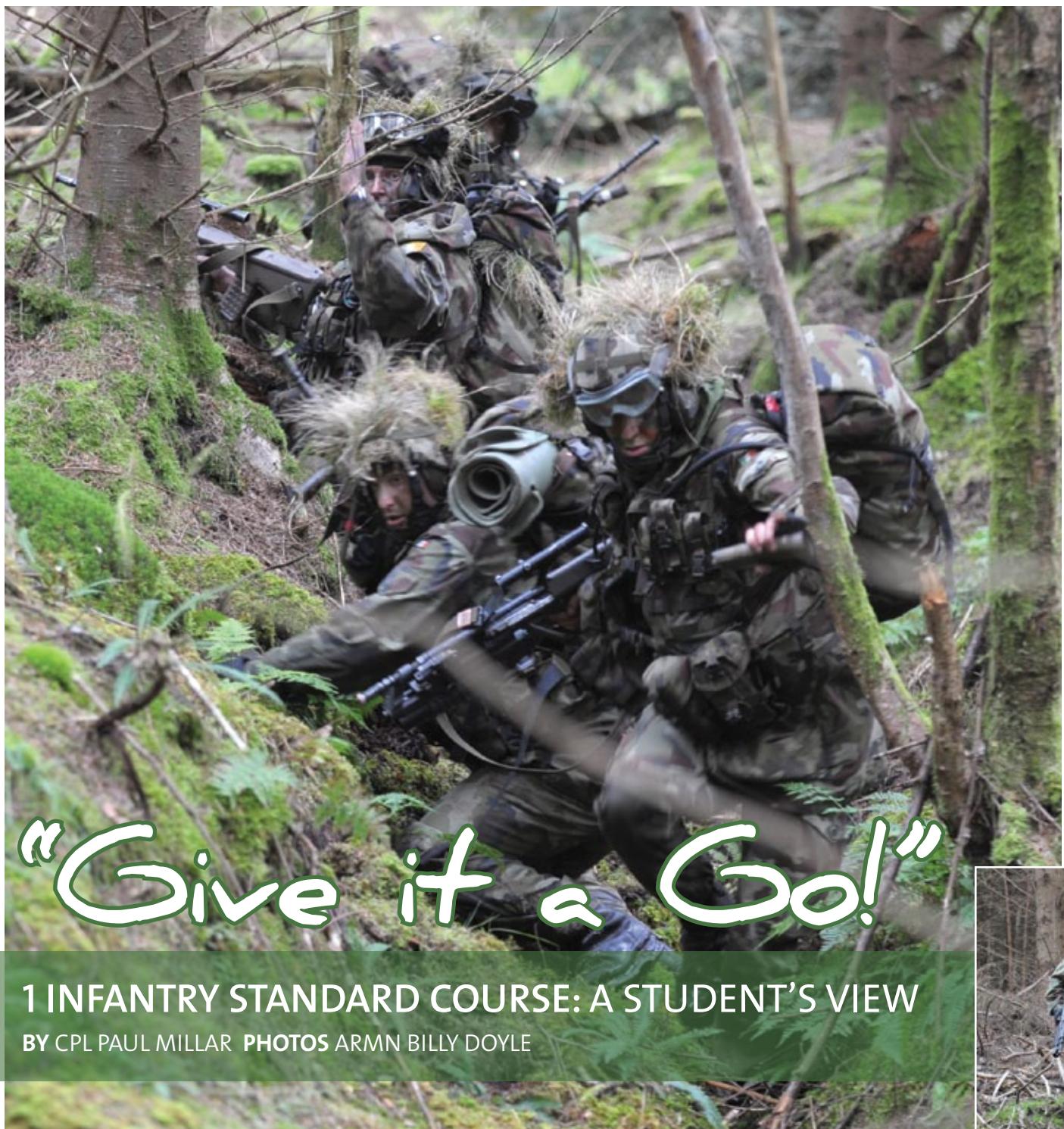
Patrick Hughes at the Citadel in Erbil



EUJUST LEX Instructors (from left) Millar Sempey, William Irvine and Matti Virkunnen



John Durnin (left of banner) with a group after a seminar in Erbil



“Give it a Go!”

1 INFANTRY STANDARD COURSE: A STUDENT’S VIEW

BY CPL PAUL MILLAR PHOTOS ARMN BILLY DOYLE

**Destroy! Delay! Sustain!
Suppress! Block! Blind!**

all mission verbs that we as students on the 1st Infantry Standard Course had become used to during our tenure with the NCO Training Wing. Coupled with an inexhaustible list of military acronyms, we were thinking and speaking in army shorthand, a language that few

others could understand. But after nine weeks on the All-Arms Standard Course, followed by seven weeks on this one, at times we were lucky to have the energy to talk.

The Inf Std Cse is based on an entirely new syllabus and structure, which can be accessed via the intranet. But in a nutshell it consists of two weeks of lec-

tures and five weeks of tactics. The first two lecture-based weeks were mainly aimed at improving our grasp of the seven-question combat estimate from the All-Arms Course and on refining our drills and SOPs to make the subsequent weeks flow smoother. There was also a small exercise on week one followed by a severe loaded march, and we learned

a lot of hard lessons about packing kit from the blisters and aches that followed!

Week three was all about platoon attacks and getting the opportunity to practice our command test appointment, which could have been either platoon commander or platoon sergeant. As these were practice sessions for the only pass-or-fail part of the course, motivation was not a problem, even though we were completing up to four a day, with each one lasting up to two hours on average.

The fourth week was centred around one mission verb – Delay! It was a new concept in exercising troops and leaders and it showed that the syllabus was intent on breeding a new type of infantry sergeant. A delay exercise is essentially a form of retrograde operation comprising of all the forms of defensive tactics with the intended result of putting friendly forces in a position to launch a counter-attack. We had platoon areas of foxholes with orders to hold until a certain time. Once this was achieved the group in contact withdrew through the next platoon area. Done at night, through forest and in confusion, it was a real test of command, control and, just as importantly, liaison. An excellent posse of enemy (who had, we suspected, some inside information about our positions!) continued to harass us through the wet night and forced us to expect the unexpected and alter our reactions accordingly.

In keeping with the overall concept of withdrawing to a space more favourable to offensive ops, we set up a forward operating base (FOB) in Coolmoney. It was probably the most realistic part of all the exercises as it mirrored the overseas environment in which we will be sergeants, complete with weapons stores, sentry positions, scheme-of-defence and the all important liaison with transport. But the FOB was there for a reason – to attack the enemy. It was a company-level attack which again helped us to see the bigger picture of operations, beyond the fixation on platoon attacks and helped us to hone our skills for the test appointments later on.



To move that amount of troops over ground that had swelled with a biblical amount of rain, the recce group managed to construct two crossing points out of logs and tree trunks which proved successful for the return trip after we managed to destroy the remnants of the enemy's 231 Motor Rifle Regiment! This effort was made possible with the help of an attached 84mm crew from 27 Inf Bn.

For the duration of the course we endured the wettest June

in almost sixty years, the dullest in fifty and the coldest in more than twenty. Completing the course successfully was our motivation as students for putting up with such dreadful conditions but there was no such carrot for the exercise troops. However, they persevered with great spirit to the credit of themselves and their units.

'Free play' was the theme of week four. Again, it was new to nearly all of us on the course, including some instructors. It consisted of two platoons of students, one against the other, operating in six grid squares. We students were given a free hand in the planning, organising and execution of recce-, standing-, fighting- and ambush patrols, with the instructors taking a backseat. The winner was decided by firepower and drills in contact and by who could locate and destroy the enemy base camp. Fair play to the winners of 1 Platoon - excellent job!

The last week was the one we were dreading. Even the outstanding soldiers on the course were nervous. This was the test phase, pass-or-fail. One fail, one retest, and if you failed that you were gone. Having put in sixteen weeks between the All-Arms Course and the Infantry Standard Course, nobody wanted that.

While locations and directions varied, the tempo of attacks worked out at three per day, enough time to allow recovery between tests but fast enough to ensure it wasn't dragged out. Those in test appointment were told beforehand and given the opportunity to revise their notes on target grid procedure, casevac and the endless considerations of a platoon commander or sergeant. The appointments were done within our existing syndicates, which meant we had worked throughout the course with those who were acting as our section commanders and 2 i/cs and knew them well. It was a system that worked and led to a very successful test week.

The course culminated with the march back from the Glen, an intense route march that was completed by both students and instructors.

The 1st Infantry Standard Course was intense, both mentally and physically, and which resulted in people either talking in their sleep about it or dreaming about platoon attacks and execution paragraphs when they managed to get the head down. But it left all of the students with a massive sense of accomplishment. For all those who completed the course, 'Job Oxo!'. For all those still left to try the course, in the words of Cpl Dean Jackson: "Give it a go!"

