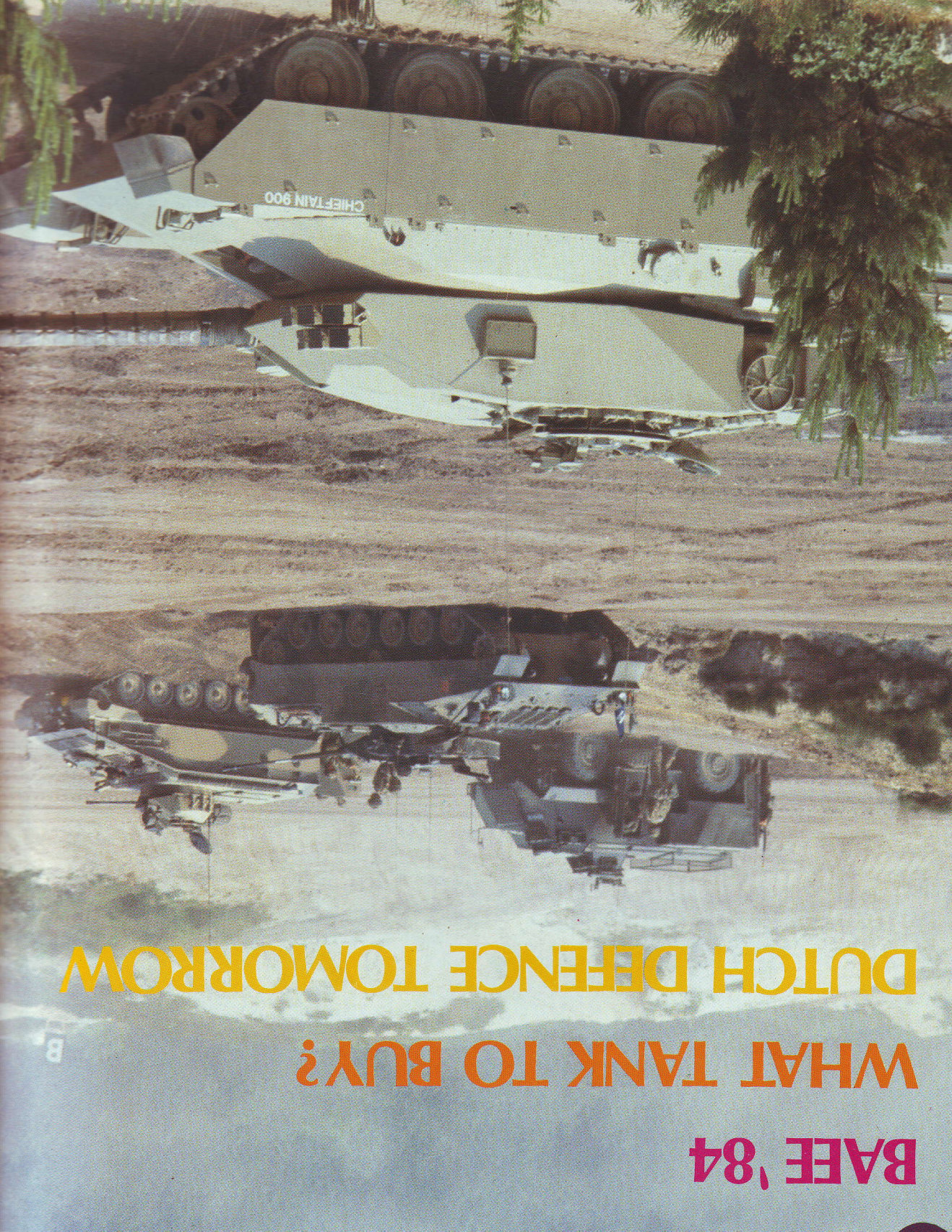


AUGUST 1984

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# DEFENCE

## DUTCH DEFENCE TOMORROW

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# DEFENCE

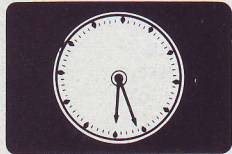
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DEFENCE



# DUTCH DEFENCE TOMORROW



## Introduction

Continuation and Renovation, the headlines of the Defensienota 1984, the white paper which contains the main elements of Dutch defence policy of the forthcoming ten years. This paper was presented to parliament on November 28, 1983. In this article we will also look to recent procurements made by the Dutch forces as a result of these plans, and to political comments on the 1984-1993 plans.

This white paper did not contain anything about the future of the Dutch nuclear tasks, nor about the deployment of 48 GLCM's at the airbase of Woensdrecht. This was because the government still had not made up it's mind about both issues. However, we will present here a short view on the Dutch nuclear tasks, as they presently are.

## THE NUCLEAR EFFORT

The Koninklijke landmacht (ground

forces) has 8 203mm M-110 howitzers capable of firing nuclear shells, 6 nuclear capable LANCE missile systems and a unit trained on working with atomic demolition munition (ADM). The Dutch however, do not have a 155mm nuclear capable gun.

The Koninklijke marine (navy) has it's P-3Cs capable of firing nuclear depth charges. It is generally believed that the warheads are in Great Britain, because in wartime Dutch patrolcraft will also operate from UK air bases.

The Koninklijke luchtmacht (air force) has first of all the NIKE HERCULES, which be replaced by the non-nuclear PATRIOT system. The second nuclear responsibility of the KLU are the nuclear free fall bombs.

We will now turn to the deployment of Ground Launched Cruise Missiles on-

Dutch soil. Strong pressure is put on the government by the opposition, quite a few members of one of the two government parties, the church and of course the peace movement, not to deploy any missiles.

In March the results of two interesting polls were published, one by a government institution and the other by an independant bureau. The former comes to the following conclusion: if the cabinet would decide not to deploy cruise missiles 63% of the population would agree; if the cabinet would deploy 24% would agree. The latter poll shows the following results: if the new weapons would be stationed here 36% considers this to be a wrong decision, 16% thinks it's a good decision and 46% answered "a pity, but acceptable".

The past and the present of the Dutch Air Force: a general Dynamics F-16 FIGHTING FALCON flies information with a Lockheed F-104 STAR FIGHTER.

