



The Royal Air Transport Military Band marches in Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The University's Queen's Guard (below) does "Suicide Maneuver" at the tattoo.

Queen's Guard visits Scotland; performs maneuvers for Tattoo

By KENNETH LENTZ

The Queen's Guard, the University's Air Force ROTC drill team, along with eight teams from countries of the British Commonwealth, performed this summer in the 22nd Annual Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The idea for the Guard to perform in this annual military exposition came about in 1966 when University student William Detmer, then a member of the drill team, made initial inquiries about the event.

In 1967 formal contact was made with Brigadier Sanderson, producer of the Tattoo. The team sent pictures and a short movie of their 1967 routine which included the "suicide maneuver." In this maneuver members of the drill team walk between two rows of spinning rifles with 16 inch fixed bayonets.

Sanderson was so impressed by the performance, said Bing Hunter '69, commander of the Guard, that he made a special trip to the University in March to see the Guard in action and promised money for transportation.

On Aug. 5 the Guard left for Scotland. The Tattoo began Aug. 16 with performances by all the groups on the Esplanade of the Edinburgh Castle to a crowd of more than 8500 people. The performance was televised by the BBC and distributed to Eurovision.

The Guard for three and a half weeks performed five days a week with two performances on Friday and Saturday nights.

While not performing, the members of the team were free

to travel through the country.

According to Hunter "the whole team was really impressed with the kind, sincere people and the beautiful green scenery of Scotland. Besides that, it was a girl-watchers paradise."

The Queen's Guard, even though affiliated with the Air

Force ROTC department, is open to all undergraduates. The team is now recruiting for students to replace the team members that graduated. Hunter said trips are planned this year to various drill meets on the East coast and plans are being made for trips this summer.