2 ISTAR COY CERTIFIED

BY WESLEY BOURKE

PHOTOS BY ARMN NEVILLE COUGHLAN



Part of the German-led EU Battlegroup, 2 ISTAR Coy comprises a HQ platoon, consisting of intelligence gathering and analysis cells; an infantry close recce platoon operating out of Mowag APCs and LAVs with four close recce detachments and three sniper teams; a medium recce troop with two CRVs and two MRVs (as well as the Mowags' surveillance equipment each vehicle carries a close recce detachment); a stand-off recce troop with four detachments of surveillance target-acquisition artillery FOO/FST teams, equipped with artillery LAVs and Amstar ground surveillance radar, one UAS detachment, and one engineer recce detachment; and a combat service support platoon with CIS, fitter, Drops, medical, ordnance, and MP detachments. As of 1st July, 2 ISTAR Coy will be on standby for six months, capable of deploying within five days.

In May, Operation 'Brightlight' the Irish company's culminating phase of training and assessment in order to receive their national certificate of readiness took place. Run by the Cav School, the primary goal of the exercise was to test 2 ISTAR Coy in as close to real-life scenarios as possible in order to insure they are ready to participate in the Battle Group and ready for deployment.

The scenario 2 ISTAR Coy was faced with was a deployment to the fictional country of Daznu, where elements within the country were seeking autonomy. As part of a UN-mandated mission the German-led EU Battle Group had been tasked with establishing a secure and peaceful environment and pave the way for a future EUFOR or UN mission. There was a ceasefire in place and the three objectives for the Battle Group were to secure the airports and seaports to allow for a follow-on EUFOR/UN element; deploy to a forward operating base along the zone of separation between North and South Daznu and conduct peace-support operations in order to provide the peaceful movement of all internally displaced persons (IDPs); and establish and maintain a zone of separation and provide and assist in the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

2 ISTAR Coy was primarily tasked with monitoring three IDP camps and three main routes from North to South Daznu that were being used by IDPs as well as by the Daznu United Front, who were trying to destabilise the new established authorities in South Daznu.

The exercise tested the troops in all aspects of ISTAR; from eyes on target from an OP to analysing the information gathered at HQ. The troops were also exercised in possible real-life scenarios such as road traffic accidents, dealing with IDPs and IEDs, and Casevac.

"I was very satisfied with the national certification exercise," said OC 2 ISTAR Coy, Comdt Colin McNamee. "We spent eight months developing great teamwork, developing our deployment model, how our intelligence cycle worked with the operational collecting cycle. The investment we have made in terms of our soldiers' skills was very, very evident on the ground. People knew their job, they were very well trained and equipped, and therefore were able to execute the mission." ■



BACK to the Future

BY COMDT SEÁN MURPHY

This article is about the Infantry School's Professional Reading Programme. So, why read about military affairs in the first place?

When General George S Patton, Jr, wrote to his son at West Point, as the D-Day landings took place on 6 June 1944, he advised him that "to be a successful soldier you must know history". Many military leaders and institutions throughout the world continue to value the study of past military operations as an aid to the development of military leaders at all levels in the full spectrum of military operations. As Jessup and Coakely write: "Weather, terrain and intelligence of friendly and enemy dispositions ... are as important today as in the days of Alexander, Frederick the Great and Napoleon; human reactions in combat remain relatively constant."

In his essay 'The Use and Abuse of Military History' Prof Sir Michael Howard MC observes: "If there are no wars in the present in which the professional soldier can learn his trade, he is almost compelled to study the wars of the past." Such reading will help the soldier to avoid repeating the mistakes

of the past through ignorance and to refrain from unquestioningly following obsolete theories.

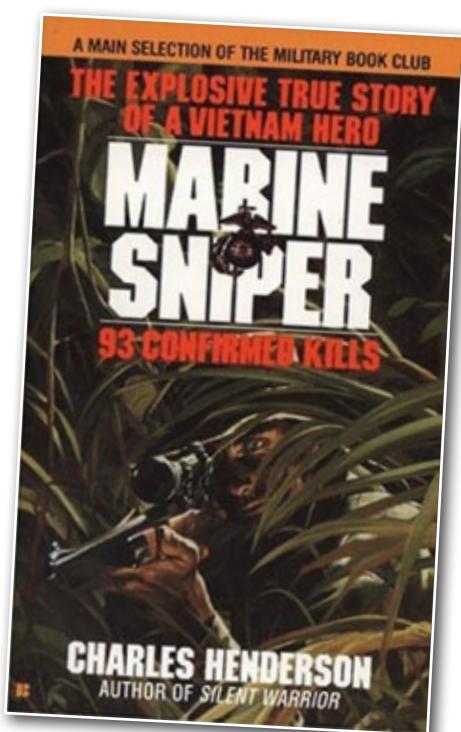
In 2006 Lt Gen Sir John Kiszely wrote an article titled 'Learning about Counter-Insurgency', in which he reflects on the development of Gen Sir Rupert Smith's concept of 'war amongst the people' and the difficulties that the ever-changing circumstances of the battlefield in the early 21st century pose for modern western armies.

Gen Kiszely addresses learning in military institutions and the difficulties that the campaigns in Malaya, Cyprus and Vietnam posed the conservative cultures of various western militaries in the second half of the 20th century. One of the factors that he identifies as detracting from the ability of many militaries to learn about counter-insurgency has been "their tendency to forego [the] serious study of history and theory" beyond finding a text that tells the individual how to solve the problem immediately facing him/her.

As part of his conclusion Gen Kiszely identifies the difference between training (preparing people to perform specific tasks) and education (the development of mental powers). He further states that training is for predictable events while education is required to help people deal with unpredictable events. Military leaders, he says, need an understanding of a wide variety of factors that will influence counter-insurgency operations, including "politics, economics, anthropology, sociology and psychology". And "underpinning all of these is the study of history".

However, Gen Kiszely also identifies that it is impossible to expect that this level of education can be imparted through the formal training processes of the military. There are too many other demands on scarce resources. Instead, encouraging individuals to participate in "continuous self-education" is a key element of the solution.

The Infantry School conducts a wide variety of courses aimed at the professional development of the officers, NCOs and soldiers of the Infantry Corps, in particular, and the Defence Forces generally. In addition to professional courses, it is widely accepted that participation in 'life-long learning' is a key element in the development



of the individual. Reading with purpose can enhance professional knowledge.

The benefits of 'professional reading' include: the development of the individual's professional knowledge; the improvement of the level of general knowledge in military current affairs and development; an increased appreciation of military history; an increased understanding of military operations/activities that the Defence Forces does not conduct regularly; a greater understanding of the ethos of various military organisations; and the development of sources of information that will assist in preparatory study and research in advance of career courses.

The books recommended in the Infantry School Professional Reading Programme contain thought-provoking ideas that, in addition to developing the reader's knowledge, will aid them in developing their leadership and military skills. The inclusion of a book does not imply that the Defence Forces endorses the author's views or interpretations and the list of suggested books is not a definitive one and is reviewed periodically.

The programme has been divided into a number of categories to help the reader to concentrate on areas of specific interest to them. These categories include: the history of the Irish soldier; World War I; World War II; campaigns studied in the Infantry School; leaders and leadership; counterinsurgency; the American Civil War; specialist areas; and miscellaneous areas.

In the period 2013–2023 a series of important centenaries will occur. Among these are the foundation of the Irish Volunteers (1913); the 1916 Rising and its aftermath; the War of Independence (1919–21); and the Civil War (1922–23).

Reading the history of these events will aid the individual to form their own understanding and opinion of events that were central to the founding of our state and our Defence Forces.

In addition to events in Ireland, a number of other anniversaries of military actions that had strong Irish participation fall within this period. These include the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo (1815), the ongoing series of 150th anniversaries associated with the American Civil War (1861–65), and the concurrent centenaries of the events of World War One (1914–18).