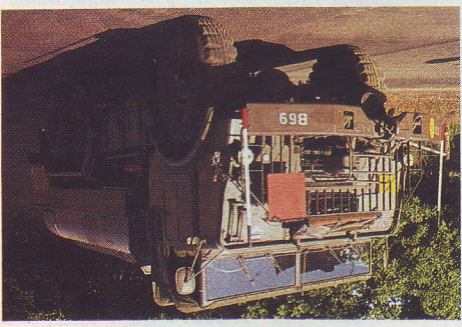




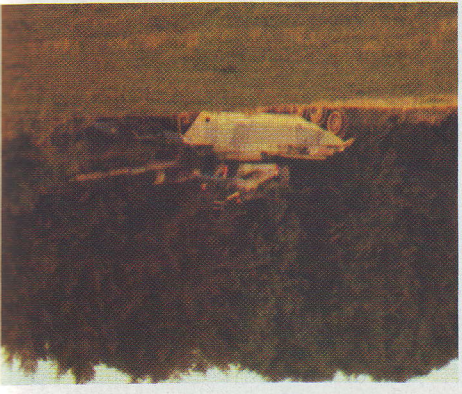
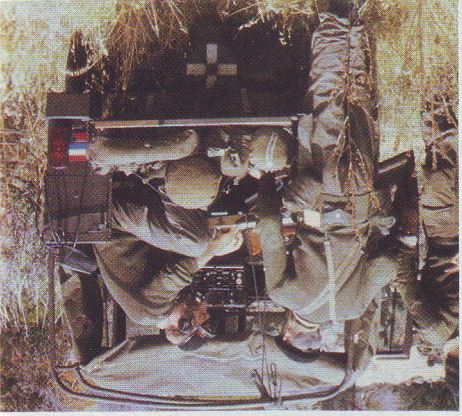
**TABLE 3**  
Investments of the Koninklijke landmacht in million guilders.

|                              | 1984/1988 | 1989/1993 |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Manoeuvrer Units             | 1,704     | 0         |
| —LEO-1V; LEO-2               | 1,040     | 95        |
| —YPR765                      | 9         | 350       |
| —modification M113           | 0         | 293       |
| —replacement fire arms       | 335       | 252       |
| —munition                    | 209       | 597       |
| —anti-tank weapons           | 0         | 370       |
| —anti-tank helicopter        | 166       | 238       |
| —other                       | 0         | 0         |
| Fire Support                 | 63        | 150       |
| —M109/M110/M114              | 507       | 661       |
| —Munition                    | 0         | 110       |
| —art. detection radar        | 0         | 500       |
| —MLRS                        | 164       | 102       |
| —other                       | 0         | 0         |
| Air Defence                  | 360       | 254       |
| —portable AD-systems         | 246       | 591       |
| —other                       | 0         | 0         |
| C3I                          | 429       | 779       |
| —communication systems       | 10        | 151       |
| —improvement command systems | 160       | 340       |
| —replacement Alouette III    | 0         | 237       |
| —drones                      | 224       | 42        |
| —other                       | 0         | 0         |
| combat support               | 813       | 1,549     |
| —electronic warfare          | 259       | 961       |
| —NBC warfare                 | 182       | 424       |
| —logistics                   | 410       | 760       |
| —other                       | 1,567     | 2,962     |
|                              | 8,232     | 11,491    |

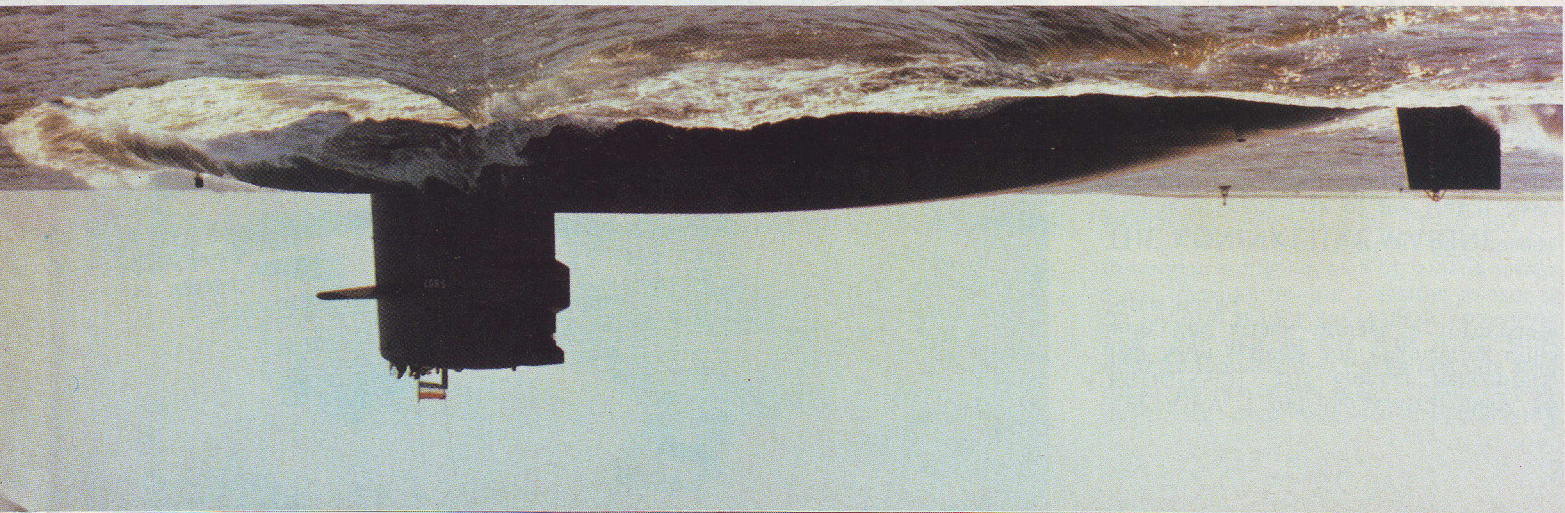
Above: a wheeled YP-408 APC during an exercise. The armament is comprised of 1 heavy 12.7 mm M-2 HB MG. Side caption: a Dutch Army DAF tanker.



A Dutch Marines command post LAND ROVER in action in the Sardinian interior. The soldier on the left is armed with a 9 mm MP UZI. An MBT CENTURION, even now being scrapped from second line units.







The TIGERHAAL submarine (S 807) when surfaced. It was launched in May 1971 and entered service in October 1972. It has a surface displacement of 2,300 t and 2,572 t dived.

