

MR PATEMAN'S CBE



MARCH 4 was to have been D-Day for EFA's managing director, Mr Pateman. He was to attend a Buckingham Palace Investiture to receive the CBE—Commander of the Order of the British Empire—from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. The honour, for services to export, was announced in the New Year's honours list. The order is shown on the left.

But heavy snow began to fall as EFA driver Tom Smith was driving the hired cream Rolls-Royce to Sevenoaks to take Mr Pateman and his family to London. Near Orpington, snow blocked progress completely and they had to turn back. Mr Pateman's investiture is now scheduled for July 28th.

During the Queen's Award presentation ceremony last November, Mr Pateman observed that some 2,000 people owed their jobs to the company's success in exports. EFA might well have established a place for itself in the World avionics market, he said, and there was no reason why the number of people so employed should not double during the years to come.

He told EFA News "I am very proud indeed to have the privilege of leading such a fine team, which I hope will go on to even greater success. So many people in the factory have gone out of their way to say nice things to me, and I should like to take this opportunity of saying thank you to you all."

Mayor in clean room



WHEN Councillor E. D. L. Darley, Mayor of Rochester, and several of his councillors, visited the EFA factory on January 21 we just could not let him go without seeing the IND "goldfish tank". He was duly fitted with white overalls, not forgetting the mayoral chain, and saw the E.3 assembly operation in progress. The occasion was a social visit to allow the Mayor to see work in progress in the EFA factory.

"Chatham News" picture.



Awards for Apprentices

CONGRATULATIONS to two Elliott apprentices on winning awards in the annual Apprenticeship Craft Skill Competition, organised by the Erith District Committee of the Engineering Employees' Federation.

Eric Jennings (TACD Assembly), left above, won first place in the Senior Grade (18-21 Turning) and Alan Barker (FID Wiring) came second in the Junior Grade (under

18—Fitting). This is the first time that Elliott apprentices have won these awards.

The competition was held in July 1969 at the Medway College of Technology and North West Kent College of Technology.

The presentation of shields and cheques took place on January 20 at the Erith District Committee luncheon.

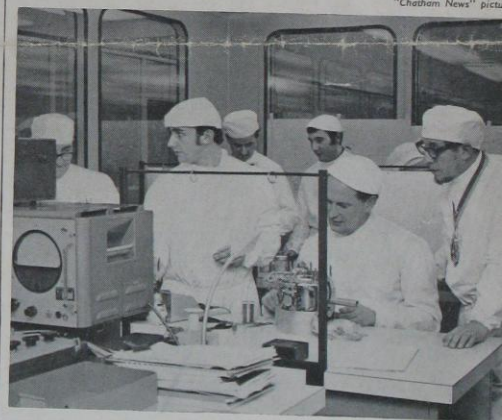
DATA AND ELLIOTT

IT is extremely difficult to know what to say about an industrial dispute such as that which has been in progress for some weeks between Elliott and the Draughtsmen and Allied Technicians' Association (DATA). There are always two views of the situation. The following article, written by David Lowen in the Kent Messenger of February 13 and also published in the Evening Post, is an outsider's view of the issues involved.

Mass marches, slogan-shouting and mud-slinging have made the long-drawn out dispute at Elliott Automation a bitter encounter. The air has become charged with emotion. Both sides have accused the other of lying.

Managers and men are blaming each other for prolonging a dispute which may yet affect the production of the supersonic Concorde and endanger the jobs of nearly 5,000 workers.

And they are workers with a firm which has won Britain's highest award for industrial achievement—the Queen's Award to Industry.



The tangled negotiations and hostilities date from a meeting on November 28 between Elliott and the Draughtsmen and Allied Technicians' Association, following the union's demand for "a substantial increase" in pay.

The misunderstandings which have led to the past two weeks' confusion stem from this meeting.

After the usual to-ing and fro-ing over two days' negotiations union and management settled for a rise of 12½ per cent, or £3 5s., which ever proved the higher in each individual case.