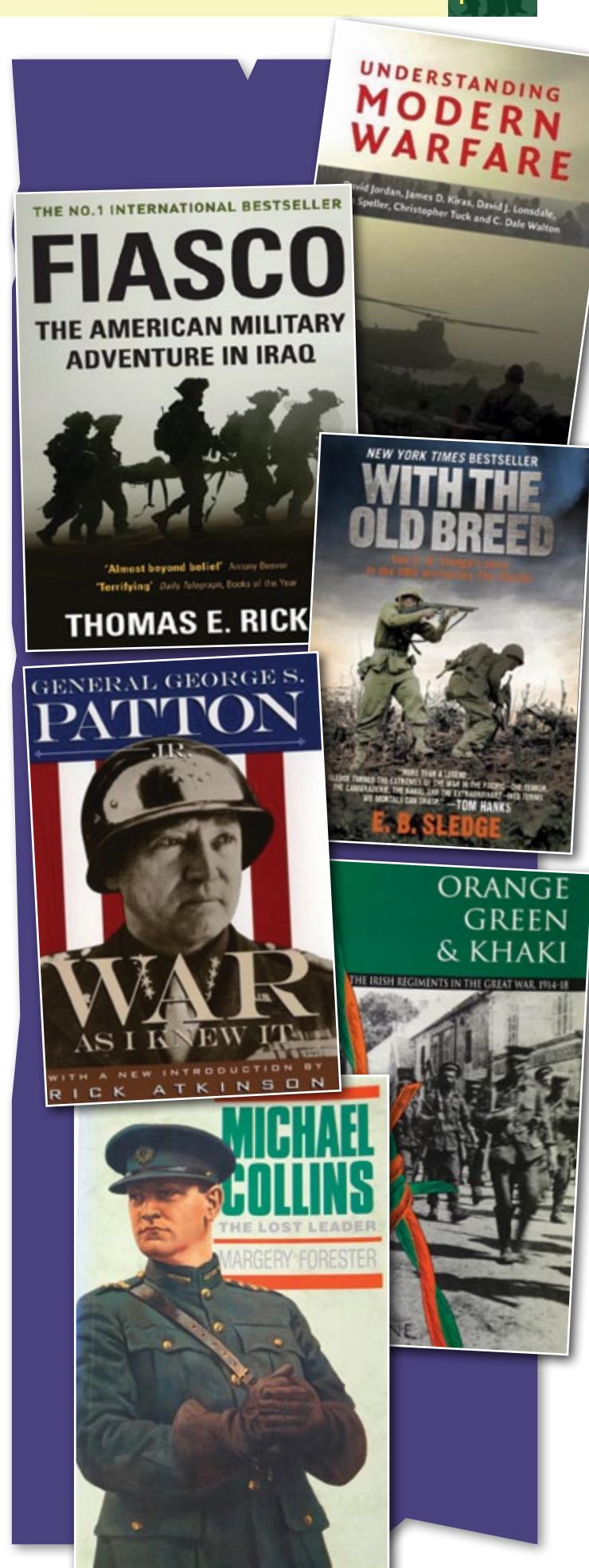
Reading about these events can help the individual to form an understanding of their significance and also to further appreciate the development of military tactics, technology and leadership. The Infantry School Reading Programme can assist in the beginning of such a process.

The Infantry School Professional Reading Programme is available on the Defence Forces web site at

<http://www.military.ie/education-hq/military-college/infantry-school/professional-reading-programme>

Alternatively, simply type Infantry School Professional Reading Programme into your search engine.

About the author: Comdt Seán Murphy is an instructor in the OTW, Infantry School, and is currently completing an MA in military history and strategic studies in NUIM. ■



DONEGAL'S RELAY FOR LIFE

BY LT JOHN MC CANDLESS, 58 RES INF BN

Billed as one of the biggest charity events ever held in Donegal the 'Relay for Life' lived up to all expectations and, thanks to a suggestion by Cpl Marie Downey and Cpl Ann Marie McColgan, A Coy, 58 Reserve Infantry Battalion, was there to take part in it.

Now a global event Relay for Life's origins go back to 1985 when Dr Gordy Klatt, a surgeon in Tacoma, Washington, decided to raise money for his local branch of the American Cancer Society. In the City of Destiny Classic 24-Hour Run Against Cancer, Dr Klatt spent a gruelling 24 hours circling the track at Baker Stadium at the University of Puget Sound. Friends and supporters each paid \$25 to run or walk 30 minutes with him and he raised \$27,000.

While thinking about ways that others could participate, he got the idea for a 24-hour team relay. Consequently, the following year's run saw 19 teams taking part in the first team relay event, raising \$33,000. The event has since become a global phenomenon that gives communities across the world a chance to celebrate the survivors of cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. At Relay for Life events teams camp out, taking turns walking or running. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event, in recognition of the fact that cancer never sleeps.

A Company's team was one of 71 teams participating; the largest ever Relay for Life in the country and Donegal's first. Each team had to raise a minimum of €1,500 and our committee began fundraising in March, through coffee mornings, table quizzes, golf classics and packing shopping at a local supermarket. By the day of the event, Saturday 26th May, we had raised €3,348, with some money still to be counted.

In Mediterranean-type weather thousands gathered at Letterkenny IT at 1400hrs. As we counted down to the start of the Relay at 1800hrs, Donegal's own Daniel O'Donnell sang the Relay for Life song, *I'll See The Journey Through*, which he wrote for the Irish Cancer Society.

Although every Relay for Life is different, there are certain common traditions that reinforce the concept of 'Celebrate, Remember, and Fight Back.'

The opening ceremony starts with the Survivors' Lap, an inspirational time when survivors are invited to circle the track together so that everyone can celebrate their victories over cancer. It also demonstrates how the Relay's participants are helping to ensure that more lives are saved each year, represented by the individuals on the track.

In Letterkenny 400 survivors took to the track decked out in purple t-shirts. They were followed by carers in yellow t-shirts: these are individuals who give their time, love, and support to friends, family and neighbours facing cancer.

Then it was the turn of the 71 teams to walk round the track.



A Coy 58 Bn and Daniel O Donnell



Luminaria Ceremony 5000 Candles in memory

Many were in fancy dress and a fun-filled 24 hours was promised.

With the event underway, those not actually walking were free

to take place in the Luminaria ceremony, which remembers people who have been touched by cancer and loved ones lost to the disease. Candles are lit, each bearing the name of a person touched by cancer. Cpl Marie Downey, our team captain, assisted in the Luminaria ceremony, in which over 5,000 candles were lit.

At one stage when Lt Shaun McLaughlin, Cpl Charlene Monagle and I were on a break we joined some local athletes who were running around the town for the 24 hours. The local Errigal Cycling Club were also cycling around the town for the 24 hours: it truly was a community event.

The last element of the event is the Fight Back ceremony, where everyone makes a personal commitment to take up the fight against cancer, a disease that takes too many. That commitment may be by doing something as simple as wearing sun screen, getting screening tests, watching our diet, quitting smoking, etc.

The event was a huge success and by 1800hrs Sunday over €282,000 was raised for the Irish Cancer Society. When CD sales are counted that figure should exceed €300,000.

By the end we were very tired but it was an unbelievable experience and one which we in 58 Inf Bn are very proud of. It was emotional, fun, and entertaining and everyone is looking forward to doing it again next year. ■

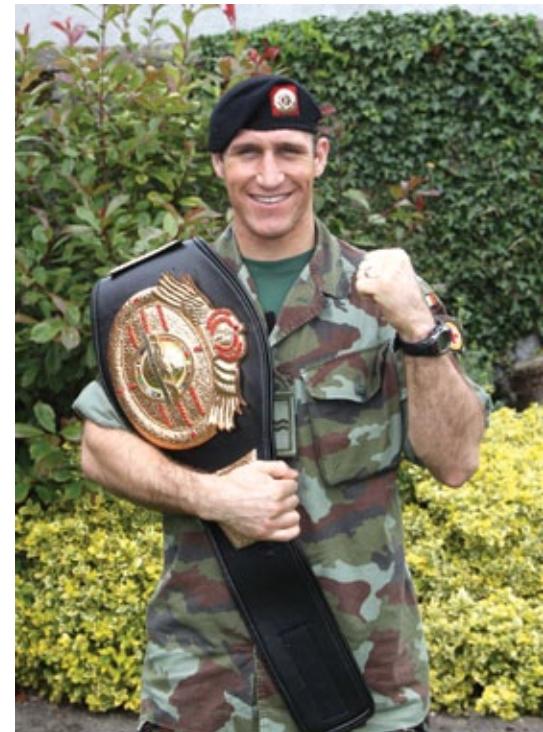
SPORTS PROFILE

BY SGT WAYNE FITZGERALD PROFILE PHOTO BY JIM O'CONNOR

NAME: Vinny Di Ruscio **RANK:** Corporal
UNIT: Med Coy, 1 LSB **AGE:** 30 **SPORT:** Kickboxing

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1999 – Irish Champion (64kg)
 2004 – Pro-Am European Title (70kg)
 2005 – Pro-Am World Title (70kg)
 2007 – Pro European Title (72kg)
 2012 – Pro World Title (72kg)



I joined the Defence Forces in 1999 and after recruit training I was posted to 3 Inf Bn in Stephens Barracks, Kilkenny, where I stayed for ten years. For six of those years I was employed in the gym as a PTI (physical training instructor). This was great for me because I'm always training anyway due to my kickboxing.

Then in 2007 I changed direction in my military career and underwent the 3-star medics course in the Med Sch, DFTC. After completing the course I applied for a position in Med Coy, 1 LSB, and was posted there in 2009.

I have served overseas with 88 Inf Bn UNIFIL, 28 Inf Gp KFOR and 98 Inf Bn Chad.