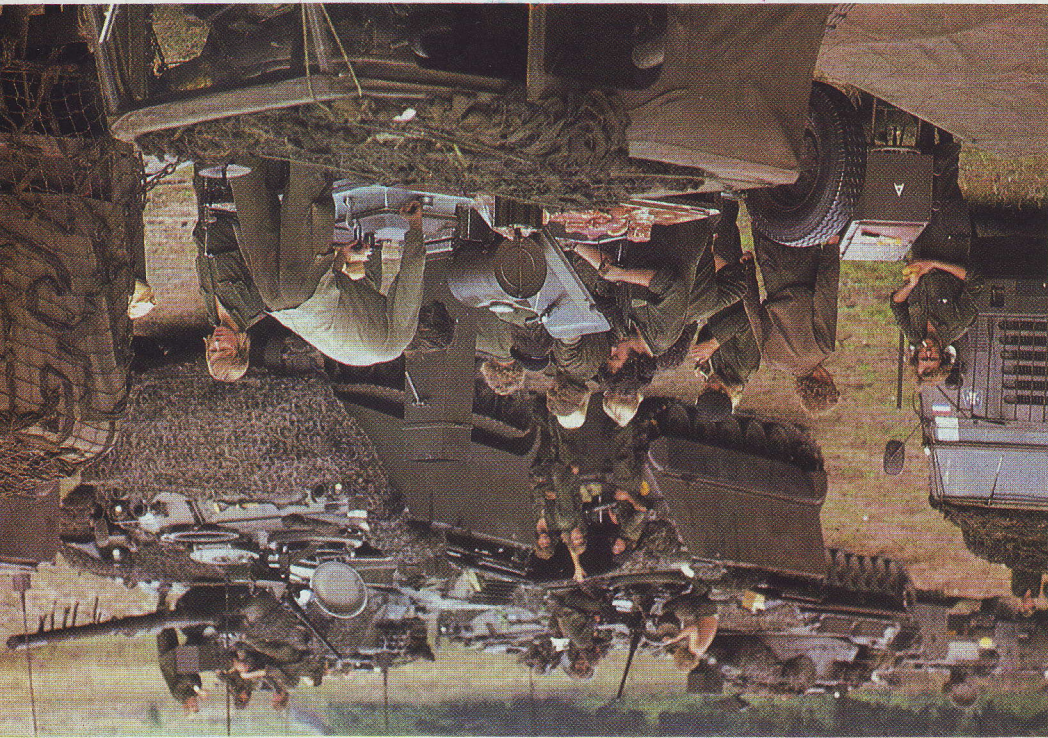
### POLITICAL REACTION

The VVD (liberals) was in general terms content with this white paper, but noted, as the other government party CDA (Christian Democrats), that not withstanding the 2% real increase in defence spending until 1987, and 3% afterwards, there is still a very tight budget, partly because of the total collapse of one of the largest Dutch shipbuilders, the RSV concern, which builds mainly navy ships and now needs extra defence funds to survive.

The largest opposition party PVDA (labour) could only utter criticism; for them the 2%, let alone the 3%, increase is unacceptable, and they announced later that they would reduce Dutch defence spending by 7.5 billion guilders the next ten years, if they would come to power.

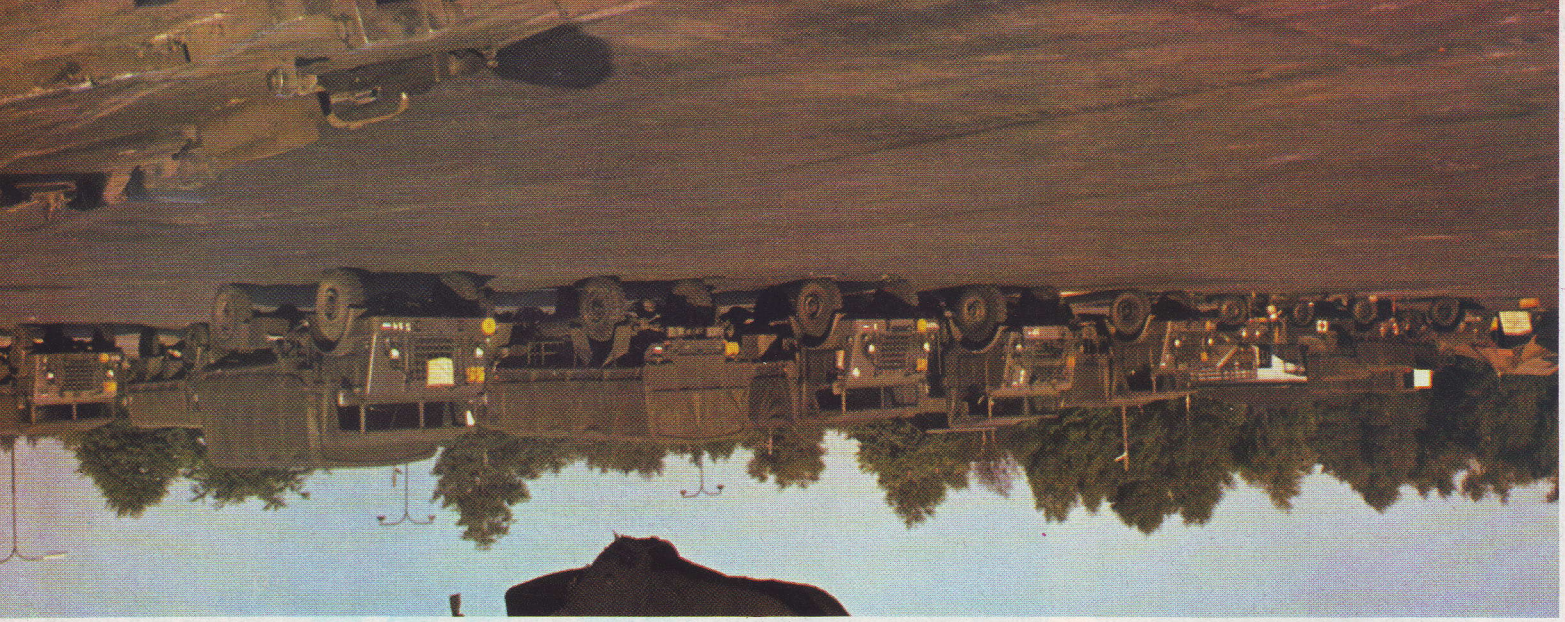
### THE SOVIET THREAT

Like many other western white papers, this one also contained a chapter devoted to the military balance between the East and West. Because these figures are well known among those who take an interest in Western defence, we will present only figures of particular interest to the Dutch 1st Army Corps. The 1st Army Corps, in war time, has to defend an area of 100 x 170 km in North Germany. According to the Dutch defence minister Dutch forces could be attacked by 9 Warsaw Pact divisions in two echelons, composing of 11,000 men with 2,400 tanks, 2,900



A moment of repose during the Dutch Army's BIG FERRO manoeuvres (1970s) US made M-113 APCs and German LEOPARD 1s are evident. These two models will be replaced respectively by LEOPARD 2s and YPR-765s.

The square of a Dutch military barracks which is used as a military car park: in the foreground some DAF YA 5441s (4 x 4) and a DAF YA 616 (6 x 6)





APC/AIFV, 1,300 pieces of artillery, 36 FRQG/SS-21, 105 combat helicopters, 180 SAM systems and engineering units with 280 attack bridges, a formidable force indeed.

## THE KONINKLIJKE MARINE

The primary task of the Dutch Navy has and will be the protection of the supply routes to Western Europe. To perform this mission the Navy, by 1993, will have the disposal of 22 frigates, 6 submarines, 2 supply ships, 30 helicopters, 13 patrol aircraft, and of minehunters, a marine corps and of course some smaller vessels.

