

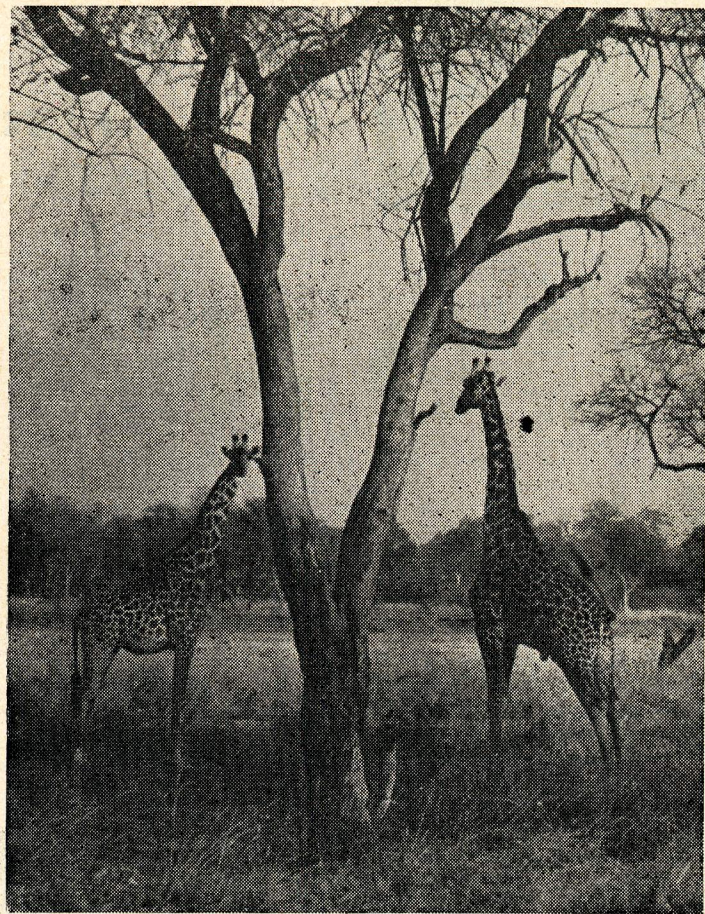


# SWEDCON ON SAFARI



The Travel Officer at Swedcon is kept extremely busy finding new places far away for members of his contingent to visit during their periods of leave. One of the recent trips he arranged was to Zambia and in the picture above members of Swedcon are seen photographing a herd of elephants in the National Game Park.



