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Chief Press Officer,
The War Office,
Whitehall,
London. S.W.1.

6th October, 1961

Dear Sir,

Many thanks indeed for your invitation
to attend the demonstration of Modern and Future Weapons
and Equipment, which is to be held on October 24th.
We have much pleasure in accepting.

Yours faithfully,
ASSOCIATED BRITISH-PATHE LIMITED.

GRACE FIELD
NEWS EDITOR
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War Office Demonstration of Modern and Future Weapons
and Equipment

October 24th to October 27th

(Press Day on October 24th)

Modern and future army weapons and equipment will be on show at Chobham, Surrey, on October 24, 25, 26 and 27 at the Fighting Vehicles Research and Development Establishment.

Organised by the Master-General of the Ordnance at the War Office, the display will be the biggest staged by the Army for several years.

Code-named ARGUS, the demonstration will be opened on the 24th by the Secretary of State for War, Mr. John Profumo.

The specially invited guests, which include members of both Houses of Parliament, will see the latest heavy-tracked vehicles and armoured personnel carriers being put through their paces.

Wheeled vehicles on show will include the high performance 5-ton load carrier, the Stalwart. Not yet adopted by the Army, this has a 220 brake horse-power engine which drives all its six wheels. The vehicle is amphibious and has built-in Rotol units for propulsion. If adopted it is likely to be used by the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Infantry and Royal Army Service Corps in addition to the Royal Armoured Corps.

The Royal Artillery, in addition to Blue Water and Thunderbird, will display the 105 mm self-propelled gun which is designed to provide close artillery support. It fires high explosives, smoke and anti-tank shells to a range of about ten miles and with a little preparation it can be made to 'swim' rivers under its own power.

Another artillery item is Green Archer. This is a radar for locating enemy mortars. It tracks the mortar bombs in flight and automatically calculates the position from which the mortar was fired.

Among many items for use by the Royal Engineers is the ~~mine-clearing~~ ~~Viper~~. This is an equipment for clearing a lane through a minefield.

Two items of bomb disposal equipment will be on display. One consists of a compressed air machine for cutting through the casing of exploded bombs. The other involves the use of chemicals which ~~soil~~ ~~when~~ injected into fuse mechanisms which completely "gums up the works".

The Royal Signals Static Display introduces the use of multi-channel equipment working via radio relay links to produce five telephone channels over any one line or radio relay link. The equipment is fully transistorised and telephone cable is conspicuous by its absence.

/Infantry

Infantry weapons on show will include the British-designed 81mm mortar and bomb. Light in weight and extremely accurate, this new weapon will replace the present 3-inch mortar.

Also there, will be the 7.62mm FN rifle and the belt-fed 7.62mm machine gun which fire the 'Nato round'. ~~These will replace the old familiar~~ .303 Small Arms family. They are used by all arms of the service.

Army air portability is also featured in the display. There is the 8,000 lb Supply Platform. This is made of wood and is 108 inches long by 100 inches wide. It is designed to carry on evenly-distributed load of 8,000 lbs of stores and is used for dropping from rear-loading aircraft, such as the Beverley and the Argosy.

Five helicopters, including the Westland Belvedere - it can carry nineteen fully-equipped troops or 6,000 lbs of stores - will be included in an aviation display.

The setting of the demonstration will be non-tactical.

The War Office,
Whitehall, S.W.1.
5th October, 1961

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Press Day will be on October 24th. Press Representatives/Photographers are cordially invited to be present and to attend on the following three days if they wish. Those accepting this invitation are reminded of the programme for each of the four days which is given below. Refreshments and luncheon will be available.

It is emphasised that the Demonstration is NOT open to the public. Admission will be by ticket only and all invitations have now been issued. As it will be necessary for press representatives to be issued with a badge will you please inform the Chief Press Officer, War Office, Whitehall, S.W.1., (Telephone WHITEhall 9400 Extn 66/368 by not later than Tuesday, October 10 if you intend to be represented by a reporter and/or a photographer. Will you also please state if your representative(s) will travel by train or car. If arriving by car a car park ticket will be necessary. If by rail a suitable train leaves Waterloo at 9.24 am and arrives at Longcross Halt at 10.05 am. Coaches will meet the train.

Suitable return trains from Longcross to Waterloo are:

3.03 pm	arriving	3.42 pm
3.33 pm	"	4.13 pm
4.03 pm	"	4.42 pm
4.33 pm	"	5.13 pm
5.03 pm	"	5.42 pm

A Press Tent, in which there will be three telephones connected to the civil exchange, is being erected.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS - DEMONSTRATION ARGUS

10.00 am Static display opens
10.55 am Spectators assemble at Stand A
11.00 am Drive Past
11.40 am Walk from Stand A to Stand B (Abt 200 yds)
12.00 ~~am~~ Heavy tracked vehicle demonstration viewed from Stand B
12.25 pm Light vehicle demonstration viewed from Stand C
12.35 pm Buffet Luncheon. The Static display will be open throughout the lunch period.
2.30 pm Aviation display viewed from Stand A
3.00 pm Static display open. Tea available between 3.45 pm and 4.30 pm.
4.30 pm Demonstration ends.

x 4 7 ST DAVIDS
4.30 *

x 6.0 ST DAVIDS
5.52 x

STATIC

BEAUFORT AA Gun

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TANKS BRIDGE IN'S

PARADE

STALWART

1 SALADIN * with 2 VIGILANT

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