Don Hunter, the burly Yorkshireman acting for Elliott, and Len

STOP PRESS

As we close for press, the DATA situation has taken a distinct turn for the better. DATA members in EFA have returned to work and negotiations have re-opened, with good prospects of a successful outcome.

Continued on back page

FURTHER IN THE FIELD

EFA Men Move With A-7 Program

AS the A-7D and E begin to move towards squadron service EFA men are finding themselves further and further afield supporting the head-up display (HUD), advising pilots on its operation and technicians on servicing.

US Navy pilots now flying with the Elliott HUD report that they "like it better all the time". It looks as if the system of which the HUD forms part will double the accuracy of weapon delivery considered normal with earlier systems.

As part of the field support operation, former ACD engineer Giles Tozer is currently resident at the Desert Sands Motel on the west side of Phoenix, Arizona, attached to Luke Air Force Base, which is 20 miles west of Phoenix. Giles is providing technical guidance and instruction to the USAF on the HUDs in the A-7D and on its SSE test equipment.

In the Vendor Repair Facility at the Vought Aeronautics Division in Dallas, Texas, Jim Machin, Brian Sturdy, Ernie Harwood and Don Allchin are servicing HUDs for the USAF. They came from ACD and ADD at Rochester and are now, like Giles Tozer, attached to Elliott's US-based associate company E-A Industrial Corporation.

Luke Field is in the desert country so typical of Arizona, which is a particularly beautiful state with mountain ranges, river valleys and desert. The Colorado river runs for much of its length through Arizona and forms the Arizona/California boundary. Most of the water used in the Los Angeles basin, many hundreds of miles to the west, is drained off the various Arizona rivers and aqueduct systems. Amongst the better known features of Arizona

are the Lake Mead National Park, the Grand Canyon and the Painted Desert country. The state also contains the reservations of many Indian tribes, including the Apache and Navajo.

Luke has a fairly typical southern desert climate, with winter daytime temperatures around 60° falling to near-freezing at night. On the other hand, it is most unusual for summer daytime temperatures to fall below 100°.

With the US Navy . . .

John Norman, also transferred from ACD to E-A Industrial Corporation, had the unusual experience of a tour of duty on board the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS America. The carrier sailed southwards into the Caribbean for a work-up cruise with squadrons of A-7Es, calling at Puerto Rico and other places before returning to its home base.

John's job was to keep the HUDs in the aircraft serviceable. His normal place of work was on the hangar deck level in an area called the Avionics Intermediate Maintenance Department, but colloquially known as "America's Impossible Mission Department".

John was given Lieutenant status

on board ship. The food on board American carriers is traditionally very good but, in common with all US Navy vessels, the USS America is "dry", so we expect John back with an addiction to Coca Cola.

. . . and in Maryland

The US Navy test airfield at Patuxent River, Maryland, is the current scene of operations for Peter Hoyles, from ACD, who is supporting the head-up display during the final trials of the Integrated Light Attack Avionic System (ILAAS). After a long period of bench trials in the Sperry plant at Great Neck, Long Island, the ILAAS system was installed in a modified Grumman A-6 Intruder and flown at the Republic airfield on Long Island before being moved to Patuxent River. Accuracy and behaviour of the system in the A-6 are very good.

Because of the perennial uncertainty on when this programme will end, and because Peter's American wife Jean was still completing a university music degree and was to graduate in February, Peter had become almost a commuter between Long Island, where he lives at weekends, and Patuxent River, some 200 miles to the south.

BRIAN WOLFE MOVES ON

THE two mysterious packages of goodwill below are a car cassette record player. They were handed over by EFA Managing Director Mr J. Pateman to Brian Wolfe at the end of January to wish him luck in his new post as managing director of Central Containers Ltd. in Wigan, Lancs. Brian Wolfe had been manager of ADD since June 1967. Before that he had managed the Concorde AFCS project for three years. Brian had been with the Elliott Aviation Division and then EFA since May 1959. His wife was a prominent figure in Maidstone local government circles and will be much missed there.

