

Mr W. Allard to present

GREATER LONDON TOUGH TRAINING CONTEST 1961

CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS

<u>Position on Map.</u>	<u>Approx. Time.</u>	<u>Comment.</u>	✓
1	3 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	START - line up of 27 teams, setting off in heats at 15 min. intervals.	
2	3.15 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	CANAL CROSSING - depending on weather this can be quite deep. Crossing area clearly defined by markers to prevent teams going over at shallow areas.	✓
3	3.35 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	PIRBRIGHT RIFLE RANGES - run-up to firing point. This is a test of rifle and Bren marksmanship under battle conditions.	
3 - 4	Start 4 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961 Finish 7.15 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	FORCED MARCHING.. a distance of 12 solid miles. (Remember: they are in full battle kit and carrying weapons!)	✓
4	8 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	BREW UP - mess tin cooking of evening meal.	
4	9.30 p.m. 2nd Sept. 1961	COMPASS MARCH - an exacting test of tactical night-movement.	
5	9.30 a.m. 3rd Sept. 1961	RIVER CROSSING - in lightweight inflatable craft. Points awarded for speed, efficiency and good navigation.	
6	3 p.m. 3rd Sept. 1961	ASSAULT COURSE - the stiffest, toughest part of the contest .. a 'win or bust' race over a specially designed battle obstacle course - after 10 miles footslogging, too!	
6 - 7	5 p.m. 3rd Sept. 1961	MORE FOOTSLOGGING - and then to the finishing post at Alexandra Palace where the winners will be announced.	

NOTES FOR NEWS EDITORS.

The telephone at the offices of the Middlesex T. & A.F. Association will be staffed on Saturday, 2nd September, from 11 a.m. until 7.30 p.m. to deal with enquiries. Tel: KNightsbridge 8511.

During normal office hours, further details can be obtained from Mr. W. Allard of this Association. (KNightsbridge 8511).

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TOUGH TRAINING CONTEST 1961

Detailed Route

Saturday, 2nd Sept. 1961.

R.V. Tunnel Hill 912550.

Proceed to starting point under instructions of Director.

PHASE I.

Through Training Areas E1(d) and E1(b), over Railway Bridge (915563).

Cross Basingstoke Canal at the point indicated by tapes, and on to Pirbright Range No.2 (922572) for firing practice.

Distance approx. 1½ miles.

Time allowed, including shooting - 35 mins.

Check point at 915563 will close down 25 mins after the start of the last heat and umpires report to Control Point at end of phase.

PHASE II.

Start Pirbright Range No.2 (922572).

Pass check points at

958572 Brookwood Bridge.

993602 X-roads.

991640 Pond.

to finish at Road junction (976652).

Distance approx. 10½ miles.

Time allowed 3 hrs. 15 mins.

Check points will close down as follows and umpires report to Control Point at end of phase.

958572 Brookwood Bridge 1 hr.15 mins. after start of last heat.

993602 X-roads 2 hrs.45 mins. " " " " "

991640 Pond 3 hrs. " " " " "

PHASE III.

Compass March on Chobham Common.

Home Counties Brigade Depot umpires will report to Major Neish on Staple Hill at 17.30 hrs. 2nd Sept. for briefing on Compass March.

Team Captains will be summoned to a short briefing at 2000 hrs. in the area where the evening meal will be eaten (bivouac area).

Each team Captain will receive a written briefing 30 mins. before his team is due to start.

Teams will start in heats of three at ten minute intervals commencing at 2130 hrs. Haversacks will NOT be carried.

After the compass march teams will march by road to the bivouac area.

PHASE IV.

Bivouac on Chobham Common.

PHASE V.

Team Vehicles report to bivouac area 0745. After inspection Teams move in vehicles to West Molesey, debus at road junction 134688 and march to towpath (140693).

PHASE VI.