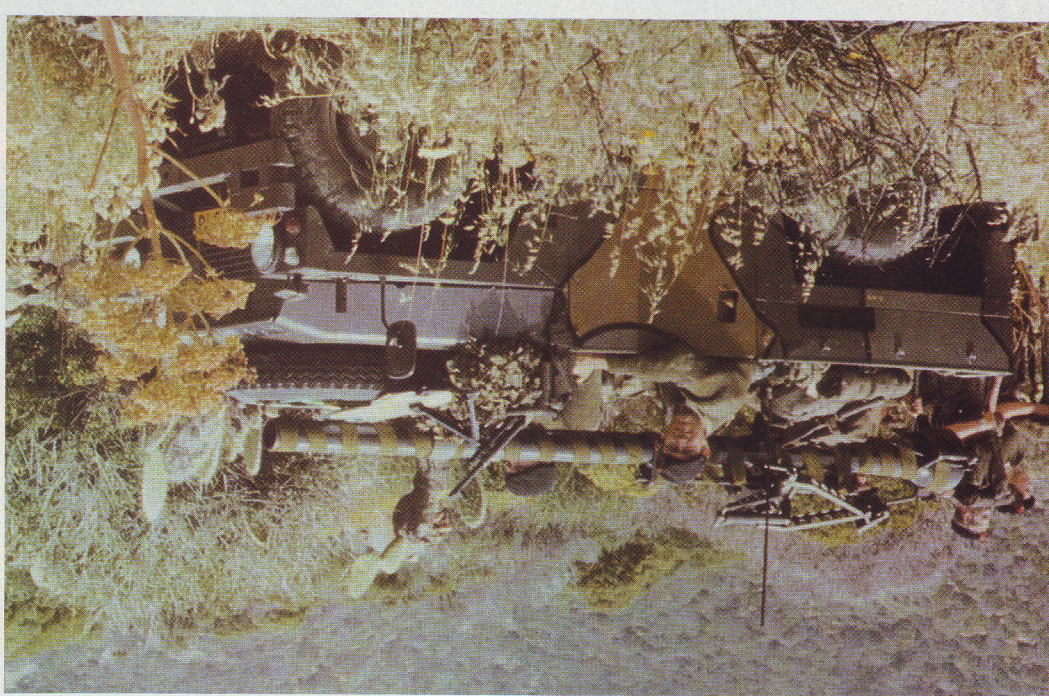
We will now look at the changes that will occur in the next 10 years:

The two TROMP-class ships will be modernised in 1988/89. The six WOLFF-class ships will be decommissioned after 1984. The VAN SPEIJK-class will be decommissioned in the same period as the new M-frigates will enter service. The ten KORTENAER frigates will be modernised in the period 1990-1996, and the two air-defense <sup>1990s</sup> will enter service in 1985/86.

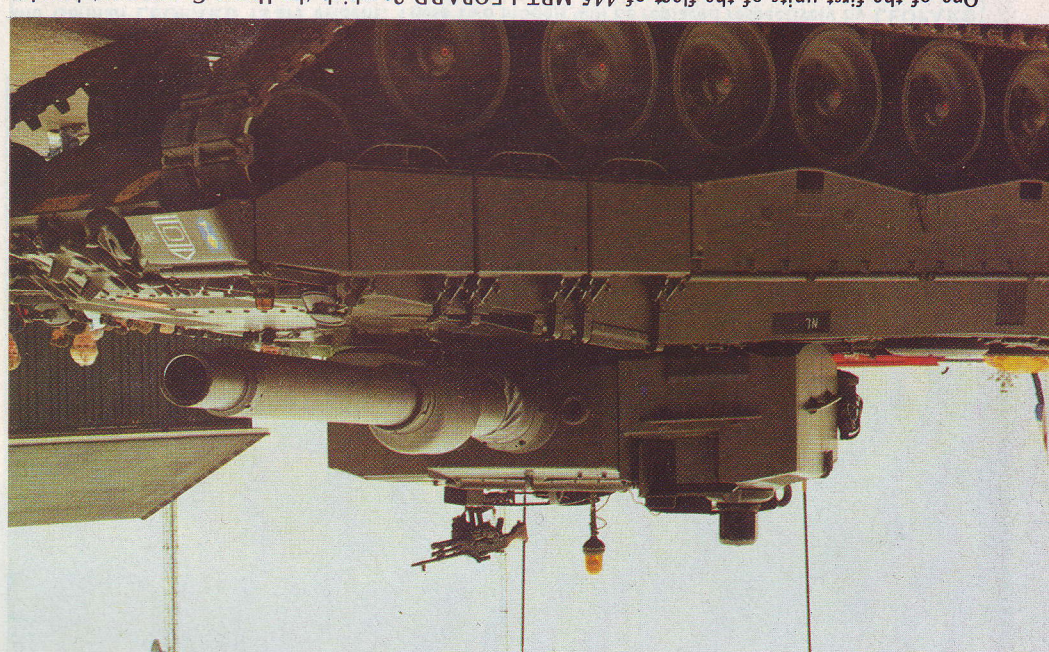
We shall now look briefly at the new M-frigates, of which 8 will be in service by 1988.

In February 1984 four were ordered, with an option on another four. The cost of each ship will be 360 million guilders at most, excluding the helicopter and reserve parts. These ships will be highly sophisticated: the M-frigate will be the first navy ship in the world with "rudder-roll" stabilization; they'll carry devices to deceive torpedoes and missiles with a radar-seeking homing device and of course these ships are NBC protected and EMP resistant. Lessons learned in the

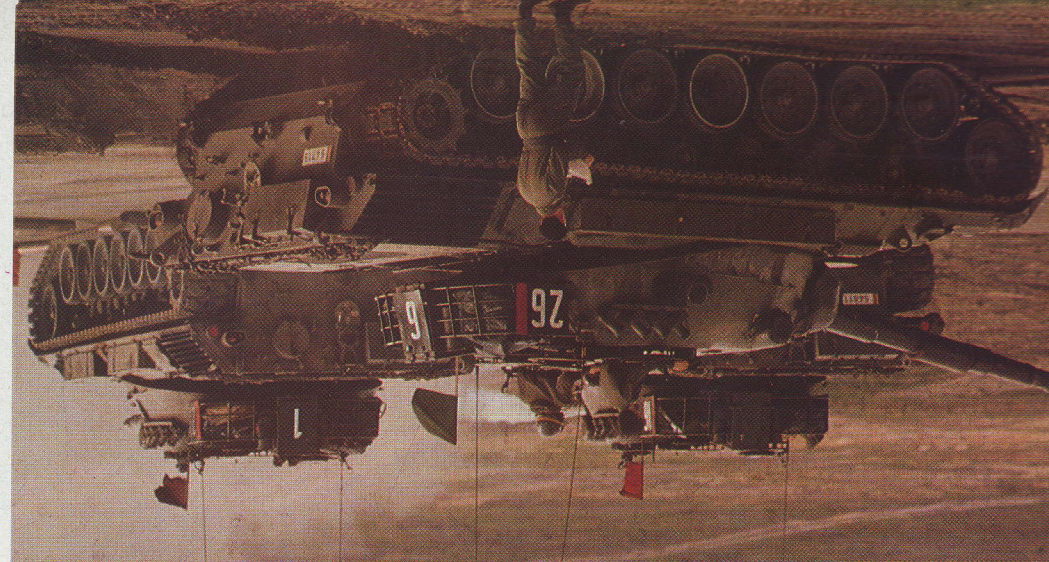
The Dutch units are among the best equipped in NATO circles for NBC suits.



A light truck of the marines armed with a recoilless 106 mm M-40 cannon against a backdrop of the harsh landscape of Southern Sardinia.



One of the first units of the fleet of 445 MBT LEOPARD 2s which the Hague Government bought. The co-axial machine guns and those on the cupola of the turret are FN MAGs instead of the original German MG 3s.



A Dutch LEOPARD 1 photographed during a firing competition organized by the Canadian Armed Forces in the FDR in 1977. The armored divisions of the Hague will change from the 105 mm cannon of the LEOPARD 1 to the 120 mm smooth-bore of the LEOPARD 2.



The armament of this new class will be substantial: a cannon of still unknown calibre against sea and air targets, sea-to-sea missiles, sea-to-air missiles possibly of the vertical launch type, one GOALKEEPER close-in weapon system, 20 mm machine guns, 4 torpedo tubes and one helicopter. The complement is 137.