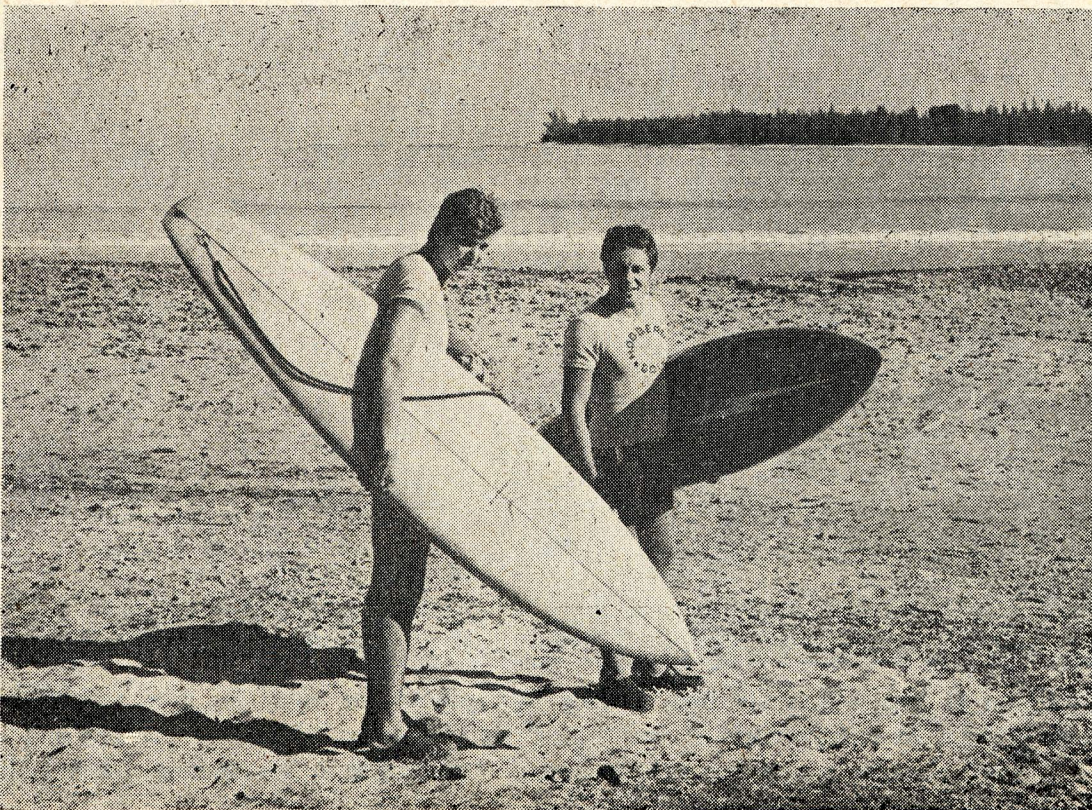


**SWEDCON**  
NEWS

# Globe trotting Swedes

Olle Sjölund is a very busy man. He happens to be the Travel officer for SWEDCON and the Swedes are very keen travellers during their leave. Consequently Olle is always on the look-out for new leave travel targets.

So far he has found three very exciting countries to add to his long list. Many from SWEDCON have taken the opportunity to visit Zambia, Mauritius and Damascus in Syria. The Seychelles, Kenya and Israel are also very popular and this summer nearly 200 members of SWEDCON have taken advantage of Olle Sjöland's special travel agency. Fun, excitement and — best of all — cheap.



The Zambia photo safari resulted in lots of snapshots and several feet of film. Giraffes were only one of the several kinds of exotic animals "shot". Elephants and lions were also very popular photo subjects.

Camera armed hunters from SWEDCON (above) are: Per-Olof Carlmark, Bengt Pethman, Roland Lundström, Tommy Lindström and Torgny Malm.

Surfing is hardly a Swedish sport and a surfing board is not to be found in Sweden, so Tommy Lake and Per-Olof Carlmark ran into severe trouble when they set about learning to surf in Mauritius. Their first surfing lessons were not particularly successful and they found themselves several times below the surface of the Indian Ocean and Tamarin Bay. But hard practice with the surf board gives results and they are now keen surfers. Problem is, what to do with a surf board when they are back home in Sweden?

# "Goal, goal, goal, . . ."

On 3 and 4 October the UNFICYP "Old Boys Football Tournament" took place on the pitch at Ayios Nikolaos, organised by the Sports Officer, Sector 6, Lt. Prel.

On the first day Auscon played Force Reserve and won with a score of 1—0. The match between Britcon-Swedcon was a win for Britcon 2—1 but only after extra time. On the second day the final matches for third place and the Grand Final were played. The first game resulted in a win for the Force Reserve over Swedcon 4—1, also the bronze medal. The final was won by Britcon 2—0 against Auscon after an exciting fight by both teams. CO Auscon Lt Col Fritz handed over the cup and medals to the winning teams. After the tournament all teams had a well-deserved cool drink and an excellent meze.



In the final match, SSgt Auer made a good pass towards the goal but the match remained lost for the Austrians.

The Swedish centre forward makes a gigantic header but alas he missed the goal!



SSgt Müller shows a good example of the "Kung-fu" fighting spirit against the Force Reserve which had good results as he scored the only goal for the Austrians.



