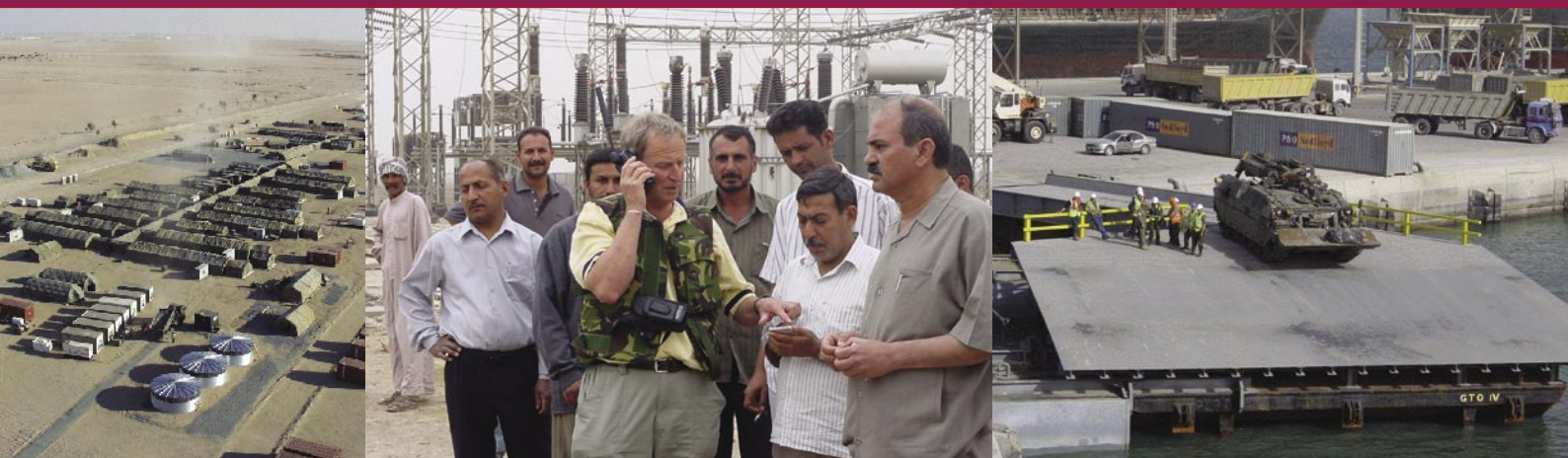




Engineer and Logistic Staff Corps

A Network of Advisers to Defence



About the Staff Corps

A Network of Advisers to Defence

The Ministry of Defence has available to it a network of top executives in 60 UK companies. It has been in existence for 137 years but is under used. Advice to HM Forces has been given in all recent conflicts and on training, mainly on engineering and logistics, but the field of available expertise is much greater than this. The Staff Corps is established as the Engineer and Logistic Staff Corps RE(V). This brochure is intended to promote the Staff Corps more widely across the MOD and through the higher echelons of the Armed Forces so that its capability is fully utilised.

Capabilities

The Staff Corps will be of particular value prior to and during expeditionary warfare. Its members, when contacted, will respond rapidly. They are all briefed to expect calls for advice from HM Forces and provide what assistance they can without hesitation. The establishment of 60 members means that the Staff Corps can call upon expertise from in excess of 100,000 people in their organisations. Staff Corps members all hold TA commissions from major to colonel so that they are ready to provide in theatre advice where it is required. Advice given is IMPARTIAL, CONFIDENTIAL and FREE unless a comprehensive study is required.

Current Expertise

The Staff Corps currently contains chief executives and other leading practitioners in engineering and logistics. It is able to provide advice in these areas. The Staff Corps has recently broadened its expertise to include telecommunications and manpower.

Future Expertise

The Staff Corps will recruit members appropriate to the needs of the MOD and Armed Forces.

Access to Advice

Staff Corps members are currently accessed via Headquarters Engineer in Chief (Army). They are contacted directly by the Staff Corps Acting Adjutant, a retired regular officer working in industry, who then puts the appropriate Staff Corps member in touch with the officer needing advice and generally acts as facilitator thereafter.



Purpose, Strategy and Organisation

Purpose

To provide advice and support to HM Forces on all appropriate occasions in a timely manner.