My kickboxing started when I was eight years old: I just took to it. Currently, I'm a second Dan black-belt and an instructor in Dragon's Lair Gym in Kilkenny.

I've been fighting at pro level for a few years now, which normally means two or three fights a year, with each fight requiring twice-a-day training for up to ten or twelve weeks before each fight.

In April this year I began to prepare for a pro world title fight in July for the vacant ISKA (International Sport Karate Association) middleweight (72kg) belt against two-time holder Fran Zucalla of England. The fight was scheduled for Saturday July 15th in my hometown of Kilkenny. I had sixteen weeks of intensive training to get me ready for the fight and as Fran was going for a record, trying to become the first three-time holder of this belt, I knew he would be seriously coming for it.

On the night the fight went the full

twelve rounds and it was a high-tempo, bloody, bruising encounter. With respect to Fran he hurt me a few times during the fight but thankfully I managed to emerge victorious and take the title.

I will have to defend the title early in 2013, and it will take some performance to take it off me as to be honest I don't think I can give it up! Then again I go into every fight with the same view that no-one is going to beat me. I suppose it's part of the winning attitude that you need at the top of any sport.

I'm in favour of all sports and games being encouraged by the Defence Forces. If anybody is passionate about any activity, whether it's kickboxing or football, chess or snooker, they should be encouraged.





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best wishes to defence forces



KICK-START
THE NEW YEAR & YOUR FITNESS
AT THE DRAGONS LAIR

Time Table

	6pm-7pm	7pm-8pm	8pm-10pm
Monday	6:30pm Beginners		Intermediate
Tuesday	Juniors 6-10yrs	Juniors 10-15yrs	
Wednesday	6:30pm Beginners		Advanced conditioning
Thursday	Juniors 6-10yrs	Juniors 10-15yrs	Intermediate
Friday		Fighters	
Saturday	10:00-11:30 Open Session Juniors and Adults		

	4pm-5pm	7pm-8pm	8pm-9:30pm
Monday	5-8 yrs after school	8-14yrs	Adults & Beginners
Tuesday		7-8:30 Adults	
Wednesday	5-8 yrs after school	8-14yrs	Adults & Beginners
Thursday		7-8:30 Adult Self-defence	
Friday		7-8:30 Adults	
Saturday	10-11:30 Kids Jiu-jitsu	11:30-1pm Adults Appointment only	

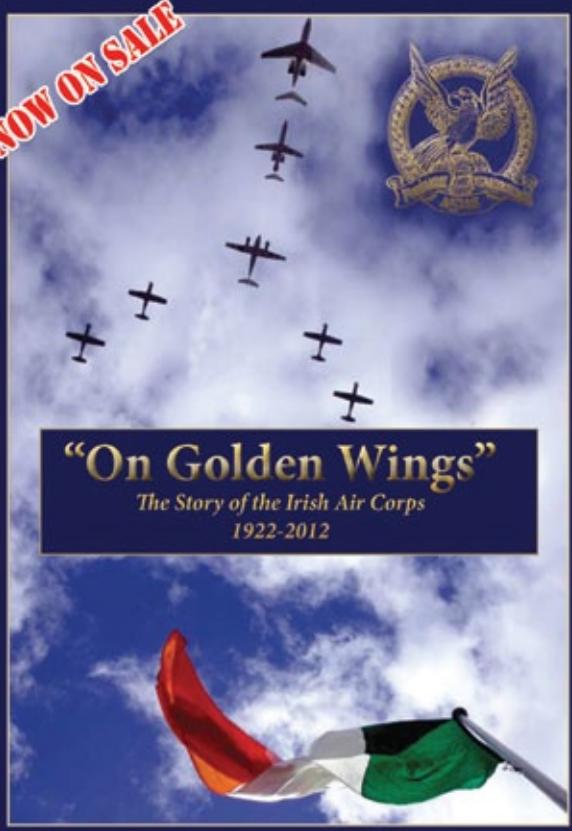
	8:30pm-10pm
Tuesday	Adults
Friday	Adults



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01 403 7561 or aircorpspress@military.ie

TAC AIDE VOICE PROCEDURE

In last months Tac-Aide we had a look at the phonetic alphabet, since its inception to the present day and the reason why it is used for clarifying words and messages sent over the air, which if not used could cause a message to be garbled and could very well jeopardise an action or mission.

This month we are going to give an overview of military voice procedure and why it's used. Even modern sophisticated radio systems can suffer from interference of one kind or another. Therefore the importance of using proper voice procedure is crucial to the message being understood and to reduce errors.

Two basic considerations when talking on air are:

- WHAT TO SAY - Voice Procedure
- HOW TO SAY IT - Voice Technique

WHAT IS VOICE PROCEDURE?

Voice procedure is a set of rules designed to aid the secure accurate and disciplined (SAD) transmission of a radio message.

SECURITY

- Think before speaking
- Use correct procedure
- Be short and to the point

ACCURACY

The importance for clear accurate speech on two-way radios cannot be stressed enough. Therefore the acronym RSVP can be used to aid and enhance better voice procedure and technique.

R	RHYTHM	Adequate Pauses
S	SPEED	Slower than usual conversation
V	VOLUME	Speak directly into the microphone
P	PITCH	The voice should be pitched at a higher level than for normal conversation.

DISCIPLINE

Radio discipline is the sole responsibility of all radio operators, and they should adhere to the following:

- Listen carefully
- Use correct voice procedure
- Answer all calls promptly
- Keep the airways free of all unnecessary talk
- Be brief and to the point



HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY

AFTER NIEMBA: THE CAVALRY CONNECTION

BY: COL GEORGE KERTON (RETD.)

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MILITARY ARCHIVES & DF PRINTING PRESS

The terrible events of 8th November 1960 near the River Luweye on a dirt road approximately 14 miles from Niemba village in what was then the Republic of the Congo caused the highest toll suffered by Ireland in the cause of world peace.

The nine men from A Company, 33 Inf Bn, ONUC (Opération des Nations Unies au Congo), who were killed by Baluba tribesmen in the Niemba Ambush were Lt Kevin Gleeson, Sgt Hugh Gaynor, Cpl Peter Kelly, Cpl Liam Dougan, Pte Matthew Farrell, Tpr Thomas Fennell, Tpr Anthony Browne, Pte Michael McGuinn and Pte Gerard Killeen. Two members of the patrol survived the attack, Pte Thomas Kenny and Pte Joseph Fitzpatrick. In the follow-up operation to recover the missing and to retrieve the bodies, Pte Patrick Davis died after he was shot accidentally on the night of 10th November 1960. Eight of the nine bodies were recovered quickly but it was almost two years to the day before Tpr Browne's body was recovered from the bush.

Twenty-six members of the Defence Forces died in the Congo, seven of them cavalrymen, and three of those killed at Niemba, Sgt Gaynor, Tpr Fennell and Tpr Browne were mem-

bers of 2 Mot Sqn. Tpr Browne was awarded An Bonn Míleata Calmactha, le dearscnacht (The Military Medal For Gallantry, with distinction), which was presented to Tpr Browne's father, John, by Taoiseach Seán Lemass at a ceremony in Collins Bks on the first anniversary of the Ambush on 8th November 1961.

On 13th November 1961, a year after the killings, five men from the Niemba area were tried at Elisabeth District Court for their part in the ambush. Two received sentences of three years and three received two-year terms of penal servitude.

The first two Irish units with ONUC, 32 and 33 Inf Bns, did not have armoured vehicles but following Niemba the Quartermaster-General, Colonel Seán Collin-Powell, instructed the Director of Cavalry, Col James Cogan, to arrange reliability tests on Ford armoured cars and Beaverette armoured scout cars. The tests were conducted by 1 Mot Sqn, 4 Mot Sqn and 1 Tank Sqn over a 48-hour period on 24th and 25th November 1960.

Each vehicle was tested over a run of no less than 400 miles on a variety of road and off-road surfaces and involving hill climbing. The results confirmed

that the Fords were superior mechanically but both vehicles had very poor performance cross-country and on unmetalled surfaces. Instead, Col Cogan recommended that consideration be given to sending the Landsverk L180 armoured cars as they had been fitted with new engines; could be fitted with tracks for the rear wheels; and the armament (20mm Madsen and two Browning machine-guns), armour protection, gun-control and observation, exceeded the Ford.

The main reason this recommendation was rejected was that 1 Arm Car Sqn was the only unit with personnel trained on the Landsverk and as the unit was severely under strength it would not have been possible to sustain crews over a number of rotations or to train new crews if all eight AFVs were deployed to the Congo.