Draw and inflate Recce Boat.
Cross Thames in Recce boats. Pack and load recce boats and march to TA Centre, High St., Hampton (142707) and embus to await start of Phase VII.

PHASE VII.

Teams move in vehicles to TA Centre, Harrow Road, Wembley (174849) (distance approx. 12 miles) in time allowed.

Debus and await instructions to march to TA Centre, Elmgrove Road, Harrow (157887).

Distance approx. 3 miles.

Time allowed 1 hr.

Lunch.

MT moves under instructions MTO.

PHASE VIII.

March from TA Centre, Elmgrove Road, Harrow.
Pass check points at

junction Lyndhurst Ave/Bunns Lane, Mill Hill (214917).

junction Devonshire Rd/Lee Rd. Mill Hill (239911),

to Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill (239917). Enter by top gate and proceed to complete Assault Course.

Distance approx. 7 miles.

Time allowed, including completion of Assault Course, 2 hrs. 30 mins.

Check points will close down as follows, and umpires report to Control Point at end of phase.

214917 Lyndhurst Ave/Bunns Lane, 1 hr.45 mins. after start of last heat.

239911 Devonshire Rd/Lee Rd. 2 hrs.30 mins. " " " " "

PHASE IX.

March from Inglis Barracks.

Pass check points at

Rly. Bridge, Argyle Rd., Finchley (256922).

Wood Green entrance to Alexandra Palace (302904) to finish in Alexandra Park (297900).

Distance 5 miles.

Time allowed 1 hr. 45 mins.

Check points will close down as follows and umpires report to Control Point at finish of phase.

256922 Rly. Bridge, Argyle Rd.

45 mins. after start of last heat,

297900 Wood Green entrance to Alexandra Palace,

1 hr.45 mins. after start of last heat.

After the finish a hot meal will be available at TA Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey (302894).

PHASE IV

PHASE V

(140893)

PRESS RELEASE

Content Wed Ken
with the compliments of the
Territorial & Auxiliary Forces Association
of the County of Middlesex

30 PONT STREET, LONDON, S.W.1 Tel: KNI 8511

NOT FOR RELEASE UNTIL MONDAY 14TH AUG 1961

TOUGH TEST FOR GREATER LONDON TERRITORIALS

'Pubs' and cafes are strictly OUT OF BOUNDS . This is just one of the hard and fast rules contained in an eight-page document issued this week to a number of Territorial Army units in the Greater London area. The document: the official instructions for competitors in a rugged tough training contest, scheduled for the week-end of the 2nd and 3rd September, which involves more than 200 'Terriers' from seven counties.

The "no beer" ban applies to the gruelling 60-miles competition route from Pirbright, Surrey, to Alexandra Palace. The course has been carefully mapped out to present the 27 hand-picked teams with a punishing variety of hazards, obstacles and tactical problems that would make even the most hard-hearted sergeant-major feel a pang of sympathy for them.

Organised by the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association, the contest is designed to measure the training efficiency and stamina of the T.A. volunteer who forms part of Britain's first line reserves, and who would help bolster the regular forces in the event of a crisis call-up.

For this non-stop weekend training marathon, the tough Territorials will change from white collars or factory overalls into full battle order. Carrying rifles, bren-guns, 24-hours rations, ammunition and blankets, each team will do miles of forced marching, wade waist-deep through a canal, trek through the night on a compass bearing, race across the

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Thames in flimsy rubber assault craft, grapple their way over the length of battle obstacle course and then set off on the last weary lap to the finishing post.

Challenging Middlesex for the "toughest of 'em all" title (current holders, the 5th Middlesex Regiment - The "Diehards") will be the City of London who have entered a team from the Honorable Artillery Company; the County of London with a team from the London Irish Rifles; the county regiments of Surrey, Essex and Hertfordshire, and the 44th Home Counties Signal Regiment representing Kent.

Several specialist units have entered teams, including the Royal Army Medical Corps, who are quite confident of their chances competing against such crack units as the London Scottish and the Parachute Regiment.

