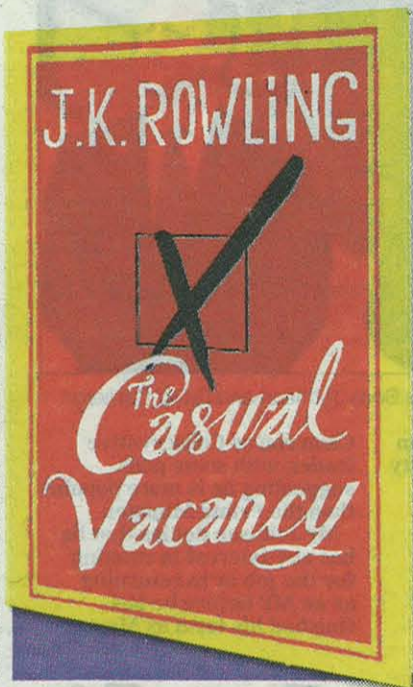




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# ARMY TO FIRE 8,000 SOLDIERS IN JANUARY

### Fury over 'fast-track' redundancies... and plans to sack over-45s

By Mark Nicol  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

**EIGHT thousand British soldiers - many serving on the front line in Afghanistan - will be told days after Christmas that they are to lose their jobs.**

Redundancy notices will be sent to servicemen and women telling them their careers are over as part of sudden speeded-up cutbacks by the Ministry of Defence.

The Army has already been shaken by the announcement of a swathe of cuts, which included the loss of historic regiments and the prospect of a gradual reduction in personnel over the next eight years. But now The Mail

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### Who IS Kate's father walking down the aisle?

SEE PAGE 3



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# Bankers call shots

**TO LEAFY** Buckinghamshire on Thursday to join bankers and venture capitalists for an afternoon's clay pigeon shooting.

The shoot, at the EJ Churchill ground, was hosted by Sir Edward Dashwood, premier baronet of Great Britain, who lives at West Wycombe Park, home of the ground. Co-hosts were Victor (the firm behind the private-jet-sharing marketplace of that name) and engineering giant Rolls-Royce.

Also among the 80 guests were international rugby union players, including Toby Flood (England and Leicester fly-half), Lee Dickson (England and Northampton scrum-half) and the winning shot Tom Voyce, of Wasps and England fame.