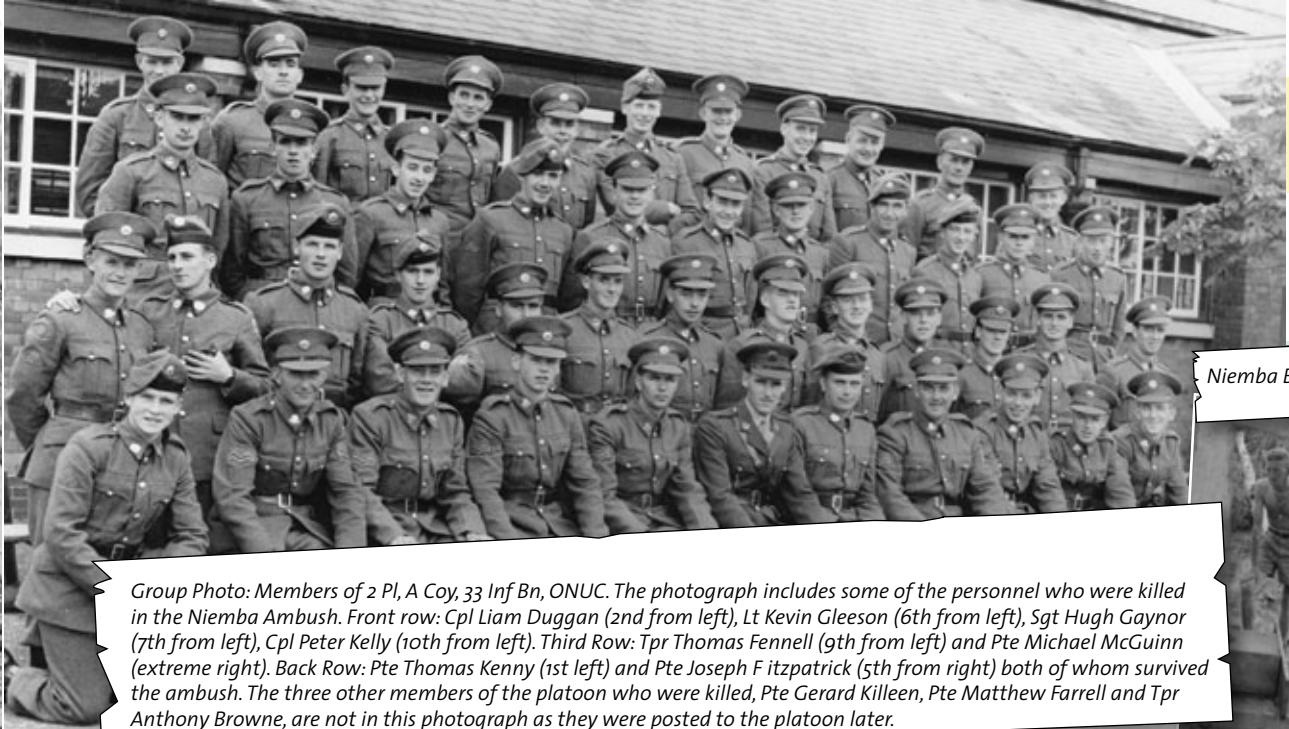
In December 1960, the Director of Cavalry submitted a proposal to the Chief of Staff for an armoured car group for 34 Infantry Battalion. Eight Fords were prepared and airlifted from Baldonnel Aerodrome to the Congo in US military Douglas C-124 Globemaster II aircraft.

By 15th January 1961 the Armoured Car Group, 34th Inf Bn was operational



Niemba Bridge

HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY



Group Photo: Members of 2 Pl, A Coy, 33 Inf Bn, ONUC. The photograph includes some of the personnel who were killed in the Niemba Ambush. Front row: Cpl Liam Duggan (2nd from left), Lt Kevin Gleeson (6th from left), Sgt Hugh Gaynor (7th from left), Cpl Peter Kelly (10th from left). Third Row: Tpr Thomas Fennell (9th from left) and Pte Michael McGuinn (extreme right). Back Row: Pte Thomas Kenny (1st left) and Pte Joseph Fitzpatrick (5th from right) both of whom survived the ambush. The three other members of the platoon who were killed, Pte Gerard Killeen, Pte Matthew Farrell and Tpr Anthony Browne, are not in this photograph as they were posted to the platoon later.

in Kamina Base in Katanga and most Irish units deployed overseas since then have had an organic cavalry element. Six Irish ONUC battalions (34 to 39 Inf Bns inclusive) and 2 Inf Gp had armoured car groups. Two independent squadrons (2 and 3 Armoured Car Squadron) also served with ONUC. In addition to the Fords, some of the later units also used Scania SKPF M/42 wheeled APCs, M113 tracked APCs and Ferret Mark II armoured scout cars. All driving, maintenance and gunnery training on these AFVs was done in-theatre.

Less than a year after the Niemba ambush three more cavalrymen were killed in action in Elizabethville while serving with 35 Inf Bn. Tpr Edward Gaffney died from multiple gunshot wounds on 13 September 1961 when the truck he was driving was ambushed and hit by machine-gun fire. Cpl Michael Nolan and Tpr Patrick Mullins were killed when their Ford armoured car was knocked out by an anti-armour projectile two days later.

In the autumn of 1962 Comdt Pat Liddy, a cavalry officer serving with 37 Inf Bn, was told by a Belgian lawyer that the location of the remains of Tpr Browne was known. A four-man team was assembled and tasked with establishing the location and recovering the remains. Comdt Jack Gallagher, Ops Officer with 37 Inf Bn (later Major General and Quartermaster-General from June 1981 to April 1984), was in charge of the team. Two officers, Comdt Brendan Heaney and Capt Jim Lavery, who had served with 33 Inf Bn in 1960, and who were formed-up for service with 38 Inf Bn's armoured car group, were sent with the advance party for that unit. The fourth member of the team was another cavalry officer, Comdt Thomas Malachy McMahon, who had been Legal Officer with 33 Inf Bn.

A platoon from the Malayan contingent escorted the team, accompanied by the local administrator, a party from Armée Nationale Congolaise and an interpreter.

After spending two days in the bush, the skeletal remains were located on 7th November 1962, one day short of the second anniversary of the massacre. The remains were scattered over an area of about twenty yards some three miles from the ambush site near the village of Tundula. The

remains were transported by road to Albertville and on the following day to Elizabethville. Tpr Browne was brought home for burial with full military honours in the Congo plot in Glasnevin on 16th November 1962.

Tragically, this was not the end of the story. Comdt McMahon was serving as Judge Advocate General at HQ ONUC in Leopoldville when he died suddenly in his sleep from myocardial infarction on 28th September 1963, aged 47 years. He was the last member of the Defence Forces to die in the Congo.

Tpr Browne and Comdt McMahon and the other five cavalrymen who died in the Congo are commemorated at the Cavalry Corps Memorial Garden at the Curragh and at the Congo plot in Glasnevin.

Every year since 1966, serving and retired cavalry personnel, along with relatives of those who died, assemble in Plunkett Bks to mark Cavalry Corps Memorial Day in remembrance of cavalry personnel who died while on overseas service and those who passed away during the year. This year's ceremony will be held on 1st September.

The Congo mission was a watershed for the Defence Forces and changed the organisation from a force that was almost frozen in time from the Emergency period by being starved of funding during the 1940s and the 1950s. When the first units deployed to the Congo they were still uniformed and equipped as they had been in 1946 with bulls wool uniforms, leather hob-nailed boots, and armed with bolt-action Lee Enfield .303 rifles, Bren-gun LMGs, Gustaf SMGs and Vickers MMGs. The Ford armoured cars were from the same era.

The sacrifices and service in the Congo left a legacy and laid the foundations for Cavalry Corps service in later overseas missions. It is a matter of immense pride in the Cavalry Corps that, in addition to the award of the MMG to Tpr Browne, 11 Cavalry Corps personnel were awarded DSMs for service with ONUC and sadly, six others who made the supreme sacrifice were posthumously awarded the Military Star. ■

Niemba Bridge memorial construction



River Deep, MOUNTAIN HIGH

REPORT BY COMDT DES
CONNOLLY (4 INF BN)

On 19 June, 13 Defence Forces kayakers of varying skill levels, departed for a week-long advanced white-water kayak course in the French Alps. Some had kayaked there before but for others it was their first time paddling outside Ireland.

A flight to Milan, followed by a drive along alpine roads with spectacular views and through long tunnel systems, took us to our base in Briançon, nestled in a large valley in the southern French Alps. According to 'White Water South Alps' by Peter Knowles, Briançon is the highest town in Europe, notable for its impressive fortifications and the 18th century gun emplacements on the ridges above, built to defend the frontier with Italy only a few kilometres away.

More to the point of the trip, Briançon is situated at the junction of four valleys, making it a natural centre for kayaking. Fed by a mixture of snow and glacier melt, the rivers flowing through these valleys are justifiably popular with river-running kayakers, with a choice of fine white water, in beautiful mountain scenery. The rivers available for kayaking in this region provide constant, dependable levels of

water, unlike rivers in Ireland, and numerous excellent rivers lie within an hour's drive.