When the teams line up at the starting post every item of kit and equipment will be checked and listed. Ropes and other items intended to help them over difficult hurdles can be taken by the teams, but they must carry them all the way from start to finish. Teams will score points for speed, tactical movement, dress, discipline and other factors. There are heavy points penalties for teams who complete a phase of the contest with one or two men short.

To deal with possible casualties, particularly cases of exhaustion, an R.A.M.C. Hospital unit will be on duty. But from the organisers comes a word of warning to the spare-time soldier who finds the going too tough - "If you become unfit - FALL OUT!"

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The contest is the third of its kind to be run by the Middlesex T.A. Association. This year, in addition to the inclusion of units from Greater London, observers from many parts of Britain are expected to attend to study the organisation of the contest.

Will this Tough Training Contest become a national event? "This could well happen" says Lt-Colonel Bill Corby, the contest director. "At the moment, we're only accepting the challenge of our neighbouring counties - the 'adjacent hunts'. For their benefit we have hotted things up a bit. There's more footslogging and far stricter rules than in previous years. But if a similar contest is run in any other part of the country, I dare say that our winning team would be pleased to take part."

(end)

10th August 1961

Note to News Editors: A map of the route, together with full details of Press facilities arranged for this contest, will be forwarded shortly under separate cover. Further information can be obtained from Mr. W. Allard of this Association - TEL. KNightsbridge 8511 -3.

MIDDLESEX TERRITORIAL & AUXILIARY FORCES ASSOCIATION

TOUGH TRAINING CONTEST 1961

List of Competing Units and Addresses.

<u>Team Number.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Telephone Number.</u>
<u>COUNTY OF LONDON</u>		
1	1st Bn London Irish Rifles Duke of Yorks Headquarters, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.	SLOane 0461 Ext.18
<u>CITY OF LONDON</u>		
2	Honorable Artillery Company (Infantry Battalion) Armoury House, City Road, London, E.C.1.	MONarch 4677
<u>COUNTY OF SURREY</u>		
3	3rd Battalion The Queens Royal Surrey Regiment (TA) TAC, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, Surrey.	GUILDford 61441
<u>COUNTY OF ESSEX</u>		
4	4th Battalion The Essex Regiment (TA) TAC, Gordon Road, Ilford, Essex.	ILFord 3541
<u>COUNTY OF</u> <u>HERTFORDSHIRE</u>		
5	1st Battalion The Hertfordshire Regiment (TA) The Drill Hall, 28 St. Andrews Street, Hertford, Herts.	HERTford 4521
<u>COUNTY OF KENT</u>		
6	44(HC) Signal Regiment (Cinque Ports) TAC, Yeomanry House, Foyley Road, Maidstone, Kent.	MAIdstone 4235/6
<u>COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX</u>		
7	'S' Battery 289 Para Regt RHA TAC, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.	WILLesden 1449
8	'Q' Battery 254 Field Regiment RA TAC, High Road, Finchley, N.12.	TUDor 8363
9	'R' Battery 254 Field Regiment RA TAC, Horn Lane, Acton, W.3.	ACOrn 5601

<u>Team Number.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Telephone Number.</u>
<u>COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX</u>		
10	216 Field Squadron RE TAC, High Road, Tottenham, N.17.	TOTTenham 7147
11	1 & 2 Troops 222 Field Squadron RE TAC, Vicarage Farm Road, Heston, Middlesex.	HOUnslow 6605
12	302 Para Field Park Squadron RE TAC, Honeypot Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9.	WORDsworth 4431
13	130 Corps Field Park Squadron RE TAC, Elmgrove Road, Harrow.	HARrow 6890
14	'C' Squadron 47 Signal Regiment (Mdx Yeo) TAC, Whitehall Road, Uxbridge, Middx.	UXBridge 3437
15	'A' Company 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment TAC, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.	MOUntview 7651
16	'B' Company 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment TAC, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.5.	EALing 2202
17	'C' Company 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment TAC, Old Park Avenue, Enfield.	ENField 0710
18	'D' Company 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment TAC, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.	HOUnslow 5426
19	H.Q., Company 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment TAC, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middx.	EDGware 5236
20	'B' Company 1st Battalion The London Scottish TAC, Graham Road, Waldstone.	HARrow 0669
21	No.4 Company 10 Battalion The Parachute Regiment (TA) TAC, High Road, Finchley, N.12.	TUDor 8363