# AUSCON



# NEWS

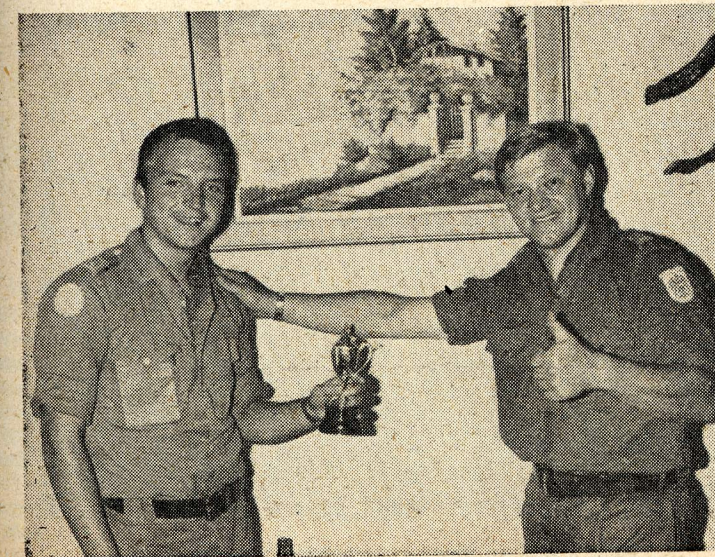
Co Auscon, Lt Col Fritz, decorating the Austrian team with their silver medals.



# BACKGAMMON-COMPETITION

Between 9—11 October the Auscon competition took place. The games were as follows: Sgt Podritschnig/Cpl Hirner 7—0. L/Cpl Planitzer/2 Cpl Vanek 5—3, 2/Cpl Rosina S/Cpl Kloiber 5—4 and Cpl Niederhauser/2/Cpl Riml 5—3.

The final winner Sgt Podritschnig is being congratulated by his opponent Cpl Niederhauser, who was the organiser of the competition.



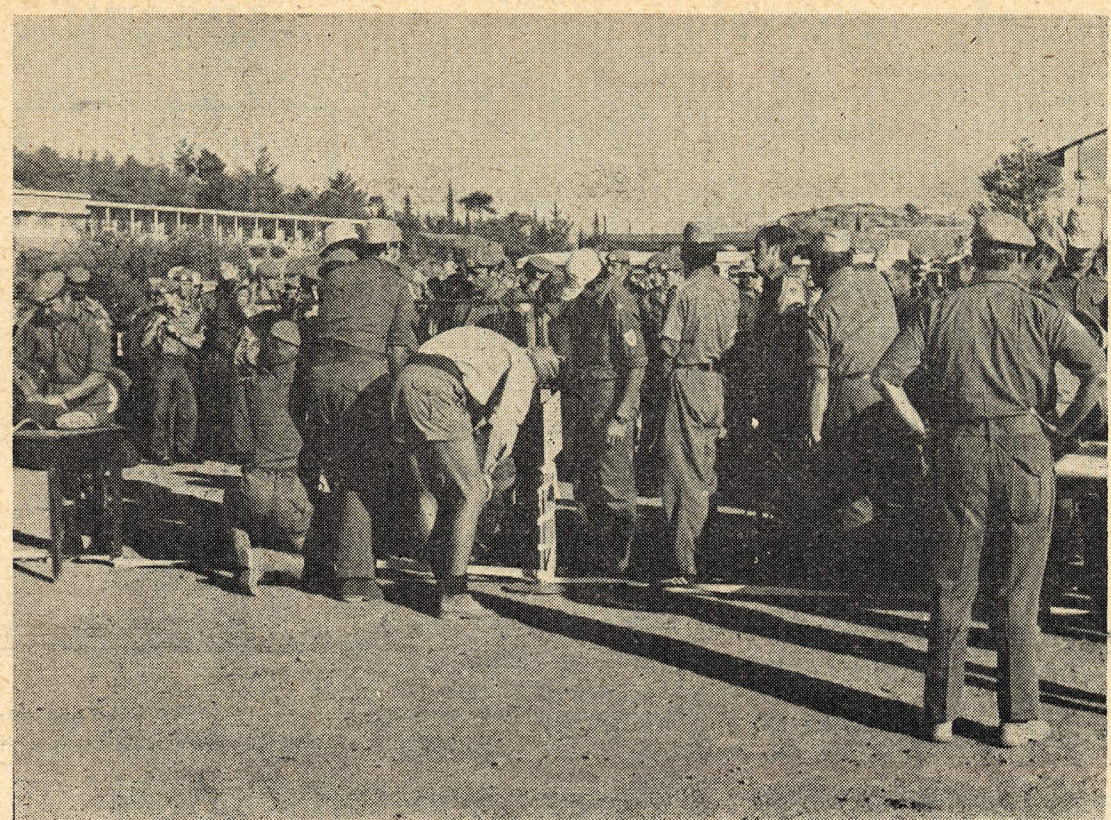
# AUSCON'S G.P.O.