Each day's paddling involved an early morning drive to the first put-in, followed by lunch on the hoof (freshly-made rolls served on the up-turned hull of a boat), then the move to the second, and some days third, river of the day. The Guisane, Gyronde, Guil and Ubaye Racecourse were undertaken, with varying degrees of success. Later in the week, the Château Queyras Gorge, a white-knuckle, grade 4+ stretch, gave the more experienced paddlers in the group a run to remember. Closer to home, the Briançon Gorge provided the full group with a great day's kayaking, with the slide on the weir in the first 300m of the river putting a smile on everyone's face!

The slalom course at Argentière was visited on several occasions during the week, providing plenty of opportunity to fine-tune eddy-hopping and river-running skills. For the less experienced in the group, the training lake adjacent to the slalom course was also popular for practicing rolls and other skills. (Ray Ryan was also on hand to demonstrate

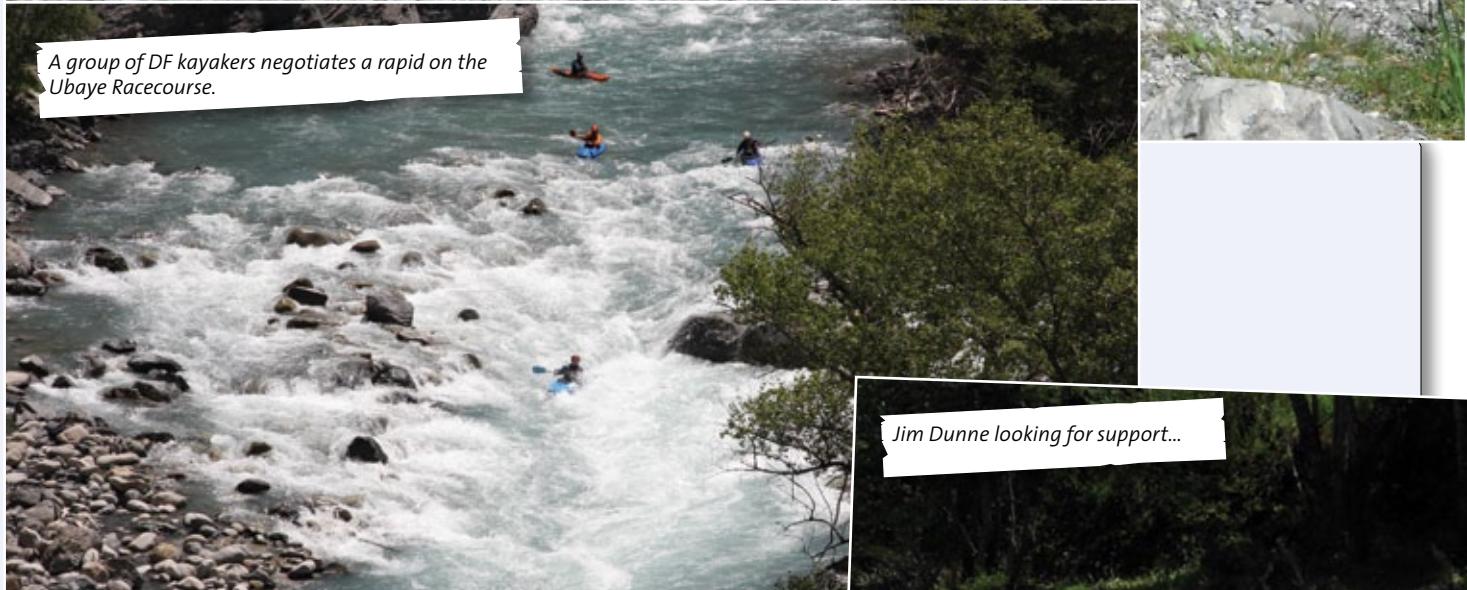
his technical exit, to the delight of an enthusiastic young audience...!)

Overall, the week's kayaking gave all involved a great taste of what white-water kayaking can offer. For the less experienced, the importance of the basics and the learning of new skills were paramount, while for the more expert of the group, river leadership and river safety and rescue came to the fore. The learning curve is very steep, and practicing these





Tour group taken at the Ubaye Racecourse.



A group of DF kayakers negotiates a rapid on the Ubaye Racecourse.

skills on rivers with higher volume and faster-moving water than at home provides a much more challenging and rewarding experience. Certainly, this experience will stand to the kayaker on return home.

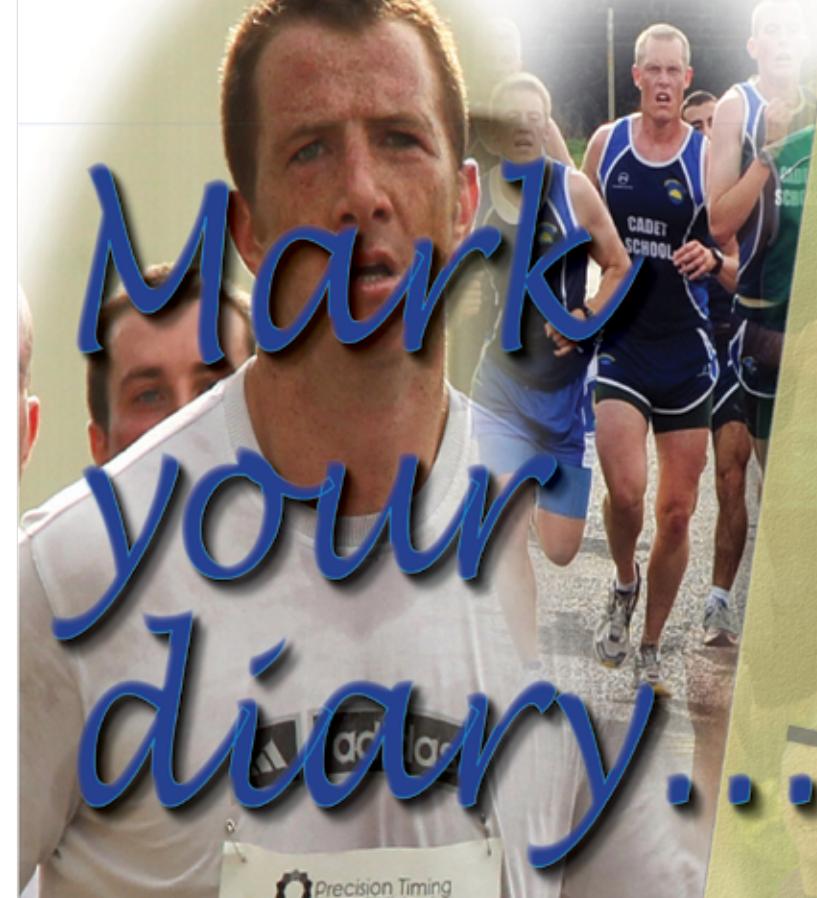
The DF Kayak Club provides training and support for kayakers in the Defence Forces and also provides support to recruit river-crossing exercises; cadet adventure training; DF triathlon events; safety support for the annual Liffey Descent race; and adventure training for An Gaisce participants.

For those interested in the sport, the DF Kayak Club provides training courses (beginners- to advanced-level) and courses in river safety and rescue. Contact your brigade rep for more information: 2 E Bde – Pte Ronnie O'Connor (27 Inf Bn); 1 S Bde – Sgt John O'Reilly (32 Res Inf Bn); 4 W Bde – Pte Darren Clarke (1 Cn Cois); DFTC – Lt Sinéad Hunt (1 ACS); Air Corps – Cpl Jim Dunne (3 Ops Wing); Naval Service – PO Dave O'Leary ■

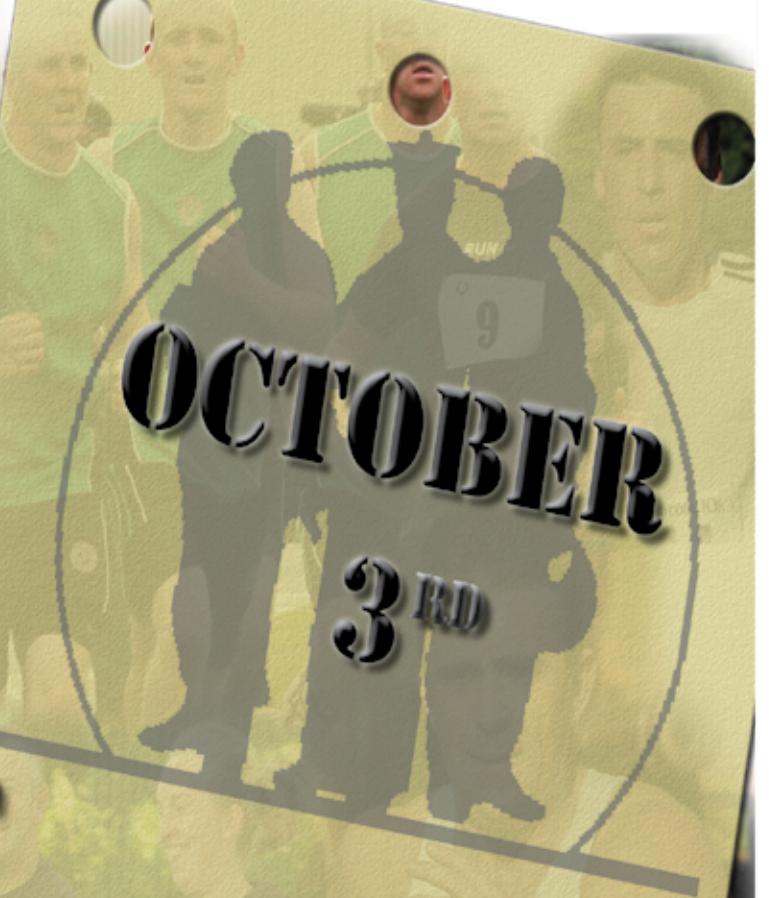


Jim Dunne looking for support...