ADD is being run by Ed Hawley until a new permanent manager is appointed.



Picture by Peter Trapp



With some A-7Es in Dallas, Texas, are (l. to r.) Ernie Harwood, Jim Machin, Don Allchin and Brian Sturdy.



Tony White (MACD) in action

Shooting to the top

THE current champion of Elliott (Rochester) Archers is Tony White of MACD Model Shop. Prior to joining the club, his only contact with archery was over a five week period with Sellotape Ltd of Borehamwood at the age of 15. Years later, in 1968, he became an Elliott Archer after passing through the beginners' tuition course. His proficiency on completing the course was such that he made the highest score of his class in the introductory round.

His skill and enthusiasm increased to the point where he bought his own archery equipment for use in the 1969 season. During this season he graduated from 3rd Class by stages to 1st Class Archer in four months. Whilst doing this he was competing in the 1969 Championship, which is decided on a series of shoots throughout the season, and therefore depends on consistently good shooting rather than a lucky high score.

Tony's enthusiasm and present

skill have resulted from personal dedication to the sport in the same way as it did for Dennis Green, the previous champion.

His example could be followed by many people who know nothing about archery but are willing to try by joining the Elliott Archers Tuition is by qualified instructors. If you feel that you can equal this record, why not attend the Annual General Meeting at Elliott Clubhouse, Featherby Road, on Tuesday, March 24 at 8 p.m.

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Pictures by Valerie Evans

SUFFRAGETTES IN ADD?

THE ladies in Airborne Display Division felt left out when the men formed the ADDers Club for men only. Margaret Foote and Sheila Miller reported... "it was time this was changed so we started the equivalent, the L'ADDers Club for women only, of course.

"Although we have only been enrolling members for three weeks we now have 60 members, most of whom are ADDers wives. It was hard work at first to talk the men into letting their wives join, but we won them round in the end."

A successful "Hen Party" was

held at Elliott's Club House on February 10. With the Temple Farm Trio playing, an excellent choice of buffet, and a few surprises (above and below), the evening was enjoyed by everyone. The organisers did a grand job of making newcomers feel like old friends.

Some of the L'ADDers (l. to r.) are Pat Strike, Teresa Johnson, Barbara Hodges, Alma Hornig, Janet Smith, Chris Wright and Pauline Parsons



Camera Club

A talk entitled "The Elements and Purpose of Pictures" will be given by John Winchcombe, on Wednesday, March 18. This is a joint meeting with the Rochester Camera Club to be held at The Old Police Station, Castle Hill, Rochester, starting at 8 p.m.

Portrait Photography conducted by Roy Aldridge is on Wednesday, March 25 at 8 p.m. in the canteen. This is the closing date for this month's competition entitled "Law and Order".



The 18th Century mausoleum on the Cobham Hall estate

Picture by Michael Bunce

YOU NAME IT...

... and Elliott Social Club probably has a section for it. The problem often is to know what is available and how to make contact.

Here is a list of established Social Club sections together with a contact for each. Internal telephone numbers are listed where practicable. Otherwise the time and place of regular meetings is the best guide for getting in touch.

