

**SPECIAL  
FEATURE**



**KEEP  
OUT!**

OPERATION EAGLE was the most secret project ever to be planned by the Boys' Sport and Adventure Department of IPC Magazines. For months, Group Editor Barrie Tomlinson and David Hunt, the man destined to be Editor of the new magazine, worked on their plans for the re-launch of EAGLE, the most famous name in children's comics.

The original EAGLE, first published in 1950, had gained a reputation of being a quality magazine that was ahead of its time. It had been a very special title to millions of boys . . . and today those boys were fathers themselves. They would demand that the new EAGLE was at least as good as its predecessor! The new EAGLE had also to be very special!

It was decided that the way the new EAGLE would be different would be for most of its stories to be presented in photographs, rather than drawings. Some thought that boys' adventure stories would not successfully transfer to photographs . . . but it was tried . . . and it worked! World War Two stories, Westerns, school stories, science fiction . . . all were featured in the opening issues. There were some doubts from the older generation . . . but the new-style stories were voted a hit by the people they were meant for . . . the children of 1982!

As well as stories, the new EAGLE had to have high-quality feature material. 'Cutaway' drawings, Daley Thompson articles, interviews, Glamorous Teacher competitions . . . and many more. They were all planned during the secret sessions, along with lots of other features. When put together, they became the success story of 1982 . . . the new EAGLE!



**EAGLE**

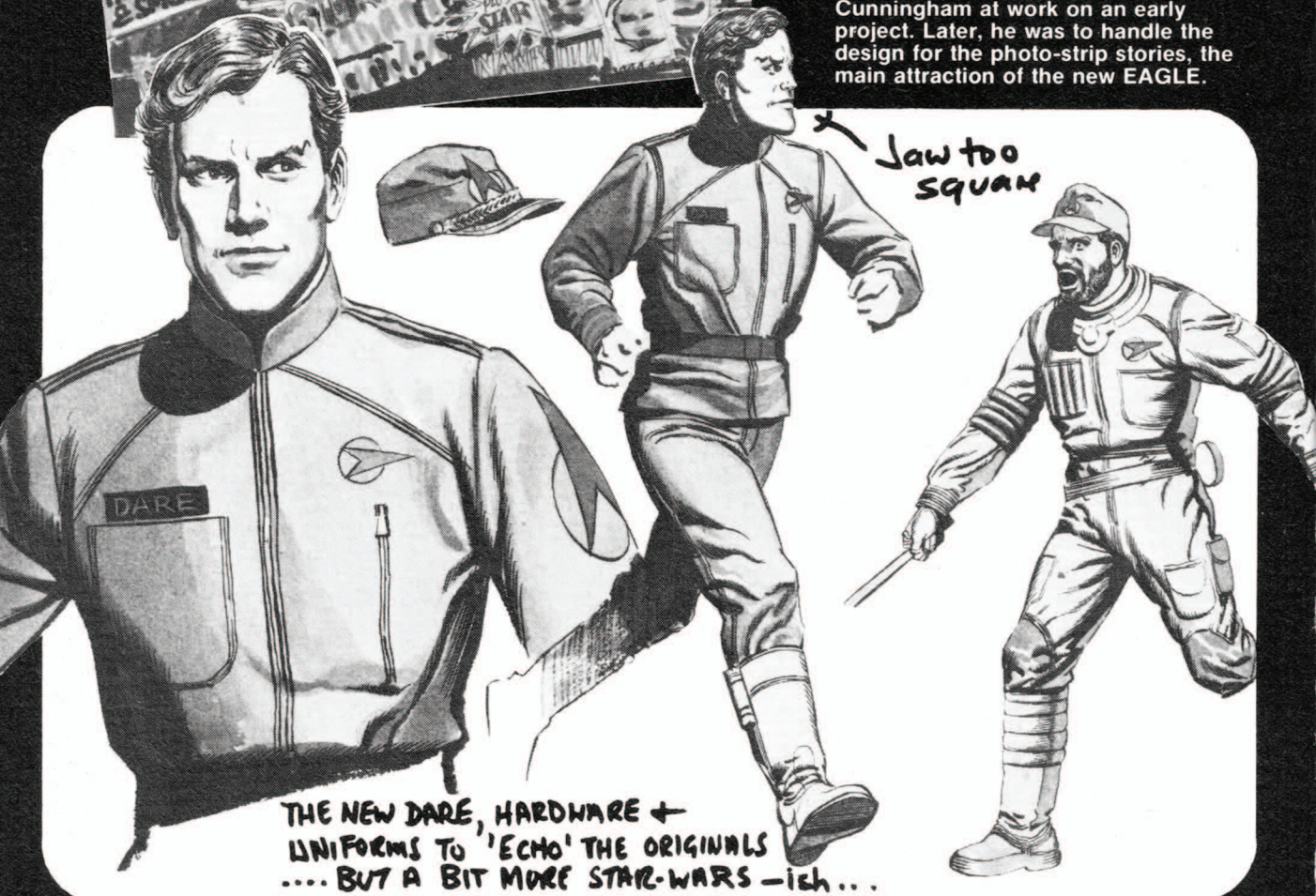


Left: The symbol of the new EAGLE, designed by Pat Reynolds, shown on the left below with Brian Wagland of IPC Art Studio who handled the finished lettering. Top of page: One of the first layout roughs for the EAGLE Data File page, a popular feature in the new paper.





Above left: A rough for the cover of the No.1 issue.  
 Above: Layout artist Jack Cunningham at work on an early project. Later, he was to handle the design for the photo-strip stories, the main attraction of the new EAGLE.



THE NEW DARE, HARDWARE + UNIFORMS TO 'ECHO' THE ORIGINALS .... BUT A BIT MORE STAR-WARS-IEH...

**THE NEW DAN DARE COMES TO LIFE ...**

Artist Gerry Embleton's first 'roughs' for the new Dan Dare. The Dan Dare presented in the new EAGLE was the Great-Great Grandson of the Dan Dare of the original EAGLE.



Above: Artist Ron Smith, famous for his Judge Dredd drawings, presented his interpretation of what Dan Dare should look like. Above right: TIGER's Billy's Boots artist, John Gillatt, had drawn his version of the Mekon a few years before. Below: Paul Bensberg and John Jackson, of the EAGLE art staff, checking over one of the new photo stories. Even with their experience, the new techniques presented a challenge.



The men who mastered the new EAGLE give the first issue a final check. Left to right: Editor David Hunt, Group Editor Barrie Tomlinson and Managing Editor Gil Page. In the end, all the effort was well worth while!