<u>Team Number.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Telephone Number.</u>
<u>COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX</u>		
22	562 Company RASC (Para Bde) TAC, Hayes Bridge, Southall, Middx.	SOUthall 3291
23	917 Company RASC (MT) TA TAC, Vicarage Farm Road, Heston, Middx.	HOUnslow 1171
24	57 (Mx) General Hospital RAMC (TA) TAC, Elmgrove Road, Harrow.	HARrow 2132
25	Det 1 Stores Company RAOC (TA) TAC, Manor Lane, Feltham.	FELtham 2205
26	44 (Para) Ordnance Field Park (TA) TAC, Hayes Bridge, Southall, Middx.	SOUthall 3291
27	167 Infantry Workshops REME (TA) TAC, 607/625 Harrow Rd., Eembley, Middx.	WEMbley 2567

Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association
of the County of Middlesex

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO:
THE SECRETARY,
and the following reference
quoted: C13/8

30 PONT STREET
LONDON S.W.1.

21st August 1961.

Mr. Kumm,
Pathe News,
Film House,
142 Wardour St., W.1.

Dear Sir,

GREATER LONDON T.A. TOUGH TRAINING CONTEST -
2nd & 3rd Sept. 1961.

Further to our recent announcement of this year's new, tougher-than-ever Territorial Army training contest, which involves units from seven different Counties, we are enclosing a map indicating the route which the 27 competing teams will cover during this week-end event.

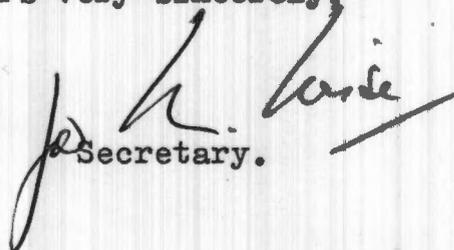
This information, to use a Press term, is 'strictly off the record'. In military jargon, the expression would be "TOP SECRET". Contestants who had prior knowledge of the complete set of problems which face them on September 2nd and 3rd would gain unfair advantage, and the competition would lose a great deal of its excitement. This map is intended to provide Journalists and Photographers with a guide to certain highlights of the event and to assist them in reaching particular vantage points with the minimum of delay. Attached to the map is an outline of events together with approximate timings.

The great significance of our 1961 contest is the decision to accept the challenges of our neighbouring counties. This brings a great variety of T.A. units taking part and a very much fiercer spirit of competition. The traditional 'feud' between the London Scottish and the London Irish, for example, will undoubtedly find an outlet during this marathon. (We understand that both units intend to have a Piper to spur on their respective teams!).

Throughout the contest our Honorary Press Officer, Major Roy Whipps, will be on hand to assist your camera teams in every possible way. Vehicles are available to get them over rough country - a special boat for that mid-Thames 'shot' or any other facility which they require. Whilst most of our Press vehicles will be adequately stocked with light refreshment, we hope that your representatives will be able to join us for a buffet lunch at the former Middlesex Regiment Depot Mess, Mill Hill, before the start of the Assault Course race.

We look forward to the pleasure of having Pathe News with us during this week-end. In return we will make every endeavour to offer you material for a worthwhile story of the men of Britain's part-time army; of keenness, efficiency and sheer 'guts'.

Yours very sincerely,


Secretary.

T.A. TOUGH TRAINING CONTEST 1961