Archery	Sunday 10.30 a.m.: Elliott Sports Club.
Astronomy	2nd and 4th Monday of each month. 7.15 p.m.: Conference Room No. 3, Tower 1.
Athletics	contact Len Murphy, internal 361.
Camera	Wednesday 8 p.m.: Snack Bar.
Cricket	contact John Evans, internal 556.
Cine Film	Tuesday 5.30 p.m.: Snack Bar.
Darts and Cards	contact Len Milton (IND).
Drama	Thursday 8 p.m.: Staff Canteen.
Golf	Golf lessons every Thursday, 5.30 p.m.: Main Canteen.
Horticulture and Gardening	contact Tim Canning, internal 682.
Judo	Monday 8 p.m. and Thursday 8.15 p.m.: Works Canteen.
Junior Judo	Thursday 6.30 p.m.: Works Canteen.
Model Engineering	Sunday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Elliott car park.
Mountaineering	contact J. Sclater, internal 676.
Netball	Thursday 7 p.m.: Gordon Barracks, Darland Avenue, Gillingham.
Rifle	Thursday 7.30 p.m., Saturday 3.30 p.m.: Brompton Barracks (Miniature Rifle Range).
Swimming	Wednesday 5.30 to 7 p.m.: Buckmore Park.
Table Tennis	contact Syd Groves, internal 668.
Junior Table Tennis	Thursday 5.30 p.m.: Snack Bar.
Lawn Tennis	contact Jack Guillon, internal 629.
Tug-of-War	contact Mr Crowther, Fisher Assembly.

FILM CLUB HUNTS GHOSTS

COBHAM mausoleum, built in the 18th century as part of the Cobham Hall Estate, is reputed to be haunted by the ghost of a white horse. Apparently its rider was tortured there about 200 years ago and one of his hands was cut off when he died. It is alleged that the horse rides from left to right, twice round the mausoleum, and disappears down the steps into the burial chambers. The hand is supposed to appear in a corner of the chamber, the horse picks it up and gallops out of the chamber with the hand in its mouth.

That is the story which aroused the curiosity of a group of people from the newly formed film club. On Saturday, January 17, they decided to spend the night at Cobham mausoleum to see if they could film the ghost as it began its nightly canter.

They took with them a radio-meter, photographic equipment, a bible and various items useful for exorcising spirits.

Eventually things began to happen. The first incident was a sudden drop in the temperature which, according to the group, was unlikely to have resulted from weather conditions and must have been an evil atmosphere surrounding the empty burial chambers. At around 10.25 p.m. a strange man wandered through the woods. He

did not respond to the challenges of some members of the group, but hastily disappeared from view into the woods.

Once again a sudden drop in the temperature was recorded, followed by a nauseating fungal smell which was attributed to evil spirits, and a positive indication of evil presence from the radiometer.

At this point discretion seemed to some to be the better part of valour and the team decided to pack up and go home.

But they are quite serious about ghost-hunting and are organising another operation to try to locate the ghost of a girl who was killed in a car crash four years ago and is reported to be seen occasionally by motorists.

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It's Conservation Year ...

AND YOU CAN HELP

DATA AND ELLIOTT

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Formby, DATA's divisional organiser and well known left-wing unionist, both seemed happy.

Crumbled

Orthodox bargaining procedure had been followed.

It appeared to be a model of an industrial negotiated peace.

But in a few days the edifice crumbled.

When the two sides worked out the details of what they had agreed, it became clear that, at best they had been talking for two days at cross-purposes, and at worst, one side was pulling a fast one.

DATA said that the agreement had covered more than 700 draughtsmen, design engineers, development engineers, modification engineers and technical assistants.

Many of these were not—and are still not—DATA members, but DATA officials were negotiating on their behalf, said the union.

Both sides now agree that the real cause of the prolonged dispute has nothing to do with money.

It is about recognition of the right of DATA to come to the conference table on the behalf of about 300 of these men, especially the 140 technical assistants and design engineers.

Rushed

Len Formby's own reading of the strike leaves it in no doubt.

"I think the delays in ending the dispute," he says, "is an attempt to restrict DATA's rights to negotiate for certain grades of people.

Don Hunter says it was always clear which men were being considered. The firm never wavered on its agreement.

"There is no doubt in my mind that there is any possibility of a mistake. DATA did not listen carefully to what was being said, they just rushed off to tell everybody."

But why should DATA be so keen to enforce its right to represent these men?

DATA, says Elliott, wants a foot in the door to stop staff being mopped up by another union, like the Association of Scientific, Managerial and Technical Staff, which could also lay claim to their support.