The most important thing for the soldiers on the line is mail from home. Our Field postmaster, Capt Rebernick and his assistant, Cpl Zych, are always keen to deal with the mail within the shortest time possible. The picture shows the "Post crew" sorting the in-coming mail from Austria, which they do every morning until noon and everybody gets his post even on Saturdays and Sundays.





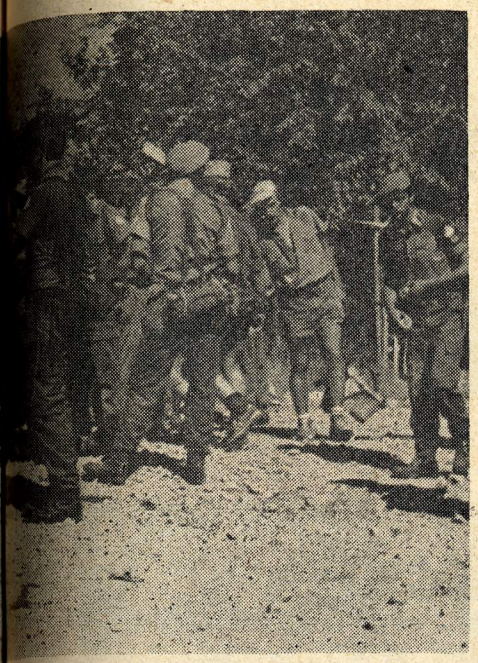
# DANCON MARCH



Before the start from Evrykhou School. Checking in and weighing in.



After 10 km of hard walking the sweat is pouring out. At this stage a drink is more than welcome!



The doctor at work on the first day. Obviously not everyone could bear to look!

## GOAL



Comdancon, Lt Col W. Elsberg, passes the finishing line at the end of the first day.



Well we did say everyone was welcome! 'Sheepcon' was very well represented!



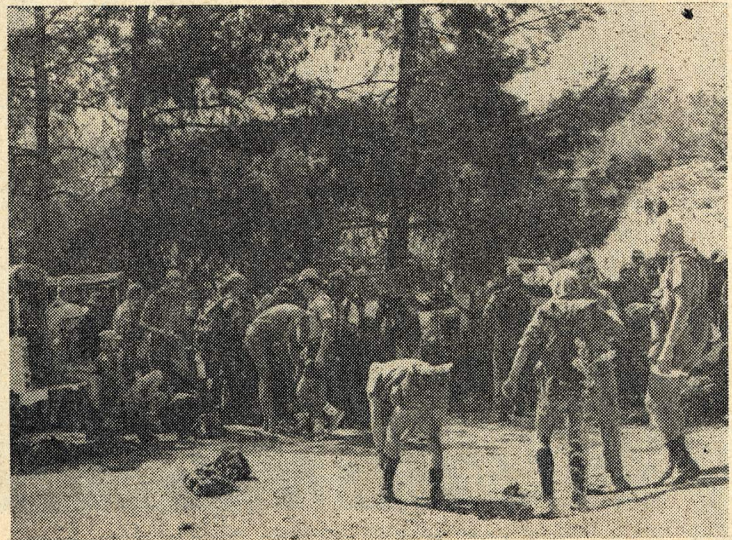
After a rest participants get ready to continue.



On the second day there was a long-long-long hill on the way to Skouriotissa.



The Dancon March was introduced in 1961 as a bi-annual event to maintain the fitness and stamina of British soldiers serving with the Cyprus Garrison (CYP). The march involves walking a total of 50 km in the Troodos Mountains over two consecutive days, 25 km each. Each day's march must be completed within 7 hours and each participant must carry a minimum of 10 kg.



The 10 km resting place on the second day.

## THE REWARD



At the end comes the reward for two days hard marching. Lt. Col W. Elsberg presents the medal to WO1 H P Hansen, HQ Coy.



