Welcome to fourth of our now bimonthly editions which leads us directly into an apology for the late arrival of the June edition due to some technical issues—if anyone still hasn’t received their June journal please contact the customer services office at support@bmj.com.

The personal view by O’Reilly et al presents a novel potential solution to one of the recurring conundrums of military surgery—how do you train surgeons for multivisceral war surgery in times of peace, a challenge made even more acute by the inexorable increase in subspecialisation within what used to be known as General Surgery.

CASE REPORTS
This issue carries a trio of medical case reports which highlight the interplay between military primary and secondary care—the case of delayed HIV diagnosis (published with full patient consent) is particularly pertinent and reminds us all to consider this diagnosis much more frequently than we ever have done before.

INTERNATIONALISM
The Journal has been working hard in recent years to position itself as an international journal of military medicine and it is pleasing to see the continued stream of submissions from across the globe, with 16 different countries contributing work this year alone. This edition showcases a timely systematic review of the use of creatine supplements in the military by Haventidis from Greece (and an accompanying commentary to place this in a UK military context), Akkuck et al detail the extensive workload in a Turkish border town from the civil war in Syria and the Israeli paper by Epstein et al examines the ambulatory load during commando training. Two contributions from America also deserve mention: Major Staruch has contributed a thought provoking editorial about the future of regenerative medicine in the military from his research position in Harvard and the review of United Nations peacekeeping by US Army Major Johnson.

... AND FINALLY
Wever and Hodge’s historical note details an oft-forgotten aspect of military medicine and describes another medic who succumbed to the disease they sought to investigate.

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