Strategy

- Communicate with Ministers, civil servants and senior officers, to ensure that they know of the Corps' existence and the extent of available expertise.
- Continue to widen the remit of the Corps by informing potential users of the existence of a free and impartial service.
- Publicise the value, utility, authority and independence of the Corps by highlighting its involvement in and contribution to military operations.

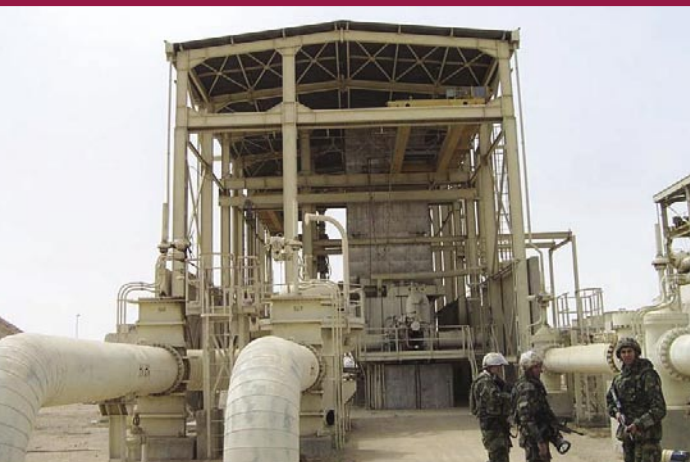
Organisation of the Staff Corps

The Staff Corps is constituted under the Reserve Forces Act 1996 and is administered by the Ministry of Defence.

Members of the Staff Corps are commissioned as officers in RE(V) but perform no military duties, and receive no pay or outfit grant. The only cost to the Army is the annual capitation grant which covers communication costs.

The Staff Corps is administered by a Council, composed of senior officers of the Corps; it is chaired by the Commanding Officer, a colonel, who is appointed from within the membership. The administrative officer of the Staff Corps who acts as secretary and main point of contact with the Ministry of Defence is the Acting Adjutant, who unusually for the Army, is normally a colonel or a lieutenant colonel.

Officers who cease to be actively engaged in the profession or the business in which they were engaged at the time of their appointment, must offer to resign their appointment, unless they are specially recommended by the Commanding Officer to retain their appointment, subject to the approval of the Army Board of the Defence Council.



Expertise and Services of the Staff Corps

Expertise

The function of the Staff Corps is to provide a body of skilled engineers and logistic experts to advise the Ministry of Defence on such related matters as may be put before it. The expertise of the Staff Corps can be brought to bear in the following areas:

- Operations and projects – in theatre consultancy, best practice techniques, advice on design and project management, logistic support and the supply chain, the use of sponsored reserves and the private sector on operations, post-conflict reconstruction, post project or operation validation.
- Procurement, particularly relating to engineer or logistic equipment services.
- Training – attachments and the validation of papers and degrees.
- Corporate planning and processes, particularly as the Ministry of Defence moves to accruals accounting and output costing, advice on ISO 9000, quality systems, MIS, R&D, human resources development and the management of change.
- Infrastructure, geographic and environmental data worldwide.

Services Provided

The wide range of expertise provided by member officers and their organisations is best illustrated by some examples of assistance given during the past few years:

- Advice on a mechanism to enable UK companies to reconstruct war zones.
- Advice to UK forces on existing oil, water and physical infrastructure in Iraq.
- Participated in the Kosovo Task Force.
- Advising on the restoration of electrical distribution and generation in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.
- Battle damage assessment of telecommunications systems in Iraq.
- Advice on the demolition of bridges in Bosnia.
- Survey and advice on re-opening quarries in Bosnia and Afghanistan.
- Advice on the load capacity of damaged structures in Bosnia.
- Provision of expertise on supply chain management and asset tracking.
- Advice on main supply routes and oil pipelines during the Gulf War and the Iraq conflict.
- Assistance with design and short notice procurement of a link span for a Kuwaiti Ro-Ro terminal.
- Contributing to and reviewing the scripts in the military ports and electricity field manuals.
- Providing critics for MSc theses by students at the RSME.
- Assistance in finding firms who can accept officers for training attachments.
- Advice on strategic and corporate planning and participation in Defence Reviews.
- Advice to the Defence Logistic Organisation and DTMA on developing policy and contracts.
- Advice given to RSME on their Public Private Partnership.
- Provision of telecommunications advice to UK home defence exercises.