# THE ARMY AIR CORPS IN CYPRUS

The UNFICYP Flight is just a small part of the Corps that was formed from the Glider Pilot Regiment and the Air Observation Post Squadron twenty one years ago.

Since the Corps was formed many minor changes have occurred and unit titles have been constantly "up-dated". A brief history of the AAC's involvement with the UN in Cyprus provides a good example of these changes.

Army Aviation in the shape of 2 Austers MK9 and 2 Sioux AH1 helicopters moved to the island to support UNFICYP in 1964. They were originally known as the Force Aviation Flight. In 1965, 21 Flight Army Air Corps assumed the task. Early in 1966, 4th Air Observation Troop RA took over. It was during this unit's tour in Cyprus that the first and only fatality occurred when the OC was killed when his aircraft crashed. In August 1966 the position was regularised and a new special to task unit known as UNFICYP Flight Army Air Corps was formed and 4 AO Tp RA returned to UK. The Flight's original location was in what is now the RCT 'Garage' in Jubilee Camp. The Flight operated successfully from this HLS until April 1974, when it was moved to its present location at the SE end of the International Airport.

Throughout its time in Cyprus

the Flight's tasks have changed little. Before the war in 1974 the main tasks were resupply of the Kyrenia Range OPs and communication and liaison flying between the spread out Contingent areas. After the war, when the new line was formed between Greek and Turk forces, the resupply of Kyrenia was no longer required and the general area of operations became the new line itself. The normal tasks today are liaison, communications, observation and reconnaissance. The Flight was also involved in the RAF rescue at Kyrenia on 12 November 1977, firstly by providing a communications link with HQ UNFICYP throughout the emergency, and secondly by flying the COS to the scene.

In January 1977 the Flight came under command of the HQ UNFICYP Support Regiment. The main effect of this was that the Regiment assumed a greater responsibility for its administration. The Flight has always been around 19 strong and it is of interest to note the following statistics:

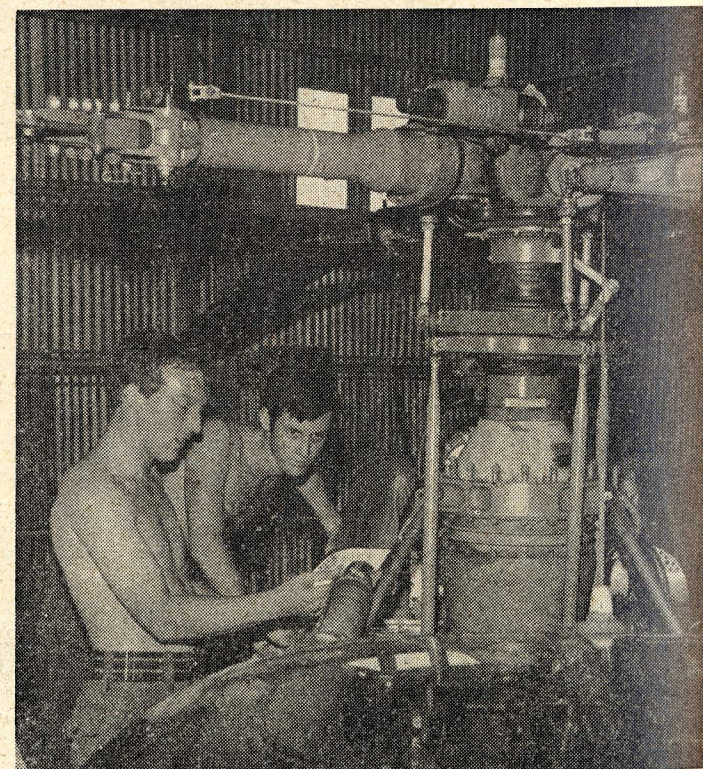
- a. 1964 - 1966 2 Sioux, 2 Auster
- 1966 - 1977 4 Sioux
- 1977     5 Sioux
- 1978     4 Alouette
- b. 35,000 hours flown in the Service of Peace which at an approximate 50 nautical miles per hour is the equivalent of one Sioux travelling round the world 70 times.



