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tures. I should myself doubt whether the *War Topics Quizz* can last as long as the other jackpots. It will be hard to make the questions difficult enough for a normal newspaper-reading public. The questions I have heard would be quite fair to put to a class of Standard Six children. They may be popular enough with the winners, but will they have listening value? But the lure of the quizz is a remarkable feature of the ZB programmes.

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**E**VEN stranger to me than this craze for quizzing (which has its monetary aspect) is the popularity of the Request Sessions from 2YD and from the ZB's. The organisers of these programmes are so rushed with requests that sometimes it is five or six months before a specific item is put over. Requests come in higgeldy-piggeldy, every sort of record—swing, jazz, jive, crooning, comedy, grand opera, light opera, light classical. These sessions are enormously popular. But why? Almost any programme from almost any station has more point, purpose, and arrangement. I can only surmise that the lure of the request programme lies in the fact that it is personal. The listener asks for something which he wants to hear. It may come on the air a hundred times in other sessions before he gets it

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**P**RESUMABLY you are proud of the British Army, but what do you know about it? Could you answer half-a-dozen more or less elementary questions about its organisation? What is the linked battalion system? Why are Cardwell and Haldane so important in the army's history? Scottish regiments get a lot of publicity. Do you know the proportion, roughly, of Scottish regiments to English regiments? Do you understand clearly the difference between the Cameron Highlanders and the Cameronians; the King's Own Scottish Borderers and the Border Regiment; the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade? What distinguishes a Light Infantry Regiment from others? What is the meaning of the Roses of Minden? Who are the Buffs, the Diehards, the Pompadours, and the Cherubims?

Considering what the British Army has meant to the Commonwealth and the Empire it is not unreasonable to suggest that such things (and there are heaps more) should be known to Britons overseas, as well as at home. The National Broadcasting Service is following up its series of talks on the Indian Army with a number on the British Army. It won't be possible to give the history and traditions of every regiment (there are 49 English Line regiments alone), but something will be said about army organisation and important traditions and customs.

Major F. H. Lampen is to give these talks, and the first will be heard from 2YA on Monday evening, March 20.

in this special request session, but when it does come it is prefaced with his name and address. For weeks he may have had to listen to the "requests" of other listeners; but now, for a few short minutes, the airwaves are filled with an item put on specially for his benefit. It seems to me a high price to pay for such a brief gratification, but obviously I am in the minority.

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