Youtube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqGrHYxw-ql>



Mark
your
diary...



OCTOBER
3RD

An Cosantóir 10k - Phoenix Park

Entry forms available from your BPEO, www.military.ie and intranet

Óglaigh Náisiúnta Na hÉireann Teoranta

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GEAR REVIEW

POHL FORCE BRAVO ONE (SURVIVAL KNIFE)

€133.00

The manufacturer says...

The Bravo One: Survival features a Drop Point* style blade crafted from D2 (DIN 1.2379) blade with a black PTFE-coated corrosion resistant surface which eliminates glinting meaning this knife is very suitable to undercover or personal protective use. The coating also helps it to retain its edge for longer. The blade edge itself is a combination serrated and plain style, which cuts through rope and other material with ease.



The 3.3 inch (8.3cm) blade is 3mm thick and has a hardness rating of 59 on the Rockwell Scale. With black 3mm thick handles made of fibreglass-reinforced plastic (fibreglass, 45%) and 1mm thick stainless steel plates, the knife is also lightweight enough (100g) to be easily transportable never weighing you down. The perfect knife to bring on a hunting trip or carry during any outdoor activity, it can be discreet whilst still being there when you need it.

All Pohl Force knives are meticulously designed and constructed, feature individual serial numbers and include a signed certificate of manufacture inside their attractive carry/presentation pouches. Also included is a souvenir Pohl Force key chain.

(* A slow convex-curved drop in the point characterises a drop-point blade. The drop-point format lowers the point for control but adds strength to the tip.)

Our tester, Cpl Seán Reilly (B Coy, 3 Inf Bn), says...

This knife can be used for any amount of applications. I've used it for everything from skinning rabbits, gutting fish and sharpening sticks to setting up hides. The knife feels secure in your hand and with the grip there is no fear of it slipping, which is great for peace of mind. With the knife clipped into a pocket it sits comfortably and is close to hand when needed, without being an obstruction. After having used the blade for many different tasks during the trial it is still as sharp as when I first received it and I would definitely recommend it to soldiers, or anyone who pursues an outdoor activity such as hunting, fishing or camping.

Rating: Edge Retention 10 - Quality 10 - Ease of Operation 10 - Value for money 8



COMPETITION

This month Team-Alpha are offering a Streamlight Sidewinder LED Light (value €80) as reviewed in our June issue.

FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THIS MONTH'S PRIZE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

NAME TWO BRANDS ON THE TEAM-ALPHA.IE WEBSITE?

Answers on a postcard to An Cosantóir's regular address or by email to subs@military.ie by the 20th Sept 2012.

Winner will be the first correct entry drawn. **The winners of last month's prizes are: Kieran Crawford - 5.11 Rush72 Backpack and Ciera Boyne - ESS Flyby Sunglasses**



Sponsored by Team Alpha.ie

5.11 TACTICAL STRYKE PANTS

€79.95 Available in Black/Khaki

The manufacturer says...

The 5.11 Stryke Pants with Flex-Tac™ is the next generation of the Tactical pants. Flex-Tac™ is a revolutionary fabric utilising proprietary fibres and developed exclusively for 5.11 Tactical. The lightweight, breathable, poly/cotton ripstop incorporates mechanical stretch yarns, meaning the stretch and recovery of the fabric is achieved without the use of spandex. As a result, the breathability, colour retention, and durability of the Flex-Tac is superior to other cotton/spandex fabrics currently in the market.



The 5.11 Stryke Pants with Flex-Tac™ is soil-, stain-, and fade-resistant, and comes out of the wash ready-to-wear. 5.11 have redesigned the silhouette with a sleeker, faster look utilising slanted inset side cargo pockets. In addition to the thigh cargo pockets there are two off-seam side pockets, two accessory pockets on each side, and two back flap secured wallet pockets providing you maximum storage capacity. The knees are discreetly reinforced with knee pad access inside. The redesigned self adjusting comfort waist with a lower profile look providing maximum comfort and range of motion. Another nice feature is the two front belt loops that also double as a badge holder.

Our tester, Sgt Alan Hayles (5 Inf Bn), says...

The best use for the Stryke Pants would be any sort of outdoor working environment. I have used them on numerous occasions hunting and found them to be very comfortable and durable, with all the extra pockets and soft areas around the knee caps makes them ideal for the hunting/outdoor environment. I have put the pants through rivers, barbed wire, gorse bushes, and mud and I found them to be an excellent piece of clothing and they never ripped.

I normally use an old pair of DPMs and find that they can be very restrictive and tend to rip around the groin/pocket area fairly easily. I would have no problem recommending them to anyone, especially as they retail for €79.95 and because I rate them ten-out-of-ten.

Rating: Comfort 10 - Fit (true to size) 10 - Grip 10 - Value for money 10

NOTICEBOARD

This page is designed to give our readers an easy-to-follow list of upcoming events or notices for our wider Defence Forces Family. Readers that want to submit notices that may be of interest to others should keep their notices to the point, include contact details and send by email to: magazine@military.ie or by post to: Editor An Cosantóir, DFHQ, Block 5, Ceannt Bks, DFTC, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, Ireland. **PS. Our old noticeboard will still be made available on www.dfmagazine.ie**

Military History goes live

The Bureau of Military History, which focuses on the revolutionary period of 1913-1921, was launched by Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Jimmy Deenihan TD at Cathal Brugha Bks. The project was undertaken by Military Archives in collaboration with the National Archives, involves the digitisation of over 35,000 pages, 42 sets of photographs and 13 voice recordings. www.bureauofmilitaryhistory.ie

Curragh Military Museum

Opening Times: Monday to Wednesday 10am to 1pm and 3 to 5pm; Thursday 2 to 8pm; Sundays 2.30 to 5.30pm; Closed Friday, Saturday and Bank Holidays.

For all queries contact: 045-445342
or email: curragh.militarymuseum@defenceforces.ie.

PDFORRA ADC 2012

Permanent Defence Force Other Ranks Representative Association (PDFORRA) Annual Delegate Conference will take place on the 2,3,4 Oct 2012 in the Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel. This year's conference sees the election of a new president as current president Willie Webb cannot contest the election as he completed 3 terms of service. We would like to take this opportunity to wish him all the best.

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU NO. 011 (MEDIUM)

8	5	9				7		
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	1					5	3	7

數字

SUDOKU IS THE LATEST PUZZLE CRAZE TO COME FROM JAPAN; IT'S A NUMBERS GAME THAT'S DRIVING EVERYBODY MAD!

SEPTEMBER Q&A COMPETITION

1. What county is Funtasia Waterpark in?

Answers on a postcard to our normal address or email subs@military.ie for a chance to win one of three Family Passes to Funtasia Waterpark.

Last month's winner of a signed copy of Sleep Soldier Sleep 'The life and times of Padraig O'Connor' by Dairmud O'Connor was Joe O'Brien, Dublin.



6	1	8	2	9	4	5	3	7
9	3	7	5	6	1	8	2	4
5	2	4	1	3	6	9	1	8
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7	4	5	3	1	8	2	6	9
1	8	6	9	2	7	3	4	5
2	7	1	6	4	5	9	8	3
4	6	3	8	7	9	1	5	2
8	5	9	1	3	2	4	7	6

Simply fill in the blanks spaces with the numbers 1-9.

Every row, column and 3x3 block must contain all nine digits with no number repeated in:

- Each of the nine vertical columns
- Each of the nine horizontal rows
- Each of the nine 3x3 boxes

REVIEWS

BOOK

PRIMAL VENGEANCE (KINDLE EDITION)

Author: Jack Silkstone

Print Length:

254 pages

Price: €3.98

Publication Date: 4 June, 2012

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services

ASIN: Boo89559MC

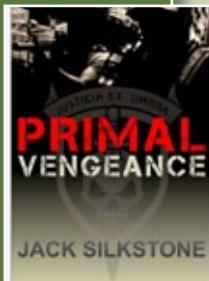
PRIMAL VENGEANCE FOLLOWS on from PRIMAL Unleashed and is the third book in the PRIMAL series.