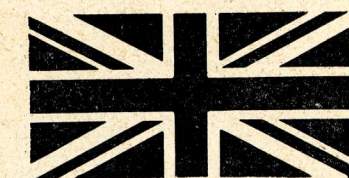
An Alouette of the UNFICYP Flight takes off from the Flight's location.



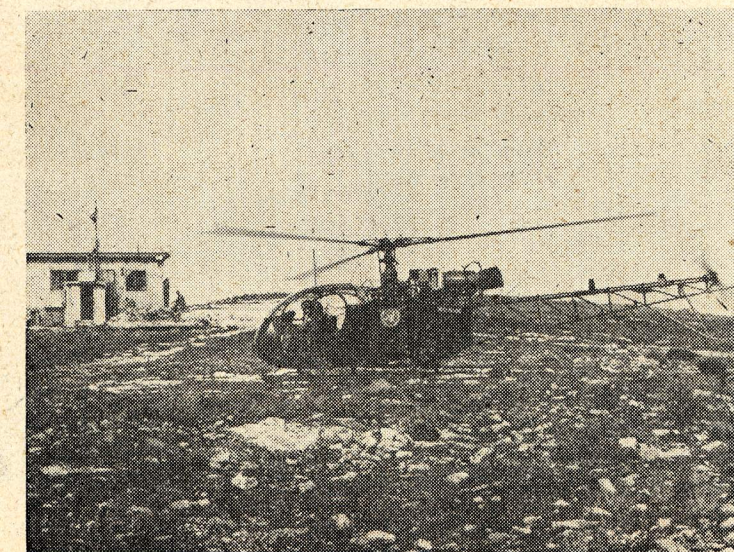
On the arrival of the new Alouette the Force Commander Maj Gen J J Quinn is briefed on the aircraft by Maj C Blount AAC the Flight's OC.



Repairs are carried out on an Alouette in the hanger at the Flight's location at the International Airport. Cpl Shuttleworth and Cpl Lodge are doing the work.



## BRITCON NEWS



An Alouette from the UNFICYP Flight touches down at an OP.

# THE HUSSARS IN CYPRUS

It all began in Canada at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, Ontario. On 21 September 1978 the advance party from the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) composed of key personnel departed on their long journey to Cyprus. The flight itself was to last approximately 10 hours followed by a 2 hour bus ride. Of course the six hour time difference between Canada and Cyprus all made for a very tiring trip with the majority of persons suffering jet lag. The bed certainly felt good that first night!

The above routine was repeated twice more, on 2 and 4 October 1978, as the soldiers who carry out that most important function of manning the Observation Posts arrived on the ground.

## CANCON NEWS



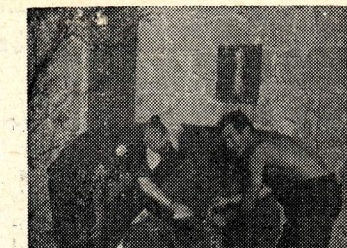
The change of Command Parade took place on 2 October 1978. At this time the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) assumed control of Sector Four.

Sector Four, although primarily composed of soldiers from the 8th Canadian Hussars, an armoured reconnaissance regiment, also has a very important addition in the Duke of Edinburgh's Coy. The Duke of Edinburgh's Coy is an infantry Coy of the 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, and these men supplement the Canadian

Contingent in order that Sector Four responsibilities can be met.

Sector Four is broken down into Regimental Headquarters Squadron, Duke of Edinburgh's Coy and Recce Squadron. This past month has witnessed a great deal of adjustment for all ranks. The weather conditions and excellent facilities have however certainly eased the pains of settling into this new life style.

We certainly look forward to meeting the other Contingents during our six month tour.



