

TV series under development - working title 'The Infantryman's War'

First of all please let me introduce myself, some will know me, most will not. I am Graham Sayers, I am an ex Corps member having joined from 3 R Anglian in 1976 and completed my time as an SMI in 1994. After leaving I have worked in media production mainly producing training materials and for the most part in video production. I am now part of ArgoMedia a small video production company based in Devon www.argomedia.co.uk although I live in Silverstone, Northants. Despite being a small organisation, through our knowledge, experience and expertise we are one of only six companies on a contract to provide training and information videos to the three services.

Many of you will have seen various programmes on TV about warfare, weapons and battles and to a lesser degree tactics. We are developing a series that is intended to bring the role of the Infantryman, his weapons, their development, how they are and have been used and therefore what his 'war' was and is like.

Unlike most current programmes which tend to be made in the USA, this series will be based on the British experience, covering the Infantryman and his weapons of the current conflicts and putting that into context by looking back to how things have developed and changed from what was used in WW1, WW2 and all of the conflicts in between.

Because we are basing the 'story' on the British experience PR (Army) are supporting the making of the series, in effect allowing us access to the training locations, range areas, the Battle School and other facilities. We will be filming live firing on the various courses and the pre-deployment training activities of those about to deploy on operations, giving us the opportunity to make a series with real 'depth' and impact.

To bring all of this to life we are looking to interview those who have experience and a story to tell about using weapons in combat from an SMG to Bn Anti-Tank weapons and every type in between. Whilst we are keen to hear from those who can describe what it was like to load and fire a 3.5 rocket launcher or a PIAT, WOMBAT, 17Pdr, 94 grenade etc we are just as interested to hear from those (slightly younger members) who had to use the likes of the SLR, L96, SA80, LSW, L2 grenade and LAW 80, MILAN etc in more recent conflicts.

Even though PR(A) are supporting this, we do still have to get a 'Broadcaster' to actually fund it, something we are working on right now. So as yet we do not have a 'start date' for beginning to shoot (video that is). Of course Prior Preparation and Planning is essential, therefore we are starting to compile contact lists of those prepared to talk to us on camera. If you have a story to tell and would like to be involved please get in touch with me at graham@argomedia.co.uk or call me on my mobile 07895 017520.

Thanks

Graham Sayers