The Primal team of elite operatives are back in Jack Silkstone's military action thriller where you can't but cheer on the good guys.

Follow the Primal Elite Operations Team of Bishop, Mirza, Mitch as they battle their way from the Gulf of Aden through South Sudan and Shanghai and back to Abu Dhabi. When they find a Chinese Oil Companies tanker laden with MBTs, APCs, BM-21s all intended for a Sudanese Politician and his Janjaweed tribal warriors, who are hell-bent on reaping the benefits of this oil-enriched land but first they must clear South Sudan of its inhabitants by any means necessary. And so the Primal team take action, this leads them on a collision course with a Chinese mercenary and his lethal enforcers. In a David versus Goliath-based war, the Primal team must help recruit, train and equip the locals to stop the Chinese influencing the balance of power in South Sudan. Another great read from Silkstone.

About the author:

Jack Silkstone is a writer with a background in military intelligence, counter-intelligence and special operations. "Guys don't want to read about vampires and trolls. I've written the sort of book I'd like to read; hard-core action, lots of guns, cutting edge military technology, and no small dose of testosterone fuelled violence." - Jack Silkstone www.primalunleashed.com



DVD

THE HUNGER GAMES (2012)

Director: Gary Ross

Writers: Gary Ross (screenplay), Suzanne Collins (novel)

Genre: Action/Adventure/Sci-Fi

Certification: 12

Run Time: 2 hrs 22 min

Rental Release Date: 03 Sept 2012

Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Toby Jones, Wes Bentley, Woody Harrelson, Lenny Kravitz, Elizabeth Banks, Stanley Tucci & Donald Sutherland



THE SCI-FI THRILLER The Hunger Games, based on the best-selling epic novels, is set in the ruins of what was once North America. Every year the Capitol of Panem forces each of its twelve districts to send a teenage boy and girl to compete in the Hunger Games. Part twisted entertainment, part government intimidation tactic, the Hunger Games are a nationally televised event in which these 24 'Tributes' must fight with one another until one survivor remains. When her little sister is picked to compete, Katniss Everdeen (Lawrence) volunteers in her place.

Pitted against highly-trained tributes who have prepared for these Games their entire lives, Katniss is forced to rely upon her sharp instincts as well as the mentorship of drunken former victor Haymitch Abernathy (Harrelson). Some partnerships are made by choice and some are played out for the camera. If she's ever to return home to District 12, Katniss must make impossible choices in the arena that weigh survival against humanity and life against love. www.thehungergames.co.uk

GAME

FIFA 13



FIFA 13 CAPTURES all the drama and reality of the real game. The game creates a true battle for possession across the entire pitch, delivers freedom and creativity in attack, and connects fans to the heartbeat of the sport - and to each other - through EA SPORTS Football Club. FIFA13 features five breakthrough gameplay and revolutionary AI, dribbling, ball control and physical play, as well as engaging online features and live services. This year marks the largest and deepest game in FIFA history and elevates the role of the franchise as Soccer's Social Network, where fans connect, compete and share with millions of others around the world. Plus, new animations have been developed for off-balance shots, 180° shots, and celebrations. Complete authenticity with over 500 officially licensed clubs and more than 15,000 players. www.ea.com/fifa-soccer-13

Genre: Sport - **Platform:** PS3, Xbox 360, PC & Wii - **PEGI:** 3 - **Price:** €69.97-€49.97 ([gamstop.ie](http://www.gamstop.ie))

Release: 28 Sept 2012 - ©2012 Electronic Arts Inc. All Rights Reserved

reviews

137

WHAT I DO

NAME

RANK

UNIT

ADRIAN SHORT

PRIVATE

MILITARY ARCHIVES



I was originally with 2 Inf Bn and my interest in military archives started back in 1999 when I went there on a work detail. After that I started working in admin in both the company and battalion orderly rooms, where I developed a flair for records management, preservation and administration. Then in 2006 I started going over to Military Archives on a volunteer basis for an hour or two every day, working on a collection or creating box listings for Comdt Victor Lang, the then OiC.

In 2009 I was permanently posted into the unit as an archival assistant. I attended a year long Certificate in Archives and Records Management course in UCD, where I achieved a distinction. It was a real eye-opener for anyone involved in records management, not just in terms of preservation but why it is so important to maintain these records moving forward. It gives the student the skills to create a non-biased description of a collection of material, and that is what we do on an ongoing basis.

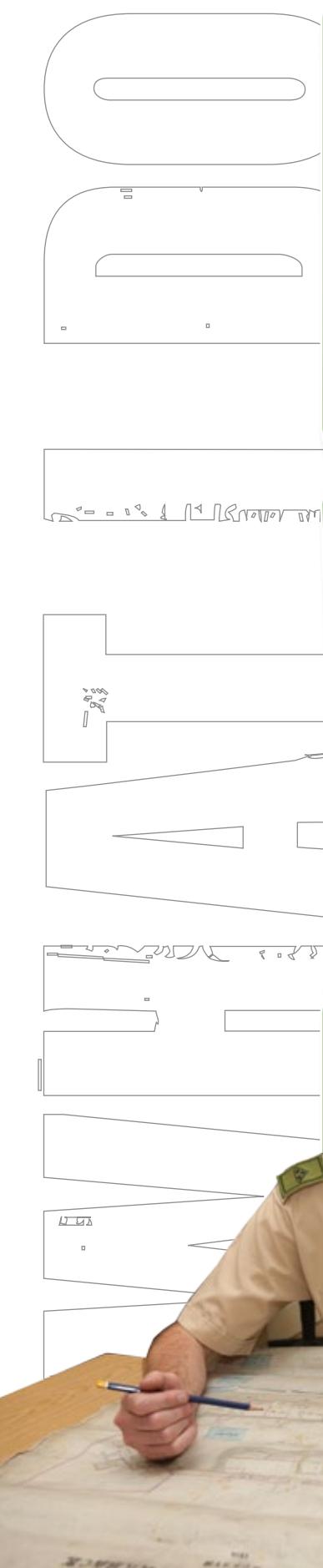
My role here is quite considerable. First and foremost, file retrieval from our storage locations for researchers to view in the reading room. Second is records management and retrieval from a unit, such as the offices of the Director of Operations or the Chief of Staff, into our collections for permanent preservation. We also comply with the principles laid down in DFR A8 (Records Management Policy for the Defence Forces) and the National Archival Act (1986).

The civilian archivist's role has always been front-of-house, dealing with the researchers as they come in. On they're off week they work on collections and part of my job is to find the material for them. Considering we have over 35,000 boxes that can be problematic from time to time. A lot of the time it is a case of identifying material that will be of interest for the researcher.

Although certain documents that come in on an ongoing basis won't be made public for 30 years, they still have to be catalogued and indexed. Stock checks are another job that has to be done regularly to ensure the material listed in the ledgers and catalogues is actually in the collection.

I also have a Diploma in Web Design and help maintain our website, which is a vital resource, as many of our important collections are digitalised and put online.

To date I've spent 13 years in the Army and I've thoroughly enjoyed my entire career. The most significant part from my perspective, and looking forward, is my period in Military Archives. Here I have found a niche job that I think I am very good at and I look forward to coming into work every day. Not everyone can say that. ■



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Results Sheet for 28th June 2012

1st Prize, €8,000: Lloyd Merrigan, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin

2nd Prize, €5,000: Frank Mansfield, Cobh, Co. Cork

3rd Prize, €2,500: Gerard Mc Caffery, Redhills, Co. Cavan

4th Prize, €1,500: Christopher Guilfoyle, Navan Road, Dublin 15

€500 Prize: Ronan O'Sullivan, Mayfield, Co. Cork; Liam Flood, Lucan, Co. Dublin;
Peter Buckley, Shannon, Co. Clare; Jim Keddy, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow

€100 Prize: John Clarke, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal; Cormac Maher, Ballon, Co. Carlow;
Brian O'Donoghue, Youghal, Co. Cork; Dave Humphreys, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare;
Colm O'Connor, Celbridge, Co. Kildare; Myles Mooney, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin; Terence
Loughnane, Renmore, Co. Galway; Tony Doyle, Celbridge, Co. Kildare; Gerard Clifford,
Dundalk, Co. Louth; Eoghan O'Shea, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary; Michael Walsh, Dooradoyle Road,
Limerick; Michael Mc Loughlin, Moate, Co. Westmeath; Conor O'Keeffe, Fermoy, Co. Cork;
John Thompson, Rosbrien, Co. Limerick; Joseph Murray, Ballymahon, Co. Longford

Congratulations to all our winners

The next draw will take place on 26th July 2012.

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