

30-10-53

HQ SOUTHERN COMMAND

SALISBURY 6222 Ext 323

15 September, 1953

In reply please quote
SC 6/59894/465/FR

*Queen
News very good
possible*

Dear Sir,

A demonstration of obstacle crossing by tanks and of gunnery will take place at the Royal Armoured Corps Centre, Bovington Camp, Dorset, on Friday 30th October, 1953.

This is a spectacular demonstration and the first part of it should be of particular interest to news reels and to BBC television.

In this part of the demonstration Cromwell, Comet and Centurion tanks demonstrate crossing of ditches ranging from 8 to 12 feet, negotiating vertical walls ranging from 2'3" to 3'6" and wading through water 4 feet deep.

In the Centurion tank is also demonstrated the method of negotiating a vertical drop of 40 feet.

The Cromwell tank also shows a flying leap, taking off a concrete ramp at maximum speed and jumping a distance of just over 30 feet.

Also on display, ~~still working~~, will be the ~~Mark 5 tank~~, the famous tank of World War I. *Carl*

This part of the demonstration will start at 11.30 am and end about 12.30 pm, and will take place on Chamberlaynes Heath.

Second part of the demonstration, at Lulworth from 2.30 pm until about 3.20 pm, will be of shooting by various types of tanks, both stationery and on the move, and of the use of smoke.

Will you please let me know not later than 10 am on Friday 23rd October, if you wish to be represented.

If you do propose to come and will let me know where you will stay in Wareham on the night of Thursday 29th October, I will arrange for transport, if you require it, to pick you up on Friday 30th October.

Will you please also state whether you would like to have lunch on 30th October.

Yours faithfully,

Eric Merrill

(ERIC MERRILL)
Senior Information Officer,
Southern Command.

*Receipt
Red Jim
Wareham*

K/S.