

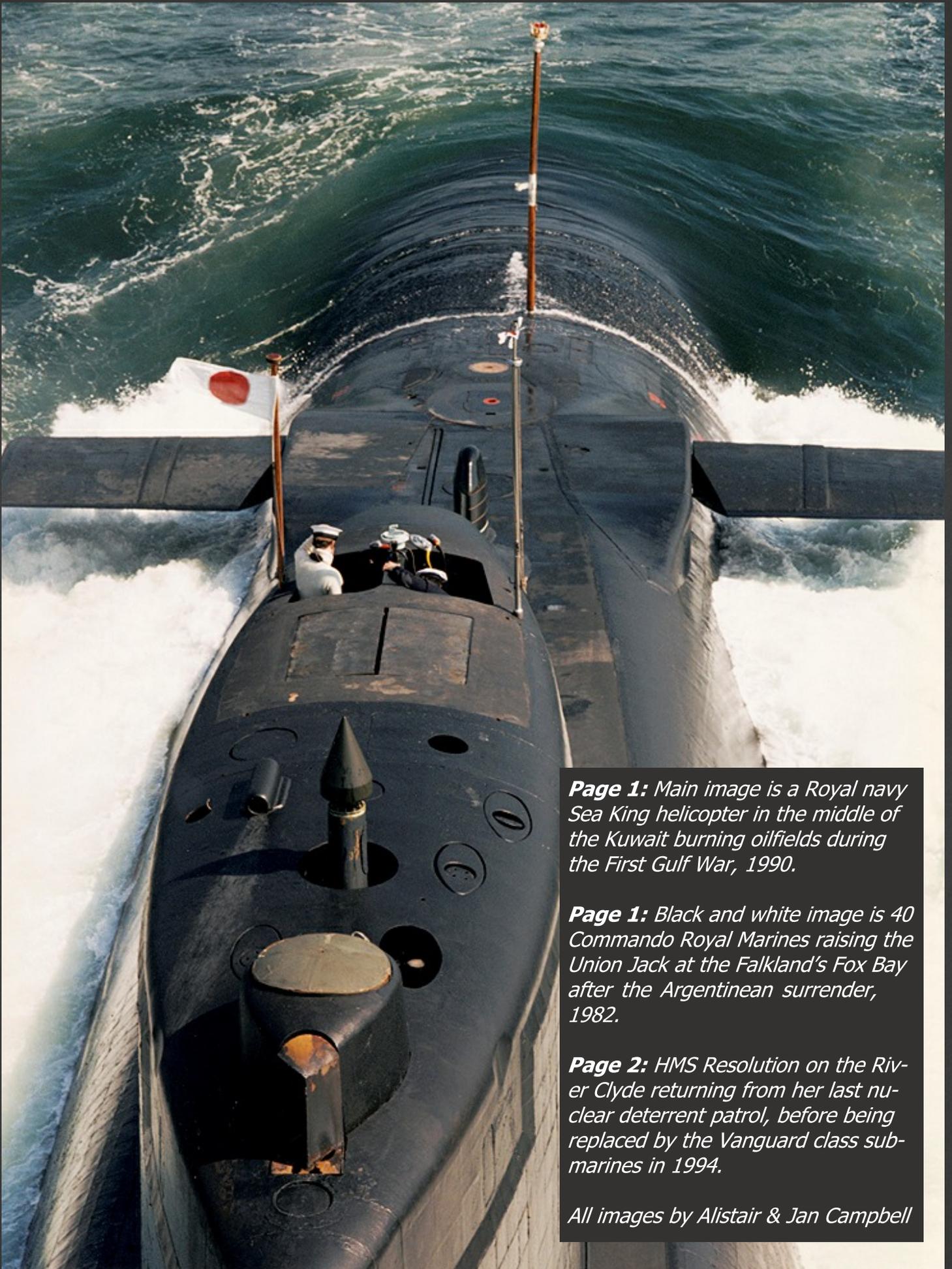
# THAT'S ENOUGH EXCITEMENT FOR US

Running for shelter from occasional inclement weather whilst photographing UK urban and rural landscapes, is as exciting as life seems to get now days - and it suits us just fine. However, as an ex Royal Navy Photographer, I have experienced more than my fair share of excitement and adventures. Between us, myself and my wife Jan (also an ex Royal Navy Photographer) have amassed nearly 60 years military service.



Our adventures have obviously involved a great deal of foreign travel, and for myself there have been a mixture of conflicts and peacekeeping tours with ships, submarines, aircraft and Royal Marine units. Some of these experiences include the Falkland and Iraq wars, Northern Ireland (during very troubles times), jungles, deserts and arctic wastes. Indeed, I was fortunate enough to be awarded a British Army commendation for my support of anti-drugs operations during a six-month





**Page 1:** Main image is a Royal navy Sea King helicopter in the middle of the Kuwait burning oilfields during the First Gulf War, 1990.

**Page 1:** Black and white image is 40 Commando Royal Marines raising the Union Jack at the Falkland's Fox Bay after the Argentinean surrender, 1982.

**Page 2:** HMS Resolution on the River Clyde returning from her last nuclear deterrent patrol, before being replaced by the Vanguard class submarines in 1994.

All images by Alistair & Jan Campbell

tour of the Belize jungle, and a British Empire Medal (BEM) for my efforts in the Kurdish relief operation in the northern Iraq mountains. In addition, Jan also has a great deal of rotary and fixed wing aerial photographic experience whilst her military responsibility witnessed her mastering the future training for all military photographers. But we have long exchanged our former military careers as photographers and managers for one that still satisfies our passion for photography, but in a far more sedate and less noisy environment. The Royal Navy armed us both with an array of professional and personal attributes, which ensured a relatively smooth transition from military to civilian life. Self-discipline, teamwork, a strong work ethic, professionalism and a desire to complete any task to the very best of our ability. These are just a few of the qualities that



have held us in good stead in our current careers as travel authors and professional landscape photographers.

Memories of our military adventures are fast receding and although our foreign travels have not ended completely, we have shown a distinct preference to conduct our photographic vocation in home waters. We now manage our own on-line image library called 'UK City Images'. Our portfolio of nearly 25,000 high quality images and video clips contain, predominantly, British rural and urban scenes. Initially concentrating in photographing city landscapes we have steadily wavered towards rural vistas. Jan is also a very keen gardener which has resulted in an impressive portfolio of horticultural subjects. We both firmly believe that the landscape diversity within

**Top Image:** Royal Navy replenishment at sea in the Persian Gulf during the First Gulf War 1990.

**Bottom Image:** Highland Cow on Scotland's Applecross Peninsula.

the UK offers incredible challenges and satisfaction, to just about any professional or amateur landscape photographer. Hopefully our UK portfolio is testament to the beauty of our cities and countryside.

As photographers it is always a pleasure (and our primary objective) to see our images in print. But it has become even more creatively satisfying, when the supporting text or story of an image has also been composed by ourselves. To this end, we have also published four city travel books in both hardback and paperback formats – which are soon to be made available in an EBook format. Illustrated travel and photography articles are also proving to be a rewarding avenue of creativity and, over time, we hope to accumulate a library of these types of publications.

The only drama we now look for in a scene will be a dramatic sunset over the Welsh mountains of Snowdonia, stunning Cornish coastlines or the fascinating Neolithic sites of Orkney - that's more than enough excitement for us.



*Words and images by Alistair & Jan Campbell*



***Top Left Image:*** London's Big Ben.

***Top Right Image:*** Sunset on the River Ems in Hampshire.

***Bottom Image:*** Traigh Mhangurstadh beach on the Isle of Lewis.