The submarine force will also be modernised. The 2 ZWARDVIS-class subs will be refitted in 1987/88. The 2 WALRUS-class, now being built, will enter service in 1988 as a replacement of the DDFFJN-class. WALRUS 3 and 4 have been ordered shortly at a price of 375 million apiece, to replace the 2 POTVIS-class in 1992/94.

The WALRUS submarines have a length of 67.7 meters and have a displacement of 2000 tons submerged. They carry 4 torpedo tubes to launch MK-48 torpedos, mines and the HARPOON missile. Because of the advanced automation these subs only need a complement of 50 men.

The six Brequet-Atlantic patrol aircraft still in use, will be put out of service in 1984, which leaves the 13 P-3C. Marineluchtvaartdienst with 13 P-3C. These aircraft will carry air-to-sea missiles in the future.

The Dutch marinecorps will be maintained at a peace-strength of 2800 men. Contrary to, for example, their American or Soviet counterparts the Dutch marine corps does not have any heavy weapons, especially the lack of artillery is a serious defect. To improve the ability to defend themselves against air attacks the STINGER missile is now entering service. The Dutch navy also lacks a true landings ship to carry the marines and their equipment. The corps is now relying on British support.

## THE KONINKLIJKE LUCHTMACHT

The most important projects in the near future for the KLU are the Patriot missile and the F16 fighter plane.

By 1991 all fighter-bomber squadrons will have the F16.

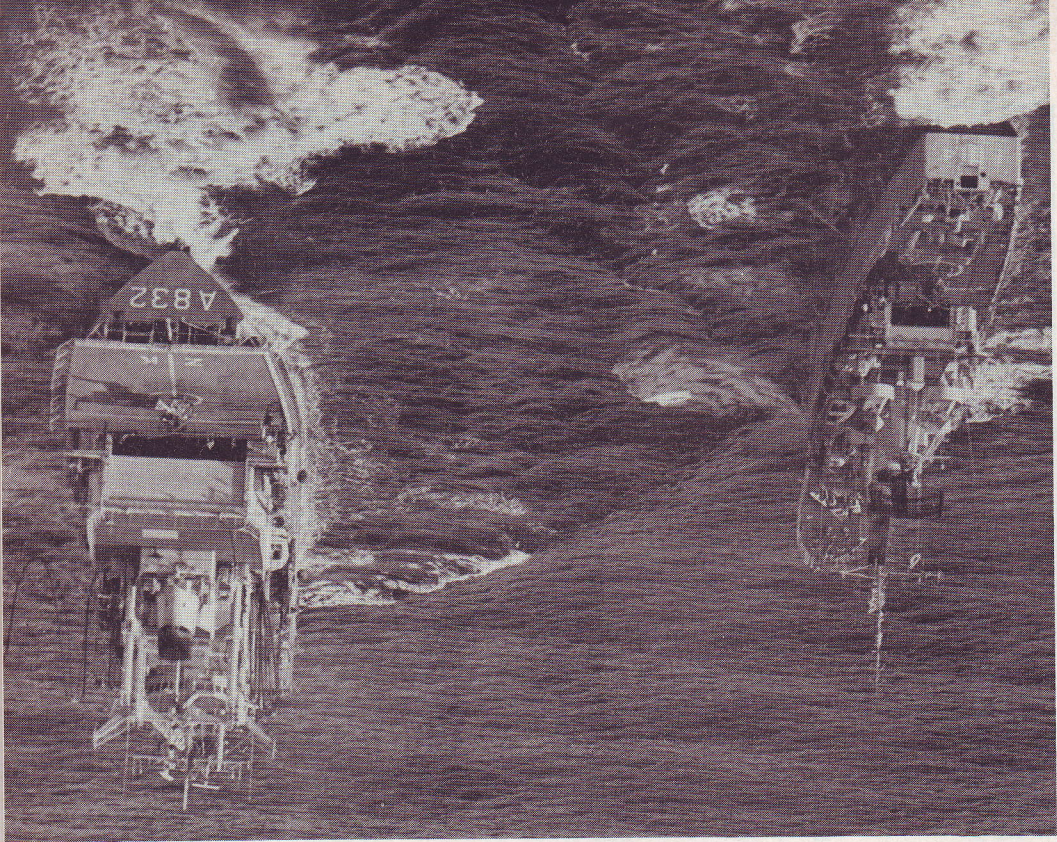
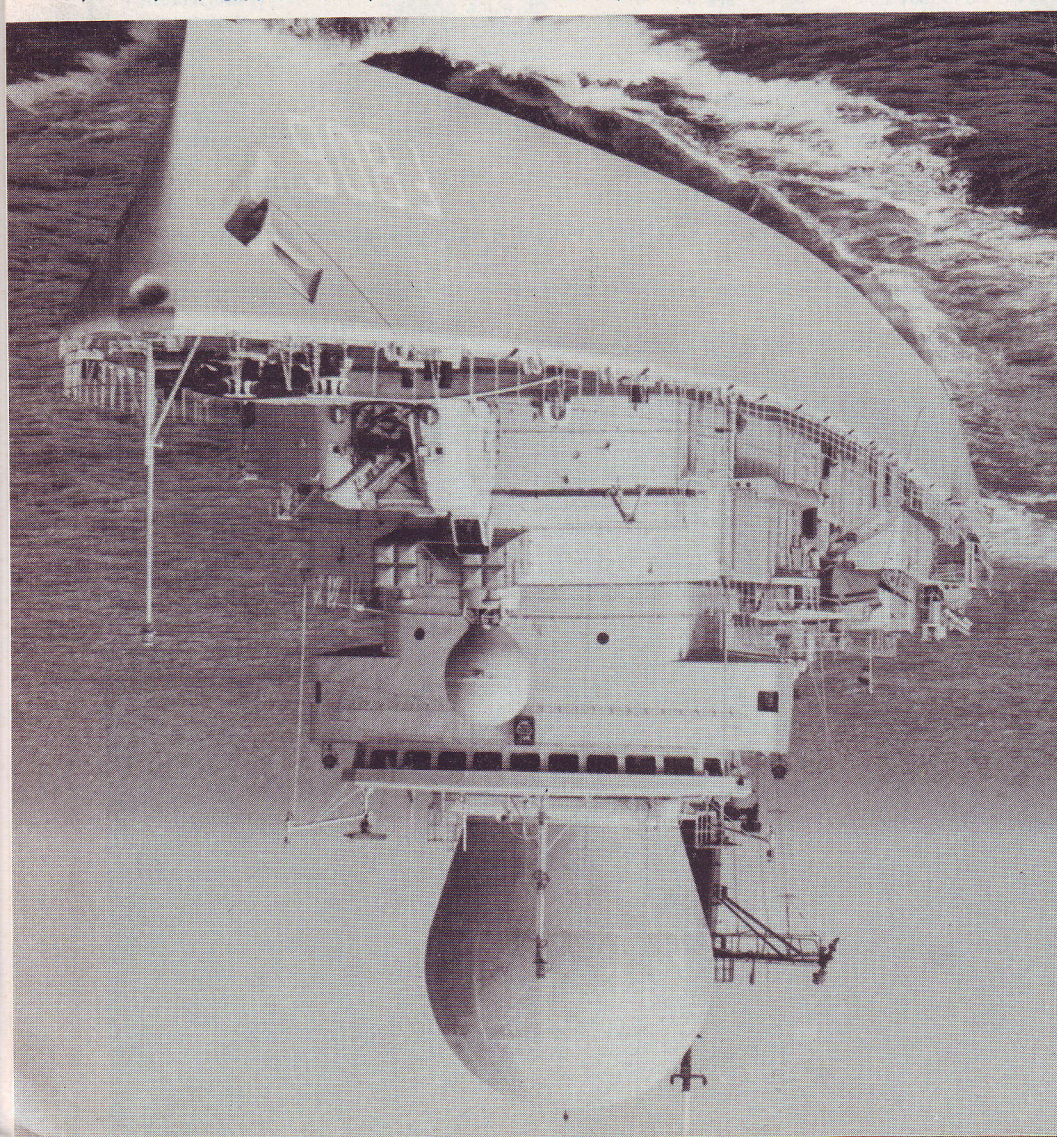
The original batch of 138 F104G and 105 NF5 is then replaced by 213 F16, of which will be operational. The last 57 were recently ordered for 2.3 billion guilders including spares and ground equipment. Eight squadrons will then use the F16, including one squadron with the reconnaissance version, the RF16.