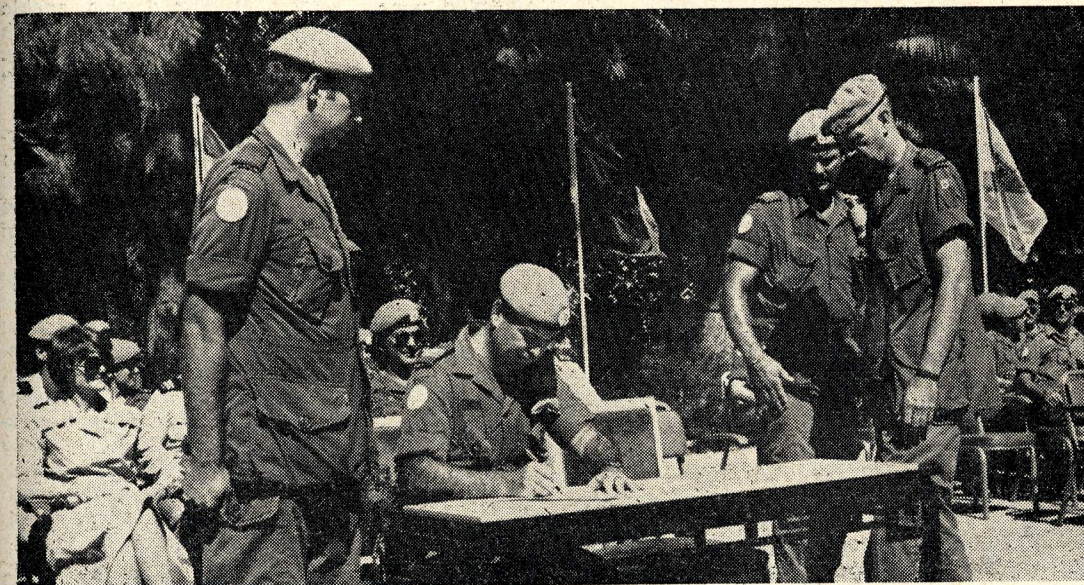
CQMS the Duke of Edinburgh's Coy WO Jardine CL and his storeman MCPL MacDonald AJ inspecting the Coy fire points.



MWO H. Sampson, SGT D. Mason, Sgt J. Brown and TPR B. Lynch uncage the Guidon upon their arrival at Akrotiri airport 2 October 1978.



Maj G.R. Caffery, OC of the Duke of Edinburgh's Coy inspects the goods carried by MCpl J. D. Leblanc as CPL F.J. Power looks on.



L/Col R.S. Billings accepts responsibility for sector four during the change of command parade. BGen J.A. Cotter and L/Col L.W. Mackenzie and Capt B. Blair look on.



Capt C. Sherren, WO L. Burgess, WO L. Thompson and Sgt Oliver flash a grin at cameramen during a stopover at Lahr, Germany en route to Cyprus.



Members of the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) patiently wait to go through proper clearance at Blue Beret Camp.





# UN NEWS



## Behind the "Blue Berets"

The activities of the UN peace-keeping mission now deployed in Cyprus, Ismailia, Damascus, Jerusalem and Kashmir are frequently praised and commented upon in the media and by Member States as fulfilling a vital and significant peace-keeping function of the UN in the world today.

While considerable attention is paid to the military elements of peace-keeping, often referred to as the "Blue Berets", seconded from various national armed forces and under the command of outstanding Generals such as Siilasvuo, Rais Abin, Erskine, Philipp and Quinn, little is known about and far less credit is given to the difficult and equally significant role played in peace-keeping by the UN international civil servants who comprise what is called the "UN Field Service". Some four hundred international civil servants from 50 nations are currently employed, in an exclusively civilian capacity, as Field Service Officers, supporting the different UN peace-keeping and relief operations. These international civil servants live lives and undertake assignments which are far-removed from the characteristic office work of the bulk of the international civil servants. Their work is usually performed in difficult, at times dangerous, "front-line" areas where, often risking their life and limb, they provide the permanent infrastructure for logistical and administrative support service such as transport, security, general

service and supply. With few exceptions, the entire career of Field Service Officers is spent in field missions.

The "Field Service" personnel comprise, at present, a distinct category of international civil servants, whose versatility is an essential ingredient in their ability to perform various duties in times of emergency. They are often subject to separation from their families due to unsettled conditions, lack of adequate housing, medical facilities and schooling at their assigned stations.