Success would give them that right in future negotiations.

Excuse

To give way would create a bad precedent for the union, which has already been to the trouble to ask Elliott to tell its workers who had negotiated the rise for them.

As Don Hunter put it, "these

THIS year has been designated European Conservation Year—ECY 70 for short—and the high level international conferences are already under way. Preservation of our earth, air and water in the face of increasing pollution or degradation by all kinds of modern activities is becoming an international problem.

You may already be concerned at the effect of developments near your home or in distant areas, but can your single voice have any effect?

Reg Bloodworth (MACD) is a keen conservationist and feels that every voice counts in the fight to preserve our heritage and our wildlife. He wants people to realise that they can act. The way to do it is to join one of the established societies and the one closest to our local needs is the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation.

If you are interested, write to Rear Admiral M. J. Ross, care of the Trust, at PO Box No 2a, Maidstone. Your name will strengthen their case, your donation will give them more power to act, your suggestion of a worthy cause for preservation will have their attention.

Alternatively, you can form a local association, or existing bodies like Ratepayers' Associations could take up a cause or form separate branches.

Finally, everyone can help preserve wild life by doing something in their own gardens—plant shrubs, allow self-seeded trees to grow, set up nesting boxes, even allow part of the garden to grow wild.

Reg Bloodworth has been looking round the EFA factory area. Why not, he says, plant trees or shrubs in the green patches. Not 20 years ago woodland extended right up to the edge of the Towers site.

DATA, knowing how much the prestige of the Concorde project means to Elliott, may be waiting, hoping to force the management to give way as the prospect of lost orders rises.

But it could misfire and DATA may alienate the very people it is trying to impress. Already, says Elliott, DATA membership is on the wane.

In the long run, no one will win. You can almost hear the transatlantic chuckles.

COLLEAGUES of William Drury, Buyer, who spent most of his twenty-four years with the company in the Works Engineering Department, wished him well on his retirement.

John Goodhand, MACD Production Manager, presented him with a transistor radio on Friday, January 30.



Picture by Peter Tromp

EQUIPMENT IN ACTION



A SECOND batch of SSE automatic test equipment worth almost \$4 million, bringing total value of the programme to around \$10 million, has highlighted ATED's success in establishing itself as one of Europe's leaders in this difficult and pioneering activity.

In terms of reputation and understanding, test equipment comes off very much second best in the production of advanced new electronic systems. But there has to be some way of fault-finding and of ensuring that a repaired system is once again working properly.

Time and skill are at a premium in any maintenance organisation and the trend is towards automatic test systems which can reliably check through a complete system and accurately locate any faults. With increasingly refined electronic techniques, the use of computers to organise, assess and record automatic testing at very high speed has become necessary as well as practical. ATED has studied the necessary technique and is already producing a computer-controlled system for Nimrod avionics.

The SSE order for the EFA head-up display in the A-7 Corsair

II follows the same trend, although the computer and the programming are rather different. SSE can test the complete A-7 display unit and the digital electronics unit and, by inserting different program tapes, can test individual circuit cards, producing for each test a permanent printed as well as a transitory visual record of results. Test time can be reduced from days or weeks to a matter of hours. The operator need only know how to operate the test equipment rather than understand the full detail of the circuitry under test and know all the traditional manual test techniques.

Moreover, SSE is designed to be transported by aircraft or helicopter and to be set up quickly on board aircraft carriers or on land bases.

A total of 23 sets of SSE are now being made by ATED and delivered in rapid sequence. Already one is on board the USS America as described on page 2, and EFA men are in the USA supporting its introduction into service. Effective performance of both the Nimrod ATE and the SSE could do much to establish ATED as Europe's leading manufacturer of this advanced equipment.

The Simple Life

DIETS are complicated and tedious, aren't they? Here's the really simple one!

A doctor friend has reminded us that, to keep down your caloric intake, simply remember this. If it tastes good . . . spit it out.