The main operating Bases of the aircraft will be Leeuwarden, Twente, Voikel, Gilze-Rijen en Eindhoven. *En Dr* Peel is a Dispersed Operational Base, and Woensdrecht, Deelen and Ypenburg are reserve bases. Army helicopters operate from Deelen and Soesterberg, which is also a MOB because the American 32nd TFS is stationed there.

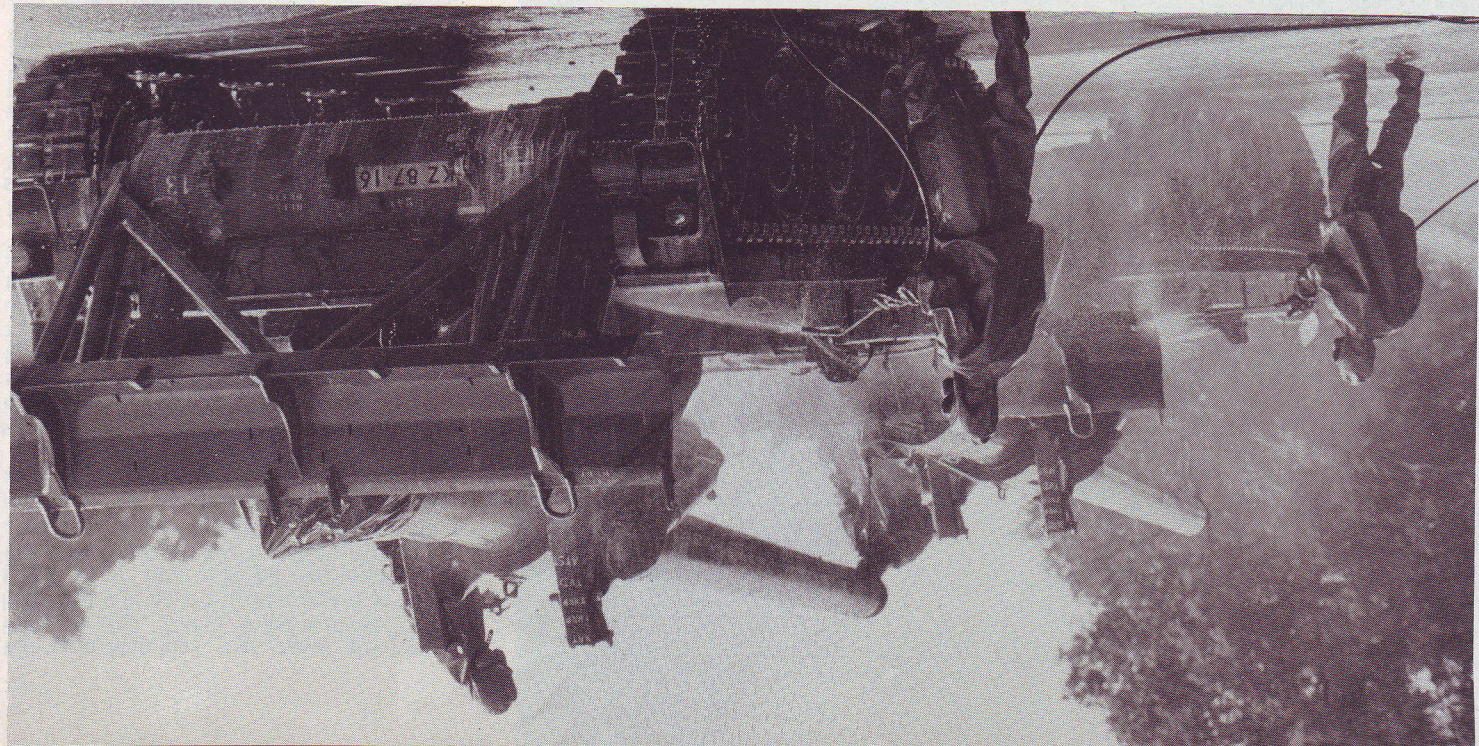
Another major program is the innovation of the ground-to-air-missiles. Quite recently 20 Patriot systems and

The missile-carrying destroyer DE RUYTER (ex-KEEMSKERCK, F832) of the TROMP class, is armed with 11 HARPOON quad launchers, 1 SM-1 MR system with 40 missiles, 1 octuple SEA SPARROW MK 29 launcher and 11 120 mm AA Bofors cannons.

The frigate ISSAC SWEERS (F 814) photographed sailing beside the petrol-tanker ZUIDERKRUIS (A 832). Note the landing deck for the 3 WG-13 LYNX on the ZUIDERKRUIS.







The NBC decontamination of heavy M-110 self-propelled guns in the Dutch Army. In the near future, the introduction of new NBC defence equipment is expected, funds of course permitting.

160 missiles were ordered, for 843 million, to become four squadrons by 1993 (two by 1988) that will replace Nike Hercules in Germany. However, to save money on the old Nike system, one squadron was discarded in 1983 another will be in 1984. This will temporarily weaken the Dutch air defence contribution until 1987 when the first Patriot squadrons arrive in Germany followed by four in Holland to defend Dutch air bases, by 1993 four in Germany and eight in Holland. After 1985 the present Hawk system will be improved.

In the years 1981-1984 Dutch pilots have flown less than the minimum NATO level of 240 hrs. <sup>hrs. of this</sup> level will be maintained again.

### THE KONINKLIJKE LANDMAGT

We will now devote our attention to the ground forces. The Defensnota 1984 states first of all that a number of plans announced in the previous 10-year plan have not been realised: replacement of the M113 APC and the M114 artillery piece.