Operation and Membership of the Staff Corps

Operation of the Staff Corps

Lists of officers within their disciplines, giving their addresses and telephone numbers, are held by the main points of contact in the Royal Engineers and Royal Logistic Corps. To monitor the advice being sought, initial requests are normally channelled through the Acting Adjutant. Once the appropriate source of advice has been established, communication can be direct.

To assist communications with its main users, the Staff Corps has set up an Engineering Liaison Group to work with the RE and a Logistic Liaison Group to work with the RLC. Their main terms of reference are:

- To consider how the combined expertise within the Staff Corps can best be applied to assist the RE/RLC with identified problems.
- To discuss with the RE/RLC the development or extension of new techniques which might have application to the operations of the respective Corps.

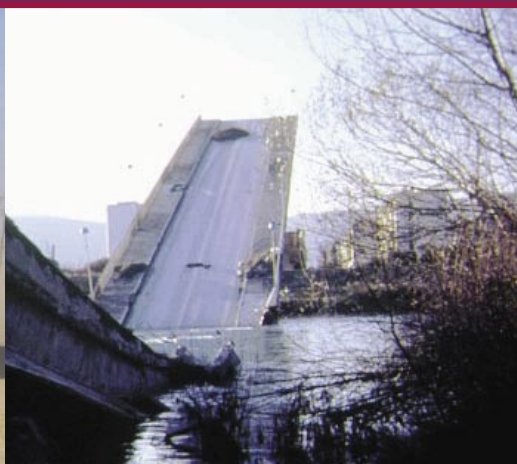
In order to maintain and develop relationships, officers of the Staff Corps are regularly invited to RE and RLC events, including conferences and equipment demonstrations.

Membership

The membership of the Staff Corps is made up mainly of chief executives, directors and senior technical or operational managers of engineering, transport and logistics firms or organisations. The seniority of the membership is deliberate to give authority and weight to the advice provided.

The Corps currently appoints and retains officers with expertise in:

- Airports
- Catering
- Commercial management
- Construction materials
- Electrical generation, transmission and distribution
- Environmental engineering
- Fuel storage and distribution
- Geotechnical engineering
- Hospitals
- Information technology
- Logistics, including supply chain functions
- Movements
- Nuclear engineering
- Ports and harbours
- Public utilities engineering
- Railways
- Roads and structures
- Shipping
- Telecommunications
- Transport law and insurance



History of the Staff Corps

The Engineer and Railway Staff Corps was founded in 1865, when there were many private railway companies, with the principal objective of ensuring “the combined action among all the railways when the country is in danger” and one of the main duties was “the preparation, during peace, of schemes for drawing troops from given distant parts and for concentrating them within given areas in the shortest possible time”.

Twenty-one officers, including railway company managers but mostly civil engineers engaged on railway works, were commissioned into the Staff Corps at that time. In 1908 the number rose to 110 but subsequent changes to the rules reduced the establishment to 60 officers. The Staff Corps was a volunteer unit, the members retaining their civil occupations. In the beginning, they wore uniform which was very similar to that of the Royal Engineers but this practice declined during the early part of the century and was stopped altogether when the Staff Corps was reconstituted in 1943.

Following the reorganisation in 1943, the Engineer and Railway Staff Corps comprised almost entirely railway company managers, civil engineers and specialists in road, railway or port design and construction. In 1972 the Royal Engineers requested that the base of expertise be widened to include, where possible, engineers and other experts in the fields of airport design and construction, electrical and mechanical services, petrol and oil engineering, geology and soil mechanics, water and sewerage. More recently, to meet the needs of the Royal Corps of Transport, the Staff Corps appointed experts in air, road, rail and sea transportation.

It was partly to acknowledge this change of emphasis and partly to recognise the wider scope of the Staff Corps’ activity apart from railway that the name was changed in 1984 to the Engineer and Transport Staff Corps and, more recently following the formation of the Royal Logistic Corps, to the Engineer and Logistic Staff Corps. Organisationally it now forms part of HQ Engineer in Chief (Army).

Engineer and Logistic Staff Corps

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www.bre.co.uk

