



A Land Rover suspected of carrying radio-active dust is checked by a contamination meter. A Geiger counter measures the amount of infection.

NUCLEAR

There is not much chic about the soldier attired and equipped for nuclear war—but nuclear war isn't likely to be very chic

MORE and more soldiers are being trained in Britain in the operation of instruments for detecting and measuring radio-activity.

If Britain were attacked by nuclear weapons, it would be the duty of men of the Army's Mobile Defence Corps and of teams from Regular units to help in rescuing survivors from devastated regions.

First, monitoring teams, probably each consisting of two men, would make their way towards the area of the explosion. One of them would carry a survey meter, which measures the intensity of radiation and determines how long the follow-up rescue workers must wait before they can safely enter the area. The soldier with the survey meter also has a dosimeter in a plastic bag for measuring the amount of radiation to which he is subjected. When the reading nears the danger mark he knows it is time to leave the area. The dosimeter is about the size of a fountain pen and its plastic cover protects it from radio-active dust.

The second man in the team, who would note

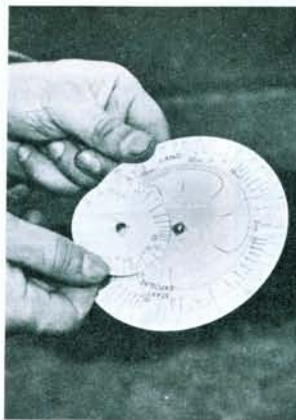
SOLDIER

the survey meter readings and the times and places at which they were taken, would also carry a dosimeter.

Both men would wear steel helmets, rubber gloves and boots and a sweat rag round the neck to protect them against radio-active dust. If contamination was heavy they might have to wear plastic capes and leggings as well as respirators, although a simple smog mask or handkerchief across the mouth and nose would normally prevent radio-active dust being inhaled.

Another instrument which soldiers are being trained to use is the contamination meter. This is fitted with a Geiger counter and measures the intensity of radio-active dust on the skin, clothing and equipment. Because the instrument is highly sensitive to gamma rays as well as radio-active dust it would be used away from contaminated areas to check men and vehicles which might have been exposed.

The pictures on these pages were taken at Woolwich during a demonstration of training in radiaic instruments given by a team of Royal Engineers from Chatham. Most units in Britain may soon have an officer and at least one NCO trained in the employment of the new instruments, a few of which were used in Eastern Command's recent civil defence exercise in London.



Above: The radiaic calculator card works out the rate of decay in radiation on land and at sea.



Right: Radio-active cobalt discs are used to train soldiers in finding sources of radiation.

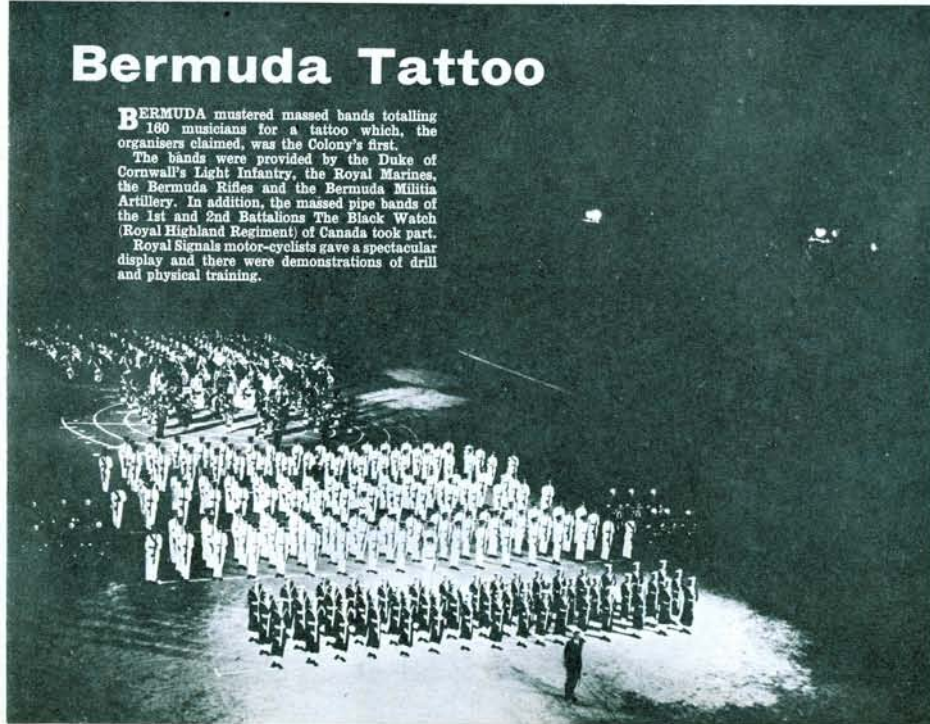


Bermuda Tattoo

BERMUDA mustered massed bands totalling 180 musicians for a tattoo which, the organisers claimed, was the Colony's first.

The bands were provided by the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, the Royal Marines, the Bermuda Rifles and the Bermuda Militia Artillery. In addition, the massed pipe bands of the 1st and 2nd Battalions The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada took part.

Royal Signals motor-cyclists gave a spectacular display and there were demonstrations of drill and physical training.



Left: Dressed for action, a member of a monitoring team with a survey meter. Note the rubber gloves, sweat rag (for keeping out radio-active dust) and the plastic waist bag for protecting metal articles like wrist-watches. Above: Reading the dosimeter.