In the next ten years special attention will go to NBC-warfare, the introduction of electronic warfare equipment and to improve the reaction time. The primary task of the Dutch army is to defend part of North-Germany. An almost equally essential task is the security of Dutch territory and to make sure that supply-routes by land, sea and air can safely be used by friendly forces. Because of the big sea and airports and because of extensive land, train and sea routes we can expect sabotage-raids on essential installations. To defend all this the National Territorial Commando (NTC) has units numbering 9000 in peacetime and 44000 in wartime. Included are 2 infantry brigades, 4 independent battalions, one

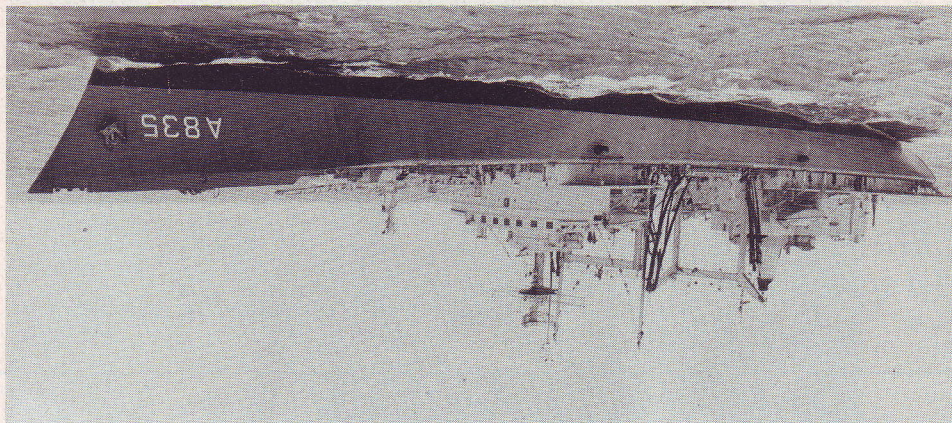
TABLE 1. Investments of the Koninklijke marine in million guilders (1 \$ = 2.90 guilders ; 1 £ = 4.10 guilders)

|                        | 1984/1988    | 1989/1993    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Frigates               | 413          | 0            |
| S-frigate              | 1,310        | 1,530        |
| M-frigate              | 0            | 0            |
| Submarines             | 354          | 0            |
| -Walrus class          | 0            | 0            |
| -submarines II         | 545          | 185          |
| -Submarines III        | 0            | 540          |
| Minesweepers/Hunters   | 650          | 416          |
| Other ships            | 67           | 160          |
| Modernisation of ships | 268          | 392          |
| Petrol aircraft        | 273          | 0            |
| Helicopters            | 67           | 440          |
| Munition               | 522          | 1,167        |
| GOALKEEPER-system      | 408          | 124          |
| Other                  | 826          | 1,740        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>5,703</b> | <b>6,694</b> |

TABLE 2. Investments of the Koninklijke luchtmacht in million guilders.

|                          | 1984/1988    | 1989/1993    |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Aircraft                 | 2,796        | 1,072        |
| -F16                     | 40           | 552          |
| -life extending programs | 277          | 590          |
| -electronic warfare      | 82           | 498          |
| -transport mission       | 239          | 882          |
| other                    | 0            | 455          |
| Guided Missiles          | 0            | 455          |
| -patriot in Holland      | 641          | 355          |
| -HAWK                    | 142          | 213          |
| -short range A.D.        | 58           | 298          |
| armament                 | 151          | 415          |
| 506                      | 1,388        |              |
| 581                      | 858          |              |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>2,071</b> | <b>3,982</b> |





The POOLSTER (A 835, squadron fuel supply ship, launched in the Rotterdam DM shipyards in October 1963, it entered service in 1964. It has a hangar for 3 helicopters and 11 40 mm AA cannons.

In the forthcoming 10 years electronic warfare equipment will enter the Dutch Army. Because of the relative unfamiliarity with this new type of warfare, and because of the highly units of battalion level.

GEPARD, will be reorganised into three and the present nine batteries with the disappear. The STINGER will enter service with the elder 40L70 cannon will air defence units. Eventually all six units We will now look at the changes in the increase, agreed upon by NATO in 1977, has not been met. Between 1979 and In the past few years the 3% real defence budget.

Because the government has completely failed to explain to the general public why a strong defence is needed, it received strong criticism on the unemployment figure is about 18%.

very bright; for example the financial position of the Netherlands isn't First of all one should realise that the

**CONCLUSIONS**

NBC protective measures will be modernized. Not only personal equipment, but also NBC protected headquarters, communications centres, medical facilities, etc., will be bought.

equipment must go hand in hand with the training of specialists.

complex technology involved, the first years will be used to study all possibilities. An introduction of this equipment will be used to study all possibilities. An introduction of this

Ten units equipped with the M109A2/A3 will be maintained. The two M107 and two M114 units will be replaced by 5 units equipped with the M110A2 as the standard 203mm weapon.

The artillery units will also change. Money will be spent on target acquisition and data handling equipment to use the artillery more effectively. The plans as they stand now foresee the introduction of one unit equipped with the MLRS in the early 90s. New kinds of ammunition will be bought.

The reconnaissance units will be changed substantially. The nine independent squadrons will be discarded. This material will be used to form an extra two reconnaissance battalions (two with LEO-1, two with LEO-2). To give the brigades some reconnaissance capability of their own they will get reconnaissance platoons.

An anti tank helicopter will not be bought in the 1984-1993 period because of the great costs.

Two infantry battalions will get armoured vehicles to improve their mobility.

The 5 tank battalions still equipped with the Centurion will be dissolved. The Dutch tank fleet will eventually consist of 6 battalions with the Leopard-1 (total:468) and 6 battalions Leopard-2 (total:445). These numbers include tanks used in training units. The LEO-1 will be improved to 1V (verbeterd=improved) standard between 1983 and 1986. This will mean improved armour on cupola and chassis, improved ammunition, a laser/optical rangefinder, fire control computer and improved night fighting equipment.

The main element of the ground forces will be maintained as an APC, but will be modernized.

The 8 battalions that are still equipped with the YP-408 will receive the YPR-765, so that all 17 mechanised battalions will have this AIFV. The M113

The 1st Army corps, with a wartime strength of 87000 (peacetime 34000). It consists of 10 brigades, 6 active, plus supporting units.

engineer-combat group, one transport group and several smaller security units.

There is also the National Reserve, a corps of 5100 men, consisting of volunteers who in wartime will defend vital objects in the vicinity of their homes.

A Westland Lynx helicopter of the Koninklijke Marine. The Dutch Navy has an antisub squadron of 17 SH-14B/C and an SAR squadron with 6 UH-14A, besides other machines to be carried on the naval units.