The unique status of this category of staff in the Organization derives largely from its unusual origin in the UN system. The Field Service was initially set up in response to a proposal in 1948 from the Secretary-General to the General Assembly to create a small guard force of one to five thousand to be placed at the disposal of the Security Council and the General Assembly. The proposal was intended to meet the requirements of Article 47 of the Charter, which established a Military Staff Committee responsible for the strategic command of armed forces placed at the Security Council's disposal, as well as for other questions relating to their command (such as auxiliary support for peace-keeping missions).

The original proposal was subsequently modified and the Secretary-General recommended instead the establishment of the UN Field Service. Thus in 1949, the UN Field Service was born

with a nucleus of young Field Service Officers, whose services could be called upon for specialized auxiliary support and security activities, where the use of other staff was not practicable or available.

While Field Service Officers have primarily been associated with peace-keeping operations, they have, in addition, done the spade-work and provided field support services for several plebiscite missions, a number of disaster relief operations, as well as special meetings and conferences of the General Assembly and other organs of the UN. They have also been utilized on occasion for service with UNDP, other specialized agencies and UN offices such as UNDO, Geneva, UNRWA, etc., on a seconded basis, and, in exceptional cases, on transfer.

Many have commented upon the remarkable esprit de corps among Field Service Officers, and their loyalty and dedication to their work. It is only recently, however, that the unique problems of this dedicated group have been the focus of special attention and study.

The conditions of work of the Field Service Officers are under review by a number of UN bodies. The Joint Advisory Committee at Headquarters has recently concluded a comprehensive review of the salaries, allowances and conditions of service of the Field Service. The International Civil Service Commission shall also be studying their conditions of service in 1978. The Secretary-General told the fifth sessions of the ICSC that he considered the "in-depth, long-overdue" study of

the Field Service conditions of employment to be a matter of "great urgency and importance".

Another important aspect affecting their conditions of service which has been given insufficient attention in the past is the question of staff/management relations. Staff members in offices away from Headquarters should be able to express their concerns and views to management through officially recognized and effective channels such as the Joint Advisory Committees which exist at Headquarters.

A Joint Advisory Committee has recently been set up for Field Service Staff in Ismailia. This body should provide a forum for the official expression of staff views and the democratic participation of staff in their work. It should also enable management to benefit through close and continuous consultation and dialogue with staff members.

The International Civil Service Commission, in its report to the 32nd Session of the General Assembly, pointed out that the conditions of work and life of Field Service staff are significantly different from those of their colleagues in Headquarters and other established offices; further that because of the importance to the UN of the functions they perform, it is essential that their exceptional working conditions, which for many staff members could be considered as "hardship" are remuneration, allowances and conditions of service.

(Taken from Secretariat News 16 December, 1977)

### UN ISSUES NEW STAMPS TO COMMEMORATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



On 15 September 1978, the UN Postal Administration issued two stamps to commemorate the General Assembly.

The 13-cent stamps were designed by Jozsef Vertel of Hungary and show a view of the General Assembly Hall, based on a photograph by Milton B. Grant of the United Nations Office of Public Information; the F.s. 0,70 and F.s. 1,10 stamps were designed by Henry Bencsath, a United States national, and show a line of multicoloured flags superimposed on the artist's impression of the General Assembly Hall. The stamps will be printed in photogravure by the Government Printing Bureau, Japan, and will measure 36 mm. horizontally x 25.5 mm. vertically, perforation. Perforation: 13.5

### UNFICYP CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Christmas cards that were advertised on the back page of the 20 September issue of "The Blue Beret" are now on sale at all the following locations:

Procurement Office, HQ UNFICYP, Tel: 7208;

YMCA Bookshop, British Married Quarters, Nicosia, Tel: 6133

Shafi's Canteen, HQ UNFICYP.

As stated in the earlier announcement the price of each card is 100 mils complete with envelope and all profits from sales go to the UNFICYP Welfare Fund.

Buy early to avoid disappointment!!!

### ACCIDENT STATISTICS

Two weeks ending 13 October 1978	6
Same period last year	4
Total for the year	194
Total same time last year	183

### LESSON OF THE FORTNIGHT

If you treat every other road user as an idiot YOU certainly won't be one.