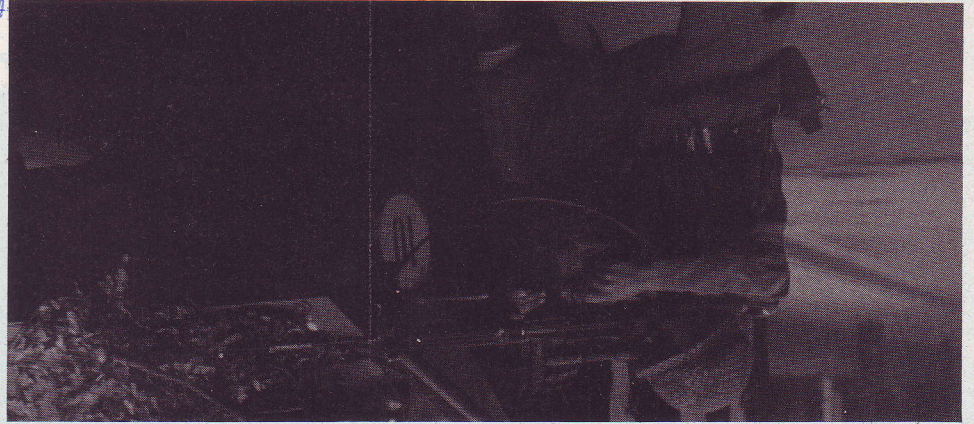
A Westland Lynx helicopter of the Koninklijke Marine. The Dutch Navy has an antisub squadron of 17 SH-14B/C and an SAR squadron with 6 UH-14A, besides other machines to be carried on the naval units.



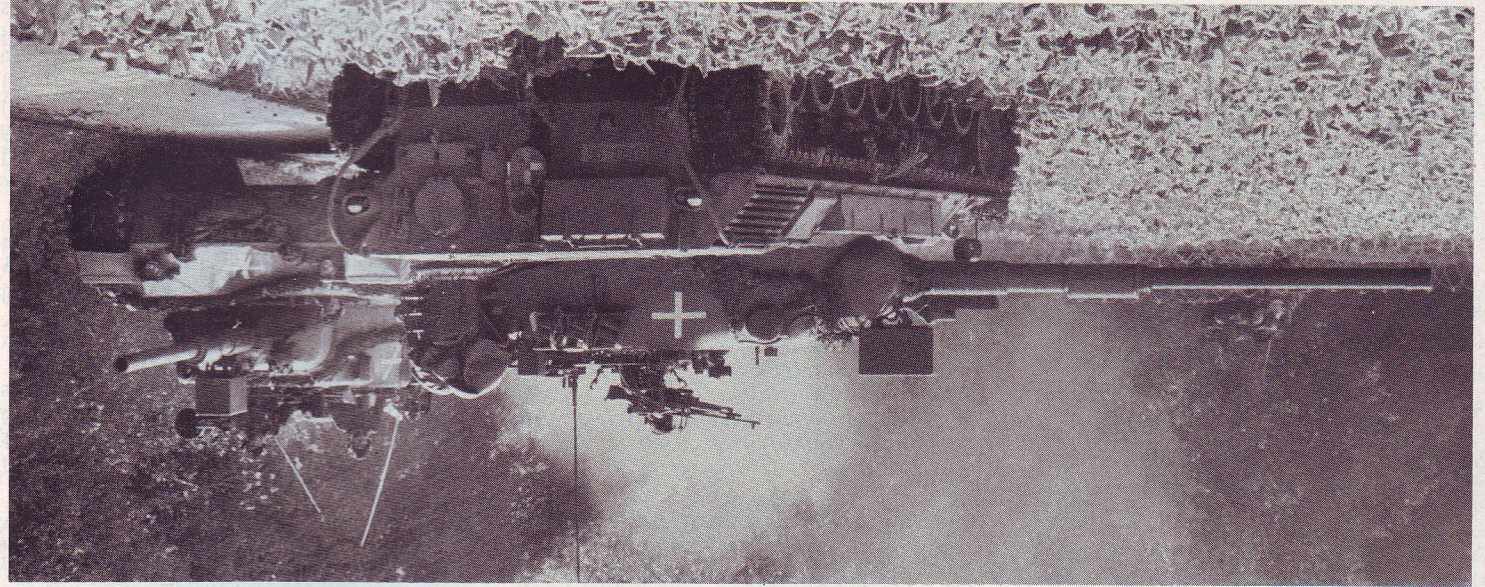
1982 this increase has only been 1.5%, and this has meant a cut of 1.5 billion guilders in that period. Even in the next three years an increase of only 2% is foreseen. After 1986 one hopes for 3% but this is only political good intention because by that time this government will probably be no longer in office. The government at that time will very likely be one of Christian Democrats and Labour, and because labour has already announced to cut defence spending by 7.5 billion in the next ten years, it then won't be possible even to carry out then minimum level plans now proposed. This financial strain is felt everywhere. For example one of the six submarines will be put in reserve and the already mentioned M109 unit and the non-purchase of anti tank helicopters. But there is even more striking examples: of the six tank battalions that will receive the LEO-2 only 2 will be active, and that for a highly sophisticated weapon system that needs well trained crews.

The air force will eventually have some 222 F16 fighter planes, undoubtedly a modern, sophisticated plane. However this will be the only type flown by the KLU, for obvious reasons: standardisation and therefore economical reasons. But a plane that has to perform interception as well as interdiction, close air support, reconnaissance and support to the navy, can't be very good at one specific task.

The problems that face the ground forces are even more substantial. Their main task is to defend a part of North Germany with the 1st Army Corps which consists of 10 brigades in war time. However only one brigade is stationed in Germany in peacetime. NATO's efforts to persuade Holland to station a second brigade in Germany have so far been fruitless, and there are no plans to do so in the near future. To compensate for this deficiency depots for material are being built in Germany, and special training equipment is acquired to transport tanks and other heavy equipment into Germany in case of war, but because of the high alert status of WARSAW PACT divisions



A soldier of a motorized division which has YP-408 APCs is preparing to fire his 7.62 mm FN FAL assault rifle, chosen for precision firing during the BIG FERRO manoeuvres.



A couple of MBT LEOPARD 1s in action. The Netherlands have an armoured brigade, the 43rd, stationed at Seedorf near Hamburg in West Germany.

TABLE 4  
Defence budget for the 1984-1993 period.

|                           |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Management                | 6,064  | 6,091  | 6,108  | 6,120  | 30,468 | 31,222 |
| —personnel management     | 1,339  | 1,367  | 1,427  | 1,457  | 6,987  | 7,285  |
| —maintenance of equipment | 1,780  | 1,779  | 1,773  | 1,779  | 6,945  | 9,612  |
| Manuftenzione             | 9,183  | 9,231  | 9,261  | 9,314  | 46,400 | 48,119 |
| Investments               | 543    | 584    | 562    | 638    | 2,911  | 3,693  |
| —infstructures            | 3,331  | 3,495  | 3,751  | 4,148  | 18,641 | 24,535 |
| —equipment                | 3,784  | 4,073  | 4,313  | 4,501  | 21,553 | 29,528 |
|                           | 13,039 | 13,293 | 13,558 | 13,800 | 14,184 | 14,84  |
|                           | 76,607 | 76,607 | 76,607 | 76,607 | 76,607 | 76,607 |

in East Germany there is hardly any warning time left over. And no one is able to transport, let us say 30,000 men and hundreds of vehicles within two days, with the threat of air attacks and sabotage. These two days will be needed just to mobilise all units, let alone transport them. Apart from this tactical problems, there are equipment problems. The Dutch army won't have the disposal of anti-tank helicopters, MLRS or electronic warfare equipment for quite some time to come, and this in face of the overwhelming superiority in tanks and artillery that the Soviet Union has. The only conclusions can be that the Dutch armed forces have gone through a difficult period, but that an even more difficult one is facing them.